

your paper your paper

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The Gay Family Newspaper of the Greater Santa Clara Valley

BAYMEC hosts Nat'l Leaders at new Club St. John

John in downtown San Jose took four days to handle the hoards of people who jampacked the new nightspot.

The early hours of the second evening, July 17, were reserved for a reception for visiting board members of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force, in the Bay Area for their quarterly meeting.

A joint fundraiser for BAYMEC and NGLTF, the event was co-sponsored by High Tech Gays, BAYMEC, and Jon Snell, owner of Club St. John (should be Club St. Jon?).

Honored guests at the event, in addition to the Task Force board, included openly gay Supervisor Tom Nolan of San Mateo County, openly gay Councilmember John Laird of Santa Cruz, Assemblyman John Vasconcellos, and Santa Clara County Supervisor Zoe Lofgren.

Also attending was Ed Hilton, R.N.C. AIDS Project Coordinator, San Mateo County.

Acting as hosts were, of course, all the BAYMEC and High Tech Gays board members, who would fill the Who's Who of Gay Biggies in public life, plus the proprietors of the Silver Fox.

A roller derby star, Mr. Icebox, a blocker for the L.A. T-Birds team, accompanied Nanette Wheeler of the Downtown Post, an independent San Jose newspaper.

And if one looked carefully, a certain restaurant owner could be seen tending bar.

Over 200 people paid \$20 a head to rub elbows with the visiting dignitaries, raising a total of \$4645.00, according to the HTG newsletter.



A festive occasion at Club St. John: (L-R) Supervisor Tom Nolan of San Mateo County; BAYMEC Pres Wiggy Sivertsen; State

Assemblyman John Vasconcellos; Santa Cruz Councilman John Laird; and Club St. John owner, Jon "Halo" Snell. Photo by Ted Sahl

After 9 p.m., Club St. John patrons were allowed to enjoy food and mingle with members of all three organizations who stayed to enjoy the new bar.

St. John features two full bars with their own seating areas, a piano bar, more seating, a pool room to relax, and a giant dance

floor (at least 60x60, that's feet).

Outside is a large patio. Add to all that two entrances and that wonderful warm hospitality that only Jon Snell can offer, and San Jose may be ready to challenge San Francisco to the title, "the city that knows how."

You just gotta be there... □

Christopher Street West announces AIDS Hospice

Los Angeles Christopher Street West/Los Angeles has received support from the City of Los Angeles for its plan to open an AIDS Hospice in Hollywood.

At a press conference called to announce formation of the Greater Los Angeles AIDS Hospice Foundation and a \$100,000 grant to the Foundation from Christopher Street West, Mayor Tom Bradley pledged the support of the City, and called upon Governor Deukmejian to restore recent budget cuts in funding for health care.

Screen Actors guild President, Patty Duke, long a supporter of additional funding for AIDS education and treatment, pledged her support for the project.

Commenting on the fact that at 38 beds, the hospice would be the largest in the world, Ms Duke said, "many things can be the biggest, but we have a history of being the best; I'm sure that's what this will be."

Also attending the press conference were Los Angeles City Councilmembers Mike Woo, Robert Farrell, Joel Wachs, and Zev Yaroslavsky.

Each member endorsed the

project as a crucial addition to the City's network of care facilities for AIDS patients.

Los Angeles County Supervisors Ed Edelman and Deane Dana have also strongly backed the hospice.

The hospice will provide supervisory care for AIDS patients who do not require hospitalization but who need assistance in caring for themselves.

According to Bob Craig, President of Christopher Street West, "The Hospice can provide a measure of dignity and self-assurance for these persons, and will cost far less than hospitalization."

The Foundation needs an additional \$200,000 beyond the Christopher Street West grant simply to close escrow," said Craig.

The Foundation will also need additional contributions to help repay debt incurred in purchasing the \$595,000 building.

Donations should be made out to the Greater Los Angeles AIDS Hospice Foundation, and may be sent to 7925 Santa Monica Blvd., U3200, West Hollywood, California, 90046.

For more information call the Foundation at (213) 656-1227.



Al Rattee

Photo by Ted Sahl

Al Rattee

July 12, 1949 - July 15, 1987

By Ted Sahl

A service in celebration of the life of Alfred Rattee was held on July 19 at the Holy Trinity Community Church.

"Leave it to Al, this is the best service we ever had," said Rev. Randy Hill, pastor.

The Sunday morning service in a small chapel at the Billy DeFrank Community Center was completely filled with friends.

Rattee, 38, was found unconscious by a co-worker while working last Wednesday night as a security guard.

He was taken to El Camino Hospital, where he was pronounced dead in the early morning hours. According to a source present at the hospital, cause of death was a large brain tumor.

Described as a warmhearted soul with a true giving, loving spirit, Rattee was the first clerk for the church in 1985.

Steve Gonzales, a close friend,

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Federal Reserve Bank includes gays in non-discrimination policy

National Gay Rights Advocates has been instrumental in changing the Equal Opportunity policies of the Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco to specifically include sexual orientation in its list of protected classes.

The action began when Mark Tanaka, an employee of the Federal Reserve Bank, proposed that "sexual orientation" be included in the list of protected classes in the Federal Reserve's personnel policy manual.

Attorneys for the bank initially argued that the changes were unnecessary, saying that it was impossible to include everyone who might be a potential target of discrimination.

However, NGRA identified several court decisions and statutes prohibiting such discrimination, and convinced the Federal Reserve to add "sexual orientation" to its non-discrimination policy.

"The Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco has taken an important step in recognizing the need for a clear and strong stand against anti-gay discrimination," said NGRA

Legal Director Leonard Graff.

"While the Federal Reserve explicitly stated that it has not discriminated in the past, and will not in the future on the basis of sexual orientation, its willingness to take a stand on this symbolic issue is admirable."

NGRA Executive Director, Jean O'Leary said, "By recognizing that it could benefit from positive public and employee opinion, the Federal Reserve takes a progressive lead in fighting discrimination and promoting a positive atmosphere for gays and lesbians in the workplace."

"NGRA will continue to work with companies to ensure more

employers follow this lead."

The new policy reads as follows: "The Federal Reserve Bank of San Francisco is committed to a policy of equal employment opportunity for all persons, regardless of race, religion, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, or handicap."

"This commitment encompasses all aspects of our employment and personnel policies and practices including, but not limited to: hiring, termination, promotion, transfer, compensation, benefits, educational assistance, working conditions, and Bank-sponsored training and recreational programs."

Times ad deplors Court's anti-sodomy decision

Marking the first anniversary of the Supreme Court's 5-4 decision holding that the Constitution does not protect private sexual conduct of consenting adults of the same sex, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, Inc. (GLAAD) has placed a full-page ad in the *New York Times* deploring the ruling.

Nearly 300 law professors and professionals, including Yale law School Dean Guido Calabresi, Alan Dershowitz, and Ira Glasser of the American Civil Liberties Union signed the open letter to the Supreme Court protesting the Bowers -vs- Hardwick decision.

"The majority failed to explain," the letter says, "how the Constitution can be deemed to protect the liberty to use contraceptives, to have an abortion

if one chooses, to use pornography in one's home, and to live with whom one wishes—but not the liberty to engage in the most intimate and personal relations with another consenting adult."

The letter declared that "the majority opinion poses a grave threat to the constitutional freedoms of all Americans, gay and non-gay alike."

Public opinion polls have shown that a substantial majority of the American people disagree with the Court's decision.

The open letter urged readers to tell the Court they opposed the decision and to send the advertisement to Justice F. Powell, Jr., who was the swing vote in the decision, to alert him to the continuing unpopularity of the decision.

The Fairness Fund

Washington—The Washington-based Fairness Fund began operating a new national Action Hotline, the beginning of July to generate thousands of mailgrams on AIDS-related issues to members of Congress, Rodger McFarlane, Fairness Fund Board Member and former executive director of Gay Men's Health Crisis (GMHC), announced mid July.

An additional Action Hotline is expected to begin operation shortly.

Its focus will be on generating mailgrams on fairness issues such as the fight to defeat Robert Bork's nomination to the Supreme Court, reform of immigration laws to end the anti-gay exclusion, lesbian/gay rights, etc.

