

E D I T O R I A L

The threat is here and now, people

Are we going to hide again?

By now, everyone in our community has heard of the plot to bomb Neighbors Disco and a synagogue in Seattle, as well as a few black bars and Korean businesses in Tacoma, the FBI's arrest of three of the four men involved and of the the grand jury indictment of these Aryan Nation members.

Get scared, folks. Get angry, people. Be good scouts and PREPARE. These people are not going to go away by ignoring them.

Just Out received the following from the president of Seattle's Pride Foundation, Jim Toevs.

We can all be very thankful that the carnage planned by sick minds for Neighbors Disco on Saturday evening did not materialize.

However, it is also very important that lesbians and gay men deal with the fear which arises in each of us when incidents like this occur. If we allow this fear to isolate us or drive us back into the closet, then the terrorists will have won regardless.

Susan B. Anthony coined a phrase "Never Another Season of Silence." The Pride Foundation is dedicated to the proposition that there will never again be another season of silence concerning the freedom of lesbians and gay men to openly be who we are without fear of discrimination.

We invite all members of our community to walk through our fear and to not be silent. The terrorists have given us a wonderful opportunity to educate and build coalitions if we will but seize the moment. What better time to point out to homophobic black ministers that we share a common enemy? What better time to confront Christian, Jewish, and other religious groups about where they stand on the subject of civil rights for lesbians and gays?

Don't isolate, let's congregate! We all need one another now more than ever. Let's

utilize the tremendous resources we have created in our community. If you need support, go to a support group. If you are enraged, become active in a positive organization or political campaign. Do whatever you need to do, but let it never be said of the Seattle lesbian and gay community that we will ever again endure "Another Season of Silence."

Portland, too, needs to awaken to the definite responsibilities to ourselves and our community.

How can we celebrate Stonewall, when so many of us say, "Don't rock the boat," "Play by their rules," "Turn your back on ACT UP. They're dangerous to all we've accomplished."?

Pardon me, but Bull Shit! We've accomplished so much because there were others who actively fought for us, for what few rights we have now.

I'm sorry, but I refuse to "act just like everybody else" — like mainstream America.

I'm not like them. I'm a lesbian, a dyke, a woman lover, among other parts of my reality, and those very things have made me what I am. How can I be like someone who's never had to fight for legitimate identity, never been refused work or insurance or living space, because of what they are or believe in, never had to fear the possibility of being killed for what they are?

Jim Toevs is right. We need to confront the other minority groups with this. We need to support each other. We need to stop bickering and stand together.

I refuse to let groups like the Aryan Nation and other neo-nazi — of which there are between 150-250 in Portland alone — frighten me into hiding or inaction or silence. A large number of homosexuals, Jews and gypsies died horribly (45 to 55) years ago because they did just that.

It can happen again. Are we going to let it?

Mollie's intro

I feel myself to be in a quandary. Normally, I would have started with, "Hi, there. My name's Mollie Sidhe. (That's pronounced 'Shee,' folks.) I'm the new editor of Just Out." I would then proceed to tell you something about myself.

But things aren't normal. Jay Brown is gone and a bright, warm glow has left us.

No one can be Jay — but Jay. No one can take his place. But Just Out, his dream, needs to continue, if we are to be true to his memory.

Since I cannot — nor have any wish to — fill his shoes, I must attempt to keep his dream alive in my own way, adding bits of Mollie here and there. However, I certainly can't do it alone. We've got a great staff and I'm sure we'll get loving support from you, our readers and family.

Just Out is a wonderful community endeavor and I want to keep it bright and shining and alive.

No, I'm not Jay. But I am Mollie and I hope you find out that I, too, have something good to offer.

(Mollie Amber Brigid Sidhe (MABS) is a lesbian (49), who has done a number of good [and honestly, a few not-so-good] deeds in her lifetime. She has some 20 years of free lance editing, typography and writing experience behind her. She was also managing editor for awhile. She has published a short short in Ireland and several articles in Chicago, Cleveland and Los Angeles.

As a single mother of four, she went to college, finished, got a paying job, and helped create a performing arts group in Chicago. She and Morgan, her spouse of four years, have two young adolescent daughters. Life blessed [or cursed] her with her own gremlin, who insists on sitting on her shoulder and giving her interesting times.)

Idiocies in general

Ron Wilkinson, an air traffic controller at Dulles Airport in Washington, D.C., was removed from his job for taking the anti-AIDS drug, AZT.

According to FAA spokesman Bob Buckhorn, the policy is to give controllers who take AZT other jobs, because of the possible side effects, which many impair their ability to keep track of aircraft. He added that they are reviewing the medical data. Controllers found to carry HIV can continue to monitor the air traffic screens as long as they don't take AZT.

The National Air Traffic Controller Association has filed a grievance and said there was no evidence that AZT affected a controller's performance.

So he's supposed to not try to help himself in order to keep his job. Or, take the AZT and give up his career, right?

One wonders why we're given so much gray matter when most of it is never used.

Another example. In Camden, N.J., an AIDS-infected jail inmate, Gregory D. Smith, 26, convicted of attempted murder after biting a guard, was given a 25-year prison sentence. Courtroom protesters shouted "shame, shame" at the judge.

Superior Court Judge John B. Mariano added this sentence to Smith's five-year term for robbery, saying parole would not be possible for 12-and-a-half years.

It's going to be a bit difficult for him to serve the term if he dies, isn't it?

Are those little white boys in Bensonhurst N.Y. going to get 25 years each for the murder of a black youth? Probably not. After all, they're not black, gay, hispanic or dying of AIDS.

Mollie A. B. Sidhe

SANDRA K. PINCHES, Ph.D.

Counseling and Psychotherapy

1809 N.W. Johnson, Ste. 7
Portland, OR 97209
(503) 227-7558

Specializing in issues of:

- Recovering Alcoholics
- Lesbian & gay couples
- Co-dependency
- Intimacy & commitment

GAY GAMES III



VANCOUVER

BC

August 4th to the 11th



Call 1-800-828-1109 Today!

FOR YOUR **FREE** BROCHURE!

Accommodations and Event Information

Uncle Sam May Not Want You



But We Do!



Do you have something to say?
In words? In art? With a camera?
Do you burn for a by line?

Do you get satisfaction in
Selling something great to those
Who need it?

Just Out is seeking stringers, feature writers, book reviewers, columnists, artists, photographers and cartoonists. Many non-tangible benefits.

Our great Business and Ad Manager is searching for a few good ad reps.

