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CH-CH-CHANGES

Gary Coleman has been named co-chairman of the Creating Change 2002 Host Committee, which is helping organize the largest annual conference for the sexual minorities community. The gathering is scheduled for Nov. 6 to 10 at the DoubleTree Jantzen Beach.

The next host committee meeting will be held from 7 to 8 p.m. Aug. 21 in the first floor conference room at 123 N.E. Third Ave. Newcomers should arrive 15 minutes early to catch up on what's been happening so far.

Coleman replaces trans activist Lori Buckwalter, executive director of It's Time, Oregon! He will be responsible for overseeing programming, hospitality, accessibility and communication.

For more information call 503-282-1542 or e-mail creatingchange02@yahoo.com.

FUND-RAISER FIGHTS BREAST CANCER

A fund-raising effort was announced July 27 in conjunction with the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation Portland Race for the Cure, which will be held Sept. 15 at Waterfront Park.

From Sept. 1 through race day, \$1 will be donated for every 10 Yoplait yogurt cups purchased with a Safeway Club Card in Portland-area stores, up to \$10,000. The sponsors will donate \$1.50 for every 15 cups purchased.

For more information call 503-553-3680, e-mail racecure@komenoregon.org or visit www.raceforthecure-pdx.org.

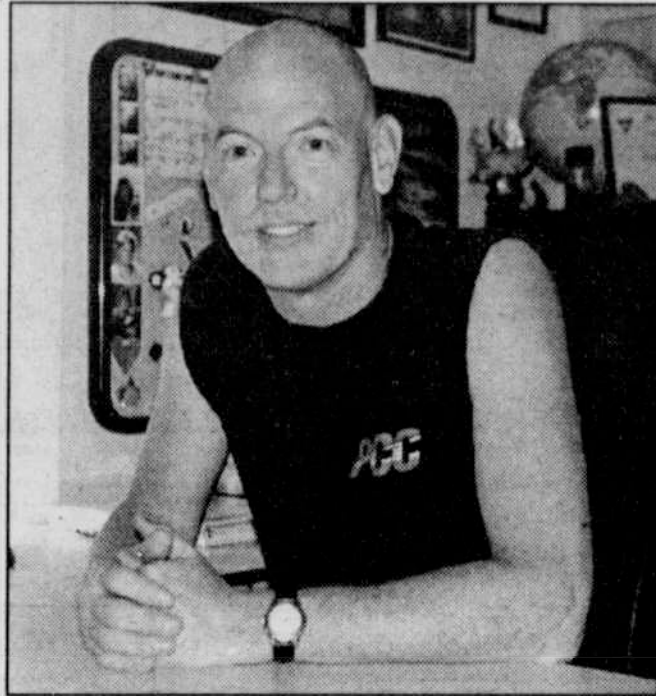


PHOTO BY MARY DAVIS

Gary Coleman brings more than 20 years of experience in gay community work to the Creating Change 2002 Host Committee

West Trailhead. Take Interstate 84 to Exit 64 at Hood River and follow the signs.

To register or for more information call 503-283-8535.

CENTER PRESENTS HEALING RETREAT

Project Quest Integrative Health Center will present "Living Fully: A Healing Retreat for Those Affected by Life-Challenging Illnesses" from Sept. 12 to 15 at Breitenbush Hot Springs in Detroit. The eighth annual gathering will focus on cancer, HIV and AIDS.

Participants will have the chance to explore healing options, meet practitioners, learn techniques, make new friends, relax and renew in a natural setting of old-growth trees, rustic cabins and nutritious food. They also can enliven their mind and body with sessions of acupuncture, massage, Reiki, hydrotherapy and more.

The \$325 fee includes meals, housing, individual healing treatments and workshops. A limited number of scholarships are awarded based on need and qualifications.

To register call 503-493-0288 or visit www.projectquest.org.

FOUNDATION ANNOUNCES \$7,000 GRANT

The Portland General Electric Foundation announced July 18 a \$7,000 grant for the HIV Day Center of Ecumenical Ministries of Oregon, which helps provide recreational and art therapy, meals and other mental health services to individuals living with HIV and AIDS.

Since its inception five years ago, the foundation has awarded nearly \$7 million to nonprofits statewide. This year's grants total almost \$700,000 to date.

SHEPHERD HOME FROM HOSPITAL

FLAG pioneer Ann Shepherd was sent home from Providence Portland Medical Center's intensive care unit July 17 after undergoing carotid artery surgery. Her daughter Susie called it "an amazing turn of events."

"Mother has decided against having the open heart surgery," Shepherd's daughter Jean wrote in an e-mail to family and friends. "I could add 'for now,' but my deeper sense is that it won't be happening. She is tired of hospitals, tired of procedures great and small, tired of doctor appointments, bored and frustrated."

Despite the successful heart procedure, the daughters said Shepherd continues to suffer from the memory loss that comes with old age. For example, she could recall that the staples on her neck needed to be removed but forgot why they were there in the first place.

Susie said she is thankful for all of the prayers, messages and visits that the family has received since last month. She added that her mother just ordered a year's supply of her favorite Oregon Italian prunes, "which means she 'must plan on sticking around for a while.'"

In the 1970s Shepherd and her husband, Bill, co-founded the Portland chapter of Friends of Gays, which eventually affiliated with the national Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. He died of leukemia in 1995. □

Compiled by JIM RADOSTA

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