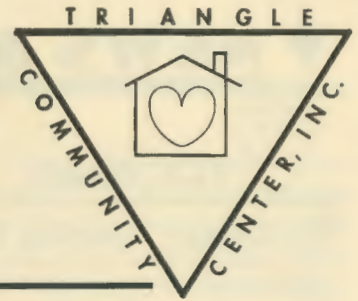


Triangle Community Center News & Views

Free to Members and Subscribers

Vol.9, No.8
August 1998

MANY HEARTS ♥ ♥ ♥ ONE COMMUNITY



Come To Port Jefferson

Sunday, August 9th

Ferry Leaves Bridgeport Harbor at
10:30 AM

TCC Group Rate - \$10.75

ENJOY a relaxing trip across Long Island Sound to the scenic village of Port Jefferson, Long Island. Sail with the TCC group but return at your leisure. The ferry will depart from Bridgeport Harbor at 10:30 AM and arrive in Port Jefferson at noon. The TCC group rate is \$10.75 (payable in cash on the morning of the trip). Space is limited. Call John for reservations (203) 334-3822.

You'll find Port Jefferson village rich with historical culture, unique shops, excellent restaurants, elegant lodging and an ambiance that characterizes Main Street, USA. Have breakfast, stroll the waterfront, and walk through the shops. Merchants will be happy to serve you in this gay friendly environment. Visit the Historical Society, have dinner and take in live theater, or stay for an evening's entertainment.

Port Jefferson's shopping district attests to the diversity of this village. Main Street is lined with shops with names like Harbor Sounds, Shoeport, Darling Stationery, Alienation, East End Shirt Co., Fetish, Elegant Affairs, Soundview Art Gallery, Something Special, Irish Elegance, America, Yuppie Puppy, It's a Small World, Stitchin' Time, Common Scents and more. Harbor Square Mall also offers a welcoming environment. The mall is home to many interesting shops, including Shoetique, Silk and Lace, Miss Kitty and Friends, Treasure Cache, Out of This World, Shirt Tales, Your Favorite Team, The Bag Lady and others.

A short stroll to East Main Street, finds many of the shops occupying historic sea captains' homes, and brings a subtle change in atmosphere as well as in the items being sold. Many of the shops names clearly describe their contents: Scented Cottage Garden, Cat-In-The-Bag, Magic Hearts, Craftin' Buddies, Reruns, The Red Sled, Port Jefferson Antiques, Good Times Bookstore, Brave New World, From Near And Far and Maresa's Candlelight Gift Shoppe and many more. This quiet street allows for leisurely browsing and a chance to savor what life must have been like 100 years ago in the village.

Kella's Home Brew recently opened, a store catering to the home brewer and wine maker. Additionally, for wine lovers, the Pindar Wine Store is a great source for this prestigious Long Island wine. For somewhat more universal tastes, the village can satisfy everyone's sweet tooth, with shops such as Chunk-a-Chocolate, The Frigate and La Bon Boulangerie European pastry shop.

With over 30 restaurants, Port Jefferson caters to every taste and pocketbook. From bouillabaisse to burgers, pasta to paella, sushi to salad, Port Jefferson offers ethnic and regional specialty dining, as well as more basic culinary delights. Their names alone will wet your appetite - Pasta Pasta, Elk Street Grille, Hana's, Costa de Espana, Ruby's, Quiet Corner Cafe, Tara's, Billie's 1890 Saloon, Harbor Gates, The Steam Room, Port Jefferson Lobster House and Fish Market, PJ Horsefeathers, and more.

Join us! We guarantee that your time in Port Jefferson will be a most agreeable experience that will leave you with many warm memories. Remember, space is limited so call John for reservations at (203) 334-3822.



Facilitator Training Workshop

On Saturday, Sept. 12th, from 9am-1pm, TCC will be hosting a free interactive leadership training program for those volunteers who have or will be interested in facilitating support groups for the Triangle and New Haven Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Community Centers. Ms. Patty Schein will teach tools for running successful support groups and for increased leader confidence. The forum will provide an opportunity to improve your skills and/or to learn new ones; to share your successes with others, so they may benefit appreciation for your style and those participants will learn how to provide work of support groups. They will maintain safety within; set appropriate boundaries; and manage group differences between therapy and support groups. They will learn how to provide safety within; set appropriate boundaries; and manage group differences between therapy and support groups. They will learn how to energize and calm the group; usual problems that can arise in a group; and create group cohesion. The acquisition of all of these much-needed skills will be graciously taught, free of charge, by Patty Schein, M.Ed.



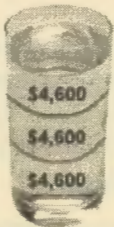
from your learning; and to gain greater confidence of others. Through this training, participants will learn how to structure groups; create and maintain appropriate boundaries; handle difficult situations. Participants will also learn the role of the support group leader; usual problems that can arise in a group; and create group cohesion. The acquisition of all of these much-needed skills will be graciously taught, free of charge, by Patty Schein, M.Ed.

Ms. Schein is a licensed Marriage and Family Therapist in private practice in Milford, Connecticut. She has been practicing holistic psychotherapy with individuals, groups, couples and families since 1973. Ms. Schein is also an Approved Supervisor and clinical member of the American Association of Marriage and Family Therapy, is certified in Gestalt Therapy, EMDR, Reiki Healing, and as an Experiential Therapist. She has trained other mental health professionals both in the United States and Great Britain; as well as business managers in some of Connecticut's top corporations. In addition, Ms. Schein has led hundreds of therapy support groups and workshops. She has facilitated the Alzheimer's Association Family Support Group in Milford for the past five years and the Ingraham Manor Nursing Home Family Support Group in Bristol.

Call or e-mail Denny at: (203) 367-3911 or dab86@juno.com for more details.

.....AND in OCTOBER, Patty will be leading a UNIQUE and fabulous introductory "YogaRhythmics-Kripalu Dancekinetics" class. This spirit dance experience will be offered free of charge to the community at large. If you want to stretch your whole self - open up more to yourself and others in body, mind, and spirit, then join us for this fantastic opportunity to move and grow from the inside out. No talent or skill of any kind is necessary - only the desire to feel good, have fun and move!! Space may be limited - so registration is required. Don't hesitate - pick up the phone right now and call: Denny 203-367-3911 or e-mail: dab86@juno.com.

"Pageant" Produces Prolific Profits



When the "Pageant" played for five nights last January, everyone agreed that the show was a theatrical knockout! The hit off-Broadway musical beauty contest was artfully directed by Scott M. Robbins and played to packed houses at the Performing Arts Center in Norwalk. The financial success of the show came in the form of a check to TCC for a little more than \$21,000! After production costs were subtracted, the profit turned out to be a whopping \$13,800!

The money will be evenly divided and distributed to TCC, TCC's Scholarship Fund and Bread & Roses. What an achievement! And the gayvive has it, that work has already begun on next year's theatrical extravaganza. Way to go!

**Hey! Where's the TCC Annual Picnic?*

It's coming on September 20th. Details in the next issue of News & Views.

Lesbian Lit Group

For their September discussion, the Lesbian Literature Group has chosen the "Penguin Book of Lesbian Short Stories" edited by Margaret Reynolds. This anthology is available in paperback at local bookstores and Bloodroot (203) 576-9168. For more information call Christine at (203) 847-8476. The Lesbian Literature Group meets the first Tuesday of each month at TCC starting at 7:30 PM.

Annual Town Meeting

The Center's lease expires in 1999. Do you know if we'll be moving? The Center has a substantial treasury. Do you know how it will be utilized? TCC has a scholarship fund. Do you know how it operates? Several activities are planned for the rest of the year. Do you know how many people volunteered to help? For the answer to these and other important questions come to the Triangle Community Center's Annual Town Meeting on October 4th from 3 - 5 PM. More details in the next issue.

Softball Benefit....

