

The Sentinel

Volume 10, Issue 18

500 HAYES ST. SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94102 (415) 861-8100

September 1, 1983

Newsbites

S.F. TO SPEND MORE ON AIDS

San Francisco, CA—A proposal to spend nearly \$900,000 on research and services related to AIDS was presented early this week to San Francisco Board of Supervisors by gay Supervisor Harry Britt. The supplemental spending bill, which was sent to committee for hearings, was requested by Mayor Dianne Feinstein. The money would be in addition to the \$2.5 million already granted to the city Health Department for services to patients with AIDS. If approved, about \$485,000 would be used to expand the AIDS outpatient clinics at San Francisco General Hospital. The balance of the funds would be split up among several research studies and education and counseling services. (San Francisco Chronicle, 8/30/83)

DID YOU SEE THIS WOMAN?

Kathryn Elizabeth Barrett, a 23-year-old Oakland woman, was found brutally beaten and stabbed, her lifeless body stuffed in a bag and dumped in South San Francisco on the morning of Aug. 19. She was known to have frequented gay and lesbian bars in the Haight, Castro, and Polk St. areas. On the day of her death, she was last seen being picked up by an unidentified female at the Haight Ashbury Clinic on Aug. 18 at approximately 7:30 P.M. Anyone with information concerning Barrett are asked to contact detectives Mike Devan or Patrick Sullivan of the South San Francisco Police Department at (415) 877-8900. Please refer to case number C231-83-017.



HECKLER, FEINSTEIN CORRESPOND ON AIDS

San Francisco—The continuing AIDS crisis has prompted another exchange of letters between Secretary of Health and Human Services Margaret Heckler and Mayor Dianne Feinstein. Heckler to DFI (8/5/83): "AIDS is and will remain the Administration's number one public health priority until we (and our scientific and medical allies) have found its cause and cure... We are allies in this struggle against one of the most frightening disease killers ever visited on the people of our planet. I assure you that our pressure in the front lines of research and compassion will continue and be constant." The Mayor to the Secretary (8/18/83): "I would especially like you to call your attention to a San Francisco proposal to change regulations so that AIDS patients can presumptively qualify for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) and Medicare, and thus eligible for immediate cash assistance... This change in regulations would be of great benefit to all local governments confronted with AIDS." This would allow us to redirect (some) funds towards essential (AIDS) services that are not currently funded by the Federal government."

GRNL'S CORMAN GETS PROMOTION

Washington, D.C.—Gay Rights National Lobby has announced that **Tasanyan Corman** has been promoted to national Field Director. Corman formed as GRNL's western regional director and was based in San Francisco. Once settled in Washington, he will play a major role in recruiting applicants to fill her former position, according to a GRNL press release. Meanwhile, Minnesota's openly gay state Senator Allan Spear has been named as co-chair of GRNL's board of directors. Spear pleased to take this leadership position with GRNL and work with executive director Steve Edeas, who I greatly admire," Spear said.

AIDS GALA BENEFIT QUESIONED \$78,000 in Freebies, No Receipts

by Gary Schweikhart

Although officials of the National AIDS/KS Foundation are selling their June 23rd fundraiser at Davies Hall as "a huge success," questions are now being raised about nearly \$78,000 in give-away tickets, undocumented bills and receipt discrepancies for the gala production.

The benefit, which was headlined by entertainers Debbie Reynolds and Shirley MacLaine, was produced by Richard J. Sheehan and RLS & Associates—the same group which staged last Sunday night's AIDS fundraiser in Los Angeles and which recently announced plans for a series of AIDS benefits across the country.

(Incidentally, there is also some doubt about the success of last Sunday's benefit. Gary Weiner of RLS & Associates calls it "the biggest and best show we've done yet" and one local television station reported that the event "may have raised \$1 million for AIDS." But Philip Conway, executive director of the National AIDS/KS Foundation, describes the event as "a real bomb. No one was there. We intend to re-examine our relationship with RLS & Associates because of it.")

At an Aug. 19 press conference in their new offices on 10th St. (between Market and Mission), National AIDS/KS Foundation executive director Conway and treasurer Bob Ross announced that the income for the event was \$67,145 in ticket sales and \$11,270 in contributions. The production expenses were announced as \$35,835—leaving a net profit of \$42,880.

However, after carefully studying the 57 pages of financial statements and receipts for the benefit—the "complete, itemized financial report"—*The Sentinel* has found a number of questionable items: "Free Tickets"—While \$67,145 worth of tickets were sold to the event, an additional \$61,550 worth of tickets were given away. Furthermore, those associated with the production are unable to account for nearly half of the 585 "freebies" which were used on June 23rd.

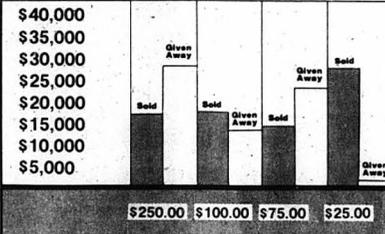
According to the box office statement from Louise M. Davies Symphony Hall, the following is the breakdown for the AIDS/KS benefit:

Tickets	Sold	Given Away
\$250	70	117
\$100	148	102
\$75	145	258
\$25	984	107

The AIDS/KS Foundation confirms that a number of tickets were given to local people with AIDS, but there is a disagreement as to how many and what price tickets they were. Conway says that "150 free tickets were given to people with AIDS and some of these were \$250 tickets." However, Ed Power, project director of the local foundation, describes himself as "the person who was in charge of giving out the free tickets to people with AIDS. There were 200 tickets given away, but they were all in the \$100 and \$75 category. Absolutely no \$250 tickets were given to people with AIDS."

In addition, a number of "comp tickets" were also given to representatives from the local press, including *The Sentinel* (tickets were given to Corinna Radigan and photographer Mick Hicks). While no one connected with the show can remember how many press "comps" were extended, the

Dollar Value Comparison of Tickets Used



DEBBIE REYNOLDS and friends take their bows at the Davies Hall fundraiser.

Shanti Cleared of Allegations

by Gary Schweikhart

The Shanti Project, which oversees the city-funded residences for homeless people with AIDS, has been cleared of allegations of "alleged misuse of City funds," according to a letter signed by William C. Cunningham, the Department of Health's AIDS Activity Coordinator. The letter, dated Aug. 26, was sent to Sam Mills, president of the Shanti Project.

The allegations against Shanti were made in telephone calls to the office of Mayor Dianne Feinstein and in an anonymous letter sent to both *The Sentinel* and the local AIDS/KS Foundation. This letter stated:

"The Office of San Francisco Mayor Dianne Feinstein is presently investigating Jim Geary, executive director of the Shanti Project, and the Project's Board

of Directors for illegal use of non-profit monies and City funding related to AIDS services."

