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HEALTH CARE

WE DESERVE BETTER

There will be many competing for the priority position in this nation's domestic policy agenda. Will women, will the poor, will minorities be at the table, or will our needs continue to be neglected and considered secondary?

—Faye Wattleton

Editor's Note: Faye Wattleton was national president of Planned Parenthood from 1978 until 1992. What follows is from her Martin Luther King Day speech at U-M's Rackham Auditorium.

It's fitting for us to rededicate ourselves to the ideals that Martin Luther King embodied through his courage and his resistance to bigotry. His was a living legacy for all poor Americans, and for all of us who have reaped the bounties of his good works.

Too many Americans still do not share in the reality of his dream. There is still a large unfinished agenda before we reach the mountain top of Mr. King's dream. Nowhere is this more evident than in the widening disparity between the poor and the affluent. For the poor, disproportionately African-American and other minorities, the issues of racism and discrimination are as challenging as they were to Dr. King's work.

We've come a long way since 1937, when Bessie Smith died as a result of an automobile accident because she couldn't go to a hospital that cared for Blacks. We've come a long way since the Black and White water fountains of my childhood. We've come a long way since Rosa Parks launched the most massive human rights struggle of this century, when she refused to give up her seat on the bus that day in Montgomery, Alabama.

But despite these great strides toward equality, the health of African-Americans, the health of women, the health of children, the health of the poor is still very precarious. So today let us rededicate ourselves to a society with decent health care for

all—health care that respects the dignity of each individual who needs it, regardless of that person's station in life or the color of that person's skin, his or her creed, or religious belief.

It is indecent that on this day that we celebrate the great works of a great man, one third of all African-Americans and nearly one-half of all African-American children still live in poverty. It is indecent that the infant mortality rate for Blacks in this country is still 17 per 1,000 live births, more than double that for White infants in this country. It is indecent, most indecent, that many of these deaths are preventable. We know the answers. We know the causes. And yet we still do not have the will to address them in a very concrete and purposeful way.

It is indecent that AIDS and homicide are the leading causes of death among African-American young men. And if they're not dead, they're in jail. Fifty percent of all women with AIDS and 55% of all children with AIDS are African-Americans.

These are cold, hard statistics. But they represent burning desperation and human tragedies for too many human beings. These are people who are denied a very basic hope for life, a very basic hope for a decent existence. Often they are denied basic health care as a consequence of not just race alone, but also as a consequence of class.

We must not forget what we have

learned about the struggles of women. Women have come through a very dark era of the past 12 years. We have fought and endured unprecedented aggression against us, reversals and repression advanced by none other than the federal government. Many of the gains for our rights and our health care have been eroded or lost. Many of the gains that we should have made were never addressed because we were fighting to hold the ground that we already occupied.

African-Americans were most disproportionately affected by these battles. While the intensity of the focus was on women, those women who have the fewest resources suffered the most. Today, African-American women are twice as likely to have unintended pregnancies and to seek abortions than White women. We are twice as likely to have low birthweight babies. The rate of pregnancy, abortion, and childbirth among Black teenagers is double that of White teenagers.

There are those that have the image of Black people just going around having sex and having babies. "Why don't they just stop doing it?" Well, that's not the answer. The answer is that we still live in a society in which racism is deeply embedded.

The impact of disease in women, unless it's about our reproductive organs, continues to be given short shrift, dismissed or ignored. If it is

(see HEALTH CARE, page 3)

EMU

Where Does the Money Go?

By Eric Jackson

Since the spring of 1992, Eastern Michigan University has refused to fully disclose information about how it spends financial contributions it receives. By its own account, however, half of the money donated to the university in the third quarter of 1992 was funneled to the administration.

EMU received \$582,911 in contributions between July 1 and Sept. 30, 1992, according to an EMU Information Services press release. Of this, \$296,997 was given to the Executive Division. By contrast, the university's endowed scholarship funds received only \$60,876. The university's library received \$130.

EMU information director Susan Bairley said that she does "not know the particulars" of how the \$296,997 allocated to the Executive Division was spent. Bairley stated that there are "all kinds of accounts" in the Executive Division. These accounts include, in addition to administrators' salaries, gifts from the EMU president to the "Learning University" publicity campaign, contributions for the football stadium, certain unendowed athletic scholarships and the Alumni Relations and University Development departments.

More detailed information about Executive Division expenditures was unavailable because EMU channels contributions through the Eastern Michigan University Foundation, a "private" corporation which was set up in 1989 by the university and to which EMU's \$7.7 million endowment was transferred last year. As a "private" entity, the Foundation claims it has no obligation to disclose how it spends funds.

This reporter sued the Foundation in April, 1992 to have it declared subject to the disclosure requirements of Michigan's Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) and Open Meetings Act (OMA). After motions and arguments in Oct. 1992, Washtenaw County Circuit Court Judge Kurtis T. Wilder promised a ruling, which still not been issued. In the event that Wilder does not first issue a ruling, a trial is set for Feb. 19.

The Foundation's acting president is EMU Executive Vice President Roy Wilbanks, while its acting vice president is the university's public relations chief, Kathleen Tinney. As Vice President for University Development, Tinney not only controls EMU's Information Services, but the Executive Division accounts which Bairley mentioned.

The Foundation's plans project six-figure annual salaries and benefit packages for its president and vice president—which would be in addition to the officials' EMU salaries. At present, neither the university nor the Foundation will disclose whether Wilbanks and Tinney are on the Foundation payroll.

As it now stands, the only source of public information about the use of gifts to the university is Tinney's office. If it is legally held that the Foundation is subject to the FOIA, then all of the Foundation's records will be open to public scrutiny. If it is held that the Foundation is subject to the OMA, then all meetings would be open to the public and business previously done by foundation officials in closed meetings would have no legal effect.

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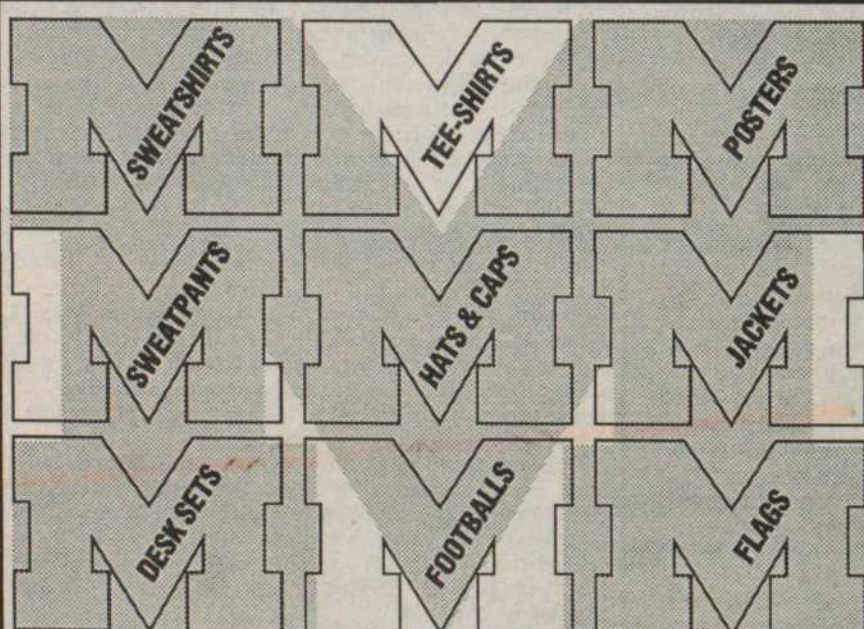
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The Gulf War: Then and Now

As the death toll rises from the latest U.S. bombings of Iraq, it's important to recall the results of the 1991 Gulf War. Over a 43-day period beginning Jan. 17, the U.S. and its allies dropped 88,000 tons of explosives on Iraq and occupied Kuwait. The bombings entirely wiped out Iraq's water, electrical, and sewage systems. Raw sewage flooded the streets and contaminated rivers from which people were forced to drink. A U.N. mission visiting Iraq in March 1991 reported that the bombing had "near apocalyptic results."

