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AGENDA

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ANN ARBOR'S ALTERNATIVE NEWSMONTHLY

DESERT SHAME

Editor's note: A day-long conference on the aftermath of the Gulf War was held Jan. 18 on the U-M campus. The following text is an abridged version of the closing talk given by Dr. Louise Cainkar. Dr. Cainkar, according to the moderator's introductory remarks, "has travelled frequently to the Middle East throughout the last decade and toured Iraq, Kuwait, Palestine and Jordan after the Gulf War to assess the human consequences of the war. She has published and lectured widely on the Middle East but most importantly she works incredibly long hours every day on an incredibly small budget to supervise the production and circulation of the most comprehensive and accurate human rights data on Palestine available in the world."

...I'd like to talk about what the Middle East has been like since the end of the war from the perspective of the people who live there and from the perspective of human rights, which is the topic of most of my work.

First of all I thought that because very few of us have been to Kuwait, it's interesting to discover what happened in Kuwait during the war and how significantly it was damaged, especially because I had the ability to compare that to Iraq. I went to Kuwait, by the way, in August. I tried to go in March and April but I was unable to get a visa to Kuwait, which was our ally, although I could get a visa to Iraq which was our enemy. That's how the world works.

So I didn't get to Kuwait until August. I saw that—except for the burning oil wells,

which I saw from the plane only—there was not really a significant amount of structural damage to Kuwait. Some of the stores and shops had been burned, but it was a minority. All of the western hotels had been burned, not burned down, but burned. They were up and running shortly after the war ended. Just certain sections of them could not be opened. And buildings connected to the al-Sabah family were burned. Government palaces and villas and things like that. There's other things that were damaged, such as the airport.

I was told by American businesspeople there that that damage was actually done by the Coalition and that the phone system, the communication system, was put out of commission by the Coalition. That's what the head of Motorola told me when I was in

Kuwait so I assume he knows what he's talking about. And I did see civilian apartment buildings hit by Coalition missiles. The ones I saw were all inhabited by Palestinians. They happened to be next to placements of Iraqi tanks, which is probably why they were attacked. But those people were not given any warning of the impending attack. Missiles were just launched into their apartment buildings and they had to flee.

...There's no doubt that Iraq committed human rights violations in Kuwait. It's just the extent of them we don't really know. I asked every Kuwaiti I met (which was many): "Were you ever personally arrested and/or tortured by Iraqis?" They told me "no." I asked them if they knew anyone who was, they told me "no." That's really very unusual

(see DESERT SHAME, page 4)



Push for Downtown Club Conversion Continues

The fate of the Downtown Club will be the topic of a public meeting to be held on February 9 during the regularly scheduled joint caucus of City Council. The meeting, initiated by the Homeless Action Committee (HAC), will bring together members of City Council, the Washtenaw County Commissioners, the Downtown Development Authority, and several organizations concerned with housing and homelessness.

The Downtown Club, located at 110 N. Fourth Ave., is an office building that now stands over 50% vacant. The building's prior owners declared bankruptcy this fall and it became the property of First of America Bank on December 13. The building was purchased by the Commissioners of Washtenaw County in mid-January for County office use, through the issuance of \$2,000,000 in bonds.

The Downtown Club has been the focus of a concerted campaign by HAC throughout this fall and winter involving pickets and demonstrations (which resulted in a total of 19 arrests of demonstrators peacefully occupying the building). The Downtown Club housed low income adults until its conversion to office space in 1983. In light of the dire need for low income housing in Ann Arbor, HAC is advocating that the Downtown Club be returned to its original purpose.

At a January 11 meeting on the Downtown Club, hosted by the Gray Panthers, County Commission Chairperson Mary Lou Murray discussed the financial considerations barring the County from re-converting the building to housing. She estimated that it would cost \$551,000 to reconvert the building. Murray projected an annual cost of \$250,000 for debt service on renovation and purchase, in addition to \$126,000 in annual operating costs.

HAC maintains that housing must be constructed debt-free in order to be affordable to

low-income persons. This means that public housing monies must be provided for the original conversion costs. If this were the case, according to the county's figures, the total annual cost to run the building would be \$126,000. Assuming, as Murray did, that the building would hold 55 housing units, that cost could be offset by a monthly rent of \$190 per tenant.

HAC believes that the housing problem in Ann Arbor will only be tackled when local government bodies prioritize housing. All that is required to take the first step is \$551,000 and the will to do it. City Council controls a yearly budget of \$126 million. The Downtown Development Authority (the committee appointed by City Council to make improvements to the downtown area) has a budget of over \$3 million, and that over \$1.5 million in the city's "enterprise fund" was budgeted last year for a golf course. Some of these funds could be directed toward the re-conversion of the Downtown Club.

The County argues that they need the building for office space since it is directly across the street from their current office building. This argument loses validity when one considers the many units of vacant office space within two blocks of their current building and the glut of office space in general, in downtown Ann Arbor. It also appears that if the County is capable of purchasing a \$2 million building, they should also find within their budget the funds necessary to begin to address the county's housing crisis.

The meeting to discuss the fate of the Downtown Club will be Sunday, February 9 at 7:30 pm in the City Council Chambers. It is open to the public and anyone concerned about the housing and homelessness problem in Ann Arbor is encouraged to attend. Phillis Engelbert is a member of the Homeless Action Committee and an AGENDA staffer.

OPINION Phillis Engelbert

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,
220 S. Main St.,
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

tance call The Housing Bureau for Seniors at 763-0970.

Free Support Groups For Victims of Domestic Violence

The Domestic Violence Project is sponsoring a Thursday night support group for women who are or have been in an abusive relationship. Goals for the program include: sharing experiences and receiving support; setting goals; getting information on abusive relationships and legal, financial and other resources; discussing how children are affected by living in violent homes; and increasing self-esteem.

In conjunction with the 10-week support group, which begins Feb. 6, is the Kid's Club, a support group for children ages 6-12. The Kid's Club will focus on helping children develop positive expectations about themselves and others in their family. Child care for children under age six will be provided. Transportation assistance is available. Pre-registration is required. Call the Domestic Violence Project business office at 973-0242 or the 24-hour crisis line at 995-5444 for more information.

Register For Primary Vote

The Ann Arbor Area League of Women Voters reminds you to register your party preference with your City or Township Clerk by February 17, 1992. If you don't, you will not be eligible to vote in the March 17 presidential primary. For further information, contact Margaret FitzGerald at 668-8106.

Help For Seniors With Property Tax Problems

The Property Tax Foreclosure Prevention Program at the Housing Bureau for Seniors is available to help senior citizens get a tax deferment for their Winter 1991 property taxes. Although Winter 1991 property taxes are due in December, those 65 and older can still postpone them until April 30, 1992, if they fill out a deferment form prior to February 15, 1992. It is also possible to reduce the amount of property taxes owed. For assis-

AGENDA

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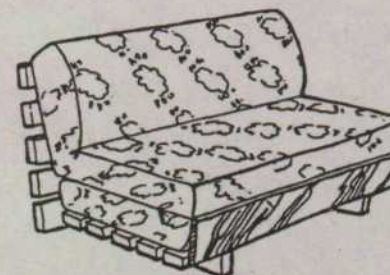
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2001: What Space Ought to be

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We're All Moved In!

We're all moved in to our new office space at 220 S. Main. We're busy getting used to our new environs and making fast friendships with Elmo and his great family. Feel free to come visit our happy home. If you wish to hand deliver an article, calendar item, check, (food of any kind!) or anything else, just walk in through the

front door of Elmo's Supershirts and ask for us. If we are not around, one of the Morales' will be glad to take anything you've brought. Keep those ads and donations and subscriptions coming!

Come to the Cabaret

Elmo's Cabaret is a social event that brings talented local performance artists and appreciative audiences together for mutual

entertainment in a low-overhead and no-frills venue. Regular club-goers and stay-at-home folks alike can experience the thrill of seeing a live show together in a pleasant no-smoke and no alcohol environment. Families are especially welcome to come. There is no charge for children!

The next Elmo's Cabaret will be held on Saturday, February 15 at People Dancing

Studio, 111 Third Street (at Huron). The two 45-minute sets will include Rick Sperling, Dwight Peterson, Monique Gigi, and others. Refreshments will be served at 7:30 pm, and the entertainment will begin at 8 pm. The cost is \$4 at the door with no charge for children. Part of the proceeds will be donated to AGENDA! For more info. call Elmo's, 994-9898.

Join in the Sourdough Fun

A community meeting and potluck will be held at the Depot Town Sourdough Bakery, 310 N. River in Ypsilanti, on Sunday March 1. This is an opportunity to meet people who participate in a democratically-managed community business and to join in. The potluck starts at 4 pm, and the meeting at 5 pm. Bring a dish to pass. The bakery will provide sourdough pizza. 487-8110

Café Cadré Makes a Comeback

Contrary to what other publications have recently printed regarding Café Cadré, it is not closed. It is alive and well, in an obscure building at 1011 Broadway, between The Cloverleaf Restaurant and St. Vincent De Paul. Café Cadré fills a niche in Ann Arbor that's never before been filled. The encouragement of artistic practices and an educational approach is an essential component of Café Cadré's philosophy.

Café Cadré starts February with a big bang—its new Wednesday Writers' Series!

Every Wednesday at 8 pm this comfortable, black and white tiled home space invites visitors to read on the open mike, listen to fantastic feature performers, and hang out afterwards for question and answer sessions with the featured writer.

Crack Baby Syndrome Over-Hyped

Researchers and educators gathered in Chicago from Dec. 13-17 to discuss pregnancy and addiction at the 1991 National Association for Perinatal Addiction Research and Education (NAPARE) conference. Public awareness of the issue is mostly shaped by sensational TV features about colicky "crack babies" and prosecutions of addicted mothers for in utero "cocaine delivery," Dr. Ira Chasoff told the conference. A local social worker who was in attendance reported that the gathered experts framed the problem much differently.

Children who are pre-natally exposed to cocaine are often abnormally lethargic, not

colicky, say the experts. By the second or third year after birth, two-thirds of children exposed to cocaine in utero show no symptoms. Those babies that show noticeable effects, such as small head size (mental retardation) were probably exposed to alcohol, cigarettes, poor nutrition and a lack of pre-natal care.

