

# AIDS Update

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE AIDS RESOURCE CENTER

Volume II Number 5 May 1987

## HELP!

by Dave Lewis

The general purpose of the *AIDS Financial Assistance Fund* is to provide temporary financial assistance to persons with AIDS and AIDS-Related Complex. During the past year the fund has distributed over \$67,000. About one-third of this sum was raised by last year's *Fabulous Faces and Fashions* at the Apparel Mart. The other two-thirds was the result of many other fund raising events and private contributions, according to Mark Rogers, treasurer for the **Foundation for Human Understanding**, which underwrites the fund.

However, the fund is in danger. The number of people requiring assistance is constantly increasing and exceeds the available funds. According to Rogers, the Foundation Board recently established monthly limits for money distributed by the fund. "We have already exceeded this April's allotment and have the money in the bank or promised to cover May, but after by June the fund will be depleted, unless additional money is donated," Rogers said.

"At our current request levels, we will continue to exceed our monthly allotments by the tenth of each month, but we can't increase the sum available each month unless we can increase the contributions to the fund."

According to Rogers all funds contributed are used for direct assistance. None of the money contributed to the fund is spent on administrative costs. Contributions to the fund are tax deductible. Address your contributions to:

**AIDS Financial Assistance Fund  
Foundation for Human Understanding**  
P.O. Box 190712  
Dallas, Texas 75219

Assistance provided to PWAs by the fund is in the form of payments to provide the basic necessities for a temporary period. The expenses covered by the fund include:

- Minimum acceptable housing
- Adequate food
- Utilities

The fund is not intended to maintain a lifestyle above minimum acceptable conditions and is to be given on a serious need basis only.

The requirements for receiving assistance from the fund are:

1. Positive diagnosis of AIDS or AIDS-Related Complex.
2. Dallas county resident for 1 month or more.
3. Unemployed.
4. Not presently receiving income from SSDI, SSI, or any personal disability insurance policy.

5. Must have exhausted personal resources such as:

- Cash savings in excess of \$1,700
- Readily salable stocks and bonds
- Certificates of Deposit
- Readily salable antiques, jewelry and other expensive personal effects in excess of \$3,000. (This category does NOT include such items as TV's, stereos, dining tables and other items customary in maintaining a primary residence.)

6. Individuals must have first applied for assistance from other AIDS service agencies associated or affiliated with the AIDS/ARMS Network, including application for SSI and/or SSDI.

7. We reserve the right to require proof of eligibility under any of the above guidelines.

Payments from the fund are made in the following categories (up to the

limits indicated):

|                                                                |          |
|----------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| Rent or house payment                                          | \$400.00 |
| Utilities<br>(gas, electric, water)                            | \$100.00 |
| Phone<br>(incl. long distance companies)                       | \$50.00  |
| Auto expenses<br>(incl. car payments, gas, insurance, repairs) | \$100.00 |
| Miscellaneous<br>(sundry expenses for items not shown above)   | \$50.00  |

Total assistance under the fund is limited to \$500.00 per individual per month and may not exceed \$2000.00 in any consecutive 12-month period. The fund does not assist any individual for longer than 6 consecutive months. Anybody receiving assistance from any other program or institution is *not* eligible to receive benefits in excess of actual

Continued on Page 5

## AIDS Cases in Heterosexual Women Double

According to a study by doctors Mary Guinan and Ann Hardy published in a recent edition of the *Journal of the American Medical Association*, the proportion of women who have contracted AIDS through sexual contact with infected men has more than doubled since 1982. The study found that 26% of the AIDS cases in women (through Nov. 7, 1986) could be traced to sexual contact with an infected man. In 1982, 12% of the cases in women were the result of heterosexual contact. The leading cause of AIDS in women remains I-V drug use which accounts for 52% of the cases. In contrast, heterosexual contact accounts for only 0.4% of the cases in men.

"Heterosexual contact is the only transmission category where women with AIDS outnumber men with AIDS," the study said. "In the United States, at the present time, a heterosexual woman is at greater risk for acquiring AIDS through sexual intercourse than is a heterosexual man."

Doctors Guinan and Hardy proposed two reasons for this fact:

- More men are infected, therefore a heterosexual woman is more likely to encounter an infected partner than a heterosexual man. According to the study 67% of the women had heterosexual contact with an I-V drug user, 16% with bisexual

men, 1% with men with hemophilia, and 16% with men with other or unreported risk factors.