The new Action Hotlines will be featured in major gay/lesbian media advertisements beginning this month; in addition, the Fund will be mailing announcements to AIDS service organizations, to gay/lesbian groups/activists and to gay/lesbian business establishments.

Callers will be able to dial, toll free, 1-800-325-6000 (day or night) and ask for an operator (9184) who will read them three, 50-word mailgram messages on AIDS issues that community lobbyists have identified as crucial for Congressional action.

The messages will cost \$4.50 and will be billed to the caller's personal telephone number.

Current messages available from the mailgram service for a "New Manhattan Project on AIDS," a reference to the all-out U.S. effort in the 1940's to create an atomic weapon.

Just such a no-hold barred approach is needed now to combat the AIDS crisis, gay/lesbian activists urge.

The Project's primary goals are to accelerate research, increase drug availability and pro-

vide the best care possible for people with AIDS.

The Project also supports efforts to promote an effective national AIDS education program and enactment of laws to protect the confidentiality of and prohibiting discrimination against people infected with the HIV virus.

Because the prepared mailgrams can be changed on a regular basis, the Action Hotline ensures that individuals can call it and be assured that the message they send to Congress is coordinated with current "on the Hill" priorities and strategy.

Mailgram Campaign is Direct, Effective

"Our right-wing opponents successfully exploit the health crisis for political gain, mobilize massive mail campaigns and generate tremendous pressure on legislators," Edean stated.

"But these same legislators—even on life and death issues such as AIDS—receive little or no mail or constituent pressure from the majority of voters in their districts who support our efforts."

"Constituent mail in favor of gay/lesbian issues has historically been scant," continued Edean, Executive Director of the Fairness Fund.

"While our community's advocates are doing an excellent job in the media and in the halls of Congress, our opponents work the streets and avenues of the districts across the country.

Insurers' AIDS policies criticized in Harvard Law Review

The Harvard law Review, the nation's most prestigious legal journal, has published an article by Benjamin Schatz, Director of the AIDS Civil Rights Project of National Gay Rights Advocates.

entitled, "The AIDS Insurance Crisis: Underwriting or Overreaching," the article provides a legal and ethical analysis of two approaches commonly used by insurers to avoid AIDS related expenses: sexual orientation discrimination and HIV antibody testing.

The article takes a critical look at the economic and legal justifications put forth by insurers in support of these practices, and examines relevant historical and legal precedents.

It concludes that both practices endanger the public health, while increasing discrimination against groups which are already ostracized.

"HIV testing by insurers represents a fundamental misuse

of the test," explained Schatz. "Such testing will inevitably lead to discrimination, because the confidentiality of AIDS-related records simply cannot be guaranteed."

"Insurer access to test results also increases the fear and mistrust which surround the test, and thus discourages testing on a voluntary basis."

"Insurers have also refused to accompany testing with critically important pre- and post-test counseling."

Jean O'Leary, NGRA Executive Director commented, "The issue of insurance is vitally important, and cannot be analyzed in a vacuum."

"Without health insurance, people with AIDS and ARC are too often denied quality medical care and access to promising treatments."

"The gay community must not be scapegoated by being deprived of health insurance just when it needs it the most."

Other individual rights cases in which Justice Powell may again cast a deciding vote, will shortly come before the Court.

The letter also maintained that the Court side-stepped the issue of heterosexual sodomy, "leaving the door open for legal intrusions into all people's bedrooms," that the decision could affect previous court rulings such as those guaranteeing the freedom of choice to have an abortion and the right to use contraception, and also "could signal the end of the Federal judiciary's concern with individual rights and the beginning of an era of judicial deference to state control of our private

conduct."

The full-page ad is the first ever taken out by a non-profit gay and lesbian organization in the *New York Times*, according to Gerald Malis, who coordinated GLAAD's effort marking the first anniversary of the decision.

Full-page ads have also appeared in the *New York Law Journal* and the *New York Native*.

Those who want to let the Supreme Court know their opinion of Bowers -vs- Hardwick can write directly to Hon. Lewis F. Powell, Jr., United States Supreme Court, One First Street, N.E. Washington, D.C. 20543.

"As a result, legislators too often are afraid to stand with us on controversial and emotional issues."

"We simply must translate the opinion poll majorities into tangible grassroots mail," said Dan Brady, Chair of the Fairness Fund's Advisory Committee.

Past failures to generate constituent mail on gay/lesbian issues have led many activists to believe that the community is either too "closeted" or too apathetic to play the grassroots role in decisions affecting their lives.

However, the Fairness Fund leadership disagrees.

"Many in the gay/lesbian communities live busy professional and social lives, and may not be particularly political or activist-oriented," Edean said.

"They are often unsure of when to write, who to write, or what to say to their legislators."

"Even activists are often so busy or so focused on state and local issues to sit down and write their U.S. Senators and Representatives," Edean stated.

"We really believe that the community—activists and non-activists alike—really do care and do want to make a difference, particularly in the face of the serious health and civil liberties threats the AIDS crisis presents," says Edean.

"This belief in our community's concern is the key to the mailgram strategy; it's our task to design more efficient strategies to assist easy, inexpensive communication with officeholders whose decisions have such enormous, critical impact on our lives," continued Edean.

The public opinion mailgrams provide just such a convenient means to reach legislators, the

Fairness Fund staff believes.

Since the prepared mailgrams can be changed on a regular basis (and the Fairness Fund functions in close cooperation with the Human Rights Campaign Fund and the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force), the strategy ensures timely communication to address rapidly changing legislative situations.

The Action Hotline provides three optional mailgrams that are coordinated with our lobbyists strategies and priorities on Capitol Hill.

A caller can choose one of the three messages for a \$4.50 fee (applied to your phone bill) or compose an alternative 50 word message of their own.

The same mailgram would cost up to three times as much if sent by an individual outside of the Fairness Fund.

"You don't even have to know your elected official to use the mailgram system," Edean explains, "the operator on the line will route the mailgram to the appropriate legislator."

Mailgram Strategy Represents Coordinated Community Response

To ensure the most effective, coordinated constituent pressure and to avoid duplicating efforts, the Fairness Fund has secured the help and cooperation of a broad range of community leaders and groups.

The 800 Action Hotline is a solid first step to more effective grassroots constituent mobilization—representing a strategy that can reach the broadest possible constituency—gay men and lesbian women and non-gay people alike, activist and non-activists alike.

Club St. John opens its "pearly gates"!



"HALO" everybody - "HALO"

"it's heaven sent"!



"off on cloud nine"



Dance Bar / Piano Lounge / Patio

Because it's time to raise a little hell again...
170 W. St. John St. / Downtown San Jose / 408-947-1667

Your paper

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The Silver-Haired Fox Has Fallen...

By Rev. F. Randall Hill
Holy Trinity Community Church

The "Grand Old Dutchess" has written the last chapter and is gone. My friend Al Rattee has gone ahead to prepare the way for our great homecoming in heaven where we can all sing "Holy, Holy, Holy!"

Truly, heaven is resounding in all its glory as a true disciple is welcomed home.

The entire Bay Area gay community and San Jose, in particular, owes much to this silver-haired fox, otherwise known as the "Grand Old Dutchess." This name was given to Al by Dick at one of our church functions, and Al loved it more than any other name.

It stuck, and Al even incorporated it into his lifelong dream, his own newspaper, On The Scene. And it was great, as Al was truly great.

The Scriptures claim that we certainly "angels unaware." Al certainly fell into that category.

No matter what organization Al became affiliated with, he put his whole life into it. He put his whole determination and life into whatever he set his mind to do.

He never did his tasks halfheartedly. He always thought of others.

I don't believe I have ever met a more honest person in all my life. Al was always truthful and told the stories as he saw them. Sometimes he saw them differently, but he never lied that I am aware.

No matter how cantankerous and fiery he got, his warm heart always won out! He was always ready to go the second mile!

Al shared his heart, life and thoughts to the fullest. He often called me "Dad" — the father or big brother he never had. He sought my opinion on about everything from his love life to doing the impossible dreams.

With Al, you always knew where you stood. He would barge right in and state his opinion regardless of who it was. Tact sometimes took a backseat.

He loved telling about his press conference and asking Jerry Fallwell questions. I felt sorry for Jerry!

