

national briefs

CALIFORNIA: Domestic partners of city employees are now eligible for all benefits available to spouses of heterosexual employees. Said Mayor Agnos, "I hope that what we have done will be a model for others."

One thousand heterosexuals, 1000 homosexuals and 1350 children are expected to be added to the city's insurance plan. Eight hundred of the children live in lesbian and gay families. Other cities that extend health benefits to gay families include Seattle, Washington; Berkeley, Laguna Beach, Santa Cruz and West Hollywood, all in California; and North Toronto, Ontario, Canada.

This year West Hollywood's Fabulous Gay and Lesbian Pride Parade, the nation's largest, will be telecast live across the country, via satellite. The broadcast is being offered absolutely free of charge to cable outlets in all areas. "Together in Pride" is on Sunday, June 23. Call your local cable station to request they run it.

IDAHO: Under a newly-passed regulation, Idaho emergency medical technicians now can ask for the HIV status of accident victims. For the most part, HIV testing is *not* confidential in Idaho. The Idaho Department of Health and Welfare keeps a list of all people who test positive for communicable diseases such as AIDS.

Dell Richards

ILLINOIS: The gay and lesbian market-research firm Overlooked Opinions has found that 51 percent of gays and lesbians are honoring the boycott of Miller beer, called in protest of parent corporation Philip Morris sizeable donations to anti-gay U.S. Sen. Jesse Helms.

Overlooked Opinions says that works out to 5,479,254 gay and lesbian beer drinkers nationwide.

In addition, 18 percent of those surveyed are still boycotting Coors beer, which discriminated against gays in previous decades but now funds community events.

MAINE: Monfort, Inc., which operates a pork-processing plant has agreed to pay \$3,700 each to 27 people who were denied jobs after testing positive for HIV antibodies. The firm will also cease HIV testing and hire the 27 plaintiffs for the next 27 openings at the plant. State officials argued that pre-employment physical exams violate the state Human Rights Act. Monfort disagreed, but settled anyway.

MINNESOTA: Gay Minneapolis City Council Vice President Brian Coyle told reporters in April that he has known he is HIV-positive since 1985. Coyle acknowledged acquiring the virus via sexual activity, probably in 1981. He said he went public "to show...people with the virus that it is possible to be HIV positive and remain productive." He plans to run for re-election in 1993.

NEW YORK: SAGE (Senior Action in a Gay Environment) and GLAAD/NY (Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/New York) have won their first battle in the long war against the invisibility of senior lesbians and gay men. *Modern Maturity* has confirmed that the June and July issue will include 1) a short editorial "explanation" on the past printing of virulently homophobic letters; 2) an article by Raymond Berger, author of *Gay and Gray*, on trusts and survivorship for lesbian and gay couples, and 3) an article on new disability "critical case" procedures which are relevant to seniors fighting critical illness, including people with AIDS. A meeting has been set up between SAGE and *Modern Maturity's* executive editor to discuss ongoing coverage of lesbian and gay seniors.

NORTH CAROLINA: A Duke University administrator, Larry D. Nelson, has been disciplined for violating the school's non-discrimination policy when he referred to a job applicant as homosexual after observing his mannerisms during the application process. Nelson was suspended for four weeks without pay. He was ordered to attend a course designed to heighten his sensitivity toward gender issues and perform community service work in order to be reinstated.

Paul Varnell

TEXAS: An estimated 300 parents and children are expected at the twelfth annual conference of The Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International in Houston, Texas June 14, 15 and 16, 1991. The tri-level conference will offer varied agendas for the parents, youth and children. For information call (202) 583-8029 in Washington, D.C.

WASHINGTON, D.C.: The Third National March on Washington for Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights has been scheduled for April 1993.

More than 650,000 people attended the second march in 1987. The first march was in 1979.

The next planning meeting for the '93 march will be in Chicago, August 3. A steering committee and working groups will be established at that time.

People interested in attending the meeting should phone the March on Washington Interim Planning Committee at (800) 832-2889. Fax: (202) 332-0207.

