

# local news

## Public Enema Action

35 individuals participated in what was deemed a "Public Enema Action" at the Sunnyside Health Center and Chiropractic Clinic, on May 26. Protestors were acting in response to an incident in which an HIV positive woman was refused treatment by a medical practitioner at the clinic this past April.

According to the Radical Activist Truth Squad (RATS) and ACT-UP, the woman had an appointment at the clinic for a colonic enema, a procedure sometimes used in the treatment of HIV, to aid in keeping the immune system healthy. After entering the clinic, paying for the visit and dressing down, the woman informed the therapist of her HIV status. The health care worker would not administer the treatment, citing a lack of proper medical equipment for an "invasive procedure." Other than universal precautions, no special equipment is needed to give colonic enemas to persons who are HIV-infected. After the incident, the activists say that two doctors at the clinic confirmed that it is not their policy to treat persons living with HIV.

The woman in the case filed a complaint with the Chiropractic Licensing Board, which later decided that the doctors were within their rights to refuse treatment, because technically the woman had not been taken on as a patient. Christie Joachim, executive director for the Chiropractic Licensing Board, said the board decided that "there was not a denial of treatment per se...she had some other difficulties...she did not follow intake procedures....the complaint, as far as we're concerned, is closed at this time." Joachim also added, "This [complaint] has brought to our attention our field doctors' lack of knowledge in this areas." Joachim stated that the board is now doing educational programs and sending out rules and referral information to license holders about HIV and other pathogens.

The demonstration at the Sunnyside Clinic was co-sponsored by RATS and ACT UP, in an effort to call attention to the discrimination that people living with HIV/AIDS often encounter within the health industry. The two activist groups, who were involved in a political split this past year, seem to be moving towards a new cooperation, says Stephen Floyd of RATS.

## Plans postponed

The Office for Metropolitan Events says plans for a "Stand Up Portland" celebration, to affirm the diversity of Portland's population, have been postponed until August of next year, due to a lack of corporate sponsorship and time considerations.

"Stand Up Portland" was originally slated to happen August 22. The event will eventually consist of an all-day, city-wide celebration at Waterfront Park.

A year-long grassroots effort will begin sometime this summer to raise funds and plan the event for August, 1993, says Brenda Jacobs from the Metropolitan Events Office. Jacobs says that individuals interested in volunteering or donating funds to the event should contact Eric Fishman at 223-3299.

## Update on Esther's Pantry

Vicky Johnson, president of Esther's Pantry, says that the local agency has seen a dramatic decrease in cash donations in past months contrary to what was reported in *Just Out's* June article entitled "Charities are being pressed." Johnson says, "Donations, other than designated by estates of deceased patrons of the pantry and sponsored functions, are substantially down. In the past three months, the total of general donations has dropped dramatically to less than \$100. When you're spending between \$2,500 - 3,000 a month, there is definitely a reason for concern."

Johnson would also like to clarify that although the staff at Esther's Pantry is not very large, it is composed entirely of volunteers. If you are interested in becoming involved with this non-profit organization, call 236-4475.

## The Other Queens' Ball falls short of its monetary expectations

The Other Queens' Ball, the glittery, gala event of the year to raise funds for the Campaign for a Hate Free Oregon, apparently not only failed to make a profit, but ran into a deficit. The event was produced by Bill Dickey and a committee of 15 people chaired by John Baker. The producers sold drastically less tickets than they had expected. A number of groups were expected to support the event and didn't.

"Emotionally I feel pretty beat up over the fact that we didn't make any money," says Dickey. "I don't think there is anyone out there who can say that I don't care as much or more about the Campaign as anyone else."

"With the exception of a couple of items that were really my responsibility to manage, there was a committee of 15 people who made the budgetary decisions," explains Dickey.

The Oregon Freedom Festival, a proposed three day festival to celebrate Oregon's diversity also produced by Bill Dickey, was cancelled because of the unexpected short-fall of funds. The Oregon Freedom Walk, a five-kilometer, fundraising walkathon managed and sponsored by Ecumenical Ministries and the Campaign for a Hate Free Oregon, continues to move forward. "In fact, a mailing just went out this last week, and already we're getting new sponsors," reported the Reverend Rodney Page of Ecumenical Ministries.

## Guess who's coming to dinner

Urvashi Vaid, the Executive Director for the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, will be this year's keynote speaker at the Right to Privacy Political Action Committee's 11th Annual Lucille Hart Dinner. The dinner is RTP's largest fundraiser of the year; money raised at the event aids the PAC's pursuit of full civil rights for Oregon's lesbian, gay and bisexual community. Vaid, who was in Portland recently to help in the fight against the Oregon Citizens Alliance, oversees the NGLTF's national membership lobby for lesbian and gay civil rights. She has served as that group's executive director since 1989.

## Pride of the Rose

The Pride of the Rose Scholarship is once again accepting applications for scholarships from gays, lesbians, or their children, who are pursuing their education beyond the secondary level and can show proof of need. This is year 14 for the scholarship fund. Applications are available during July, with scholarships awarded in August for the '92-'93 school year. The scholarships, available to Portland Tri-county area or Clark County Washington residents, are administered through the Equity Foundation. Applications may be obtained at The Embers, 110 NW Broadway, Portland; The City Nightclub, 13 NW 13th, Portland; or through the Equity Foundation, P.O. Box 5696, Portland, OR 97228 (phone 280-0628); Frank Schreckenberger at 236-1091; Curt Meyers at 639-0888. Applications must be received by July 31.

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