



FAMILY PRIDE

The Class of 2000

Just Out surveys the many faces and ways of life in our proud community

PAT JEUNG

Learning to survive as a chameleon is the story of Pat Jeung's life. Like the animal that changes color to adapt to its surroundings, Jeung learned as a child to adjust to a succession of new cultures.

Born to Chinese parents, he grew up first in Thailand, then in Laos, learning a new language with each move. In 1980, on the brink of entering high school, Jeung immigrated to the

United States with five of his eight siblings. Sponsored by friends, they landed in Portland, where Jeung attended David Douglas High School.

"For the first two years I carried around a Thai-English dictionary and did a lot of pointing," he recalls, now relieved that he speaks three languages fluently.

In his 20s Jeung sacrificed his personal life for a career and took on the colors of a mainstream workaholic, opening his first restaurant at the age of 22, selling it six years later.

"When I turned 30, I came out to myself and found new friends who were gay."



"I was burnt out from working six or seven days a week, doing lunch and dinner," he remembers vividly.

After time out to renew himself with travel, Jeung once again revealed new colors. "Being gay was more of a fantasy than a reality back then," he recalls. "When I turned 30, I came out to myself and found new friends who were gay."

Before long, a dream of owning a different kind of restaurant emerged, one where he could express his true culinary creativity and his emerging identity as a gay man with a high degree of artistic flair.

In 1996, when he finally found the perfect spot in the Hollywood district and bought the building for his new restaurant, what to name it was obvious: Chameleon.

"The name reflects my eclectic blend of Asian and European

Welcome to Portland Pride 2000, the first of several pride events to be held around our region in coming weeks and months. From Vancouver, Wash., to Ashland, Ore., from large parades to small community gatherings, gay men, lesbians, bisexuals and trans people will be coming together to celebrate friendships, community, summer fun and gay pride as reflected in the unique and individual ways we choose to live our lives.

Our community is rich in its peoples—and in their stories and in their lives. While we aren't able to showcase each and every one of you, all of our friends, all of our neighbors, we hope that you will find a reflection of yourself in the following faces of our community. And perhaps even more importantly, let us view and celebrate the differences in all of us. Let's celebrate our sameness, let's celebrate our differences. Let's celebrate!

foods," Jeung explains late one night while sipping a cosmopolitan.

"Everything I do here is my own creation," he says proudly, adding that he designed the interior and the furnishings.

You may never complain about grocery shopping again when you learn that Jeung shops five days a week! "I want the food to be fresh every day," he says, adding that he also loves gardening. "I grow my own tomatoes, lettuces and herbs."

This year he's trying a new African basil, and the spectacular flowers that enhance his restaurant are also home-grown.

Now well-established, thanks to Jeung's prowess in the kitchen and genial manner with his diverse clientele, Chameleon is fulfilling his vision. A sophisticated, urbane mood prevails, and Jeung keeps things lively by turning the place into a cabaret and presenting all manner of queer-tinged entertainment, including a recent performance by Arnaldo, a drag chanteuse from Seattle.

Now single, Jeung also loves to party. After waiting so long to come out, he's making up for lost time. Chameleon is the site of many celebrations throughout the year, and Jeung is very

generous in hosting many fund-raisers that benefit the gay community. Our House of Portland is a favorite recipient of his goodwill, and once again this year he will participate in the care facility's home-cooked dinner series.

"My goal is to have a very nice restaurant, but without the attitude," he says with a laugh. "You will be treated the same whether you come in wearing sequins or jeans."

—Oriana Green

SANDY CABOT

Sandy Cabot's pride can be seen flying proudly in the wind for several hundred feet up and down Northeast Broadway. Her pride is expressed by the large rainbow banner flying over her new business, Broadway Bento.

"It's the biggest one that I could find," comments the proud new business owner.



The effectiveness of her multihued beacon is reflected in the countless "I saw your flag" comments that come from new customers and friends as they enter the sparkling-clean cafe.

For Cabot, the flag acts as a large bright beacon to members of the gay and lesbian community as they pass through the Broadway business area. The effectiveness of this beacon is reflected in the countless "I saw your flag" comments that come from new customers and friends as they enter the sparkling-clean cafe.

But the flag is not just about bringing in new customers. For Cabot, it's about signaling who she is and what people can expect from her. Cabot is fiercely proud to be out and lesbian, and she has set a life path for herself of being a positive influence on other

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