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ANN ARBOR'S ALTERNATIVE NEWSMONTHLY

QUEEN of DIAMONDS

The
Tiger Stadium
Story

"Queen of Diamonds: The Tiger Stadium Story" by Michael Betzold and Ethan Casey should be required reading for anyone who still thinks a new stadium should (or can) be built for the Tigers. This book is much more than just a well-researched history of the ballparks at Michigan and Trumbull. It includes many heartwarming and surprising anecdotes, along with comments from fans, players and experts, and lots of photos. It also delves deeply into the social and economic issues surrounding the emotional Tiger Stadium controversy.

Betzold's engaging and colorful style brings alive the early days of baseball in Detroit, and captures the excitement of the high points of the ball club's long history. Time and time again, people in the book talk about the special magic that fills Tiger Stadium, a result of that rich heritage and the intimate feel of the park—the closest seats in major league baseball.

The various myths that the Tigers organization has put forth in attempting to get their way are carefully and thoroughly put to rest. Is the stadium really falling down? Would a new stadium really bring more fans in? Is it necessary to have 12,000 parking spaces adjacent to a stadium? Is it legal to enact new taxes that would primarily affect people who can't vote on the issue? And if those taxes are insufficient, will local taxpayers be left holding the bag, as almost happened in 1971? Is there any way the Tigers can break their ironclad lease with the city, which prevents them from playing anywhere else till 2008? These issues and more are methodically explained, point by point.

And if you've thought you've kept up on the situation by reading the papers and watching television, you will be surprised at the crucial information the

BOOK REVIEW by Walden Simper

mass media is choosing to ignore. This book has it all.

For example, the problem often has been that the media has accepted what Bo Schembechler and others say at face value. This was illustrated last April, when Bo announced that half the seats in the stadium were obstructed view—about 20,000 more than had ever been admitted to. No one at the press conference questioned the validity of the figures, but the authors postulate that they were based on the fact that anyone sitting higher than the posts could possibly miss the tiniest sliver of the action, for a split second.

In recent years, there has been much discussion about those poles, which do

obstruct some fans' views; but we are reminded that were it not for those despised posts, we would not have the spectacular views from the upper decks all around the stadium that we do. Several fans' stories of visiting the new Comiskey Park are recounted. The view there, unobstructed though it may be, is hard to imagine for those of us used to cozy Tiger Stadium. But the closest upper deck seats at Comiskey are farther away than the most remote seat in the upper deck here!

The oft-repeated management mantra, "Tiger Stadium is falling down" has no basis in reality. According to the book, experts maintain that the old ballpark could remain standing indefinitely. And in light of what occurred in Chicago, that is not hard to believe. Fans there were also told that Comiskey Park was falling down, but when it came time for the wrecking ball, it took three months—to tear it half down! And longer to finish the job.

After reading this book, one can have renewed hope that it's not too late to save Tiger Stadium, especially with this book now available to set the record straight.

Meet the authors at a book release party Sunday, Dec. 8 from 3-8 pm at the Soup Kitchen Saloon in Detroit. There will be a baseball trivia contest, ballpark food, music by Mike Ridley and big band sounds of the II-V-I Orchestra. Also, there will be a book signing at Little Professor in Ann Arbor Saturday, Dec. 7 from 2-4 pm.

To order the book (and help support the efforts of the Tiger Stadium Fan Club), send check or m.o. for \$14.95 paperback or \$25 hardcover to the TSFC (credit cards accepted), P.O. Box 441426, Detroit, MI 48244-1426. Include \$3 postage and handling for \$10-\$20 orders, \$4 for orders over \$20. Call the TSFC at 964-5991 for more information.



SAVE TIGER STADIUM!
The Common Ground Coalition, a group of community organizations and leaders including the Tiger Stadium Fan Club, recently was successful in getting on the ballot. In March, voters in Wayne County will decide if the Detroit City Council will be forced to hold the Tigers to their lease. Also on the ballot will be a proposal to raise funds to build a new stadium through hotel, restaurant, and car rental taxes.

Activists Seize Office Building, 14 Arrested

The Homeless Action Committee (HAC) is turning up the pressure on local government and businesses to take responsibility for Ann Arbor's homelessness problem. Their goal this time is to convert a nearly vacant office building—the Downtown Club at 110 N. Fourth Ave.—back into affordable housing.

Spurred on by General Assistance cut-offs resulting in overflowing shelters, HAC members and supporters, on Monday Nov. 18 and again on Friday Nov. 22, occupied a floor of vacant offices in the Downtown Club. In both cases they were arrested by the Ann Arbor police on trespass charges. In all, fourteen people were arrested, four on Monday and ten on Friday.

HAC members said they were compelled to act because the night shelters have been turning people away for the past five months and the city's emergency day shelter has been closed for renovation since July. Homeless people have nowhere to stay warm, HAC argues, at a time when the area is experiencing an early and harsh winter.

On both occasions, the squatters planned to stay indefinitely, or until at least part of the building was opened up for immediate use as a temporary day shelter. On both occasions, a press conference and rally were held outside the building during the occupation. The protest on Friday drew about 70 people, all of whom at one point joined the squatters inside for a tour of the nearly vacant four-story building.

The building, Ann Arbor's original "Y," was targeted by HAC because until 1983, it was a single-room occupancy (SRO) building for low-income adults. The Downtown Club housed up to 68 persons at a time and rent was \$150 a month. When the owners wanted to turn the SRO into an office building they began shutting off utilities and evicting residents (The Ann Arbor News, Jan. 15, 1983). Then, according to HAC, City Council—led by Mayor Lou Belcher—rezoned the building for office and commercial use. The building was purchased in late 1983 by Belcher and a group of associates and converted to office space.

One-time Downtown Club resident David Noel was one of those arrested on Nov. 18. Noel, a taxi driver who has been homeless on and off for five years, said he was willing to be arrested because it would dramatize how "very difficult it is to find affordable housing."

Noel was also part of a group of HAC members who spoke during public participation time at City Council's Nov. 18 meeting. Draped with holiday tinsel and referring to the Downtown Development Authority's \$11,000 project to refurbish downtown Christmas lights, Noel told Council: "If you are a set of Christmas lights you get attention by the DDA. If you're human, you're to be ignored. So consider me not human, take care of my frail wires and give me some place warm to stay." The group urged the city, in cooperation with the DDA, to provide money to buy the Downtown Club and convert it back to living space.

HAC members also spoke at the Nov. 20 meeting of the Washtenaw County Commissioners. When HAC learned of the county's interest in buying the building (for office space), they lobbied to have it used for a shelter or low-income housing instead.

The current owners, First Y Building Limited Partnership, will not be owners for long according to building manager Edward Weberman. The building is in foreclosure and on Dec. 13 will become the property of First of America Bank.

by Laurie Wechter and Ted Sylvester

United Way Drops Planned Parenthood

According to the fall 1991 issue of "Proponent," the newsletter of Planned Parenthood of Mid-Michigan, Planned Parenthood will no longer be listed as a "possible recipient of funds" on United Way pledge cards. "Certain individuals in the community threatened to boycott the United Way if they so much as listed Planned Parenthood's name as a possible recipient of funds," the newsletter stated. "Unfortunately, the United Way buckled under to this intimidation."

A United Way official was quoted in the newsletter saying that Planned Parenthood is too controversial to be listed in its literature. This, in spite of the fact that last year, at the University of Michigan, Planned Parenthood was the largest recipient of "donor desig-

nated dollars" through United Way.

Services provided by Planned Parenthood include birth control (including vasectomy) and birth control counseling, abortion and abortion counseling, pregnancy testing and counseling, medical and counseling services for women experiencing symptoms related to menopause, and many other family planning services. Planned Parenthood asks that, when designating a United Way gift to Planned Parenthood, "Planned Parenthood of Mid-Michigan" be written on the pledge card and that you let United Way know that Planned Parenthood "has a good reputation, is respected and supported by the community, and is appropriate for United Way affiliation" (the standard Washtenaw United Way alleges Planned Parenthood does not meet). For more information call 973-0710.

Center Advocates for Student Rights

The Student Advocacy Center is the only advocacy program in the state available to children who are in regular education programs, and they are asking for financial assistance in order to continue their work.

This work has included parent outreach and organizing, advocacy, and the development of a State bill that addresses the overuse of suspensions and exclusions in Michigan schools as well as the authority of schools to permanently exclude children with no responsibility to provide educational services. The bill, introduced this spring, in part requires reporting of exclusionary practices, triggers a review if the exclusions show a disparate racial impact, and requires the provision of appropriate educational services regardless of disciplinary status.

For more information, and to make a donation, contact the Student Advocacy Center, 617 East University, Ann Arbor, MI 48104, (995-0477).

etcetera

Dear Readers: AGENDA is interested in receiving items from you for etcetera. Press clippings, press releases, summaries of local events and any other ideas or suggestions are welcome. Just mail them to: Etcetera Editor, AGENDA, 202 E. Washington 512, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

What a Deal!

Membership dues are only \$2 per year for those interested in becoming involved in the Community Development Corporation. Its programs include the Women's Initiative for Self-Employment, which assists low-income women in becoming self-sufficient, a loan program, technical assistance to women and minority-owned businesses, and the distribution of the Black Business and Professionals Directory. For more information call 769-6363.

New Group to Defend Multiculturalism at U-M

During the Nov. 17 plenary session that concluded the national conference on "The P.C. Frame-Up," U-M English professor Alan Wald announced the formation of the U-M Network for Cultural Democracy. The network's organizers hope to unify faculty, staff, students and community members who support a multicultural university which is increasingly open to the diverse elements of our society. They seek to organize the defense of academic freedom, affirmative action, curricula that include great works by those who have traditionally been ignored,

and other university reforms. There will be a meeting for the Network on Dec. 4 at the Michigan League. For more information about the U-M Network for Cultural Democracy, call Alan Wald at 995-1499.

ACT-UP Comes Through for Jackson Inmates

Responding to pleas for help from Fred Beasley and other Jackson inmates with AIDS or HIV, in October ACT-UP Ann Arbor flooded Michigan Department of Corrections officials with phone calls protesting the administrative segregation and special harassment that are the lot of prisoners with AIDS at the Southern Michigan Prison. The phone zap worked. Prisoners report that administrative segregation as punishment for having AIDS was ended the next day. ACT-UP Ann Arbor will observe World AIDS Day on Monday, Dec. 2 at noon on the U-M Diag (see the CALENDAR for their weekly meetings).

An Early Reminder

You are not eligible to vote in the presidential primary to be held in Michigan on March 17, 1992 unless you declare a political party preference by filing a political party preference declaration form with your city or township clerk by February 17, 1992. This applies even if you are currently registered to vote. (A political party preference can be changed at any time up to 30 days before a presidential primary and must be submitted in writing to your city or township clerk.)

