

Pets Parade at Pride

If the memory card for your digital camera is filled with more rainbow-clad dogs at Pride than people, you'll understand the logic behind Portland Pride Pet Parade.

Registration for the parade—sponsored by the Dove Lewis Animal Hospital, Pets on Broadway and the Portland Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals—began March 30.

The parade will feature pet owners and their favorite animal near the main stage of the Pride Festival about 12:30 p.m. June 17. After the pet parade, participants and guests will be entertained by local and regional acts on the Pride main stage, including a German shepherd from the Portland Police Bureau's K-9 unit.

What makes the Portland Pride Pet Parade unique is that there are two prizes being awarded for "gayest dog and pal" and "gayest pet (nondog) and pal" in Portland. Prizes, trophies and bragging rights are awarded to the first-place finishers in each category.

Entries must be operated by foot power only, unless special arrangements are made in advance. Groups are encouraged to identify themselves with a banner or sign.

Pet owners who wish to march with their pets must report by 12:15 p.m. near main stage at the Pride Festival. Individuals and groups are asked to register in advance by calling Joshua Ryan at 650-810-4380 or visiting www.pridenw.org so that parade moderators can describe them as they march by. There is no charge to participate.

Event Moves Youth Forward

"Moving Forward" is the theme for the fifth annual major fund-raiser for p:ear, an organization that builds positive relationships with homeless and transitional youth through education, art and recreation.

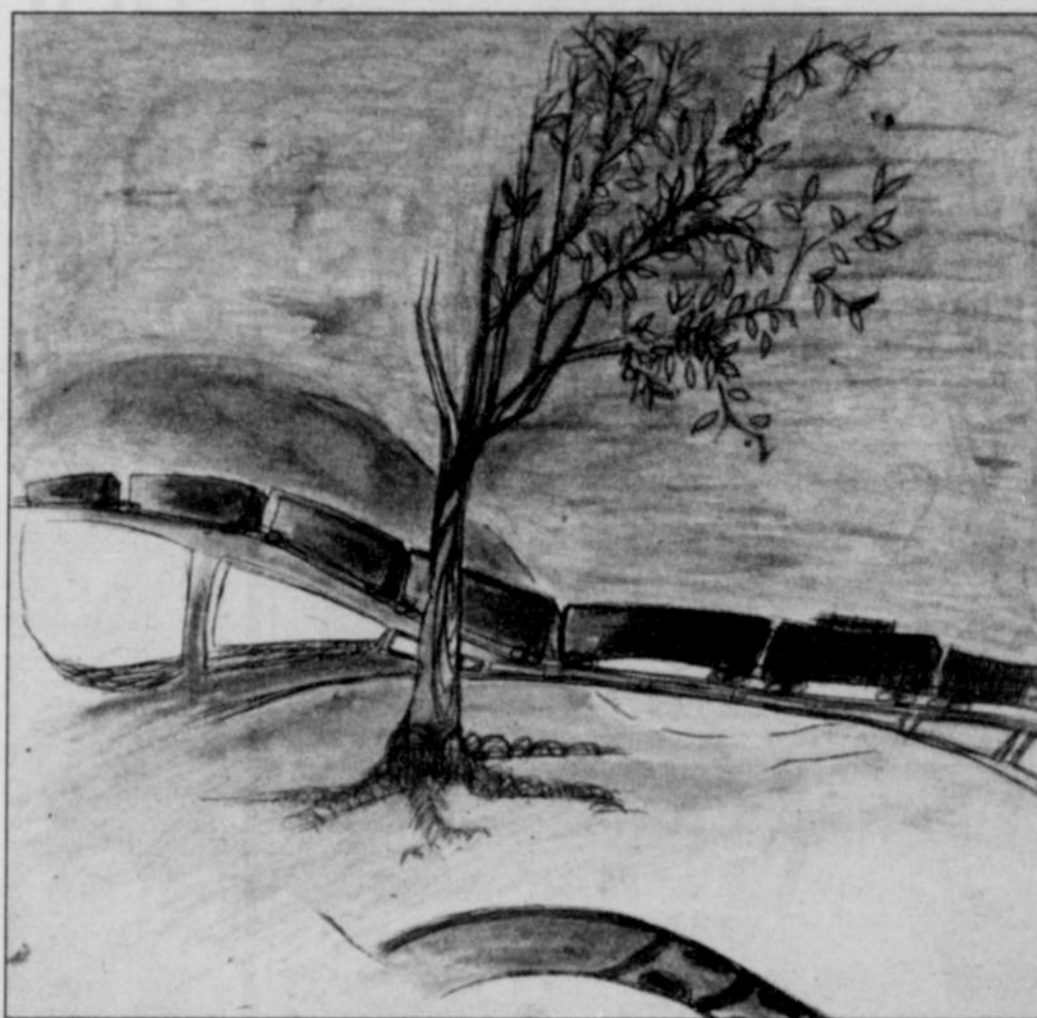
Momentum will be felt at the p:earblossoms event through the venue, Staver Locomotive Building, which contains an intricate model train, and live entertainment by 10 *Tiny Dances*, produced by gay choreographer Mike Barber. The modern dance performances, devised uniquely for this event, were inspired by p:ear youth, who

