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Lavender Reader is published quarterly as a community project of Santa Cruz County's gay and lesbian political alliance, the Freedom Democratic Caucus. The reader serves our gay and lesbian community by providing a forum for the discussion and analysis of those issues and topics that most concern our local and national community.

Through our affiliation with the FDC, our content is not confined to electronic or partisan politics. On the contrary, we are editorially independent and hope to speak the collective mind of our community as best we can. We will provide our readers with news, reviews, profiles of community members, interviews, poetry, original fiction, organization updates, photography, and as complete a three-month calendar as can be produced.

The size and diversity of the lesbian and gay community in Santa Cruz County is really quite amazing. This reader is a celebration of that fact. It is our hope that in its publication, this quarterly will facilitate an aggressive effort to better network within our own community as well as with the community at large. We are a varied bunch...with an incredible number of organizations representing and serving the needs of thousands of gay and lesbian people. Future issues of this quarterly will provide interested groups with the opportunity and space to promote who they are and what they’re up to.

The health and strength of any political/social movement is based to a large degree on an open, uninhibited dialogue between its participants. We therefore solicit and encourage your responses. They will be printed as space permits in future issues.

Finally, a word regarding our sponsors. They are the businesses and individuals in the community who make this publication possible through their generous support. Publishing is expensive...and we need to be supported with advertising revenue. If the opportunity presents itself, let these people know you appreciate their sponsorship of this endeavor.

Lavender Reader comes to you as the product of many fine talents...a special thanks to all.

Jo Kenny   Michael Perlmam

COMING UP

Women & AIDS / by Laura Giges
Gay Big Brothers, Lesbian Big Sisters / by David Beckstein
AIDS & Acupuncture Interview: Lesbian S/M
Poetry  Fiction  Letters
WINTER 1987
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COMMUNITY AT LARGE

Santa Cruz AIDS Project: Update

The SANTA CRUZ AIDS PROJECT announces the hiring of its new Executive Director, Gerald W. Landers. Previously employed at Dominican Santa Cruz Hospital and volunteer director of SCAP since its inception, Gerald will officially take his post on September 29. The Project will officially open its doors on September 29 in its new offices located at 234 Santa Cruz Avenue, Seacliff, Aptos, CA 95050. The new office telephone number is (408) 688-7641. The HOTLINE telephone number will remain the same: 458-4999.

The Project has spent this summer continuing to perform the direct services to its clients and anyone requesting information or needing counseling. There continues to be a Monday evening group for men with an AIDS and/or ARC (AIDS Related Condition) diagnosis. On Wednesday night there is a support group for anyone with a HIV positive test result. In October there will be a kick off for a group for Family, Friends and Loved Ones of people who are sick. Educators are available for speaking engagements to all requesting groups. Information and requests can be submitted in writing to SCAP, P.O. Box 3142, Santa Cruz, CA 95063 or by calling 458-4999.

In October there will be a reception and fund-raiser for SCAP to be held at the Santa Cruz Community Credit Union, October 23 from 5:30 till 7 pm. The work of Gypsy Ray and Carter Wilson will be on display, depicting our struggle with AIDS. Everyone is invited to come and share this touching essay of photojournalism and support our organization.

No On 64 Benefit Raises $3700.00

Anybody who attended the-No on 64 kick-off benefit concert starring the Pearl Divers can attest to the phenomenal success of the evening. Nearly 500 people attended the debut of the newly re-formed all-woman Motown, R&B band. Camp Cafe was on hand to provide desserts and a non-alcoholic beverage bar. The Ves Hall never looked better thanks to the wild inspiration of the Pineapple Princess and Mr. Bill Taylor. A special thanks to the women who made the evening happen: Jane Sax, Doro Reeves, Nancy Kasper, Cacky Gater, Elaine Begelman, Cheri Toney, and Lynn Lollar.

FDYC Retreat

The Freedom Democratic Caucus will be holding an organizational retreat on December 7th in order to map-out the direction the caucus will be taking next year. The retreat is open to those interested in playing an active role in the coming year. RSVPs and information: Iola Gold, 426-6077.