Guatemala Gathering

International freelance reporter Jon Reed sends word that the Second Continental Conference of Indigenous People and Popular Movements meeting in the city of Xela, Quetzaltenango province, Guatemala from October 7-12, drew 599 delegates, and offi-

AGENDA

Ann Arbor's Alternative Newsmonthly

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Billy Bragg Benefit Concert "Smashing"

The Nov. 26 Billy Bragg benefit concert for AGENDA was a great success. For this, we would like to thank Lee Berry, Rae Cline, and the hard working folks at Prism Productions. We'd also like to thank Billy Bragg and his rocking Red Star band, The Disposable Heroes of Hiphoprisy, and comedian Barry Crimmins for their wonderful performances and generosity. And of course, a big thanks to all of you who attended.

Anyone who knows Billy Bragg's music also knows that Billy is a deep thinker, an artist with a well developed idea of what the world is about and a vision of what it could and should be.

What follows are excerpts from an interview with Billy by David Batstone from "Monthly Review," (New York, NY, 42: p. 20-29).

DB: Ok, let's be political for a while. After the events which have taken place in Eastern Europe, why do you say that socialism, an ideal that some have said is dead, is a better alternative?

BB: Well, it depends on what it is that you think is dead and gone. If we are talking about the horrendously negative aspects of what's gone down in Eastern Europe in the name of socialism—which was really nothing but totalitarianism—hopefully those things are dead. But at the same time the ideals of what socialism is about, the call of socialist feelings and humanitarian hopes which existed long before Marx, as far as I am concerned are still valid. We need to trace back before Prague '68, before Hungary '56, before Stalin, before the Russian Revolution, before Marx, before the whole industrial revolution, to look at the collective societies which existed then. Take the Native Americans. They know how to deal with the environment and the relationship of the individual to one's surroundings. We've lost that because capitalism demands individualistic materialism. But we can't all be individuals all of the time. Margaret Thatcher said last year that there is no such thing as a society—that's the most frightening thing she has ever said. Now I, as a socialist, think that our individuality is the

most important aspect which we each have; socialism isn't anti-individual. But unless we have the opportunity for collective education, collective health care, collective housing, unless we do things collectively and responsibly, then only the rich and the privileged will have the opportunity to express their individuality and the rest of us will be exploited by it. Socialism, then, needs restating, redefining. The situation is there—you only have to walk by all of those people sleeping in doorways in nearly every city, who are physically, emotionally, or mentally ill. They've been rejected by our society. They've been thrown out to die, that's the law of the jungle. We're supposed to be higher than that. I think we need to go back, then, before the black and white world of communism and capitalism, which never really was black and white, of course, because the East-West divide was totally false. The real divide is North-South, that's the gap we should be bridging.

DB: During all of your concerts you really push people to register for their right to vote,

in a sense using ballots as a weapon for change. Many people on the left, however, often say "Don't vote, it only encourages them."

BB: I reckon that's bullshit.

DB: Do you really think that elections are going to make a difference?

BB: As you know, politicians don't often do what they promised in the campaign. So, though democracy isn't perfect, it's the best thing we've come up with so far. I just think we should have democracy in the workplace, in housing, in the schools, all throughout our society. People should have to take responsibility for their society, by expressing a view instead of copping out and just drifting along. We end up with people like Bush and Thatcher because no one cares. So, I say to my leftist friends, "I'll come into the streets with you when it's time if you'll come to the ballot box with me." It's not an either/or.

cial observers and invited guests from 26 countries of the Americas. On October 12, the 499th anniversary of the day that the Arawaks discovered Christopher Columbus trespassing on their land, some 30-50,000 people (mostly rural indigenous women) marched through this city in the Mayan highlands.

Rigoberta Menchú told those assembled that, rather than memorializing the genocidal exploits of Columbus and his conquistador death squads, they were there "to honor and remember the disappeared, the assassinated,

the refugees, the widows, the exploited farmworkers, the factory workers, the unemployed, the children."

The delegates plotted a year's activities to counter the Columbus quincentenary, discussed the common and specific problems of indigenous people, and searched for common ground on which to unite. Next year's gathering will take place in Nicaragua.

ROTC Harasses Gay Student

Eastern Michigan University sophomore Lee Neubecker was awarded a "full ride"

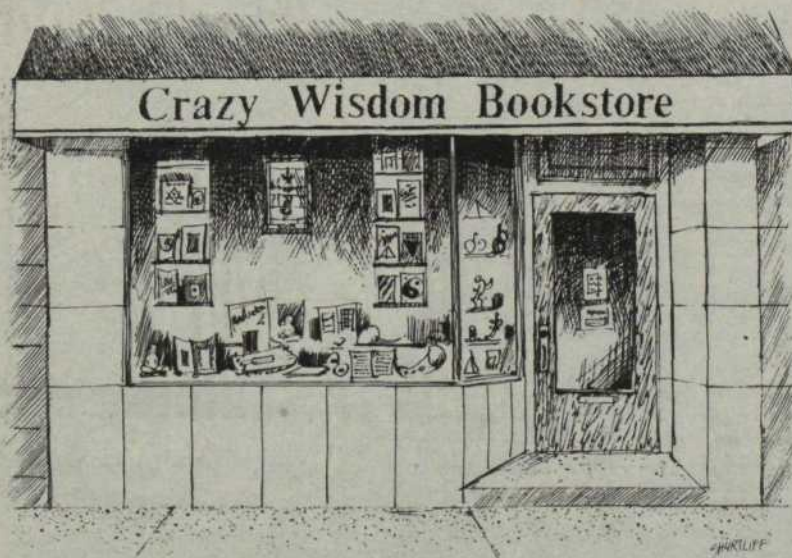
ROTC scholarship when he was a high school senior. At the time he was sure that he wanted to serve in the armed forces, but unsure of his sexual identity.

In his first year at EMU, Neubecker took ROTC classes, where he met Major Charles Straw. According to Neubecker, Straw would often tell his class "No gay, faggot, homosexual drug users are allowed in here." He also alleges that students in Straw's class at one point chanted "No fags, no fags, no fags." Straw denies this. However, Colonel Maasberg, EMU's Military Science depart-

ment head, stated that "It is against Department of Defense policy to contract gays... Students who are gay or lesbian are not allowed to receive these scholarships."

This created a problem for Neubecker, who discovered his gay sexual orientation while at college. If what Neubecker said is true, the ROTC practices are a violation of university harassment and discrimination policies. Neubecker has filed a complaint with the university, which is pending before Bette White, EMU Dean of Students.

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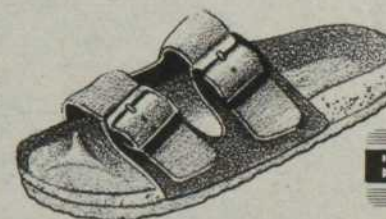


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El Salvador: War Ending But Violence Continues

How I see El Salvador right now (other than it has been raining very hard for some hours as it does every night): The second half of 1991 is marking a number of critical points in Salvadoran history.

On July 26, the United Nations Observer Mission in El Salvador (ONUSAL) arrived to oversee and investigate human rights abuse complaints made in the ongoing resolution of the civil war.

On Sept. 27, extraordinary peace accords were signed by the rebels (FMLN) and the government (written up well in that day's New York Times).

And for the first time in history, on September 29, a high-ranking officer was convicted of a human rights abuse against a civilian. But simultaneously, coffee production is in disastrously, coffee production is in disarray and the civil war seems to be intensifying. I'll outline each of these events a bit and try to make some sense of what I think may happen.

First, some basic political background. El Salvador has been at war with itself for about 12 years, during which time some 75,000 people have been killed (in combat, "collateral damage," and death squad assassinations), hundreds of thousands more wounded, disabled, and tortured, another almost 900,000 made refugees outside the country (mostly in the States) and 500,000 more inside. Estimates of the damages done by actual conflict, government scorched-earth and guerrilla sabotage tactics runs \$6-8 billion.

Keep in mind that there are about six million Salvadorans who generate a Gross National Prod-

ANN ARBORITES ABROAD

Patrick Ball

NOTE: The civil war in El Salvador, now more than a decade old, appears to be winding down. All indications are that the country is in a period of historic change. While we can learn much about El Salvador from reading the daily newspaper, there is often more to the story. AGENDA is fortunate to receive, from time to time, reports from Ann Arborites on the road, in faraway places, and sometimes in unusual circumstances. The editors of AGENDA think these reports are important because they add a new dimension, a special eyewitness connection, to events and places.

The latest edition of "Ann Arborites Abroad," features a long excerpt from a letter by Patrick Ball from El Salvador. Since early October he has been working with Peace Brigades International (PBI) in San Salvador, the capital of El Salvador. PBI is an organization that sends unarmed international peace teams into areas of conflict. Ball works with PBI's "human shield" project, which involves accompanying leaders and activists whose lives are in danger, as well as staying with peasants who have reclaimed land and set up farming cooperatives. An American presence, the sad reasoning goes, is more likely to deter violence against those people most threatened by the right wing of El Salvador.

Ball, a U-M doctoral student in Sociology and a member of the Latin America Solidarity Committee, plans to remain in El Salvador with PBI through March, 1992.

uct of about \$600 million annually. Into this country, about the size of Massachusetts, the U.S. government has poured over \$4 billion in aid since 1979, with another \$308 million proposed by the Bush Administration for the next fiscal year (under debate in Congress as of this writing, October 14).

Alfredo Cristiani, a leading coffee grower, was elected President in 1989 as the candidate of the very conservative (the U.S. Embassy says "right-wing") National Republican Alliance (ARENA). The legitimacy of the election was openly questioned by the losing parties and various observers, but for now people refer to him as "freely elected."

However, there are also prominent progressive politicians in the government, among them Dr. Ruben Zamora, vice-president of the Legislative Assembly. So there is quite a vigorous legislative spectrum, if not fully representative (the rebels did not interfere with the elections this past March, but neither did they participate). The press, especially TV, tends to be very, very conservative, but there is also a widely-read progressive, even militant newspaper which continues to publish though its offices were burned to the ground last February. Active trade unions operate more or less openly, if always under the threat of selective kidnappings or assassinations, and there are a range of specific organized sectors (peasants, students, progressive Christian groups) and human rights groups.

Thus the political struggle is very open here, even to the point that every available wall is covered with various groups' denunciations of particular acts of repression or political demands, spray-painted in militant red and black. The graffiti annoy columnists at the conservative paper, who regularly call for the arrest and prosecution of those who would paint their opinions. One example: "We insist on justice and punishment for Cristiani [the President] and Ponce [the Minister of Defense], assassins of Martin Ayala! [a leader of the Council of Marginal Communities, killed on 8 July], [signed] AGEUS [the General Association of Students at the University of El Salvador]." And people at the U-M complain about a little chalk.

