

The
PO



**Community Leader
Nominated**

*Mayor turns to Tom Kelly
to fill vacancy on PDC*
See Local News, page 3



Saving Mr. Banks
*Our Opinionated
Judge Darleen
Ortega reviews
Disney blockbuster*
See Metro, page

The **Portland Observer** 44

'City of Roses'



Volume XLIII
Number 2



www.portlandobserver.com
Wednesday • January 8, 2014

Established in 1970
Committed to Cultural Diversity *44 years of
community service*

East County Uplift

PHOTO BY DONOVAN M. SMITH/THE PORTLAND OBSERVER
Melissa Froman, vice president of development for the Boys and Girls Club of Portland, looks over the site of a future Boys and Girls Club to serve youth in Gresham, a former Drake's 7 Dees garden center in the Rockwood neighborhood..



Needed youth programs coming to Gresham

BY DONOVAN M. SMITH
THE PORTLAND OBSERVER

The Rockwood neighborhood in Gresham will soon become home to two of the most prolific youth-service programs in the country.

Both the Boys and Girls Club and Friends of the Children have partnered together to bring their respec-

tive organizations to sites within just blocks of each to serve an east Multnomah County population that has grown more challenged by economics and race.

The new Rockwood Boys and Girls Club will be stationed on 165th and Stark, which is in close proximity to East 162nd Avenue MAX Station. The club will be taking over the location of a former Drake's 7 Dees

garden center, providing 30,000 square feet of youth facilities including a full gymnasium on a 1.7 acre site.

Friends of the Children will take over the former Police Activities League community center on Northeast 172nd Avenue and Glisan Street. The non-profit

continued ▼ on page 2