

going to have a van available for transportation if people in wheelchairs need that...It's hard to try to think of everything that's needed, which is why we have accessibility coordinators. Part of why it's been so difficult to learn about these things is because there aren't very many models. And you realize what a challenge it is to make something accessible. When you build it into the foundation, it's easy. Making the festival accessible has been a really powerful thing for me."

Aliza Ansell and Diane Morgan are good friends as well as business partners; this is evident from their easy camaraderie and obvious respect for each other. It's clear that they love producing the second Northampton/Amherst Lesbian Festival. Two weeks before the big day they look relaxed, and exhibit a sunny confidence that all the remaining loose ends will be tied up in time - that the program guide will get written and that a child care coordinator will be found.

They cannot talk about the festival for any length of time without reflecting on its importance to them as women and as lesbians and on the ways in which it provides a vehicle for them to create their vision of the world. Zizi sums it up. "You realize you have to come up with every possible scenario. You have to cover yourself for everything from bee stings to child care to environmental illness. You work with that. But in its exciting moments, you really realize that you're building a vision of the world that you want. Sometimes I get so resistant to certain things that we're doing. I ask, 'Do we have to do that? Do we have to do this?' And then I realize that in the world that I would want, if it wasn't the patriarchal world, that would be part of how women would create events for each other. That we have an opportunity for one day to do that for each other...As women, (we've had) to learn how to take charge and how to take control. Never having particularly been in that position before in my life, it's a new one to get used to. And probably the most beneficial and most exciting one to be in. In my dream I hope and wish this inspires so many women to start what they want to do, to go for it. It's as simple as just deciding you're going to do it. It's like that stupid Nike commercial, 'Just do it'. Just do it. It's all out there. We started the business

with \$35 each. You don't have to have a lot of money. You just have to try it. And it's only 5,000 phone calls away". ▼

This year's festival was held on August 3rd and is reviewed on page 8 of this issue.

Public TV & Radio Which Public?

Vermont ETV, unlike some public broadcasting stations around the country, should be praised for running the con-

troversial POV program *Tongues Untied*, though it ran at 11 PM instead of the usual time of 10 PM.

In contrast, Vermont Public Radio, choose not to carry the radio documentary *Unfriendly Fire: Lesbians & Gays in the Military*, which was available free from Public Radio from the University of Pennsylvania. The program manager, Steve Olson, said "The issue has already been covered and continues to be covered by our news department." ▼

Dykes To Watch Out For

By Alison Bechdel

