

northwest



Multnomah County Chair Diane Linn is getting guff for creating a newsletter funded by public dollars.



Diane Linn's opponent, Ted Wheeler, has launched an attack Web site.

Mudslinging Goes Digital

The Oregonian, invested in the muddy campaign between Multnomah County Chair Diane Linn and her opponent, Eagle Scout Ted Wheeler, spotlighted Linn's newsletter, *The Linn Line*, as an abuse of public funds in a Jan. 10 article.

Cascade AIDS Project's former executive director, Thomas Bruner, who now works as Linn's senior policy development director, described the newsletter as a response to people who wanted more communication.

But critics, expressly Liz Kaufman, an adviser to Wheeler, said the newsletter is "a blatant example of using taxpayer dollars for self-promotion."

The newsletter, which discusses Linn's opinions on subjects such as jail beds and school funding, will cost approximately \$3,000 during the next six months out of her administrative budget, *The Oregonian* reports.

Meanwhile, Linn's opposition has launched a secondary Web site. Wheeler unrolled MultnomahCountyWatch.com, bringing attention to some of the more sensational elements of

the election, such as squabbling between Linn and fellow female commissioners. This portrayal of the board of professional policy makers as a squad of teenyboppers engaging in a cat fight might make for a salacious skim, but a quick wipe reveals mud just below the surface.



Fruitcakes OK with Pirates

Manager of Pirate's Cove, a rowdy drinking establishment on Northeast Sandy Boulevard, plead ignorance concerning the discriminating qualities of the bar's holiday sign, "No Fruitcakes Please."

He said the sign was meant to be a joke for the holiday season after several customers donated the heavy desserts to the bar and not even ravenously hungry patrons would touch the crumbly cakes.

"When it was brought to my attention that it was an anti-alternative lifestyle slogan, I immediately changed the sign," said Zoth Daskalos, manager at Pirate's Cove since December. "We're not like that at all. We fully encourage all people to come in."

Minority Among a Minority

The Asian Reporter shed light on a much-needed organization suffering from low visibility, Asian/Pacific Islander Lesbians and Gays.

APLG is a 30-member support group that regularly plans potlucks, hiking, cultural performances and river rafting trips, according to the article, which appeared Jan. 3. Members took strides in bridging understanding within the sometimes traditional and conservative Asian culture.

"We're just like you. We have our own challenges every day, whether it's at work, at the playground or at school. Many of our experiences are the same," APLG president Meei J. Lum told *The Asian Reporter*. "We're really no different from other people except for one very small but very crucial part of our lives, where the people that we love are not always accepted by society."

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Passersby of Pirate's Cove were met with this unwelcoming holiday greeting.



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