(see EL SALVADOR, page 5)

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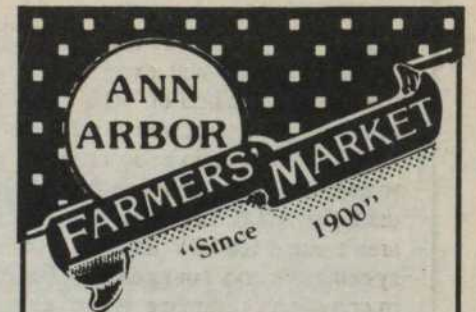
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Women Prisoners Fight AIDS, Without Magic's Publicity

Dashima died of AIDS in prison, denied aerosolized pentamidine when it could have prolonged her life, attached to a respirator and shackled to her bed, metal chains on both hands and both feet. A prison guard was the last person she saw in her life.

Maria found out she was HIV+ (positive) from seeing "AIDS" in huge red letters on her prison file, reading over a guard's shoulder while she was being transported. No one had told her.

Carmen is living with HIV, worried that rumors about her will spread, that her "friends" will stop talking to her, that her cellmates will force her to move. She is afraid to tell her family, worried about hugging her children, and fearful that she will die without ever being free.

JoAnn's friends who are HIV+ come to her in the middle of the night to talk and to cry. She knows that she will never again see her HIV+ brother, who is too poor and sick to visit.

These tragic stories are typical. Women prisoners with AIDS are the most forgotten of all people with AIDS. Outside, women are the fastest-growing group that is becoming infected and AIDS is one of the top five causes of death for women aged 15 to 44. It's the leading cause of death for Black and Latina women. In the world outside, survival time from diagnosis is lower for women. HIV+ prisoners live only half as long as PWAs (People With AIDS) on the outside. Most HIV+ prisoners are Black or Puerto Rican, reflecting the disproportionate rates of both incarceration and illness found in a racist society.

HIV+ women are nearly invisible. The AIDS establishment excludes women from research, studies and experimental drug trials. The definition of "who has AIDS" discriminates against women because many HIV-related infections occurring only in women are not included in medical standards for AIDS diagnosis. Many women aren't tested for HIV until their immune systems are too compromised for early intervention or immune system enhancement. Many women prisoners are first diagnosed as having AIDS when they die.

Prison medical care is universally abysmal, but the care that HIV+ women get is criminal neglect. Prisons don't voluntarily give blood tests and regular T-cell counts. Prisoners have no access to drug trials. Almost without exception, AZT is the only drug available. While in the rare instance DDI can be had, no prison or jail uses alternative treatments or acupuncture. Preventive materials like condoms, dental dams and bleach are contraband.

So it is here at FCI Pleasanton, where all of us have been touched by AIDS. Until recently, HIV was kept almost invisible among the 850 women here. HIV+ prisoners who developed symptoms were sent to the women's prison medical facility in Lex-

FEATURE

by Linda Evans

NOTE: Linda Evans is a political prisoner at Pleasanton Federal Correctional Institution in California. In the 1960s, she was the Michigan-Ohio regional organizer for Students for a Democratic Society, in the 1970s a member of the Weather Underground and in 1989-90 one of the Resistance Conspiracy defendants.

Imprisoned since May 11, 1985, she is serving a 50-year sentence, 35 years for using a false name to buy legal firearms, 10 years for conspiring to resist the government and aiding in a 1983 bombing of the U.S. Capitol, and five years for harboring a fugitive. She is as politically active as a prisoner can be. Write to her as follows: Linda Evans, #19973-054, FCI Pleasanton, 5701 8th St., Camp Parks, Dublin, CA 94568.

ington, Kentucky. There was no AIDS education. While HIV tests were available, pre- and post-test counseling was not. HIV+ women still can't get special diets or vitamins.

Our new peer education program—PLACE (Pleasanton AIDS Counseling and Education)—is changing some of this. To represent the people here, the project was discussed in the Black Cultural Workshop, Four Winds Cultural Group (Native American women) and the Latina Club. An AIDS education planning group was born. A psychology staff member who had long been responsible for AIDS education became the group's sponsor.

We started with self-education. Not all of us read well—or read English—so we looked for materials that were easy to read and for Spanish literature for the 40% of us who speak Spanish. We tried to get information specifically about women, and answers to questions that we lesbians have about safe sex.

From the start we've tried to make this our program, defined and run by women prisoners, within the extreme restrictions of prison. That meant each of us taking responsibility for a basic presentation on an aspect of HIV/AIDS. It wasn't easy for many. Most of us had never spoken in front of a group. By this process, we confronted deeper issues of empowerment and self-direction.

Women prisoners have no power over the tiniest details of life. One of the main control methods is to treat us like children. Institutionalization makes people internalize powerlessness and infantilization. Small steps like learning and teaching, or making plans, are really giant steps that build power, commitment and self-esteem. Those of us with more education become more sensi-

tive as we listen to and learn from women of different backgrounds.

Our group's perspective is that nobody is exempt from the effects of AIDS. Eighty percent of us are mothers who worry about our children, particularly sexually active teenagers and future unborn babies. Many of us were IV drug users who shared works or traded sex for drugs (including in prison). Few husbands or lovers have gone without sex while we've been locked up, so we need to protect ourselves from their sexual encounters. Many women have sex with male guards who are promiscuous and don't use condoms. Lesbians can be at risk, depending on sexual practices and drug use. Most of us have friends or relatives with HIV or AIDS. Due to this universal risk, we promote universal concern and education and try to reach the entire spectrum of women here.

We believe that AIDS should be treated as a chronic disease, not a death sentence. This helps HIV+ women to fight stress and depression in already stressful surroundings. It means emphasis on nutrition and exercise, and struggle for better medical care and more treatment options. In PLACE, we help each other to maintain a positive attitude and fight for our rights.

We developed an AIDS education program for the whole population. We made up questionnaires in English and Spanish, to be distributed to the whole institution before open forums in our living units. We're producing cartoon posters and bringing in outside speakers. We plan AIDS video showings. We've been granted permission to do AIDS education as part of new inmate orientation.

It took four months to win approval to distribute questionnaires, hold discussion groups and display posters. Even then, the posters' cartoons about sex between women and how to clean works with bleach were censored. Another proposal, that a list of PLACE members be provided to all HIV+ women so that they can choose peer counseling was rejected, allegedly due to prison official "concern" for the privacy of inmates. Peer counseling will continue, with or without permission. Our hugs will just be illegal instead of part of an approved counseling session.

PLACE is still in its early stages of development. We are grateful for the help that we have received from activists on the outside. But most of the support has been from individual friends rather than groups committed to prisoners with AIDS.

We need you! We need literature, videos and speakers. We need information on new treatments, and people willing to come into the prison to provide unavailable services. Most of all, we need people on the outside to help us fight for humane conditions in which to live—and die.

signed last year on July 26, this year the UN sent an observer mission (lawyers, not soldiers) to oversee the transition to peace. Their job is to investigate complaints and issue periodic reports that point definitive fingers at abusers. Whether they can do this is still subject to debate, as various parties see ONUSAL's job differently, as meddlers impugning Salvadoran sovereignty, as the army's babysitters, or what have you. Their first report was, by all

(see EL SALVADOR, page 11)

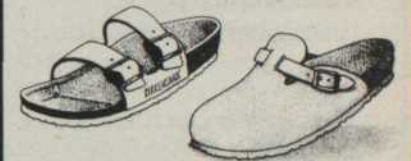
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EL SALVADOR

(from page 4)

But there are still soldiers armed with assault rifles and light machine guns everywhere: in clusters around banks, behind sandbagged emplacements on tactically important corners and buildings, patrolling neighborhoods thought to be sympathetic to the guerrilla, riding around in open trucks. Heavy troop-carrying helicopters go overhead every few

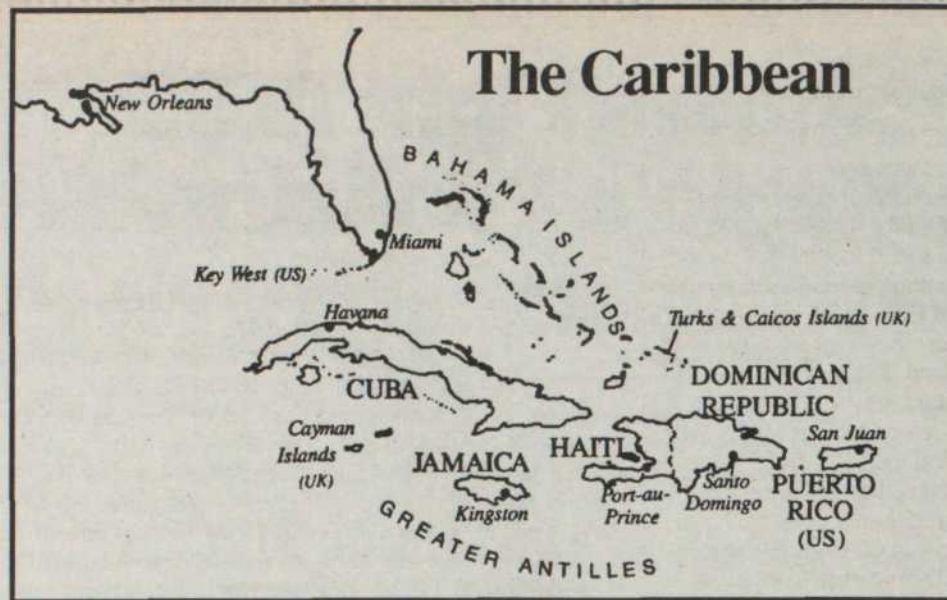
hours, and one morning just before dawn we awoke to the sound of bombing, rumbling far away on the other side of the volcano which looms over the city to the northeast. I have yet to hear gunfire in the street, but everyone assures me that it won't be long. The combination of open struggle and open repression make the situation seem very volatile, as I believe it is. Now to some specifics.

As part of the rebel-government accords

The boat people of Haiti are not the only people fleeing their homeland. The people of the Dominican Republic, Haiti's neighbor, are also desperate enough to risk their lives and spend all their money to escape their impoverished country. Instead of heading west toward the U.S. however, Dominicans crowd onto small fishing boats that limp across the shark-infested Mona Passage eastward to Puerto Rico. But how long will it be before Dominicans, like Haitians before them, begin arriving at our shores as well?

The Dominican Republic, which shares the 29,000 square-mile island of Hispaniola with Haiti, is in the midst of a severe political and economic crisis that has received little media attention in comparison to its neighbor. In the last five years, over a million more Dominicans—in a country of just seven million—have been pushed into poverty. The unfolding scenario on the island of Hispaniola suggests that before we get too giddy about the collapse of communism abroad, we should remember that capitalism—the free market—is faltering in our own backyard.