Scan Calendar

In an effort to improve communication and networking in the progressive community, the Santa Cruz Action Network has begun to maintain a long-term community calendar at their Cedar St. office. If your organization is planning an event that is open to the entire community, give Glenn Schaller a call at 458-9425, and have him note it.
COMMUNITY AT LARGE

“Mostly Monteverdi”

The Morning Star Early Music Ensemble will be seen in their performance of “Mostly Monteverdi” on Saturday, Oct. 11th, at 8:00 pm. The performance will be held in the acoustically marvelous and beautiful Holy Cross Church at the corner of Emmer and High Streets in Santa Cruz.

One other unique feature of this concert will be the continuous organ used. Built here in Santa Cruz by Fischer Associates, virtually every stage of construction is modeled after methods perfected over 400 years ago (the only part not powered by the organist is the wind supply).

The choir first got started over two years ago as a small group meeting weekly to sing a style of early American music called Sacred Harp. They had no perfect - mance ambitions. Since then, the Mc. - ing Star Choir has given three concerts in the area with Will Russell directing.

Will Russell: “I am not a musician, I am learning to be a musician — maybe one day I’ll be there... I have a fantasy of myself as Bugs Bunny directing a huge symphony at the Hollywood Bowl, and one day I’ll be there... I have a fantasy of assembling will be seen in their performance "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a fantasy of "Mostly Monteverdi" on Saturday, Oct. 111 be there... I have a Pe
THE POLITICAL CLIMATE / by John Laird

Since I last wrote for these pages, gay men and women have increasingly come under political siege — the Supreme Court acted against private consensual sexual acts, the followers of Lyndon LaRouche qualified Proposition 64 for the November ballot, a Justice Department opinion subjected people with AIDS to legal discrimination, and the Governor refused to sign anti-AIDS discrimination legislation.

In the midst of this craziness, the superpowers are tensing up over spies, politicians are grandstanding over "Jar Jar," and the numbers of homeless grow, farmers go bankrupt, and Gramm-Rudman cuts funds to people who need it the most. It makes you wonder how times will ever be different, and how we can find the strength to stand up and fight politically until they do. The answer can be found in the legacy of Hugh DeLacy — a local political activist who passed away recently at the age of 76.

I first met Hugh about 10 years ago, when he was active in the Save Soquel organization. After casually asking him what he had done for a living prior to his retirement, he responded that he had been a carpenter, a builder, active in the labor movement, and I was a congresswoman for awhile. From his recent memorial service at Louden Nelson Center, attended by hundreds, it was clear that he was more than that.

Active in the labor movement, Hugh was elected to the Seattle City Council in the late 1930s. His tenure there was marked by increased participation and concern for working people, but practical achievements — like the floating bridge — were a result of his work. In 1944, Hugh was elected to Congress from Seattle. He teamed up with the few very progressive representatives at the time — such as Helen Gahagan Douglas of California and Vito Marcantonion of New York — in an attempt to keep the House honest on issues of concern. He lasted one term, being defeated for re-election in the Republican landslide of 1946. He is probably the only member of Congress in this century to be a carpenter both before and after his congressional service.

He then moved on to activism within the Progressive Party, coordinating the presidential campaign of Henry Wallace in Ohio during 1948. As the '50s unfolded, Hugh was caught in the Red Scare nonsense of the House Un-American Activities Committee. At his memorial service was displayed his subpoena to the committee.

In this era, he met Dorothy Baskin Forest — to become his wife — who had been called in front of a judge to "name names" of former political associates. Her attorney spoke at Hugh's service, and the description of that proceeding reminds me of the bad times we are in now.

Dorothy was told by the judge to arrange "permanent child care" for her three-year-old, because she was going to jail until she agreed to "name names." As it was related, the judge said she had the "key to her freedom in her head" — and her attorney responded, "but, your honor, she has the Constitution in her heart."

Hugh and Dorothy continued their activism until they came to Santa Cruz County in the early 1970s. They were very active in the Save Soquel movement, and because of the work of that group there is not a development with hundreds of condominiums on an extension of 41st Avenue in Soquel.