Weisbrot for Congress in '92

Mark Weisbrot, Central America activist and former U-M doctoral student in economics, is back in his old stomping grounds in Urbana, Illinois, and he's running as a Democrat for Congress. His experience as campaign manager for Dean Baker's unsuccessful attempt to defeat Rep. Carl Pursell in 1986 (although successful winning the Democratic party bid) should prepare him for both the primary, then a race with the rookie G.O.P. incumbent if he gets to the general election. There, as here, times are hard, voters are angry, and both Republicans and incumbents are at a disadvantage. If you want

to help his campaign, contact him as follows: Mark Weisbrot, 710E. Pennsylvania, Urbana, IL 61801, (217) 384-8186.

Sari Revkin To Speak

Sari Revkin, Director of the Support Project for Voluntary Organizations (SHATIL) in Jerusalem, will be in Ann Arbor February 6 as part of a national speaking tour. SHATIL, a project of the New Israel Fund, provides trainings and consultations to Israeli non-profit organizations. Revkin will give a talk entitled "Obstacles and Opportunities: Promoting Social Change in Israel." She will focus on the work of the New Israel Fund and SHATIL to support grassroots citizen efforts in Israel which promote civil and human rights, pluralism and tolerance, Jewish-Arab coexistence, women's rights, and community improvement. The free public presentation will begin at 7:30 pm at Beth Israel Congregation, 2000 Washtenaw Ave. For more information call Leonore Gerstein at 930-1673.

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Low Interest Rates:
Four Options for Homeowners

As I write this, interest rates are the lowest in 20 years. If you are a homeowner, the low rates should cause you to think about your housing situation, present and future.

For example, magazines and newspapers are full of advice, primarily: "Save money by refinancing your mortgage." In my view, however, there actually are four options available to homeowners:

- (1) Move to a different house, because low interest rates are in your favor both when you sell and when you buy.
- (2) Renovate your current home, using a low-rate loan to finance the improvements.
- (3) Sit tight with your current mortgage and home.
- (4) Refinance your mortgage.

When considering these options, decisions should be based on the many circumstances that vary with each homeowner, such as how long you expect to own your house, the current market value of your home (as is or as renovated) and the availability of the kind of house you would want to move to.

If you would like some expert advice when pondering these matters, please give me a call. I would be happy to consult with you, but you would have no obligation to me.



Bob Hefner

DESERT SHAME

(FROM PAGE ONE)

in a population that is subject to systematic abuses, that so many people don't know anyone personally that had that happen to them.

Nonetheless it did happen and apparently it happened primarily to resistance fighters who were mostly Kuwaitis but they were also Palestinians, Jordanians and from other parts of the foreign population of Kuwait who were part of the resistance. But the resistance seems to have been the people who were targeted by the occupiers for arrest, torture and some executions.

The other thing I have to say about Kuwait during the war is that I was taken on my second day in Kuwait by an employee of one of the ministries to see the "Valley of Death" as they call it in Kuwait. And he was very proud of this area. And it began just outside of Kuwait City and I was kind of surprised by that, I don't know why. Now this is where the columns and columns of withdrawing Iraqi troops were battered with explosives and cluster bombs while they were leaving. I had had the impression that it was somewhere near the Iraqi border that these attacks occurred. But in fact as soon as the Iraqis pulled out of Kuwait City, the attacks on them began. And so what I saw were just hundreds and hundreds of cars and trucks and buses and a few tanks in columns about ten deep all going in one direction, which was toward Iraq. They were obviously all bombed. There were no bodies when I got there but vehicles still remained.

It's unknown how many Iraqis died in this—as Laura Flanders has described it—"carpet bombing of a traffic jam." Certainly tens of thousands, from what I saw. The Pentagon's old estimates, although they said they weren't into estimating, was up to 100,000 and now they're coming out with a figure of 10,000 Iraqi military deaths at this point. This is something new as of yesterday. I don't know if you've heard it but it just cannot possibly be the case from what I saw.

The War is Not Over

...Now I talked about Iraq this morning and I really don't want to repeat everything I said, although a lot of you weren't here. I'm just going to summarize that situation. As you probably know, or should know, more Iraqis have been killed since the war ended than were killed during the war. This is a result of two things: the bombing that destroyed the infrastructure of Iraq and sanctions. When I was in Iraq in March and April, I did see civilian areas hit by Coalition bombs and, as I said this morning, I estimate that 10-20,000 Iraqis were killed in that way. But it was clear from visiting the hospitals which were barely functioning in Iraq at that time, that the largest number of deaths had come from the deaths of children, who were dying of diarrhea and malnutrition and were beginning then to see typhoid and cholera and other diseases. These were primarily from shortages of food, the inability to buy food, and the people drinking contaminated water.

The question for us now is: What is the current situation in Iraq? Is it any better? Well, in fact, it's not any better at all. The Harvard and international study teams went back to Iraq last fall as a follow up on their initial studies and they found that the child mortality rate in Iraq was still three to four times the normal, pre-war rate. That it was 20-30 children per 1,000 and it's now about 80 children per 1,000. Well if you know that there's a population of 3.6 million children under the age of five, this means that 180,000 children under the age of five died as a result of malnutrition and disease, caused by the war and sanctions. And that was in 1991. It's now 1992 and these deaths continue, and in fact, they increase.

I'm sure you can see from this that this war is not over. Our press keeps talking about this war as if it ended ten months ago. But if you stop and look from another perspective, that if there's still 500 civilians dying a day in Iraq, the war is not over. Because there are still civilian deaths.

The researchers found that children under five in Iraq are still severely malnourished, that severe malnourishment was evident in 30% of the population of children under five, that millions of Iraqis are still drinking water contaminated with sewage. Sixty-six percent of the homes whose water they tested in Iraq, tested positive for bacteria which cause typhoid and cholera. Typhoid is still epidemic in southern Iraq.

Electricity, which is necessary for water purifi-

cation and sewage treatment, is generating at 68% capacity. All the power plants have exhausted their supply of spare parts. And since spare parts are still embargoed from Iraq, these electrical plants face deterioration. The farm output, which they tried to increase to make up for the problem of food, is down 75-80% from pre-war levels, partly because of the inability to get any kind of fertilizers and partly because of the lack of water.

...The only vaccine plant in Iraq was blown up by the Coalition forces. Also, for water purification you need chemicals and Iraq was also forbidden from importing any kind of chemicals. So it's still the situation in Iraq where raw sewage is basically going into the streams. That water then gets tapped into the house and people then drink the water. That's a basic, simple explanation for what's happening in large parts of Iraq.

The sharply rising prices in the private sector combined with the fact that salaries are at the same level as they were before the war—food prices have increased 1,500-2,000% in Iraq—means that Iraqis are now earning 7% of what they earned before the war. The government is basically feeding most the people. The government is supplying rations to people, but those rations are limited because of the government's shortage of cash. The Harvard team found that millions of Iraqis are surviving on the subsidized food only and that it runs out after ten days and for the remaining 20 days of the month they go hungry. They have absolutely no food. They cannot afford to buy it. People who do have possessions, the middle class Iraqis, are selling them to buy food. There was a quote in one of these studies by a woman from Southern Iraq who said that during the war you could run from the bombing, but now you cannot run from your stomach.

The Harvard team found interestingly that the government system of food distribution was fair and efficient, that every home they went to was getting rations, that homes of different class levels in different regions were getting the same amount of rations. I make this point because it's been alleged, at least by the U.S. government, that the Iraqi government is keeping all of the relief supplies and not giving them to the people. These researchers did not find that to be the case. They said that hunger will increase in Iraq until changes in the sanctions are made and that the incidence of poverty in Iraq—Iraq was actually a somewhat wealthy country before this war, it was not what you would consider a poor, third world country—is now greater than India. And this is the current situation in Iraq.

Refugees

Between four and five million people were displaced by this war. That was the largest single mass displacement in such a short period of time ever known to these experts. Nearly two million of these displaced persons were Iraqi Kurds. They were fleeing Iraqi suppression of the rebellion they launched at the end of the Gulf War. While they, along with the Shiites and other Iraqis were encouraged to rebel by the Coalition governments, and especially the U.S. government, the Iraqi counter-attack on them went unhindered.

Analysts have concluded that this lack of Coalition support was due to the fact that Coalition governments did not support the leaders of these rebellions nor their goals. Neither a Shiite-ruled Iraq nor Kurdish independence were part of the New World Order planned in the Middle East. The former would strengthen Iran, the latter would require U.S. ally and NATO member Turkey to cede much of its territory to a Kurdish state. Consequently, Saddam Hussein, despite being called a human rights violator, a non-democratically elected leader, and even Hitler, was chosen as the option better suited to Coalition interests in the region. Human rights, democracy, and the rule of law had little to do with this decision.

As a consequence, thousands of Kurds died from disease and starvation while seeking refuge from attacking Iraqi forces in the mountains of the Iraqi-Turkish border. Dr. Richard Sadler of Presbyterian St. Luke's Hospital estimated after a mid-April visit to these areas that between 400 and 1,000 Kurds were dying each day. At first only international organizations were mobilized to help these refugees. The Bush administration wasn't willing to assist them. But after substantial pressure from the British and the American press, the U.S. government relented and began a massive relief effort.

Jordan

Jordan became the recipient of one million Asian and Arab refugees fleeing from Iraq and Kuwait after the Iraqi occupation. When I was in Jordan in August of 1990, newly erected refugee camps, the airport, and open plots of land were home to these refugees seeking repatriation to India, Egypt, the Sudan, Pakistan, Sri Lanka and the Philippines. By the time I arrived in Jordan seven months later, in March 1991, they had been repatriated. Their current fate in their countries of return is unknown. No doubt they were supporting many people with their jobs in the Gulf countries.

The problem in Jordan in March of 1991 was primarily economic. Their economy was faltering from the enforcement of sanctions, which cut off its trade with Iraq, the blockade on its port, the loss of export trade with the Gulf, and the loss of remittance income from the Gulf for 56,000 families of Jordan. In addition, 300,000 Jordanians and Palestinians evicted from the Gulf countries, mostly Kuwait, were trying to find adequate shelter and employment in a country in this economic state. All of a sudden these families found they had been permanently uprooted from countries they had lived in for many years. They were just human beings with families trying to survive, like families all over the world. They were being made to pay the price of the Iraqi occupation of Kuwait.

A study in Jordan of the first half of this population to arrive found that 80% of these people were unemployed, that 33% were living below the poverty level, and that 34% were living in substandard housing. We have to remember that these were among the wealthiest Palestinians and Jordanians, prior to this eviction. The second half of this group to arrive in Jordan are living in worse conditions. In August of 1991 I found that many of these families were living in two bedroom apartments with 10 to 20 other people and some were living in cars. The government of Jordan has had no help from Coalition governments to try to integrate these people into the country of Jordan.

