

NORTHWEST newsbriefs

LESBIAN CLAIMS VICTORY AGAINST OCA

After more than a decade of legal battles with the Oregon Citizens Alliance, Catherine Stauffer's latest lawsuit has finally succeeded in pressuring a board member to pay her despite the anti-gay group's refusal to do so for years.

The lesbian photographer has been waiting to collect more than \$40,000 owed to her for being assaulted at an OCA event in 1991. Stauffer's most recent suit, filed last year, alleged that the OCA, including leaders Lon and Bonnie Mabon and board member Joseph Chotard, fraudulently transferred assets to avoid her effort to collect the money.

Chotard has agreed to pay Stauffer an undisclosed amount. Attorney Thane Tienson called the settlement "very satisfying."

"Catherine has pursued this judgment with a passion and dedication that is unbelievable, and it's extremely exciting to see it finally pay off," he said. "The OCA was obviously willing to do just about anything to avoid seeing Catherine get a dime, but their organization has paid a heavy price in credibility."

In 2002 Lon Mabon spent 42 days in jail for refusing to comply with a judge's order to provide Stauffer with information about OCA assets. Since his imprisonment, attorneys say the organization has lost most of its credibility and is financially ailing.

"It's good to finally get paid, but it's even better to see that the OCA has basically self-destructed because of its homophobic fear of paying their debt to me," Stauffer said. "All the OCA has done is spawn hatred and violence in the name of God. If my case helped expose how crazy the people who run the OCA are, then I couldn't have asked for anything more."



PHOTO BY MARIY DAVIS

Kestryl Lowrey of United Sexualities listens to students discuss genderblind housing March 1 at Lewis & Clark College

COLLEGE STUDENTS DEMAND GENDERBLIND HOUSING

About 50 people attended a forum March 1 at Lewis & Clark College to challenge the campus housing system's gender binary. Queer students want residence halls opened to people of all gender identities, instead of male- or female-only rooms.

For their first two years at the college, stu-

dents are placed with a member of their assigned sex, regardless of their personal gender identification. Joe Petroni, United Sexualities coordinator, told *Just Out* that this policy causes discomfort for queer students, who are responding with a genderblind housing campaign.

"Residence life programs at colleges worldwide are behind the curve," he said. "In order to follow through with Lewis & Clark College's promise to accept all members of its community, our housing systems cannot any longer enforce a gender binary."

Students are demanding genderblind housing options by September. A college official said they might have to wait until the 2005-2006 school year.

SYMPOSIUM EXPLORES GENDER IN CONFLICT

Lewis & Clark College's 23rd annual Gender Studies Symposium will explore gender in conflict March 10 to 12 on the campus, located at 0615 S.W. Palatine Hill Road.

All activities are free and open to the public. Parking costs \$3 a day but is free after 7 p.m.

The event includes music and performance art, readings, workshops and panels covering a wide range of gender issues. Several presentations will focus on queers:

- **Dividing the Church: Homosexuality and Religion:** Syndicated columnist Marc Acito serves on this panel with the Revs. JoAnn Leach of Christ Church Episcopal Parish and Barbara Campbell of St. Mark Presbyterian Church (10:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. March 10, Stamm).

- **SRS: Stations Remain Structure:** This performance explores the medical, cultural and psy-

chological endurance of a transsexual male process that is shown to parallel the stations of the cross (3:30 to 4:30 p.m. March 10, Council Chamber).

- **After D-Day:** Lesbian writer Judith Barrington reads her award-winning poem (12:30 to 1:30 p.m. March 11, Stamm).

- **Intersexuality: Learning from the Lived Experiences:** Intersex Initiative director Emi Koyama leads this workshop (10:30 a.m. to noon March 12, Council Chamber).

- **Gender and Sexuality in Ancient Greece:** Lewis & Clark student Thu Ngo suggests "Men Are Pigs in Homer's *Odyssey*," while Christopher Rivera of Rutgers University discusses "Plato's *Phaedrus*: Homosexually Loaded" (2 to 3:15 p.m. March 12, Thayer).

- **Harper's Arrow:** Queer musician and educator Sarah Dougher performs this folk and pop series inspired by Homer's *Odyssey* that examines gender, the status of the veteran and the violence of war (3:30 to 5 p.m. March 12, Agnes Flanagan Chapel).

