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Beth A. Allen, founding partner: winner of the Oregon Gay & Lesbian Law Association (OGALLA) Silver Jubilee Award; OGALLA Award of Merit; and the Basic Rights Oregon Superhero Award. Selected as a 2010 Oregon Super Lawyer. Founding member of the BRO Legal Group; author of *Same-Sex Marriage: a Conflicts of Law Analysis for Oregon*; frequent local, state and national speaker on marriage equality.

ejected, he apologized to the inspectors. Neuhardt, who has a history of heart trouble, was sent to the hospital for observation, but is reportedly now home. Fines or a suspension of Darcelle XV's liquor license will be levied pending an investigation into the incident, as will any consequences stemming from the ejection of the OLCC inspectors.

With Roxy recovered, you can help celebrate her 76th birthday at Darcelle XV Showplace (208 NW Third Ave.) on Tuesday, August 23 during a 1976-themed party. Costs are rolled back to 1976 prices, including an admission of just 50 cents, which includes two beer script tickets, cocktail specials and a free spaghetti dinner. The party is for revelers 21 and older.

—RYAN J. PRADO

Aloha Man Arrested in Assault on Gay Couple

Aloha resident Robert Bosket, 50, was arrested August 16 after he allegedly invaded the home of his gay next door neighbors and attacked the couple, according to Sergeant Vance Stimler of the Washington County Sheriff's Department.

When Bosket showed up at David Christensen's home on SW 187th Ave. around 10 p.m. August 16, he was "upset over some trees that were trimmed by Mr. Christensen," Sgt. Stimler said. After opening the door, Bosket allegedly pushed Christensen to the ground and began strangling him.

"Our next door neighbor pushed his way into our home uninvited, hit me, tackled me to the floor, and proceeded to strangle me while yelling anti-gay slurs," Christensen said in an email. "I managed to push my attacker off of me, but he refused to leave my home and he had me trapped on the floor for more than 10 minutes while he threatened me and screamed at me."

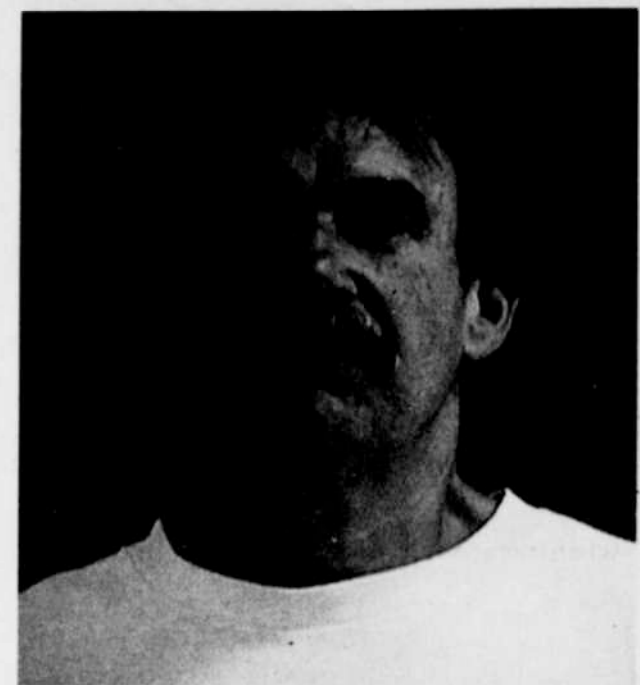
Police arrived on the scene and arrested Bosket, who admitted to calling the men "faggots" and "fags," while the couple alleged he also called them "butt fucker" and "bitch," police said.

Police charged Bosket with Burglary 1, harassment and strangulation but are not pursuing a hate crimes enhancement at this time. As of press time Bosket was being held at the Multnomah County Correctional Facility with bail set at \$5,000.

"We have to talk to the D.A. about [whether or not to investigate it as a hate crime]. I don't think Oregon has a hate crimes statute," Sgt. Stimler said. "We're not investigating it as intimidation."

Oregon 166.155, Intimidation in the second degree, includes in its definition assault motivated by a person's perception of the other's sexual orientation. While the motivation of the assault may or may not be bias related, Oregon law clearly covers anti-gay bias crimes.

According to Christensen, this is not the first time he and his partner have been subjected to anti-gay harassment by a neighbor. On August 12, he reported a death threat made by another neighbor who also



Robert Bosket

called him a "whiney faggot," police said. No charges were filed.

"There was no crime," Sgt. Stimler said, explaining that although Christensen and his partner alleged that the neighbor threatened them, there was no third party corroboration.

Christensen said he and his partner no longer feel safe in their own home.

"We hope our story will help raise awareness and create a safer and more supportive environment for local LGBTQ residents," he wrote.

Anyone with information about the incident is asked to contact the Multnomah County Sheriff's Office at 503-846-2700.

—ERIN ROOK

Oregon Same-Sex Ballot Measure Not Yet a Sure Thing

Contrary to the buzz sparked by an August 14 *Statesman Journal* story, Basic Rights Oregon has not yet made a decision about whether to pursue a marriage equality ballot measure in 2012.

According to a statement from BRO executive director Jeana Frazzini: "An article by the Salem *Statesman Journal* inadvertently implied that Basic Rights Oregon has already decided to gather signatures for a 2012 ballot measure, while in fact we do not expect to make this decision until later this year. In the meantime, we continue our work to educate the public about why civil marriage matters to caring and committed same-sex couples. Last year, we launched this education campaign to engage Oregonians in conversations in person, on social media and on TV. To get involved in this effort, visit us at lovecommitmentmarriage.org."

In a July 15 interview with *Just Out*, Frazzini said that BRO hoped to make a decision by October 31 but that the time was not yet right. "We're absolutely moving public opinion in the right direction and, in fact, accelerating the pace of change," Frazzini said, adding, "We're not where we need to be yet—if the election were held today, it's not clear that we would win."

It would be irresponsible to go to the ballot without a clear path to victory, she