Al had a heart of gold! A true giving and loving spirit. He often went without so that someone else had their needs met. At times, it seemed he went overboard, but he always came out the victor — for he was truly one person who always "got outside of himself."

Al loved God with all his heart, mind and strength. He loved Holy Trinity Community Church, and our very existence owes much to this man of God. From the very first service in June 1985, he remained until his death our church clerk.

Truly, God sent this angel unawares into the lives of so many people. He introduced many people to Jesus Christ and to the church for the very first time.

His compassion for his fellow gays will always be remembered.

He was fearsome and always stood his ground. He was always telling some story of how he was ready to "deck em" for whatever reason. His job as a security officer caused him to actually face danger several times. While being shot at, he maintained his cool and would have given his life if necessary.

Al was always attempting the "impossible," a true sign of leadership. Regardless of what others said, he marched to the sound of a different drum.

He succeeded in some, he failed in some, but he always came out on top by being admired for his courage. He tried — something so many these days are unwilling to do.

He always placed community



Photo by Ted Sahl

above his own desires. He loved the Billy DeFrank Community Center and always strove to help keep it going. Again, always sharing his talents and life for others.

He loved "Gay Rights" issues and stood up for what he honestly believed. He had an opinion on everything from politics to sharing his testimony of what the Lord meant to him on Sunday mornings.

His heart reached out to his brothers with AIDS. He worked with the ARIS Project, Imperial AIDS, and put his heart and soul into starting "Necessities and More." He loved N&M and would work at yard sales to picking up aluminum cans for others. Often it was a struggle, but struggle he did.

Al was great at keeping people and organizations on their toes. One never knew next what to expect, yet the twinkle in his eye always gave him away. His bark was louder than his bite anyway. His heart was always filled with love and compassion for his fellow beings.

His favorite past-time was to have a real good meal at a real nice restaurant, whether he could afford it or not. He loved the cinema, the theatre, classical music, the ballet and a good concert. He loved to give his own personal "review" of the reviews.

Al made friends easily and always seemed to fit in wherever he went.

He always searched for that elusive "Mr. Right." A Cancer, a romantic, he wanted to share his life and love with one special person so badly, but God saw fit to share Al with the whole community and world.

This jewel will shine for years to come through "touched lives."

How do I know? Because my brother touched my life. From the first day I met him in our kitchen, to the hours and hours and days spent sharing notes, theology, meals, drinks, trips, nothingness and advice.

Al came over and talked for hours the afternoon before his passing that night. He shared so many intimate feelings and fears and a little laughter.

His eyes showed that he wanted to tell me something more, but he couldn't bring forth the words, so we just hugged and hugged a lot and let love flow between us.

"Good-bye," he said, "I'll see you in the morning!"

"Well, dearie... don't fear and fret, girl, I've just gone on ahead to tell God and all our friends all about it... Toot-a-loo-a-loo, til we meet again in the morning in that land beyond the river."

We love you, Al, and miss you deeply and sorely.

Thank you for making life count and for what you have done for all of us! Truly, an angel unaware in our midst!

Recollection

By Ted Sahl

The news of Al Rattee's passing was a shock.

Death always seems to happen when least expected, and if it's a friend, it's always traumatic.

I can picture Al waving his arms to make his point. He had an energetic excitement about him.

Al was one of three men who spoke on AIDS at the Socialist Workers Party AIDS Forum held in October 1985.

While we both worked on the staff of Our Paper, my best recollection of him took place after he left the paper.

Oddly enough, last October while covering Halloween for his own paper, On The Scene, Al Rattee did a Ted Sahl thing.

I was also out covering Halloween that night for Our Paper. Everywhere I went, people would look at me funny and remark, "Weren't you just here?" or "Are you back already? I thought you just left."

Al Rattee had found a pair of wire-rim glasses, a black hat, and an army jacket, and was out taking pictures in his Ted Sahl costume.

All night long, I kept missing him, arriving at each bar minutes after he left.

Finally, I bumped into Stan Dorfman, Al's business partner, who described what was happening that night.

Later I bumped into Al Rattee himself, and we laughed for hours.

I shall miss this gentle man... □

Remembering Al Rattee

By Nikki Nichols
Editor, Our Paper

I don't know why I'm always so startled by the shock of realizing that I've seen someone for the last time without knowing it.

Death is always like that — sudden — even when we have been expecting it for years.

In the case of Al Rattee, age 38, death was definitely unexpected, at least by me.

It was only a few weeks ago that Al stopped by my print shop for the last time.

He was in exceptionally good spirits, having just won a small-claims judgment against an advertiser who had not paid his little newspaper, On The Scene.

He spoke of planning to file suit also against a former co-worker who had borrowed money and not repaid him.

Al was very generous and goodhearted — I think he would have done just about anything moral for a friend — but he also had a strong sense of right and wrong. He did not like to commit an injustice, and he did not like to have one committed against him.

We chatted a little, then he left and I went back to work. It was an unusually ordinary day.

Al was one of the most dependable people I ever knew. Seeing him put on his helmet and mount his motorcycle parked on my front sidewalk reminded me of the many, many times in all kinds of weather that Al had come, without fail, to pick up Our Paper for delivery to the community.

This was one of those unprestigious, but important jobs that placed him in the category of unsung heroes. I wish we could have heaped more praise on him while he was alive to enjoy it.

Al worked for Our Paper in various capacities for several years.

Just prior to starting his own paper, Al had joined our editorial staff. Having studied English in college, he enjoyed writing opinions and reviews, as well as news items about community events he had attended.

Always outspoken, Al was proud of working on Our Paper, and he never failed to sign his articles with his title, "editorial assistant."

And while he voiced his opinions strongly, he was never ashamed to change his opinions in the light of new knowledge and understanding.

When he left to start his own paper, Al was apprehensive

about a possible war between the two publications — but he was pleased and relieved when we wished him well.

Later, after On The Scene folded up, we had some long conversations about the difficulties and work involved in putting out a little newspaper. He admitted to having learned a greater appreciation for what we have gone through in producing Our Paper for the past five years.

Al was the first to admit that he was only human.

A very nervous person (his handwriting was so uncontrollable that he preferred to type), he confided in me about some of his problems and treatment that he was receiving. His openness made it possible for me to make allowances when we were at loggerheads.

If we all dared to be more open about our foibles and frailties, perhaps we could learn to be more gentle with each other in this often rejecting, misperceiving world.

I am very glad that Al and I were able to remain friends throughout a period that, for different reasons, was very trying for us both.

Benjamin Schatz, Director of NGRA's AIDS Civil Rights Project said, "It is inexcusable for health departments to institute AIDS-related contact tracing on the basis of unsubstantiated anonymous tips."

"It is even worse for them to do so without counseling or even speaking with the subject of the rumors."

Added Schatz, "Fortunately, our client's wife knew that he is gay and that he had recently tested negative for HIV antibodies."

"Under other circumstances, the department's rumor-mongering could have ruined both of their lives."

"This case must be viewed in a broader context," commented NGRA Executive Director Jean O'Leary.

"In several states, legislators

are seeking to give local health departments broad authority to allow contact tracing, quarantine, and the storing of names of people who test HIV antibody positive.

"Unfortunately, it is clear that even health departments are vulnerable to AIDS hysteria."

"As long as this is the case, gay people will be afraid to turn to public health officials for counseling and information about AIDS."

In its letter to the Kern County Health Department, NGRA urged director Leon Hebertson to distribute written guidelines to all department personnel outlining appropriate procedures to follow in the future.

According to NGRA, these guidelines should instruct that it is inappropriate for health departments to act on the basis of stereotypes, anonymous tips or other evidence which is less than conclusive.

the letter also urged Hebertson to emphasize that department personnel should interview and counsel allegedly infected persons before even considering contacting their sexual partners.

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NGRA charges Kern County with AIDS hysteria

National Gay Rights Advocates has charged the Kern County Health Department in Bakersfield, California with gross abuse of its authority in contact tracing for AIDS.

According to NGRA, the department responded to an unsubstantiated anonymous phone tip that a man is bisexual by contacting his wife, questioning her about her husband's sexual orientation, and urging her to be tested for HIV antibodies.

The department made no attempt to counsel the man or ask him about his medical status, and even refused to speak with him when he phoned on his own initiative.