answered the question: What moves you forward?

The event, from 7 to 9 p.m. May 5 at 2537 N.W. 29th Ave., boasts an auction as well as appetizers and wine provided by Pazzo Ristorante.

"We like to create events that we would want to attend ourselves," said Pippa Arend, p:ear program director, of the interactive event. "We will have really good wine, really good food and entertainment representing the energy of the program."

The nonprofit serves approximately 500 youth, many of whom are on the street because of gender



"Train," a mixed-media image created by artist and p:ear youth Scribe, is part of the p:ear youth art series.

issues, according to Arend. Money raised from this event pays for approximately a third of its annual budget.

This is the first year p:ear is throwing an after-party, Caboose, to make charitable giving available to everyone. The all-ages after party, held at the same space, is from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m., featuring March Fourth Marching Band, a rare solo performance from Chris Walla of Death Cab for Cutie and DJ Beyonda.

Arend said, "p:ear is a very direct, raw way to make a significant contribution to the community."

Tickets to p:earblossoms cost \$75 each or two for \$130. A "pear basket" package of 10 tickets can be purchased for \$600. Tickets to the Caboose after-party are \$6. Reservations can be made at 503-228-6677 or www.pearmentor.org.

Trans Library Finds Permanent Home

Portland transgender authors Aaron Raz Link and Reid Vanderburgh headline a celebration from 7 to 9 p.m. April 20 marking the grand opening of the Transgender Reference Library at Q Center, 69 S.E. Taylor St.

The library is a collection of more than 400 transgender-specific titles, including books, academic journals, magazines, zines, films and videos. It was created and developed by the Portland State University Library System and the Trans/ Identity

Resource Centre, a program of Outside In. The library is one of the largest transgender-specific collections in the country.

The library left its original location at Outside In because of concerns about accessibility. It will be open during Q Center's hours—from 1 to 5 p.m. Sundays and from 4 to 8 p.m. Mondays through Wednesdays—and at other times by appointment. **10**

By JAYMEE R. CUTI and MALKA GEFFEN

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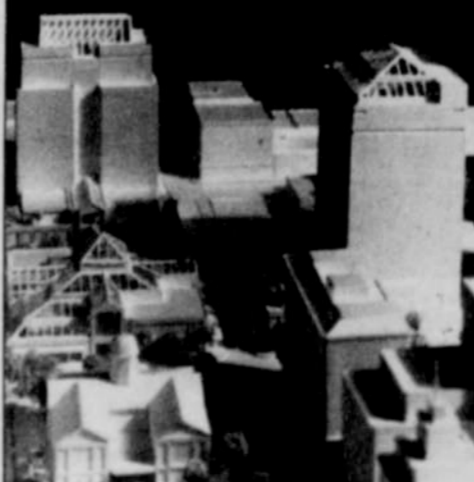
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