The study is more generally transmitted from man to woman than from woman to man.

Dallas County officials report that local statistics mirror the national statistics used in the report. Eight of the 545 reported cases in Dallas County are women. According to Karen Herndon of the *Dallas County Health Dept.*, two of those eight women contracted AIDS through heterosexual contact and none of the local men with AIDS

Continued on Page 7

# AIDS RESOURCE CENTER CALENDAR

May 1987

MON  
TUE  
WED  
THU  
FRI  
SAT  
SUN

April 27 **DALLAS COUNTY AIDS COORDINATING COMMITTEE** - 3:00 - *Dallas County Health Dept.* - 920-7920  
May 4 **AIDS UPDATE May Issue Deadline** - All Articles, letters, and ads for the next issue of *AIDS Update* must be left at the *Gay Community Center* - 503-8646

**AIDS INFORMATION LINE** - 559-AIDS - 24 Hours - Every Day - (TTY 528-4233 11:00 - 6:00)

Every Tuesday **AIDS RESOURCE CENTER VISITATION COMMITTEE** - 7:00 - *Gay Community Center* - 521-1717  
**SUPPORT GROUP FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS** - 6:00 - *Oak Lawn Counseling Center* - 351-1502  
**SUPPORT GROUP FOR FRIENDS, LOVERS, & FAMILY OF PWAS** - 6:30 - *Oak Lawn C. C.* - 351-1502  
**WELLNESS SUPPORT GROUP** - Call 631-5217 for information.  
May 5 **AIDS UPDATE STAFF MEETING** - 7:30 - *Gay Community Center* - 3920 Cedar Springs - 503-8646  
**AIDS INFORMATION LINE** - 559-AIDS - 24 Hours - Every Day - (TTY 528-4233 11:00 - 6:00)

Every Wednesday **SUPPORT GROUP FOR PERSONS WITH ARC** - 6:00 - *Oak Lawn Counseling Center* - 351-1502  
**THAT SPECIAL GROUP AT 8:05** - *Oak Lawn Counseling Center Annex* - 5830 Nash

**AIDS INFORMATION LINE** - 559-AIDS - 24 Hours - Every Day - (TTY 528-4233 11:00 - 6:00)

Every Thursday **DALLAS GAY ALLIANCE SOCIAL SERVICES COMMITTEE** - 7:30 - *Gay Community Center* - 528-4233  
**HEALING YOUR LIFE** - 6:30 - *Oak Lawn Counseling Center* - 351-1502  
May 7 **AIDS UPDATE PRODUCTION** - 7:30 - *Gay Community Center* - 503-8646

**AIDS INFORMATION LINE** - 559-AIDS - 24 Hours - Every Day - (TTY 528-4233 11:00 - 6:00)

May 1 & June 5 **HOT, HORNY, & HEALTHY - Eroticizing Safer Sex** - 7:00 - *Gay Community Center* - 521-5124  
May 8 **AIDS UPDATE PRODUCTION** - 7:30 - *Gay Community Center* - 503-8646

**AIDS INFORMATION LINE** - 559-AIDS - 24 Hours - Every Day - (TTY 528-4233 11:00 - 6:00)

Every Saturday **THAT SPECIAL MEETING AT 2:00** - *Oak Lawn Counseling Center Annex* - 5830 Nash  
May 9 **AIDS UPDATE PRODUCTION** - 1:30 - *Gay Community Center* - 503-8646  
May 9 **MEETING FOR AIDS INFORMATION LINE VOLUNTEERS** - 2:00 - *Gay Community Center* - 522-0327  
May 9 & 16 **TRAINING FOR NEW AIDS RESOURCE CENTER VOLUNTEERS** - 10:00 - *Gay Community Center*

**AIDS INFORMATION LINE** - 559-AIDS - 24 Hours - Every Day - (TTY 528-4233 11:00 - 6:00)

Every Sunday **SUPPORT GROUP FOR THE SURVIVORS OF AIDS** - 11:30 - *Oak Lawn Counseling Center Annex*  
(Support for people who have lost a lover to AIDS)  
May 3 **ORIENTATION FOR NEW AIDS RESOURCE CENTER VOLUNTEERS** - 1:00 - *Gay Community Center*  
May 10 **AIDS UPDATE PRODUCTION** - 1:00 - *Gay Community Center* - 503-8646

**AIDS INFORMATION LINE** - 559-AIDS - 24 Hours - Every Day - (TTY 528-4233 11:00 - 6:00)

# AIDS Update STAFF

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*AIDS Update* is a monthly publication of the **AIDS Resource Center**, an outreach program of the **Dallas Gay Alliance** and the **Foundation for Human Understanding**, P.O. Box 190712, Dallas, Texas 75219. Advertising and Editorial - (214) 669-8034.

