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INSULATED WINDOW CORPORATION

NORTHWESTnews

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Damon Woodcock hasn't been on the job since July 1999, when he was the victim of an alleged bias crime by a co-worker. The incident occurred shortly after former Chief Charles Moose instructed the 41-year-old officer to move into the men's locker room.

As reported April 21, 2000, in *Just Out*, someone apparently didn't appreciate the switch and scrawled a circle around Woodcock's locker nameplate, then drew a slash through it. This caused him to fear for his safety.

"I am writing to put you on notice that I have been victimized, threatened and harassed in my workplace, and I fear for my physical safety," Woodcock wrote in an August 1999 letter to Portland city commissioners. "I wonder how members of the sexual minority community can ever truly feel safe when minority officers can't even feel safe in the workplace."

The Portland Fire and Police Disability and Retirement Board, which held a two-day hearing on Woodcock's disability claim, deadlocked with a 5-5 vote April 11, 2000. As chairwoman of the panel, Mayor Vera Katz declared that a tie meant the claim should be denied.

But Multnomah County Circuit Judge Frank Bearden ruled June 28 that her interpretation was not backed by city ordinance and ordered another vote. The disability board then decided July 10 to hold a new hearing on the case.

SUMMER CAMP WILL BENEFIT YOUTH OF QUEER COMMUNITY

Camp Ten Trees is holding its first-ever summer camp from Aug. 19 to Sept. 1 at Lake Wenatchee, Wash., to give a week's worth of fun and activities to the youth of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, trans and questioning community.

Queer youth and kids of queer parents often face discrimination in addition to the usual challenges of being young. They need to be supported as they grow older and learn to make new choices and decisions, organizers say.

By creating positive experiences for youth, Camp Ten Trees counters the forms of violence and discrimination they face every day. Kids build self-confidence and strength in a supportive, safe environment that challenges homophobia and provides a range of traditional activities.

Organizers recognize their needs and want their experiences to be as rewarding, educational and stimulating as possible. It is a place for diverse youth who share common experiences to come together and form a community that is truly their own.

Camp Ten Trees offers as many activities as possible to help kids discover new talents and interests. In addition, they will engage in age-appropriate workshops centered on diversity, homophobia, identity and coalition building.

Two separate and very distinct sessions are offered. Session 1 runs from Aug. 19 to 25 and is open to children of queer families ages 8 to 15. Session 2, from Aug. 26 to Sept. 1, is open to queer youth ages 13 to 18.

Both still have openings. The cost is \$325 with some partial and full scholarships available.

Camp Ten Trees is a nonprofit and depends on donations and grants. It wants any interested youth to be able to attend regardless of family income, so contributions especially are needed to help provide scholarships.

For more information call 206-568-6638, e-mail camptentrees@hotmail.com or visit the Internet site www.camptentrees.org.

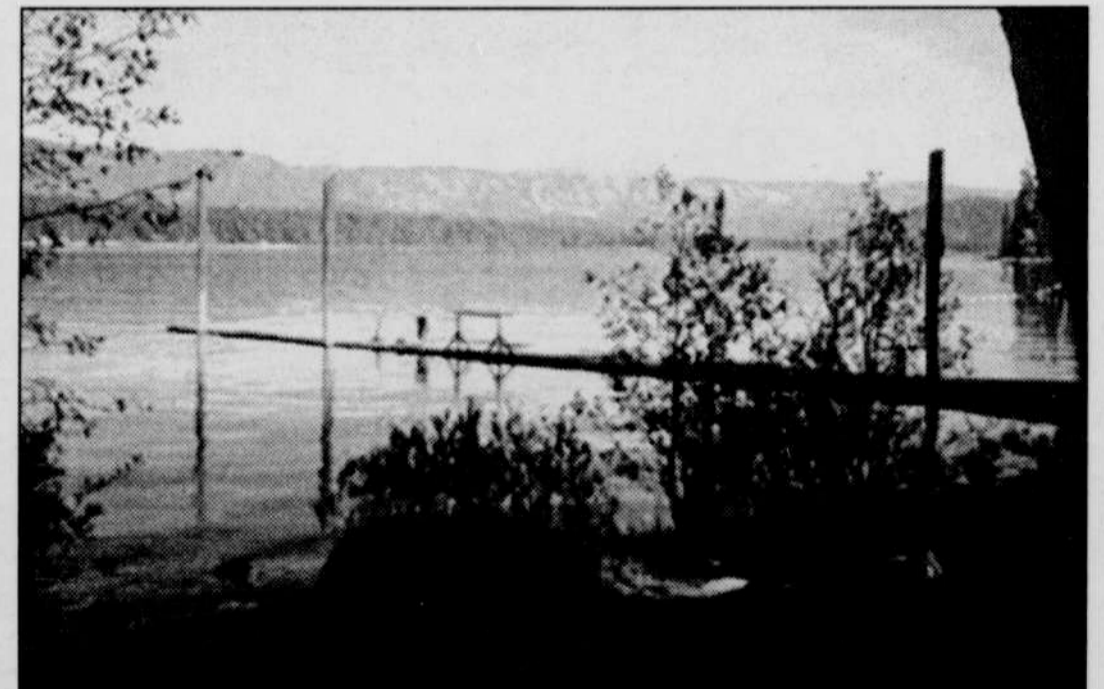
CITY COUNCIL POSTPONES PLAN

During a meeting July 18, the Portland City Council postponed any decisions on the hotly contested West End planning recommendation until September. This also means no action will take place regarding the proposal to declare the Burnside Triangle an official gay district.

Some people testified about a business incubator idea for the area. This would provide support for fledgling entrepreneurs and has been successful in assisting several minority-frequented enterprises throughout the city.

Amalia Alarcon Gaddie, Metropolitan Human Rights Center manager, did not sense any opposition to the Burnside Triangle proposal during the meeting. She says people who want to participate in an advisory group should contact her.

For more information send e-mail to agaddie@ci.portland.or.us.



Camp Ten Trees welcomes queer youth and kids with gay, lesbian, bisexual or trans parents to spend a week in the great outdoors of Lake Wenatchee, Wash.

ROP SELLS DISCOUNTED BOOKS

The Rural Organizing Project, which has been battling the Oregon Citizens Alliance for almost 10 years, is selling discounted copies of *The Stranger Next Door: The Story of a Small Community's Battle Over Sex, Faith and Civil Rights*. The publication is available for \$23.

"The book provides a much-needed moment for reflection on how we are approaching defeating the message of the OCA and the extremist right," ROP co-director Kelley Weigel says. "A critical step toward more effective organizing for liberation is reflection."

For a copy of the book call 503-543-8417, e-mail office@rop.org or write to P.O. Box 1350, Scappoose, OR 97056-1350.