Hugh was also active in campaigns for the Santa Cruz City Council and the Board of Supervisors. He was proud of the progressive majorities, and thought that his theory of making a difference was proven in Santa Cruz. There was seldom a fundraiser where Hugh didn't stand up and make the money pitch.

His backing for Robley Levy in 1984 caused one last incident of red-baiting. Levy's opponent, Dave Tunno, accused Levy of having supporters whose loyalty was questionable. There was such a big stink that many political observers think this incident began the real momentum that gave Robley such a resounding victory in that election.

So it was moving to hear of Hugh's achievements over 50 years of political activism. He touched many lives, and continued on page 25

THE MENACE OF IGNORANCE

The first time I heard about Lyndon LaRouche was under a freeway in Seattle. It was several years ago, and I had a newly acquired identity as a Serious Leftist, which allowed me to understand the world much better than I do now. So imagine my confusion when I came across a flyer — pasted to a concrete pillar — by the U.S. Labor Party ("Never heard of them," I thought).

"Henry Kissinger, you have betrayed the American People," it read. "We are ready to debate you at any time," etc., etc.

"What a stupid idea," I thought. "You don't debate the ruling class." I read on. Rantings and ravings about David Rockefeller and international banking. Nothing about the working class, unions, oppression or revolution. This was a labor party? None of it fit together. None of it made any sense.

"These people are nuts," I concluded, walking away. "Must be CIA.

Many things have changed since then, but that brief assessment has stood the test of time: Lyndon LaRouche is still a nut, and he and his cohorts still have stupid ideas. For example: Queen Elizabeth is a kingpin (he really does say "kingpin") in international drug trade. Another example: AIDS is a plot by the Soviet Union to weaken Western nations. Another: the International Monetary Fund is part of this conspiracy, using AIDS to rid Africa of "excess eaters."
Now, here's another example of LaRouche thinking: it is possible to convince a majority of California voters to vote for reporting, restricting, and even quarantine of people with AIDS. Not so outlandish. By signing the LaRouche initiative petition, 700,000 people agreed that such an idea belongs in state law. LaRouche found his three cats killed by PANIC, an organization's abusive public persona.

The tactic of vicious attacks on opponents is a favorite with LaRouche people. A New Hampshire reporter who published an expose' of LaRouche found his three cats killed and laid on his porch on three successive days.

"..."
AIDS, LaRouche and Women
by Alison Claire

In the early months of the AIDS epidemic, many lesbians (myself included) unknowingly acquired the dangerous stereotype of AIDS as a gay men's disease and a gay male issue. It's taken the homophobia backlash of recent years and the tragic impact of death on our community to change that. AIDS has affected us all.

So when California supporters of Lyndon LaRouche began peddling their PANIC initiative earlier this year, lesbians (and straight women!) appeared at the forefront of organized opposition. A state-wide Women's Coalition working against Prop. 64 includes representatives of the National Women's Political Caucus, NOW and the National Council of Jewish Women on its steering committee. In Los Angeles, Lesbians Against LaRouch raises money and consciousness among women. Three thousand lesbians at the West Coast Women's Music and Comedy Festival this Labor Day weekend raised $20,000 for the No on 64 campaign — $14,000 in one night. Here in Santa Cruz, women play leading roles on the campaign steering committee and task forces.

Lesbian participation is crucial to the success of the Stop LaRouche/No on 64 campaign. Prop. 64 is not just a gay men's problem — it's a lesbian and feminist issue as well. Certainly many of us are motivated by concern for our gay brothers, who have already suffered so much and would bear the brunt of Prop. 64. But in fighting this initiative we are also fighting for ourselves.

Women also get AIDS. Women die. Women give birth to babies already affected with AIDS. Most are women of color. Prop. 64 would further deny privacy, jobs, education and even personal freedom to those women already stigmatized and discriminated against: women of color, addicted women, and prostitutes (already scapegoated in the political brouhaha over the AIDS "threat").

Lesbian women have already suffered the stinging homophobic backlash of public response to AIDS. We've watched panic about the disease fuel prejudice and serve as a front for simple queer-hating.

The general public erroneously believes that gay women are AIDS "high risk group." We certainly are at high risk politically. The response to AIDS — hysteria and fear of gay people as contaminating agents — affects lesbians and gay men equally. Prop. 64 could worsen the situation dramatically.

