

northwest

Continued from Page 9

in our community to gain a more healthy way of life, but it is also such a great way to experience new social interactions with people," said Hall.

For more information visit www.portland-frontrunners.org.

Alterna-Proms Provide Options

Portlanders are likely to spot young couples gussied up for the prom dashing around the city.

Three separate proms were created to help same-sex couples and alternative types feel welcome when square, hetero proms would be alienating.

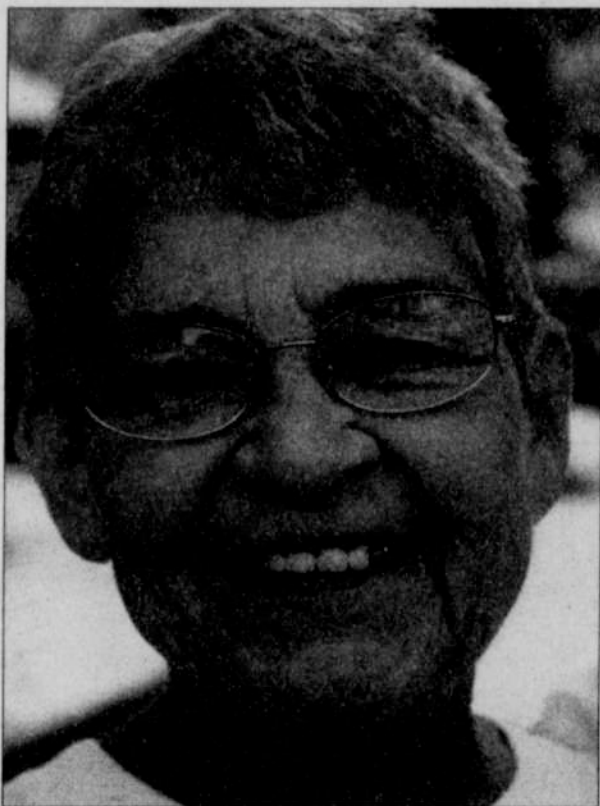
The Portland State University Queer Resource Center is holding "A Midsummer Night's Dream," its third annual all-ages queer prom, from 8 p.m. to midnight May 23 at Q Center, 69 S.E. Taylor St. Tickets are \$5 from Ticketmaster. Visit www.qrc.pdx.edu for more information.

Q Center is helping people 18 and older who identify as trans

and genderqueer relive the best parts of high school with Glam Prom, billed as the trans/genderqueer event of the season. Limos, tuxes and tiaras are strongly encouraged from 9 p.m. to midnight May 23.

This smoke- and alcohol-free event comes complete with a photo station, refreshments, Blow-pony DJ Kinetic and Gaycation DJ Mr. Charming. Tickets are \$5 at the door. For questions e-mail transgenderqueer.events@yahoo.com.

Lotus Rising Project's Not Straight Not Sure youth group is holding the third annual Southern Oregon Alternative Prom with an expected attendance of 200-plus people from 7 p.m. to midnight May 31 at Ashland Armory, 208 Oak St. This all-ages dance with formal and nonformal options features a silent auction and music from Blue Lightning. Tickets are \$15-\$30 for adults and nonstudents and \$10-\$15 for youth and students. E-mail notstraightnotsure@hotmail.com for more information.



A service will be held May 31 in memory of Senior Housing and Retirement Enterprises co-founder Evelyn Hall.

Repeal Watch:

At 50 Days and Counting, the Clock Is Ticking

The clock of fate ticks ever louder for Concerned Oregonians.

The anti-gay political action committee behind three filed petition initiatives designed to repeal the Oregon Family Fairness Act and the Oregon Equality Act continues to wait out an ever-narrowing window of opportunity to jumpstart its petition drives.

The first two filed repeal initiatives—IP 144 and IP 145—are held up in an appeals process to the Oregon Supreme Court, and the third, IP 146, has just received a final ballot title from Oregon Attorney General Hardy Myers, although it is likely that final ballot title will also be appealed to the court, further holding up the petitioning process. Petitions cannot begin circulating for the initiatives until final decisions from the court have been handed down.

After Concerned Oregonians founder David Crowe sent a passionate e-mail plea to supporters April 24—in which he said the organization needed to raise \$25,000 by May 1 and an additional \$50,000 by June 1 to adequately

support the initiative endeavors—it received a flurry of donations.

But the total received between Crowe's appeal and May 5 has fallen well short of his stated goals, with only \$4,815 in new donations coming in. According to records with the Oregon Elections Division, this still leaves the organization, as of May 13, \$1,548.54 in the red.

In spite of these setbacks, there are signs that Concerned Oregonians is preparing for a brutally short signature drive as soon as the petitions are approved. The organization has identified 27 churches, businesses and individual community leaders eager to spearhead petition drives in hubs around the state and has organized petition distributing "hub leaders" in cities like Astoria, Beaverton, Medford and Pendleton.

Once any petition is approved, Concerned Oregonians has until July 3 to gather at least 82,769 valid signatures in order to make the November ballot.

Visit www.justout.com for the latest "Repeal Watch" updates.

—Stephen Marc Beaudoin

Service Planned in Memory of Evelyn Hall

A memorial service is planned for Evelyn Hall, community activist and co-founder of Senior Housing and Retirement Enterprises, 1:30 p.m. May 31 at Metropolitan Community Church, 2400 N.E. Broadway.

Hall died of complications from heart sur-

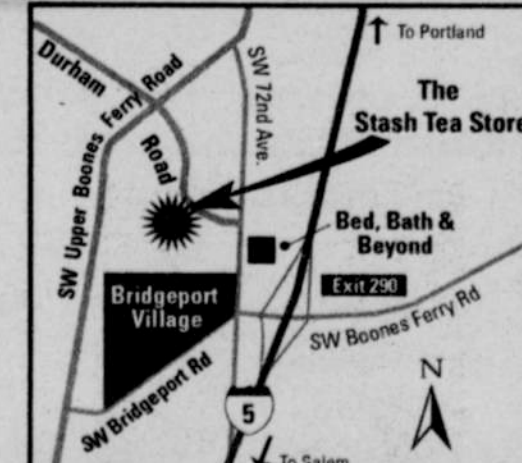
gery and a stroke April 8. She and Mary Beth Brindley, her partner of 49 years, founded SHARE in 2002 after visiting a friend in Beaverton who was forced back in the closet after moving to an assisted living facility. ☐

By MELANIE ALTARAS, STEPHEN MARC BEAUDOIN, JAYMEE R. CUTI and JAMES MAXWELL





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