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LOCAL news



COME OUT FOR NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY

Portland State University's Lesbian, Gay and Bi Alliance and Pride Northwest, organizer of Portland's annual pride festivities, are co-sponsoring a National Coming Out Day celebration in Portland.

National Coming Out Day is a decade-old, countrywide tradition promoted by the Human Rights Campaign. The event is designed in part to encourage people to share their coming out stories and in turn help educate the public.

The Portland lineup of activities includes an Oct. 9 noontime rally at Pioneer Courthouse Square. Speakers will share the history of coming out during each decade since the 1940s. They will represent bisexual, transsexual and transgendered people, as well as gay men and lesbians. Music will be provided by Three on the Tree, an acoustic jazz trio.

On Oct. 11, a resource fair and all-ages entertainment show will be held at Harrison Hall on the PSU campus starting at 5 p.m. Harrison Hall is located at Southwest 10th Avenue and Harrison Street. An evening performance, which kicks off at 7 p.m., will include dancing, skits, comedy and music.

All of the events are free and open to the public. A donation of canned food or a contribution is requested on Oct. 11 to benefit Esther's Pantry, a community organization serving people living with AIDS.

For more information, call the Pride Northwest Hotline at 295-9788, or visit gaypx.com/pride on the World Wide Web.

GATHERING TACKLES VIOLENCE ISSUES

The seventh annual Domestic and Sexual Violence Institute, a full day of workshops addressing issues related to domestic and sexual violence, is slated for Oct. 17.

The institute, which will be held at Portland State University in downtown Portland, represents the combined efforts of more than a dozen organizations that are working to end domestic and sexual violence.

This year's theme is "Community Response to Domestic Violence." The gathering aims to provide tools and resources for educators, social service providers, drug and alcohol intervention staff, activists, counselors and anti-poverty workers.

Sponsors include Bradley-Angle House, Council for Prostitution Alternatives, El Programa Hispano, and Sisters in Portland Impacting Real Issues Together.

The institute will be held from 8 a.m. to

5 p.m. There is a sliding-scale fee from \$45 to \$95. Lunch, free child care and limited scholarships are available. The site is wheelchair accessible. To register, call 203-5435.

LAW STUDENTS NAB SCHOLARSHIPS

The Bill and Ann Shepherd Scholarship Fund of Equity Foundation has named its 1998 recipients. The three \$2,500 winners are Joel Corcoran from the University of Oregon School of Law, and Julene Anderson and Raymond Crutchley, both of whom attend the Northwestern School of Law of Lewis & Clark College.

The scholarship was created in honor of Bill and Ann Shepherd for their vision and leadership in founding Portland's chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays in 1976. The fund in their honor was established as an ongoing gift to the community by the late Jeff Rose when he stepped down as Mr. Portland Leather 1993.

Scholarship winners must be third-year law students who pledge commitment to work for civil rights and justice for gay men and lesbians in Oregon upon graduation and passing the Oregon State Bar exam. Funds are managed by the Portland-based Equity Foundation, a charitable organization that manages several other scholarships serving the sexual minorities community.

MHRC DINNER AROUND THE CORNER

The Metropolitan Human Rights Center Award Dinner is slated for Oct. 21 from 6:30 to 9 p.m.

Each year, MHRC recognizes individuals and organizations with several awards, including its Russell A. Peyton Award, whose recipient is honored for outstanding service and commitment to protecting the human rights of all persons within the city of Portland and Multnomah County.

The dinner will be held at Beaumont Middle School in Northeast Portland. Tickets cost \$12. To make reservations, call MHRC at 823-5136.

DEADLINE FOR NEXT PWCL TRAINING

The Portland Women's Crisis Line has openings for its November training for volunteer crisis intervention counselors.

In order to qualify, volunteers must be female, at least 16 years of age and committed to ending domestic and sexual violence. The volunteer training is 46 hours, spread out over three weeks.

Women who complete the training are asked to commit to working with the crisis line 24 hours per month for at least six months.

For further information and an application, contact Renée Sanchez at 232-9545. The deadline for applications is Oct. 15. Practicum students are encouraged to apply; credit is available.

The Portland Women's Crisis Line is a non-profit, tax-exempt organization funded in part by the United Way.

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