Although a spokesman for Mayor Feinstein denied that such an investigation was underway, it was confirmed by Cunningham. The investigation centered on several checks written to people other than Geary but was, according to Shanti, actually salary advances for Geary. In his letter to Mills, Cunningham wrote:

"Our accountant, Stan Ozaki, has reviewed your books and Board minutes to verify your statements regarding the allegations. He found no evidence to support the allegations but rather that the expenditures were proper and appropriate. We are aware that with the delay in the receipt of City funds, it is sometimes necessary to borrow from other sources and then make repayment."

Rep. Gerry Studts: Coming Out of the Closet With 'Pride & Strength'

by Michael D. Green

Rep. Gerry E. Studts (D.Mass.), the nation's only openly gay congressman, is a man outwardly composed. The window in his private first floor office in the old Longworth House Office Building perfectly frames the majestic dome of the Capitol Building across the street where he has represented Massachusetts' 10th District for a decade. The atmosphere in his congressional office is outwardly indistinguishable from the routine officiousness that marks similar offices occupied by his colleagues in Congress.

The difference is that the 46-year-old Studts now lives under the intense glare of scrutiny from both the nation at large and the gay community he openly joined only recently. By his feet sit cardboard boxes filled with 4,000 letters which have poured in from his constituents and others around the country. The phone rings incessantly with inquiries from reporters for national and local media.

On the surface, Studts seems unchanged by all the pressure. A bulletin board next to his desk still displays colorful and witty slogans of which he is fond, including one that suggests, "Do something unusual with a flounder." "Do you think I should take it down?" he quips.

Beneath the surface composure, the gay lawmaker's life has been turned upside down. He stresses that the change is positive in every personal way. It also clearly remains a personal upheaval similar to what any gay person experiences in coming out and struggling to deal with family and closest friends.

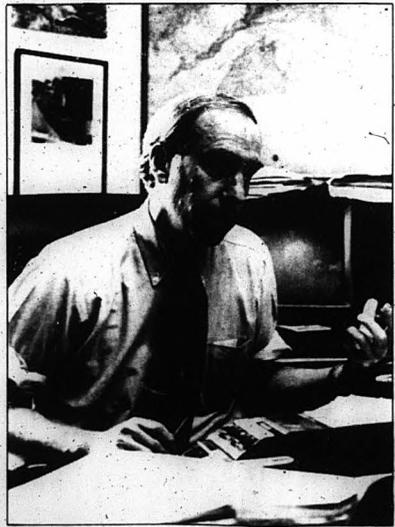
"I had the unusual opportunity," he observes dryly, "of announcing it to the nation and the world in a way and at a time and under circumstances obviously not of my own first choice." He adds that it had not been part of his career plan to come to Congress in order to become "one of the

handful of its members to be censured, in his case for having relations with a 17-year-old male page a decade ago, right after he was first elected."

Having come out, Studts has also suddenly become a focus for the political hopes and aspirations of the gay community, precisely because he is a congressman, indeed one of the most widely respected ones because of his intelligence and effectiveness, along with his scholarly, cerebral wit. These are hopes Studts understands.

At the same time, he remains a congressman in the institutional sense of the word, and in the view of most observers, a remarkable politician, and has his own views as to how he can most effectively represent the gay community.

He also remains Gerry Studts, the human being, and as he points out, a suddenly new human being



Rep. Gerry Studts

as a result of the events which forced his coming out. Consumers of fast-food media reports grow bored with the intensively-covered Studts story may already think it tired and stale news. In Studts' life, only a little more than a month has passed since he abruptly "came out."

As he sits in his congressional office, he weighs the fact that apparently he is so popular with his constituents he actually could be re-elected, if he chooses to run again. He will not decide whether or not to run until January 1.

"There is so much on my mind at this point, really. Everything from personal to political and everything in between... My own experiences of the past year have been so extraordinary that I still don't have it all in perspective yet. I don't think. So much has happened in so compact a period of time—initially, extremely adverse, obviously; and in the past few weeks, there has emerged the very clear possibility that we could, and I emphasize possibility, that we could take this situation which on the face of it was something of a disaster and make it something very positive indeed for a great many people."

In his first reappearance in his congressional district, during an annual parade among Portuguese constituents he has championed for a decade, Studts was warmly cheered by thousands. Subse-

quently, he received standing ovations when he appeared at political meetings in other towns in his district. The mail pouring into his office from his district and from the country-at-large is running 10-to-1 in his favor, mostly from self-professed heterosexuals.

The respect shown Studts, in turn, by his constituency through "the ordeal of the censure proceedings and his disclosure that he is gay," seems attributable to his refusal to "apologize" or weep and beg forgiveness publicly before his colleagues as did Rep. Daniel Crane (R.Ill.) for his affair with a consenting 17-year-old female page. Studts brought charges from his accusers that he was being "arrogant," "defiant," and "unrepentant."

Says Studts, clearly and firmly: "To me, personally, that affirmation (that he was gay) was the single most important statement of my life and it had enormous consequences to me and to a great many other people." "And there was no way on this earth that I was going to conduct myself, be myself, in tone or in substance, in demeanor, or in any other way, that could leave the slightest doubt in anybody's mind that that affirmation was precisely that—with pride and with dignity and with strength."

When he was cheered by his constituents upon returning home,

Continued on page 2



JUDY RE-BORN

See page 6

THE BEST PIANO MEN IN TOWN!



club dori

427 Presidio Avenue
931-5996
Park Free
AT MARLEY SQUARE LOT
(Between Lynch & Presidio on Divisadero St.)

Jazz it up with **BILL WARD**
Sunday afternoon at the piano from 3:00 till 7:00
Cocktail Hours - Monday through Sunday
From 4:00 till 7:00
WELL LIQUOR and Beer are \$1.00

"For a change of pace CLUB DORI'S the Place!"

SALE!

For a very limited time we are offering a central monitored silent burglar alarm installed for less than the price of a good camera, only \$269.00* AND we will monitor your home or business 24 hours a day, every day for less than the price of a pack of cigarettes: 64¢ a day! Due to the low price, no other discounts may be applied to this offer. MEMBER: G.G.B.A.