Estimates of Iraqi war deaths range from 150,000 to 250,000. Most Iraqi dead were children. They died (and continue to die) of diarrhea, malnutrition, typhoid, cholera and other diseases. War-related food shortages and drinking water contamination are largely responsible for the spread of these diseases.

During the war, U.S. television was filled with images of precision-guided missiles cleanly taking out targets. However, only seven percent of all explosives used were "smart" bombs. After the war, The Washington Post reported that of the other 93% of explosives (81,980 tons), 70% missed their targets.

Bosnian Relief Clothing Drive

A local relief effort is underway to send clothing to war-torn Bosnia. Bring blankets and clothing in good condition (preferably warm clothing, but any will be appreciated) to the Friends Meeting House, 1416 Hill, or to Elmo's T-Shirts, 220 S. Main Street. The clothing should be in secure cardboard boxes and can be dropped off between 9 am and 4 pm through Feb. 10. For info. call 994-9136.

Reproduction and Privacy Rights

On Thurs., Feb. 11 the Religious Coalition for Abortion Rights will present a forum entitled: "Reproduction and Privacy Rights: Where is Michigan Headed?" Panelists include two Michigan legislators, Rep. Lynn Jondahl of Lansing and Rep. Mary Schroer of Ann Arbor. The event begins at 7:30 pm at the First Unitarian Universalist Church, 1917 Washtenaw. For info. call 665-3522.

Opportunities for Peace and Justice?

On Sat., Feb. 6 the Interfaith Council for Peace and Justice will host a panel examining this question vis-a-vis the next four years. Participants include: Clinton transition team member Shirley Clarkson, Rev. Archie Criglar of Bethel AME Church, and Peace Neighborhood Center Director Rose Martin.

The program begins at 7:30 pm at the First Presbyterian Church, 1432 Washtenaw Ave. It will be preceded by a buffet dinner at 6:30 pm (\$7 adults, \$3.50 children). For info. and reservations (must be made by Feb. 3), call 663-1870.

SAPAC Needs Volunteers

The U-M Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Center is seeking volunteers for fall '93 and winter '94. Women are needed to answer counseling phone lines, to provide emergency intervention, and to provide support to sexual assault survivors. The time commitment is 10-15 hours a month for eight months.

The Peer Education Program needs women and men to present educational programs on rape and sexism. The time commitment is six-eight hours a month for eight months. Volunteer trainings will be held in the fall.

Applications are available at the Sexual Assault Prevention and Awareness Center, 580 Union Dr. (Winchell House, West Quad), Room L-107. They will be accepted through Fri. Mar. 12. For info. call 763-5865.

Homeless Publish Newspaper

Homeless families from the Prospect Place Family Shelter have begun to publish their own journal, "Say it Loud!: A Journal of Washtenaw Homeless Families in Transition." The journal gives a voice to people who rarely have an opportunity to publicly express themselves. The first issue presents a view of Ypsilanti Public Housing from a single mother of four and a teenage boy, both lifelong public housing residents.

"Say it Loud" describes itself as "a non-aligned teller of truth, fighter for justice, talk it, walk it, won't be denied-chronicle of the poor's journey to the promised land." Send stories, artwork, poems, donations, and letters to "Say it Loud," P.O. Box 7493, Ann Arbor, MI 48107.

State Repays Feds for EMU Junkets

In a closed session of its January meeting, the state board of education voted to abandon an administrative appeal and to repay the U.S. Department of Education \$202,000. The funds, designated for foreign language teaching, were improperly used to send state officials and EMU regents, administrators, and their spouses, on trips to Europe and Asia during the 1980s. Those who misused the funds still may face criminal charges.

Innocents Can Be Executed

The U.S. Supreme Court recently ruled that a prisoner whose state trial was procedurally "fair" may not appeal to the federal courts, even if new evidence proves his or her innocence. The high court, which demanded an unspecified extraordinary level of necessary proof, ruled that Texas death row inmate Leonel Herrera's appeal could not be heard by a federal court.

Eyewitness accounts and confessions show that the condemned man's brother actually committed the crime. In a concurring opinion, justices Clarence Thomas and Antonin Scalia argued that it is constitutional for the government to execute an innocent person.

Ecumenical AIDS Healing Service

An ecumenical AIDS Memorial and Healing Service will be held on Fri., Feb. 12 at the First Congregational United Church of Christ, 218 N. Adams in Ypsilanti. Clergy and lay persons from several local churches will participate, including Rev. Chuck Selner, who is HIV positive and operates a full-time AIDS ministry in Chicago.

Those wishing to sing in the choir should meet at the First Congregational Church at 7:30 pm on Wednesdays Feb. 3 and Feb. 10. Lay people are also needed as greeters/ushers, readers, holders and to help with Fellowship Time after the service. For info. contact Deacon Harold Green, Tree of Life Memorial Christian Church, at 485-3922.

AGENDA

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U-M Law Students Aid Haitian Refugees

By Jeffrey D. Dillman

For the past four months nearly two dozen U-M law students have spent their weekends in Lansing, helping Haitian refugees apply for asylum. They are part of the Haitian Refugee Project, founded by the U-M chapter of the National Lawyers Guild to provide legal aid to Haitian refugees. Haitians began fleeing their country in record numbers following the Sept. 29, 1991 military coup which overthrew Jean Bertrand Aristide, Haiti's first democratically-elected president.

Project participants are providing legal assistance to 22 Haitians who have been resettled to Lansing by the United States Catholic Conference. Nine U-M students also travelled to Florida in early January, where they helped refugees apply for asylum. Some are planning to return to Florida over spring break.

In Lansing students work in pairs, spending 15 to 20 hours interviewing each client with the help of a Creole-English translator. The students prepare drafts of their clients' testimony, which are attached to the asylum applications. Applicants are then interviewed by INS officers, who decide whether to grant asylum. Under U.S. law, to qualify as a refugee a person must prove that she or he has a well-founded fear of persecution on grounds of race, religion, nationality, membership in a particular social group or political opinion.

Although the law's language is neutral, critics claim that decisions are often based on politics or race. The acceptance of most

Cubans as refugees and rejection of most Haitian applicants is often cited as evidence of this. So, too, is the U.S.-Haitian interdiction pact, signed by the former respective Reagan and Duvalier regimes. This pact allows U.S. officials to take into custody Haitians in international waters and return them to Haiti without giving them the chance to state their claims before an immigration judge in the U.S. Refugees from no other country face such a legal obstacle.

