

The Best of the Rest

Planning out a hectic Pride calendar

BY AMANDA SCHURR

When it comes to Pride, the question isn't so much "What are we going to do?" as it is "What *aren't* we going to do?" From sporting events to drag shows, retail therapy to pageants, concerts to comedy, there's nary a day—or night—without a handful of options for reveling, reflecting and just plain representin'.

Below, but a few ideas to keep your calendar overflowing with Pride. And, as always, visit justout.com daily—and pick up the June 17 issue—for more events of note.

Of chorus!

• Three of the state's most established and esteemed vocal ensembles present their seasonal concerts, beginning with a weekend of "Pride & Praise." **Confluence, the Willamette Valley LGBT Chorus**, performs "LGBT Pride music with a mixture of praise music" in Salem, Portland and Corvallis June 3-5. Tickets for each show are \$15, \$12 for students/seniors, though no one will be turned away for lack of funds.

Fri., June 3, 7:30 p.m.; First Congregational Church of Salem, 700 Marion St. NE, Salem; Sat., June 4, 7:30 p.m.; Bethlehem Lutheran

Church, 1244 NE Cesar E. Chavez Blvd., Portland; Sun., June 5, 4:30 p.m., Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Corvallis, 2945 NW Circle Blvd., Corvallis. Visit confluencechorus.org for more information.

• The sonic powerhouses of the **Portland Gay Symphonic Band and Portland Gay Men's Chorus** team up mid-month for their respective annual concerts—and for a very special collaboration. On Friday, June 17, the PGSB—a subgroup of the Rose City Gay Freedom Band, which celebrates its 20th anniversary this season—presents a "Testament of Freedom." The concert will feature the Portland Gay Men's Chorus performing Randall Thomas' titular work, along with the PGSB's Mary Ellen Grace performing Ingolf Dahl's "Concerto for Alto Saxophone and Winds." The next night, the PGMC is back with its own Pride offering, "Revolution!"—when the 130-voice-strong chorus will be joined by 2010 Tony Award-winner Levi Kreis (*Million Dollar Quartet*). Also on the program: Robert Seeley's *NakedMan*, a song cycle about the lives of gay men in the early 1980s (See *PrideFiles*, p. 28, for more with

guest choreographer Paul Scardina).

"Testament of Freedom," Fri., June 17, 7:30 p.m.; Newmark Theatre, 1111 SW Broadway Ave.; \$17-\$22; 503-248-4335 or rcgfb.org; "Revolution!" Sat., June 18, 7:30 p.m.; Arlene Schnitzer Concert Hall, 1037 SW Broadway Ave.; \$16-\$42; 503-226-2588 or pdxgmc.org.

• Late June brings the **Portland Lesbian Chorus' "American Woman: Celebrating Our Musical Roots."** The choir, accompanied by local musicians including a full bluegrass band, jazz combo and small singing ensembles, will showcase American songs from the past and present in genres spanning blues, jazz and pop.

Sat., June 25, 8 p.m.; Rose City Park United Methodist Church, 5830 NE Alameda St.; \$10 advance, \$12 at the door, \$2 off for students/seniors; tickets available via choir members, at the Flying Cat Coffee Company, 3041 SE Division St., or at the PLC Pride booth at Tom McCall Waterfront Park; plchoir.org.

Sports and such

• Whether you prefer the sidelines or the thick of action, June is positively jammin'



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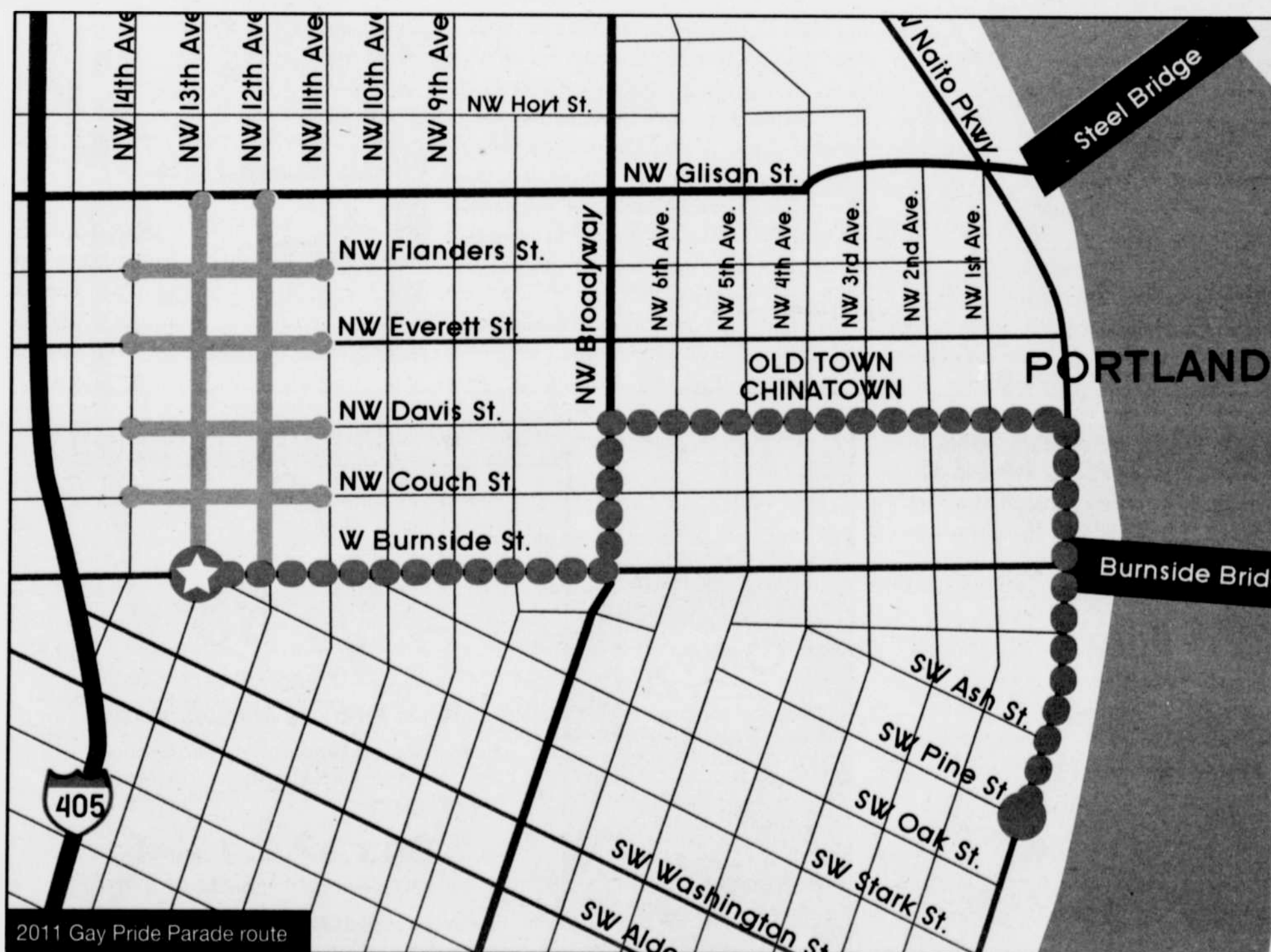
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2011 Gay Pride Parade route