4 ▼ july 19, 1996 ▼ just out



Nora Isacson Portland's Alternative Realtor

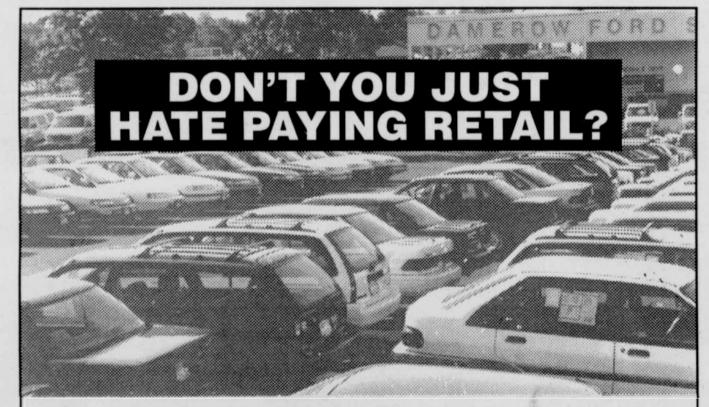
I have chosen to take a more human approach as a Realtor. I build my business on a referral basis and firmly believe that the satisfaction of my client is far more important than my financial gain. I communicate clearly and openly, and I'm always honest with my clients. I'll gladly climb a nearby tree to check on a roof or get a bit dirty investigating a crawl space or an attic. I work mainly in Portland's close-in Southeast and Northeast neighborhoods and specialize in older homes with character. Whether you're thinking of buying or selling, *please do give me a call*.

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# TRANSITIONS

# Maker of Word Is Out dies

Pioneering filmmaker Peter Adair died last month in San Francisco of AIDS-related illness. He was 53.

Adair specialized in films with gay and lesbian themes. Perhaps his best known work is the 1977 documentary *Word Is Out*.

According to Adair's longtime collaborator Janet Cole, the film was "the first feature documentary that showed a positive, accurate portrait of lesbians and gays in the U.S."

Adair's filmmaking career spanned 34 years and began when his parents gave him a movie camera as a high school graduation present. Other films he made include *Holy Ghost People*, *Stopping History* and *Absolutely Positive*.

He is survived by his life partner, Rudy Norton; his father, John; and his sisters, Nancy and Margo.



### Documentarian Peter Adair

# Musician, counselor gone

Gloria Bennett passed from this world to another on June 25, 1996, after succumbing to a long struggle with the disease of addiction. Naperville, Ill., and Tom Bennett of Vancouver, Wash.

A celebration of Gloria Bennett's life will be held July 20; for more information call 284-7815.

Donations may be sent to Mainstream Youth Program, 4531 SE Belmont St., Portland, OR 97215.

# A change is made

This note is to inform the many people in the lesbian, gay and feminist communities that there has been a fundamental and permanent change in the presentation of my true sex and gender. The person that many of you may have known in the 1970s and 1980s as Niobeh Crowfoot Tsaba, and as female, is now finally the male I have always known myself to be. In early 1995 I took the name Silas from my father's father's family and changed

my legal name to Silas N.T. Crowfoot. In January 1996 I became legally male.

Many of you may be astonished or unbelieving. That makes sense, since, in the 21 years I have lived in Portland, I had discussed my lifelong struggle to come to terms with my true gender with no one except my partner and my therapist until two years ago. But for many of you, it will be me who will now finally be making sense. Now that I have stopped trying (often unsuccessfully) to pass as female and I am just the man that I really am, I am much happier and no longer depressed, anxious or angry all the time. Be-

cause I am not constantly in pain, I am considerably more at ease with myself and others.

My partner of 17 years, Kathy Bobula, and I are staying together. We are both very grateful for the wonderful support of the close friends and other female-to-males we've met in the past two

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Born April 10, 1951, in Springfield, she attended elementary school in the Eugene/Springfield area and Franklin High School in Portland before graduating from Hillsboro High School in 1969. At Franklin she was a member of the Haikiki sorority and lettered in golf. She also played many musical instruments in the orchestra and band and was the first woman major to lead the Franklin band in the Grand Floral Parade.

Bennett was a founding member of the Velvet Moods, a band that played in the Portland area in the '60s.

After high school, she worked at Outside In and then owned a leather business in Grass Valley during the '70s.

For the last 15 years, Bennett had worked as a drug and alcohol counselor for a number of area organizations, including ACRP, Mainstream Youth Program, ASAP and Yamhill County Mental Health.

She was a member of Alcoholics Anonymous and Narcotics Anonymous.

Bennett loved to fish, work with leather, bicycle and play the guitar. She also enjoyed doing artwork and carpentry, but her favorite things to do were entertain and travel. Survivors include her partner of 11 years, Laurie Caswell of Portland; her mother, Marie Bennett of Hillsboro; her father, James Bennett of Lake Oswego; her sisters, Linn Bennett of Eugene and Jane Bennett of West Linn; and her brothers, Dan Bennett of years, and the expertise of our incredibly good therapists during this transition.

In the past two years, as I have gone through the stages of the physical, psychological, social and physiological changes that accompanied this fundamental change in the presentation of my gender identity, we have told our close friends and a number of acquaintances as we ran into them at the store, the chiropractor, etc., and have gotten a range of responses from full support to near-complete rejection. To end the rumors and apparent confusion among many people who have known me or Kathy over the years—about whether I even still *exist* and as *whom*—I decided to use *Just Out* as the logical place to inform a large number of people at one time.

One of the most important things I've learned on this journey to reclaim my true male self is that a break is necessary before some healing process can occur. A letting go of old patterns has to happen so that necessary grieving can take place. Acceptance of oneself, or others, comes at the end of the stages of grieving feelings of loss of various kinds.

Now you have a new reference point if you see either of us out around town. You *can* talk to us! It just takes a little getting used to the fact that the appropriate pronoun for me is now he, him or his, and the appropriate name to call me is Silas.

Silas N. T. Crowfoot Portland

# REPORT HOMOPHOBIC VIOLENCE