

We The People

FREE!

Serving Lesbians, Gay Men, And Their Friends In The Redwood Empire

February 1989 Vol. I No. 10

Brown Bag Readers Theatre will celebrate 10 years of service in Sonoma County's Women's Community with a Musical Extravaganza. Featured will be Theresa Trull (photo) with Vicki Randle and Nick Milo, June Millington with Jean Millington, Lisa Cohen, Gayle Remick and Margaret Sloan Hunter. For further info see BBRT Ad on Page 8.

IRENE YOUNG



Housing Project Nixed by State

By Sandy Lowe

Long rumored plans for a five bed group home for People with AIDS (PWAs) in Sonoma County have collapsed with the refusal of the state to fund the project.

When a prospective group home site became available in Santa Rosa several months ago, the Family Service Agency of

Sonoma County, with the backing of all county AIDS service agencies, submitted a funding proposal to the State Office of AIDS.

Bob Butler, associate director of the Family Service Agency, described as "positive" the visit of state officials to the proposed site in Santa Rosa. "They recognized the need. They liked what we had proposed and were impressed that there was lots of community support and involvement with other service agencies."

Butler was therefore disappointed when the state decided in the middle of January that it was not able to fund the project. The problem, according to Butler, came down to "one issue.... the level of staffing and the budget for staffing." The proposal of the Family Service Agency asked for a 24-hour, on-site staff and resource person for the facility.

However, state authorities decided that "available state funding could not support this model. The state pointed to other models [with less or no staffing] where there were considerable savings," Butler reported.

But the Family Service Agency, after investigating the PWA needs in Sonoma County and comparing their plan with programs elsewhere, "didn't feel it would be wise to scale back dramatically" their request for resident staffing. They determined that a 24-hour on-site staff person was "integral and essential" for appropriate supervision in the group facility.

AIDS service agencies in Sonoma county have long recognized the urgent need of a group housing facility for people with AIDS or ARC who are homeless or who are threatened with homelessness because of economic hardship, employment discrimination or the disabilities of their illness. The problem, as always, was finding the appropriate property, the funding to set it up and an agency to administer it.

The Family Service Agency, a private, non-profit social service agency in Sonoma County since 1963, spearheaded the effort to establish such a facility. It submitted a request to secure seventy five percent of the necessary funding from the State of California when a property recently became available. They planned to work with the Sonoma County AIDS Foundation, Face to Face, the County AIDS Commission and local government to raise the rest of the money for the housing project from both private and public sources.

Edward Crowell, executive director of the Sonoma County AIDS Foundation also expressed "disappointment and shock", saying the decision of the state not to fund the housing project "came as a great blow." Crowell had helped to frame the funding proposal and was gearing up for local support and local fundraising efforts. "Now," he said, "we're back at square one."

Despite California Governor Deukmejian's continuing resistance to the funding of AIDS projects, the state decision may not have been political. Butler suggests

Black and Gay: A Minority within a Minority

By Lois Pearman

There is no question about am I Black", Vini said tapping the skin on the back of his hand, "Black is a given, homosexuality is a curiosity". Vini Beachem and Liz Cunningham are 2 Black members of the lesbian/gay community who I interviewed in celebration of Black History month and to find out more about what it is like to be part of a minority within a minority.

Liz Cunningham, a former model and make-up artist lives in Healdsburg with her lover Valerie where they work together as "self-supporting artists". Warm and gentle, she displayed remarkable patience with my 5-year-old's constant interruptions and looked deeply inside herself for answers to my questions. Liz is slender with almond eyes and the delicate features of a porcelain doll.

Vini is friendly and articulate, and his slightly British accent betrays his graduate study in London. In his teens he was a forensics champion, and in early adulthood he taught speech and communications at U.C. Irvine and the Los Angeles Junior College. Residing in Rio Nido he can be found on weekends at "The Last Word Newsstand" where he dispenses charm and wit along with the periodicals and tobacco. He's a large man with wonderfully nappy curls growing out all over his head.

What both of these very different people have in common is a desire to be recognized for who they are rather than what they are—not to be seen as a stereotype and not to be tokenized or patronized when they do not appear to fit someone's preconception of what a Black person should be. Vini says that when people first get to know him he causes confusion because he doesn't reinforce the stereotypes. "And then he adds, "You don't know what a chill happens in your body when you walk past a nice car and the doors lock. I can become president of the United States, but people still see me as a big Black man." Liz, on the other hand, has gotten jobs because she "doesn't look, talk or act like a Black person". When she modeled in New York city people said she didn't have "strong Black features".

"What", she ponders rhetorically, "is a Black person supposed to look like?"

Both Vini and Liz spent their childhoods sheltered from the sting of racial prejudice. Liz was an "Air Force brat", born in Tokyo, moving from place to place, coming into contact with many people and "learning very quickly about differences." Her family prepared her for the discrimination she would face in the outside world. "They made us assured of ourselves - that no matter what was said we were equal, we were important." At around nine or 10 she "realized that it would have been easier to be white". As a child she fought a lot when other kids insulted her. As she got older she learned to turn a deaf ear. "Most of the time I'm not conscious of myself as a woman, a Black, a lesbian. I don't approach situations that way. Not putting that kind of pressure on myself or the people I have worked for has made it easier."

father was a fairly successful government appointee and Vini is an only child. Although he did not personally encounter racial prejudice as a child he was aware that his father had to work very hard to maintain his own position in life. He was the first Black man in several government appointments. "All eyes were on him - waiting for him to fuck up." When Vini made it into the public eye as the first Black student body president in his college, the college administration tried to keep him hidden from view.

After a year in Paris Vini returned to the states, left his teaching career behind, and eventually found himself living in the River area. Although he believes "there is a strong underlying prejudice here in town", he has also found that "a whole new world has opened up to me. This community is too small to ostracize anybody. There is always support, always people around in Guerneville."



JANET ZAGORIA/PHOTOGENICS

Vini Beachem, a man for all reasons at The Last Word Newsstand.

Born in Los Angeles, raised in Connecticut, Vini was able to attend private schools and take vacations in Europe because his

Shying away from political activity in the past, Vini recently succumbed to the rabid po-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

CONTINUED ON PAGE 5

Editorial More About Sex

The following is taken from the Feb, '88 issue of Asklepios, the monthly publication of a Pasadena AIDS organization. "The freedom to express one's sexuality was a legacy of the gay liberation movement. The movement was, for most of us, as much about sexual liberation as it was about human liberation. If some of us played a great deal, no defense needs to be made.

"To the extent that our attitudes and behaviors contributed to the spread of AIDS, society must carry its share of the responsibility. This society has always insisted on defining gay people in terms of what they do in bed rather than by who they are as humans. To some extent, the gay liberation movement collided with society in its definition of us in terms of our sexuality.

"While condemning us as vermin incapable of human connectedness and of feeling only through our cocks and assholes, this society has resolutely denied to us support for sustaining long-lasting, meaningful relationships. While condemning us for not settling into couples, nowhere do our relationships receive the blessing of the state or the mainstream community. Yes, many gay relationships do survive. But they survive only by overcoming indifference, bigotry, and direct assaults. They survive because there is support in the gay community. And they survive because some are fortunate enough to have the support of family and non-gay friends."

My first reaction as I read this was: how true. I get tired of thinking of myself in terms of sexuality. If only we could legitimize our relationships and be allowed to be open about who we are. Damn Society.

Next I thought who is this society? Aren't I part of it and if so what is my responsibility? After years of conditioning do I really believe that if society were to open its doors to me I would be able to be this perfect gay role model for the world to experience? Not likely!

Our community has suffered under all the injustices done to us. It reminds me somewhat of the black culture and how their oppression created extreme personal and cultural problems within their community. I see us as being similar, in that we have a higher than average alcohol and drug problem, and I mean a problem - one out of three of us. More of us die of this disease each year than AIDS. We don't seem to have lots of long term relationships, and we exploit ourselves in our sexuality and suffer from low self worth. Lying and cheating seem to be acceptable in our scene.

A pretty grim picture if you ask me, and it's one that society would love to keep us in. It keeps us in our places (closets). Somehow they need this to make themselves feel O.K. Wouldn't it be awful to see gay/lesbian couples as good role models? They might have to compare themselves to us and see what their relationships and the heterosexual community really look like.

Separatism is not the answer, however. Separatism only adds more fuel to the fires that already exist. What we need is our equal rights, and then we need to not do to anyone else what has been done to us and other minorities.

Then came some insight! It can be different! We can change ourselves and our community. The black community is doing it; it is a long hard and difficult struggle but one that is assumed worthwhile. Since 1964 the black community has been working long and hard on change, and are still in constant struggle to be accepted as equal people. They are great role models for what it takes to make change in this society, even if it is slow in coming.