*AIDS Update* accepts signed commentary and opinions from its readers. Publication of the name or photograph of any person or organization in articles, advertising, or listings in *AIDS Update* is not to be construed as any indication of the sexual orientation of such persons or members of such organizations (unless, of course, sexual orientation is stated specifically). Opinions expressed in *AIDS Update* are those of the authors and do not reflect the policies of the **AIDS Resource Center**, the **Dallas Gay Alliance, Inc.**, or the **Foundation for Human Understanding, Inc.**

## AD RATES

### BLACK & WHITE ADS

|               |       |
|---------------|-------|
| Business Card | \$10  |
| 1/8 Page      | \$25  |
| 1/4 Page      | \$50  |
| 1/2 Page      | \$75  |
| 3/4 Page      | \$100 |
| Full Page     | \$150 |

### TWO COLOR ADS

|           |       |
|-----------|-------|
| 1/2 Page  | \$125 |
| 3/4 Page  | \$150 |
| Full Page | \$200 |

Twelve issues for the price of ten if paid in advance. 10% discount on 1/4 page or larger ads run consecutively in *AIDS Update* and *Dialog*.

Above prices are for camera-ready art. Graphics preparation services are available. Call for information.

## AIDS Resource Center

P.O. Box 190712  
3920 Cedar Springs  
Dallas, Texas 75219

(214) 521-5124  
TTY: 528-4233



by Craig S. Hess

As the **AIDS Resource Center** continues to grow, we are finding new challenges on a daily basis. To meet these challenges, new volunteer opportunities have arisen.

**Garage Sale Volunteers.** The community response to the Clothing Bank has been phenomenal. However, the

donations have completely taken over two rooms at the Center. As a result we have garage sales on a monthly basis. We need volunteers to set up, conduct sales, and clean up.

**Office Telephones.** We have a great need for daytime volunteers to answer our administrative lines and perform clerical duties.



## VOLUNTEER PROFILE

by Craig Hess

Jim Richards is one of those special people who has a heart of gold and nerves of steel. But it wasn't always that way.

In 1981, Jim was living in Los Angeles. He learned that one of his employees had been diagnosed with AIDS. "It was a real intense situation and one where I was very afraid -- at first. When I saw the rejection he was facing, it really changed my perspective."

Jim went through the Buddy training at **AIDS Project/Los Angeles** and was soon visiting his first PWA. "It was awkward at first; kind of like meeting a blind date. We decided to form a friendship first and put aside the fact that he had AIDS." Things went along very well for about seven months; then he failed rapidly. "It is always difficult to lose your first one. But you just pick yourself up and go on with your life and go on to help others."

Jim was assigned to another PWA and they became good friends. "It really helped to relate to someone who did

not show any of the ravages of AIDS."

In January of 1983, Jim's mother became ill, so he returned to Dallas. He expected to find the same type of programs here and was very surprised to find that it wasn't available. "People hadn't even heard of safe sex!"

Jim attended training in April of 1986 and soon had his first assignment. He has been particularly partial to the advanced cases because of his experiences in Los Angeles and with caring for his mother.

In all of his experiences, one moment stands out in Jim's mind. "A PWA was being cared for by his rural Texas parents who were still somewhat mystified by AIDS. The mother's love for her son was so much greater than her fear of AIDS that she was ready to die from AIDS rather than leave her son. She never did understand that there was no way that she could have gotten it. When he died she threw herself across the bed to keep the doctors from taking him. It was a very moving sight that I will never forget."

Continued on Page 11.

**Bulk Mailings.** *AIDS Updates* are mailed once a month.

**Photographers.** A visual history of the **AIDS Resource Center** (including fundraising events) is an ongoing project.

