



Hendrix & McGuire Optical
 Now lesbian owned and operated!
 • exams available • thousands of frames
 • on-site lab • 1 hour service
 925 SW Taylor Street PDX, OR 97205
 ph: 503 228 2154
 Centrally located in downtown, Most insurance accepted
 Ask Patty & Rhonda about the
25% FAMILY DISCOUNT

20% off for Just Out readers! Enter "justout" at checkout.



Underwear for every man!
 Visit:
FBonMe.com

Specializing in natural fiber and earth-friendly designer men's underwear.
 Get brands like: Baskit, C-IN2, Cocksox, DT, Elite, Gia, Gigo, JM, Go Softwear, Joe Synder, N2N, Otter, Rufskin, WildmanT, Danial Webster, + more. Get Briefed!

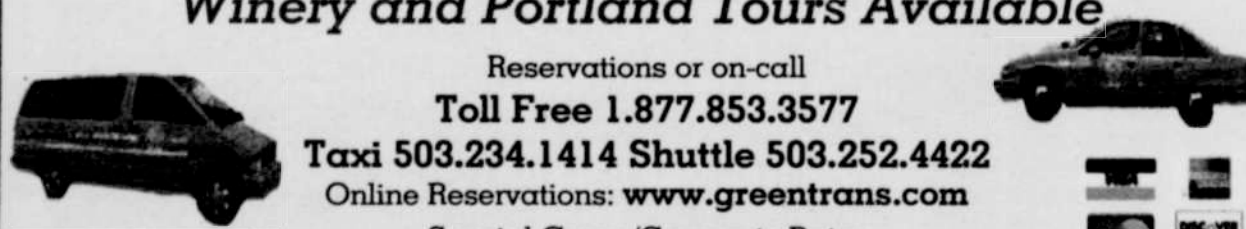
Fully Briefed
 What's in your drawers?
 Grown in Bend, Oregon

GO GREEN STAY GREEN



For all of your **Party and Business** transportation needs.
 Winery and Portland Tours Available

Reservations or on-call
Toll Free 1.877.853.3577
 Taxi 503.234.1414 Shuttle 503.252.4422
 Online Reservations: www.greentrans.com
 Special Group/Corporate Rates




MULTNOMAH COUNTY

You Belong on Our Team!

Job Hotline: 503-988-5035
 TTY: 503-988-5170
 an equal opportunity employer

www.multcojobs.org

NORTHWEST NEWS

Taking Names, Starting Conversations, and Changing Minds

The fight for marriage equality in Oregon kicks off

By AMANDA WALDROUPE

To anyone listening in the Bus Project's office on Sunday, August 2, a PolitiCorps Fellow says, "We need to get the cars out right now."

With clipboards packed full of cut turf and lit in hand, Gwende Silver, Mariana Lindsay, Adam Greenberg and Kylie Cannon—all in their 20s—head down the Tazo Sweet Cinnamon Spice-scented staircase of the Bus Project's office. In an air-conditioned Volvo, they discuss the merits of Google Maps versus MapQuest, trying to figure out whether they are canvassing for marriage equality in Hillsboro or Hillsdale.

"You know for sure we're going to Hillsboro," Lindsay says, simultaneously steering and looking at a Google Map printout.

"I'm not familiar with the area, I'm sorry," Silver admits.

"How do you pronounce that?" Lindsay asks, looking at the directions. "O-les-son? O-less-en? Why not just 'ole'?"

Getting on the right road—toward Hillsdale—and to where they will canvass that afternoon, the car is parked and the four split up to their respective turfs.

Silver and her fellow Bus Project PolitiCorps Fellows' efforts mark the beginning of Basic Rights Oregon's Marriage Matters campaign. Launched on July 14, it is the first stage in BRO's efforts to overturn, through a ballot campaign, Measure 36, the law passed in 2004 by 57 percent of Oregonians defining marriage as between one man and one woman.

Describing the canvassing as educational outreach, volunteers from the Bus Project

have knocked on 4,400 doors in and around Portland, with aims to knock on a total of 15,600 by summer's end.

The canvassers aren't out to convince. They simply hope to provoke a dialog.

"It's important to know how large our base of support is, and where it is," Lindsay says.

Thomas Wheatley, BRO's organizing director, says the campaign is focusing on the "moveable middle"—young-to-middle-aged people, mainly in suburbs, politically identifying as Democrats and Independents.

"We want to start talking to people on the fence," Silver says.

The first door Silver knocks on is answered by a man who quickly tells her he supports gay marriage. He also signs a pledge Silver carries. Silver is met by supporters and pledge signers at the second and third doors she approaches.

"Usually, it's not home, not home, not home," Silver says, surprised.

And when no one is home, she leaves an informational flyer produced by BRO, at one point carefully navigating around a wild turkey beginning to puff out its feathers.

"We're not trying to sell anything," Silver says for the umpteenth time, speaking to a middle-aged woman. "We're just out talking to people about an issue that's been in the news a lot lately, asking if you think committed gay and lesbian couples should have the right to marry."

The woman tells Silver that she is in favor of domestic partnerships, but not marriage.

"Why is that?" Silver asks. "Is it just because of the word?"

"Yeah, I guess," the woman replies.

Silver explains that domestic partners have difficulty visiting their partners in the hospital and doing other things wedded couples do, simply because they cannot describe themselves as "married."

"Is there something we can change about

impress
 single source solutions printing services

- digital excellence
- delivery included

tel 503.281.8666

www.impress-usa.com

Brian Ramsay, Principal Broker
 Realty Trust Group, Inc

Condos, Lofts, Townhomes, Commercial & Foreclosures
 Pearl District, Downtown, South Waterfront

503.416.3380

RealEstateinthePearl.com

REALTY TRUST
 GROUP