Palestinians: A Stateless People

Some 80% of the civilians displaced from the Gulf, mostly Kuwait, and fleeing to Jordan, are Palestinians. For many this was the third time in their lives they had been displaced. They fled their homes during the 1948 War in the part of Palestine that became Israel. They found themselves in refugee camps in the West Bank and Gaza in 1948 and 1949. When Israel occupied the West Bank in 1967, they fled again to Jordan. From Jordan they moved on to Kuwait, which offered them good jobs and residency for their families, and after establishing a seemingly secure life in Kuwait, they found themselves once again evicted en masse. Palestinians used to tell me they could never feel secure in any country, even Kuwait, but their own. Theirs is a history of expulsions and mass population movement. As known best by the Jewish people, stateless people easily become everybody's scapegoat. And for the Palestinians, Kuwait was only the most recent mass attack on them. It was preceded by massacres in Lebanon and Jordan.

There are now Palestinians stranded in Jordan due to strict Israeli laws regarding Palestinian rights to reside in their own country. Thousands of Palestinian families in Jordan are in the position where only some members of the family qualify for residency in the West Bank. Others don't have that right. To move back to their homes in the West Bank would require splitting families, splitting spouses from each other, or splitting children from parents. The Israelis say they can apply for family reunification if they want to live there. But more than 90% of these permits have been denied by the Israeli authorities over the years. The effort on the part of the Israeli authorities has been to depopulate the land of Palestinians, not let them back in.

West Bank and Gaza

...Moving on to the West Bank and Gaza: During the Gulf War the Palestinians living in the West Bank and Gaza were placed under 24-hour curfew for 45 straight days by the Israeli authorities. As a result of this curfew, their primarily agrarian economy suffered substantial losses which will be felt economically for years to come. After the war the Israeli authorities implemented a pass system, introduced in November, for Palestinians from the West Bank and Gaza, heavily restricting their freedom of movement. In addition, 40,000 Palestinians found that they had been fired from their jobs in Israel. On top of this economic disaster,

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they found at the end of the war that massive amounts of their land had been confiscated by the Israeli government during the war and that land already confiscated was the site of massive settlement activity.

The majority of Palestinian land on the West Bank and Gaza has now been expropriated by the Israeli government. This land has been in effect, stolen from the Palestinians. The Israeli authorities take land on the pretext that Palestinian ownership cannot be proven, that the owner has left the country, or that it is needed for military purposes, public uses and nature reserves. Once the land is in Israeli control, the Palestinians are forever prohibited from owning or renting it. A large part of the land seized has been turned over to developers for the construction of housing—but not housing for everyone—housing for the exclusive use of the Jewish people. American taxpayers helped Israel build these housing settlements each year by providing billions of dollars in grants and aid to Israel.

Each piece of land taken from the Palestinians threatens their survival, as well as their ability to continue living in their own country of birth. While indigenous Palestinians are 90% of the population in these areas, the space in which they are allowed to live, build and farm has been so dramatically reduced that each year, thousands find they must leave their homeland to survive. Palestinian homes built outside limited Palestinian habitation areas are demolished by the military and thousands have become homeless this way in the last few years.

In the West Bank and Gaza a form of apartheid exists whereby persons of one nationality have democratic rights and persons of another have no rights at all. This situation is unacceptable. It is not acceptable in the United States. It is not acceptable in South Africa. And it is not acceptable with the Palestinians.

I could cite for you here many of the cases of killings of Palestinians by the Israeli army that continue, the names of children who have been killed, the cases of families who are living in tents because their homes were blown up, the fact that Israel has the largest per capita prison population known in the world for the Palestinians (which means that people are in prison for just about anything including their political views). We just produced a report on the use of electric shock torture in Israeli prisons. These are all well documented.

But it is clear to me that while discussing human rights violations are important, it is impossible to stop these violations as long as the Palestinians remain living under the rule of a government that despises them and wants them to go away. The real issue is, will Palestinians have the right to exist in their own country or homeland, or will their fate be similar to the fate of the Native American people all over this country, whose numbers have been so reduced from land grabs and killings?

New Middle East Order

...Of the remaining countries in the Middle East, Syria is run by a dictator who continues to be a major human rights violator on a par with Saddam Hussein in Iraq. It has been rewarded by the Bush administration with increased financial assistance in acquiescence to de facto Syrian control over Lebanon. I was in Syria a few months ago (on the same trip) and I discovered that the Syrian people did not know about the bombing of the Imeria bomb shelter in Baghdad. They had not heard of it and that was because of the news censorship that occurred during the war.

Saudi Arabia, Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates remain undemocratic. A gentleman in the audience pointed out to me the economy of Yemen is busting. The Yemenis were also evicted from these Gulf countries because Yemen did not join the Coalition and Yemen is now characterized by unemployment and homelessness. But we must note that last week Saudi Arabia said it's overpumping oil so as to lower the cost of oil to help us with our recession which will no doubt cause economic suffering for many other oil producing countries of this world.

If you put this picture together—Kuwait, Iraq, Jordan, Israel and the Occupied Territories, Syria, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Yemen—you see the effect that the New World Order has had on the lives of the people in these countries and you can understand why the majority of the people in the Middle East, after the Gulf War, are very depressed. They

(see DESERT SHAME, page 11)

ANALYSIS

Black Revolutionaries of the Past, A Balanced View

by Ahmad Abdur Rahman

As a political activist, I am a product of the '60s and early '70s—specifically of the Detroit chapter of the Black Panther Party. As years pass between those days and the present, some of the new generation of activists tend to paint men and women who fought in the '60s and '70s, in the front lines of Black empowerment, in idyllic shades of red, black and green.

Because it is true that those who fail to learn from history are condemned to repeat it, failing to accurately assess the virtues and defects of past Black revolutionaries can hinder the activists of today from evolving to higher levels of effectiveness. In the Black Panther Party, we had our pluses and minuses. First I will touch on our pluses.

We were ideologically strong. By ideology I mean commonly accepted truths that we live by and act on. Politics is war without bloodshed; war is politics with bloodshed. Upon this basic axiom we built an understanding of world and national politics. This axiom banished the naïveté, political illusions and sentimentality fostered by the religious idealism of the Civil Rights movement.

We knew that the Black struggle was about power. We knew that the quest for greater power over lands, resources and peoples had always guided the actions of Black people's adversaries. Therefore, we understood why "Christian love" and "Judeo-Christian ethics" have never influenced how white power rules America. We memorized Frederick Douglass' statement: "Power concedes nothing without demand. It never has and it never will."

In football, two opposing teams must have an overall game plan and individual plays to hope to win. Similarly, on the political playing field an oppressed people must have an overall strategy as well as tactics for particular situations, if they are to achieve their economic and political goals.

Members of the Black Panther Party, and of the Black Power movement in general, studied the successful strategies and tactics of oppressed peoples in different parts of the world. We put into practice the theories of the foremost revolutionary thinkers of this century. Regardless of what we might have eventually come to think about the societies these theoreticians built, what was important was that they did achieve their people's liberation from the old societies of racial, colonial, and/or class oppression. Or, at the least, they had led formidable movements toward that end. Foremost among these scientists of revolution were Lenin, Mao, Frantz Fanon, Kwame Nkrumah, Amílcar Cabral and Malcolm X.

One of the most beneficial lessons we learned from these revolutionaries was the importance of organization and discipline, and how to build a disciplined and dedicated organization. The very founding of the Black Panther Party was inspired by Malcolm X's short-lived Organization of Afro-American Unity. We learned to discard our selfish concerns and our "American individualism" and to dedicate our energies to collective goals. We learned that from unity of ideas comes unity of will. And that even a small group, acting with unity of will, can achieve more than large groups acting haphazardly. A dozen wise persons is better than a hundred fools.

We lived and worked under a constant cloud of danger. Twenty eight members of the Black Panther Party had been murdered by the police by 1970. In Chicago, a hit team of FBI agents and local police murdered Fred Hampton, leader of the Illinois chapter, while he was sleeping in bed. Mark Clark, Bunchy Carter, John Huggins, Jake Winters, Bobby Hutton—we all knew by heart the names of these and other martyrs. Pervasive police surveillance, harassment, and their vicious hatred of us, filled us with certainty that we could join these martyrs any minute.

The constant possibility of being shot down in the street, murdered in your bed, or beaten half-dead at a police station, effectively separates the insincere from the sincere.

Frantz Fanon, the eminent Black psychiatrist, noted that as fire purifies and tempers steel, so the fires of intense danger and fear, when faced and overcome, not only purify the minds of revolutionaries, but also purge their organizations of the faint-hearted, the slack, the ego-trippers and the opportunists. People who have motives other than striving to serve and liberate their people usually cannot motivate themselves to face daily threats of death.

On the minus side, when we perceived ourselves besieged by our enemies, we became too insular. We stopped relying on the people, and instead relied on each other. We began to lose patience with leading "the masses" to transform Black America's social, political and economic situation. We began to believe that our own immense sacrifices, our individual victories over fear in fighting capitalism and racism, were substitutes for a mass movement.

Some of us had a tendency toward oversimplifying. "You're either part of the problem or part of the solution" was a popular phrase. In reality some people were neither.

Another minus was that our leaders imported from foreign revolutions the tendency of building the cult of personality. The top leader of the Panthers, the late Huey P. Newton, became a demigod. At one time he proclaimed himself "Supreme Commander." Later he became "Supreme Servant of the People."

If Brother Huey had actually been all-knowing and all-wise, then his deification would have been okay. But no leader anywhere fits that description. And while it is good to some extent for members of an organization to unite themselves around their leader, uncritical acceptance of every pronouncement from the top eventually, inevitably, harms the leader, the members and the movement.

Finally, and most damaging, was our failure to devise a means to counter and neutralize COINTELPRO. That was the federal government's "counterintelligence program" designed to disrupt, discredit, neutralize and destroy the Black movement and especially the Black Panther Party. Our sometime romantic acceptance of Third World theories of armed struggle rendered us vulnerable to COINTELPRO agent-provocateurs. These infiltrators prodded party members to commit illegal acts and informed on them afterwards. Eventually, fighting court cases consumed more party funds and energies than serving the people.

No future Black organization can succeed without a workable plan to counter internal and external sabotage by Black infiltrators and the white secret police agents who are their masters. In the end our failure to counter the federal, state and local secret police proved disastrous to many of us personally, and was a major cause of the decline of our movement.

