

PARENT POSTINGS



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New Goddard School to Open

A fourth Goddard School® location for the metropolitan area is under construction at 14210 SE Sunnyside Rd. in Clackamas. The new state-of-art 8,000 square foot building has been designed to accommodate 130 children from 6 weeks to 6 years old. The new school is projected to open during the late summer of 2008. When completed, the Clackamas location will join existing Goddard Schools® in Portland, Hillsboro and Vancouver. To learn more visit www.goddardschools.com or call 503-658-8715.

Multnomah County Library Sponsors Teen Writing Contest

All Multnomah County teens, ages 12 to 18, are invited to participate in a writing contest made possible by The Library Foundation. Categories include prose and poetry for grades 6 to 8 and 9 to 12. Winners will be awarded Powell's gift cards. Submissions must be no longer than five pages and be received by July 31 (or until there are 100 submissions, whichever comes first). More information about the contest is at www.multcolib.org/teens.

Parent Education

The Fourth Annual Breitenbush Natural Parenting Retreat is scheduled for July 25 through 27 at Breitenbush Hot Springs. Participants can attending workshops on natural medicine, childhood development and holistic parenting while children enjoy crafts, movement and storytelling. The cost is \$125 (plus lodging); \$35 for children 2 or older. For details, call Breitenbush Hot Springs at 503-854-3320 or visit www.breitenbush.com.

Making a Difference: Online Support for Social Change

You say you want a revolution? Well, so do we! Or at least some major changes...

But we need a little help here – like maybe some discussion of what's wrong and how to fix it? And perhaps a great group of like-minded folks who can motivate and inspire us to take action?

The World Wide Web comes to the rescue! Below we've listed just a sampling of the groups that are working to make a difference, locally and nationally. There are many more – but these are among the best when it comes to issues affecting families.

Local groups:

Activistas; www.activistas.us. A fantastic resource for concerned – and politically active – Portland area parents. Their goal: "to inform, inspire and connect busy parents who want to create change on the issues that matter to your family."

Children First for Oregon; www.cffo.org. This group works to improve the lives of Oregon's children by advocating for strategic investments and wise public policies. One of their current campaigns is working to ensure health care coverage for all Oregon kids.

Parents for Paid Leave; www.parentsforpaidleave.org. A grassroots group of local parents interested in advocating for paid family leave.

Legacy Emanuel Children's Hospital sponsors "Bringing Baby Home: A Workshop for Pregnant Couples" on July 19 and 26 from 9 am to 4 pm at Emanuel Children's Hospital, 2801 N Gantenbein. The two-day class teaches parenting and relationship skills and costs \$40 per couple. Call 503-215-6377 or

Stand for Children; www.stand.org. Stand's mission is to be a "grassroots voice" for positive changes for children at the state and local levels. Stand has several national chapters but is headquartered in Portland.

National organizations:

MomsRising; www.momsrising.org. MomsRising brings together those who share a common concern about the need for a more family-friendly America.

Mothers Acting Up; www.mothersactingup.org. MAU inspires, educates and engages mothers to prioritize children in corporate and public policies.

Mothers Movement Online; www.mothersmovement.org. An online resource for mothers and others who think about social change.

The National Partnership for Women & Families; www.nationalpartnership.org. This organization uses public education and advocacy to promote fairness in the workplace, quality health care, and policies that help women and men meet the dual demands of work and family.

Working America; www.workingamerica.org. Working America advocates for good jobs, affordable health care, world-class education and more.

visit www.lastingrelationships.org for more information.

More parent education and parent support group information can be found on our Web site, www.metro-parent.com.