

HEALTH

Mental Health Out of the Shadows

Advocates recognized for leadership

Former Oregon State Sen. Avel Gordly and Oregon Partnership Founder and Chief Executive Officer Judy Cushing are being honored for their leadership on mental health issues.

The two local women have been selected by the National Alliance on Mental Illness of Oregon to be the co-recipients of the annual Gordon and Sharon Smith New Freedom Award.

"Sharon and I are delighted that Avel and Judy will receive the award that bears our name. Both have been courageous and eloquent leaders in the effort to bring mental health's subordinate status and suicide's brutal toll out of the shadows. They are most deserving recipients of the New Freedom Award, and of the gratitude of all Oregonians," said former U.S. Sen. Gordon Smith.

Gordly represented north and northeast Portland in the Oregon State House of Representatives from 1991-1997, and in the Oregon State Senate from 1997-2009. She was the



Avel Gordly



Judy Cushing

first African-American female State Senator in Oregon's history. A Portland native and a graduate of Portland State University, she spent much of her life as a community organizer and activist for the disadvantaged. In 2008, Oregon Health Sciences University opened the Avel Gordly Center for Healing, dedicated to multicultural mental health and psychiatric services.

Judy Cushing founded Oregon Partnership (now Lines for Life) in 1993. The statewide nonprofit is dedicated to substance abuse prevention and education, and suicide

and crisis intervention services. In 2003, President Bush appointed Cushing to the President's Advisory Commission on Drug-Free Communities, and in 2010, the Obama Administration appointed her to the Executive Committee of the National Action Alliance for Suicide Prevention.

Gordly and Cushing will receive their award at a dinner to be held at the Downtown Waterfront Marriott on Oct. 9. More information about the dinner can be obtained at namior.org or by calling 503-230-8009.

Dementia Cases to Double Worldwide

(AP) — Cases of dementia — and the heavy social and financial burdens associated with them — are set to soar in the coming decades as life expectancy and medical care improve in poorer countries, the World Health Organization says.

Some 35.6 million people were living with dementia in 2010, but

that figure is set to double to 65.7 million by 2030, the U.N. health agency said Wednesday. In 2050, it expects dementia cases to triple to 115.4 million.

Most dementia patients are cared for by relatives who shoulder the bulk of the current estimated annual cost of \$604 billion. And the financial burden is expected to rise even

faster than the number of cases, WHO said in its first substantial report on the issue.

Dementia, a brain illness that affects memory, behavior and the ability to perform even common tasks, affects mostly older people. About 70 percent of cases are believed to be caused by Alzheimer's.

More Births for Unwed Couples

(AP) — Health officials say nearly 1 in 4 babies are born to unmarried couples who are living together, a significant jump from a decade ago.

The government previously said more than 40 percent of births are to unwed mothers. But a report released Thursday offers new detail showing most unwed births occur in cohabiting couples.

The Centers for Disease Con-

trol and Prevention study was based on face-to-face interviews with more than 22,000 men and women during 2006 through 2010.

About 23 percent of the reported births were to unmarried heterosexual couples who were living together when the child was born. That was up from 14 percent when a similar study was done in 2002. The CDC did not speculate on reasons for the increase.

Avalon Flowers

520 SW 3rd Ave., Portland, OR 97204 • 503-796-9250



Cori Stewart--
Owner, Operator

*A full service
flower experience*

- Birthdays
- Anniversaries
- Funerals
- Weddings

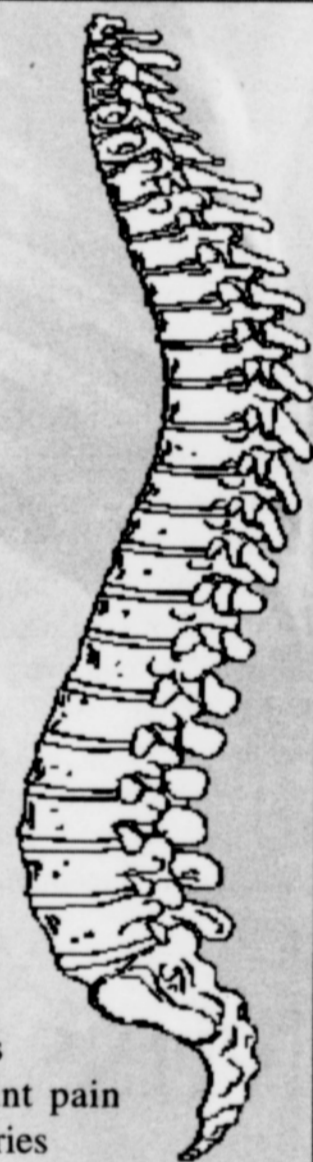
**Open: Mon.-Fri. 7:30am til 5:30pm
Saturday 9am til 2pm.**

Website: avalonflowerspdx.com
email: avalonflowers@msn.com
We Offer Wire Services

Your Care Our First Priority



**Dr. Marcelitte
Failla**
Chiropractic
Physician



We are located at
1716 N.E. 42nd Ave.
Portland, OR 97213
(Between Broadway and Sandy Blvd.)



- Automobile accident injuries
- Chronic headache and joint pain
- Workers Compensation injuries

Call for an appointment! **(503) 228-6140**

To Place Your Classified Advertisement

Contact:
Phone: 503-288-0033
Fax: 503-288-0015
e-mail: classifieds@portlandobserver.com



You Belong on Our Team!

Job Hotline: 503-988-5035
TTY: 503-988-5170

an equal opportunity employer



MULTNOMAH
COUNTY

www.multcojobs.org