From the Sept. 1991 coup until May 1992, about 40,000 Haitians were intercepted at sea, 25% of whom were allowed to come to the U.S. and pursue their claims. The rest were returned to Haiti. Beginning in May 1992, a new Bush administration policy mandated that all those intercepted be returned. In addition, 222 Haitians who are HIV positive (or who have a family member who is HIV positive) have been forced to remain in a U.S. Navy prison camp at Guantanamo, Cuba. There they have no access to legal representation and have inadequate medical care.

Being allowed into the U.S. to apply for asylum is merely the first of many legal hurdles. Next, the refugees, including those in Lansing, must convince the INS of their fear of persecution. If they do not, they will be forcibly returned to Haiti.

Jeffrey Dillman is the supervising attorney for the Haitian Refugee Project. For more information or to volunteer, call 763-2300.

HEALTH CARE

(FROM PAGE 1)

about our reproductive organs, it is most likely to be debated and discussed not in medical institutions, but in the halls of Congress and in state legislatures.

How inappropriate and perverse that women are still mostly identified with our reproductive function. Within that spectrum of attention, those things that directly affect the quality of our lives are often ignored as not being significant, not worthy of a commitment of resources.

A 1991 study noted that AIDS is expected to become one of the five leading causes of death among women ages 15 to 44. Why do we see so little concern, over a decade now after this terrible epidemic was identified? We're only now getting around to classifying certain conditions among women that have been long known as being associated with those women who are infected with HIV. In 1988 the rate of AIDS among women of reproductive age was almost nine times as high among Black women as among White women.

I could give you a litany of evidence about why the needs of women and the poor and minorities are so often overlooked. But these are indicators of the larger problem that our society must now get around to the business of addressing.

That point is illustrated by a story that comes from a folk hero of my adopted home town, New York City, the former Yankee manager Yogi Berra. One day, Yogi Berra came home from Yankee Stadium and told his wife about an incident that occurred that day. This is back in the years when some of you weren't born yet, but streaking was the fad in the 60s. He told his wife about two people that jumped out of the stands and had gone all around the three bases and had rounded home plate. That may not have been unusual, but they were naked, so that was a little out of the usual, even for Yankee stadium.

His wife thought he hadn't given her the full story. She asked him whether they were boys or they were girls, and he said "I don't know, they had bags over their heads." I think that Yogi Berra missed the bigger picture.

I urge you to understand the array of forces in the bigger picture. This picture has been clouded by regressive politics of the Reagan and Bush years. The Clinton Administration does offer us a change, a chance. But it will only come about if we the people are true to our obligation to assure that change really does take place.

Change can only come about if you and I are vigilant, if we understand that going about our daily work is not enough. We can only bring about change if we continue to press for the advancement of a better condition for all Americans.

Women's health will have a chance of moving up on a higher level of priority, if we make it a priority. There will be many competing for the priority position in this nation's domestic policy agenda. Will women, will the poor, will minorities be at the table, or will our needs continue to be neglected and considered secondary?

Let us not forget that we have just seen a government that was willing to use the purse strings to censor speech. There are real and present dangers that continue to lurk, and we must be vigilant that they do not continue to erode Americans' fundamental rights.

Now is the time that you have to get involved—if you have not already been involved in the political process. I wish that I could say that there was something else that could be done, but unless you see the political dimension to social problems, you don't see the bigger picture.

Work for real reform in health care, not just for Blue Cross and Blue Shield to get a break on its premiums demands. Make sure that women and children are at the top of the list.

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I've always felt too big, like I take up too much space. I feel disgusted when I look in the mirror. I've tortured myself with diets, but nothing works. Even if I lose a few pounds, I put the weight back on as soon as I let down my guard. Then I get depressed and eat even more. My boyfriend tells me that it's not my fault that I'm heavy; he says that when babies are fed too much they develop extra fat cells. I just hate my body!

—Marlene, a 17-year old woman with a fine, healthy body.

Body Image & Eating Disorders

By Gen Stewart

We are all affected by society's unrealistic standards of beauty and body size. They are imposed upon us every time we turn on the TV, sit through a film, flip through a magazine, or overhear self-critical conversations by friends and family members. This standard is used to test our mettle, as if accepting ourselves as we are is some kind of major social rebellion. How is it that we are literally made to "feel too big, like we take up too much space?"

The images of thin, athletic, tanned (or pale in the case of images of women of color), flawless female models are intended to represent the picture of health and happiness for women. In fact, 95% of women could never achieve the weight or body proportions of models. Top models are anything but healthy and happy themselves—rates of substance abuse, eating disorders and stress-related illness are extremely high among these women.

The battle between women and their bodies feeds the \$33 billion diet products industry, the \$20 billion cosmetics industry, and the \$300 million plastic surgery industry. This battle robs us of our self-esteem and confidence. It saps our strength and energy. It perpetuates sexism by forcing us to accept beauty and body size as criteria for job competence and social worth.

It is commonly believed that to be excessively slim and trim is to exude radiance and health. However, there is no substantiated health reason for this obsession with thinness. To the contrary, recent studies show that people who are underweight experience more illness than those who are overweight, except in cases of extreme obesity. In accordance with these findings, the "ideal weight" charts developed by the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company have recently been revised upward by about ten pounds. (Because one's ideal weight is subject to so many genetic and environmental variables, these charts are useful only in a most general way.)

The most ironic and insidious thing about all of the pain and suffering involved in trying to be thin, is that it doesn't work. Extremely low-calorie dieting simulates the body's starvation mechanisms. Metabolism slows down to preserve resources, which makes it more difficult to lose weight. In addition, the extreme hunger cause by deprivation may lead to binge eating.

Medical experts estimate that up to 50% of women in the United States suffer from a damaged relationship with food that interferes with their daily living. Eat-

ing disorders—anorexia and bulimia—are, in part, extreme responses to women's obsession with thinness (very little is known about eating disorders in men). Anorexia is a very serious health condition which involves self-induced starvation due to an irrational fear of fatness. A woman suffering from anorexia may lose up to 25% of her original body weight. Bulimia involves eating large quantities of food in one sitting and then purging by self-induced vomiting, use of laxatives, excessive exercise or periods of starvation. Many women have some symptoms of both of these eating disorders without meeting the diagnostic criteria for either.

Anorexia and bulimia can be treated if they are identified early. Like other kinds of substance abuse, the treatment of eating disorders involves several components applied simultaneously. The primary objective is to help the person with an eating disorder reach and maintain a weight which is reasonable for her.

Those with eating disorders are often filled with shame, guilt, and self-hatred. They experience a loss of control over their actions and their bodies. Therefore, a major component of the treatment should address these issues and others which affect self-esteem. In cases where eating disorders go untreated—and many women don't seek treatment because of the social stigma—the mortality rate may exceed 15%.