*Basic price, one year monitoring plus tax and one time telephone company charge of \$38.00



San Francisco's Longest Running Gay Owned & Operated Restaurant

Chez Mollet

527 Bryant (Between 3rd & 4th) San Francisco 495-4527

Dinner Specials (Include Soup or Salad)

Wed. & Thurs. - **Chef's Special** - \$8.95

Sun. Mon. & Tues. - **Prime Rib** - \$9.95

Daily - **Barbecued Prime Rib Bones** - \$7.25

LUNCH DINNER

BRUNCH ON OUR GARDEN PATIO SAT. SUN & HOLIDAYS

Reservations Recommended

Ample Parking - VISA - M.C. - AMEX - DINERS CLUB

FICKLE FOX LABOR DAY MONDAY, SEPT. 5/83

Choice Of:

Seafood Crepes

Stuffed French Toast

Eggs Florentine

\$7.25

Complimentary Glass of Champagne
Seasonal Fruit Compote
Fresh Apple Muffins

The Fickle Fox



San Francisco, CA

reservations: 826-3373

Served From 11:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.

\$1.00 of each meal will be donated to the Shanti Project to assist AIDS Victims

Studds: It's a More Enthusiastic Me'

Continued from page 1.

Studds, who describes himself as a normally optimistic person, said he was totally stunned by the warmth of the response.

"I don't know if (reporters) who went out there realized New Bedford as a city was predominantly Portuguese, French Canadian, predominantly Roman Catholic, predominantly very conservative people in the real sense of that word—family-oriented, church-oriented people, and I suppose, given the stereotypes that people have of one another, would be least likely to make a response like this. Again given stereotypes, one would think they were people least likely to be understanding or supportive of an openly gay person.

"Clearly, I must not conform to the stereotypes that many people are brought up with about a gay person. Most gay people don't conform to those stereotypes but they are stereotypes precisely because most people aren't aware that they're not accurate.

"It seems to me—and this is the point I'm getting to—that it is not only the stereotypes of straight people that have been challenged by the developments of the past few weeks and months, but that gay people need also, would do well also, to examine their stereotypes of the capacity of just plain people to accept and deal openly and honestly and decently with them. I'm still stunned by this."

The point made by Studds is that even as a congressman "who happens to be gay," he is also, at this point, still a congressman; and while he will continue to speak out in behalf of gay rights, as he emphasizes he always has, he remains wedded to the constituency which sent him here first.

"I think that if I thought those two obligations were in conflict, I would literally come apart at the seams. I would be immobilized. Fortunately, it seems to me mercifully, those two obligations are best fulfilled in precisely the same way, in my judgment; and that is by being the best possible congressman I can possibly be for the 10th District of Massachusetts. Let me put it this way: my intention is to continue my legislative focus precisely as it has been—defined both by my committee assignments and by the particular needs and interests of my constituency—to continue to focus on the matters that I have developed an expertise on for the past decade, namely the marine environment and the questions of human rights and foreign policy. That is the obligation that I owe my constituency!"

"At the same time, it seems to me, that if I can do that effectively—continue the role of the legislator that I have been able to fulfill in the past decade—that I will, at the same time, have served the best way I possibly could not only the people I represent, directly, those who elected me, but also gay people. Because it seems to me that the most positive kind of role model in this instance would be to be a congressman who happens to be gay rather than vice versa."

Does this mean Studds, whose astuteness as a regular politician may prove to be both an aggravation and a blessing to the gay community at the same time, is unconcerned about issues of primary interest to the gay community as a particular interest group,

especially now that they feel Studds has become, *de facto*, their congressional spokesman? As a politician, is he still basically concerned with the "flounder" industry?

"One of my former students has died of AIDS in New York," Studds declares with utter seriousness. "His obituary was in the *New York Native* earlier this year. I have friends who have close friends who have AIDS. Obviously," he stresses, "my efforts on that will continue as far as any single member of Congress can have an impact."

"One likes to think that sexual preference is supremely irrelevant. It is a question of human life and death. It is compelling. The bureaucracy was very slow to get going [on AIDS], very slow to focus. It is rare around this institution to find people willing to take up the cudgels on those issues that are so controversial subject. I think we've well beyond that now."

Studds notes that earlier this year, even before he had any thought that he would have as a legislator, he had been in congressional debates on the subject of forcing more federal funds to combat AIDS to be spent by a former Massachusetts congressional colleague, Margaret Heckler, now secretary of Health and Human Services. The trouble, Studds said, is that she "works in an administration where her superiors are generally remiss with respect to human life problems rather than AIDS. But every damned compelling situation which cries out for medical funds. She works in an administration which is practically criminally liable, in my judgment on those fields."

But on the question of taking a leadership role on the whole array of issues especially important to the gay community, Studds sees his real role and chance for effectiveness, not in his congressional political life.

"It's very difficult for me to put into words—but I know, for example, I feel certain, that at least for many members of Congress, I may be the first openly gay person they have known fairly well. And I think that's got to be an experience of consequence... I know already from my interaction with my colleagues in the first few weeks that it's a very different rapport there. I would say a very much better, more honest, more complete rapport; than I've had with any of my friends here. In and of itself, that's going to have an impact."

"And I'm not sure whether my attempt to garner support for the proposition of civil rights for gay persons as well as for everybody else will always take the explicit form of seeking co-sponsorship of a piece of legislation—or perhaps might better be done by just being myself..."

For the past month, Studds stresses, he has gone through a congressional odyssey of attempting to explain homosexuality, and particularly the desecration of a field with a 17-year-old page, to his heterosexual colleagues, and to his own staff. "To my knowledge, there are no non-heterosexuals on my staff," he quips. "Not only has his staff rallied around and supported Studds, but, he notes many have even cancelled personal plans in order to remain with him through

the ordeal.

Studds asks them to, "Try to imagine yourself, a heterosexual adult, who has grown up childhood — you are a male — without ever, ever, ever once having met a heterosexual female. Hard though it may be for someone to try to picture, that is precisely the situation in which a gay person, much more often than not, and certainly more often 10 years ago, finds himself."

When Studds first came to Congress 10 years ago, he was 36 years old and totally closeted. He had never, to the best of his knowledge, ever met another person who he recognized as being gay. He immersed himself in his work. To that point, it had included a Yale education and two years as a Foreign Service Officer in the State Department in 1961-62; another period as a member of the staff of the U.S. State Department Staff as an executive assistant to the domestic peace corps; later congressional service as a legislative aide to former Sen. Harrison Williams (Dem. N.J.); a stint as a teacher at the University of North Carolina and politics at St. Paul's School for boys in Concord, N.H.; followed by a time as an aide in the office of the president of the University of Massachusetts.

Studds was elected to Congress in November, 1972 — after learning Portuguese to better communicate with his would-be coastal, blue-collar constituents.

In the past decade, he has won hard-fought battles on their behalf to extend U.S. territorial limits to 200 miles and to beef up coast guard protection. As a closeted member of Congress, he was nevertheless involved in the passage of gay-civil rights legislation, as well as protections for all minorities.

