New Main Library to House First Permanent Gay and Lesbian Collection
by Joseph B. Schubert

"If I can provide an opportunity for just one more person to feel good about their sexuality, that would be enough."

— A donor to the San Francisco Library Gay and Lesbian Center

SAN FRANCISCO, June 1, 1994 - On Thursday, May 19, a tree was hoisted to mark the topping out of the new San Francisco Main Public Library which will contain a center unlike any public library in the world — a Gay and Lesbian Center. When it opens as part of the new Main Library in early 1996, the Center will showcase thousands of volumes and audio and visual media by and about gays and lesbians.

For the past 2½ years, I have been privileged to serve as a member of the Gay and Lesbian Committee of the San Francisco Library Foundation. Our goal has been to create a center that will preserve our culture for future generations in a fully accessible, permanently maintained public facility. What better place to do this than in the city that has become the world center of gay and lesbian politics and culture?

Housed in a beautiful circular room overlooking Civic Center Plaza, the Center will establish and preserve the world's largest collection of published and unpublished gay and lesbian fiction, non-fiction, films, photography, art work, videos, recordings and periodicals. A mural in the rotunda in the room is being painted by the renowned muralists Charles Brown and Mark Evans who have donated their time for this project. The theme of the mural is "From the Darkness into the Light" and will celebrate the flowering of gay and lesbian literature and media in the current age, out of the censorship and persecution of prior eras.

Gays and lesbians were prominent in the planning for a new library from the outset.

SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL HEROES!
by Joy Rubey, MCAP Executive Director

Hearty congratulations and countless expressions of gratitude are due to the editorial staff of The Paper! These heroic volunteers have done an incredible job in a very short time to organize a process and set guidelines for publication, to create a format and establish a base of support, and to deliver over 1,000 copies to the hot spots in our community. MCAP is pleased to have the opportunity to participate in this ground-breaking effort designed to give voice to the gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgendered/etc. individuals and organizations in and around Monterey County. It is our hope and belief that these initial efforts will become the foundation for an ongoing, high quality, community-based publication.

With the first issue, the hard-working men and women who volunteered their time and talents to publish The Paper have set the precedent. It's now up to us, The Paper's readers and advertisers, to support the cause and assist the editorial staff in continuing to make the Paper a reality.

Whether or not you've ever submitted anything for publication before, you've got the opportunity to do so now! If you have an opinion or a dream, let it be known! Write about your "coming out story" (a favorite topic of dyke conversation when meeting new friends... why not suitable for The Paper as well?), your most embarrassing date, or your favorite vacation spot for a "family" get-away. If you have a special drawing or poem -- for your pet or your partner -- share it! If you have personal questions that need answers, send them in; we're working on a regular advice column regarding sexual matters. If there has been someone in your life who's made a big impact on your life, honor them by writing a thank-you article. Movies, restaurants, current events, mythology, romance, mysticism are all fair game. The possibilities are endless!

So, support your local heroes -- the volunteers responsible for making The Paper possible -- by thanking them for their contributions, by reading and sharing The Paper with friends, and by contributing to the cause. Your voice is important in this community. Let it be heard!

Continued on page 13

San Francisco's 1994 Gay/Lesbian Parade
by Craig D. Wandke

San Francisco's 1994 Gay/Lesbian Parade and Celebration was, once again, a wild affirmation of the diversity and good that is in all of us. The parade began on Grove Street at 11:00am and moved down Market to the unrestrained cheers and applause of an estimated 100,000 to 250,000 bystanders. As usual, rainbow flags and pink triangles were everywhere, and, for three hours, life was sweet and fun and innocent.

This was my second parade, and I watched most of it through tear-filled eyes from my vantage point atop a small plastic foot stool which I brought with me and which enabled me to have a full view of the celebration over the sea of heads.

New Swedish Gay Marriage Law
by Craig Wanke

On June 6, 1994, Sweden passed a bill allowing for same-sex marriages. The Registered Partnership Law was passed by a 171 to 141 vote after a heated debate in parliament.

The vote exemplifies Scandinavia's leadership in spearheading the gay rights movement. In 1989, Denmark became the first country in the world to allow marriages between members of the same sex, while Norway adopted similar legislation in 1993. A representative of Sweden's Leftist Party indicated that the law "protects a personal relation; it is a small but important contribution to love."

Though the Swedish law does not allow for homosexual adoption of children, it does give gay and lesbian couples the same inheritance rights, tax and other benefits as married heterosexuals. Swedish psychologists, however, have indicated that it could be "problematic" for a child to be raised by parents of the same sex.

Though not allowing the right to church weddings, the law, which becomes effective in January of 1995, does allow for civil marriage ceremonies. Continued on page 13
Another June, another flurry of "Pride" celebrations, another march, and yet another opportunity for us to talk about how far we have come. From where? Where are going? How far is yet to go? Perhaps before we can honestly answer these questions, we need to find out who "We" are.

"We" are all people. We are from all walks of life. We are from every race, religion, country and ethnicity. So, what makes us "special"? In essence, what is our culture, our ethnicity, our differences that set us apart? Is it only our sexual practices? Or is it more deeply rooted than that?

History tells us in various ways that "WE" have existed for as long as there has been a record of humankind. We know that "We" existed in Greek and Roman times, in Shakespeare's time, and certainly in more recent times. Yet we are never taught about the good that "WE" have done. (History is always subjective.) I wonder how many of our gay or lesbian youth who try to commit suicide are told that someone just like them painted great works of art, or defended ancient civilizations, or set the tone for modern literature, poetry, or had vast accomplishments in science? How many of our detractors even know this?

What sets us apart, then, is that spark of individualism that allows us to follow our path even with the knowledge that we are different from others. What sets us apart is the knowledge that we can do it our way and survive in a society that is hostile to our differences. What sets us apart is that we do this without the knowledge that there are others like us now and have been before.

Our culture is a rich blend of all cultures and ethnic groups from all of our backgrounds. Our culture is one that we have adapted to express our views. From special words like bitch, dyke, faggot, and queen we have woven our language with its own special meanings and nuances. Leather, drag, and camp take on their own special meanings when we use them. We have the ability to cultivate slums into high rent districts, and turn words like "Act" into actions. We have responded to a world threatening pandemic when NO ONE ELSE WOULD. Our culture is a dichotomy of actions and closets, self-esteem and self despair, civil rights and our own brand of discrimination.

So have we come a long way? Ask a Lesbian or Gay man who lived during W.W.II. Find someone who grew up in a small town, or has been denied a job because of sexual preference. Only by looking at our history can we find out if we have made advances. I think we have. I also think that we have a long way to go.

With regard to the Pride celebration, we have a great deal to be proud of. We are survivors. Many people now use the Pink triangle as a common way to identify themselves as Gay and PROUD. How many know that it was once used to identify us for the holocaust? Hitler used it to identify those person how were gay or lesbian the same way he used the Star of David to identify the Jews. The difference was that when the camps were liberated, those wearing the triangle were considered "criminals" and sent to prisons to die. Now we wear that badge of shame as a badge of courage and pride. Never again will we allow anyone to destroy us because of who we are. We will not allow anyone to forget that the holocaust happened to us too.

We do have long way to go. We can not allow the policy of "Don't ask don't tell" to go unchallenged. We must raise our voices to challenge the Religious right and other bigots. We must challenge ourselves to accept our own diversity. We must challenge bullies and tyrants wherever they flourish, including in our own ranks.

In keeping with good conscience, and the spirit of both state and federal law, this paper does not discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation, gender, race, age, ethnic group, religious affiliation, or physical challenge.

Advertising and subscriber lists, if developed, will not be offered for sale or use beyond the delivery of this paper and it's associated procedures.

To send articles, reviews, letters to the editor, pictures, art, essays, etc. please include (if possible) a typewritten copy of your work and a self-addressed 3.5" high density IBM compatible disk (with work named and entered). All submissions should be addressed to The Paper, P.O. Box 2081, Monterey, CA 93942. Phone 424-5550 or Fax 899-3000. Please include a word count, return address, and your phone number with all submissions.
John Boswell, a Yale University biblical scholar, has recently uncovered evidence that different Christian cultures have sanctioned same-sex unions. In his current book, “Same Sex Unions in Pre-modern Europe,” Boswell writes of his discovery of more than sixty texts of Christian ceremonies, dating from the 8th to the 16th centuries where various ceremonies have been translated as “spiritual brotherhood,” or “adoptive brotherhood.” Boswell, however, prefers the more neutral “same-sex unions.”

Professor Boswell states boldly that for the last one thousand years, “the church sanctioned rituals for homosexual marriages.” He confirms this statement by referring to ceremonies consecrating a pairing of men, marked by similar prayers, the clasping of right hands, kisses, receiving holy communion, and a feast following the ceremony.

A Vatican manuscript dating from 1476, for example, refers to a prayer for “…Thy servants, whom Thou hast found worthy to be united not by nature but by faith and a holy spirit…” The prayer appears to be part of a ritual joining of two men in a type of solemn rite which Boswell claims functioned in the past as a “gay marriage ceremony.”