So if we really want change we can do it. It takes commitment, energy, commitment, hard work, commitment, lots of love, caring and support, commitment and lots of honesty within ourselves. Each and every one of us is responsible for our community, if we truly do have a community. To continue to blame the "other community" is just spinning our wheels and allowing us to act like children. Once we acknowledge the problem and have that awareness it becomes our problem as adults. So get creative, take risks and make commitments. I guarantee that life will stop being boring and that excitement and rewards will come your way.

Adam's Apple

REFLECTIONS

Robin Gall and Adam Richmond

will be back next month.

Drivel By Michael Brewer



Mousse Call

© 1989 Michael Brewer

Letters

Dear Editor,

I read with great interest your editorial regarding the advertisement for Hay Fever as well as the article by Lois Pearlman; I am writing in the interest of presenting another view on this subject for both myself and my partner who accompanied me to the "gala" showing.

You raised an interesting question about the words "erotic" and "pornographic" so I went to my friendly Webster's to look them up. Oddly enough what I found was that the word erotic had what could only be termed for me a "nicer" meaning, while "pornographic" was termed in one meaning as obscene. What that means to me is that if you advertise a film as erotic I might be persuaded to see it whereas an advertisement for a pornographic film would definitely not interest me no matter who did it.

I for one agree with your premise that pornography is degrading and detrimental to our community. It does not matter who makes the film, or for whom the film is mad, content is the only basis for determining the worth of the film. For my partner and I, once was enough for Hay Fever; for the woman sitting next to us once was too much, she got up and left before the halfway mark; and for the mixed couple in front of us, well it certainly spurred the man in the right places and he spent the rest of the viewing trying spur on his date. I agree with Ms. Pearlman's view that there was minimal conflict. I am not so sure that violence in some subliminal aspect wasn't present. But "idealistic vision that loving, pleasurable, emotionally satisfying relationships..." Did I see the right film? What seemed apparent to my partner and I was that this film represented lust and physical sexual gratification on the most immediate of levels. That is not my idealistic vision of a relationship.

This film had very little to do with the more important levels of human relationship for the most part but then it was a comedy wasn't it. Except for one very artfully done sexual scene and the compelling sound track and the two band members' adventures while trying to reach the roundup I found little else in this film very noteworthy. As one of the women sitting next to us put it...if someone touched me like that it would be the end. I admit to enjoying sexuality, but to this date there is only one film I have seen has properly presented sexual explicitly. That was in Desert Hearts. Now that was substance and for me nothing was present that was degrading or detrimental to the individual.

Sincerely Threasa

"Read my lips!"

Everytime George Bush slapped us with this bullying quip during the past campaign I wanted to pull one of my man friends up close to me, smack a luscious kiss together and retort, "Read my lips, George!"

Despite the bad press and the dismal return on the money we pay our government we all know that our lesbian/gay love, our sexuality, our relationships, our ways of seeing and being in the world are potent and powerful. We are also learning that our love empowers us when we let the world see it, alive, healthy, creative, even demanding!

Soon we'll be celebrating Valentine's Day, a day of love and lovers. This year I'd like to inundate the White House, Congress, the Supreme Court, ABC, CBS, etc. . . with lesbian/gay Valentine wishes. So I invite you all to play along and head to your favorite lesbian/gay cardshop, find your

favorite postcards of men or women kissing, color them with a few red hearts, inscribe them with a "Read My Lips!"; and any other quips you fancy.

Then send them off to George Bush, Justices Rehnquist or O'Connor or to whom ever you'd like to read your lips. Let our collective lips daringly speak our love.

Do Be My valentine!

Michael Neisen, Monte Rio, Ca.

Dear L/G Community,

In March there will be a national call to demonstrate opposition to the expected election of a new right wing president in El Salvador. With the election of the Arena Party the death squads would be directly in control of the gov't.

Myth: The U.S. is at peace.

Fact: We are fighting a war in El Salvador

The U.S. spends \$1.5 million per day (3.6 billion since 1980) for the war.

Results: 70,000 Dead, 5,000 disappeared, 900,000 displaced.

Both countries are equally effected by the needless war. Money spent to kill civilian in El Salvador cannot be used for health, AIDS research, jobs, housing, education, etc. in the U.S.

The White Hand is a symbol of the death squads. They are controlled by the U.S. backed gov't. As you visualize death with the White Hand, call or write Congressman Doug Bosco. He has consistently supported this death squad gov't. Demand Bosco to: (1) Cancel all economic and military aid, (2) Spend U.S. tax dollars for our concerns in Sonoma County.

Locally the Pledge for Peace in Central America will be holding actions on Sat., March 17 and Mon., March 20. Plan to participate. For more info, Call 526-7220. Eszter Freeman

Benefit Auction

The second benefit auction for Food For Thought, Sonoma County's new AIDS food program, will be held Wednesday, February 8, at 7pm at Molly Brown's Saloon in Guerneville.

Donors of items may elect to keep 80 percent of the sale price or to donate any percentage above the minimum twenty percent to Food For Thought. It's a perfect opportunity to sell the treasure you no longer need, earn money, and help to feed people with AIDS and ARC.

At the first auction, high quality entries such as antique lamps, vases, etched glass, and a Spanish guitar caused spirited bidding that netted more than \$1300 for Food For Thought.

Bring auction entries — no flea market items please — to Molly Brown's, 14120 Old Cazadero Rd., Guerneville, between 4pm - 7pm on the day of the auction. Any rejected or unsold items will be returned to the donor that day as there is no storage. For more information call 869-9748

Correction: Dec. Letter from Ms. Tomas, should have read: County Board of Supervisors provided us with \$60,000 as a one time emergency grant.

We The People

We The People is published by the Northern California Gay Media Project, a collective of lesbians and gay men, and is being produced to serve the lesbian and gay community of Sonoma County and the Redwood Empire by providing forum for information, communication, community building, public consciousness raising, networking, access to resources, the exploration of lesbian and gay cultural history and for the reporting of the news in a forthright manner.

We The People welcomes contributions of news articles and features and seeks the participation of lesbians and gay men interested in its publication. Articles should be limited to 500 words, with suggested editing for length if needed. The copy deadline is the 12th of the month before the issue. Include your name, address and telephone number. Contributions may be sent to: We The People, P.O. Box 2204, Santa Rosa, Calif., 95405. Telephone (707) 526-7464. Subscriptions \$12 per year, (707) 526-7464.

This issue was put together by Lester Bush, Pamela Canyonrivers, Julia Elliott, Robin Gail, Sandy Lowe, Kris Mazure, Jim Melancon, Jaye Miller, Melvin Muller, Jerry Noakes, Lois Pearlman, Patrick Satterthwaite, Bill Shelly, Dilys Shippam, Sue Stagnitte, Cheryl Traendly, Nick Valentine, Mark Watt, Janet Zagoria. Circulation 5,000

Interview with Dr. H. Ann Kaplan, D.C.

By Lester Bush

After a long and often arduous journey, Ann Kaplan's dreams are beginning to come true. For the past four months, Dr. H. Ann Kaplan, D.C. has been treating her chiropractic patients in a new and handsomely decorated office on Old Redwood Highway in Larkfield. It's the apex of an interest in medicine which began during her Mississippi youth and has taken her to foreign locales and back, learning all the while.

Kaplan graduated from Louisiana State University in 1970 with a degree in Journalism and Advertising. In that same year, she developed a more than fashionable interest in Transcendental Meditation. She still strongly believes in its values. She travelled to Spain for six months to learn more about relaxation techniques, returning to teach the benefits of TM both in Louisiana and California.

As a lesbian, Kaplan "was forced to face my own demons" when, in the mid 1970's, she helped Peter Pender develop Fife's in Guerneville. During that tumultuous time for the gay and lesbian community, they faced incidents of violence, fear of fire-bombing or worse and had to be "extraordinarily careful" in establishing the resort's reputation. Kaplan states it was important at that time, as now, to be good advocates of the gay community.

While concentrating on building a business, being "out" in public and trying to sell the locals on the legitimate virtues of the new establishment, Kaplan continued to work with TM relaxation methods, which she says was "a natural transition into chiropractic medicine as both a healing process and a preventive standard".

As a result of her love and dedication to teaching, Kaplan decided to continue her own formal education, receiving a secondary teaching credential at UC Santa Barbara while earning a Master's Degree. Later, working as a manager and administrator at UC San Francisco and Davis, she continued to teach and work with young people.

As a final step in her formal academic pursuits, she attended Life Chiropractic College - West, graduating with honors in 1987.

