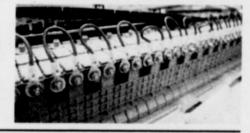


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What's on your list today?



PHOTO BY MINDY COOPER/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

A warm and sunny Mother's Day was the backdrop for the first Sunday Parkways event of the season as bicyclists and walkers fill the streets around Alberta Park in northeast Portland for a safe family-fun environment.

## Unique Portland Fun

Sunday Parkways begins first Sunday Parkways event of 2012. a plethora of community activities. a new season

BY MINDY COOPER THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

In northeast Portland on Sunday, residents discovered what the neighborhood was like when cars became the minority on the street's

"I have never seen so many bikes in my life," said Kellie Haplon, who was visiting northeast on Mother's Day with her daughter at Alberta Park.

The family-fun event closed streets to open up a designated eight mile route, which connected Woodlawn, Alberta and Fernhill

loops, which were filled with ven- parks for people to roll, walk, and dors, music, and activities at the bike all day, when residents enjoyed

Liliana Thirdgill, a resident of northeast Portland, said the event was the perfect way to spend time with her son on Mother's Day. "I came for the Sunday Parkways, and I brought my son. It creates an atmosphere where you can take your kids

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## Schools Close, Teacher's Jobs Saved

The Portland Public School board passed a budget plan Monday night that closes two local schools, but preserves teaching jobs across the district.

The \$456 million general fund educators. budget would preserve 110 teaching positions if the city of Portland comes through with a pledge by Mayor Sam Adams to transfer \$5 million of city revenues to the school district.

Harriet Tubman Leadership Academy for Women, and Humboldt School, both serving lowincome and minority populations in north and northeast Portland, are being closed for low enrollment.

solidated into Boise Elliot School.

School board members said they are upset with the cuts, which have catalyzed a high level of emotional unrest from students, parents and

The budget preserved, however, a full school year for students and staff, with the help from the teachers union and mandated furlough days. Another \$2.65 million dollars was saved with 10 furlough days for non-represented central office staff, plus three furlough days for princi-

Pay increases negotiated for teachers will have a six month delay, along with text book and technol-Humboldt's program will be con- ogy purchases. High school staff

will give back \$400,000 from a recent arbitration ruling on high school workloads and schedules.

Although many residents are upset about the changes in the Portland's school district, Superintendant Carole Smith recognized their determination to show how important education and schools are to the community.

Smith said she is hopeful that in the future Portland Public Schools can work with state leaders to find solutions that deliver adequate funding to all of Oregon's schools.

The formal and final budget adoption is expected June 25, after the City of Portland's budget is approved on May 30.