He then contacted NGRA, which wrote to the department demanding that it apologize to the couple and develop strict guidelines to avoid similar abuses in the future.

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"In several states, legislators

New victory for lesbian/gay couples

National Gay Rights Advocates has won a victory for a gay couple in Seattle.

Mitchell Foshay, an employee at Pacific Northwest Bell (PNB) was denied paid funeral leave in 1985 when his lover's father died.

In denying Foshay's request for funeral leave, PNB asserted that employees must be married in order to receive funeral leave when a household member's parent dies.

A complaint was filed with the Seattle Human Rights Department, charging that Foshay was

being discriminated against because of his marital status.

The Seattle Human Rights Department has agreed, and called for conciliation.

"The fact that the State of Washington does not permit gay people to get married results in unequal benefits for gay people," commented Leonard Graff, NGRA Legal Director.

"Mitchell Foshay was denied paid funeral leave because he wasn't married—an option that simply wasn't available to him."

"He was denied the same benefits accorded to any married

heterosexual employee."

"The time has come for gay relationships to be legally recognized as valid," commented Jean O'Leary, NGRA Executive Director.

"NGRA is committed to making sure gay couples receive the same benefits as straight couples."

"Until the states recognize gay marriages, we will pursue the matter in the courts."

If PNB refuses to cooperate in conciliation, then NGRA will take them to court.

Insurance Company won't pay for AIDS

National Gay Rights Advocates is filing unfair practices complaints with fourteen state insurance departments against the American Service Life Insurance Company (ASLIC).

In its complaint, NGRA charges the Texas-based health insurer with refusing to pay for AIDS-related medical expenses.

NGRA cited as evidence ASLIC's promotional materials, which declare in small print that the company will not pay for expenses arising out of "any disease which was sexually transmitted."

Benjamin Schatz, Director of NGRA's AIDS Civil Rights Project, declared: "Insurance companies cover medical expenses for cancer, heart disease and other life-threatening illnesses."

"They must not be allowed to carve out a special exception for AIDS."

"For insurance companies to shirk their responsibility to pay for AIDS-related medical expenses is to undercut the very purpose of health insurance."

NGRA Executive Director Jean O'Leary said, "Last winter NGRA was instrumental in persuading fourteen state insurance departments to declare that insurers may not exclude coverage for AIDS."

"By filing complaints in all fourteen states, NGRA intends to let insurers know that these policies will be enforced around the nation."

NGRA filed its complaints

with insurance departments in Arizona, California, Delaware, Florida, Kansas, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, Oregon, Pennsylvania, South Dakota, and Tennessee.

NGRA had helped to convince departments in these states to forbid insurers to exclude AIDS through a national insurance survey conducted in the winter of 1986.



Ethos—the new Gay and Lesbian personal computer bulletin board system for the South Bay is now on the air. A message and files transfer board at 1200 baud, 8-N-1, with great graphics and colors (if your system can support them) but we can also accommodate you even if you can't handle graphics and color. Phone number is (408) 578-5325—give us a call and check it out.

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Theatre Reviews

By Rick Rudy

Of Sarah Winchester and Cheesecloth Ghosts

Theatre Review by Rick Rudy

City Lights Theatre Company is concluding its New Playwrights Series with *The Ghosts of Sarah Winchester*, a highly imaginative look at the builder of the famous Winchester Mystery House and heir to the Winchester Rifle fortune.

This is the play's San Jose premiere, although it was written over a dozen years ago by local authors Leigh Weimers and Gael Douglas.

The show's locality and topic have stirred considerable interest from the public, but the problem the show faces is that it is a "work in progress" being performed as a "production in progress."

When one is producing an entirely new show, one ought to make the mechanics of the show as good as possible to give the vehicle its best opportunity to be evaluated objectively.

Unfortunately, though the leading lady, Lila Lloyd, is excellent, and three of the supporting roles are good, the balance of the show is sloppy, ill prepared and very amateurish.

But what about the play itself? If the goal was to make Sarah Winchester out to be a kindly, eccentric, batty old lady, it succeeded nicely.

Otherwise it's the standard, though witty, poor-boy-meets-rich-girl plot where the obstacles are union organizing (by the boy), another suitor (for the

girl), and the constantly growing house itself.

The music is erratic at best. The boy-girl duets (there are three of them) are the best songs in the show, having clear melodies and pleasant voices to support them.

The others numbers are a hodge-podge of styles and textures, entangled in MacPlus synthesized music, often very out of style with the 1914 setting. Lila Lloyd is a most charming and lovable Sarah Winchester.

with eyes sparkling and a wit to match, she carries most of the show.

Doug Baird is fine as the sour attorney Phineas Dodge, trying to keep the old lady's affairs in order.

His "What They're Saying in San Jose" song sets the mood of the play.

Union organizer and carpenter Don Hubbard is nicely played by James Tiltman with a clear, pleasant voice, especially in "Stolen Moments" and "That Was The Love That Was."

And Al Gunby makes a sly and Jim Bakker-ish minister, Mortimer Winchester, seeking to commit Sarah to Agnew State Hospital and take control of the Winchester \$20 million fortune.

Caryn Anne Franchi is a very meek Francine, ward of, and secretary to Sarah Winchester.

Reina Woodyard is an unhappy caricature of a French maid,

with the worst French accent this side of Milpitas.

She gets to sing a totally unnecessary and awkwardly staged production number "Perils of Pauline Tango."

Galen Hall is the Irish chief carpenter, paddy Fitzpatrick, complete with stereotypical red nose.

He makes no impression as either singer or actor, except for a few moments when he doubles as the ghost of Chief Sitting Bull.

All the ghosts (the souls of those killed by Winchester rifles) are heavily draped in white cheesecloth to make them visible and do to enliven the end of act one with their story telling song, "Toast to the Ghosts."

The production's main problems come from the direction, or lack thereof, by Kathleen Woods and Marie Ballentine which is awkward and troublesome to the performers and audience.

The choreography, also by Marie Ballentine, is grotesque and absurd and almost always out of character.

The orchestrations, by conductor Joan Stubbe, are interesting though not always appropriate to the mood.

Considerable technical problems of balance, tempo, and mis-plugged cables plagued the second night performance.

Too little time seems to have been spent on musical preparation.

The overall impression the show leaves is of a vehicle with some potential but a considerable way to go before it is anything more than a weak performance of a work in progress.

The Desert Reclaims Its Song

Theatre Review by Rick Rudy

Sigmund Romberg's classic 1926 musical *The Desert Song* opened June 27 in an arid production by the West Valley Light Opera Association.

Operetta as a musical style was pretty much on the wane by 1926, and aside from three well remembered songs, *The Desert Song* has very little to offer, as was amply demonstrated here.

The play gives us northern Africa under the cruel rule of the French.

One gallant Frenchman, Pierre Birabeau, however, fights for justice while hidden behind the mask of The Red Shadow; and the Riffs are his loyal band of followers.

He can't reveal himself because his father is General Birabeau, Governor of the French Moroccan Province, and Pierre has always been a wimp at home, even to his beloved Margot.

To no one's surprise, and despite villainy, treachery and comedy, Pierre wins Margot in the end.

The real villain of the piece, however, is the director Richard Frank who never for a moment manages to make a cohesive or convincing piece of theatre out of these characters.

Community theatre is fraught with a very diverse pool of talent and the director must steer the experienced and train the inexperienced performers to portray a single vision of the work in process.

This never happened here. Each performer seems to be in his or her own world, turned loose to act in his or her own style, with no thought to the rest of the cast.

In addition, the cast was entirely unready for opening night, muffing lines and music at every turn.

Pierre Birabeau (a.k.a. The Red Shadow) is played by Phil

box. As the wimpy Pierre, box is relaxed and effective; as The Red Shadow, he is nervous, tense and awkward.

Box has a pleasant voice but it becomes strained in the upper register, especially in "The Desert Song," or just woken as in the well known "One Alone."

Sid El Kar, the Shadow's Lieutenant, is amusingly played by Anatole Lubovich in a very convincing eastern European accent.

Elisbeth Challenger is ever-young's sweetheart Margot Bonvalet.

Challenger has a pretty voice, but her Margot is pouty and whining, and hardly one to fight over.