Kaplan says it is important to her to be present in the gay and straight communities as, "one who can be trusted and seen as a good resource". She also has a desire to work with AIDS patients, who she believes can benefit greatly from chiropractic care. She views the practice as "a good adjunctive and preventive measure, to boost immunity and reduce interference in the nervous system".

Kaplan's primary personal and professional goals include being a solid, caring healer, an effective and valuable listener to her patients while providing a skillful, natural way of enabling the body to heal through gentle, non-forceful chiropractic care. She believes that education is a major part of her profession — teaching that prevention, stress control, nutrition and changing detrimental lifestyle habits can enable people to live better.

For those with questions regarding chiropractic health care,

MICHAEL BREWER
Graphic Design & Illustration
Ten years experience
Reasonable rates!
707-539-2569
#3 Hallin Lane, Santa Rosa, CA 95409

General Contractors Cal. Lic. #525164
Ballard & Nunes Home Repair
Remodeling • Additions • Decks
P.O. Box 815 Guerneville, CA 95446
Ralph J. Ballard (707) 889-0017

MARJORIE THIRKETTLE
Licensed Marriage, Family, Child Therapist
License: ML 021923
P.O. Box 1446 1537 1/2 River Road Guerneville, CA 95446 (707) 869-3304



Ann Kaplan, D.C. Janet Zagoria/Photogenics

Kaplan has launched a series of sixty-second spots on 97.7 KMGG-FM, called Ask The Doctor. They air three times daily on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays. Her office is located at 4701 Old Redwood Highway, Suite 1-A, directly across from Cricklewood Restaurant. Phone inquiries are encouraged at 577-8113.

Leather People Minority Within a Minority

By Patrick Satterthwaite

Leather Weekend 1988 has come and gone—it's history. But the topic of leather seems to be one of those items that, like religion or politics, elicits strong opinions on both sides of the issue.

For many gays and lesbians the pain of staying in the closet was too much, and we made the choice (consciously or unconsciously) to come out of our closets—knowing we faced prejudice, hate, and fear from those who chose not to understand; and love, acceptance, and understanding from those who chose love. Those people who find themselves attracted to a leather lifestyle also have a choice to come out of their closets knowing that they face prejudice, hate, and fear from those who choose not to understand; and love, acceptance and understanding from those who choose to love. As soon as I start judging someone's behavior I open the door for someone to judge my behavior, and we all know where that takes us—thank you Jerry Falwell and Anita Bryant and Edwin Meese for showing us the way. As gays and lesbians we all know the effects of homophobia, discrimination, prejudice and bigotry.

Following is an interview with Kathy Gage, one of the producers of Leather Weekend and C.E.O. of MST Enterprises, a.k.a. Mistress Kathy. This is just a peek at one

SISINC
JIM SPAHR, CLU
CHARTER FINANCIAL CONSULTANT
SPAHR INSURANCE SERVICES, INC.
P.O. BOX 2626, PETALUMA, CA 94953
800-237-0107 707-762-0107

A Time to Heal Ourselves Around
• Family/Relationship Issues
• Bereavement
• HIV
A Time for Healing Through
• Visualizations
• Meditations
• Energy Work
Individual Sessions Dan Perdios-865-2159

PSYCHIC READER
Lorene Irizarry
887-2813

persons' ideas about "leather" and the people who wear it (and those who won't wear it).

WTP: Why did Leather Weekend happen?
KATHY: One of the main purposes of Leather Weekend was to portray a very positive image of the leather lifestyle. We portrayed just a few aspects of it. The producers and participants were very proud to be representing the leather community.

Living a leather lifestyle or having leather as an expression of their sexuality is a minority within a minority, because a large number of people who wear leather are gay or lesbian. But by no stretch of the imagination all people who wear leather are gay or lesbian... When you wear leather it's obvious that you're wearing leather. When you're gay it's not necessarily obvious that you're gay unless you're walking down the street holding hands or you choose to be more of an exhibitionist about it than other people.

WTP: Why do you think that in both the straight and gay community people tend to be prejudicial of leather?

KATHY: There are a lot of fallacies connected with individuals who wear leather. Some people who have no knowledge of leather choose to believe that anyone who wears leather is involved in an S&M lifestyle. That is not necessarily true. Or they may choose to believe that anyone who wears leather rides a motorcycle and is a Hells Angel. That is not necessarily true. I think that the way to overcome judgmental attitudes is through education and communication; and doing things such as Leather Weekend, showing that we are also a part of the community, a healthy part of the community. We're not bad people; we don't need to be kept in our closets. For years many people have stayed in their closets and it takes certain individuals to give other people the courage to come out. There are still people living in other parts of the country, and here also, that are terrified of coming out of their closet as leather people, as gay people, as spiritual people, as alcoholics in recovery. They are afraid because of the social conditioning that we have been subjected to. In essence discrimination is all the same—it's discrimination. The details may be different but it's just a matter of learning to understand and love each other for who we are and for our differences.

WTP: Is there a way to improve leather's negative image?
KATHY: The media, in my opinion, can sway public opinion one way or another. By choice the media can decide what they do and do not want to put in a publication. And how they want to present it. Unfortunately a lot of the coverage that the gay community and the leather community has gotten (or not gotten) has been in a very negative vein. It takes special people who have a lot of courage to really put it out there and show that it's not such a bad thing. Why is it so bad for someone to wear leather? What does it conjure up in the dirty little minds of the narrow minded middle class American? What does it really stir up inside of them, their own fantasies or fears?

I'm really pleased to have seen an event like this take place in a community like Guerneville, and the reception was very, very positive. The town as a general rule received everyone quite well. Businesses thrived throughout the weekend. Everyone seemed to have a pretty good time. We didn't run into any problems as far as I know. And I think because I'm in a local it was a little easier. If a lot of outsiders would have come in and tried the same thing it wouldn't have worked. But by virtue of the fact that I've lived here for a year and a half and people have gotten to know me rather than as a "leather woman", they see that I am a real person.

I feel there's more need for education on safe sex. That is an issue that I feel is something the news media should emphasize, not only with the men's community but also the women's community. Safe sex is our responsibility to each other.

WTP: What would you advise someone who is considering coming out—in leather?
KATHY: If it's a fashion statement, invest wisely and stay out of the rain. If it's a sexual expression, have a good, safe time. Know your partner; don't use drugs or alcohol to enhance sexual pleasure. Other than that, be proud; wear leather with dignity and pride.

ONLY \$20
WITH THIS ADVERTISEMENT
Offer good thru March 31, 1989

Celina's MARVELOUS MASSAGE
• Relaxation • Sore Muscle Relief
• Tension Release • Lymph Gland Drainage
• Stress Reduction • Back Pain Reduction
Try an hour on Celina's marvelous massage table.
PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT - 544-7638
\$25 PER HOUR* SHOWER & TOWEL \$3 EXTRA*
* Prices subject to change without notice.

ONLY \$20
WITH THIS ADVERTISEMENT
Offer good thru March 31, 1989
Celina's MARVELOUS MASSAGE
• Relaxation • Sore Muscle Relief
• Tension Release • Lymph Gland Drainage
• Stress Reduction • Back Pain Reduction
Try an hour on Celina's marvelous massage table.
PLEASE CALL FOR AN APPOINTMENT - 544-7638
\$25 PER HOUR* SHOWER & TOWEL \$3 EXTRA*
* Prices subject to change without notice.

INTERVIEW CELESTE AUSTIN Out and Active at SRJC

By Lois Pearlman

It's important to be a gay person visible on campus and somewhat involved", according to Celeste Austin re-entry student at Santa Rosa Junior College and co-president of the Gay and Lesbian Student Union. Along with her lover Janet Phillips, the other co-president, Celeste works to maintain the GLSU as a viable part of campus life - filling out the necessary forms, organizing events, and representing the club at weekly Interclub Council meetings. She is also a member of the Condom Committee, which seeks to install condom machines on campus, and one of the organizers of the Martin Luther King Jr. Awareness Week committee.



JANET ZAGORIA/PHOTOGENICS

Celeste Austin

Back in the late sixties and early seventies when Celeste was attending a small liberal arts college in her native Midwest, she was the president of the Black Student Union and "sat on too many committees". After graduation she joined the throngs of lesbian/gay pilgrims flocking to the glittering mecca of San Francisco. For several years she was involved in a "somewhat self-destructive" coming-out process, lost in a maze of alcohol and drugs. After her best friend died from AIDS in 1986, Celeste, now living in Guerneville, went into recovery and resurfaced as a political activist. As she says she "has always had a passion for being involved".

The major focus of her passionate involvement these days is providing leadership for the GLSU. During our interview she shared with me some information about the club.