**Fundraising/Special Events.** A special committee has been formed to come up with ideas for replenishing the **AIDS Financial Assistance Fund**. Creative and talented minds are especially welcome.

**Janitorial/maintenance.** Trash hauling, vacuuming, mopping and general cleanup of the Center is required on a daily basis. Also, volunteers who are proficient at carpentry, electrical, plumbing and other maintenance areas are urgently needed.

**Volunteer Training Preparation.** The copying of materials for the training packet, room setup and even coffee-making are all part of this monthly project.

**In-Home Telephoning.** At different times during the month, volunteers are needed to place phone calls (training reminders, information update, scheduling changes, etc.). This is a project that can be done at home in the evenings & on weekends.

**Media Watchers.** So much information has been printed and broadcast on AIDS that we miss some of it. We need volunteers to bring in articles from newspapers and magazines. Some excellent articles have appeared in such diverse publications as *Vanity Fair*, *New York*, *McCall's*, and *Glamour*. Had these not been brought to our attention, we would have missed them. Also, television and radio programs need to be recorded for our library.

If you are interested in volunteering, call me at the Center (521-5124) or drop by (3920 Cedar Springs).

WE NEED YOUR HELP!!!

*Sandy's  
Pool-A-Spa*

REPAIRS, CLEANING  
CHEMICAL SALES  
& MAINTENANCE



SANDY HARRELL  
942-2037



Dr. Daniel Zagury, a professor of immunology at the *Pierre and Marie Curie University* in Paris, injected himself with a possible AIDS vaccine last November. In a letter to the scientific journal *Nature*, he said he has suffered no ill effects from the original and a second injection and has developed laboratory evidence of an immune response as would be expected in someone with a healthy immune system.

His self experimentation was potentially dangerous as there was no way to know if there might be side effects such as immune system damage or even the development of AIDS. "I had to be sure it was safe in myself" before giving the test vaccine to anyone else admitted Zagury. He has worked on the vaccine for three years. U.S. AIDS vaccine researchers were encouraged and surprised that he was conducting the tests. Other

scientists were surprised by the use of a live virus made with recombinant DNA technology because of the potential hazards associated with such technology.

Since his initial injection, Zagury has expanded his testing to other French researchers and a small group of volunteers from Zaire. These early results do not prove that the test vaccine has any value against the HIV because Zagury has not been exposed to the virus. He added that much more research is needed to determine if his work will be a good vaccine candidate, which was designed to be effective against more than one strain of virus. ▼

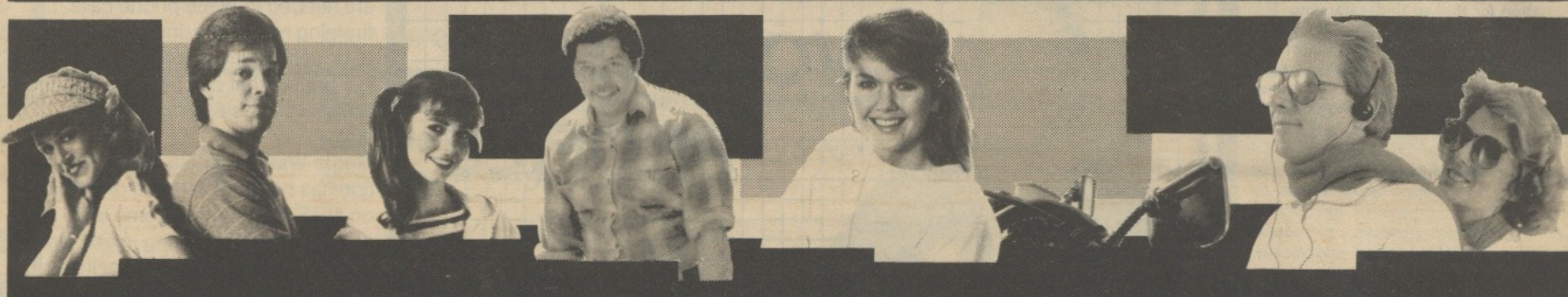


## Euthanasia of PWAs in The Netherlands

At least 11 victims of AIDS have chosen death over prolonged suffering with the disease in the Netherlands. At *Academic Medical Center*, the only Dutch hospital with an AIDS ward, one patient died in 1985 as a result of euthanasia while ten others are believed to have died in mercy killings outside of the hospital.

