

Steppin' Out

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Linda Lopes, Bike For Life record-setter, flanked by Erik Ettlin (L), CAP fundraiser and Wayne Boulette of Vista Travel Service. (See Just News).

photo by Jay Brown

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Deadline for submissions is the 15th of each month.

Out About Town is a courtesy to our readers. Performers, clubs, individuals, or groups wanting to list events in the calendar should mail notices to Just Out by the 15th of the month preceding publication. Listings will not be taken by telephone.

Display advertising will be accepted up to the 20th of each month.

Classified ads must be received at the office of Just Out by the 20th of each month, along with payment. Ads will not be taken over the telephone.

Editorial policies allow the rejection or the editing of an article or advertisement that is offensive, demeaning or may result in legal action. Just Out consults the Associated Press Stylebook and Libel Manual on editorial decisions.

Views expressed in letters to the editor, columns, and features may not be those of the editorial staff of Just Out.

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Thurmond flaunts ignorance at Rehnquist hearing

The following is a transcript of a July 31 exchange between Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Strom Thurmond (R-SC) and National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Executive Director Jeffrey Levi following Levi's testimony against the nomination of William Rehnquist as Chief Justice of the United States.

Thurmond: Mr. Levi, are you an officer in the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force?

Levi: That is correct. I am Executive Director.

Thurmond: Executive Director?

Levi: That is correct.

Thurmond: And how many members do you say you have?

Levi: We have about 10,000 members, and we also represent various organizations around the country.

Thurmond: Ten thousand members?

Levi: Right.

Thurmond: I was interested in one statistic you gave, that one-tenth of the population are gay or lesbian. I am shocked to hear if that is true. Are you sure that figure is correct?

Levi: Well, those are not my figures. Those are figures that have been around for some 20 to 30 years. The Kinsey Institute first put forward that 10 percent of American adults are predominantly homosexual in their behavior. A much larger figure would fall into

the category of bisexual and those with relatively smaller numbers of homosexual experiences.

Thurmond: Does your organization advocate any kind of treatment for gays and lesbians to see if they can change them and make them normal like other people?

Levi: Well, Senator, we consider ourselves to be quite normal, thank you. We just happen to be different from other people. And the beauty of the American society is that ultimately we do accept all differences of behavior and viewpoint. To answer the question more seriously, the predominant scientific viewpoint is that homosexuality is probably innate; if not innate, then formed very early in life. The responsible medical community no longer considers homosexuality to be an illness but

rather something that is just a variation of standard behavior.

Thurmond: You do not think gays and lesbians are subject to change? You do not think they could change?

Levi: No more so, Senator, than heterosexuals.

Thurmond: You do not think they could be converted to be like other people in some way.

Levi: Well, we think we are like other people with one small exception. And, unfortunately, it is the rest of society that makes a big deal out of that exception.

Thurmond: A small exception? That is a pretty big exception.

Levi: Unfortunately, society makes it a big exception. We wish it would not, and that is why our organization exists.

CATHARTIC COMICS

Featuring
THE BROWN BOMBER & DIVA TOUCHE FLAMBE

IT WAS QUITE THE DATE...WE MET AT A BUS STOP, WENT AND HAD AN EARLY DINNER AT THE DOWNTOWN FIVE AND DIME LUNCH COUNTER... I HAD THE BLUE PLATE SPECIAL; HE HAD A PATTY MELT...



THEN WE WENT TO THE BUS STATION AND WATCHED A MADE-FOR-TELEVISION MOVIE ON ONE OF THOSE 25¢ AN HOUR SETS, BOLTED TO THE ARM OF A CHAIR... AS I SAT IN HIS LAP! SIGH!



MAIN STREAM AMERICA IS CERTAINLY BECOMING MORE IMAGINATIVE!



WELL... ACTUALLY THE TACKY PART WAS WHEN HE RAN OUT OF QUARTERS FOR THE TV...