We may never know the true meaning and intent of these ceremonies. Perhaps these same-sex rituals were some kind of blood brotherhood rituals or spiritual bonding ceremonies. Boswell’s book, with text in Greek, Latin, Slavonic dialects, Hebrew, and Arabic, reflects the depth of his scholarly efforts and offers tantalizing insights into a complex issue which divides the church even today.

However, for a church that took until 1992 to pardon Galileo for his heretical claim in the 1600’s that the earth is not the center of the Universe, it is unlikely that Boswell’s findings will raise as much as a single Vatican eyebrow.

**Equal Protection of the Laws:**

How to Exercise Your Legal Rights

Michelle A. Welsh, Esq.

Part II

Introduction

Part I of this series dealt with power of attorney, which is effective only during your lifetime. This installment—Part II—discusses wills and living trusts, which are effective after you die, and are used to ensure that your property will be handled according to your wishes.

Wills

Your will is your statement of how your property should be distributed after you die. It names your executor, who is authorized to do whatever is necessary to carry out your wishes. It sets out what property should be given to people you name, or you can leave your entire estate to a person or in shares to a group of identified people. These are called your beneficiaries. Your will should also provide for alternate beneficiaries if those you name die before you do. (For example, “I leave my entire estate to my domestic partner if he/she is living, or if not, then to my brothers and sisters in equal shares.”) You can also leave mementos to your friends and family, or to your executor if you trust the executor to distribute items to the people he or she knows you want to have them. Your will can also name a custodian or guardian to manage property left to a child under 18. You may also state your burial instructions in your will, or designate who should decide.

If all beneficiaries sign a declaration, and the total value of all your property is less than $60,000, your executor can distribute it according to your will forty days after your death without filing a probate action with the court. Property held in joint tenancy with another person is not included in calculating the $60,000 total. So it is possible to own your house or to have money in a joint account in joint tenancy, and exclude that amount of value from the $60,000 “small estate” exemption limit to avoid court proceedings. If the total value of your property is over $60,000, your will must be submitted to the court for probate and a judge will oversee the payment of creditors and the distribution of your assets to your beneficiaries.

You may want to consider setting up a living trust if your estate is worth over $60,000 so that you avoid public court proceedings, and also avoid the fees and costs of probate.

Reversible Living Trusts

Reversible living trusts operate like a play in which you act out all of the roles. As a “trustor,” you set up the trust by signing a declaration of trust. Then you transfer your property into the trust by signing any deeds to real property, changing the titles to bank accounts, etc. In the declaration of trust you name yourself as “trustee,” and you also name one or two “successor trustees” to take over if you become incapacitated or die. Your trust declaration also provides that the trust will be administered for your benefit: you are the “beneficiary” of your trust during your lifetime. So unless you revoke or modify your trust, you continue during your lifetime to hold and manage your own property for your own benefit with no strings attached.

You can revoke or change the trust at any time, and you can sell or give away the trust assets. However, if you become incapacitated or die your trust immediately becomes fixed or “irrevocable,” and your successor trustee must take over and handle the trust property as you have specified. As long as you are living, the trustee must use the property for your benefit. When you die, the trustee must distribute the property as you have provided in your trust.

Your trust is not filed with the court, and the distribution of your property is not supervised by a judge. Usually, it is necessary to hire a lawyer to draft deeds or to advise your trustee about how to distribute your property. But the attorney’s fees and costs are calculated at an hourly rate and the total will usually be less than the fees payable to the executor and the attorney in a probate action on your will.

Together with your declaration of trust, it is advisable to execute a “pourover will.” This is a will you sign to leave to your trust (to “pour over” into it) any property still left outside of your trust when you die. For example, you may have bought a new car or opened an account in your own name after setting up your trust; a “pourover will” will operate to put these assets into your trust so that they can be distributed by your successor trustee along with the rest of your property. It is common—almost universal—to name the same person as executor of your pourover will that you have named as your successor trustee, to avoid conflicts or duplication of effort.

Setting up a reversible living trust can save probate costs, but won’t save estate taxes. If the value of your total estate is over $600,000, the amount over $600,000 will be taxed regardless of your beneficiary’s relationship to you (unless you and your beneficiary are legally married). But your beneficiary is not obligated to pay income tax on the amount received from your trust or your will.

Besides using a reversible living trust as an alternative to your will, a trust can also operate as an alternative to a durable power of attorney by giving authority to your designated successor trustee to handle your property for you if you become incapacitated. Of course, your successor trustee can only deal with trust property so it is important to make sure that all of your property has actually been transferred into the trust before you dispense with the general durable power of attorney. Bear in mind that the person named as you trustee cannot act as your agent for health-care decisions unless you have also executed a durable power of attorney for healthcare.

There is another advantage of a trust for gay and lesbian families with children. If the birth parent sets up a living trust naming the nonbirth partner as trustee and the child as a beneficiary, the nonbirth parent can maintain contact with the child as the trustee of the trust, even if the birth parent dies and custody of the child is granted to the other biological parent or to another relative.

A living trust is not for everyone, and sometimes seems unduly complicated if you do not own much property. But a living trust should be considered whenever you own significant property, or whenever family members are not cooperative. Since a trust does not require court supervision, it is also the best way to maintain your privacy.

Coming Next

Part II of this series will discuss co-habitation agreements and registering with a city as domestic partners.
Juchitán, the City of Women

by Craig Wandke

The German anthropologist Dr. Veronika Bennholdt-Thomsen, in her research essay *Juchitán, La Cuidad de las Mujeres* [Juchitán, The City of Women] writes of a matriarchal city in southern Mexico where gays (musbes in the Zapotec language) are accepted and revered. In a culture traditionally known for *machismo*, Juchitán stands out as a curious paradox.

In Juchitán, population 100,000, the Zapotec women form the foundation of the economy—raising flowers, making cheese, and embroidering blouses. A kind of barter system involving products and services has enabled Juchitán women to free themselves from the separate "homemaker" or "breadwinner" model that exists in much of the rest of the world. As carriers of culture, they often sing of a Zapotec goddess which will take them in her arms when they die, a concept unique in a Catholic country such as Mexico.

In a society where males do not dominate in the traditional sense and roles, gays have naturally come to be accepted for their talents in trades reserved specially for them—paper ornaments, wood carvings, and embroidery. Women are proud to have a mushe (gay) son in their family; bisexuality is also accepted. Young men often have their first sexual experience with a *mushe* (gay) son in their family; bisexuality is also accepted. Young men often have their first sexual experience with a *mushe* (gay) son in their family; bisexuality is also accepted. Young men often have their first sexual experience with a mushe (gay) son in their family; bisexuality is also accepted.

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Dr. Bennholdt-Thomsen reports that gender models, where people are judged in rigidly-defined terms, appear to be absent in Juchitán, and she attributes this unique perspective on human difference to the "central position of the mother in this society and the tolerance of natural differences in human beings."

Veronika Bennholdt-Thomsen, en su ensayo *Juchitán, La Ciudad de las Mujeres*, nos presenta una ciudad matriarcal donde se aceptan y se respetan a los hombres homosexuales (*mushes* en el idioma zapoteco). En una cultura tradicionalmente conocida por su *machismo*, Juchitán se destaca como una paradoja curiosa.

En Juchitán, con población de 100,000, las mujeres zapotecas forman la base de la economía—mediante el cultivo de flores, la elaboración de queso, y el bordado de blusas. Un sistema de intercambio de productos y servicios ha permitido que las mujeres juchitanenses se libren del modelo separado de "ama de casa" o "trabajadora" que existe en el resto del mundo. Como portadoras de la cultura, a menudo le cantan a la diosa zapoteca que las tomará en sus brazos al morir, un concepto único en un país católico como México.

En una sociedad donde no domina el hombre en el papel y sentido tradicional, los homosexuales se han aceptado por sus talentos, trabajando en la elaboración de oficios reservados a ellos: ornamentación artística de papel, tallado de madera y bordados. Las mujeres se enorgullecen de tener un hijo *mushe* en la familia y se acepta la bisexualidad. Los jóvenes suelen a menudo tener su primera experiencia sexual con un *mushe*, y no se consideran diferentes por haber tenido esta experiencia. En Juchitán los homosexuales tienen su propio mundo social y se consideran como el "tercer sexo."

La Dr. Veronika Bennholdt-Thomsen informa que los modelos fijos, donde se le juzga al individuo en términos rígidos, aparentemente están ausentes en Juchitán, y ella atribuye esto a la "posición central de la madre en esta sociedad y la tolerancia frente a la multiplicidad natural de los seres humanos."

Welcome to *The Paper*. I'd like to take this opportunity to give a big heart-felt thank you to everyone who made the first annual Mr. Monterey Bay Leather contest a reality. An invaluable gift of many new friends and supporters will always be highly regarded. In a year of change, growth and new directions within the gay community, my disappointment is that I stand alone, noticeably a weaker link without a Ms. Monterey Bay Leather with whom to reign in a most important first year.

When it's time to relinquish my title I'll want to know that I have accomplished three personally important objectives.

One: That being a Leather man/Leather woman will no longer be conceived as an unacceptable deviant or perverse lifestyle within our own gay community. That we will no longer have to be a sub-community within a sub-community within a community.