We need to take action individually and collectively to challenge and change the destructive image of the "ideal body" which is imposed upon us. As individuals we can explore our own concepts of beauty and think about what influences our ideals. We can take time to understand our bodies and to pay attention to how our feelings about ourselves fluctuate depending upon menstrual cycle, life cycle, and other factors. We can give affirmation based on who people are, not what they look like. We can buy clothing that fits and that is comfortable. We can examine social and media messages with a critical eye, and encourage our friends and family to do so as well. We can raise questions about appearance codes in places of employment. We can help teach our daughters to love themselves. We can try to learn to love ourselves.

Gen Stewart has a master's degree in public health education. She works at The University of Michigan as a health educator and has a special interest in women's health issues.



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Ruminations of a Radio Therapist

By Arwulf Arwulf

By Arwulf Arwulf



Sonny Bono sat on the edge of a table, wearing a modified smoking jacket. Raising his eyebrows, he goggled into the camera and whined: "Let's talk sense, kids." It was late 1969, and most of us in that classroom, watching Bono narrating the propaganda film, we knew we were being lied to. They lied about reefer, and later about acid. We couldn't believe anything they told us after awhile. Sending Bono to warn us about drugs was the last straw. We would do anything that moron told us not to. By 1972, LSD was as common, and, we were sure, as safe as milk.

Even the jocks were dropping acid in my school. Most folks handled it just fine. After my initial dose, which somehow got into my system while I was working the Ann Arbor Blues and Jazz Festival '72, I was on a carefully unplanned, auto-anarchic program of lysergic psychotherapy: I was me own shrink! The reason I took so much of it into myself was this: I was a miserable, confused bundle of potentials, with gyrating joys and nutty inventive optimism already inside of me. Lots had gotten in the way of these simple inner gifts. LSD acted as a stabilizing agent, reaffirming everything I was born with but hadn't been able to utilize. Taking matters into my own hands, I ingested lysergic acid hundreds and hundreds and hundreds of times.

I'm making this statement publicly and without any shred of apology. Because this might just be an example of why LSD and similar medications are potentially a very beneficial force for humanity. My own testimony. Do I write like a burnout? Well, I'm an *unusual* fellow. But I was *born* that way. So acid should be thanked, in my case, for providing me with access to my own potentials. Potentials which exist in everyone, and all too often are rendered nearly inaccessible by lousy lifestyles and boneheaded public schooling. And television. And sugar! And so forth.

As a caucasian male, I was sorely in need of *humility*. LSD, making one feel as small as one actually is in the immensity of the cosmos, was the perfect humbling agent. In this particular case it must have been the ideal choice, for I never had anything remotely resembling a bad experience. Not once.

I was lucky, you'll say. You're damned right I was. I had good advice. The Rainbow People introduced me to Dr. John, gumbo voodoo pianist from New Orleans, who advocated putting one's trust in the herbs of the Earth, rather than byproducts of the laboratories. I can still see him with Bible in hand, his gravel voice explaining why reeferers are blessed: "And God said, let the earth bring forth grass, and herb, and God saw that it was good!"

John Sinclair taught us there were Life drugs and Death drugs. We were encouraged to apply the Life drugs carefully, taking whatever steps were necessary to liberate ourselves from the frozen waste of the Death Culture. This was important guidance for young hearts willing already to apply all sorts of strange energies to themselves. LSD, originating, I believe, from ergot, a species of rye mold, was certainly earthy enough for my needs. And there were other choices.

On my sixteenth birthday, I arranged sixteen dried Peyote buttons in a circle on the dining room table, and consumed them one by one, washing down the dessicated cactus chunks with a pitcher of ice water. Peyote is even better when eaten fresh; the electricity when it first touches the tongue is something I'm not likely to forget. There's a gratitude in my heart. I will sing nothing but praise.

Peyote is the basis of a certain Native American religion, and it is interesting that governmental forces seem intent upon denying freedom of religious expression to the members of that church. Then again, it's in keeping with every insult ever handed to these people by the "government."

The laws are based upon fear, and greed. Anything which alters the senses must be either taxed and controlled, or proscribed with penalties attached. Peyote is an interesting choice for prohibition; one has to be ruggedly determined to have the experience, and not mind puking. The laws against cocaine, (the *real* Montezuma's Revenge), are at least a tiny bit easier to rationalize. Peyote is a cactus which grows in the desert, and if the government can't handle that, they should just give up the entire idea of governing. I mean really.

It occurs to me that I mentioned *puking* and not minding it. Please try to understand: when puking goes in, it might just as well go out. I regurgitated outside under a blue sky, laughing and dancing in a circle. It made plenty of sense. Nothing inconvenient or unpleasant about it. Sweet sixteen! To be young, gifted and *tripped out*.

There's a family of substances. Marijuana, Hashish, Psilocybin, Peyote, LSD. They're definitely related. All pages in same book. Whole damn thing. Amen. I speak to you here and now, to say that none of these is bad, at least not in itself. Certainly any substance has the potential for propulsive inclusion in the psyche of an unfortunate sociopath. The exact same problem exists for all behavior modification substances: coffee could cause aggravated assault and even murder, you can't deny that. I'll drink it. It wreaks havoc on the prostate. Be careful. French Roast is a bitch.

Tobacco is a much-abused herb which used to be handled with awe in these parts. Three Dominican cigars in succession can make you need to lie down. Everyone knows this, too. Tobacco is a mind-expanding drug. For best results, go to the woods. Start no fires, and get the nicotine deep inside your soul. Deadly poison! Once a sacrament.

Mushrooms have been an influence on civilization for thousands of years. Robert Graves, in his brilliant study on the *Greek Myths*, explains this phenomenon wonderfully. I question the practice of outlawing fungi. It just sounds silly. The law should lighten up on these substances. Beer and whiskey are much more dangerous. LSD and marijuana have been proven to be effective treatments for alcoholism. I think we need to reconsider our entire approach to all substances, including Nutrasweet.

Lots of folks are getting along on prescribed psychotropic drugs, which means they perpetrate changes upon the psyche. Lithium, the mood stabilizer; and Prozac, the serotonin re-uptake inhibitor. Then there's the highly addictive Benzodiazepine family: Valium (a favorite of John Wayne Gacy); Xanax (see George Bush); and Xenax, the anti-anxiety treat with a steadily worsening reputation. And hundreds more.

I know many who apparently *must* have their medications, and these must be properly blended, or strange and unhappy things take place. As children and young adults, these individuals were hyperactive, manic depressive, unable to carry on with their lives. There's a considerable portion of the population walking around with any number of medicants coursing through their veins. Many I've talked to say that medication has made it possible for them to proceed.

Medical science may actually be solving some of these enigmas. An intelligent, propaganda-free re-evaluation of *all* substances which affect the mind would bring us even closer to that elusive thing they call *mental health*. Obviously, I'm not afraid to take a stand on this issue. Let me close by saying that I think that marijuana usage should be a prerequisite for the presidency. And someone should ask Bill if he tried the brownies.

Arwulf Arwulf's radio shows can be heard on WCBN, 88.3 FM, at the following times: "You've Got To Be Modernistic"—Thurs., 7-8 pm; "Duke is on the Air"—with co-host Dave Crippen, Sun. 5-6 pm; "Open Letter to Duke"—Sun. 6-7 pm; "Real Black Miracles"—Sun. 7-8 pm. And on WEMU: "Sunday Best"—Sun. 10 am-1 pm.

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- (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.