Twice annually the CLSU is involved in "Club Days", a kind of outdoor fair which provide the club with its highest visibility. And every Wednesday from noon to one, whenever school is in session, the GLSU holds open meetings in room 1684 at Emeritis Hall. This semester the club sponsored an AIDS Awareness Week and a Harvey Milk Week. Next

semester the group is organizing a Gay Awareness Week with a coming-out focus.

Because 25% of the club's members are young students just out of high school, a major purpose of the GLSU is to provide a support system, a community for coming out and for

developing a social life. The GLSU also functions as a resource for the Junior College, providing speakers and panels for sociology and psychology classes. In the future, Celeste would like to see the GLSU work with other organizations in the community to organize major events. And she would like the club to become a resource for high school teachers and students.

In her own future Celeste, who is a psychology major, looks forward to working as a counselor in drug and alcohol rehabilitation and to maintaining her high profile as a lesbian activist. In her outspoken way she proclaims "I think it's really important that we all become involved in some facet of activism, that we all try to do a little something to make the world a little bit better."

Anti-Gay Violence

Have you been a victim of homophobic violence in Sonoma County?

Help the Sonoma County Community Against Violence (SCCAV) Document the problem--Call 887-2650 and answer a few simple questions on an answering machine. The statistics gathered will be used to raise issues of concern with the Sonoma County Sheriff's Department and to support anti-hate crimes legislation.

SILENCE=DEATH
887-2650

Black History

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

litical climate in the West County, working on both the Jesse Jackson campaign and against the various AIDS propositions. He also achieved some local acclaim in the River Repertory Christmas show, playing a character named Johnny Holiday.

Liz Cunningham is becoming known in the county as a spokesperson for women and children with AIDS. She believes the virus has brought the various factions in the lesbian/gay community closer together. Still, she says, "the thing that pains me the most is to see the discrimination among white lesbians against black lesbians. People don't understand that whenever a Black makes a stride it is a stride for all minorities, gays, women, etc."

According to Vini there is "a special bond between Black

gays because of not being seen as individuals. You still find with great pride in herself as a Black Lesbian Woman," when

these kinds of prejudices in the gay community." Liz adds, reflecting on the years since the death of Martin Luther King Jr., "it's really sad to think that in 20 years there hasn't really been a change. People haven't really gotten it in their hearts - not in a felt sense, only intellectualized." But she continues,



JANET ZAGORIA/PHOTOGENICS

Liz Cunningham speaking in front of the County Board of Supervisors during the Aids Commission presentation last August.

mindsets change the people who will play the biggest role are the women, especially minority women." And Vini concludes, "I don't know if we'll ever live in a society where color, sexual orientation, etc. isn't a consideration, but I've got to do the best job I can do."

ART, ART, ART

By Peter Maslan

This is the first in a series of interviews with gay artists

When I spoke with Jerry Noakes about writing these articles I choose to tell about myself first. This has involved a one sided conversation with myself, and it has been more difficult than I had anticipated. I've been designing and directing for theatre for the past twenty five years, and I haven't really given much thought as to why I do it. For all my years as a scenic designer and director I've focused more on the process - what it is that needs to be done and how to get to the finished result rather than dwell upon any personal motivation on my part.

Of course there have been the middle of night conversations with my cohorts, usually while working on some last minute project before an opening night. Why do we do this to ourselves? Why are we in this business? I recall having this conversation with a fellow artist whom I have a great deal of respect for. She made this statement: "Don't worry about why you are an artist. Just accept the fact that you are one and that you are creative and have no choice in the matter." This has served me well in my work for quite some time. I accept the fact that I am an artist, however, I don't consider the work I do as an art form.

It wasn't until I had to design scenery for shows I also directed that I came to fully understand my own personal process of design. On these productions I had only myself to please with any technical solutions and only myself to blame for any of the mistakes. There would be these endless production meetings where I was the only one in the room. More one sided conversations! One would expect this time of experience to be a reinforcement of any rigidity in my process as a designer. It has had quite the opposite effect. I am far less possessive of my design decisions and of my directing needs.

As I get longer in tooth in this business I find that, for me, scene design has become less of an art and more of a craft. Art

makes a personal statement about life, and when we look at a work of art we are always connected to the artist by that statement. Even in the most abstract instances the ego/self of an artist is apparent.

I have come to the conclusion that the only artist in a theatrical event is the writer, for they are the originators of the idea or statement about life. The rest of us are all craftsmen. Craft is nothing more and nothing less than the skillful handling, through technique and sensibility, of materials. There can be personal statements in craft, but they are about ideas which already exists. We are given the idea of a play by the playwright, and what we do with it is our craft.

While there is no choice about being creative there is choice about what is created. The idea of writing articles about gay artists had led me to think about my own position in the creative world as a gay man. At this point in my life two major concerns are the fight against AIDS and the raising of the awareness of the straight world of gay issues. I look upon theatre as a tool for this.

I have directed several plays dealing with gay issues and have produced them primarily for straight audiences. I think that with such works as Larry Kramer's The Normal Heart, William Hoffman's As Is, and, of course, Fierstein's On Tidy Endings theatre is serving as one of the creative weapons to raise our awareness of AIDS. I feel there needs to be more work done. If you think of it - because of the way this disease is developing, something written in 1985 has already become a period piece and is dated material. I'd like to see more groups developing their own current work and presenting it to the community.

As a conclusion to this first article on gay artists I am left with this question: Is there really such a thing as gay art or simply artists who are gay? When I look at certain art objects I recognize them as Indian or African; this is regardless of subject matter. There is certainly gay subject matter art. But does the subject matter define the art? At this point I'm not sure! I hope to find out more with these interviews.

Peter Maslan is a freelance director and designer in the Bay Area and is currently the Chairman of the Theatre Arts Department at Sonoma State University.

Housing

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

the state funding agency might be more willing to come up with the money, even for a fully staffed group housing facility, if other agencies like the city or the county stood ready to secure more of the operation of the project. "They want to see a slightly different model," Butler added.

Speaking for the Family Service Agency and looking to the future, Butler said, "We still see [the housing project] as a good plan, a good model and a great need and we will look for new resources to make it happen."

We want to know

what you want to know

Don't be shy! We The People wants you, the readers, to participate in keeping this newspaper a local community effort. If you have an opinion or would like to see certain topics in the paper, let us know. Call us at 526-7464 or write to P.O. Box 2204, Santa Rosa, CA. 95405.

GAYLA R. MUNIG, PH.D.
CLINICAL PSYCHOLOGY
LICENSE #PG6744

700 E STREET, SUITE 205 15373 1/2 RIVER ROAD
SAN RAFAEL, CA 94901 GUERNEVILLE, CA 95446
(415) 457-6555 (707) 869-9303

Jim Spahr, CLU, ChFC
Agent

New York Life Insurance Company
P. O. Box 2626
Petaluma, CA 94953
707 762-0107 800 237-0107

Registered Representative for
NYLIFE Securities, Inc. New York, NY 10010

vintage clothing & costume jewelry from the 1920's to the 1960's

Flamingo's
MERCHANDISE CO.

#19 Kentucky St.
Petaluma 763-7908
Buy Sell Trade

"For the butch or femme in you"

THE LAST WORD NEWSSTAND
BOBBI MORGAN

P.O. Box 1139 • 14045 Armstrong Woods Rd.
Guerneville, CA 95446
(707) 869-0571

Tell our Advertisers you saw their ad in We The People

R N ROBERT NORTON
C S COUNSELING SERVICE

Individual, Couple, Family and Child Counseling
Hypnotherapy

ROBERT NORTON, M.A., M.F.C.C.
Lic. #9021724

331 E. COTATI AVENUE • COTATI, CA 94928 • 707-576-3184

UNDERSTANDING MONEY
income taxes
individual & family finances • Small business consultations

Margaret Denial, EA
9175 Poplar Ave. • Cotati CA 94931
707-664-1064

Body Benefits

- Massage
- Herbal Facials
- Whole Person - Integrated Bodywork

Jerry Noakes & Deborah Leoni
Massage Therapist

Gift Certificates Available
Give the Gift of Health

Flamingo Hotel
4th and Farmers Lane
For Appointment Call 579-1470

"A Full Service Laundromat"

CINNABAR WASH & FOLD
14045 Armstrong Woods Rd. Guerneville, CA 95446

RICHARD MEYERSON (707) 869-0567

SUPPORT GROUP & HEALING CIRCLE

For those of us affected by the AIDS crisis

This group is based on the recognition that there is no separation: no separation between those who have AIDS and those who don't; those who are sero-positive and sero-negative; between gay and straight, male and female. This is a time for all of us to join together to heal.

As we journey inward to that place of truth, we can begin to acknowledge and release our fears and confusions, honor who we are, and open to new levels of healing.

