



David Neiweem makes last minute preparations before the concert.



Maggie Hayes presents roses to soloists at the Gala Concert.



Governor Kunin presents proceeds to U.U. Society V.P. Owen Clay

Gala Benefit *from page 1*

ness of the severity of the AIDS pandemic, to raise money for the continuing AIDS education and service work of organizations established for those purposes, and finally to establish a direct client assistance fund for persons with AIDS. VT C.A.R.E.S. has been selected to receive the concert proceeds for their use in addressing these last two concerns.

In a most unusual concert event (certainly a first for Vermont and quite possibly in the country), Governor Madeleine Kunin, Honorary Chair of the concert committee, signed into law H.460, a bill which extends the protections of confidentiality and informed consent and prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation in certain insurance matters.

In addition to wonderful music, the concert was a tremendous demonstration of cooperative spirit by everyone involved—the church and its Social Responsibilities committee, the Burlington Arts Roundtable, VT C.A.R.E.S., and all the performers and backstage workers who contributed their time and energy.

Hate Crime Bill Faces Hostile Amendment

On April 20, 1988, Rep. George Gekas (R-PA) and four Republican members of Congress filed a minority report to the House Judiciary Committee's report on the Hate Crimes Statistics Act (H.R. 3193) urging that sexual orientation be removed from the bill. The Hate Crime Statistics Act would mandate the collection of statistics on crimes that are motivated by prejudice based on race, religion, sexual orientation and ethnicity. The House Judiciary Committee voted 21-13 to support the bill and report it to the House floor for action.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force expects the bill to reach the House

floor in late May. NGLTF and a coalition of 53 religious, feminists, professional and civil liberties groups have secured 109 co-sponsors in the House. A bill in the Senate (S. 2000) has six co-sponsors to date.

NGLTF is actively working with groups in Pennsylvania to challenge Rep. Gekas' bigotry in his own district. Letters of support for the bill and sexual orientation provision continue to be needed. Write your reps today!

Have a Great Summer!



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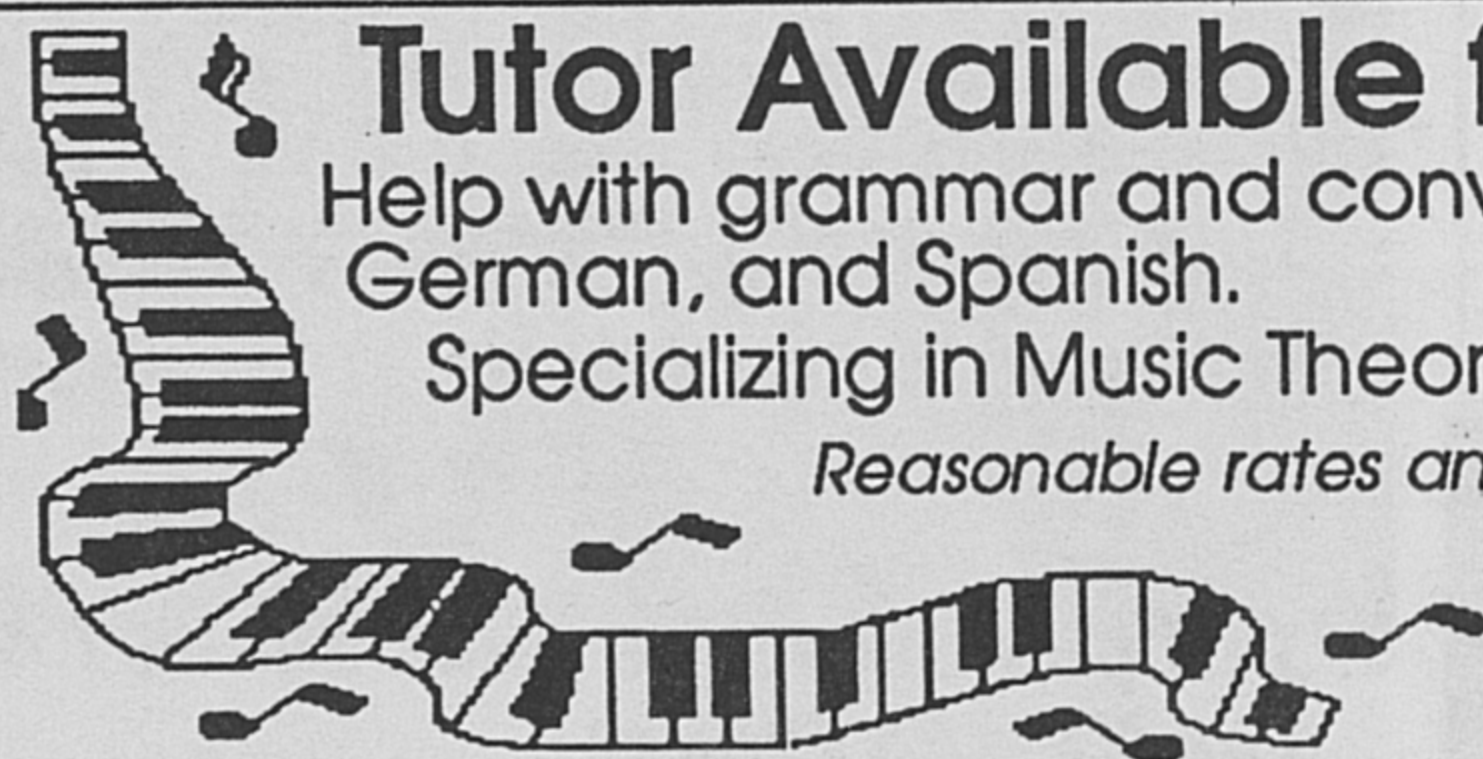
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