

A recent drive through Northeast Portland showcased falling leaves, cool breezes and multiple changes in the gay- and lesbian-owned businesses located throughout the area.

Starting out at 76th and Glisan, Touchstone Coffee House is now the place to go for lunch and light dinners. The comfortable atmosphere of Becky Bilyeu's bungalow of beans now provides hungry coffee and tea lovers with the recently added attraction of grilled panini and chicken bento taste selections.

THE QUEER PROFIT
by Marty Davis

With evening activities including game and movie nights, live music and open-mike opportunities, this cozy and welcoming nest is definitely a treat to visit. Now if she'd just consider adding backgammon tournaments (hint, hint).

Up on 64th and Sandy, Holly Mulcahey, owner of It's My Pleasure, is pleased to announce the most recent addition to her "store within a store" concept. Joining her is Delila Rhone, who will bring her unique flair and touch to a boutique portion of the store named Sweet Nothings. The space will feature bath and aromatherapy items, creative sleepwear and a delightful variety of accessories, gifts and items guaranteed to add a special touch of ambiance to any occasion.

"For Lease" signs and empty space are all that remain at the former location of Homebodies on Broadway. With a brief reincarnation as Gallery Twenty Two Twenty Six, the upscale furniture and antique store is no more. Owner Phil Sparks could

SEASONS CHANGE

Northeast Portland businesses turn over a new leaf

not be located for comment regarding any future retail plans he might have in the works.

Earlier this summer, Jan Swanson closed down her popular coffee shop, Java Jan's, and moved herself and her specialty coffee drinks into the Freightliner headquarters. She no longer serves a walk-in crowd, but the employees of Freightliner are lucky to have her in their midst.

The Broadway Coffee Trader remains next door to the former Java Jans, but this business also recently has undergone a change in ownership.

Effective Sept. 1, Larry Hobnet officially became a retired man, and Rick Edmundson became the proud owner of the retail coffee, tea and gift store. The busy entrepreneur also is retaining his original business, Integrated Payment Solution.

In addition to running both operations, Edmundson is a member of We Three, a semiprofessional gospel trio. Its first CD, *I Believe in Miracles*, can be purchased at the Broadway Coffee Trader.

With the winter holiday season mere months away, shoppers and festive folks have a new experience waiting for them at Radiance, Wally Schmidt's elegant gift store. The creative crowd can avail themselves of two "hands-on" candle-making stations: one for

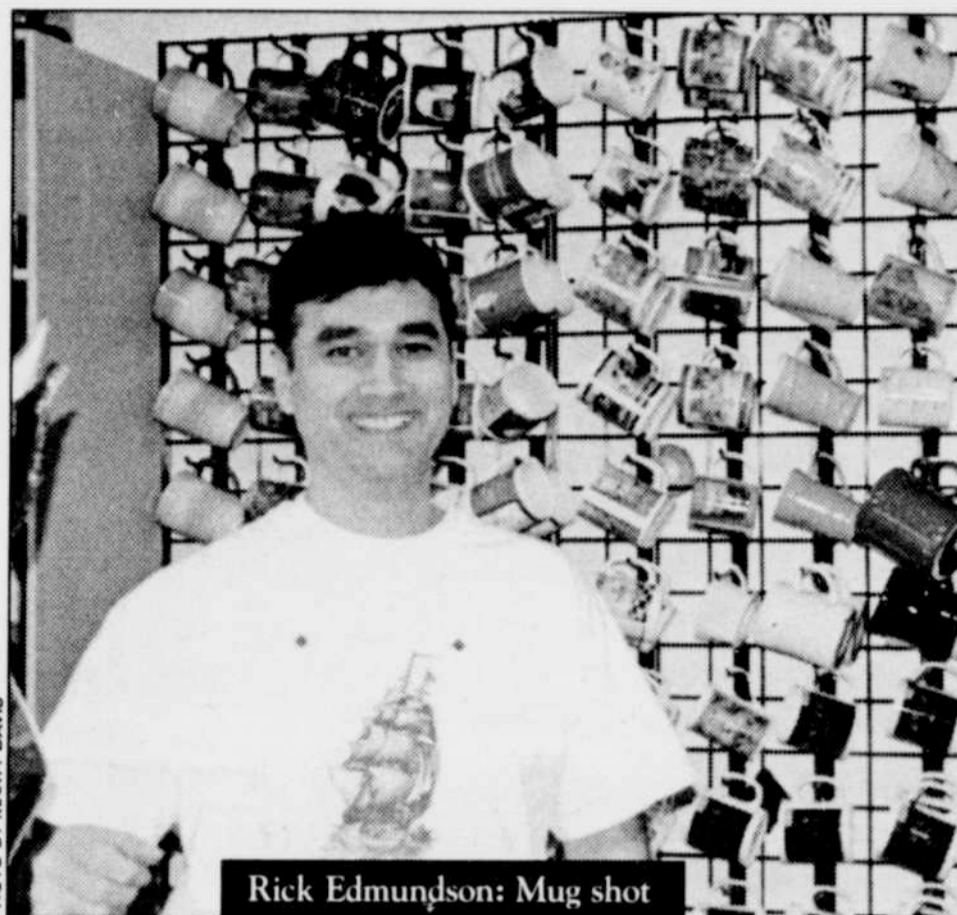
dipping and a slightly more advanced candle-pouring area.

The dippers select a white core candle of various shapes and sizes, then dip and layer to create the color scheme of their own imagination. The pourers, meanwhile, work with an assortment of scents and mold styles, allowing them to create works of art like none ever seen before.

Both dippers and pourers may schedule time with Schmidt to reserve the area for parties, dates or major artistic outbursts.

"Off-Broadway" but still in the Northeast Lloyd Center area, Bridgetown Realty owner and broker Deborah Betron also has changes to announce. She reports that her company has become an affiliate of International Relocation Services, a worldwide company with more than 1,500 offices. In addition, Betron is pleased to announce that associate broker Patrick Jenkins, a Realtor with more than 24 years of experience, has joined her team of professionals.

In the last installment of this column, I reported Barnes & Noble Booksellers was eliminating the majority of free newspapers from distrib-



Rick Edmundson: Mug shot

ution. Shortly thereafter, that decision partially was reversed to allow each individual store to select which publications to carry.

At this time, only the Jantzen Beach location has chosen to return *Just Out* to its shelves. To call upon the squeaky-wheel theory, I would ask readers who appreciate distribution in their nearby Barnes & Noble to let the store manager know of your interest.

Along similar lines, Starbucks Coffee also recently announced that arrangements would be made to allow some sort of distribution of free papers within its stores. Final details for implementation of these plans should be released soon. jn

Business news with a queer bent should be reported to MARTY DAVIS at marty@justout.com.

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