Two: That through continued exposure to the Leather Lifestyle, the gay community will better understand the correlation between Leather/Safer Sex. I personally can't think of another group of people who more strongly believe/practice/educate/support safer sex practices.

Three: That I leave a legacy of empowerment for those coming behind me. That Mr. and Ms. Monterey Bay Leather will continue to gain strength, support, and be known for their beliefs and commitments to the community they serve. That they also will be respected along with their many brothers and sisters as a valued resource.

Knowledge is power, fear is simply the beginning search for knowledge. Please make an effort to know me for who I am as a man and what I stand for, not as someone in leather that should be kept at a safe distance. All you ever need to do is say Hello!

Thank you,
Gregory LaRouxe
Mr. Monterey Bay Leather '94
P.O. Box 1762
Monterey, CA 93942-1762
Gay and Christian
by Craig Wandke

Dr. Mel White, Dean of the Cathedral of the Metropolitan Community Church in Dallas, Texas—the world's largest gay and lesbian church—recently spoke to an attentive audience at A Different Light bookstore in San Francisco. Mel, who grew up in Santa Cruz, spoke with great compassion to all of us who struggle to integrate our sexuality with our faith, and offered refreshing new insights into a conflict which has often been a source of pain and rejection for many of us.

With his lover by his side, Mel spoke about his appearance on television's 60 Minutes and Sonia Live earlier this year, where he confronted conservative Christians on current church/gay issues and defended our right to affirm our goodness, despite official church censure. His book, Stranger at the Gate, is a poignant chronicle of his long voyage from early denial of his sexuality, marriage and children, a successful career as a ghost writer and editor for prominent evangelical figures (Jerry Falwell, Billy Graham, Pat Robertson), his struggles to overcome dark thoughts of suicide, and his eventual coming out to realize that his true self lay in the reconciliation, integration, and acceptance of these two aspects of his personal life.

For all of us who wrestle with issues of faith and sexuality, Mel's caring and provocative reflections offer much-needed insights into two areas which have traditionally been at odds with each other.

THE PAPER WOULD LIKE TO COMMEND

...Some of the outstanding individuals, powerhouses and risk takers who've kept some of our successful businesses and organizations going, weathering uncounted storms. Accepting the challenges some might eschew, they continue to be anchors, mountains, or sails in our (un)common voyage: Al Syslo, Joy Rubey, Ernie Sanchez and Weldon Webb. Their vision, energy, perseverance and acumen have helped make us a community — from the best places we hold in our hearts, thanks.

...Such people as Flossie Stowell and John Costello, who have brought flexibility, balance, tenderness, practicality, good humor and fortitude to bear, often behind the scenes, in uncountable situations, parties, meetings and encounters. Thank you for your warmth, sincerity, cheeriness and grace.

...The good people of the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) who have hosted the Peninsula's version of Gay Pride in Pacific Grove for the last couple of years. Adding glory and song to self-acknowledgment, Pastor Jean Hart, Mary Davis, Annaka Walton and the whole MCC congregation have carried the torch without commentary, while celebrating our shared love, belonging and diversity. Thank you.

...A few more good people on a very long list, including Terry Hart, Phil Butler (and Barbara Baldock), Steve Rease, Carole Erickson, Jim Ritter, Kevin Philips, Don Hanson, Carrie Ford, Scott Brooks, and David Stupes for untold hours, constancy, entertainment and heroism.

...The local chapter of P-FLAG, the individuals, parents, friends and families of lesbians and gay men who bring the trials and errors of experience, the voice of the heart, fierceness, and loyalty to the tests of relationship. We are whole, joining either end of the generations, in great part to your good work, your higher instincts, and commitment. As you in us, we are honored in you.

...the entire cast of Last Summer at Bluefish Cove — really an excellent production! ...and El Andar for their rich and interesting edition. We hope someday to be so good!

Alcohol, Drugs and HIV
by "Biff"

I am one of the lucky ones. Not only have I been sober for almost 13 years, but I started my recovery in 1981, the year that Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome began making headlines, if under other names. The result is that I am still HIV-antibody negative, because admitting my powerlessness over alcohol gave me back the power of choice.

In February of 1981 I hit rock-bottom; nothing in my life was working. My drinking had alienated me from my family, my friends, and most importantly, my sense of self-worth. An alcoholism counselor, founder of a gay and lesbian out-patient chemical abuse clinic, has recommended that I attend meetings of Alcoholics Anonymous, a recommendation which I fought tooth and nail. After all, I wasn't an alcoholic; I just has a drinking problem. Eventually, I did go to several meetings, decided that my problem stemmed from living in California, and left the state to go home, supposedly to look for a job. The real reason for going was to drink, and drink I did, until I realized that alcoholism was part of who I am, and would follow me everywhere I went. The drinking ended April 13, 1981.

So what does all of that have to do with HIV? Just this: during a time when the virus was first making its appearance in California, during a time when so little was known about the virus, it ended up with names like "gay cancer" and GRID (Gay Related Immune Disorder), and

Continued on page 16
Twenty-eight years ago, the summer after my senior year in high school back in Queen's, New York, and before college, my best friend Ilene and I would cut typing school and head by subway into Manhattan to catch a flick. On the way home, we would sit in the back of the Q43 bus and sing songs by a young woman off her first album. Of course, Ilene could really sing. I could just sing. "Happy Days Are Here Again" would burst forth by Ilene and Jane to the great delight of the crowd.

We were young and wanting to be stars just like the woman with the "a" missing from her name. We wanted to be like Barbra. Ilene went on to a stage and television career (playing the wife in the now defunct television series "Mr. Belvedere") and I went on to another kind of stage, the courtroom. But somewhere deep inside both of us, we still believe we can be Barbra when we grow up. Twenty-eight years ago became last night as I watched my star Barbra in concert in San Jose.

It was a warm summer night and the arena was packed with every kind of person, from every background, lifestyle, and dress shop. The limos were there to carry the beautiful people and the non-limos were there to carry the gorgeous people. "Hello gorgeous." Remember how she used to say "Gorjus"? With Marvin Hamlisch's orchestra to guide her and magnificent lights and video tapes to enhance her, thousands of Barbra fans got their money's worth.

The young woman of twenty-one who took Broadway by storm in "Funny Girl" has given way to a mature, stunning, breathtaking woman in her therapy and television career (playing the wife in the now defunct television series "Mr. Belvedere") and I went on to another kind of stage, the courtroom. But somewhere deep inside both of us, we still believe we can be Barbra when we grow up. Twenty-eight years ago became last night as I watched my star Barbra in concert in San Jose.

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The show, which was about two hours long, was divided into two acts. Barbra wore black and opened with what has become her new theme song of late, Andrew Lloyd Webber's "As If We Never Said Good-bye." Then she moved on to such old favorites as "People" and "Don't Rain On My Parade." And it was--how do I say it--each song she sang brought up inside of me the history of my life, I mean, 30 years of music!

My friends complained that she was lacking emotion and just marching through the steps. I disagree. One could hear the bad throat at times (and one must remember that this woman has stage fright and in fact, is scared to death of live performances). My only criticism is that she was too afraid to be spontaneous and read her lines off TelePrompters. Barbra, you're funny! I wanted her to break away the fear and not be afraid to let us
Barbra, continued

have all of her. She needed to let the love in all the way.

Barbra wore white for her second half which included songs from her movies "Yentl" and "The Way We Were." She seemed more at ease the second half and it came across.

The show was enhanced by her political views, knocks of Dan Quayle, and film clips of Barbra as a child growing up in Flatbush, which I am sure never really believed she would be where she is today. I got the sense she still doesn’t believe it. She appeared to be somewhat in awe of who she has become. No one, in my view, can command such an audience and sustain it for over thirty years. Even Judy Garland, a legend in her own right, never had the vocal range, the depth of voice, and the kaleidoscope of talent of Barbra Streisand.

As a final note, watch for Barbra producing the story of Lt. Col. Margaret Cammermeyer for network television. As most of you know, Lt. Col. Cammermeyer was recently discharged from the Army for stating she was a lesbian. The good news is that she will be played by Glenn Close. The even better news is, since taking on this project, Lt. Col. Cammermeyer has been reinstated. But watch for Barbra producing this important story this fall.

Barbra is also bringing the film version of Larry Kramer’s play "The Normal Heart", one of the first plays which addressed AIDS, to the big screen.

Barbra Streisand has come a long way from Brooklyn. She is a major producer, director, and actress. We watch her every move. She has been the brunt of criticism from the press for over thirty years. But she is still here and forever will be the singer, as young and old continue to sing her songs as we did some twenty-eight years ago on the back of that bus in Queens.

Genet's novels are full of shifts in imagery and time, although plotless in the conventional sense. He will suddenly insert himself into the text as a character, just as suddenly address the reader as "you," the one who will undoubtedly look away from his world with revulsion.

His three full-length plays—The Balcony, The Blacks, and The Screens—likewise disdain standard staging and acting conventions. As with the novels, Genet's principle playwriting was crammed into a short, unbroken period of two years.

