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DROP-IN CENTER CLOSES

Because of low volunteer involvement, the Sexual Minority Services Project Drop-In Center in Vancouver, Wash., has closed its doors. Services still available include individual peer counseling and support, information and referral, domestic abuse advocacy and a trans support group that starts in May.

The project also will continue to sponsor Sexual Minority Leadership Roundtable meetings each month and oversee workings of the Rainbow Links resource hot line for southwest Washington residents. The mission and goals have not changed, executive director Lynn Zephyr says, but a different tack is needed in the quest to provide services.

She is looking for people to co-facilitate an all-ages coming-out support group and a 21- to 30-year-old social support group and to help develop a mentoring program. Also needed is assistance in planning and initiating a volunteer drive.

The roundtable meets on the second Thursday of every month at 309 W. 12th Ave. Everyone is welcome.

For more information call 360-695-1325, ext. 332, e-mail lezephyr42@aol.com or write to P.O. Box 605, Vancouver, WA 98666.

SALEM CITY COUNCIL WILL HOLD HEARING

The Salem City Council will hold a hearing for proposed revisions to the civil rights

code 6:30 p.m. April 22 at 555 Liberty St. S.E.

The changes would prohibit discrimination in employment, housing or public accommodations based on sexual orientation, gender identity or source of income and would allow people to sue for damages. The proposal also would expand "marital status" to include registered domestic partnerships.

People are encouraged to take advantage of this chance to speak in favor of sexual minority rights or to discuss experiences with discrimination. After public testimony, the City Council will hold two votes in May to approve changes.

For more information contact Marilyn Johnston at 503-588-6261 or MEJohnston@mail.open.org or Cary Renfro at 503-363-6036 or CaryRenfro@aol.com.

BRO ENDORSES BEV STEIN

Basic Rights Oregon, the state's largest grassroots civil rights advocacy organization, has endorsed Democratic gubernatorial hopeful Bev Stein, former Multnomah County chairwoman.

"Among the candidates for governor, Bev Stein stands out because of her leadership on our issues," executive director Roey Thorpe says. "In fact, Bev has a record of 30 years of fighting for equal rights for gay and lesbian Oregonians. We are also impressed with the strength of her campaign organization. We believe that Bev's strong campaign puts her in an excellent position to win."

Stein said she is honored to have BRO's endorsement and to be recognized as a leader on



PHOTO BY MARIY DAVIS

Gubernatorial candidate Bev Stein (center, with campaign manager Paige Richardson and Multnomah County Commissioner Serena Cruz) has received the thumbs-up from Basic Rights Oregon

civil rights. "I am gratified by the strides that have been made in Oregon in the fight for equality, but I will not be satisfied until all Oregonians feel accepted and are truly equal."

ABC NEWS SEGMENT HONORED

The ABC News profile of Bonnie Tinker, Love Makes a Family executive director,

has been honored by the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation.

"The Children Speak," a February 2001 20/20 segment, was recognized in the Outstanding Television Journalism category during the 13th annual GLAAD Media Awards on April 1 in New York City. Other recipients included Glenn Close, Nathan Lane and USA Today. **J**

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