Lyndon LaRouche himself is doubly dangerous to lesbians — as anti-gay, and as misogynist. Back in his pseudo-Marxist days, LaRouche blamed "nagging working-class wives" for the failure of workers to rise in revolution! Feminists, especially lesbian feminists, have long stressed the interconnectedness of oppressions, the need to struggle against all forms of bigotry. LaRouche the anti-Semitic, the racist, the woman-hater, the homophobe, is a threat to women everywhere.

The campaign to stop LaRouche and his obscene AIDS initiative depends on lesbian and gay unity in action. Moral support posing as solidarity just doesn't cut it. Moral support alone can't raise funds, run the campaign, get out the vote. We need all the women power of this vibrant lesbian community to defeat Prop. 64 at the polls in November, defeat it so resoundingly that similar attempts across the nation will be thwarted before they even get off the ground.
I have been living with AIDS for 4 years and four months. There is a life to live after an AIDS diagnosis. A life that has become more meaningful and fulfilling than ever before. Learning to meet the challenges of AIDS, and learning to reach out to others with compassion and love have given me a greater sense of myself. I am thankful for the loving support I have received from my family and friends, and all the loving and caring I have received from the San Francisco gay community.

- Ron Carey

Some issues demand a response. When AIDS struck the gay community especially hard I decided to contribute my skills as a photographer to create an educational exhibit concerning AIDS. I began work in November of 1985 and what you see here is some of the work to date.

The strength in these photographs and statements can be attributed in great part to the willingness of those participating to be portrayed honestly. I wish to acknowledge them and thank them.

The exhibit in progress is designed to let individuals speak out who might otherwise not have the chance. At this time I am hoping to work in Santa Cruz County documenting the effects of the disease where I live.

Most of Gypsy's work has been donated, but her ability to photograph in Santa Cruz is dependant upon receiving funds to cover production and supplies. She is sponsored by the Santa Cruz AIDS Project, so all donations are tax deductible. Please support this invaluable exhibit. Send donations to SCAP - PHOTO EXHIBIT, P.O. Box 5142, Santa Cruz, CA 95063.

In the past four years of working with people with AIDS, I feel like I've experienced the best and the worst of humanity. I've had the very precious opportunity to share in rich moments of people's (strangers') lives, to feel the strength, courage, love, sorrow, and pain that each person dealing with AIDS has to confront — and I've felt enraged at the homophobia and racism that has shaped this government's response to this great tragedy, enraged at its misguided priorities of war that only create more hardship and suffering. Mostly, it's served to keep me well on track, to recommit me to working for a more just society and to begin to get a mere glimpse of understanding of life and death.

- Marie Swafford, RN

Faggots don't die! You just fuck them and forget their name. We just recycle all the fantasies we get and give.

June 15th, 1985, Bob calls. He says, "I have AIDS." Suddenly I hear a clock, like the sound of an old wind-up type/ start marking time. Giving us a new kind of insomnia. Fearful, that all we have been told about this cancer is true. Fearful, that all we hope for is futile and we should face the truth.

... the truth, "We do die."

- Moss Patrick Adams

My life is my disease, and vice versa. I have an unwilling pact with it to share my body and thus it has been for two years. Being Romanian/Irish by heritage and orneriy by design, I seem able always to keep a step ahead of where the disease says I should be going; it challenges, I fight back. And so go the days, the ultimate game of push and shove. I'm not winning, I can't win. But I can revel in the friendships that are my solace, my sustenance and my survival.

- Jon Hedu

Cameras lens
LaRouche: The Man and His Proposition

On July 17th, over 70 people gathered at the Louden Nelson Center to organize a Santa Cruz chapter of the state-wide STOP LaRouche campaign. The meeting, spear-headed by the Freedom Democratic Caucus, had been called shortly after the LaRouche Initiative (Proposition 64) had qualified for the November ballot. Present at the meeting were representatives from the Santa Cruz Action Network (SCAN), the New Jewish Agenda, the Rainbow Coalition and the Rainbow Ensemble. Since that initial meeting, the campaign in Santa Cruz County has set up an office in the Good by law building, and has organized several committees for the many tasks that lie ahead.

