



### RAIN SUCKS!

So...not as titillated by the prospects of the upcoming 5 months of darkness as you once were? Are you over 55, like golf, and intrigued at the notion of 70 degrees and sunny all winter? You don't have to leave Portland altogether. Instead, "snowbird" by buying my parents' home in Florida. 2BR, 1 BA house is located in Ocala, FL retirement community, surrounded by 3 PGA golf courses, gay-owned development with straight/GLB mixed demographic. Good bones in the house, but could use a decorator's touch. Current real estate bubble and my folks' cash flow problem mean you profit. \$130,000...e-mail me at [drpsnell@hotmail.com](mailto:drpsnell@hotmail.com) for photos, MLS #, etc.

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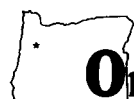
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# northwest

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The Vancouver Funeral Chapel and Alderwoods Group are hosting 48 panels of the quilt for public viewing from Nov. 26 to Dec. 3. The viewing will coincide with World AIDS Day on Dec. 1.

The chapel, at 110 E. 12th St. in Vancouver, Wash., will hold a hope and remembrance service at 7 p.m. Dec. 1. Community members who have lost loved ones to AIDS can have their names read during the service by calling 360-693-3633. There is no charge, but a donation of nonperishable food to Martha's Pantry, a Vancouver food bank for people living with AIDS, is requested.

### Health Care More Inclusive

As one health care provider announces a new domestic partnership benefit, another has earned a perfect score for corporate policies affecting sexual minorities.

Kaiser Permanente announced Oct. 10 that it was the only health care provider in the country to receive a perfect score on the national index that evaluates corporate policies affecting queer employees.

According to the Human Rights Campaign's fifth annual Corporate Equity Index, Kaiser Permanente is one of only 138 employers nationwide to score a 100 percent rating on this index. More than 8,000 people in Oregon and Southwest Washington are employed by Kaiser Permanente, making it one of the 10 largest employers in the Portland area.

Some employers, such as Kaiser Permanente, have implemented policies to protect sexual minority workers from discrimination in hiring, employment and benefits. Kaiser Permanente offers health insurance and dental care coverage to employees' domestic partners and calls for fair treatment of its health plan members regardless of sexual or gender orientation.

Providence Health Systems announced Oct. 6 that it will offer benefits to domestic partners beginning Jan. 1, 2007. The policy defines domestic partners as nonrelatives who share a "close, personal relationship with a subscriber such that each is responsible for the other's welfare."

### Support Still Needed

In the Sept. 15 issue, *Just Out* reported the story of Vicky Chalfant's boating accident on the Columbia River. After a surgery to amputate her leg, she was quick to recover.

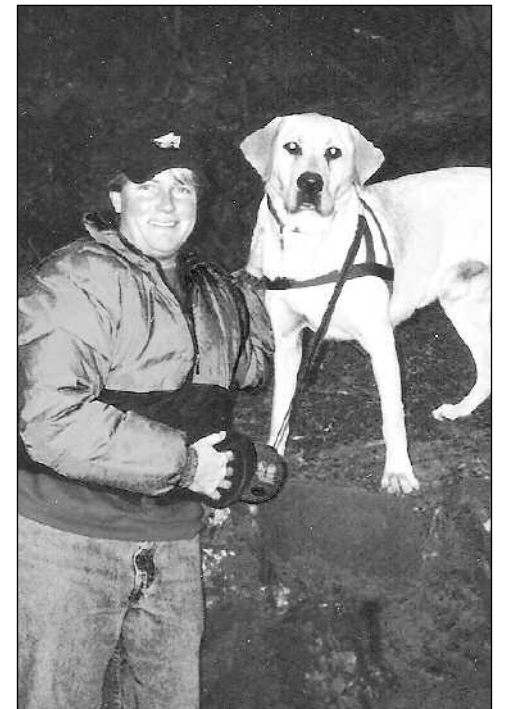
Her network of friends has been at her side and raising money to help with recovery and rehabilitation. Tiffany Miller, owner of Dingo's taco bar, turned her Girls Night Out into a full-day benefit for Chalfant on Sept. 21.

"We'll continue to try and raise additional funds," said Chalfant's friend Wendy Murray. "A prosthetic is as expensive as a new car."

The community is invited to help celebrate Chalfant's 40th birthday from 5 to 11 p.m. Oct. 29 at Holocene, 1001 S.E. Morrison St. A silent auction—with exciting items including a week at Fishhawk Lake, kayaking trips, an Infinity Tattoo gift certificate, a \$350 pet wellness kit and Nike gear—will end at 9:30.

"We want to throw her the party of the century," said friend Karen Moss.

According to friends, Chalfant has been work-



Vicky Chalfant is recovering well and turning 40.

ing almost daily with James Parsons from Hanger Prosthetics to reach a personal goal. "I should be walking on two legs in time to trick-or-treat with the kids," Chalfant said. "I am doing really well and healing great!"

Don't miss the fabulous auction items, drinks, dancing and opportunity to help one of our own.

### Q Center Hosts Women's Business Network

The first meeting of Womyn Networking will be from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Oct. 25 at Q Center, 69 S.E. Taylor St.

"Together, we commit to connect, educate and empower lesbian, bisexual and transgender women and our supporters, to ensure success of women's businesses in our community. We also plan to focus on women issues, learning about each member's businesses, building a referral base and inviting women speakers to present who have been successful in their businesses," according to the group's mission statement.

Started by Anne Viola of Rose City Mortgage



Anne Viola is starting a networking group for queer women in business.

MARTY DAVIS