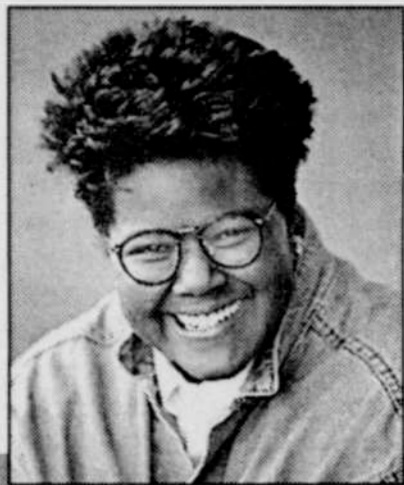


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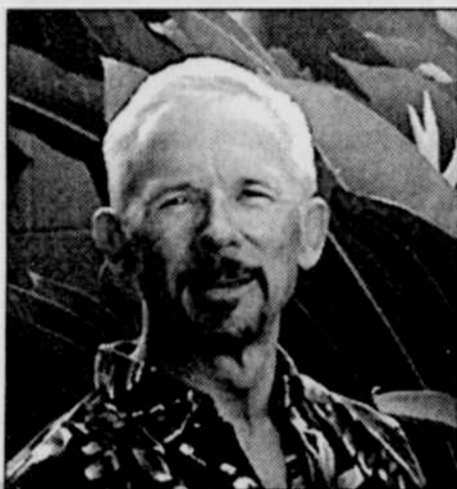


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NORTHWEST news

ROBERTS RUNS TO THE RIGHT

Oregon Labor Commissioner Jack Roberts, one of three top GOP candidates for governor, went on the offensive May 14, declaring his competitors to be either too liberal or too unpopular to win in November. Mail-in primary ballots must be returned by 8 p.m. May 21.

"Ron Saxton is too liberal to unite the Republican Party, and Kevin Mannix has a proven track record of losing two statewide elections," Roberts said in a statement. "I have a proven record of reaching out to all factions of our party."

All factions, that is, except for gay Republicans. The Roberts campaign also launched a homophobic radio ad featuring ultraconservative former Oregon House Speaker Lynn Snodgrass.

"Saxton is so liberal that the *Oregonian* reported that no Democrat will run to the left of him on abortion, assisted suicide and gay rights," the announcer claims. "Having Ron Saxton as governor is no better than having a liberal Democrat."

OCA JUDGES JUDICIAL CANDIDATES

The Oregon Citizens Alliance is distributing mass e-mails to its supporters warning them about two lesbians running for circuit court judge.



Susan Tripp

The first piece of electronic correspondence went out May 5 with the subject line "Vote against homosexuality—pass it on." The target: "Susan Tripp, an admitted lesbian, with a same-sex lover and children," who is running for Marion County Circuit Court judge Position 14 in District 3.

"Fighting the homosexual takeover of our courts is extremely important," Lon and Bonnie Mabon wrote. "The values that guided her decision to become a lesbian will guide her decisions about the law."

The next day, the OCA sent out another e-mail alerting supporters that "a reliable



Katherine Tennyson

source" had informed them about Katherine Tennyson, who is running for Multnomah County Circuit Court judge Position 1 in District 4. "She is running against Al Bannon, who is actually married to a woman and has children," the insider said.

BRO WILL GO DOOR TO DOOR

Basic Rights Oregon will be hitting the streets of Portland on June 1 to talk with registered voters about the Oregon Citizens Alliance's newest anti-gay measure, to discourage them from signing the petition and to find out whether they'll vote against it.

The Student Protection Act II is similar to 2000's Measure 9, which would have prevented public schools from approving, promoting or endorsing homosexual or bisexual behaviors. The new version includes exceptions involving AIDS education, suicide prevention and teacher termination.

Volunteers will meet 9 a.m. at 3430 S.E. Belmont St. for about an hour of training; head off to North, Northeast, Southeast and suburban Portland neighborhoods until 12:30 p.m.; then return to BRO's office for debriefing. The canvass teams will be made up of two people, each taking one side of the street.

In Eugene, a similar voter identification effort will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. May 19. In other election news, BRO recently announced it will hire the first four members of the campaign team by June 15.

To register call Jessica DuBois at 503-222-6151 (Portland) or Jess Parker at 541-686-0311 (Eugene). For more information about campaign positions e-mail roey@basicrights.org.

MERRICK HONORED

Basic Rights Oregon will hold the fifth annual Eugene Garden Party from 2 to 5 p.m. June 2 at the home of Zena Monji and Candy Rico, 2445 Randy Lane.

The event will pay special tribute to former board co-chairwoman Harriet Merrick "for her long and distinguished service, her passionate leadership and ardent commitment to civil rights," executive director Roey Thorpe said. The suggested donation is \$50 a person.

Proceeds will benefit the Basic Rights Elect PAC, which supports candidates who will work to guarantee every Oregonian's basic rights. The goal is to attain a majority of fair-minded legislators as well as to assist volunteers in these elections.

To RSVP call 503-222-6151.

SALEM CITY COUNCIL APPROVES CHANGES

Only two members of the Salem City Council, Wes Bennett and Brad Nanke, voted against revisions to the civil rights code



Brad Nanke

May 13. The proposal would ban discrimination on the job, in housing and in public accommodations based on sexual orientation, gender identity and source of income.

More than 30 people testified in favor of the changes April 22. Only six—including Lon Mabon, Oregon Citizens Alliance chairman—voiced their opposition.

The 7-2 vote lets the proposal move on to a first reading, which could take place as soon as May 29, and a second reading June 10. An emergency clause would allow the changes to take effect immediately.



Wes Bennett

Mayor Mike Swaim will debate Mabon during the May 20 edition of his *Who Cares* program broadcast live from City Hall, 555 Liberty St. SE. Audience members are advised to arrive by 6:45 p.m.

EUGENE CONSIDERS CODE REVISIONS

The Eugene Human Rights Commission is seeking review from the community on updates to the city code, including the extension of gender identity protections, the creation of a municipal domestic partnership