In the 1990s, reasons for a reconstituted Black movement abound: the crack epidemic, school dropouts, the moral-spiritual vacuity of the teenage underclass, the dire need for Afrocentric schools, AIDS, homelessness, and inner city violence and crime. These internal problems, along with external threats posed by the resurgence of white racism and militarism, present considerable challenges for a renewed political activism.

With a clear-eyed understanding of the realities of the past, future activists will be better prepared for victory over the challenges facing not only Black people, but people in this country of all races.

Ahmad Abdur-Rahman is a political prisoner who has served almost 21 years in the Michigan prison system for a murder that he did not commit, under a law that has been repealed. He is the elected imam of the Lakeland Men's Facility's Muslim prisoners. Write to him as follows: Ahmad A. Rahman, #130539, 141 First St., Coldwater, MI 49036.



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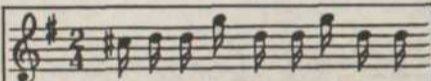
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PHOTO: DAVID SMITH

Andy Conlin, Mr. B., and Kurt Krahnke



PHOTO: DAVID SMITH

Roy Brooks

Mr. B.'s latest recording, "My Sunday Best," takes you from the church into the boogie woogie clubs, to the gospel recital, to the jazz dens, to the street, and back to church. And, if you listen close enough, it takes you to the roots of rock and roll.

Take the B Train

by P.J. Ryder, Jr.

Mr. B. Where does one start? The "kid" sleeping on a bench in the basement of the old Blind Pig in order to be close to and learn from Boogie Woogie Red and the rest of the blues scholars in residence there? The wild, sweat soaked, roaring piano player in the Steve Nardella Band who along with George Bedard turned this writer on to this music of boogie, blues and seminal rock and roll? Maybe you got on the train at "B's Bounce" or "Detroit Special" or "Shining the Pearls" or "Partners in Time," but wherever you got on, you knew you had found something special. And now Mr. B. is giving you his best. His Sunday best.

"My Sunday Best" is Mr. B.'s latest offering. The compact disc is the first release on Ann Arbor's own Schoolkids Records label, and as they say, "We got a live one here!" Recorded live at the Kerrytown Concert House, Mr. B. (aka Mark Braun) sparkles like never before. He continues to evolve into the future while reaching back and grabbing fistfuls of the past.

You want boogie woogie? How about "Roll 'Em Pete"? Mr. B. sails across the

keys propelled by the swinging, pushing beat of the all star drummer Roy Brooks.

You want jazz? Try "Deep Excavation." Kurt Krahnke and Andy Conlin, on bass and drums respectively, provide the solid rhythm core for B.'s moody, introspective composition. And when Krahnke breaks out the bow, you can feel the spirits talking; and the trio talks right back.

You say you want something different? "Blues For a Carpenter" should fit the bill. Roy Brooks displays his unique talents on the hammered saw. Mr. B. often works as a carpenter on the side and on this cut he and Mr. Brooks hammer out some mean, old, sweet blues to an enthusiastic audience.

Did I hear you say traditional Americana? Is Steven Foster rad enough for you? Wait till you hear B.'s arrangement of "Swanee River Boogie." Once again, Roy Brooks' artistic brush work beautifully compliments Mr. B.'s rollicking ride down the river.

The title track, "My Sunday Best" is a tribute to Professor Doctor Arwulf Arwulf's

Sunday morning radio show, broadcast on WEMU. It is my favorite, and B. must have liked it too because he put it on the album twice. There is a solo version and an ensemble version, and both swing! This song is a great example of an artist taking all of his influences and incorporating them into one composition. "Sunday Best" takes you from the church into the boogie woogie clubs, to the gospel recital, to the jazz dens, to the street, and back to church. And, if you listen close enough, it takes you to the roots of rock and roll. In a way, this song is timeless. It could have been written one hundred years ago and I hope that it will be played one hundred years from now.

For those audio heads out there, the recording quality is excellent. The direct-to-digital technology makes it feel like B. and crew are in your living room. The technicians on the recording deserve a lot of credit.

Watching and listening to the evolution of Mr. B. has been a pleasure for me and many other music lovers. "My Sunday Best" is another step in that evolution. Congratulations Mr. B., you've done it again.

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CALENDAR

Events are free unless otherwise noted!

To publicize March Calendar events, send formatted listings by February 15 to AGENDA, 220 S. Main St., 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—Date, event, sponsor, time, and place; one or two sentence description, fee, phone number. Please include a contact name and phone number (not for publication).

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 Saturday

"Comedy and the Artist's Eye": U-M Museum of Art thru 15 March, Tue-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 1-5 pm, Works on Paper Gallery, 525 S. State. 764-0395

Support Group for People with Disabilities Who Have Alcohol Abuse Issues: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 1-3 pm, 2568 Packard. 971-0277 or 971-0310 (TDD)

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

Tony Hillerman: B'nai B'rith Hillel 7:30 pm, 1429 Hill, \$8/\$5. 769-0500

"Mazowsze"—Folk Company of Poland: University Musical Society 8 pm, Hill Aud. Native folklore, dance, costume, and song, \$10-\$20. 764-2538

Barry Crimmins: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. This Lenny Bruce-like political and social satirist last appeared in Ann Arbor with Billy Bragg in a benefit for AGENDA, \$8.75/\$5 students. 761-1451

"Gone": Theater Oobleck 8 pm, Performance Network, 408 W. Washington. Back from Chicago, the original Street Light Theatre of Ann Arbor performs the story of four mean-spirited inhabitants of a sadistic province and their escape to a sub-

atomic world populated by a dysfunctional family of kleptomaniacs, \$5 (free if you're broke). 663-0681

Drum Circle: Guild House 8 pm, 802 Monroe. For adults interested in playing hand percussion and learning rhythms. 662-5189

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

2 Sunday

Cary Kocher/Peter Klaver: Bird of Paradise 11 am-2 pm, 207 S. Ashley. 662-8310

The Little Prince: Michigan Theater's Not Just for Kids Series 1:30 pm, 603 E. Liberty. Saint-Exupery's classic tale reflects on what really matters, \$8.50/\$6.50 mems. 668-8397

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

Sunday Tour: U-M Museum of Art 2 pm, lobby, 525 S. State. Hour-long tour of Picasso and Gris works. 764-0395

Homegrown Women's Music Series: The Ark 2 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main, \$5. Performer TBA. 761-1451

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

Meeting: Lesbians of Color Collective 3 pm. For location, 434-8783

"Mazowsze"—Folk Company of Poland: University Musical Society 3 pm (see 1 Sat)

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

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

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

3 Monday

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

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 7-9 pm, 2568 Packard. 971-0277 or 971-0310 (TDD)

"Madres de la Plaza de Mayo" & "Dance of Hope": LASC Latin American Film Series 7 pm, Rackham Amphitheater (4th floor). "Madres" is the story of the mothers, wives and daughters of the "disappeared" who dared to organize protests against Argentina's military junta. "Dance of Hope" examines key issues of social policy and human rights in Chile thru portraits of eight women. 665-8438

Self-Help Group: Recovery, Inc. 7:30 pm, First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw Ave. Recovery meets weekly to help members overcome nervous symptoms and fears. 769-1457

Doug Engebretsen & Ken Cormier: Guild House 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

4 Tuesday

ArtBreak: U-M Museum of Art 12:10 pm, 525 S. State. 20-minute tour of Paul Klee works. 764-0395

Blind and Visually Impaired Support Group: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 5:30-7 pm, 2568 Packard Road. 971-0277, 971-0310 (TDD)

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

Women & Body Image: Therapy Center of Ann Arbor & Center for Eating Disorders 6:30-8:30 pm, 408 N. First St. For women healing from eating disorders, illness, or emotional trauma, \$25. 761-1514

Meeting: EMU Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Student Association 7-8 pm, Tower Rm, McKenny Union, 2nd floor, Ypsilanti. 487-3541

Support Group: Adult Daughters of Alcoholics & Other Trauma 7:30 pm, 3200 Mich. Union. 665-3706

Support/Discussion Group: Identity 8 pm, Tower Rm, McKenny Union, 2nd floor, Ypsilanti. For lesbians, Gay Men & Bisexual people and other people who are uncertain of their sexual orientation. 487-3541

Bob Gibson: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. One of folk music's most charismatic presences, \$12.50. 761-1451

Cary Kocher/Paul Keller Quartet: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$3. 662-8310

5 Wednesday

Self-Help Group: Recovery, Inc. 9:30 am, Zion Lutheran Church, 1501 W. Liberty. Recovery meets weekly to help members overcome nervous symptoms and fears. 665-0995

ArtVideo: U-M Museum of Art noon, AV room, 525 S. State. "Picasso is 90." 747-0521

Weekly Run for Lesbians, Gays, & Bisexuals: Ann Arbor Front Runners 5 pm (see 2 Sun)

Dinner with Poet David Sosnowski/Beans and Rice: Guild House 6 pm, 802 Monroe. Food and conversation, \$3/\$1 kids. 662-5189

Massage Class: Common Language Bookstore 6 pm, 214 S. Fourth Ave. David Rosenberg, member American Massage Therapy Association conducts course. Wear loose comfortable clothing, \$5 per class. 663-0036

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

Tom Harkin Campaign Benefit: The Blind Pig 8 pm-midnight, 208 S. First. Local entertainers Frank Alison and the Odd Sox, O.J. Anderson, Elise Bryant and The Urbations will perform to benefit Senator Tom Harkin's '92 Presidential campaign, \$25/\$15 students & fixed income. 998-0142

Angelique Williams: Café Cadré 8 pm (open mike), 8:30 pm (feature poet), 1011 Broadway. With U-M creative writing student Williams. Jason McGee will sing and play acoustic guitar in a semi-collaborative program with Williams, \$2. 741-8472

Open Stage: The Ark 8 pm, 637 1/2 S. Main. You and your instruments are invited to sign up at 7:30 pm for a short set on the Ark stage, \$2.75/\$1.75 mems, students & srs. 761-1451

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

Meeting for U-M Lesbians, Bisexuals, & Gay Men: East Quad/RC Social Group 9 pm, 701 E. University. 764-1673

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

6 Thursday

Big Sale: Kiwanis Club 9 am-6 pm, Kiwanis Activities Center, Washington at First St. Reusable furniture,

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ArtTalk: U-M Museum of Art noon to 1 pm, AV room, 525 S. State, "Monet and Impressionism." 764-0395

