

Speak Out

Marvelous Miller

TO THE EDITOR:

Thank you for the recent feature story that put the spotlight on the work of straight allies in Oregon's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community ["Straight Allies," *Just Out*, April 2].

As the executive director of Equity Foundation, which administers the Bill and Ann Shepherd Scholarship Fund, I was particularly delighted to see Ann Shepherd given the accolades she so richly deserves. Congratulations to her!

I wanted to point out another shining star in our community—Fred Miller, a senior vice president of Portland General Electric.

He is a straight ally who has continuously stepped up to the plate to be a leader and a role model for tolerance and acceptance. In addition to his long-standing work against the Oregon Citizens Alliance's ballot measures, he has recently joined with Equity Foundation to strengthen the work we do by helping us create a flexible new donor-advised fund product (a fund under the wing of Equity that can facilitate an individual's personal philanthropic goals).

Miller and his wife, Portland school board member-elect Karla Wenzel, have taken the lead by creating a donor-advised fund for themselves and for each of their four children. Through these funds, Fred Miller has contributed more than \$36,000 this year alone. He is taking an additional step by reaching out to business colleagues and encouraging them to follow his example.

By creating these funds through Equity, Miller is not only strengthening the foundation, he's also proving himself yet again as a strong ally for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in Oregon.

KRISTIN TEIGEN
Executive Director
Equity Foundation

transitions

New member on Project Quest board

Michael Kaplan has joined the board of Project Quest, a Portland-based group that takes a holistic approach to the treatment of chronic and life-challenging diseases.

Kaplan, who is a certified alcohol and drug counselor, has worked in community mental health for more than a decade. He is also a dual-diagnosis trainer for the state of Oregon's Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Programs.

Of boards and bears

Several new members were recently elected to the board of the Oregon Bears. They are: Rod Abernathy, Mark Armstrong, Rob Hathaway, Brian Lavallee, Steve Leaming and David Whitney.

Activist passes

Robert Harrison Jackson (Nov. 14, 1920, to May 11, 1999) moved from Columbus, Kan., to Seattle, Wash., in 1943. He attended the University of Washington, graduating as a drama major. He was very active in the theater in Seattle and later moved to Portland, where he taught drama at Roosevelt and Grant high schools and was active in area drama groups.

He worked at KGW-TV for many years and also worked for Oregon Public Broadcasting, where he produced *Front Street Weekly* and was a continuity writer in television operations. He was very involved in the deaf community acting as a sign interpreter. He also served on the Drammy Committee for selection of Drammy Awards.

Jackson was a member and founding deacon of the Metropolitan Community Church of Portland for the past 25 years. He was also a member of the Metro Primetimers and the Garden Friends Garden Club. In 1998, he received a Spirit of Pride award.

just asking

Feeling curious, *Just Out* posed this question to readers: "Would you rather have a short-term affair with wild passion and sex but no future, or a long-term sustainable relationship based on comfort, affection and mutual goals?"



MARY SCHUTTEN
Portland
Organizer,
Pink Flamingo Bingo

"I value most a long-term relationship with someone I love and respect. A relationship that is warm and cozy."



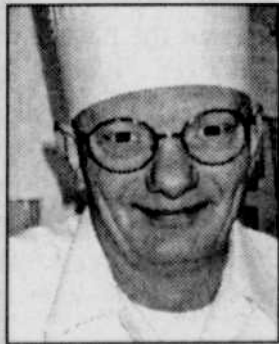
JAMES MOORE
Portland
Bartender, *Embers*

"I prefer long-term. I've done the short-term burnout. At my age you need someone stable—a soul mate."



LANA DURAN
Portland
Committee member,
Rose Bowl '99

"A long-term relationship could and should have all the benefits of the shorter: the romance, the fun, the sex."

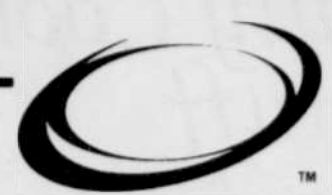


DON VAN NOSTERN
Portland
Chef, *Western Grill*

"Considering my age and what I've seen in the past, the long-term relationship is far more attractive."

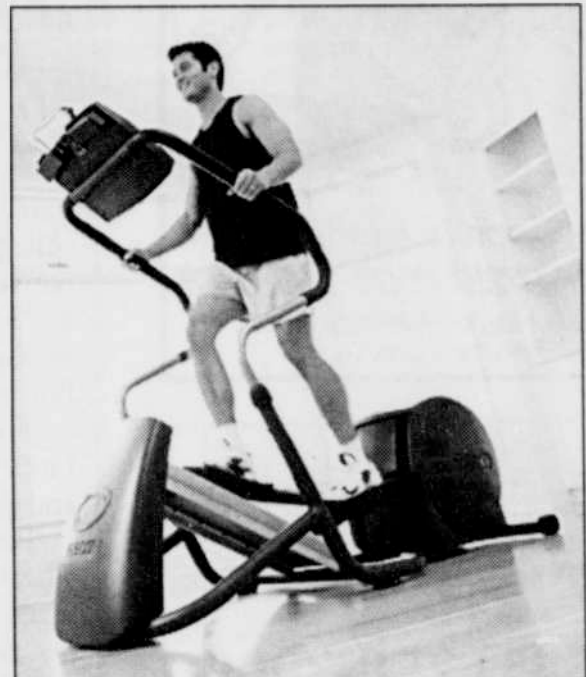
You have questions—"Just Asking" will get the answers! To submit a query, contact *Just Out* via fax at 236-1257; via e-mail at justout@justout.com; or via the USPS at P.O. Box 14400, Portland, OR 97293-0400.

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