

Continued from Page 11

ban against ordaining homosexuals. According to the Book of Disciples, "self-avowed practicing homosexuals" may not be appointed to service in the church.

SMITH INTRODUCES GLOBAL AIDS BILL

U.S. Sens. Gordon Smith, R-Ore., and Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., introduced legislation June 28 ensuring that the United States will continue to play an active leadership role in the international fight against HIV/AIDS. The Boxer-Smith Global AIDS Research and Relief Act would authorize additional funding to prevent and treat the disease abroad.

"The global fight against HIV/AIDS is one in which the United States must play a leading role," Smith said. "This legislation will allow the U.S. to provide that leadership by providing needed assistance to sub-Saharan Africa and other parts of the world where whole populations are suffering from this pandemic."

About 36 million people in the world are living with HIV/AIDS. Of those, almost 95 percent live in developing nations where advanced technology to combat the disease is not readily available.

Sub-Saharan Africa has been hit especially hard, accounting for more than 40 percent of people living with HIV/AIDS. As a result of this high rate of infection, more than 10 million children have been orphaned. This number is predicted to increase to 44 million in the next decade.

The Boxer-Smith bill would authorize \$1.2 billion during the next two fiscal years for the U.S. Agency for International Development to combat the spread of the epidemic. At least 50 percent of this funding will be designated to fight the disease in sub-Saharan Africa.

Boxer and Smith pushed for passage of the Global AIDS Prevention Act last year, securing \$300 million in bilateral aid for the development of international AIDS programs. The legislation was included in broader international health legislation that became law.

Smith also sent a letter June 29 to Health Secretary Tommy Thompson urging him to expand Medicaid coverage for those suffering from HIV/AIDS. Currently, people with HIV generally only qualify for Medicaid coverage once they become eligible for Supplemental Security Income. Because individuals are not eligible for SSI until they become disabled, those with asymptomatic HIV infection are not eligible for Medicaid until they have developed full-blown AIDS.

"We must not let an administrative rule prevent those with HIV from getting the health care that they need," Smith said. "By expanding Medicaid coverage to include low-income individuals with HIV, we can improve care while alleviating the suffering of thousands."

Treating individuals with HIV early in the progression of the disease provides numerous benefits, Smith noted. By providing therapeutics earlier, treatment costs will decrease, new HIV infections will decrease because of lower viral loads, the AIDS Drug Assistance Program will be able to provide care to more individuals with HIV because of savings, and the quality of life for countless HIV-positive individuals will be improved.

CAP LOSES ITS DEPUTY DIRECTOR

Dan Bueling will resign July 31 as deputy executive director of Cascade AIDS Project, executive director Thomas Bruner



Cascade AIDS Project deputy executive director Dan Bueling knows the way to San Jose

announced June 18. After 14 years in Portland, he will move to San Jose, Calif., in September to begin a new life with his boyfriend, Dan Siebert.

July 1 marked Bueling's 10-year anniversary as a CAP employee. Prior to being named deputy executive director in May 2000, he worked in various capacities of increasing responsibility and leadership, Bruner said.

"Dan's talents and gifts have touched every area at CAP and have also left an important mark on the broader HIV prevention and services arena across Oregon and southwest Washington," he added. "From a selfish perspective, I am very sad at Dan's departure. I have grown and learned from my three years working beside him and have not worked with a person of greater integrity, stronger work ethic and genuine warmth in my career. I am also happy and excited for Dan and know that good things await him both personally and professionally."

MABON IS AT IT AGAIN

Lon Mabon seems to have found a new enemy to occupy himself for the time being: Oregon Attorney General Hardy Myers. The two are at odds over the wording of an anti-abortion ballot measure initiative, *Willamette Week* reports July 4.

The Oregon Citizens Alliance executive director has filed court documents so the title will read, "God Gives Life, all human beings protected from moral harm, from fertilization until natural death." Myers' version: "Prohibits: Abortion; physician aid-in-dying; certain pain control, birth-control methods; other 'mortal harm.'"

A SMOKE-FREE NEWSPAPER

Just Out, the newspaper you are reading at this very moment, was honored last month for refusing tobacco advertising. The policy was enacted when Marty Davis bought Oregon's queer publication in January 1999.

The Multnomah County Tobacco Prevention Coalition presented *Just Out* with its the Community Recognition Award on June 19 at the Asian Family Center. The other recipients were the Mount Hood Jazz Festival, Salty's on the Columbia and Kells Irish Restaurant & Pub. ☐

Compiled by JIM RADOSTA and PETER ZUCKERMAN

La Rog Jewelers- Diamonds on Broadway

now offers you the biggest selection of commitment rings in Portland.

Stop by our downtown store, open 7 days a week, with this ad and take \$100 off any item over \$500.



James Giardina
Your Downtown Jeweler with Pride



Oregon's Family Business of the Year
(503) 223-5051
539 SW Broadway
www.Larog.com

Aloe's Pianos

Division of Sherman Clay
Exclusive dealers for:



STEINWAY & SONS

Kohler & Campbell

Boston PIANO

DESIGNED BY STEINWAY & SONS

Trade-ins accepted. Lease Program.
Lessons for all ages. Rentals for Events.
Huge Selections of Sheet Music and Piano Rolls.
Both In-Store and Mail Order

Your Personal Representative,
Zarah Dupree

503 775-2480

www.moespianos.com



4500 S.E. WOODSTOCK • PORTLAND, OR 97206

Specializing in home financing for gay men and lesbians.

Rose City
Mortgage Specialists

- FREE consultations
- \$0-down loans
- all credit & loan types

503.768.4248
www.RoseCityMtg.com

WE LOVE OUR VET!

Companion Pet Clinics Portland \ Salem \ Vancouver

M-SAT
8am • 6pm
West Linn Sun 11am-4pm

WEST LINN 19343 Willamette Drive • (503) 635-3115
CLACKAMAS 16317 SE 82nd Drive • (503) 657-9225
TIGARD 13500 SW Pacific Hwy • (503) 670-9707