

COMMUNITY LIFE

By Don Snedecor
The Southwest Portland Post

4 Read to the Dogs. Improve your reading skills by reading aloud to therapy dogs from the Delta Society's Pet Partners Program, sponsored by DoveLewis.

Hillsdale Library, 1525 SW Sunset Blvd. Saturdays: February 4, 10 a.m. to 12 noon; February 11, 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.; and February 25, 10 a.m. to 12 noon. Registration required; call 503-988-5388.

6 Portland Mayoral Candidates Forum on Active Transportation (featuring candidates Eileen Brady, Charlie Hales and Jefferson Smith) will be held Monday, February 6, at Portland State University, Lincoln Hall auditorium, 1620 SW Park Ave.

Doors open at 6:15 p.m. for light refreshments. Forum from 7:00-8:30 p.m., followed by reception with candidates from 8:30-9:00 p.m. For



Ty Boice and Adrienne Flagg star in the Portland area premiere of "Deadly Murder" at Lakewood Theatre Company. Performances continue through February 19. For tickets or more information call the box office at 503-635-3901 or visit www.lakewood-center.org. (Photo by Lake Oswego Photographers)

more information, contact Rebecca Hamilton, PSU Planning Club, 503-970-6283 or r.hamilton@pdx.edu.

Tierney votes to suspend proposed Portland to Lake Oswego streetcar

By Lee Perlman
The Southwest Portland Post

Faced with a vastly reduced budget for a proposed Portland to Lake Oswego streetcar extension, the Lake Oswego City Council nonetheless decided to pull the plug on the idea.

The Lake Oswego City Council voted to "suspend" the project for the indefinite future. Last year, after a contentious debate, the City Council voted four to three to authorize further study of the idea subject to several conditions.

A report released in December estimated that the cost of the venture, once estimated to be as high as \$480 million, could be done for \$200 million, with more than half of this probably coming from federal subsidies.

Despite this, Lake Oswego council member Bill Tierney, part of the majority that had tentatively supported the project, last month said, "Until we are more united as a city, as a region, and as a City Council, I believe we should put this project on a shelf."

Tierney added that uncertainty over funding in times of already tight budgets was an issue. Later Portland Mayor Sam Adams, the project's strongest advocate, announced that work on the project was being "suspended."

Earlier in the month project manager Doug Oblatz had told the South Portland Neighborhood Association that one element in the cost cutting had been a plan to utilize a single track through the Dunthorpe community.

A second was to terminate the line in Lake Oswego three blocks north of the original site. A third was to

order four new streetcars instead of the previously planned six.

Oblatz said that this last move was accompanied by a new plan to have a route running from Northwest 23rd Avenue through downtown Portland to Lake Oswego, thus utilizing existing cars. Oblatz at that time did not specify what the frequency of service on the route would be.

Asked whether the project might some day be revived Oblatz told *The Post*, "You'll have to ask the mayor that." He said he would complete and publish a report on the proposed route, saying, "No one has told me not to complete it."

Don't forget to advertise in the March edition of The Post! Mention this offer and get free color on a 1/8 page or larger display ad. Call Don at 503-244-6933 for details.

14 The Girl Who Fell from the Sky. Read this novel by Heidi W. Durrow, then exchange perspectives about characters and plot and get to know your neighbors at Pageturners, Capitol Hill Library, 10723 SW Capitol Hwy. Thursday, February 2, 1:30-2:30 p.m. and Tuesday, February 14, 6:45-7:45 p.m. Call 503-988-5385 for more information.

15 Odyssey Program at Hayhurst School. Parents seeking an experiential and accelerated learning curriculum for their incoming 2012-2013 kindergartners, or for transfer students up to eighth grade are invited to information nights.

Enrollment selection is by lottery and attendance at an information night is mandatory. The next one is Wednesday, February 15, 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. at Hayhurst School, 5037 SW Iowa St. For more information visit www.odysseyprogram.org or call 503-916-6300

18 Fifth Annual Sean-nos Northwest Festival is being held Saturday and Sunday, February 18-19 in Multnomah Village at the Multnomah Arts Center and the Lucky Labrador Public House. You are invited to come and witness the remarriage of Irish Gaelic music, song and dance during this weekend-long celebration featuring workshops, performances and sessions open to the public. For tickets and more information visit www.seannos.org.

The No. 1 Hillsdale Knitting Society invites you to join them on Saturday, February 18, 10 a.m. to 12 noon, at Hillsdale Library, 1525 SW Sunset Blvd.

Learn basic knitting skills or get help with an existing project. Crocheters welcome too. For children 5 years and older as well as adults. Call 503-988-5388 for more information.

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Valentine's Day is Tuesday, February 14th