

## just news

# AIDS Memorial Quilt to be displayed

**M**ore than 2,000 panels of the Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt will be displayed Nov. 30 through Dec. 2 at the Oregon Convention Center. On Dec. 1, World AIDS Day, the Portland display will be the largest display of the quilt in the world.

Panels from the quilt will also be displayed at the Oregon Art Museum on Dec. 1, as part of A Day Without Art.

The focus of World AIDS Day 1990 is women and children. The Portland display will contain memorial panels for women and children who have died from AIDS.

James Bryson, president of the Oregon chapter of the Names Project, said more than 500 Oregonians have died of AIDS in the past nine years. "Many of these people will have quilt panels which will be part of the display," Bryson said. "The quilt provides a positive and creative means of expression for those whose lives have been touched by the AIDS epidemic."

Bryson said the quilt provides a means for public education by illustrating the impact of the AIDS epidemic and showing the humanity behind the statistics.

The entire Quilt has 12,592 individual 3-foot by 6-foot panels, each representing the life of someone who has died of AIDS. When the quilt

was first displayed in Washington, D.C. three years ago, the quilt had 1,920 panels. New panels are continually being added.

David Lemos, executive director of the Names Project, said the project is hosting the national display because the quilt is an uncommon and inspiring response to the epidemic. "Instead of forcing people to be silent about their loss and suffering, the quilt encourages them to express their grief and celebrate the life of someone they've loved," he said.

There will be an opening ceremony Nov. 30 at 7 pm. The unfolding of the quilt begins at 7:30 pm. Closing ceremonies begin at 5 pm on Dec. 2. The display will be open for viewing at 9 am on Dec. 1 and Dec. 2 and will close at 10 pm on Nov. 30 and Dec. 1.

People wishing to submit a panel to the Portland display should send them to The Names Project, 2140 SW Jefferson Blvd., suite 100, Portland, OR 97201, before Nov. 20. There will also be a panel check-in booth at the Convention Center during the display. Those wishing to have their panels included in the opening ceremonies need to have them at the Convention Center before 6 pm.

As in all other cities, all donations collected at the display will be distributed to local agencies providing direct services to people with AIDS/HIV and their loved ones.

## After 8 to sponsor Harvey Milk Dinner

**O**n Saturday, Nov. 17 at 6:30 pm in the Unitarian Fellowship Hall 2945 NW Circle Blvd., Corvallis, After 8 will sponsor the Harvey Milk Awards Dinner. Sally Gearhart, author, professor and activist, will be the featured speaker and "Somomundi," the Eugene Lesbian Choir will provide entertainment. "Harveys" will be awarded to individuals who have made outstanding contributions to the lesbian and gay community.

After 8 formed following the passage of Ballot Measure 8 in November 1988. After 8's goals are education, advocacy, and direct action to create conditions which ensure that all persons are protected from discrimination based on sexual orientation. Harvey Milk was the first openly gay elected official in this country and served briefly as a city supervisor in San Francisco until his assassination on Nov. 27, 1978. The Harvey Milk Awards Dinner was created to com-

memorate the achievements and contributions of Harvey Milk and to honor those persons who live out his legacy of activism on behalf of the lesbian and gay community.

Sally Gearhart is a professor in Speech Communication at San Francisco State University. She is the author for numerous short stories and articles on feminist theory. She labels herself "White Southern Christian Water-Treading Middle-Class," a "Radical Lesbian, Feminist, Animal Rights Advocate, Speaker, and Activist." She is featured in the film, *Word Is Out*, a documentary on lesbians and gay men. She also appears in the Academy Award winning documentary *The Times of Harvey Milk*. She will read part of the eulogy she gave at Harvey Milk's funeral and share her reflections on where the lesbian and gay community is now and where it is we need to go.

Tickets for the dinner are \$25 (tax deductible) and are on sale at Grassroots Bookstore in Corvallis, Mother Kali's Books in Eugene, and at Artichoke Music in Portland. The event is wheelchair accessible, and will be interpreted for the hearing impaired. For information call 753-1114.

## Revenge possible arson motive

**P**olice suspect arson at an apartment building owned by a gay man may have been motivated by revenge.

Investigators of the fire at 2254 NW Irving on Sept. 15, said the fire was started in a pile of combustible material in a corridor near the stairway. Officer Henry Groepper, Crime Stopper coordinator, said at the time of the fire, the owner was sick and "in pretty bad shape" so they were unable to question him. The owner, who lived in Vancouver, Wash., died of AIDS about three weeks after the fire.

Detective Bill Law of the Portland Police Bureau said all of the tenants of the building were gay men.

"There has been some speculation that he may have been sexually involved with some of the renters and not told them he was HIV-positive," Law said. He said that were checking out the possibility that someone was angry that the owner had exposed him to AIDS. He said they were also other possible motives.

The building, which was occupied by tenants when the fire was set, sustained about \$43,000 in damage. No one inside the building was injured.

As a Crime Stoppers case, any information will remain confidential and you need not give a name. There is a reward of up to \$1,000 for information leading to an arrest in the case. The Crime Stoppers phone number is 248-HELP.



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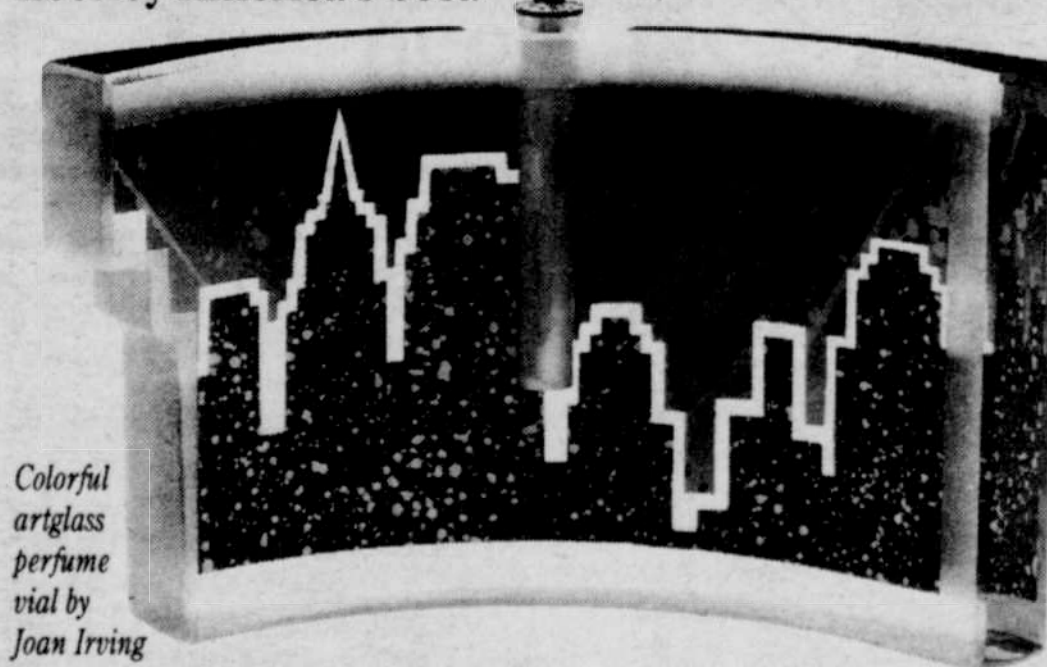
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