

Not Afraid

Additional anti-gay attacks inspire emboldened response

BY ERIN ROOK

The recent upsurge in anti-gay attacks—three reported in just two months—is prompting efforts from the community as well as the city to let potential perpetrators know that such attacks will not be tolerated.

Jeffrey Carr and drag performer Bolivia Carmichaels announced on July 13 plans for a late-night march to show the city that Portland's LGBTQ community is not afraid.

"I think it's important that even though there are people who don't like who we are that we are proud of who we are," 33-year-old Carr said.

The march is tentatively scheduled for 11 p.m. on Saturday, July 23, pending approval by the city. The route, which Carr says will travel along the sidewalk rather than the street, will likely start at CC Slaughters, making a loop to pass by Hamburger Mary's, Casey's, Embers, Red Cap/Boxxes and Silverado before returning to Slaughters.

"We wanted to do it at night and on a Saturday when people would be out at the bars," Carr explained.

Carr said he got the idea for the march after hearing about the latest gay-bashing on the news Monday night, July 11.

An initiative proposed by Mayor Sam Adams at the July 12 Sexual Minorities Roundtable meeting is also targeting downtown bars, seeking to establish them as hate-free zones.

"One thing we've talked about... is to do more of a messaging campaign at the time that people enter a bar, regardless of whether it's a 'straight' bar or a 'gay' bar, that this is a hate-free zone in the city, and this neighborhood and these establishments are for everybody," Mayor Adams said. "We concede not one inch anywhere in this city to bigotry or hate or phobia. This city is for everybody."

Others at the round table, which meets the second Tuesday of every month at the

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Portland Police Bureau's Central Precinct, echoed the need for a public messaging campaign.

"Our messaging needs to be as high profile as a DUI ticket—'If you target someone, you *will* go to jail,'" said Cory Murphy, staff member for Pride NW. "We can't protect everybody... but we can let people know there will be consequences."

Murphy, who previously worked as a bouncer, also proposed that the OLCC training for private bar security include information on bias crimes so that bars can be truly safe spaces for victims.

Barbara McCullough-Jones, executive di-

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AFRAID**

A March To Support
Gay Bashing Victims

**C.C. SLAUGHTER'S
Saturday July 23, 2011
11 pm**

Join Portland's LGBTQ Community and
Show Your Support for the Victims and
Prove that We are Strong, Proud and Unafraid

Colorful Clothing Encouraged!

Contact Jeff Carr at
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for more details

rector of Q Center, said the organization plans to produce public service announcements this fall that target people both inside and outside of the LGBTQ community.

Mayor Adams also urged anyone with in-

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7pm Sunday, September 25, 2011