In front of an enthusiastic crowd of Bloodroot and Triangle supporters, the First Annual Women's Softball Game raised \$180.00 to benefit the Women's Crisis Center and Bread & Roses. Both teams played valiantly to a final score of Triangle 18 and Bloodroot 7. See you next year!



As of July 7th, the Triangle women's team has a record of 3 wins and 3 losses.

....and Celebration

The Triangle Women's Softball team and Sportis (the other lesbian softball team in Norwalk) would like to invite all of their players and supporters to their end-of-the-season celebration. on August 28th at 6:30 PM at Shady Beach in Norwalk. Food and beverages will be supplied. For more information call Chris at (203) 847-8476.

ATTENTION:

Subscriptions News & Views only is now available to all TCC non-members for \$15 a year. To purchase a subscription (12 issues) write:

News & Views Subscription
Triangle Community Center
PO Box 4062
East Norwalk, CT 06855
or call: (203) 853-0600 and leave a message.

Please make checks payable to: Triangle Community Center.

Conn Represented at Gay Games

Gay Games V is slated for August 1st through 8th of this year. For the first time it will be held outside of the Americas, with Amsterdam as host city. Twelve athletes will be officially representing the state of Connecticut, not counting Ridgefield's Harvey Fierstein who is part of the extensive cultural festivities going on at the same time. Several members of the Triangle Community Center will be among the 3,000 volunteers and the estimated 150,000 visitors. Those who had a memorable time four years ago will know that a great time will be had by all this time around.

Splinters

Incredible exuberant exciting liberating reaffirming joyous awesome. Those are the words that describe my impression of the 1998 Gay Pride Parade in New York City as over 600,000 marchers and viewers joined in a festive celebration of affirmation, diversity and recognition. To see the gay community in all our diversity, from drag queens and pulsating "boy toy" dancers to a large contingent of New York's finest and state judges and legislators, with lots of senior citizens, religious groups, ethnic organizations, community groups, rodeo riders, classic car collectors, and health advocates in between. The TCC delegation marched for hours down Fifth Avenue and through the incredibly packed streets of Chelsea and Greenwich Village, where the crowds incessantly cheered every contingent in the parade. It was FUN day, a positive outpouring of our community, standing strong, standing together, standing proud. Every group needs their "great day"for the Irish it's St. Patrick's Day; for Italians it's Columbus Day; for black Americans it's Martin Luther King Jr. Day and for our community it's Pride Day. What an experience!

-John DelVecchio

Help Wanted

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR for the LOFT, Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center. Seeking Administrator for Center's daily operations in White Plains, NY. Must have strong organizational, program, and fiscal management skills plus energy and vision to strengthen diverse LGBT Community. Need excellent written/verbal skills; PR, Volunteer Management, and successful fundraising experience; computer literacy including database management. Strong leadership ability and knowledge of LGBT issues essential. Salary: \$37,500-\$40,000 Plus benefits. Master's Degree; Minimum 5 years high level administrative experience; valid driver's license and reliable car. Send Maximum 2 page resume to: R.W. Hesse Jr., Chair LOFT Executive Dir. Srch. Ctte., c/o Memory Ln., 200 Hamilton Ave., White Plains, NY 10601. No phone Calls.

Got Books?

TCC is looking for books....all kinds, all topics, all sizes, all shapes. We're planning a giant TCC Book Sale in Oct. and we need your donations. Give us those books you've read and re-read but just can't bear to recycle. The ones that were so good or so bad that you'd love to have someone else read them.

We'll take them all! We'll even make arrangements to get them to the Center. Our goal is 1,000 booksso please look around and donate as many as you can. Once you've got them together call me at (203) 964-1133 and leave a message. Please DON'T call the Center. Thanks in advance. -Michele Stone

Connecticut News

Westport Bids Good-bye to the Brook Café

The Brook has closed. The last night for this 50-year-old Westport landmark was July 25th. Citing rising expenses in Westport, the owners of The Brook Café have opened a new club in Norwalk called TownHouse Café & Dance Club. The Café is located at 7 Wall St., Norwalk. It is opened from 3 pm-1 am, Sunday-Thursday and 3 pm-2 am, Friday and Saturday.

Here's a rundown of other bars in the area:



The Art Bar - 84 West Park Pl., Stamford - (203) 973-0300.

There is a \$4 cover and is gay on Sunday nights only from 8pm-1am. The Art Bar, has a large front bar with pool table; two side bars which provide small seating areas; and a center bar with a dance floor area.

Caught In The Act - 1246 Main St., Bridgeport - (203) 333-9505

Open every day. Weekdays: Noon-1am; Weekends: Noon-2am. Small and cozy bar for men and women. DJ every night; male strippers on Saturday night. You can even get a bite to eat off their small bar menu

Sandy's Old Homestead - 325 N. Main Street, Port Chester, NY - (914) 939-0758

Open 8am-4am, Monday-Saturday; Noon-4am, Sunday. Sandy's is a neighborhood bar with a jukebox, pool table, pinball, video games, darts, and bowling. Most of the regulars during the week are straight, but the whole place is very gay friendly. The End of the Month Party on the last Saturday of every month has a \$5 cover and no men allowed. The jukebox is unplugged and a DJ spins popular dance music. The kitchen is always open and there's a full menu.

Triangles - 66 Sugar Hollow Road (Route 7), Danbury - (203) 798-6996. It is opened 7 nights a week. It is mostly men, but there are more women there than most bars in the area. There are drink specials every night, with male dancers on Monday, Thursday and Friday. On Friday and Saturday it's a packed house dance party. They also have two pool tables and video games in a separate room with a video jukebox and bar.

Gay Rights Groups Fault Rowland, Again

For the fourth year in a row, Gov. John G. Rowland rejected a proclamation seeking to designate June as Gay Pride Month, explaining that he could not sign a statement that would be inappropriate to read to second-graders. But schoolchildren visiting the state Capitol got an earful Monday, as gay rights advocates rallied there in protest of the governor's decision. About 50 supporters of the proclamation gathered to hear fiery speeches predicting that Rowland would suffer for his position in the November election and challenging him to reverse his stance before the gay PrideFest in Hartford.

Rowland spokeswoman Nuala Forde said the governor "basically feels that sexual orientation is not an appropriate topic for an official state proclamation." Because Rowland has repeatedly rejected the proposed statement, Forde said, "it should come as no surprise" that he refused to sign it again. Speakers at the rally said they were outraged by Rowland's persistent refusal to sign the proclamation, contending that he needs to "wake up" to a new political reality in which gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people are part of the mainstream. Jessica Stevens, director of the state chapter of the National Organization for Women, said Rowland's decision was "an act of political violence and will not be forgotten

Moral Ground by Senator Lieberman (D-CT)

...The conflict over homosexuality's place, the place of homosexuals in our society, I think, offers a contemporary example of this tension that is very real in our lives and in our discussions and debates. Let's start with the reality that many Americans continue to believe that homosexuality is immoral and not just because the Bible tells them so. In fact, Professor Wolfe's research showed that this is one of the few areas where Americans of all religious inclinations feel so strongly that they are willing to risk the tag of intolerance to express or hold to their points of view, although most of the people he interviewed tempered their disapproval by making clear that they did not support discrimination against gay men and lesbians. It is unfair, when you think about Professor Wolfe's research, then, for anyone to automatically conclude that people who express moral reservations or even disdain about homosexuality are bigots, or to publicly attack them as hateful. These

are sincerely held morally based views.

Yet the suspicions and concerns of the gay community are understandable when one considers the Senate's treatment of James Hormel's nomination as Ambassador to Luxembourg, which is now being blocked by multiple holds by Members of this Chamber. If we truly believe in the claim of equality and the universal principle of fairness of the Declaration of Independence, and if we want to talk more broadly about values with true credibility in this Chamber, I think we owe Mr. Hormel a chance to be evaluated by the same standards we have applied to other nominees. We owe him a chance to be judged by his career and competence, not by his sexual orientation. We owe him a vote on this floor.