The current political-economic crisis within the Dominican Republic can be directly linked to the free market economic policies imposed by the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, and a series of U.S. administrations. These groups, through interconnected efforts, set out to implement a development program for the Dominican Republic based on U.S. private investment, aid, and loans. From 1969 to 1976, the nation did experience significant economic progress as a result of these policies and a boom in sugar prices. However, since 1981, severe drops in sugar and nickel prices have badly impaired the "Dominican miracle." In order to deal with the slumping economy and to insure a return on loans and investment, the International Monetary Fund insisted that the govern-



The Dominican Republic: Failure of the Free Market

ANALYSIS

by Andrew Williams

ment institute an austerity program.

In January 1983, the Dominican government began implementing these policies which included tax increases, wage cuts, as well as cuts in social services. State-run hotels and industries were closed as the IMF and the U.S. attempted to restructure the economy to concentrate more on export production. Further, subsidies on food and fuel were removed. Large grants from the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) financed the building of an infrastructure for foreign investors. Several "free zones" were also established in which foreign-owned industries could operate under

tax exemptions and non-union conditions.

Initially, high world sugar prices and the influx of U.S. aid promoted rapid growth. However, IMF policies eventually benefited mainly the urban well-to-do and large export producers. Prices for essential items like bread, milk, cooking oil, sugar and medicines tripled and quadrupled. Meanwhile, the foreign exchange earned from sugar was spent mainly on imported consumer goods for the upper and middle classes.

On April 23, 1983 protests broke out in the capital of Santo Domingo and towns around the country. Police and soldiers shot into crowds, killing more than 100 persons and wounding hundreds more. More than 4,000 people were arrested. The government shut down two radio stations and a television station. Police occupied union headquarters to prevent further demonstrations. The government used similar tactics in January 1985 when new austerity measures drove food and fuel prices up another 50%.

In 1984 over 2.9 million Dominicans lived below the poverty level. By 1989 this figure had reached 4.2 million. In 1990 the country's eco-

nomie plight worsened, with 100% inflation and 520,000 more people in poverty.

Beyond Numbers

I have been to the Dominican Republic on three separate occasions. Numbers cannot adequately convey the human tragedy I witnessed, for example, at *El Vertedero*, an area in the capital of Santo Domingo. Women, men and children bury themselves daily in an ocean of rotten garbage, mud, flies, cockroaches, and maggots in search of objects—plastics, metals, cartons, bottles and other items—which they sell in surrounding areas for subsistence. Sometimes if they are "lucky," they will find some food—if the pigs don't beat them to it.

Nor can statistics convey the unbelievably poor quality of life for those crowded into cardboard shanty towns without basic services. In most of these "cities of misery" there is no potable water, electricity, or garbage collection. Rural areas, historically neglected, remain without roads, running water, electricity, or schools.

During my most recent visit this past summer, doctors, nurses, and teachers were on a three-month strike for higher wages. The country's Congress voted to increase the salaries of these state employees. However, President Balaguer declared their vote null and void, citing the budget constraints of International Monetary Fund (IMF) austerity measures. The result was that the vast majority of Dominicans were denied adequate health care. The daily newspapers were filled with stories of individuals dying because of inattention, or second class treatment by army doctors.

Haitians in the Dominican Republic

Far worse is the condition of Haitians living and working in the Dominican Republic. Haitians comprise over 90% of the 30,000 workers on Dominican sugar plantations. A range of books and articles have documented the terrible conditions of Haitian *braceros* working in the Dominican Republic, the world's fourth largest sugar producer (see "Peasants in Distress: Poverty in the Dominican Republic" by Luidias Vargas).

Haitians, including children as young as eight years of age, are arbitrarily arrested near or at the border and taken to government-owned sugar plantations. Others are enticed by deceptive recruitment practices. Further, Haitians are forced to work twelve-hour days, seven days a week, with no gloves, no boots, and no glasses to protect them. At nights they are often padlocked into overcrowded barracks with no potable wa-

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ter, no electricity, and no medical care, no latrines, and no cooking facilities. They subsist on rice and sugar cane. For this they earn the equivalent of U.S. \$3.50 a week. However, their pay is in the form of vouchers which can only be used at plantation stores.

Close to 85% of Dominican sugar is bought by U.S. companies. Purchasers include RJR, Nabisco, M&M/Mars, Borden, Kraft General Foods, Wrigley Co. and Warner-Lambert. These corporations continue to buy this sugar despite the fact that the Dominican government has violated every international agreement on the rights of children, refugees, migrant workers, and national minorities.

Exquisite Democracy?

In June 1991, Dominican Republic President Balaguer received a U.S. Congressional delegation that came to evaluate USAID's *Promoción del Desarrollo y la Disminución de la Pobreza* (Promotion of Development and Reduction of Poverty). The delegation concluded that the country is on a trajectory towards significantly diminishing poverty. They called the Dominican Republic one of the most "exquisite" democracies in the hemisphere.

It was a whitewash. In reality, foreign-imposed free market economic policies have protected the privilege and power of foreign and domestic elites, while creating an environment conducive to foreign investment and profitable returns. U.S.-imposed economic policies have also created an environment where modern day slavery flourishes, where security forces crush labor unions, and where poverty, hunger, and disease are widespread and growing. Democracy has had little chance to grow. Joaquin Balaguer, the right-hand man of former dictator Rafael Trujillo, is once again in power after a questionable 1990 electoral victory.

So this is what free market economic policies have brought the people of the Dominican Republic and Haiti? Haitians, in search of jobs and relief from repression, are fleeing to the U.S. and the Dominican Republic. Dominicans, in search of jobs and relief from repression, are fleeing to Puerto Rico. Where will it all end?

We really do not need to leave our shores to see the failures of free market economics. The writing is on the wall for those who care to look. Our infrastructure is deteriorating, social services are being cut, and schools are being closed as our economy falters. In African-American and Latino communities unemployment and infant mortality grow as life expectancy declines. Hunger, homelessness, and union busting are key features of American culture. Perhaps what we see in the Dominican Republic is our future. During this period of jubilation over the "death" of communism we ought to seriously reflect upon the failures of our own economic system.

Andrew Williams is a graduate student in the Department of Anthropology at the University of Michigan and board member of The Ella Baker-Nelson Mandela Center for Anti-racist Education.

NOTE:

As AGENDA goes to press, thousands of Haitians are fleeing their homeland, desperately trying to reach the shores of Florida. The U.S. State Department has tried to send the refugees back, stationing Coast Guard cutters off the coast of Haiti to intercept the boat people before they even get close to the U.S. mainland. The Haitians, the Bush administration argues, are fleeing for economic reasons, not because they face political persecution. A federal judge in Miami disagrees and has temporarily halted the return of about 2,600 Haitians now in Coast Guard custody.

The 700-mile trip from Haiti to Florida is a dangerous one. The Coast Guard estimates that only one-half of those who start the journey are successful due to the overcrowding of unseaworthy vessels. Why do the Haitians risk such odds? Since the coup of September 30, and the embargo which followed, life in this hemisphere's poorest country has gotten worse. Poverty, unemployment and hunger are more widespread and the army is brutal in its repression of dissent. A headline to a New York Times article of Nov. 24 tells one part of the story: "Refugees fear army more than sea."

Another part of the story can be found in "The Haitian Character," an extemporaneously spoken mini-essay by Jean-Claude Martineau, Haitian poet, playwright and activist. Martineau informs us, by way of anecdote and angst, what Haitians are like, and how they yearn for their own style of democracy based on their national character.

Jean-Claude Martineau, along with historian Michel Trouillot, spoke last month to an overflow crowd at the Robert Hayden Lounge at U-M's Center for African and African-American Studies. The event was organized by Haitian student Gina Ulysse and a broad coalition of student and faculty groups.

Martineau fought against the Duvalier family's dictatorship and more recently worked in Boston's Haitian consulate for the now-deposed Aristide government. While Martineau's main talk was about the 1791 Haitian Revolution, during the question and answer session a woman asked him to comment on the "Haitian character." To the right is his response, as recorded and transcribed by AGENDA staffer Eric Jackson.

VERBATIM

The Haitian Character

by Jean-Claude Martineau

The Haitian character? Well, as you see, fortunately I'm not a scholar. It seems to me like a scholar has to be always neutral, has always to be right in the middle. I don't care about that. I'm a very passionate man.

The Haitian character? Let me tell you.

Our country, our people always had the reputation of being the most hospitable. We may not have a lot to offer, but we are very hospitable.

I grew up in a very small village, even though he [Michel Trouillot] would say that I'm not a peasant. My village had about sixteen to seventeen hundred inhabitants. And there were a lot of things that I didn't like.

For instance, if you were talking to a girl, if you kissed a girl, the next second the whole village would know about it. If you tried to smoke, the first adult would tell you—maybe if you were lucky—"I'm going to tell your mother, I'm going to tell your father." If you were not lucky, he'd whip you right there.

But there was something that, after I left my village and went to Port-au-Prince (that was already a city too big for me), when I went to Port-au-Prince I saw exactly what I was missing.

I belonged somewhere. Everybody was protecting me. Nothing could happen to me. If I fell from a horse, the first person passing by would pick me up, ask me what was wrong. If I was swimming in the river, somebody would stop and say "Do you know how to swim?" Do you know what I'm saying? And then when I left my village I felt I was very, very protected.

Let me tell you another little incident. I was on a bus going from Port-au-Prince to Cap-Haitien. My village is near Cap-Haitien. We passed the city of St. Marc, and then we saw another bus that broke an axle.

And then the driver of my bus stopped. "What's wrong with you?" "Oh, I broke my axle." "Do you have another one?" "No, but in St. Marc there is one I ordered, and it is right there, but I cannot come back." He said: "OK, everybody down."

We left the bus. There was only one guy who protested, because he had to be in Cap

Haitien. Now he [the bus driver] turned around. He went and picked up the axle, came back with it. And then you know who got on the bus to go on? The people that were in a hurry. So we changed buses, and this is the way that we used to be.

Now, with Duvalier, the Haitian character seemed to have been changed. Because it was a kind of spying on each other, accusing each other where fathers and mothers and children were very suspicious of one another. And I thought that what I knew when I was growing up was forever lost. That our character had been changed.

And then here comes Aristide. And this is the reason why I am for him, and Haitians seem to get together again. I am in Boston, where we have organized demonstrations of 30,000 people, and there are 50,000 [Haitian] people in Boston. You can imagine that only pregnant women were not at these demonstrations. And here I see again, old, young, men, women, sharing food, talking. And I say, really Duvalier didn't succeed in killing their character.

