

Kunin questioned about liaison appointments

Responding to a pointedly hostile question in a public forum, Governor Madeline Kunin stood her ground recently, publicly stating that she believed she showed 'good judgment' in appointing liaisons to the lesbian and gay male communities in Vermont.

Governor Kunin spoke in Middlebury, on March 10, at the weekly Addison County Legislative Breakfast sponsored by the Addison County Chamber of Commerce. Her speech was to a crowd of several hundred which included many Addison County legislators, business and community leaders, as well as Vermont Secretary of State Jim Douglas.

The governor's question and answer period started with a sharply critical question, and the governor defending her support for controversial piece of legislation. As the governor turned to field a second question from the breakfast crowd, another man immediately stood up, this time within

Montpelier men organize

By Bob Mundstock

Fifteen men from around central Vermont met at the Unitarian Church in Montpelier on March 16 to organize monthly activities.

The men decided to host one social event each month, plus take on several projects of interest to members. One group will take over the responsibility of collating and distributing "Out in The Mountains". A support/coming out group is in the process of forming, and several members indicated an interest in working with the Vermont AIDS Action Committee (see Calendar - April 20). Plans were also discussed for the group to sponsor a dance in Montpelier to celebrate Gay Pride in June.

The next social was scheduled for April 13th in Montpelier. For further information about the group and its activities, send a SASE to Box 741, Montpelier, VT 05602.

Interfaith Coalition Planning June service

The Vermont Interfaith Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Concerns is in the process of planning an ecumenical service for Lesbian/Gay Pride Weekend in June. The Interfaith Coalition coordinated the service at last year's Pride Celebration and the Holiday Service in December.

The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 8, at 7 p.m. at the Unitarian/Universalist Church in Burlington. All interested in organizing and/or taking part in this important event are urged to attend the meeting or to contact the Interfaith Coalition by writing to: Vermont Interfaith Coalition, c/o Philip Roberts, 7-C Blair Road, Essex Junction, VT 05452.

Beth Dingman and Terje Anderson, the lesbian and gay liaisons to Governor Kunin are interviewed on pp. 5 and 8.

just a few feet of the governor's podium.

Recognizing her questioner by name, Governor Kunin smiled as she acknowledged that he was "famous." The governor's questioner was Mr. Frank Cutler, a Bridgeport resident, well known throughout Vermont for his prolific newspaper letters espousing right wing criticisms of all things "humanist" or "liberal."

Mr. Cutler proceeded to lament the governor's "lack of good judgment," demonstrated most recently, he said, by what he "had heard" was the governor's

appointment of liaison to "two different groups - the homosexuals and the lesbians in Vermont."

Governor Kunin proceeded to acknowledge and to support her decision to appoint liaisons to the lesbian and gay male communities. "I have made these liaison appointments, as I have to many groups throughout Vermont. I intend to have open dialogue with all Vermonters and I will continue to do so. I believe this demonstrates good judgment!" Applause, throughout the audience, greeted the governor's firm response to Mr. Cutler's criticism. No other response during the governor's twenty minute question and answer period drew spontaneous audience applause.