Dutch courts have taken a tolerant stand with regards to euthanasia and the center-right government of Premier Ruud Lubbers wants to legalize under controlled conditions. Also the government will provide more funds to bolster a two year old AIDS hot line, finance HIV antibody testing for blood donors, and to expand the AIDS ward at the *Academic Medical Center*. ▼

### Paid Advertisement



#### WHO GETS AIDS:

Anybody. Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome is a non-discriminating disease that can be spread to virtually all segments of the population.

People with the highest risk are:

1. People who have received blood since 1975
2. Men who have sex with other men
3. IV Drug Users
4. Women who have sex with bi-sexual men or IV drug users
5. Persons who have sex with multiple partners

#### HOW CAN I FIND OUT IF I HAVE AIDS:

There is no test for AIDS, but there is a test that looks for the HIV virus. When you have been exposed to enough of the virus to invade your body, your body tries to fight it off by making special antibodies just for this HIV virus. If you test positive, it means that you have been infected with the virus and your body has tried to defend itself.

A positive test does not mean you will get AIDS but all infected persons can pass it on. A positive test just indicates that you have been infected with the HIV virus and should consider yourself a carrier of the virus. You may never get seriously ill, but there is an increased chance that at some time, you will experience problems with your immune system. Either way, you can protect yourself with some lifestyle changes and you will certainly want to protect those you love.

All blood is tested twice. All positive results are tested 4 times.

#### WHY A CONFIDENTIAL TEST?

People infected with HIV or people who are high risk for AIDS may experience problems with insurance, housing, or employment. Some insurance underwriters require releases of your medical files from your regular Doctor before they will insure you. Once released, these records can go to the MIB, which is a Master Medical Computer System used by most major insurance companies. **DON'T** take a test unless it is **CONFIDENTIAL**.

#### HOW CAN I GET A TEST?

Call our office for an appointment. We will not ask your name but will assign you a number and give you an appointment date and time. All appointments are handled on an individual basis. After a counseling session, we will need to take a blood sample. At that time, you will be given a card with another date and time for post test counseling and your results. These results are now coming in within 24 to 48 hours.

#### WON'T THIS BE AN EMBARRASSING EXPERIENCE?

No. first, I.D.E.A. Laboratories is located on the fourth floor of a large suburban office building, and our primary business is setting up large corporations with drug screening programs. The office has a variety of different people coming and going all the time. We do pre-employment drug screens at our location. We have clients come in from all kinds of different business. We schedule our appointments where you should not have to wait!

#### IS THIS TEST EXPENSIVE?

We receive no funding from the State or Federal Government. So, as in all private business, we must cover our expense of counseling, blood specimen extraction, handling and testing. Our cost is probably no more than your Doctor would charge for the same services.

A percentage of this has been donated to find a cure for AIDS.

CALL  
FOR  
APPOINTMENT

(Metro)

**256-1192**



I.D.E.A. LABORATORIES INC.



## Dallas AIDS Hospice To Open

**Secours Hospice** is preparing to open this fall with a 25 bed center for AIDS patients. Rebecca Mizel, a nurse specializing in counseling AIDS victims and drug abusers, is founder of the firm which is to provide spiritual support, counseling, and living accommodations for the patients and their families and friends.

Secours is a French word meaning aid, comfort and shelter. The facility will be open to AIDS patients from throughout Texas. The setting will be institutional but will operate like a household with the staff caring for the patients' mental and physical comfort, "... its going to be very warm," stressed Mizel.

Mizel has obtained about \$800,000 through private and other sources for the start up of the hospice, which could expand to 50 beds after a year.

A second group of health experts and

local officials is planning a second residential center for indigent AIDS patients. It would operate on a mix of local public and private support and could be ready next year. "We are painfully aware of the need for hospice care for AIDS patients," said Warren Buckingham III, director of AIDS ARMS Network, a community coordinating service for Dallas AIDS victims. Buckingham added, "Its not only a waste of hospital beds, its terrible to be in that cold institutional surrounding," when AIDS sufferers spend their last days, weeks, or months in hospitals.

