

Come see the beauty of the north!

LISTINGS BY SHERWOOD REAL ESTATE



Contemporary, open concept home with complete privacy. Double whirlpool tub, shower, soapstone gas fireplace and wrap around deck. Full basement. Two zone oil hot water heat. Custom kitchen cabinets. Double oversized garage. 22.1 acres open and wooded with perennials, fruit trees, sugar bush and hardwoods (very private). Great mountain views (Pinnacle Mountain). Formerly the Hummingbird Haven B and B. House is in impeccable condition. Park like setting. Close to Quebec and an hour to Burlington. **Berkshire, \$359,900**

<http://www.vreinmls.com/ver/maildoc/BAAa003DW.html>



Incredible historic building on the national preservation society. Presently the home of Sherwood Real Estate and The Richford Antique and Craft Center. The registered trademark 'The Pink Lady' will be conveyed to the buyer with the property. All original woodwork. Also, the building is featured in the East Coast Victorian book. 3 floor sprinkler system. Caretaker's apartment is in the back. The Owner is a licensed Real Estate Broker. **Richford, \$399,000**

<http://www.vreinmls.com/ver/maildoc/AAAa005Vt.html>

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to our present and former board members, contributors, photographers, donors and readers.

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is the address to tell us how OITM made a difference in your life.

a:e BOOKS

"I" is for Intersex

To Be Born With Ambiguous Gender

BY LYNN MCNICOL

The gay rights movement in this country is typically dated back to the Stonewall riots of 1969, when lesbians and gay men refused to be pushed around any more by police raiding the bar. In later years, transgender individuals have found greater acceptance in our "family," and bisexuals have as well, to some extent. Thus, the LGBT acronym.

But it's only been fairly recently that people born with intersex conditions have found the support to approach a more public forum in which to deal with the damaging treatment many of them have had to endure, often at the hands of medical professionals.

October 2006 marked only the second annual Intersex Awareness Day.

Sources on the Web indicate that much of what people born with intersex conditions ("anatomy that someone decided is not standard for male or female," according to the Intersex Soci-

ety of North America) must face is the great shame visited upon them because their bodies do not "conform." Many (and this continues today) have received surgery as infants to make their bodies conform. Many of these people say the surgery has been traumatic to them, emotionally and physically.

In the current issue of *Spirit of Change* magazine (Fall, 2006), social worker Linda Marks writes with insight and compassion about people born with intersex conditions. In part she refers to her book, *Healing the War Between the Genders*.

Marks, of Newton, Massachusetts, points out that gender is perceived as being so basic to our sense of identity that we fear any deviations. That fear is expressed in the medical interventions, misunderstandings by the general public, and violence towards people whose gender expression or physical appearance don't conform.

However, Marks sees a posi-

Healing the War Between the Genders: The Power of the Soul-Centered Relationship
By Linda Marks, MSM
HeartPowerPress 2004

tive side of what Native American cultures call "two-spirited" people.

"What if we could view gender as a process and not a condition?" she writes in *Spirit of Change*. "And what if we could imagine that the emergence of people whose lives and examples force us to think more deeply into the essence of gender are actually spiritual leaders of a sort, inviting us to look more deeply into the nature of what it means to be human?"

I have not read Marks' book, but her approach invites me to look further. To begin to understand the world of those born with intersex conditions, I think her book *Healing the War Between the Genders* would be a good place to start. ▼

➔ To read Mark's article, go to www.spiritofchange.org. Also, see www.intersex-awareness-day.org, www.intersexinitiative.org, and www.bodieslikeours.org.

The UVM LGBTQA Community wishes to acknowledge the many dedicated people involved with OITM over the years for providing such a critical resource for our community.

Having a source for LGBTQ news helped change our state, our institutions, and our communities for the better.

Thank you.

