



Diane Santucci co-owns Russell Street BBQ, which celebrates its second anniversary Jan. 5 and 6.

Chef Diane Santucci, who co-owns the restaurant with her life partner, Sharon Senter, attributes Russell Street Bar-B-Que's success to many factors, including consistency, friendly service and quality food.

"We take great care with our food by serving all-natural meats and making everything from scratch. Our service is friendly and welcoming. It's kind of a fun space. It's light, bright and clean," she said.

The restaurant is at 325 N.E. Russell St. For more information call 503-528-8224 or visit www.russellstreetbbq.com.

Nonviolence Rally for MLK

Sisters of the Road, one of Portland's premier organizations assisting the poor and homeless, will host the 14th annual Martin Luther King Jr. Day Celebration, themed "MLK Everyday: Traveling the Road of Change Through Nonviolence."

Marchers will gather 2 p.m. Jan. 16 at Sisters of the Road Cafe, 133 N.W. Sixth Ave., and step off at 3. The 1.1-mile route will end with a rally and celebration 4 p.m. at St. Mary's Academy, 1615 S.W. Fifth Ave.

Children and families of all ages and walks of life are encouraged to march. Transportation will be provided for those who want to join but need a little assistance with the distance.

The program at St. Mary's will include keynote speaker Sharif Abdullah, who will encourage the use



Activists rally for the Rev. Martin Luther King Jr. at the 2005 march by Sisters of the Road.

Implementation Plan for SHARE

Phase One: Brindley Hall, Congregate Housing in Apartment Complex

1. Do a market feasibility study. Hire a professional, independent firm.
2. Establish a waiting list of people ready to move into an apartment complex that specifically welcomes elder queers.
3. Purchase an apartment complex with common space and approximately 60 units in the Portland metro area within three years. If possible, the complex would be on or near a multi-acre parcel of land to accommodate expansion.
4. Fill the complex first with people from the waiting list (mostly sexual minority seniors, their family and their friends), then market the rest.

Phase Two: SHARE Commons, A Continuing Care Retirement Community

1. Contract for a market feasibility study of a continuing care retirement community designed to serve elder queers (including independent housing, apartments and condos, assisted living and nursing care).
2. Establish a list of individuals who want to move into Phase Two as housing becomes available.
3. Purchase a multi-acre site in the Portland metro area.
4. First, construct houses for independent living. Second, develop common areas and buildings. Finally, build assisted living and nursing facilities.

of nonviolence to create a peaceful and equal world. Sharif is a peacemaker, author, trainer and catalyst for social, cultural and spiritual transformation.

"We are here to actually act like we love each other and to act out that love on a daily basis," Abdullah said.

Also speaking will be Jeri Sundvall, founder of the Environmental Justice Action Group, a grassroots organization dedicated to developing and utilizing leadership among people of color and low-income communities to address the issues of health, safety and environmental justice.

For more information visit www.sistersoftheroad.org.

What's Up at SHARE

The mission of Senior Housing and Retirement Enterprises, a nonprofit 501(c)3 organization, is to create affordable housing options for sexual minority seniors in the tri-county Portland area and Clark County, Wash.

SHARE eventually plans to create a continuing care community, including affordable housing, specifically to welcome sexual minority elders. In most cases, residents would not need to move away from the community as care needs increase. The continuing care community could include independent living (houses, apartments and condos), assisted living and nursing care with services such as home health care and support services, memory care and hospice care. All services would be sensitive to queer needs.

The board envisions common social areas including dining and exercise facilities, covered pool and spa, a community activity center and landscaped green space with gardens.

SHARE is committed to building a supportive, interdependent, diverse community where all queer elders and other elders supportive of the sexual minorities community are welcomed. The community will be nondiscriminatory and will focus on serving the needs of all elders, including queers.

According to organizers, SHARE would prefer to buy bare land and build a retirement community. The board is also open to buying land with some existing buildings and enough room to expand in the future. For those with more immediate needs, SHARE might acquire an existing apartment or condominium complex to provide housing in advance of building the continuing care retirement community. 10

Compiled by SARAH DOUGHER and JAYMEE R. CUTI

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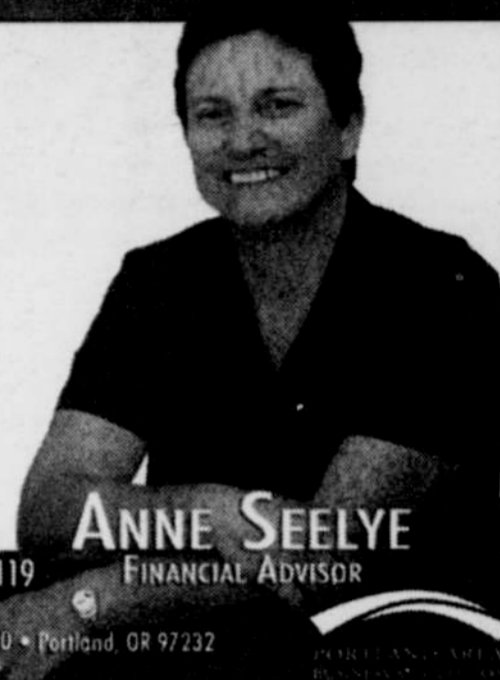


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