

Thanks *Christine!*



"After a long day on the job site, nothing beats bubbles and beer in my remodeled bathroom. Thanks for taking our hands and guiding us through the maze of refinancing."

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Christine Hall
Senior Loan Consultant
President's Club



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northwest

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trans representation in the media. The group will discuss thoughts and feelings on the film *Transamerica* as well as on the larger issue of how trans people are portrayed in general in film, print and television. Join the group for a facilitated discussion on how trans folk have been portrayed in media in the past, the state of things now and how we would like to see trans folk portrayed.

The Feb. 27 meeting will feature a button-making workshop. Personal presentation says so much about us, yet at the same time, are you tired of being an elusive onion to unpeel? Why not just spell out your interests and affiliations to the world by making your own buttons? TIRC will provide button makers and supplies, and all you have to bring is your creativity and thoughts on the ways in which we declare who we are through our choices of personal presentation.

Activities, discussion and speakers begin at 5:30 p.m., with general open house (chatting, munchies, information, resources, check-in) at 4. For more information call 503-535-3895 or e-mail tirc@outsidein.org.

SMYRC Supporters Share Food, Hopes

About 40 people attended a potluck Feb. 7 at the Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center.

The assembled included members of the Portland and Clackamas County chapters of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays; Gene de Haan, the new Q Center coordinator; Jim Clay, director of communications for Cascadia, the agency that oversees SMYRC; and youth leaders and SMYRC staff Jonathan K. Weedman, Zan Gibbs, Austin Lea and R.E. Szego.

Each year the budgeting process at Multnomah County takes up the question of how to fund and how much to fund SMYRC. This year, according to Clay, it is particularly important that advocacy begin early and stay consistent through the June decisions. About 40 percent of SMYRC's funding comes from the county. With that in mind, he emphasized three points in advocating for SMYRC: The organization must continue, it needs to grow, and it saves lives.

SMYRC is open two days a week for support, resources and referrals. It is the only organization

Take Action!

Do your part to advocate for continued funding for the Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center. Send a separate note to each Multnomah County commissioner stating briefly who you are and what you want. Say thank you for past support, and be sure to include your contact information should the commissioners want to contact you.


- **Diane Linn:**
mult.chair@co.multnomah.or.us
- **Serena Cruz Walsh:**
serena@co.multnomah.or.us
- **Lonnie Roberts:**
lonnie.j.roberts@co.multnomah.or.us
- **Maria Rojo de Steffey:**
district1@co.multnomah.or.us
- **Lisa Naito:**
district3@co.multnomah.or.us

For more information about SMYRC, call 503-872-9664 or visit www.smyrc.org.

between Seattle and San Francisco to provide the range of services that it does, and it targets queer youth in particular. More than 1,000 youth are served annually by SMYRC's staff and programming, and of that, approximately 300 participate in leadership activities. About 40 youth are enrolled in counseling and crisis management, which is double the target number for these services. In addition, there are as many as 24 suicide interventions a month.

More than 200 Portlanders have been trained with the youth-led Bridge 13 program, and all of those trained reported an increased knowledge regarding queer issues. Nearly all reported that they intended to use the information in their personal and professional lives, and close to 90 percent reported learning strategies they could use to intervene when hearing homophobic language.

SMYRC has served schools across the region, including giving 25 one-on-one consultations in schools regarding queer students and hosting and coordinating Gay Straight Alliances and the GSA Network for Oregon.

As SMYRC director Jonathan Weedman notes, "This is our chance to stand up and explain why SMYRC is fabulous!" 

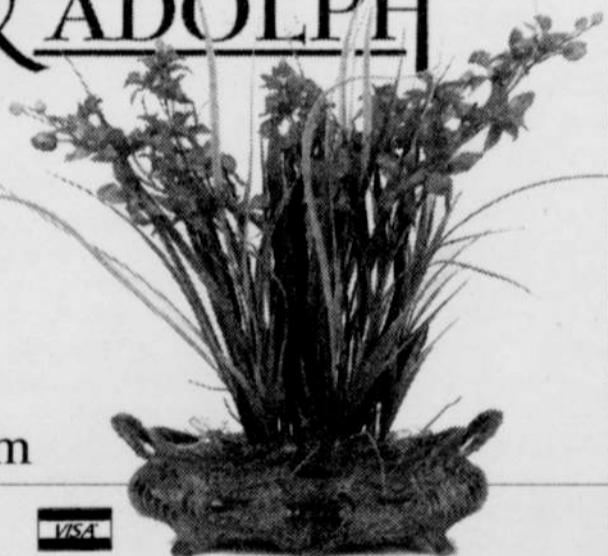
Compiled by SARAH DOUGHER, JAYMEE R. CUTI and DAVE KOHL

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The film *Transamerica* and other popular media representations of trans people will be the subject of the Genderblendz open house Feb. 20 at Outside In's Trans/Identity Resource Centre.