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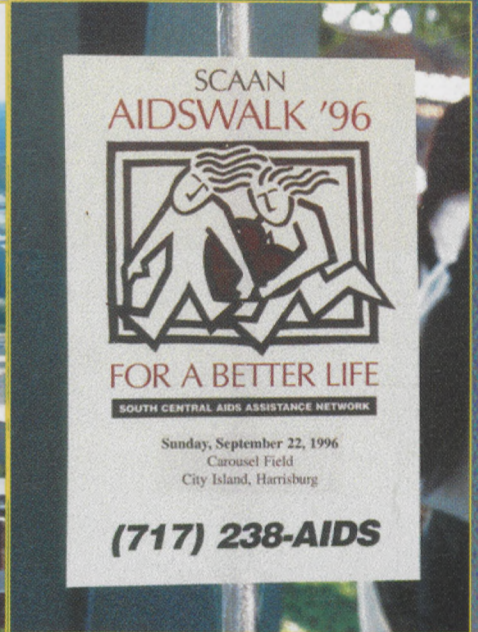
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crossroads

Of Central Pennsylvania

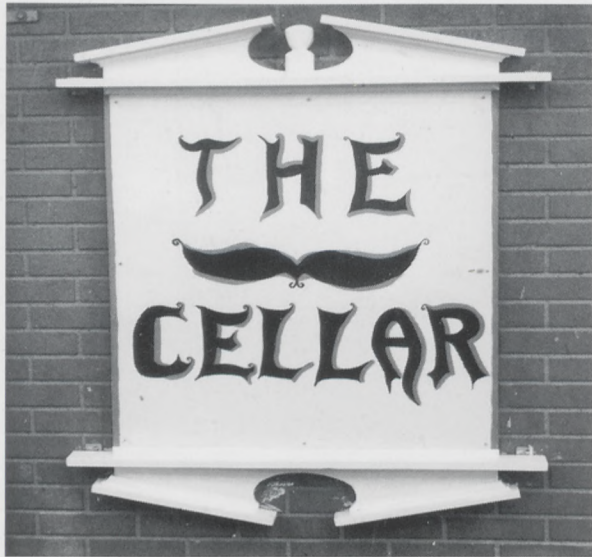


Central Pennsylvania In The Face AIDS

SCAAN...A Death In The Community, YORK HOUSE HOSPICE...Rise Of The Phoenix plus Full Color Coverage of the NAMES PROJECT MEMORIAL QUILT and our Full Color 1997 COMMUNITY CALENDAR!

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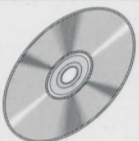
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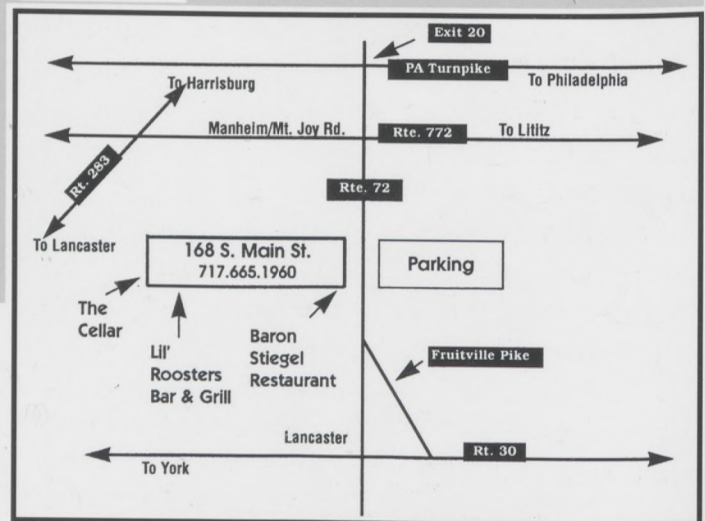
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blow those Christmas stockings
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Publisher's Note

AIDS hit the Central Pennsylvania area over twelve years ago. Due in part to the stigmatization caused by the epidemic, as well as an insensitive and unsympathetic government, its affect within the region moved caring individuals to action. Soon after its invasion in the area, all-volunteer AIDS service organizations (ASOs) became the providers of a whole range of services--educating the public as to the true nature of the infection as new information became readily available, educating target groups (largely homosexual men) as to methods in how to safely enjoy the sexual experience, helping those infected live longer lives, and assisting those at death's door tie up the final strands of a life lived and soon to be lost.

In the midst of this that the South Central AIDS Assistance Network was formed to provide these prevention education and buddy services to all individuals infected and later to those affected by what became known as HIV. This powerhouse, which eventually became one of the first ASOs to acquire state funding, became a model for other service agencies in the area.



Somewhere during SCAAN's heyday, there came into existence a facility that would also be emblematic of the care and devotion provided to patients and families alike. York House Hospice, under the watchful eye of its progenitor Joy Ufema, provided relief and dignity to the stricken who would live out their final days in the facility. Their bodies, wracked with pain due to the devastation of this intrusive foreign body, appeared to find the solace necessary to ride out the storm with the dignity not afforded elsewhere.

The Fall of 1996 awakened many with the unwelcome news of the closing of both highly regarded establishments. Though the shock still reverberates at press time, *crossroads* has pursued the reasons for the demise of both facilities and attempts to put both closures in perspective. We all have quietly entered a new phase in the latest health crisis. The scope of AIDS has changed worldwide due to the introduction of protease inhibitors; pharmaceutical cocktails enabling HIV positive individuals to prolong their lives by slowing viral replication. Could manageability finally have arrived for a disease state known all too recently to kill individuals within ten months after infection? Time will only tell.

As changes were affecting the midstate's AIDS picture, *crossroads* took the opportunity to visit what may be the last presentation of the NAMES Project Memorial Quilt in our nation's capital. As a symbol of hope, *crossroads* presents, for the first time, a four page full color spread on the activities of that three day weekend. *crossroads* thanks Chris Greene, Shelly, Daryl Morris, and Jeff Roberts as well as others who donated photos, thoughts and memories to making what we know will be a truly unforgettable issue. X



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At the crossroads

crossroads Special Report

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▼ The crossroads' Editorial ▼

Let me be clear right from the start. The intolerance of the religious right is beginning to really perturb me. This is the strongest sense of discord that I have uttered within the confines of this publication thus far. It may not be the last. I have always believed in the separation of church and state, but when you begin to realize that everyone has the right to preach and say what they feel, as long as it does not incite a riot or violence, then there appears a thin line between the two revered institutions.

That having been said, let me relay to the reader the reason for my anger. If you haven't done so yet, you will turn this page and find a letter sent to me personally that I, or rather my spirit, has already been sentenced to eternal damnation by my God. I have tried not to get angry for when I began this publication, I prepared myself for such vitriol. However, I will do something that I simply abhor and that is to talk about myself.

I was brought up to believe in the teachings of Jesus Christ by my mother and grandmother. Both serve as great examples of the love that Christ professed nearly two thousand years ago. They still revere the sacred teachings of Christ. Through my years in church, which included holding positions as high as Sunday School superintendent and church trustee, I was always aware of my sexual nature but I, as I'm sure I'm not the only one, though it was a phase I was going through.

I fully accepted my sexual orientation mainly because I came to realize that I was a creation of God and because I was created in His image (please, no political correctness comments), I knew I tried to follow the lead of my Savior up to that point of my life. In the following years, my sense of goodness and justice have helped me to raise much needed funds for AIDS patients as well as become an activist for gay rights; first behind the scenes, but most recently in the forefront via *crossroads* and my other community oriented involvements in the gay community.

Evangelist Sanford's assertions, among which that I belong to a group of individuals who jump at the opportunity to sodomize little is extremely absurd and highly insulting! Nothing disgusts me more than the thought of an adult sexually invading a child. What's worse is Sanford's judgement. By the way Evangelist, did you know that the majority of cases of so-called sodomy are perpetrated by heterosexuals?

I wouldn't be so furious if it weren't for the recent rumblings in Elizabethtown. The majority of a body elected to serve the best interest of the students as well as the taxpayers have recently decided to inflict their religious beliefs upon a district as to the subject of what constitutes a family. Families have taken on different forms in past and dependent on where in the world you reside, the definition of family differs as the weather on a given day.

The so-called pro-family resolution seemed to suggest that children from a single parent family really are not the product of a family at all. And children who happen to live with caretakers of the same sex are in danger of not knowing what a real family is. All I can say is "Shame on you."

The pro-family resolution also stemmed from National Education Association's recommendations that recommended that 1.) children be taught that "diverse society enriches all individuals" and that 2.) "education should increase intolerance and foster an appreciation of the various qualities that pertain to people as individuals or member of a group" no matter the race, ethnicity, religion, gender, etc. By the way, sexual orientation was mentioned as well. Oh my goodness say it ain't so!

Hurrah to the NEA for taking on such an opinion. It is my fervent hope that children learn of the great deeds that famous people who happen to be gays or lesbians have accomplished in the history of the world. And though this may be a sell out to the group I'm railing against, I agree that sexual orientation does not have to be mentioned when speaking about Alexander the Great, Susan B. Antony, Alexander Hamilton, and countless other gays and lesbians who have enriched the world with their talent and courage. An individual's sexual orientation is not important in what they accomplish for the good of society. This includes heterosexuals who stand with us on the front lines to combat discrimination against gays and lesbians.

There is one other point that I need to get off my chest and it concerns an experience I had when I recently visited the AIDS Quilt in Washington, D.C. Take a look at the upper left right corner of the collection of pictures on the front cover of this issue. People asked me why I decided to place this picture in such a prominent position of a gay publication. Well, it is a reminder of what I consider a perverse interpretation of

About The Cover

This issue is actually a compliment of our second issue which in part was devoted to breast cancer. Though this issue's devotion to this health issue is considerably longer, one cannot help but notice the rapid change in the HIV infected and affected individuals are experiencing.

The recent closures of SCAAN and York House Hospice (pictures of which begin the clockwise description of the front cover) reflect the everchanging nature of the epidemic and its impact on Central Pennsylvania. The black and white picture from this year's successful AIDSWALK, sponsored by Lancaster AIDS Project, reminds us that the epidemic is indeed a community concern in that we all have been affected in one way or another.

The majority of pictures on the front and rear covers are from October's Quilt display in Washington, D.C. The range of emotions witnessed by the *crossroads*' cameras is captured. NAMES Project volunteer Paul Foltz (rear cover second picture down on the right) has helped raise over \$80,000 for area AIDS organizations through his artistic direction of Lily White & Company. Natalie Darkes (below Foltz) played at Maryland's Savory Cafe during that weekend at an event celebrating the Quilt's arrival and the memories aroused by its presence.

Many went to D.C. to add their piece to the patchwork of the fallen (as is evidenced by Johnny's panel at lower right on the rear cover). This sense of closure was witnessed by over 2,000 individuals who are only representative of the increasing numbers of panels that flood San Francisco's NAMES Project.

As they have for the past few years, the State Museum remembers the fallen by its placement of the banner announcing the designated day of remembrance of those who have lost their lives to the scourge of the century. (Upper center on the rear cover.)

As the sun begins to shed a new light on the AIDS epidemic, *crossroads* will continue to bring fresh perspectives on the problem that affects us all as well as cover the events that impinge on our daily lives.

We at *crossroads* wish you and yours "Happy holidays" and a very safe, healthy and prosperous 1997!

Continued on page 5

After seeing and reading your article entitled "area magazine targets homosexuals," I was moved with godly sorrow and righteous indignation concerning your blatant rejection of Jesus Christ and promotion of the wicked lifestyle of homosexuality (The Patriot-News, C3, July 22, 1996).

First, the King James 1611 Bible (which is God's true Word for today) declares without exception that sodomy (homosexuality and lesbianism) is a sin against God's law (Lev. 18:22). The King James Bible says in this verse I just alluded to: "Thou shalt not lie with mankind, as with womankind: it is ABOMINATION." Similarly in Leviticus 20:13, we read, "If a man also lie with mankind, as he lieth with a woman, both of them have committed an ABOMINATION: they shall surely be put to death; their blood shall be upon them." The Hebrew word, that is rightly translated "abomination," literally means that God "hates" or "intensely disapproves" of the sin of sodomy.

Second, because of the widespread acceptance and casual practice of the sin of sodomy, the wrath or judgment of God was poured out upon the ancient cities of Sodom and Gomorrah (please read Genesis 19). Roman 1: 26, 27 tells us; "For this cause God gave them up unto vile affections: for even their women did change the natural use into that which is against nature: "And likewise also the men, leaving the natural use of the woman, burned in their lust toward another; men with men working that which is unseemly, and receiving in themselves that recompense of their error which was meet."

Then, in Jude verse 7; "Even as Sodom and Gomorrah, and the cities about them in like manner, giving themselves over to fornication, and going after STRANGE FLESH, are set forth for an example, suffering the vengeance of eternal fire." The proper Greek New Testament word, which is translated "strange flesh" is the word Gk. *heteros sarkos*; and literally means flesh of an

unnatural passion.

Third, what you are attempting to promote through your publication is ungodly, wicked, and totally depraved. When any major civilization or nation actively removes the moral restraints against homosexuality---the final and end result is that very same civilization or nation literally rots from within through moral degeneration (examples include: The ancient Greek empire, the Roman empire, ancient Egypt, ancient Babylon, and ancient Sumeria). If you refuse to believe the evidence then do some "honest" research yourself, and you will come to find out the plain truth about sodomy and moral decay of entire civilizations that willfully chose to give themselves over completely to this sinful perversion. My friends, America is next on God's eternal timetable, and IF we as a nation and people DO NOT REPENT of this sick perversion---America will cease to exist as a free nation.

Fourth, there does exist an ancient and secret tie or connecting link between sodomy and satanism: the secret rite of initiation as practiced by ancient pagan religions that totally disregarded their moral conscience and God's divine plan for the sexes. One of the avowed goals or the major agendas of the modern day satanist religion is: THE SODOMIZING (OF) AMERICA'S INNOCENT CHILDREN! The Satanist (M)anifesto declares that the sodomizing of innocent boys and girls is their chief agenda (please do read the publications of Mr. Anton LaVey who is the kingpin of modern day satanism here in America). The Charles Manson (c)ult of the late 1960's helped to "initiate" new converts into their cult through drug usage (including LSD, peyote, mescaline, and other hallucinogens) and sodomy, bisexuality and lesbianism (this was according to the open admissions of former Manson cult members who documented this as evidence against Charles Manson in the now famous Manson trial of 1971).

Fifth, I now must tell you of the true gospel of the Lord Jesus Christ. The

word "gospel" simply means "good news." The gospel of Jesus Christ is "good news" because it tells you are I of God's simple plan of eternal salvation.

1) God declares, in Romans 3:10, "As it is written, There is NONE righteous, no, not one:" My friend, the reason that this is TRUE; is revealed in verse 23: "For ALL have sinned, and come short of the glory of God;" This simply means that every human being is a SINNER by nature, choice and birth.

2) God then declares in Romans 6:23: "For the WAGES of sin is DEATH." The death that is spoken of here is referring to "spiritual death" or the SECOND DEATH found in Revelation 20: 14, 15. The SECOND DEATH is eternal separation from God in the lake of fire. The fire in hell shall never be quenched or extinguished (read Luke 10:24).

3) God then freely declares in Romans 5:8; "But God commendeth his LOVE toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ DIED for us." This simply means that God the Father, in true reconciling love for the human race, sent His only begotten Son into the world of lost sinners, to purchase eternal redemption and salvation for AL who would truly turn from their sin and trust the merits of His Son's precious blood for the remission of their sin.

4) God finally declares in Romans 10:9,10: "That if thou shalt confess with thy mouth the Lord Jesus, and shalt believe in thine heart that God hath raised him from the dead, thou shalt be SAVED."

My friend, God Almighty sovereignly decreed these four (4) eternal truths of His saving gospel of grace from before the very foundation of the world. That is the reason "why" the Word of God brings true conviction of sin to the heart of every sinner. This conviction, in turn, brings honest or genuine repentance unto salvation.

My prayer for the many of you who are "trapped" in this sinful and deadly lifestyle is: "REPENT YE, AND BELIEVE THE GOSPEL" (Mark 1:15).

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Turn from the deadly consequences of homosexuality and believe on the Lord Jesus Christ who shed His precious blood on the cross of Calvary to pay your sin debt in full and to wash away ALL your sin freely forever.

Because of Calvary,
Evangelist Mark H. Sanford

The *crossroads*' editorial cont.'

what some of those who call themselves Christians of the love of Jesus Christ. The God I worship is a God of love and though He may have had a reason to place the scourge of AIDS on the earth, I've always maintained that the paradox of the AIDS crisis is the love and intolerance that people have begun to show homosexuals both infected and not. Without trying to profess that I know the will of God, we may actually be living in a time when God is actually testing us in our ability to accept our fellow man and woman for who they are and not for what they do behind closed doors.

Despite the letter sent, no matter the discord occurring within the Lancaster County school district, and despite what the government says concerning all things homosexual, in the final analysis all people of any religious and spiritual persuasion must be content in the knowledge that the lives we lead, the good we perform. The principles of justice personally espoused are bestowed upon us by a higher sense of consciousness; whether or not we believe it to be delivered by a spiritual being.

By the way Evangelist Sanford, I'm glad you sent your letter. And allow me to forgive you for the hatred you seem to harbor against me and my gay and lesbian compatriots. You may have been taught to hate and for that I am sorry for you. I firmly believe I was born this way in the likeness of God and I am not a victim of an affliction that has taken a hold of my spiritual being.

You will also find that the God of love will also forgive these thoughts. I hope helps you find the compassion and tolerance necessary to accept His creatures as they are.

All gays and lesbians know the Religious Right is wrong on a number of issues. It is my fervent hope that we as a people will continue to stand and fight the moral battle against the true progenitors of hate and discord in this country. God bless you all. ✕

▼ Be Good To Yourself ▼

Surviving the Holiday Humdrums

Jan M. Drummond, M.S.

The mistletoe has been hung, the tree decorated, the presents wrapped, the punch ready for the first group of friends to arrive, and to make everything perfect, it looks like it will be a White Christmas.

So, why do I feel so miserable?

Please do not get me wrong. This is not foreboding that this will be a disappointing holiday season. On the contrary, there are many who truly enjoy and look forward to the holidays each year. Well, how do they survive? Better yet, how do they enjoy it?

The holidays are filled with expectations: Where *should* we stay? Who *should* entertain? Who *shouldn't* be invited? How much money *should* I spend in gifts? *Should* I go to church? *Should* I serve alcohol, (Uncle Harry has had a problem in the past)? *Should* I serve ham, (Aunt Bessie can't have that on her diet)? If we are celebrating with family and friends, the list can be endless, and in some perspective, ludicrous. Worse yet, what if we have no one to share the day with? What's wrong with me? I should have someone to spend time with on Christmas.

Any of this sound familiar?

Stress is defined as "any change in homeostasis." The holiday season is a pretty big change in our regular routine. What's worse, is that we have all these pre-programmed ideas in our head as to what the holidays should be like. If we have any confusion about how to spend the holidays, all we need to do is listen to a commercial on television or radio; or see an advertisement in a magazine. What all the "shoulds" say to us is that if we don't do things exactly the way we're supposed to, we have failed, and most of us take it even further, therefore, I am a failure.

Do you see how many of us set ourselves up to be miserable around the holidays? We need to start changing those shoulds into, "What do I want?" "What is important to me?" "Who do I want to share my holiday with?"

If you still feel a need to see your biological family, set some guidelines. There are many reasons why biological families do not get along. It is not necessary to explore all those reasons right now in order to have a successful holiday season. For example, tell your family you

can only stay longer. Plan to get together with the people you love and care about, not necessarily with the people we are told we should care about. Take care of yourself. Figure out what you need, (within reason) and try to make it happen.

This may not be easy. You've been told for a long time to put others first. It's important to realize that there isn't anything left to take care of someone else, if you haven't taken care of yourself, first.

The other thing to mention is the direct correlation between stress and self-care. It is directly proportional that the more stressed out we are, the less likely we are to take care of ourselves. That doesn't make any sense, does it? Of course, we all know that when we are stressed, it would be a good idea to nurture ourselves, but sadly, we are often too tired or feel too down to do just that. My number one recommendation for people to deal with the "holiday blues" is to get back to basics: eat balanced meals, get enough sleep. If you need to smoke, drink coffee or alcohol, do it sensibly. Watch your spending habits. If you think you were depressed in December, wait until those credit card bills hit you in January.

Also, exercise and always do something nice for yourself. (I love bubble baths; I find them very relaxing and comforting.) We all need to find something that is special to us. If you like to read, don't read some textbook for school or work, read something fun. Buy yourself some Silly Putty and allow yourself to be a kid again. PLAY! It's the nicest gift you can give yourself.

Regardless of what our religious/spiritual beliefs about Christmas, it is a time to smile, to feel good about other people and to smile at them. We cannot give good cheer to others unless we are feeling good about ourselves. And please remember:

PEACE AND GOOD WILL TOWARD
MEN AND WOMEN EVERYWHERE. ✕

Jan M. Drummond, M.S. received her undergraduate degree from Susquehanna University and Her Masters from Chestnut Hill College. Jan is currently sole practitioner at The Drummond Counseling Center located in Harrisburg.



**Halloween
in the 'Burg**
October 31, 1996



There they sit/two lonely old people...and one could see why. Nevertheless, these two biddies took first place honors at both The Neptune and The Strawberry. Are you going to use put that \$200 towards your plastic surgery dearies?



Bad hair day? With only a face that Dracula's mother could loathe, this snazzy number put an appropriate fright into the eve's festivities.

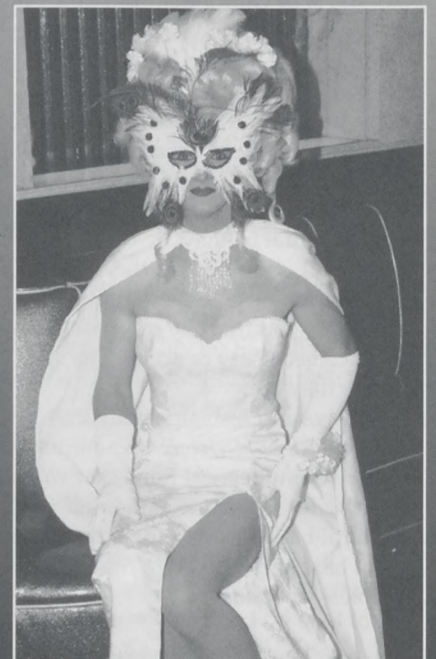


Marilyn and friend display a little night fever as they pose for the camera.



The Stallions has the cutest bartenders and here's a sample. These guys stopped only briefly for their opportunity to crack the crossroads' lenses. Nice try guys!

We know those gams anywhere. Kelly Green comes out (literally speaking) in her original femme fatale outfit that drove all the little werewolves to howl until the dawn. Hey Kelly, how about leaving those luscious legs at home and giving the rest of us a chance? →

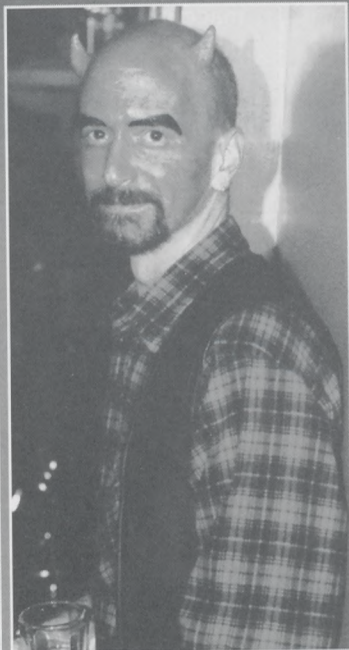


We all know confession's good for the soul. However Sister Jan, do you really believe that "Everybody runs away from me and I'm a good ghost" jive?



HALLOWEEN

Fresh from her starring role in the upcoming flick, Ms. DeVille graces the 'Burg with her 2nd place finish at the Stallions. Fierce, baby.



This Satan wanna be was just looking for a little TLC. Should we say a little sympathy for the devil might have been in order this eve?



"How about a little din-dins" was the cry of this showstopper outside the door of the Paper Moon Restaurant. We wonder if the Jane Hudson Platter was the evening's special?



Behold the Lion King (or maybe a refugee from Cats?) This picture does little justice to this top entry in Stallions' Halloween Gothica contest. Bet he doesn't have to look for his fuzzy slippers.



This outfit was no joke as its creator proudly paraded through the Strawberry in search of a hot foot to light or a whoopie cushion to place. You go boy!



Doing Their Part For The upcoming election are Motto 1 and Motto 2. We won't if you won't.



One of these things is not like the other. Your mission, if you choice to accept it, is to figure out which one. Hint: He's a pain in the neck.



SCAAN's 283 clients met Thursday, October 3rd with the news that its support organization of eleven years was closing; discontinuing services to the HIV positive community. The news of which having been leaked to the press before the agency had the opportunity of informing them via letter.

News of its closure awakened many in the HIV-affected community to the continuously changing nature of the AIDS saga. At present, HIV is no longer considered an immediate death sentence. With current advances in pharmaceutical cocktails (those that utilize a variety of medications that, when properly taken, reduce the once ravaging effects of HIV) there is, for once, pervasive talk in the medical community of the managability of the disease.

For the once-venered non-profit service organization, its death knell comes not necessarily due to these unanticipated changes, but to a seemingly array of missteps that ultimately led to its closure. From the registered disappointment over the loss of the *Our House* project by clients and supporters alike, to the failure of the organization to raise the vital operating costs in the recent AIDSWALK effort, SCAAN's departure from the tri-county HIV picture is seen more as a "how-to" in how not to run a non-profit organization than an agency simply caught unaware by the changing complexities of this most urgent health crisis.

in order for those in support of HIV-positive individuals, SCAAN's death could not have come at a better time.

The Beginning. Harrisburg resident Rodger Beatty thought it was time for individuals to coalesce into a support group to help those who were suffering from an affliction affecting the area's gay men. Then called GRID (Gay Related Immune Deficiency) the early perception of a "gays only" disease and the government's insensitivity to the ever-increasing health problem spurred the new health activists into action.

Beatty's living room became Command Central. Regular meetings held

number of those contacting the virus and those who were diagnosed with full-blown AIDS. In order to facilitate the expenses rapidly increasing, a grassroots level of fund raising was imperative and worked well within the community most affected. Bar nights were held to inform as well as to raise funds for the infant group were commonplace. "Mickey and Judy" drag shows, incorporating local female illusionists brought money in via ticket sales and performer tips. And there was the ever-present canisters and jars found upon the bars in the gay establishments filled quickly with out-of-pocket change that assisted client expenses i.e., food, rent, phone, electricity and other utilities.

Information about the disease relayed via speaking engagements and preventative measures became an indirect source of income for the new group. Safe sex discussions within high risk communities presented the fledgling group an opportunity to relay the most current research available at the time.

Condom distribution within the area gay bars and eventually heterosexual hotspots such as nightclubs served as a compliment to the old bathroom dispensers found within these establishments. Beatty, however, ratifies the need for more than protection. "We needed to talk down and dirty with people about what's going on and what you're doing to reduce your risk. What still drives me crazy is that people think condoms are the answer, but in reality they are only part of the answer. And that doesn't mean that people will use them or know how to use them; they usually don't break, but they do now and then...You need to put condoms into the formula."

Formalization. The group quickly realized their little composite of committees would have to reach organization status in order to apply for non-profit status with the state and federal government. They also needed a name. They knew the

A Death in The Family

Harrisburg is rocked by the closure of its AIDS Service Organization. An analysis of its history and the future of services in the Tri-County area follows.

Dr. Eric W. Selvey

Many in the community were troubled by rumors of financial mismanagement and disarray among the staff. The biggest concern among many of SCAAN's reluctant supporters was its perceived neglect of the gay community; a community that supported SCAAN wholeheartedly from its genesis to this year's AIDSWALK.

