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the state's plan to name residents testing positive for HIV is taking his medicine again.

Steve Henson initiated the protest last winter after the Oregon Health Division announced it would implement a names reporting policy July 1. But he changed his mind when Gov. John Kitzhaber's health policy adviser, Mark Gibson, assured him the plan would not be enacted until all the issues with affected communities could be resolved.

After just a month back on his medicine, Henson told *Just Out* that his viral load is back to undetectable levels but that his CD4 count has continued to drop.

WRONG NUMBER KEEPS CALLERS WAITING

The new telephone number assigned to the Lesbian Community Project when it moved to its new digs at the downtown YWCA didn't get callers to the new office because the number didn't work. The organization since has been reassigned a working phone number, 503-294-7435.

KROEKER WILL MARCH

A spokesman for the Portland Police Bureau confirmed Chief Mark Kroeker does plan to march in this year's Pride parade June 17. He also will compete in the annual Grudge Match against the Rose City Softball Association on June 16.

Kroeker found himself embroiled in a highly publicized controversy last fall when decade-old tapes containing his disparaging comments about homosexuals were discovered for sale on the Internet.

MOM AND TRIPLETS RESTING, WAITING

The Corvallis woman who was impregnated via artificial insemination and then learned she was going to have triplets is now on doctor-ordered bed rest in Eugene's Sacred Heart Hospital.

Sandi Washburn went into premature labor earlier this month during the 30th week of her pregnancy. Doctors successfully stopped the contractions with medication but want her to spend at least the next four weeks in a hospital bed. They are hoping to continue the pregnancy until at least 34 weeks.

Friends and community members who have been busy fund raising for Washburn and her partner, Shelley Willis, say some of the money recently was used to purchase a new van for the growing family.

COUNCIL WILL HEAR PLAN FOR WEST END

The Portland City Council will hear public testimony about the plan for the West End, including the Burnside Triangle. The neighborhood, with Southwest Stark Street at its center, is the hub of local gay night life.

The hearing will focus on the controversy surrounding zoning. Developers and landowners want the city to switch much of the area's blocks from residential to commercial.

Activists adamantly oppose such a change, insisting commercial zoning would lead to gentrification and high housing costs.

The hearing is scheduled for 2:30 p.m. June 21 at City Hall, 1221 S.W. Fourth Ave.



Balloons on Broadway has floated around the corner

BALLOONS ON BROADWAY MOVES AROUND CORNER

The gay-owned balloon store along downtown's Broadway recently moved around the corner. Owners Ron Pitt and Gary Hoping say they carry outrageous cards and gifts as well as the coolest balloon bouquets on the planet. Shoppers now can find Balloons on Broadway at 617 S.W. Washington St.

For more information call 503-241-3336 or visit the Internet site www.balloonsonbroadway.com.

MEDFORD STUDENTS FORM CLUB TO SUPPORT QUEERS

A group of 23 students at South Medford High School have organized the United Sexuality Student Group, a gay-straight support network. The club started in April.

Members told the *Medford Mail Tribune* that reaction has ranged from jokes and smirks to the occasional caustic comment. Students at both North and South Medford high schools formed the clubs after watching the more liberal Ashland High form a gay-straight alliance earlier in the school year.

When parents read about the new group in the campus newspaper, the kids said their principal defended their right to be at the school.

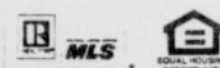
"We're not promoting homosexuality," member Jack Lynch said. "We're just trying to lessen violence and educate people." □

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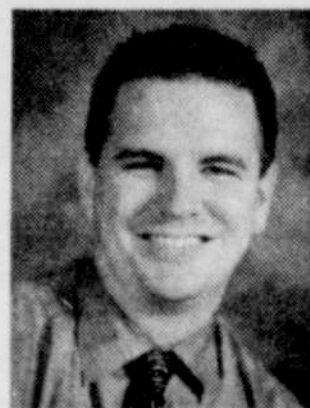
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