

letters

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Trung Up to the Challenge

TO THE EDITOR:

Thank you for your excellent article on Trung Tu, my candidate for Multnomah County Circuit Court judge. I particularly appreciate Malka Geffen's not limiting Trung to the single issue of his being one of "us" in the GLBT community ["Justice for All," April 21].

I first became mesmerized with Trung when he applied in 1999 for the law scholarship bearing my parents' names. I remember what Daddy did in taking on local law enforcement who used to entrap gay men back in the '70s, and other trailblazing work he and just a handful of other attorneys were willing to do in the early days of our movement. That same absolute focus on equality for all, coupled with mastery of the law, is what this seat on the Multnomah County bench requires. The breadth and depth of Trung's legal experience cannot be overstated, and Geffen summarized it superbly. That Trung was recently featured for his vast contributions to the legal community in *The Multnomah Lawyer*, the pipeline of the Multnomah Bar Association, speaks volumes for the mark Trung has made on his legal peers locally.

As a clerk for more than eight years for a Multnomah County Circuit Court judge, I am well familiar with the judicial temperament needed to successfully carry out the demands of a judgeship. Again, Trung is more than up to the challenge.

Trung's campaign slogan truly sums up his life focus: "Fairness for All."

It is an honor to share my family name with former Shepherd Legal Scholar Trung Tu. Every registered voter who reads this letter can honor Multnomah County—this haven of sanity in a politically crazed world—by casting your ballot for Trung Tu for Multnomah County judge.

SUSIE SHEPHERD
Portland

Look at Wheeler's Past

TO THE EDITOR:

Listening to the rhetoric, it would seem that progressive voters can't lose in this month's race for Multnomah County chair. The incumbent, Diane Linn, has a clear record of supporting progressive causes, including a courageous history of leadership on GLBT rights. Her challenger, Ted Wheeler, claims he supports progressive causes as much as Linn. Wheeler's background, however, tells a different story from his rhetoric.

Until just a few years ago, Wheeler was a registered Republican. Although Wheeler will happily tell voters he left the Republican Party because it became too conservative, the question voters should ask is what attracted him to the party in the first place. Although it may have been more conservative when he left, the Republican Party was not a bastion of liberal thought when Wheeler joined.

For a more concrete contradiction of Wheeler's progressive rhetoric, consider the groups his fami-

ly's foundation supported while he sat on the board. The foundation consistently gave to anti-labor, anti-choice and anti-gay groups. Wheeler may claim that his values stray from his family's, but they clearly do not stray far enough for him to refuse a seat on the board of such a clearly anti-progressive foundation.

Ted Wheeler's background makes it clear that, no matter what he might say, there is only one choice for progressive voters in the race for county chair. Diane Linn has supported progressive causes all her life, and she deserves the chance to continue to lead Multnomah County in the right direction.

JOE CLOCK
Portland

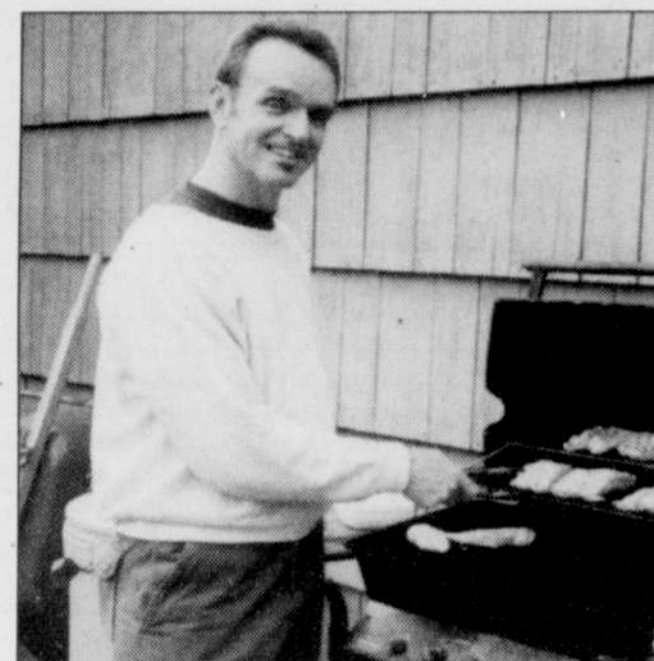
TRANSITION

Philip Kent Stuart, 1952-2006

A memorial service celebrating the life of Philip Kent Stuart will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. May 13 at the Peace House, 2116 N.E. 18th Ave. Everyone is invited to bring their favorite food to share. Stuart died of liver and kidney failure April 15.

He was born May 25, 1952, in Portland and graduated from Evergreen High School in Vancouver, Wash., in 1971. He served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps from 1971 to 1974 at Ft. Lewis Madigan Hospital.

Stuart was known for his love of Hawaii, gardening and spending time with friends. He also was a chef and worked in Seattle, San Francisco



and Portland. Stuart's paintings were displayed in galleries in Portland and on the Oregon coast.

He is survived by his life partner of seven years, Chris Stein; mother, Miriam Stuart; brothers, Ron and Gill; their wives, Debra and Brenda; five nephews; two nieces; and a great nephew. Stuart's father, Arthur, preceded him in death.

Remembrances may be made to Cascade AIDS Project's Housing Project, 620 S.E. Fifth Ave., Suite 300, Portland, OR 97204, and to the Peace House, 2116 N.E. 18th Ave., Portland, OR 97212.

CORRECTION

In the April 21 newsbrief "BRO Welcomes New Hires," the name of Basic Rights Oregon's new house party coordinator, Karol Collymore, was misspelled. *Just Out* regrets the error.

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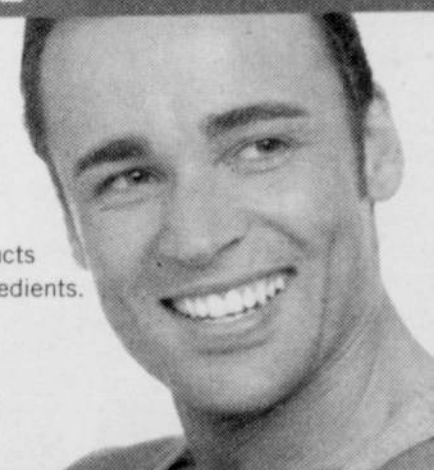
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