The current perception within the gay community is clear. SCAAN's demise is met with ambivalence. Met with grief and despair for those the organization is currently serving but, in the opinion of many,

outlined the needs important to the facilitation of keeping infected persons living as well as providing information to the mass public on the modes of transmission and ways to avoid contact with the deadly virus.

The main focus at that time centered around three important components: prevention education, needs and case management and a buddy system where individuals performed tasks that ailing patients could not accomplish e.g., prescription drug pickup, performing household tasks, getting food important for their survival.

The early response was favorable especially among the gay community who were witnessing a sharp increase in the

Above Pictures (starting left): Present executive director Kathy Schwaibold, SCAAN door sign, buttons from the organizations most successful fundraiser.

reach of the epidemic would encompass a region wider than the tri-county area of Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry. Therefore, the name South Central AIDS Assistance Network.

Beatty left the presidency of SCAAN to assume duties as Pennsylvania's first AIDS officer. His responsibilities included development of the Commonwealth's response to the epidemic within the confines of its Health Department.

Business sponsorship for the activities of national AIDS support organizations saw an increase in the late eighties. As the news of Rock Hudson and Liberace hit the front page of national papers and as more celebrities began to share their terminal diagnosis with the rest of the country, AIDS became the fashionable if not the chic cause to champion.

Another reason was evident as the statistics began to reveal an increase in HIV infection in straight populations many of whom were persons in their early twenties.

In response to the ever increasing numbers collected by the PA Health Department of individuals with full-blown AIDS, (mandated by the CDC, following CDC guidelines and reaching as far back as 1981), the state, in 1987, made funds available to organizations for prevention education and client support.

SCAAN became one of the first AIDS organizations to receive state funds. The quick influx of funds to the organization allowed the hiring of an executive director, case manager and receptionist. Money for rent was made available and the group, who moved from Beatty's living room to a nearby office in Lakeside Lutheran Church, moved to offices provided by the Harrisburg chapter of Planned Parenthood before their final location within the Kline Village complex in the northern part of the city.

Glory Days. The hiring of staff, the establishment of permanent office space, an attentive board of directors, and an army of committed volunteers were ready to move into the nineties and in prepara-

tion for the second decade of AIDS. New services were developed including support groups for loved ones and significant others directly affected by the health crisis.

In Harrisburg, sponsorship of the AIDS WALK, now becoming a major source of SCAAN's revenue, became imperative. Blue Cross came aboard in 1988 to sponsor printing for the event. The group felt that acceptance within the community at large was slowly growing. SCAAN's mission became increasingly important as news of increasing infected populations hit local communities in the mid-state. Schools, businesses and even churches saw the need to open their doors in order to learn the latest science had to offer concerning transmission modes. These indeed were the glory days for an organization that was quickly becoming a model for AIDS service organizations (ASO's) throughout the state.

SCAAN always walked a fine line between the heterosexual community who felt that the ASO was a "gay white men's" organization and the gay community, who felt a sense of ownership due to the organization's origins as well as the money raised within it. Many in the community kept a wary eye on an organization that appeared to be growing by leaps and bounds due to its increasing employee numbers, and ever increasing publicity about SCAAN and the effect of AIDS in south central Pennsylvania and increase in state and federal funding. The perception that SCAAN was a gay organization became a curse and a burden that the non-profit organization would never fully erase.

The State Steps Aside. In 1991, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, realizing that they had little idea as to what truly was the local need in the various communities across the state, decided to turn over fiscal responsibility for ASO allotment of funds to six AIDS Planning Coalitions each representing specific geographic areas within the state. The South Central Pennsylvania AIDS Planning

Coalition (SCPAPC) presently encompasses an area which include Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Perry, Lancaster, and York counties. Their chief mission was not only to hand out state funds for prevention education services, but to administer the direct client relief services via Ryan White Title II funds legislated by the federal government. ASO's would vie for the privilege to subcontract with the coalition for these allotments.

Monies for SCAAN's services were coming into sharper focus; funding sources becoming more defined. The case managers and educators as well as their office supplies were funded through the coalition with public funds. Money for the executive director, as well as office supplies, the support staff (receptionist, secretarial staff), rent and utilities on the other hand had to be generated via fundraisers such as the annual fundraisers. The acquisition of these private funds were the responsibility of the organization. (The AIDS Factline, a toll-free hotline for questions from all over the Commonwealth dealing with HIV/AIDS was facilitated by SCAAN employees and funded directly by the state.)

Financial Troubles. As the organization's chief operating officer changed, the future could not have been rosier. The AIDS WALK and Caring a la Carte--a one-night fundraiser that required local eateries to contribute 25% of a diner's total bill to SCAAN--became events the organization could bank on.

The need within the community, however, began to outrun the funds coming into the organization. It was time for SCAAN to hire a Director of Development whose responsibility was to create forms of revenue income via the creation of more fundraisers, coordination of existing fundraisers and the search and writing of grants for the survival of the ASO.

The Board also hired a housing coordinator whose focus was directed toward the development of a possible hospice for Harrisburg. Their other duty was to coordination of housing for the clients

SCAAN Timeline

- 1985 SCAAN began in with Rodger Beatty and Jackie Schulze.
- 1986 Board established, Rodger Beatty voted first president of SCAAN.
- 1987 Beatty leaves the org. to take charge of the PA's plan on AIDS.
- 1988 State money is given to SCAAN. SCAAN's first executive director Peg Dierkers is hired.
- 1989 SCAAN moves to its per-



Dierkers (l) with president Jim Cartmell in 1993.

1993 Executive Director Peg Dierkers resigns; Carlisle's Rev. Donald Harper assumes the duties

ment location in the Kline Village complex
1990's PA's AIDS Toll Free Factline is placed in SCAAN's control.

1994 Its Most Successful AIDS Walk raises over \$95,000 via pledges and art sales

April 1995

Don Harper resigns as executive director

1995 SCAAN announces the procurement of home to be convert-



Beatty (l) and Warner at Kline Village ribbon cutting.

Sometimes things have to die in order for something new to be born. I will not rejoice about this because it's a very unfortunate situation. Neither will I lament over it because there is too much work to be done. Neither do I want to stand and point a finger because it is unhealthy.

What we need to be about is rebuilding what need to continue to take care of the people in our community who are HIV+ or HIV-affected.

I believe that all we need to do is to pull together to become a stronger group, a stronger community, a stronger organization.

Dale Warner SCAAN President 1988-1990; Coordinator of AIDSWALK '96

through the Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS (HOPWA) monies supplied by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development; the third component of available funding through SCPAPC as of 1993.

However, the board of directors, as late as 1994, began to see the future of AIDS in the midstate in terms of not only the need, but of future funding by the government and how it would affect the ASO if the public funds would begin to dwindle. A wise move in that state and federal funding would probably not keep pace with the future demands in the HIV-infected population.

According to then SCAAN Board president Jim Cartmell, a wake-up call was sounded revealing the necessity for the organization to become more self-sufficient and not totally relying upon governmental funding sources. He attributes SCAAN's financial crisis in part to its desire to be all things to all segments of its client population. Their attempt at being a leader in the region through "extraneous concerns" distracted the board and employees from its original mission.

Our House. The *Our House* project was clearly an example of a well-intended idea gone sour. In 1994, a group of volunteers banded together to search for ways in which an AIDS hospice could be established in Harrisburg. At the time, many loved ones were taking their dying to York House Hospice, instead of a hospital, so that these persons could die in an attempt of dignity of love.

The volunteers eventually settled on a residence in the 1700 block of Harrisburg's Green Street that was named *Our House* in a major announcement made in January 1995. The idea was to purchase the building, renovate it and open it for business with the hope that an influx of funds would continue from individuals and businesses alike.

This core of volunteers, who quickly found that in viewing the needs assessment for the facility, found themselves struggling to facilitate the creation of a hospice. Though SCAAN was not officially involved at the outset, they eventually established a separate account and provided limited administrative support. They hope that grants would pay for and maintain the project.

As the community excitement surrounding the announcement swelled, the group discovered other problems that began to make the project unworkable. The house, which met with the city's codes, was not up to hospice standards e.g., with American Disability Act considerations as well as meeting the time frame important for the completion a plan of action the Greater Harrisburg Foundation--the facilitator of the National AIDS Funds that allowed donations to the project to be doubled.

As SCAAN's involvement deepened, the Board began to question the capability of it providing full-time hospice care. It finally conceded that its administrative staff did not consist of the necessary medical personnel. Furthermore, their Director of Housing, who was to manage the facili-

ty, had no experience in such matters in medical matters as well.

May 1st was to be a day of celebration within the HIV-infected and affected community as *Our House* was to be bought and paid for signaling that a hospice would soon be at hand. Unfortunately that was not the case. The funds collected did not meet the purchase price asked and therefore the project had to be abandoned by SCAAN. The project however did not stay dormant for long as Professional Hospice Care of Harrisburg took the ball and are currently attempting to see the project to its fruition. (See *Finding a Place For Their Own* later in this series.)

The Crisis Deepens. The present executive committee of SCAAN views the *Our House* debacle as a cog in the wheel of public relations disasters that the organization had to endure. The resignation of its second executive director and the eventual departure of its Director of Development left the organization reeling in the face of public opinion.

Add to this the failure of 1995's AIDSWALK to come close to its '94 success (\$65,000 as opposed to '94's \$96,000+) and one sees an organization which relied upon that major source of revenue for certain expenditures as a non-profit in serious financial trouble.

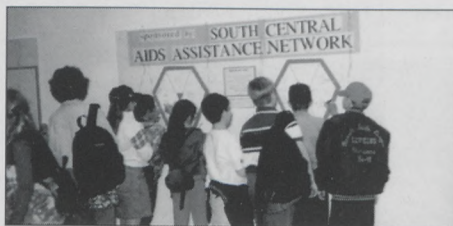
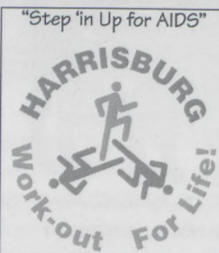
According to Kathy Schwaibold, SCAAN's third executive director, each walkathon brought to the ASO funds that were used to pay back bills and expenses. Therefore, the organization had to continue to scramble to acquire funds from any

ed into a three-bed hospice facility if \$75,000 is raised by May

1995 SCAAN begins its newest fundraiser--Step In Up For AIDS.

May 1995 SCAAN's Fundraising Coordinator leaves. SCAAN's *Our House* fails as the necessary funds are

not raised. The money is either returned to the donors or given to the Greater Harrisburg Foundation to be matched



State Museum visitors sign their support.

one-to-one for another AIDS Residential Facility spearheaded by Professional Hospice Care.

Sept. 1995 AIDSWalk raises a net of \$60,000.

November 1995 Kathryn Schweibald becomes executive director.

Dec. 1996 For World AIDS Day, SCAAN places signs in the State



Current SCAAN President Roseanne Placey

Museum so visitors can write messages of support to those with HIV.

Sept. 1996 AIDSWalk raises less than \$20,000 net.

Sept. 30, 1996 Board decides to close SCAAN as of Nov. 15 1996

possible source for future endeavors.

In addition to all this came a misunderstanding that only communication between affected parties could have solved. Throughout SCAAN's history, community-based groups donated large amounts of funds to keep the organization afloat. A large majority of those private funds went to support client services. The nature of financially assisting clients is a tangible to which anyone can relate.

SCAAN, through its board and executive director felt that all money donated to and earmarked for SCAAN's clients services had to be expended first before any coalition funds, given through the Ryan White Title II funds, could be used. Any excess is donated back to the coalition.

Molly Wyrick, executive director of SCPAPC, expounds further on this subject. She explains that any recipient of these funds could submit a budget revision request. The ASO must explain the unmet needs in another area for which the funds might be used. According to Wyrick, most of these requests have been granted by the coalition to many organizations. "The first priority," says Wyrick, "is to allow an agency to redirect funds that they've been allocated internally to meet a different need."

Of all the funding funneled by the Pennsylvania's AIDS coalitions, state funding for prevention education activities is the most flexible. The federal Ryan White funds for direct client care less flexible. HOPWA funds are the least flexible. Wyrick advises organizations to go to their private funding sources and ask if the earmarked funds can be redirected dependent on the needs of the organiza-

tion.

When asked whether they had known about this contingency Schwaibold answered that SCAAN knew about this contingency, but admitted that the organization should have done a better job in communicating its needs to its contributors so that the funds could be better utilized.

As 1995 became 1996, the Board decided to take drastic measures to ensure the future of the ASO. The Housing and Development positions that were vacated in '95 remained vacant.

Many non-profit organizations, according to Board president Roseanne Placey, should have six-to-twelve months of capital to rely upon in the event that revenue sources dwindle. SCAAN never had three months worth. In addition to 1995's \$35,000 loss of funds in its AIDS WALK, SCAAN's Annual Gift Campaign, which in late '95 was targeted to acquire \$4600, only netted \$2560.

In addition, deficits were created as the client rate increased which in turn pulled on the ASO's line of credit which was reserved in cases of emergency; continuing the downhill financial spiral. Add to this the disappointing \$18,000 received through the 1996 walkathon and one can see the need for the organization to face facts and close the doors.

When asked by concerned members and clients of the organization as to the

reason why SCAAN failed, client board representative and current Vice President David Hann replies "There are no simple answers. If there were, the problems would have been fixed long ago." He adds that it wasn't because the board didn't care.

The Ripple Effect. There was also another factor working against the organization in its final year. There grew a perception within the gay community that SCAAN's demise was attributed in part to an apparent drift away from the gay community. Those in the community felt they were taken for granted during major

periods of fundraising such as the AIDS WALK and Caring a la Carte.

However, condom distribution within the gay establishments dwindled as the distribution of prevention education brochures and pamphlets that once flooded the bars in the early days of the health crisis. The bar nights and the canisters disappeared just when a new generation of gay male entered the bars for the first time.

As the news of diminishing HIV infection among gay males screamed across the media, SCAAN turned its focus towards newly infected populations. Some in the gay community feel that this sense of abandonment of their concerns is what initiated withdrawal of the org. from their needs.

system where individuals go to the state health centers for their HIV testing. Cost effectiveness and user friendly issues are considerations in this new endeavor. VNA has already developed a team of HIV testing centers in Harrisburg which will be built into the prev/ed component.

VNA vied for the opportunity to pick up the pieces left in the wake of SCAAN's closure. They felt working with LAP would be the best way to proceed.

The ten-year-old Lancaster based organization currently has an executive director, a comprehensive professional staff of case managers, prevention/education specialists, an RN case manager and a director of development on board.

LAP will not coming physically coming into the capital city but will establish a tri-country based program administrative oversight so that more dollars will be directed into the community so that more dollars will be used for prev/ed.



Participants signing the sign prior to LAP's AIDS WALK which netted \$50,000 earlier this year.

I wouldn't do this if the community weren't so supportive of these projects," says Leanne Porterfield. The executive director of the Lancaster AIDS Project (LAP) will work with Harrisburg's 99-year-old Visiting Nurses Association (VNA) giving the recently ASO deficient city an immediate presence of a very strong and stable organization. "We will subcontract with them to offer expanded services e.g., nutrition counseling and seminars as well as client education on issues on the disease process. They will also offer counseling sessions on grief and loss issues for clients, caregivers and volunteers."

VNA was one of three organizations who received funding by the PA Department of Health for the development of a community health program (Butler and Berks are the other counties) which will see if privatization of state health centers is better than the current

Beatty remembers that the organization benefited from the goodwill of a community who witnessed the epidemic first hand and who were frightened into action. The organization's initial revenue sources from the gay community--- from drag shows to bar nights, tip jars and gaypride festivals---gave SCAAN the bulk of its initial funding at a time when government didn't play a role in containing AIDS or helping those afflicted.

Many in the community, who were active in the early days of raising money for the fledgling organization felt a certain kinship to a group. Many of these individuals were never before involved in volunteer organizations, much less volunteer to collect money for a cause. That sense of kinship turned into a sense of possessive ownership of the organization. This was further fostered as heterosexuals were continuously hired to, what had been perceived as taking over "a gay organization."

The gay community grudgingly realized that SCAAN had to serve all persons infected with HIV; that SCAAN was not the gay organization it once appeared to be by virtue of its board composition and volunteer base which was at one time predominantly gay.

Ironically, Warner attributes the reason for the end of the bar nights in the gay community as a fatigue experienced by gays of an organization that constantly stretched its hands to ask for money. "You guys are just all over the place. Don't you ever give up?" became the cry experienced by many a bewildered SCAAN volunteer.

Beatty feels another reason for the perceived abandonment can be found in a study that compared infection rates between gay men and straight women. The study compared the number of newly infected men in 1988 and those infected in 1993 to women newly-infected in the same years.

The results revealed that 25,000 gay male were infected during the five year period. However, less than a thousand new infections in women in 1988. Though there were more men actually infected, the percentage increase is shown to be greater within females which caused a rise in concern for that population.

Beatty feels that "any organization that drifts to far from the numbers you are dealing with are not addressing the needs of the people. At the same time, they have to be sensitive to the fact that unfortunately the numbers in those other groups are also growing and they have to be addressed also."

The ripple effect that had been at work

from the epidemic's start has impacted friends and loved ones of gay and straight infected individuals. Groups with high-powered connections across the country are just now dealing with AIDS in children and mothers. Beatty, though happy for their concern, is frustrated because of their insensitivity to the first group of victims in the gay community all those years ago.

As for SCAAN's Board of Directors, Hann says that as "in a marriage where you take you each other for granted for so long, you just kind of grow apart and you don't realize it's happening because you assume that that person will always be there."

Placey agrees adding that the organization probably took the gay community's support for granted. However, the entire community-at-large should be faulted in their that SCAAN would always be there with the necessary funding to continue services as they had for eleven years. So insurmountable were these problems within the organization that its impact upon the communities they wanted to heavily target e.g., the gay and ethnic communities, caused support to slowly seep away from both for their volunteer and revenue bases.

A New Beginning. SCPAPC was charged with the task of finding providers that can implement the remainder of the coalition's contract of services within Cumberland, Dauphin and Perry counties. The ideal situation, according to Wyrick, is that case management becomes centralized as a full service agency so that the care coordination aspect happens under one administrative entity and not necessarily housed in one place.

Wyrick states that without SCAAN, there are gaps in case management and support services. Though there are prevention providers in the community, it may be encumbered upon them to expand their services.

The coalition took the opportunity to canvass the area's infected and affected communities to find the best way to deliver services in southcentral region.

The lessons learned are clearly evident. Any organization, which counts on a specific group already providing major sources of revenue should not be taken lightly. Input should be solicited at every opportunity. Open board meetings aside, the lines of communication are imperative to the health of any organization.

On the same token, that community group should take responsibility in holding any organization accountable for the funds given it and the duties carried out

via that revenue. Involvement at every level, whether it be as a volunteer or a one day participation in a fund drive, is imperative.

Any group, including the gay community, can indeed lay claim to the creation of an organization such as the gay community can with SCAAN. However, no organization can selfishly assume sole proprietorship of an organization that is for all persons infected and affected such as is the case with HIV. X

Stop The Tide

In my dreams life is a simple place
Where there is no sickness and no pain
Where it's safe to love and safe to breathe
And the sun shines instead of the rain

But when I wake up to greet the day
I feel an early frost running through my skin
A dark cloud is slowly moving in

If I could stop the tide from washing over me
I'd try to find a place that's safe for you and me
I won't give up the fight until my soul is free
Stop the tide from washing over me

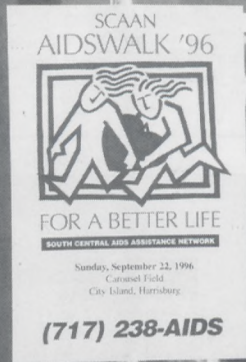
I know time will soon be running out
The only weapon left now is hope
Left helpless and all alone in the cold
The demon in my skin won't let me go

Sometimes I feel ashamed and alone
I fight to keep a smile on my face
There's a shadow hanging over my bed
It's a disease but it's not a disgrace

If I could stop the tide from washing over me
I'd try to find a place that's safe for you and me
I won't give up the fight until my soul is free
Stop the tide from washing over me

Anglea Byrd
©1993/1996

What Went Wrong?



SCAAN's annual fundraiser appears to have been plagued by circumstances beyond its control from the very beginning. To understand the '96 effort, one must look at the previous year's results. The fiscal crisis that gripped the organization prior to 1995 had a dampening effect on that year's ad hoc group. The diminished funds, coupled with the departure of their Director of Development four months before the first steps were to be taken on Harrisburg's Riverfront Park, saddled the event's organizers with issues never before confronted.

To match or exceed the \$95,000 raised during 1994's walk, a concerted effort was necessary. However, the volunteers only had Mary Kohut—SCAAN's case manager and now part-time fundraiser coordinator in the wake of the administrative vacancy.

The major problem facing potential walkers was the tardiness at which pledge sheets were delivered to them. Joel Stauffer, 1994's highest pledge recipient, was concerned that his regular pledgers would not come through. Stauffer eventually raised on the average \$2,000 per walk preceding the walk. Stauffer's efforts helped raise approximately \$65,000 or 20% of the total gross proceeds for SCAAN's walk; \$31,000 less than '94's achievement.

As SCAAN's fiscal crisis worsened the next year, its belt tightening continued. The annual tee shirt, usually presented as a memento to walkers and volunteers, was not changed nor were more printed. Instead, 500 leftover '95 shirts were used bearing a self-deprecating drawing on the back of the "'96" shirts.

Posters that were to be delivered to the bars had in fact never arrived leaving many people wondering, especially in the gay community, when the walk was to take place.

Then there was the issue of the weather. With various teams amounting to 300 walkers anticipated, word of a potential thunderstorm ready to pound the area was unwelcome news for an already nervous group of volunteers.

Dale Warner, this year's walk coordinator, does not feel however that the weather was the primary factor in the failure of this year's walk. He feels that people began to pull away from the organization. Community dissatisfaction and negative perceptions of SCAAN were becoming insurmountable problems which snowballed as the walk drew closer.

An intense amount of energy was put into volunteer recruitment. Letters written, personal contacts made and phone completed were all in hopes of getting walkers to participate. The Kiwanis Club was even approached. Many persons did not show because the walk was called

off due to rain.

Set up of the checkpoints and tents have in the past occurred at 6:00 a.m. the day of the walk. The next hour found the organizers anxiously watching weather reports which called for heavy rain and thunderstorms throughout the day. Many of the checkpoint HIV+ volunteers brought health concerns to the fore.

The decision was made at 9:00 a.m. not to set up the checkpoints. In addition, the electrical conductivity of the aluminum tent poles used to construct the checkpoints were also a safety factor. The final decision to call off the walk occur shortly thereafter.

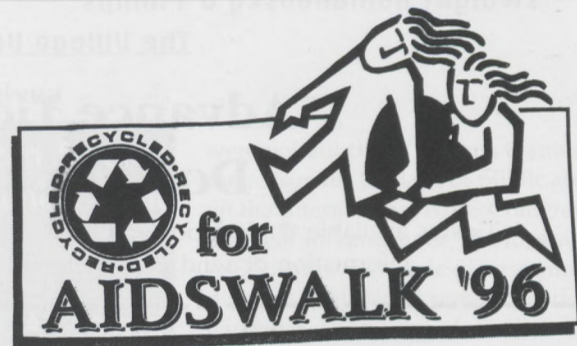
It is was determined that walker registration would take place at the SCAAN office and at City Island, the original walk kick-off point. The post-walk celebration was rescheduled for the office. As a result, money trickled into the office while the bulk of the funds were received at the island.

Sometimes Mother Nature can be unpredictable and the forecasted storms never arrived bringing instead weather suitable for walking. Some participants took advantage of the weather and walked the designated route; mostly in remembrance of those lost to AIDS.

This year, people were not asked to collect pledges but actual money since 90% of the money actually comes in after the walk. The sheets, therefore, contained the amount of money collected. As a result, \$18,000 of the \$80,000 goal was collected the day of the walk. Money came in later which has since been in the closing of the ASO. (Kathy Schwaibold executive director assured *crossroads* that this is quite legal according to their legal advisers.) Prizes were awarded to walkers dependent upon the individual fundraising effort.

The walk committee presented a none to flattering report to SCAAN Board of Directors the following week outlining the good points as well as the bad about the walk's organization. Ironically, it was presented at the same meeting where the board decided to close the organization.

According to Schwaibold, an even greater emphasis



could have been placed on recruiting more walkers. The organization were left using the data base from 1994's walk since the names of last year's walkers were never entered. Advertising helps but "posters very seldom draw people to an event of this nature."

To her credit, Schwaibold did bring money in for the walk. Costs for printing was donated by a sponsor. \$2,500 was brought in by Schwaibold for advertisements that were placed within the walk program. According to records obtained from SCAAN, the 1994 effort cost the ASO \$4,895, \$4,600 in 1995 and only \$733 in 1996. Whether the walk was reflective of the amount expended or whether this austere method was beneficial to the organization will unfortunately never known.

This Valentine's Day treat you and yours to "An Evening of Music & Comedy"

Featuring

Romanovsky & Phillips

with special guests

Dos Fallopia

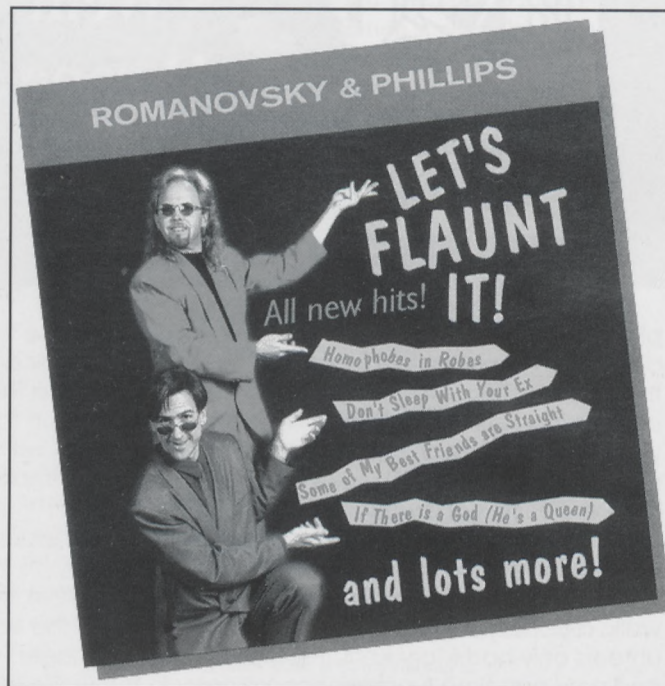
at the

Valencia Ballroom

142 N. George St.

York, Pa.

Curtain at 8:00 p.m.



What's said of Romanovsky & Phillips?

"...delightful & entertaining
Ambassadors of Homosexuality"

Sydney Daily Mirror

"...the Smother's Brothers are the
straight Romanovsky & Phillips"

The Village Voice

And What about Dos Fallopia?

"Koch & Platt are funny. They could read
the Yellow Pages, & I'd laugh"

The Indianapolis News

"...two of the funniest, most irreverent
comedians I've seen in years"

San Francisco Bay Times

Advance Ticket Sales \$18.00

Door Ticket Sales \$20.00

Tickets available @ Metropolitan Community Church of the Spirit - Call (717) 236.7387 for more
information or send your ticket order to 2973 Jefferson St. Harrisburg, Pa. 17110.