Genet abandoned writing regularly in the 1960s for an equally rich commitment to political activism. His sympathies were again with outsiders: the Black Panthers and the Palestinians. There were other changes too. The man who had found solace and desire in the all-male rituals of prison and the military, now sometimes felt cheated and embittered by his own homosexuality.

White's recreation of Genet's despairs, his friendships with sculptor Alberto Giacometti and philosopher Jean-Paul Sartre, and his love affairs with circus performers and society's marginal characters are always keen and vivid. For the reader who would understand more about Genet's writing, however, White offers uneven treatment. The plays are dealt with in much more concentrated detail than are the novels, which are the more unbridled vessels for his concerns and obsessions. But White has succeeded in portraying a man who deliberately recast and exaggerated himself, a man who once remarked that those we call compulsive liars are those who have simply failed to project their image with enough force.

For this reader, however, Genet has told no lies and has revealed several truths.
JOIN THE TASK FORCE

John E. Brennan
Member-Board of Directors

The Monterey County Lesbian/Gay/BiSexual Task Force is a diverse group of lesbian, gay, and BiSexual individuals working in Monterey County toward many goals. Our membership is dynamic, and we work together to increase visibility, provide education and promote safety in and about the lesbian, gay and BiSexual community. We feel we provide a much needed umbrella in the community. MCAP and PPN have specific duties and functions and MCLGBTF another. We are not specifically an AIDS organization, nor entirely social/professional. We are action-oriented related to Lesbian/Gay/BiSexual issues. We may offer money to an AIDS burial fund, or have social events, but our charge as an organization to promote social welfare and further the common good and general welfare of the community is our primary focus. This focus reflects the interests and goals of the active board members and the active membership at-large as they relate to Lesbian/Gay/BiSexual issues.

One of my personal goals on the Monterey County Lesbian/Gay/BiSexual Task Force is to open discussions about placing Lesbian/Gay/BiSexual magazines in each public and high school library in Monterey County. I'm told we have a lot of administrative and community work to do. Once we have secured permission from the proper authorities, my plan is to solicit members of the community to support one (or more) subscription in one (or more) library.

Continued on page 17

Take Five
by Dan Presser

“Last year I paid less to go to Europe. Can you match what I paid then?” As a professional travel agent I hear that a lot. And, yes, there is a way to purchase reduced air fare tickets on international flights.

Reduced fare airline tickets are often available from consolidators, companies that buy blocks of space and sell them through travel agents for prices lower than fares normally chunked out by airline computers.

As with all low-end merchandise, there’s a price to pay. For example, a passenger traveling on a consolidator ticket is at the bottom rung of the passenger hierarchy. Airlines have strict boarding guidelines, often based on those paying the most getting the best service. If the aircraft is overbooked you could find yourself waiting for the next place. Additionally, many airlines will not allow travelers with consolidator tickets to get advanced seating which could slam-dunk you between two screaming kids right next to the smoking section.

Other drawbacks could include no advance meal selection and no accumulation of airline miles. Another bummer about consolidator tickets is they go fast and once you own them, they’re yours. Changing a consolidator ticket is tricky and expensive.

The best way to purchase space on any airline is right out of your professional travel agent’s computer. Consolidator tickets tend to be the best buy during peak season travel periods. During the off-season consolidator fares are frequently higher than tickets generated by your travel agent’s computer.

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"THE PAPER COMES OF AGE"

Sunday June 6, 1994 will go down as one of the most unforgettable dates at the After Dark. That was the date *The Paper* had its coming-out party. Thanks to the efforts of *The Paper's* own fantastic party organizers, Sofia Ramos and Jennie Stephens, everyone who attended had a great time. Anyone who was able to catch the dating game brought to us by the Grand Cypress Empire, and the "commercials" for safer sex will be talking about it for some time. MCAP's own Joy Rubey gave what was by all accounts the most enlightened dam demonstration ever. Who knew she had a secret Vanna fantasy and the dress to go with it? Who would have thought that Coleen was such a good "straight man." Mr. Monterey Bay Leather showed some remarkable equipment and how to cover it. If you missed this I can only say that I was impressed!

Diana McQuire, Ms. Gay Monterey 1994, hosted a show that featured her counterpart Mr. Gay Monterey, Empress Anita, and the ever lovely ever so tall Kristina with a K. The show actually started as the guests arrived in the Back Lot. The garden atmosphere was transformed into a carnival with a confessional booth for devising personal ads, a kissing booth, and other activities. Guest were treated to an open mike and allowed to join in the fun. (A certain restaurant owner showed his appreciation for Patsy Cline). Diana kept the crowd going while handing out some of the many prizes donated by local merchants. The grand prize was a weekend get away at your choice of one of the Inns by the Sea Properties. This great prize had a value of over $400.00. The lucky winner got to pick which of the spectacular inns to relax in for a weekend with a guest, breakfast included.

Special thanks must go to all of those who helped make this event such a great success. Weldon Webb and Kevin Hartley of the After Dark were most accommodating and helpful for this event. Diana McQuire was instrumental in helping to promote and recruit for the show and the entire event. We could not have done it without his help. A VERY special thanks must go to Sofia and Jennie. Who very enthusiastically created the idea, the decorations, the music, and supplied the sound system. The Grand Cypress Empire was most gracious to step in and help stage the dating game. And to all those who attended and help to raise almost $400.00 to support the paper, we all say THANK YOU!! Watch for the next Paper Party, coming soon.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>AA Gay and Lesbian Step Study, Unitarian Church, 490 Aguajito Rd., Carmel 8:00pm</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Men's Night Out 903 Pacific Ave. Suite 207A, Santa Cruz</td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>Not Straight Talk for Teens, 903 Pacific Ave., Suite 207A, Santa Cruz 6:30-8:00pm</td>
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<td>P-FLAG; 4th Tuesday of each month, Unitarian Church, 490 Aguajito Rd., Carmel. Call</td>
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<td>655-FLAG for information. The August 23 meeting will include a local minister's</td>
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<td>presentation on religion and homosexuality.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>AA Gay and Lesbian Mtg. Little House in the Park, Cent. &amp; Forest, P.G. 8:00pm</td>
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<td>Last Thursday's Men's Group (Last Thursday of the month in changing locations. Call</td>
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<td>458-2882 or 459-5291 for information.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>AA Gay and Lesbian Mtg. Little House in the Park, Cent. &amp; Forest, P.G. 8:00pm</td>
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<td>Lesbian Night Every 2nd, 3rd, 4th Friday of the month.</td>
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<td>8:00pm at Franco's Norma Jean Club in Carmel. $4.00 cover.</td>
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<td>Friday</td>
<td>HARPC; 4th Tuesday of each month, Unitarian Church, 490 Aguajito Rd., Carmel. Call</td>
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<td>655-FLAG for information. The August 23 meeting will include a local minister's</td>
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<td>presentation on religion and homosexuality.</td>
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<td>Saturday</td>
<td>Project Inform Returns to Monterey</td>
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<td>Project Inform has agreed to return to Monterey to do another Town Hall meeting. The</td>
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<td>date in August has not been finalized as yet. Last time Rick Flyn, a volunteer from</td>
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<td>Project Inform, met with 35 people to discuss the newest treatment for HIV infection,</td>
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<td>and the latest results of clinical trials. Plans call for his return in late August to</td>
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<td>repeat that meeting and to set up another for those who have more in depth questions.</td>
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<td>The MCAP newsletter will announce the dates. For more information please call Wes at</td>
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<td>MCAP 424-5550.</td>
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If you would like your meeting or association listed in the Community Calendar section or Support Groups listing of The Paper; please send your request by July 29 to The Paper, P.O. Box 2081, Monterey, CA 93942. Include group name, time, place, address, and phone number. The next issue will be published September 1, 1994.

Help bring the Gay Men's Chorus to Monterey. Lesbian Gay Bisexual Task Force needs your help. If interested please call 645-2406

AIDS/HIV NIGHTLINE

Emotional support from 5:00 p.m. to 5:00 a.m. every night
1-800-273-AIDS in Northern California

Business Office: AIDS/HIV Nightline, P.O. Box 191350, San Francisco, CA 94119, (415) 984-1902
FATHER AL TAKES A SABBATICAL FROM JOHN XXIII

In order to further his education, Father Al Syslo is taking a sabbatical from John XXIII AIDS Ministry.

Scheduled to begin his temporary leave sometime in July, Father Al has applied to Rutgers to study for a Master's degree in social work (MSW) with a concentration in the areas of AIDS, housing, and drug/alcohol counseling. This is a 2-year MSW program (the length of his sabbatical).

He's not leaving us sheperdless, however — Father Tom Long, who Father Al describes as "A priest of my community who has worked with persons with HIV in Las Vegas," Mario Kujawski and Bobette Sanchez (as the new "Fund Development person") will be keeping the staff in his absence.

In an extract from a letter to his community of supporters Father Al says: "Father Tom not only worked with persons with HIV in Las Vegas, he also started a parish community, planned and built the building, fund raised, and administrated a staff. I think he brings administrative skills I do not have and will do a good job while I am away.

I feel very, very comfortable with the future. There is a sense of continuity, a planner for fund development, a good sense of direction, a good board and a bunch of other good happenings. I feel very excited about everything."