Bill Wilkinson is dry and lifeless as the villainous Captain Paul Fontaine who also seeks Margot's hand, under the urging of Jack Fleming as a rather genial General Birabeau.

The comic relief is provided by Walt Schneider who ad libs his way through much of his role as the reporter Bennie, and Marjorie Grosheart who plays his irritating secretary Susan.

Phil Szustitsky is monotonous as the chieftain Ali-Ben-Ali; though Susan Webb is energetic and crafty as the dancer Azuri.

The chorus of Riffs, French soldiers, Spanish girls, wives, etc. was completely unprepared for moving about while singing.

And most of what they sang was unintelligible.

The orchestra, too, under the baton of Kathleen Barraclough, had its ups and downs handling the rich operatic score.

In all, *The Desert Song* is a weak vehicle, performed this time with too small an engine and insufficient fuel.

It continues at the Saratoga Civic Theatre weekends through July 31.

Hospice Office Opened

The AIDS Hospice Project, currently operating as a planning committee under the auspices of the Holy Trinity Community Church, has opened an office at 826 N. Winchester Blvd., Suite 2A, San Jose, CA 95128 (corner W. Hedding).

An interim board of directors, headed by Rev. Randy Hill, has been selected to incorporate the AIDS Hospice Foundation, which is intended to be a separate, independent non-profit organization, according to the organizers.

The projected Foundation has been issued federal Tax Identification No. 77-0142680 and is in the process of filing for 501(c)3 tax-exempt status.

In the meanwhile, donations are tax-deductible under the 501(c)3 of Holy Trinity Community Church, and church treasurer Jim Campbell is responsible for handling Hospice Project funds, which are being kept separate from general funds of the church.

After an extensive search, a suitable property for the actual hospice has been located, and a proposal for acquisition has been drawn up for renovating and modifying the existing building.

The first major fundraising event of the AIDS Hospice Project has tentatively been set for late August at a downtown San Jose location.

Project committee meetings are open to the public, and new members wanting to help work toward an AIDS Hospice in Santa Clara County are welcome to join the committee. For further information, call (408) 243-AIDS.

Aug 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: Women's Radio Hour: With Mary Jeffries, every Sun. 11 am - noon, KKUP 91.5 FM.

Aug 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: Closet Free Radio: Programming for the Santa Cruz lesbian and gay communities, from 8:30-10:30 pm on KZSC 88.1 FM every Monday.

Aug 5, 12, 19, 26: Fruit Punch: Gay radio every Wed. 10-11 pm, KPFA 94.1 FM.

Aug 8: *Visions: 1st Annual Talent Contest*, 8 pm. \$3 door charge. Stop in for details, or call 288-6464.

Aug 4, 11, 18, 25: San Jose Spurs: Country & western dance group, traditional and modern music, practice at Buck's, 301 Stockton Ave, San Jose, every Tuesday night 7-9 pm. Everyone welcome to come by and watch. Call for information, Steve Century 279-8398, or write San Jose Spurs, P.O. Box 21895, San Jose, CA 95151-1895.

Aug 15: Panama Canal Opened, 1914.

Aug 21: Hawaii Statehood, 1959.

Rest Assured Renter's Insurance Simple solution to a variety of problems

by Ruth Thomas

If you are getting an apartment, townhouse, or condominium, you need renter's insurance. If you share space with the owner of such premises, you need renter's insurance. It is important to know that you are never covered on the owner's policy unless you are a relative residing with the owner.

Today's living arrangements vary greatly. Some insurance companies are aware of this and will write insurance to cover individual situations. However, other insurance companies are looking for the proverbial nuclear family. Consider your own circumstances and shop for a company that meets your needs.

A primary reason to obtain renter's coverage is to protect your personal property. Most companies now require that you purchase a minimum of \$15,000 to \$20,000 personal property insurance. Though this sounds like a large sum, look around your home right now and tally the cost of the major items that you see. Imagine all of these items gone tomorrow. Imagine trying to replace each and every one of them. Imagine paying the bill. Twenty thousand may not be enough.

Most of today's carriers offer replacement cost coverage on personal contents. This is a must! The easiest way to explain this coverage is by example:

suppose you come home after work to discover that your place has been robbed. Luckily, the thieves only took the television and the VCR. Each item is five years old. Without replacement contents coverage, the claims adjuster would assign a depreciated value to the TV and VCR; those amounts minus your deductible are the end result.

However, with the replacement cost coverage, you simply replace the items with like quality and kind at today's prices, and you are reimbursed accordingly (minus deductible).

The difference in coverage costs and your eventual recovery in case of a major loss can easily amount to hundreds or thousands of dollars; check with your agent to verify that you have this coverage—you can request replacement cost contents coverage be added to your existing policy for a minimal charge.

Renter's policies are written to protect your property against damage from a variety of causes. Your protection is not limited to personal property.

For example, most policies offer protection that covers those extra expenses incurred by the necessity of living and eating away from home as the result of a covered loss. Many other benefits are an integral part of each renter's policy.

It is best to have your agents advise you as to your policy's

particular coverages.

Another important coverage that is a part of most renter's policies is personal liability protection. It is usually written for \$100,000; however, you should consider your individual exposure and upgrade your coverage as necessary.

Liability protection covers you and the members of your family living with you against claims by others for a myriad of personal acts. Your child throws a ball and chips another youngster's teeth—your dog greets the letter carrier a little too rambunctiously. A list of examples could fill a book.

Many insurance companies offer discounts to homes that are protected by smoke/fire alarms, fire extinguishers, and dead bolts. Still others offer discounts to non-smokers—some companies have both discounts available—always check out available discounts.

The average annual cost for a renter's policy that includes replacement cost coverage on personal property can be as low as \$15.00 per month. Costs vary according to limits and coverages you select to fit your personal needs.

In summary, there are two major reasons why you need renter's insurance. The first reason is to provide protection to you for damages to your personal property. Secondly, you must protect yourself from liability claims against you or your family. Talk to your agent. Ask questions. Get the best protection for your money—and know what you have purchased.

McCarthy at news conference for March on Washington

(Following is the Lieutenant Governor's statement)

On October 11, America will witness an event unprecedented in this country's civil rights struggle.

Tens of thousands of lesbians, gay men, and their supporters will march on Washington in a showing of strength, unity and pride.

They will demand an end to social, economic and legal injustices that lesbians and gays have suffered for so long.

The nation will see and hear women and men—American citizens all—who are denied equality solely because of their sexual orientation.

America's leaders have to take a hard look at laws that make lesbian and gay relationships a crime.

We need to put on the table legal recognition of the relationships of same-sex couples, custody rights of lesbian or gay parents, and discrimination against them in employment and housing.

We need to reject blind hatred, bigotry and fear. Our

foes have seized upon the AIDS epidemic to promote their agenda.

In so doing they undermine our attempts to find a cure and to prevent the spread of this disease.

Instead of waging a secret war in Nicaragua, we need to proclaim an all-out war against AIDS, mobilizing resources into research, education and prevention, and care of the dying.

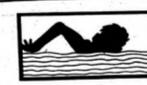
I'm pleased to join Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi and Assemblyman Art Agnos in urging other government leaders—federal, state and local—to seriously heed the call for lesbian and gay freedom and equality.

We support the October 11 March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Rights.

We do so because, in order for this country to be a showcase for civil and human rights, all citizens must share the protections of our laws.

We're at a crossroads in history.

Let us have the courage and decency to choose the right path.



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Calendar

NOTE: All telephone numbers are Area Code 408, except as noted.

Nonprofit Organizations

NOTE: To list your organization meetings or other functions in Our Calendar, contact the OUR PAPER office at 408/286-2670. Send press releases / calendar listings to Our Paper, 973 Park Avenue, San Jose, CA 95126. Next deadline: AUG 5.

Aug 1, 8, 15, 22, 29: **March Committee:** Planning meetings for a Santa Clara County contingent to attend the National March on Washington for Lesbian/Gay Rights this October are being held every Saturday at 12 noon at Gay/Lesbian Alliance at Stanford. Call David Horne 415/493-4205.

