

➔ the rest of our world

AIDS, 100,000 people who have become resistant to antiretroviral AIDS drugs, 150,000 children with tuberculosis and 28 million with malaria, the report said. Public health experts welcomed the plan as a way to provide needed long-term financial support for treatment of people living with AIDS.

WASHINGTON, DC Religious Leaders Praise Statement of Inclusion

The National Religious Leadership Roundtable last month strongly praised the joint statement put forth by the Council of Bishops, Elders and Christian Leaders on Sept. 11, 2006, denouncing the hostile use of Christianity against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force reported.

"They deplored the 'portrayal by Christian extremists of the tragedy of Sept. 11 as God's judgment on America for the presence of gays and lesbians and all political manipulation in the name of Jesus,'" the report said.

The resolution also called for several steps to end discrimination against sexual minorities, including the right to civil marriage and rites of Christian marriage, the right to full equality under the law, to refute the "ex-gay notion that sexual orientation and gender identity can and should be changed," and to refuse to cooperate with political or religious leaders who condemn the lives of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people.

WASHINGTON, DC Capital Leads Way With LGBT Police Unit

Washington's Gay and Lesbian Liaison Unit, an award-winning unit that covers a variety of crimes against the LGBT community, has six full-time officers, including one who teaches "Gay 101" to his peers, the *Associated Press* reported last month.

The officers investigate hate crimes as well as drug abuse and gay-on-gay violence, Internet crimes against the LGBT community, and transgender prostitution, the AP said.

Police Chief Charles Ramsey created the unit in 2000 after learning that hate crimes were not being reported due to mistrust of the police. Ironically, Parson is pleased that the number of reported hate crimes has risen since formation of the unit.

"That doesn't mean we're more homophobic - it means you have a community that finally feels comfortable turning to the police," the AP quoted Ramsey.

NEW YORK

Ten Percent of M2M Identify as Straight

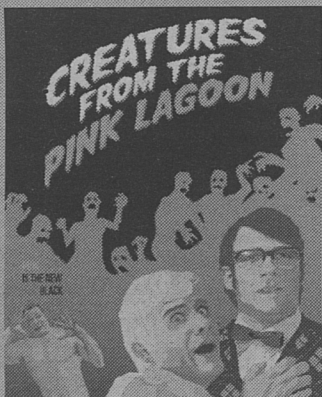
A survey of 4,193 men living in New York City conducted by the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene found that nearly 10 percent of male participants who identified themselves as straight reported having sex with at least one man during the previous year, according to a press release from publishers of the survey.

The study, "Discordance between Sexual Behavior and Self-Reported Sexual Identity" published in the *Annals of Internal Medicine*, is reported to be one of the largest U.S. population-based surveys to report on the contrast between a man's self-identified sexual identity and his actual sexual behaviors.

Preeti Pathela, DrPH, lead author of the study, said "Public health prevention messages should target risky sexual activities, such as unprotected receptive anal sex, and should not be framed to appeal solely to gay-identified men."

SEATTLE

Gay Zombie Movie Audience Favorite



Feature-length horror spoof *Creatures from the Pink Lagoon* has been awarded the Audience Choice Award at the Q2 Baton Rouge Gay & Lesbian Film Festival, a press release from Q2 reported last month.

"*Creatures from the Pink Lagoon* is an irreverent mash-up of gay male melodrama and B movie madness, in which a plucky young sissy's idyllic birthday weekend is crashed by a group of libidinous gay men - turned into ravenous flesh-eating zombies by toxic mosquitoes at a cruisy highway rest stop," the release said.

"The film played to a capacity audience ... [and] received a whopping 94 percent of the votes for Q2's Audience Choice Award," festival Program Director Patrick Abadie was quoted.

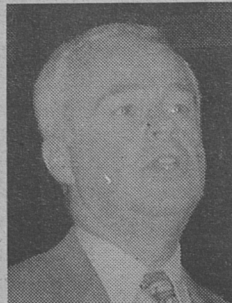
The film was shot on digital video in 2004 and 2005 and began its festival run earlier this year. ▼

vermont news

LAST-MINUTE NEWS BRIEFS

Senate Hopeful Tim Palmer Asks for Recount

BURLINGTON - Tim Palmer, Democratic candidate for the state Senate, has requested a recount in the primary in which he lost by a margin of 25 votes. Palmer placed seventh in a field of eight candidates vying for six slots.



