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"Lots of love was shared and more than one tear as folks at Scandals PDX, CC Slaughters and Red Cap Garage joined," Sorensen says. "All this was done on donated time with donated talent. I am proud of the work that was done."

Larson, who spearheaded most of the attention last year when he devoted time on his program to discussing perceived negative effects on youth who might see the billboards, responded to the new campaign in a terse email reading simply, "Don't like it."

Like it or not, Pivot's new billboard campaign features 17 10-by-22-foot boards and one extra-large one. They are expected to be in place for a month.

For more information about Pivot, visit pivotpdx.org.

Paddle for Life Festival Races to Fight HIV/AIDS in SW Washington

Dragon boat enthusiasts, novices and ordinary philanthropic folk alike converge at Vancouver Lake Park Saturday, July 16 for the annual Paddle for Life Festival. Paddlers from corporate and community teams will compete on the water during the all-day event, which includes entertainment, food and lots of racing excitement. To boot, all of the money donated goes directly to Martha's Pantry in Southwest Washington to help those living with HIV/AIDS.

Paddle for Life is a nonprofit organization that helps raise money and awareness for community causes through the fast-growing sport of dragon boating. The organization started in California four years ago and has donated thousands of dollars to local charities.

Event director Jeff Campbell of Double Fifth Dragon Boating reported that the event is filling up fast. Registration for race participants ends Friday, July 1.

"All you need are 10 to 12 people who want to have a great day of fun and at the same time support a great cause," Campbell said via press release. "Anyone can participate; you don't have to be an athlete. We supply everything the team needs, from

equipment to instruction. You just add the people."

Boats were imported from China specifically for the Paddle for Life Festival, and are smaller than normal dragon boats, requiring only 10 paddlers as opposed to the traditional boats that need 22-24 paddlers.

"We are pleased to be working with Paddle for Life to start a local race and extend the sport of dragon boat racing to our community," Campbell said.

Those interested in participating in this unique benefit event need not be experts, and those who don't compete can still attend the festival, and donate to Martha's Pantry or give money to the cause online.

For more information on the Paddle for Life Festival, visit paddleforlife.org. The event takes place Saturday, July 16 beginning at 8 a.m. For more information about Martha's Pantry, visit marthaspantry.com.

In Other Words Downplays Closure Rumor, Opens New Lending Library

Despite reports to the contrary, Portland's In Other Words Feminist Community Center isn't going anywhere.

"The rumors about In Other Words' imminent closure are absolutely not true!" said IOW board treasurer Rose Krivulka. "Volunteers and the board are working together tirelessly to revolutionize the structure of the organization, and we will emerge stronger, healthier and more vibrant both financially and within the community as a result."

Part of this structural change, reported Krivulka, will include an innovative volunteer leadership program. Volunteers and the board are also working closely together to field applicants and are beginning to conduct interviews for the open interim executive director position.

"We are all excited about these changes and working hard to get things done," Krivulka said.

In the meantime, the center is gearing up for the grand opening of its Lending Library on Saturday, July 9 from noon to 6 p.m. (14 NE Killingsworth St.). The event will include several how-to workshops,



The Amazon Dragons paddle their way through the 2011 Gay Pride Parade.

MARTY DAVIS