Weekly sessions include:
★ Movement ★ Meditation ★ Rituals

MONDAYS, 7:00-9:00 P.M.
DONATIONS REQUESTED
Call 707-865-2159

CRIMINAL DEFENSE
DRUNK DRIVING
ILLEGAL SEARCH and SEIZURE

OVER TWENTY YEARS COMBINED TRIAL EXPERIENCE
ALL FELONY AND MISDEMEANOR CASES
DRUNK DRIVING DEFENSE
MARIJUANA CULTIVATION CASES
—MEMBERS—
SONOMA COUNTY CRIMINAL DEFENSE BAR ASSOCIATION
CALIFORNIA ATTORNEYS FOR CRIMINAL JUSTICE

544-6942
578-WALK
578-9255

RINELLA & DUBOIS
AUSTIN RINELLA CHRISTINE DUBOIS
HISTORIC RAILROAD SQUARE
115 FOURTH ST • SANTA ROSA

Artemis Club Women's Health & Exercise Center

3262 Airway Dr. • Santa Rosa • CA. 95403
(707) 576-1657

CHIROPRACTOR
DR. H. ANN KAPLAN, D.C.

•Free Initial Consultation
•Gentle Non-Force Chiropractic
•Listen for Dr. Kaplan on "Ask the Doctor" KMGG Radio 97.7FM M. Tu. We.

577-8113
"Perhaps my greatest strength as a doctor is to listen to what you have to say about how you feel and then work with you in all decisions involving your health care."

Hours:
Mon.-Wed.-Fri.
9am-1pm • 3pm-7pm
or by appointment

Convenient Evening Appointments Available
4701 Old Redwood Hwy - Santa Rosa
(across from Cricklewood Restaurant)

Food For Thought Fundraiser and all that Jazz

By Thresa Hibbett

Food for Thought raised over \$2,000 at a successful benefit jazz/dinner concert at Scott's Restaurant in Guerneville Wednesday, Jan. 11. The jazz benefit, featuring such local talent as Jimmy Bogio, Lois Turner, Momi Star and Torch, was organized to help raise funds for rental of a building in Guerneville as a food distribution point for Sonoma County's people with AIDS and ARC. Food and wine, the staff and facilities at Scott's and the time of local jazz artists were all generously donated for the event, allowing all proceeds to go to the Food for Thought cash fund. The event will help to provide food, personal care items, and nutritional information related to the HIV disease to Sonoma County's AIDS/ARC Community. "Sales for the event have gone much better than we expected and local merchants have really been a great help with ticket sales and advertising," said Harold.

The Food for Thought organization was established last year from an idea conceived by John Daniel Manley (who died of AIDS Nov. 27, 1988) out of the frustrations created by trying to juggle insufficient funds to pay for rent and utilities, leaving little (if any) money for food and sundries. It is a non-profit organization created to give special attention to the food issue of the AIDS/ARC Community and is independent of the Face To Face group who is tirelessly trying to deal with the housing and emotional needs of AIDS/ARC sufferers. Both organizations work closely together as part of the Sonoma County AIDS Network in cooperation with the Coordinator of the Sonoma County Commission on AIDS.

Past fundraising projects of the group have included dart games at the local pubs, auctions, social events and other dinners. Future benefit projects will include the gathering of packaged food donations and possibly the enlistment of community support to help plant and maintain Community Gardens to provide for fresh food needs of the AIDS/ARC community.



Lolly (left) and Pam enjoying the fun at Scott's restaurant in Guerneville. Patrick Satterthwaite

The most immediate need other than financial donation has been a call for "Strong and Able Bodied" men and women to help carry boxes of donated foodstuffs to waiting trucks at the upcoming Quilt Display at the Sonoma County Fairgrounds, Grace Pavilion Feb. 4th and 5th during Sonoma County's "AIDS Awareness Week". Volunteers should contact Food For Thought at 869-9748.

Future needs for the ambitious projects envisioned by friends were made and this year the excitement to this Awards presentation is peaking. There are eleven categories this year. This year's theme will take us back to the era of the original Gangland massacre, with a well rounded cast of performers from Rowland's Review including comedians dancers fine vocalists and impersonators from Sonoma County. The preliminary ballots for nominations went out January 15th and the top nominations were put on final ballots and re-issued on February 1st. Ballots will be counted by last year's recipients as well as Rick Dean from Face to Face and Charles Odom owner of the Santa Rosa Inn. The winners of the awards will be announced at the Show, Sunday, Feb. 12. Grab a ballot at the Inn and get involved in the fun for The Valentine Massacre II. The Show begins at 9 PM.

Harry Britt was a close political associate and personal friend of Supervisor Milk. Elected to a full term in December, 1979, Harry Britt was the only challenged incumbent to retain a seat on the Board of Supervisors. Supervisors. Supervisor Britt has been re-elected in November of 1980, 1984, and by an overwhelming margin, in 1988, in city-wide races. In the 1988 election, Britt placed 1st in a field of 25 candidates.

Harry Britt has emerged as one of the strongest progressive voices in San Francisco politics. While effectively advocating the rights of gay people, he has also been a strong proponent of the rights and welfare of working people, seniors, women, minorities and the disabled. Britt has also authored landmark legislation responding to the AIDS epidemic.

Just when you thought it was safe to assume that you have some spare time on your hands, another Rowland's Review Production is just around the corner! THE VALENTINE MASSACRE II. The annual "CAMP" awards ceremony and show will be Feb. 12, at the Santa Rosa Inn. Randy Rowland producer/director of Rowland's Review, said, "I created this show last year for several reasons. First to benefit Face to Face, and second to stimulate a competitive situation to our area. At first people were hesitant to participate in this type of show, but the end result was a tremendous success. "Not only did people get to know the names of those faces they had seen for years but they actually figured out there was a community out there just waiting for an opportunity to know each other better. New

Food For Thought will require a substantial response from the community in terms of funding and volunteer commitment. As one staffer put it "The needs of Sonoma County's AIDS/ARC community have yet to be dealt with on the scale that some of our surrounding counties have achieved. We hope in some way to bridge that gap with our efforts." For more information, or to help with donations or to volunteer your services, contact Food For Thought, 869-9748 or PO Box 1357, Guerneville, CA 95446.

Harry Britt was a close political associate and personal friend of Supervisor Milk. Elected to a full term in December, 1979, Harry Britt was the only challenged incumbent to retain a seat on the Board of Supervisors. Supervisors. Supervisor Britt has been re-elected in November of 1980, 1984, and by an overwhelming margin, in 1988, in city-wide races. In the 1988 election, Britt placed 1st in a field of 25 candidates.

Harry Britt has emerged as one of the strongest progressive voices in San Francisco politics. While effectively advocating the rights of gay people, he has also been a strong proponent of the rights and welfare of working people, seniors, women, minorities and the disabled. Britt has also authored landmark legislation responding to the AIDS epidemic.

Just when you thought it was safe to assume that you have some spare time on your hands, another Rowland's Review Production is just around the corner! THE VALENTINE MASSACRE II. The annual "CAMP" awards ceremony and show will be Feb. 12, at the Santa Rosa Inn. Randy Rowland producer/director of Rowland's Review, said, "I created this show last year for several reasons. First to benefit Face to Face, and second to stimulate a competitive situation to our area. At first people were hesitant to participate in this type of show, but the end result was a tremendous success. "Not only did people get to know the names of those faces they had seen for years but they actually figured out there was a community out there just waiting for an opportunity to know each other better. New

First Gay President!

January 9, 1989. Harry G. Britt became the first openly gay person to be elected President of the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Supervisor Britt is one of the most prominent elected gay officials in the country. In January, 1979, he succeeded the late Harvey Milk who was slain along with Mayor George Moscone by former Super-

Valentine Massacre II

Just when you thought it was safe to assume that you have some spare time on your hands, another Rowland's Review Production is just around the corner! THE VALENTINE MASSACRE II. The annual "CAMP" awards ceremony and show will be Feb. 12, at the Santa Rosa Inn. Randy Rowland producer/director of Rowland's Review, said, "I created this show last year for several reasons. First to benefit Face to Face, and second to stimulate a competitive situation to our area. At first people were hesitant to participate in this type of show, but the end result was a tremendous success. "Not only did people get to know the names of those faces they had seen for years but they actually figured out there was a community out there just waiting for an opportunity to know each other better. New

LISA WOLPER, LCSW
Psychotherapy
Individuals, Couples, Families
Offices in San Francisco & Santa Rosa
707 / 523-0624

JOHN DARRAGH & ASSOCIATES
FINANCIAL PLANNERS
JOHN DARRAGH
Financial Planner
707/575-7528
723 HUMBOLDT STREET • SANTA ROSA, CALIFORNIA 95404
Securities offered through Protected Investors of America
Founded 1984 - Registered Investment Advisor
236 Montgomery Street, Suite 1050, San Francisco, CA 94104 415-398-4383

Yalobz
AFRICAN ART
999 made Jewelry & Fine Art
Craft/Ritual Tools
Beads-Cards-Oils-Crystals
VALADE-MOTHE SIVAN SPIRIT
Mala St. Guerneville Upstairs
Claudia & Yolanda Vivero-Alles, Owners

Community Market
A COMPLETE NATURAL FOODS GROCERY
Organic Produce
HIGHEST QUALITY
LOWEST PRICES
GLOBAL AWARENESS
1215 MORGAN STREET
SANTA ROSA, CA 95401
(707) 546-1806

Trish Nugent
Attorney at Law & Mediator
Certified Family Law Specialist
707-523-1135
Waterfall Towers, Suite 211A
2455 Bennett Valley Road
Santa Rosa, CA 95404

(707) 887-1037 Reg. # IH 13379
BOB CASANTA, MA, MFCC Intern
Individual, Couple, Family & Group Counseling
Gay/Lesbian Relationships & Issues
58 Brookwood Intern Employer: Phil Becker, MFCC
Santa Rosa, CA 95404 Lic. #MB20766

Classifieds...