FILE PHOTO

"The margin of less than one vote per polling place is so small that the slightest mechanical or tabulation error could have resulted in an inaccurate outcome," Palmer said in a statement. The seat in question represents all of Chittenden County except for Colchester.

Palmer is a former executive director of Vermont CARES.

Miller-Jenkins to Get Another Hearing

RUTLAND - In a continuing battle between the states of Vermont and Virginia involving the custody of a lesbian couple's child, a Rutland judge will hold a hearing regarding compliance with a visitation rights order, the *Rutland Herald* reported last month.

The Vermont Supreme Court in August sent the case back to Rutland Family Court, saying it had exclusive jurisdiction, and upheld the contempt order. In the case, Lisa Miller-Jenkins of Virginia was found in contempt of court for failing to provide visitation rights to Janet Miller-Jenkins of Fair Haven, Vermont.

Road Rabbits

ST. ALBANS - The mysterious white rabbit paintings on Vermont roads had everyone wondering what was up, and the case has even hit the World Wide Web, according to a report in the *St. Albans Messenger*.

Quite a few stenciled white bunnies have appeared on roads from St. Albans to Swanton and beyond, according to the September 14 story. The mystery was solved when a group of artists admitted to using the roads to paint their bunny pictures.

"They said they painted about 30 of the rabbits - all in the middle of the night - because they were bored, didn't want to cause trouble, and wanted to spread some cheer with their animal of choice," wrote *Messenger* staff writer Leon Thompson. He suggested googling "Vermont road rabbits" or "white bunnies in Vermont" to find out more. ▼ — Ed.

— Passings —

Photographer, Artist and Writer Tee Corinne Dies at 62

SUNNY VALLEY, OREGON - Tee Corinne, who lived in southern Oregon since 1981, died in late August after a months-long bout with liver cancer. Corinne's longtime partner, Beverly Brown, died of cancer a year ago.

Corinne authored and edited many books of lesbian fiction, including *A Woman's Touch* and *Dreams of the Woman Who Loved Sex*.

"She was one of the first women to create sexual images and writing for women, from a woman's point of view, outside the male-driven porn machinery - and to do it publicly and shamelessly," said Greta Christina's Blog.

Corinne's 1975 book *The Cunt Coloring Book* was once included in a list of materials considered pornographic by the Traditional Values Coalition and distributed among U.S. senators. The book is still in print.

A permanent collection of her works has been established at the University of Oregon. (See related article, page 22).

Illustrator Mary Frances Fenton Dies in Michigan

KALAMAZOO - Mary Frances Fenton, 68, died in April, 2006. Mary Appelhof, her partner of 24 years, had passed away the previous May, said *Lesbian Connection*.

Mary Fran illustrated Appelhof's 1982 book *Worms Eat My Garbage*. The couple collaborated on the follow-up book *Worms Eat Our Garbage: Classroom Activities for a Better Environment*.

An artist and educator, Mary Fran taught graphic arts at Western Michigan University. In the 1990s, she became a certified organic gardener and sold her produce at farmers' markets and food co-ops. For many years, Mary Fran and Mary hosted full moon circles at the Moon Lodge they created in their home.

NLGJA Mourns Death of Founding Member John Wilson

NEW YORK - John Wilson, a founding member of the National Lesbian & Gay Journalists Association, passed away in August, the NLGJA said last month.

Wilson was assistant science editor of *The New York Times*. His colleagues credited him with being an inspiration to them as someone who came out in the early '80s, at *The Miami Herald*, when few gay journalists were out in the newsroom.

Tyron Garner Dies at 39

HOUSTON - Tyron Garner, one of the plaintiffs in the U.S. Supreme Court case in 2003, "Lawrence and Garner vs. Texas," that overruled a Texas sodomy law, died last month. The decision effectively made homosexual relations a basic civil right in the United States.

"Because Tyrone Garner and John Lawrence had the courage to challenge homophobic sodomy laws, the U.S. Supreme Court recognized that love, sexuality and family play the same role in gay people's lives as they do for everyone else," said Kevin Cathcart, executive director of Lambda Legal, which brought the case before the court. "That's a colossal legacy and one for which his community will forever be thankful." ▼ — Ed.