The repression of his sexuality exploded in the spring of 1973 right after he first took office as congressman, involving the controversial affair with the then-17-year-old page (who, as a 27-year-old, defended Studds' conduct, though himself straight, in testimony before the House ethics committee).

Studds now tells reporters, constituents and gay friends that he regards his conduct a decade ago as having been improper because of the "special relationship" which exists between many other pages of Congress and the teenage pages who are, he concedes, basically "wards" for whom Congress acts as surrogate parents. Yet — even to those who believe in strict standards — Studds did not automatically condemn any authentic human relationship between consenting partners of legal age.

What he has concluded, six years later, he says, is that "in my judgment, speaking from my own sense of ethics and values, any relationship between a young person and a person substantially older is likely — is highly likely — to involve many more difficulties and complexities and to be unwise than a relationship between two persons of more or less the same age." But he is unwilling "to state categorically that any consensual relationship between an older person and someone who's 17 is always, and by definition, wrong... I would not want to arrogate to myself the right to say to anybody else in the world, 'You may never properly, under any circumstances, have a consensual and decent and honest relationship with a younger person.'"

In his relationship with the 17-year-old page, Studds tries to explain to straight friends that he was reaching out for the first time

Continued on page 3

MEMORBOOK

Sept. 4 (Sun.) • K&SAN's "Gay Mail" presents highlights of the Bay Area Lawyers for Individual Freedom's first annual dinner. 6 A.M. on K&SAN (95 FM).

• **Balladeers Retro** sponsored by Valencia's "The House of Blues" presents a musical revue of "The House of Blues" at Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St. For info call 751-1798.

• **40 Plus** presents **Circle of Friends** on "Four Great Homosexual Artists." At First Union Church, 1187 Franklin Ave. 8:00 P.M. For details, call 552-1997.

Sept. 8 (Mon.) • **Renouveau Pour Oly** Eve, held at Backlight Forest, Novato. Events include an Elizabethan Costume Competition. For info, phone (415) 434-4623.

Sept. 8 (Tues.) • **KUSF's "Audio-Visions"** presents a feature on AIDS. At 6 P.M. on KUSF (90.3 FM).

• **Valencia Rose's Gay Lesbian Pioneer Series** presents author **Wesley Miller**, "The Double Bind of Being a Minority." At 8 P.M. at the Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia. Cost \$4. 863-3853.

Sept. 8 (Wed.) • **Shirley Zahow** (Rosh Hodesh) is presenting a play, "The House of the Living Dead." At 10 P.M. on KPFA (88 FM) in Berkeley, and KPCC (88 FM) in Fresno.

Sept. 8 (Thurs.) • **Shirley Zahow** (Rosh Hodesh) is presenting a play, "The House of the Living Dead." At 10 P.M. on KPFA (88 FM) in Berkeley, and KPCC (88 FM) in Fresno.

Sept. 9 (Fri.) • **Concerned Republicans** for Individual Rights announce dinner, "The Double Bind of Being a Minority." At 6 P.M. on KPFA (88 FM) in Berkeley, and KPCC (88 FM) in Fresno.

Sept. 9 (Sat.) • **East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club** is sponsoring a giant yard sale at 5667 Mission Ave. in Oakland. For info or to make donations, call 548-0329.

• **Gay/Lesbian Union "Welcome Back Dancer"** at U.C. Berkeley. Oaks Clubhouse, Strawberry Canyon Recreation Area in Berkeley. 9 P.M. to 12:30 P.M. For more, call 842-6942.

• **Pratered Out** of **Gay** nightclub cruise to Sacramento. For information, call 556-0222.

Sept. 11 (Sun.) • **K&SAN's Gay Mail** presents **Wesley Miller**. At 6 A.M. on K&SAN (95 FM).

• **Gay Freedom Day Marching Band** & **Drum Corps** are being held at the S.F. Eagle, 395 12th St. from 3-6 P.M. Cost is \$6 for all beer, soft drinks, hot dogs and other refreshments. For details, call Duke Armstrong at 845-0910.

• **Gay Academic Union** presents three lawyers on "Legal Issues for Gay Men and Lesbians." Speakers include **William J. Brennan, Elizabeth Callahan and Matt Cates**. At 10:00 P.M. at 4001, 4 P.M.

• **R.F. H-Block/Armstrong Committee** presents **Charles Berkeley** on "The History of Gay Liberation and National Liberation." At Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia. 7 P.M. Cost \$1.50. For more, call 431-4297 or 841-1855.

Sept. 13 (Tues.) • **Gay Issues Seminar** presents **Dr. David Lourea** and **Dr. Sergio Mile** on "Bisexuality: Myths & Realities." Sponsored by Gay Services Coordinating Committee of District 5. From 8-10 P.M. at Health Center 5, Room 204, 1351 24th Avenue. Cost \$2.00. Questions? Call Mike Burfin at 334-4712.

• **Valencia Rose's Lesbian/Gay Pioneer Series** presents **B.A. Jr.**, columnist **Karl Buechel** on "The History of South of Market." At Valencia Rose, 8 P.M. Cost \$4. 863-3853.

Sept. 14 (Wed.) • **K&SAN's "Fruit Punch"** presents **Armstrong Hodesh**, author of "Toles Come Out." At 10 P.M. on KPFA (94 FM) in Berkeley, and KPCC (88 FM) in Fresno.

• **Art Therapy for Lesbians**, On Wednesdays, from 1:15 to 3:45 P.M. At Operation Concern, 1853 Market St. For details call Carmen de Mierles at 626-2020.

• **Incest Support Therapy Group**, a 16-week support therapy group for lesbians who have been victims of incest/childhood sexual abuse. Thursdays from 10:30 A.M. to 12:00 P.M. at Operation Concern, 1853 Market St. Contact Rachel Warburton at 626-7000. Wheelchair accessible.

• **AIDS Screening Clinic** is held every Tuesday morning from 8:30 a.m. to District Health Center's location at 1301 Pierce St. (at Ellis). Fee is \$1. For an appointment, call 558-3256.

AIDS Anxiety Book. No Fee. Every Wednesday from 6-7 P.M. at District Health Center, 1301 Pierce St. (at Ellis). For details, call 558-2953.

• **Multi-cultural Lesbians** and **Students** program of U.C. Berkeley needs volunteers and interns for the fall semester. For info, phone 842-6942.

• **National Association of Business Owners** held their first annual convention (Nov. 3-5) in Los Angeles. The theme is "Future Links." For information, write to the Los Angeles Business and Professional Association, P.O. Box 99962, Los Angeles, CA 90009.

