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**LOCAL news**

**PRIDE FOUNDATION  
ISSUES WINTER GRANTS**

A handful of queer-related projects in the Portland metropolitan area have received awards from the Seattle-based Pride Foundation during its winter 1998 granting cycle.

Three Portland-based organizations each received \$5,000. Grants went to Love Makes a Family, for its Parent/Child Program, which provides support to and strives to increase understanding of queer families; the Urban League of Portland, for its Rainbow Summer Jobs Project, which promotes job development and career mentoring for low-income sexual minority youth; and the Lesbian Community Project, for its rebuilding/revitalization effort.

Lifeforce, based in Vancouver, received \$5,000 for its emergency trust account, which provides direct emergency services to those living with HIV/AIDS throughout Southwest Washington.

Since 1987, the Pride Foundation has issued grants totaling more than \$1 million to more than 200 Northwest organizations that work to build strong queer communities.



**NW PRIDE ORGANIZERS  
TO GATHER IN PORTLAND**

From March 27 to 29, Pride Northwest Inc., producer of Portland's annual Pride festival and parade, will host a gathering of Pride organizers from western Canada and the Pacific Northwest.

Participants will include representatives from Pacific Inter-regional Pride Producers International, whose members hail from Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Alaska, Hawaii, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

The conference is expected to draw as many as 50 organizers of both large and small Pride celebrations.

Any potential producers from cities or towns in the region who are considering sponsoring a Pride celebration are invited to attend.

The purpose of the weekend is to share information, provide contacts, brainstorm about fund raising and programs, and show support for those just starting out.

Last year, the association produced a poster called "Pride Without Borders," which listed information about 26 Pride celebrations, including Eugene's, Portland's and Salem's. It was distributed in all the listed cities.

A 1998 poster is planned, and any business interested in sponsoring the project may contact the association through Pride Northwest, at 295-9788.

Pride Northwest is also seeking volunteers

to assist with housing, transportation, food and/or flower donations.

**TIE YOURSELF IN KNOTS  
FOR A GOOD CAUSE**

Portland's first communitywide yoga event and breast cancer benefit, Positive Yoga '98, is slated to be held from 1 to 5 pm Saturday, March 7, at Portland State University. Organizers hope to make it an annual event.

More than 300 yoga enthusiasts of all experience levels are expected to gather to raise \$35,000 to benefit breast cancer education and research through the Susan G. Komen Foundation's greater Portland chapter.

With a \$50 minimum donation or sponsorship, participants in Positive Yoga '98 may partake in 14 yoga classes.

The scheduled keynote speaker for the fundraiser is Helen McVey, a breast cancer survivor and yoga teacher at Unity Woods Yoga Center in Virginia. She will teach a class she developed specifically for breast cancer survivors.

The opening inspirational message will be given by Dr. Marilyn Sewell, senior minister of Portland's First Unitarian Church. Sewell, a yoga practitioner, is also the editor of *Cries of the Spirit* and *Claiming the Spirit Within: A Sourcebook of Women in Poetry*.

For registration information, call the Positive Yoga '98 hot line at 242-1874, voice mail box No. 4.

**HISPANIC CULTURAL  
CENTER NEARS  
REALIZATION**

The Miracle Theatre Group, which seeks "to provide quality Hispanic theater, arts and cultural experiences for the Northwest region's metropolitan and rural audiences," is working to create a Hispanic cultural center.

To that end, the Milagro Development Group LLC, co-owned by Miracle Theatre and J. Daniel and Maria Rojo Steffey, recently purchased a building located at Southeast Sixth Avenue and Stark Street in Portland.

"The building's purchase is the realization of a dream held for many years," says José Eduardo González, Miracle's executive artistic director and co-founder. "It is the first important step toward realizing our goal of creating the first Hispanic cultural center in Portland, something that has been lacking for a long time. The center will be an essential ingredient in the building of a vital Hispanic community and a resource for cross-cultural communication and understanding."

The building's purchase was financed by Albina Community Bank, a Portland-based community development bank that focuses its efforts on North and Northeast Portland, and minority and women-owned businesses.

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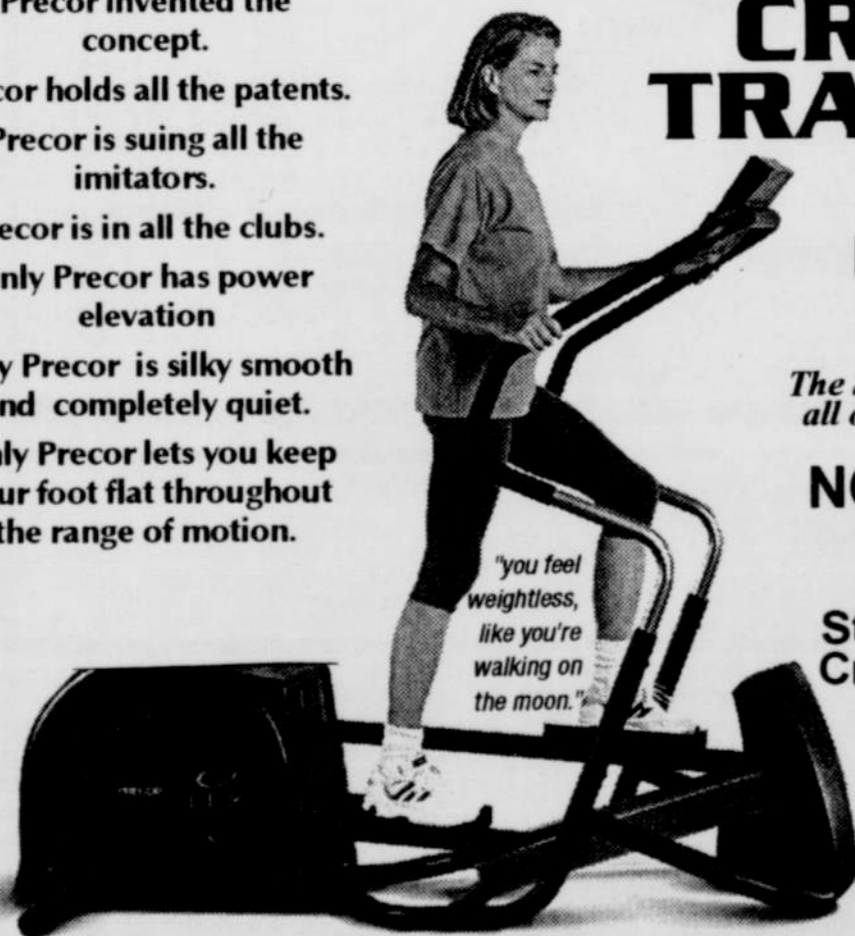
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**transition**

**A LOSS FELT DEEPLY**

Kim Ivy Morano died at home Jan. 8 after a four-month struggle with lung cancer. Family members with her when she died were her lover, Renée Cherry; her mother, Dana; and her father, Bob. She also left behind her beloved cat, Stubbs.

Morano moved to Oregon in October 1996 and worked as a painter and plasterer with a local reconstruction company. She was from Long Island, New York. She had also lived in

Los Angeles.

Morano leaves a legacy of dignity and compassion for others. Friends say she had the ability to make anyone she encountered feel special. She was loved by many, and her loss is deeply felt.

A personal message from Renée Cherry: "Although my heart is heavy with your passing, I am honored that you loved me as strongly and intensely as you did. The world has lost a valuable gift. Kim, I love you very, very, very much."