Although the reputation of LaRouche and his followers was enough to defeat most any other initiative, this initiative is different: it taps into the AIDS hysteria that has spread in the wake of the disease.

That the LaRouche followers were able to gather over 500,000 valid signatures is difficult to fathom when looking at the background of their leader. Born in New Hampshire in 1922, LaRouche was raised in an evangelical Republican family, but became a socialist as a young man. After World War II he joined the Socialist Labor Committee, which had a Maoist leaning. In the 1960s he formed the National Caucus of Labor Committees, with the goal of establishing a workers' government in the United States.

By the 1970s, however, LaRouche's political views had shifted to the extreme right. Emphasizing a Soviet threat and the need for a strong support for the development of nuclear weapons, he started the United States Labor Party. Then in 1984 he ran for President, calling for a new international monetary system based on gold, to prevent a "worldwide economic collapse." (New York Times, October 30, 1985).

Today LaRouche refers to himself as an economist and market consultant with "moderate Democrat or Republican" political views. These "moderate" views include the idea that Mondale is "an agent of influence of the KGB, the Soviet secret police. So are Kissinger and McGeorge Bundy, the former Ford Foundation president and presidential advisor" (interview with Washington Post, January 13, 1985). Another of his "moderate" ideas concerns Queen Elizabeth: "Of course she's pushing drugs." (interview with LaRouche on NBC's "First Camera," March 4, 1984). And, most recently, he has brought us another "moderate" idea: Proposition 64.

Although headquartered in Virginia, LaRouche's organization has two offices in California, one in Los Angeles, the other in Livermore. While no one knows the exact number of LaRouche people in California, Joel Bellman, a Los Angeles radio producer who has been reporting on LaRouche, estimates that there are several dozen full-time workers and several hundred organization members here. (San Jose Mercury, 7/6/86). Two of these people, Khushru Ghandi (the leader of LaRouche activities in California) and Brian Lantz (the Northern California coordinator of the organization) are behind the initiative and are the co-chairs of the Prevent AIDS Now Initiative Committee (PANC). By conducting a successful ballot initiative campaign, they have managed to insure that on November 4th, voters across the state will see the following text on their ballots:

PROPOSITION 64--ACQUIRED IMMUNE DEFICIENCY SYNDROME (AIDS) Declares AIDS virus carrier a contagious condition, subject to quarantine and reportable disease regulations. Fiscal impact: The measure's cost could vary greatly depending upon its interpretation by health officers and the courts. If existing discretionary communicable disease controls were applied to AIDS, given the current state of medical knowledge, there would be no substantial change in state and local costs. If measured were interpreted to require added disease controls, costs could range to hundreds of millions of dollars per year depending on measures taken.

Legal analysts have different views as to what effects they think the initiative would have, were it to pass. So far, extensive legal analyses have been made by the Orange County Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union and the Legislative Analyst's office of the California state legislature. A third is being prepared by a law firm hired by the Stop LaRouche Campaign.

According to the ACLU's analysis, the following legal consequences are expected if the initiative passes:

1. Reporting of names to local health authorities of persons who are, or even persons suspected of being (probably based on antibody test results), HTLV-III carriers will be required. The existing practice in California is to require doctors to report each case of AIDS, and for blood banks to make reports of HTLV-III antibody tests. The initiative would make it illegal to report without the careful confidentiality safeguards of present law, and some public health officials might be pressured to investigate each person reported.

2. Food handlers such as cooks, waiters, airline stewards, and possibly bar-tenders will be prevented from working with food if they are, or are even suspected of being HTLV-III carriers or of having AIDS...

3. School exclusion will probably be required for students and staff who are HTLV-III carriers, have AIDS, or are suspected of merely reside with a HTLV-III carrier or person with AIDS...

4. Travel restrictions might be asserted by law enforcement or public health officials against HTLV-III carriers and persons with AIDS...

5. Quarantine and isolation powers might be more readily used by law enforcement and public health officials against HTLV-III carriers and persons with AIDS ...