But Father Al also knows that there will be some feelings of loss or insecurity, and he exhorts the community to continue to do the work that makes John XXIII a viable and creative resource in meeting the needs of people with HIV. It is this kind of commitment that builds lives.

Father Al will continue to be in contact with John XXIII as the organization deals with grants, housing and other issues, and we trust he'll find a way to keep us informed of his experiences and opportunities in Oz.

In honor of Father Al's good nature, hard work (and imminent departure!) a Benefit Farewell Dinner will be held Sunday, July 10, 7pm – 10pm at the Monterey Beach Hotel Grand Ballroom. Tickets are $25 per person, reservations – and payment – in advance. For your convenience The Paper offers the form that follows ...

JOHN XXIII AIDS MINISTRY

Benefit Farewell Dinner - Honoring Father Al Syslo
Monterey Beach Hotel Grand Ballroom, Sunday, July 10, 1994, 7Pm - 10Pm

Tickets are $25.00 per Person - All Reservations paid in advance - Open Dinner Seating
7 Pm: 10p Host Cocktail Hour
8PM: Honors to Father Al Syslo, Dinner and Dessert

Check payable please to JOHN XXIII AIDS MINISTRY and mail in the envelope provided

___ Yes, I will be there - please reserve the following tickets:

___ tickets at $25.00 each

___ table(s) of Eight at $200.00 (reserved seating)

___ No, I am not able to attend, but please reserve the following tickets to enable anyone who wishes to attend:

___ gift tickets at $25.00 each

___ My (Our) dinner entree preference would be:

___ Chicken Picatta Entree(s)

___ Strl Din of Beef Bordelaise Entree(s)

Please Note ... Instead of sending you a ticket, we will add your name to our list of paid reservations at the door.

Your name ________________
Your phone __________________________

A Wonderful Evening is planned for Father Al - Thanks for Joining Us!
Inquiries to: Bobette Sanchez - (408) 655-1737 or Wayne Johnson - (408) 373-8055

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A UNIQUE SANCTUARY FOR BEAD LOVERS

The Paper Page 11
A NIGHT IN BLACK LEATHER

by BEAR

"Oh what a night...." is the start of a popular song from the 80's and could also be used to describe the event that took place at the After Dark on Sunday May 22, 1994. The first Mr. and Ms. Monterey Bay Leather Contest started off with purveyors of leather goods selling their wares. The doors opened at 6 pm with hamburgers being cooked for the gathering by MCAP volunteers. (The food sales, canned beer sales, and other activities helped to raise almost $300.00 for MCAP.) The crowd grew and soon the Back Lot began to look like the Eagle in San Francisco. The guests were from Santa Cruz, Monterey and surrounding areas. Several women were in attendance in leather although none entered the contest. At first some of the people that were not in leather were unsure of how to approach those who were. That changed as the barriers to acceptance were erased by conversation and camaraderie.

The event was sponsored by MCAP, The After Dark, Leather Crafters of Monterey, Designer at Heart Inc., Tuxedas of Santa Cruz, and Leather Masters of San Jose. David Stoops coordinated the show and lined up his co-emcee Jackie Jewels. The Judges were David Scribner Secretary/Treasurer of the National Leather Association, Lisa Hernandez Founder and President of Nevada AIDS Project, Kathleen Stubblefield, First Lady of the Satyricon Motorcycle Club of Las Vegas, and Wes Davis Director of Education of MCAP. Contestants were judged on a pre-contest interview, Leather Image, Physique, Fantasy, and Speech. The three contestants for Mr. Monterey Bay Leather were: Brad from Monterey, Randy from Felton, and Gregory from Monterey. All three showed great poise as they demonstrated their fantasy, and their idea of what a Leather Lifestyle is about. It is regrettable that no women entered. Next year’s contest must have women! The winner, Gregory from Monterey will represent this area in The Mr. Northern California Drummer Contest being held in San Jose in July. For more information about that contest please call Wes at MCAP 424-5550.

Integrity, Inc.

Integrity is an organization within the Episcopal Church that provides a ministry for gays and lesbians and their friends. It was founded in 1974 in a small town in Louisiana. Today the organization has over 2500 members and 60 local chapters scattered throughout the United States. Membership is open to all and is not limited to gays, lesbians, and Episcopalians.

The major thrust of the national organization is to open the Episcopal Church to a full inclusion of gays and lesbians providing them with equal rights, such as ordination, and other privileges enjoyed by heterosexual members of the church.

Local chapters vary in their agenda. Some place strong emphasis on spiritual activities. Others are more socially oriented, providing a place for gays, lesbians, and their friends to come together in a comfortable, free environment. The majority of local groups combine these two elements.

Integrity/El Camino Real, the local chapter, was organized in 1989. Recently the chapter divided itself into three area groups, one in the greater San Jose area; one in the Monterey-Salinas area; and a third in the San Luis Obispo area. Each of these groups meets once a month on a staggered schedule so that there is an Integrity meeting someplace in the Episcopal Diocese of El Camino Real every Sunday night. Integrity/El Camino Real’s principal interest is spiritual outreach to the gay community. It participates in events, such as the San Jose Gay Pride festivities, in dialogues with churches and organizations, and in diocesan events. It has held its meetings in churches throughout the diocese.

Integrity, Inc., is the only church-related organization for gays and lesbians that receives official recognition by the church with which it is involved.

For further information concerning Integrity or the local chapter, contact Loudene "Gil" Grady, 24285 Pheasant Court, Salinas, CA 93908. Phone: 408-484-2326.

Global Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Human Rights


The U.N. Postcard Campaign is petitioning the United Nations to demand equal rights for all lesbian, gay and bisexual people. Our goal is to deliver 1,000,000 postcards to the U.N. General Assembly at its opening session this fall. We need your help!

Whether you’re there for the March in New York or not—please show your support by signing and returning this card to us to deliver to the U.N.

Add your voice to the million others demanding our human rights.

Dear U.N. Secretary General Boutros-Ghali,

I urge the General Assembly to add ‘Sexual Orientation’ to Article II of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights. The time has come for the United Nations to support the rights of all the world’s people, including its gay, lesbian and bisexual citizens.

U.N. Secretary General Boutros Boutros-Ghali

c/o The U.N. Postcard Campaign

2/5 Eighth Avenue, Suite 217

New York, NY 10011

U.S.A.

For more information, call (212) 966-5876
As president of the Library Commission, Steve Coulter, a gay man and vice president of Pacific Bell, led the fight to place a $100 million bond issue on the ballot to replace the aging existing structure, badly damaged in the 1989 earthquake. San Franciscans overwhelmingly passed the bond issue, and from the outset we saw an opportunity to make the library a true reflection of our diverse community. We saw the tremendous potential of establishing a literary center containing our lesbian and gay heritage available to everyone — from the hesitant gay teenager seeking basic information to the researcher using the historic collection. There is still an opportunity to become part of this historic effort, but the campaign will be closing soon. All donors of $1,000 (or friends they wish to memorialize) will be honored in a permanent plaque to be placed in the Center itself. All donors will be listed in the library's central information bank, accessible from terminal throughout the library, and all donors to the Center will be listed in a separate file of donors accessible from the Center's own terminal.

If anyone is interested in making a donation to this effort, please contact Sheri Epstein at the San Francisco Library Foundation at 220 Montgomery Street, Suite 406, San Francisco, California 94104. Joe Schubert is a San Francisco attorney specializing in corporate finance. He and his lover, Markham Hirt, share their Noe Valley home with two dogs and assorted other wildlife.

Other key donations of national significance include the working research papers of Randy Shilts, recently deceased author of And the Band Played On and The Life and Times of Harvey Milk, and the extensive interviews and film archives of Peter Adair and Academy Award winner Rob Epstein (Word is Out). The new Main Library will have state-of-the-art electronic transmission and retrieval equipment, which will allow libraries from around the world to access the Gay and Lesbian Center collection. There is still an opportunity to become part of this historic effort, but the campaign will be closing soon. All donors of $1,000 (or friends they wish to memorialize) will be honored in a permanent plaque to be placed in the Center itself. All donors will be listed in the library's central information bank, accessible from terminal throughout the library, and all donors to the Center will be listed in a separate file of donors accessible from the Center's own terminal.

If anyone is interested in making a donation to this effort, please contact Sheri Thomas at the San Francisco Library Foundation (415)391-5582, or write the Foundation at 220 Montgomery Street, Suite 406, San Francisco, California 94104.

Joe Schubert is a San Francisco attorney specializing in corporate finance. He and his lover, Markham Hirt, share their Noe Valley home with two dogs and assorted other wildlife.

As Grand Marshall Armistead Maupin, author of Tales of the City, rode in an open convertible down Market, there was continuous loud cheering, colorful costumes, men with signs proclaiming "We Love Our Gay Sons," outrageous drag queens, children with plaques reading "Two Mommies Are Better Than One," the thunderous roar from the bikes of the Women's Motorcycle Contingent (formerly Dykes on Bikes), and dozens upon dozens of gay, lesbian, and gay-friendly groups, from educators to nurses to local businesses to attorneys to peace officers to returned Peace Corps volunteers to aspiring politicians to labor union locals to gay activists.

