

CASCADE AIDS PROJECT HAS NEW PRESIDENT

Cascade AIDS Project, the leading provider of services and education to people with HIV and AIDS in Oregon and southwest Washington, recently announced the election of new board officers.

Craig Hartzman, vice president of C.E. John Co. Inc., was named president for the new fiscal year. His company is an international wine and spirit importer and distributor throughout Europe and northern Africa.

Hartzman is a former personal assistant to California Gov. George Deukmejian and served as his assistant for international visitors and delegations on the state's World Trade Commission. He also serves on the Human Rights Campaign board, on the Congregation Beth Israel development committee and as honorary chair for Big Brothers/Big Sisters in Southwest Washington.



Craig Hartzman

Also elected were vice president Thom Walters, secretary Billi Odegaard and treasurer Susan Marks.

"CAP's board today is stronger and more diverse, resourceful and savvy than at any time in the organization's history," executive director Thomas Bruner said. "This is a board that any not-for-profit organization would be proud to have."

With offices in Portland, Hillsboro and Vancouver, CAP reached almost 2,000 families affected by HIV and educated more than 32,000 youths and adults last year. It employs 43 staff members, has more than 800 volunteers and operates with a \$3.6 million annual budget.

Also elected to CAP's board were Kathleen Dotten, Yvonne Deckard, Larry Huss, Paul King, David Martinez, Laura Rose-Lewis, Kathryn Vaughan and Tiffany Wiederhorn. Returning board members are Sam Adams, Tony Dahl, Bill Halleran and Walter Pollock.

Across the country, women, people of color, teen-agers and heterosexual IV drug users now join gay and bisexual men as being at disproportionately high risk of HIV infection. CAP says almost 5,000 families in Oregon and southwest Washington have had a loved one diagnosed with AIDS. Another 5,000 to 10,000 families are thought to have a member infected with HIV.

MULTNOMAH COUNTY PASSES ORDINANCE

As expected, Multnomah County's commissioners unanimously approved a proposal for a domestic partnership registry July 27. The vote was the final step in putting the ordinance on the books.

The registry will take effect by Sept. 1, after a mandatory 30-day waiting period. Multnomah County will join Ashland as the only municipalities in Oregon to offer a registry for domestic partners—including same-sex couples.

Lou Beres, Oregon Christian Coalition executive director, was one of four speakers who urged the commissioners to reject the idea. The men espoused that the registry would weaken the meaning of marriage and undermine families. Government has the responsibility to uphold the traditions of Judeo-Christian beliefs, one said.

But Commissioner Lisa Naito said the issue of the registry and the testimony she heard bring the issue of separation of church and state to the forefront. "I cast today's vote as a celebration of a step forward," she said.

Commissioner Serena Cruz, one of the primary sponsors of the proposal, gave an impassioned speech before casting her vote. She said stopping discrimination does not undermine families but actually promotes family values.

"What we are saying is that government shouldn't discriminate," Cruz said. "It's discrimination in our communities that holds us back."

The registry will be launched formally with a celebration in September, organizers say. Details have not yet been released.

KGW LISTENS, BUT NO CHANGE ANNOUNCED

KGW-TV representatives met recently with several leaders in the gay and lesbian community to discuss Dr. Laura Schlessinger's upcoming talk show.

Bonnie Tinker, Love Makes a Family executive director, attended and voiced her concerns about the controversial host. She said the group is united in its opposition to the show, scheduled to debut Sept. 11.

KGW has received an increasing number of requests to pull Dr. Laura during the past few weeks, Tinker said. She said the station will investigate its legal options to cancel the contract it signed a year ago. According to Tinker, KGW officials told those who attended the meeting they were unaware of Schlessinger's

anti-gay rhetoric when they agreed to air the show.

The national grassroots organization StopDrLaura.com has called for advertisers to yank their support of her popular radio show and upcoming television program. Major efforts have been launched throughout the country to protest both shows and persuade sponsors to pull out.

Robin Tyler, one of the founding members of the national campaign, said no one has stepped forward in Portland to orchestrate a protest. She said it is one of the last remaining major cities in the country to not have an organized effort.

But Tinker said although Portland might not have one person orchestrating the campaign to pull Schlessinger from the airwaves, it has an entire group of people committed to a potential protest. She said a demonstration definitely will be staged if the show airs as scheduled.

"We can't afford to not take notice," Tinker said. She thinks a demonstration might provide an additional public education opportunity to help defeat the Oregon Citizens Alliance's Student Protection Act.

KEX-AM airs Schlessinger's radio show. The station's personnel told KGW they haven't received calls objecting to the content.

■ To share your opinions with KEX, direct your messages to general manager Ron Saito at www.1190kex.com/email.html. Contact Tinker at lmfamily@teleport.com.

KGW can be reached at programming@kgw.com. To contact the station's owner, send e-mail to blc@belo.com.

Reported by Jonathan Kipp



Bonnie Tinker

risks and patterns of disease transmission unique to the populations. They also raise awareness and knowledge of health care issues specific to various populations so quality of care can be improved.

"The lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered handbook focuses on a segment of our membership and population that often is invisible to many, which increases the possibility that some of their health care needs may go unmet," says Dr. Tom Janisse, Kaiser Permanente assistant regional medical director and Northwest Diversity Council co-chair. "By giving our care providers valuable information, the handbook will enhance the quality of the total care experience."

Reported by Jim Radosta

LET YOUR FINGERS DO THE WALKING

The Phoenix Rising Foundation just published a comprehensive resource directory for lesbian, gay, bisexual and trans-identified senior citizens. The booklet includes listings for financial, legal, health care and funeral services, among other resources specific to seniors.

Phoenix Rising, a nonprofit social service agency, received grants from both a private donor and the Equity Foundation to create the directory. It was compiled by a senior subcommittee on the board of directors and an intern.

The foundation printed 2,500 resource guides. Copies may be obtained by calling (503) 238-0769, ext. 137, or sending e-mail to phoenix@nbhc.org.

Reported by Katy Davidson



HAIL TO THE CHIEF

Police Chief Mark Kroeker will be the featured speaker during the Portland Area Business Association's next monthly meeting. "I want to continue strengthening the already strong relationship the city and the police bureau have with Portland's gay community," he said.

The luncheon will be held from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Aug. 14 at the Marriott Hotel Downtown, 1401 S.W. Naito Parkway. Reservations can be made through Aug. 9 by calling (503) 241-2222 or visiting www.paba.com.

Reported by Marty Davis

KAISER PERMANENTE PRESCRIBES SENSITIVITY

Kaiser Permanente's National Diversity Council has issued a new handbook to help its health care staff provide more sensitive care for lesbian, gay, bi and trans patients.

The 76-page publication is the fourth in a series addressing the importance of understanding different communities when delivering health care. Similar handbooks have focused on Latinos, African Americans, and Asians and Pacific Islanders.

The publications provide practical information on the demographics, beliefs, behaviors,

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