There are two state-wide organizations coordinating the fight against Prop 64: CAL CAN and Stop LaRouche. CAL CAN -- the California Community AIDS Network -- is a network of local community service agencies that has lobbied for increased funding for AIDS health care. Stop LaRouche, on the other hand, is an organization primarily made up of political staff people who have extensive experience from past campaigns, and whose primary goal is to conduct an extensive television and newspaper campaign. Working closely together, these two organizations are helping local groups to form and are providing posters, buttons, bumperstickers, and all the other paraphernalia of a campaign.

A Marvin Field poll indicates that only 46% of the voters have heard of Proposition 64, but of these, only 20% are against it, 36% are in favor of it, 18% are undecided. In addition, two other factors worry activists. First of all, we must defeat this proposition so soundly that it won't appear on the ballots of other communities.

continued on page 25
FLESHLY REASONINGS / by David Thomas

After Sodomy

After the sodomy decision we are all sad, and angry. Rightly so. Bowers v. Hardwick was a benchmark in sodomy and legitimate expectations. Had one more vote (Justice Powell’s) gone the other way, the remaining laws against sodomy (oral and anal sex) in 25 states could have been struck down. Instead, the Supreme Court ruled on June 30, by 5 to 4, that the state of Georgia (and any other state) had the right to enact a law making sodomy between consenting adults, even in private, a criminal offense. An important line of decisions, including the 1973 abortion rights case, Roe v. Wade, extending a privacy right, abruptly halted at lesbian and gay lovemaking.

An outrage, yet it is important to understand what the decision does not do. It does not say that such laws are wise or desirable, it does not say that states may not repeal them, it does not re impose where legislatures or state courts have revoked them. It leaves matters as they are: lesbians and gay men remain half bound and half free in these United States. In California we are not outlaws. It is now left to the political process in each state to determine the outcome.

The courts play a peculiar role in American public life, but they are only one arena. It is a major error for us to rely on the professionalized legal arm of the gay movement to do all our work. Gay liberation has never come easy. This wretched decision again shows we have more political work to do. "The solution is political not legal."

With this ruling of the Supremes, hom- tile administrative actions, the LaRouche initiative, Deukmejian’s vetoes, it is easy to become despondent, to conjure up worst case visions of quarantines and concentration camps. Such attitudes, if understandable, are both short-sighted and lazy. They rest on faulty analysis. More importantly, they ignore the key matter of: we have yet to do what we must do.

Opinion polls show that a quarter of the U.S. population think that AIDS is God’s punishment for homosexuality — appalling, but a solid majority (57%) think that states should not have such laws as Georgia’s. Polls show gains in public support during the last decade for lesbian mothers and the custody rights of gay fathers. A majority of the public supports legal protection against discrimin a tion, even for teachers.

We have not made adequate use of this support. Our right-wing opponents are well organized. We are less so. They write to legislators and governors ten to a hundred times more frequently than we do. Our national lesbian and gay organizations are staffed by able and hard working people, but they are supported in membership and contributions, much more weakly than comparable minority groups.

The Proposition 64 campaign requires us to strengthen our own community pol itically while reaching out to the public at large. Yet organization, important as it is, is still not enough.

Studies show that the most effective means of changing a person’s hostile atti tudes towards homosexuality is for her personally to know someone who is openly lesbian or gay. Yet, astonishingly, only 2% of the American public do know someone who is openly homosexual.

Coming out, never easy, is something someone who is lesbian or gay person can do. It is privately meaningful and publicly effective. As Harvey Milk urged, it is central to our movement. To join the per sonal and the political in a just cause is our struggle.

David Thomas is a professor of sociology at the University of California, Santa Cruz.

Arnold Leff, M.D.
plethora of newspapers and periodicals that find their way into our hands. Articles. Inter-Readers are well aware of the neesses.sarily agree with every­come our way. We won't don 't expect you to either.

September 1986 issue of The gay... bisexual.

writers to come out as openly Your responses are encour­

gay... homosexual, that's well known. 1

Ever. Everyone thinks I did, because the the 1980s.