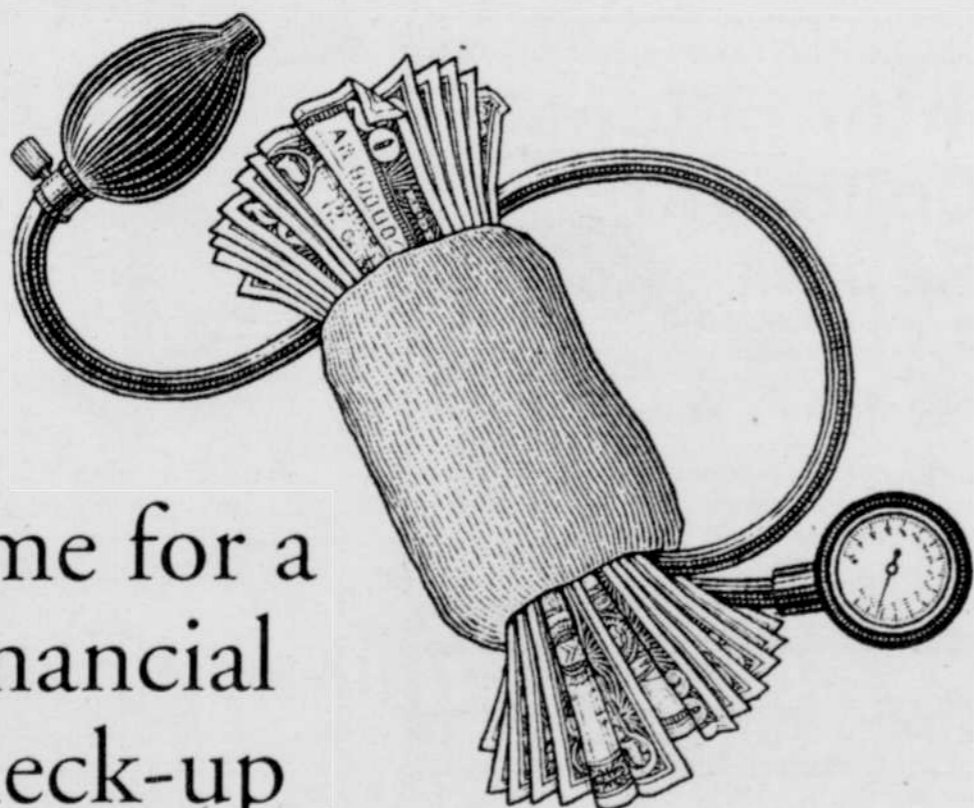
For more information contact Kim Brodtkin at 503-768-7678 or kbrodtkin@lclark.edu. For a complete schedule of events visit www.lclark.edu/~gender.

GRANTS PRESENTED

Equity Foundation presented grants to 36 queer-friendly Oregon nonprofit organizations Feb. 19 during its fourth annual Investments in Dignity Awards. Equity, which was founded 15 years ago by gay men and lesbians, awarded grants in four categories:

- **Arts and Culture:** Artists Repertory

Continued on Page 11



Time for a financial check-up or a second opinion?



GRIFFON FINANCIAL GROUP, LLC

Financial Planning & Investment Management

Securities offered exclusively through

RAYMOND JAMES

FINANCIAL SERVICES, INC.
Member NASD/SIPC

Antoinette Laferriere, CFP® - President, Griffon Financial Group, LLC - Financial Advisor
503.528.2800 • 5440 SW Westgate Dr., Ste 110. Portland OR 97221
www.griffonfinancial.com • 541.317.1617 • 131 NW Hawthorne Ave., Ste 105 Bend, OR 97701

Spring Has Sprung!

Bella CASA REALTY, INC.



CELIA LYON TERRI POPEJOY
(503) 345-9253 (503) 345-9252

Bella Casa Realty Inc.
1523 SE Ankeny, Portland, OR 97214 • 503-231-SELL (7355)

Buying or selling your home is an important choice. Let Celia & Terri guide you through the process!



Have You Ever Considered Becoming A Foster Parent?

Developmental Systems, Inc. is seeking caring, committed adults willing to open their home to a child with developmental disabilities as part of our Mentor Foster Care Program.

We Offer:

- A competitive stipend
- Opportunities for skill development
- Regularly scheduled time-off
- Access to 24-hour professional support

If You Have:

- An extra bedroom in your home
- Access to reliable transportation
- A desire to be part of a team

Then you might qualify to become a Mentor Foster Parent!



Call today to find out more information:
503-258-2440

Explore the challenge, the rewards are many.

