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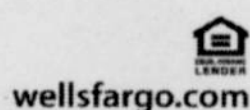
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NORTHWEST newsbriefs

COUNTY LOSES TOP LESBIANS

When April Lewis left her post as Multnomah County's manager of the Diversity, Equity and Affirmative Action Office earlier this summer, she voiced her grievances with County Chair Diane Linn directly.

"For me, it just became a very difficult environment to make the kind of impact as a diversity manager that I wanted to make," said Lewis, who is a lesbian.

She resigned from her post after 10 years with the county and said in her exit interview with Linn that morale was lower than she'd ever seen it, despite numerous organizational changes through the years.

"Change upon change upon change was taking a real toll on the work force," Lewis said. "There was uncertainty about the future."

Lewis wasted no time bringing her knowledge of cultural competence and inclusiveness to a new business, Kaiser Permanente Northwest Region, as its diversity project manager. Her new position allows her to help create a fair, safe and welcoming environment for Kaiser's staff and clients.

"It's clear that Kaiser has very strong values that are in alignment with my own values," said

His other baby, Club Glory, a sex club located behind The Eagle, will be under new ownership, though no buyers have stepped forward.

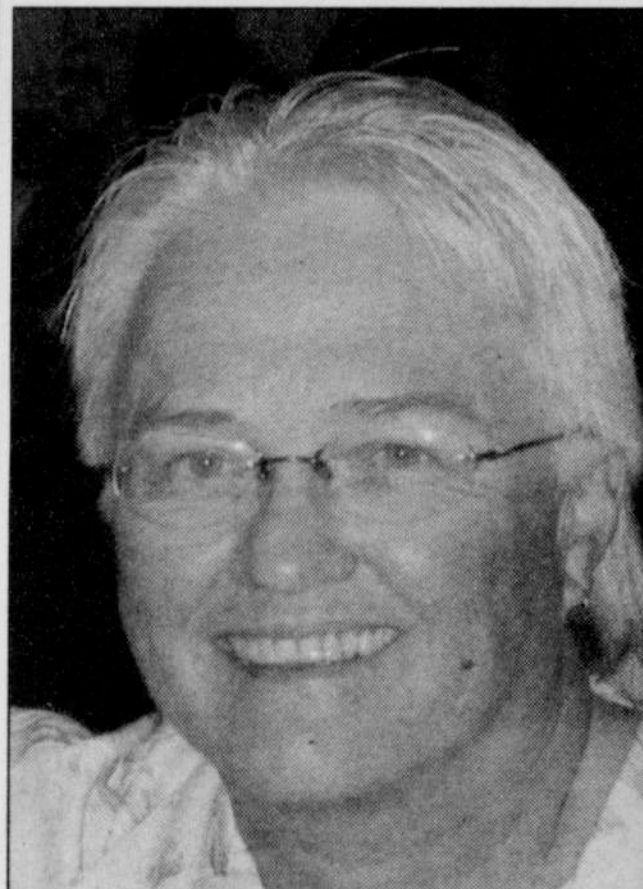
"Basically my situation changed, and I was offered a position back in the financial world, which is where I came from," said Morris. "For me, this would be a lot less responsibility and liability."

—JRC

MAJORITY LEADERS OFFER LEGISLATIVE WRAP-UP

At its weekly Friday Forum luncheon Sept. 9, City Club of Portland presents guest speakers Senate Majority Leader Kate Brown, D-Portland, and House Majority Leader Wayne Scott, R-Canby, in a program titled "2005 Legislative Wrap-Up: Policy and Politics."

Pseudoephedrine, a key ingredient in meth production, now will require a doctor's prescription. Civil unions for same-sex couples made it out of the Senate but died in the House. And the challenge of education funding had mixed results, with moderate funding for higher education that will limit dramatic tuition increases and \$5.24 billion for K-12, though that's a level that school advocates say is still inadequate.



April Lewis (left) leaves Multnomah County to pursue opportunities with Kaiser; state Sen. Kate Brown offers thoughts on the 2005 legislative session Sept. 9.

Lewis, who was particularly looking for a future employer that provided domestic partnership benefits and included gender identity and sexual orientation in its anti-discrimination policy.

Lewis also runs a training and consulting business, Figure 8, and plans to contract her services with Multnomah County.

Multnomah County has lost nine top government employees in the past eight months, most recently lesbian Patricia Pate, who stepped down as head of the Department of Human Services.

—Jaymee R. Cuti

SEX CLUBS SWAP OWNERSHIP

Two downtown gay clubs are swapping positions on and off the market faster than their clients swap partners.

While rumors swarm inaccurately over the sale of one downtown gay club, another was quietly put on the market.

It's true that leather daddy hangout The Eagle on West Burnside Street was up for sale, but owner Fred Morris confirms that it's officially off the market. The bar's manager, Carl Wilgus, will instead take on an increased role in running it.

"It's a unique clientele that we have, and we didn't want them to be homeless or barless," said Morris of his leather fetish customers.

How were these decisions made? Why did some measures succeed and others fall short? And what challenges remain for our state and the next session of the Oregon Legislature?

City Club's Friday Forum, which is open to the public, will be held in the Governor Hotel, 614 S.W. 11th Ave. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. The program begins at 12:15 p.m. and concludes at 1:15.

Luncheon reservations must be made by calling 503-228-7231, ext. 103 or 102, or visiting www.pdxcityclub.org by 2 p.m. Sept. 7. Members only may call 503-241-9242.

Luncheon tickets are \$20 for nonmembers, \$16 for members. Coffee/tea table tickets are \$5 at the door. General seating, available at the door, is \$5 for nonmembers, free for members.

City Club of Portland is a nonprofit, nonpartisan civic affairs organization that promotes civic engagement and active citizenship to build a stronger community. Through unbiased research and compelling programs, City Club connects citizens with ideas and issues that affect our community. City Club is open to everyone who wants to interact with other citizens and shape the future of our city and state.

EMERGE HOSTS LEADERSHIP TRAINING

Community group Emerge is hosting a free, three-day leadership training for people typical-