Shays Blasts Gay Bashing

Rep Christopher Shays, R-4 [Stamford/Norwalk/Bridgeport] last week blasted Republican leaders for gay bashing to gain political points with the far right. "It is disgraceful and wrong," Shays said. Several GOP leaders have publicly denounced homosexuality as sinful and are considering legislation to overturn an executive order issued by President Clinton last month to ban discrimination based on sexual orientation in federal workplaces.

On June 15, Senate Majority Leader Trent Lott said homosexuality is a sin and likened it to alcoholism or kleptomania. He was defended the next day by House Majority Leader Dick Armey and Assistant Senate Majority Leader Don Nickles who said Lott was "biblically correct" in his description of gays. Shays said that the leaders were using the bible as a convenience to pick on a minority group, while ignoring "sins" of the majority such as divorce or observing the Sabbath.

"They should stop trying to inject themselves into our personal lives," Shays said. Joseph Grabarz, executive director of the Connecticut Civil Liberties Union, applauded Shays's rebellion against his party leaders. "I'm relieved that someone in Congress is finally speaking out against this kind of hate speech," said Grabarz, who is gay.

In Search Of Acceptance in Connecticut

Richard Goldberg and Ian Grande are pioneers. Eight years ago, the openly gay couple bought a house in a quiet corner of the Farmington Valley and settled down among the subdivisions and soccer moms. Goldberg and Grande live on their own terms in a place that has traditionally cultivated conformity. Indeed, generations of homosexuals once viewed the neatly trimmed hedges that define the suburban landscape as hurdles on the way to the freedom, camaraderie and anonymity of big city life. But that's beginning to change. Although official statistics aren't available, real estate agents and activists report that more gay men and lesbians are putting down roots in suburbia. The migration is occurring across the nation and has accelerated in the past five years, says Jeffrey Vitale, chief executive officer of Overlooked Opinions, a Chicago-based market research firm that tracks the gay population.

In Connecticut, some observers say the hub of gay life is starting to gravitate away from Hartford and New Haven. They point to the swelling number of businesses catering to homosexuals that have recently sprouted in suburbia. The list includes a popular coffeeshop in the Collinsville section of Canton named for writer Gertrude Stein and her lesbian lover, a new gay-pride store on Manchester's Main Street and a bar called the Purple Monkey in Willimantic. One of the state's hippest gay nightclubs is in East Windsor. One of the region's largest gay professional groups holds its monthly meetings in Farmington.

The migration has ignited tensions in some communities, where heterosexuals have been unfriendly, even hostile, to the newcomers. But in other places, gay men and lesbians have been welcome, assimilating easily in their new neighborhoods. Claire Connelly says her sexual orientation "doesn't seem to be a problem" for her Coventry neighbors. Connelly, who is 62, lives in a complex for the elderly and disabled. Some of her neighbors make a point of clipping out articles about gay issues and handing them to her.

To be sure, homosexuals have always been at home in the suburbs, though in the past, most kept quiet about their sexual orientation, leaving the activism to their more politicized urban counterparts. But as their ranks grow, gay suburbanites are becoming increasingly visible, demanding the same rights as their heterosexual neighbors. That new assertiveness was evident in West Hartford recently, when dozens of gay men and lesbians - and many heterosexuals as well - asked the town council to restructure its recreational fees. Many in the crowd believe a policy prohibiting non-married couples from qualifying for a family discount at the municipal pool is discriminatory. After a boisterous debate, the council voted to deny gay couples the family rate. To many suburban gays, there was more at stake than a discounted swimming pass. The message was clear: You're welcome here as long as you don't stir up trouble. Now some gay residents of West Hartford are discussing ways to harness their power, including perhaps fielding an openly gay candidate for political office.

Gay Day at Bristol's Lake Compounce

Hundreds of gay and lesbian Nutmeggers came out on June 25, for the first organized 'Gay Day' celebration at Lake Compounce in Bristol. The event, put on by the New Haven Gay and Lesbian Community Center, passed without much fanfare at the nation's oldest park. John Allen, co-president of the New Haven center, said about 250 tickets sold. 'Gay Day' organizers said they liked their day at Lake Compounce so much that the group will have another day at the park next year. Allen said there is a need for events like the one at Lake Compounce where people can feel comfortable. Park officials were especially helpful, he said, working with the group to make the day a success.

Hartford's Mantilla's Re-Election

Evelyn Mantilla studied the letter on her kitchen table one day this week. Then she forced an uneasy smile and put it aside. It read: "Don't send me any more [campaign] literature. I do not support the party of homosexuals and neither do my friends." That can happen when you're one of only two openly gay state legislators and when you declare your bisexuality at a gay PrideFest, asking your female partner in the crowd to marry you, daring the spotlight to find you. That was a year ago. A Democrat, she appears headed for re-election in the unlikely place, Hartford's 4th House District, where Edwin Garcia, a former Hartford police sergeant, once ruled as state representative with all his tough-guy talk and ward-style politics. Mantilla said the hate letter, sent this week by a former supporter, was her first. Mantilla, 35, proposed to her partner in public because, she said, if straight people could do so, why couldn't she. If that makes her some kind of gay celebrity or target, she said, that's fine, but that's not her cause. "I'm a legislator - who happens to be gay," she said. "I'm committed to all civil rights issues, including gay."

New Britain Agency Dismisses Complaint

The state's human rights agency has dismissed a complaint by a New Britain teacher who claim she was targeted for discrimination because she is a lesbian. The Commission on Human Rights and Opportunities recently notified Lynne Kowalczyk, a physical education teacher, of its decision. Kowalczyk, who was transferred from her position at DiLoreto Magnet School in late 1997 after an ongoing dispute involving two other teachers, was told there was not sufficient evidence to prove she was transferred and suspended because of her sexual orientation. The complaint, filed against the school district three months ago, is similar to that filed by Kowalczyk's partner and colleague Beth Kavy, who is a special education teacher.

200 Celebrate on New Haven Green

The historic Green witnessed another first, as more than 200 people gathered to celebrate gay and lesbian rights. It was the first such rally ever on the Green, organizers said, and the first gay-themed event of any kind there in more than 340 years. In 1655, Col. John Knight was hanged on the Green for a same-sex "crime."

How times have changed. Rainbow flags, symbolizing gay rights, flew from the monument opposite the main stage. Organizers said it was the perfect way to set the tone for the state's annual Connecticut PRIDE rally, which continues today with a parade and rally in Hartford.

The rally began with music by Alison Farrel and Cyd Slotoroff, and included several speeches by politicians. Mayor John DeStefano Jr. was not able to attend as previously announced, but secretary of state candidates Ellen Scalletar and Americo Santiago were on hand. Several local people told stories of "coming out of the closet" in the past year. One of them, Ansonia High School teacher Patricia Nicolari, said she's been overwhelmed by the support she's gotten from colleagues and students. Tj Feldman, who heads the statewide Connecticut PRIDE committee said expanding the event beyond Hartford is crucial to its future effectiveness. "If this is successful, maybe Fairfield County and New London County will get involved next year."

Pride News

CA - Thousands Turn Out For Pride in LA

Officials said more than 350,000 people attended two days of festivities in West Hollywood that featured domestic partnership commitment ceremonies as well as a 300-person lesbian march led by a contingency of women on motorcycles. A variety of organizations were represented at the parade, including churches, AIDS organizations and gay advocacy groups. Political dignitaries could be spotted throughout the Los Angeles parade, including Los Angeles Mayor Richard Riordan, Los Angeles City Councilman Mike Hernandez and L.A. County Supervisor Zev Yaroslavsky. Police Chief Bernard C. Parks, rode behind the Golden State Peace Officers Association, a gay-advocacy organization composed of police officers and firefighters.