Ticket Order Form:

Please send check or money order with total number of tickets to:

M.C.C. of the Spirit
2973 Jefferson St.
Harrisburg, Pa. 17110

Name: _____

Address: _____

City: _____

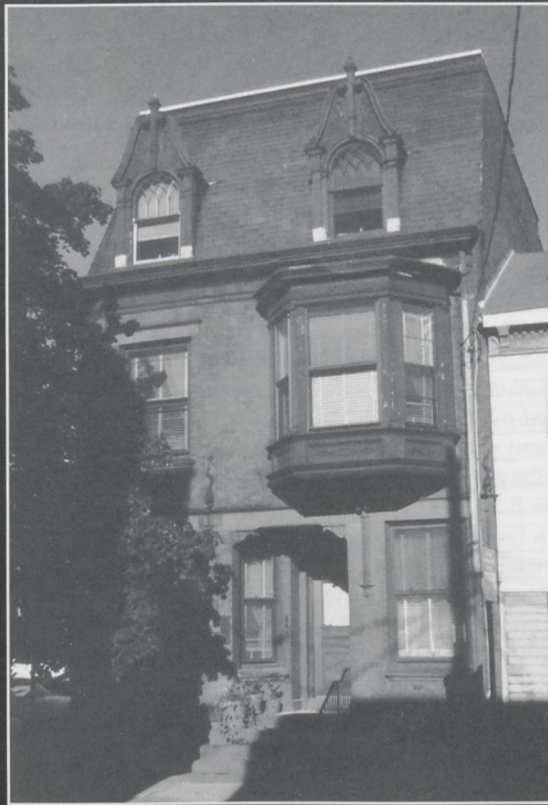
State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Number of Tickets: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

Ticket order form must be received no later than January 31, 1997

YORK
HOUSE
HOSPICE



The November 6th news announcing the permanent closure of York House Hospice went through the HIV-infected and -affected community like a bolt out of the blue. The five year old institution, the first of its kind to tend specifically to the needs of individuals suffering the end stages of AIDS, had been seen as a god-send. Infected victims and their physically and emotionally stressed families and significant others affected by the crisis had seen in York House a facility that was second to none when it came to the services it provided.

The information came rapidly on the heels of the facility's temporary closure in September (when the board realized that only \$16.50 amount would remain in its bank account after the weekly payment of its salaries) and prior to an Annual Giving Campaign that in the past had netted the organization an enviable 32% percent return; 15% over the 17% that is the norm.

What caused the temporary closing is a lesson in how not to run a non-profit operation much less a business based solely on public contributions. "The funds just dried up. That came about because we



Those who believe in omens will warn that to scoff and disregard their cosmic messages can be a foolhardy exercise for each portent can signal great things for an individual and, through them, the community. However, those more astute will tell you that omens, like Shakespeare's owl in *Julius Caesar*, can foretell days, weeks, months and even years of bad fortunes. So it was with Joy Ufema and York House Hospice.

It has been a long journey from the letter "A" found beneath the apple tree in Ufema's yard those many years ago. The letter (no one can explain how it got there) signified to the then renown authority on thanatology (the study of death and dying) that AIDS should be her major focus for the coming future.

Little did she realize that another omen, one beneficial to those infected, but one with unknown consequences, would unintentionally signal the death knell of an institution revered for its compassion and profound loss for its founder.

The Rise and Death of The Phoenix

For South Central Pennsylvania, the closing of the venerated York House Hospice signals a shift in the care and survival of those infected by HIV.

Dr. Eric W. Selvey

were not out there." Ufema blames part of the reason for the lack of public attention on the International AIDS Conference held this year in Vancouver. The message: That AIDS is now a chronic disease similar to diabetes, high blood pressure and leukemia. The nature of the illness is such that in the future, it may be possible that AIDS may be controlled by a vaccine.

This sense of hope, in her words "a false bravado", infuriated Ufema. Her qualified knowledge of the biochemistry of HIV as well as its uncanny knack to reconfigure itself every so, which makes vaccine development increasingly difficult, only reinforces her opinion that the need for hospice care will even be greater in the years ahead. The encouraging findings of protease inhibitors and the pharmaceutical cocktails (their effect of vacuuming the the virus from the blood serum) may be premature due to the

amounts of HIV found in the body's lymphatic and neurological tissues.

Though encouraging, Ufema currently suspects people will return to unsafe sexual practices; failing to use the preventative measures so widely touted in the early years of the AIDS crisis and advocated by Surgeons General C. Everett and Jocelyn Elders among others. Because of the seemingly lessening threat of the illness, Ufema also feels that people are now less inclined to consider AIDS the immediate death sentence it once was. The public's focus has shifted away from the serious nature of the epidemic and have ranked AIDS among such manageable afflictions as heart disease and diabetes.

Storm Clouds on the Horizon. The signs were in the air during the better part of summer. Noticing the lack of need by individuals in the three-bed facility, Ufema could do nothing but prepare herself for the inevitable if it came to that.

According to Ufema, York House's financial condition was "hanging by a thread" in late July through August. Entering September, she found there was not enough funds to pay one week of salary to her nurses. To compound matters, the facility recently housed two patients who passed away in mid-month.

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The costs of their care, in addition to the regular administrative costs, prepared the executive director to make a plea to the Board of Directors to do something quickly to bolster the financial status of the institution.

Her tenacity directed her to the bank to borrow \$3,000 (near the \$3200 or 84% of the total yearly budget needed to staff the hospice on a weekly basis) to pay her "bare bones" staff of six LPN's, one part-time RN (equating to one nurse for three patients), an administrative assistant, a housekeeper, and herself. The facility provided nursing around the clock when a patient was admitted.

She found herself reminding the board of its fiduciary responsibilities not only to York House, but specifically to the AIDS infected and affected community. She also had to remind the trustees that though she raised funds in the past, her work with the patients was her primary concern. She desired the fundraising to be left up to the board. "These are the kinds of things that I have lost my energy for. It's overwhelming when you're the only guy doing this."

Ufema was insistent to upon opening when the \$65,000 of cash and pledges were quickly in place. Although the

newly found sum would only hold them for a five month period, their annual capital campaign and subsequent fundraisers would provide the continuation of services. She was also relieved that the board had finally begun to buy into the concept of the hospice by developing a fundraising component to prevent further cessation of services.

Through old fashioned solicitation and preaching to the unsaved so to speak, Ufema was able to infuse the nearly depleted coffers with \$37,000 a hard cash with the remainder of the \$65,000 desired pledged by individuals and area hospitals. Individuals who were unaware of the facility's plight gladly made donations of \$2 to \$3,000 and beyond. So not unlike the mythological creature that rises from the ashes of its own making, York House sprang back to life ready to meet the challenges that laid ahead.

The Decision. York House reopened on October 16th. And though a 25 year old client (Ufema calls them patients) from Harrisburg was admitted, one could not escape the anticipated irony of the situation. The money came in from all quarters, but the beds, once a premium, were no longer in demand.

Ufema believes that besides the latest



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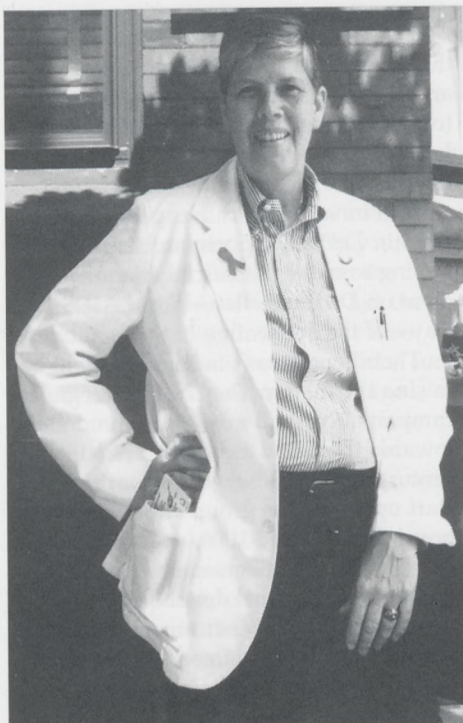
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vate donations and talent among the staff.

And In The End...With its November 22nd closing the cessation of York House will signal an end of era of goodwill extended to persons with AIDS who were serviced by a woman whose conviction, long before the epidemic, set the standard of end stage care in Pennsylvania. York House became the model that sparked SCAAN's ill-fated 1995 *Our House* project.

It is mandatory that non-profit organizations follow State designated guidelines in their dissolution and York House was no different. Monies collected by corporate and individual well wishers will be either be returned or given, with the donor's consent, to another non-profit facility.

This is good news for Lancaster's Gathering Place---an organization that provides services for HIV-infected hispanic women and mothers and housing for HIV-infected prisoners---in that they received all furnishings that made York

"I'm worn out with this role. I want to be a clinician again. Some of the patients we were getting recently were demented and so I couldn't do my wonderful dialogue with another human being that's going to be leaving the planet and that's what I'm good at...I'll miss that."

pharmaceutical advances, that loved ones affected by the crisis are currently no longer insistent on moving their dying out the door and into a hospice. The trepidation and fear once met by many has thankfully disintegrated into understanding and commitment to their infected loved ones.

The board, in considering the future of York House, deferred its fate to its progenitor. In their view, they could not go on without Ufema and thus would not consider replacing an individual with the conviction and dedication she displayed during the five years of its existence.

At the same time, Ufema weighed the ethical and moral considerations involved with keeping the facility open. To keep nurses on staff when there were no patients in the beds was a ludicrous option in her mind---"I cannot justify keeping nurses on just to do cleaning."

Ufema also felt that both her integrity and reputation were on the line. The money which flooded nonstop into York House and was responsible for its reopening was found to keep the facility open for three months. And then what? With no patients filling the beds (only one was taken in since the facility reopened in mid-October) would have been a waste of pri-

House the comfortable establishment that it was.

A hospice in St. Petersburg, Russia that Ufema read about in one of her journals, will receive the medical supplies that were once designated for the relief of those who suffered during their final days at York House. "It feels good to send them a box of syringes. They're reusing their needles and gloves," said Ufema. "We're thrilled to do that."

The house that was purchased from the City of York for one dollar will go back to the city with the adjoining edifice (purchased last year with the intention of creating a place of physical therapy for the patients and comfort for the HIV-affected) was to be sold by the Redevelopment Authority of York. Family counseling as well as patient care was another service rendered by York House.

...The Love You

Take... A battle-weary Ufema is ambivalent about the circumstances that are now causing a shift of focus in her life. On the one hand York House would remain open if the beds were filled. However, the combination of clinical care and personal fund raising has greatly affected her. She is relieved that she will not have to beat the pavement in search of funds to keep the facility, her baby, open. That will be someone else's responsibility where she is going.

She wants to go where she is needed. Her world renown expertise in thanatology, the focus of countless articles in publications such as *The Washington Post*, *The Baltimore Sun* and the area's *Harrisburg Patriot-News*, as well as *McCall's* and *People* magazines and the made-for-television CBS drama *A Matter of Life and Death*, will continue.

"I'm worn out with this role. I want to be a clinician again---making rounds with the doctors, checking x-rays, (performing) family counseling. Some of the patients we were getting recently (at York House) were (mentally) demented and so I couldn't do my wonderful dialogue with another human being that's going to be leaving the planet and that's what I'm good at...I'll miss that."

...Is Equal To The Love You Make. It's been a long way since Joy Ufema saw the "A" under the apple tree which steered her in the direction that she was loved and admired for over the past five years. *crossroads* salutes this selfless individual for the love, dedication and commitment she has displayed over the past five years and wishes her the best of luck in all her future endeavors. It is our hope that those who receive her services will quickly realize what a treasure they have in Joy Ufema. X



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Harrisburg has never had an AIDS-specific hospice to call their own. Sure, loved ones could call on Hospice of Central Pennsylvania for home nursing duties and recently, upon the opening of its first building, could call to place patients in one of the three beds available.

However, the issue of an AIDS-specific hospice, in the face of the increasing numbers HIV-infected individuals has been of ongoing importance to the HIV positive community. Finding a place that would not reject their loved ones and where they could die with dignity has always been tantamount. The gay community has been a willing partner in the hospice saga as they lovingly dispatched their dying to area care facilities such as Wernersville's Rainbow Home and York House Hospice. They've also raised untold thousands of dollars for the continuation of these facilities.

They have attempted to get an end-stage care facility for some time. The community was elated when it was announced in January 1995 that the South Central AIDS Assistance Network (SCAAN), with help of the Community Grant Program of the National AIDS Fund monitored through the The Greater Harrisburg Foundation (GHF), was backing of the efforts of community volunteers in the *Our House* project. The Green Street edifice was to be purchased for a cool \$75,000, renovated by volunteer help, and begin giving relief and care in this three-bed facility.

Unfortunately, hopes were dashed in May 1995 when the money necessary was not raised. Even the dollar-for-dollar matching power of the grant could not help the community achieve the goal. Monies collected were either returned to the donors or kept in the care of GHF with the doubling power still intact. (Every dollar now given to the project can be matched 50 cents on the dollar.)

Coming amidst of the chaos and extreme disappointment stemming from the May announcement came Professional Hospice Care. The Harrisburg-based non-profit organization, now affiliated with Pinnacle Health Care, (and known as Pinnacle Health Hospice), has made the acquisition of an AIDS-specific hospice one of its top priorities.



Finding a Place For Their Own

Harrisburg steps closer to acquiring its own AIDS hospice after years of struggle and disappointment. **Dr. Eric W. Selvey**

They are currently working through the bureaucracy of the state government and are currently negotiating a contract to rent an existing state building that will keep the organization on the grounds of the Pa. State Hospital for a long time to come. Pinnacle Health Hospice's (PHH) director Denise Koppelman Harris is hoping to make the official announcement on December 1st--World AIDS Day--of the acquisition of the facility.

Their biggest task facing them will be raising the money. They hope to begin a campaign that will raise a million dollars towards the renovation of the nineteenth century buildings as well as for its initial start up costs. The group anticipates the hospice to run a \$50,000/year deficit initially. Funds from Personal Care Home as well as individual donations and with 75% coming from Medicare and Medicaid reimbursement from to cover care costs.

Issues of cost are important. To purchase a building would have required a mortgage. Though the \$50,000 deficit seems large, it is small compared to similar facilities across the country that are running deficits two to four times higher because of the mortgage costs.

The money will actually be raised over a three year period through a variety of pledges and other contributions. They realistically expect an initial bottom figure of \$500,000 for first floor improvements. An extra \$500,000 is anticipated to cover its expansion to the second floor which will house another twelve rooms--twenty-four rooms total in the facility.

Taking Over a Failed Effort. Many community groups discovered that there was indeed a real need for Harrisburg to have an AIDS hospice. SCAAN, Hospice of Central Pennsylvania, Health Reach (of the Capital Health System), all applied to receive monies for the preparation of the initial planning report for an area hospice. When they sat down with SCAAN, Professional Hospice sent a letter to the funding source to inform them that they would like to work with an area AIDS agency.

When SCAAN realized they could not tackle the project on its own, the AIDS organization returned the money either to the original donors or to the Greater Harrisburg Foundation (GHF) (monitor of the AIDS grant) and asked for another agency to take the lead in this endeavor.

PHH, (originally known as Professional Hospice Care) along with other agencies, went back to the funding source in December 1995. The funding source realized that due to Paige Payne's participation in the preliminary efforts,

as well as Pinnacle Health System's (their corporate umbrella) connection to the medical community, it seemed only natural that this organization should take on the project. PHC was given the green light in January 1996.

They attempted to keep the coalition of committee members in tact. They also solicited original members from the SCAAN/Our House effort who left the original group disgruntled. They also went after community organizations such as Lily White & Company who have worked to raise funds for York House Hospice in the past and had worked towards raising funds for the *Our House* project.

Moving Forward. "I don't think we could be all things to all people", says Harris in response to those who feel it more important to mainstream people than to divert them to a hidden corner of the city. "I don't disagree with any of that, but I think we also have to realize we're dealing with reality here. This committee has worked for a year and couldn't quite get it where it needed to be and we have finally come to a point to say, 'We got a mission here. Let's attack it and find the best way to do it.' It may not be the perfect way and we're aware of that."

They didn't see the need to reinvent the wheel either. They looked at existing models and picked and chose before they finally settled on the current vision. They had six months (January 1996 to June 30th) to put together a plan because the funds would have dwindled away at June's end. They're proud to say that the only funds used so far were those that went to the PA Housing Foundation which helped to write the HUD grant and who is continuing to work with the group towards the acquisition of more federal and state money.

Pinnacle Hospice Care's financial contribution consists of the costs that have been underwritten to get the ball rolling. In fact, the only part of the \$20,000 grant money that has been touched was for the Central PA Housing Foundation which worked with Professional Hospice Care to seek out HUD funds. None of the money has been touch to recoup funds spent by PHC.

Money already raised is currently channeled through the GHF's via its monitoring of the National AIDS Fund. As of mid-October, a total of \$212,726 has been raised; \$12,000 shy of the quarter mark towards the million dollar start up. This figure includes the funds collected by SCAAN during the 1995 *Our House* drive.

Personal Care Facility. Requirements for hospice vary from state to state. The

GOALS

Established by the AIDS Residential Care Facility

To provide a home for those living and dying with AIDS in Dauphin, Cumberland, Franklin and Perry Counties

To provide individualize care for its residents through community, home health and hospice care agencies

To assure an atmosphere of acceptance, dignity and personal autonomy for residents

To become part of the continuum of AIDS care, services and education for the community at large.

PA Department of Health requires that a facility consisting more than three beds becomes more than a residence but a facility and must require a license. York House Hospice was and the new residence operated by Hospice of Central Pennsylvania is a three-bed hospice.

As with any medical-affiliated structure, there are different levels of hospice care. Licensed as a personal care home, a facility has a certain amount of time for care that's required to be given to an individual who lives there but you are not required to have anyone with a high skill need or care to stay there.

The intermediate and extended care models must have round-the-clock nursing components and must be staffed with nurses, social workers and aide; a much higher need.

The personal care level is the model of which the new hospice will emulate. "It is the least invasive to an individual's privacy," says Harris. "They still get to live in a place that's as home-like as possible that is their home and still have access to some skilled support service through the hospice team."

The plan is for the new facility to be a non-profit AIDS-only facility. Criteria for admission into this hospice is similar to hospices across the nation. Individuals must have personal care needs or felt unsafe in their home. Of course, those who are eligible for hospice care those who are in the end stages of AIDS will also be candidates.

Charting Future Needs. The opening date is contingent on both the lease and the level of success of the fundraising effort; the sooner the money comes, the sooner the home can open. Evaluations within the task force are currently underway as to how to maximize the fund raising effort and what form it will take. Harris feels, however, it may take six months from a January 1997 start date to

raise the money for a January 1998 opening.

The building will begin with twelve single occupancy rooms for residents. There will also be rooms for the convenience of family and loved ones who wish to stay close by.

Pennsylvania's quarterly reporting of AIDS cases reveal a steadily increasing population full-blown cases in the Commonwealth and hence the anticipation need for more than the preliminary twelve that will open the house. However there is a much greater need.

In fact, the results of the needs assessment, taken early this year revealed that though the state health department is showing only 158 individuals with AIDS in Cumberland, Dauphin, Perry and Franklin counties, three infectious disease clinicians in Harrisburg alone are treating 425 HIV positive or AIDS patients. At least on the surface, the need is appears to be a real one.

The facility will primarily serve individuals from Dauphin, Cumberland and Perry counties in that they will not be exclusionary of individuals who come from outside of the area.

The uphill battle that Harris foresees in the acquisition of federal monies such as Ryan White Title II funds involves the future need that will be faced in the southcentral PA area. When compared to metropolitan areas like nearby Philadelphia and San Francisco, Harrisburg's stats pale in comparison and thus the need doesn't seem as great.

Zoning is one of the issues that have drawn Professional Hospice to this location. The AIDS Residential Task Force did not want to repeat Lancaster's Hope House problems, other cities three to four years before renovation could begin. This waste of time

The location itself has some plusses. The grounds surrounding the building will be landscaped to their specifications which they would probably not have had if they had looked at a city residence. Parking and safety are not problems. The State facility has long been known as one for the mentally disabled but recently the focus of that area has changed now with day care centers, drug and alcohol facilities (Gaudenzia). The area will be transportation friendly being on the Capital Area Transit bus line.

PHH was a division of the Polyclinic Medical System. As they went for the GHF-monitored funds, Polyclinic became part of the Pinnacle Health System through the merger with the other innercity medical facility Harrisburg Hospital. PHC, as of November 4th, is



PHH's Paige Payne

now known as Pinnacle Health Hospice. Final approval has yet to be granted by the corporate board of Pinnacle to financially support the project with the knowledge of the \$50,000 yearly deficits and the fundraising components that are currently coming into place.

The yearly expenditures for the hospice are projected to be in the \$350,000 range. They're expecting, however, that reimbursements will play a large part in covering 75% of the costs up to, of course, the \$50,000.

The community response is favorable among coalition members. Harris feels that everyone is taking a wait and see attitude in regards to the current undertaking. Nevertheless, many in the community are nervously anticipating the outcome due to past disappointments with the *Our House* situation. According to Harris People are saying 'When we know that you are ready to do this, just let us know 'cause we're right there with you. We want to do it.'" She went further to say that the process up this point has been a "monster" compared to their expectations.

There will be a consistent drive for volunteers to keep the facility continually operational. PHC has experience working with volunteers and feels that one hundred bodies will be necessary to work with the residents.

In terms of employees, the facility component will require the services of a

coordinator with a clinical background and a full-time secretary who will also act as volunteer coordinator. The hospice team approach would be instituted as a LPN or RN and three nurse aides would be accountable for patient care, as well as a social worker and a counselor. There will be twenty-four hour hospice care.

Payne feels that the threatening concept of an AIDS hospice, being symbolic of the end stage of the illness, will be softened when infected individuals come into a facility and get good care, good nutrition, good medication management, their rate of living with HIV increases. This important for the individuals who enter the hospice on only a temporary basis.

Harrisburg's search for a hospice facility is almost at an end. The real job at hand, however, will be the fundraising that will be required to keep this facility open.

And though the hospice committee expects 75% reimbursement of funds expended, one can imagine what 25% of the operational cost of a 24 bed facility, much larger than York House Hospice's three beds, will be quite a task. X

Communication Between Stakeholders Essential to Non-Profit Groups

In the wake of the closure of SCAAN and York House Hospice, a midstate professional management consultant gives well heeded advice to non-profit stakeholders.

Michael A. Sand

All too often in the world of non-profit agencies, major conflicts could be avoided if individuals and groups involved with the agency met with each other to discuss actual and potential problems.

For example, the South Central AIDS Assistance Network (SCAAN) announced that it was closing down the agency. Let us review the stakeholders in an agency like SCAAN. At a minimum, they include the following:

The Board of Directors

The Executive Director

Major funding agency—in this instance the South Central Pennsylvania AIDS Planning Coalition

Staff members

Clients—individuals with AIDS/HIV and their families

Volunteers (many of whom had participated in fundraisers like the AIDSWALK)

While every stakeholder was dedicated to the mission of the agency, they each had different ideas of how the mission

should be accomplished. While several meetings of affected groups took place, we will never know what would have happened had representatives of every stakeholder group met with each other on a regular basis to discuss the future of the agency. Perhaps the shutdown could have been avoided.

Some suggestions for these "communications" meetings are as follows:

Who should meet?

Anyone who has a stake. Volunteers should meet with the Executive Director not only to discuss particular fund raising events but issues relating to how volunteers are recruited and assigned. The staff should meet to discuss not only day to day issues but how they can work together to solve problems. Representatives of the funding source should meet with board members are the executive director to discuss the role each plays in maximizing limited resources. Groups of clients should meet to discuss how the agency

can serve them better.

How often should these stakeholder meetings take place?

As often as the participants think these meetings are productive.

Who should call the first meeting?

Anyone who feels a meeting would be productive. Certainly, the Executive Director of an agency would be a logical person to begin the process but the Board President or the Executive Director of the funding source are key players.

When should the meetings begin?

Meetings should begin as soon as an agency is formed. Many preventive steps can be taken to avoid problems if affected individuals meet on a regular basis.

Who should be invited?

Anyone the participants feel would be helpful in furthering the agency's mission.

How can clients be involved without violating client confidentiality?

The agency can invite clients to participate. Clients who wish to have their identity protected would simply not volunteer to participate in the discussions.

Where should the meetings take place?

The first meeting should take place in a neutral non-threatening place such as a hotel or restaurant. The participants can then agree on future meeting places.

Who should set the agenda?

Each of the participants should be asked to submit agenda items in advance of the meeting. At the meeting, additional agenda items can be raised.

What can be included on the agenda?

Any item a participant feels is related to furthering the mission of the agency is acceptable as a discussion topic.

Who should lead the meeting?

The parties should agree in advance who should lead the meeting. If they cannot agree, a "neutral" party or a professional facilitator should be asked to chair.

What should be the ground rules for the meeting?

All parties should be able to speak freely. However, no name calling, hateful speech, or unprofessional conduct should be permitted.

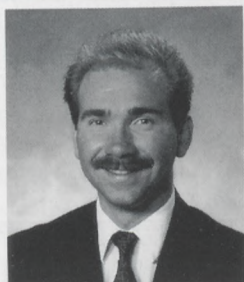
How should the meeting end?

The chair should review all decisions made at the meeting. A date, time and place for a subsequent meeting should be selected.

How should recommendations made at the meetings be implemented?

All of these meetings are purely advisory. Recommendations should be put in writing and sent to the affected groups. Each group e.g., the Board, would then have to follow its own procedures in deciding whether to adopt recommendations made at one of the meetings.

Michael A. Sand heads Sand Associates, a nationwide management consulting firm based in Harrisburg. Sand Associates provides training and technical assistance to non-profit organizations.



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AIDS 101 - 1996

Former SCAAN AIDS Factline operator Jim Cassell gives us an insight into the newest approach that may finally make AIDS a manageable disease.

Jim Cassell

Sunday, December 1st, 1996, is the eighth annual World AIDS Day--ONE WORLD ONE HOPE. The same theme used by the 11th International Conference on AIDS in Vancouver.

This day is specifically set aside in recognition of the growing awareness of the epidemic HIV disease that causes AIDS.

HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) was aptly named by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta in 1983 after its predecessor GRID (Gay Related Immune Deficiency).

HIV is not a gay disease. It does not discriminate. Anyone at any age can contract the virus by engaging in unsafe sex (no latex or polyurethane barrier) with someone who carries the virus. This includes exchange of bodily fluids such as seminal, vaginal or blood secretions. The virus is not transferable through tears, saliva or sweat.

If you share needles with someone who carries the virus you can contract HIV. This includes hypodermic needles used to "shoot" drugs as well as needles used for piercing and tattooing. This is called "high risk behavior."

However, transference of HIV can be avoided by cleansing the needles with bleach or alcohol.

You cannot contract HIV from using public restrooms, fountains, swimming pools or eating in restaurants. The virus is not transferred from coughs, sneezes or kissing. You cannot get HIV from donating your own blood or from being around someone who has HIV or AIDS.

HIV progresses to AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome) after the presence of an opportunistic infection or one's T-cell count drops below 200. Normal T-cell counts range from 600-1200. HIV directly attacks the T-cell by using it to replicate itself. When it has finished, it kills the T-cell and moves on to another. The lack of these cells that fight bacterial infection allows opportunistic infections to occur.

HIV progresses slowly and in 50% of cases does not show physical symptoms for ten years. 70% of those cases do not show symptoms for 15 years. In other words, you cannot tell if someone is

infected by looking at them, so be safe and protect yourself.

In 1981 diagnosis of HIV promised little hope, in contrast to the mood at the 11th International Conference on AIDS in Vancouver, British Columbia where there was resounding optimism about treatment never heard before in the previous 15 years.

Until very recently there were only five anti-HIV drugs (antiretrovirals) that were designed to block certain parts of the virus from replicating. They are AZT, ddI, ddT, ddC, and 3TC. These types of drugs are called "nucleoside analogues", their specific task is to block the enzyme of the virus known as reverse transcriptase. These drugs do little when used alone, (monotherapy), but when these drugs are combined with a new class of drugs called "protease inhibitors", the results theorized the idea that HIV may become chronic or better managed.

HIV uses both reverse transcriptase and protease to produce more HIV. Protease inhibitors block a part of HIV called the protease enzyme.

Three drug combinations using two antiretrovirals and one protease inhibitor yielded results showing that it is possible to reduce the viral level of HIV in the blood that it registers "undetectable" to extremely sensitive PCR (polychain reaction) tests.

Evidence also suggests that these new treatment guidelines may inhibit disease progression giving the T-cell count time to replenish thus healing the immune system. It is theorized that if HIV replication is stopped, it is unlikely the virus will resist the drugs. A good way to insure against resistance is dedication to the therapy prescribed.

