

by Marty Davis

It's Almost Over

Disgruntled employees and petty people come out of the woodwork as Election Day approaches

Breathe in. Breathe out. Ballots are in hand or already mailed back. It's almost over, thank you Jesus. By the next publication of *Just Out* we'll know if Ted Wheeler won or Diane Linn lost. While there are people seeking election in other races, most days you'd think these two were running for King of the World for all the press their race is getting. A look at the letters to the editor in this issue alone will gauge the emotions this race has stirred up. And to the diminishment of whom and what else? While we visit and revisit tired old tales, there's also a Federal Marriage Amendment vote coming up before Congress, millions of immigrants marched through the streets of the nation, and each day is the deadliest day ever in Iraq. Yet towering among these stories are the allegations that Multnomah County Chair Diane Linn once asked a staff member to alter her calendar. Did she? Didn't she? I haven't asked her, and I won't. Why? I look at the circumstances, and I am reminded of a recent television show I viewed. *Animal Planet*, I think it was. It was noted that the most venomous snake on earth is the former employee, usually identified as "disgruntled." You know, post office employee types. The allegations against Diane Linn reek of political tactics, two years late in the coming and mere weeks before the election. Could this be any more obvious? This is not a matter that warrants your consideration in returning Diane Linn to office. Be wary always, though, of snakes in the grass.

When determining your criteria for who earns your vote, look at many factors, not the least of which should be the integrity of how candidates, their staff and their advisers run their campaign. If all a candidate can do is piss and moan about his opponent, then that candidate is covering up his own lack of qualifications for office. Attack ads are an indicator of overall character. As we approach the final days of many of these races, there are some pretty nasty ads spewing forth from our radios and TVs. Don't vote for petty, mean people.

So who would you like to see working for you for the next four years in Salem? You really have only one choice. That choice is to re-elect Gov. Ted Kulogonski. Do I say this because I think he's been a dynamic leader with a long list of accomplishments from the previous four years? No. I say this because it's absolutely imperative that a Democratic governor be returned to Salem, and the current governor holds the most promise for being able to achieve this goal. Please remember that in 2002, Kevin Mannix came frighteningly close to being elected governor. Now four years later, the Republicans have even more dollars and organization to throw at their conservative candidate, be it Ron Saxton, Kevin Mannix or, less likely, Jason Atkinson. The fine folks behind Ballot Measure 36 have tasted victory. They want the governor's office. We need to want it more.

My guess, my hope, is that only a few, if any, of you are sitting at your kitchen tables with Republican Party ballots in front of you. Discussing

which of the gubernatorial candidates to select is not a worthy use of our time. Bear in mind that all three are on record as being against gay marriage and abortion. Even *The Oregonian*, the paper that endorsed George W. Bush in the 2000 presidential election, chided the Republican gubernatorial candidates for their inability to distinguish between same-sex marriage and civil unions. In an editorial in the May 3 issue, the paper reiterated that in 2004 Oregon voters approved Measure 36, explicitly banning same-sex marriage. This ballot measure, however, said nothing whatsoever about civil unions. All three Republican candidates recently went on record as stating that they would not be in favor of legislation creating civil unions for gay and lesbian couples in Oregon. Why would you consider voting for one of them? Why should we care about the Republican Party position on abortion? Because when the right to choose, or any specific right, is taken from one group of people, then the door is further opened for targeting the next group, race or minority for minimization and marginalization. Women, gays, immigrants, the poor, the uneducated—who loses next?

And now a few words on something besides elections and politics. How about education for starters. *Just Out* would like to help further the education of a few of our most talented and worthy readers. The deadline is rapidly approaching for applications to be submitted for the 2006 *Just Out* Scholarship Fund. For details on how to apply, visit www.justout.com and scroll down to scholarships.

