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Speak out

Thoughts on "The Amazon Trail"

TO THE EDITOR:

I was disappointed to hear that you will be dropping Lee Lynch's column. Lee's column has been the best part of the paper for some time—the piece I always turn to first. To discontinue it would be a great loss and I urge you to reconsider.

LORRAINE JEITNER
Waldport, Ore.

TO THE EDITOR:

I have just learned that *Just Out* will no longer publish "The Amazon Trail," and I am extremely saddened and upset by this news.

Since I moved to Oregon almost eight years ago and started reading *Just Out*, I have avidly followed Lee Lynch's adventures as she struggled to maintain her identity in a homophobic world, moved to a more nurturing environment, and generally told of the "lesbian agenda"—the everyday experiences of living and loving.

I want to keep up with everyday news and the journeys of urban gays. But as an older lesbian, I also want to share in the odyssey of someone almost my age who gives food for thought through gentle humor combined with a clear understanding of the current lesbian situation.

I could continue to express the reasons for keeping "The Amazon Trail," but hopefully I have made my point clear: Please reconsider your decision to drop this popular and much-needed column from *Just Out*.

NEL WARD
Green Gables Bookstore
Newport, Ore.

TO THE EDITOR:

I recently learned that you have decided to discontinue publishing Lee Lynch's "The Amazon Trail" in *Just Out*. I'm very disappointed in you about your decision.

Lee provides a very special perspective on all facets of gay and lesbian life; one that not only offers wit and sarcasm, but also sincerity and reality. I've immensely enjoyed her column over the years as a refreshing, easy-to-read, uplifting message on the current state of affairs in our culture.

I think you are underestimating the volume of the "few" people with or without "coastal ties" that will be affected by your decision.

I urge you to reconsider and continue to publish "The Amazon Trail" in *Just Out* for many years to come. Thank you for your consideration.

HERMENE REINHARD
Via e-mail

just asking This issue, *Just Out* asks readers: "How can we as gay men, lesbians, trans people and bisexuals build a stronger sense of community among ourselves?"



BIRDIE JUDD
Vancouver
"I'm just me"
"First and foremost, it is highly important that we be ourselves and be true to ourselves. We need to drop the facades and bridge the gaps."



BRIAN WAINSCOTT
Portland
New to area
"We need to become more openhearted toward each other."



KIM RUGGIERO
Vancouver
Activist fund-raiser
"By not being afraid of who we are."



JO WOLF
Portland
Owner-manager, *Lair of the Wolf*
"When we have our functions, make them more inclusive and open to everyone."



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