Aug 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: **Youth Group:** Slightly Younger Lesbians and Gays: An informal support group for men and women under the age of 25 meets every Sunday from 1:30-3:30 pm at Billy DeFrank Lesbian/Gay Community Center, 1040 Park Ave, San Jose. Call 293-AGAY.

Aug 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: **Holy Trinity Church:** A Christian Church for All People, member of the Independent Christian Church network, meets every Sunday from 10:00 am to noon at the Billy DeFrank Lesbian/Gay Community Center, 1040 Park Ave, San Jose. Rev. Randy Hill, pastor. Call 292-3071.

Aug 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: **Sunnyhills United Methodist Church:** Proclaiming grace and freedom for all. Sunday morning worship at 8:30 am and 11 am, Sunday school at 9:30 am, at 355 Dixon Road, Milpitas. Call 262-1486.

Aug 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: **Cabrillo Metropolitan Community Church:** Sunday worship at 5:00 pm at 2124 Brewster Ave, corner Brewster & Lowell, Redwood City. Call 415/368-0188.

Aug 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: **Metropolitan Community Church of San Jose:** Share

ing God's Love with All People. Services every Sunday at 6:30 pm at Grace Baptist Church building, corner 10th & San Fernando Streets. Rev. Dennis Moore, pastor. Call 279-2711.

Aug 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: **Peninsula Gay & Lesbian Youth Group:** Meets 2 pm every Sunday at Fireside Room, University Lutheran Church, 1611 Stanford Ave, Palo Alto.

Aug 2: **Lesbian/Gay Parenting Group:** Potluck picnic in Palo Alto, noon. Support group for lesbian women and gay men who wish to become parents or who already have children. Call Jeff 415/550-1271 or Ron 415/841-4622.

Aug 2: **Palo Alto Lesbian Rap Group:** Miniature Golf night. Meet at the Old Firehouse at Stanford at 6:30. Pizza afterwards. Call Marilyn at 415/969-1260.

Aug 3: **Billy DeFrank Lesbian & Gay Community Center:** Gay/lesbian violence and how to avoid it, free workshop sponsored by the Center from 7-9 pm, 1040 Park Ave, San Jose. 293-4525.

Aug 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: **Cabrillo Lesbians Together:** Weekly meetings on Monday evenings 7:30 pm at the Cabrillo College Womyn's Center, 6500 Soquel Drive, Aptos. Also drop-in on Friday afternoons 1:30-3:30 pm. Call 479-6249.

Aug 4, 11, 18, 25: **AIDS Support Group:** All are welcome. Meets 7-9 pm every Tuesday at Christ The Good Shepherd Church, San Jose. For details, call ARIS Project 370-3272.

Aug 4, 8, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27: **El Camino Reelers:** Beginner's class on Thursday nights, advanced group on Tuesday nights. Call for details: Marilyn 408/996-3788 or Jim 408/984-8132.

Aug 4: **Slightly Older Lesbians:** Video Night at Community Center, 1040 Park Ave, San Jose, 7-9 pm. Newcomers welcome. 293-4525.

Aug 5: **National Organization for Women:** Women's rights group. Meets the

first Wed every month at the First Unitarian Church, 160 N. Third St., San Jose. For details, call 259-6294.

Aug 5, 12, 19, 26: **Stevenson Gay Community Collective:** Meets 6:00 pm Wednesdays during summer session at Caffe Pergolesi, 418 Cedar St., Santa Cruz. The Collective's summer project will be designing an Orientation and Advising Program for new UCSC students in the fall. For further information, call Luke Adams at 429-4930.

Aug 5, 12, 19, 26: **Peninsula Woman's Group:** A support and networking group for lesbians meets Weds at 7:30 pm at the United Church of Christ on Arroyo St. in San Carlos (2 blocks west of El Camino), second floor, first room on right. For info and a calendar, call Diane 415/349-5189 or Pat 415/969-4731.

Aug 6, 13, 20, 27: **Men's Support Group:** An informal support and social group, meets every Thursday at 7:30 pm at the Billy DeFrank Lesbian/Gay Community Center, 1040 Park Ave, San Jose. Call 293-AGAY.

Aug 9: **High Tech Gays:** Annual Picnic at Stevens Creek Park, noon to 6 pm. Bring a side dish to share and something to cook on the grill. HTG will provide utensils, charcoal, ice, volleyball, and horseshoes. Call Voicemail line 993-3830.

Aug 11: **Slightly Older Lesbians:** Asian food. Call Gretchen for more info at 225-8542.

Aug 12: **Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays:** San Jose chapter meets at 7:30 pm on second Wed of month in the lounge of the First Congregational Church, 1980 Hamilton, San Jose. Call 270-8182.

Aug 13: **Feminist Reading Group:** Meets 2nd Thursday each month. For details, call Linda 248-9610.

Aug 14: **Gay Spanish Club:** El Grupo Social meets in Hayward the second Friday of the month at 7:30 pm. Both native speakers and learners are wel-

come to socialize in Spanish in private homes. For further information: Valentin (Hayward) 538-4980; Walter (S.F.) 776-4759; John (E. Bay) 526-8912.

Aug 14, 28: **Santa Cruz SOL:** Slightly Older Lesbians meet regularly in private homes on the 2nd and 4th Friday of each month. Call Dana at 423-1147 for details.

Gay and Lesbian/Feminist Radio/TV

Aug 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: **Women's Radio Hour:** With Mary Jeffries, every Sun. 11 am - noon, KKUP 91.5 FM.

Aug 3, 10, 17, 24, 31: **Closet Free Radio:** Programming for the Santa Cruz lesbian and gay communities, from 8:30-10:30 pm on KZSC 88.1 FM every Monday.

Aug 5, 12, 19, 26: **Fruit Punch:** Gay radio every Wed. 10-11 pm, KPFA 94.1 FM.

Gay Events/Night Life

Aug 2, 9, 16, 23, 30: **Visions:** Come in and enjoy a "Frosty" blended drink every Sunday from 3-7 pm, dancing till 2 am. 393 Lincoln Ave, San Jose. 288-6464.

Aug 8: **Visions: 1st Annual Talent Contest**, 8 pm. \$3 door charge. Stop in for details, or call 288-6464.

Aug 4, 11, 18, 25: **San Jose Spurs:** Country & western dance group, traditional and modern music, practice at Buck's, 301 Stockton Ave, San Jose, every Tuesday night 7-9 pm. Everyone welcome to come by and watch. Call for information, Steve Century 279-8398, or write San Jose Spurs, P.O. Box 21895, San Jose, CA 95151-1895.

Aug 15: **Panama Canal Opened**, 1914.

Aug 21: **Hawaii Statehood**, 1959.

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393 Stockton Ave., San Jose 95126

Savoy* (Women's Bar) (408) 247-7109
3546 Flora Vista Dr., Santa Clara 95051

Silver Fox* (Bar) (408) 255-3673
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393 Lincoln Ave., San Jose 95126

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SEVICES

Open Forum
 by J. Dillon



Summer Youth
 Part One
 a continuing saga...

Summer arrives at last. Summer is a ridiculous season. It recalls memories of swimming in monstrous lakes, and of racing to the bouy in the middle of that great expanse of water. It's the time when I remember how I would always run out of breath ten feet before reaching the bouy. Imagine being in the middle of this lake, knowing that the bouy is almost within your grasp, while your best friend has already swam out past the bouy, and there you are—helpless. You stop swimming and begin the dog-paddle, the first strokes you ever learned. You pause to remember all the times you used to tease the family dog, Barfo, and now you

taken his refuge atop the bouy, sitting like a great sea-bird looking out over the horizon, seemingly oblivious to your plight. It's at the precise moment that he begins to laugh wildly at the sight of you bouncing in the muddy waters that you make the decision to sink or swim. Yep, you tell yourself, this is it! and besides you imagine ol' mom and dad looking at your muddy face in the morning paper and telling each other, "I told the little water rat not to swim far."

What I have figured out is that when you finally reach the bouy, your friend wants to play King of the Mountain while you paddle about, out of breath and memories of Jaws, one and two. Feeling something prickly against your leg, you practically fly to the top of that bouy, and the hell with your best friend, he's had his chance to rest, let him fight the sharks. And isn't it always the same, just when you've made the crowning victory of your young life, a screechy voice always appears, saying, "Junior, it's time to go home now." You'll remember those days at the lake as the good 'ol days of summer gone by.

