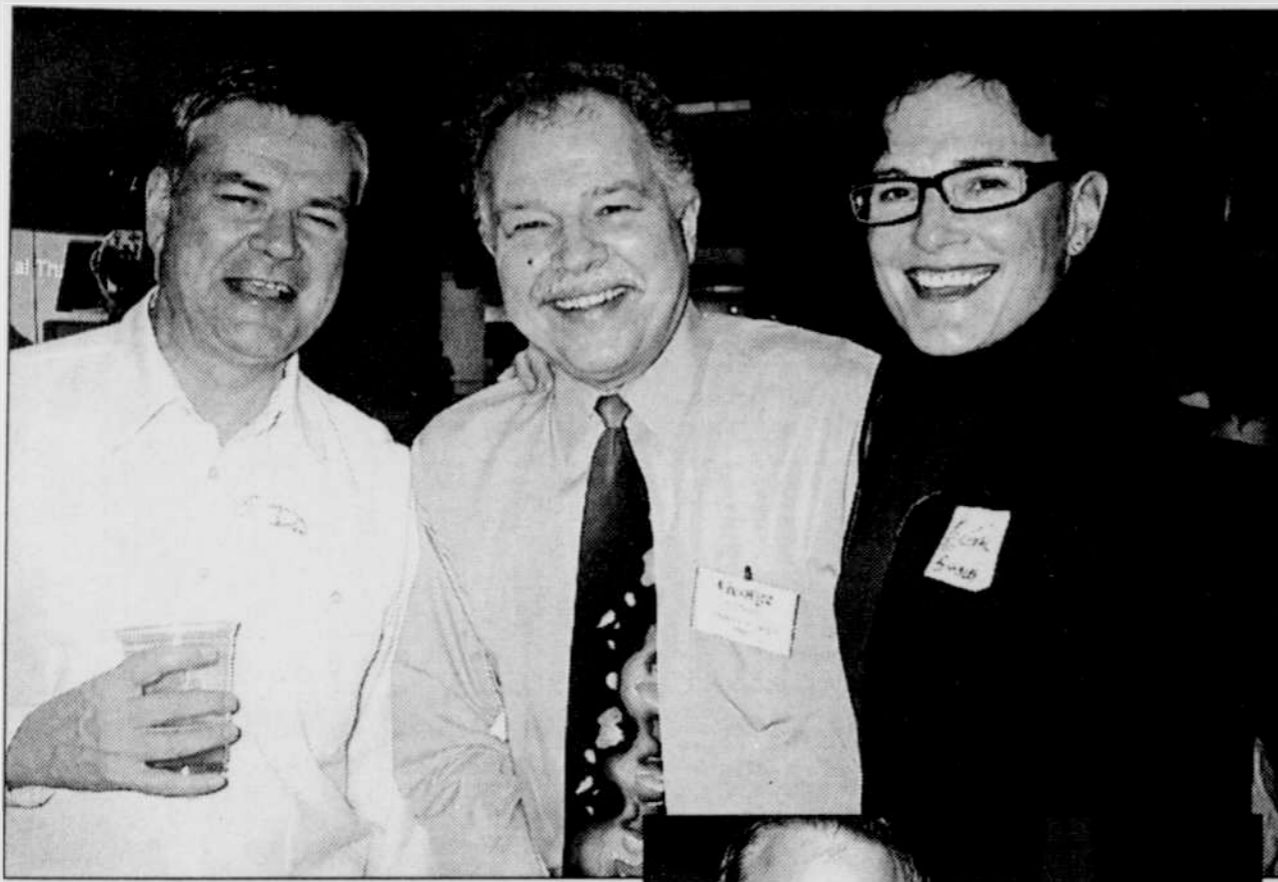


NORTHWEST newsbriefs



From left, longtime gay activist Don Powell poses with Oregon's first openly gay legislators, former state Reps. George Eighmey and Gail Shibley, during the Investments in Dignity Awards on Feb. 19; inset, Gwenn Baldwin congratulates honoree Terry Bean



PHOTOS BY MARIY DAVIS

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Theatre, BroadArts Theatre, Kwamba Productions, Portland Gay Men's Chorus, Portland Taiko and Rock 'n' Roll Camp for Girls.

- **Health Services:** Cascade AIDS Project, Compassion in Dying of Oregon, Elder Resource Alliance, Friends of People with AIDS Foundation, National Kidney Foundation, Sable House and Sisters of the Road Café.

- **Human Dignity:** Basic Rights Education Fund, Human Dignity Coalition, Human Rights Advocates of Coos County, Love Makes a Family, Portland Community College Foundation and Sexual Minority Youth Resource Center.

- **Youth and Family Services:** Big Brothers Big Sisters of Metropolitan Portland, For Us Northwest, Girls Initiative Network, Kinship House, Haven Project, White Bird, YWCA and Sexual Minority Youth Task Force.

Equity also presented grants to five programs in Lane County: Encore Theatre, HIV Alliance, LEAD Teen program, Soromundi and University of Oregon Cultural Forum. Four programs received Safe Schools Initiative grants for the second year of a three-year commitment: Oregon Safe Schools and Communities Coalition, Springfield Alliance for Equality and Respect, Madison High School Gay Straight Alliance and Salem Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays.

"The Investments in Dignity event was a wonderful opportunity to connect grantees, donors and other friends of Equity to celebrate the incredible work these organizations are doing to provide support service, education and opportunities to celebrate diversity and promote understanding," executive director Linda Traeger said. "Equity Foundation's work is important because these grants help organizations throughout the state reach into their communities and influence perspectives at the individual level."

In addition, Equity recognized attorney and founding board member Karen Keeney as well as real estate entrepreneur and national Democratic Party strategist and philanthropist Terry Bean for their significant contributions to the community.

WOMEN'S FORUM DISCUSSES SECURITY

The Lesbian Community Project will co-sponsor a broad-based discussion on the topic of security from women's perspectives 7 p.m. March 12 at Ainsworth United Church of Christ, 2941 N.E. Ainsworth St.

The "Women Define Security" forum will feature a panel including Jackie Cabasso, Western States Legal Foundation executive director; former state Rep. Jo Ann Bowman, D-Portland; and activists representing diverse cultural and economic views. Longtime lesbian leader Kathleen Saadat will moderate.

Discussion with the audience in a "fishbowl" format will follow the panel presentation. This process allows people to express views not often heard in a comfortable setting, maintains the focus and ensures respect for all opinions.

Organizers hope to produce a written record of the proceedings to share with decision-makers at all levels of governance. The forum is free, but donations are welcome.

For more information call 503-227-0605 or 503-224-5190.

GET VACCINATED ON ST. PATRICK'S DAY

Gay and bi men can get free hepatitis A and B vaccinations this month as part of a "community clinic" project to educate them about immunization against the preventable disease and to promote the role of pharmacies in administering the vaccine to high-risk people.

The vaccinations will be offered out of vans that will be parked March 17 on Stark Street and March 20 in Old Town. The project is a collaboration among Multnomah and Washington County Health Departments, the Oregon Department of Human Services, Safeway and Fred Meyer.

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