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HEALTH ADVOCATES FACILITATE DISCUSSIONS AFTER CONTROVERSIAL PLAY

The Gay Life Health Network will co-sponsor *The (Bad) Boy Next Door* June 7 to 9 at Theater! Theatre! The group plans to facilitate a brief discussion after each show about the issues and questions the performance raises.

Gay Life organizers hope this will help audience members process the feelings and issues presented during the play. Don Horn of triangle productions! said the group has taken out advertisements in the show's program and will have a table in the theater's lobby to distribute information.

The controversial play showcases the talents of its author, Tony Valenzuela. His solo performance uses comedy and brutal honesty in dealing with some of the gay community's

"We need to be able to discuss with gay men the realities of life and love and the needs that many men feel for great intimacy and connection to each other."

—Kip Beardsley

most taboo subjects: unsafe sex, porn and prostitution.

Although some people will object to the play's content, Gay Life's Kip Beardsley insists the point of the discussion is not to criticize Valenzuela's choices. "We need to be able to discuss with gay men the realities of life and love and the needs that many men feel for great intimacy and connection to each other," he says.

Beardsley thinks gay men need more open discussion about the barriers that keep some men from intimacy, the behaviors that result and how they can find intimacy and connection in more optimal ways.

LANE COUNTY PRIDE CELEBRATION HAS NEW DAY, LOCATION

Lane County's 10th annual Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Celebration will be held noon to 6 p.m. June 30 in Eugene's Washington Jefferson Park.

A total of 50 spaces are available for community organizations and vendors. Rates range from \$25 for nonprofit organizations to \$60 for food vendors.

Organizers are seeking individual donations, sponsors and volunteers. The celebration is an alcohol-free event.

For more information call Amber at 541-342-1490.

BRO PREPARES FOR FUND-RAISER

Basic Rights Oregon will play host to its second annual Dine for Basic Rights on June 21 at restaurants throughout Portland. Participating eateries have agreed to donate a minimum of 15 percent of each bill to the organization.

The concept originally was met with success in 1992. Fund-raisers decided to give the event another try during the No on 9 Campaign last fall. Organizers were so happy with

the results, they decided to make Dine for Basic Rights an annual event.

Restaurants in Aurora, Corvallis, Eugene and Ashland also will participate. This year's date falls between Pride celebrations in Portland and Lane County.

For more information call 503-222-6151 or send e-mail to cm_hall@yahoo.com.

SEXUAL ORIENTATION TAKES TOP SPOT IN REPORT

According to Portland Police Bureau statistics through April 30, bias crimes based on sexual orientation topped the list of 12 categories.

The report says 19 crimes were determined to be motivated by the victim's real or perceived sexual orientation. A total of 18 racial bias crimes were reported during the same time period.

COSTA ELECTED FORUM CO-CHAIR

Norm Costa, Sexual Minorities Roundtable co-chair, was elected co-chair of the Chief's Forum on April 2. He has been attending the forum as a representative of the roundtable and the Coalition Against Hate Crimes.

The group's other chair is Art Hendricks of the Office of Neighborhood Involvement. Costa's term runs for two years.

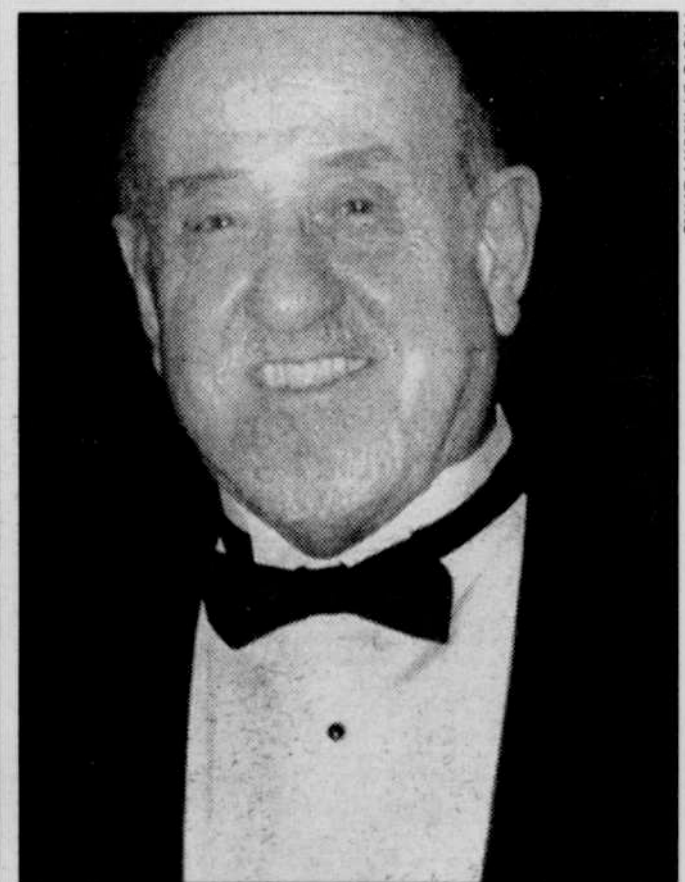


PHOTO BY MARRY DAVIS

Norm Costa will move to the head of the table as Chief's Forum co-chair

The Chief's Forum brings members of minority communities and different organizations together to meet with Portland Police Chief Mark Kroeker on the first and third Mondays of each month.

PEACOCK IN THE PARK VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Peacock in the Park organizers say that as the annual event gets bigger and better, more volunteers are needed. Increasing demands from the parks bureau also require a bigger volunteer force.

To recruit people and to answer questions, the event's producers held a volunteer meeting May 24. The usual 20 volunteers who help each year just aren't enough, they say.

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