There are three different protease inhibitors approved for use in the United States:

Saquinavir (Invirase) The first FDA approved protease inhibitor has few side effects and is poorly absorbed therefore having the weakest effect. When used as monotherapy resistance is great. There is no cross resistance to other inhibitors leaving more treatment options. Medication must be taken with high fat

Harrisburg Men's Chorus

* and special guests *

* * *

The Flirtations

* * *
present a

WINTER CABARET

With a cameo appearance by
"3J's & a C"

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Harrisburg Community Theatre
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And don't forget...

You too can become a part of the
Harrisburg Men's Chorus
Come for an audition on January 6th or 13th, 1997
at Second United Church of Christ,
251 Verbeke Street, Harrisburg
beginning at 7 pm.

meals. This protease inhibitor is moderately priced at approximately \$7,000 per year).

Indinavir (Crixivan) The strongest and most effective protease inhibitor. When combined in a three drug combination with AZT and 3TC results showed undetectable HIV presence for as long as a year to date. Initial side effects include nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain and diarrhea that subside in two to three weeks of therapy. This inhibitor is cross resistant to Saquinvir and Ritonavir; so, if initial treatment is used with this particular protease inhibitor than others will not work if drug resistance occurs, leaving fewer treatment options. To insure proper absorption, medication must be taken on an empty stomach. Indinavir (Crixivan) is in limited supply and available only through "Statlander's Pharmacy" mail order. This is the least expensive protease inhibitor (approximately \$5,000 per year).

Ritonavir (Norvir) In critical studies with combined antiretroviral drugs, there was a great decline in HIV viral load. Its monotherapy use is highly resistant and is cross resistant to Saquinavir and Indinavir. Side effects include abnormal liver function and kidney tests, vomiting, diarrhea, anorexia, taste perversion and fatigue. Ritonavir has several life threatening drug interactions, therefore strict compliance with its use is necessary. It is best taken with meals and must remain refrigerated. This protease is the most expensive (approximately \$9,000 per year).

Today more than ever, new promising options are available to the HIV community. A new treatment for the most prevalent viral opportunistic infection in people with AIDS was unveiled by Gilead Sciences. VISTIDE is an intravenous treatment for CMV (Cytomegaloviral) retinitis--an AIDS-related affliction of the eye. Vistide is currently available to eligible patients with relapsing CMV under a Treatment Investigational New Drug Program. For information call 1-800-GILEADS

The FDA recently granted market clearance for Doxil to treat Kaposi's Sarcoma. Doxil is a new drug option for patients who cannot tolerate the standard chemotherapy of have progressed malignancy during standard treatments. Doxil is doxorubicin that is encapsulated in liposomes. These fat globules allow the drug a longer half life with fewer side effects. As part of accelerated approval, Doxil's distributor, Sequus is offering a patient assistance program for those who may benefit. For information call 1-800-375-1658.

As the medical handbag continues to grow, so do the hopes of saddling HIV into a more chronic and manageable disease, thus improving the length and quality of life for those affected by the epidemic.

The research attributed to the immune system during the past five years has uncovered many mysteries leading to better treatment guidelines and possible cures for several other cancers and conditions. We now know more about viruses and cancers that we have known in the previous 25 years. Remember that "knowledge equals power", giving those individuals living with all types of various diseases empowerment to work with their health professionals towards a healthier and happier environment.

For more information on HIV test sites, local AIDS organizations near you, or a better understanding of HIV or AIDS, you can call the PA HIV/AIDS Factline at 1-800-662-6080. X

Latisha K. Frederick

Attorney and Counselor at Law

Wills & Estates
Divorce & Custody
Health Care Law

(717) 236-8241

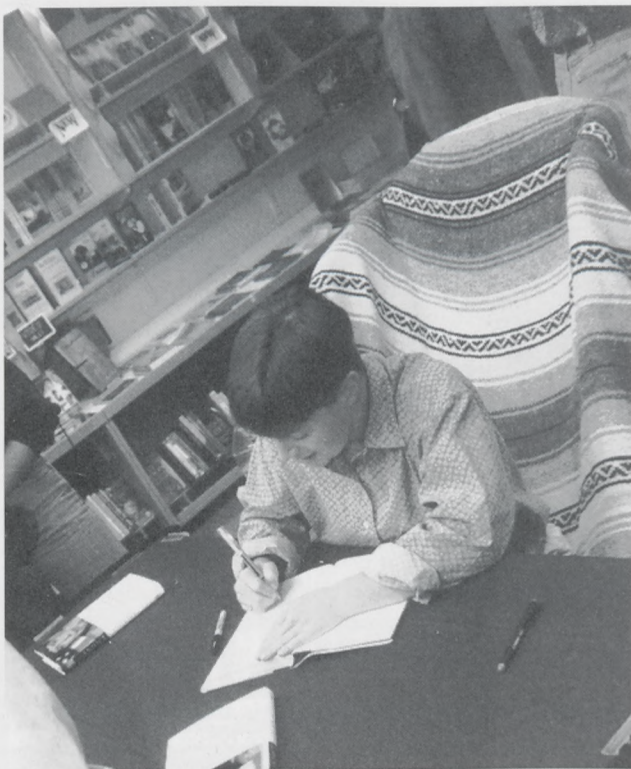
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Cheerfully Signing Copies of *The Accidental Activist*, Candace Gingrich graces Hallam's Her Story Bookstore in early October.

Candace Gingrich Comes "Home" to Share "Her Story"

by Karen L. Wisotzkey

Candace Gingrich came "home" on October 6th to Her Story Women's Bookstore (Hallam, PA), where she once used to shop, to share her story with the community there. Her entrance was low key - even the parking crew missed her as she was driven past the storefront and into a rear parking area. She entered the building through the front door, just like many other women that day, and hugged store manager, Kathy Weems, like a long-lost friend.

Candace began by signing books for customers gathered there, clutching copies of her recent release, "The Accidental Activist." When all books had been signed, grown women (and a few men) seated themselves on the carpeted floor, as attentive as children during story-hour, while Candace proceeded to read a chapter of her book to them about her attempt to "sit down and talk" to her conservative brother, House Speaker, Newt Gingrich.

Following the reading, Candace fielded questions from her inquisitive audience. Those present learned a lot about politics, the activist mission, and Candace,

herself:

Candace took a long time to decide if she would actually write a book at all. As opinions were voiced that Candace was trying to "capitalize" on her brother's position, she veered further from thoughts of doing a book. It wasn't until a Santa Fe Town Hall meeting, during a Question & Answer session, that she realized the importance of a book. Someone raised the valid point that everyone may not have the opportunity to attend a town hall meeting, and surely others would benefit from hearing what she had to say. At that point, Candace decided that by writing a book, she could share insights into the Gingrich family, as well

as informing people (not just gays and lesbians) of what they CAN do and the influence that one can have.

During the government shutdown, Candace realized that something needed to be done to resolve the apathy displayed by so many U.S. citizens. Many public opinions showed that people didn't notice a difference during the shutdown and felt, "what do they do, anyway?"

In regards to the gay community, Candace urges people not only to come out, but to come out voting. The gay community has certain responsibilities in the political arena. Gays and lesbians need to know that they have influence and should be speaking out to show what their concerns are. The people in control don't represent what most Republicans feel. Candidates CAN grow. It's up to the community to let them know what's important--that gays and lesbians aren't second class citizens as they are often treated. One of the biggest responsibilities the gay community has is to correct the myths that we hear on the radio and other media avenues. The general public's opinions

▼ Personality ▼

have changed for the better over the past few years on the subjects of same-sex marriages and discrimination against gays in the workplace. By educating others about the truths and aspirations of the gay community, that change will eventually become more evident.

The topic of same-sex marriages was very hot amidst this group of women. Candace admits that the biggest opposition seems to come from just the semantics of calling it "same-sex marriage", which gives it a political and religious undertone. Should this issue be presented as "Civil Marriage for Gays and Lesbians", it can be viewed more objectively for what it is--an issue of rights to financial securities and decision-making authorities that heterosexual marriages afford.

Candace believes that same-sex marriages will eventually come to be recognized. As it stands now, each state governs its own policy on whether these marriages are recognized. This simply means that if a state rules this as "legal", the couple enjoys the same benefits at the state level, as other marriages. At this point, though, with the passing of the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), states may ignore another state's marriages and the federal government will not honor same-sex marriages at all. This means that the ultimate benefits of Social Security and pensions are still unobtainable for gay and lesbian couples. This issue will continue to be challenged as unconstitutional in the years to come. As Candace puts it, "People got used to interracial marriages."

Candace shared one of her favorite stories when asked about speaking to high schools. Although she hasn't had much opportunity to speak to high school students, an appearance at South Eugene High School in Oregon proved to be a memorable one. Candace was asked to speak to a group called "Youth for Justice" which selects different topics to study, periodically. What Candace intended as an appearance for about 20 students turned out to be a presentation for 400 students from throughout the school, who stayed AFTER school, just to hear Candace speak. The question & answer session displayed the liberal minds of students, as they focused on how they could help friends who are gay and what they could do to make it safer for gays.

As far as future plans, Candace says she is not a planner. Now that the elections are behind us, she still intends to do what she's doing. She is very committed



Candace's position with the Human Rights Campaign gives her an opportunity to speak on many topics affecting the gay and lesbian community. Here she was at the Quilt.

to her cause and even if it's not in front of the cameras, she will continue her work with the Human Rights Campaign. When asked if she would run for office, Candace responded that if it turns out that her mission would be better served in office, "Maybe."

A few weeks after November's elec-

tion, Candace will attend a "retreat" where they will be mapping out a plan for the 105th Congress. It is during this time that Candace's role will become more established. One major goal of the 105th Congress will be to pass the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA). Whatever the outcome of the "retreat", Candace would like to continue to lobby constituents---average citizens. If Candace is still in demand, she will continue to enjoy travelling the country to let people know that one's actions are powerful and that good CAN come from them. Candace attests that her mission has become a passion and that "it's a commitment."

On the more personal side, Candace talked about "coming out". Her coming out was made easier by the Rugby team at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania. She says lesbians there were comfortable and let her know that her feelings were OK. Candace says that coming out made it all fall together---not apart. In a side conversation, I heard Candace offering advice to one of her admirers who had asked about how to handle coming out to her own mother. Candace suggested that she let her mother know that she is still the same person, to answer her questions, and to be open.

Fame has obviously not changed Candace. In a follow-up interview, Candace declared that "It's other people who think I'm famous. It hasn't sunk in to me, yet." Upon returning "home", she says people she's known make it a point to stop and say "hello". People she hasn't met in her home town come and introduce themselves and compliment her work. At this point, going out is still fun - not a hassle. It's only her life that's different, not Candace herself.

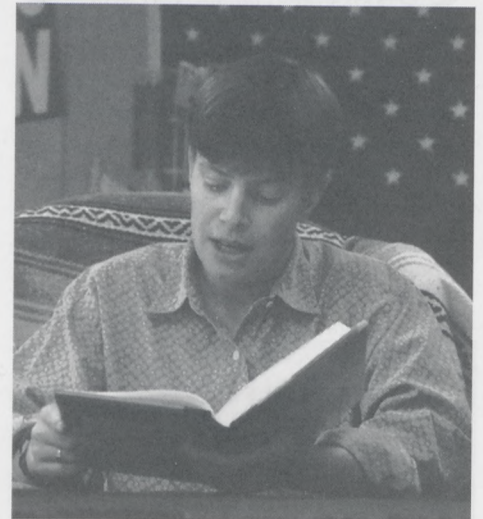
On that same note of fame, Candace doesn't seek to be famous as a lesbian. She views herself simply as a lesbian who

has stood up and spoken out. Candace admits that she could have stayed in Harrisburg, still being complacent, apathetic, and ignorant to the world around her, but she realized that we can't just sit back and expect other people to do the work. Candace radiates a sense of self-pride in the fact that she has been able to make a difference.

Candace's commitment to her public mission is not the only commitment she holds dear. With the obstacles of travel being the biggest, her relationship with partner, Chris remains solid. Time is a sacrifice, but Chris's understanding of Candace's travel requirements makes it easier to appreciate the time they are able to share together. As Candace puts it, "No one sees us when I'm home."

Candace feels that her real sacrifice for the mission she has chosen has been her rugby career, which is now pretty much non-existent. She is just as passionate about rugby as she is about her life as a whole, the difference being that rugby is solely for personal gratification rather than something that benefits so many others.

With the holidays just around the corner, Candace has a unique holiday wish for our central Pennsylvania community: As a gift to yourself, if you're not "out", "come out" to someone. As a gift to the rest of the people in the area, write a letter or send a Christmas or Hanukkah greeting to a local congressman, senator, or the President, letting them know that you are a gay or gay-friendly person and that there are issues that they haven't



addressed that you think deserve their attention.

In regards to *crossroads*, Candace comments, "It's about darn time!" (that the Harrisburg and surrounding area has a well-rounded, informative publication, specific to its own community). X

crossroads needs to hear from you!

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Let us know if you want us to print your correspondence. We will credit you by printing your name or initials if so preferred.

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**If photos are to be returned,
please send along a SASE.**

THE QUILT
IN THE CAPITAL



A Weekend to Remember

October 11-13, 1996



Scenes From the Mall
(From Top to Bottom):
VP & Mrs. Gore, ACT-UP
marches, Panel Inspira-tion,
Commiseration of grief,
Central PA NAMES co-director
Barry Snyder at work

Thousands of Individuals Gather upon the National Mall in the Nation's Capital to remember, discover, mourn, celebrate the lives of those who make up the over 40,000 panels sprawled along the mile and a half concourse. This temporary community of men and women came from all over the country to make what may be the last exhibit of the Quilt truly memorable. Over 2,000 new panels, including those from Central Pa. were presented over the three day weekend.



This was my first trip to the AIDS quilt; after some urging to go with my friend George as part of a trip sponsored by the MCC church. The morning air was cold as I walked out the door to drive to the church to board the bus. Folks huddled against the cold after checking in with Eddie who put the trip together.

As the bus travelled along Route 15 into Maryland, I saw the first hoarfrost of the season on the grass. Hunters were entering a field. The sunlight portends of the beautiful fall day to come.

Eddie has a chart to check off each person on the trip at each stop. Later he would hand out information packets and trick or treat bags of candy.



Leave it to a gay brother to do it right. As we arrive in Washington, we are greeted by religious right protesters with signs saying "SHAME" and "FAGGOT". My God speaks of love. Why do these people think God is about hatred?

We leave the bus and cross the street to be greeted by new panels being added to the quilt. Walking onto the mall, we are met by a sea of color from the Capitol to the Washington Monument. Already the throng is building.

We approach a panel bordered in an African theme. The panel depicts the neighborhood where this brother lived his life and later died. The craftsmanship is excellent. Then your eyes are carried to the message, "Born on Easter - Died on Christmas."

Simultaneously, George and I comment on the beauty of this panel. A man nearby points to a black woman and says, "Tell her, she made it." George extends his hand and comments on the beauty of the panel and the love that is evident. I touch her shoulder. She says, "Thank you. He was my baby." A smile spreads across her face. I photograph the panel and walk away with my first tears of the day, carrying some of a mother's grief with me.

Some panels catch your eye and draw you near them. In brief moments you think who this person was in life. Some were party animals, some divas who loved to dress, but there are fathers, mothers, hemophiliacs, babies, pastors and priests. People from every vocation and walk of life are represented here.

It's a hammer blow that hits you with the realization of how young were these brothers and sisters at their times of passing.

I am hit by the love that went into panels by mothers, lover, sisters, brothers, families, friends, co-workers, students, neighbors, parishioners and yes, by those who made their own panels while slowly dying.

Some of the panels speak of the hurt inflicted in a lifetime of rejection by families who would not stop to understand. A dying brother speaks to me about the family that daily drove the highway in front of his home and never stopped to offer the comfort he desperately needed in his journey to death.

We come to several panels of brothers from Harrisburg. There in the middle is Scotty (Rummel's)

panel. What a nice handsome young man he was with the voice of a lark. Now he looks back at me from this red cloth panel. Tears well in my eyes and I have to walk on.

We approach a panel, a brother is kneeling and weeping. His mother's comforting hand is on his shoulder. The father stands off aloof, still not able to reconcile that his son was gay, had AIDS and now is gone. After they rise and turn away from the panel, I return and ask if I can photograph this work of love. Smiles spread on their faces as they share their memories.

We stop at the panels of several young children given hospice care in their dying days by the Brethren and Mennonites in Lancaster County. Then these caring people gave the extra love of sewing these memorials.

Staring at us is a panel of Boo-Boo. George comments that he thinks that our mutual friend Bruce became attached to this six year old when he volun-

teered at York House Hospice. I stop and reflect on how Bruce, a gay Jewish man, made special the last Christmas a Puerto Rican family from York would have with a mother dying of AIDS. I recalled how Bruce agonized about what would become of the children when their mother was gone.

This disease leaves so many hurting and grieving families. Right when I think I can't go on, a brother speaks his humor from his panel, "Screw Lucy, I loved Ethel." I laughed aloud and go on.

I am struck by the several large panels presenting the International Gay Bowlers taken by this disease. I stop at the large Continental Airlines panel with the uniforms and names of the many flight attendants, captains and staff permanently grounded by AIDS.

We pass a panel all glittery with the picture of a diva in her finery. I laugh loudly when I read her stage name, "Formika Dinette". George asks why I'm laughing. I point out the name and he laughs too.

What a roller coaster ride of emotions this quilt takes one on. At one point, I look up and across the mall I find a man kneeling and weeping uncontrollably. He buries his face in the panel he made for his lover, the light of his life. I stare as I walk toward him. I cannot take my eyes off him although I feel I am intruding on his grieving, this most personal of moments. I begin to cry and finally turn away.

Later I stop and watch as a young girl guides a blind man to a panel. She describes the items on the panel as he sees these items through his touch. Finally he rises and I see his tears as the girl leads him away.

We eat lunch on the grass and then return to the quilt, this sea of color, shapes and designs all trying to capture the essence of some person taken.

There are animals, including the pink flamingoes and tropical fish. Cats, dogs, horses and bears that gave unconditional love are depicted in cloth. Mountains, forests, beaches and palm trees speak of places that were special. We see a McDonald's french fry box and other things that speak of the special things in life.

I am struck by the heartache spoken by lovers, wives and husbands who still ache from their losses. Many tell of waiting months or years before they could begin their labors of love.

As a Navy veteran of the Vietnam era, I am touched by so many panels that speak of the service proudly given to a country that would not have let them serve had they ever uttered that they were gay.

"Why," I ask, "did it take until this year before a United States' President finally had the courage to come and view the quilt?"

We pass panels made from neckties, boxer shorts, leather jackets, gowns and other special clothing items.

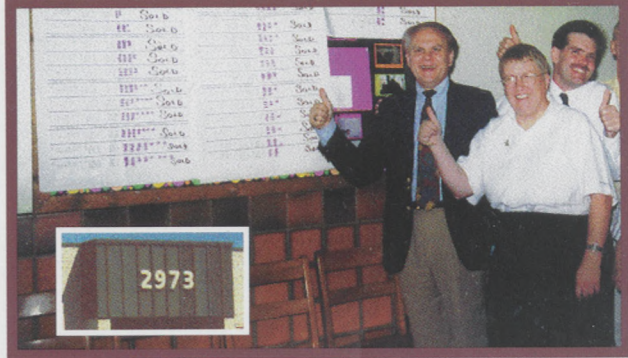
As we work our way back to the bus, tears well again as I tune my senses to the names being read as part of the NAMES project. Speakers call out the names of the 350,000 real people gone at the hands of this dreaded disease. Nearly every reader experiences a pause and then in a wavering voice they speak "in conclusion and my son, my daughter, my lover taken by AIDS."

No matter the amount of emotion, my mind returns to the reason for this day. Yes, it is to dramatize the toll of AIDS, but it is mostly about love. The love for those lost. The love that went into making a panel, be it simple or elaborate. Some are made with beautiful sewing, needlepoint, crewel work or embroidery that tell of agonizing hours and a ton of love. Some are simple in design that starkly speak of a life only in name, birthdate and date of death. In some the message is of the love withheld by families who never understood.

I will go again to see this quilt - this memorial labor of love.

Jim Johnson





1997

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Remember 1996...

Jennifer Warner's photographic exhibit of local lesbian women wowed...Loved ones were remembered during the AIDS candle-light marches...High-heeled steppers helped raise money for an area Memorial Garden...Breast cancer research got a boost as area performers gathered to raise funds...Music of African and Caribbean descent was featured by the Harrisburg Men's Chorus...Metropolitan Community Church of the Spirit had reason to celebrate their newly acquired edifice...Pride took center stage for the first time at Harrisburg Area Community College...David and friends showed us what Hype really was at the annual York Area Lambda fundraiser *Judy!* ...Simplicity Attractions Unlimited pulled off their first area fundraiser to local acclaim...Many same sex couples vowed permanent commitment in the face of national and state political resistance...PA Rep. Ronald Buxton visits the future as he speaks to Bi-GLYAH's youth...The very theatrical, very draggy Lily White & Co. raises another \$26,000 in the name of AIDS relief in Harrisburg.

crossroads wishes you a proud and successful 1997!

crossroads

"Our commitment to the community begins today."

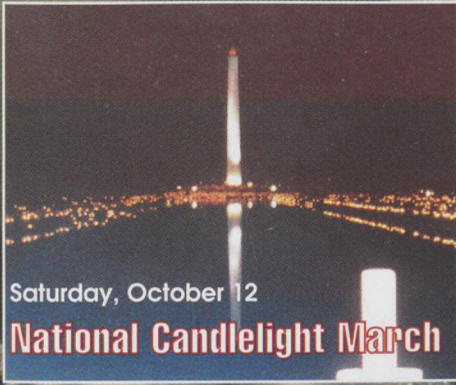
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Saturday, October 12

National Candlelight March

Cleve Jones

Founder of the NAMES Project

I've stood on these steps before. And you have stood beside this pool before. We have been here many times. And in those times in the past our hearts have been filled with grief and fear and rage at the lack of leadership from the President and the Congress of the United States. I stand here tonight as an American, a gay man and a person living with HIV and I am very happy to finally have a reason to say the four words I have longed to say for so many years: "Thank you Mr. President." Thank You Mr. President. Thank you.

Thank you for walking with us on the Quilt yesterday. Thank you also for your support for ENDA--the bill to end discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

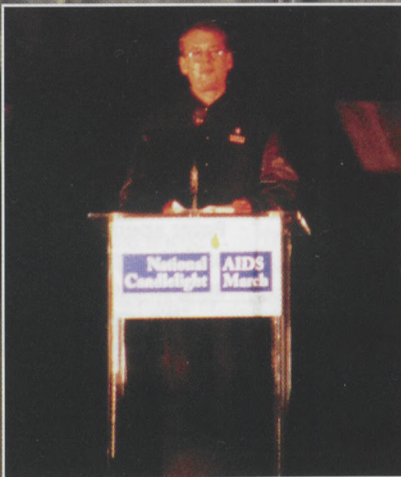
Thank you Mr. President thank you for increasing Ryan White Care Act money, but we still need more for housing for people with AIDS and for prevention education.

Thank you Mr. President for defending Medi-care against the radical extremists of Congress who would seek to cut it back even further.

Thank you Mr. President for leading the fight to repeal the hateful Dornan Amendment to drive people with HIV from the military.

And thank you Mr. President for standing up and condemning racism and homophobia as you did when you accepted your party's nomination in Chicago.

Thank you Mr. President. But now there is much more. Our friends, Mr. President, are getting out of bed and going back to work. There are new drugs



available, but they cost too much. And thousands of our brothers and sisters today are denied access to these life saving drugs. We know that you have pledged to support an increase in the AIDS Drug Assistance Program. We need \$195 million more Mr. President. We urge you to lead the fight for that funding. Mr. President we need protection from a pharmaceutical industry that puts profits before people.

Mr. President, we need more research money. We need to build on the extraordinary scientific progress that has been made in the past year. And we need to make sure that the benefits of that progress are available to all the people of the world. We demand access for all. Especially we need more money for vaccine development which offers the only possible hope to the developing world where tens of millions of men, women and children are already infected with HIV.

Mr. President, we share your concern about the rise of drug abuse among our children. But we are also aware that all the scientists of this land agree on the issue of needle exchange. The findings are clear Mr. President. This is no controversy nor any dispute: needle exchange reduces HIV transmission and does not encourage drug abuse.

And while we're on the subject of drugs Mr. President, you should know that many of us here tonight use marijuana to ease nausea and stimulate our appetite. We need you to stop blocking research of medical marijuana. And those of us who live in California will be going home to vote "Yes" on Proposition 215 to legalize the use of medical marijuana.

Mr. President, we know that politics involves compromise, but there must be no compromise on equality. We want you to speak out against the continued sanctioned discrimination against gay and lesbian people in the military, the State Department and the Foreign Service.

We are also, Mr. President, deeply concerned by many of the provisions of the welfare reform legislation that you have signed. We hope that you will work with us, as you have promised, to repair and rebuild the safety net that has been ripped apart by this Congress.

And we're going to give you a better Congress to work with Mr. President. You can count on this.

Mr. President, it was an extraordinary honor for me to escort you and the First Lady through the Quilt yesterday. I know that nothing is more impor-

tant to you and the First Lady than your daughter Chelsea. And we have watched her grow over these past four years (from girlhood to young womanhood) and we share your pride in her. We want you to know that we love our gay and lesbian children every bit as much as you love your daughter.

Mr. President, we know that you and the First Lady share a great love. You are husband and wife. Partners in life and in politics. In time, Mr. President, I believe that you will come to understand that the love shared by two men or two women is no different from the love you share with Hillary Rodham and no less in the eyes of God.

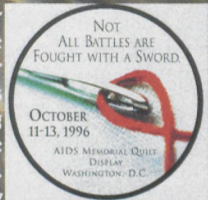
I am so grateful to be alive; that I know that I owe my life to all of you who are so proud of the Quilt. The extraordinary family it has created--men, women and children of every age, race and back-

ground from every corner of this country--who have come here to this nation's capital to demand that the President and the leaders of Congress move our nation and the world forward to victory over HIV.

From the very beginning though this has been



more of a struggle against the disease. This has been a struggle for justice. And as we take our place in the candlelight marches, in the Quilt displays, we join the ranks of ordinary men and women everywhere who stand together for a better world--a world of peace and freedom and justice and love. Through this struggle we have come to understand what a beautiful small world it is that we inhabit and how irrevocably our lives are linked. Thank you. God bless you. Never surrender!



Photos clockwise starting from top:

Candlelight March Grand Marshall Elizabeth Taylor, Country music star Kathy Mattea, crossroads photogs Chris Greene (front left) and Daryl Morris (behind) with marchers, Secretary of Health and Human Services Donna Shalala and Actress Judith Light, NAMES founder Cleve Jones

crossroads

As Michael Billo tells it, its been a rough four years due to the emotional toll experienced since the loss of his life partner John Pfromm. Since the evening his gaze met John's in a Harrisburg restaurant, Michael knew there was something special about this man; the first time about falling in love.

Their life changed a year later when John sadly informed Michael about his HIV positive status.

Michael tried to begin the panel two years out grief overcame him and causing him to place the unfinished work into a drawer. "When I first started the panel I wasn't ready to let go. I know now that it was time to let go." The death of friend Rick Orendorff, coupled with the realization of the Quilt's final D.C. appearance which surrounded the fourth anniversary of his lover's death (October 17th) jolted him into action. Mutual friends Rose and Phil helped Michael complete the panel for its

D.C. debut.

John, HIV positive for seven years, never requested a panel. "He was very private about stuff like that," according to Michael. "We rarely ever talked about his definite death at some point. He was very private about his illness and wanted to go on living as if nothing was wrong."

A native of Allentown, John Pfromm worked for the Pa. Dept. of Public Welfare; kind and giving of himself with a great sense of humor and "an unbelievable lust for life; making every moment worth living." He was a devoted son to his family though the death of his father, one year before his own, made it difficult when he revealed his own health condition to his loved ones.

