

Oregon Daily Emerald

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Moss Street moppets

University President Dave Frohnmayer cut the ribbon at the Moss Street Children's Center's opening

By Jennifer Marie Bear
News Editor

Student parents and their children were welcomed to the Moss Street Children's Center's grand opening Tuesday afternoon with cookies, hand puppets and praise to all involved with the project.

Although Tuesday marked the official opening of the center, it been offering child care services since Jan. 5, when construction was finished on the north side of the building and the center was able to open five of its eight classrooms.

"It took a little longer than planned (to finish construction)," said Dennis Reynolds, child care coordinator for the University Child Care and Development Centers.

He said the center — which is now complete and only lacks a few finishing touches — boasts a total of eight classrooms, a commercial kitchen, a staff room and a common room for parents to relax and hang out.

The nearly \$3 million building, which was funded by student building fees, has the capacity to accommodate about 120 children, Reynolds said.

He added that the facility, located at 1685 Moss St., was designed to fit in with the surrounding community, and planners even went so far as to construct the center around one 40-year-old water oak tree and one giant Ponderosa pine tree.

"Our very footprint on the land was shaped by our goal of preserving these two old trees," Reynolds said.

EMU Director of Student Activities Gregg Lobisser said the new center is



Lauren Wimer Senior Photographer

Michaela Wickert, 5-and-a-quarter-years-old, blows bubbles during the grand opening ceremony of the Moss Street Children's Center on Tuesday afternoon.

special because it was tailored to serve the needs of children, while many other child care facilities simply get housed in a left-over building.

One example of the center's attention to children's needs is at the building's entrance, which is adorned with two doors: one door that is the normal size and height for adults, and one child-sized door for the center's younger patrons.

At the grand opening, about six guides were on hand to greet parents and kids, give out souvenir hand puppets and lead tours of the new center.

Junior environmental studies major Katy Siepert, who attended the grand opening, said she originally wanted her 5-year-old son Sage to go to the Spencer View Co-op Family Center, but they didn't have any openings. Siepert said it turned out for the best, however.

"I'm really pleased that happened," she said. "Moss Street is awesome. Since Sage has been here, I feel like we've developed good relationships with the teachers in his classroom."

Siepert said she's been impressed with

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Museum of Art renamed after alumnus donor

The University has renamed its art museum the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art and also is planning a \$14.4 million renovation to add 10 times the gallery space to the museum

By Moriah Balingit
News Reporter

The University announced Wednesday that the University Museum of Art has been renamed the Jordan Schnitzer Museum of Art after the University alumnus and Portland philanthropist who donated several million dollars to the renovation effort, the largest private donation given to the museum.

Choking back tears, Schnitzer gave an emotional thanks to his parents during his speech at the press conference to announce the name change.

"Finally (I thank) my parents ... whose example of both being surrounded by art and giving back to one's community helped shape and form my values that continue to guide my cultural and civic interests," he said.

Schnitzer's mother, Arlene, opened an art gallery featuring contemporary Northwest art when he was in second grade.

"I grew up in a house surrounded by art," Schnitzer said. He first got involved with the museum 27 years ago and was president of the Art Council from 1981 through 1983. In the late '70s, the museum began "to dream a larger vision to eventually fulfill the original plan when the museum was built," Schnitzer said.

The museum's original design was meant to accommodate a renovation to double the museum space. The renovation was realized 70 years later with the groundbreaking ceremony in 2002.

The \$14.4 million renovation will add 38,154 square feet to the museum. The completed structure will contain 10 times the

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OLCC plans to authorize liquor sales in grocery stores

The Oregon Liquor Control Commission is testing for grocery stores to sell more than just beer and wine

By Parker Howell
News Reporter

Buying alcohol may become easier this year as the Oregon Liquor Control Commission begins a new test program to set up liquor stores within grocery stores.

In a controversial move, the agency has already begun preliminary agreements with three Oregon retail stores, hoping to increase convenience for consumers and raise revenue for state and local governments.

The two-year plan calls for establishing as many as six of the pilot stores, one of which may be located in the Gateway area, OLCC Director Teresa Kaiser said.

If finalized, the contracts will allow selected grocery stores in Gresham, the Bethany area of Washington County and Bend to sell liquor, Kaiser said.

Kaiser said the agency will continue looking for new locations, including a retail location in Eugene, although high lease rates have hindered efforts to open new liquor stores in this area.

The decision represents a significant departure from existing OLCC policy. Oregon is one of several "control" states that requires the government to own liquor at some point before it is sold.

Currently, grocery stores are only allowed to sell beer and wine, while state-licensed liquor stores cannot sell those items or food.

The Associated Liquor Stores of Oregon voted unanimously in late April to contest the plan, saying it was "adamantly opposed" to the idea, ALSO President George Kuppler said.

Kuppler said the association, which comprises a portion of Oregon's 238 liquor agents, did not know the details of the plan, including why it was initiated and how it would be funded.

"I still don't have a good explanation of what the driving force was," he said.

The OLCC projects sales of about \$1 million from the grocery stores, less than the typical stand-alone liquor store licensed by the agency, Kaiser said. The agency will solicit feedback on the stores' performances from customers.

"Ultimately, citizens will be the judge," she said. "They can weigh in on whether we hit the mark."

Kaiser said about half of the revenue from the stores will go to state and local governments. Last year, liquor sales totaled \$267.9 million, with \$111.7 million going to governments, according to the OLCC Web

site at <http://olcc.state.or.us>.

Kuppler said the process is proceeding too quickly.

"This is not a fast track, this is a race track," he said.

OLCC spokesman Ken Palke admitted the decision came quickly, but he said it was necessary to continue with contracting.

"You might say the rule was adopted in an emergency fashion," he said.

Palke said agents were alerted that the OLCC was considering different marketing models for spirits.

The OLCC focused on "underserved" high-growth areas when determining where to locate the new store models, Kaiser said. The agency sought partner stores that were at least 1.5 miles away from existing liquor agents.

"We don't want to upset existing agents," Kaiser said.

Kuppler said agents don't oppose opening new stores, but grocery

stores will offer unfair competition.

"(Grocery stores) will end up with a very unfair advantage," he said. "I can't sell a candy bar."

Kuppler also expressed concerns that the plan will lead to statewide loosening of liquor control.

"If this pilot moves forward, this opens the door," he said. "We'll probably be an open state in three to four years."

However, Kaiser said the plan won't be a radical change.

"We don't want to be a California, with a store on every corner or every block," she said.

Kaiser said the test locations would likely undergo remodeling to create separate, enclosed areas with different cash registers for the sale of liquor.

"We're not going to have alcohol next to the lettuce," Kaiser said.

She said the move is largely a

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discusses his
lifelong activism