

NORTHWESTnews

What to do, what to do? It's the holiday season, the tree is up, the packages are wrapped, and Judy Garland's Christmas album melodically fills the air. But, alas, in a gust of numbing cold air, you've just been told—in all seriousness—that your new main squeeze has a dog that's been raised Jewish. Yup, the pooch is kosher. Guess you'll be tossing away the gaily wrapped doggy deluxe pig ear that's been sitting under the tree for the past week, huh? But then what? Sit and fidget as the poor pup waits forlornly for a gift to come his way? What are you going to do while your new love looks on expectantly?

Well, lucky you. I have the answer. You're going to quickly jump in the family sleigh and head down to Beauty and the Beast, Portland's

THE QUEER PROFIT
by Marty Davis

original pet laundrette. Top dog Michael Shapiro and his trusted partner of 14 years, Jackson, have all the holiday goods waiting for you. Shapiro, who is

Jewish and gay, and Jackson, who disdains labels, have a wealth of gift items available for the out (or in) Jewish dog. They've got a yarmulke, they've got a prayer shawl, they've got a kosher bone! You, my friend, are one lucky dog. Let the joyous licking begin. (Um, that would be the dog, OK?)

Holiday emergencies aside, Shapiro has quite the all-encompassing pet business at his Sandy Boulevard location in Hollywood. For the past 10 years, the former commercial interior designer has offered all the amenities for the pet lover who has a yen to clean the family canine or feline themselves. In early January he will add a

PET PROJECT

Jewish businessman stocks goodies for kosher dogs and gefilte fish



Michael Shapiro will soon open a full-service pet grooming salon at Beauty and the Beast

full-service pet grooming salon to his expanding facility. Featuring one of the city's finest selections of pet care products—including foods, leashes, bowls, collars and every other amenity known to petkind—Beauty and the Beast is the place to go for unique and fun toys for that special pet in your life.

And while you're there, check to see if you can pick up a copy of the newly released CD *Holiday Serenade* presented by the Portland Gay Men's Chorus. Shapiro has been a member of the chorus for several years, and singing is one of his favorite free-time activities. And if he doesn't have a copy, you can check www.pdxgmc.org for other locations.

Have you been out to the Egyptian Club lately? If not, you'll be in for a pleasant surprise

when you walk in the door. The main lounge area has received a serious makeover, and the place is looking good.

If you look up, you'll notice newly exposed beams that add a rich feel to the room. Look closer and you might even detect the new ventilation system. The old dark panels on the walls have been drywalled and painted, resulting in a warm, neo-Mediterranean look. The overall feel is brighter and classier.

The video poker machines have been moved up to a newly accessible area, leaving room for more tables and chairs on the main floor. The club also has a new electronic dartboard, and plans call for the addition of a second. When it arrives, it will be dart tournament time at the Egyptian.

At the same time that the Egyptian sets out

to beautify the east side, the new owners of the popular Old Town gay club C.C. Slaughters are also taking steps to increase the openness and friendliness of their popular dance and entertainment space. Immediately upon walking in the front door, patrons notice that the old wooden bars and barriers have been removed, allowing for quicker and easier access to the dance floor.

The entrance hall to the Martini Lounge is freshly painted, boasts new carpet and soon will feature those ever-popular video poker terminals. The Martini Lounge boasts more than the one popular libation and is open for breakfast, lunch and dinner. A full array of popular "American" fare is available. Future enhancements include extending the length of the main bar, all with an eye toward quicker and more efficient customer service.

2004 will mark the 25th anniversary of Bridgetown Realty. As an early new year's celebration, broker Deborah Betron has moved herself and her agents into a new location on Sandy Boulevard. They are delighted with the bright and sunny location and feel that they are perfectly situated to meet all the needs of their customers.

Having a staff of 35 makes Bridgetown one of the largest independent brokers in the area, if not the state, and Betron intends to maintain that status. She sums up her views on being an independent broker with the statement, "In these days of merger madness and mind-numbing takeovers, we're bucking the tide...we're staying local." Betron is also proud of the tenure and experience of her staff, some of whom have been with her for 20 years. **JM**

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



The new owners of C.C. Slaughters have given the popular Old Town gay club a facelift



Deborah Betron's Bridgetown Realty has a new home

A&G Automotive
Repairs of All Makes & Models
American • European • Imports
Cars • Trucks • RVs
We Fix It Right the First Time
From Oil Changes to Overhaul,
Fred's Auto Works Does It All
Close to Downtown • Free Local Rides
503 238-1159
926 SE Morrison, Portland • <http://aandgautomotive.uswestdex.com>

Mention this ad and get **20% OFF**
"SAME DAY SERVICE ON MOST REPAIRS"

Services Include:
• Maintenance • DEQ
• Tune-ups - Poor Engine Performance
• Brakes • Clutch
• All Electrical Problems
• Carburetors & Fuel Injection
• Pre Purchase Inspection
• Alternators & Starters (Repaired, Rebuilt or Exchanged)

SPANK!
Hair Cut & Color
Waxing
And More!

Purifying Treatments • Intense Reconditioning
Eyelash Tinting • Manicurist Available Soon!

Everyone deserves to be **SPANKED** now and then!

1433 NE Alberta • 503-280-5280

New Customers receive **20% OFF** first visit (services only)

CROWN
MEMORIAL CENTER • CREMATION & BURIAL
A New Tradition™

"Family" Owned and Operated
On-Site Crematory
Lowest Cost
We're Here to Help!
8974 SW Tualatin Sherwood Road
Tualatin, OR 97062
(503) 885-7800
www.ANewTradition.com