With the panel's admission, Michael "feel(s) like there are cinder blocks almost off my shoulders... because of the stretch of time it took for its completion. The sense of closure was there helped by John's insistence of Michael to move on with his life.

The Quilt, according to Michael, "is a great tribute to a lot of people who have

died from a really horrible disease." As he walked amidst the outstretched panels strewn along the Mall, Michael felt a strong sense of the bond that many feel as they view the lives memorialized in fabric.

As he spent time at the New Panels Booth, Michael was extremely impressed with the sensitivity and organization of the NAMES Project. Pinning the panel in place (lower left) was almost "like an out of body experience. I shed a lot of tears, but I think there was a reason I waited four years, maybe beyond my control, because I was able to handle it. I found the strength to do it. I think two years ago I would have been a basket case."

Michael feels that John's family will be proud that the panel is in place. He will send a letter of his experience to all of John's family on the anniversary of John's death to tell them of John's location among the fallen heroes of this generation's latest epidemic.



As we were taking pictures from one of the

elder Tenerowicz. "We try to relive all of the good parts about him. He was an excellent person to be around. He could walk into a room and light it up when everybody else was dull. Between his SAAB and his fancy clothes, his sense of humor was just tremendous. He was one of those people that you truly miss."

Peter was a regional manager for a major fashion optical house in New York City. He would troubleshoot the new stores that opened. During Peter's last two years, family friends who owned a furniture store in Wallingford gave him the opportunity of managing their books. Up to end, he would work, participated in the experiemental drug protocols in D.C. and would travel to schools and colleges to speak about his illness.

Peter's parents miss their son's voice most of all those nights when the family would gather around the piano played by his mother added much life and good times to the family.

The bird of paradise (a replica of which can be found sewn to the panel) was Peter's favorite flower and one is placed everytime his parents sees the panel. "You open up the pod and you get three floral effluences out of there. They'll last about a day or two, but they look very beautiful.

He'll (Peter) will probably come down and take one."

As for the poem, it is a true depiction of the last thirty seconds of Peter's life. Peter spent his last two years at home. Mr. and Mrs. gave Peter his medications around the clock.

"It's unfortnate he had to pass away so quickly. I wish he were back here with us. We could use him."

special lifts set up by the NAMES Project for visiting press, we espied a fiftyish white-haired gentle-



man kneeling before a panel, carefully placing flowers upon it. One notices that the procedure was not taken lightly by the methodical manner in which the man opened the buds of the beautiful bright yellowish flowers.

The townspok of Waterbury, Conn. has just become the recipients of a Quilt chapter. Volunteering in the effort is Peter Tenerowicz, Sr. of Peter, Jr. whose panel he visits every time it's in D.C. Their primary effort was to help put together the displays of panels on the university as well as in nearby Wallingford and West Chester county. They participated in the 1992 march and were joined this time around by their daughter, son-in-law and grandchild-son.

"It's a moving experience, says the

30 Seconds to Eternity

From his tortuous fetal position of pain
He slowly unfolded and stretched out
his arms in front of him
A serene and brilliant smile stretched out
and he lay in front of him
never seen before
You stood in awe as he came across his face
We stood in awe as his arms slowly
folded across his chest
The anguished cries and touch of parents
one in vain to fade
His smile began to fade
You never to be seen again
And
He was silent for him
Thank you Peter
For now
He was a man God for Eternity
Thank You Peter
For easing our Mortal Sadness
Mom
and
Dad

In Memory of Laurie

Golfers Help Fight Breast Cancer

Karen L. Wisotzkey

Laurie Williams must have gathered the memories of her "magical like" and transformed them into a magical day that she sent from above to embrace the spans of emerald greens of Sportman's Golf Course on September 15, 1996. The air was still, the sun was bright, and people seemed to be suspended in a calm appreciation of Mother

Nature as golfers trickled through the course. Even non-golfers basked in the peace of clement weather, vast landscape, and the good-natured and aesthetic effects of the elements on the soul.

In memory of Laurie, friends and family gathered for the Second Annual Laurie L. Williams Golf Tournament to witness the community's support for the research that could save the lives of others who suffer from the silent stalkings of breast cancer. The sculpture referred to as the "10th Woman", symbolizing the one in ten women who develops breast cancer, was displayed for sale at the beginning of the awards presentation following the tournament. Laurie was one of those 10th women. The impact of her struggle was apparent as even those who never knew her grew teary-eyed by the reading of the letter Laurie wrote for her own memorial service.

This year's tournament raised approximately \$10,000 to benefit breast cancer research and patient support needs at The Penn State University Milton S. Hershey Medical Center. The tournament sponsors, Health America/Health Assurance; D.J. Heidi Entertainment Company; Serratelli, Schiffman, Brown & Calhoun; WHTM NewsCenter; and WINK 104, 14

hole sponsors---including Angino & Rovner and Days Inn-Harrisburg East, a total of 105 golfers, and a special promotion of "Beat the Pro" with Heather Kuzmich contributed to the total funds raised this year.

The first place team, winners of \$50.00 gift certificates from the Sportsman's Pro Shop, was made up of Steve Schiffman, Dr. Paul Fairbrother, Bob Hoachlander, and Dennis Thorne. A wide variety of other prizes were also awarded, donated by local businesses and individuals, including, the North Street Cafe, Harrisburg Senators Baseball Club, Hersheypark, and Harrisburg Hilton & Towers.

Colleen Law, Chairperson for the Organizing Committee, said that she has never worked with a better group of people. Dedicated to making the event a huge success, each member took the initiative to pull together the services and materials needed to complete the preparations and promotions. The Organizing Committee has already begun planning for the third annual tournament, to be held in 1997, and hopes that the community will be even more supportive in future years to help decrease the suffering of breast cancer victims. X

▼ Our History ▼

NOVEMBER 6, 1884

In one day, the newly formed city of West Hollywood becomes the first city in the United States to have a city council with a majority of openly gay electees and elected the first openly lesbian (Valerie Terrigno) mayor. Twenty-three days later adopts a gay rights law.

NOVEMBER 4, 1946

Robert Mapplethorpe has been the boldest artist of our generation. The controversy over his art provided many newspapers with headlines. His life ended much too early with the complications of AIDS.

NOVEMBER 17, 1925

Rob Scherer, Jr. was born in Winnetka, Illinois. Does the name Rock Hudson ring your bell? Rock's death (October 3, 1985) due to AIDS complications, helped to untaboo some of the stigma about AIDS. His life as an actor is well documented in movies like *Giant*, *Pillow Talk*, and the television series *MacMillan and Wife*.

NOVEMBER 28, 1661

Birth of Edward (Lord Cornbury) Hyde, Colonial Governor of New York and New Jersey in 1702. Although there is no documentation that Lord Cornbury was gay, there is plenty of documentation that he spent each afternoon walking around in women's clothing. His reasoning for dressing like a woman was to pay tribute to his cousin Queen Anne. (Sounds to me like the family had more than one queen!)

NOVEMBER 22, 1943

Happy Birthday to Billie Jean King. Four times won Wimbledon and the U.S. Open tennis championships. A definite openly Lesbian icon for the modern day movement.

DECEMBER 10, 1924

The first homosexual organization in United States is formed. Henry Gerber and others form a non-profit corporation in Illinois named the society for human rights. The organization only lasted a couple of months but can you imagine forming in 1924. Hats off to Mr. Gerber.

DECEMBER 23, 1777

Birth of Alexander I, becomes Czar of Russia in 1801 at the age of 23, was czar when Napoleon made his disastrous attempt to overtake Russia, Napoleon himself referred to Alexander as the slyest and handsomest of all the Greeks.

DECEMBER 10, 1830

Birthday of Emily Dickinson, although much of her private correspondences were destroyed, many believe there is little doubt of her having love affairs with women. Her poetry lives on as a sound teaching tool in many schools.

DECEMBER 27, 1901

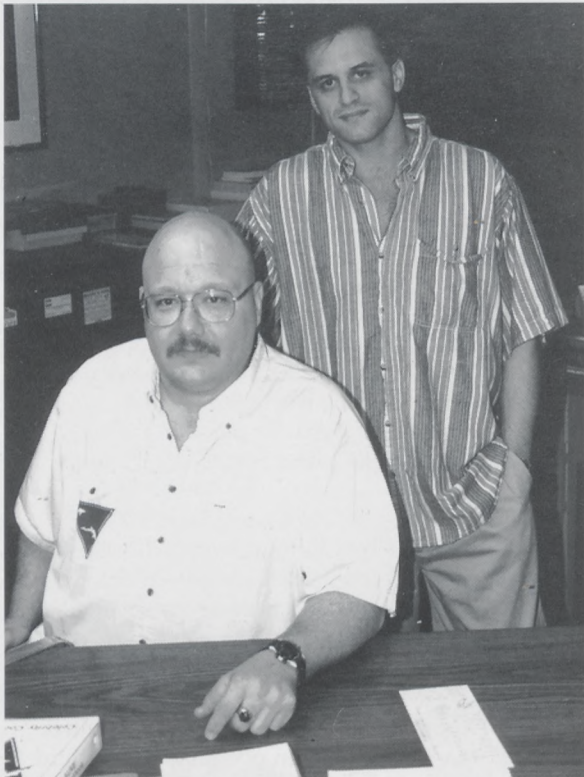
Marlene Dietrich was born in Berlin, Germany, Dietrich was a special actress icon of the era. She had no problems admitting her bisexuality---a truly classy thing to do at that time.

Read it! Learn it! It's all about us!

GARY HITE

Positively Living With HIV

Area man empathetically provides assistance to individuals living with the greatest health concern of the twentieth century while voicing concerns ranging from reliance to valuing oneself. **Christine Limric**



Gary Hite (seated) with business and life partner Jim Dunne in the offices of Positively HIV.

Internet, and he communicates with people all over the world about his organization.

He is a man who has ideas and suggestions about such topics as welfare reform, but instead of just talking about these issues, he tries to get something done about them. Gary made it clear to me that he is not only concerned about HIV and AIDS, but many other issues such as teen pregnancy, gay rights, homelessness, and appropriate skills training for the future.

He works to create partnerships with other organizations for progressive and mutual benefit of the organizations and the client populations each serves.

Why did you start Positively HIV?

Positively HIV was founded in response to unmet needs in the Harrisburg area. When this organization was incorporated in 1993, it was intended to work with welfare, housing and job training. However, because so many people kept knocking at the door it turned into an "AIDS organization."

The nutritional project and information services we offer, in addition to future goals of voucher-based direct assistance and affordable housing, but not hospice. I want to make it clear that we will not be focusing on hospice-level care, but we are supportive of hospice are focused upon a broader spectrum of support typically overlooked.

We've worked with programs focusing on Women with AIDS, children compromised by an environmental situation, inner-city groups and others offering services with eligibility based upon an HIV positive test result rather than specific identifiers like T-cell counts or viral loads.

So Positively HIV is not just the nutritional supplement project?

Correct. The nutritional project is nationwide; our services are not restricted to one geographic area. Our services also include the

HIVnALIVE Website (<http://www.hivnalive.org>) and the planned fall deployment of an intra- and Internet webserver for nonprofit organizations nationwide.

We're also working with other local organizations to create proposals for emergency assistance, affordable housing and related services to HIV positive individuals and families not typically seen at an ASO (AIDS Service Organization).

I've met with the Interfaith Housing Development Corporation in Chicago, and look forward to getting their information about model programs to facilitate similar programs through Positively HIV. Creating partnerships with other organizations---rather than one organization taking on multi-dimensional projects themselves---this is what is starting to happen now.

What prompted you to start this project? Was it a personal reason, and how did you find out about using nutritional supplements to help with HIV positive status?

With the HIV/AIDS arena it's very easy to find information, access assistance or benefits of some sort when you reach a certain medical level---but too many times, these easy-to-find services are available almost exclusively to those in final stage AIDS. Our focus is in tended to help slow---perhaps even eliminate---the progression of HIV to AIDS by offering support services at the beginning of the journey---when they matter; not when it's too late.

To me it's very personal, it can't be otherwise. My own life is proof that taking care of basic needs can help reduce the stress and cofactors related to HIV progression. To me, those basic needs are caring communities, supportive environments, having basic utilities and rent paid, and decent food on the table---not just what can be afforded with \$100 or so worth of food stamps each month.

For years I have been involved with vitamin supplementation, bodywork and complimentary therapies---for nearly 20 years.

So this isn't something you just discovered after you learned you were HIV positive?

Positively HIV is described in one of Gary's brochures as "...a Pennsylvania not-for-profit corporation whose

mission is to create a support system of choice so that hiv-infected individuals might have the opportunity to live with hiv rather than die of aids." (Notice that the abbreviations are written in lower case letters. Gary Hite chooses to use lower case letters for reasons he explains in this interview.)

Gary Hite is HIV positive and is tireless in his pursuit to change the way people think about those who are HIV positive. Gary and a growing number of others are living proof that HIV positive status should be, and can be, dealt with using positive attitudes instead of an acceptance of impending doom.

I met and spoke with Gary Hite at his office which is located in the specialty shop area of the West Shore Farmer's Market. This is not where one would think an organization such as Positively HIV would be run. The logo for Positively HIV is proudly displayed on the long windows of his office. The logo is a deep purple inverted triangle with two dolphins in graceful motion with arched backs. There are two computer terminals in his office where he has access to the



No. As a matter of fact, when I was living in New York City years ago, I had a bookshelf that was floor-to-ceiling with vitamins, herbs and things of that nature. Looking back, one has to wonder if that didn't have some benefit two decades ago.

In October of 1994, one of our clients and I were talking about the quantity of pills and capsules each of us took daily. In a joking way he said, "Yeah, this works but isn't there an easier way?" We laughed, but his comment sort of haunted me.

When he left the office, I went into meditation and "put in a request", as it were. I asked for a single product line that would work by providing good nutrition for people with HIV; that would be consumed as a liquid so it wouldn't have to go through a digestion process; that could be adjusted and modified as far as taste and the caloric content; that if it involved a corporation, that the company would be as concerned about health as it is concerned about money and profits; and, that if the company were an MLM, that the distributor would be supportive of the project and not the type of redneck individual who required education about not contracting AIDS from a toilet seat.

Within three days after that meditative request, I received a call from a woman who had seen our brochure at Unity Church. She expressed an interest in our nutritional services and went on to talk about the company for whom she is a distributor.

My response to her was to ask her to come to our office as soon as possible there really wasn't any need for a sales pitch because I knew how and why this was happening. In fact, she was responding to the meditative request and my trust was absolute no need for discussion about the matter.

The organization, not me personally, was signed up as a distributor for Reliv International, Inc. In December, I submitted a donation request directly to the company headquarters which was subsequently declined in January 1995.

During a meditation in April 1995, I was guided to write a letter to the man who developed the original formula to enlist his support. Dr. Theodore Kalogris is a renown scientist and consultant to the World Health Organization.

Two days after that letter went out the door, I received a fax from the chief executive officer and the director of food sciences confirming Reliv's commitment to donate nutritional supplements valued at more than \$250,000 to the organization for use in the HIVnALIVE Nutritional Project.

Do you decide yourself who will be accepted to receive the nutritional supplements, and are you still supplying new clients with the supplements?

Yes, I decide who actually becomes enrolled in the project. The thing that's happening now

with the nutritional supplements is that it would appear some clients are offended by the request to reimburse shipping costs. We have clients from more than 20 states enrolled in the project.

We have gone two to three thousand dollars in the hole responding to promises made about sending money for shipping costs. That no longer happens it's not my job, it's the individual client's.

For folks with easy access to the office, there is no charge or shipping cost involved with the nutritional project. It's very simple. Of course, donations are always appreciated.

The project continues to accept participants. As a matter of fact, we are expecting to receive the second of four shipments of Reliv products this month.

Is there a questionnaire process?

There is an enrollment process. We have an enrollment request form which must be completed for consideration in the project. There is no eligibility determination based on lifestyle, ethnic group or income.

Do you consider the potential client's health status?

To me it's very critical that we change the definition of HIV and AIDS so that services begin from the moment of testing seropositive. In my opinion, this is when services should start.

This is my feeling not just in the AIDS-involved community we need to become more aware of the impact of all potentially catastrophic diagnoses, and specifically, what this information can do to an individual's ability to work, earn a living and fend off tax and bill collectors.

To me it's a tremendous waste of lives when people spend more time chasing services or running from bill collectors than is available to focus on their bodies and staying well.

Do any of the physicians in our area recommend Positively HIV to their patients?

Yes, there are a few. I can't tell you their names but I believe there are at least four in this area as far as I know. People have different responses to it because I'm very clear that it's not a cure nutritional products are not the 'magic bullet' many insist is being withheld.

I've accepted the fact that there will not be a cure for AIDS. It isn't that I don't want one. I've just seen too much and, perhaps cynically, when an entire industry is no longer required, what will happen with unemployment?

The economics of AIDS pretty much ensures that there will be no "cure". It simply won't be allowed. One of my personal goals is to live long enough to be proven wrong in this regard. Nothing would make me happier.

Have you had any opposition from health care professionals any calls from doctors saying their patients heard about Positively HIV and

the doctors do not think it will help their patients?

No. Quite to the contrary. I encourage clients to go to their doctors to review the contents and make up of the products. Many times doctors from around the country will respond directly to me some have even prepared a dictated synopsis of a patient's history and mailed it to the office.

At last, there would appear to be a growing awareness and willingness within the medical community what ever is working for a specific individual should be supported.

Are any of the physicians posting information about Positively HIV in their offices or in hospitals?

Locally, I believe there are two doctors' offices where our information is readily available. We also receive referrals directly from the Centers for Disease Control, from Reliv distributors through out the country, and from hospitals and organizations already involved in the nutritional project.

Do your clients give any referrals?

Yes. But remember, for some HIV positive people, it's easier to attempt to drink or drug the problem away rather than aggressively take it on. The committed core of project participants has referred many others to our organization.

Do you obtain any medical records and do you require proof of HIV positive status?

Yes. We need the confirmation of positive status and copies of lab work, as ordered by a client's treating physician. In an unofficial way we monitor what's going on with the clients. But I'm not a doctor (laughs).

This is important because we have encountered believe it or not instances of people working in a hospital setting or doctor's office who send copies of another person's lab work for with their enrollments.

Is there a controlled study being conducted on the clients in this area?

The HIVnALIVE Nutritional Project is a program to collect anecdotal data nationwide in exchange for nutritional products. A controlled study? No. Endorsed by the government? No. There are controlled studies of nutritional supplementation and "alternative" methods like acupuncture being conducted by Philadelphia Fight.

Speaking of the government, do you accept any federal or state funding?

No. We do not apply for or accept any funding from the government.

Why is that?

There are a couple of reasons. The first reason is purely economical. I refuse to hire someone and pay a salary when I work as a volunteer. It's nonsensical to hire someone solely to fill-in government forms. It's an

almost criminal waste of money when salaries, vacations, tuition reimbursement, health care insurance, and administrative expenses money that could and should go to direct client services is used to support so many layers of bureaucracy at federal, state, regional and local levels.

I'm not saying that people who work full-time should give away their talents. I am saying that there is no apparent concern or governance of the multi-billion dollar amounts we all hear about as compared to what is actually available to the HIV positive client.

As an example, remember not long ago when the federal AIDS funding for the South Central Pennsylvania area was delayed because of the political bull in Harrisburg? Something like \$160,000 was to be distributed to surrounding counties. Assume for a moment there are only 750 clients in this specific service area though there are more than that number. Now, divide \$160,000 by 750. The result is shocking. This is the impact of so many levels of bureaucracy and what is actually available per client for a full year of direct and tangible support of those of us living with HIV and AIDS. Frightening, isn't it?

How much of that amount really helped clients? After salaries, benefits, rent, phones, etc., how much was really available to each client in tangible and direct services? People are raising incredible amounts of money in the name of those of us with HIV and AIDS. The sad reality is that we are not the ones who see it.

Personally, I would be much more supportive of a system that would make payments of these monies from the federal government (or other source) directly to the client or service provider eliminating all of the nonsense in between. Let's face it, federal support of HIV and AIDS has fueled a competitive struggle for those dollars. It created and sustains the stigmatization of those affected.

Generally speaking, organizations nationwide need to become more self-sufficient. It's not that the government shouldn't have a role, but what has happened is that organizations have become so dependent on public monies they've forgotten how to put one foot in front of the other and this is much more systemic than just with AIDS and HIV.

What kind of funding do you get?

We don't have "funding." More than 75% of what has sustained this organization these past three years, somewhere around eighty thousand dollars, has come from Jim's now exhausted personal resources and his computer business. We've been helped by special individuals with loans and extended courtesies of that nature. It's not been easy considering that my exclusive source of income is monthly disability of \$650 a month.

Part of my "agenda" since so many people insist that I have one is to create a way to get

off of disability with some level of reliable income. And, more importantly, a way to provide for reasonable health care needs for myself and other HIV positive individuals.

Do you accept any private contributions?

Private contributions are an entirely different story. Private donations are encouraged in any amount anonymously or otherwise.

Are there any T-cell counts done on the clients while they are using the nutritional supplements?

All lab work including T-cell counts is performed only according to the direction of a client's primary physician. This can vary greatly. Some clients have lab work every two weeks, every two months and some every year. We don't ask for any special tests we just ask for copies of the lab work ordered by a treating physician.

There's a lot of information in your brochures about psychological health and positive thinking. Isn't it difficult to get an individual to think positively when he or she is HIV positive and feeling doomed?

It has less to do with the supplements than it does with other situations in an individual's life. If someone has a life they'd rather escape from, what better way than to create a door called AIDS? Many long-term survivors tend to share similar traits; not only with our outlook on HIV and AIDS, but our outlook on life in general.

The industry of AIDS has created victims. I can remember when the word "AIDS" came about there was a conscious effort not to use the word "victim." Now, every time you turn on the TV you hear about "AIDS victims." Dammit, I'm not a victim. (Slams his fist on the desk.)

We are bombarded with "HIV equals AIDS equals Death." That is NOT the only possibility. Sadly, however, it would appear to be the easiest approach.

I found it interesting in your brochure that you have the abbreviations for HIV and in AIDS in lower case letters.

As part of an electronic discussion group some time ago, the moderator of the group gifted me with this understanding. It was a source of discussion for some time and many people ask about it even today. The reason is simple, as shared by this friend in San Francisco, "... hiv and aids is printed in lower case letters to lessen the visual impact."

Something that small and seemingly insignificant can have a big impact psychologically?

Yes. Well, remember the diet candy that was called Aids? Is isn't around anymore. It is very important to pay attention to the psychological co-factors of disease. Our inner dialog can destroy us or it can help support us in a choice to live.

Every brochure this organization has pro-

duced includes a quote from Dr. Luc Montagneir of the Pasteur Institute in Paris: "AIDS does not inevitably lead to death, especially if you suppress the co-factors that support disease. It's very important to tell this to people who are infected. Psychological factors are critical in supporting immune function. If you suppress this psychological support by telling someone he's condemned to die, your words alone will have condemned him."

Do you encourage clients to go to support groups or suggest that they see a psychologist?

No. Absolutely not. I will not direct someone's treatment. Period. If people are comfortable going to support groups and get something progressive out of them, well that's fine. It's not for me to tell them to go or not to go.

It doesn't sound like you think very much of support groups.

Well...(pauses) I'd ask someone, "Did you go to support groups before your diagnosis?" I'm not saying there are not issues that people need help with. I think part of that help and part of the belief system that comes out of some "support" groups reinforces the very thing that can actually destroy people.

A "bitch and moan" session or an hour where everyone talks about the latest drug cocktails, new symptoms, recent hospitalizations, and the unavoidable discussion of who recently died to me, all of this reinforces beliefs that there is no future worth living; that every one living with HIV can only be destined for death by AIDS.

So do you feel that support groups can sometimes be counter productive to talk about one's HIV positive status and constantly be reminded of it?

In my experience, it is critical to accept your HIV positive status accept it within yourself first. I can't tell you the number of times clients have told me, "I left feeling worse than when I went in." So I'd ask, "Why do you go?"

To me it is important to acknowledge the reality of HIV. It is equally important to own the fact that we all have the power of choice and, yes, we can choose differently. For me, AIDS is not a myth, as a recent book titled suggested. AIDS is a belief. Every one of us has the inherent capacity to change a belief.

Do you have a need for more volunteers?

Yes and no. We don't have a need for volunteers to lick envelopes or that sort of thing. We work with other local organizations that can provide us with bulk mail services and the like.

On the other hand, we do need additional volunteers to help with the organization's website and the Virtually HIV Library. This would mean that someone needs relevant skills and

Continued on page 33

access to a computer and the Internet at their home or in our office.

The need for volunteers to help us in the local community has been met in large part due to a recent decision to my accepting the nomination as Managing Director of Lily White & Company, Inc.

Do you see the organization expanding in the future to the point where you won't be able to handle every thing yourself?

Yes. It's happening now not just as an AIDS organization, but in regards with our networking with other organizations and the planned deployment of SynergyWeb---an intra- and Internet webserver for nonprofit organizations nationwide.

Whether it's housing development, volunteer programs or the HELP Office, this is what I have done for years---computer programs and computer consulting into non-profit organizations.

When I got sober, I made a personal commitment to devote the rest of my life to helping other people, and especially those that help others. That was ten years ago.

Yes, we are expanding, but we are not expanding in the way people might expect. We're expanding in preparation for what's to come. We're expanding in ways that will create self-sufficiency and be completely removed from government.

Government and public money is evaporating and will only become more scarce. Anyone can look at Washington and see that it's much easier to spend 150 million dollars on upgrading a bomber rather than using the money to

help this country's citizens.

When you look at the billions of dollars wasted in all sorts of programs, toilet seats, Whitewater investigations, untold numbers of new federal courthouses to stroke newly appointed judges, and other projects bought and paid for with tax dollars directed by special interest groups, it's insane.

One billion dollars could equate to providing \$1,000 a month in direct services to 83,333 HIV positive individuals and families for an entire year. By direct services I mean the tangibles: rent, food and utilities. Yet the American public and other of the "disease industries" looks at the billions of dollars "earmarked for AIDS" and turn into piranhas. Public tax money at the federal or state level always creates a "feeding frenzy."

The result is a competition which really means less money for more people and the perception of a "disease of the month club."

What about medical research?

I'm supportive of medical research. I am not supportive of scientific bureaucracies, funding mechanisms, and corporations more concerned with stock dividends than cures. Since the very first White House mention of AIDS, every administration official has referred to the official national response as "research, prevention and treatment." To me, it would seem more relevant to reverse this to "treatment, prevention and research." No one can convince me that all three areas receive equal funding.

A recent article in the Wall Street Journal, and subsequent national news clips, talked

about the way federal AIDS funding is distributed. Countless organizations apparently unrelated to AIDS actually receive funding for AIDS programs or research. Nobody can account for it, no one that can give you a balance sheet on AIDS funding anyway. There is no single point of coordination of AIDS dollars at the national level.

Yet we're told, "you already get enough" or there "isn't enough for this or that." The problem is simple. People are bored with AIDS and it's inside our own community as well.

Why don't we hear more about alternative approaches such as Positively HIV? All we hear about is new pharmaceuticals and the endless search for a vaccine.

Because there's no money in it! You never hear anything about nutrition and HIV or long term survivors. You don't hear about these things because there's no insurance company being reimbursed for services provided; there's no pharmaceutical company paying dividends to stockholders.

Simply put, there's no lobbying group influencing public opinion. Last year, more was spent on nutritional supplementation and alternative therapies than all of pediatrics and that's only an estimate based upon consumer activity that can be tracked through inventories and public companies.

Long before there were research parks, corporate headquarters buildings of glass and steel, the AMA, insurance companies and stockholders long before "modern medicine" there were plants, herbalists, medicine men.

A Native American saying is relevant here:



(I wish I looked this good in person! It's amazing what they can do with photographs these days!!!)

Hi, my name is Michele DeCampli,

but almost everyone knows me as Shelly.