CA - Shake, Whistle and Shiver in SF

Unusually cool weather made for goosebumps beneath the fishnet and chains as more than 200,000 people turned out to watch the 28th annual gay pride parade thump and toot its irrepressible way up Market Street. There were gays on motorcycles and tandem bikes. There were gay clarinetists, gay wrestlers, gay parents with children, gay volleyball players, gay politicians and gay golden retrievers. There were feathers, leather, tutus, codpieces, lingerie and all the other usual stuff. The theme of this year's parade was "Shakin' It Up" and, while no one seemed to know what the "it" referred to, a lot of people shook — which can happen if you stand on Market Street on a cold day in rainbow-colored underwear

CO - 'Biggest Ever' Gay Parade

An estimated 60,000 to 65,000 attended the 1998 PrideFest Parade, Rally and Festival in Denver. The event is one of the largest celebrations by the gay and lesbian community in the country. "This is our biggest year ever," said Mike Smith, executive director of the Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual Community Services Center. "We have 220 vendors and exhibits and had to turn people away. The parade had more than 100 contingents, and they come from five or six different states. It is the largest PrideFest in the region and certainly among the top 10 in the nation." Event manager Carol Hiller said PrideFest 1998 is officially the eighth annual such celebration in Denver but unofficially it has been held since the late 1970s.

MA - 50,000 attend Gay Pride

Wearing brightly colored T-shirts and waving rainbow flags, nearly 50,000 people lined the downtown streets to watch leather-clad bikers, costumed dancers on floats, marching men on stilts, moms with babies in strollers, bankers, ministers, drag queens, and members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community strut in the Gay Pride Parade. Police blocked off streets for four hours as participants marched. The parade had been scheduled for last month but was postponed when record-breaking rain hit Boston.

ME - Gay Couples Receive Blessing on Pride Day

More than a dozen lesbian and gay couples, had their unions blessed in the sight of God and the disapproving eye of the state of Maine during Portland's Gay Pride Day. Blessings have been few recently for Maine's gays and lesbians. The Legislature outlawed marriage for homosexuals last year, and in February of this year, voters in a referendum rejected the gay-rights law approved by legislators and the governor in 1997. Yet those losses did not drive gays and lesbians to turn inward, avoid the public and abandon their goal of acceptance. To the contrary: Gay-rights organizers say the defeats have burned away complacency among both gay and heterosexual supporters of gay rights.

OR - Gay Pride Parade Attracts 20,000

Portland's gay and lesbian communities and their allies found cause for celebration as an estimated 20,000 people turned out for the city's 23rd annual Gay Pride Parade and Festival. Crowds filling the sidewalks cheered as contingents from Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, the Portland Police Bureau and Portland General Electric Co. marched by. All told, about 110 groups.

The mood was upbeat, with Realtors and drag queens flinging candy and other treats at the crowd. Portland Police Chief Charles Moose marched with a group of officers near the head of the parade, and Capt. Mike Garvey — an openly gay officer who is suing Moose and the city for discrimination — marched with Phoenix Rising, a gay and lesbian social service agency. Both received warm applause. But the biggest cheers for a police officer were reserved for Lt. Robert Ball, a reserve officer, who marched with his partner, Jay Clark, and mother, Marilyn Ball, president of the Bend chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. Roman Catholic, Protestant and Jewish congregations that welcome gays and lesbians joined the march, along with union members, schoolteachers, political groups and gay-oriented nightclubs.

World Pride

France - 50,000 Join Paris Pride Rally

About 50,000 people marched through Paris in an annual gay rights rally, dancing atop floats and displaying banners supporting a bill that would give gays and lesbians new legal recognition. Revelers draped in rainbow-colored flags danced to techno music, showered passersby with confetti and released hundreds of multicolored balloons as they made their way from the city's Latin Quarter to the Place de la Nation in east Paris. But a chief organizer of the march, the 17th in the French capital, lamented that the day's events had been undermined by the World Cup. "We had to scrap loads of things because of the World Cup: not just for security, but also because of a lack of sponsors," the left-wing daily Liberation quoted Charles Myara as saying. Last year, an estimated 300,000 took part in the rally.

Germany - 250,000 March in Berlin Parade

An estimated 250,000 homosexuals took part Saturday in Berlin's annual Gay Pride parade, more than twice the number of last year, organizers said. ninety floats were featured in the noisy and colorful demonstration through the streets of the city before dispersing following a minute's silence in memory of AIDS victims.

NEWS & VIEWS

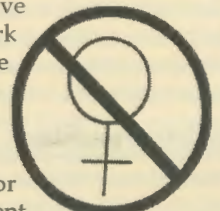
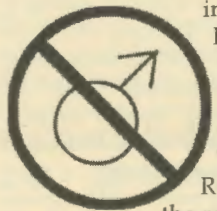


National News

Christian Ad Attack on Gays

A coalition of influential Christian groups has launched a national ad campaign attacking homosexuality, igniting a firestorm of protest as the religious right gears up for the November election. Praising Senator Trent Lott, the Republican majority leader from Mississippi who recently likened gays and lesbians to alcoholics and kleptomaniacs, the \$200,000 ad blitz characterizes homosexuals as sinners in need of Christian healing. The campaign, widely seen as an effort by the Christian right to provide indirect support for congressional candidates who promote the movement's agenda, sparked outrage among gay-rights leaders and produced the unintended consequence of exposing a rift in the Republican Party. Several GOP candidates facing tough elections in key races tried to distance themselves from the campaign. "I don't see that it serves any useful purpose at all," said Peter Torkildsen, a Republican trying to regain the seat he narrowly lost in 1996. "It incites fear in people, and it is not the traditional Republican role for the government to intervene in people's private lives."

The ad campaign was funded largely by the Christian Coalition, whose chairman, Pat Robertson, sought the GOP nomination for president in 1988, and the Family Research Council, whose leader, Gary Bauer, is considered a prospective Republican contender for the White House in 2000. In full-page ads that appeared in the New York Times, the Washington Post and USA Today in the middle of July, the coalition promoted the highly disputed theory that people become homosexual by choice. "Homosexuality is not a sex issue, it's a heart issue," one ad stated. "There are problems for homosexuals even condoms can't fix."



Robertson recently met with Lott and other key Republicans in the House and Senate to push for the religious right's priorities as did James Dobson, who heads the Family Research Council's parent group, Focus on Family. "Now you're seeing some fruits of the alliance," said Elizabeth Birch, executive director of the Human Rights Campaign. "They are using these very manipulative ads to throw red meat to the firebrand, extreme-right, grass roots wing of the Republican Party. It's nothing more than a crass political move in an election year."

Arne Owens, a Christian Coalition spokesman, denied the ad campaign is aimed at providing support for Lott and other congressional leaders who have stepped up their criticism of homosexuality since Robertson and Dobson visited Capital Hill earlier this year. "This message is not emanating from the GOP," he said. "It's a nonpartisan message based on the mainstream concern about the decline of morality in America." Owens said the advertising campaign will continue, although he declined to provide details. He said the impetus for the campaign was the push for broader gay rights. In the Washington Post the ad displayed a photograph of a large group of people who say they no longer are gay or lesbian because of "God's healing love." "We're standing here for the truth that homosexuals can change." The ad thanks Lott and Reggie White among others, "for having the courage to speak the truth about sexual sin."

Representative Barney Frank who is one of two openly gay members of Congress challenged the assertion that people choose their sexual orientation. He also stated that, "Homophobia is losing the cultural war so they are doing this to try to pump up their side in the political arena."

HIV Strains That Resist AIDS Drugs

Researchers have for the first time identified two people who recently became infected with strains of HIV that are resistant to most of the drugs available to treat the AIDS virus. The strains, described at the 12th World AIDS Conference, pose no immediate threat to public health, experts said. There's no evidence they either spread more easily or cause a more virulent form of infection than ordinary types of human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). Nevertheless, the reports demonstrate that HIV can mutate to become resistant to many of the powerful new AIDS drugs, and these strains can be passed from person to person. Both cases, one from San Francisco and the other from Switzerland, occurred in gay men having unprotected sex.

