



Festival revelers line up to play HGTV's "Plinko" at Pride 2006.



PABA brings Portland's finest gay businesspeople to the waterfront.

House and Gardens; Scott Werner of Bridgetown Realty; Gay Yellow Pages/St. Albans; Tamara Totten of Aflac with Robert Hogg of Goodlin Financial; Robert Kennedy of Diversified Financial Concepts; Joel Hamley of Meadows Group; Causeit; Greg Bristow of Auto Solution; and the Human Rights Campaign.

Totten is an independent insurance agent representing Aflac. You'll see her standing next to a 3-foot version of the company's duck mascot. Totten said she hopes everyone will come visit her because she is a Pride booth virgin.

As an openly gay agent, Totten said she works

to help employers, employees and individuals get supplemental coverage. "When you're hurt or sick, who pays your out-of-pocket expenses?" she said. "When I write a policy, I take it very personally, and when you have a claim, I walk it through myself."

"I went to a PABA meeting and fell in love with the support there," said Totten, who visited Salem with PABA members in support of the recent gay rights legislation. "It was so ironic to be there on the opposite end and also scary to know what we're up against."

Before coming out 11 years ago, Totten was a conservative Baptist in Silverton. "During the

[1992] Measure 9 campaign, I was passing out fliers to keep queers out of our schools," she admitted. "I just came to terms with my sexuality and realized I was living for everyone else and not for myself."

Many of us are Human Rights Campaign members and have the blue and yellow "equal sign" sticker on our cars. But do we know what actions are being taken right now for queer equal rights? If you're a member or you simply want to learn more, be sure to visit HRC at its PABA booth.

"It's a great time to get involved," said Michelle Madison, event publicity co-chairwoman of the

HRC Portland Steering Committee.

Michael Long, PABA board member and political co-chairman of HRC Portland, added, "We will be having a big push for the Employment Non-Discrimination Act and the hate crimes legislation."

People will get a chance to take action right at the booth and contact representatives about these bills. "We have a great presence right at the entrance of the festival and a nice selection of PABA members representing, which shows what PABA has to offer," Long said. 10

By JAYMEE R. CUTI and MALKA GEFFEN

FREEDOM CHOICE LIFESTYLE

CREATE THE LIFE YOU WANT TO LIVE

Freedom allows us the *Choice* to make our dreams come true. Travel the world. Fundraise for a favorite charity. Make a difference in our community. *Choice* allows us to create the *Lifestyle* we want to live. Buying or selling, Real Estate is *Freedom*.

Start creating *Freedom* through Real Estate today!



STACEY MILLS

Cell: 503.957.0791

staceymills@affinityrealty.net

www.staceymills.com



Laser Hair Therapy Treats Men and Women

THINNING? BALDING?
STOP YOUR HAIR LOSS!!



- * NO PAIN
- * NO SURGERY
- * NO SIDE EFFECTS

Revolutionary
Laser Technology

CALL FOR A FREE CONSULTATION



ACTUAL CLIENTS • 6 MONTHS RESULTS

100% MONEY BACK GUARANTEE

503-241-3579

www.thriveaesthetics.com

832 NW NINETEENTH AVE • PORTLAND, OR 97209