

the editor. "And they changed back," she says. Molly Kenzie also wonders why the paper could be flexible about the obits but not the birth announcements.

Simmons and Martinez-Padilla moved to Oregon because they didn't want to start an adopted child's life with a lie.

Although activists have noted that other papers in Oregon publish the names of both same-sex parents in birth announcements, the *R-G*'s service is free; some other papers charge for announcements. *The Oregonian* publishes birth announcements in a



November 2005: Molly and Kari Kenzie proudly announce the birth of their son Owen

"Celebrations" section twice a month. Same-sex and opposite sex couples and single parents can pay for and get their names in those birth announcements, and the paper publishes announcements of adoptions as well, says Frank Brown, who works in the paper's Paid Announcements division. *The Oregonian's* birth announcement form has a line for "Parents' names," but does tilt toward opposite-sex couples in asking for maternal and paternal grandparents' names. In Salem, *The Statesman-Journal* also publishes a list of births along with graduations, engagements, anniversaries, birthdays, retirements and promotions, among other landmark occasions, in a "Milestones" section on Sundays. Perhaps something as simple as changing what the section is called would help, activists say.

"A number of people have made suggestions that [the *R-G*] change the heading from birth announcements to something more general like Family News or Family Developments," Simmons says.

Sharon Flynn is ready to keep fighting. Holding Hailey up to wave bye, she says, "Every year near Hailey's birthday, until the policy changes, we'll be out there." **EW**



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