

## NORTHWEST newsbriefs

Portland mayoral race. Dean's new organization, Democracy for America, tapped the ex-police chief as one of the "Dean Dozen," a group of socially progressive, fiscally responsible candidates who represent the spirit of grassroots democracy.

"These 12 are fighting to take our country back from the special interests," Dean said. "They are working to protect our civil liberties. They are building communities and encouraging economic growth. They are fiscally responsible. And they are supported by the grassroots!"

Potter, a longtime supporter of queer rights, has a lesbian daughter, Katie, who was the city's first openly gay police officer. In the May 18 primary he beat City Commissioner Jim Francesconi by 7 percentage points despite being outspent by \$935,000; the two are now gearing up for a runoff election Nov. 2.

"The primary election was a victory for Portland," Potter said. "Conventional wisdom tells us that 'the person with the most money wins.' We proved this is not true in our city. Portlanders look at a candidate's experience and commitment, then choose the best leader for the job."

For more information visit [www.tomformayor.org](http://www.tomformayor.org).

### SCHOLARSHIPS RAISE MONEY

Two scholarships that support queer students held successful fund-raisers last month.

A Touch of Class, a steak dinner and drag show, was held May 23 as a benefit for the Pride of the Rose Scholarship, which is now much closer to reaching its \$25,000 goal to commemorate the fund's 25th year. A total of \$5,500 was raised through tips, a live auction and other donations.

"We couldn't be more pleased with the outstanding support and generosity of so many people putting this event on and attending and donating; \$5,500 is an incredible profit from an event like this," scholarship co-founder Rose Empress XXI Allison Grey (aka Curtis Meyers) told *Just Out*. "We look forward to this being a new annual event for the Pride of the Rose Scholarship."

A Class Act, a musical concert and dessert revue, raised money May 21 for the Bill and Ann Shepherd Legal Scholarship Fund, which was named after the co-founders of Portland's chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. Just three days after his primary election victory, honorary co-chairman Tom Potter was on hand to help out.

"He put off his greatly deserved post-election hiatus with his wife by four days just so he could help pick up desserts and transport them to The Old Church and help with setup and takedown of the reception—a very labor-intensive activity," said the Shepherds' daughter Susie. "Tom was very close friends with Mom and Dad, and he feels a tremendous debt of gratitude to them for starting PFLAG. When he was police chief

and PFLAG had outgrown its meeting place, he made a space available in the police station, where PFLAG met for well over a year."

To download applications or make donations visit [www.equityfoundation.org](http://www.equityfoundation.org).

### CLACKAMAS PFLAG RECEIVES \$5,000

The Clackamas County chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays has been awarded \$5,000 from the Seattle-based Pride Foundation.

Coordinators Mark and Marion Hammer of Lake Oswego received the check at a ceremony April 14 in Seattle. The funds will be used to cover startup costs for the newly formed chapter, which meets 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month at Atkinson Memorial Church, 710 Sixth St. in Oregon City.

For more information visit [www.clackamaspflag.org](http://www.clackamaspflag.org).

### HIV GROUPS GET GRANTS

The Research & Education Group, a Portland-based HIV nonprofit devoted to clinical research and education, announced May 24 that three Oregon HIV organizations will receive 2004 Paul Starr HIV Grants:

- **Coastal AIDS Network:** \$6,515 to fund a pilot community-based program to provide peer-based support, education and leadership opportunities for youth at risk for HIV in this underserved part of the state.
- **Planned Parenthood:** \$30,000 for its Latino Youth HIV Risk Reduction Program, an intensive peer education project targeting this vulnerable population between 14 and 19 living in Marion and Multnomah counties.

- **Cascade AIDS Project:** \$30,000 to build on its HIV prevention efforts by developing culturally appropriate peer-based programs for high-risk youth of color and queer youth in partnership with community organizations.

The R&E Group has presented more than \$600,000 in grants since 1992 to groups looking for answers to the HIV epidemic. A portion of the funds donated by the Oregon Income Tax Check Off program is used to make these awards possible.

Starr worked at CAP from 1986 to 1991 as client services manager and then executive director. According to the R&E Group, he pioneered the development of sound HIV education, client services and public policy in Oregon and was a tireless advocate for education about infection, especially in teens and young adults.

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From left, Cole Stevens, Susie Shepherd, Tom Potter and Maryanne Cassera help raise cash for queer law students during A Class Act on May 21 at The Old Church



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