

know all too well the threat that HIV poses for every American.”
(*Burlington Free Press*)

New England Conference About Lesbians and Gay Men

KEENE, NH -- The Keene (NH) Unitarian Universalist Church has received two grants totalling \$5500 to be used toward funding a three day conference about lesbians and gay men. *Affirming Every Person: The New England Conference About Lesbians and Gay Men*, is designed to inform professionals in education, business, industry, human services, religion, and law enforcement as well as members of the gay, lesbian and bisexual community. The conference, co-sponsored by the Keene Unitarian Universalist Church, Keene State College and Antioch New England Graduate School, has been awarded \$3000 from the Fund for Unitarian Universalist Social Responsibility and \$2500 from the Haymarket People's Fund.

Information about the February conference is available from Ken Merrifield at (603)358-3480, Lenore Wadsworth at (603)357-5183, or by writing to: Affirming Every Person; Keene Unitarian Universalist Church; 69 Washington Street; Keene, NH 03431.

NY second state to extend domestic partnership benefits

ALBANY, NY -- In response to Governor Mario Cuomo's intent to extend health care benefits to domestic partners, the Governor's Office of Employee Relations (GOER) and the unions representing state employees, including UUP, the bargaining agent representing the academic and professional staff in the State University, have reached agreement on implementation. The agreements expand the current New York Health Insurance Plan (NYSHIP) to include domestic partners.

For purposes of coverage, domestic partner is defined as follows: "A domestic partnership is defined as one in which the partners must be 18 years of age or older, unmarried and not related by marriage or blood in a way that would bar marriage, reside together, involved in a committed (lifetime) rather than casual relationship and mutually interdependent financially. The partners must be each other's sole domestic partner and must have been involved in the domestic partnership for a period of not less than six (6) months."
(*The Prism Newsletter*)

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Giant AIDS ribbon announced

CONCORD, NH -- As part of the START (Student Teacher AIDS Response Team) Now Program at New Hampshire AIDS Foundation (NHAF) a giant AIDS ribbon will be constructed by students and displayed on the State House lawn in Concord and at schools throughout the state. The ribbon will be constructed of hundreds of smaller ribbons. Teams of students from various schools will meet in January to begin building the ribbon. Each smaller ribbon will have the name of a person who has died of AIDS in New England imprinted on them. "I believe this will make a profound impact on students, as they place name after name on the ribbons and know it was people living close to them", said J.R. Gourley, NHAF's director. The giant ribbon is expected to be 80-100 feet long and will be displayed sometime in May. On the side of the giant AIDS ribbon will be the work HOPE spelled out in ribbons. Each ribbon can be purchased from individuals for \$15 and \$20 (the \$20 ribbons are larger) and will have imprinted, "Giving HOPE to People with AIDS" and the donating person's name. For further information, call NHAF at (603)623-0710. (*Rally Quarterly*)

Are you gay or Gay?

PITTSBURGH, PA -- An employee for USAir, who happened to have the last name "Gay," got on a plane recently using one of his company's Free Flight programs. However, when Mr. Gay tried to take his seat, he found it occupied by a paying passenger. So, not to make a fuss, he simply chose another seat.

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