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FILM

"Peter's Friends"

[Starring Kenneth Branagh, Ema Thompson, Rita Rudner, Stephen Fry. Written by Rita Rudner and Martin Bergman. Directed by Kenneth Branagh. A Samuel Goldwyn Release.]

NEW RELEASE



A recent entry in the class reunion sweepstakes is auteur Kenneth Branagh's latest bid, "Peter's Friends." The class reunion is an endearing genre which got its contemporary initiation with John Sayle's unpretentious "The Return of the Secaucus Seven." Ironically enough, what started out as a sincere recording of history has long since become a farcical, relentless championing of middle-class values.

Peter (Stephen Fry), a young, friendly upper-crust patrician sort has inherited his family's English manor upon the death of his father. In a questionably premature—as well as possibly immature—act, he invites the other five members of his college vaudeville troupe to spend the holidays. Peter arranges this ten-year reunion, a way of looking back, as he tries to sort out his future.

Included in this circle are a charming alcoholic television writer, Andrew (Kenneth Branagh); his pretentious and vulgar "queen of the sit-coms" wife, Carol (Rita Rudner); a publisher's agent, Maggie (Emma Thompson), whose seeming life's ambition is to score a best-seller for her firm and lose her chastity somewhere along the line; another trouper, Sarah (Alphonsia Emmanuel), whose chastity was lost so long ago as to forgo a claim check; and the final two former members of the troupe, Roger and Mary (Hugh Laurie and Imelda Staunton), whose rocky marriage is founded uneasily upon their debt to maternity and a career established on television commercial jingles.

The scenario of such a gathering is easy to predict—beautiful people in high to middling-income occupations wringing their hands together. Has everyone's career has taken the correct professional course? Have all the necessary wisdom teeth have been successfully extracted? And, hey, (as an afterthought), what the bloody hell went wrong after college, anyway? Ranging from the

resolute politically correct Sayles through Lawrence Kasden's maximally-yupped ex-Wolverine "Big Chill" seven, and John Hughes' proto-yup (puppies?) high school-apocalyptic "Breakfast Club" five, I tend to judge such films with a deadly simple criteria—do I really want to know these people?

Each of these seven caricatures has a oddly affective quirkiness which makes them individually endearing, but collectively they'd probably make the average film-goer want to bury his or her head face-down in Peter's plush and comfortable living room divan. And all this dreary fare is coming from a film which is supposed to be a comedy?

Admittedly, somewhere in the core of this film was the kernel of a good idea. Seven friends in a little tum-of-the-year reunion at the request of one of their own does sound like a promising premise. Yet why do it so superficially? Especially after similar mishandling by a litany of other filmmakers?

All the same, it's this writer's belief that the issue of friendship is a pertinent—even important—issue for cinema to grapple with. Ridley Scott's "Thelma and Louise" scratched at the surface of friendship and working-class women, while Dennis Hopper's "Easy Rider" looked at male bonding. Both, however, copped out by the end of the film's credits. One has to turn to Mike Nichols' "Carnal Knowledge" (talk about intense class reunions) for such penetrating psychological insight into interpersonal group dynamics. This humanistic depth isn't to be found anywhere near Branagh's latest flick.

It's therefore admittedly a form of cheating to report that the scorecard on "Peter's Friends" is a wishy-washy, lukewarm, maybe yes and maybe no ...and further, to report that this inconclusiveness, in turn, says everything that needs to be said about the film.

—John Carlos Cantú

VIDEO

"DOG FIGHT"

Directed by Nancy Savoca
Starring River Phoenix and Lili Taylor

HIDDEN GEM

It's November 1963. Corporal Eddie Birdlace (River Phoenix) is almost 19 and on his way to San Francisco. He and his three best friends are on their last Marine liberty before shipping out for a little-known country called Vietnam. The four Bs (as they are called, having met in alphabetical line-up during infantry training) are on a mission to find the "ugliest" date and to have her unknowingly compete for first prize. The rules of the "dogfight" are simple—the game brokers must be polite and pay for cocktails and beer. The prize is \$100.

The story centers on Eddie, and his chosen date, Rose Fenney (Lili Taylor), a waitress at her mother's restaurant. Rose is unattractive by conformist standards and pathetically innocent. (It's almost unbearable to watch the scene in which Rose tries on and rejects all her ill-fitting dresses for her big date with Eddie.) Rose dreams of becoming a folk singer and wants to "do something in the world like join the Peace Corps or help out down South." As can be expected, Eddie and Rose's worldviews clash and create fireworks, culminating in love.

Eddie, before being confronted by Rose, is the quintessential puffed up, ignorant, macho dude. He brags to Rose that he joined the Marines because a recruiter told him "Eleanor Roosevelt said you look like an overworked, underfed, oversexed, killing machine. That's what she says about Marines and you look like a Marine to me."

In turn, Eddie and his friends believe that their deceits, such as the dogfight, won't hurt anyone if they don't know about them. Sadly, for the four Bs, entertainments like the dogfight, fighting squids (Navy men) and negotiating three-for-\$10 blow jobs equal liberty. The film humorously condemns the narrow cultural conformity that makes it so easy to be righteously deceitful.

"Let me tell you something about bullshit," Corporal Berzir (Richard Panellbianco) explains to Eddie. "It's everywhere. You hit me with a little, I buy it. I hit you with a little, you buy it. It doesn't make us idiots. That's what makes us buddies. We buy what the Corps hands out and that's what makes us Marines. And the Corps is buying all the bullshit from President Kennedy and President Kennedy is buying the bullshit from everybody in the U.S.-of-fucking-A. And that's what makes us Americans." Exemplifying this bullshit-buying is the lack of thought Eddie has obviously put in to joining the Marines, choosing friends or judging women.

This bittersweet film is nearly perfect in its storyline, casting, score, direction and message. It pays special tribute to the great folksingers of old. Holly Near (who carries on that tradition) is featured as Rose's mother, and much of the score is made up of Woody Guthrie, Joan Baez, Odetta and Dylan ballads. Rose tells Eddie that real folksingers write and sing their own thoughts and therefore what they say goes to the soul. Her message is that love power is stronger than the war machine. And in the end, love is truly what holds all the characters together.

Lili Taylor as Rose is brilliant, blending a clearly painful vulnerability with a powerful security of vision. Her hesitant but heartfelt rendition of Malvina Reynold's "Just a Little Rain" is truly moving. River Phoenix is beyond exceptional. His timing and the flow of his language (both verbal and physical) have you believing that Eddie is a real person. His metamorphosis from an insensitive lout to a feeling human being is actually believable. That's a lot to ask an actor to do.

—Laurie Jo Wechter

Send March Calendar items by Feb. 15 to AGENDA, 220 S. Main St., Ann Arbor, MI 48104. Unless otherwise noted, all events listed in the CALENDAR are free and open to the public.

