



Georgena's Journey volunteers organize a rummage sale Oct. 19 at Trinity United Methodist Church

roundtable; and raise the level of real and perceived safety of at-risk youth.

Webster admitted that all of the conflicts between street youth and police cannot be solved in one afternoon. "What we do expect," he said, "is a trend of incremental improvements in the relationship between these kids and law enforcement and an increase in the safety of the most vulnerable [members] of our community."

For more information call 503-823-0546.

RUMMAGE SALE RAISES \$3,500

Georgena's Journey is a third of the way to its goal.

The basement of Trinity United Methodist Church was filled Oct. 19 with row after row of tables piled high with mounds of donated clothes, books, knickknacks, sporting goods, dishes and nearly everything else imaginable. And when the final shopper was gone—when the last "half-price after 3 p.m." sign laid trampled on the floor and weary volunteers were finally able to take a breath—more than \$3,500 had been raised for Portland resident Georgena Moran, who has been diagnosed with a rapidly progressive form of multiple sclerosis.

These efforts, combined with past fundraisers, now bring the fund to a total of \$59,600. Volunteers are working diligently to raise \$150,000 to cover medical expenses associated with experimental stem-cell therapy needed by Moran.

Organizers originally set September as their deadline. However, they since have learned that the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center has postponed the study for six to eight months, delaying possible treatment until spring 2003. This is disappointing to Moran, who stated in a Sept. 24 letter to friends and family, "With each passing month I am losing strength, manual dexterity and my ability to walk even short distances."

With amazing spirit and grace, she waits patiently. "What's next? It's hard to predict. I do believe I will be ready for whatever comes my way. What I do know for sure is that whatever happens to my body and mind, my heart and spirit are growing to accommodate whatever my needs may be. Thank you for your love and presence in my life. All is possible from here."

The tireless friends of Georgena's Journey,

buoyed by the past success of similar events, have scheduled their next fund-raiser for Dec. 7, when they'll hold a silent auction. Organizers are hoping the holiday season brings donations and goodwill to their cause.

To make a donation contact Anne Bletcher at 503-281-6451 or anelectric@aol.com. For updates on all activities visit www.georgenasjourney.org.

TOBACCO RESEARCHER COMES TO PORTLAND

Anne Landman, a national expert on tobacco industry documents who uncovered secret tactics to target gay men and lesbians, will speak from 1 to 4 p.m. Nov. 6 at Portland Community College's Central Portland Workforce Training Center, 1626 S.E. Water Ave. Her presentation is free and open to the public.

Oregonians smoke at a rate of 21 percent. Limited available studies indicate gay men and lesbians smoke at rates ranging from 37 percent to 47 percent.

OSU GRIDIRON GRAD COMES OUT

Former National Football League player Esera Tuaolo, a graduate of Oregon State University, came out of the closet during an interview Oct. 29 on HBO's *Real Sports*.

The defensive tackle grew up in Hawaii and graduated from high school in Chino, Calif. He was a second-round draft pick in 1990 and played for the Minnesota Vikings, Green Bay Packers, Carolina Panthers and Atlanta Falcons, with whom he went to Super Bowl XXXIII in 1999 before retiring.

Tuaolo said he quit partially because of the pressure of staying in the closet. According to the *New York Post*, his teammates often told gay jokes in the locker room, making "me go further and further into depression, further and further into shame."



Esera Tuaolo

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