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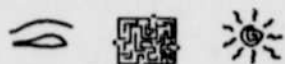


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# local news

## Wheel of change

*Feminist bookstore in Eugene celebrates milestone, seeks support from community*

by Inga Sorensen

**F**or two decades, Mother Kali's Bookstore, a not-for-profit bookstore in Eugene, has been a mainstay for the women's and lesbian community in Lane County.

"Mother Kali's has always been dedicated to women's rights. In fact, we were founded 20 years ago by four women who borrowed \$500 to open the store," says 68-year-old Izzie Harbaugh, who has been with Mother Kali's for 17 years. "We've always worked to provide an environment that is safe and welcoming to women and children."

According to Harbaugh, Mother Kali's has done so by specializing in offering a diverse array of publications and music by and about women. Today, Mother Kali's—which is described as the oldest feminist bookstore in Oregon and Washington—has about 6,000 titles, including a large section catering to gay men and lesbians and people of color. The store continues to act as a resource and information center. "We do lots of referrals," she says.

In November, Mother Kali's will celebrate its 20th birthday—it is an anniversary that is marked by joy and a sense of unease.

According to Harbaugh, book-selling superstores such as Barnes & Noble and Borders have been cropping up nationwide, often making life difficult for smaller independent booksellers who can't order in the vast quantities that superstores can (thus making them ineligible for the large publisher discounts enjoyed by the megastores).

"We're experiencing that phenomenon in Eugene," says Harbaugh, who says Mother Kali's is

\$35,000 in debt. "Like many independent bookstores, we are having a difficult time financially." To compound the problem, Harbaugh says Mother Kali's moved to a new and more costly location 14 months ago and purchased a computer system to track inventory and sales.

"We thought the new location would help sales, but the move hasn't paid off yet," she says. "We need the community's support."

On Nov. 11, a combination benefit dance, silent auction and birthday party will be held to help raise funds for Mother Kali's Bookstore. The event will feature Blue Lightning, an all-women rock-and-roll band from Ashland. The silent auction

will start at 7:30 pm, with music and dancing going on from 8 pm to midnight. The event will be held at Agate Hall, located near the University of Oregon campus at 18th and Agate streets in Eugene. Tickets are \$7-\$15 sliding scale and are

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available in advance from Mother Kali's, 720 E 13th St. The public is encouraged to attend, and the event will be ASL interpreted and wheelchair accessible. A special request is out to anyone wishing to donate goods and services for the silent auction. Please contact Mother Kali's at 343-4864 by Nov. 10 to offer donations.

A separate fund-raising event is set for the Nov. 25 performance of the one-woman play *Blaspheme*, which will be held at the Lord Leebrick Theater in Eugene. Tickets for that performance will be \$9-\$50 sliding scale. Please call Little Apple Productions at 465-9240 for more information about the play.

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Cocktails in Panorama

*Contest will be shown via closed circuit in all clubs*

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Must be 21 w/ID

### Cascade AIDS Project hosts men's fashion show

Cascade AIDS Project is hosting a men's fashion show at Gold's Gym in Northwest Portland. The benefit, dubbed "Ready to Live/Dress for Life," is set for Nov. 4 and will begin at 8 pm. Professional male models will don the latest fashions from Alex Forma, Banana Republic, The Gap, Mario's, Nike, Saks Fifth Avenue, The Showroom and Why Not.

Several local celebrities will also take to the runway, and guests will have an opportunity to bid on the clothes through an oral auction.

Tickets for the show are \$35 each and may be purchased by calling CAP at 223-5907, ext. 193. Proceeds from the show directly benefit CAP's HIV Primary Prevention Services.



### Solidarity Sunday a hit

Beyond the Closet Inc. and Dignity/USA, the world's largest organization of sexual minority Catholics, are calling their Solidarity Sunday a success.

The event, held Oct. 8, called upon people of

religious faith to wear a rainbow ribbon throughout the day. The project was part of a nationwide outreach to people of faith who want to counteract violent and discriminatory rhetoric.

"At least one church here in Bend made the rainbow ribbons available to the congregations, and I would imagine other churches did so also," says Bruce Amsbary, president of the Bend-based Beyond the Closet, a gay and lesbian rights organization. "Even if just one or two people in a congregation wore the ribbon we would consider it a success. This is a difficult issue, and to see people outwardly supporting gays and lesbians is very uplifting. We're very pleased."

### Duehmig announces candidacy

Bob Duehmig, a health care and education policy specialist for the Oregon Federation of Teachers, Education and Health Professionals, has announced his candidacy for the Oregon House of Representatives, District 12. The seat is currently held by state Rep. Gail Shibley, who is running for the Portland City Council.

Duehmig, a Democrat, plans to focus his campaign on education and issues of livability and affordable housing in Portland.

Duehmig, who is openly gay, vows to work against any initiative designed to limit the civil rights of any Oregonian. He lives in the John's Landing area of Southwest Portland.

Compiled by Inga Sorensen