

**LOCAL news**

**SPIRIT RECOGNIZES EMERGING LEADERS**

The women's organization Sisters in Portland Impacting Real Issues Together celebrated the accomplishments of its youth leadership development group, Girls in Action for Power, during a Dec. 1 celebration at Lutheran Inner City Ministries in Portland.

Since the group's establishment two years ago, GAP participants have, among other activities, launched safety campaigns aimed at Portland Public Schools and public transportation.

GAP's leadership model is a multicomponent program that takes participants through a series of trainings on public speaking, self-defense, political analysis, fund raising and negotiation. Many GAP girls graduate from the yearlong program with new options and skills that better prepare them to move into higher education and professional careers.

The GAP program has garnered attention from the Ms. Foundation for Women,

a national funding source promoting women and girls, as well as from the Hitachi Foundation, which has honored a GAP member with an award for exemplary community service.

SPIRIT is an intergenerational and multiracial organization dedicated to strengthening low-income communities and communities of color in Portland by developing and expanding the leadership role of women and girls. To learn more, call 283-5340.

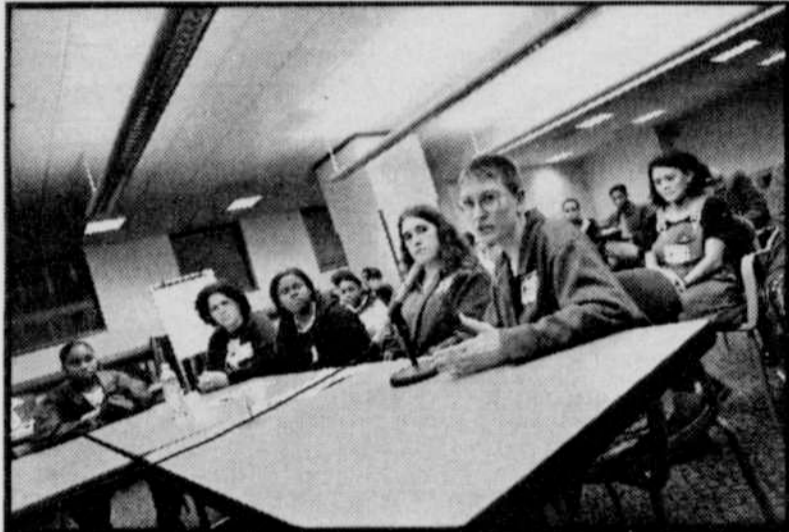


PHOTO BY LINDA KLEWER

Young SPIRIT members spoke about safety issues at a Tri-Met board meeting in February

**FREE CHINESE HERBAL CONSULTATIONS AVAILABLE**

The Division Street Holistic Health Center is offering free traditional Chinese herbal consultations until New Year's Day. No appointment is necessary; walk-ins are accepted Monday through Friday from 3 to 6 p.m.

The center is located at 4836 S.E. Division St. in Portland. For more information, call 234-4789.

**SISTERS OF THE ROAD KICKS OFF CHALLENGE**

With a beginning pool of nearly \$16,000, Sisters of the Road Cafe is aiming to raise \$32,000 by Dec. 31.

Sisters of the Road Cafe is a nonprofit eatery in Portland's Old Town neighborhood. The organization, established in 1979, seeks to be a safe public space for everyone and to provide affordable meals as well as job training to local residents.



Meals can be purchased at little cost, or people can work for their meals. The restaurant and its programs "are vehicles for creating community...and giving people the opportunity to see that they still have choices in their life."

Sisters of the Road Cafe is open Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. It is located at 133 N.W. Sixth Ave. To partake in the matching grant challenge or learn more about Sisters of the Road Cafe, call 222-5694



**FREE TREES FOR PEOPLE LIVING WITH AIDS**

Unable to afford a Christmas tree this year? A free tree giveaway for people living with AIDS has been organized by Robin Chavis with the assistance of local tree growers.

The goal is to provide Christmas trees to those unable to afford them or too sick to obtain a tree on their own. For more information, call Chavis at 281-2841.

**LESBIAN COMMUNITY PROJECT NEEDS NEW DIGS**

The Lesbian Community Project, currently situated in the basement of a member's home, is seeking an affordable and accessible office space.

The Portland-based LCP, which is more than a decade old, is a multi-issue group that in part advocates for lesbian issues.

Anyone who knows of a potential space, or would like to assist in finding LCP a new home, is asked to call Deke Law at 282-8090.

Compiled by INGA SORENSEN

**Unlucky at love? Lucky at love?**

Got a cool story about how you and your beloved met?

How about a dating horror tale?

Any thoughts on how to keep the sauce in your relationship?

Say yes to any of these, and we want to hear from you for an upcoming story we're working on. Give *Just Out* News Editor Inga Sorensen a buzz ASAP at 236-1252, ext. 26.

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