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## Neighborhood briefs

*The Portland Tribune, May 8, 2007*

### SOUTHWEST

#### Jewish site rededicated

The Mittleman Jewish Community Center holds two events this month to celebrate the completion of the first phase of its scheduled \$50.8 million renovation. The center is between Hillsdale and Multnomah Village at 6651 S.W. Capitol Highway.

Major donors who contributed \$5,000 or more to the project are invited to a gala dinner at the center. It begins with a reception at 6:30 p.m. Saturday, followed by dinner and a program at 9 p.m.

The public is invited to a rededication celebration at 7 p.m. May 16. It will include the hanging of a mezuzah – a Jewish ritual object that holds a prayer welcoming visitors and other items – on the front door. The event will be preceded by a reception for all donors at 6 p.m.

Work completed to date includes renovating the lobby, the fitness center and much of the Portland Jewish Academy, which shares the building. Future work includes replacing the roof and heating, ventilation and air-conditioning systems.

### NORTH

#### Trillium keeps blooming

Trillium Charter School, the five-year-old North Portland school that just had its charter renewed for another five years, will hold two big fundraisers this month.

Its annual auction is set for May 19; tickets are \$40 and will include a catered dinner at Madeline Hall, 3123 N.E. 24th Ave.

Arianne Newton, the charter school's community development coordinator, said the profits will help pay for the school's move last year into a larger, renovated building at 5420 N. Interstate Ave.

The school also will put on its community Africa Night on May 25, featuring authentic food and entertainment.

The purpose is to build awareness of African culture as well as raise money for a newly formed nonprofit called Kids for Kenya, which will involve 15 Trillium high school students going to Kenya for two weeks this summer to plant gardens, donate clothing and assist schoolchildren.

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The goal is to make the trip every three years, Newton said, with Trillium students studying current events in Africa in class and raising nearly all of the funds themselves.

## **NORTHEAST**

### **'Big-box' store defied**

A Northeast Portland citizens committee that's fighting a possible "big box" store across from Madison High School is organizing a communitywide garage sale Saturday to raise money for the committee's work.

Dawn Tryon, co-chairwoman of the Save Madison South Committee, said more than 30 neighborhood residents have committed to having a garage sale at their homes and donating a portion of their sales to the Save Madison South Committee.

The committee is working to challenge the plans of a British Columbia firm that wants to create a development across from Madison High School on Northeast 82nd Avenue that would include a 180,000-square-foot "big box" retailer.

Some area residents believe such a large store would significantly increase traffic in surrounding neighborhoods, and are trying to encourage the developer to consider other commercial possibilities for the site, Tryon said.

"Putting in a giant big box is going to be catastrophic for our neighborhood," she said.

Tryon said the Save Madison South Committee is hoping to raise \$50,000 for engineering studies and legal work to help it fight the developer's requests for city zoning changes.

## **SOUTHEAST**

### **Farmers market opens**

One of the east side's most popular farmer's markets will open for the season May 17 with 28 vendors selling fresh produce, herb and vegetable starts, bouquets, farmstead cheese, baked goods, pasture-raised meats and other items.

The Eastbank Farmers Market, now in its fifth year, is set to run 3:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Thursdays through September. It's in the Buckman neighborhood next to the Hinson Memorial Church, 1315 S.E. 20th Ave.

The market, which is part of the Portland Farmers Market network, serves about 1,500 customers and showcases live music.

"For an east-sider like myself, I like the convenience, not having to go to the west side," said Kathleen Finn, an east-side market spokeswoman. "The Eastbank market does have more truly certified organic vendors because it's a smaller market."

## **EAST**

### **Free food precedes talk**

On Monday, the Portland Water Bureau will provide free dinner to a general meeting of the Powellhurst-Gilbert Neighborhood Association, as well as discuss with attendees the new Gilbert Hydro Park at Southeast 128th Avenue and Center Street.

Barbecued chicken and salads will be on the menu, prepared by the bureau's Jimmy Brown. Also in attendance will be city Commissioner Randy Leonard.

The dinner starts at 6:30 p.m., with the association's general meeting beginning at 7 p.m. at Powellhurst Baptist Church, 3435 S.E. 118th Ave.

## **NORTHWEST**

### **Friendly House regroups**

Friendly House faces the loss of two full-time staff members as a result of losing the Multnomah County contract to serve low-income elderly downtown.

For the last year Friendly House has been serving the elderly in downtown and Northwest Portland with funding from the county. Last