To place a personal in the **Wishing Well** Print your ad clearly, count the words and multiply by 10 cents. To use the **Wishing Well Ad** number add an additional \$6.00. Your reply will be forwarded to you weekly for a two month period. To answer a **Wishing Well Ad** that used the **AD** number. Mail your reply to **Wishing Well**, AD number, P.O. Box 2204, Santa Rosa, Ca. 95405.

I'm a 20 y.o. woman who would like romance and excitement even after one year anniversary. Some of my qualities include good humored, attractive, sensitive, caring, creative and dependable. Interests include dancing, flowers, outdoors, cuddling, making love, sharing, fun and adventure as well as quiet times together. Equality in money situations a must. If you're under 25 with similarities, then let's talk. send me a letter and photo and see if Karma is with us. Reply AD201

Vintage man, secure, affectionate committed to personal growth. Seeks compatible man for friend-relationship. Interest inc. Music, home, Sierras, travel, hiking, and quiet times. Reply AD202

Seeking good friends and/or a good mutually nurturing and challenging romantic relationship with another wonderful lesbian. Me - 40 of the 70's genre of lesbianism, nurtured on feminism, Cris Williamson, flannel shirts and 501's. I'm casual, reflective, humorous, and moderate in my pleasures. My worst obsessions are chocolate and horizontal video-viewing. I enjoy all the usual stuff but mostly low-impact outdoor activities. Reply AD203

I need a housemate to share a house in West Petaluma by May 1. I'm a blue collar, ragtime piano playing, vegetarian, non-tobacco, textile artist, yoga-"bear", HIV-, safely-sexual, quiet 40 year old man. Could we meet and see if we can co-habitate? Call evenings 765-9857.

Buddy wanted to co-create platonic, romantic and/or physical relationship. Should share many of the following with me: bright, sweet, handsome, creative, articulate, muscular & defined, vegetarian, spiritual, loving, non-drinker & druggie, bizarre, independent, and 34-44. Into: intimate communication, meditation, gym, literature, movies, nature, board games, and funny machinations. Reply AD204

I am an active, health conscious 54 yr. old man - professional and earthy with good communication skills - growth oriented - no drugs or smoke tho some wine, looking for a man in his 40's or 7 who is ethical, healthy, is both process and goal oriented, enjoys camaraderie and nature and wants a building friendship towards a primary relationship. Reply AD205

INTIMACY, RELATIONSHIP AND FAMILY - A GROUP FOR GAY AND BISEXUAL MEN AND MALE COUPLES. This group is now forming and will meet on Friday Evenings from 7-8:30 pm beginning March 3, 1989. Facilitated by Bob Casanta, MA, MFCC (Reg. #IH13379). \$15 per meeting. For information call 887-1037

GAY MECCA? Not Yet, but were getting there. Apt. Bldg in Santa Rosa, IBO #425, 2BD #525, 3 BD #600. Gays appreciated and welcomed. Call 829-5749.

Lesbian Rentals in Sebastopol available March 1 : On 2.5 acres, 4BR 2BA, \$980; 2BR, 1BA duplex, \$600. On 1 acre 2BR, 1BA house \$750. Call 829-5749.

Rural house to share with one other masculine Man. North of Healdsburg - 2000 month plus half utilities. 3 miles to town, vehicle required. Large house, garden, orchard and open space. Steve 894-4623 after dark.

SURVIVORS & PARTNERS: DYNAMICS OF A RELATIONSHIP. Class starting at SSU on 2/1 (27 OK to start), Wednesday 6:45 - 9:20 pm, taught by Vicki Blackfoot, M.A., Psychology, to learn about the effects of sexual abuse on survivors, partners, and others. Issues such as trust, sex, intimacy, anger, control, flashbacks, etc. As partners, family, and friends, our own issues of trust, intimacy and sex are triggered; and confusion, anger and guilt also often accompany those of us who have little or no information. In order to better understand ourselves and our relationships with each other, we need more information. Check SSU schedule for Room No., AUDITING OKAY. G/L WELCOME.

Are you patronizing our advertisers? Do you tell our advertisers you saw their ad in *We The People* even if you do just go into their stores? This is an important part of networking and supporting our community. Look through the ads carefully.

Musician Needed: Russian River Metropolitan Community Church needs a Pianist/Organist for Sunday Services. Call 869-0552

The Social-Life Club is growing, but we still need you to send in your request to receive our questionnaire. So if you want to join the GL community in having fun and adventure send in a self-addressed stamped envelope to Social Life Club PO Box 2204, S.R. Ca., 95405. This is not just a singles club its for people who like to have fun with people.

Computer Services. Ad layouts, documents created, business cards, newsletters, resumes, flyers, etc. All at an affordable low cost. Call Jerry at 525-7464.

IT'S TAX TIME! Jacqua Miller, Licensed Tax Preparer. Experienced, reasonable rates. 10% Discount in February. Santa Rosa Location: 584-1819 for Appointment.

FOR SALE. Furniture. Early 1900's, oak dresser, bed, chair, red frise couch, floor lamp, library table. Priced to sell. (707) 782-9615

Natural Relaxation thru therapeutic, non-sexual massage. \$30-\$50. Call Betty, 577-7955, Mon. - Sat., 10am-6pm for Appt. Women and Seniors receive \$5 discount on first visit.

Message Space available. Do you need a professional space that furnishes everything you need for your treatment. Body Benefits Studio at the Flamingo Hotel now offers space for G.L. Mas. Therapist, for single appointments or more at a reasonable low rate. Call Jerry 579-1470

"Krn" a Hope. "Krn" is a Potassium Mineral Supplement, made up of 14 natural herbs. This liquid formula taken twice daily was designed to oxygenate and purify the blood, improve digestion and elimination, which results in extra energy. "Krn" rejuvenates while drugs debilitate. To order one month supply send \$33.00 plus \$3.00 shipping and handling to "Krn" Box 258, Talmage, Ca., 95481, Visa & Master Charge orders Call (707) 579-9532.

Calendar...

(continued from page 8) Other Programs:

Lesbian Business Owner's Association meets once a month. For dates, times and further information call 585-7654.

Let's Dance to a variety of taped music in a smoke & alcohol free environment, plus surprise highlights. Bring your family, friends & neighbors. Let's celebrate life in the Spirit of Friendship. Every 2nd & 4th Friday, Sebastopol Community Center, 390 Morris St. 825-2593.

Metropolitan Community Church, oriented toward a gay congregation. Service every Sunday at 11:00 a.m. with Pastor John Torres. Church of Religious Science, 515 Orchard St., Santa Rosa. For information call 526-5399.

Rituals for Women who love the Goddess by her many names. First Sunday of the month at 7:00 p.m. in the Guerneville area. Offered by Yalode. Call 869-0664 for information and location.

Ortho-Bionomy, a form of bodywork which deals with the whole essence of an individual. 15 minute demonstrations on Thursdays between 10:00 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. at M. Lavelle's. \$5.00. For more information call Sharon Alvarez at 829-9677.

Russian River Metropolitan Community Church is a church for all people regardless of sexual orientation. Service every Sunday at noon with Rev. Linda Laster. 14520 Armstrong Woods Rd., Guerneville. For information and counseling call 869-0552.

Women in Touch, a lesbian social group meets every second Sunday for brunch. For information call 528-2938.

Women's Spirituality Group of Russian River MCC offers a circle for women who desire to celebrate the Goddess of the Judeo-Christian Tradition in the company of other women who celebrate the Divine Woman. 2nd Sunday of the month, 7:00 p.m., 16451 4th St., Guerneville. For information call 869-0664.