Meeting: U-M 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

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

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

"A Day on the Grand Canal with the Emperor of China": The Connoisseurs Club of the Friends of the U-M Museum of Art 7-10 pm, 525 S. State. Film by David Hockney on the differences between Eastern and Western art and a lecture with Marshall Wu on the Museum's Chinese Scroll collection, \$7/\$5 members. 747-0264

"Obstacles & Opportunities: Promoting Social Change in Israel": New Israel Fund 7:30 pm, Beth Israel Congregation, 2000 Washtenaw. Sari Revkin will discuss work to promote civil and human rights, pluralism and tolerance, Jewish-Arab coexistence, women's rights and community development in Israel. 769-5680

Meeting: ACT-UP/Ann Arbor 7:30 pm, Mich Union. 665-1797

O.J. Anderson: Performance Network 8 pm, 408 W. Washington. See O.J.'s Folk Rap, Elvis Presley Imitators Workshop (and competition), the true story of Chicken Licken and more, \$9/\$7 students & srs. 663-0681

Al & Emily Cantrell: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. The Cantrells accompany themselves on guitar, fiddle and mandolin on "new sage, bear grass, unsquare dance, swang" songs, \$8.75/\$7.75 members, students & srs. 761-1451

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 5 Wed)

7 Friday

Big Sale: Kiwanis Club 9 am-6 pm (see 6 Thu)

"New Forms of the American Right Wing in the U.S. and Abroad": Guild

House Friday Forum noon, 802 Monroe. Russ Bellant, author of "Old Nazis, the Right Wing and the Republican Party" will be discussing the role the right wing has and will have in Eastern Europe. Optional lunch \$1. 662-5189

Southgoing Zak: PJ's Used Records and CDs 4-5 pm, 617-B Packard Rd. First of a series of acoustic in-store performances by area musicians. 663-3441

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

George Mallory/Gene Jones Quartet: Bird of Paradise 5:30-9 pm, 207 S. Ashley. 662-8310

Winter Evening at Cobblestone Farm: Dept. of Parks & Rec. 6-8 pm, 2781 Packard Rd. Goodies, games, storytelling and more, \$1.50/\$1 youth & srs. 994-2928

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

Moonlight Serenade: Dept. of Parks & Rec. 6-9 pm, Ski Center, 3465 Huron River Dr. Cross-country ski under the stars on specially groomed and lit trails (ski rentals are \$6/\$3.75 youth & srs), \$2.50. 971-6840

"Peace for Jerusalem-Healing for Gaza": Palestine Aid Society & Others 7:30 pm, Vandenberg Rm., Michigan League, Samir Kafity, Bishop of Jerusalem and President Bishop of the Anglican Churches in the Middle East will share his experiences and hopes for the area. 741-1113

Mack Pool Luau: Dept. of Parks & Rec. 7:30-9 pm, Mack Pool, 715 Brooks. Swimming, games and prizes, \$2.50/\$1.50 youth & srs. 994-2928

Grad and Young Professionals Veggie Potluck Dinner: Jewish Law Students Union 7:30 pm, Law Club. Featuring Jeff Zaslow, the man who replaced Ann Landers. Reserve 769-0500

"Maurice": Common Vision Committee of First Unitarian Universalist Church 7:30 pm, 1917 Washtenaw. Video of the classic E.M. Forster novel about the lives of two homosexual lovers in Edwardian England. 665-6158

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

Music Night: Canterbury House 8 pm, 218 N. Division. An evening of conversation, and refreshment, with

folk and blues performed by local musicians. Featuring Corey Dolgon and the Dharma Hogs, Matt Price, and Matt Martin. 665-0606

The RFD Boys: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Continuing to be Ann Arbor's favorite bluegrass band since 1969 when they were U-M students, the RFD Boys are among the best bluegrass bands today, \$8.75/\$7.75 members, students & srs. 761-1451

O.J. Anderson: Performance Network 8 pm (see 6 Thu)

Classic Quartet: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley. With Ron Brooks, George Benson, Kenny Cox and George Davidson, \$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

8 Saturday

Big Sale: Kiwanis Club 9 am-1 pm (see 6 Thu)

"The Pear: French Graphic Arts in the Golden Age of Caricature": U-M Museum of Art thru 22 March, Tue-Sat 10 am-5 pm, Sun 1-5 pm, West Gallery, 525 S. State. 764-0395

O.J. Anderson Kids Show: Performance Network 2 pm, \$6 (see 6 Thu)

Burrhrfest: Dept. of Parks & Rec. 2:30-4:30 pm, Buhr Outdoor Ice Arena, 2751 Packard. Skating, a bonfire, s'mores, an ice cream eating contest and the little ones can take a spin around the ice on their Big Wheels, \$2.25 adults/\$1.75 youths & srs. 971-3228

Support Group for People with Disabilities Who Have Alcohol Abuse Issues: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 5:30 pm (see 1 Sat)

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

Meeting: Sober Sisters 7 pm (see 1 Sat)

David Grossman: B'nai B'rith Hillel 7:30 pm, 1429 Hill, \$8/\$5. 769-0500

BB King: State Theater 7:30 pm, 404 S. Burdick, Kalamazoo. Come see the seminal mind blower who has influenced every major rock guitarist from Hendrix to Slash, \$18.50. Reserve 761-1451

"Basic Witchcraft": Gaia 7:30 pm, Intercooperative Council Education Center, 1522 Hill. Hour-long instructional video presents spells, charms and potions. 665-3522

Flamenco Olé: U-M Major Events 8 pm, at The Ark, 637-1/2 S. Main. Acclaimed dancers Julia Lopez and Jorge Navarro join guitarist Carlos Rubio, call for price. 763-TKTS

Soviet Philharmonic Orchestra: University Musical Society 8 pm, Hill Aud. An all-Russian program including Rimsky-Korsakov's "Russian Easter Overture," \$18-\$45. 764-2538

Pixies: Michigan Theater 8 pm, 603 E. Liberty. Drawing from hardcore, Caribbean and surf instrumentals, the Pixies create a thick, throbbing sediment of sound on which to spread the vocals of Black Francis and bassist Kim Deal, \$18.50. Reserve 761-1451

"Charles Phillipon and the Language of French Caricature, 1789-1935": U-M Museum of Art 8 pm, Angell Hall, Aud. B. Lecture and reception. 764-0395

Valentine Skate: Dept. of Parks & Rec. 8-10 pm, Veteran's Indoor Ice Arena, 2150 Jackson Rd, \$3.75/\$3 youth & srs. 761-7240

O.J. Anderson: Performance Network 8 pm (see 6 Thu)

Drum Circle: Guild House 8 pm (see 1 Sat)

Classic Quartet: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 7 Fri)

9 Sunday

Frosty 5 K Run: Dept. of Parks & Rec. 10 am, Huron Hills Ski Center, 3465 Huron River Dr. No times, top 3 finishers will win prizes. Spikes recommended. Fee includes fruit, hot drinks & bagels, \$3-\$5. 971-6840

EOP Facilitator's In-Service: Lesbian-Gay Male Programs Office 11 am, 3100 Mich. Union. 763-4186

Cary Kocher/Peter Klaver: Bird of Paradise 11 am, 207 S. Ashley. 662-8310

Song Sisters Children's Concert Benefit for First United Methodist Nursery School: The Ark 1 & 3 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main, \$5. 665-8897

Winter Fun Day: Dept. of Parks & Rec. 1-3 pm, Leslie Science Center, 1831 Traver Rd. Indoor & outdoor games for the whole family, \$1. 662-7802

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

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

Charles Rosen: University Musical Society 4 pm, Rackham Aud. This internationally recognized pianist

makes his Musical Society debut, \$8-\$16. 764-2538

Swim Practice: A2QUA (Ann Arbor Queer Aquatics) 5 pm (see 2 Sun)

Weekly Run for Lesbians, Gays & Bisexuals: Ann Arbor Front Runners 5 pm (see 2 Sun)

"I Live for Art": University Musical Society 7 pm, Rackham Amphitheatre. Pre-concert documentary highlighting the great Toscas of this century. 764-2538

Public Meeting on Homelessness: Homeless Action Committee, A2 City Council & others 7:30 pm, City Council Chambers, City Hall. Discuss the future of the Downtown Club and other options for permanent low-income housing. 930-0601

Meeting: Ypsilanti Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm (see 2 Sun)

Kitty Donohoe: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Donohoe is famous for her "rich, flexible, soaring, haunting" voice, \$8.25/\$7.25 mems, students, srs. 761-1451

Paul Finkbeiner Jazz Jam: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 2 Sun)

10 Monday

"100 Children Waiting for a Train": LASC Latin American Film Series 7 pm, Rackham Amphitheater (4th floor). Ignacio Agüero's poetic comment on life in Chile told through the experiences of a small group of children. 665-8438

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 7 pm (see 3 Mon)

Self-Help Group: Recovery, Inc. 7:30 pm (see 3 Mon)

"The Arts in a Market Economy": Performance Network & The U-M Dept. of Theatre and Drama 8 pm, Trueblood Theatre, 105 S. State. Business and economics professionals discuss the theory and reality behind arts subsidies. 663-0696

Rachel McKee and Laura Kasischke: Guild House Writers Series 8:30 pm, 802 Monroe. 662-5189

Social for Lesbians, Bisexual People, & Gay Men: Canterbury House 8:45 pm (see 3 Mon)

Bird of Paradise Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 3 Mon)

11 Tuesday

ArtBreak: U-M Museum of Art 12:10 pm, 20 minute tour of Picasso and Gris works. 764-0395

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Blind and Visually Impaired Support Group: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 5:30 pm (see 4 Tue)

"Closets are for Clothes": WCBN-88.3 FM 6 pm (see 4 Tue)

Meeting: EMU Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Student Association 7 pm (see 4 Tue)

HIV/AIDS Ecumenical Prayer Service of Healing: Lord of Light Lutheran Church 7:30 pm, 801 S. Forest. For all individuals, families, friends, & caregivers affected by HIV/AIDS. 668-7622

Support Group: Adult Daughters of Alcoholics & Other Trauma 7:30 pm (see 4 Tue)

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

Support/Discussion Group: Identity 8 pm (see 4 Tue)

File: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Filé plays traditional Cajun two-steps to rock and roll. Get ready to dance all night! \$10.75/\$9.75 mems, students, srs. 761-1451

Cary Kocher/Paul Keller Quartet: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 4 Tue)

12 Wednesday

Self-Help Group: Recovery, Inc. 9:30 am (see 5 Wed)

