

Continued from Page 5

themselves—the children, our senior citizens and the disabled. So they left it up to the citizens, who think they already are taxed too much and know nothing about the complexities of creating a balanced budget. There should have been a sales tax for conspicuous consumption, a business tax or whatever was needed to guarantee that the state takes responsibility for its actions and its citizens.

If you want everyone to have an education in order to attract business to the state, you have to pay for it. Nobody is going to want to move to Oregon when we do not take care of the citizens we already have.

Starting Jan. 31, I and 340 others had the drugs that keep us alive discontinued. It means we will have somebody's grandparents reduced to roaming the streets after having lived a prosperous, dignified life.

Now we have used them up they are thrown out like so much trash in the street. What about the mentally ill who will be thrown to the dogs, only to scare all the shoppers in downtown Portland?

How is this for a headline: "Five more people living with AIDS died today because Oregon lawmakers discontinued the program that supplied their drugs to keep them alive. In a related story, the mentally ill and senior citizens wander the streets harassing the shoppers for handouts and defecating in the streets, thanks to the same state lawmakers who balanced the budget on the backs of those unable to care for themselves."

Therefore, what it really means is there will be blood rolling down the streets of Portland before it puddles in the sands of Iraq. There is only one question: What is going to happen when a person has a knife held to his or her throat facing death?

I imagine some will fight back, others will sit back and be killed, and still others will run like hell and tell everybody in the world that Oregon lawmakers caused many citizens to die. Nevertheless, in a sort of reversal of fortune none of the lawmakers was re-elected because almost every voter lost loved ones or was simply sick and tired of the bipartisan infighting. The next Legislature set up a program caring for those unable to care for themselves, which became envied and was a model for other states, like Oregon, that realized that in order to grow and be a civilized state, all citizens must be included in the prosperity or none at all will prosper.

STEVEN BLACK  
Portland

**What's up, docs?**

TO THE EDITOR:

Since moving to Portland and becoming insured, I have been unable to locate a gay physician for general practice or family medicine. Many hours have gone into this futile search.

Referral services are available for people with HIV. As an HIV-negative gay man, I cannot get a referral nor locate a gay doctor.

Can it be true that no out doctors practice in metropolitan Portland? I write this to you in the hope a doctor or a reader of these letters will be able to help me.

I am insured by Providence Health Plan and am in need of a service provider. I may be contacted at blbl4u2002@yahoo.com.

MICHAEL FIELD  
Portland

**transition**

**Twyla Brady, 1954-2003**

Twyla F. Brady died of cancer Feb. 19 at Crestview Nursing & Rehabilitation Center in Portland. She remained in a coma caused by head injuries from a severe automobile accident Aug. 7, 2002. She was 49.

She was born Jan. 14, 1954, to Arthur and Mildred Brady in Salem. She graduated from Gervais High School in 1972.

From 1972 to 1976 Brady served in the U.S. Army at Landstuhl, Germany. While there, she traveled extensively and often selected her next destination with the flip of a coin.

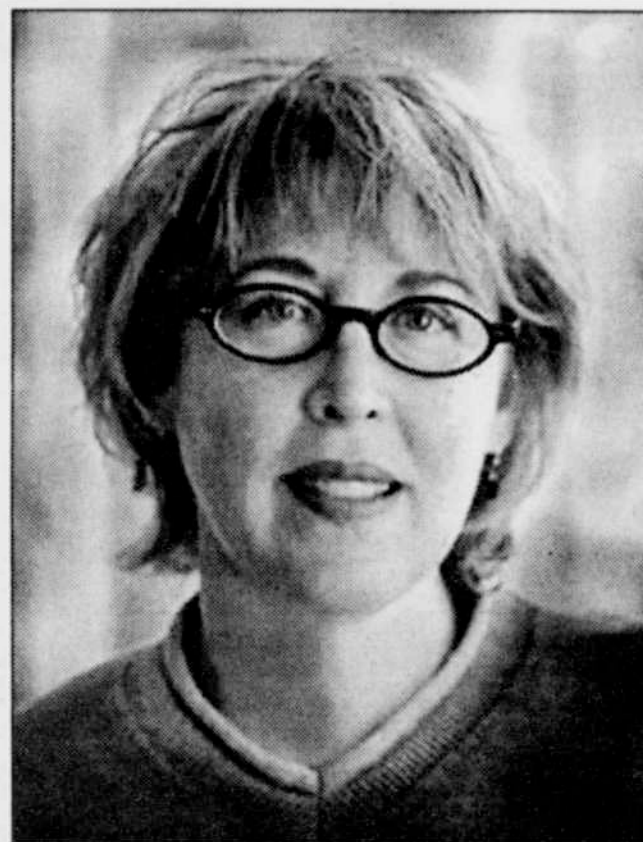
In 1980 she graduated with a degree in cosmetology and took course work in horticulture at Mt. Hood Community College. From 1980 to 1991 she worked as a hairdresser in Lake Oswego and Beaverton.

In 1991 Brady opened her first salon, Luxur Mode, and in 1996 she opened Dolce Salon in Northwest Portland. With her creativeness, artistry and kindness, she developed a loyal clientele that followed her throughout her 22-year career.

Her passion for life was evident in her home and garden in Tigard. In 22 years, she transformed a yard containing one rhododendron and a few daffodils into a beautiful English garden. She was a longtime member of the Hardy Plant Society of Oregon.

Brady and her partner, Cynthia L. Hovind, loved to travel, spend time at the beach, enjoy life and run with their puppies, Lola and Ellie. Their motto was "We are the kids, we deserve to have fun."

She is survived by her partner; brothers,



Byron of West Linn and Clifton of Salem; and sister, Merlyn Cushman of Vancouver, Wash.

A memorial service will be held 2 p.m. March 9 at Lakeside Gardens, 16211 S.E. Foster Road. City View Funeral Home & Cemetery is handling the arrangements.

Remembrances may be made to the Oregon Research and Education Foundation, Neurotrauma Division, 501 N. Graham St., Suite 580, Portland, OR 97227.

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