Many AIDS activists, public health officials and doctors have warned that triple therapy's miraculous cures might make some people think HIV is merely a treatable, chronic infection. In fact, Gordon Mansergh of the CDC reported that in a survey of HIV-negative gay men in three American cities, nearly two-thirds said they'd had unprotected anal intercourse at least once in the preceding year and a half. AIDS researchers had expected that a strain of HIV that is resistant to multiple anti-HIV drugs eventually would be found. The new treatments can require patients to take a dozen pills a day on a strict, complicated schedule. If the AIDS virus is only intermittently exposed to a killing drug, or exposed to a sublethal dose, the virus will continue to reproduce. Eventually, the virus will mutate in a way

that makes it resistant. Because HIV reproduces so quickly, this can happen in months. In both of the new cases, a multidrug-resistant strain of virus was transmitted from someone who had been extensively treated with antiviral medications to someone who was uninfected. Although resistant viruses have been isolated before from patients during treatment, this is the first evidence they are also being passed person-to-person.

Task Force Receives Grant

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) was recently awarded the Kellogg Foundation's first ever grant to a gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender (GLBT) organization. The grant is for \$44,500 and will help fund the Task Force's Youth Leadership Institute. "We are honored to have our work recognized and supported by the Kellogg Foundation," said Kerry Lobel, NGLTF executive director.

NGLTF's annual Youth Leadership Institute is in its fourth year and offers a week of intensive leadership development, grassroots organizing training, and skills-building workshops to 25 youth selected from around the country. This year's training will be held outside of Washington, D.C. on August 5 - 9. When graduates of the training return home, they will get follow-up support and assistance from NGLTF's field department and be paired with an organization in their community to work on Equality Begins at Home. Coordinated actions in state capitals across the country are planned for March 1999.

Frank Lashes Out

A gay member of Congress says recent anti-gay comments by House Republican leader Dick Armey and Senate Republican leader Trent Lott were an attempt to appeal to the right-wing of the GOP. Speaking to the congregation of the Cathedral of Hope - the nation's largest gay and lesbian church - Massachusetts Democratic Rep. Barney Frank said the comments were an appeal to what he called "the right-wing minority."

Frank clashed with Armey three years ago when the Texas Republican referred to him as "Barney Fag." Armey apologized for the comment, saying he had inadvertently mispronounced Frank's name. Frank told about 1,000 worshippers "that was a victory against bigotry, not that he said he was sorry he said it, but that he felt compelled to apologize and explain. Twenty years ago, no one would have expected an apology." The latest controversy came after Lott told a television interviewer that homosexuality is an addiction like alcoholism or kleptomania. A day later, Armey quoted Bible verses that he said showed homosexuality is a sin. Lott and Armey were invited to attend the service but they declined. Frank had been invited before the latest dispute.

Rainbow Flag

The rainbow flag has existed since 1978. That year the San Francisco Gay Freedom Day Parade's organizing committee was searching for a symbol of celebration and artist Gilbert Baker proposed his design of a rainbow flag. Originally the flag had eight horizontal stripes: hot pink stood for sexuality, red for life, orange for healing, yellow for sun, green for serenity with nature, turquoise for art, indigo for harmony, and violet for spirit. Two of the eight colors were later dropped for the sake of mass production and cost-effectiveness. With pink and turquoise gone and royal blue replacing indigo, the flag became the six-color version we know today.

Rep. Frank and Companion Breaking Up

Representative Barney Frank, a Massachusetts Democrat who is a homosexual and an active supporter of gay rights, has ended his relationship with Herb Moses, his longtime companion. Frank, who has been candid about his personal life and often referred to Moses as his "spouse," confirmed reports of the breakup in an interview in July. "We'll be separating. ... We'll be selling our house in the near future," Frank said. The separation is amicable, Frank said.

Frank disclosed his homosexuality in 1987, saying, "I have nothing to hide, nothing to advertise." He and Moses often appeared together at congressional functions and White House social events. They told journalists that they thought of themselves as married. A lawyer who was elected to the Massachusetts Legislature in 1973 and to Congress in 1980, Frank has worked hard to dispel stereotypes about gays. He spoke in public about his 10 1/2-year relationship with Moses, and defied criticism from Senator Jesse Helms of North Carolina and other conservative foes.

Oral HIV Test Available in NY

The nation's first oral HIV test approved by Federal Drug Administration will be available at all three Planned Parenthood of New York City health-care centers. PPNYC said there has been a 50 percent increase in the number of people who took the noninvasive test in a pilot program. The use of the OraSure method also meant health-care workers wouldn't run the risk of exposing themselves to an infected needle. PPNYC described OraSure as a safe, simple and painless method that is done orally and does not involve blood or needles. The test uses a small cotton fiber pad attached to a thin, straw-like plastic stick that is placed in the mouth between the cheek and the lower gum and held in place for two minutes. The specially treated pad draws out a substance, which contains a rich supply of HIV antibodies in infected individuals.

PPNYC President Alexander Sanger said OraSure has been enormously popular with hard-to-reach people who often do not receive any health care. Sanger added: "Since we've been able to offer patients the option of a faster, easier HIV test, the numbers of individuals willing to be tested has skyrocketed." He says the OraSure test was 99.9 percent accurate.

August 1998

A New Way of Being

A bold group of academics, writers and theorists are striding onto fresh intellectual turf with the first major American symposium on "Post Gay," jointly sponsored by Out magazine and the New School for Social Research in Manhattan. Post-gay is a fledgling somewhat murky idea that describes a homosexual identity in which sexual behavior no longer defines one's life. It's not bisexuality. It's not retreating to the closet. It is a way of saying, "We've come a long way, so calm down." In a post-gay world, homosexuals have won their battle for acceptance and are now free to move beyond identity politics. Anne Heche is postgay, for example. Ellen isn't. "Post-gay isn't un-gay," explains James Collard, Out's editor in chief. "It's about taking a critical look at gay life and no longer thinking solely in terms of struggle. It's going to a gay bar and wishing there were girls there to talk to." The symposium's panel of theorists hope to bang together a strong framework or a movement that, at present, lacks critical mass. It doesn't lack for criticism: politicized homosexuals consider it treasonous. "It's hard to imagine anything profound happening under the label 'post-gay,'" says Amy Agigian, a Brandeis University sociologist who thinks post-gay is interesting but iffy. "I suspect anyone who suggests we are past the era where lesbians and gays no longer need to struggle for basic rights. I would rather see us entering a different era, she says. "Heterosexuals have all the power. They got over themselves and became post-straight."

Viagra and Poppers

Gay men are being warned not to mix the anti-impotency drug Viagra with amyl nitrates, which are commonly known as "poppers." Several people have died after using the drugs along with crystal methamphetamine (speed). Many gay men are apparently taking Viagra as a recreational drug, which can be deadly if mixed with crystal meth and poppers. Pfizer, which makes Viagra, has warned that the combination of nitrates and Viagra can lead to "large and sudden drops in systemic blood pressure," and amyl nitrates combined with Viagra are expected to have the same effect.

Trivia Question

Answer to July - Francis Bacon - the philosopher is Sir Francis Bacon.

Question for August - Two northeastern lesbian activists have (more or less) the same name. One is a Hartford area bisexual who was the first out gay person on the Hartford city council. The other, known by a diminutive, is a long-time stalwart of the Boston lesbian community. Most recently she has organized Creating Change for the National Lesbian and Gay Task Force.

The Gay Gourmet

Insalata Di Arancio - (Orange Salad)

- 3 large oranges peeled
- course ground pepper
- virgin olive oil
- 10 - 15 calamata olives

Slice oranges into 1/4" pieces. Arrange slices on a plate (preferably with a fruit motif). Drizzle each slice with olive oil and season with a pinch of pepper. Place the olives in the spaces between the slices. Chill a few minutes in the refrigerator and serve as a refreshing summer appetizer. Serves four.



