

Speak Out

just asking Now that Portland Pride 2004 is all wrapped up, tell us how you feel about the changes made to this year's celebration, particularly the new parade route. Did you notice any improvement, or should things have been left alone?

As a member of the board of Pride Northwest, as well as part of a contingent in the parade, I personally believe Pride 2004 was a resounding success! The weather was cooperative, and the festivalgoers and parade watchers seemed to be having a great time. I saw smiling faces, friendships made or rekindled and the community as a whole enjoying itself.

Pride Northwest has received a good amount of positive feedback, and we're thankful to those who have taken the time to let us know how they feel about the weekend. We worked hard to produce a fun, inclusive event for the entire community and welcome constructive feedback that can be used to continue improving Pride. We'll be talking about Pride 2004, accepting applications for new board members and gathering ideas for Pride 2005 during a community forum 7 p.m. Aug. 19 at Central Library, 801 S.W. 10th Ave. All are invited to attend!

Finally, Pride Northwest would like to thank everyone who participated in Pride 2004—whether you were a vendor or sponsor or attended, performed, spoke, marched, volunteered or just cheered from the parade route! Without you, it just doesn't happen.

TOBIN BRITTON
Pride Northwest President
and Parade Chairwoman

...

I liked the new route and didn't see any problems with it; everything went smoothly once we were started. There was a snag at the setup of the parade. No one was there to direct vehicles that were told to be there at 9 a.m. It was almost 9:30 before anyone showed up, and there were many groups already there. Seemed better organized at that setup point last year.

Who knew that the one year I didn't volunteer they had really nice shirts! They were orange, my favorite color, and the printing was readable. I didn't check the sizes, but in the past when I have volunteered there were limited sizes—mostly smaller sizes and the largest being extra-large. So I didn't get to wear mine, anyway. Have a nice pile of shirts for company who need a clean shirt, though!

next issue Considering the Defense of Marriage Coalition was able to collect more than twice the required signatures, how confident are you feeling about our chances to defeat the anti-gay amendment to the Oregon Constitution in November? (Please see related item on Page 13.) Respond at www.justout.com. (Don't forget to include your name, city and daytime telephone number.)

Blowing off Steam

TO THE EDITOR:

Despite the recent Portland Pride celebration, it is no surprise we have more work to do.

This past month I attended a Kerns Neighborhood Association meeting. Early on there was some discussion as to how businesses might help with a forthcoming event. Straight guy Mike W. mentioned Steam Portland, then gave

Having one stage was nice; I didn't have to run back and forth to see speakers and listen to groups. I can see where two stages create movement, but there was the bull and slide at the other end creating a draw. It didn't seem to keep too many people away; there was a lot of traffic at the booths and stage.

The one thing that I would like to see next year is fewer DOGS. I got tired of having my drink drunk by a dog when I sat it down while watching the stage. Not to mention having my butt sniffed and ankles licked and getting tangled in leashes. Most of the dogs were really too warm and didn't look like they were having a good time.

It was funny to see two dog owners and their small dogs get tangled around a pole as the dogs greeted each other and practiced their own version of knot tying! Then there were the almost dogfights that were mostly barking and growling. I would be afraid to take my dog to something like that just for the liability of it biting a child or other dog, no matter how well-behaved it was.

Overall, as my fourth Pride it was great. I look forward to next year and volunteering again.

ALICE LYNN
Portland

...

The change in the parade route or the celebration didn't make any difference to me. As long as Pride Northwest chooses to hold the parade on Father's Day, I will not attend. Surely they could find another day or weekend. It used to be held on Saturday, and that worked OK.

Also, moving the Sunday startup time to 11:15 a.m. made it very difficult for the church groups who have become an important part of the community. My church, Metropolitan Community Church of Portland, had to cancel one Sunday morning worship service to be in attendance at the parade. If the parade was held on Saturday, this would not be necessary.

DAVE DISHMAN
Beaverton

a smirky sneer and held that facial expression for some time. Likely he does not know, or perhaps care, that months ago the Office of Neighborhood Involvement set out guidelines of non-discrimination against gays at all neighborhood meetings.

GLBT pride, every day, every year.

STEVE A. ENGEL
Portland




THE ANDY WARHOL COLLECTION HAS ARRIVED

Pearl Rug Co.
Artwork for your Floors

4818 N. Interstate • 503-282-5102
inside the Portland Costless Carpet Complex
M-F 9-6, Sat 10-4 and Sun 11-3
pearlrugcompany@aol.com

MARVIN SALLES
broker



PORTLAND HTS DUPLEX \$525,000
Stunning craftsman renovation. 3bd & 1bd units views!

LIVE NEAR THE PARK! \$199,000
Great 3Bd/2Ba family home in Aloha. Lg 8,668 sf lot. Vaulted ceilings, +newer roof and exterior paint.


SORRENTO RIDGE \$270,000
Lg family home 5Bd/3Ba over 2300 sf. Corner lot. Cedar siding, fenced backyard.

LUXURY CONDO ONLY MINUTES FROM DOWNTOWN \$127,000
1Bd/1Ba unit w/ covered patio and valley views. Over 17 acres of lush landscaped grounds. Huge clubhouse with the works.


(503) 320-1271 **John C. Scott REAL ESTATE**
www.marvinsalles.com

Willamette Financial Group, LLC

Floreid Walker
3529 NE Broadway STE 100
Portland, OR 97232
503-445-9390 ext.101
floreid@wfgadvisors.com



Greg Look
3550 Liberty Rd. S STE 230
Salem, OR 97302
503-566-7266 ext.114
greg@wfgadvisors.com



Join us for a FREE **Stretch IRA** and **Stretch Legacy** Seminar.
Wed, July 14: 6:00-7:30pm
Thur, July 22: 6:00-7:30pm
at the **Kennedy School**, 5736 NE 33rd in Portland. *Light refreshments served.*

The **Stretch IRA** and the **Stretch Legacy** are valuable and efficient ways to transfer retirement and non-retirement dollars to your partner or children with no taxes due.

Please RSVP. Reserve early. Call today!

www.wfgadvisors.com

"Be Queer."



See Straight!"

Eagle Eye Optical
PRESCRIPTION EYEWEAR
GLASSES & CONTACTS
2808 NE MLK Jr Blvd, Suite C
Phone: 503.335.7173

FREE ONE WEEK PASS
FITNESS FOR EVERY BODY CENTER

Affordable fitness for people of all ages, sizes and abilities

Convenient downtown location
2-hour validated parking
25-yard swimming pool
Full size basketball court
No long term contracts required
Co-ed facility

eliminating racism
empowering women
ywca

We honor diversity.
Ask about our couple rates!
1111 SW 10th Ave • Portland, OR 97205
(Corner of 10th & Main Behind the Portland Art Museum)
(503) 294-7419 Membership Office

justout Now accepting opinions on all topics in "Letters to the Editor" at www.justout.com

Serving Oregon's Gay, Lesbian, Bi & Trans Communities for 20 Years