

IF IT'S NOT IN *JUST OUT*...

Then we'll try harder to find it.



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BY MARTY DAVIS

Welcome to the first of *Just Out's* three Pride issues for 2011. This first issue is Pre-Pride, and then on June 17 we have Pride/Pride, followed in July by Post-Pride. Round about mid-July we get pretty darned Prided-out, and thus vow to spend August focusing our energies on complaining about the heat and bemoaning the lack of rain. We take no pride in this behavior, of course.

As you look through this pre-Pride coverage issue, you might raise a brow and ask curiously, "Where's the information about all the stuff going on at Waterfront Park?" That's a fine question. The answer is simple: "We don't know anything yet." As of June 2, nothing had been released to *Just Out* regarding community stage performers, confirmation of headliners and headliner schedules. We would've loved to have included a listing of the community stage performers, especially. This is usually the showcase for our local musicians, drag queens and entertainers of all persuasions. If we'd been able to ferret out who they are we'd have profiles in this issue. We would love to have been able to give you a performance and activity schedule so that you can plan your weekend accordingly. But we can't.

So that's the bad news. The good news? We don't give up easily and there's still time for us to get you all the information that you want and need. We're going to turn this into a Pride treasure hunt—giving ourselves high fives whenever we're able to unearth an item of significance. Our next

print issue is June 17; we will have everything for you then. Between now and then we have our daily, and quite excellent, publication at justout.com. *Just Out* also has a very active Facebook page; if you're not already "liked" in with us, I encourage you to do so. This is where we're able to be more interactive with our readers, chatting gaily away as the workday ticks down. Facebook is also where *Just Out* announces contests, prizes and where we give stuff away. Rumor has it we'll have some extra Britney Spears concert tickets on our hands soon. If you want a couple for yourself, head on over to Facebook and check us out.

It is the responsibility of *Just Out* to report to you, our readers, activities and events of importance to this community. We take our responsibilities seriously; we will get you Pride Waterfront Festival information. Remember, if it's not in *Just Out*, it's not happening. We will make Portland Pride happen.

In this space on May 20, I wrote of the 2012 Portland mayoral race and the lack of announced candidates. In the two weeks since, two folks have stepped up and announced their intentions to run for the seat. One candidate is former Portland City Commissioner Charles Hales, the other is Eileen Brady, usually described as co-founder of New Seasons Markets. How these two rate with LGBTQ equality issues is largely unknown at this time. New Seasons is, has been, an advertiser

in this publication, a fact that shall have no bearing on anything. I did notice that Brady chose to announce her candidacy on the same day that current Mayor Sam Adams voiced his support for adding trans-inclusive health care benefits, including "sexual reassignment surgery," to the plans offered to City of Portland employees. For now I'm going to conclude that this timing was simply coincidence. Why is this even worth mentioning? Because there was much negative reaction to Adams' proposal, especially among the folks who inhabit the dark sewer tunnels of newspaper website comment sections. Anyone announcing a run for mayor that day would have briefly pulled ahead of Adams in these dank public opinion vats. Should it come to light that Brady might have timed her announcement to capitalize on lack of public education and understanding of trans health issues, I will be disappointed. Likely though, we'll never know if it was coincidence or not.

I've run out of room before getting into the many questions and concerns being raised about terminology and word usage regarding Pride and Pride events. I've been recently involved in very active discussions about what to call Pride. It was Gay and Lesbian Pride 20 years ago. Gay Pride made people happy for many years; now, not so much. Gay isn't inclusive enough, apparently. Some want to call it Queer Pride—how about you, what do you think of that?

And then there's the Dyke March. Why does it still exist, why is it called that, are there still even dykes out there? What is a dyke anyway? These are questions being asked. Let's talk more next issue. ☪



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REFLECTIONS

- During a visit to the gay-community based Body Positive Centre, bisexual singer Elton John announced that he will donate all United Kingdom royalties from his future hit singles to HIV and AIDS charities.
- The Third National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights has been scheduled for April 1993. More than 650,000 people attended the second march in 1987. The first march was in 1979.
- Phoenix Rising became the fourth gay and lesbian counseling agency in the United States to be certified by any state for third party insurance reimbursement.
- Volunteers are needed to help organize the 1997 Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International Conference to be held in Portland. If you have skills in organization, accounting, fund raising, outreach, program planning, housing, conference registration, or childcare please call.
- In a formal reply to Congressman Gerry Studds, the Pentagon today defended its

policy of excluding gays from the military as reflecting "societal attitudes" about homosexuality. "There is a fundamental difference between this policy and the racial segregation that existed in the military before 1948. Racial discrimination is unlawful because it judges people based upon the color of their skin. Societal attitudes about homosexuals, however, derive from conduct that defines the class, not from a neutral characteristic such as skin color."

Cascade AIDS Project's major new campaign, "Keep It Up, Portland," is designed to head off a potential second wave of HIV among gay and bisexual men. The new "Keep It Up" campaign provides on-going support for gay and bisexual men to maintain safer sex practices.

The big event for June is, of course, The Lesbian and Gay Pride March and Rally. The theme this year is "Together in Pride." The parade will start in the North Park Blocks (Park and Eighth) at noon and travel up Broadway to the South Park Blocks at Portland State University. The Grand Marshals for this year are Donna RedWing and Scott Eckblad.

just out

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