DO YOUR FRIEND, AND YOURSELF, A FAVOR. CHOOSE H10

Crabs are not the end of the world, but they can certainly make it unpleasant if you're not prepared. H10 is a liquid treatment that is available without prescription. It's safe and it kills crabs in ten minutes. Each package includes a patented fine-tooth comb that

is 100% effective in removing dead lice and nits. So the crabbing affair never discover cause, do your own a favor and choose H10. It's available without prescription. And it works.

FOR FREE ESTIMATE, CALL 431-3464

338 HIGHLAND STREET
SAN FRANCISCO

STRIP SHOP
SAFE PROFESSIONAL AFFORDABLE STRIPPING, FINISHING

FOR FREE ESTIMATE, CALL 431-3464

338 HIGHLAND STREET
SAN FRANCISCO

The Original SOUVILLY CHEESESTEAK CO.

Your choice of Provolone or American cheddar FREE MEDIUM SOFT DRINK -with sandwich, with this ad

366 Columbus Ave. (corner Columbus & Vallejo) 434-3563
Open 11-1 - till 3 Fri. & Sat.

WE HAVE 4024 24th St. TASTY NOE VALLEY CAKES! 282-5565
Open 10-10

PERNOD



And you're still mixing a colada with rum?

For a magical Colada use the tingling licorice taste of Pernod® (pronounced "per-know") instead of rum. Add 1 part Pernod to 5 parts Colada mix. For other incredible mixed drinks use the same 1 to 5 ratio.

PERNOD.
The new twist in
mixed drinks.



AIDS Benefit Gala Questioned

Continued from page 1.
people with AIDS and as many as 100 press "comps" were given, this still leaves 285 "freebies" unaccounted for.

• Undocumented Bills—While the show's expenses were announced as \$35,535, there are only \$20,847.34 worth of receipts. The other \$14,687.66 is not documented.

• Receipt Discrepancies—In the \$20,847.34 that is explained, there are discrepancies amounting to \$1,716.66 between the figures announced and those for which receipts exist. One example: Misc. Production Costs, announced as \$2,127, although there are only \$815.32 in miscellaneous receipts, a difference of \$1,311.68.

When Conway and Ross released the official figures, it was accompanied by a statement from accountant Robert J. Dern which stated, "This compilation is limited to presenting in the form of financial statements information that is the representation of management. I have not audited or reviewed the accompanying financial statement and, accordingly, do not express an opinion or any other form of assurance on it."

Although Dern refused to elaborate on this statement, an accountant contacted by *The Sentinel*

declared that a compilation "isn't really worth much. The figures aren't verified."

Use of Non-gay Business: Of the \$10,990.69 in expenses that were not mandated by Davies Hall, only \$651 went to members of the Golden Gate Business Association, even in areas where there were gay-owned businesses possibly willing to do the work at lower or comparable cost. "I'm not gay myself, so why should I bother with gay businesses," snapped producer Weiner recently. In fact, RLS & Associates is not a GGBA member, either. "I can't think of any reason why we should be," said Weiner.

The non-gay businesses used and the amounts spent include Printing Concepts, \$5,143.96; Postal Instant Press, \$48.89; Perlatson's Travel & Tours, \$1,305; RMS Travel Service, \$84; Intercontinental Travel, \$946.50; Four Seasons Clift Hotel, \$304.06; Fairmont Hotel, \$1,500.64; E.L. Scott's Commissary, \$51.32; Olympic Trophy and Awards, \$305.07; and Works Photography, \$220.30.

The only two GGBA members which were used and the amounts are the Negorium, \$204, and Lortz's Travel & Tours, \$447. All of these figures are based on

available receipts.
RLS & Associates: Although Weiner first denied that RLS had been paid anything for staging the AIDS/KS benefit, he later admitted that they had received \$2,500. "It was for my time and nothing else," he said.

Questions are also being raised about the relationship between RLS & Associates and Printing Concepts. Of the total \$5,143.96 paid to Printing Concepts, \$4,611.45 was paid for "50,000 invitations" according to the invoice, the only one in the series which isn't numbered. ("This bill shouldn't have been over \$520," says the gay owner of a local printing company.) While Weiner denies that there is any official connection between RLS and Printing Concepts, the two businesses share the same address (440 Brannan St.) and their telephone numbers are just one digit away (Printing Concepts — 974-6766, RLS & Associates — 974-6767.)

When contacted by *The Sentinel* the National AIDS/KS Foundation's Conway said that he had no reason to doubt the announced figures and refused to order an audit "unless *The Sentinel* pays for it." Conway said, he was not

surprised by the relationship between RLS & Associates and Printing Concepts and that he was not concerned that non-gay businesses were used. "We didn't have time to use gay businesses, we needed to get the job done fast," Conway explained. He also reiterated that he does not know "or care" about the nearly 300 unexplained "comp" tickets.

Of the \$42,880 in announced income from the benefit, the National AIDS/KS Foundation has announced that it will spend in the following way:

- \$10,000 for a national lobbying effort for AIDS/KS in Washington, D.C.

- \$10,000 for patient care and research projects which will be determined and announced at a later date by the Foundation's Medical Advisory Board.

- \$3,500 for the refurbishment of the AIDS patients' waiting room at San Francisco General Hospital.

- \$15,000 for the expansion of community information services, educational outreach, and "hot lines" and medical callback services at the Foundation's new offices at 54 Tenth St.

Remaining monies will be deposited into the National Foundation's treasury.

LETTERS

BELLI WAS MISQUOTED

Some of our mutual friends have advised that I ask for clarification of a quote—or should I say misquote?—which appeared in the *Chronicle* (8/19/83). I have asked the columnist, who is a friend of mine, to retract a statement which I feel is not only incorrect, but could cause hurt feelings with friends and colleagues I care about.

My comment, briefly and simply stated, is a profound belief of mine—and that is that no one should ever be the victim of discrimination! Thirty years ago I fought the discrimination that was pointed at an openly gay associate of mine. Today I not only stand for the need to fight discrimination of gays by non-gays, but conversely in the name of equality, if there is a proven case on the basis of sexual orientation of a non-gay by a gay-run firm. When you believe in individual rights, you're committed must be 100 percent.

That was my comment when asked about a proposed suit and any statement about gays running this city is not only cloaked discrimination, it is incorrect. No one special interest group runs this city—we all fit in together.

Mevin Bell
San Francisco

REASON FOR ROLLS

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav (Cong. of the Golden Gate), a congregation with a special outreach to the gay and lesbian Jewish community, would like to thank you for highlighting its Rolls Royce Raffle on the front page of the last issue of the *Sentinel*.

However, the notice did not address the important reason that the Synagogue is conducting the raffle. The raffle is a

key part of Sha'ar Zahav's current drive to not fund for the September 30, 1983 purchase of a home of its own. The 1989 Silver Shadow Rolls Royce, valued at \$27,000, is the gift of an anonymous donor.

