

PARTNERSHIP REGISTRY HEARING

If you haven't heard everything you want to know about Multnomah County's proposal for a domestic partnership registry, you still have a chance.

A first reading of the proposed ordinance and public hearing will be held July 20 at the Multnomah County Commission Boardroom. Copies of the proposed ordinance will be available to those who attend. The hearing is the first of two that the commission will hold before voting on the ordinance. A vote is expected later in the summer.

The hearings follow a series of public meetings held to provide citizens an opportunity to voice their opinions about the proposed registry. The final public meeting was in Gresham on July 6.

The registry was proposed by Portland Mayor Vera Katz, City Commissioner Dan Saltzman and County Commissioners Lisa Naito and Serena Cruz. The ordinance, if passed, would allow domestic partners an opportunity to have their unions legally recognized.

A citizens working group has been collaborating with the four governmental leaders to bring the issue before the city and county. The group has researched the proposal for several months, looking at registries in other jurisdictions and working through legal and policy issues.

For more information about the public hearing contact, Mary Carroll at (503) 248-5275.

PRIDE NORTHWEST BOARD IN TURMOIL

Although Pride 2000 was deemed a success by its organizers, members of the Pride Northwest board of directors haven't really been able to enjoy their success.

Pride Northwest, the nonprofit group that orchestrates Portland's annual pride event, is experiencing what can only be described as infighting.

Just Out has learned that long-time board member and self-described historian Janna MacAuslan was voted off the board at a June 29 meeting. The elections were held during a closed session after non-board members and Just Out's reporter were asked to leave.

Tamara Swan was similarly voted off the board earlier in June, according to MacAuslan. MacAuslan says she was ousted, by a 6-2 vote, because of petty grievances and personality clashes.

MacAuslan says she and Swan were removed from the board in a way that does not follow the procedures outlined in the group's bylaws. Both women are expected to challenge their removals at an upcoming community meeting.

The community meeting will be held at 6:30 p.m. July 13 in Room 328 of Portland State

University's Smith Center, 1825 S.W. Broadway. The event is open to the public and those attending will have an opportunity to address the board.

BASIC RIGHTS OREGON TO HOST GARDEN PARTY

By the time Basic Rights Oregon supporters gather for the organization's annual Garden Party, everyone will know if BRO is headed for a battle with the Oregon Citizens Alliance.

The fund-raiser will be held at the stately gardens of Drs. Geoff Beasley and Jim Sampson in Sherwood on July 22. The gardens have been featured in *Better Homes and Gardens* and on *Martha Stewart Living*.

Jaime Balboa, executive director of BRO, says the party is known as a fun event. But this year the party comes at a critical time, he adds.

"The OCA's new anti-gay, anti-education measure is virtually sure to qualify," Balboa says.

The executive director is hoping the event will help to raise awareness and raise the necessary funds to keep BRO healthy and to finance the campaign against the OCA's Student Protection Act.

Balboa wants the event to be accessible to anyone who wants to attend, so his organization will be offering sliding-scale "community tick-

ets." The \$50 ticket price will be cut in half for those who qualify.

Contact BRO for tickets at (503) 222-6151 or basicro@aol.com.

LOSING THE EDGE, GETTING SOME Z'S

Club Z, a new all ages nightclub, opens July 8 in downtown Portland. The new club takes over the space once occupied by the Edge, also an all ages nightclub.

Zig, a former owner of a teen club in Salem, took over the lease July 1. The new owner says he is busy cleaning up the place and putting in new sound and lighting systems and installing video monitors. His goal is to have a classier club that is open to all people, not just sexual minority teens.

Zig is not clear about the Edge's demise. "It's not for me to speculate," he says. But Zig adds that he's heard complaints from teens that the space was not an appealing place to hang out.

"I want this to be the kids' club," Zig says.

He doesn't want to be just an adult taking kids' money, he says. He plans on a committee of 10 customers meeting once a month to give feedback and suggestions.

The club will be open from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. and will be open with food service during the day.

