

don valerio, md

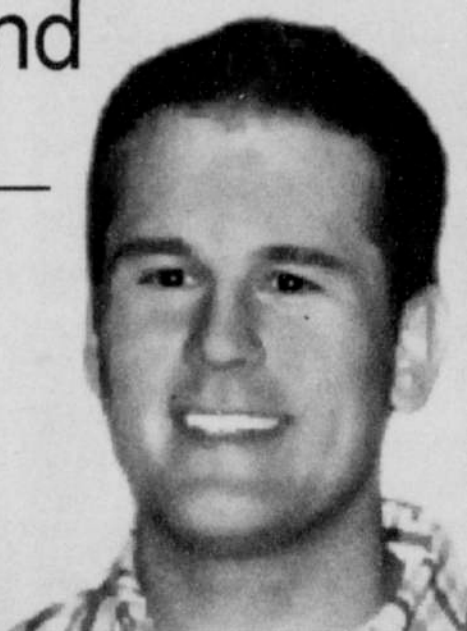
board certified internal medicine
general adult healthcare

new patients are always welcome.

fanno creek clinic

2400 sw vermont, portland
503-452-0915

Call to schedule an annual check-up.
Rapid HIV testing now available.



world

EUROPE

Riga Pride Trashed by Mobs

The second effort to stage a Gay Pride parade in Riga, Latvia, was an unmitigated disaster July 22.

The City Council and a court banned the parade, claiming police wouldn't be able to protect marchers from marauding homophobic mobs.

So, activists instead staged a religious service at a church and meetings at a hotel. Homophobes were not deterred.

Scores of anti-gay protesters gathered outside the Anglican church and flung human excrement, eggs and rotten food at gays and lesbians as they left the building.

"I was hit with a bag full of shit and had to go wash up," said the Rev. Maris Sants.

The Rev. Juris Calitis added: "Protesters threw human excrement on us. I was covered with it from head to foot. It was quite smelly."

British participant Peter Tatchell said: "Worshippers were pelted with shit and rotten fruit. Despite previously requesting police protection, no police were present to protect the congregation."

Activist meetings later in the day at the posh Reval Hotel met a similar fate, attracting hundreds of anti-gay demonstrators.

"[We were] under siege all day by protesters from the anti-gay 'No Pride' movement—a highly organized alliance of Christian fundamentalists, ultra-nationalists and neo-Nazis," said Tatchell. "They roamed the streets outside the hotel looking for gays and lesbians to attack. Anyone who looked gay was liable to abuse and assault, even passing tourists. The police seemed to stand back and let them terrorize people with impunity."

Blogging live from the site, Russian participant Nikolai Alekseev reported: "As the speeches of local politicians and foreign politicians are coming to an end...in a room where 100 gays and lesbians came to celebrate what should have been Riga's second Gay Pride, protesters started to attack those going out of the hotel. Today, Latvia does not show the face of a modern and democratic country. Instead, Riga is showing the face of homophobic fascism.... It feels like [this year's] Moscow [Pride] all over again. Homophobic mobs are roaming the streets of Riga with apparent impunity."

Reports said 14 protesters were arrested during the various confrontations.

Latvian Prime Minister Aigars Kalvitis and President Vaira Vike-Freiberga disagreed with the City Council and the Regional Administrative Court and had urged that the parade be permitted.

"It lies at the very foundations of the Constitution of Latvia that human rights shall be respected in Latvia without any discrimination, which means that nobody can be restricted in his/her activities based on his/her religious beliefs, ethnic background, sexual orientation, gender or belonging to some other group," Vike-Freiberga said. "Furthermore, the Constitution guarantees to the residents of Latvia the right to the freedom of speech and assembly."

The Pride organizing group, Mozaika, announced plans July 24 to "sue the city of Riga in the European Court of Human Rights for banning the march."

"The presidency of the European Union is now held by Finland, which will put the Riga Pride events at the top of a list of discussions at a meeting of European Ministers of Justice next week," spokesman Laris Grava said in a press release. "We expect severe condemnation of the government of Latvia from other European governments."

Last year, gays were allowed to stage Riga's first Pride parade. The 150 marchers were heavily outnumbered by around 1,000 anti-gay protesters who blocked the streets, forced the parade to be rerouted and hurled insults, bottles and rotten eggs. The protesters chanted "No sodomy" and "Gays fuck the nation."

Kalvitis opposed last year's march, saying: "Latvia is a state based on Christian values. We cannot promote things that are unacceptable to a large part of society."

But Kalvitis later had an apparent change of heart, saying: "There were attempts to link my statements with expressions of homophobic views and hate in the society. This is not true."

"Latvia is a democratic country that wishes and is able to ensure human rights of every person living here. The government of Latvia is clearly against discrimination of any kind. It is worth noting that not long before the parade the Cabinet of Ministers adopted decisions preventing discrimination of sexual minorities in [the] labor market."

At Moscow's first Gay Pride parade May 27, which Alekseev co-organized, marchers attempted to lay flowers at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier, then walk a few blocks for a rally across from City Hall. They were attacked repeatedly by neofascists, skinheads, militant Christians and riot police. Several marchers were injured.

Mayor Yuri Luzhkov had banned that march, saying Russia's "morals are cleaner" than those of "the West." He called the attempt to lay flowers a "desecration...a provocation [and] a contamination. People burst through, and of course they beat them up."

Slovenia Offers Registered Partnerships

A same-sex registered partnership law came into force July 23 in Slovenia, a country formed from the former Yugoslavia, Belgrade's B92 radio reported.

Gay groups welcomed the law but criticized it for not granting full marriage rights.

They also said it's unacceptable that the ceremonies must take place only in a government office



Latvian President Vaira Vike-Freiberga used the Latvian Constitution to support Pride revelers' rights to freedom of speech and assembly.

Expect More

from your
Realtor and Mortgage Broker.



Jen Nelson
Realtor, Principal Broker,
ABR, e-PRO
628 SE 58 Ave
Portland, OR 97215
503.232.2475 x3
503.310.2284
jen@rootsrealty.com



www.rootsrealty.com



www.financewithjen.com



Jen Bell
Mortgage Broker
8755 SW Citizens Dr. #206
Wilsonville, Oregon 97070
503.682.3040
503.939.4130
jenb@ohm-loan.com

Whether buying, selling,
refinancing or investing,
we can help.
Contact us today!

Experienced Dedicated Knowledgeable Ethical Professional

Healthy Pets Northwest

THE NATURAL ALTERNATIVE FOR PET FOODS & SUPPLIES

BY PRODUCTS CO. INC. PRESCRIPTIONS



Southeast
1402 A SE 39th (39th & Hawthorne) • 503-236-8036
Northeast
2224 NE Alberta • 503-249-6571
www.healthypetsnw.com

YES!
WE DELIVER.

All Natural Foods • Herbal & Homeopathic Remedies • Pesticide Free • Allergy Products

clay street COMMONS



So close yet so far away.
Live amongst it all in perfect harmony.

Model unit open
11-4, Sat thru Wed
Occupancy this Spring!

Sixty-two well appointed condominiums are now available in Goose Hollow. Choose from a variety of one and two bedroom floor plans priced from \$189,000. Visit online for plans and prices, go to www.claystreetcommons.com

1535 SW Clay Street
Enter Sales Office from main entrance on SW Clay

Exclusively marketed by
Josh Reiter, Re/Max Metro (503) 402-1777

Preferred lender Wells Fargo Home Mortgage

www.claystreetcommons.com