1 Monday

Ongoing Exhibits: U-M Museum of Art 525 S. State. "Antiquities from the Kelsey Museum" runs thru 31 May; "Four Treasures of the Chinese Scholar's Studio" runs thru 7 March; "The Cultivated Image: Garden Photographs by Michael Kenna" runs thru 28 Feb.; "Tiffany Interiors From the H.O. Havemeyer House" runs thru 21 Feb.; "Picasso and Gris" ongoing. 747-2063

"The White City: World's Columbian Exposition, Chicago 1893": U-M Special Collections Library 711 Hatcher Graduate Library. Display of plates from Howard Bancroft's "The Book of the Fair," which chronicles the 15th world fair. Runs thru 2 April. 764-9377

A2 Women Painters Exhibit: N. Campus Commons Arts NCC Gallery. Runs thru 18 Thu. 764-7544

Temple of the Goddess: Common Language Bookstore 214 S. Fourth Ave. Communal ritual women's working project. Workshops will be held each evening thru 6 Sat. Hours: 11 am-7 pm. 994-3556

Faculty Exhibition: U-M School of Art Rackham Bldg. Runs thru Oct. 1993. 763-4417

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

Tenant Talk: Ann Arbor Tenants Union 6:30-7 pm, WCBN 88.3 FM. 936-3076

Krasnayarsk Siberian Dance Company: University Musical Society 8 pm, Hill Aud. Orchestra of national instruments, \$10-\$20. 764-2538

Social for Lesbians, Bisexual People & Gay Men: Canterbury House 8:45 pm, Lord of Light Lutheran Church, 801 S. Forest at Hill. 763-4186

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

2 Tuesday

"Chinese Society Under Reform: Reflections After a Five-Year Position in Beijing": Center for Chinese Studies noon, U-M Lane Hall. With Mich. Journalism Fellows Ann & Jim Tyson. Optional lunch, \$3. 764-6308

Object Lesson: U-M Museum of Art 12:10-12:30 pm, 525 S. State. "P is for Polydeukion: The ABC's of Roman Portraiture." 764-0395

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

"Possibilities for Latino Political Power in the 21st Century": S.A.L.S.A. 7 pm, Trotter House, 1443 Washtenaw Ave. Chicano History Week keynote address by Andy Hernandez of the Southwest Voter Registration Project. 763-9044

AA Meeting for Lesbians & Bisexual Womyn: Sober Sisters 7 pm, Common Language Bookstore, 214 S. Fourth Ave. 662-7028

"Who's for Kids and Who's Just Kidding?": Peace InSight 7:05 pm, Cable channel 9. Highlights the need for better funding for children's organizations. 769-7422

Support Group: Adult Daughters of Alcoholics & Other Trauma 7:30 pm, 3200 Mich. Union. For women of all sexual orientations who grew up in any kind of dysfunctional home. 665-3706

David Barrett: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Songs & stories, \$8.75/\$7.75 mems, studs & srs. 761-1451

Meeting: Bisexual Women's Social Group 8 pm, place TBA. 763-4186

Mark Curry with Half Way Home: Prism Productions 9:30 pm, Blind Pig, 208 S. First, \$5.50. 645-6666

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

FEBRUARY



George Bedard & The Kingpins play the Blind Pig, along with Peter Madcat Ruth, Shari Kane, and Al Hill, with guests Steve Ferguson and Lazy Lester in a benefit show for the Ann Arbor Blues & Jazz Festival. (see 6 Saturday)

3 Wednesday

Works by Kelly Miles: N. Campus Commons Arts Mich. Union Art Lounge. Exhibit by recent U-M Art School graduate runs thru 26 Fri. 764-7544

ArtVideo: U-M Museum of Art 12:10 pm, AV Room, 525 S. State. "Antonio Gaudi: A Dream of Barcelona." 764-0395

Buhrrr Blast: Ann Arbor Parks & Rec. 3:30-5:15 pm, Buhr Outdoor Ice Rink, 2751 Packard. Special activities for children, \$2.25 adults/\$1.75 youth. 971-3228

Potluck-Video Show: Freedom Campaign 6-8 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. Help organize support for political prisoners. 487-7017

Front Runners: The Gay/Lesbian Running Club 7 pm, Gallup Park. 434-4494

Meeting: Lesbian, Bisexual, & Gay Men's Adult Children of Alcoholics 7:30 pm, Rainbow Rm., St. Andrew's Episcopal, 306 N. Division. 663-6395

Open Stage: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Sign up at 7:30 pm for a short set, \$3/\$2 mems, studs, srs. 761-1451

"Harvey": Toledo Repertoire Theatre 8 pm, Franciscan Life Center, 6832 Convent Blvd., Sylvania, Ohio. Comedy about an invisible, six-foot tall rabbit, fee. 419-243-9277

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity Committee 8 pm, Mich. Union. Location at info. desk. 665-8438

Blue Sun: Leonardo's 8 pm, N. Campus Commons. Classical to jazz, duets to quintets. 764-7544

"An Orthodox Woman's Perspective": Hillel 8:30 pm, 1429 Hill Street. Talk by Ann Arbor journalist Nehama Glogower. 769-0500

Meeting: U-M East Quad Social/Support Group 9 pm, location TBA. 763-2790

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

4 Thursday

Arttalk: U-M Museum of Art 12:10-1 pm, AV Room, 525 S. State. "The Art Museum as Architecture: A Visual History of Alumni Memorial Hall." 764-0395

Meeting: Homeless Action Committee 5:30 pm, Guild House, 802 Monroe. Help confront poverty and homelessness. 930-0601

Meeting: ACTUP/Ann Arbor 7:30 pm, Baker Mandela Center, 3 E. Engineering Bldg. 665-1797

Meeting: The Salt Group (Sharing & Learning Together) 7:30 pm, First Congregational Church of Ypsilanti, 218 N. Adams. Support group for Lesbians, Gay Men & Bisexuals. 677-1418

"Burn This": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre 8 pm, 2275 Platt Rd. Comic play probes deeply into its characters' lives. Two-for-one night, \$7.

Michael Smith: The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Singer/songwriter, \$10/\$9 mems, studs & srs. 761-1451

Live Jazz Series: Leonardo's 8 pm, N. Campus Commons. 764-7544

"Harvey": Toledo Repertoire Theatre 8 pm (see 3 Wed)

Huron Valley Greens: Peace InSight 9:05 pm, Cable channel 9. Live call in. 769-7422

Ron Brooks Trio: Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 3 Wed)

5 Friday

Disarmament Working Group Meeting: Interfaith Council for Peace & Justice noon, Memorial Christian Church, 730 Tappan. 663-1870

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

Shabbat Services: Hillel 5:40 pm, 1429 Hill St. 769-0500

"Who's for Kids and Who's Just Kidding?": Peace InSight 6:05 pm (see 2 Tue)

Grads & Young Professionals Veggie Shabbat Potluck: Hillel 7:30 pm, U-M Lawyers' Club. Discussion with Scott Faber, reporter on the environmental movement. 769-0500

Meetings: Lesbians, Gay Men, & Bisexuals' AA & Alanon 7:30 pm, Rainbow Rm. (AA), Upstairs lounge (Alanon), St. Andrew's Episcopal, 306 N. Division. 663-6395

Jay Stielstra in "An Old Man in Love": The Ark 8 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Stielstra plays a 70-year-old who tells his memories in songs, poems & monologues, \$8.75. 761-1451

Hayden Carruth: Leonardo's 8 pm, North Campus Commons. Musical variety and humor. 764-7544

