

NORTHWEST newsbriefs

said. "The building must host a range of uses: Program uses, ease of access and cost will drive the final decision."

She sees the need for a building in 2006. For now, the center is operating from Remmers' home office.

Organizers are hoping to secure a building on the inner central east side. A work group is exploring reduced-rate properties and continues to hope for a donated building. Q Center has applied for a grant from Equity Foundation, which is under review. The group has collected approximately \$50,000 in donations.

Q Center is also launching several "test pilot" events that may develop into future programs.

A Spooktacular Pumpkin Party is planned from 3 to 5 p.m. Oct. 16 at Studio 1050, 1050 S.E. Water St. This family-friendly event will include pumpkin carving and live entertainment from Portland band Sneakin' Out. Poison Waters will host the event, and Mayor Tom Potter plans to attend.

A crossgenerational group of gay and lesbian people will share personal stories that reflect the history of Portland's queer community at a Storytellers event from 6 to 8 p.m. Dec. 6 at Urban Grind, 2214 N.E. Oregon St.

"This is a rollout of permanent center programs," said Remmers.

In the past three months, 1,073 people have said they wish to be involved with the center, and the group has cultivated 68 active volunteers.

"We need the community to continue to step up to expand our base of financial and volunteer support," said Remmers. "We need the \$20 and \$20,000 gifts. We invite the community to come to events and offer input on permanent center programs. Q Center is bigger than four walls. We are about building and supporting community."

For details visit www.pdxqcenter.org. —JRC

DIANE LINN KICKS OFF CAMPAIGN

Multnomah County Chair Diane Linn's re-election campaign officially began Sept. 29 at an event attended by more than 100 supporters, including former Oregon Gov. Barbara Roberts and former Portland City Commissioner Mike Lindberg.

"We are here because we recognize the hard work and the positive results under Diane's leadership," Lindberg said. "We have schools that run for a whole school year. We have a mental health system that is second to none in the country. We have programs in place to assist homeless youth. We have less kids on the streets than any major city in the United States. We have a commitment to diversity and civil rights for our workers and our citizens. We have done this under Diane's leadership, and there is so much more to do."



Diane Linn and campaign manager Alisa Simmons celebrate at the campaign kickoff party Sept. 29.

Linn picked up an important early endorsement from the Portland Association of Teachers. President Ann Nice told the crowd: "Livability of our community equals the strength of its educational system. Diane Linn has stepped up at great risk to ensure that our children and teachers have the tools they need to be successful. Diane led when the state refused to lead and has spent the temporary income tax as it was meant to be used. Diane has proven herself a real leader, earning the Oregon Education Association Citizen of the Year Award, which is the highest award given to a nonmember. Tonight we are proud to endorse Diane Linn in her re-election campaign for Multnomah County Chair."

Other speakers in support of Linn's campaign included Kathy Oliver, a highly respected and nationally recognized advocate for low-income adults and homeless youth, and Sam Brooks, a well-respected African-American business owner.

Roberts, a longtime friend and supporter of Linn, told the crowd that the chair's job would be difficult enough if there were more funds available to do the necessary work to meet the needs of county residents. She said: "We here tonight are going to put ourselves on the line for her. She has not let us down, and we are not going to let her down. We are going to spread the word of the good works and real results. We are going to re-elect Diane Linn, Multnomah County chair."

FORMER CAP EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR JOINS DIANE LINN'S STAFF

Thomas Bruner, described by *Willamette Week* as a "voluble 44-year-old with a boatload of energy," has accepted a position as senior policy development director for Multnomah County Chair Diane Linn.

"Thomas is a 'get things done' person with an activist attitude and a passion for public service," Linn said. "The addition of Thomas to my team makes a great staff even better, and the entire county will benefit from his expertise and creativity."

Bruner will report directly to Linn, who said his assignments will include serving as a liaison with county commissioners. He will also be the chair's office lead on the internal budget process, and he will represent the chair's office on the joint public safety budgeting effort with the city of Portland.

Bruner, until recently executive director of Cascade AIDS Project, brings considerable governmental relations, public policy and community affairs skills to the chair's office. Before joining CAP in 1998, he was founding executive director of AIDS Outreach Center in Fort Worth, Texas, from 1988 to 1998 and one of its founding volunteers from 1986 to 1988.

Bruner served on Oregon Gov. Ted Kulongoski's transition team, graduated from Leadership Portland and served on the Oregon Non-Profit Association and Leadership Portland steering committees. He serves on the Oregon Government Standards and Practices Commission, Portland Parks and Recreation Board and Junior League of Portland Community Advisory Board.

Bruner officially joins Linn's staff Oct. 17.

GENDERBLENDZ NEW MONTHLY SCHEDULE

Genderblendz is the Trans/Identity Resource Centre's weekly open house dedicated to the greater gender community. Like a support group, Genderblendz is a way for people to meet others, have conversations, receive support and access information, services and resources.

Beginning this month, Genderblendz will be starting weekly theme nights every Monday. All

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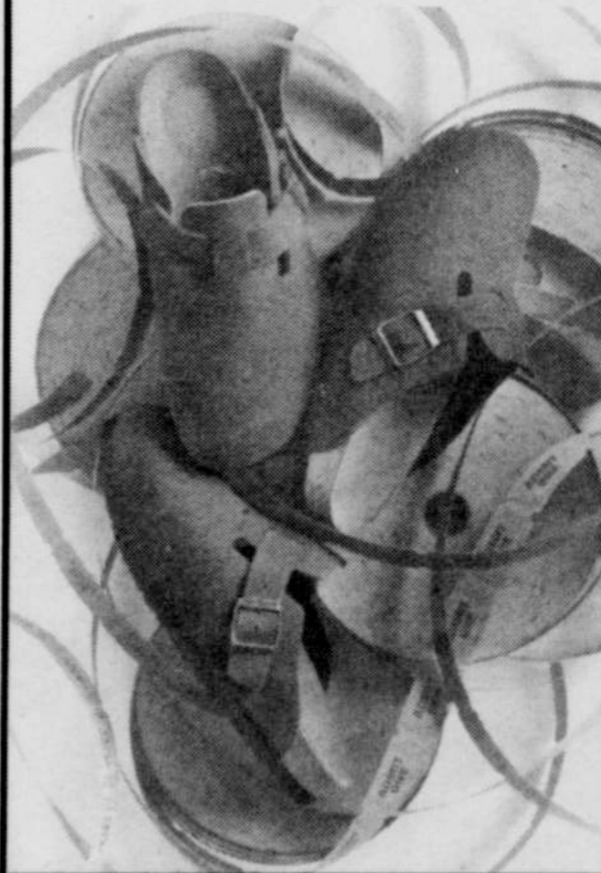
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