Q: You were one of the first made the thing the most normal story —

decade by

my family, as anyone would now know, they loved [Truman] Capote — and one

Q: Censored or not, you life, personal

of which two were

\begin{itemize}
\item lighter
\item Träger Sessions
\item Workshops/Classes
\item "THERAPEUTIC MOVEMENT SYSTEMS"
\item Massage
\item "TRAINER-RE-EDUCATION"
\item Bennett Real Estate
\item 121 MISSION STREET
\item SANTACRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95060
\item 426-9000
\item Vernon A. Isakson
\item OR
\item Ronald L. Sampson
\item "CAFE V" SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA 95060
\item 426-7644
\item "DINNER AT EIGHT"
\item GENE S. Huthmacher
\item 426-7350
\item "CAKES & DELUXE"
\item ALAN S. GLAT
\item "WORKSHOPS/CLASSES"
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\end{itemize}
FALL CALENDAR

A three month calendar of events. For weekly, ongoing meetings, please refer to the Community Resource Directory on page 27.

SAT 3 SCAN: SF Mime Troupe presents The Mozambique Caper. SC High School 8:00 pm

SUN 5 GREAT OUTDOORS: Potluck and Bike Trip in Watsonville Hills info. 1-728-4342. IN TOUCH: LIP SYNC CONTEST $100.00 prize 8pm.

SAT 11 MBWA: Coffee House at UCSC Woman's Center 7-11 pm.


SAT 18 NO ON 64 BENEFIT: UCSC Dixies Dance sponsored by the gay and lesbian community of the university. 9 pm Call 425-6577 for location and details.

TUES 21 RESOURCE CENTER FOR NON-VIOLENCE: Conversations in Non-Violence- AIDS and Homophobia: The Case of Prop 64 Resource Center 7:30 pm.

FRI 24 PEACE MARCH: Santa Cruz / Fort Ord / Monterey Ends on Sunday 10/26 For further info call 458-0303.

SAT 26 NO ON 64 BENEFIT: Poetry Reading with ADRIENNE RICH, ELLEN BASS, AND RANDY CLARK LNC Auditorium 7:30 pm $4 advance $5-8 sliding scale at the door. CAMP CAFE presents a pre-show fresh pasta dinner LNC Multi-purpose Room 6:00-7:30 $5-10 sliding scale Call 425-6577 for reservations.

GREAT OUTDOORS: Day Trips to the Primate Center and Dinner.

MCC: Dinner and Services YWCA 6pm.

FRI 28 FACES: Benefit for No on 64 Beer Bust $3 per person 8-11pm.

SAT 29 SATURDAY NIGHT DANCE: Beginning at 4:00 pm. Reservations Required Call 425-6577. Also The Blue Lagoon presents THE HISTORY OF CAMP FASHION: A show and tea dance Beginning at 4:00 pm.

GREAT OUTDOORS: Parents Dance Live Oak Grange Hall 8:30-midnight $2-8 sliding scale Non-alcoholic.

FRI 31 NO ON 64 BENEFIT: A HALLOWEEN EXTRAVAGANZA Eagles Hall 9-midnight Live DJ Raffle Food Non-alcoholic sponsored by MBWA and Great Outdoors.

GREAT OUTDOORS: Potluck and Meeting.

SAT 13 MBWA: Christmas Party 7-10 pm UCSC Women's Center.

SAT 27 DANCEMAKERS: Women's Dance Live Oak Grange Hall 8:30-midnight $2-8 sliding scale Non-alcoholic.
Randy Clark
Run amok are all probably illegal in the first place: but no one is certain.

One thing is certain: whether the state chooses to enforce Prop. 64 or to fight it in the courts, it will cost the taxpayers a fortune.

If you're interviewed ...

... by the media, remember that you have the right to talk about what matters to you. Be polite, but don't let yourself be sidetracked.

Always try to collect your thoughts in advance, and go over your main points or objectives with the interviewer beforehand.

And try to make a self-contained statement about each major point, so it will still make sense if it's quoted out of context.

Isn't homosexuality a sin?

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Isn't homosexuality a sin?
The late Michael Foucault, inverting the familiar cliche, mused that "Politics is war pursued by other means." If true, no better example of such "warfare" can be cited on the California or national landscape today than the LaRouche AIDS Initiative. No other issue before voters in any state will have such a profound impact on the lives of an entire people as Proposition 64 could have on our people.