And you see why I was so anxious to answer your question. It's that our democracy isn't going to be built on anything else than our culture, our tradition and our character. It doesn't have to have a branch of the Ku Klux Klan to be recognized as democratic. We don't have to have our equivalent of Dan Quayle, or anything of that sort.

We want to be able to build. We don't believe that democracy is one for all. I think that each country will have to build it and create these institutions according to our character, the problems that we have, and what is our dream.

Our dream doesn't happen to be the American dream. I don't feel, in a small little country like mine, I don't have the urge of having a two car garage. And I don't care about having a swimming pool. I have the whole Caribbean Sea to swim in if I want. So, you see, the problem is that, yes, our character, our tradition, our culture, they have to be the field of our democracy, the way we see it, where we can build our dream.

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CALENDAR

To publicize January Calendar events, send formatted listings by December 15 to AGENDA, 202 E. Washington #512, Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Listings for more than five events must be sent (formatted) to AGENDA on Macintosh disc. Send SASE if you want your disc returned.

FORMAT—(Your name and phone.) Date, event, sponsor, time, and place. One or two sentence description, fee. Phone number

Unless otherwise noted, all events listed in the CALENDAR are free and open to the public. All locations are in Ann Arbor unless otherwise noted.

1 Sunday

Photographs by Baldwin Lee; Drawings by Schiele and Klimt; Prints by Jasper Johns: U-M Museum of Art thru 22 Dec., Tue-Sat 10 am to 5 pm, Sun 1 to 5 pm, 525 S. State. 764-0395

Chanukah Party: Jewish Cultural Society 10-11:30 am, in the gym of the Jewish Community Center, 2935 Birch Hollow (off Stone School Rd.). Fun and food. 665-5761

Sunday Tour: U-M Museum of Art 2 pm, lobby, 525 S. State. Hour-long tour. December topic: Photographs by Baldwin Lee. 764-0395

"Special Ministry to Gay Men & Lesbians": Huron Valley Community Church 2 pm services, 3 pm social hour, Glacier Way United Methodist Church, 1001 Green Rd. 741-1174

African Marketplace Bazaar: Community Action Network 3-8 pm, First Unitarian Universalist Church, 1917 Washtenaw. A benefit for KUUMBA II, featuring Afrocentric clothing, crafts, food, videos, books, music, and more! 313-677-3033

Meeting: Dawntreaders 3 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. 662-5189

U-M Community Eucharist: Canterbury House 5 pm, St. Andrew's Church, 306 N. Division. Informal celebration of the Holy Eucharist for the U-M community. Supper at Canterbury House to follow. 665-0606

Swim Practice: A2QUA (Ann Arbor Queer Aquatics) 5 pm, Central Campus Recreation Bldg., 401 Washtenaw Place. Call for guest pass. 665-8063

Weekly Run for Lesbians, Gays & Bisexuals: Ann Arbor Front Runners 5 pm, entrance to Gallup Park, Fuller Rd across from Huron High School. 484-1287

Meeting: Huron Valley Greens 6 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. 662-5189

"Largo Desolato": Performance Network & Dawn Treader Books 6:30 pm, 408 W. Washington. Last performance of Vaclav Havel's terrifying portrait of a writer in conflict with the totalitarian state, \$9/\$7 students & srs. 663-0681

Lecture & Discussion for Male Survivors & Pro-Survivors: Unitarian Church 7 pm, 1917 Washtenaw. An evening with Ken Adams, author of "Silently Seduced: When Parents Make Their Children Partners: Understanding Covert Incest," \$5 advance, \$6 at door. 665-6158

Meetings: Ypsilanti Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm, downstairs, First Congregational Church, 218 N. Adams, Ypsilanti. 484-0456

"Solidarity as Redemption": Huron Valley Pax Christi 7:30 pm, St. Mary's Student Parish, 311 Thompson. Interfaith liturgy commemorating the martyrs of Central America and marking the anniversary of the 1980 assassinations of four North American churchwomen in El Salvador. 663-1870

Robin & Linda Williams: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main, call for price. 761-1451

Paul Finkbeiner Jazz Jam: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley. 662-8310

2 Monday

Women's Book Group: Guild House noon, 802 Monroe. Call for the week's readings. 662-5189

"Spotlight Africa": WCBN-FM 6-7 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

Arion James & Musicians: Guild House Writers Series 8:30 pm, 802 Monroe. 662-5189

Social for Lesbians, Bisexual People & Gay Men: Canterbury House 8:45 pm, 218 N. Division. 665-0606

Bird of Paradise Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley. Big band jazz, \$3. 662-8310

3 Tuesday

ArtBreak: U-M Museum of Art 12:10 pm, 525 S. State. 20-minute tour. Topic: Schiele and Klimt exhibit. 764-0395

"Closets are for Clothes": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. News, announcements, interviews & commentary for the Lesbian, Gay & Bi communities. 763-3500

"In These States": WCBN-FM 6:30 pm, 88.3 FM, public affairs program. 763-3500

Meeting: Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Student Association 7 pm, 124 Goodison Hall, EMU, Ypsilanti. 483-0532

Reports From Iraq: Peace InSight 7:05 pm, A2 Comm. Access TV, Cable Channel 9. Two documentaries, one by a team from Harvard, the other by author and journalist Larry Everest, which show the effects on Iraq of the massive U.S. bombing campaign and the economic embargo against Iraq. 769-7422

Sara Paretsky: Celebration of Jewish Arts/Writers Series 7:30 pm, Irwin Green Aud., Hillel, 1429 Hill, \$8/\$5 students. 769-0500

Support Group: Adult Daughters of Alcoholics & Other Trauma 7:30 pm, 3200 Mich. Union, 530 S. State. 763-4186

Al Rapone & the Zydeco Express: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main, call for price. 761-1451

Paul Keller & Company: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$3. 662-8310

4 Wednesday

ArtVideo: U-M Museum of Art noon, AV room, 525 S. State, "Picasso, Braque, and the Cubist Revolution." 747-0521

Buhrrr Blast: Dept. of Parks & Rec. 3:30-5:15 pm, Buhr Outdoor Ice Arena, 2751 Packard. Special activities for kids, \$1.75 for youths 17 and under. 971-3228

Weekly Run for Lesbians, Gays & Bisexuals: Ann Arbor Front Runners 5 pm (see 1 Sun)

Massage Class: Common Language Bookstore 6 pm, 214 S. 4th Ave. Course taught by David Rosenberg, certified massage therapist, \$5 each class. 662-6282

"Womyn's Rites & Rhythms": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

"Mideast Perspectives": WCBN-FM 6:30 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

"Clearcuts"—American Premiere Screening: Film Video Studies 7 pm, Angell Hall, Aud. A. Director Richard Bugayski will introduce his latest film, starring Graham Greene (Dances With Wolves) about an Indian who kidnaps a logging company executive for a cross country tour. 764-0147

Meeting: Lesbian, Bisexual & Gay Men Adult Children of Alcoholics 7 pm, St. Andrew's Episcopal, 306 N. Division. 996-1532

Taj Mahal: The Ark 7:30 & 9:30 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main, call for price. 761-1451

Dream Workshop: Creation Spirituality 7:30 pm, call for location. 665-3522

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee 8 pm, Mich. Union. Ask for room # at information desk. 665-8438

Meeting: East Quad/RC Social Group 9-11 pm, E. Quad, 701 E. Univ. Meeting for Lesbians, Bisexuals, & Gay men. 764-5661

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$3. 662-8310

Uncle Tupelo: Prism Productions 10 pm, Blind Pig, 208 S. First, \$5. 996-8555

5 Thursday

ArtTalk: U-M Museum of Art noon, AV room, 525 S. State. "Southern Baroque: Bernini and Velasquez." 764-0395

The East European Director in North America: Film Video Studies 4 pm, Mod. Lang. Bldg., Hall 1. Director Richard Bugayski speaks about his craft as a Polish director who now lives and makes films in Canada. 764-0147

Meeting: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Law Students Association 5 pm, 721 S. State, third floor. 998-6136

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. Help expose myths about homelessness and confront businesses and politicians who contribute to existing poverty and homelessness. 996-1788

"Second Opinion": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. Interviews, with host Erwin Knoll, editor of The Progressive. 763-3500

"El Mundo Latino": WCBN-FM 6:30 pm, 88.3 FM. News, announcements, interviews & commentary focused on Latin America. 763-3500

Meeting: Gays & Lesbians Older & Wiser (GLOW) 7 pm, Turner Geriatric Services, 1010 Wall. 763-6631

Flaming Menorah Party: Hillel 7 pm, 1429 Hill. The entire Jewish community is welcome to join in this Chanukah fling sponsored by the Jewish Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay Collective. 769-0500

Meeting: Amnesty International U-M 7 pm, B-137 Mod. Lang. Bldg. 662-6282

Lesbian and Gay Youth Support Group: Ozone House 7:30 pm, 608 N. Main. Support group for lesbian, gay, or bisexual teens. Confidential and free. 662-2222

Meeting: ACT-UP/Ann Arbor 7:30 pm, Mich. Union, ask for room # at desk. 665-1797

"The Diary of Anne Frank": Preferred Film Series 8 pm, 1429 Hill. Film selected by Abby Stewart, Professor of Women's Studies, \$3. 769-0500

"Thursday's Child": Attic Theatre 8 pm, 7339 Third, Detroit. Play about middle age from a woman's perspective, \$10-27, (Preview Week thru Sun 8). 1-313-875-8284

Michael Smith: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main, call for price. 761-1451

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

6 Friday

Women's Minyan: Hillel 4:45 pm, 1429 Hill. Celebrate the traditional women's festival of Rosh Hodesh as the new month of Tevet is welcomed with a creative, feminist service. 769-0500

Lesbian, Bisexual & Gay Happy Hour Group 5 pm, Dominick's, 812 Monroe. 763-4186

Lesbian & Bisexual Womyn's Potluck: Common Language Bookstore & Lesbian Programs Office 6-8 pm, 214 S. 4th Ave. Bring a dish (no cooking facilities). 663-0036

"Grey Matters": WCBN 6 pm, 88.3 FM. News, announcements, interviews & commentary focused on the news media. 763-3500

Reports From Iraq: Peace InSight 6:05 pm (see 3 Tue)

"Community & Culture": WCBN 6:30 pm, 88.3 FM. Public affairs program. 763-3500

"Raise the Roof" Variety Show Fundraiser: Performance Network 7 pm Buffet Reception, 8 pm Variety Showcase, at Performance Network, 408 W. Washington. Featuring Elise Bryant, Jay Stielstra, Nisi Shawl, Arwulf Anrwulf, George Bedard, Annemarie Stoll, Malcolm Tulip, Whitley Setrakian, and many more! \$15, includes Sat. dance party! (see 7 Sat). 663-0681

