

letters

Gay Skate Is Dead. Long Live Gay Skate!

TO THE EDITOR:

Gay Skate is alive and well. You ran an article called "Gay Roller Skating RIP," and I wanted to tell your readers that Gay Skate at Oaks Park will continue [Nov. 18].

For the past 12 years Oaks Park has partnered with the Rosetown Ramblers to provide this activity to the LGBTQ community. This past year has been a struggle for Rosetown to keep Gay Skate going strong. A large part of this is the current leadership and lack of community support.

Historically, Gay Skate ran as a strong program for 10-plus years with an average of between 150 and 250 skaters each month. When we announced that Gay Skate will continue, there were overwhelming cheers from the 100-plus people who were here on what they believed to be the final night.

Oaks Park is not giving up. Oaks Park values the loyalty of the skaters who come month after month as well as people who come when they can. So Gay Skate will continue on the third Monday of each month. However, we will be changing the hours to 7 until 9 p.m. so more families can come out and join in on the fun.

For more information or to schedule a fund-raiser on the night of Gay Skate, contact program director Beki Safar at 503-233-5777, ext. 123, or oakspark@gmail.com.

BEKI SAFAR
Portland

Portland Lesbian Choir Holds New Year's Eve Event

TO THE EDITOR:

Kudos to your fine writer Jaymee R. Cuti for her synopsis on the upcoming New Year's Eve events! ["Options for Ringing in the Year," Nov. 18]

I would, however, like to make a clarification regarding her calendar story. The Portland Lesbian Choir's celebration and dance to be held at Shenanigans at Jantzen Beach this year is focused strongly on community, as it has been every year since its inception. While we are planning to spice things up, we continue our annual tradition of offering an all-ages, community-service event that welcomes everyone and is geared toward fun, excitement and revelry. This year, with our venue location and affordable overnight specials, we hope to reach not only our community, but folks in our sister Vancouver community and other surrounding metro areas who often feel left out of mainstream Portland GLBT events.

SPARKY LINDSAY
Portland Lesbian Choir

TRANSITIONS

Catherine Shuck, 1916-2005

A memorial service was held Nov. 20 at First Christian Church in downtown Portland for Catherine Shuck. She passed quietly from this life Nov. 13 at the age of 89 after a long illness.

Shuck was born March 16, 1916, in Pittsburgh to William and Mary Roney. In 1937 she received her nursing degree at Harnot Hospital in Erie, Penn., and

during World War II served in the Army Nurse Corps in London and on the beaches of Normandy, rising to the rank of captain by 1946.

In 1950 she received her bachelor of arts in public health education at George Peabody College, doing her post-graduate work at Ohio State University in public health nursing. In 1953 she received her master's in administration and supervision in public health nursing at UCLA. While serving a four-year term as president of the California Nursing Association, she was instrumental in bringing education in sex and reproductive health to the state's school system.

Shuck's many credits to a life of helping and serving others include holding positions on the boards of directors for both Cascade AIDS Project and Our House of Portland, a home for AIDS patients. Her natural course of work, which was indeed her calling, found her fighting for the rights and dignity of all people. She was a woman of great fortitude and, even with her slight physical stature of 4-foot-10, was a power not easily subdued when someone was being wronged.

Another passion of hers was teaching adult Sunday school at the church, where she was highly active in many community projects.

Shuck will be remembered as a wonderful mother to a far-reaching community of family and friends. She was a compassionate, earnest and tireless angel, striving to give hope where hope was lost, strength to those who were weak and love to those who were alone.

She is survived by her brother, William Roney; sons, Darrel Kelly and Tim Shuck; stepdaughter,

Anthee Renteria; two grandchildren; and three great-grandchildren.

Remembrances may be made to CAP and Our House.

CORRECTION

The Nov. 18 article "Introducing *Just Out* Scholarship Winners" erroneously reported that Linfield College is in Vancouver, Wash. Linfield's main campus is in McMinnville, with a satellite campus in Portland. *Just Out* regrets the error.

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News Headlines
Arts & Culture
Page 3 Commentary
Columns
Classifieds
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Letters to the Editor
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Commitment
Life Transitions
Upcoming Events

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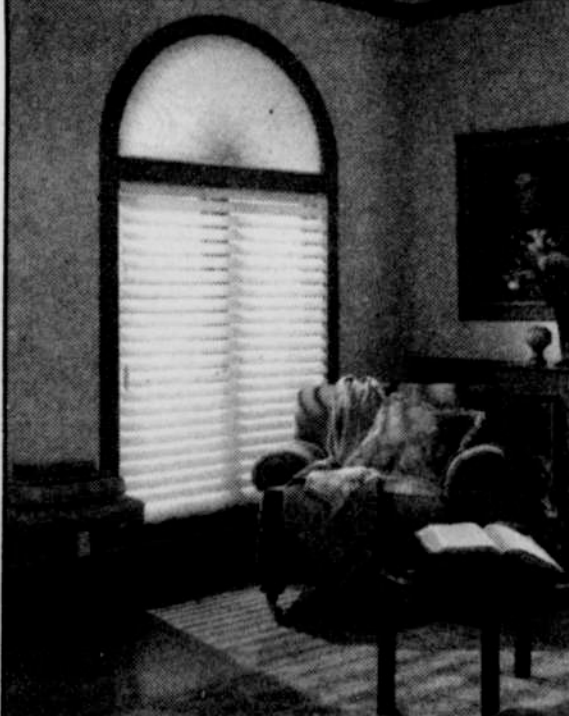
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