

northwest

Stylist Reveals 'Pizzazz'

With the launch of his new business, Honestly Her, David Hull specializes in making people accepted. As a self-identified gay man who wears woman's clothing, Hull, also known as Tiffany, has been helping people get in touch with their feminine personas. Honestly Her is a professional venture that will finally give Hull the space to realize his full potential as a clothing and behavior expert. Hull can, in his words, "take any Alice down the rabbit hole."

As a measure of success, Hull hopes to make people feel comfortable dressing in woman's clothing (even those who are not specifically trans-identified) and walk into Nordstrom feeling "acceptable." His work is not about "passing" but rather about the initial 15 seconds of a social situation. Hull explains, "I want to live my life in peace, and I want to help others do the same."

Hull has been known to provide extensive makeovers to women in his apartment building. He said, "I believe there is beauty and art in the feminine lifestyle." The "art" he refers to is a specific form of dressing or gender performance that he labels as "free-style dressing." This form of dressing can be applied to anyone regardless of sexual orientation or a trans label. Hull explained: "It is not about passing, and it is not about deception. It is about being able to walk with dignity and grace."

In addition to clothing consultations, Hull has an extensive list of merchants willing to cater specifically to his clientele. This service can create a safe and welcoming space for anyone

business watch

wanting to explore his special brand of "free-style dressing." Traditionally, Hull believes shopping for cosmetics, clothing or accessories can be particularly traumatic for a person wanting to explore dressing in women's clothing.

Hull begins each new client relationship with a onetime personal consultation without any monetary obligation. During this consultation, he discusses available services that can enhance innate "pizzazz."

For more information visit www.honestlyher.com.

Trails End Here

When Kari Tate and Charlene Stein met three years ago, it was their dogs that brought them together. Their first date was spent at the dog park. Today, they own six dogs together.



David Hull teaches the art of femininity.

MARTY DAVIS



Kari Tate and business partner Cooper go over the plans for opening day.

This month they are opening their first business, Trail's End Lodge.

They hope their 6,700-square-foot shop will meet the dog owner's every need, from purchasing dog food, treats and collars in their retail space, to bathing a dirty pooch in self- and full-service dog baths, to dropping off their bored doggy while at work all day or on an overnight trip.

The play areas for dogs are casual yet luxurious. They include a small dog play area; a large dog play area with child-size structures to climb on and a swimming pool; and an old dog lounge with couches.

The site also includes a cabin for the human overseeing overnight happenings at the "lodge."

"If a dog is on the premises, a person is, too," said Stein about one of the guiding principles of Trail's End.

This rule is in the spirit of creating a safe environment for pooches. Trail's End Lodge offers a feature unique to dog day care centers: the Web cam.

"If I leave my dogs somewhere, I want to be able to check in on them when I'm away, to make sure they're having fun and are well taken care of," said Stein. With the Web cam, dog owners can check up on their pooches by logging on to their computer.

In the name of safety, the lodge is equipped with heat-sensitive smoke detectors. Stein and Tate are graduates of DoveLewis Animal Hospital's first-aid class.

Trail's End Lodge is proud to be the sole distributor in Portland of Three Dog Bakery's products.

The business's name stems from Portland's outdoorsy reputation.

"Portland is known for hiking trails," said Stein. "We wanted our place to have an outdoorsy feel, and when you've been hiking with your dog and she's muddy, we wanted to say, 'All trails end here.'"

Trail's End Lodge is at 931 S.E. Sixth Ave. For more information call 503-327-8837 or visit www.trailsendlodgepd.com. 

By JEDIDIAH CHAVEZ and JAYMEE R. CUTI

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