Meetings: Lesbians, Gay Men, & Bisexuals Alcoholics Anonymous (AA) & Alanon 7:30 pm, St. Andrew's Episcopal, 306 N. Division. 996-1532 (Alanon)

Tom Rush: The Ark 7:30 & 10 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main, \$11.25. 761-1451

"Human Rights, Uruguay and Amnesty International": Amnesty International 8 pm, Rackham Amphitheater. Celebrate Human Rights Day and Amnesty International's 30th Anniversary in an evening with Uruguayan author and ex-political prisoner, Hiber Conteris. 769-7512

"Thursday's Child": Attic Theatre 8 pm (see 5 Thu)

Johnny O'Neal: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$5. 662-8310

Dance Jam: People Dancing 10 pm, People Dancing Studio, 111 Third St. Varied recorded dance music. Smoke- and alcohol-free. Children welcome, \$2. 665-7911

7 Saturday

Films—Jasper Johns: Family Programs, U-M Museum of Art 10:30 am, Angell Hall, Aud. D. 764-0395

Lesbian Self-Defense Course: Lesbian Programs Office 10:30 am, Mich. Union, 530 S. State, call for room #. 763-4186

"Raise the Roof" Variety Show Fundraiser: Performance Network 7 pm Buffet Reception, 8 pm Variety Showcase, 11 pm Dance Party with Frank Allison and the Odd Sox. (see 6 Fri)

Meeting: Sober Sisters, An AA Group for Lesbians & Bisexual Women 7 pm, Common Language Bookstore, 214 S. 4th Ave. 663-0036

"Thursday's Child": Attic Theatre 8 pm (see 5 Thu)

"Thelma and Louise": Hill Street Cinema 8 pm & 10:30 pm, 1429 Hill, \$3. 769-0500

Drum Circle: Guild House 8 pm, 802 Monroe. For adults interested in playing

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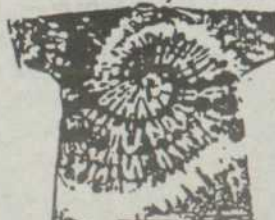
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Attention Students & Faculty

Pay Your Parking Violations Before You Leave For The Holidays

Graduates: If you leave Ann Arbor with six or more unpaid parking violations you will be unable to renew your drivers license without payment. *Take care of them now and avoid the hassle later!*

Undergraduates: Six or more unpaid violations can result in your vehicle being towed and impounded when you return, or your drivers license not being renewed. *Start the new year with a clean slate! Don't go home with tickets on your car!*

Information regarding your parking violations can be obtained from the Parking Violations Bureau, First Floor, City Hall, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Monday - Friday, 994-2775.

Richard Garay
City Treasurer



hand percussion and learning rhythms. 662-5189

The RFD Boys: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main, call for price. 761-1451

Johnny O'Neal: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 6 Fri)

8 Sunday

Padded Attacker Class of the Lesbian Self-Defense Course: Lesbian Programs Office 9-5 pm, Mich. Union, call for room #. 763-4186

Cobblestone Farm "Country Christmas": Dept. of Parks and Rec. noon-5 pm, 2781 Packard. Music, caroling, and fresh baked goods. 971-3228

Reports From Iraq: Peace InSight 1:05 pm (see 3 Tue)

"Thursday's Child": Attic Theatre 2 pm (see 5 Thu)

Sunday Tour: U-M Museum of Art 2 pm (see 1 Sun)

Special Ministry to Gay Men & Lesbians: Huron Valley Community Church 2 pm (see 1 Sun)

Grand Opening of Buhr Ice Rink: Dept. of Parks and Rec. 2:30-5:30 pm, Buhr Park Outdoor Rink, 2751 Packard. Free skating, refreshments, and prizes, (skate rental available). 971-3228

Meeting: Lesbian of Color Collective 3 pm, call for location. 996-4705

Alternative Holiday Fair: Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice 3-7 pm, First Baptist Church, 512 E. Huron. Celebrate the holiday by giving alternative gifts. 663-1870

U-M Community Eucharist: Canterbury House 5 pm (see 1 Sun)

Swim Practice: A2QUA (Ann Arbor Queer Aquatics) 5 pm (see 1 Sun)

Meeting: Presbyterians for Lesbian/Gay Concerns 5 pm, call for location. 763-4186

Weekly Run for Lesbians, Gays, & Bisexuals: Ann Arbor Front Runners 5 pm (see 1 Sun)

Grads and Young Professionals Veggie Potluck Dinner & Hanukah Party: JCC Outing Club & Hillel 5:30 pm, Lawyers' Club, Law Quad. Join us in lighting the menorah for the last day of Hanukah, followed by a veggie potluck dinner. We'll provide the latkes, \$3 donation. Reserve 769-0500

"Lady From Shanghai": Film Classic Series 7 pm, Angell Hall Aud. A. 764-0147

"Psychological Destruction of War": Women's Action for a New Direction (WAND) 7:30 pm, St. Aidan's/Northside Church, 1679 Broadway. Lecture by Dr. Elizabeth Allen, Professor of Nursing, Vietnam veteran, and outspoken critic of the Persian Gulf War. 662-2475.

Meetings: Ypsilanti Lesbians', Gay Men's, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

Meeting: U-M Gay & Lesbian Alumni Society 7:30 pm, call for location. 484-0754

The Steve Chapin Band: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main, call for price. 761-1451

Paul Finkbeiner Jazz Jam: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

9 Monday

"Spotlight Africa": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

Lesbian Health Series: Lesbian Programs Office 7 pm, Common Language Bookstore, 214 S. 4th Ave. Topic: "Demythologizing Sexual Function & Dysfunction in Lesbian Relationships." 663-0036

Betty Friedan: UAC/Viewpoint Lecture Series 7:30 pm, Rackham Aud. Celebrated author of "The Feminine Mystique," and founder of the National Organization for Women (NOW) will give a one-hour lecture to be followed by a question and answer period, \$6/\$3 students. 763-1107

Alise Alousi and Kathleen Meade: Guild House Writers Series 8:30 pm, 802 Monroe. 662-5189

Social for Lesbians, Bisexual People, & Gay Men: Canterbury House 8:45 pm (see 2 Mon)

Bird of Paradise Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 2 Mon)

10 Tuesday

ArtBreak: U-M Museum of Art 12:10 pm (see 3 Tue)

"Closets are for Clothes": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

"In These States": WCBN-FM 6:30 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Student Association 7 pm (see 3 Tue)

"The Attica Rebellion & U.S. Prisons": Peace InSight 7:05 pm, A2 Comm. Access TV, Cable Channel 9. Present and past prisoners and prisoner rights advocates comment on conditions in prisons, our society, and prison reform. 769-7422

Meeting: Washtenaw Citizens for Animal Rights 7:30 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. 665-2480

Support Group: Adult Daughters of Alcoholics & Other Trauma 7:30 pm (see 3 Tue)

Barb Barton: The Ark 8 pm, The Ark, 637-1/2 S. Main, \$6.75-\$7.75. 761-1451

Paul Keller & Company: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 3 Tue)

11 Wednesday

ArtVideo: U-M Museum of Art noon, AV room, 525 S. State, "Frescoes of Diego Rivera." 747-0521

Buhrrr Blast: Dept. of Parks & Rec. 3:30-5:15 pm (see 4 Wed)

Weekly Run for Lesbians & Gays: A2 Front Runners 5 pm (see 1 Sun)

"Womyn's Rites & Rhythms": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

Massage Class: Common Language Bookstore 6 pm (see 4 Wed)

"Mid-East Perspectives": WCBN-FM 6:30 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

"Thursday's Child": Attic Theatre 7 pm (see 5 Thu)

Meeting: Lesbian, Bisexual, & Gay Men Adult Children of Alcoholics 7 pm (see 4 Wed)

"Peace on Earth...With a Little Help From Space": Ann Arbor Space Society 7:30 pm, Industrial Technology Inst., 2901 Hubbard. Lecture about how space exploration could have peaceful benefits on earth. 769-5223

Open Stage: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main, call for price. 761-1451

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee 8 pm (see 4 Wed)

Meeting for Lesbians, Bisexuals, & Gay Men: East Quad/RC Social Group 9 pm (see 4 Wed)

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

12 Thursday

ArtTalk: U-M Museum of Art noon to 1 pm, AV room, 525 S. State, "Northern Baroque: Rubens, Rembrandt, Vermeer." 764-0395

Meeting: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Law Students Association 5 pm (see 5 Thu)

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

"Second Opinion": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

"El Mundo Latino": WCBN-FM 6:30 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

Meeting: Amnesty International U-M 7 pm (see 5 Thu)

"Yemaya: Mother of the Sea": Gaia and Girlfrenzy 7:30 pm, ICC Education Ctr., 1522 Hill St. Discussion/demonstration by Nisi Shawl of the attributes of the African goddess Yemaya. 665-3522

Meeting: Journey Women 7:30 pm, 802 Monroe. Women's spirituality group. 662-5189

Meeting: ACT-UP/Ann Arbor 7:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

"Persephone: Queen of the Underworld": Performance Network 8 pm, 408 W. Washington. "A play about the growth of a Greek goddess from a teeny-bopper into a woman divine after being abducted by Hades, god of the underworld." \$9/\$7 students & srs. 663-0681

Sileas: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main, call for price. 761-1451

"Thursday's Child": Attic Theatre 8 pm (see 5 Thu)

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

13 Friday

Lesbian, Bisexual & Gay Happy Hour Group 5 pm (see 6 Fri)

Christmas Meeting: Lutherans Concerned/Ann Arbor 6 pm, meeting for Lutherans who are Lesbian, Gay, or Bisexual, call for location. 996-9351

"Grey Matters": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

"The Attica Rebellion & U.S. Prisons": Peace InSight 6:05 pm (see 10 Tue)

13th Annual Banquet: Palestine Aid Society 6:30 pm, First United Methodist Church, 120 S. State. Speaker: Dr. Riyadh Mansour, Deputy Permanent Observer for the PLO Mission to the United Nations—and authentic Middle Eastern food, \$25 donation/\$20 students. 741-1113

"Community & Culture": WCBN-FM 6:30 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

Gay & Bisexual Men's Gathering: Wait Whitman's Coffee House 7 pm, Glacier Way United Methodist Church, 1001 Green Rd. Potluck honoring supportive heterosexuals; bring a dish to share. 971-5411

Isabel Miller: Common Language Bookstore 7 pm, 214 S. Fourth Ave. 663-0036

"Creches, Menorahs, and Talking Gods": Jewish Cultural Society Adult Education 7:30 pm, call for location. Discussion of Supreme Court's treatment of religious displays led by Gene Feingold, U-M School of Public Health Professor Emeritus and 3rd-year U-M law student. 665-5761

Meetings: Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA & Alanon 7:30 pm (see 6 Fri)