Items for the Calendar of Events should be submitted in writing by the 15th of the month. Late items will be included as space permits. Please note that because of our press time, events scheduled before the fourth of the month should be submitted two months in advance. *We the People*, P.O. Box 457, Graton, CA 95444.

Special Valentines

- ROBIN** You and your love are a wonderful gift. Thank you! Our engagement has made me very happy. I'm filled with promise for today and our future. I Love You, Lee
- Beloved**, through thick and thin you will always be me desert fox. Jq
- Jim**, You take my breath away. I love you. Rick
- Smagma**, You are not Devine, yet what a devine friend, love you. Quimby
- MF** - I'll be your Valentine all year long. Will you be mine? (You know the number.) - Jazee
- Kris M.**, Your love and friendship is a richness for me. JN
- T.J. - Oh Valentine**, you make me pine. Please be mine. . . We can wine and dine. It'd be SO fine! See you at nine?! - S.C.
- My Little Grape**, I love you a bunch! Your Selucki Valentine. ♥
- R** - My sweet baboo, I love you, C. ♥
- Valentines** wouldn't be Valentines without a heart like Carol Owens. Love Uncle Thurman ♥
- Tiamo Denny**, Stephano ♥
- Richard**: Roses are Red - Hearts R-2, Tis the season, I Love You. Patrick ♥
- Ron** - Your love and creativity fill me to the brim. Thank you, Clark ♥
- Doug** - I have special feeling for you at the bottom of my heart - and also at the bottom of my underpants. Bob ♥
- Dennis**, Your angel heart makes warm the spaces we share. Hugs & Kisses M. ♥
- PooBear** - Thanks for the Best Five years of my life. We're only getting Better! Mike ♥
- To all the men in my life**: Cupid will getcha yet (and leave you on my doorstep!). Love to WS and SH from JS ♥

laireLight
WOMEN'S BOOKS • RECORDS • TAPES
CARDS • JOURNALS • CHILDREN'S BOOKS
OPEN EVERY DAY
1110 PETALUMA HILL RD. SUITE 5
(Just south of Hwy. 12)
SANTA ROSA, CA 95404
(707) 575-8879

SISINC
JACKIE SPAHR
Agent
SPAHR INSURANCE SERVICES, INC.
P.O. BOX 2626, PETALUMA, CA 94953
800-237-0107 707-762-0107

A Coffee House
COFFEE BAZAAR
P.O. Box 1048-14045 Armstrong Woods Rd. Guerneville, CA 95448
TONY GARCIA (707) 869-9706

MICHAEL D. ROTHSCHILD, EA, MFA
Tax Consultant
-Expert, Individualized, and Discreet
Tax Return Preparation & Strategizing
-17 Years Exper. -Former IRS Auditor
(707) 577-0551
2609 Vallejo Street, Santa Rosa, California 95405-6940

LAURA BLUM
Rosen Method Bodywork
This gentle form of hands-on bodywork facilitates relaxation, awareness and self-acceptance. Rosen Method is particularly useful in recovery from addiction, co-dependence, and adult children of alcoholics issues.
132 Leland Street Santa Rosa 707-576-1338

Markey's Cafe & Coffee House
Espresso, Beer, and Wine
International Array of Vegetarian Entrees
Desserts Baked Fresh Daily
Comfortable, Non-Smoking Environment
Jazz and Classical Music Played Daily
Live Music Friday and Saturday Evenings
Monthly Exhibit of Local Artists' Work
Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner Daily 8:30 a.m.-9:30 p.m.
Brunch: Sunday and Sunday until 2:00 p.m.
Sonoma Express Card Welcome
8240 Old Redwood Hwy
Cotati
795-7868

Calendar

Wednesday February 1

Sonoma County Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, meets 1st Wednesday of the month. 7:30 p.m., Sweet Life Cafe, 122 4th St., Santa Rosa. For information call Adam Richmond at 579-9347.

Survivors and Partners: dynamics of a relationship. Class at SSU to educate ourselves on effects of childhood sexual abuse on survivors and their partners, family and friends, and ways to overcome obstacles for healthy relationships. Auditing ok. See Classifieds for more information.

Saturday February 4

Dignity, gay Catholic organization, meets 1st Saturday of the month. 6:30 p.m. Mass at 7:00, followed by potluck dinner. For information call Jim K. at 938-0211 or Mert at 579-5308.

Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt. (See article last issue.) 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., Sonoma County Fairgrounds, Grace Pavilion. No admission charge.

Sunday February 5

Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt. (See article last issue.) 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., Sonoma County Fairgrounds, Grace Pavilion. No admission charge.

Ritual for Women of all/any/no tradition celebrating the Goddesses of Love, Sexuality, Fire and Passion. 7:00 p.m., 3rd and Church St., Guerneville. For information on what to bring, call 869-0664 or come by Yalode, 16216 Main St., Guerneville.

Tuesday February 7

Veterans C.A.R.E., gay and lesbian veterans and their friends, meets 1st Tuesday of the month. Dinner, 6:30 p.m., Petaluma Veterans Building. For information call 829-5393.

Survivors and Partners: dynamics of a relationship. Class at SSU to educate ourselves on effects of childhood sexual abuse on survivors and their partners, family and friends, and ways to overcome obstacles for healthy relationships. Auditing ok. See Classifieds for more information.

Wednesday February 8

BANGLE, Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators, meets 2nd Wednesday of the month. 7:30 p.m., Santa Rosa Junior College, Faculty Senate Room. For information call Jaye Miller at 433-9158.

Food For Thought Auction. A benefit auction for Sonoma County's new AIDS food program. Antiques, curios, treasures. 7:00 p.m., Molly Brown's Saloon, 14120 Old Cazadero Rd., Guerneville. For information, call 869-9748.

Sharpening Your Intuitive Tools for Self-Empowerment: an evening with Clara Rosemerda MA, intuition counselor, teacher and healer. Clara has been teaching others to focus and develop their creative and intuitive abilities for over ten years. 7:00 p.m., ClaireLight. \$5-10, sliding scale. 575-8879.

Thursday February 9

Face to Face Advocacy Training begins. For more information, or to apply for training, call Jude Winerip at Face to Face - 887-1581.

Friday February 10

Gay Fathers Group meets 2nd Friday of the month for potluck in members' homes. For information call 823-6190.

Lipstick Lesbians and Lace Fashion Show, 1st annual. 8:00 p.m., El Rancho Tropicana Convention Center, Barbara Room. \$10 donation (can be applied toward purchase of lingerie). Limited seating. For reservations, call 575-8197.

Saturday February 11

Two Workshops by Isla Coble, Root Woman Herbals. "Herbal and Aromatherapy Skin Care". 5:00-6:30 p.m. \$4-7 sliding scale. "Herbal Healing". 7:30-9:00 p.m. \$4-7 sliding scale. Both at Yalode, 16216 Main St., Guerneville. Bring a pillow or stool. 869-0664.

Sunday February 12

Isla Coble of Root Woman Herbals will be holding personal consultations. One and a half hours, in-depth session. 10:00-6:00, Yalode. \$28, by appointment. Stop by Yalode, 16216 Main St., Guerneville, or call 869-0664.

Women's Spirituality Circle, "The Blood Mysteries", a ritual for women, celebrating the power of women's life-giving bloods, reflection on the blood rites of the Judeo-Christian tradition and sharing on how this has affected us as women. Led by Yolanda and Claudia Vierra-Allen. 7:00 p.m., 16451 4th St., Guerneville. For information on what to bring, call 869-9161.

Tuesday February 14

Healing Alternatives Group, for people with AIDS/ARC or HIV positive, meets 2nd Tuesday of the month. 7:00-9:00 p.m., Face to Face, Guerneville. 865-2411.

Thursday February 16

CAP (Child Assault Prevention) Project benefit. JoAnn Broussard and Susan Spott will show slides of their fund-raising 160 mile hike of the John Muir trail in Yosemite. 7:00 p.m., ClaireLight. \$3-5, sliding scale. 575-8879.

Friday February 17

"Deep Dish" - Gay Men's Potluck meets 3rd Friday of the month at 7:00 p.m. For information call 544-4109.

Sunday February 19

LGRN Men's Potluck meets 3rd Sunday of the month at 6:30 p.m. For information call Mert at 579-5308.

Dorothy Allison reads from her latest book, *Trash*, a collection of stories about women getting into trouble and working their way out. Not only does Dorothy write very well, she is one of the best readers in the country. 5:00 p.m., ClaireLight. 575-8879.

