

LETTERS

TRANSITIONS

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Time to reflect

TO THE EDITOR:

As an active member of the transgender community it saddens me to think how *Just Out* portrays us. It is simply disrespectful to advertise the Second Annual Trans Prom (5/15 issue, *Out & About*, p. 21), on the front page of the events calendar no less, with a stock picture of partying drag queens. While the umbrella term 'transgender' is expansive, such a portrayal ignores trans-masculinities, gender queer/fuck, and butch trans-women. With a picture depicting Trans Prom as simply another event to party people in campy female drag, [*Just Out*] marginalizes [and] reinforces the notion that transgender identities are solely for performance.

I am sure the Q Center would have been happy to provide a picture of an event that means so much. That *Just Out* could not come up with a single picture of last year's event, but continually covers the back of the magazine with pictures of gay men show the priorities of the paper. Clearly it is GLBT, with last and least, Transgender.

CHLOE BROZ
Portland

[Ed. responds: *Just Out* attempted to obtain art from organizers, who did not have photos from last year's event, nor any promotional images.]



»Roger Lynn Curtis.
1955-2009

On Saturday, May 23, 2009, friends and family gathered at Unity Church of Portland to celebrate the life of Roger Lynn Curtis.

Roger died on May 12, while hospitalized with complications from illness. The day prior Roger sent out a cheerful email to friends, optimistically noting the progress he felt he was making in returning

to better health. The following morning brought the news of his passing.

Roger was born October 25, 1955 in Bend. The love of radio and of his birds and cats were the cornerstones of his life. At the time of his death, Roger was on staff at Portland's KBNP radio. He had a voice tailor made for radio. During his stint as a salesperson at *Just Out*, it was noted more than once that he probably didn't even need a telephone. His booming voice was capable of carrying itself anywhere.

At the May 23 memorial, Roger's friends spoke of his warmth, friendliness and ever-present smile. His quirky sense of humor was evident in his staff bio found on the KBNP Web site: The introduction read, "Roger's true claim to fame was his nomination for the 1966 Nobel Prize for Medicine and his creation of the artificial appendix."

Roger's friends may not have known that he once considered a career in professional sports. Alas, those dreams were shattered "when it was discovered that he had a bone in his arm."

Yes, Roger had an interesting sense of humor. When asked what celebrity he would most like to meet, he replied, "I've met several over the years - but I'm most interested in everyday people, like mainly the pizza guy with my dinner."

So long, Roger. We'll have a pizza in your memory.

-MARTY DAVIS

Arrangements by River View Cemetery Funeral Home.

CORRECTION

In the 5/15 issue, a NW Brief ("Sam Adams Recall Campaign Hits Stride," p.10) incorrectly reported that Beau Breedlove was a City Hall intern. He was, in fact, a legislative intern in Salem to Rep. Kim Thatcher.

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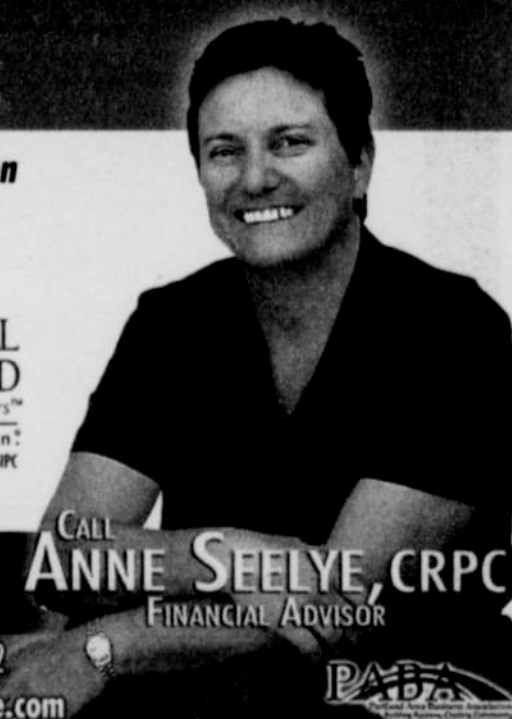


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