Write soon. This is Open Forum where your voice is heard. Write c/o Our Paper, 973 Park Avenue, San Jose, CA 95126.

How To Persuade Your Lover...
 Unlike fiction, there is no contrived plot and the characters are real; the plot is AIDS and the characters are you and I.

Book Review
 by Johnie Stiggs
 How To Persuade Your Lover To Use A Condom... And Why You Should
 Prima Publishing
 by: Patti Breitman, Kim Knutson and Paul Reed
 81 pages / \$4.95

Broken into 4 chapters, with a foreword by John Money, Ph.D.; How To Persuade... is a very personal book written in a sensitive and knowledgeable manner by people who care.

This book includes questions and answers as well as a resource directory and information about the authors.

Of special interest is a section of Chapter 2 that deals with how you can reply to almost any response and the portion of Chapter 3 that deals with sexually transmitted diseases. Demystifying and informing are the two adjectives that best describe this book.

With this thought in mind, read this book, give it to your friends, loved ones in order to encourage the use of condoms for your sake and theirs.

Tintypes is pleasant
 Theatre Review by Rick Rudy

San Jose Rep is closing its current season with the family musical *Tintypes* a 1980 show which brings us the songs of the turn of the century in a pleasant, though not captivating, evening of theatre.

Five characters and a small backstage ensemble recreate forty-seven songs written between 1876 and 1918, with noticeable emphasis on the works of Scott Joplin and George M. Cohan.

The play is divided into fourteen sections with such themes as Arrivals, The Factory, Fitting In, Panama, Rich and Poor, and Vaudeville (just like the "\$100,000 Pyramid," right?).

Each section encompasses a medley of songs, some monologues, and sometimes a pantomime.

The monologues and pantomimes are the real treats of the show: Teddy Roosevelt cam-

Nancy Palmer Jones is the reformer Emma Goldman, with a strong, but imprecise voice.

And Maureen McVerry glides through the show as the Vaudeville star Anna Held who takes milk baths.

The sets are sparse, with a few wagons and soap boxes serving all needs.

But that just leaves more room for the performers to move about.

The direction by Paul Barnes is inventive, but one could do without the sound amplification in this small theatre.

The character Anna Held remarks that vaudeville performers must be able to sing, dance, act, and be personable.

But most of all, they need magnetism, which cannot be taught.

What these five actors lack is that special magnetism which move a performer from being merely energetic to being something truly special.

So *Tintypes* ends up being pleasant, but not polished enough to cheer about.

Withnail and I
 Movie Review by Steve Warren

In *My Beautiful Laundrette* we were surprised—halfway through to learn that two young men were lovers.

In *Withnail and I* we're equally surprised to learn they're not—that they might not even be gay.

Why then would they put up with each other?

Why the barrage of hints, from Fairy Soap on the sink to screaming tabloid headlines ("Love Made Up My Mind—I Had To Become a Woman!") to the drunk who calls them "ponces" in a pub where the men's room graffiti says "I fuck arses?"

The way they act, Withnail (Richard E. Grant) and his roommate (Paul McGann) could pass for Ken Halliwell and Joe Orton, who have been dead for two years at the time of this story.

"I," whose character name Marwood is never spoken, will become Bruce Robinson, write the screenplay for *The Killing Fields*, then write and direct *Withnail and I* from his 1970 novel.

The undeniably gay character is Withnail's Uncle Monty (Richard Griffiths).

The uncle's an old auntie, set up for us to laugh at with perhaps a touch of sympathy.

The lads sponge off him, using his country cottage for a

holiday, and Withnail encourages his interest in Marwood by painting his roommate as a "toilet trader."

They both make a fool of the sad queen.

Withnail and I proves to be an elegy for the 60s, appropriate to this year's nostalgia for the *Summer of Love*, as everyone gets stoned and a dealer describes London as "a country coming down from its trip."

Despite its dark side, the film is fresh and almost constantly hilarious.

Gay or not, the absence of women makes it a misogynist's delight.

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by Ted Sahl
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Art On The Town

by Ted Sahl
Steve Storz and Raymond Avalos, San Jose artist and sculpturer were invited to exhibit their work in this year's Tapestry-n-Talent Festival.

Their works were included in a garden of sculptures—both Storz and Avalos held positions on the Gay/Lesbian Arts Council board of directors.

The Arts Council held multi-artistic programs each December at the Los Gatos Academy of Dance—events that drew hundreds of viewer/visitors.

Tapestry -n- Talent

by Ted Sahl

This year's Tapestry -n- Talent extravaganza usually held downtown covering a fifteen block area was moved to the Santa Clara County Fair Grounds this year—dubbed as the biggest festival of its kind was this year a "mini T-n-T" measured by past years. Maybe having to pay to get into the grounds had something to do with it.

Both the number of artists and craft people were drastically reduced and the visitors were small in numbers.

There was something for everyone, young and old and in between—Rock n Roll, Square Dancing, and Opera... and cold beer for everyone.

Food was fantastic—I loved Jim's Pork-A-Bob Teriaki style... out of sight!

Lots of familiar faces could be seen and they loved posing for a picture in Our Paper.

You should've been there!

(This is the first in a new series developed by staff photographer Ted Sahl to acquaint our readers with the diverse businesses and multi talents of our community. Hope you will enjoy it and if should you have a suggestion for a business or profession to be spotlighted, please call the Our Paper office (408) 286-2670.)



Photo by Ted Sahl

Clinical Trial opportunities available for persons with AIDS

The AIDS Action Council has been working with officials at the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID) to increase the dissemination of information regarding the availability of clinical trials across the country for anti-AID drug evaluation programs.

The AIDS Action Council is a national organization representing over 300 AIDS service providers throughout the United States and has been a powerful force in Washington on behalf of AIDS education, policy and funding.

In discussions with staff of the NIAID, the Action Council has learned that many spaces are available in over 15 drug trials

presently approved for study in 19 AIDS Treatment Evaluation Units (ATEUs) throughout the United States.

Ann McFarren, executive director of the AIDS Action Council said, "Throughout the country there are comprehensive programs in place evaluating a variety of drugs that may be the key to finding an answer to AIDS."

For more information contact: Virginia Tallman, R, N. Stanford AIDS Research, Rm-S-156 Stanford University Medical Center Stanford, P.A., CA 94305 (415) 723-6231

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Landing host to kickoff for Beauty Pageant

by Ted Sahl
San Jose will never be the same after this one! A kickoff for the upcoming Miss California Beauty Pageant to be held in San Francisco on August 1, 1987. The show was presented by David Price, Mr. Gay San Jose and Patrice, Mz Gay San Jose.

Direct from San Francisco and described as that city's own queen, Tommi Rose, along with Joanna Caron who brought the house down along with Emperor Bob Colton and Patrice. The show was maced by the one and only Diamond John.



Photo by Ted Sahl



Photo by Ted Sahl



Photo by Ted Sahl



Photo by Ted Sahl

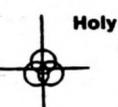
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Tapestry and Talent Festival



Photo by Ted Sahl

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FORTUNES

By Tycho

Aries (Mar 21-Apr 20)-So now that you've got what you were after, what do you do with it? This is not exactly a major problem. Rather, it is a major joy. Giving care, showing respect, and loving are not too difficult to do now are they?

Taurus (April 21-May 20)-Okay, you overdid it. You bought too much, you went too far. Your partner is unhappy and it's time to make amends. But you're feeling unusually combative. The positive side of this is that as in a storm tension is released.

Gemini (May 21-June 21)-Charity begins at home and spreads around the world. Organizing for the benefit of others is something you're very good at now. Your kindness and benevolence should be directed towards a larger purpose. Enlist the additional aid of family and/or friends.

Cancer (June 22-July 22)-So much of your life recently has been lived as a part of a group that Cancer as an individual has gotten pushed back into the shadows. Sometimes that's okay. Take this current opportunity to be you in a unique and exciting way.

Leo (July 23-Aug 22)-In an effort to make yourself as physically appealing as possible don't lose sight of the man or woman beneath the muscles. Just a reminder, dear Leo. Sexy can be a lot of different things. Consider the possibilities.

