

Continued from Page 11

WALK RAISES AWARENESS, FUNDS FOR BREAST CANCER

People can take personal steps to help fund access to care and finding a cure for breast cancer by participating in the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer Portland on July 12 and 13.

The new national series of major fund-raisers will take place in eight U.S. cities from April to September. The outdoor events are noncompetitive and offer participants a choice of distances, with the goal of completing a marathon walk (26.2 miles) or a marathon and a half (39.1 miles) during the weekend.

This is Portland's first large-scale Avon Foundation fund-raiser. One of the factors that brought the event to the Rose City is the American Cancer Society's estimate that in 2003 about 2,600 new cases of breast cancer will be diagnosed among women statewide and about 500 will die from the disease.

Each walker is required to raise at least \$1,750 for the Avon Foundation Breast Cancer Crusade, which has collected an unprecedented \$250 million worldwide in 10 years for screening, diagnosis, treatment, support services and scientific research, including prevention and therapeutic vaccine studies. Upon registration, participants are assigned a "buddy" to help them with fund raising and training.

"While I personally haven't had someone close to me affected by breast cancer, many of my friends have...and they want to make sure no one else has to experience that loss," said Sawnia House, a lesbian who is serving as crew coordinator of the Portland walk. "To be



Sawnia House is busy preparing for the Avon Walk for Breast Cancer Portland on July 12 and 13

able to share that with them and help them make a difference is truly an amazing experience."

House is in charge of more than 200 volunteers who will work throughout the weekend to make sure the route and overnight camp site are safe and pleasant places for participants. She said she still could use more walkers, crew and volunteers.

"I was a support staff person at our Boston

and Chicago events, and I was amazed at the work that crew do," she told *Just Out*. "They're out there cheering on the walkers, dressed up in a variety of costumes and themes, giving 110 percent. I never heard them complain, and I always saw them smile."

To register, to pledge financial support or for a schedule of short meetings open to anyone interested in learning more, visit www.avonwalk.org and click on Portland. For details call 503-230-7004.

INDEPENDENT POLICE REVIEW SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

The Independent Police Review Division of the Portland City Auditor's Office is seeking volunteers to serve on the Citizen Review Committee. Every attempt will be made to select qualified people who represent the demographic and ethnic diversity of Portland.

The principal duties will include making objective decisions when citizens appeal the results of misconduct investigations, participating in orientation and training, advising on complaint handling, working with Independent Police Review staff to conduct in-depth policy reviews related to the bureau and gathering community concerns about policies and procedures.

Application forms are available in Room 320 of City Hall, 1221 S.W. Fourth Ave. They must be received by 5 p.m. July 18.

Adobe and Microsoft Word versions of the application can be downloaded from the Internet site www.ci.portland.or.us/auditor/ipr. For more information call Michael Hess at 503-823-4126.

FORMER SPORTSCASTER ACCUSED OF STALKING

Former KGW-TV sports director Steve Bartelstein has been slapped with a lawsuit accusing him of sexually harassing and stalking a male co-worker at WABC-TV, the *New York Daily News* reported June 26.



The 40-year-old, who anchors news shows for the Big Apple station at 5 a.m. and noon, allegedly created a hostile work environment for writer and producer Roderick McCullom by propositioning him, then threatening his job when the advances were rebuffed. Bartelstein vehemently denied the charges and vowed to go to trial.

"I'm shocked. I think this is just ridiculous," he said. "Never in my life have I stalked him."

Ronald Fischetti, Bartelstein's lawyer, said his client was targeted because of his sexual orientation and promised to file a counterclaim against McCullom for defamation. "He picked a high-profile guy who he learned is gay."

According to the lawsuit, filed June 24 in Manhattan Supreme Court, Bartelstein directed a laser pointer into McCullom's West Village apartment and looked into his window with binoculars. (The men live on the same block.) He also has been accused of using illegal drugs at work and showing off naked pictures of himself posted on America Online.

"I have no AOL Web page at all," Bartelstein said. "If I had an AOL naked Web page, I think it would have already been in the *Daily News*."

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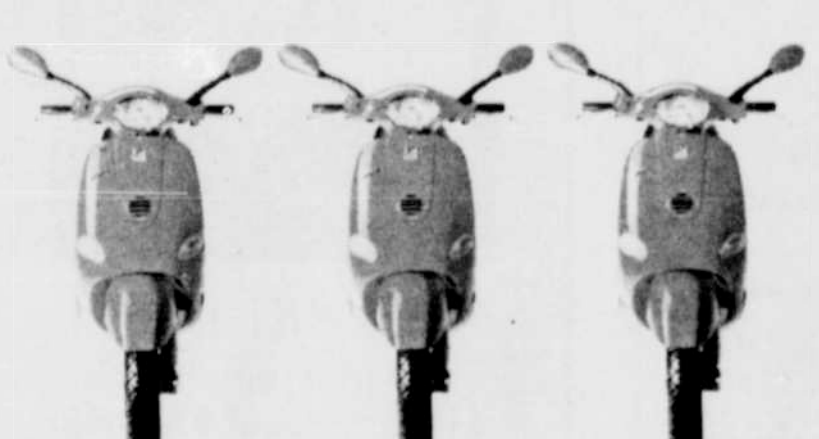
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