-community-

The Q Must Go On

Q Center gears up for Pride season as search for director continues BY ERIN ROOK

Kendall Clawson left her post in February for a to announcing a decision soon." position with Governor John Kitzhaber's office, the community hub was left with big shoes to summer plans. The Vagina Monologues and fill, says Q Center administrative coordinator Market Q, a farmers market, open the weekend Logan Lynn. Still, thanks to a dedicated ex- of May 6 and 7, respectively. tended family, board member Mary Wheat says Q Center is "busier than ever," even as it with a planned presence during all three days searches for a new leader.

at full capacity since Kendall took her new position with Governor Kitzhaber," says Wheat, who joined the board six months ago and is also a member of the executive director search committee. "We have a full-time staff, a very involved float in the parade. board and almost 300 volunteers that keep everything running very smoothly. We have not January served as an unofficial bon voyage for put any projects or programs on hold."

The board of directors is currently in the be a welcome to the center's new director. second round of interviews in a national search. Wheat says they hope to make a decision in a managers throughout the years and Q Center matter of weeks.

"The Q Center board has taken its responsibility in selecting a new director very seriously,"

When former Q Center executive director ough and thoughtful process and look forward service and, in fact, there are more things going

As that search continues, so do Q Center's

of the festival. On Friday, June 17, Q Center "Q Center has definitely continued to operate will kick off its Pride festivities with a diverse second installment of its new concert series, featuring local queer performance artists, musicians and DJs. The center will also have a booth at Tom McCall Waterfront Park and a

Clawson, its Pride festivities may work out to businesses to help keep our community safe."

"All organizations change directors and is no different," Wheat points out. "Q Center has a strong foundation and it is run by a team that knows its first priority is to the community Wheat says. "We have conducted a very thor- it serves. There have been no interruptions of

on at Q Center than ever before."

Wheat adds that while Clawson brought her own unique contributions to Q Center, the responsibilities of the director would remain essentially unchanged. Specifically, she says Q Q Center is also looking forward to Pride, Center will continue to be involved in the organization and implementation of Q Patrol, the community foot patrol that began under Clawson's tenure.

"The Q Patrol is of course continuing and Q Center will continue in the same leadership capacity as it has in the past," Wheat says. "During our last board meeting, we discussed the upcoming summer months and how the Q Even as Q Center's Winter Gala in late Patrol will be involved in working with the Portland Police Bureau and neighborhood

> Whoever steps in to take the reins at Q Center, Wheat says he or she will bring something fresh to the center's established mission.

"The role of the executive director will not ganization, and we are very excited about con- for a schedule of events.



Former Q Center executive director Kendall Clawson speaks at the Q Center Library dedication party.

tinuing the role Q Center fills in the community," Wheat says.

change but we know that every person brings For more on Q Patrol and community safety meatheir own personality and new ideas to an or- sures, see story on facing page. Visit pdxqcenter.org

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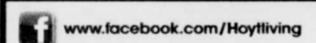
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