I am the Public Relations Coordinator for
crossroad Publications, Inc.

"What the heck is that?"

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(baseball for my butch days, cowgirl w/ pearls for my not so butch days,
& a crown for my drag queen days)

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just to name a few of the areas left to my care.

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Michele DeCampli

"For every disease on the planet, there is a plant to cure it." Any pharmacist can tell you that the many modern medicines originated from plants. The bark of a willow tree is the source of aspirin; ephedra root is the natural source of antihistamine; valerian root is the natural source of Valium. I won't say all alternative therapies work. There are some out there selling stuff I wouldn't dare use. Remember the "boil-your-blood-free-of-AIDS" thing?

Rather than educating ourselves, it seems easier to give away our power to those that know little about anything other than what they're told to say. I'm very supportive of high-quality nutritional supplementation, bodywork and massage, visualization and relaxation techniques, old world medicines, and other things individuals choose for themselves because it works for them.

Do you believe that Positively HIV is the only thing we have right now to fight AIDS?

No. Absolutely not. First, this organization does not fight AIDS how can you fight something you can not see? The existing AIDS organization structure is a very necessary service. Too many times, organizations get in over their heads because of the demand---a demand that can be inflated and fueled by the victim mentality.

At the same time, ASO's need to stop thinking just about what the government tells them to say. When funding is connected to programs which support only specific outcomes, the parameters of thinking are then preset. Think outside the box.

As a community and a population, we are embattled with, and therefore controlled by, those who would oppose us. Look at the controversy surrounding condom advertisements, sex education in schools and the fear among our young people. The public struggle between left and right has given way to a mediocrity that has forgotten how to care.

In response to these situations, a new generation of HIV-related organizations is happening. Just like the first organizations in the early 80s, these new groups are founded by individuals with a vested interest in a different message. They're popping up all over the country ...and all over the Internet.

Have you had a client develop full-blown AIDS while on the nutritional supplements?

No. To my knowledge, no one who has maintained involvement with the nutritional project has experienced worsened health when compared to their starting point. Quite the contrary.

The single local client that died of AIDS was maintained nearly two years with full-time nutritional supplementation and conventional medications. When we first started working with him, his T4 count was seven. After his final hospitalization, he was no longer motivated to use the nutritional supplements. Three weeks after release from the hospital, he died.

Have you had any clients who were HIV positive develop AIDS later?

Not to my knowledge. Again, I am referring to those who have maintained their participation in the nutritional project but it is not accurate to attribute all this to the supplements alone. Nutritional supplements are incredibly important. The better the quality of the nutritional supplements, the better the support for the body.

On the other hand, technically, I have gone from HIV to a full-blown AIDS diagnosis based on T4 count. It's important to explain the details relating to this. During the time when I was looking for another local doctor, I decided to stop taking all nutritional supplements, herbs and other products so that new blood work would reveal an accurate baseline both in regards to T-cells and viral load.

Also during this period, beginning about the end of February, I developed an intense infection that was repeatedly communicated between my sinuses and a root canal. Not fun. The infection was brought under control in June and, subsequently, blood work was performed. The results indicated that my T4's had dropped from over 500 to 151 and that my current viral load was 57,600.

Within two weeks of returning to the nutritional supplementation and herbs, my T4's had increased to 176. This is a process that will be written out at our website on the internet having consciously decided to let the number drop and now to rebuild them, for the second time.

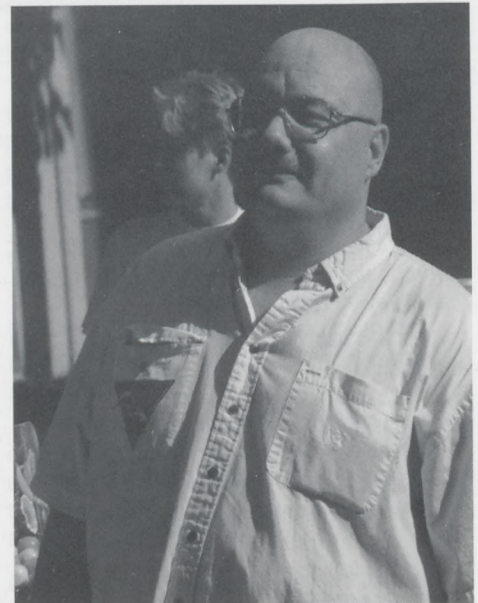
These experiences have also given me the opportunity to personally understand the impact of dental health for those of us with HIV. As many have learned, appropriate dental coverage is simply not available in this area. This will change.

I'd like to talk about the HIVnALIVE Celebrity Cookbook that is available to help fund Positively HIV.

That's a very interesting story. Some time ago I was watching "Jeopardy" during "Celebrity Jeopardy" week. During the program, the host asked each celebrity which organization was to benefit from their appearance. Ed Asner indicated his winnings were to go to the Celebrity Outreach Foundation---a California foundation that helps match celebrities with nonprofit organizations, facilitates sports and celebrity memorabilia auctions, and lending "star power" to local organizations.

With little effort, I located the address and phone number of the Celebrity Outreach Foundation (COF). As it turned out, a friend from America Online lives in the same Los Angeles suburb where the COF office is located. She visited their office on our behalf.

COF pledged their assistance for the cookbook project. With their help we received recipe contributions from at most 150 celebrities and notables at least fifty-five celebrities responded directly to our office. It's interesting to note that



Gary Hite is 39 years old and currently lives in Lemoyne where he hangs his rainbow flag proudly. He lives with his companion and business partner of ten years, Jim Dunne. Gary grew up in Mechanicsburg and attended Cumberland Valley High School. He is from, in his words, "a dysfunctional family." He experienced physical and emotional abuse as he grew up.

After being expelled from school in 12th grade (despite the fact that he had enough credits to graduate) he traveled between Philadelphia, New York and San Francisco where he had several brushes with the law, abused drugs, alcohol and had various sexual encounters in great numbers.

When he found out he was HIV positive in 1983 it came as no surprise to him. He says he has probably been HIV positive since 178 due to his many sexual encounters and intravenous drug use.

In November 1986 Gary's life of drug and alcohol abuse ended when he overdosed on a muscle relaxant when he was drinking heavily. He then ended up in Holy Spirit Hospital for detoxification. From there he was sent to Reading for drug treatment which is where he met Dunne. Since he has been sober, Gary Hite has put all of his energy into his organization, Positively HIV and working with other organizations to help others who want to help themselves.

Ed Asner was the first celebrity to submit recipe contributions.

After more than 18 months in development, the cookbook was published in July. It is available from the office or our website for \$29.95, plus \$5.00 for handling and priority mail costs when we mail it. Information about the HIVnALIVE Celebrity Cookbook is also included in an upcoming mailing and fund-raiser for Lily White & Co. We have notified other AIDS organizations that the cookbook can help them with their own fundraising similar to the ad now running in PGN (Philadelphia Gay News).

This has been an exciting project and one that we're looking to take national. There are other ideas and projects along the same lines

of self-destruction got me where I am today.

You're a pariah in your own group?

In some respects, yes. What I talk about is not easily accepted by most gay men; an unavoidable fact. For me, just as there is more to AIDS than death, there is more to being gay than sexual expression. Without question, I have my own experiences of spirituality the nature of which can not be toppled by right wing extremists. Also, I do not live my life anticipating a rubber stamp of approval from anyone including government.

I've lived through, perhaps in spite of the stereotypical gay lifestyle. New York, San Francisco bathhouses, back room bars, all the drugs in the world.

Pariah? Outcast? An accurate definition now would be "different." It's not something that makes me uncomfortable any longer.

Our community, however, has forgotten how to celebrate its difference. We seem to be caught up in coloring the

ideas and concepts of others when we have always created our own. To me, gay men and lesbians really are the future, the map-makers, the chosen ones for our family and all of humanity. We need to begin to understand this in a dramatically personal way by focusing first on willingness.

The early years of the epidemic were very different remember, I've been at this since the beginning. It has always been difficult to hear one of my gay brothers parrot what is told to them rather than convey the richness and gifts of their own experiences.

Throughout the 80's many argued and insisted that I had best take AZT or plan for my funeral. For some, the drugs work. For many others, new choices need to be available.

With every one of the thousands I have seen die of AIDS, there is hurt that does not diminish. It is hurt which comes from the reality that another of our very special family has been lost. A piece of our rainbow is missing; a integral piece equally important to all the others.

In 1994, a letter to the editor appeared in the local paper in response to an article about me and this organization. In pitifully arrogant fashion the writer suggested that there was enough coverage about AIDS and how important it was for me to know that my chosen life

Funny thing I earned where I'm at now and wouldn't trade it for anything in the world.

Are you saying you would do it all again if you knew you would end up here doing what you're doing now?

Absolutely. I wouldn't change a thing. When you think about it, I should have been one of the first people to die. Yes, when you think back to the beginning of the epidemic, most people who were positive died within a much shorter time span. At that time, there were a dramatically higher number of people with Kaposi's Sarcoma. Now we hear that KS could be related to some type of herpes virus. Maybe there's something to the HIV and herpes combination wiping people out. It makes sense to me.

Do you take any medications such as AZT?

I do not take any HIV/AIDS medications whatsoever.

Did you ever take any HIV/AIDS drugs?

Yes. In 1992 I was prescribed AZT. Within two days I went into toxic shock. The doctor told me to stop for a day and then start again with half the originally prescribed dose. I never took it again. Now, that doesn't mean that it doesn't work for other people.

Do you have any clients who had a lot of self-doubt and were not sure if they could participate in the project?

Yes. They usually come in once. It's really difficult for me to work with clients who want other people to do it for them.

Have you had a difficult case you can recall?

One guy came in and said he'd use the products, said he'd call but didn't get back to me. He seemed to just drop off the face of the earth for over a year. Then he came back and did the same thing all over again. (Pauses) I don't know.

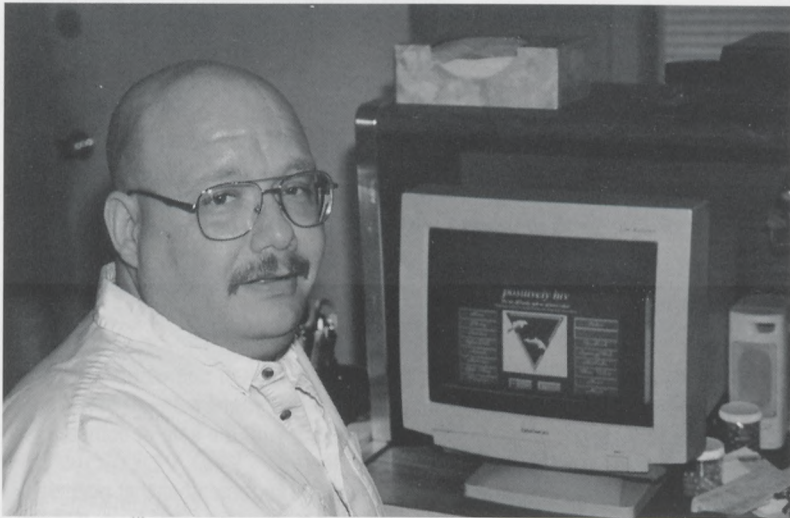
So he probably wasn't following the information and instructions and using the supplements? Did he have the right mind-set to live?

I don't know if he was using the supplements. Does he have the right mind-set to live? Everyone has the right mind-set to live. We just need to take a shovel to the crap covering it up to find it. If we didn't inherently possess the right mind-set to live, why would we bother to choose to become physical in the first place?

Are you in touch with him now or have you heard from him recently?

I haven't heard from him in months. The weird thing is that every one of these experiences hurts because I know what they're doing. I know what their inner talk is like, and I know what their mind is like because I've been there.

To watch people put themselves through what so many believe is their only option is difficult. For so many people it's "do it my way or you aren't doing it." That's not for me to say. I



Hite at his communications center. Enter the HIVnALIVE website via <http://www.hivnalive.org>.

where the proceeds will go not only to HIV/AIDS programs, but to those programs providing food, housing and emergency assistance.

To me, anyone existing without a safety net of basic needs having been met, is at risk for HIV/AIDS. When basic needs are not in question, behaviors are different. Enough of the "fall through the crack" excuses. For people who want to believe that this is only one color, this is only one flavor ... (pauses)...I really don't wish HIV on anyone. Too many times however, it's the only way people learn. It's the only way I learned.

You emphasize a lot that your organization is not just a "gay" organization.

Absolutely. As a matter of fact, the majority of our clients nationwide probably are not gay. But again, I do not hide anything about myself. I'm at ease with inner city hospital support groups as happened in Chicago and York. I'm at equal ease with all sorts of groups and people talking about HIV and AIDS including group meetings that happen regularly in CyberSpace and others that are planned to become part of the HIVnALIVE Global Coalition.

I'm probably more at ease with these different groups than I am with a group of HIV posi-

Santa's only making
one stop this year.

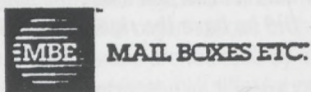


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tell no one to follow me.

Do you ever give difficult cases like the one you mentioned any advice or tell them to improve their mind-set?

No.

You just give them the information for the supplements with instructions?

I give client the information. I answer questions they might have and I ask about how they are feeling. Never ever will I tell a person, "Do this, do that and you'll be fine." Even if I did attempt to instruct in that fashion, even precise things that I've done, there's no guarantee it will work for everyone or anyone.

The Vancouver conference finally announced that HIV is not a cookie cutter disease. Logic, at last! HIV can't possibly be identical for everyone because no two people share identical immune systems.

This isn't about my way. This is about finding your own way. All I can do is nudge, irritate, offend, anger. It is with these tools that each person can begin to glimpse his or her own way. And, sometimes, a uniquely personal path translates into the healing we call death. It's bigger than HIV and AIDS. It's about personal evolution. AIDS/HIV is just the vehicle.

Did you think about getting full-blown AIDS when you first tested positive in 1983, or did you just go about your life as usual?

To a significant degree, my first test result fueled addictions. Involving my self in an AIDS organization back then guilt and bargaining also added to the unrealized downward spiral by placing me in the environment of watching others die.

I went through the rapids with this and still do. I'd be lying if I said it isn't there or I don't think about it. When I get a sinus infec-

tion that drops into my chest, the first thoughts are questions about whether or not it is pneumonia. Discovering the smallest little bruise immediately launches an all out fear brigade about KS.

It's always there sometimes in the background, sometimes it's all consuming. It never goes away it hasn't in nearly fifteen years. It's an intriguing journey of co-existence.

Is there anything else you'd like to say?

A few things which relate to different areas:

Denial. It is a peculiar thing when complete acceptance of HIV is viewed by some as clinical denial. I've heard it more than once. You can probably imagine my suggestion for someone that feels obliged to use cute adjectives, labels and other manipulations---something about where the sun doesn't shine.

Red Ribbons. I don't begrudge any body a colored ribbon for a cause, but dammit, the red ribbon was the one that started it all. It's time people realized that gay men get there first. Period. Here's a bumper-sticker-like slogan to ponder: "The last shall be first...and we've been last long enough."

Positive attitudes. Achieving healthier attitudes about HIV/AIDS is a lot like AA, NA and other 12-Step programs. Until you've experienced it, no text book or degree on the planet can possibly direct your treatment better than you can alone or with the help of someone that's been there.

It's important to remember that positive attitudes are not on sale at Wal-Mart. It is an intangible which is cultivated and nurtured internally as a response to personal experience. Oh, another bumper sticker: "Only two letters separate a victim from a victor."

Value yourself. It's very important for people to know that what I talk about is what I live, only the living came first. X



Gary Hite designed the logo himself. It is a deep purple inverted triangle with two dolphins in graceful motion. To quote Gary, "...Historians can confirm the origin of the inverted pink triangle: During the Holocaust it appeared on black arm bands which marked individuals as 'artists and intellectuals.'" During the same time, out Jewish brothers and sisters were marked with black arm bands emblazoned

with a yellow hexagram (the Star of David).

An old situation infused with life co-creates a new and escalated energy. Purple indicates a higher resonance of energy, a rebirth; raised consciousness. Specific hues of purple are the colors of both the brow (indigo/pineal gland) and crown (violet/pituitary gland) energy centers in the physical body.

To us, the Dolphin Logo assimilates all of these characteristics into a new form. From the realm of oppression, Dolphin has delivered us onto the shores of a sea of possibilities. The opportunity awaits. It is up to each of us...reaching, learning and discovering the secret treasures of physical regeneration."

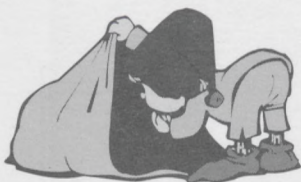
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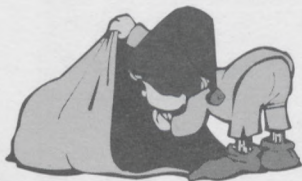
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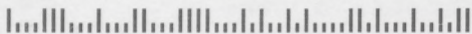


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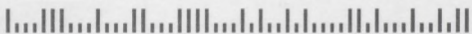


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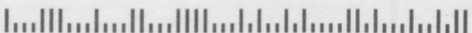


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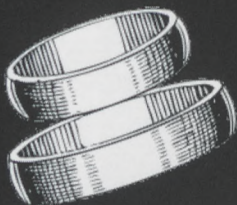
1996 will be remembered when the issue of same sex unions made the list of most discussed topics among many in the U.S. The federal legislation known as The Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) brought to the fore an issue that in effect was forced upon many gays and lesbians across the country as well as in the Commonwealth of PA.

The signing of similar pieces of legislation by President Bill Clinton and Governor Tom Ridge delivering what many legislators feel are the definitive descriptions as to what marriage ought to be, were met with degrees of consternation and worry throughout the homosexual communities.

And though the federal and state governments will continue to refuse to acknowledge the love and commitment displayed by so many seriously minded men and women towards individuals of similar gender, for some, the resolve to conduct same sex unions and live out their years in cohabitational bliss remains a potent of judicial battles to come---Hawaii will soon decide; the inevitable U.S. Supreme Court battle to come.

In a continuing series of articles, crossroads' Pat Manatt and Penny Woolsey follow two men who have committed their love and devotion to each other. John and L.J. will soon make that final push in full view of their friends and hopefully family to begin a union created and blessed in the sight of their God.

Their religious backgrounds provide the focus for this installment.



L.J. Ever since I was little I went to church at the end of the street; a place called ironically enough Crossroads Independent Church. Every Sunday all of us would line up and walk to church. Mother sat all of us in the same pew. Littles beside mom; biggest at the other end. When it came time for service, we all went to our little groups based on age.

During class the teacher would ask different things about us and sometimes we would put on little skits and sometimes we would voice our opinions about the Bible topic of the day. It was a very healthy atmosphere. I remember being given a Bible by me Sunday School teacher which I still treasure to this very day. It was the first big Bible that I ever got and had my name embossed upon it.

Religion has always affected my life. My mother always believed we should attend Sunday services. We weren't into the Wednesday meetings or anything like that. We participated in the Christmas pageants. That was a big thing. We all had to sign up for Bible school and we had to go.

Going through things at my mother's recently, I came across my Bible School graduation papers from over the years as a child. When or Crossroads Church got a new minister I had difficulty relating to him so on my sister's suggestion, I began attending services at a church in Strinestown with her. I attended different churches and while in college, I even attended a Baptist church because it was close to the campus.

That was quite an experience. A couple of my friends attended with me and we were the only white people there. It was there that I really learned what Baptist churches were all about. We all were very, very welcome and comfortable there. As long as I was attending a church, as long as I was there, it didn't matter to me which church or where. I learned a lot about this church. I learned spiritual excitement.

Returning from college, I didn't attend as frequently as I probably should have. Church was not a priority for the person who shared my life at that time. His family did not attend church so he would only attend special things like Christmas Eve services with me and my mom. I then became involved with the Metropolitan Church of Christ of Washington (D.C.?) only because I did not realize Harrisburg had its own MCC.

This church was great! I was openly accepted as being gay and whomever attended with me was also accepted. It didn't matter about sex (or gender?). It (MCC) believed in God and not what I did. I was drawn to attend that church. I would drive from Harrisburg to Washington every Sunday for about three months to attend services. It was only after a while that I real

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John As I was growing up, religion was really no big thing. We had respect for all the various holy days but never attended regular services or Sunday School until a friend of my eldest brother had been invited to attend one Sunday which is how my I along with my three brothers ended up in the Lutheran Church. We attended every Sunday.

Sometimes at camp I was very upset if we did not sing *Onward Christian Soldiers*, which would result in my not giving my offering. Looking back I find that that was a very horrible thing.

Years later we began attending catechism class. (Mom kept my brother back just so we could all attend at the same time.) Pastor Pete was younger than what I perceived the average minister to be. He was the first person who made me feel as though God loved everyone. Religion to me is going to churches where they tell you what's wrong. Church is what I always thought about. We went through catechism classes and went to a retreat and Pastor Pete somehow made us understand the Bible. He *taught* the Bible...He did not preach! He didn't sermonize! he didn't make you feel you were going to burn in Hell for a wrong committed. My parents, not being Lutheran, could not take first communion with my brother and I. This is where I had my first misunderstanding with the structured church because I thought I had learned in catechism that all were welcomed to Christ's table. Since my parents were not members of that church they were not being welcomed as I believed they should have been. The second misunderstanding was the pastor needing to resign in order to pursue additional educational interests. I did not feel this to be right at the time since the only person who had helped fulfill my spiritual needs had been asked to step down. Not much religion took place in my life once pastor Pete resigned.

Music entered my life in high school. Several years later a director asked me to consider becoming a paid member of a choir at a Lutheran church. That is how I became reacquainted with the church. My mother was thrilled when I joined the choir which allowed religion to reenter my life.

I began enjoying the music once again. I eventually joined the Harrisburg Men's Chorus but realized that I felt closest to God singing in the (MCC?) chorus. In this church I felt so much acceptance. These people all knew I was gay and embraced me. An honor that I'll never forget is having been asked to sing the service affirmation song *O! Holy Night*--the pivotal moment in my musical involvement with God. I always feel the best when I am singing praises to God.

Continued on page 46

Whereas the traditional family, of one man married to one woman and their children through birth or adoption, has been the norm in all civilized societies throughout history;

Whereas the traditional family, as the fundamental building block for a healthy society, is an ideal to which all should aspire;

Whereas the traditional family bears the primary responsibility for the moral instruction of children; and whereas the traditional family is under relentless attack by those who want to redefine family to include homosexual and lesbian couples and by those who want to indoctrinate children in pro-homosexual propaganda against their parents' wishes; therefore

Be it resolved that Elizabethtown Area School District hereby endorses this Pro-Family Resolution and affirms that pro-homosexual concepts on sex and family as promoted by the National Education Association will never be tolerated or accepted in this school.



Throw Down in E-Town

Anticipating pressure from the NEA, a Lancaster County School Board adopts a policy which provokes community divisions and unwanted nationwide media exposure.

J.D. Kennedy



The college town of Elizabethtown was shaken recently by the actions of a school board who felt it in the best interest of the students to stem a liberal tide coming from the National Education Association. When the Elizabethtown school board passed its pro-family resolution in mid-September, its actions attracted the attention of many across the country including articles in the Wall Street Journal, USA Today, discussions on popular talk radio fests such as Rush Limbaugh and even the subject of humor by Jay Leno.

The policy has caused such a furor among those it was intended to protect, that the over 200 middle and high school students walked out of classes to protest the school board latest move. The students' actions were just the tip of the iceberg. The attraction so great to both gay activists and members of the religious right, that the school board deemed it necessary to move its meetings to the high school to accommodate the overflow of both citizens and interested parties from outside of the city.

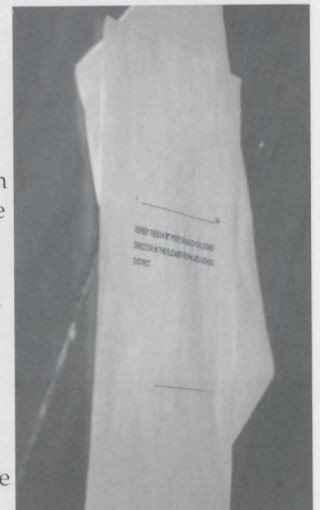
Many in the audience were also adamantly opposed to a group of elected officials placing their religious beliefs in policies affecting their children. This was brought to the fore as board vice president John Everhart stated that we're all born with specific characteristics such as color, gender and ethnic background, qualities that are unavoidable via the birth process, that, "when it comes to the sexual orientation or preference here, that's choice that's made." Everhart went on to state homosexuality is "something that can be cured. I believe it's an illness. I

believe it's an illness that can be cured."

The three-ring circus atmosphere brought on by the furor presented its light moments. For instance, rumor had it that the high school band director removed the Village People's "YMCA" from the marching band's playlist because of the group's associating with the "gay lifestyle."

One taxpayer commented that she had drawn up a policy; one called a resignation and that all the directors should sign on the dotted line upon which she laid the documents on the stage before the board.

Another made the charge that the



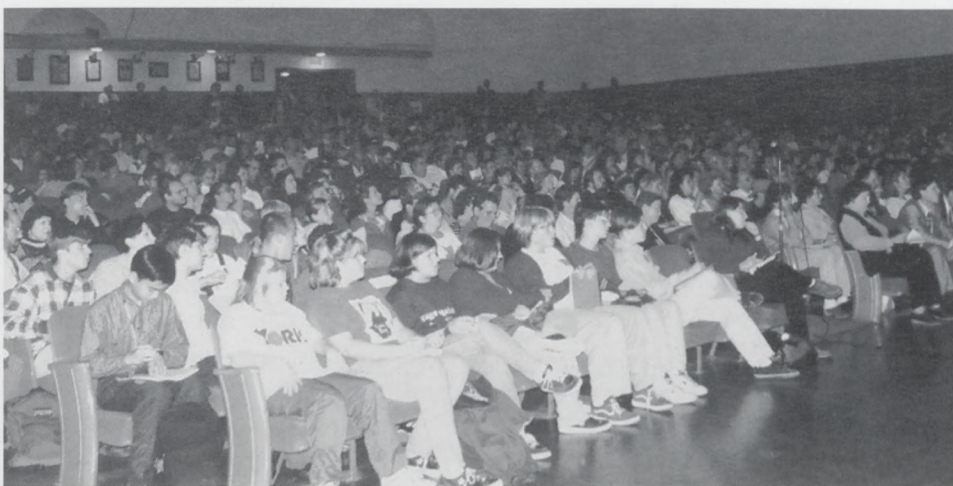
framework for the policy came from outside the district and that it was passed without regards to Robert's Rules of Order or the regular school board's procedure of adopting policies. In short, the board was being accused of railroading the resolution through without the consideration of a committee taking a look first.

Board member Andrew Saylor spoke to students who walked out and acknowledged to them his view as an administrator, but listened to the concerns of the students. Saylor came away from the meeting with a profound respect for the minority who walked out. And though he commended those who stayed in school, he mentioned at the meeting that students' views are important and needed to be listened to.

During the first full public discourse on



the policy, during which sentiment ran highly in disfavor of the pro-family policy, sentiment ran 8 to 1 in favor of removing the policy all together. In fact, concerned taxpayers were more concerned with the athletic department receiving cellular phones that they were voted to get back in the summer but hadn't received. Also,



paramount in the mind of many of the parents were the conditions of the schools themselves and the improvements that needed to be made.

Heeding the comments of their constituency, the board adopted the following policy:

The Elizabethtown Area School District recognizes that the family is the primary source of guidance about controversial moral issues. Therefore, the board does not endorse same-sex sexual relationships and affirms that no student will be harassed or denied an education on the basis of sexual orientation...

The district will not promote, encourage, or give special recognition to same-sex sexual relationships or orientation.

The district's educational program will be provided to all students regardless of their sexual orientation.

Harassment for any reason will not be permitted and will result in disciplinary action.

Another proposal was adopted at the November 12th meeting that not only proposes to eliminate references to harassment but will direct children to pose questions of a sexual nature to their parents.