AL - Lesbian Loses Child

The Alabama Supreme Court, overturning an appeals panel, has removed a child from the custody of her homosexual mother, ruling that the woman exposed her daughter to a lifestyle that is illegal in Alabama. The 7-0 decision authored by Justice Champ Lyons found that the child's best interests would be better served in a home with her father and his new wife. The Alabama Court of Civil Appeals had reversed Ferguson's order, holding that the father didn't prove the mother's conduct was having a "substantial detrimental effect" on the child. But the high court said there was no need to prove there was a substantial detrimental effect, only that the child's interests were better served in the father's home. A 1975 Alabama statute proclaims all homosexual conduct to be criminal. Earlier this year, the state enacted a law that banned same-sex marriages.

The decision cited testimony from several psychologists, who had differing opinions on where the child should live, but all agreed the girl had a good home relationship with her mother and her partner. The Christian Family Association, an Alabama group that has promoted fundamentalist Christian positions, said that was no substitute for a traditional family environment.

DC - Oberlin Hires Gay Athletics Director

Oberlin College has announced that it had hired a gay man as its athletics director. Michael Muska, a former track-and-field coach at Auburn and Northwestern Universities, is believed to be the first openly gay athletics director in college sports. Oberlin, which prides itself on the diversity and tolerance of its student body, has a substantial gay population. Alan Moran, Oberlin's vice-president for college relations, said Mr. Muska had been hired because he had experience coaching and recruiting athletes who met Oberlin's high admissions standards. Oberlin is a member of Division III of the National Collegiate Athletic Association, and competes in the North Coast Athletic Conference.

FL - Directory Serves Gay Businesses

Yvonne Rohrbacher, a Fort Lauderdale businesswoman started the Out Pages, a free directory of gay-owned and gay-friendly businesses. She publishes the little yellow book twice a year for Central and South Florida. Each directory has business listings, community photographs and organizations. The Out Pages began in 1988 in South Florida with 120 advertisers and expanded to Central Florida, including the Tampa Bay area and Orlando, three years ago. Now it boasts more than 700 advertisers statewide. Rohrbacher prints 55,000 books every six months, with 10,000 to 12,000 available at local bookstores, video shops and other businesses in the Bay area. She attributes the directory's success to small businesses that cater to a segment of the population. They tend to advertise in products that do the same, she said. The Central Florida directory has 100 pages of business listings, from Borders Books and Music in Tampa to Wiley Auto Service in St. Petersburg.

NC - Woman Sues Her Female Boss

A Winston-Salem woman has filed a sexual harassment lawsuit against her female boss and the Greensboro insurance company where they both worked, marking one of the first court cases involving same-sex harassment in North Carolina. Millicent Joanne Allen filed the lawsuit against her former boss, Claudine Bynum, and Key Risk Management, a workers compensation insurance company on Centreport Drive where Allen worked as a claims adjuster. Also named as a defendant is the parent company, W.R. Berkley Corp., which is based in Connecticut.

In most ways, Allen's lawsuit is fairly typical of sexual harassment cases. Allen claims that her boss touched her thigh, propositioned her for sex and retaliated against her when she rebuffed the advances during a 10-month period ending last September. Allen claims that Bynum said she could help Allen's career if she engaged in sexual activity with her. When Allen reported the harassment and asked for a transfer, higher-ranking bosses did not investigate and refused to transfer her, according to the lawsuit. Allen, who is heterosexual and married, eventually took a medical leave from work because she suffered from depression and anxiety because of the harassment, the lawsuit says. Allen claims that she was fired soon after in retaliation for reporting the sexual harassment. The lawsuit claims that several employees complained about Bynum's harassing and demeaning treatment. At least seven employees were fired or forced to quit after Bynum retaliated against them, the lawsuit says.

NJ - Gay Union

In Fairlong, New Jersey an Episcopal church ceremony symbolically set on Father's Day, two gay men whose lawsuit paved the way for other unmarried couples in the state to adopt children jointly were united today in a "holy union" as friends, relatives and television cameras looked on. While it lacked the legal status of a marriage ceremony, the event nevertheless marked another passage for the two men, Jon Holden-Galluccio, 34, and Michael Galluccio, 36, of Maywood.

In the course of their successful two-year effort to adopt a child jointly, they have emerged from the anonymity in which many gay couples feel compelled to live. Along the way to adopting their son, Adam, who is now 3 years old, they became accidental advocates with a monthly newsletter sent to 500 subscribers, a World Wide Web page and an agent who has booked speaking engagements around the country. Nearly three years ago, the two men became the foster parents of Adam. When they tried to adopt the boy formally, New Jersey child welfare officials assented, as long as they did it separately in two distinct and costly legal procedures. Under New Jersey law, same-sex couples and unmarried heterosexual couples had no legal standing that would allow them to adopt jointly. The couple challenged the law in court. Last October, Judge Sybil R. Moses of Superior Court in Bergen County granted the joint adoption, saying it was in the best interest of the child. Two months later, all legal barriers to joint adoption by unmarried same-sex and heterosexual couples were removed in a broader consent decree. New Jersey became the first state to establish a policy treating gay and unmarried couples the same way it treats married couples regarding adoptions.

NY - HIV Notification Bill Passes

Doctors must report the names of people who test positive for HIV to public health officials and health workers would be required to notify sexual and drug use partners of possible exposure under legislation approved early this morning. The Democratic-controlled state Assembly passed the sweeping notification measure 112-34 after some two hours of heated debate that pitted civil liberties concerns against public health needs. The state Senate had already passed the bill, which advocates say is among the most far-reaching in the nation.

It requires that once municipal health departments are informed that a patient has tested positive for AIDS or HIV, health care workers must attempt to have infected patients identify former sex or drug-use partners. The health workers would then notify those contacts about the possibility of infection. Doctors can now tell partners of HIV-infected patients about the virus in some cases, but some health workers say they fear lawsuits if they do. Among the elements added to the notification bill in the last hours was a provision to continue with anonymous testing for HIV. Notification would only kick in when an infected person went to receive treatment. Also, domestic violence protections were included for those who test positive and fear violence when their partner was notified.

NY - Domestic Partner Law Passed

Unmarried couples including gays and lesbians in New York City will be treated the same as those who are married under landmark legislation passed in June. The law, one of the broadest domestic partner policies in the United States, which gay rights advocates described as historic, addresses a host of emotional issues and details of everyday life facing couples regardless of their sexual orientation. It allows bereavement leave for city employees, visitation rights in city-run facilities, tenancy succession rights and permits partners to be buried together in a city-owned cemetery. The estimated 8,700 registered domestic partners in New York City will also be required to meet the same civic responsibilities as married couples. The law was approved overwhelmingly in a City Council vote Wednesday to cheers and applause in the public gallery. But before the vote, a group of Hasidic rabbis gathered in protest outside City Hall, saying Mayor Rudolph Giuliani and city officials would be cursed and wiped out because of their support for the legislation.

Responsibilities include disclosure of background information about domestic partners when seeking certain licenses in some businesses and the income of the chief wage earner in some city-subsidized housing. Advocates called the bill "unique" because it would extend rights beyond city employees. Other cities around the United States have largely addressed domestic partnerships in the context of municipal employee benefits.

NY - Rabbis Cast Curse

A group of Hasidic rabbis have gathered at New York's City Hall to invoke a biblical curse on any city official who votes for or promotes a proposed gay marriage bill. The group of about two dozen men used candles and a ram's horn known as a shofar to invoke the curse. They also took some time out to pray for the safety of New Yorkers. The protesters, clad in the hasidic garb of long dark coats and black hats, carried candles as they walked up the steps of City Hall. The ceremony continued with the recitation of Psalms in Hebrew and the reading of the Torah portion about Sodom and Gomorrah from the book of Genesis and of prayers from the Rosh Hashanah, or Jewish New Year, liturgy. The service ended when six men each blew a shofar. Rabbi William Handler of Jews for Morality said city officials, including Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, who support the domestic partnership bill will be wiped out, because they "have no desire to repent." He said the group asked "God to direct His wrath against the guilty parties," and that "our job is to save people." The form that the curse, which Handler said "definitely" will materialize, will take has not been pinned down, but he said, "It's possible that an atomic attack could be made by Russia or China."

