

speack out

visit www.freebaran.org. Thank you in advance for your interest.

MALLEN KEAR
Portland

Child abuse

TO THE EDITOR:

I appreciate *Just Out* printing the two letters regarding Victor Boc's attitude on gay marriage ["KPAM Slam" and "Buyer Beware," Aug. 15]. His self-imposed view benefits no one.

Such hostility on the radio airwaves only generates more hostility and negativity in society. It also carries an inherent irresponsibility.

If one can't bother to use facts, why take up someone else's time? One can choose not to listen; however, silence only gives more power to negativity.

In a nation of sheep, some of us can be alphas. Some of us can call or write to the radio station and some sponsors. Tell them that we have no reason to be treated as second- or third-class citizens and that we deserve the same legal rights as heterosexuals.

If we cannot do this for ourselves and other GLBTs, consider a whole generation of queer children are growing up. They deserve better. Remind Victor Boc his attitude is harmful and abusive to children.

STEVE A. ENGEL
Portland

Fare and square

TO THE EDITOR:

Enclosed is a copy of a letter sent by yours truly to the management of Piccolo Mondo Ristorante, prompted by a letter published in your Aug. 15 edition sent to you by Mr. Rick Fernandez of Portland. It was disappointing to learn that he was treated in so insulting a manner by a representative of Piccolo Mondo's ownership/management, and it is additionally disappointing to me to have to cross it off one of the venues that I shall consider in the future when looking forward to some good Italian fare.

I have enjoyed several meals at Piccolo Mondo in the past and, with my usual dinner companion, have always been treated there with courtesy and professional aplomb. Although I now believe its prices are a bit high, especially when one considers the explosion of competition now facing it in the greater Portland area (and with Oregon's economy in the kind of slump where one can fairly say that only George W. Bush's supporters apparently face no financial worries), I hardly think that this restaurant can afford to alienate even one potential patron.

It is certainly a good idea, in my estimation, to share news, either positive or negative, about one's experiences with vendors vis-à-vis the GLBT community here in the Portland area with your fine publication—which, in my opinion, is one of the very best of its kind (at least among the ones I am familiar with here on the West Coast, from San Diego through Los Angeles, San Francisco, Seattle and Vancouver, British Columbia).

JOSEPH F. COUTURE
Fairview

just out

Now accepting opinions on all topics
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notables



Andrew Foster (left) and Roman Martinez celebrated their 10th anniversary Sept. 2. The couple, who have worked as flight attendants with Alaska Airlines for five years, have two basset hounds, Alex and Tony. Martinez was crowned June 28 as Mr. Gay Oregon XXXIV. Foster says: "Roman, I love you! Thank you for 10 wonderful years together. You are my love and I am complete. Happy anniversary, Buby."



"At Seventeen" singer Janis Ian (right) and Patricia Snyder were married Aug. 27 in the wedding chamber of Toronto City Hall. The couple honeymooned at Torcon III, the annual Worldcon science fiction convention. Both brides wore clothes. Snyder says: "After 14 years, it's about time. I think the idea of spending my wedding week with a group of geeks masquerading as giant lobsters and *Star Trek* characters is perfectly in character with my life with Janis."

transitions

Greg Jackson, 1958-2003

Gregory Logan Jackson died June 13. He was 45.

He was born May 9, 1958, in Eugene. He graduated from University of Oregon and moved to Portland in 1988.

Jackson worked as a free-lance writer and at KGW-TV, where he was instrumental in securing positive coverage for sexual minority issues back when Portland airwaves were still often hostile to or inadvertently mischaracterized the community.

In 1994 he served as executive director of Right to Privacy Inc. and PAC, the state's most influential gay group at the time. He was an active organizer and fund-raiser in Portland's queer political community and visibly fought ballot measures backed by the Oregon Citizens Alliance.

"Greg Jackson was one of the most commit-

ted and competent people I have known—he was an Eagle Scout, a masterful writer and TV journalist, an avid gardener and a great friend," said Aaron Collins, former Right to Privacy executive director. "He was courageous enough to come out publicly long before that was fashionable or safe for one's career. His energy and passion for equality and justice for all—along with his keen instincts and judgments on political matters—served Oregon's gay rights causes very well. His life and presence in our movement made a big difference that continues to benefit us all, and is missed."

He is survived by his mother, Lois; sister, Denise J. Beaulieu; and brother, Stan.

A memorial service was held June 19 in Ross Hollywood Chapel.

Remembrances may be made to the Mount Pisgah Arboretum in Eugene.

Bill Surridge, 1942-2003

Bill E. Surridge died Aug. 14. He was 60.

He was born Aug. 26, 1942 in Monterey, Calif. He moved to Portland about 1963.

A barber, he owned the Village Barber and the Really Cool Stuff store, both in Multnomah Village. He acted in the Sandy Community Players and volunteered for the Sandy High School drama department, Mount Hood Hospice and Hopewell Hospice, giving last haircuts to people who were dying.

Surridge was preceded in death by his twin sister, Susie Nixon, in 1996.

He is survived by his partner, Gary Ross; daughter, Gina; son, Jeff; granddaughter, Sydnee; and grandson, Austin.

No service was held. Arrangements were handled by Omega Funeral & Cremation Service.

Remembrances may be made to Esther's Pantry.

Injured? ...Call me



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Attorney at Law

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