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• diversity of feminist perspective.
• education for empowerment.
• social change through grassroots activism.
• connecting feminism to all movements for justice.

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From left, Jesse Jordan, Smokey Satterlee, Pam Monette, Sarazan Torelli and Brooke Winter organize Women in the Woods.

Unstructured Getaway Under Way

Women in the Woods is celebrating 10 years of venturing out to Breitenbush Hot Springs for a few days of relaxation, discussion, friendship and fun. The event credits itself with bringing lesbians of diverse geographic, cultural and economic backgrounds together for earth-centered nurturing and self-healing.

Event organizers call their adventure a week of "unstructured activities," meaning the approximately 100 participants can essentially plan discussion groups and events, or they can soak in the hot springs for days on end. Past activities have included yoga and Sufi dance classes, crafts, hikes in the nearby old-growth forest and discussions on sex and relationships.

Jesse Jordan is part of the Swat Team, a group of women who help organize the event. She has attended all but one of the getaways.

"It's the time that you're totally, absolutely safe. You can just be who you are," she said.

Women in the Woods is from Aug. 23 to 27, the longest trip yet. The cost, including meals, is \$365-\$525 sliding scale. Scholarships are available.

To register e-mail swat@womeninthewoods.com or visit www.womeninthewoods.com.

Marriage Equality Profitable

A study titled *The Impact on Washington's Budget of Allowing Same-Sex Couples to Marry* claims that passing a marriage equality bill in Washington would have financial payoffs to the tune of between \$3.9 million and \$5.7 million. The Williams Institute, UCLA School of Law's think tank on queer issues, researched the topic.

The study estimates that nearly 8,000 gay and lesbian couples would marry in Washington, translating to big profit for wedding-related businesses and at least \$4 million annually in retail sales tax revenue. Researchers found that the state's public assistance programs would also benefit and that factors such as estate tax, court expenditures and administrative costs would be negligible.

These findings are supported by a similar study conducted by the Con-

gressional Budget Office. That report concluded that the federal government would tally more than \$1 billion in annual revenue if it allowed same-sex people to marry in all 50 states.

ReUnion Party Planned

When Oregonians organized to fight off Measure 36 two years ago, they bonded over phone banking, canvassing and envelope stuffing.

Meet up with your old new friends to remember the good times of fighting a tough campaign together. A ReUnion Party will be held from 4 to 7 p.m. July 8 at Metropolitan Learning Center, 2033 N.W. Glisan St.

Organizers hope the meeting will be mostly apolitical, with food, entertainment and a Jeopardy match between elected officials and dragsters. All queer and allied folks, including kids, are welcome.

For more information call 503-222-6151 or visit www.basicrights.org.

Men's Wellness Center Unveiled

In the company of local dignitaries, staff and clients June 16, Cascade AIDS Project opened the doors of the Men's Wellness Center, its newest tool in ensuring the sexual health of Portland's gay community.

The center, located at 928 S.E. Stark St., successfully created a comfortable and welcoming space for gay and bisexual men to gather the information needed to make healthy choices, get tested for HIV and discuss issues around men's wellness. Free HIV testing and screenings for sexually transmitted diseases are offered from 5:30 to 8 p.m. Tuesdays.

For more information visit www.cascadeaids.org.



From left, Michael Anderson-Nathe, Sam Adams and Kevin Cook cut the ribbon for the grand opening of the Cascade AIDS Project Men's Wellness Center.