The district is determined to settle on a policy that will establish its views on the sexual orientation question once and for all. It is certain, however, that the issue will not rest before more sentiment, positive and negative, is expressed by the voters and taxpayers of the district. X



What all the fuss is about

The Constitution of the National Education Association indicates that its goals shall be those stated in its Preamble and are set forth in a statement of resolutions by the Representative Assembly. What follows are those sentiments that the NEA feels are consistent with its goals.

On Diversity

"The National Education Association believes that our diverse society enriches all individuals. Similarities and differences among races, ethnicity color, national origin, language, geographic location, religions, gender, sexual orientation, age, physical ability, size, and marital, parental, or economic status form the fabric of our society.

The Association also believes that education should increase tolerance and foster an appreciation of the various qualities that pertain to people as individuals or members of a group"

On Racism, Sexism, and Sexual Orientation Discrimination

The National Education Association believes in the equality of all individuals. Discrimination and stereotyping based on such factors as race, gender, immigration status, physical disabilities, ethnicity, and sexual orientation must be eliminated.

The Association also believes that plans, activities, and programs

for education employees, students, parents, and the community should be developed to identify and eliminate discrimination and stereotyping in all educational settings. Such plans, activities, and programs must---

a. Increase acceptance of and sensitivity to individuals and groups in a diverse society composed of such groups as American Indians/Alaska Natives, Asian and Pacific islanders, Blacks, Hispanics, women, gays and lesbians, and people with disabilities

b. Eliminate discrimination and stereotyping in the curriculum, textbooks, resource and instructional discrimination

c. Foster the use of nondiscriminatory, nonracist, nonsexist and nonstereotypical language, resources, practices, and activities

d. Eliminate institutional discrimination

e. Integrate an accurate portrayal of the roles and contributions of all groups throughout history across the curriculum

f. Identify how prejudice, stereotyping, and discrimination have limited the roles and contributions of individuals and groups

g. Eliminate subtle practices that favor the education of one student over another on the basis of race, ethnicity, gender, physical disabilities, or sexual orientation.

The Association encourages its affiliates to develop and implement training programs on these matters.



CAPRICORN, THE GOAT

The tenth sign of the Zodiac. Capricorn, the Goat, is the tenth sign of the Zodiac, ruled by the planet Saturn; like your namesake, Cap, you can be stubborn, but otherwise your habits are considerably better than that. Capricorns are practical, persistent and ambitious, as well as traditionally having a great sense of humor. Like wine, Cap ages well---look at your celebrities below!

CELEBRITY CAPRICORNS

Horatio Alger
Cecil Beaton
David Bowie
Edith Emma Cooper
Czar Alexander I
Marlene Dietrich
E.M. Forster
Cary Grant
Alexander Hamilton
Sherlock Holmes
J. Edgar Hoover
Janis Joplin
George Kelly
Sal Mineo
Moliere
Donna Summer
Rod Stewart

December

ARIES (March 20-April 19): Sun in Sagittarius gives you ambition and tenacity on top of your usual drive; all other Christmas shoppers had better clear out of your way! Christmas is what you make of it, Aries---what (or who) goes under your Christmas tree?

TAURUS (April 19-May 20): Honesty will get you everywhere this month, Taurus, but be kind about that sweater your aunt sent you, please! Watch out for your throat; don't wear it out on Christmas carol karaoke. Expect an old friend to pop in for a favor.

GEMINI (May 20-June 20): Pay attention to detail this month, especially at work. You're restless this month; do you need a change of scene? Don't let it affect communication with loved ones; take a deep breath and take things slowly. New Year's Eve is your night.

CANCER (June 20-July 22): Visions of sugarplums and Martha Stewart fill Cancer heads at Christmas; don't plunge in with too many goals you can't achieve for that "perfect" Christmas. Let others take on responsibility. Let yourself go; get out and about rather than stay in.

LEO (July 22-August 22): Your ruler, Sun, is in fire sign Sagittarius; all you need is more fuel on your own fire, Leo! You don't have to go everywhere and do everything; sit back and relax. How about a guest New Year's Eve for two? A friend has a nice secret for you.

VIRGO (August 22-September 22): Ruler Mercury spends most of this month in Cap; you're even more of a stickler for detail than usual. If anyone's worrying about how to drape every individual strand of tinsel, it's Virgo. Why not amuse yourself by finding the perfect spot to hang (and to hang out under) that mistletoe?

LIBRA (September 22-October 22): Venus starts out in Scorpio, good news for money matters and for your relationship issues, Libra. Don't go off and become too healthy and right-minded as Venus moves into Sag mid-month; you still have to party through New Year's!

SCORPIO (October 22-November 21): Mars in Virgo means "A Plus" for originality this season (what do you want---or who---under your tree?). It's also a warning, Scorp---watch out for overdoing the party food and drink this season!

SAGITTARIUS (November 21-December 21): Sun and Mercury are both in your sign at month's start; get your big projects done way up front if you can, and leave the details for the rest of the month. Romance is in the air, archer; will you go for it or not?

CAPRICORN (December 21-January 20): Curiosity killed the cat, Cap; don't unwrap the presents for a peak the week ahead! You know why you're the one who gets asked to do the decorating and party planning; you're the practical one, and you'll have to accept the authority. Be a kid on Christmas!

AQUARIUS (January 20-February 19): Aquarius really believes in the spirit of Christmas; no grinchers lurk under the water-bearer's sign. If anyone's a Christmas charity helper, it's you (besides, you've met people while do-gooding before...) Go hog wild at New Year's.

PISCES (February 19-March 20): Maybe that Sag energy will motivate you to organize a little more this season than last; on the other hand, meeting a friendly Capricorn who'll do it for you is a possibility. Let then decorate; you play host. Watch those happy-go-lucky spending habits, Pisces!

January

ARIES Caution is a key word for Aries this month; examine all options closely before taking any actions regarding finances. Make the most of a business opportunity that comes your way early this month. Just remember---you don't always have to be the leader.

TAURUS A partner's interest in current matters seems to be on the wane. Move back and let them chill out. Hard work removes an obstacle that's been in your path for sometime; new opportunity is coming in with the New Year.

GEMINI Are you busy enough, Gemini? You've got your hands more full every time you turn around. Be tolerant of a friend's whim; it'll be difficult to bite your lip, but you have to. Put your mind to a practical solution to a current problem.

CANCER You may just find yourself "cleaning up the mess" this month; things simply are not what your expected. Communication with a loved one should improve, but be patient. Keep in mind that avoiding illusions prevents disillusionment.

LEO Sun in Capricorn helps harness your plans---you need to organize them and scale them back a little. Leo's an idealist at heart, well suited to the Aquarian energies manifesting late this month. Go ahead and take charge of that project you've been thinking about; it's time.

VIRGO It's okay to loosen that tie, Virgo; you have permission to relax. Patience with an associate will be rewarded; it's okay to cut them some slack. Your January task is to have fun---a treat you don't give yourself as often as you should.

LIBRA With Moon's aspect to ruling Venus on January 2, New Year's fun runs straight through the following week-end. The month begins and ends on a

strong positive note for you; make the best of a good thing! Signs point to your Valentine's Day possibilities opening up now.

SCORPIO January brings Scorp renewed energy and determination. If anyone can stick to those New Year's resolutions right now, it's you. You may find friends or a work situation emotionally trying near the beginning of the month, but it will pass.

SAGITTARIUS Patience is a virtue, Sagg, even though it goes against you nature. Matters you're dealing with need time to develop, so let things move slowly if you want them to work. You're restless just after New Year's; take time to relax and unwind.

CAPRICORN What's holding you back, Cap? Don't let it get under your skin; you can work it out. Communication with friends is erratic as the month starts, but will be squared away by mid-month. Romantic possibilities at month-end?

AQUARIUS Emphasize practical considerations at the beginning of the month; get your necessary New Year's resolutions like starting that diet and doing housework or household tasks out of the way now. Jupiter in your sign at month-end gives you new ideas for a pet issue.

PISCES First things first; you've got to deal with your real life this month, Pisces. Personal issues need practical attention, not just deep thinking. The weekend of the eighteenth may be your best time to cut loose---enjoy yourself, but get your obligations handled first!

Marakay Rogers, Certified Tarot master, is a registered Tarot advisor and astrologer with over ten years' experience in the Harrisburg and York areas and offers consultations and workshops through Diving Light Books in Steelton.



AQUARIUS

The eleventh sign of the Zodiac Aquarius, the water-bearer, is an air sign; you're the cheerful idealist of the Zodiac. You tend to love mankind as a whole, and worry about it endlessly; it's a little harder to get close to individuals. Aquarius is usually a progressive social-liberal type, and enjoys working for good causes; if you were a kid in the Sixties you did "trick or treat for UNICEF" at Halloween. The world can't survive without your type---(but don't get smug about it).

CELEBRITY AQUARIUS

Susan B. Anthony
Sir Francis Bacon
Tallulah Bankhead
William S. Burroughs
Lewis Carroll
Carol Channing
Collette
James Dean
Billy De Wolfe
Frederick the Great
Clark Gable
Langston Hughes
Eartha Kitt
W. Somerset
Maugham
St. Sebastian
Gertrude Stein
Virginia Woolf

Grabbing The Rainbow

J. R. Nevin

Up to now, I've been harping on unifying the gay/lesbian/bisexual community. To be a healthy and productive community, we must also be healthy and productive individuals. I think it's great that the gay/lesbian/bisexual communities have taken on some of the internal individual problems i.e.,

drug and alcohol addiction, AIDS and breast cancer education, etc.

Pride of self is essential before pride of community can be felt or obtained. Therefore, let's be bold and take on a taboo subject: Adults of sexual child abuse. I have often heard the heteros saying that being gay is a result of some kind of child abuse---sexual, physical, emotional. We as a community say "No, we are born gay and nothing can influence a person to be gay."

In our attempt to dispel this myth, we have dismissed and silenced a portion of our community that has been abused. Statistics say that one of every six boys are sexually abused. In studies that have involved gays, the statistics get even higher.

Whether the gay statistics are true or not let's stick to the overall one out of six stats. This is a large portion of any community and a portion that is in need of special attention. I am afraid that g/l/b communities have often swept the subject under the rug to dispel the proverbial myth I mentioned earlier.

As a community, are we willing to endure the "See we told you that homosexuality is a result of child abuse" in order to help a portion of our own? From what I've read and experienced, "normal" growing up, sexual experimentation is overwhelming enough without the additional burden of being molested. I have heard coming out stories to family and friends

and after the initial often standard "AIDS" questions come the "How?" Many have been asked "Were you abused by someone as a child?"

The answer whether a lie or truth seems like it should be "No!" Why? Is it because we don't want them to think that the abuse is the reason for our homosexuality? or the often "embarrassment" of disclosing gayness is traumatic enough? So when do the abused get a chance to deal with a situation that has influenced everything they do and are? This unhealthy suppression will in some way damage the adult. Abuses of drugs and alcohol are sometimes a telling factor, running away from healthy relationships or running to abusive relationships can be a tell-tale sign, very low self esteem, depression, overeating, over achieving, are a few more possible examples.

Combinations of many of the symptoms are common among adults of sexual child abuse. Each person reacts in their individual way but unless a thorough and honest look and exploration of the abuse is enacted, no substituting in the world will cause the damage and pain to disappear.

I have recently and finally acknowledged this to be personally true. Now I'm going to become like a reformed smoker and preach to those smoking. I am amazed how many others have suffered the same type of abuse and how silent and suffering each seems to be.

This column is far too short to go into any detail and I don't mean to trivialize the situation. Honestly dealing with the issue takes so much time and courage. We as a community band together to demand human dignity from all other communities, but is it a waste of time to help our own gain their personal dignity? Is it important to us to support **all** those in our community, even though our community may be giving ammunition to the opposition?

The colors of the rainbow should and can be brilliant for all within our community. We as a community need to make sure that the rainbow we are reaching for is accessible for everyone and that the glorious colors can be seen by everyone through clear, happy, healthy eyes. ✕

L.J. cont. from page 37 ized, through a Harrisburg Men's' Chorus meeting that the Capital City had its own MCC from its pastor Rev. Eva O'Diam of all people.

At this time I also discovered that MCC of the Spirit was in hot pursuit of finding a permanent location in which to house the church. The current facility in which the services took place, The Friends Meeting Place, had been very generous and kind to MCC over the years. However, it was time for my church to have its own "home".

I was gung-ho and went with my lover on our days off in search of a suitable property for the church. We crawled through dirt, muck, cobwebs and detoured past a few rats in our search for that potential new location.

I had always been raised with the idea that if you build a church, people will come. We finally found a building on Jefferson Street. It was the old Liquor Control Building. What better to have a church there! I can't begin to explain the feeling that overcame me when the congregation voted to accept the bid on the edifice that was to become our new home. Shortly thereafter settlement took place.

I've been on the Trustee Committee, the Moving Committee and now the Chair Committee because sitting with John and Eva at my other's funeral in the old church I realized that those very chairs needed to be in the new church in Harrisburg.

After conversations with Pastor Eva and John at my old church (which had burnt and been rebuilt before my mother's funeral) I realized that the chairs in which we were seated needed to be in our new church in Harrisburg. After speaking to Eva, the minister at the old church and presenting the idea of acquiring the chairs to the MCC congregation, it was unanimously voted to purchase the chairs. The chairs

are currently being sold for forty dollars a piece. I want individuals to be able to be involved. That what being a "family" is all about. So far, we've sold over one hundred chairs. We need to sell 160. They are being sold in memory or in honor of someone. There will be a plaque with the names on it.

July 28th was the first Sunday morning service. John and I were the ushers. I had a goal that I wanted to see 100 people at that service. We did it! It was just phenomenal. I remember the first time we had services in the new church. It was an evening service and Pastor Eva said to me that she had never seen me with such a glow. I told her that I felt I was finally home. My home. And I wanted to invite everyone over. just once to see if they liked my "home".

My mom is with me all the time when I'm in that church and there are things in this church that I want to do in her honor. However, I need to wait for the right time. My belief in God has always been with me and has seen me through all that I've done. If the man upstairs doesn't make something happen now, He has a better plan waiting. After all, I am part of His vast family. And that is what all of it is about. Being part of a huge family that shares and cares. To be willing to be a part of the little things as well as the big. To know that offering a hug or a smile or a cup of coffee on a cold day to both stranger and friend, that reaching out from within ourselves to share with someone else a word of encouragement, a shoulder, even a tear There is someone who holds hope for them. That is what my beliefs and my affiliation with MCC of the Spirit bring home to me and I try to give back with nothing more expected in return other than that hug or kind word.

In a personal aside, thank you Pastor Eva for staying by my side. I love you from the bottom of my heart. ✕

It Seems To Me

Rick Nare

It seems to me at times as if I'm out of step with the rest of the world. There is no season of the year that is greeted with as much fanfare as the period of Thanksgiving to Christmas. I have to be honest and tell you that the holidays are for me a difficult time of the year.

The entire season seems to stress home, family, love and affirmation. Yet for many in our community it serves as a painful reminder that for whatever reason those benefits no longer exist in their lives. Many sons and daughters find themselves alone because their family not only rejected that their children are gay or lesbian, they also rejected their children.

Some individuals, like myself, came out late in life and had been married. In those cases perhaps their own child or all their children reject them. In my case my second oldest son has refused to see me or speak to me for nearly ten years. For others the passing of family members has left a void in a season that was once filled with much love and warmth. It's no wonder psychologists tell us that the holidays result in more depression, suicide, illness and despair than any other season of the year.

Several months ago I was reading a book and watching TV simultaneously. It was a Public TV Pledge Campaign and, as they often do, the station was airing a Peter, Paul and Mary concert. I was practically catapulted out of my book when my ears picked up the music and lyrics of a tune Mary Travers was singing. "Home is where the heart is, no matter where the heart lives: began the chorus. It went on to be a song of a mother teaching her little girl about the differences in life and accepting people as they are. It includes the story of two gay men, one who dies of AIDS and the other awaiting a similar fate. It also describes a lesbian couple who were the girl's neighbors and how they were adding on to their home, looking forward to the birth of their child. It then returns to the surviving man and how the mother's little girl brings joy and warmth to his life.

I'm Italian and thought of my alienated second oldest son, and his youngest brother who died nine years ago of cancer at the age of eight. I recalled all the friends I have lost to AIDS. My heart ached for the many that are alienated from their families due to the family's inability to even attempt to understand their child's orientation.

After being used to huge family celebrations with a big family for dinner on Christmas Eve, I had moved several years before to this general area and found myself very alone. I had made some friends, but most of them went home to see families. I had not yet met my life partner. My family loves me but I did not have the money to go home for Christmas. I found myself spending the holidays for the first time very much alone. It is not an experience I ever want to repeat. Christmas morning the phone rang. It was my family. We chatted and I think after hanging up I cried most of the day. It was very painful, but it taught me a valuable lesson.

The holidays are about love and concern for others. It's great to experience that with your family and friends, but sometimes circumstances make that possible. "Home" is where the heart is. It's where we find love and acceptance. If you are like me and are facing the holidays alone, don't let it happen. Host a Christmas Day Pot Luck dinner and invite people in similar circumstances. Decorate your home and show the world that when

gays and lesbians refer to others in our community as family" it is a family that affords love and affirmation.

Don't worry about gifts because you will discover the greatest gift we can give each other is ourselves. When you realize what you are doing for others and ultimately yourself I guarantee that warm fuzzy holiday feeling will flood through you as in bygone years. It will be different from the past because the only thing we can count on in this life is that things will change, but it will be there.

If circumstances prohibit such a gathering for you, investigate volunteer projects that need staffing on Thanksgiving, Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. Many soup kitchens, programs for the sick and elderly, and nursing homes are crying for people to help on those days. You do not know what love is until you walk into a rest home or hospice and visit a resident whose family is either dead or ignores them. In making their day you will make your own.

You will also receive an added benefit. You'll come to discover that as the song says, "Home is where the heart is" because home is not really a place, but a state of being. It's an emotional satisfaction that enables you to know that at this place, at this time and with these people I make a difference.

Happy Holidays. ✕

©Rick Nare

Rick Nare is a professional writer and journalist who resides in Glen Rock, Pa. where he operates a marketing, publishing and communications' firm.

TONY BUCHER

Being Ourselves

My partner and I recently enjoyed a weekend trip to New Hope with another couple with whom we are friends.

We had heard of New Hope before and its "gay friendly" atmosphere but I never had the opportunity to visit. We spent Saturday walking up and down the streets browsing in the many shops. One cannot help take notice of the shops displaying a rainbow flag or operated by gay owners.

As we relaxed into the gentle ebb and tide of people walking through town, we begin to notice other couples, both male and female, who are either holding hands or embracing one another while sitting on a bench. To our surprise, those people from the straight community who are in town seem to have no reaction to this show of affection of the gay couples.

As we continued our journey through the street, we found ourselves naturally holding hands. The warm feeling we got from being ourselves is indescribable! Here we were, walking around town hand in hand, and no one even batted an eye.

What makes this small town in northeastern Pennsylvania different from our area here in Central PA? No one can say. Maybe its because I seemed relaxed and at ease with the surroundings. And how wonderful it would be if the attitude found in New Hope could be infused into the rest of the country. For what a grand day it would be when no matter where we live, we could be ourselves! ✕

"SWEET HONEY"

BENEFITS PENNSYLVANIA COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Jaricka Leigh

If you missed "Sweet Honey in the Rock" on October 4th at the Forum, you missed a phenomenal range of musical talent that rarely graces the stage in a single musical group. The concert was held to benefit the Pennsylvania Coalition Against Domestic Violence and the all female group centered their program around the importance and value of women and children in society. In celebration of the PCADV's 20th year as the first state domestic violence coalition in the United States, Sweet Honey in the Rock debuted their new song, "Run", which tells the story of a woman taking her children and escaping from an abusive relationship.

This six-member ensemble of African American women featured the *acapella* performance of a diverse collection of musical styles with one member performing as an interpreter for the deaf. Each member brought her own special talent to light in the presentation of spiritual gospel, traditional African song, Reggae (Bob Marley's "Redemption Song"), Blues, and Rap. Many of the musical selections performed were created by members of the group. This rich blend of harmony and vocal ability brought Harrisburg to its feet with sounds so pure that one may not recognize them as human voices or those typical of female performers.

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*Thank you for a great 1996!
Best wishes for a
prosperous New Year!*

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▼ Talent in Review ▼

Sweet Honey's message for the evening was one of caring and strength. A message I think we need more often.

TWO CONSENTING ADULTS

Michele DeCampi

Central Pennsylvania received two hilarious evenings of entertainment in September where this comedic duo performed both in Harrisburg and later that same week in Lancaster. Both Stallions and the Tally Ho bravely treaded new waters by booking this group who where full of wit, sarcasm and comedic timing that left these nightclub patrons in stitches.

Eddie Sarfaty started off both evenings, where he displayed a subdued bitchiness about many topics relating to everyone. He touched on one subject after another fluently, jumping from one to another with relative ease. These topics included everything from "Gays in the Military" (I just don't get it. If you were standing in a fox-hole with bullets fling all around you, wouldn't you want to know the person standing right next to you could give you the best blow-job of your life!), "Coming Out to your Parents" (something he feels everyone should do, including straight people, just for the reaction), to satire comedy in the movies he'd like to suggest (instead of "Home Alone" how about "Homo Alone" where by the time the parents return the entire house has been redecorated), just to name a few.

Linda Herskovic rounded off the evening effectively. She is an apparent veteran of the stage where she worked the audience like a well oiled machine, incorporating their responses into her act, accentuating her material rather than hindering it. While performing in Lancaster, she made comments on the Amish lifestyle which were both humorous and true to life (including her thoughts on what an Amish amusement park would constitute). She was down-home grit, dirty, crass, and sexual within an honest tell-it-like-it-is attitude. One of her first statements to the crowd in Harrisburg consisted simply of "Hi. My name is Linda Herskovic. I'm a lesbian. What can I say? (raising her arm into the air) I hate shaving!" Other points made during the course of both evenings consisted of life with her cat, Kitty Herskovic (a trip to the vet in which the vet tells her the cat got



**Linda
Herskovic &
Eddie Sarfaty**

ulcers from all the stress & Linda questioned what stress?, whether to clean her paw or lick her ass?!), relationships (I lived with a butch for years: We didn't get along. She kept leaving the toilet seat up...Her most recent: She was a stripper. People would ask how I felt about it. Let's see...She makes lots of money to get horny showing off her body to a bunch of straight guys & then come home to me...You figure it out!), and the projection of coming out to her father (A Czechoslovakian who upon hearing the news would say: "You think I don't know what gay is? Of course I know what gay is. I watch Oprah...You think I don't watch Oprah...I've never seen you on Oprah...You don't give a shit about your career!...) along with many others.

The crowds at both Stallions and The Tally Ho would best be described as cozy. This accentuated to me how truly talented these two individuals really are. Comedy is best with an uproarious crowd, eager to be involved in the acts. The comedian can then feed off the audience to generate more of a response. With a "shy" crowd (something seen more at Stallions than Tally Ho), the comedian must work that much harder to incorporate their act into an even, free-flowing and humorous event. Both Eddie & Linda were effective, drawing responses from a somewhat timid audience. These two could turn a nightmare family dinner into a side-splitting event. My advice to you is to go wherever you may see the names Eddie Sarfaty & Linda Herskovic. You won't be disappointed!

I applaud both Stallions & Tally Ho for booking some wonderful talent. I'm sure these were events sorely missed by those who did not come out to see these two wonderful, talented performers and heard about it after the fact. My only request is that these and other establishments in our area continue to book cultural events such as this. We as a community need to sup-

port such talent, especially when it's so damn much fun!!! X



Happy Holidays from your reporting diva "Ms. Biscuit." It's been a very busy time for me so let's get gossiping!

Here's a quick message to Miss Central PA's Gay Pride "Miss Glenda": You were wonderful as a judge for the Mr. Headquarters Contest even if they were calling you Starr Powers' grandmother. We all know you're her twin sister especially after that flip you did over at B-TLS and let's not forget your new Celine Dion Mega Mix. We've often wondered if your name isn't really "Glenda Leah Sterling Powers?"

Over the past two months I have been to Hagerstown, Baltimore and even to a few functions here at home in good old Harrisburg.

First I was off to Hagerstown to spend an evening at Headquarters for the Miss Western Maryland Pageant. You know a former Miss Western MD: none other than Ashley Alexander.

Miss Cee Cee Alexander was the big winner on this special nite. Our very own Michelle Leah Sterling was second runner-up.

It was then back to our very own club O'Harrisburg for the Miss Stallions Pageant it was truly a nite to remember.

Top honors went to Tina Valentine Powers with first runner up honors going to Leaha. She looked marvelous. And second runner up went to, yep you guessed it Michelle Leah Sterling. Some highlights of the evening:

Miss Delta a.k.a. Blonde Reba McEntire and yes of course the ever lovely and talented Ms. Biscuit going from Diva to Butch in leather "Dare to Dream." Then

▼ Biting The Biscuit ▼

your M.C. Dr. Eric Selvey with that headress. We want photos of that!

Yes that was Angel with her own imitation of Mimi from the Drew Carey Show with her Revlon Trailer Trash Blue Eye Shadow on during her give up number "Always a Star."

Lest we forget, Who was that female illusionist wearing the Miss Capital City Crown? Was it? Could it really have been? Is it possible? Was she really here in the Capital City herself? Yes boys and drags it really was Rebecca Finn of Sunnybrook Philly. Stop by again if you get the time!!!

It's now Baltimore bound to see the Miss Mid-Atlantic Pageant. Wow! What a night! What talent! What gowns, both good and bad! Miss Gay America was there. What a woman! And my favorite entertainer in the Maryland System Myra Montana the reigning Miss Maryland America. She is simply the best. She placed top ten on her first trip to Miss America.

The winner that nite was Sha Sha La Reese from Florida. First Runner Up was Pennsylvania's own Victoria Michaels. You give great gown girl. Starr Powers, Tina Valentin Powers, Michelle Leah Sterling, Jessica Douglas From D.C. along with myself were all there to cheer the contestants on and maybe get a few pointers. Did you ladies learn anything? I did. I learned don't leave the house in drag until you can look that good so I'm still in hiding! Just kidding!

We then jet off to the newest drag bar out of the stars---o.k. to me anyway---it was the Miss Vault pageant.

I won, I won, I won, (only because I was the only contestant, only judge, and yes the only one in the bar.) Michelle Leah Sterling was second runner up (naturally).

Let's jump over to B-TLS for a Glenda and Friends production of "Bring on the Freaks." The cast of Thousands included Poison, Jacki Sowers (she was feeling pretty), Cee Cee Alexander, Rosie Powers a.k.a. Sky Scraper, and Chris Furlong (Boy Drag). Miss Pat from the duo "Pat & Penny" with her version of lesbo-a-go-go. myself and, of course, the co-hosts Glenda & Michelle. The ladies at B-TLS loved us. Thank you ladies for having us back.

Our next stop on the Drag Train was off to the Allegro in Baltimore where before our arrival we we're billed as the "Brix from the Stix."

Girls you showed Baltimore just what brix are made of! Glenda did her opening Mega Mix of Miss Ross and friends which, of course, had about six costume changes. Miss Leaha showed Baltimore

just what a dominatrix really looks like and of course I gave them a little "Sweet Pussy Pauline" We also gave the Stagecoach a quick look at glamour and trash. I, naturally, was the trash.

We dashed over for a cool refreshing beverage (me and my Cuervo). Yes it's true we're dating again and Jose Cuervo asked my for my shot glass in marriage! What do you think? Yes or No?

Just a few more things!

I want to thank Keith Rasnake for all his help in the purchase of the new Biscuit Mobile and all the people at Faulkner Honda for putting up with a crazy queen waiting for her credit check! Thanks boys.

And now it's time for Beauty Tip #2: Kids if you booked yourself for a double engagement with a little time in between and want to catch a nap, but are afraid to because of your makeup, well here's the solution. A former title holder here in the 'Burg told me that she wraps her entire face with paper towels and nap's away. This keeps the makeup off your pillowcase and on your face.