NY - Yeshiva University Sued

In what it billed as a landmark case, the ACLU filed a suit Wednesday against Yeshiva University, accusing it of discrimination for banning gay people from living in campus housing with their partners. The suit, filed in New York State Supreme Court, was brought on behalf of Sara Levin and Maggie Jones, medical students at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine in the Bronx, which is a division of Yeshiva. The complaint charges the university with discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and marital status and seeks a reversal of Yeshiva's policy banning gay graduate students from living with their partners in campus housing. It also seeks unspecified damages for emotional distress and extra housing and commuting costs. Levin and Jones were both denied shared housing with their respective non-student female partners because they cannot marry, the ACLU said.

In 1989 Einstein's student-faculty senate passed a resolution asking for housing and other benefits for gay couples, but Yeshiva President Norman Lamm rejected the change. He was quoted in media reports as saying that "under no circumstances can Judaism permit homosexuality to become respectable."

NY - Editorial: Making It Through The Night

It would be hard to find anyone in New York more marginalized in more ways than Ali Forney. He was homeless, black, gay, 22, and a crack addict who made money and found shelter through prostitution, often wearing a dress, heels and a wig. In December he was shot in the head, the third young transgender prostitute murdered in Harlem in 14 months. All the cases are unsolved. Those who did not know him might miss the human being under all those labels. But at his memorial, held at a Times Square church, 70 friends and relatives gathered to remember a complex man. Six months before his death, he closed the annual talent show at SafeSpace, a center for homeless youth, with a gospel song and a prayer, preaching that "God loves everybody for who they are." He was proudly H.I.V. negative, no mean feat for someone in his line of work, and spent many nights working with social service organizations in the gay bars and piers of the West Village and Times Square, dispensing condoms and talking about safe sex and places young people could get meals, showers, drug treatment, medical care and counseling.

Many people and institutions failed Ali Forney in his short life, not least Forney himself. But among them was the city of New York. The city's quality-of-life initiative and the development of Times Square have inadvertently pushed homeless youths out of their traditional haunts. They now populate a lonelier, and hence more dangerous, diaspora in areas such as Harlem, and are much harder for the nightly patrols of outreach workers to find and help.

No one knows how many homeless teen-agers and young adults there are in New York City, but state and city studies a few years ago said between 12,000 and 20,000. The vast majority of homeless youths are from New York, and are black or Hispanic. Many ran away from foster care. Forty percent are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgender. This group is disproportionately homeless because their families sometimes kick them out, and they are often unwelcome and even assaulted in their schools and foster homes.

Although shelter is their most basic need, they do not fit in any city shelter program. They are scared of the giant, dangerous shelters that house adults and need smaller group homes with help for people who may be adults chronologically but not emotionally. But youth programs will not house anyone over 18. The city has only about 400 beds designed for older youths, 80 percent of them in Covenant House.

New York has shown little interest in solutions. From 1995 to 1997, the Department of Youth and Community Development failed to spend nearly \$1 million it had budgeted for housing for homeless youths, which resulted in a loss of an additional \$1.5 million in matching funds from the state. The department says it will leave \$450,000 unspent in 1998, because shelters are unpopular with neighborhoods. But the new head of the Youth Committee, Kenneth Fisher, last month held the first hearing on homeless teen-agers that anyone can remember. That has prodded the city into beginning talks on a shelter and some of the bureaucratic hurdles that keep youths on the street. It will require a sustained commitment from the city to a group of people invisible until they get sick, arrested or murdered.

WI - A Sign of Tolerance

A billboard campaign condemning homosexuality backfired on those organizing it by angering people of all sexual preferences, the head of a social service agency for gays says. The billboards state: "Homosexuality is not a family value. Homosexuality is a sin." Ralph Ovadal, who describes himself as director of the Monroe-based Wisconsin Christians United, said three billboards were being erected in Madison and one each in Monroe and Beloit. They are to be up for four weeks, he said. But those billboards have gotten a lot of people in Madison angry. And that anger has led to a real sense of frustration on the part of well-intentioned citizens who want to respond to what many see as evidence of hatred and intolerance. How can the great majority of concerned and

Transgener News

"the connecticuT View"

The "connecticuT View", a social and support group for crossdressers, with over 50 members from Connecticut and other local states, are planning to expand our membership by inviting female to male crossdressers to join our group. We realize that crossdressers in need of a support group are those males who dress as females and want to be accepted by society. Females, who have easily assimilated into the male roles, don't get looked at twice because jeans, boots, floppy tops, short hairdos, and no makeup is much more acceptable. Society doesn't really know whether the person before them is a female who just likes male attire, or a female who is trying to 'be' male. Society, doesn't care. But, we of the connecticuT View wonder if there are issues the female to male crossdressers have that might be similar to those of the male to female crossdressers. Are they stared at? Do they have the 'bathroom problem', crossdressing males have? Are they called 'Sir'? Do they like it?

The "connecticuT View" is the 'only' open crossdresser club in Connecticut. There are other clubs, but one admits to screening potential members, and also does not allow transvestite admirers to join their group. Another admits to being strictly heterosexual, and a third is aimed at helping mainly transsexuals. The connecticuT View invites everyone to join our group, as long as there is some connection to transvestitism, crossdressing, transsexualism or being a wife, significant other or lover of the tv/cd/ts. We also want children of transvestite parents, or parents of TVs to contact us...for support. We feel that female crossdressers joining with us, would be a benefit. Dialogue between us might be very enlightening. And as one TV who admires women, I would love having the female to male side of issues aired to see if a better acceptance, union, and understanding can start between our respective groups, and help us work together toward having society understand and accept everyone.

If there are any female to male crossdressers out there reading this, and wish to discuss this further...please contact me, Denise Mason at masond@aol.com . If anyone wishes a sample newsletter, please contact "the connecticuT View", P.O. Box 2281, Devon CT. 06460

WI - A Sign of Tolerance (continued)

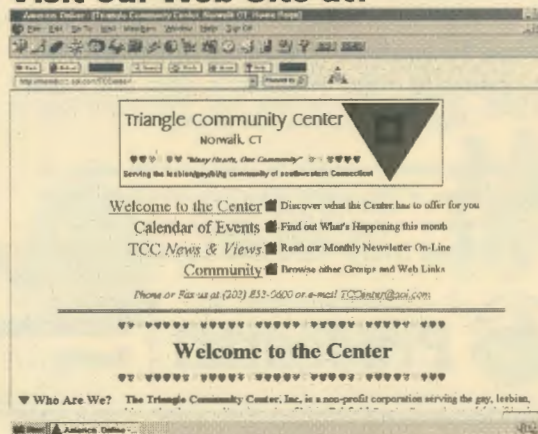
caring people in Madison and Dane County respond? Some folks have taken to wearing rainbow ribbons as a subtle expression of their support for a diverse community. But for those who want to meet signs of intolerance with signs of inclusiveness, Sandy Torkildson has come up with a fine response. Torkildson decided to initiate a yard sign response to Ovadal's billboards. She arranged to have hundreds of blue and white signs reading "Madison Supports Its Lesbian & Gay Community" printed and began distributing them from the downtown business she co-owns and manages. The store is charging \$5 per sign to defray costs, and Madisonians are grabbing them up - placing the signs in yards all over town and creating a visual presence that Ovadal could never hope to achieve with his handful of billboards.

Madison formally protested the signs in a resolution that declares "Madison to be a city of tolerance." About 250 people gave aldermen a standing ovation after the city council unanimously approved the resolution at the urging of speakers who complained about gay-bashing. The resolution says "gays and lesbians have been singled out by a recent billboard campaign questioning the value of contributions made by gays and lesbians to their family and to the community as a whole." "An attack on any of our citizens is an attack on the community as a whole."