On the subject of deadlines, the Amateur Photo Contest deadline has been moved back—and the pot just got bigger. The photo contest winners will now become a part of the June 16 Pride issue, the one that we'll distribute throughout the weekend festivities at Waterfront Park. We're going to make you and your winning photos famous! The prizes will be larger than previously announced, too. We have received many excellent entries already, but you last-minute folks now have more time. May 31 is the new deadline for all entries to be received. For complete details, see the ad on Page 26.

I would, of course, be remiss if I did not mention two of our *Just Out* favorites: our free online dating service and the amazingly popular and fun Gay Skate. We'll be hitting the roller rink at Oaks Park on May 15. Directions to the park can be found at www.justout.com. For those with dating in mind, *Just Out* Personals now has hundreds of profiles waiting for you at www.justout.com. It's available 24/7 and it's free, free, free. That saves you lots of money to spend on exciting new first dates.

Finally, we send along good wishes and thoughts to Triangle Productions' Don Horn as he dedicates himself to the recovery of his son, injured in a serious car accident. Don, let us know if you need help from your community. ☺

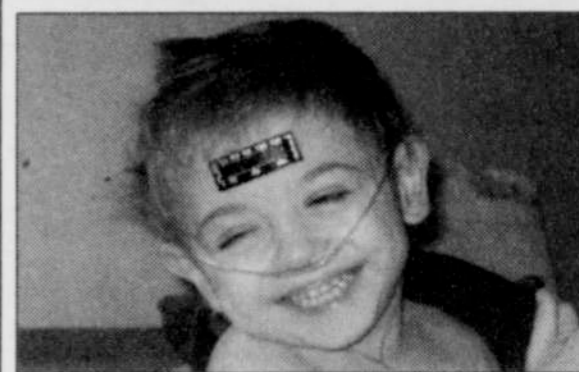
2006 Primary Election Endorsements

- **Governor of Oregon:** Ted Kulogonski
- **Representative in Congress District 1:** David Wu
- **Representative in Congress District 3:** Earl Blumenauer
- **Representative in Congress District 5:** Darlene Hooley
- **Multnomah County Chair:** Diane Linn
- **Multnomah County Commission District 2:** Gary Hansen
- **Portland City Council Seat No. 2:** Erik Sten
- **Portland City Council Seat No. 3:** Dan Saltzman
- **State Representative District 44:** Tina Kotek

Ballots are due by 8 p.m. Tuesday, May 16!

2006 *Just Out*
AMATEUR PHOTO
CONTEST

Deadline extended!
Visit
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for details.



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FEATURE

22 THE LITTLE MAN OF THE HOUSE

Claire of the Moon director returns with a documentary that treads into uncharted areas

NEWS

8-17 NORTHWEST

Kimpton Hotels become PFLAG sponsor; Porky's Pub becomes gay bar; "don't ask, don't tell" challenged locally; Our House welcomes new hire; Red Dress Party makes green; stand up for SMYRC; PFLAG Northwest celebrates diversity; D'Alessandro leaves Oregon; OSU, PSU celebrate Pride; conferences focus on youth; become a Big Brother, Big Sister; gubernatorial candidates discuss queer issues

18-19 NATIONAL

Higher Education Act could bar queer students; New York group presses high court on marriage law; Kentucky governor's anti-gay stance bad for business; defamatory T-shirt not protected speech in California; Maine conservative group takes aim at senators; Blockbuster Video settles gay harassment suit in Minnesota; community mourns activist Julie Pell

20-21 WORLD

Transgender elected to Italian Parliament; Latvians will attempt second Pride Parade; Dutch grant gay immigrants a reprieve; Iraqi gays say they're being killed; Hong Kong bans Brit partnership ceremonies; CBS producers gay-bashed in Caribbean; Canadian court OKs anti-gay ad

ARTS & CULTURE

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Two young Germans develop a homoerotic friendship in *Before the Fall*

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Miracle Theatre's consciousness-raising play is sure to raise a few eyebrows, too

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Queer novels explore shattered families



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Teen and Trans

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Weekend Warrior

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Ventana de Delisoso

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Shapes and Sizes, Colors and Textures

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All Hail the Queen