ArtVideo:U-M Museum of Art noon. "Twentieth Century Art at the Metropolitan" (see 5 Wed)

Weekly Run for Lesbians, Gays, & Bisexuals: Ann Arbor Front Runners 5 pm (see 2 Sun)

Massage Class: Common Language Bookstore 6 pm (see 5 Wed)

Meeting: Lesbian, Bisexual, & Gay Men Adult Children of Alcoholics 7 pm (see 5 Wed)

Dream Workshop: Creation Spirituality 7:30 pm. Call for location. Discussion of personal dream symbolism. 665-3522

Sharon Smith Knight: Café Cadré 8 pm (open mike), 8:30 pm (feature

poet), 1011 Broadway. Come hear this Detroit poet read from her recent book, "Wine Sip and Other Delicious Poems," \$2. 741-8472

"Tosca": University Musical Society 8 pm, Power Center. The New York City National Opera Company will perform Puccini's "Tosca," a dramatic opera set against the political climate of Napoleon Bonaparte's conquest of Italy, \$20-\$40. 764-2538

Robyn Hitchcock and the Egyptians: Rooyal Oak Music Theater 8 pm, 318 W. Fourth, Royal Oak, \$18.50. Reserve 761-1451

Open Stage: The Ark 8 pm (see 5 Wed)

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee 8 pm (see 5 Wed)

Meeting for U-M Lesbians, Bisexuals, & Gay Men: East Quad/RC Social Group 9 pm (see 5 Wed)

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 5 Wed)

13 Thursday

ArtTalk: U-M Museum of Art noon. "American Landscape" (see 6 Thu)

Meeting: U-M Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Law Students Association 5 pm (see 6 Thu)

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm (see 6 Thu)

"Is There a Place in the Gay Community?": Jewish Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay Collective 7 pm, 1429 Hill. 769-0500

Cerebral Palsy Support Group: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 7-9 pm, 2568 Packard Road. 971-0277 or 971-0310 (TDD)

Meeting: Amnesty International U-M 7 pm (see 6 Thu)

Lesbian, Bisexual & Gay Youth Support Group: Ozone House 7:30 pm, 608 N. Main. Confidential support group for Lesbian, Gay, or Bisexual teens 20 or younger and for teens that are questioning their sexual orientation. Paul 662-2222

"Oya: The Whirling Edge": Girlfrenzy 7:30 pm, Intercooperative Council Education Center, 1522 Hill. Part of a series of demonstrations of traditional African religious figures by Nisi Shawi of Dawn Treader Book Shop. 665-2270

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

Meeting: ACT-UP/Ann Arbor 7:30 pm (see 6 Thu)

Len Wallace: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Canadian singer, accordionist Wallace plays traditional folk of many countries as well as topical music reflecting his own political activism, \$8.75/\$7.75 mems, students, srs. 761-1451

"The Invisible Elephant": Performance Network 8 pm, 408 W. Washington. A work by Diversability Theatre, based on the idea of having a disability as being like owning an elephant and having to get it through doors and busy shopping centers, \$6/\$5 students, srs and groups of 10 or more. 663-0681

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 5 Wed)

14 Friday

"Susan B. Anthony: Her Relevance for Today": Friday Forum Guild House noon, 802 Monroe. Speaker TBA. Optional lunch \$1. Reception in Anthony's honor from 4-6 pm. 662-5189

Lesbian, Bisexual & Gay Happy Hour Group 5 pm (see 7 Fri)

Fourth Annual Valentine's Dinner Dance: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 5:30 pm (reception with cash bar) & 7 pm-midnight (dinner and dancing), Holiday Inn West, 2900 Jackson Road. A romantic evening of fine dining and dancing with contemporary and classic rock band, The Late Show. Reserve a box of candy, boutonniere and/or corsage for yourself or your sweetheart! Dinner & Dance \$15/person. Dance only \$5/person. 971-0277 or 971-0310 (TDD)

George Mallory/Gene Jones Quartet: Bird of Paradise 5:30 pm (see 7 Fri)

Walt Whitman Coffee House for Gay & Bisexual Men: Common Language Bookstore 7 pm, 214 S. 4th Ave. Donation appreciated. 971-5411

Ken King: Friday Forum Guild House 7:30 pm, 802 Monroe. King will perform songs from his recent cassette, "Moonlight Bright as Day." Donations accepted. 662-5189

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

Valentine's Day with Maura O'Connell: The Ark 7:30 & 10 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. O'Connell journeys "the landscape of the heart, singing of love gone right and wrong on scales both intimate and grand," \$12.50. 761-1451

"The Invisible Elephant": Performance Network 8 pm (see 13 Thu)

"Tosca": University Musical Society 8 pm (see 12 Wed)

Chamber Concert: U-M Museum of Art 8 pm, 525 S. State. With Misha Amory on viola and Thomas Sauer on piano, \$10/\$5 students with ID. 747-0521

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

15 Saturday

Support Group for People with Disabilities Who Have Alcohol Abuse Issues: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 7 pm (see 1 Sat)

Meeting: Sober Sisters 7 pm (see 1 Sat)

"Elmo's Cabaret": Elmo's 7:30 pm, People Dancing Studio, 111 Third St. (at Huron). Refreshments at 7:30 followed at 8 pm by two 45-minute sets of live entertainment featuring Rick Sperleng, Dwight Peterson, Monique Gigi, and others. No smoking, no alcohol, \$4/adults, children free. Part of the proceeds will benefit AGENDA. 994-9898

Winter Charity Ball: Xanadu Foundation 8 pm, Sheraton Inn Ballroom. Benefit party for Peace Neighborhood Center. Dance band, hors d'oeuvres, and party games; black tie optional with cash bar; \$25/\$35 at door. 426-3038

Drum Circle: Guild House 8 pm (see 1 Sat)

John Gorka: The Ark & WAMX 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Rolling Stone singer Gorka the "pre-eminent male singer songwriter...of the New Folk Movement" with opening band, The Story, \$10.75. 761-1451

Musical Valentine Concert: Ann Arbor Symphony Orchestra 8 pm, Michigan Theater, 603 E. Liberty. Performance, highlighting pianist Barbara Nissman, will feature pieces by Prokofiev and Beethoven, \$12/\$15/\$18. 668-8397

"Willy Wonka and the Chocolate Factory": Hill St. Cinema 8 & 10 pm, 1429 Hill, \$3. 769-0500

"Tosca": University Musical Society 8 pm (see 12 Wed)

"The Invisible Elephant": Performance Network 8 pm (see 13 Thu)

Ron Brooks Trio with Eddie Russ: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 14 Fri)

16 Sunday

Cary Kocher/Peter Klaver: Bird of Paradise 11 am (see 2 Sun)

"Planning Your Organic Garden": Organic Growers of Michigan 2-4 pm, Washtenaw County Service Center. A panel of local organic growers will share information about buying seeds and plants, starting seeds indoors, preparing soil, and pest control. 663-4968

"Homeopathy for the Childbearing Year": Castle Remedies 2-5 pm, The Parkway Center, 2345 S. Huron Parkway. A workshop (also 23 Sun & March 1), discussing use of homeopathic remedies during pregnancy, delivery, and postpartum, for both mom and baby, \$60. 668-0016

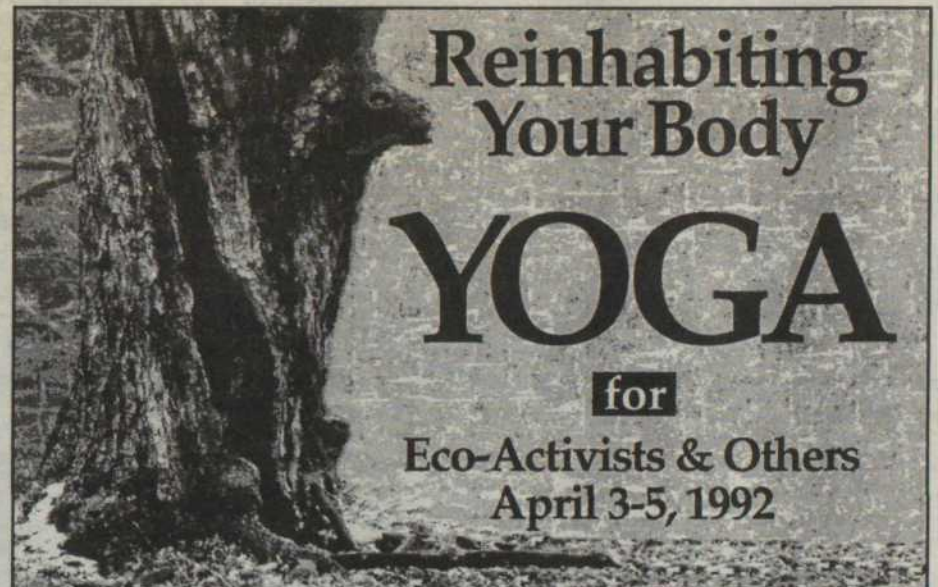


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Sunday Tour: U-M Museum of Art 2 pm (see 2 Sun)

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

Heather Bishop Children's Concert: The Ark 2:30 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Singer/songwriter Bishop appears on the Fred Penner children's TV show and just released the album, "A Duck in New York City," \$5. 761-1451

Women's Poetry Reading: Common Language Bookstore 3 pm, 214 S. Fourth Ave. Featured reader will be Ellen Shanna followed by open mike for women. 663-0036

Meeting: Dawnreaders 3 pm (see 2 Sun)

Meeting: Lesbians of Color Collective 3 pm (see 2 Sun)

Swim Practice: A2QUA (Ann Arbor Queer Aquatics) 5 pm (see 2 Sun)

Weekly Run for Lesbians, Gays & Bisexuals: Ann Arbor Front Runners 5 pm (see 2 Sun)

Meeting: Huron Valley Greens 6 pm (see 2 Sun)

"The Invisible Elephant": Performance Network 6:30 pm (see 13 Thu)

Meeting: Ypsilanti Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm (see 2 Sun)

Heather Bishop: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Singer/songwriter Bishop's songs are sometimes sassy and sultry, sometimes sad and haunting, \$10/\$9 mems, students & srs. 761-1451

Paul Vornhagen: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 1 Sat)

17 Monday

Women's Book Group: Guild House noon (see 3 Mon)

"Courage of the People—Corage del Pueblo": LASC Latin American Film Series 7 pm, Rackham Amphitheater, 4th floor. Jorge Sanjines' dramatic recreation of the 1967 "Massacre of the Night of San Juan" when the Bolivian military launched a surprise night attack on striking tin miners and their families. 665-8438