Virgo (Aug 23-Sept 22)-Do you want to know a secret? Do you promise not to tell? Deep and fascinating conversations will be the most important thing in your life. Cancers and Scorpios will figure prominently in this scenario of the mind, the voice, and ...?

Libra (Sept 23-Oct 22)-Last week Santa Claus came during the off season to visit Libra. Now it's Libra's turn to play Santa. Giving what's needed to a male friend or relative is what you'll be up to. Watch out for a cute little elf.

Scorpio (Oct 23-Nov 21)-There are some heavy duty responsibilities on the career front. You can make it happen in a very big way but its going to take tremendous effort and dedication. something you learned on a recent trip could help.

Sagittarius (Nov 22-Dec 21)-Don't let Scorpio do all the travelling. Before you know it, summer will be over. Make some quick plans and get away from it all. If you've never travelled with your companion, you'll get a special and delightful insight.

Capricorn (Dec 22-Jan 19)-In this quest that you're on, you'll need friends and advisors. Talk to people who have been there and back. Ask questions. Stay close to home. Saturday would be a good day to gather together.

Aquarius (Jan 20-Feb 18)-Someone who loves you sure has a funny way of showing it. Or so it seems to you at this point. This person demands that you confront the truth and consider the possibilities. You'll thank them later for their honesty and love.

Pisces (Feb 19-Mar 20)-Whether you're a regular attendant or a never have been, something in your life will bring you to a church, temple, or synagogue this week. In fact, there may be several reasons for going. Look closely at what you see.

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Athletic young student. \$40 in/\$50 out. Call Keith at 997-9149 13-18

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Shady Willow Glen unfurnished bedroom, Washer/Dryer, Dishwasher, Microwave, Cable, Fireplace, Nice yard. Employed, non-smoker. \$250/month (includes utilities). Call 285-2421 13-15

Gay or (?) (female okay) Roommate wanted. Share 2 bedroom apartment with student (age 25) This above average downtown apartment is 1/2 block from San Jose State. Rent is \$300/month. A deposit is required. Call Jeffrey at 297-7623 14

Willow Glen
Furnished bedroom, A/C, washer/dryer. Non Smoker. Call days: 408/297-9489 12-14

Come share my home near Saratoga in a warm, relaxing atmosphere including private backyard, covered patio, fireplace, central heat, w/d, dishwasher, microwave, etc. and your own bedroom/bath. GM preferred. Only \$350/month including utilities, security deposit \$150. Call (408) 379-6859 14

NOTICE

I am not responsible for any actions taken by the AIDS Hospice Project prior to July 18, 1987, nor after July 28, 1987; nor am I responsible for any actions taken by individual members of the Project committee at any time not authorized by a formal vote of the committee. I have resigned from the committee as of July 28, 1987, and have withdrawn permission to use my name.
—Rosalie J. "Nikki" Nichols

Marin County—No of S.F. Professional G/L tall man in 40's has big home in hills to share. Seek extra nice passive boyfriend needing a man and a nice home. Student o.k. Rent open. P.O. Box 816, Larkspur, CA 94939 14

Menlo Park

2 bedroom, 1 bath apartment to share. Non smoking male, responsible. 415/321-8524 12-14

Share Milpitas home. Private bedroom and bath. Prefer gay female non-smoker. \$350/month, 1/2 utilities and deposit. Call Debbie 408/946-9030 14

Townhouse to Share
Near IBM, shopping. Own bedroom, bath, space in garage. Fireplace, pool, laundry. Smoke/cat okay. Available 7/15/87. \$350 month—\$175 deposit—1/2 utilities. Anita 972-2248 evenings 12-14

East Hills—San Jose
Share home in quiet neighborhood. \$325 and part utilities. Available August. Small deposit. Call 258-6884 evenings 13

Freemont Room for Rent
(Near 880) \$300/month, parking, washer and dryer and kitchen privileges. Gay female, responsible non-smoker. (415) 489-4300 14

Room For Rent
Share large Santa Clara home. Unfurnished bedroom. Prefer responsible GF. \$335/month plus 1/3 utilities. Single parent/smoker okay. Full kitchen/laundry. BBQ, quiet neighborhood. Call 243-1928 or (Lorie-work: 259-4800 x 231 13-15

Roommate
Man in his late 50s, does not like to cook. Trade bedroom for cooking and cleaning. No smoking! No drugs! I don't like liver or fish, but I like chicken and Mexican food. I prefer classical music. Deposit \$200 plus 1/3 utilities. Call weekends or evenings before 9 p.m. Richard: 292-5326 292-5326 13-15

Gay Professional Male to share with same. 2 bedroom/2 bath mobile home near 101 and 280. A/C, W/D, own phone. \$350/month. First/Last required. Responsible non smoker only. (408) 297-0289 13-15

Room For Rent
Share Willow Glen home, large unfurnished bedroom. Prefer responsible, clean GM. Kitchen privileges, utilities included. Yard, BBQ, 2 baths, quiet neighborhood. \$350/month plus small deposit. Available July. Call 408/279-8398

Campbell
1 bedroom in house near 280 and San Tomas. \$285. Call 985-7033 14
Share older 3 bedroom home with 2 women near SJSU. hardwood floors/off street parking. Must enjoy cats and dog. Man or woman okay. \$325/month plus 1/3 utilities and deposit. Call 286-0317. 14
Pleasanton/Dublin
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Oriental Male, 25, tall, businessman, fun and loving, seeks straight looking and acting friend/partner/companion under 30 and monogamous type. Write to Andrew: P.O. Box 611013, San Jose, CA 95161-1013 13-15
Where is that bus boy—bell hop—parking attendant of my dreams? Professional male, 42, wishes to meet boyish, hairless type for good times and possible relationship. Interested in music and food. Helpful. Picture please. Roger, P.O. Box 1226, Menlo Park, CA 94026 12-14

Body Builders

GWM body builder seeks other GWM body builders. Object: form body builders social group. Call Pete: 408/269-5685 13-15

Summer Youth

Cute young guy with smooth chest is wanted by ahily Santa Cruz man with a beach house. Creative mind and desire for warm companionship. Call Bruce at 429-1676 14

Men without hangup: meet in Sunnyvale at noon. Call 730-2550 14-16

Younger brother needed. 18 or ? Friendship not "Games" first. Interested in your future? P.O. Box 61196, San Jose, CA 95161-1196 14-15
Do you like to backpack? I hope to meet easy going outdoor enthusiast. 30 - 45, who enjoys exploring Sierras. Write 4546 B10, El Camino, No. 342, Los Altos, CA 94022 14-15

CHOICES
You choose from the Bay Area's most eligible gay and lesbian singles. 415/564-8559. 14-19

Notice

PUBLIC SEX IN SAN JOSE?

Well, it could lead to that if a few individuals do not wise up real soon. The Watergarden Baths and Recreation Center is receiving complaints by its residential neighbors concerning some inconsiderate non-patrons who are using the parking lot as well as its surrounding vicinity as a cruising ground. They are talking loudly at night, playing car-radios, and generally becoming a public nuisance. The surrounding parking lots are PRIVATE PROPERTY and the neighbors have a right to quiet surroundings. The Watergarden does not want to get the police involved because it thus far has enjoyed an excellent relationship with them, as well as with other city officials, and in particular its neighbors.

The Watergarden remains open, unlike most others in Northern California, because it keeps a low dignified profile, and has established a good rapport with the community, having spent thousands of dollars for Gay civil rights and keeping a strict policy of NO drugs or alcohol on the premises, and having safe sex seminars and free V.D. testing. As General Manager of The Watergarden, I can only say that the Board of Directors, investors, and Members are not about to jeopardize our fine establishment of over 10 years because of a few shortsighted irresponsibles who have nothing better to do than satisfy their libidos in a public forum.

Therefore, let it be known that The Watergarden will no longer tolerate this intolerable behavior. These irresponsible activities could result in embarrassment by arrest in that the neighbors are becoming more irate at this inappropriate behavior. Wise up Guys! EITHER CHECK INTO THE BATHS, GO TO THE BAR, OR GO HOME, but don't reinforce the public's stereotypical image of gays as inconsiderate perverts because that's exactly how you're acting.

Sal Accardi
General Manager
The Watergarden

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