Also present were the many AIDS organizations, and I couldn't help but wonder about a future parade when it will no longer be necessary for them to be participants, a sweet day when a child might look up and ask a bystander with total innocence, "What was AIDS, anyway?"

At one point I jumped across the barrier with friends and joined the P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Gays and Lesbians) group from our area, and it was thrilling to walk along and feel the rolling wave of applause, cheers, and smiling faces that followed us on both sides of Market. Occasionally, rainbow-colored clusters of helium balloons would break loose and drift up the sides of skyscrapers and disappear into the brilliant blue sky high above us.

We turned right on Main Street, where the parade ended in a raucous cluster of food, craft, and political action booths. The food, as usual, tended towards the pricey and the greasy, but it didn't matter; I was rich for a day and my arteries were all twelve years old!

Most of us felt that the congestion of events on the narrow streets contrasted with last year's more open location at the Embarcadero itself. Late in the afternoon we took the Muni up to the Castro, where a quiet dinner at a Japanese restaurant was welcome relief for our tired bodies and over-stimulated nervous systems. As we headed back to Monterey later that evening, a near-full moon hung majestically in the dark sky, a silent witness to the day when we were all one big family... strong, loud, and proud.
FAMILY

Does your mother know? That's the name of a store in the Castro, as well as a rhetorical joke in the community. We may often joke about coming out to our parents and families, but, for most of us, coming out is an emotionally charged event—one that has ramifications long after the actual “declaration.” And if you think it’s difficult for you to come out to them (remember—you've had a lot more time to think about this than they have!), think about it from their perspectives.

P-FLAG—Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays—exists to help both you and your parents. Some gay men and women come to meetings to "practice" coming out—to talk with the parents about effective strategies and to rehearse what they'll say. Others come to support "new" parents—one who are still in shock or denial about their own children's homosexuality and who can benefit from getting to know gays and lesbians personally. And, of course, parents, spouses, children, siblings, and friends come to meetings to get (and give) support, to educate others, and, to participate in gay rights advocacy.

P-FLAG is a tax-exempt, non-profit organization of more than 200 chapters, which was founded in 1981 to help families and their lesbian and gay members learn to understand, accept, and love one another. Locally, a Monterey County chapter and a Santa Cruz County chapter have been meeting since the early 1990s.

P-FLAG works to end the alienation that often results when gay men and women come out to families and friends. By working with schools, community leaders and the general public, P-FLAG builds bridges of understanding between gay people and the heterosexual community. The Monterey County P-FLAG chapter alone distributes its newsletter to more than 50 social service organizations, school district offices, and churches in its outreach efforts.

P-FLAG also works through the national media and lobbies Congress in a continuing mission to eliminate hate crimes and end discrimination against gay men and lesbians. Although involved in many levels of AIDS and gay-related issues, P-FLAG's primary purpose is to promote greater understanding, while breaking down stereotypes and myths about gay and lesbian life. Locally, P-FLAG is establishing a speaker's bureau to visit schools and other community organizations, and its monthly newsletter includes news about political action and advocacy opportunities.

If you (or your family and friends) would like to become involved with P-FLAG, you can do so on several levels.

- Attend a support group meeting. The Monterey County P-FLAG meets on the fourth Tuesday of each month at the Unitarian/Universalist Church, 490 Aguajito Road, Carmel, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. Varied in format, these meetings always offer a chance to share feelings and experiences (in a confidential format), as well as an opportunity to learn, whether through a videotape or a speaker. For example, at the June meeting, for example, John Laird will be speaking on the history of the gay rights movement in honor of Gay Pride Month. Videotapes of talk shows, short films, and documentaries have also served as a springboard for exploring personal issues. In August, the group will host a local minister, who will speak about religion and homosexuality.

- Join the organization and encourage your family to do so, too. With membership, you’ll become a member of the national organization, as well as the local group, and will then receive a subscription to the quarterly national newspaper, the P-FLAGpole, the local monthly newsletter, P-FLAG Waves, and advance notice of special meetings and social events. You’ll also have access to inexpensive and helpful pamphlets and booklets to help you and your parents learn more about homosexuality and family relationships.

- Donate money, time, or talent to helping the local chapter expand its outreach. Since March, the group has gone from simply meeting once a month to publishing an official newsletter for 100 people and organizations, operating a hotline, renting a mailbox, printing stationery, brochures, and business cards. A lot of work and a lot of money. P-FLAG can use YOUR help.

- Buy a PROMOTE TOLERANCE pin to help the local chapter raise funds and increase its outreach program. (See the ad this page.)

For more information or to join the group, call 655-PFLAG or write P.O. Box 9052, Monterey, CA 93942.

STRANDS - by C.J.

Solitary rain-walking in this place I'll call our own...

A spider's lifeline dances across my face,

recalling our last embrace and the way your hair softly fell onto me, wrapping me in the scent of you.

Now, alone, I take up loose strands of your hair, as if I could weave you back into my arms from just the hints of you left behind on my brush, in my bed, and the sweet memories of you...

alive, inside of me.

THE POWER OF A PIN.

Show your support for five historic civil rights struggles—and Monterey County P-FLAG—ORDER a PROMOTE TOLERANCE PIN for yourself, your friends, and your family. P-FLAG (Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) is here to support you—as well as your family and friends—but we can’t do it without your help.

Send a check for $6.00 + 29 cents postage for each pin to: P-FLAG of Monterey County P. O. Box 9052 Monterey, CA 93942. Pins will be shipped in 2-4 weeks.
HISTORY OF THE GRANDE CYPRESS EMPIRE OF MONTEREY INC.

The Grande Cypress Empire of Monterey was founded in 1971 by Empress One, Peter Garcia. Peter lived in San Jose with his family and visited the Monterey area frequently. He would visit the Cage, The Second Story, The Bull's Eye, and the Righteous Ram. He became acquainted with a large number of our friends in this community. When he moved to Monterey, he and several others started meeting to organize what is now known as the Grande Cypress Empire of Monterey. Some of the early members were Bobbie Booth, Ed Sterberg, Danny Thomas, and Don Offendal. Peter had the contacts needed, and with lots of push and shove, the first Coronation took place in 1972. In 1974 Peter Garcia was murdered. The crime is still unsolved at this time. The Grande Cypress Empire will always remember our founding mother for the Empire she started.

The original court system was started by Empress One, Jose of San Francisco. He had the foresight to recognize the need in 1968 to organize the Gay and Lesbian community of San Francisco. He started the San Francisco court as means to unite the community. By so doing he was able to help support the community and show society the strength of the Gay and Lesbian community. After he organized his court, he encouraged friends out of town to start their own courts. Known as clubs, all courts raised funds which were donated directly to help members of the Gay and Lesbian community. Before AIDS, financial help was given to help those who lost their jobs, or had a tragedy in their lives, or just needed some financial assistance. In 1978 Empress One Jose made it mandatory that in order to belong to the Alliance of Courts, each court must become a non-profit charitable organization.

Fifteen years later, and with over 63 Courts within the United States and Canada, we are still pursuing the dream set forth by Empress One. Now the Court system is becoming international, while still raising much needed funds for local needs.

Last year the Grand Cypress Empire gave over $9000 to Monterey County AIDS Project, John XXIII AIDS Ministry, SCAP, Men's Network, and Catholic Charities. This year, by coronation, we hope to beat last year's record. We encourage any member of the community to join our group. Meetings are held the first Tuesday of the month. Board meetings are held the second Tuesday of the month. If you are interested or require more information please call 899-2048.

by Johnathan Martin
during a time when NO ONE knew how the virus was transmitted, I was having anonymous sex with wild abandon, and in many cases, not even remembering it because of 'alcoholic blackouts. And I'm here to tell you, whether it's two drinks or 20, alcohol impairs a person's ability to make healthy choices.

Now before people start calling me "Carrie Nation" or accusing me of being a prohibitionist, let me be very clear about something. If you choose to drink, and your drinking has no impact on me, I could care less if you drink or not. What terrifies me is that both men and women are making choices regarding their sexual behavior while under the influence of alcohol and mind-altering chemicals, and those choices are not necessarily healthy ones.

Now it's time for me to accept my nomination for sainthood...HA! Even in sobriety I have make poor choices regarding safer sexual behavior, and each time I have sweated out the antibody test just like everyone else. But those poor choices have become fewer and further between, and I recently made the discovery that NO ONE can force me to lower my own standards. I am the one who makes that choice, and alcohol and drugs no longer playa part in it, a situation which I believe explains my state of health today.

Of course, this column has been directed to those who are still HIV-negative. The effects of recreational chemicals on a compromised immune system is fodder for a future column.

So if you think you have a problem with alcohol or any other mind-altering chemical, you probably do. It's in your own best interests to seek help for that problem. But even if you DON'T have a chemical dependency, be aware that those chemicals ARE affecting your decision-making powers, and those impaired decisions could not only cost you your self-esteem, they could also cost you your life.

(Ed. note: "Biff" is a pseudonym for a Central Coast gay man in recovery. Our publication respects AA's tradition of personal anonymity at the public level.)

John XXIII AIDS Ministry urgently needs office volunteers. Please call Terry at 655-1737.

