

Portland reign

The Imperial Sovereign Rose Court crowned its new monarchs during the Oct. 25 coronation in Portland.

The new monarchs are the Lapis and Onyx Emperor, Rose Emperor 24 Barry Burns, and the Lapis and Diamond Empress, Rose Empress 40 Tonya Rose.



Emperor Barry Burns (left) and Empress Tonya Rose

PHOTO BY MICHELLE HARRIS

Their reign shall be known as the "Seduction of the Rose," and they have announced that ISRC's 1998 coronation will be held Oct. 24 with the theme "Seasons of Love."

Tacoma gathering to address hate crimes

Combating hate crimes will be the focus of a Dec. 4 conference called "Hate Crimes...Facing the Challenges."

The event, sponsored by the Tacoma Human Rights Department, will feature Thomas Leyden, a former white supremacist activist and recruiter; William Hale, executive director of the Texas Commission on Human Rights; Eric Ward, associate director of the Northwest Coalition Against Malicious Harassment; and Wayne Inman, a former Portland assistant police chief.

The conference will be held at the Sheraton Tacoma Convention Center in Tacoma, Wash. For more information, call (253) 591-5151.

LaDuke to come to Portland

Native American activist Winona LaDuke is slated to speak at the Portland State University Smith Ballroom at 7 pm on Monday, Dec. 1. The suggested donation is \$5-\$20.

The event is designed as a benefit for the Native American Youth Association, a Portland-area program.

LaDuke is best known for speaking out about Native rights and environmental issues. She is the cofounder of the White Earth Recovery Project and the Indigenous Women's Network.

In 1996 LaDuke was Ralph Nader's vice presidential running mate. Also a writer, she will read from her new novel, *Last Standing Woman*, at 7 pm on Nov. 30 at Laughing Horse Books, 3652 SE Division St. For more information, call 234-2947.

Community Outreach Inc. gets kudos

The Corvallis-based Community Outreach Inc. received the 1997 Women in Leadership Award from the Pacific Northwest chapter of the U.S. Committee of UNIFEM, the United Nations Development Fund for Women, during an Oct. 16 ceremony.

The award recognizes the role Community Outreach plays in promoting the economic empowerment of women in Oregon.

Founded in 1971 as a grass-roots effort to address social issues in the mid-Willamette Valley, Community Outreach advances the status of women, children, families and the community at large.

UNIFEM, created in 1976 by the U.N. General Assembly, works to promote the political and economic empowerment of women and acts as a

catalyst within the U.N. system to link the needs of women to all critical issues on the national, regional and global agenda.

Community Outreach programs recognized by the UNIFEM award include Lesbian Health Matters, Phoenix Transitional Services and the agency's emergency shelter and transitional housing program.

The Lesbian Health Matters project has featured workshops and lesbian-positive women health care providers who give free exams, and is open to lesbians regardless of their income level or insurance status.

As part of the project, a free 28-page health resource booklet was published and distributed statewide by Community Outreach.

Grant boosts HIV Center

Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon's HIV Center recently received a Ryan White Title I grant from Multnomah County, which will bolster the center's mental health and chemical dependency services.

The capacity building grant, which includes funds for a computer system and database management upgrade, exceeds \$12,000.

The HIV Center is collaborating with Network Behavioral HealthCare Inc. to offer increased mental health and chemical dependency support groups.

David Leslie, EMO's executive director, says, "The HIV Center has a history of serving the underserved. With this grant we'll be able to increase our capacity to serve the growing needs of the community."

The HIV Center opened in 1990 as the first religiously operated HIV/AIDS center in the country to provide nutritional support and social activities.

Multnomah County Health Department's HIV Educational Services awarded a total of \$90,000 to improve the quality, availability and organization of health care and support services for people living with HIV/AIDS and their families. For more information about support groups, call 223-3444.

Pitch in for Women's Day

Portland's 23rd International Women's Day celebration will take place March 8, 1998, at Montgomery Park in Northwest Portland.

The nonprofit, all-volunteer International Women's Day Committee is seeking members from all communities and cultures to participate in the planning process.

For more information, call 650-7189.

Compiled by Inga Sorensen

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by David Hare

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