april 6, 2001 · just out o

### NORTHWESTNews

The task force's next step is to document actual cases of discrimination in the lives of East County residents. Those willing to tell their story can do so in writing or in person. A public hearing will be held in late April so officials can hear firsthand accounts from people who have been discriminated against because of their sexual orientation, source of income or gender identity.

The task force is working with the largest employers as well as other municipalities in the area in an attempt to gain widespread support for the ordinance before it goes to the Multnomah County Commission. No opposition has been reported thus far.

But the Portland Bisexual Alliance is concerned about the potential wording of the proposal. The group called a community meeting March 30 after the task force unanimously voted to use the language in Portland's Civil Rights Ordinance as a starting point.

The city added gender identity and source of income to the list of protected groups in its ordinance last December. Critics opposed the wording because they say it still allows landlords to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation and is inconsistent with state law.

Also at issue, the alliance's Sven Bonnichsen says, is how the Tanner v. Oregon Health Sciences University decision could affect Portland's anti-discrimination ordinance if a legal challenge arose. He says the judge in the 1998 case made it clear that the state constitution has a "no special rights" passage.

Bonnichsen says the Portland model might not be an appropriate one because of concerns about its constitutionality. Task force co-chair Kris Burr says she will recruit an attorney to look into the matter.

For more information about providing testimony or the task force, call the Metropolitan Human Rights Center at 503-823-5136 or send e-mail to mhrc@ci.portland.or.us. The Portland Bisexual Alliance can be reached at pdxbialliance@aol.com

### **MAYOR'S LIAISON MOVES ON**

7 im Roth, the volunteer liaison between the sexual minorities community and



Kris Burr serves as the co-chair of Multnomah County's Civil Rights Task Force

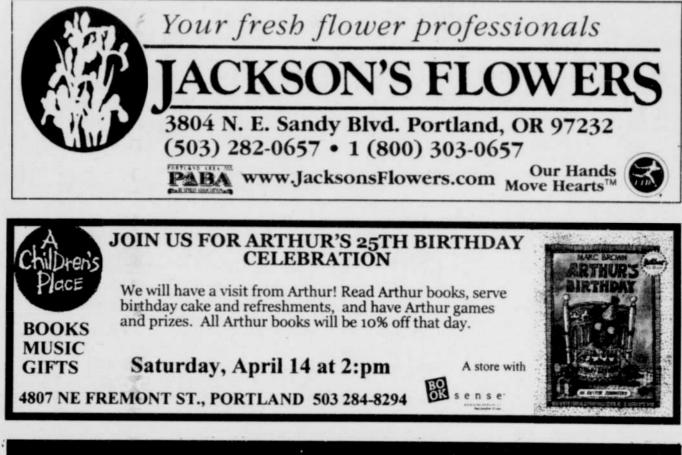
Portland Mayor Vera Katz, moved home recently to her native Detroit. The mayor's chief of staff, Sam Adams, says his office will look at the issue of her departure later this spring. He didn't specify whether a replacement would be named.

Roth started volunteering during Katz's mayoral campaign in 1991. When Katz won the election, Roth started doing liaison work. Adams said she helped keep two-way communication and information flowing between the mayor's office and the sexual minorities community.

Adams said Roth did a great job for the mayor's office and was especially helpful in her efforts related to the domestic partnership registry and the reaction to Portland Police Chief Mark Kroeker's tapes last fall.

#### **EUGENE PRIDE DATE SET**

rganizers recently announced Lane County's Pride Day celebration will be June 30 at Washington-Jefferson Park in Eugene. The Equality Project will sponsor a committee meeting from 1 to 3 p.m. April 22







# 20 to 30 years from now you may thank us.



It looks like Sauvie Island sunbathers better prepare for those pesky tan lines

in the EWEB Community Room at Fourth and High in Eugene.

For more information send e-mail to alanb@efn.org.

### JUDGE RULES AGAINST NUDE BEACH

ccording to The Oregonian, Colum-A bia County Judge Ted Grove will order an injunction in the Sauvie Island nude beach case.

The order is expected to affect legal nude sunbathing this summer, but he did not say specifically that he would put a ban on nudists. Grove intends to hold a hearing before he releases the specifics on the injunction.

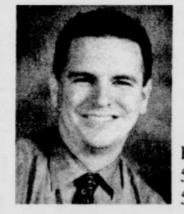
Two homeowners sued the state, which has sanctioned the nude beach since at least the 1970s, and the judge heard the case earlier this winter. Teri Powers and her husband, Glen Mark, say that nude sunbathers are a nuisance and that day visitors trespass and engage in sexual acts on their property.

The plaintiffs own a home 425 feet away from the nude bathing area. The couple have been fighting with the state over the issue since 1992.

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