

Farmers Market to Open in Northeast

continued from Front
Neighbors fund, where every dollar spent by people receiving food assistance will be matched by the market, giving people twice the buying power. "We want this to be a market for everyone," Coleman says. "We want people to be walking away with fresh, healthy food, and we want to remove any barriers to that."

The organizers say the association with Portland Farmers Market, which has been selling locally-grown fruits, vegetables and fresh-baked products downtown for 20 years was a great stroke of luck.

Coleman said cementing the deal came after discussions occurred last October at a Sabin neighborhood meeting attended by Rosemary Cordello, chair of the Portland Farmers Market board.

"It was a chance to utilize their expertise and resources, rather than do it ourselves and wind up as a short-term blip on history." Others have tried and failed at this venture, she noted.

Sweet said through the seed of an idea, things have really blossomed.

"We didn't have to start small. We put out an appeal for vendors on their database, which has 230 entrees, and 67 people responded." From this

they selected about 40, which they feel is the maximum the site can comfortably hold.

However, Coleman adds, that vendors interested in participating should still contact portlandfarmersmarket.org, since vacancies are likely to occur either this season or next.

Another "blossoming" of the King Farmers Market idea has been an outpouring of volunteer activity. When the Northeast Coalition invited

people to help work on the venture last winter, "The response was overwhelming," Coleman says.

Sweet says about 15 dedicated people attended every meeting as plans for the market were made, representing a very diverse set of interests, in addition to others involved to a lesser degree.

Coleman hopes that this market, like those in other communities, can be a tool for both

gathering and sharing information and organizing. Having prepared foods ready to eat could draw in people on their way home from Sunday church services, she says.

"When the economy is so bad, it's important for people to get out and maintain contact with their neighbors," she says.

"The market can be a substitute for some of the regular activities that used to be here and brought people together."



PHOTO BY JAKE THOMAS/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Lego Robotics Joybots team member Ralyasha Paris adjusts a robot during a demonstration at Bethel AME Church in northeast Portland.

Excited About Science

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Church hosted an event where the teams showed off what they could do while their parents and other community members munched on cake. Robots built from Legos and other materials scurried around on both the tile floor and a table picking up and dropping objects to the applause of the audience.

Hartzog is hoping to drum up more support for the team so that it can do even better next year. He added that kids who have hands-on activities like

this tend to do better with their school work.

"We had limited resources, limited time, and limited space," said Andy Anderson, who coached the Joybots.

Anderson currently works as a technology consultant and attributes the enthusiasm for his career to a robotics program he participated in during his youth.

"It paved the way for me," he said.

Anyone interested in getting involved should visit the website ortop.org for more information.

W. James Singleton Attorney at Law

If you or a loved one have sustained serious injury or death you may have a cause of action:

1). **Raptiva** - used to treat Psoriasis but can cause rare brain infection known as PML (Progressive Multifocal Leukoencephalopathy), various malignancies, Viral Meningitis, Invasive Fungal Disease, Anemia and Bacterial Sepsis

2). **Gadolinium** - injected into bloodstream to enhance MRI/MRA screenings but can cause NSF(Nephrogenic Systemic Fibrosis) which can lead to kidney or renal failure. Symptoms may include swelling, hardening and tightening of the skin, reddened or darkened patches of skin, burning and itching of skin, yellow raised spots on the whites of eyes and stiffening of joints.

3). **Reglan** - used to treat heart burn and gastroesophagal or acid reflux but can cause temporary/permanent involuntary movement (tardive dyskinesia) which can effect the face, and other parts of the body. It has also been known to cause Neuroleptic Malignant Syndrome which symptoms include high fever, sweating, unstable blood pressure, stupor, muscular rigidity and autonomic dysfunction.

4). **Propylthiouracil** - used to treat Grave's (thyroid) disease in children but can cause severe liver damage or death.

5). **Permax** - used to manage tremors and slowness of movement associated with Parkinson's Disease or Restless Leg Syndrome. Can cause damage to the mitral, aortic and tricuspid heart valves, which includes leakage of these valves.

Medical Devices:

6). **Mentor OB Tape** - vaginal mesh sling used to treat bladder incontinence in women but can cause severe infection, extreme vaginal pain, vaginal extrusion and urinary tract erosion.

7). **Duragesic Pain Patch** - used to treat pain but patch may leak and cause inadequate treatment or a fatal fentanyl/morphine overdose

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Tailpipe Shudders on I-5 Bridge

continued from Front
up toxic zinc dust, she said, and it's just a bad idea to have densely populated areas next to freeways.

According to an Oregon Department of Environmental Quality analysis, north and northeast Portland already has an unhealthy concentration of toxic chemicals emitted from the freeway.

George explains that evidence from epidemiological studies is absolutely clear that there is a link between peoples' proximity to highways and them developing health problems.

She is particularly concerned about small particulate matter, which is complex mixture of small particles and droplets made up of acids, organic chemicals, metals, and soil or dust particles.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency particulate matter can cause serious problems with peoples' lungs and hearts.

George also said that diesel emissions are also ex-

remely toxic and are typically emitted from highways. Cars emit chemicals such as nitrogen oxide, nitrogen dioxide, and benzene. People exposed to a combination of these chemicals could be at particular danger, she said.

"We just know that people don't do very well near the freeway," she said.

Mayor Sam Adams is also concerned about environmen-

"We just know that people don't do very well near the freeway."

—Linda George, atmospheric chemist at Portland State University

tal impacts, but holds faith that having more lanes will help keep traffic moving and reduce the emissions from autos stuck in traffic.

If congestion is relieved, cars won't billow chemicals into surrounding neighborhoods while they idle in traffic on the highway and air quality will improve, Adams told the Portland Observer.

George warns that improving

traffic flow could end up giving an incentive for people to drive more, putting more tailpipes on the freeway along with more pollution into north and northeast Portland.

"The argument doesn't really hold water unless you're talking about real numbers," she said, responding to Adams' reasoning.

The problem, said George, is getting reliable numbers. All we

automobile more affordable and cleaner.

Adams said pollution concerns don't go away even if the Columbia Crossing isn't built because without a higher-density new bridge, traffic will surely back up into downtown Portland.

George responds that "The problem takes care of itself if you let congestion stay."

She argues that if Vancouverites routinely have a two hour commute to work because of traffic, for example, they'll be more likely to take mass transit.

City Commissioner Amanda Fritz attempted to add amendments that would place environmental justice and health advocates on the project's overseeing committee. Both died for a lack of a second.

George expects that the project's car-friendly trajectory will be hard to reverse.

While very disappointed in the city for approving this project, she still projects some hope.

"We're Portland. We can be creative," she said.

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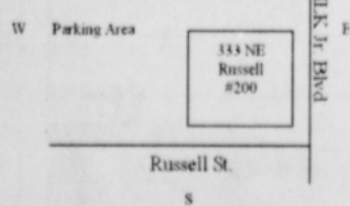
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