

northwest

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Pride of the Rose Payout

The leadership team of the Pride of the Rose Scholarship Fund presented this year's scholarship winners Sept. 10 during the annual Turnabout Show at Darcelle's.

The scholarship is available to members of the sexual minorities community and their children who reside in the Portland tri-county area or Clark County, Wash. Applicants must be pursuing their education beyond the secondary level and must be in demonstrated need of financial assistance to attain their educational goals.

Pride of the Rose was founded in 1979 by Rose Emperor V Frank Schreckenberger and Rose Empress XXI Allison Grey and is now administered through Equity Foundation.

The \$20,000 fund was granted to the 11 extraordinary queer students: Bryan Allen, Erika Ash, Diana Edwards, Alec Esquivel, R. Bryan Goodin, Melissa "Red" Hoffman, Theresa Elisabeth Molter, Marie Price, Kathleen Sullivan, Spenser Theberge and Ryan Welker.

Learn About Queer Parenting

Queers who are considering adding children to their lives are encouraged to attend Maybe Baby, a workshop for prospective queer parents from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Oct. 22 at 4605 N.E. Fremont St.

The event will provide information on a variety of topics including foster parenting, private and open adoption, donor insemination, surrogacy, legal matters, health care options, single parenting and

resources. It will be conducted by attorney, therapist and mother Lauren MacNeill, who has more than 20 years of experience providing legal and social services to families, adults and children.

The cost is \$90; scholarships are available. To register call 503-380-8528 or e-mail lauren@laurenmacneill.com.

Changes in HIV Testing

In response to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's recently issued recommendations for HIV testing, Cascade AIDS Project executive director Jean Ann Van Krevelen said Sept. 22: "We support the CDC's effort to make HIV testing an important part of routine health care. This will help remind people that HIV/AIDS affects broad segments of our community, and we cannot afford to ignore it or hold it at arm's length as someone else's disease."

She expressed concern about preserving informed consent regarding physicians' option to "opt in" or "opt out" of the new CDC reporting guidelines. "We are also concerned that the CDC does not recommend prevention counseling for people who test negative, as this is an important opportunity for HIV prevention work."

For details on the CDC recommendations, visit www.cdc.gov/hiv/topics/testing/resources/factsheets/healthcare.htm.

Pastor's Departure Marked with Award, Song

Metropolitan Community Church of Portland marked the congregation's farewell to its popular

senior pastor with a Sept. 30 reception at Peace House and services the following morning.

The Rev. Glenna Shepherd and her spouse, the Rev. Kermie Wohlenhaus, have been preparing to leave Portland to take up residence in London. Shepherd's nomination as Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches' elder to Region Four was affirmed by election Sept. 16 in Hanover, Germany.

The outgoing pastor received the Ann and Bill Shepherd Award "for her relentless commitment to marriage equality." The choir performed "Glenna, Our Shepherd," a special song written by MCC music director Martha Shackford.

Shepherd's 3 1/2-year tenure at MCC has seen a significant increase in membership and extensive remodeling of the building. Greater focus on youth ministry included hiring an assistant pastor to continue developing ministry services. The band Elevation, which emerged from the church's music-intensive service, performed at the Region One conference this past summer in Scottsdale, Ariz.

Mentoring has been one of Shepherd's strongest gifts, as she introduced parishioners to ministry possibilities within the congregation, then stepped back and let them do their own thing. She also built up the musical offerings at MCC, drawing on her own training and experience in vocal and choral music. Developing a professional spiritual care staff was another goal she achieved.

Parishioners are sad to lose Shepherd but delighted that she has been selected for the position. Serving 68 countries in a region that covers western Europe, Africa and the Middle East



The Rev. Glenna Shepherd of Metropolitan Community Church of Portland was honored with a song and farewell services.

doesn't seem to faze members who know Shepherd well, given her considerable skill at drawing together people of widely varying backgrounds and expanding church communities. Her job will include building up existing churches and groups and developing churches in countries that have never had an MCC.

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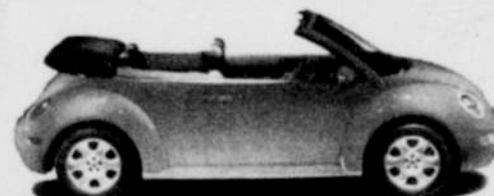
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