With a membership of over 200, the Congregation voted in May to purchase a building at 201 Cassell Avenue in San Francisco for \$240,000. Sha'ar Zahav's home will also be a place for other groups in the community. The building fund contains almost \$120,000, the Congregation's task is to raise in cash an additional \$120,000.

Each raffle ticket sells for \$50. A maximum of 1500 tickets will be sold, thereby increasing each purchaser's chance of winning. The drawing will be held Sunday, October 9. Tickets may be purchased at the Congregation office, PO Box 6640, San Francisco 94110, or by contacting Joe Parent (888-8500). Checks should be made payable to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav-Building Campaign. Donations to the Campaign are tax deductible.
Ron Lazell

KOME-O-PHOBIA?

I am writing to complain about something I heard on radio station KOME-FM.

Saturday night between midnight and 1:00 A.M., the disc jockey boasted that he was not playing "kome" dance music. His use of the word *faggot* is insulting to thousands of people in the station's listening area.

The station would not refer to other people with insulting epithets because they would get away with it.
Hymie Luden
San Francisco



POLITICAL CORNER
Chris Bowman

So Be There!

Filante—Guest Speaker. The Honorable William J. Filante, Republican Assemblyman from Marin County, will be the guest speaker at the sixth anniversary dinner of Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights. Filante will be speaking before the predominantly lesbian and gay Republican volunteer group on Friday, September 9, 1983, at the Grand Central Hill Hotel (formerly the Jack Tar). Cocktails start at 7:00; dinner at 8:00. The fare is only \$21.00 compared to the \$40.00 and \$50.00 charged by Alice and Harvey this year. So be there!

Why is Filante's appearance important, and furthermore, why should we attend CRIR's dinner? For those of us with short memories, a few comments are in order. AB1 (which would amend the Unruh Civil Rights Act to prohibit

discrimination in hiring on the basis of sexual orientation) authored by San Francisco Assemblyman Art Agnos was on the floor of the Assembly last June. When the first round of voting had ended, Agnos had been able to line up only 38 Democratic votes. During the second round, Speaker of the Assembly, Willie Brown, "pre-vailed" upon Lou Pappan (whose district includes part of the area west of Twin Peaks) and another Democrat to vote for the bill.

Agnos was still one vote short, and the picture was bleak that he would be able to get the support of any additional Democrat. Just when it appeared that the bill was doomed, Bill Filante raised his hand in the affirmative, and the bill passed, and was sent to the Senate.

Filante, a political moderate,

and a physician by trade, had received a great deal of pressure from constituents and colleagues to sit out the vote. Granted, he was visited by Duke Armstrong and this author on two occasions, where



Hon. William J. Filante

we were cordially received, but he had not been effectively lobbied by closeted lesbians and gays in his own district. Furthermore, when he sent out trial balloons to other moderate Republicans in support of AB-1, he was rebuffed. Increased publicity about AIDS being a "predominantly gay disease" raised old prejudices about gays being sick and fears that supporters of AB-1 could be ac-

cused of requiring employers to hire sick people. So, Filante knew that his would be the only Republican vote. Notwithstanding the above, the Republican assemblyman voted on the merits of the issue.

It is now time for us to return the favor—not only to thank Bill Filante for his courage and integrity, but to encourage moderate Republicans in the Senate to follow his example. Given the fact that Agnos has been able to line up only 15 to 18 Democratic Senators for AB-1 (and the bill must be voted upon by September 15th if it is to be heard this year), again, it rests with the moderates in the Republican Party to carry the day. Our presence at the CRIR dinner will send a message to these legislators (and possibly a couple of recalcitrant Democrats such as Alquist, Lockyer, Boatwright, and Garamendi) that we will support those who support us. Our failure to do so will leave these legislators at the tender mercies of Reverend Timberlake and other fundamentalist Christians. So be there!

Lobbying for AB-1. On August 22nd, CRIR President Bob Bacci, this author, and CRIR Corresponding Secretary Michael Newell

went to Sacramento to meet with the aides of Republican State Senators Beverly, Maddy, and Campbell. The appointments had been made the previous week through the auspices of Republican Senator Milton Mark's district office. Mark supports AB1 and voted for it last July in the Senate judiciary committee. We were cordially received and in one instance, an aide spent over 20 minutes with us. We provided each aide (as well as the aide for senator Seymour, whom I visited last month) with a White Paper on the Lesbian/Gay Community, which included a section prepared by Dr. Bill Paul, a noted psychologist on the latest polling data on attitudes of the American voter on gay rights. It is our sense that the aides were favorably impressed, and we will continue to follow up with them in the next weeks.

AB1 was to be heard before the finance committee on the 29th, but Committee Chair Al Alquist of San Jose (which voted 80 percent to 20 percent against a Gay Rights ordinance in 1980) asked Robert to bypass the committee. This Robert did on the justification that the bill would not have a major fiscal impact (even though we had advised Agnos' staff last

Monday that through our talks there were concerns about precisely that issue. The issue now is before the Senate floor.

The Sebastiani Initiative. Agnos spoke before the Harvey Milk Club last Tuesday to excoriate the Sebastiani Plan which would redraw the Assembly, State Senate, and Congressional Districts of California along more rational and less gerrymandered bases. Agnos seemed to be explaining his failure to line up Democratic supports for AB-1 in the Senate on their fear that they would be placed in more conservative districts should the plan win. What Agnos failed to mention was how many Republicans would be placed in more liberal districts nor the fact that in marginal districts, typically, moderate to liberal Republicans run, and that AB1 would not be a campaign issue. Notwithstanding the merits of the case, Democrats appear to be holding AB1 hostage to prompt gay opposition to the Sebastiani Plan. What excuse will it be next year? That it is an election year?

Chris Bowman is active with Concerned Republicans for Individual Rights.

Inflation-Fighter Perm—\$30 complete
Cut and blow—
Men and Women
Men's short cut—\$10
760 Market at Grant
Rm. 401-6, Phelan Bldg.
362-5198
Tues.-Sat.



Marc

5744 Jewish High Holidays Celebrate the New Year, 5744 With Congregation Sha'ar Zahav.

A Bay Area's Congregation with a particular outreach to the Lesbian/Gay Jewish Community

ROSH HASHANAH
• Wednesday, 7 September 1983, 7:30 p.m.
• Thursday, 8 September 1983, 10:00 a.m.

YOM KIPPUR
• Friday, 16 September 1983, 7:30 p.m. Kol Nidre
• Saturday, 17 September 1983, 10:00 a.m.
• Saturday, 17 September 1983, 6:00 p.m.

