

PORTLAND HATE CRIME REPORTS DECLINE

The number of reported hate crimes in Portland has dropped nearly 43 percent for the first nine months of 1997 compared with the same period the previous year.

Reports dropped from 133 in 1996 to 93 last year. Reported hate crimes involving sexual orientation dropped from 42 in 1996 to 31 in 1997. Race-related reports declined from 66 in 1996 to 47 last year.

Hate or bias crimes are those motivated by prejudices based on race, color, sexual orientation, political affiliation, religion, national origin, or physical or mental disability.

DOMESTIC PARTNER BENEFITS IMMINENT IN VANCOUVER

The City of Vancouver will extend employee benefits to domestic partners starting May 1.

The policy, which applies to both same-sex and opposite-sex couples, provides the same benefits to domestic partners of city employees that are currently given to spouses and dependents. Those benefits include health and life insurance, sick and bereavement leave, and other offerings.

An employee who wants to claim a domestic partner is required to sign a confidential affidavit.

Vancouver joins four other cities and one county in Washington that offer benefits to domestic partners. The others are Olympia, Seattle, Tumwater and King County.

QUEER GROUP SETTLES WITH TRANSSEXUAL ACTIVIST

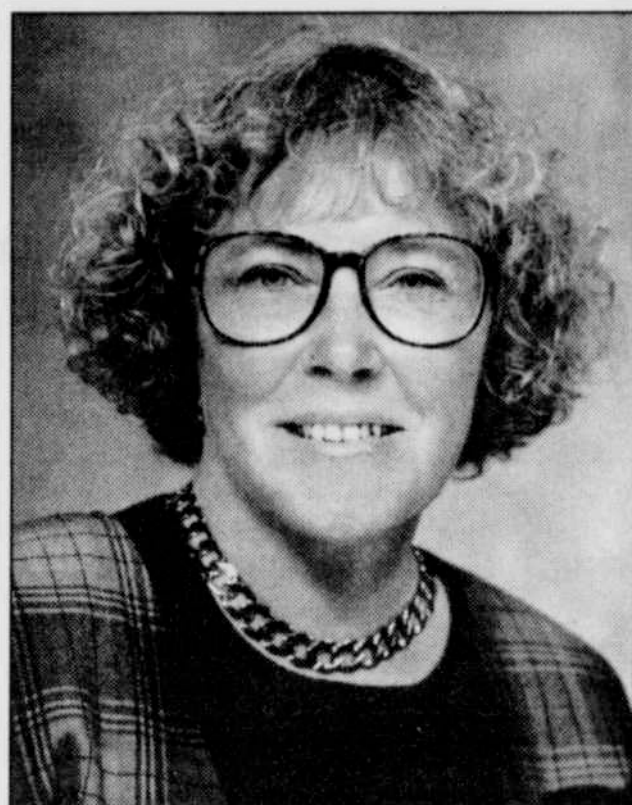
The Seattle-based Gay Community Social Services and Portland activist Margaret Deirdre O'Hartigan have negotiated a settlement that brings to a close a case involving O'Hartigan's allegation GCSS violated a Seattle human rights ordinance prohibiting discrimination against transsexuals.

The late-March settlement comes nearly four months after the Seattle Office for Civil Rights issued a "Notice of Reasonable Cause Finding" that GCSS arbitrarily excluded a protected class—transsexual women—from meetings of the Seattle Bisexual Women's Network. O'Hartigan says she was denied admittance to SBWN meetings in 1993 and 1994 under an SBWN policy in effect from 1991 to 1994 that excluded transsexuals.

Under the terms of the settlement, GCSS has, in part, paid O'Hartigan \$3,500, and its board members and staff will be required to attend a training session on nondiscrimination law provided by the Seattle Office for Civil Rights.

Via a March 25 press statement, O'Hartigan says the settlement ends a process begun nearly five years ago when she was initially denied admittance. She says at the time, the Seattle Human Rights Commission refused to act on her discrimination complaint. O'Hartigan filed the complaint herself and also overturned a finding of "no reasonable cause" issued in May 1996.

"Five years is a long time to wait for justice," says O'Hartigan. "What is most alarming is the thought that many people victimized by discrimination may not have the tenacity or the ability to pursue justice by themselves, as I did. What the conclusion to my complaint will hopefully convey is not only that discrimination against transsexuals won't be tolerated in Seattle, but that people need to persevere regardless of the obstacles placed in their path."



