



PAGE 3 by Marty Davis

It's a Good Time to Listen

Let's heal the wounds.

Do you ever have days when you don't really have anything to say? I do—quite a few of them, actually, with today being one.

In many situations not having deep thoughts to share might not seem like much of a problem; I, however, manage to accompany my lack of innovative thought with quite a bit of guilt.

I am not unaware that my ownership of this paper and the positioning of this column gives me a forum for visibility that many people—people more creative, more political, more activist, more educated than I, would give their right arm for. And here I sit, blank page before me—with nothing to say. It doesn't seem quite right, does it?

Where am I going with this? Oh, about a year-and-a-half back in time—for starters. A little political to-do in Portland involving the newly elected gay mayor left me at odds with quite a few... well, maybe a lot... oh, all right, nearly everyone in Portland's GLBT community. In the ensuing furor there was much talk of starting new papers, new magazines, new websites, new opportunities for all in the community to have a place to have their stories told. I read, I heard, I saw, "Just Out doesn't speak for us." "Down with Just Out." I listened to everything said during that time. I read every blog, every email, every "Down with Marty Davis" Facebook page, looked at every new start-up site and gleaned out wherever possible the lessons to be learned.

I learned that there are a lot of people who are feeling like their voices were not being heard—their stories not being told. Now, these many months later, with tempers hope-

fully cooled, I'd like to offer an olive branch to those feeling disenfranchised from *Just Out*—with the suggestion that we talk about finding ways to work together rather than being continually at odds with each other.

I have this newspaper, I have this blank page, and I have the willingness to listen. I am always looking for writers, for creative individuals. If this is you, send me an email. The best time to heal wounds is now.

I am very happy to feature the Radical Faeries in this issue. I have wanted to tell their stories for years. Why it took so long, I'm not sure. The process of putting the components of this story together was one of those that makes me really enjoy my work. While Erin Rook put in all the hard effort, I got to meet great new people. I discovered the fantastic work of Steve Postman, whose image "Greenman" graces our cover. For days it seemed like this would be the story with no pictures, as no one felt comfortable opening their personal memories up for public viewing. Then, as if by magic, with the clock ticking, we found Kwai Lam, the wonderful artist who captures the Faeries in photos. His work makes you want to be there.

One does not tell the story of the Radical Faeries in one issue. That's simply where we start. I am looking forward to the next segment, in which we will delve into the history, the mystique and the lure of Wolf Creek.

Go, Sally, go! That's how I ended this column in the July 2 issue. Sally Helen Cohn, Portland's 75-year-old hand-whistling

lesbian, made it all the way to the live Hollywood round on *America's Got Talent*. On July 14, her journey on the television show ended, as she didn't receive sufficient votes to move forward—but what an adventure she had. Now that Sally is off the show, network restrictions are no longer in place and her story is hers to be told. We'll share it with you in the August 6 issue. In the meantime, here's what she had to say on her Facebook page:

"Well, I didn't make it to the next round of the talent show, folks, but that's okay. Now that the world knows who I am and what I do, there will be other opportunities. After the show was over, there were several interviews, and I ran into Piers, Howie and Sharon in one of them, so we had some fun afterwards with an old nursery rhyme song that came into my head. Sharon & I finished the song."

Go, Sally, go!

Everyone loves summer vacations; *Just Out* is no exception. We'll be taking the week of July 19 off for fun and frolicking, starting with Gay Skate at Oaks Park on Monday, July 19. Tanned, rested and ready, we'll return to the office on July 26 to begin work on the August 6 issue. While we're gone, please check out our guest bloggers, appearing daily at justout.com.

Finally, please join us on Friday, July 30 at a closing reception for the artists of the 2010 *Just Out* Pride Amateur Photo Contest at Q Center, from 6 p.m. until the wine is gone. Come celebrate and mingle. Hope to see you there. ☺

25 Years Ago in Just Out...

Vol. 2 No. 9: July, 1985



- The City Council should pass the ordinance to declare Portland a nuclear free zone. Although this ordinance, by prohibiting nuclear weapon production locally, will not end the war drive, it is an important step, both symbolically and in actuality.

- Beginning with the August '85 issue, *Just Out* comes out of the plain white envelope. The cost of materials, handling and postage add to make the plain white envelope obsolete. For mailing purposes *Just Out* will be folded once with the front page on the inside; the address label will be on the lower right corner of the back page.

- A New York City public school for lesbian and gay high school students has opened in New York's Greenwich Village. A teacher at the Harvey Milk School says that all of the students enrolled would be targets for abuse at regular public schools.

- Perennial political candidate Sherry Reynolds was arrested July 14 and lodged in jail on two counts of second-degree criminal mischief in connection with the painting of "Trust Jesus" slogans in the Portland Metropolitan area.

- City Nights, a group of gay men organized for the purpose of producing large events in Portland in order to raise funds for AIDS organizations, presents Megatone recording artist, Sylvester. Sylvester's best known hits include Band of Gold, Do You Wanna Funk, You Make Me Feel and Don't Stop. This downtown dance party will be held at the historic Erickson's Bar Saloon Building.

- The Portland Frontrunners, a local running group for gays and lesbians, have announced a special meeting for all women interested in joining the existing Frontrunner organization or establishing a co-existing women's group.

- The Primary Domain presents a special meeting of "The Talents" with Nan and Kath of Motherlode playing with Kate Sullivan and Jane Howard.

just out

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» ABOUT OUR COVER ARTIST

Image by STEVEE POSTMAN // stevee.com

Steve Postman's visionary art explores the mystery of life and nature through its interconnectedness by blending technology with the organic through a kind of alchemical techno-shaman offering. He creates his images by first taking initial photos, pulling imagery from sources both external and internal, mixing, layering, and transmogrifying with Photoshop wizardry. One of my best know projects, The Cosmic Tribe Tarot has developed a huge cult following.