Yakar and Netiah (Memorial Service)

CANTORS
Leslie Bergson • Gary Koenigsberg
UNITARIAN CENTER • Main Sanctuary
Franklin and Geary Streets, San Francisco

ALL SERVICES START PROMPTLY • SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETED
• WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE • As in previous years, there will be no charge for admission.

Peace • Renewal • Hope
Member, Union of American Hebrew Congregations



THE NAKED TRUTH
about electrolysis (Thermolysis)



ELIMINATE SUPERFLUOUS HAIR—ANYWHERE ON THE FACE OR BODY—SHOULDERS, BACK, CHEST, ARMS OR LEGS, PENIS & SCROTUM, BUTTOCKS AND RECTAL AREA, NECK AND STOMACH, NAPE OF NECK & FACIAL HAIR.

IT'S NICE TO HAVE SMOOTH SKIN BUT HAIR REMOVAL TAKES TIME. GET STARTED EARLY FOR THE SUMMER FUN—INDOORS OR OUT.

AMA-APPROVED THERMOLYSIS (HEAT) USES THE SELF-STERILIZING INSTRUMENT.

CALL FOR A COURTESY CONSULTATION WITH NO CHARGE OR OBLIGATION.

285-9948
LARRY TIZ A CENTRO **CHUCK SEEMAN** **CHUCK JOHNSON**

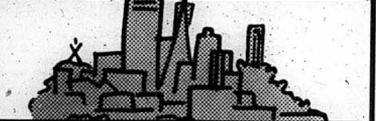


Chez Danny
San Francisco

Inspiring Dinner Brunch • Lat & Sun Continental Cuisine
438-A Castro St. (415) 863-7345
Champagne Brunch Sat. & Sun. 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Affordably Marvellous!

601 OF APRIL
AT THE EDGE OF YOUR FANTASY
art deco • flash • space • flare

The only way to downtown living studios and one bedrooms
Call 775-2170 or stop by now!



McDOWELL CONSTRUCTION
classic interiors and exteriors

COMMERCIAL AND RESIDENTIAL

- storefronts
- professional offices
- kitchens
- retail spaces
- restorations
- baths

Michael P. McDowell 415-843-5862
MEMBER GGBA California Contractor License Number 410222

ARLEN INSURANCE MARKETING
M. Ray Dorfman, Vice President

Specialists in Business Insurance and Workers Compensation for
• Restaurants • Hotels • Bars • Motels • Retail Stores

Special Discounts for Tavern Guild Members

(415) 499-0540 Call Collect (707) 795-5470

OPEN 24 HOURS
21st ST. BATHS
STEAM • SUNDECK • WHIRLPOOL

LOCKERS \$2 ROOMS \$5
12:01 am MONDAY THROUGH 4:00 pm FRIDAY

LOCKERS \$3 ROOMS \$6
4:01 pm FRIDAY THROUGH MIDNIGHT SUNDAY

Excellent Removals And Holidays

1 YEAR MEMBERSHIPS \$1.00!
285-3000 3244 21st. Street

Sight & Sound

Stage

• Fournite West Coast premiere of a musical by Bill Russell and Ron Metrose about a cabaret troupe whose cross-country tour brings acclaim while their cross-sexual activities bring disdain. Theatre Rhinoceros, 2940 16th St., Thurs.-Sun. at 8:30 P.M., through Sept. 24. \$8-\$10. 861-5079.

In Person

• Sept. 1—Jasmine, with creative jazz and pop artistry. At Valencia Rose, 766 Valencia St. 45. 552-1445.
 • Sept. 2—Jane Donacker and Tom Amelio start Labor Day with a comic bang. Valencia Rose. \$5.
 • Sept. 3—Gay Comedy Night at Valencia Rose. 9 P.M. \$4.
 • Sept. 4—Joe Barrie and pianist Hazel McGinnis perform comic versions of operas. At Valencia Rose. 3 P.M.
 • Sept. 5—Gay Comedy Open Mike at Valencia Rose. 8:30 P.M. \$3.

• Sept. 6—Robin Harrison and Pam Hofessa perform songs and comedy at the Masque, 1160 Polk St., 9 P.M.-1 A.M. No cover. 779-6262.

• Sept. 7—Ron Romanovsky and Paul Phillips at the Valencia Rose, 8:30 P.M. \$4.

• Sept. 8—Steamheat, with an evening of lesbian cabaret. At the Valencia Rose, 9 P.M. \$4.

• Sept. 9—Jane Anderson and her one-woman comedy show; at the Valencia Rose, 8 & 10 P.M. \$5.

• Sept. 10—Musician-poet Avoteja and pianist Mary Watkins. At Valencia Rose, 8 P.M. \$4.

• Sept. 11—Jaime Carroll with guests Ana Caminos and Blanche Morioke. At Fanny's, 4299 18th St., 3:30 P.M. \$3.

• Sept. 12—Karen Drucker—live at the Plush Room, 8:30 P.M. In the Hotel York, 940 Sutter St. \$4. 885-8800.

• Sept. 13—Robin Harrison and Pam Hofessa, at the Masque, 9 P.M.-1 A.M. No cover.

• Sept. 14—Terry Baum, actress and comedian, presents 'The San Francisco Baumatic.' At Valencia Rose, \$1, 6-8:30 P.M.

Events

• Johnny Mathis and Ramsey Lewis at the Concord Pavilion, Sept. 10-11. Reserved seats \$14.50, lawn seating \$8.50 (BASS, Ticketron, Record Factory).

Exhibits

• Kico, 'City of Men,' paintings. At The Stud, 1535 Folsom, through Sept. 20.

• Mick Hicks, color photographs described as "non-art, non-editorial, double takes and photo illusions." Moby Dick, 4049 18th St., through Sept. 21. Daily 2 P.M.-2 A.M.

• Magenta, women artists present a mixed media exhibition. At Studio W 3137 22nd St. (at Capp). Opening Sept. 1, 5:30-7:30 P.M. Hours: Thurs.-Fri., 2-7 P.M.; Sat.-Sun., noon-5 P.M. 641-6299.

• Vide Gallery presents 'Facts or Fantasy,' a multi-media exhibit of nudes by women. At Women's Building, 4th floor, 3543 18th St. Opening Sept. 2, 7-9 P.M. Hours: Wed.-Fri., 2-7 P.M.; Sat., noon-5 P.M.



One of the Mick Hicks pics now on display at Moby Dick

• David Howard, 'Found Paintings,' black and white photographs. At 544 Natoma. Opening Sept. 13. Wed.-Fri., 11 A.M.-5 P.M.; Sat., 2 P.M.-5 P.M. 621-2885.