Of late we have been emblematic of the backlash this disease has brought us in terms of increased attacks on the streets, in the government and from the courts. And yet we have united and resisted all these challenges. Proposition 64 represents a new and potent challenge which is dangerous with that which is evil and questioning men. For gay, androgynous, curious or questioning men.

LaRouche has failed to trample our civil liberties. The threat 64 poses is actually not primarily a moral judgment it plays on the members the proposition is both a Gay and non-Gay issue. Of course the Gay community understands the threat posed by the Briggs Initiative all over again. The War on Drugs could be replaced with the War on AIDS, waged against those who "spread it." We, for us, defeat would spell almost certain dooms. Besides the effects of the initiative itself, it would be open season on the Gays in California and elsewhere, for we are thought to be at our strongest here. In short, we ought to fight this battle as if our lives depended on it. If LaRouche has his way, they may.

LaRouche would love it if we tried to make this initiative a referendum on Gay rights. He has already stated it is a debate about "public safety," not morality. We've been held off at the pass essentially. LaRouche knows that the voters' unwillingness to trample our civil liberties for such an abstract idea as "morality" does not mean they will not see their own safety and health as more important than our freedoms. Besides, he has not said it is Gay people he is after, nor even people with AIDS, but rather the spread of the disease itself. It is hard to imagine the public rejecting 64 because there is little "homophobic" when its language does not name us.

Essentially the homo sapiens that was explicitly in the Briggs Initiative is implicit in the LaRouche Initiative. Yet, this does not mean LaRouche has failed to use homophobia to his advantage. AIDS is being called the "danger" and its carriers are "dangerous." While this is not clearly a moral judgment it plays on the natural human tendency to associate that which is dangerous with that which is evil or wrong. We are provided with a rich imagery of this disease as "infecting the social body," a term which might well have been a holdover from Briggs. This mysterious disease lurking like a shadow in the dark waiting to prey on the innocent, the children. This cloaked figure is called "AIDS," but you and I understand that the language and imagery is meant to conjure up a person beneath the cloak, a gay person, you or I.

For LaRouche this campaign is already won and it is only a matter of how big his take will be. If the initiative is defeated even by a huge margin he still puts it on the ballot and has gotten the media attention he wanted. If he wins it will be his second stunning upset in a year and he will be credited with having defeated the Gays in California, a feat that no TV preacher or right-wing politico has yet accomplished. His position as spokesperson for the Right-Wing wing would be assured. It also likely that others would follow his example as a blueprint for political huckstering. The War on Drugs could have been a holdover from Briggs. This does not mean LaRouche has failed to use the Briggs Initiative as a blueprint for political huckstering. This does not mean LaRouche has failed to use homophobia to his advantage. AIDS is being called the "danger" and its carriers are "dangerous." While this is not clearly a moral judgment it plays on the natural human tendency to associate that which is dangerous with that which is evil or wrong. We are provided with a rich imagery of this disease as "infecting the social body," a term which might well have been a holdover from Briggs. This mysterious disease lurking like a shadow in the dark waiting to prey on the innocent, the children. This cloaked figure is called "AIDS," but you and I understand that the language and imagery is meant to conjure up a person beneath the cloak, a gay person, you or I.

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THE SANTA CRUZ AIDS PROJECT

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ROBERT AUSTIN
MICHAEL BALLIRO
PAUL BELLINA
PETER BERGE
SALLY BLUMENTHAL-McGANNON
SCOTT BROOKIE
MARGIE BROWN
JOYCE BURKHOLDER
DAN BURLESON
DAN DICKMEYER
CLAUDE ELLIOTT
LARRY FRIEDMAN
JOANNA GEAR
SUNSHINE GIBBS
JOHN GIBERT
LAURA GIGES
ALENA HAMMER
CHARLES HANSON
WESLEY HARRIS
ELAINE HERMAN
ROBERT HUNT
JO KENNY
KEN KOENIG
JOHN LAIRD
GERALD LANDERS
BARBARA LINN
CHARLOTTE LYONS
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RAY MARTINEZ
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MAKING A DIFFERENCE.