

## Man's best friend saves dying woman's life by dialing 911

NASHUA, N.H. (AP) — A dog named Lyric remembered her training Tuesday, using a pre-programmed telephone to call for help after her owner's oxygen mask came loose.

Judi Bayly, who sleeps with an oxygen mask on because of a breathing disorder, said she could have died if her Irish setter had not been there to help.

"I feel like if my husband's away I've got some kind of guardian angel sleeping on my bed with me even if it's red with a fur coat," she said.

When Bayly's oxygen alarm sounded early Tuesday, Lyric first tried to rouse her owner.

Failing that, she knocked the receiver off a telephone, and bumped a speed-dial button on the phone three times to dial

## STRANGER

THAN FICTION

911. Several buttons on the phone are programmed for the same number, so she doesn't have to be able to choose one.

"It's amazing," said Charlene Hall, a dispatcher at Nashua Fire Rescue. "The dog is trained to go over and hit that phone three times to get 911 and she barks into the receiver."

The town's 911 system automatically gives dispatchers a caller's address.

Bayly said 8-year-old Lyric, trained for her by an agency that trained seeing-eye and hearing-ear dogs, also summoned help a month or two ago when she stopped breathing.

"Animals, they really are your best friends," she said.

## Parents suing over daughter's lesbian teacher coming out

BOSTON (AP) — When a high school teacher told her social studies class she was a lesbian, one student was so upset she was forced to transfer to a private school, the teen-ager's parents claim.

Jeannine and Thomas Jenei are seeking \$359,571 from the town of Brookline — including \$300,000 for emotional distress — saying their daughter Johanna was denied her right to a public education.

"Johanna is a young woman who believes in God and believes in Jesus Christ as her savior," said the Jeneis' lawyer, Randal Fritz. "She was just completely overwhelmed by people bringing their sexual ... and political agendas into the school."

Town officials say there is no

merit to the family's claim for damages, made in a so-called demand letter that often is a preliminary to a lawsuit.

Fritz said teacher Polly Atwood announced her sexual orientation at Brookline High three years ago after being interviewed on television about a state bill to protect the rights of gay students.

Johanna, a 14-year-old freshman at the time, is now enrolled at Lexington Christian Academy. Her parents are both public school teachers in Cambridge.

The Jeneis claim school officials refused their request to set up an independent study course for their daughter with another teacher and threatened to withhold credit if Johanna did not remain in Atwood's class.

"The school should do what's its own policy books say it should — respect students' differences, including differences of faith," Fritz said.

Schools Superintendent James Walsh said the school offered a number of alternatives, including another teacher or another social studies course.

Atwood could not immediately be reached for comment Tuesday; she was in class.

Mary Bonauto, an attorney with Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, said parents cannot expect all public school teachers to mirror their values.

"We're going to have Democratic parents suing because a teacher is Republican; we're going to have Jewish parents suing because they find out their child's teacher is a Muslim," she said.

Fritz was among several lawyers representing parents in Chelmsford who sued over an AIDS education program.

A federal judge dismissed that suit.

## New TeleFile reduces tax paper work

■ **IRS:** Electronic system allows most students to file their taxes by phone

By Regina Brown  
Higher Education Reporter

The Internal Revenue Service has a new system that will allow most students to file their taxes by phone, while cutting back on paper work and improving accuracy.

Anyone who uses the 1040 EZ filing form — that is any one who is single, who has no dependents, who is younger than 65 and who earned less than \$400 in interest last year — can use the new electronic filing system, said Glenn Watts, a public relations representative for the IRS.

Fourteen to 15 million college students are eligible to use the new system, Watts said. Everyone who used the 1040 EZ form last year received a personal TeleFile identification number along with a TeleFile booklet through the mail this year. Only people with personal identification numbers can use the new system, he said.

Students using TeleFile enter the information from their W-2 forms into the touch-tone system, which adds the figures together, Watts said. TeleFile can be used seven days a week, 24 hours a day, and the process takes less than 10 minutes.

Students getting a refund should receive it within three weeks, while those using the regular file-by-mail process will have to wait eight to 10 weeks, Watts said.

The new system is part of President Bill Clinton's Reinventing Government campaign, which finds new ways to reduce the size of government. Because TeleFile is electronic, it will reduce the number of people needed for data entry and will cut down on paper work, Watts said. In addition, accountants will spend less time fixing mistakes people make when filing their taxes.

# FUTON

## SOFA BY DAY BED BY NIGHT



**VENTURA**  
Full Size Frame and Futon  
REG. \$346 **Sale 10% off**



**STUDIO**  
Twin Size Frame & Futon  
REG. \$139 **NOW \$109**

- Handmade
- Futons
- Covers
- Pillows
- Tables
- Lamps
- Delivery Available



**CALGARY**  
Full Size Frame and Futon  
REG. \$259 **NOW \$229**

## ROCK SOFT FUTON



Also in Portland  
3200 SE Hawthorne  
236-0921

MON-FRI 11-6 SAT 10-5 SUN 12-4

# 1231 ALDER • 686-5069

**WRITE**  
for the ODE.  
Call the freelance  
editor at 346-5511  
for information