

crimination based on race, religion, national origin, gender, familial status, disability, source of income and marital status. Residents of several Oregon cities also are protected from discrimination based on sexual orientation and age. The nonprofit organization educates housing providers, tenants, social service groups and local governments about fair housing rights and responsibilities and responds to complaints from individuals who think they have been discriminated against.

The luncheon, which costs \$25, will feature Mexican folk singer Candelario Zamudio and Rattling Thunder, an award-winning Native American dance theater. The young winners of the third annual Fair Housing Poster Contest also will be announced.

For registration information call Diane Hess at 503-412-6000.

GROUP READY TO MEET LEGISLATORS

The Oregon Gay and Lesbian Law Association will play host to a "meet and greet" reception for the sexual minorities community and state legislators from 4 to 6 p.m. April 11 at Willamette University's Alumni Lounge in Salem. The organization is seeking other groups to serve as co-sponsors and send representatives to the event.

Legislators and their aides will be invited to the informal reception. The intention is to introduce the community members to the politicians, putting a face to all of the names they might hear or read about, not to lobby.

Organizers say even if some legislators do not attend, at the very least they will learn of

"unfaithful to the teachings of Jesus, inconsistent with Christian theology, inappropriate to the United Methodist policy and dysfunctional in our practices as Christian disciples."

The group, part of the national Reconciling Ministries Network, is made up of laypeople and clergy in Washington and northern Idaho. Oregon's United Methodists are in a separate district with southern Idaho.

In a policy statement released March 27, the network made a sweeping denouncement of the general conference's anti-gay legislation. The conference sets the rules and "positions of principle" for the national church.

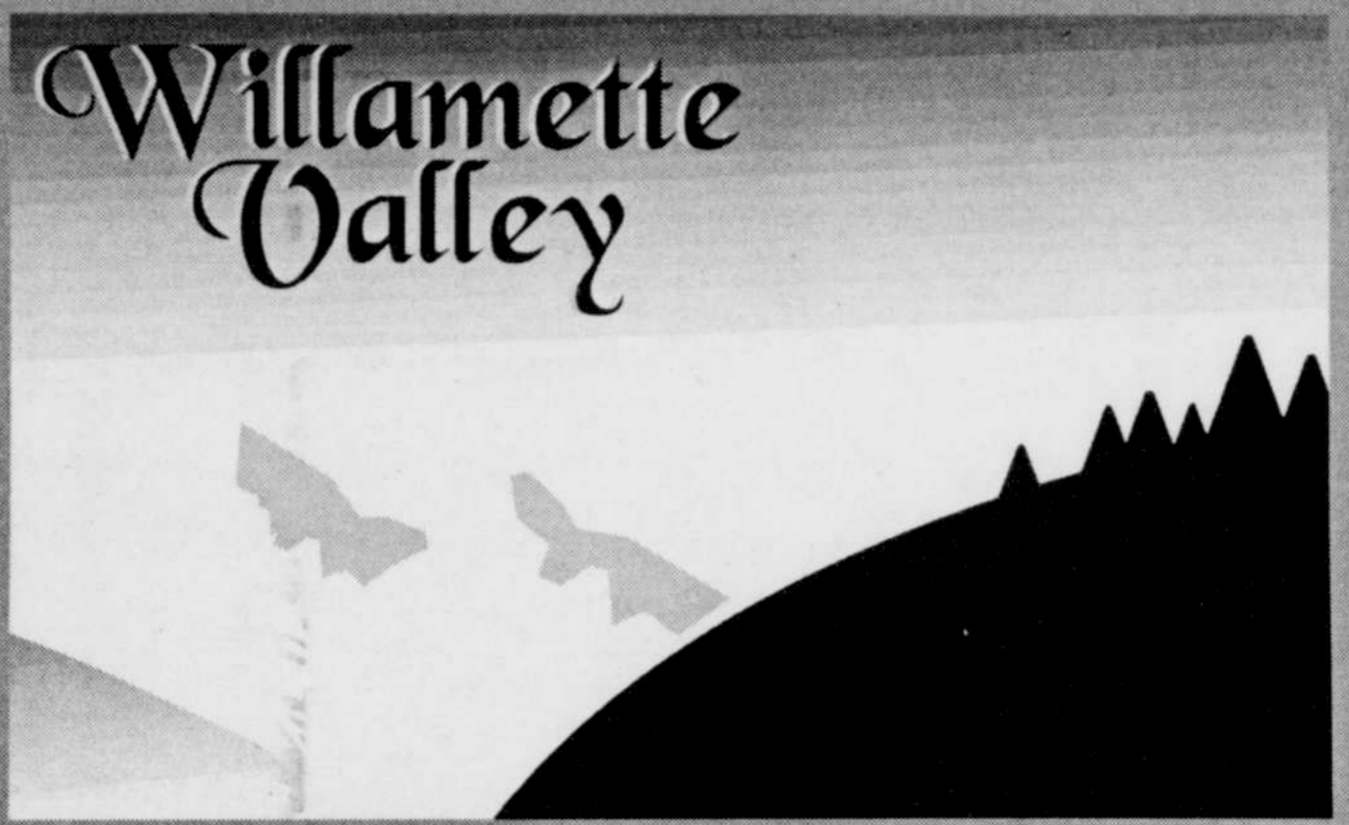
Critics say the conference recently stepped up its 30-year campaign against homosexuality. The church has declared, "We do not condone the practice of homosexuality and consider its practice incompatible with Christian teaching," according to the advocacy group.

The network took historic action when it released a detailed position paper outlining the misconceptions about homosexuality that it claims led the conference "to theological heresy, moral sin and ecclesiastical apostasy."

For more information call David Sutton or the Rev. Paul Beeman at 206-870-2077 or send e-mail to paulbeeman@aol.com.

SEATTLE FOUNDATION AWARDS GRANTS TO OREGON GROUPS

The Pride Foundation, which works to strengthen the sexual minorities community, recently awarded grants to two Oregon organizations. The group funds a wide range of projects



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The Oregon Gay and Lesbian Law Association will meet and greet legislators during a reception April 11 in Salem

the group's existence. Refreshments will be served.

For more information call George Eighmey at 503-525-1956 or send e-mail to geighmey@aol.com.

ADVOCACY GROUP ACCUSES CHURCH OF HERESY

The Reconciling Ministries Network of the Pacific Northwest, which is committed to welcoming sexual minorities into full and equal participation in the United Methodist Church, has accused its church of heresy. It says the church's general conference legislation is

primarily in Washington state and extending to Oregon, Montana, Idaho and Alaska.

The Lifeline AIDS Project in Salem received \$4,500 to support school and holiday food and gift giving to about 260 people whose lives have been affected by HIV/AIDS. They live in Marion, Polk, Lincoln and Yamhill counties.

A \$2,000 grant went to Valley AIDS Information Network Inc. for operating expenses. The all-volunteer Corvallis agency serves rural Linn and Benton counties.

The network has the only 24-hour AIDS, STD and hepatitis hot line in the state, according to the foundation. Last year, the group reached more than 4,300 people.

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