"Harvey": Toledo Repertoire Theatre 8 pm (see 3 Wed)

"Burn This": Ann Arbor Civic Theatre 8 pm (see 4 Thu)

"Baile!": S.A.L.S.A. 9 pm, Mich. League Ballroom. Dance to Mexican-American music by El Grupo Estillo. Student ID required, fee. 763-9044

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Saturday
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Sunday
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Family
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- Donald Davis
- Diane Ferlatte
- Corinne Stavish



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6 Saturday

Meeting: Gays & Lesbians Older &
Wiser (GLOW) 11 am, Turner Geriatric
Services, 1010 Wall. 764-2556

"The Next Four Years: Opportunities
for Peace & Justice?": Interfaith
Council for Peace & Justice 6:30 pm,
1st Presbyterian Church, 1432 Wash-
tenaw. Buffet dinner (\$7 adults/\$3.50
children) followed by panel presenta-
tion with Clinton transition team
member Shirley Clarkson, Rev. Archie
Criglar of Bethel AME Church, and
Peace Neighborhood Center Director
Rose Martin. Call for dinner reserva-
tions, 663-1870

"Freaky Friday": Hill St. Cinema 7:30
& 9:45 pm, 1429 Hill St. \$3. 769-0500

Detroit Women's Coffeehouse 7:30
pm, Red door, Unitarian Church, Cass
& Forest, Detroit, \$5. 313-547-4692

Blue Sun Quintet: Performance
Network 8 pm, 408 W. Washington.
Musical improvisation by women on
bass, cellos and violins, \$6. 663-0681

Horacio Gutiérrez: University
Musical Society 8 pm, Hill Aud.
Emmy Award-winning pianist, \$10-\$35.
764-2538

"Horse Thief": U-M Center for
Chinese Studies 8 pm, U-M Lorch
Aud. Film about a Tibetan family
struggling with survival and their
Buddhist faith. 764-6308

The RFD Boys: The Ark 8 pm,
637-1/2 S. Main. Ann Arbor's favorite
bluegrass band, \$8.75/\$7.75 mems,
studs & srs. 761-1451

Exotic Music from Around the
World: Ann Arbor Symphony
Orchestra 8 pm, Mich. Theater, 603 E.
Liberty, \$12-18/discounts for youth,
studs & srs. 668-8397

"Harvey": Toledo Repertoire Theatre
8 pm (see 3 Wed)

"Burn This": Ann Arbor Civic
Theatre 8 pm (see 4 Thu)

The Ann Arbor Blues All-Stars:
Prism 9:30 pm, Blind Pig, 208 S. First.
Benefit for the Ann Arbor Blues & Jazz
Festival features George Bedard & the
Kingpins, Peter Madcat Ruth & Shari
Kane, Al Hill, Steve Ferguson, & Lazy
Lester, \$10. 645-6666

The Something Box: Guild House
10 pm, 802 Monroe. Local musicians,
filmmakers, and artists. Sign up for
open mike at 8 pm. 994-0525

7 Sunday

Tu b'Shvat Fair: Jewish Cultural
Society 10 am, 2935 Birch Hollow.
Celebration of the New Year of the
Trees. 665-5761

Mustard's Retreat Kids Show: The
Ark 1 & 3 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main. Benefit
for the First United Methodist Nursery
School, \$5. 761-1451

Meeting: Dawntreaders 1-3 pm,
802 Monroe. 662-5189

Hike the Haenle Area: Sierra Club
1 pm, City Hall Parking Lot, 100 N.
Fifth Ave. Explore the Audubon
Sanctuary near Jackson. 429-0671

Sunday Tour: U-M Museum of Art
2-3 pm, 525 S. State. "Highlights of the
Museum Collection." 764-0395

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

"Harvey": Toledo Repertoire Theatre
2:30 pm (see 3 Wed)

"Who's for Kids?": Peace InSight
3:05 pm (see 2 Tue)

Faculty Artists Concert: University
Musical Society 4 pm, Rackham Aud.
764-2538

Swimming: A2 Queer Aquatics
Swim Team (A2QUA) 4:30 pm, Mack
Pool, Miller at 7th St. 665-8063

Front Runners: The Gay/Lesbian
Running Club 5 pm (see 3 Wed)

Community Eucharist: Episcopal
Student Foundation 5 pm, 518 E.
Washington. Service followed by
supper. 665-0606

Feminist Salon: Common Language
Bookstore 6 pm, 214 S. Fourth Ave.
663-0036

Services for Lesbians, Gay Men &
Bisexuals: Tree of Life Metropolitan
Community Church 6 pm, First



"It's About Time," a mixed-media production at the
Performance Network, features poets Wolf Knight and
Matthew Smith (above), musicians Ken and Billy King,
and dancer/singer Kate McQueen. (see 12 Friday)

Congregational Church,
218 N. Adams, Ypsilanti. 665-6163

Meeting: GLBi Veterans of America
7 pm, location TBA. 763-4186

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

Ann Doyle & Stephanie Ozer:
The Ark 7:30 pm, 637-1/2 S. Main.
Benefit for Homegrown Women's
Music Series, \$10. 761-1451

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

8 Monday

Huron Valley Greens: Peace InSight
2:05 pm (see 4 Thu)

Ethnic Festival: Ann Arbor Parks &
Rec. 6-8:30 pm, Bryant Community
Center, 3 W. Eden Ct. Sample tasty
dishes from various cultures and bring
your own favorite family dish to share.
994-2722

Optimal Motion Class: Parkway
Center 6:30-7:30 pm, 2345 S. Huron
Pky. 6-week gentle movement class
for increased flexibility, fee. 761-1514

Tenant Talk: Ann Arbor Tenants
Union 6:30 pm (see 1 Mon)

Shamanic Journeys: Creation Spiritu-
ality 7:30 pm, Carriage House, 1522
Hill St. Travel to distant places through
a shaman's drumbeat. 665-3522

Social for Lesbians, Bisexual
People, & Gay Men: Canterbury
House 8:45 pm (see 1 Mon)

Bird of Paradise Orchestra: Bird of
Paradise 9:30 pm (see 1 Mon)

9 Tuesday

"Family Planning in China: Implica-
tions for Women's Health": U-M
Center for Chinese Studies noon,
U-M Lane Hall. With Nursing Prof.
Nancy Reame and Researcher Mei-yu
Yu. Optional lunch, \$3. 764-6308

Object Lesson: U-M Museum of Art
12:10-12:30 pm, 525 S. State.
764-0395

"Closets are for Clothes": WCBN
88.3 FM 6 pm (see 2 Tue)

AA Meeting for Lesbians & Bisexual
Womyn: Sober Sisters 7 pm
(see 2 Tue)

"Audre Lord Memorial": Peace In-
Sight 7:05 pm, Cable channel 9. Ex-
cerpts from 1989 talk by the late Black
feminist poet and activist. 769-7422

Meeting: Washtenaw Citizens for
Animal Rights 7:30 pm, Guild House,
802 Monroe. 426-2492

Religious Coalition on Latin Ameri-
ca Meeting: Interfaith Council for
Peace & Justice 7:30 pm, 1st Baptist
Church, 512 E. Huron. 663-1870

