

outstanding Going Indie

Kay Sohl has dedicated the past 30 years of her life for the betterment of the Portland community as the co-founder and executive director of Technical Assistance for Community Services (TACS). Since 1977, Sohl, along with her employees, have educated non-profit organizations on how to run the "business" side in a trouble-free way that does not interfere with philanthropy.

Raised in Ohio, Sohl started her career in teaching. She received a master's degree from Reed College in education and began working for a church's children center during her mid-20s. "Then at the age of 27 I came out, and I began to be an activist in the women's movement," Sohl said. After a few years touring the country, Sohl, along with co-founder Jean DeMaster, developed the idea for TACS, and they officially opened the doors in 1977.

In June, Sohl plans on leaving her position at TACS to begin a more individually focused career. She will be running an independent consulting and training practice for nonprofit organizations, specializing in financial management and collaboration development. "I would love to spread to a more regional level but do a little less work overall. TACS has been a great experience, but it is time to try something different," said Sohl. For more information visit www.tacs.org.

My name is Kay Sohl.

I am known as the executive director of TACS.

My cause is to support people who are building non-profit organizations that will transform lives and the community for the better.

I am 61 years old. I feel 40 years old.

My childhood ambition was to become a spy.



Kay Sohl is ready to begin a new chapter of her career after 30 years with Technical Assistance for Community Services.

My first same-sex crush was in the eighth grade, her name was Deanne, and I was beside myself.

I like to spend my down time exercising and getting back to playing the cello.

My proudest moment has been just watching my daughter grow up and become such an amazing woman. She has triumphed over learning disabilities and is now receiving her master's in library studies. I could not be more proud.

My biggest challenge is to find the time to pursue all of my interests. I have always been curious and wanting to try new things.

A perfect day in Portland would be spent having a great breakfast at the John Street Cafe, a walk in the park with my daughter and an evening watching the Portland Baroque Orchestra.

My first job was working for the U.S. Committee for UNICEF in New York.

My vice has always been eating too much, but I have changed all that and have lost over 100 pounds, with dieting and exercise.

My inspiration is Marion Wright Edelman, founder of the Children's Defense Fund; she has shown how much one person can do.

The last queer or philanthropic event I participated in was the "Returning of the Light" benefit for the Bradley-Angle House.

My highest hope for the cause is that more people would get involved and just experience how all of us can make great change.

—James Maxwell

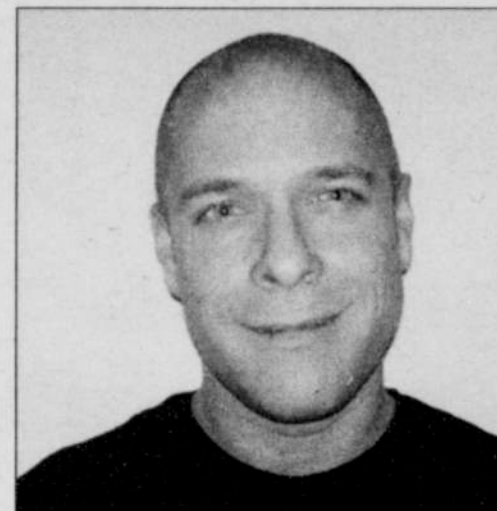
just asking

What do you like about your favorite presidential candidate?



SHARI MAHON
Real Estate Appraiser

"Hillary Clinton, because I think it's time a woman became president."



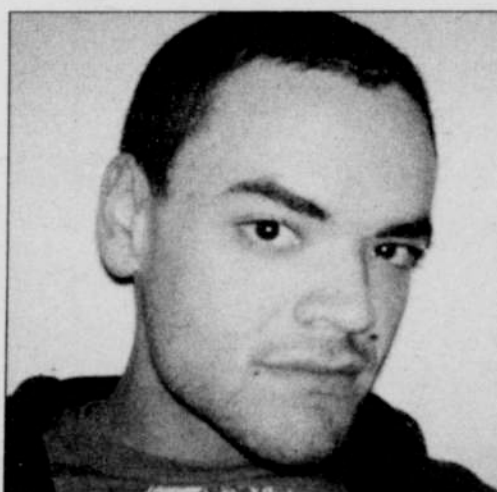
ROD OLIN
Registered Nurse

"Barack Obama. He has a way of bringing a lot of interest groups together, and it's important for a liberal candidate to weave together progressive causes."



MEL HEYWOOD
Gay Party Store Manager

"I'm for Obama. Everyone says Hillary is more experienced, but Obama carries with him this sense of hope and invigoration."



ANTHONY HUDSON
Lotion Seller

"Hillary Clinton because she's plotting, she's conniving and she has to do that because she's a woman and has to match what male politicians do. I think she does it flawlessly because her schemes are for the betterment of America. Barack Obama has the vision, but she has the resolve."

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