Footloose Holiday Show: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main, call for price. 761-1451

"Persephone: Queen of the Underworld": Performance Network 8 pm (see 13 Fri)

"Thursday's Child": Attic Theatre 8 pm (see 5 Thu)

Eddie Higgins and Meredith D'Ambrosia: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$5. 662-8310

14 Saturday

Third World Handcrafts Sale: SERRV 10 am to 1 pm, Zion Lutheran Church (tower entrance), 1501 W. Liberty. Open stockroom sale. SERRV sells artisan-made crafts, and ensures an equitable price for the artists' work. 663-0362

Cobblestone Farm "Kids in the Farm Kitchen": Dept. of Parks and Rec. 10 am-noon (ages 5-8), 1 pm-3 pm (ages 7-11), 2781 Packard. Bake and decorate gingerbread cookies. 971-3228

Kids PhotoCollage Workshop: U-M Museum of Art 10:30 am, 525 S. State. Using a polaroid camera and collage technique, children ages 9-12 will create portraits, self-portraits, and still-lives by altering and enhancing ordinary snapshots. Taught by A2 photographer Bob Moustakas, \$5, call to register. 764-0395

Skate with Santa: Dept. of Parks and Rec. 2:30-4:30 pm, Buhr Park Outdoor Rink, 2751 Packard. Adults \$2.25, youths/seniors \$1.75. 971-3228

"Thursday's Child": Attic Theatre 5 pm & 9 pm (see 5 Thu)

Social Group: Lesbians Over 30 6 pm, Common Language Bookstore, 214 S. 4th Ave. 663-0036

Meeting: Sober Sisters 7 pm (see 7 Sat)

Share a Reconstructionist Havdalah: Hillel 7:30 pm, 1429 Hill. Could you be a reconstructionist and not know it? Come find out. Interested in exploring a havurah? Join us for coffee, havdalah, and conversation. Rabbi Bob Gluck of the Reconstructionist College will facilitate. Martha Kransdorf, 663-7933

Dick Siegel Ensemble: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main, call for price. 761-1451

"Persephone: Queen of the Underworld": Performance Network 8 pm (see 13 Fri)

Drum Circle: Guild House 8 pm (see 7 Sat)

Eddie Higgins and Meredith D'Ambrosia: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 13 Fri)

Spanic Boys: Prism 10 pm, Rick's, 611 Church, \$5. 996-2747

15 Sunday

Third World Handcrafts Sale: SERRV 9:30 am to 12:30 pm (see 14 Sat)

Make Your Own Backyard Ice Rink Clinic: Dept. of Parks & Rec. 10:30 am, West Park, 313 Chapin. 994-2768

"The Attica Rebellion & U.S. Prisons": Peace InSight 1:05 pm (see 10 Tue)

Steve Marsh and Duncan Moran: Granite Line Writers 2 pm, Freight-house Cafe, inside Farmer's Mkt., Ypsilanti (w/open mike slots), \$3. 994-4341

Sunday Tour: U-M Museum of Art 2 pm (see 1 Sun)

Special Ministry to Gay Men & Lesbians: Huron Valley Community Church 2 pm (see 1 Sun)

Susan Strauss: The Ark 2 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Storytelling program of Greek myths, and Russian, English, Japanese, Yiddish, Hassidic, and Native American tales, call for price. 761-1451

"Thursday's Child": Attic Theatre 2 pm & 7 pm (see 5 Thu)

Meeting: Dawntreaders 3 pm (see 1 Sun)

Caroling by Candlelight: Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra 4 pm & 7:30 pm, Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty. AASO collaborates with Ann Arbor Cantata Singers in a performance of seasonal favorites with plenty of sing-along opportunities, \$18/\$15/\$12 (discounts for students, seniors, children). 668-8397

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Swim Practice: A2QUA (Ann Arbor Queer Aquatics) 5 pm (see 1 Sun)
U-M Community Eucharist: Canterbury House 5 pm (see 1 Sun)
Weekly Run for Lesbians, Gays, & Bisexuals: Ann Arbor Front Runners 5 pm (see 1 Sun)

Monthly Potluck: Lesbian/Gay Male Scientists & Engineers 6-8:30 pm. Bring a dish to share, call for location. 668-8141

Meeting: Huron Valley Greens 6 pm (see 1 Sun)

"Persephone: Queen of the Underworld": Performance Network 6:30 pm (see 13 Fri)

Meetings: Ypsilanti Lesbians, Gay Men, & Bisexuals AA and Alanon 7:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

Paul Finkbeiner Jazz Jam: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

16 Monday

Women's Book Group: Guild House noon (see 2 Mon)

"Spotlight Africa": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

Christine Monhollen and Dorinda Dellso: Guild House Writers Series 8:30 pm, 802 Monroe. 662-5189

Social for Lesbians, Bisexual People & Gay Men: Canterbury House 8:45 pm (see 2 Mon)

Bird of Paradise Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 2 Mon)

17 Tuesday

ArtBreak: U-M Museum of Art 12:10 pm, topic: photographs by Baldwin Lee. (see 3 Tue)

"Closets are for Clothes": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

"In These States": WCBN-FM 6:30 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

Meeting: Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Student Association 7 pm (see 3 Tue)

"Standing Outside with the People of Nicaragua": Peace InSight 7:05 pm, A2 Comm. Access TV, Cable Channel 9. While the bigwig hotshots were inside the Managua Cathedral Fund's \$500-per-plate dinner, others chose to stand outside... Includes music and poetry by some of A2's finest. 769-7422

Support Group: Adult Daughters of Alcoholics & Other Trauma 7:30 pm (see 3 Tue)

Paul Keller & Company: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 3 Tue)

18 Wednesday

ArtVideo:U-M Museum of Art noon, AV room, 525 S. State. 747-0521

Buhrrr Blast: Dept. of Parks & Rec. 3:30-5:15 pm (see 4 Wed)

Weekly Run for Lesbians, Gays & Bisexuals: Ann Arbor Front Runners 5 pm (see 1 Sun)

Massage Class: Common Language Bookstore 6 pm (see 4 Wed)

"Womyn's Rites & Rhythms": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

"Mid-East Perspectives": WCBN-FM 6:30 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

Meeting: Lesbian, Bisexual, & Gay Men Adult Children of Alcoholics 7 pm (see 4 Wed)

"Thursday's Child": Attic Theatre 7 pm (see 5 Thu)

Dream Workshop: Creation Spirituality 7:30 pm, call for location. 665-3522

Open Stage Showcase: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Two of the best performers from the regular Open Stages, call for price. 761-1451

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee 8 pm (see 4 Wed)

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

19 Thursday

Meeting: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Law Students Association 5 pm (see 5 Thu)

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

"Second Opinion": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

"El Mundo Latino": WCBN-FM 6:30 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

Meeting: Amnesty International U-M 7 pm (see 5 Thu)

Lesbian and Gay Youth Support Group: Ozone House 7:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

Meeting: ACT-UP/Ann Arbor 7:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

"Persephone": Performance Network 8 pm (see 13 Fri)

"Thursday's Child": Attic Theatre 8 pm (see 5 Thu)

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

20 Friday

Lesbian, Bisexual & Gay Happy Hour Group 5 pm (see 6 Fri)

"Grey Matters": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

"Standing Outside...": Peace InSight 6:05 pm (see 17 Tue)

"Community & Culture": WCBN-FM 6:30 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

The RFD Boys: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Special Christmas show, call for price. 761-1451

Meetings: Lesbians, Gay Men, & Bisexuals AA & Alanon 7:30 pm (see 6 Fri)

"Persephone": Performance Network 8 pm (see 13 Fri)

"Thursday's Child": Attic Theatre 8 pm (see 5 Thu)

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$5. 662-8310

Dance Jam: People Dancing 10 pm (see 6 Fri)

21 Saturday

"Thursday's Child": Attic Theatre 5 pm & 9 pm (see 5 Thu)

Meeting: Sober Sisters 7 pm (see 7 Sat)

"Persephone": Performance Network 8 pm (see 13 Fri)

Drum Circle: Guild House 8 pm (see 7 Sat)

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 20 Fri)

22 Sunday

Santa on Ice: Dept. of Parks and Rec. 1-3 pm, Veteran's Indoor Ice Arena. Adults \$3.75, youths/seniors \$3. 761-7240

"Standing Outside...": Peace InSight 1:05 pm (see 17 Tue)

Sunday Tour: U-M Museum of Art 2 pm (see 1 Sun)

Special Ministry to Gay Men & Lesbians: Huron Valley Community Church 2 pm (see 1 Sun)

Meeting: Parents-FLAG/Ann Arbor 2 pm, King of Kings Lutheran Church, 2685 Packard. 769-1684

"Thursday's Child": Attic Theatre 2 pm & 7 pm (see 5 Thu)

Winter Solstice Walk: Dept. of Parks & Rec. 3-5 pm, Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Family hike, followed by a warm fire, hot cocoa, and storytelling, \$3 adults/\$2 youths. 662-7802

Weekly Run for Lesbians, Gays & Bisexuals: Ann Arbor Front Runners 5 pm (see 1 Sun)

"Persephone": Performance Network 6:30 pm (see 13 Fri)

Meetings: Ypsilanti Lesbians, Gay Men, & Bisexuals AA & Alanon 7:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

Paul Finkbeiner Jazz Jam: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

23 Monday

2nd Annual Holiday Dinner for Gay Men, Lesbians, Bisexual People, Their Families and Friends 6-9 pm, First Unitarian Universalist Church, 1917 Washtenaw. Festive holiday atmosphere, good fellowship, and great food! Turkey and beverages are provided, please bring a side-dish or dessert to share. Chem-free, all ages, free! 665-6158

"Spotlight Africa": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

Bird of Paradise Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 2 Mon)

24 Tuesday

"Closets are for Clothes": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

"Journey of Peace and Dignity": Peace InSight 7:05 pm, A2 Comm. Access TV, Cable Channel 9. Presentation on Aztec Sun Dancing and the Journey of Peace and Dignity. 769-7422

"In These States": WCBN-FM 6:30 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

Meeting: Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Student Association 7 pm (see 3 Tue)

Support Group: Adult Daughters of Alcoholics & Other Trauma 7:30 pm (see 3 Tue)

Paul Keller & Company: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 3 Tue)

25 Wednesday

"Womyn's Rites & Rhythms": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

"Mid-East Perspectives": WCBN-FM 6:30 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

26 Thursday

Meeting: Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Law Students Association 5 pm (see 5 Thu)

"Second Opinion": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

"El Mundo Latino": WCBN-FM 6:30 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

Meeting: ACT-UP/Ann Arbor 7:30 pm (see 5 Thu)

"Thursday's Child": Attic Theatre 8 pm (see 5 Thu)