Support Group: Adult Daughters of
Alcoholics & Other Trauma 7:30 pm
(see 2 Tue)

Don Henry: The Ark & Schoolkids
Free Concert Series 8 pm, 637-1/2
S. Main. Songs about people in all
stages of life. 761-1451

Meeting: Women's Health Discus-
sion Group 8 pm, Guild House, 802
Monroe. For women only. 662-5189

Meeting: Bisexual Women's Social
Group 8 pm (see 2 Tue)

"Intermarriage/Intercultural Dating:
Assimilation or Transition?": Hillel
8:30 pm, 1429 Hill St. Panel discus-
sion with religious leaders. 769-0500

Faith Healers: Prism Productions
9:30 pm, Blind Pig, 208 S. First, \$5.
645-6666

Cary Kocher/Paul Keller Quartet:
Bird of Paradise 9:30 pm (see 2 Tue)

10 Wednesday

ArtVideo: U-M Museum of Art
12:10 pm, AV Room, 525 S. State.
"Photographer's Eye," "Emile Nolde,"
& "Kathe Kollwitz." 764-0395

Buhrrr Blast: Ann Arbor Parks
& Rec. 3:30 pm (see 3 Wed)

"Guild House & the Civil Rights
Movement: Where We've Been &
Where We're Going": Guild House
7 pm, Friends Meeting House, 1416
Hill. With Bunyan Bryant, U-M Prof. of
Natural Resources. 662-5189

Front Runners: The Gay/Lesbian
Running Club 7 pm (see 3 Wed)

Meeting: Lesbian, Bisexual, & Gay
Men Adult Children of Alcoholics
7 pm (see 3 Wed)

"The Bosnian Crisis: What Should
the Religious Community Advo-
cate?": Interfaith Council for Peace
& Justice 7:30 pm, Memorial Christian
Church, 730 Tappan. With Bishop
Thomas Gumbleton, Muslim activist
Victor Ghalib Begg, a Jewish
community leader, and Bosnian
Wahed Sandnaravic. 663-1870

Open Stage: The Ark 8 pm
(see 3 Wed)

Meeting: Latin American Solidarity
Committee 8 pm (see 3 Wed)

Blue Sun: Leonardo's 8 pm (see 3
Wed)

DECLASSIFIEDS

CLASSES

GODDESS STUDIES
Feminist Wicca: Elements of magic—earth, air, fire, water—*Mon. mornings*, 10 am-2 pm, Feb. 15-Mar. 29. *Wed. eves*, 6:30-10:30 pm, Mar. 24-Apr. 28.
Psychic Develop.: Aura-sensing, healing, past life, OOBES.—*Mon. eves* 7-10 pm, Feb. 15-Mar. 29.
Ecofeminism: Discussion, ritual, & political action class project to heal the planet. *Tues. eves*, 7-10 pm, Feb. 16-Mar. 23.
Goddess Studies: Discussion and ritual explor. of archetypes. *Thurs. eves*, 7-10 pm, Feb. 18-Mar. 25. *Fri. mornings*, 10 am-1 pm, Feb. 19-Mar. 26.
Arts in Ritual: Masks, clay, drama, humor, poetry, drumming. *Sat. mornings*, 10 am-1 pm, Feb. 13-Mar. 20.
Women's Rites of Passage: We design rituals for birth, menarche, letting go, moving, etc. *Sun. eves*, 6-9 pm, Feb. 14-Mar. 21.
 Classes \$70-80 if paid before Feb. 5; \$90-100 late regis. Call 665-5550 for details.

Witchcraft for Beginners: Intensive instruction in Ann Arbor in ancient European tradition for men and women. Free. Wicca, Box 2553, Southfield, MI 48034.

FREEBIES

FREE PERSONAL CLASSIFIEDS FOR MARCH ISSUE. 5 LINES MAX. SEND TO AGENDA BY FEB. 21.

FOR RENT

ROOM AVAILABLE in seven-person vegetarian cooperative. Rent is \$150/month plus utilities and food. We share cooking and chores. No smoking, no pets, near Packard Food Co-op. Call 761-2509.

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SHOES: 1,600 pairs assorted dress/casual shoes. Men's, women's, kids. 207 S. Fourth Ave. 10:30 am-6 pm daily (Sundays call first.) 747-9100.

SOFTWARE: Ulrich's Electronics, one of Mich.'s largest suppliers of academically priced software. Call or stop in for details. 1117 S. University Ann Arbor, 662-3201.

PUBLICATIONS

CONNECT! A2's Lesbian Social Calendar lists all kinds of events, meetings and activity. Subscribe (\$5-15/yr) or list your event. Connect! Box 4163, Ann Arbor, MI 48106.

SERVICES

DRESSMAKING AND ALTERATIONS. Reasonable prices, 662-5507

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FROM THE GRASSROOTS

Fight to Keep U-M Gay Program Office Continues

Last month we reported that the name of the U-M Lesbian-Gay Male Programs Office had been omitted from directional signs in the third-floor lobby of the Michigan Union. After a number of students, faculty, staff, and community members complained to the U-M administration about the omission and about concerns regarding the future of LGMPO, the "signage" was corrected. Administrators have moreover stated that "contrary to rumor," the University has every intention of supporting the visibility of LGMPO.

Unfortunately, the "rumor" and outraged response to it was followed by the much-regretted resignation of Billie Edwards from the position of LGMPO Co-Coordinator. Edwards cited as one reason for her departure the U-M administration's attempt to remove the campus lesbian-gay male-bisexual constituency (including the LGMPO paid and volunteer staff) from the role of determining the vision, direction, structure, role and functions of LGMPO.

Since Edwards submitted her

letter of resignation, the U-M administration had promised to consult with constituency members about the concerns outlined above.

Included in Edwards' letter of resignation was a request that a search committee be formed immediately to fill her former position, and that she and the LGMPO gay male programs Co-Coordinator, Jim Toy, be named to that committee. The Michigan Student Assembly, a group of elected representatives of the student body, has passed a Resolution supporting Edwards' requests.

We all must be vigilant to help ensure that LGMPO's visibility, direction, role, function, programs and budget be supported at least to the degree the office has enjoyed in the recent past. Direct access to the office by telephone and walk-in must also be maintained, especially for the benefit of "closeted" lesbians and gay men.

Let our readers also note that two years ago LGMPO requested funds for a campus community center. That request, to which the administration has not responded,

has been resubmitted and honored.

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, Gay men, and Bisexual people. We work to obtain human and civil rights for all, regardless of sexual orientation. We help organize groups for Lesbians, Gay men, and Bisexual people and are a link to other community groups.

Community Services include: a **Hotline** for crisis intervention, peer counseling, referral. **Education:** workshops and conferences on concerns of Lesbians, Gay men, and Bisexual people with an emphasis on how people in the "helping professions" and "teaching professions" can work positively with clients, patients, & students who are Lesbians, Gay men, and Bisexual people. **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 Front 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, 530 S. State, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1349; 763-4186.

*There is no authority in churches or priests,
 no authority in numbers or majorities,
 The only authority is NATURE - the facts we know.
 Facts are the masters, the enemies of the ignorant,
 the servants & friends of the intelligent?*

— Robert G. Ingersoll from
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