Notes

• S.F. Gay Video Fest, presented by Frameline each Monday at 9:30 P.M. in cable channel 25.

The Best Service Listing for San Francisco's growing Gay Community: THE SENTINEL'S Services in the Classifieds!

Lub Bavaria
GERMAN/BAVARIAN RESTAURANT
 Reservations/Information (707) 869-0121
 • Dinners Nightly
 • Brunch Weekends and Holidays
 1632 River Road (Highway 101) Guerneville, CA
ANNOUNCING
Midnight Express!
A Special Weekend Menu For Late Night Diners

Open Weekends At Midnight
AND FEATURING CABIN RENTALS

	Per Night	Per Week
1 Bedroom	From \$30	\$175
2 Bedrooms	From \$50	\$275

RUSSIAN RIVER COUNTRY-Get Away To A Healthy Environment

CHARLES PIERCE

Thursday, Sept. 1
 Friday, Sept. 2
 Saturday, Sept. 3
 Monday, Sept. 5
 1 Show per evening

please call for reservations (707) 869-0111
 Coming Sept. 11th— MORGANA KING



TIMESHARE TREND GOES GAY

Guerneville's newest gay resort is FIRE MOUNTAIN LODGE, the first gay timeshare project in the country that involves actual, fee-simple title ownership. The resort boasts 27 units, each with furnished bedroom, living room, and fully equipped kitchen. Most have fireplaces and redwood decks. Shared amenities include meticulously landscaped grounds with flowering shrubs, an exercise pool and hot tubs, outdoor game area and private beach, full liquor service, gazebo for cocktails, and an impressive view of the river and hills beyond—all given an aura of total seclusion and privacy.
 • A share in this property entitles you to visit and occupy one of the dwelling units one week a year—forever. Twenty percent of the purchase price is payable immediately and the balance may be financed over five years. Owners may elect to use their time as a full vacation, or spread it out a few days at a time. Owners are also welcome to "day use" anytime, bringing as many as three guests.
 Visit for a day and enjoy a cocktail as guests of FIRE MOUNTAIN. Real estate agents Bill Getzke and Roger Best take pleasure in giving visitors the full tour of no obligation and no cost. To arrange your trip to the FIRE MOUNTAIN LODGE call 864-0400. Vans leave daily from 480 Camp Street at 10 A.M. stop, and return from the river at 6 P.M. Call to obtain your bus pass.

A Russian River Resort
THE VILLAGE INN
 HOTEL-RESTAURANT-BAR
 865-2304
 On River Boulevard in Monte Rio
 P.O. Box 850, Monte Rio, CA 95462

FIFES
 LABOR DAY WEEKEND

IN THE BANDSHELL
 SEPTEMBER 4—PAMELA BROOKS

SPECIAL MIDWEEK GETAWAY PACKAGE...
 FOUR NIGHTS FROM \$70 PER PERSON
 DOUBLE OCCUPANCY
 P.O. BOX 45-E
 GUERNEVILLE, CA 95464
 (707) 869-0656



HOLIDAY AFTER HOURS SAT. & SUN. TIL 4 A.M.
 FEATURED DJ:
 MICHAEL GARRETT — SEPTEMBER 1, 4, 5
 STEVE FABUS — SEPTEMBER 2, 3
 SPECIAL LABOR DAY CONCERT ON THE GREEN
 VAL DIAMOND — ENTERTAINER OF THE YEAR
 BEACH BLANKET BABYLON
 HOT "T" TIL 8 IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CONCERT

Advertising Sales by Don Brown

Enjoy a FREE day on the Russian River

Be our guest for a beer bust and barbeque at California's most beautiful Gay resort



A Gay Timeshare on the Russian River

CALL NOW!
 (415) 864-0400
 (Free transportation available)

Employed adults are invited to take advantage of this offer through October 15, on a space-available basis.

OFFER MAY BE CANCELLED WITHOUT NOTICE

HE TOOK THE CHANCE OF GETTING HEPATITIS B— AND LOST.



NOW THE CONSEQUENCES ARE JUST BEGINNING. CHRONIC ACTIVE HEPATITIS, CIRRHOSIS...OR DEATH.

You undoubtedly know someone who's had it. The "bad hepatitis" that can keep you in bed for weeks and out of a job for months—that can cause lifelong disability and even death from cirrhosis or cancer of the liver. Where do you get it? From people who have become carriers of the virus. Today, it is estimated that at least 100,000 gay men are carriers of the hepatitis B virus and spread the infection through intimate contact. That's the main reason why more than half

of all gay men will sooner or later become infected.

How can you tell who's a carrier? You probably can't. Most carriers seem to be perfectly healthy, and many are themselves unaware that they harbor the virus.

Once you get hepatitis B, there's no specific treatment for it. But now there's something you can do to help protect yourself.

DON'T TAKE A CHANCE— CONTACT YOUR DOCTOR OR CLINIC AND ASK ABOUT THE HEPATITIS B VACCINE.

It is highly effective in those who receive all three shots. Do it today because you never know where or when you'll make contact with a carrier.

If you'd like more information about hepatitis B and the vaccine, call The American Liver Foundation at (201) 857-2626.

This message is brought to you as a public service by
The American Liver Foundation.

Studies showed that the vaccine protected against infection caused by hepatitis B virus in 85% to 98% of those who received the required three shots.

Hepatitis B virus is an important cause of viral hepatitis, a disease mainly of the liver. Even mild forms of this disease may lead to serious complications and aftereffects, including liver cancer. There is no specific treatment for viral hepatitis.

Vaccination is recommended for persons who have a higher risk of becoming infected with hepatitis B virus because of frequent, close contact with infected people or exposure to body fluids from such people. It will not protect against hepatitis caused by viruses other than hepatitis B virus.

Because of the long incubation period for hepatitis B, it is possible for unrecognized infection to be present at the time the vaccine is given. The vaccine may not prevent hepatitis B in such patients.

In three studies involving 3,350 persons, the overall rate of adverse reactions did not differ significantly in those given vaccine and those given placebo (an inactive substance). As with any vaccine, broad use often reveals rare adverse reactions not observed during clinical trials.

Over 200,000 people are estimated to have received the vaccine since its release, and the vaccine continues to be generally well tolerated. Hepatitis B has a long incubation period, and unrecognized infection may already be present at the time the vaccine is given. Thus, reported cases of hepatitis are to be expected and do not appear to be caused by the vaccine. Reactions such as fever, nausea, vomiting, headache, and local pain have occurred. Joint pain has been reported; rash has been reported rarely. Serious illnesses affecting the nervous system—including Guillain-Barré syndrome—have been reported rarely but no cause and effect relationship has been established.