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 4 Wed)

27 Friday

Lesbian, Bisexual & Gay Happy Hour Group 5 pm (see 6 Fri)

"Grey Matters": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

"Journey of Peace and Dignity": Peace InSight 6:05 pm (see 24 Tue)

"Community & Culture": WCBN-FM 6:30 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

Meetings: Lesbians, Gay Men, & Bisexuals AA & Alanon 7:30 pm (see 6 Fri)

"Thursday's Child": Attic Theatre 8 pm (see 5 Thu)

Tom Lellis: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$5. 662-8310

28 Saturday

"Thursday's Child": Attic Theatre 5 pm & 9 pm (see 5 Thu)

Meeting: Sober Sisters 7 pm (see 7 Sat)

Tom Lellis: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 27 Fri)

29 Sunday

"Journey of Peace and Dignity": Peace InSight 1:05 pm (see 24 Tue)

Special Ministry to Gay Men & Lesbians: HVCC 2 pm (see 1 Sun)

Weekly Run: Ann Arbor Front Runners 5 pm (see 1 Sun)

Meetings: Ypsilanti Lesbians, Gay Men, & Bisexuals AA & Alanon 7:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

Paul Finkbeiner Jazz Jam: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 1 Sun)

30 Monday

"Spotlight Africa": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

Bird of Paradise Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 2 Mon)

31 Tuesday

"Closets are for Clothes": WCBN-FM 6 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

"Songs for Peace & Justice": Peace InSight 7:05 pm, A2 Comm. Access TV, Cable Channel 9. Original songs and lyrics of Marcia Federbush. 769-7422

"In These States": WCBN-FM 6:30 pm, 88.3 FM. 763-3500

New Year's Eve with John Roberts & Tony Barrand: The Ark 8 & 11 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. All-time Ark favorites, call for price. 761-1451

Eddie Russ Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 5 Tue)

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Gay Lib to Ann Arbor: "Thank You for Domestic Partnership Ordinance!"

We are jubilant and proud that Ann Arbor's Mayor and City Council have adopted an ordinance providing lesbian and gay male couples who are Ann Arbor residents the right to register their domestic partnerships.

The unanimous vote in favor of adopting the ordinance, proposed by Councilwoman Ann Marie Coleman, occurred Tuesday, November 5 after five-hours of testimony by city residents and others. Eighty-four speakers supported adoption of the ordinance and 19 speakers urged Council to reject the second reading of the ordinance.

We thank everyone for their support—people who spoke for adoption of the ordinance; people who could not take the risk of testifying publicly but who worked "behind the scenes"; Jayne Miller and Chris McGown for their pioneering efforts; Mayor Brater and Councilpeople Coleman, Hunter, Dodge, Sheldon, Meade, Grady, Zimmer, Ouimet, Eckstein, and Peterson. The unanimous vote sends a message: Ann Arbor continues to be a welcoming and inclusive community. Thanks.

Many members of "the Ann Arbor family" may welcome us, but as we move into the end-of-year celebrations that mark December we need to be aware of the stress that many lesbians and gay men experience at this time. How many families welcome to their holiday festivities the "significant other" or domestic partner of their lesbian and gay male children? How many families deny their children this moving support? How many families have told their children, "You are no longer a part of us?" How many families refuse even to acknowledge the orientation of their lesbian daughters, gay sons, and bisexual children? Silence renders us invisible and non-existent: Silence equals death.

But fortunately, support groups for families with lesbian, gay male, and bisexual children have for many years addressed family concerns with care and compassion. Our local group, Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (P-FLAG/ Ann Arbor) meets on the third Sunday of the month at 2 pm at Kings Lutheran Church, 2685 Packard just west of Eisenhower. For more information, call 769-1284, 665-2298, or 227-6564.

Gay Liberation Front provides information, counseling, and related social services for people concerned about sexual orientation. We maintain a hotline for crisis intervention, peer counseling and referral. We help provide factual information to offset prejudice and misinformation about lesbians and gay men. We work to obtain human and civil rights for all, regardless of sexual orientation. We help lesbian and gay men's groups organize, and we are a link to other community groups.

Community Services include: a **Hotline** for crisis intervention, peer counseling, referral. **Education:** workshops and conferences on lesbian and gay male concerns, with an emphasis on how people in the "helping professions" and "teaching professions" can work positively with lesbian and gay male clients, patients, & students. **Speakers Bureau:** phone for information. **Human & Civil Rights:** information and referral to help people who are being discriminated against because of their actual or presumed sexual orientation or because of their presumed "cross-gender" characteristics; lobbying for human and civil rights. **Community Organization and Liaison:** information and assistance in organizing groups, setting goals, addressing conflict, linking with other groups and resources.

Gay Liberation Front Meetings vary according to purpose; we do most of our work in subcommittees (counseling, groupwork, education, civil rights). Call for time and place. Gay Liberation includes U-M students, staff, faculty and people from the larger communities. We have a president, vice president, secretary and treasurer. We're a registered non-profit organization.

Gay Liberation Front, c/o 4117 Michigan Union, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1349; 763-4186.

EL SALVADOR (from page 5)

reports, uncontroversial and essentially uninteresting. However, their credibility is still high in this relatively optimistic climate. We have to wait and see.

Meanwhile, under pressure from various fronts, the government and the rebels unexpectedly signed accords that establish a Commission for the Peace (COPAZ). The two sides met in New York the week that I arrived in San Salvador, and under heavy pressure from other Latin governments (especially the Venezuelans, who see themselves as the regional peacemakers), the U.S., and Perez de Cuellar (Secretary General of the UN), they made tremendous progress. COPAZ is to be made up of representatives of the rebels, each party represented in the National Assembly, and military people, and is to have wide-ranging powers to begin the transition to peace. As of this writing, the various parties are choosing their representatives to the commission. No one seems quite sure exactly what the commission is supposed to do, but there is enormous optimism about COPAZ. Again, wait and see.

But there is some concrete stuff happening. After almost two years of recrimination, allegations, and cover-ups, the case of the Nov. 16, 1989, murder of six Jesuit scholar-priests, their cook, and her daughter came to trial. I refer people to the New York Times (9/30/91) for more information on what it was all about, I'll just add my little bit. Keep in mind that the trial only came to pass at all because of enormous pressure from the international human rights community, including the U.S. Congress.

The case was tried in a civilian court. Nine soldiers were finally indicted, though the others were found to be the "material authors" of the crime (those who pulled the triggers), they were not convicted of murder, nor were the "intellectual authors" (those who may have planned or sanctioned the killings) pointed out. Only those who gave the orders, a Colonel and Lt. Colonel on the staff at the Officers' School, will be sentenced later this month. What is perhaps key in the trial is that the folks who got off, essentially, were the ones who had received training as part of their status as an elite battalion at Fort Bragg, in the U.S. Further, it is probably not an accident that the trial finished only a few days before Congressional debate was scheduled to begin on renewed aid. I leave you to draw your own conclusions about this.

Meanwhile the price of coffee is at a 16-year low on the world market. Coffee is third in Salvadoran foreign currency earnings, behind direct U.S. government aid and remittances from Salvadorans living abroad (in the States). Thus, the price drop (declining steadily all summer) constitutes a major crisis for the already-battered economy. This is recognized by the conservative wing of the popular media, which is very publicly worried about the fall in the nation's revenues, and chronicles the ongoing battle over coffee taxes.

The Jesuit University of Central America's weekly review, "Proceso," published an article a few weeks back in which they pointed out that coffee earnings in the first trimester of 1991 dropped 30% compared to 1990. They also warn of the effect of the "threat of an international boycott of our coffee," which could paralyze the coffee sector. The article concludes that "the truth is that coffee production for export does not seem to have too much future in the actual conditions of the international market." Therefore El Salvador should start looking for other ways to earn money—ways that lead to less unequal structures of wealth distribution. This country has depended very heavily on coffee for a hundred years, so these are strong words from the country's most respected intellectual institution.

And finally, every day the rebels and the government make their respective claims about the war's body count. I try to read it every day, but it gets a little depressing and repetitive. All that I can discern is that the war continues, as fiercely as ever, if not more so, as each side tries to consolidate its position before the (more or less inevitable if only official) cease-fire freezes the lines of control. But let me re-emphasize that a cease-fire only means peace in one very limited sense. The conditions which sparked the war (inequalities in wealth distribution, lack of jobs, generations of poverty in the face of wealth, repression) have not gone away.

And that's how I'd want to wrap up this section. Even if the war inconclusively concludes (as it seems it must), the violence is not going to end soon. As the example of Nicaragua has tragically shown us, it is very hard to find jobs for tens of thousands of ex-soldiers, on both sides, who've done nothing but kill for so long. The leaders get bought off and can retire, the foot soldiers get left, older and skillless, to fend for themselves. This in the midst of what seems will be tremendous economic flux as the coffee industry may be forced to reorganize. The two other major sources of revenue, both from the United States, may continue, but neither engages many Salvadorans (here in El Salvador) in its production; it doesn't take much time to cash checks, whether from USAID or from family in Los Angeles.

However, I think there are some crucial lessons that we can draw. For now, I'll point only to the relative increase in the importance of U.S. aid. The dependence of the government, especially the military, on U.S. assistance will increase as coffee revenues weaken. The U.S. will certainly encourage them to buy some small measure of civil peace with lavish if short-term development projects (the "peace fund" that liberal Congressfolk often propose in opposition to continued military aid).

If history is any guide, U.S. assistance will soon disappear as Central America continues to fade from the geopolitical picture. This means that Congressional decisions will continue to have tremendous effect here, at least for this fiscal year, and by extension, that I am safer. The last thing that Salvadoran government officials want is another catchphrase in the U.S. Congress, like "four American nuns" or "six Jesuit priests," to haunt their aid hearings. I'm not condoning this, just noting it.

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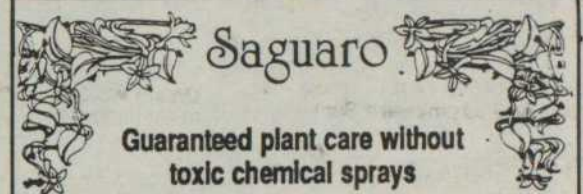
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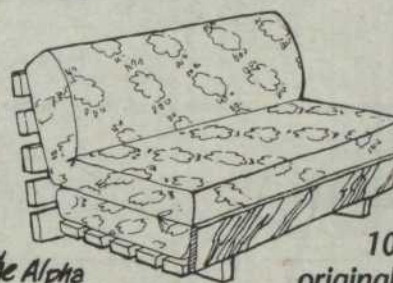
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Right now there are good opportunities for both buyers and sellers. If you would like to hear my best advice concerning timing and intelligent ways to proceed, I would be glad to meet with you. Give me a call today.



Bob Hefner