

Pride Day 1990

Wet, Loud, and PROUD! (from page 10)

and the Cabaret Players returned to perform at the Unitarian Universalist Church to a good crowd. The evening continued with an open poetry reading and two crowded showings of the motion picture "Longtime Companion" at the Savoy Theater, which owners Gary Ireland and Rick Winston scheduled to coincide with the Pride Day celebration.

Capping the day, hundreds attended a dance at Pyralisk Gallery behind Montpelier City Hall, an event which was much better attended than last year's dance at City Center. A lively crowd of revelers remained in town until midnight, topping off the day's events as a success.

Members of the organizing committee pointed out during the day that a newly-created Pride Day organization will function year-round. Continued fund-raisers, planning, and development of Vermont's annual Pride celebration will happen on an on-going basis, with organizers hoping to attract sponsors for a wider variety of events and a larger volunteer crew. Ronnie Bancroft, who chaired a typically small

core committee of workers for this year's event, indicated that the continuous effort would take place in coordination with a new, regional Pride umbrella organization which would enable resource, funding, and publicity sharing through New England. She noted during her remarks at the State House that Vermont is soon to host a regional Pride planning conference, with groups expected from throughout New England and New York.

Other organizations participating in this year's event have been discussing additional initiatives for the coming year, with ideas ranging from an afternoon picnic, athletic competitions, and an extension of the celebration to Sunday, keeping celebrations in the city through the weekend.

If the response of participants this June, in spite of the dreadful weather conditions that required on-the-spot programming changes and extensive cooperation from the crowd, can be taken as an indication of future prospects, then Vermont Pride is growing in all good respects.

Editorial (from Page 2)

Whether we're in or out of favor of outing, we should all be working to make it a passing fad by stressing and maintaining the dignity behind our identification as gay or lesbian. We should take this opportunity to think hard about what it means for us as individuals to be gay or lesbian in today's world, and about how we can make it easier for others to come out and join us in that world.

But most of all, we who are out need to work together to preserve the honor and pride which is the reward of coming out. That means "straightening" up our lives less and less, leaving those questionable books out on the coffee table, and smiling with outward glee when we pull our mail out from the closet of its plain sealed envelope. That example, not the kicking and screaming of some outed movie star, is the role model our community needs - and deserves.




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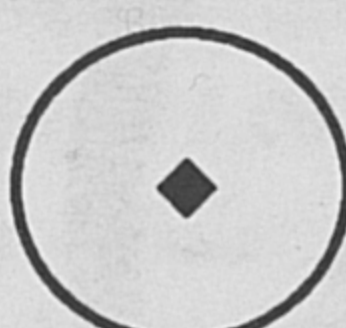
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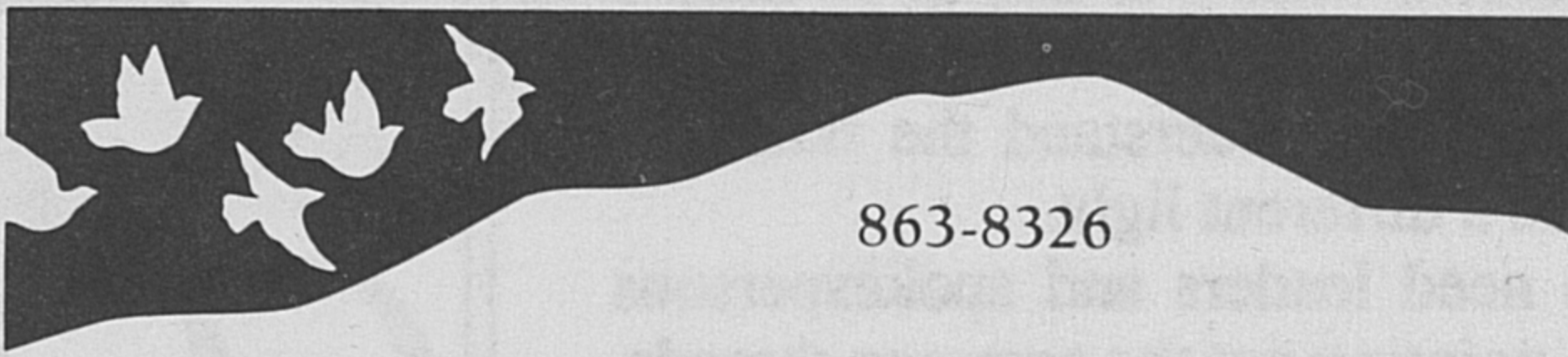
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