Gretchen Miller Kafoury

MILLER KAFOURY TO RECEIVE SHEPHERD HONOR

Longtime local politico Gretchen Miller Kafoury, currently a Portland city commissioner, has been named the recipient of this year's Bill and Ann Shepherd's Award. She will receive the honor during the second annual Shepherd's Award Dinner, slated for May 1.

Miller Kafoury has been a human rights advocate for many years. As an Oregon state representative in the 1970s and 1980s, she pushed for gay and lesbian rights protections. Later, as a Multnomah County commissioner, Miller Kafoury worked on a countywide nondiscrimination ordinance.

She began serving on the Portland City Council in 1991; that year, she and other commissioners unanimously approved a historic ordinance that prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation in housing, employment and public accommodations.

Miller Kafoury has said she will retire from the council at the end of her current term, which closes Dec. 31.

The Shepherd's Award Dinner will be held aboard the Portland Spirit. The evening will feature a "Monte Carlo" theme. Tickets are \$75 each. For more information or to reserve tickets, call the Metropolitan Community Church of Portland at 281-8868.

OUTSIDE IN TEAMS UP WITH CDC TO FIGHT STDs

The Portland-based social service organization Outside In and the federal Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are working together to develop outreach campaigns designed to study and test at-risk and homeless youth in Multnomah County for HIV and chlamydia.

With the CDC's support, Outside In has put together an interdisciplinary team of medical and public health institutions to plan and implement the outreach campaigns. The players include Oregon Health Sciences University's Division of Adolescent Health and the National College of Naturopathic Medicine. The state health division and Multnomah County Health Department will be involved in the planning, training and evaluation of the project.

The outreach team targets sites throughout the county where homeless and at-risk youth can be reached in casual settings. Young people will get free tests as well as education and will be provided with counseling and resources after receiving their test results. Youth testing positive for chlamydia can be treated at Outside In.

■ Compiled by INGA SORENSEN

Financial planning is a long-term client-advisor relationship built upon two-way communication. By listening to you, I can understand your individual needs, concerns and goals. Then, together, we make decisions that prepare you with the solutions, strategies and honest answers that take you toward achieving those goals.

Finally, someone to do the homework.

ERIC D. BROWN
Financial Advisor



503-238-6036
800-684-5245

Waddell & Reed
FINANCIAL SERVICES

Propecia™

New once-a-day pill for male pattern hair loss.

Call for free consultation with medical doctor.

Center for Men's Health
699-9520

Q: What do *the* 1% of small businesses that succeed have in common?

A: They develop a marketing plan

Steps to Success™ is a program developed by Cymitar that offers one-on-one professional consultation and step-by-step marketing guidance for new and growing businesses - **all at an affordable price.**

Call Cymitar Inc.
1-800-755-5399 or visit our web site at www.cymitarinc.com

Cymitar Inc.

▼ **Buying or Selling...? Let Our Family Help Your Family into the Home of Your Dreams!**

"We start by listening..."

- ▼ ...to your hopes
- ▼ ...to your wishes
- ▼ ...to your dreams"

▼ **Millynn James**

Associate Broker, GRI
Multimillion-dollar Producer

Karen Sorensen, Licensed Assistant equity group realtors, inc.

▼ **OUT on Broadway..!**
2100 NE Broadway, Suite 1-B
Portland, OR 97232

CALL NOW to schedule your FREE CONSULTATION!

▼ **Office 503-287-8989 x122** ▼ **Cellular/pager 330-HOME(4663)**

▼ **OUT of the area?... Call our 24 hour Nationwide Powerline now!**
1-800-825-9948, #555

▼ **e-mail: millynn@aol.com**

▼ **millynn's website: www.equitygroup.com/millynn**

▼ **Proudly CELEBRATING 9 years serving Our Community's real estate needs, & 30 yrs in the struggle for basic human rights!**

▼ **Supporting Our Business enables Our Continued Support of MANY community resources & progressive organizations: Ask us for a list! Know where your \$\$ go!**



photo by linda kliever

▼ **Blue, Karen, Millynn & Belle**