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 7 pm (see 3 Mon)

Self-Help Group: Recovery, Inc. 7:30 pm (see 3 Mon)

"Art and Politics in Michigan": Performance Network & The U-M Dept. of Theatre and Drama 8 pm, Trueblood Theatre, 105 S. State. Policy makers discuss history, current changes and implications of those changes for public funding for the arts. 663-0696

Lorenzo Bug: Guild House Writers Series 8:30 pm, 802 Monroe. 662-5189

Social for Lesbians, Bisexual People, & Gay Men: Canterbury House 8:45 pm (see 3 Mon)

Bird of Paradise Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 3 Mon)

18 Tuesday

ArtBreak: U-M Museum of Art 12:10 pm (see 11 Tue)

Blind and Visually Impaired Support Group: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 5:30 pm (see 4 Tue)

"Closets are for Clothes": WCBN 88.3 FM 6 pm (see 4 Tue)

Meeting: EMU Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Student Association 7 pm (see 4 Tue)

"A New Political Party?": National Organization for Women 7:30 pm, Ann Arbor Public Library, lower-level multi-purpose room, 343 S. Fifth Ave. Senator Lana Pollack will discuss the ramifications of the creation of another political party. 995-5494

Support Group: Adult Daughters of Alcoholics & Other Trauma 7:30 pm (see 4 Tue)

Self-Help Group: Recovery, Inc. 8 pm (see 3 Mon)

Borodin String Quartet: University Musical Society 8 pm, Rackham Aud. Moscow's premier ensemble has been cited as the best interpreter of the cycle of Shostakovich's quartets, \$18-\$29. 764-2538

The Story: Schoolkids Records Free Concert Series & WAMX 8 pm, The Ark, 637-1/2 S. Main. Jonatha Brook and Jennifer Kimbal harmonize on wicked satire and pop tunes to soulful ballads. 761-1451

Support/Discussion Group: Identity 8 pm (see 4 Tue)

Cary Kocher/Paul Keller Quartet: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 4 Tue)

19 Wednesday

Self-Help Group: Recovery, Inc. 9:30 am (see 5 Wed)

ArtVideo: U-M Museum of Art noon, "New Ways of Seeing: Picasso, Braque and the Cubist Revolution." (see 5 Wed)

Weekly Run for Lesbians, Gays & Bisexuals: Ann Arbor Front Runners 5 pm (see 2 Sun)

Massage Class: Common Language Bookstore 6 pm (see 5 Wed)

Dinner with Poet Josie Kerns/Beans and Rice: Guild House 6 pm (see 5 Wed)

"The Folk Roots of Kodo Drumming": University Musical Society 7 pm, Rackham Amphitheatre. With U-M Prof. of Music, William Malm. 764-2538

Meeting: Lesbian, Bisexual, & Gay Men Adult Children of Alcoholics 7 pm (see 5 Wed)

Tuomani Diabate: The Ark 7:30 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. African kora musician, Diabate plays West African music influenced by jazz, classical, rock and ethnic musics, \$10.75/\$9.75 mems, students, srs. 761-1451

Trinidad Sanchez and Coloria House: Café Cadré 8 pm (open mike), 8:30 pm (featured poets), 1011 Broadway. Sanchez is a poet through whom "an integration of barrio rhythms

and street orality finds identity and culture." Wayne State Associate Prof. of Humanities, House is inspired by Sonya Sanchez, Jayne Cortez and Dudley Randall, \$2. 741-8472

Kodo—Japanese Drummers: University Musical Society 8 pm, Power Center. Kodo creates its own vital sound based on the traditional Japanese drum "taiko," \$16-\$24. 764-2538

"Judging by ApPEARances—What's So Funny?": U-M Museum of Art 8 pm, William Clements Library. Lecture by Prof. of History, Raymond Grew, (with reception). 764-0395

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee 8 pm (see 5 Wed)

Meeting for U-M Lesbians, Bisexuals, & Gay Men: East Quad/RC Social Group 9 pm (see 5 Wed)

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 5 Wed)

20 Thursday

ArtTalk: U-M Museum of Art noon, "Van Gogh" (see 6 Thu)

bell hooks: Women's Studies Program 4 pm, Dennison Physics & Astronomy Bldg., Rm. 170. Lecture by the author of "Yearning: race, gender and cultural politics." 763-2047

Meeting: U-M Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Law Students Association 5 pm (see 6 Thu)

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm (see 6 Thu)

Kodo—Japanese Drummers: University Musical Society 7 pm (see 19 Wed)

Meeting: Amnesty International U-M 7 pm (see 6 Thu)

Meeting: ACT-UP/Ann Arbor 7:30 pm (see 6 Thu)

Pete Morton: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. A Folkroots Reader's Poll named Morton "Most Promising New Artist," \$8.75/\$7.75 mems, students, srs. 761-1451

"Four Quartets": Performance Network 8 pm, 408 W. Washington. A work by "consummate risk-takers" the Intersect Theater Dance Co., is a play on the words of the poem by T.S. Elliot, \$9/\$7 students & srs. 663-0681

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 5 Wed)

21 Friday

Lesbian, Bisexual & Gay Happy Hour Group 5 pm (see 7 Fri)

George Mallory/Gene Jones Quartet: Bird of Paradise 5:30 pm (see 7 Fri)

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

Fifth Annual Storytelling Weekend: The Ark thru 23 Sun, 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. This highly popular fixture of the Ark season begins with Patrick Ball, Gayle Ross and LaRon Williams, \$12.25. 761-1451

"Four Quartets": Performance Network 8 pm (see 20 Thu)

Oasis: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley. With Stephanie and Cliff Monear, \$5. 662-8310

Dance Jam: People Dancing 10 pm (see 7 Fri)

22 Saturday

Support Group for People with Disabilities Who Have Alcohol Abuse Issues: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 5:30 pm (see 1 Sat)

Meeting: Sober Sisters 7 pm (see 1 Sat)

Fifth Annual Storytelling Weekend: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. This highly popular fixture of the Ark season begins with Adrianna Belcher and Beth Horner, \$12.25. 761-1451

Drum Circle: Guild House 8 pm (see 1 Sat)

"Four Quartets": Performance Network 8 pm (see 20 Thu)

Oasis: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 21 Fri)

23 Sunday

Cary Kocher/Peter Klaver: Bird of Paradise 11 am (see 2 Sun)

Family Storytelling Concert: The Ark 1 & 3 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Featuring Patrick Ball, Gayle Ross, LaRon Williams, Adrianna Belcher and Beth Horner, \$5. 761-1451

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

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

"Homeopathy for the Childbearing Year": Castle Remedies 2-5 pm (see 16 Sun)

Weekly Run for Lesbians, Gays & Bisexuals: Ann Arbor Front Runners 5 pm (see 2 Sun)

Swim Practice: Ann Arbor Queer Aquatics (A2QUA) 5 pm (see 2 Sun)

"Four Quartets": Performance Network 6:30 pm (see 20 Thu)

John McCutcheon: The Ark 7 & 9 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. John plays banjo, guitar, autoharp, hammer dulcimer and fiddle, \$10.75. 761-1451

Meeting: Ypsilanti Lesbian, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA 7:30 pm (see 2 Sun)

Granite Line Writers & Washtenaw Council for the Arts Benefit: Rick's American Cafe 8 pm, Rick's American Cafe. Area poets and musicians including Arwulf Arwulf and Luna Park will perform. An open mike poetry session will precede the event, \$4. 665-3063

Paul Finkbeiner Jazz Jam: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 2 Sun)

24 Monday

Multiple Sclerosis Support Group: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 7 pm (see 3 Mon)

Self-Help Group: Recovery, Inc. 7:30 pm (see 3 Mon)

"Big Fish/Little Fish: Who Gets Fed?": Performance Network & The U-M Dept. of Theatre and Drama

8 pm, Trueblood Theatre, 105 S. State. Discussion with Judy Dow Alexander, Mort Abramowitz, Barbara Goldman, and Malcolm Tulip. 663-0696

Social for Lesbians, Bisexual People, & Gay Men: Canterbury House 8:45 pm (see 3 Mon)

Bird of Paradise Orchestra: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 3 Mon)

25 Tuesday

Blind and Visually Impaired Support Group: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 5:30 pm (see 4 Tue)

"Closets are for Clothes": WCBN 88.3-FM 6 pm (see 4 Tue)

Meeting: EMU Lesbian, Gay & Bisexual Student Association 7 pm (see 4 Tue)

Support Group: Adult Daughters of Alcoholics & Other Trauma 7:30 pm (see 4 Tue)

David Menafee and Kirby: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Ann Arbor's own fiddling stone-mason and his close friend singer-songwriter, Kirby, \$8.25/\$7.25 mems, students, srs. 761-1451

Support/Discussion Group: Identity 8 pm (see 4 Tue)

Cary Kocher/Paul Keller Quartet: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 4 Tue)

26 Wednesday

Self-Help Group: Recovery, Inc. 9:30 am (see 5 Wed)

ArtVideo: U-M Museum of Art noon, "Vienna 1900" (see 5 Wed)

Muscular Dystrophy Support Group: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 1-3 pm, 2568 Packard. 971-0277 or 971-0310 (TDD)

Weekly Run for Lesbians, Gays, & Bisexuals: Ann Arbor Front Runners 5 pm (see 2 Sun)

Massage Class: Common Language Bookstore 6 pm (see 5 Wed)

Meeting: Lesbian, Bisexual, & Gay Men Adult Children of Alcoholics 7 pm (see 5 Wed)

Altan: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Altan is a traditional Irish band from County Donegal which performs songs in both Gaelic and English, \$10.75. 761-1451

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee 8 pm (see 5 Wed)

Meeting for U-M Lesbians, Bisexuals, & Gay Men: East Quad/RC Social Group 9 pm (see 5 Wed)

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 5 Wed)

27 Thursday

Meeting: U-M Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual Law Students Association 5 pm (see 6 Thu)

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm (see 6 Thu)

Cerebral Palsy Support Group: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 7 pm (see 13 Thu)

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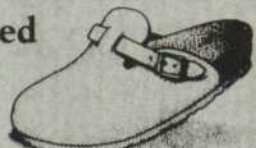
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DESERT SHAME

(FROM PAGE FIVE)

feel that their lives have just become meaningless pawns of an international, imperialist venture led by the United States. Leaders of the countries that joined the Coalition are rewarded whether they support human rights and democracy or not, and their people continue to suffer. People from countries that did not join the Coalition have become the war's victims. In fact, the weak have not been protected from the strong. The weak are even weaker now. The New World Order invoked the concepts of freedom, democracy and human rights, but in the end human suffering in the Middle East has increased dramatically since the end of the war. And the politics of power, not human rights, remain the main determinants of people's quality of life.

