

THE COMMUNITY'S HOME LOAN

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CASH NO-FLOW

Sacred Grounds needs a prayer, It's My Pleasure struggles with not so pleasurable times

LOCAL news

fter struggling for financial footing for 15 months, time has run out for the Sacred Grounds coffeehouse located adjacent to It's My Pleasure. A combination of factors is forcing owner Bonnie Westfall to close the gathering spot at the end of this month.

While the space has grown as a resource center, sales have dropped off to the point where the losses

can no longer be sustained.

Compounding the impact of the lack of income is the fact that the facility, while meeting all health

department codes, is not in compliance with current building code requirements.

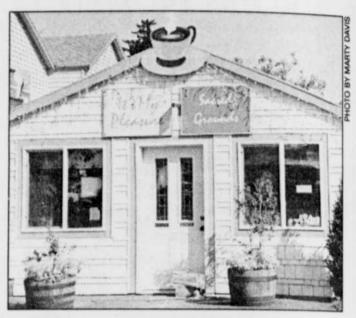
The huge obstacle of having no money to bring the converted garage up to the electrical and plumbing standards prompted Bonnie's

For the time being, the lending library will

depend on the results of further building inspections.

The Sacred Grounds Drive-in is not impacted by this closure and remains open for business at 3255 N.E. 82nd Ave., in the parking lot of the Original Taco House.

hough It's My



the store a destination point, there is simply no way for Holly to compete with the large bookstore chains.

While some might criticize her for moving from the more popular location on Hawthorne, the fact remains that rising costs forced Holly out of that spot. When the store first opened in 1991, rent was \$315 per month. By the time she moved from the newer, larger Hawthorne store, the rent had skyrocketed to \$2,000 per month and would have reached \$3,000 in another two years. Essentially, she had to move.

Plans are still underway for the construction of a wheelchair ramp at the 64th Avenue location. The determination to make the store

> accessible remains firm; however, the cost is estimated at more than \$5,000 to build a code-compliant ramp. That's a lot of rainbow stickers to sell.

r. Wendy Callander, a former physician with Peace Health Medical Group in Eugene, is now the staff medical physician at Western States Chiropractic College King Road Chiropractic and Medical Clinic.

painful decision to close. remain in the space, but long-term plans

THE QUEER PROFIT

Marty Davis

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Pleasure is losing a tenant, Sacred Grounds manager Becky Bilyeu is not going to be jobless

for long. By the time you read this, she will have opened her new business, Touchstone Coffee House.

Formerly Paradise Coffee, located at 7610 N.E. Glisan St., her new coffeehouse will feature beverages, pastries and a most decidedly gayfriendly atmosphere. Music is on the menu for Friday and Saturday nights.

Jolly Mulcahey, owner of It's My Pleasure is not faring much better with her novelty, book and music store. Since moving the store from its previous location on bustling Southeast Hawthorne Boulevard to 3106 N.E. 64th Ave. in Portland, sales have continued to dwindle.

No timetable has been set with respect to how much longer Holly can remain in business, but one thing is clear-lesbian and gay business owners like Holly and Bonnie need the community's support to stay afloat.

Her immediate plans include focusing more on the "sex toys and pleasurable items" that she carries. Erotic books will remain, but the store will no longer carry its more complete inventory of lesbian novels, nonfiction and women's books. Without a customer base willing to make



Wendy Callander (top) and Karen Sorensen

aren Sorensen has launched her new business, Digital Real Estate Services. She has the tools and skills to help real estate agents place digital photos of their listings and properties on the Internet. Her new motto is "Picture it Sold."

If you have business-related news with a queer bent, please contact Marty Davis at the Just Out office.