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through the Give Guide. He said visits from clients have grown from 10 to 40 daily during his nine years at the center. "People we serve are the most vulnerable—that is where the epidemic is going, a disease of poor people and minorities."

Berman estimated that 40 percent of HIV Day Center clients are racial minorities and all meet low-income criteria. He said that 20 percent are homeless and an additional 30 percent are in transitional or temporary housing situations.

The HIV Day Center provides meals, clothing, counseling, foot care, acupuncture and dignity to its clients.

"Not only do we provide human services, but lifesaving services" by helping clients keep their medical appointments, according to Berman.

Willamette Week provides incentives for readers to give, ranging from a loaf of artisan bread, bus tickets and condoms to a personally delivered wine basket from the newspaper's editor or publisher. Willamette Week will also donate bonuses to the four organizations raising the most money.

The HIV Day Center is at 2941 N.E. Ainsworth St. For more information visit www.week.com/giveguide from Nov. 12 to Dec. 31.

Queer Photographer Launches Worldwide Erotic Mag

Move over, Butt Magazine.

Gay up-and-coming Portland photographer

Sushuma has a hot new men's magazine just hitting the streets and the Web, and it could very well rock the international erotic mag industry right out of its sleepy sling.

The new quarterly magazine, which celebrates male eroticism in photos and commentary from around the world, is called *Flit* after the 1950s slang derogatory term for homosexual. The 148-page debut issue appeared online Nov. 3, with plans for the glossy pub.

Sushuma says he founded the magazine as "a place for artists to express themselves freely," noting his frustration with the censorship constraints of social networking sites and other online sites censoring graphic content. And by "freely," he means without clothes.

So he decided, in typical Portland fashion, to go DIY with his dream: designing, editing and marketing his magazine himself, and reaching out through MySpace to recruit worldwide artistic talent. The first issue features 42 contributors from the likes of Italy, France and Switzerland.

There are some Portland contributors among them, too: former Sissyboy turned manic queer artist-about-town Lee Kyle and emerging photographer Rudy Valdez. Valdez, a 27-year-old medi-



Flit magazine, launched Nov. 3 in Portland, includes erotic imagery from worldwide contributors, including Germany's Felix Drobek.

cal manufacturing worker and part-time student by day, enjoys a burgeoning career as a club photographer at hip venues like Branx and Rotture by night.

"There's some pretty nice work in there," he says of *Flit*'s first issue. "Some straight-up naked guys, some are a little more artistic," adding that he would place his own work in the latter camp.

As to whether Sushuma sees *Flit* as a specifically gay mag, the editor says he's "not identifying it as a gay magazine or queer. There are a couple of texts that make reference to gay men, but it's not in-your-face-this-is-gay." He added that although *Flit* is definitely a men's publication, he does have

women contributors and hopes the mag will "appeal to women who enjoy men's bodies as well as men who enjoy men's bodies."

Sushuma is charging 7 bucks to download the mag from the Web site, adding that it should be available soon in hard copy form at Portland indie media staples like Reading Frenzy and Counter Media for \$15. He's also in conversations with distributors and bookstores across the United States and Europe and will print, on demand, as many copies as his international erotic audience is hungry for. **JO**

By STEPHEN MARC BEAUDOIN and JAYMEE R. CUTI



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