Former North Carolina Democratic Senate nominee Harvey Gantt, who came within five points of defeating anti-gay Sen. Jesse Helms in last year's election, extended his thanks to the lesbian and gay community at the annual Leadership Conference of the Human Rights Campaign Fund held in Arlington, VA in early May. Gantt told the Campaign Fund that his campaign came close to victory "because constituencies like yours went to work and mobilized your members."

The Bush administration has unobtrusively included in next year's National Institute of Health budget a \$3 million request to begin work on a survey of American sexual behavior. The survey proposal was criticized by some gay activists and sex researchers as likely to encounter high rates of non-compliance and denial, producing underestimates of homosexuality and other sexual activities. Consistently low response rates on those items in a recent pilot program led to the cancellation of plans for a nationwide HIV seroprevalence survey.

Paul Varnell

In a formal reply to Congressman Gerry Studds, the Pentagon today defended its policy of excluding gays from military service as reflecting "societal attitudes" about homosexuality.

"There is a fundamental difference between this policy and the racial segregation that existed in the military before 1948. Racial discrimination is unlawful because it judges people based upon the color of their skin. Societal attitudes about homosexuals, however, derive from conduct that defines the class, not from a neutral characteristic such as skin color."

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force has called for the firing of Los Angeles Police Chief Daryl Gates in the wake of the widely publicized video-taped beating of a black motorist. Citing 24 incidents of alleged police violence against Los Angeles homosexuals last year, NGLTF said, "The problem is systemic and requires a systemic response."

Herbal Education

Sat. June 15, 10am-1pm Take an herb walk in Forest Park. Identify medicinal and edible plants. A great experience for people both beginning and continuing their herbal education. **Cost \$15.**

Sun. June 16 and 23, 11am-2pm: Two day workshop to focus on **STRUCTURAL CONNECTIVE TISSUE**, and one plant that can heal it. The first session will cover how to get the medicine out of the plant and into/onto the body. We carpool to harvest *Hypericum perforatum* in the second class. **Cost \$35-65 sliding scale.**

Sun. June 30, 11am to 1pm: Take an urban herb walk in Northeast Portland. Bring a small notebook and a pen. **Cost \$5.**

Sat. June 29, 10am to 1:30pm Your animal's health and well-being is the topic of this lecture. We will cover the whole picture of animal health using nutrition, herbal remedies and communication. **Cost \$20-\$40**

Sat. July 6: The most asked for class! **Communicating with Animals.** What are our animal friends talking about? How can we learn to understand them? Come hear answers to these and many more questions. **Cost \$15.**

**Ariel Waterwoman, LMT
Clinical Herbalist**

For info and to pre-register
call 249-0564

Fees waived for women of color.



54 SW 2nd • 228-1693 • Mon. - Fri. 10-7 • Sat. /Sun. 10-6

CIRCLE HEALTHCARE CLINIC

ACUPUNCTURE • CHIROPRACTIC • MASSAGE
COUNSELING • NATUROPATHIC MEDICINE

JAN CORWIN, D.C.
CHIROPRACTIC PHYSICIAN

KIP M. HARD, D.C.
CHIROPRACTIC PHYSICIAN

SUZANNE SCOPES, N.D.
NATUROPATHIC PHYSICIAN

BROOKE WINTER, L.Ac.
ACUPUNCTURIST

VALERIE M. LYON, M.S., L.M.T.
MASSAGE & BODY CENTERED THERAPY

ELIZABETH CARLSON D.C., L.M.T.
CHIROPRACTIC PHYSICIAN

316 N.E. 28TH ST., PORTLAND, OR 97232
(503) 230-0812

IS YOUR PET PART OF THE FAMILY?

Tender, loving care for the furry and
feathered members of your family!

Complete

Diagnosis and Treatment • Medical/Surgical Facilities
Compassionate, Trusting Care

**BIRDS, CATS
DOGS and other small pets**

Dr. Patricia E. Huff, D.V.M.
Dr. Deborah Sheaffer, D.V.M.
2519 E. BURNSIDE, PORTLAND

CALL 233-5001