

happen by referendum, not legislation, her strong voice in Salem will shield the gains already made in the face of stiff Republican opposition, if she is backed by a Democratic majority.

She may be very well positioned to do so. Tina plans to seek re-election as Democratic Caucus Leader in the House, which could lead to her serving as Speaker of the House in the coming session if Oregon's Democrats regain a majority in Salem this November. She would be the first openly lesbian woman to serve as House Speaker in any state legislature. But the critical pre-requisite - regaining control in Salem - will take active political effort across the state by many, including the LGBT community.

On the topic of political activism, when asked about widespread political cynicism, Tina sighed and admitted "There's a lot to be cynical about. But, if the queens in the Stonewall Bar had done nothing, where would we be? My mother always said, 'If you don't like it, fix it. You don't get to complain, and then just sit there.'" Asked how, she was clear: make sure you and your friends are registered to vote, volunteer for your local candidates, and talk openly about who you're voting for and why. Votes are won person to person. While electoral politics are just one part of solving all the problems ahead, they are a very important part and Tina knows from her own experience that, in the end, changes are made by those who do more than just complain.

Even with all this on her plate, key questions remain for Ms. Kotek. Like...werewolves or vampires? "Vampires. They live forever, and who wouldn't want to live forever?" Does this Freddie Mercury reference and her thing for superheroes mean she agrees Flash Gordon is the greatest movie ever? "Oh absolutely, EV-arrrr." ■

If helping Oregon elect America's first openly lesbian Speaker of the House is something you support, then Oregon needs a Democratic majority in Salem. You can register to vote, volunteer for local candidates, and contribute by visiting the Democratic Party of Oregon website at dpo.org. Big decisions will be made on November 4th. For more information on Tina Kotek: VoteTina.com

Leo Schuman is *Just Out's* political writer. Leo is a former lawyer and a self admitted political junkie. Reach him at Leo@JustOut.com

	Micro Draft Specials -Plus- Pop Quiz w/ QUIZMASTER POLLY 9pm - Midnight	 + AIDS WALK PORTLAND  = WALK SCANDALS BE GAY scandalsex.com Join Us Today! 
	Karaoke w/ KJ Suzanne And Great Drink Specials from 9pm - Midnight	
	Live Bands Every 1st Thursday @8pm With New Artwork for Sale Every Month!	
	Well Cocktails Upgraded for Free!! FEATURING FRIS Vodka, Bacardi Superior, Bombay Dry, El Jimador & Old Forester as the Well Liquors!!	
	<i>Matty Mae's</i> Bloody Mary Bar & Free Pool All Day!!! Noon - 4pm	
S.I.N. Show Service Ind. Card For Scandalicious Drink Specials 9pm - midnight		
SCANDALS		1125 SW Stark St. 503.227.5887



LAURELHURST DENTISTRY

GENERAL & COSMETIC DENTISTRY

Offering the latest in advanced dental technology:

- ✦ Low radiation digital x-rays
- ✦ Porcelain veneers and crowns
- ✦ Cerec single-appointment porcelain crowns
- ✦ Invisalign



left to right
Corinne Anderson, DMD
Sheila Bennett, DMD
Adrienne Fischl, DMD

2520 EAST BURNSIDE, PORTLAND, OR 97214
 PH: (503) 928-5633 FX: (503) 233-5882
 WWW.LAURELHURSTDENTISTRY.COM