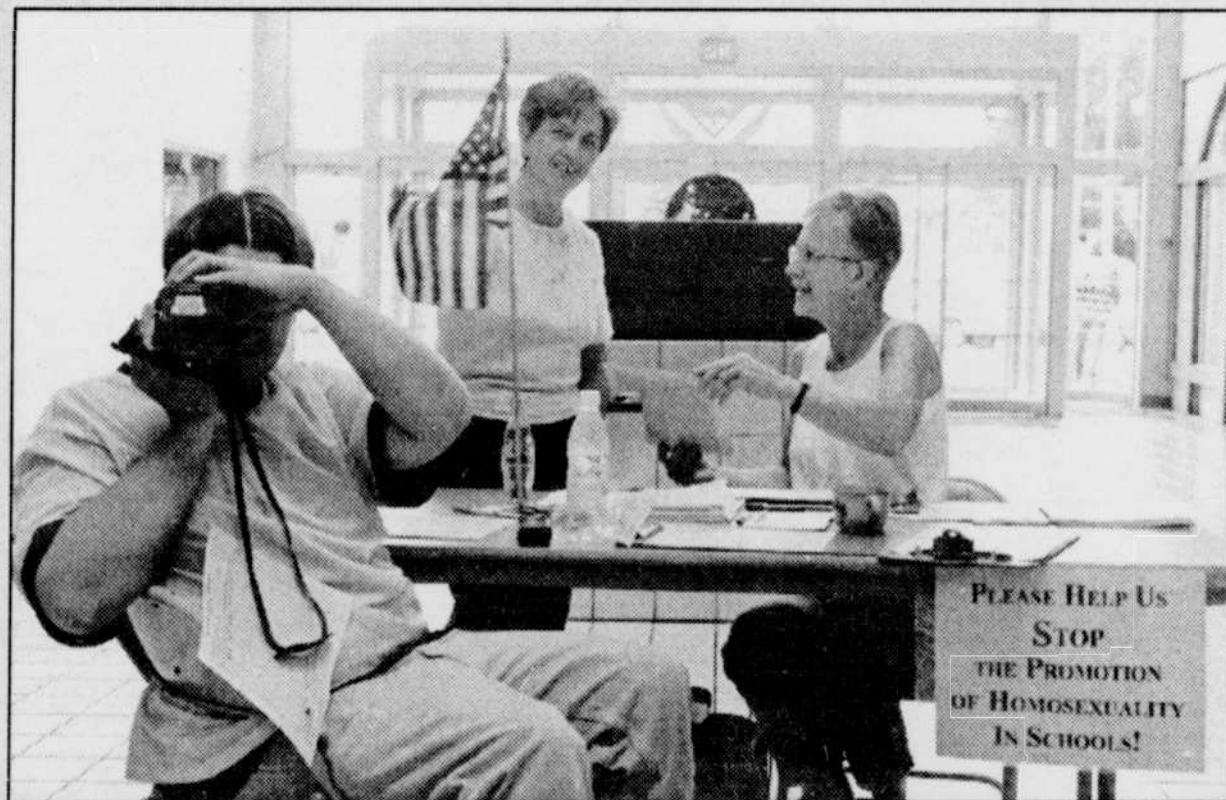
For more information, call (503) 242-2899.

■ Reported by JONATHAN KIPP

Pride Northwest, the nonprofit group that orchestrates Portland's annual pride event, is experiencing what can only be described as infighting

BIGOT BUSTERS

Theresa Lewis (standing) signed the Oregon Citizens Alliance's ballot petition July 1 at Salem's Lancaster Mall. (Other OCA supporters declined to identify themselves.) Aiming for the November election, the OCA is expected to submit more than 67,000 signatures supporting its Student Protection Act to the secretary of state's office July 7. Results of the secretary's review of the signatures should be available by July 14.



From left: Bigot Busters Jordana Sardo of Portland, Ken Brown of Hillsboro and Israel Otteson of Salem also were at Lancaster Mall on July 1. Their mission was to educate voters and hopefully discourage them from signing the OCA's petition.



Portlander Alicia Plumb (holding sign) and other Bigot Busters stage a demonstration outside the mall.

PHOTOS BY JONATHAN KIPP