It's that time my dear sweet fans and worshippers for mama to get back out on the streets (No, not State St.) to look, listen and write. So if you see me, tell me your gossip and yes my little Ju Ju Bees, it could be seen and read right here on the pages of Biting the Biscuit.

Until next time, Kiss Kiss, but don't smudge your lip stick.

XXXXOO

Ms. Biscuit



Miss Stallions 1996

John cont. from page 37

I don't fear God. I love God. If you have to fear your God, what kind of God is that? That is not a God of love, but one of fear and hate. I feel God always has the right answers; whether it's an actual answer or one in the form of a question.

L.J. and I had different up-brings as far as church-going went, but the family aspect was similar. With L.J. and I being together now, he suggested we attend this MCC church. We decided to attend together. At first I was shocked at the building it was in---Friends Meeting House. The feeling of welcome we received, however, was overwhelming and dissolved any apprehensions I had about the building. They freely offered their hand or a hug. There was always a feeling of closeness and belonging every time you were there but only to the point of your involvement. Nothing was forced on anyone. You never felt "alone: when you were there. So L.J. and I became members of that family and they became a part of ours.

And we became involved. I am singing again at our church and sharing with God my feelings. At MCC you have an opportunity to look out towards the congregation and while you're singing you feel the words but you see the people and feel as though you are reaching right down and grabbing them and you can see they feel the words as well. I feel the people are listening to the lyrics. They care about what you are singing. I didn't feel that way in the past.

One of the hymns we sang, during our first service in the new building, was *We Shall Overcome*. I have never in my life felt such a rush as when we sang that song. Tears welled up in my eyes as we sang the verse that began "We are not afraid". I mean I wasn't afraid. We had a home. And this is where I realized this is what it meant. Where it is. Religion plays a major part in my life. L.J. and I have grown together spiritually. I am fulfilled when I raise my voice in song. It is not how God works, rather it's how God works and how God works through you and other people. When I look around the church and see all those people who are searching for the knowledge, that is the living body of Christ. X

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George Winston

Linus and Lucy:

The Music of Vince Guaraldi

1996 Dancing Cat/Windham Hill Records



Thousands of children have grown up enjoying the adventures and mishaps of The Peanuts. From Linus' vigil in the pumpkin patch on Halloween night to Charlie Brown's rescue of the most unwanted of Christmas trees to Snoopy's exploits against his nemesis The Red Baron, few could fail to delight in these characters, who have become such a cherished part of Americana.

The music which so beautifully enhanced the numerous Peanuts television specials is arguably as easily recognized as our own National Anthem, but few may actually know the name of its composer. He was jazz pianist Vince Guaraldi, and on **Linus and Lucy: The Music of Vince Guaraldi**, contemporary pianist George Winston pays tribute to one of his greatest influences.

The album opens with *Cast Your Fate To The Wind*, which had been a pop hit for Guaraldi in the mid 1960's. Other non-Peanuts compositions include *Treat Street*, *Monterey* and *Remembrance*, part of a jazz mass which Guaraldi composed in 1965. But the greater part of this collection features the music written for the Charlie Brown specials. Some tunes are more easily recognizable than others, especially the irrepresible *Linus and Lucy*. But they all invoke the spirit that made the Peanuts specials so memorable.

George Winston plays these songs lovingly, the great respect he harbored for Guaraldi plainly evident in his renditions. He completes his tribute with the final track, *Theme to Grace/Lament*. *Theme to Grace* is a section of Guaraldi's jazz mass, and "Lament" is a middle section which Winston composed and inserted as a tribute to Guaraldi.

The liner notes are superb, written by Winston and Jay Junker. They give a wonderfully meshed overview of the careers and influences of both Guaraldi and Winston, and also include a discography and a list of Peanuts specials scored by Guaraldi. Each individual track also boosts its own mini-history, enlightening the listener with story of how it came to be.

Guaraldi's career was cut short by his untimely death in 1976, but the legacy he left is bound to last far into the future. It is guaranteed to do so as long as gifted artists such as George Winston continue to give voice to Guaraldi's considerable talent. For it they did not, we would all be heaving a collective sigh of "Oh Good Grief!"

Clare Craig

Barbara Cook

The Broadway Years

Koch International, 1995



Barbara Cook was born in Atlanta in 1927. Devotees hang on every note she sings now, and rightly so. A recently released CD lets us hear where the voice's beginnings.

Not many of us have the original cast album of the 1951 Sammy Fain/Yip Harburg failure, *Flahooley*. There are perhaps two good reasons to have it: 1. to try to figure out the popularity of the star, Yma Sumac; 2. to hear Barbara Cook's Broadway debut.

▼ At The Speed of Sound ▼

Barbara Cook: The Broadway Years gives us the chance to hear Cook's two big numbers without pops, scratches or Yma, as well as *This Is All Very New To Me* from her first success, the Amish musical *Plain And Fancy*, to hear the promise that amazingly pure voice held.

The promise was fulfilled, of course, with **Glitter and be Gay** in the original 1956 production of *Candide* by Bernstein, et. al., which is rightly included in this well-produced and nicely remastered CD. (It's interesting to speculate just how much of "Glitter"'s lyrics came from Dorothy Parker. According to Cook, rehearsals were chaos. She concentrated on learning the day's changes; ' who wrote what was immaterial to her.)

Her other musicals are also represented, as are studio recordings of *The King and I* and *Showboat*. One is sometimes prone to dismiss Rodgers and Hammerstein as almost novelties now, but Cook's recording of *Hello, Young Lovers* serves as a reminder why they made such a mark on the musical theater.

She Loves Me was the last original stage production in which she appeared, but the three songs from that show on this CD (*Will He Like Me?*, *Dear Friend* and *Ice Cream*) pre-curse her future career as cabaret and concert singer. Especially *Will He Like Me?* As interesting as the rest of the CD is to that point, this song, along with a few memories associated with the song, (come, now, let's be honest) is the first true Cook "moment."

The final three selections are from her 1975 Carnegie Hall concert (recently rereleased on Sony), including the wonderful *Wait Till You See Him*. Her medley of the Rogers and Hart song *He Was Too Good To Me* and Jerry Herman's *Time Heals Everything* is beautiful, of course, but it's also interesting to compare that version to her combination of *He Was Too Good To Me* and Sondheim's *Am I Losing My Mind* on her London album about 20 years later.

The amount of older music reissued on CDs is a blessing for all of us with an interest in music and a curiosity to hear what people listened to before our own era. Some of those CDs are good to have around, especially to borrow from a friend or from the library.

Barbara Cook: The Broadway Years isn't just a history or a curiosity, nor is it only a documentary of the evolution of a great singer; it also contains some fine music that you will listen to again and again. While you might legitimately argue with what has been included and what hasn't, there is no argument that tracing Barbara Cook's first 25 years as a singer is a fascinating experience.

David Walker

Madonna

Evita: Motion Picture Soundtrack

Warner Brothers, 1996



Being the extreme "Evita" fan that I am, I sat with nail biting anticipation upon the release of this new motion picture soundtrack. Our publisher could be found among the lines at Media Play early in the day of its initial release. I am happy to report neither of us were disappointed in this endeavor.

You can feel the emotion throughout the album within all the principal vocals--inclusive of such talents of Antonio Banderas, Jonathan Price, Jimmy Nail, & of course Madonna. While Madonna was not as powerful as I had anticipated--this was completely my own fault. I had placed Madonna upon the

proverbial pedestal from the first time I heard her debut album as I entered the tenth grade. Realistically, I knew no one could upstage Julie Covington from the original opera. And while Madonna comes close on the soundtracks signature song, *Don't Cry For Me Argentina*, she truly shines solely upon the songs added to the original score, specifically designed for her musical ability.

Wisely making a conscious effort to remove my pre-disposition and Madonna out of the equation, I decided my initial judgements were not warranted and plugged the CD back in for another go-round. Upon my second listen, keeping in mind this is a movie soundtrack & a different medium than both the opera as well as a Broadway production, I found myself falling in love with the role, singing along and thoroughly enjoying myself, especially on *Hello and Goodbye* (just the bitchy part), *Don't Cry for Me Argentina* (not pretty, my range is equal to Joan Jett), *Rainbow High* (I LOVE this song!), and of course the additional song *You Must Love Me* (Mostly in part to the excessive radio play it has received since it's release. It's almost unconscious.)

I must confess, when I originally heard the initial release of *You Must Love Me* my brow raised with concern (what can I say; it's been a while since I had them waxed). How would this song incorporate into what I had thought to this point been a score which could not be improved upon? Oddly enough, perfectly. It does nothing but enhance *Your Little Body's Breaking Down*, the prior number. As I understood the significance of this song in relation to it's place within the context of the entire soundtrack, I was struck with emotion.

With the majority of today's musical talent revolving more upon looks and how good any said studio can make you sound,

I highly commend these artists for their apparent raw-gut emotion displayed through these compositions that it takes to produce such an eloquent album. Being a person who has, on occasion, dabbled in musicals I truly realize how emotionally taxing it can be.

They did wise by choosing Madonna in the title role and Antonio Banderas as Che. (God, I hope I'm giving you the correct character here!) After seeing Antonio in action flick after action flick, it was a pleasant surprise to listen to a surprising talented vocal range supported by this 'Hollywood Hunk'. While I feel the only comparable vocal talent for the role of Eva would have been the choice of Meryl Streep, a woman of extreme well-rounded talent, let's face it boys and girls--Madonna sells! The combination of Madonna and Antonio Banderas should bring many faces to the box-office and music departments nationwide within the "younger" community, a community which may not otherwise be overly interested in seeing this picture or picking up a movie soundtrack non-inclusive of some type of hip-hop, rap, or modern rock.

As for you, drop what you are doing and go to your nearest music retailer to buy this soundtrack. Go into this album without expectations and the fulfillment will be more than you could have ever anticipated.

And Madonna, it's time. I recommend changing your name at long last to Madonna Ciccone (my sincerest apologies if this has been spelled incorrectly). After all, this movie soundtrack should beyond a shadow of a doubt prove to your critics that - "Lady, you are ALL grown-up!"

Michele DeCampli

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AIDS SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS

AIDS Community Resource Program

P.O. Box 3116, 963 Biglerville Rd., Gettysburg 17325, 334.8344
Providing education/prevention, outreach, case management services and support groups for people living with AIDS, their family and friends.

Support Group: Every Thursday for People living with HIV/AIDS. Call for time.

AIDS Resource Alliance, Inc.

416 W. 4th St., Williamsport 17701, 322.8448

Living Room: A social gathering every Wednesday for people with HIV/AIDS, their family and friends. Call for time.

Support Group: Every Thurs. for persons with HIV/AIDS in recovery. Call for time.

Board Meeting: Every second Thurs. at 7:00 pm (Open)

AIDS Project of Centre County

301 S. Allen St., Suite 102, State College 16801, 1.800.233.AIDS
Support Group: Tuesdays for people with HIV. Call for time.

Berks AIDS Network

429 Walnut St., P.O. Box 8626, Reading 19603-8626, 610.375.6523

Comprehensive AIDS services and prevention/education.

Community AIDS Network

102 Hartine Science Center, Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg 17815-1301

Footprints in Time

P.O. Box 292, Reading 19603, 610.376.1510 and P.O. Box 1565, Allentown 18105, 1.800.889.6148

Housing, support groups and referral services available for HIV-infected individuals.

Franklin Area AIDS Network

P.O. Box 356, Chambersburg 17201, 261.1800

Support Group: Wednesdays at 7:30 pm for persons infected with and affected by HIV disease and AIDS.

Board Meeting: Every first Thursday (Open to public).

Classroom 1, Chambersburg Hospital, 112 N. Seventh Street, Chambersburg. Call for time.

Lancaster AIDS Project (LAP)

44 N. Queen St., Lancaster 17603
 394.3380 / Hotline: 394.9900

Positively HIV

P.O. Box 88, Lemoine 17043-0888

731.LIVE (5483) email: gmhite@hivnalive.org

World Wide Web: <http://www.hivnalive.org>

A support system of choice giving hiv-infected individuals the opportunity to live with HIV rather than die of AIDS.

Rainbow Home of Berks County

Building 27, Wernersville State Hospital, P.O. Box 300, Wernersville 19565-0300, 610.678.6172

SynergyWeb.Org

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Additional information at <http://www.hivnalive.org/synergy.htm>

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sponsored by Positively HIV, Inc.

email: synergy@hivnalive.org

Wellspring of Lebanon, Inc.

230 Chestnut Street, Lebanon 17042, 273.8826 FAX: 394.9915

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York Health Extended Social Services (YHESS!)

101 E. Market St., 2d Floor, York 17401, 846.6776

An AIDS social service organization providing case management services for infected individuals. Support groups, individual and couple counseling and educational outreach also provided.

CULTURAL ARTS

Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus

P.O. Box 60426, Harrisburg 17106

Harrisburg Men's Chorus

P.O. Box 3302, Harrisburg 17106, 236.SING (7464)

Rehearsals: Mon. at 7 pm at Second UCC, Green & Verbeke Sts.

Bingo: Fridays at 9:30 pm at Riverside Hall, Uptown Shopping Center

Lily White & Company

P.O. Box Harrisburg 17110-0703, 232.2918/731-5483

An entertainment troupe that produces drag shows, as well as mainstream gay plays, while raising money for HIV/AIDS service organizations and gay and lesbian groups.

Rehearsals: Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7 p.m. Call for location.

The Phoenix-Ravenwing Company

1130 Church Street, Lebanon 17046-4662, 273.3404

A theatre company presenting bold, provocative plays in full productions and as staged readings. Frequently presents work of interest to the gay/lesbian community.

Women's Theater Guild

P.O. Box 3042, Shiremanstown 17011
 737.7104

RELIGIOUS/SPIRITUAL AFFILIATIONS

Bretheran/Mennonite Council for Gay & Lesbian Concerns of Central PA

6214 Lemon Street, East Petersburg, PA 17520

Chalice Orchard Coven

Contact Phone: 854-8714

Wiccan/neo-Pagan religious group with a gender- and orientation-mixed membership which is LesbianGay supportive.

Dignity/Central PA

Box 297, Harrisburg 17110-0297

Gay and lesbian Catholics and friends

Worship Service: Sundays at 5 pm

Potluck Dinner: Sundays at 6 pm

Dignity/USA North Central PA - Lycoming County

94 Kinsey St., Montgomery 17752, 547.1329

A support, worship and social group for gay, nongay & bisexual people and friends. Also providing HIV support.

Worship Service: Sundays at 7 pm at the AIDS Resource Building, 507 W. Fourth Street, Williamsport.

Fellowship of Light (Jewish Synagogue)

1820 N. Third Street, Harrisburg 17102

Gay and Lesbian Spiritual Fellowship

Call Dennis at 814.949.5852 for information
 Conducted every third Friday at 7 pm, Altoona.

Lutherans Concerned of Central PA

c/o Messiah Lutheran Church

6th & Forster Streets, Harrisburg 17102, 232.4819

Second Sun.: Mtg. for gay / lesbian Lutherans and friends - 7 pm

Mahantongo Spirit Garden

R.D. 1, Box 149, Pitman 17964

The only gay cloister in the United States who, as post-Christian Harmonists, act as one in the Holy Spirit. Work retreats are offered and visits are welcome to the 63-acre cloister.

Metropolitan Community Church of the Spirit

2973 Jefferson Street, Harrisburg 17110, 236-7387

Worship Service: Sundays at 10:30 am & 7 pm services.

Christian Education Classes: Wednesdays at 7:30 pm

Every Second Thursday: Lesbighaytrans Parenting Group at 8:30 pm

Unitarian Church of Harrisburg,

Lesbian & Gay Concerns Committee

1280 Clover Lane, Harrisburg 17113, 564-4761

Worship Service: Sundays at 10:30 am

Unitarian Universalist Church of Lancaster

538 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster 17603

Unity Center for Spiritual Growth

Unity Church of Harrisburg

4696 Charles Rd., Mechanicsburg 17055, 737-8875

A church that honors the diversity of each individual and creates a space for exploring personal spirituality.

Worship Services: Sundays at 9 and 11 am

Visitation of Hope Metropolitan Church of the Spirit

130 E. Main St., Mountville 17554, 285-9070

Worship Services: Sundays at 10:30 am and 7 pm

Social and bookstore follow services.

SOCIAL GROUPS

Harrisburg Area Women's Night Out

Call Lavender Letter at 732-8010 for more information.

Lancaster Area Ladies Night Out

392-0441

Lancaster Men's Cover Dish

304 N. Hoover Ave., New Holland 17557

For information, send request with \$2 for postage and handling.

Pennsmen

P.O. Box 401, Harrisburg 17108

Susquehanna Club

P.O. Box 10122, Lancaster 17605-0122

Camping and hiking for gays & lesbians.

Susquehanna Valley Bears

P.O. Box 8523, Lancaster 17604

Volleyball

Salvation Army Gym, Penn & Cumberland Sts., Harrisburg 17102

Every Tuesday and Friday.

York Area Single Women's Potluck

R.D. 1, Box 13588, Zeigler's Church Rd.,

Spring Grove 17362, 225.6042

Call Thursday for reservations.

York Area Women's Potluck

825 S. Newberry St., York 17403, 848.9142

SWITCHBOARDS

Gay and Lesbian Switchboard of Harrisburg

P.O. Box 872, Harrisburg 17108, 234.0328, (M - F 6-10 pm)

Board Meeting: Every third Thursday at 7 p.m. at

1514 N. Second Street, Harrisburg.

Gay and Lesbian Switchboard of North Central PA

Box 2510, Williamsport 17703, 327.1411 (M - F 6-9 pm)

Meeting: Held every Wednesday at 6 pm for new and current volunteers. Call Rick at 322.1786 for information.

Gay and Lesbian Switchboard of State College

P.O. Box 805, State College 16801, 814.237.1950 (6-9 pm)

Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Helpline

c/o Family and Children Service, 2022 Broad Avenue,

Altoona 16601, 814.944.3583

Lancaster Gay & Lesbian Helpline

20 Toll Gate Station, Box 14, Lancaster 17601, 397.0691,

(Su, W, Th 6-10 pm)

YOUTH ORGANIZATIONS

Allies/Dickinson

Dickinson College, Carlisle 17013-2896

Allies/Millersville

P.O. Box 134, Millersville University, Millersville 17551

Allies/Franklin & Marshall

P.O. Box 3220, Lancaster 17604-6192

BLGLASS & SDAC

Box 58, Susquehanna University, Selingsgrove 17870, 372.4302

BI, Gay & Lesbian Youth Association of Harrisburg

(BI-GLYAH)

c/o GLSH, P.O. Box 872, Harrisburg 17108, 234.0328

For youth 14-25.

Meeting: Every first and third Friday at 1514 N. Second Street. (Use side entrance.)

Center for Counseling and Human Development

Ben Franklin Hall, Room 17, Bloomsburg Univ., Bloomsburg 17815,

389.4255

Free Spirit

Kerr Union, Box 113, Bloomsburg University, Bloomsburg 17815

Social group for lesbians, gays and bisexuals on and off campus.

Meeting: Every Tuesday at 7 pm at Alumni House

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

GALA

P.O. Box 3220, Lancaster 17604-3220, 399.6192

Gay & Lesbian Youth Group

Meeting: Every Other Wednesday at 7:30 pm at UU Church, 416 Franklin Avenue, Reading.

Gettysburg College Lambda Alliance

Gettysburg College, Gettysburg 17325, 372.4302

Kutztown Women's Center

Room 138, Old Main, Kutztown 19530

Kutztown University Lesbian, Gay, Bi Support Group

Call 610.683.4655

Lesbian/Gay/Bi Concerns Office

Bucknell University, Box A-252, Lewisburg 17837, 524.1609

LGBSL, Office of Human and Cultural Diversity

Box 213, Woolridge Hall, Lock Haven University, Lock Haven 17745, 893.2154

Matrix

Franklin & Marshall College, C-2373, Box 3003, Lancaster 17604-3220, 399.6192

MOIRA

Lesbian, gay, bi youth in York.

Meeting: Third Tuesday at Unitarian Society of York Call 852-8543, 684-6310, or 757-4270 for more information.

Office of the Chaplain

Bucknell University, Lewisburg 17837

Penn State Lesbian/Bisexual/Gay Student Alliance

310 Hetzel Union Bldg., University Park 16802, 814.865.3327

Meeting: Monday at 6 p.m. held in the Paul Robeson Cultural Center.

Pink Triangle of HACC

Student Activities Office, HACC, 1 HACC Drive, Harrisburg 17110, 238.5833

Meeting: Every Monday at 3:00 p.m. for HACC students and faculty only. Held at Whitaker Hall Room 107. Call 780.2526 for more information.

Shippensburg University Counseling Center

Wright Hall, Shippensburg University, Shippensburg 17257, 532.1481

SMYLE (Sexual Minority Youth of Lancaster and Environs)

656.4152

SUPPORT ORGANIZATIONS

Berks Gay & Lesbian Alliance

P.O. Box 417, Reading 19603, 610.775.0214

Business Association of Gays and Lesbians (BAGAL)

P.O. Box 135, Harrisburg 17108-0135

Dialogue

P.O. Box 297, Harrisburg 17108-0297, 561.8689

Discussion Group: For lesbians and gays held every first and third Monday at 7:30 pm at 1514 N. Second Street. (Enter through side door.)

Gay and Lesbian Community Awareness Council of Central PA

200 North St., Harrisburg 17101, 234.2250

Gay/Lesbian/Bi/Transgendered / Friends (AA State College)

Meeting: Sundays at Centre Region Senior Citizen Center, 120 S. Fraser Street, State College

Gay/Lesbian Organization Reading / Allentown (GLORA)

P.O. Box 1952, Allentown 18105

Interweave

c/o Unitarian Universalist Church, 538 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster 17603, 393.1733

Lambda AA / Harrisburg

c/o GLSH, P.O. Box 872, Harrisburg 17108, 234.0328

Meeting: Every Monday at 7:30 pm and Fridays at 8:30 pm at Friends Meeting House, Sixth & Herr Streets.

Lambda AA / Chambersburg

Meeting: Every Tuesday at 8 pm at 240 N. Seventh Street.

Lambda AA / Lancaster

Meeting: Every Tuesday at 8 pm at Friends Meeting House.

Lambda AA / York

Meeting: Every Thursday and Friday. Call 292.1665 for time and location.

Lambda Alive

Box 4313, Reading 19606

Lancaster Lambda

Box 8283, Lancaster 17604-8283

Lancaster Pink Triangle Coalition

Box 176, Lancaster 17608-0176, 393.2883 / 392.2729

Meeting: Every fourth Tuesday at 7 pm at Lancaster AIDS Project, 44 N. Queen Street.

Lavender Letter

Box 60184, Harrisburg 17106, 732.8010
A newsletter by and for women.

Lehigh Valley Homophile Organization

P.O. Box 1633, Allentown 18105

Live and Let Live Gays in AA

Meeting: Wednesdays at 8 pm at St. Mary's Episcopal Church, Front & Windsor Streets (Entrance rear of the church.), Reading.

Names Project AIDS Memorial Quilt

1906 North Second Street, Harrisburg 17102, 234.0629

Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays/
Central Susquehanna

Call Candy at 742.9530.

Meeting: Every fourth Monday at 7 pm at Faith Lutheran Church, Rte. 45 (near Brookpark Farm), Lewisburg.

Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays/Harrisburg

3641 Brookridge Terrace, Apt. 201, Harrisburg 17109, 657.1712
Meeting: Every third Monday at 7 pm at Tressler Lutheran Services, 960 Century Drive, Mechanicsburg.

Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays/Lancaster Red Rose

Unitarian Universalist Church, 538 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster, 393.1733

Meetings: Every fourth Sunday at 2:30 pm

Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays/York

Call 843.3793 or 846.3271 for more information.
1050 Penn Ave. (Lutheran Social Services).

Meeting: Every first Tuesday at 7:30 pm

PA Justice Campaign for Lesbian and Gay Rights

200 North St., Harrisburg 17101, 234.7273 / 234.2250

Pink Triangle Coalition

P.O. Box 176, Lancaster, PA 17608-0176

Pride Festival of Central PA

P.O. Box 5065, Harrisburg 17110, 221.1220

REACH (Recreationally & Educationally Active Community Heroes)

P.O. Box 184, Scranton 18501

A community of lesbians, gay men & friends sharing through social and recreational activities.

Renaissance Education Association/LSV

Box 2122, Harrisburg 17105-2122, 780.1LSV

A non-profit support organization for transvestites, homosexuals and others interested in transgender issues.

Meeting: Every first Saturday.

Susquehanna Lambda

P.O. Box 2510, Williamsport 17703, 327.1411

Meeting: Every second Sunday at 6 pm at the AIDS Resource Alliance Office, 507 W. Fourth Street.

York Area Lambda

P.O. Box 2425, York 17405-2425, 846.9636

December

1 AIDS Candlelight Memorial Service

St. James Episcopal Church, N Duke St & E. Orange St., Lancaster.

7 Natalie Darkes in Concert

Central Pennsylvania's own musical talent travels to Savory Cafe in Takoma Park, MD. 8 pm - 11 pm. **No Cover Charge.** Call for more information: 301.270.2233.

13 "Jingle Ball" at Sisters

Come out & rock around the Christmas tree with "The Damzels". Call 215.735.0735 for more information. 1320 Chancellor St., Philadelphia

14 Harrisburg Men's Chorus

Concert: Winter Cabaret with special guest stars *The Flirtations* and a cameo appearance by *J/s & a C.* Harrisburg Community theater, 6th & Hurlock Sts. 8:00 pm. Tickets \$20, \$18 & \$15. Call 717.236.7464 for more information.

24 MCC of the Spirit

Christmas Eve Service. 2973 Jefferson St., Harrisburg. Call 717.236.7387 for time.

28 COMMONBOND in Concert

Savory Cafe 7071 Carroll Ave. Takoma Park, MD. 8 pm - 11 pm. **No Cover Charge.** Call for more information: 301.270.2233.

31 New Years Eve Celebration

Sisters is where the women will be this holiday! Open bar, Buffet, Champagne toast, Balloon drop and more!!! Tickets available December 1. Call for more information: 215.735.0735.

January

4 Lisa Moscatello in Concert

Savory Cafe. 7071 Carroll Ave. Takoma Park, MD. 8 pm - 11 pm. **No Cover Charge.** Call for more information: 301.270.2233

17 Unitarian Church of Harrisburg

Film: *Ballot Measure 9* "...documents the controversy surrounding Ballot Measure 9 in Oregon which would prohibit & revoke laws which protect homosexuality from discrimination." 7:30 pm show-time. Free-will donation. 1280 Clover Lane, Harrisburg.

18 Inside Out in Concert

Savory Cafe. 7071 Carroll Ave. Takoma Park, MD. 8 pm - 11 pm. **No Cover Charge.** Call for more information: 301.270.2233

February

14 Romanovsky & Phillips in

Concert at the Valencia Ballroom. 142 N. George St., York, PA. 8:00 pm curtain. Sponsored by MCC of the Spirit. Special Guests *Dos Fallopi*. This will be an evening of music & comedy you won't want to miss!!! Call MCC for ticket information at 236.7387

21 Unitarian Church of Harrisburg

Film: *Victim* "A landmark film for its bold, complex, and sophisticated treatment of homosexuality." 7:30 pm showing. Free-will Donations. 1280 Clover Lane, Harrisburg.

21-23 The Pennsmen's 20th

Anniversary Club Run at the Radisson Penn Harris, Camp Hill. Reservations only, please.

22 The Mr. Harrisburg Pageant at the

Radisson Penn Harris, Camp Hill. Sponsored by The Pennsmen. Tickets available from club members and local merchants.

Send revisions and additions for Resources to

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▼ Resources ▼



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724 Franklin St. 610.375.7878

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Support Your Local Gay/Lesbian/Transgender Organization

Men and women in the area are giving their time and energies toward improving the quality of life. How about you? *crossroads* supports their work and asks that you get involved. Check out Resources and give them a call.



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