

NORTHWEST BRIEFS

guidelines; the homeowner will purchase the house at cost and pay a zero percent interest mortgage.

To help raise funds for the next effort, Habitat for Humanity and Portland Pride Build are holding a night of cheer with their "Home for the Holidays" benefit, 6-9 p.m. Thursday, December 3 at Q Center (4115 N. Mississippi Ave.).

Ball will host the event, along with his partner Grant Jones; George Eighemy and partner Peter Livingston; and Bill Dickey and partner David Wagner. The event also promises live music by Lynn Frances Anderson, wine, champagne and hors d'oeuvres.

Those interested in volunteering with Portland Pride Build can contact Jennifer Perkins at jennifer@habitatportlandmetro.org. No experience needed!

To RSVP for the fundraiser, contact bhulstrom@yahoo.com, and visit www.portland-pridebuild.org for further information.

Public Hearing to Address Needs of Elderly Multnomah County Citizens and Minorities

A December 2 public hearing, presented by the Portland Housing Bureau and co-sponsored by the Housing and Community Development Committee and Elders in Action, will focus on affordable housing barriers faced by Multnomah County seniors. Public input received will inform how federal dollars will be implemented into housing for aging citizens in the county.

There are more than 100,000 citizens over the age of 60 in Multnomah County, many of whom are faced with limited housing options. The hearing will address questions pertaining to the housing and service needs of our aging population, as well as whether or not elders of communities of color; elders who are gay, lesbian, bi or trans; and elders who are immigrants and refugees have access to such needs. There will also be a discussion of the needs of aging homeowners in Multnomah County, and how to strengthen existing federal disbursement of funds for those services.

The hearing takes place 1-3 p.m. Wednesday, December 2 at the Mittleman Jewish Community Center (6651 SW Capitol Highway). Lunch will be provided, and transportation can be arranged upon request by calling 503-823-2396 three days in advance of the hearing.

» NEWS IN BRIEF

As part of World AIDS Day Portland 2009 events, **Live on Stage** productions presents a special performance of **Falsettos in Concert**, with a portion of the proceeds benefiting Our House and Cascade AIDS Project. The 7:30 p.m. December

1 performance, which tells the story of a man who leaves his wife and young son to live with another man, will be held at the World Trade Center Theater, 121 SW Salmon. Tickets are \$50, \$25 of which goes to Our House and CAP, available by calling 503-280-LIVE (5483) or at www.liveonstage.us. The show will be followed by a reception with the cast. Check out p. 12 for Ryan J. Prado's coverage of World AIDS Day Portland events and visit www.blogout.justout.com for updated listings.

The **Men's Wellness Center** has welcomed a new coordinator, **Brad Forkner**. Originally from Missoula, Mont., Forkner has lived in Portland for almost five years. He previously worked as an intern for Cascade AIDS Project's 20th Annual Art Evening and Auction, and most recently, at the Center for Gender Equity at Pacific University. Via email, Forkner expressed his excitement at the opportunity and reiterated the center's goal: "not to reinforce walls between MSM (men who have sex with men) and the rest of the Portland metro community, but to address the specific health, social, and intellectual needs of our community." For more information, call 503-445-7699 or email cityguys@cascadeaids.org. ... An open house for CAP's new offices (208 SW Fifth Ave., eighth floor) and the Men's Wellness Center (209 SW Fourth Ave.) is planned for Thursday, December 10 from 4:30 to 7 p.m. RSVP by calling 503-278-3811 or emailing ecollins@cascadeaids.org.

A free, **three-day cancer retreat for sexual minority women** is planned for December 4-6 at **Harmony Hill Retreat Center** in Union, Wash. (7362 E. State Rte. 106). Lesbian, bisexual and transgender women will enjoy whole-food meals grown near to or on the 12-acre facility on the Hood Canal and tranquil water and mountain views. Spouses/companions are optional, and the program is offered at no-cost to participants. Space is limited to 20 per retreat, first-come, first-served, with a waiting list available. Find out more by calling 360-898-2363 or visiting www.harmonyhill.org.

TransActive Education and Advocacy hosts its **Second Annual Silent Auction** on Sunday, December 6. Held 2-5 p.m. at the Horace Long Photography Studio (3423 SE 18th St.), the fundraiser will feature live music and refreshments, with bidding closing at 4 p.m.; among the offerings up for bid are items autographed by *Glee* cast member Chris Colfer (Kurt Hummel). TransActive is a pioneering nonprofit dedicated to providing a full range of services benefiting transgender and gender non-conforming children and youth age 18 and under. More information can be found at www.transactiveonline.org. Check out Amanda Waldroupe's story featuring TransActive founder Jenn Burleton on p. 15.

— Amanda Schurr

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