Thursday February 23

Channeler Janice Spotwood will channel the "Council". 7:30 p.m., Yalode, 16216 Main St., Guerneville. Bring a stool or pillow to sit on. Donation requested. 869-0664.

Saturday February 25

Greenfire in concert. Lisa Matheson, Joy Willow and Nancy Feehan weave a variety of musical styles, humor and vocal harmonies that reflect social, personal and political change. 7:30 p.m., ClaireLight. \$6-8, sliding scale. (With \$1 off for canned or packaged food donations for Food For Thought, a local non-profit organization for people with AIDS/ARC.) 575-8879.

Tuesday February 28

Paula Micky, a "Touch for Health" instructor, will lead a hands-on lecture/demonstration in body energy balancing. 7:00 p.m., ClaireLight. \$3-7, sliding scale. 575-8879.

Wednesday March 1

Sonoma County Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club, meets 1st Wednesday of the month. 7:30 p.m., Sweet Life Cafe, 122 4th St., Santa Rosa. For information call Adam Richmond at 579-9347.

Friday March 3

Brown Bag Reader's Theatre 10th anniversary celebration, featuring Theresa Trull with Vicki Randle and Vicki Milo, June Millington, Lisa Cohen, Gayle Remick and Margaret Sloan Hunter. 8:00 p.m., Santa Rosa High School. Tickets \$10-20 sliding scale, can be purchased at ClaireLight in Santa Rosa, The Last Word in Guerneville, Copperfield's in Petaluma, or by mail/order: P.O. Box 6556, Santa Rosa 95406. Childcare is available with 72 hrs notice - call 527-0485. For information contact Sue Stognitto at 765-9903 or Kerry Blume at 527-0485.

Intimacy, Relationship and Family - a group for gay and bisexual men and male couples, facilitated by Bob Casanta MA, MFCC Intern. Begins March 3. 7:00-8:30 p.m. \$15 per meeting. For information, call 887-1037. (See Weekly Meetings, below.)

Saturday March 4

Dignity, gay Catholic organization, meets 1st Saturday of the month. 6:30 p.m. Mass at 7:00, followed by potluck dinner. For information call Ron S. at 252-7488 or Mert at 579-5308.

Sunday March 5

Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt. (See article this issue.) 9:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m., Sonoma County Fairgrounds, Grace Pavilion. No admission charge.

Shedding Our Skins, a ritual of drumming, dancing, and dreaming for women of all spiritual traditions. 7:00 p.m. Sponsored by Yalode. Call 869-0664 for information on location and what to bring.

Tuesday March 7

Veterans C.A.R.E., gay and lesbian veterans and their friends, meets 1st Tuesday of the month. Dinner, 6:30 p.m., Petaluma Veterans Building. For information call 829-5393.

Wednesday March 8

BANGLE, Bay Area Network of Gay and Lesbian Educators, meets 2nd Wednesday of the month. 7:30 p.m., Santa Rosa Junior College, Faculty Senate Room. For information call Jaye Miller at 433-9158.

Friday March 10

Gay Fathers Group meets 2nd Friday of the month for potluck in members' homes. For information call 823-6190.

Weekly Meetings:

AA Gay Freedom Group Thursday, 8:00 p.m. Methodist Church, 17790 Greger Ave., Boyes Springs.

AA Gay Men's Group Sunday, 8:00 p.m. Unitarian Church, Stony Pt. and Todd Rds., Santa Rosa.

AA Gay Newcomer's Group Friday, 6:30 p.m. Benton St. Clubhouse, 1055 Benton St., Santa Rosa.

AA Gay People's Meeting Friday, 8:00 p.m. Benton St. Clubhouse, 1055 Benton St., Santa Rosa.

AA Gravenstein Gay Group Wednesday, 7:00 p.m. Church of Christ, 420 Murphy Ave., Sebastopol.

AA Stein Group (Lesbian) Sunday, 8:00 p.m., 167 High St., Sebastopol.

AIDS Healing Group. Spiritual Healing Group for those involved with and affected by the AIDS crisis, facilitated by Dan Perdios and Laurel O'Neill, meets every Monday, 7:30-9:30 p.m. Call (707)865-2159 for more information and location. (See article last issue.)

Drop-in Group for Battered Lesbians meets every 2nd and 4th Wednesday of the month. 7:00-9:00 p.m., YWCA, 865 3rd St., SR. \$2.50-\$10, sliding scale. For information call 546-1234.

AIDS/ARC Support Group, facilitated by Marjorie Thirkettle, MFCC (ML021923), meets every Thursday, 12:45-2:15 p.m. No fee (donation accepted). For information call 869-3304. Sponsored by the Russian River Metropolitan Community Church.

HIV Positive and Spirituality Support Group, meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month. 7:30-9:00 p.m., Knox Presbyterian Church, 1650 West 3rd Ave., Santa Rosa. For information call Dennis at 575-5132. Sponsored by the Santa Rosa Metropolitan Community Church.

HIV Positive Support Group, facilitated by Marjorie Thirkettle, MFCC (ML021923), meets every Thursday, 2:45-4:15 p.m. No fee (donation accepted). For information call 869-3304. Sponsored by the Russian River Metropolitan Community Church.

Intimacy, Relationship and Family, a group for gay and bisexual men and male couples, facilitated by Bob Casanta MA, MFCC Intern (IH13379). This group is now forming and will meet on Friday evenings from 7:00-8:30 p.m. beginning March 3rd. \$15 per meeting. For information call 887-1037.

Lesbian and Gay Overeaters Anonymous, meets every Wednesday at 8:00 p.m. Christ Methodist Church, 1717 Yulupa Drive, Room 5, Santa Rosa. For information call 823-5845.

Lesbian Co-Dependents Anonymous, meets every Monday at 7:00 p.m. Santa Rosa Senior Center, 704 Bennett Valley Road. For information call Fay at 829-5392.

Lesbian Support Group, facilitated by Marjorie Thirkettle, MFCC (ML021923), meets bimonthly, Fridays at 7 p.m. For information call 869-3304.

Living with AIDS Support Group for PWA/PWARC, facilitated by Carol Owens, MA, meets every Monday. 7:00-9:00 p.m., Face to Face office. No fee. Call 887-1581 to enroll.

Positive for Positives, support group for HIV+/AIDS/ARC, meets every Wednesday at noon. For information call 865-1834 or 869-3255.

Santa Rosa AIDS Awareness Group. An open informational/support group committed to decreasing the isolation of people with HIV, ARC, and AIDS. The program is sponsored by Face to Face. Monday nights, 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the library of Community Hospital, Santa Rosa. Newcomers, family, and friends are welcome. For information call 578-0855.

Support group for lesbians living with life threatening illnesses, facilitated by Carol Owens, MA, meets every Wednesday. 6:45-8:45 p.m. For information call 869-0869.

Support group for women lovers of women who were sexually abused as children, meets every Tuesday. 7:00-9:00 p.m. Free. For information call 523-3953.

Weekly Groups Now Forming: Couples Group where one or both partners are HIV positive or have AIDS/ARC; and a **Support Group** for women who are HIV positive or have AIDS/ARC. Both groups facilitated by Marjorie Thirkettle, MFCC (ML021923). For information call 869-3304.

(continued on page 7...)

MUSICAL EXTRAVAGANZA!!

10 YEARS!!

IT'S OUR BIRTHDAY
COME HELP BROWN BAG READER'S
CELEBRATE!!

WITH:

- * TERESA TRULL WITH VICKI RANDLE & NICK MILO
- * JUNE MILLINGTON & JEAN MILLINGTON
- * LISA COHEN
- * BBRT
- MCS
- * GAYLE REMICK
- * MARGARET SLOAN HUNTER

DATE: FRIDAY, MARCH 3, 1989
PLACE: SANTA ROSA HIGH SCHOOL AUDITORIUM
MENDOCINO AVENUE
TIME: 8 pm. doors open at 7:15
\$10-\$20 SLIDING SCALE
TICKETS AVAILABLE AT: CLAIRELIGHT - SANTA ROSA
COPPERFIELDS - PETALUMA
LAST WORD - GUERNEVILLE
MAMA BEARS - OAKLAND
CHILD CARE AVAILABLE
WITH 72 HR. RESERVATION 527-0185



M * A * S * S * A * G * E
HEALTH BREAK

Swedish Stress Reduction
Acupressure Gift Certificates
Ron Nakken, CMT (707) 823-0241
"Body Work Designed with Your Health in Mind"

"Not just another pretty faith"

Sunday Worship
11:00 a.m. • 515 Orchard St.

The MCC
Metropolitan Community Church
of
Santa Rosa

P.O. Box 11278
Santa Rosa, CA 95406
(707) 526-4673
(707) 546-8106
The Reverend J. I. Torres, Pastor