The Unclassifies


Prep School Alums. Seeking graduates of Robert Louis Stevenson, Santa Catalina, and York Schools to form an alternative alumni association for the purpose of networking, reunion, tolerance, outreach to youths experiencing discrimination, and eventual formation of a scholarship committee. Call Sofia at 372-7803.

The Paper needs staff photographers, illustrators, writers for interviews and the community calendar, freelancers, astrologer for a horoscope column, and production artists with computer, layout software and paste-up experience. To volunteer, contact Wes at Monterey County AIDS Project at 424-5550.

Community Health Outreach Workers (CHOWS) needed for front-line work in the fight against AIDS by providing HIV/AIDS education through community street outreach. Bilingual and familiarity with recovery and substance abuse issues helpful but not necessary. To volunteer, contact David at Monterey County AIDS Project at 424-5550.

The Woman-to-Woman Outreach program needs additional women volunteers. Woman-to-Woman volunteers share information about HIV transmission and prevention with diverse populations of women. Contact Deborah or Anita at Monterey County AIDS Project 394-4747.

Bilingual/Bicultural administrative assistant needed to assist Salinas client services coordinator in a variety of capacities. Duties include counseling, conducting client intake interviews, and data entry. Must be organized, flexible, and willing to donate 4-10 hours per week. Required Companion Advocate training provided by Monterey County AIDS Project at 394-4747.

1994 Walk for AIDS volunteers needed now. Need outgoing people to get out the word, speak to community groups, and recruit walkers in order to put together the biggest and best walk ever for October 8th, 1994. Contact Bill at Monterey County AIDS Project at 394-4747.

The MCAP Newsletter, a vital tool for educational outreach, provides service referrals, informative articles, and insight into the lives of people living with HIV disease. We need editorial staff to interview people, write and edit articles, and a production artist with access to computer, desktop publishing software, and a laser printer. Contact Deborah at 394-4747.
Safer Sex

by Steve C. Ellison

Unlike people, HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus), the virus that causes AIDS, does NOT discriminate. It does not matter if you are gay, lesbian, straight, bisexual or even unsure, young or old, male or female. HIV, it's not who you are, but what you do that puts you at risk for contracting HIV. Many lesbians mistakenly believe they are not at risk for HIV. Lesbians can be infected with HIV by having unsafe sex (with men or women), donor insemination or sharing needles for drugs. Also, inter-racial women, donor insemination or sharing needles for drugs. Moreover, people who are already HIV+ can contract other strains of HIV. This could increase the amount of the virus in the body, possibly depleting their T-Cell count faster. It's vital for you to know, that you can not tell if your partner is HIV+ simply by appearances. The best thing to do is to practice Safer Sex each and every time. Safer Sex is for everyone.

People can have HIV for years without showing symptoms, in fact they may feel and look healthy. They may not even know they are HIV+. HIV can hide in a person's body for 10 years or more before symptoms appear. Nonetheless they can still pass the virus on to their sex partners. It is safer to assume your partner is HIV+, and then ask yourself "What can I do if my partner is infected? What are my limits? What are my options?"

HIV is found in the blood, semen, pre-cum, vaginal fluids, menstrual blood and breast milk of someone infected with the virus. Anyone who has sex with someone infected with HIV is at risk of contracting the virus. HIV is transmitted when bodily fluids (blood, semen, pre-cum, vaginal fluids, menstrual blood or breast milk) from an HIV infected person enters your blood stream. Whether a sexual behavior is risky or not depends on the possibility of your partner's bodily fluids coming in contact with your blood. Sores or cuts in your mouth, gums, penis, vagina or anus increase the risk of transmission. Remember, it is not who you are, but what you do that can increase your risk of acquiring HIV. Only you can protect yourself from infection of HIV, or lower your chances of contracting the virus. There are certain activities that are definitely high risk for the transmission of HIV. Unprotected sex (sex without a latex dental dam or latex condom and water based lubricant), either anal, oral or vaginal is risky for both partners, top and bottom. Sharing needles (for drugs, piercing or tattoos) or unclean sex toys is also risky.

There are a number of ways to prevent the transmission of HIV. The best way to do this is to not have sex. Only having sex with a lifetime partner who is not infected is also safe. If you do choose to have sex with someone, it is your responsibility to practice Safer Sex each and every time. Safer Sex practices include:

• Kissing, Licking, Massage and Hugging
  Transmission of HIV has not been shown to occur from saliva, so even French kissing is considered low risk. In addition, touching, massage and hugging are safe and erotic.

• Masturbation and Frotage
  You can masturbate yourself or your partner, as long as no bodily fluids come in contact with your blood. Frotage can be very exciting, especially when a water based lubricant is used. If you do have cuts or sores on your hands, use a latex glove. To be extra safe, use a condom.

• Talking, Fantasies and Sex Toys
  Sharing a fantasy can be an erotic way to talk about Safer Sex. It can be a way to suggest activities that you or your partner find exciting, keep it hot but not technical. You can dress up, or down. You can use dildos or other sex toys. Remember though, do not share sex toys without washing them first with hot soapy water and using a condom on them.

• Dental Dams and Gloves
  For oral sex on women, or rimming (oral sex on a man's or woman's anus) use a new latex barrier. Use a dental dam, or if you do not have one, you can cut a condom lengthwise and lay it out flat. If you have sores or cuts on your hands, use latex gloves when inserting your fingers into your partners vagina or anus.

• Condoms and Lubricant
  For oral sex on a man always use a new latex condom. Use a new latex condom every time you have anal or vaginal sex. In addition, you should also use a water based lubricant. Some lubricants contain the spermacide Nonoxynol-9. If you are allergic to it, or other ingredients in the lubricant do not use it. You can test yourself by placing a small amount on your wrist, if the area becomes red, try a different brand of water based lubricant.

• Do Not Use Needles
  If you do inject drugs, never share needles. If you do share, clean the needles with bleach and water at least twice before each use. Do not share needles for piercing or tattooing either.

Some persons find it difficult to practice Safer Sex each and every time. Some common situations that lead to unsafe sex include:

• "There weren't any condoms around." You should always maintain a supply of condoms or dental dams and water based lubricant near your bed. In addition, you carry a condom or dental dam with you, either in your wallet or car. Remember though, that the latex in a condom will break down when exposed to heat, such as your body heat when in a wallet or pocket, or the heat in the car. A condom with a hole in it is just as good as no condom. To prevent the possibility of a faulty condom or dental dam always take a fresh one with you when you leave the house. There are also "survival kits" and key chains that can hold a condom.

• "I'm already HIV+, so what's the point?" Perhaps your partner is not HIV+. However, even if your partner is HIV+, it is still important to protect yourself from re-infection of different strains of HIV. Additional exposure to HIV can increase the amount of the virus in your body, further weaken your immune system, and lower your T-Cell count. Moreover there is the possibility of contracting other STD's (Sexually Transmitted Diseases) and various opportunistic infections.

• "Having sex with condoms will spoil the mood." or "It doesn't feel good." or "Just this once." There are many other reasons to this kind of statement from your partner, such as "We can always go to the movies." or "AIDS feels worse." or "It only takes once." If you are the one saying this, remember, it's your life, and you are responsible for it.

• "When I'm drunk or stone, I forget about safer sex." Getting drunk or high before having sex increases the chances that you will do something risky. You can protect yourself by staying in control of your choices. If you think that you might have a problem with drugs or alcohol, help is available. You can call Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) in Monterey at 373-3713, or in Salinas at 424-9874. For both Monterey and Salinas, you can reach Cocaine Anonymous (CA) at 372-4190, and Narcotics Anonymous (NA) at 624-2055.

In addition to the simple reason of AIDS prevention using a latex condom or latex dental dam is also important to help prevent the spread of other STD's such as Syphilis, Gonorrhea and Herpes.

To help all of us to practice Safer Sex each and every time, talk to your friends about Safer Sex, both the hot times and when it's been a problem. By sharing these experiences with your friends, you will find you are not alone in your concerns and that it will be easier to keep your personal commitment to practice Safer Sex each and every time.


John's Juice
by Matthew Friday

He's going into that high end of swings when treetops, birds even pull you up towards themselves pick you out of the sky: flight –

When time snaps forward and reverberates, backing off of walls pressing the future, everything (in) –

the work is pure human concentrate now.

Task Force continued

I personally would like to sponsor a subscription to The Advocate in Pacific Grove High School Library, my alma mater. I am willing to do the work necessary to have a Lesbian/Gay/BiSexual publication at P.G. High, or try until I hit a brick wall. If the time is right, I will have an easy time. Part of my interest is the community education and discussion generated by this proposal. Do you have a library you would like to work with?

Consider this article an invitation to attend a meeting and become involved with a group committed to education and action. We would like to have people of all persuasions contribute to increased awareness of Lesbian/Gay/BiSexual issues in Monterey County. Bring an interest in improvement and a willingness to participate.

We meet on the third Thursday of each month at 7 pm. We have settled once again at the Unitarian Universalist Church on Aguajito. Call 645-2406 to find out about the next meeting, to get on our mailing list or to take advantage of the Task Force's resources. Tell us who you are and where you are so we can mail you information. Be as out as you dare.