Denial Begins at Home

In conclusion I want to say that the one thing that strikes me about all of these people that have been victimized is that in our media they simply don't exist; they simply don't appear. If you read the reports on the Gulf War one year later, the ones I have seen do not even mention Iraqi civilians nor how many Iraqi civilians were killed in this war, nor the fact that they continue to be killed. This quote I have from The New York Times, "Here as elsewhere the war seems like something from another era these days." This is how people are looking at it.

I also noticed this quote in The New York Times—after what I just described to you, you'll see the strangeness of it. It's actually by a U-M history professor named John Shy. He said "This seems to be the Andy Warhol war, quarter or half-hour of fame at maximum attention and in retrospect the greatest losses of life on the other side, but remarkably trivial in its consequences otherwise."

Well, as I said earlier, the first basic lie in our media is that the war is over. It's clearly not over if victims are continuing to die every day, the fact that there's no mention of Iraqi civilians means they simply do not

exist—people that we kill systematically just do not exist. The mass forcible eviction of Palestinians from the Gulf was barely the subject of any newspapers in this country. And imagine if 400,000 persons of some other nationality—certain other nationalities were evicted from a country, what we would hear about it.

This reminds me of Ibrahim Abulovah, just returned to Palestine for the first time since 1948 when he was evicted and he was asked by security guards in the Netherlands and at the airport in Tel Aviv and by people in the streets of Jaffa where he went to see his home. They would say, "When were you here last?" and he would say "in 1948." And they would say "How could you have been here in 1948?" And he said "Well I was born here." And he realized that the whole history of the Palestinians has been erased. It's not part of Israeli history. They don't exist. What existed was 2,000 years ago and after 1948. It's easy to kill people that simply do not exist.

And then I look to our own history. Where is our own history? I don't feel I have any historical relationship to the pioneers, to the people that came to this country, to the people that massacred the indigenous people of the country, but it is the history of this country. And I've travelled around and I've seen how the western United States is like the West Bank. We pushed the remaining indigenous people to the western part of the country. You put them in reservations and you colonize the land around them and you have nice yuppie towns overlooking Indian reservations. It's very much like the West Bank.

I've been looking now in the state of Illinois where I live for the history of the indigenous people of that state and I find it doesn't exist. You go to museums all over the country, even museums set up to commemorate Native American sites and you get the history of the pioneers and the colonialists that came. And I see that our history, the history of the United States is a model for all of these other people, for human rights abuses, for clearing the land of unwanted people, for creating a history where the people that are abused and killed simply don't exist.

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FROM THE GRASSROOTS

Lesbian Rights Expanded With Recent Ruling

We are moved and delighted to report that after a legal battle of seven years, a Minnesota Appeals Court on Dec. 17, 1991 granted guardianship of Sharon Kowalski to Karen Thompson, her lover. Sharon had been rendered quadriplegic and brain-damaged in a car accident in 1983. The court's decision coincided with the 12th anniversary of Sharon and Karen's commitment ceremony.

In April 1991, Judge Robert Campbell of the St. Louis County District Court refused to award guardianship to Karen. Judge Campbell had compared Sharon to a child in a custody battle and stated that she could not express her own preference for a guardian. However, the Appeals Court ruling declared, "all the medical testimony established that Sharon has the capacity reliably to express a preference in this case, and she has clearly chosen to return home with Thompson if possible." The court added, most tellingly, "This choice is further supported by the fact that Thompson and Sharon are a family of affinity and ought to be accorded respect."

According to Thompson's attorney, M. Sue Wilson, this may be the first instance of an appeals court's recognizing a lesbian or gay partner's rights as "tantamount to those of a spouse." Karen told a Worker's World reporter that, "I've learned that silence can never protect us; silence is deadly. Clearly the only protection is being out there." M. Sue Wilson noted that "Sharon doesn't have the short-term memory to remember what happened an hour ago, but she does remember Karen and the past, and that she is a lesbian."

We encourage lesbians, gay men, and bisexual people to register their partnerships at the Ann Arbor City Clerk's office, under the ordinance adopted by the Ann Arbor City Council on Nov. 5, 1991. The cost is \$20 for Ann Arbor residents and \$25 for non-residents. Call 994-2725 for details. Please report to Elizabeth Brater, Ann Arbor's Mayor, any instance of disrespect on the part of City employees as you take advantage of this

or any other city service. Gay Liberation as well would appreciate this information (call 763-4186).

Gay Liberation Front's Purpose is to provide 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.

Meeting: Amnesty International U-M 7 pm (see 6 Thu)

Meeting: ACT-UP/Ann Arbor 7:30 pm (see 6 Thu)

Meeting: Lesbian, Bisexual & Gay Youth Support Group: Ozone House 7:30 pm (see 13 Thu)

"Swing": Performance Network 8 pm, 408 W. Washington. Part three of the Waynesville Trilogy by Al Sjoerdsma. A drama of distrust, desire and delusion, \$9/\$7 students & srs. 663-0681

The Chenille Sisters: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Ann Arbor's own Chenilles guarantee

a good time with their jazz, swing, folk and blues singing, \$15. 761-1451

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 5 Wed)

28 Friday

Lesbian, Bisexual & Gay Happy Hour Group 5 pm (see 7 Fri)

George Mallory/George Jones Quartet: Bird of Paradise 5:30 pm (see 7 Fri)

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

The Chenille Sisters: The Ark 8 pm (see 27 Thu)

"Swing": Performance Network 8 pm (see 27 Thu)

Paul Vornhagen Quartet: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm, 207 S. Ashley, \$5. 662-8310

29 Saturday

Garrison Keillor's American Radio Company: Michigan Theater 5:45 pm, 603 E. Liberty. Benefit Reception with Keillor will follow the show. (Reception tickets are \$72, \$50 of which is tax deductible), \$27.50 show only. 668-8397

Support Group for People with Disabilities Who Have Alcohol Abuse Issues: Ann Arbor Center for Independent Living 7 pm (see 1 Sat)

Meeting: Sober Sisters 7 pm (see 1 Sat)

"Swing": Performance Network 8 pm (see 27 Thu)

Drum Circle: Guild House 8 pm (see 1 Sat)

The Chenille Sisters: The Ark 9 pm (see 27 Thu)

Paul Vornhagen Quartet: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 28 Fri)

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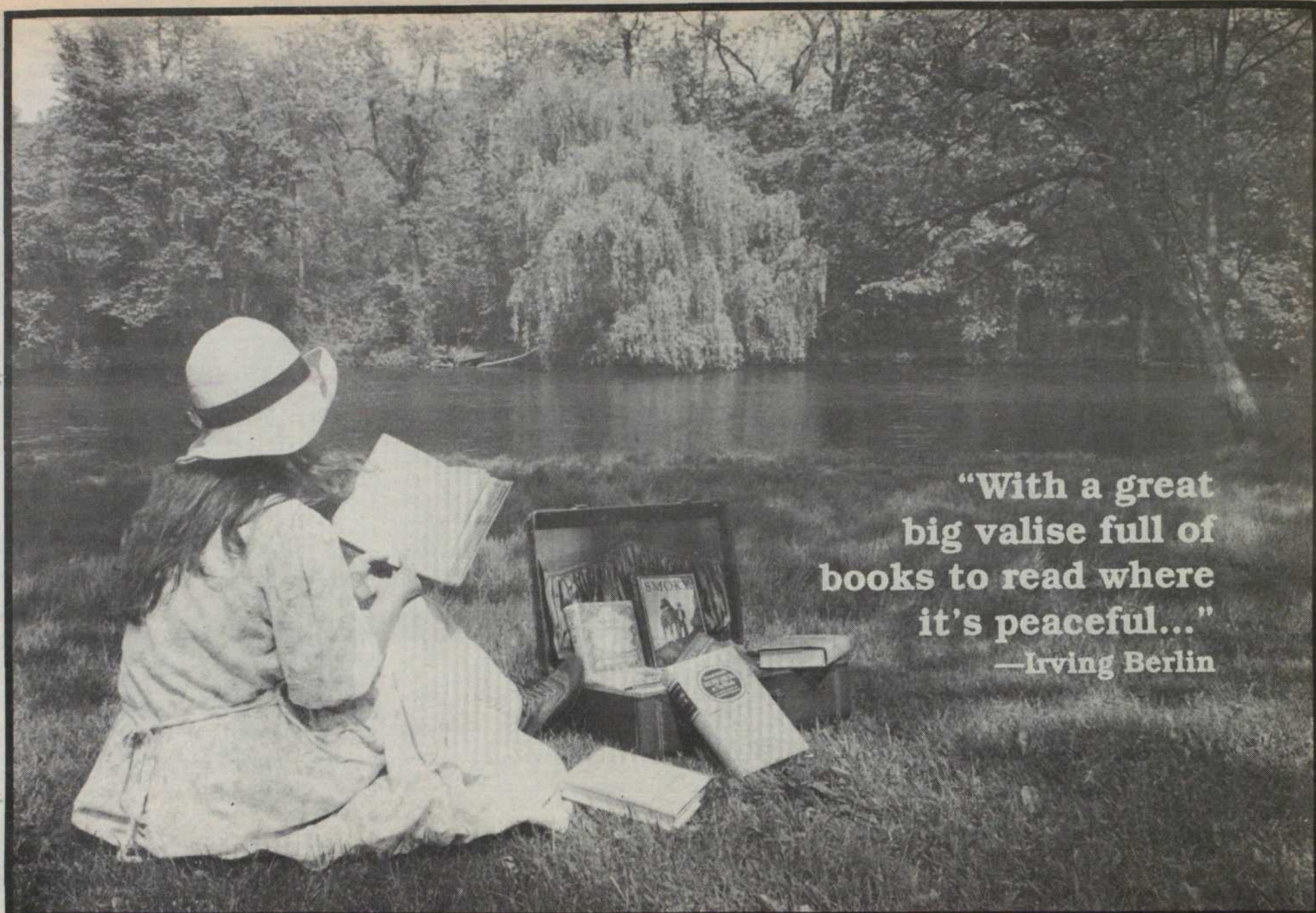
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