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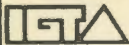
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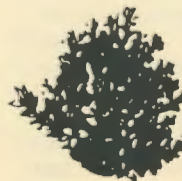
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NEWS & VIEWS

Telephone Directories

Groups Meeting at or Sponsored by TCC

- A.A. - Don 762-9964
- Bi Rap Group - Peter 838-2806; Robin 855-8646
- Free Association of Fairfield County - John 268-8858 x304
- Gay Men's Rap Group - Dave 838-1881; John 389-7381
- Gmosaic (People of Color) - Nasheed 854-7726
- Lesbian Literature Reading Group - Christine, 847-8476
- Out & About (20's & 30's) - Heather 924-2930; Ashley 576-1073 or Dan 838-2367
- OutSpoken (Youth) - Barb 259-8171; Dan 227-1755; Doug 838-2367
- P-FLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays) Joan 544-8724; Lester 322-5380; Belinda 855-1203
- P-FLAG Spouses & Ex Spouses Group - Joan 544-8724
- Triangle Bowling League (Circle Lanes, Fairfield) - Lisa 333-3113; Roseann 931-8789
- Women's Rap Group - Chandra 226-8652; Linda 866-4598; Michele 438-4465

All meetings are held at the Center and in the evening unless otherwise noted. A \$3 donation per person is appreciated with your participation in activities to help support the Center.

Other Area Groups and Organizations

- Bare & Gay (B&G) gay nudists (203) 330-9595
- Bisexually Curious Support Group Bpt (203) 264-5605
- Chiltern Mountain Club (888) 831-3100
- Connecticut Kids and Families (203) 256-8414
- Connecticut Freedom to Marry Coalition (203) 791-9553
- 40-Up Club (Social Grp.-call Dale before 10pm) (203) 261-4019
- Gay Fathers Group (203) 866-7051
- Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Assoc. (203) 332-1480
- Gay Mens Association of Danbury (203) 778-7016
- GEMS (Mature GLBT) (860) 688-1881
- GuideLine (gay/lesbian phone info) (203) 366-3734
- Hartford Community Center (203) 724 5542
- Married Men's Bisexual Suppt Grp Httfd (203) 262-1555
- Metropolitan Community Church (203) 389-6750
- Transgendered Resource - Kaylen (203) 661-2448
- The Loft, White Plains NY, (914) 948-4922
- Triangle Bowling League (203) 931-8789
- Triangle Kids (203) 255-6229
- (203) 323-6278
- Western Connecticut Gay Men's Group (203) 773-9947

We're glad to list your non-profit gay/lesbian/bi/tg group free of charge. Call (203) 964-1133. Please keep us informed of changes.

WHERE ARE WE? The Triangle Community Center Inc. is located at 25 Van Zant Street in Norwalk. From I-95, take Exit 16 and go south (from Stamford, turn right; from New Haven, turn left). Continue south under the railroad bridge and turn right on Van Zant St. (Route 136). 25 Van Zant is a large condominium office building on the right. TCC is in Suite 7-C on the ground floor, Tel. (203) 853-0600.

Deadline for the September Newsletter will be Saturday, August 15. We cannot guarantee that material received after that date will be included in September News&Views.

TRIANGLE COMMUNITY CENTER, INC.
 P.O. BOX 4062, East Norwalk, CT 06855
 Tel/Fax: (203) 853-0600
 e-mail TCCenter@aol.com

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

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- DENYSE BURKE Vice-President
- JOHN WALLACE Treasurer
- DAVE CARROLL Corresponding Secretary
- HEATHER WEIMANN Acting Recording Sec'y

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- JOHN DEL VECCHIO (203) 334-3822
- MICHELE STONE (203) 964-1133
- JOHN WALLACE (203) 389-7381
- HEATHER WEIMANN (203) 924-2930

STANDING COMMITTEES

- | | | |
|----------------------------------------|------------|----------|
| AIDS Liaison | Tom M | 374-6934 |
| Board Development | Vacant | |
| Communications | John D | 334-3822 |
| —Public Relations | Mike C | 375-3567 |
| Finance | John W | 261-7349 |
| Fundraising/Sp Events | Michael P | 866-6993 |
| Membership | Denyse B | 367-3911 |
| —Member Database | Marianne S | 222-8294 |
| Operations | Cindy M | 595-9799 |
| (and to schedule events at the Center) | | |
| Program | Dave C | 838-1881 |
| —Resource Room | Walter D | 374-6934 |
| —Center Forums | Marianne S | 222-8294 |
| Volunteer | Vacant | |

NEWS & VIEWS

Is published monthly by
 Triangle Community Center, Inc.
 P.O. Box 4062, East Norwalk, CT 06855.

NEWS & VIEWS encourages its readers to submit materials of interest to our community, including short articles, letters to the editor, etc. We cannot respond to, or publish, anonymous letters. We reserve the right to edit or condense as appropriate to meet space requirements. Authors will be contacted if major revisions are necessary. Please submit to:

NEWS & VIEWS

- | | |
|----------------------------------------------|------------------------------|
| Michele Stone: Editor & Advertising Manager. | John Delvecchio: Asst Editor |
| P.O. Box 8185 | Phone: 203-334-3822 |
| Stamford, CT 06905 | |
| Phone/Fax 964-1133 | Mike Collins: Publicity |
| e-mail: NewsViews2@aol.com | Phone: 203-375-3567 |

FOR ADVERTISING RATES CONTACT MICHELE STONE:

Ads must be camera-ready. Any ad not camera ready will be subject to an additional charge. Inserts and special sizes upon prior agreement. All ads are placed on a space available basis.

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NEWS & VIEWS

Calendar

August, 1998

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2 AA 9-10 am OutSpoken 4-6	3 Women's Rap 7:30	4 Lesbian Lit 7:30 Softball, Norwalk 7:45	5 P-FLAG 7:45	6 Men's Rap 7:30 Softball, Norwalk 6	7 G-Mosaic 7:30 Bowl 9:30 Circle Lanes	8
9 AA 9-10 am OutSpoken 4-6 Port Jefferson 10:30am	10 Women's Rap 7:30	11 TCC Board 7:30 Fundraising 7:30	12 Bi Rap Grp 7:30	13 Men's Rap 7:30	14 Out & About 7:00 Bowl 9:30 Circle Lanes	15 N&V's Deadline
16 AA 9-10 am OutSpoken 4-6	17 Women's Rap 7:30	18	19 P-FLAG Spouses & Ex-spouses 7:30	20 Men's Rap 7:30	21 G-Mosaic 7:30 Bowl 9:30 Circle Lanes	22
23 AA 9-10 am OutSpoken 4-6	24 Women's Rap 7:30	25 TCC Board 7:30	26 Bi Rap Grp 7:30	27 Men's Rap 7:30	28 Out & About 7 Bowl 9:30 Circle Lanes Softball, Norwalk 6:30	29
30 AA 9-10 am OutSpoken 4-6	31 Women's Rap 7:30					

Connecticut Calendar

Saturday, August 1 - 8 — Gay Games 1998, Amsterdam.

Friday, August 7 — Potluck and Movie Night at the New Haven Gay and Lesbian Community Center, 50 Fitch Street, New Haven. The feature will be: "La Cage Aux Folles." Potluck at 6:30 PM, film at 7:15 PM. Suggested donation \$3.00. For more info e-mail: FGDMYO@aol.com.

Friday, August 21 — Potluck and Movie Night at the New Haven Gay and Lesbian Community Center, 50 Fitch Street, New Haven. The feature will be: "The Detective." Potluck at 6:30 PM, film at 7:15 PM. Suggested donation \$3.00. For more info e-mail: FGDMYO@aol.com.

Saturday, August 22 — Women After Hours Dance (women only), Holiday Inn, East Hartford, 8:30 PM - 1:00 AM, \$10.00 cover. Call 860-528-9611 for directions, or e-mail: chretien1@aol.com.

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SUSTAINING/BUSINESS MEMBER	\$500
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