The Paper Page 17
PERSONALS
To place a FREE personal ad please check the appropriate box at the top of the form and then fill out the spaces! Your ad may run up to TEN lines long, including a headline. Please limit a headline to the first line only. FREE ads may be renewed on a month-to-month basis, for a maximum of three months. Additional months may be purchased at $2 per line per month. All responses to ads will be received by mail. There is no charge to receive a response.

CATEGORIES:
Woman to Woman
*Man to Man
Transgender

GUIDELINES:
Include any information about yourself that you would like to share, but please note that The Paper reserves the right to edit for graphic language or reject any advertisement deemed offensive or negative. The Paper will only consider ads submitted by persons 18 years of age and older. Furthermore, no ads will be published seeking persons under age 18.

DISCLAIMER:
The Paper holds or assumes no responsibility for the content of personal advertisements, nor to any reply received by the advertiser. The advertiser assumes full and total liability for the content of the advertisement and all replies received. The advertiser agrees that The Paper and its employees are to be indemnified of any liabilities, damages resulting from the publication, or any costs or expenses (including attorney’s fees).

RESPONSE:
In order to respond to any personal advertisement, write a letter, seal it in an envelope and mark it with the designated box number. Enclose the letter with proper postage affixed and $5.00 for each letter to be forwarded (check/money order only), in another envelope and mail it to The Personals, c/o The Paper, PO Box 2081, Monterey, CA 93942. Double your chances for the right connection by placing ads as well as responding!

SAFETY BLURB:
To make your personal connection safe and fun, The Paper advises that you trust your instincts above and beyond your hormones. Be smart! Meet in a public place, i.e., coffeehouses, restaurants, movies, etc. or with a friend along. First impressions about a situation are often accurate.

We can’t put a periscope under your sheets to check up on you, so please make safer sex part of the fun!!
PERSONALS

When placing, or answering an ad please remember that it is important to play safely regardless of your HIV status. MCAP CAN ANSWER YOUR QUESTIONS ABOUT SAFER SEX. Remember to wrap that rascal, dam that opening, and use water based lube!

**Woman to Woman**

San Jose Out Dyke, Political Activist, cute, 23 years old. Happy with life, Looking for friends, especially Dykes. Gay boys are fun too SJSU Student, Enjoy organizing, HIV Education. Looking for people with high self-esteem and positive attitudes. Reply to Box 140

The ugliest woman in the world is looking for a woman who likes the most terrible poetry, the saddest music and wants to see the sunset. Reply to Box 147.

33-year-old Black dominant woman, loving-enjoys SM play that is safe, sane, and consensual, desires amazing submissive bottom between legal age and 39 years, who also enjoys camping and motorcycle rides. No drugs or alcohol. Reply to Box 145.

GF, creative, intelligent, musical, honest, gentle, seeks same. Enjoy the outdoors, movies, theater, travel, listening to music, concerts and dancing. Do you have a good sense of humor? Are you ready for real originality? If you are, write and tell me a little bit about yourself. you won’t regret it!!! Reply to Box 143.

**Man to Man**

Pacific Bear wants mate. GWM looking for same about 40-45. Heart more important than looks. I am mature and stable and expect the same. Enjoy travel, cooking and hibernating with the right bear. No Smoke, No drugs. Reply to Box 141.

WM 40-years-old leather man, lean, mean and sexy. Looking to train a novice bottom in the leather lifestyle. No drugs. Light drinker okay. Reply to Box 142.

Cute, athletic college grad, GAM, 24 years old, 5'7", 145#. I like rollerblading, volleyball, working out. Also cuddling and horseback rides on the beach. Seeking fun, outgoing, active friends in the south bay and mid peninsula. 21-29 years old. Reply to Box 144.

Easygoing, fun, intelligent 25-year-old man, looking to meet a man of passion who believes in fairy tale romance. I like bowling, bike riding, movies, and romantic dinners. N/D N/S Reply to Box 146.

25 year old HIV+ guy looking to meet other Gay and/or HIV+ men, 18 - 25 to pal around with. Brown hair/eyes, 140lbs. If you are bored like me but have a great sense of humor drop me a line. Looks/race not important. You just need to enjoy walks on the rec. trail, movies, bowling or other fun stuff. No drugs please. Reply to Box 149.

Mission Statement

To inform and give voice to the concerns of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and trans-gender groups and individuals of Monterey County in order to contribute to the growth, stability, and cohesiveness of that community to the benefit of all its members.

Support Groups

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (P-FLAG) meets every fourth Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm at the Unitarian Church, 490 Aguajito Road, Carmel. For further information, write to P-FLAG, P.O. Box 9052, Monterey, CA 93942 or phone 655-FLAG.

HIV-Positive Men and Women of the Peninsula Support Group meets 7:00pm every Tuesday at the Monterey County AIDS Project, 780 Hamilton in Seaside. For information call Carie at 394-4747.

Saturday Night Alive Meeting of Alcoholics Anonymous for HIV-infected and affected individuals. John XXIII Ministry, 340 Lighthouse Ave., Monterey. 8:00pm. Box 1931, Monterey, CA 93942. 655-1737.

HIV-Positive Men and Women of Salinas. 4:00pm every first and third Wednesday of the month at Monterey County AIDS Project, 10 Sherwood Dr., Suite 5, in Salinas. For information, contact Carie at 394-4747.

HIV-Positive Men and Women IVDU's of the Peninsula Support Group meets second and fourth Thursday of the month at the Monterey County AIDS Project, 780 Hamilton in Seaside. For information contact Carie at 394-4747.

Family, Friends, and Partners of the Peninsula Support Group meets the first and third Wednesdays of the month at the Monterey County AIDS Project, 780 Hamilton in Seaside. For information contact Carie at 394-4747.

Family, Friends, and Partners of Salinas AIDS Project, 10 Sherwood Dr., Suite 5, in Salinas. For information, contact Carie at 394-4747.

Family, Friends, and Partners of Salinas (Spanish) AIDS Project, 10 Sherwood Dr., Suite 5, in Salinas. For information, contact Carie at 394-4747.


Youth Group for Gay Teens at MCAP Next meeting dates June 24, July 8, July 22 6pm @ MCAP, 780 Hamilton Seaside. For more information call Deborah Bronstein @ 626-4620 or Wes @ 424-5550.

Family Members and Friends of People with HIV/AIDS Support Group. Meets at Santa Cruz AIDS Project (SCAP), 911 Center St., Santa Cruz. For information call 427-3900.

Women with HIV/AIDS Support Group. Meets at Santa Cruz AIDS Project (SCAP), 911 Center St., Santa Cruz. For information call 427-3900.

If you would like your group or association listed in the Supports Group section of The Paper, please include the meeting time, place, and phone number. Send the information by July 29 to The Paper, P.O. 2081, Monterey, CA. 93942. The next issue will be published September 1, 1994.
How to Reach Our Leaders:

President Bill Clinton, or The White House Comments Desk 202 456-1111 or 202 456-1414
The Hon. Henry J. Mello 916 445-5843
The Hon. Bruce McPherson 916 445-8496 or 408 646-1980
The Hon. Rusty Areias 916 445-7380 or 408 422-4344
Senator Dianne Feinstein 202 224-3841
Senator Barbara Boxer 202 224-3553
The Hon. Sam Farr 202 225-2861 or 408 649-3555
The Hon. Pete Wilson 916 445-0658
The Congressional Operator 202 224-3121

U.S. Senators
Senator Dianne Feinstein 331 Hart Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510
Senator Barbara Boxer 112 Hart Office Building Washington, D.C. 20510

U.S. Representatives
The Hon. Sam Farr, 17th Congressional District, 1216 Longworth B Build. Washington, D.C. 20515 or 380 Alvarado St., Monterey, CA 93940

Phone Numbers and Addresses

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<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
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<tr>
<td>AA - Central Office</td>
<td>[info about gay and lesbian meetings]</td>
<td>373-3713, 424-9874</td>
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<tr>
<td>ACLU, Monterey County</td>
<td>P.O. Box 1112, P.G., 93950</td>
<td>373-4491, 373-0823</td>
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<td>After Dark</td>
<td>214 Lighthouse, Monterey, 93940</td>
<td>373-7828</td>
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<td>Bay Area Walk for AIDS</td>
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<td>800-414-AIDS</td>
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<td>BAYMEC</td>
<td>(Monterey Area Contacts)</td>
<td>899-2263, 655-1794</td>
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<td>Franco's Norma Jean Café</td>
<td>10639 Merrit St., Castroville, 95012</td>
<td>633-2090</td>
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<td>Gay Men's Health Coalition</td>
<td>P.O. Box 2215, Carmel</td>
<td>649-2555</td>
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<td>GLIB [Temple Beth EL]</td>
<td>Porter Gulch</td>
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<td>Grande Cypress Empire of Mty, Inc.</td>
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<td>John XXIII AIDS Ministry</td>
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<td>Lesbian Alliance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wicam Faeries [Ch. of the Goddess]</td>
<td>P.O. Box 583, Capitola 95010</td>
<td>427-4556</td>
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<tr>
<td>Women's Bisexual Network</td>
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