



MARTY DAVIS

Revelers from Latino Gay Pride 2007 will be surprised when the 2008 event doubles in activities.

For more information visit www.edforportland.com or www.home.earthlink.net/~tdr4pdx.

Registration Open for Queer Youth Conference

The annual Oregon Queer Youth Conference for sexual minority, questioning and allied kids younger than 23 will run from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. March 15 at Catlin Gabel School, 8825 S.W. Barnes Road.

The conference is an opportunity for the youth community to discuss where it's going, what it's doing and what it needs to get there. Past topics have included building safe schools, being a marketing target for tobacco companies, the risk of sexually transmitted infections and dealing with bias in school and life.

Adult allies can attend through volunteering, leading workshops and learning to work better with youth. Register at www.oqyc.org.

Conference Held for Queer Youth Advocates

Queer youth advocates working in the legal arena have an opportunity to increase their skills at Juvenile Law 2008: Eyes on the Child.

Sponsored by the Oregon State Bar Association, the workshop focuses on a variety of issues concerning queer youth, said Jody Marksamer, director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights' Youth Project and staff attorney, who is conducting the workshop.

"Young people get the raw end of the deal so often," said Marksamer, considering the standards they are measured against versus the respect or assistance they receive compared to adults in similar situations. "It's just really important to make sure that—especially young people who are LGBT

who may not have a family member who's there to advocate for them or help them—that the systems are functioning at a level where LGBT youth are safe and are treated with respect."

An estimated 1,122 youths are in Oregon's juvenile justice system, according to Oregon's Youth Authority, but the number of queer youths remains unknown. Identifying queer youth is done when they share their sexual orientation or gender identity with probation officers or other juvenile justice professionals. Out youths aren't recorded for privacy reasons, according to juvenile professionals.

Oregon's budget for the juvenile justice system is \$305.6 million for 2007 to 2009, according to Oregon's Youth Authority.

Each Oregon county decides ongoing education courses for juvenile professionals. Multnomah County is progressive with policies regarding queer youth, said Wayne Scott, clinical manager in the Department of Community Justice. According to Scott, juvenile professionals have received extensive mandatory trainings focused on queer youths within the past four years.

The juvenile law seminar will run from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Feb. 8 in Miller Hall at the World Forestry Center, 4033 S.W. Canyon Road. For more information call 503-431-6413 or visit www.osbarcle.org.

Latino Gay Pride Announces Lineup

The Portland Latino Gay Pride committee plans to expand its annual celebration to four days with exciting speakers and performances aimed at bringing the community together.

Latino Gay Pride kicks off June 5 with a reception and screening with actor and producer Dan

Continued on Page 8

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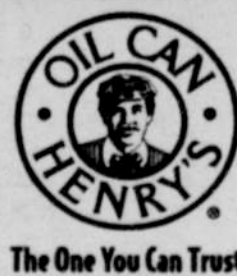


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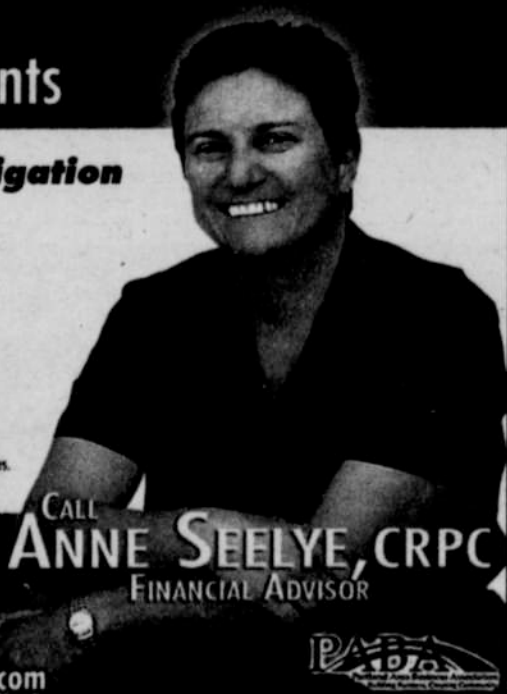
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