

Gramor's Progress Ridge TownSquare opens Sept. 14

Gramor Development's Progress Ridge TownSquare will open Wednesday, Sept. 14.

The 200,000-square-foot development is the latest for Tualatin-based Gramor, which is among the Portland area's most active developers. Another major Gramor project, Wilsonville Old Town Square, opened in July.



AROUND TOWN

Progress Ridge, in Beaverton, is anchored by Portland-based New Seasons Market and Cinetopia, a luxury movie theater.

The complex, which is 85 percent leased, most recently signed Ace Hardware as a tenant. Ace will occupy almost 13,000 square feet of space.

Gramor first secured the former gravel pit in 2002 and teamed with a residential developer to create homes, retail, restaurants and office space on the 110-acre site. Progress Ridge will occupy about 20 acres at the intersection of Murray Boulevard and Southwest Barrows Road.

The company, which employs 15, does not reveal revenue. Reference USA, an online database, estimates its sales at more than \$8 million.

GREG BELL TO APPEAR ON OPB SPECIAL

Oregon Public Broadcasting TV will feature Portland author and motivational speaker Greg Bell during a 90-minute long special at 8 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15.

Bell is the founder of Portland's Water the Bamboo Center for Leadership, which emphasizes business and personal success.

Bell, a former Roosevelt High and University of Oregon basketball player, says the term "Water the Bamboo" is a metaphor for success because bamboo initially doesn't grow, but with care grows quickly.

"The question is, do you have the vision, faith, patience, persistence and focus to achieve what you want?" says Bell in a press release.

Bell has worked with more than 500 organizations across the country.

The program is partially funded by Portland law firm Schwabe, Williamson & Wyatt and Health Net, a Los Angeles-

based health insurer with an Oregon operation.

REGIONAL WINERIES HIT PEARL

More than 100 Willamette Valley wineries will convene in the Pearl District next weekend, marking the largest such gathering of regional wine-makers in Portland.

Called "Pinot in the City," the event, running Sept. 10

and Sept. 11, will showcase the region's wines with food purveyors, authors and other industry leaders.

Encompassing 47,000 square feet of space, the event is designed to "turn a single urban block into a wine country experience," according to a news release.

In addition to interacting with local winemakers, the event will feature local authors sharing industry insights, local cooperative Oregon Barrel Works showing how it turns oak into barrels and other experts discussing things such as the effect soil has on flavor.

"Having turned cities like Seattle and New York on to the region's celebrated wines through road shows, we wanted to turn our attention toward our own turf," Sue Horstmann, executive director of the Willamette Valley Wineries Association. "The weekend will treat urbanites to the whole spectrum of wine country culture while reminding them that much of wine country is less than an hour's drive away."

The event runs both days from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. at Northwest Ninth Avenue and Marshall Street. The cost is \$60 for one day or \$90 for two days.

Raffle tickets will also be sold to benefit EcoTrust's Farm to School Programs, which help bring locally grown products to school lunchrooms.

Proceeds also benefit ¡Salud!, a Willamette Valley organization that brings health care to area vineyard workers.

Go to www.willamettewines.com for information.

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