

national briefs

CALIFORNIA

The first issue of *CTN Magazine*, a new quarterly magazine for deaf, hard-of-hearing, and hearing-signing lesbians, gay men and bisexuals, will go to press in late January 1995.

Published by an all-volunteer staff, *CTN Magazine* is the first to target the deaf and hard-of-hearing lesbian and gay community.

The magazine is available by subscription. Write: Dragonsani Renteria, editor, *CTN Magazine*, PO Box 14431, San Francisco, CA 94114.



The Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (formerly the American Association of Physicians for Human Rights) has announced a major project directed at medical societies in Canada and the United States. The aim of the project is to persuade authorities to combat anti-sexual-minority discrimination in health care. The project follows a survey conducted earlier this year among GLMA members, in which 91 percent of respondents knew of homophobic bias that had been directed at patients and 59 percent reported they had experienced such discrimination professionally.

Two hundred medical and health organizations are being asked to adopt organizational nondiscrimination policies: to educate patients, physicians and other health care workers about lesbian and gay health needs and how to avoid bias; and to involve the managed health care systems in identifying knowledgeable providers and in reforming health legislation.



Bay Area Young Positives has kicked off a poster campaign announcing the agency's counseling services and social events for HIV-positive Bay Area youth. The billboards, posters and internal bus cards feature young HIV-positive women and men of all colors, in photos emblazoned with the words "friendship," "fear," "relief," and "hope." The posters also carry the BAY Positives phone number: (415) 487-1616.

BAY Positives began five years ago as a peer-support group and became a nonprofit agency dedicated to helping young people infected with HIV live longer, happier, and healthier lives just one year ago.

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

In a study published in the journal *Science*, researchers at Columbia University report that unique DNA fragments have been isolated from tissues of Kaposi's sarcoma lesions taken from people with AIDS. The study indicates that the gene material may be from a previously unknown human herpes virus, according to an Associated Press report.

This discovery raises the intriguing possibility that the virus is the cause, or at least a contributor, to the cancer, said Dr. Yuan Chang of the Columbia University College of Physicians and Surgeons. She emphasized this is only speculation.

If Kaposi's sarcoma were found to be linked to a virus, researchers are hopeful that diagnostic tests could be developed to find people who are susceptible to the disease, as well as drugs that would prevent the cancer by killing the virus.



When Republican National Committee Co-chair Jeanie Austin sent a letter to GOP members of the incoming 104th Congress urging them to welcome Richard Tafel, leader of Log Cabin Republicans, a gay and lesbian organization, she apparently caught other party leaders by surprise.

"I hope you and your staff will find time to meet with Rich, if you have not already done so, when he calls on you at the start of the next Congress," Austin wrote, according to an account in *The Washington Times*.

"This letter was drafted without the chairman's awareness or approval," said Charles Greener, a spokesman for the Republican National Committee, in an Associated Press report.

Greener said disavowal of the letter does not mean RNC Chairman Haley Barbour and other party officials will not listen to sexual minorities. "The chairman has listened to them, met with them and talked with them," Greener said.



ACT UP, the largest AIDS advocacy group in the nation, stated in a recent press release that it is up in arms against President Clinton's plan to eliminate 13 housing programs, including the Housing Opportunities for People with AIDS program.

The HOPWA program was created three years ago, under the Bush administration, to address the urgency of homelessness and HIV/AIDS—a situation in which people are highly vulnerable to tuberculosis and other diseases.



ACT UP's Washington, New York and Philadelphia chapters urge people to call the White House and demand that Clinton not cut HOPWA, and to fight for passage of the HUD budget. President Clinton's number is (202) 456-1414; fax him at (202) 456-2461.

GEORGIA

When 80 staffers at the Atlanta-based Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced the formation of a group called Gay, Lesbian or Bisexual Employees, the result was some hostile electronic mail. Although the group was approved by CDC directors, several of the hundred or so e-mail responses were hostile and included crude jokes, according to a Reuters report.

The agency's response was a memo issued the next day by CDC director Dr. David Satcher. The memo warned of possible disciplinary action and pointed out that "the use of e-mail to convey inappropriate comments is prohibited and will not be tolerated." The CDC has over 6,500 employees and contractors across the United States.

HAWAII

Governor-elect Ben Cayetano is the first Filipino American to hold statewide office in the country, according to the *Baltimore Gay Press*. His election is good news for gay men and lesbians, as Cayetano has been noted as saying that all couples—gay and straight—should have domestic partner contracts that would equate them with married couples for tax purposes and recognition in other states.

Compiled by Jann Gilbert

SERIOUS INJURY & DEATH CLAIMS resulting from:

- Auto accidents
- Medical Malpractice
- Unsafe Products

Free Consultation

No Attorney Fee Unless You Recover

295-1940

621 SW Morrison, #1218



Hala Gores
Attorney at Law

I AM COMMITTED TO MAXIMIZING YOUR RECOVERY



Howie Baggadonutz presents

DAN BUTLER

(Bulldog on "Frasier") in

"The Only Thing Worse You Could Have Told Me..."

Exclusive Engagement Prior to Off-Broadway!

FRI, SAT, SUN • JAN. 27, 28 (8pm) • JAN. 29 (7pm)

Echo Theatre • 1515 SE 37th Ave.

Advance tickets \$14 at Fasttix outlets (224-8499), It's My Pleasure, Jellybean, Music Millennium; \$17 door

TRAVEL AGENTS INTERNATIONAL®

917 SW Washington

Portland, OR 97205

(503) 223-1100

(800) 357-3194

PRINCESS CRUISES ON SALE!

* Alaska * Europe * Orient * Hawaii *

Free 2-Cabin Upgrades!

\$50 - \$200 Shipboard Credits!*

Hugh Discounts off Brochure Rates!

**On Qualifying Cruises*

If you are considering a cruise vacation this year, Do not miss this opportunity.

THIS SALE WILL MAKE YOUR CRUISE AFFORDABLE!

*** ONE DAY ONLY ***

January 13, 1995 10 am - 4 pm

"Serving Our Community...
...by meeting your needs"



POSITION AVAILABLE: FULL TIME AGENT - Requires minimum 1 year experience in corporate and leisure. Knowledge of System-1 a plus. Friendly working environment. Pursue your career by joining a winning team serving our community.

(This position is being advertised exclusively in *Just Out*).