At the present only **Hospice Care Inc.** and the hospice program of the **Visiting Nurse Association** of Dallas provide treatment for some AIDS patients in their homes, but no facility exists that specializes in providing support for AIDS victims and the families struggling with the effects of the disease. ▽

## New Cell Killer Found in Blood of FWAs

Scientists in Canada recently discovered a strange substance in the blood of persons with AIDS and related illnesses which kills key white blood cells of the immune system. Dr. Ami Klein, of the *Sunnybrook Medical Centre of the University of Toronto Medical School*, said the substance attacks the same class of white blood cells as the HIV but does not appear to be produced by the HIV. The substance was not found in the blood of healthy people and researchers are

unsure if the chemical is produced by the body in response to HIV infection or if it is something that some people have in their bodies which increases their susceptibility to the virus and later disease. Scientists will next try to tell if they can find the chemical in virus-infected persons who have not yet developed AIDS symptoms or in those who are at high risk and have yet to become infected. ▽

## HELP!

Continued from Page 1

expenditures, if such other assistance is given specifically for any of the above stated categories.

The fund will not cover any of the following expenses:

- Taxes
- Credit Card Payments
- Deposits for apartments, utilities, etc.
- Medicine
- Medical Visits
- Eye-Care
- Dental Visits
- Legal Assistance

Although the fund is underwritten by the **Foundation for Human Understanding**, it is administered by the **AIDS Resource Center**. Applications for assistance are reviewed by the center's *Visitation Committee*. For further information about the fund contact the center at (214) 521-5124. ▽

## FOOD PANTRY



by Robert W.

Dear Friends & Neighbors,

Thanks to your generosity and support, **The AIDS Resource Center** has been able to provide many services for our PWA and PWARC friends who come to us seeking assistance.

The *Food Pantry*, which I oversee, is one such service. Because of your generous donations in the past, we have been able to provide food and non-food items free of charge to those utilizing the pantry. We currently provide the *very important* service to approximately 60 people and the number is growing.

Unfortunately, our supply is not keeping up with our demand. We are experiencing a severe shortage in all items we provide. I must make an urgent appeal for your support again. Won't you please look over our wish list below and help us in re-stocking our pantry? Any donations are *greatly* appreciated and it is tax deductible.

Won't you please help?

We all thank you from the bottom of our hearts for whatever support you can give.

### Wish List

#### HOUSEHOLD

Dishwashing Liquid  
Dishwasher Detergent  
Laundry Soap  
Disinfectants  
Laundry Soap  
Bleach  
Paper Towels  
Toilet Tissue  
Facial Tissues

#### HYGIENE

Soap  
Shampoo  
Toothpaste  
Tooth Brushes  
Disposable Razors  
Mouthwash  
Deodorant  
Shaving Cream  
Hand Lotion

#### FOOD

##### Canned

Fruits  
Vegetables  
Meats  
Tuna  
Soups  
Juices  
Sauces  
Coffee

##### Misc.

Snack Goodies  
Chips  
Fruit Bars  
Nuts  
Frozen Foods  
Bottled Juices

##### Condiments

##### Boxed Items

Cereal  
Crackers  
Pudding  
Jello  
Rice  
Soups  
Cookies  
Tuna Helper  
Hamburger Helper  
Tea

##### Fresh Items

Cheese  
Butter/Oleo  
Eggs  
Milk  
Fruits  
Vegetables  
Meats

## HOT HORNY AND HEALTHY!

## EROTICIZING SAFER SEX

## Workshop

Friday, May 1 & June 5  
7:00 - 10:00 PM

Gay Community Center  
3920 Cedar Springs

For More Information  
Call (214) 521-5124  
(TTY) 528-4233

Sponsored by the AIDS Resource Center.  
An outreach program of the Dallas Gay Alliance and the  
Foundation for Human Understanding



## 559-AIDS

## The Cure For IGNORANCE

(24 Hours)

# STAMP OUT AIDS

On March 27th, *Stamp Out AIDS*, the national campaign to help people with AIDS through the sale of stamps similar to Easter and Christmas seals, announced grants totaling \$18,000 to AIDS service organizations throughout the country. At a luncheon sponsored by the *National AIDS Network* as part of the **National Lesbian and Gay Health Conference** in Los Angeles, John Glines, program director for *Stamp Out AIDS* read a list of grant recipients.

The grant recipients were: AIDS Foundation of Houston, Arizona Stop AIDS Project, Billings AIDS Support Network, National Association of People with AIDS (Washington, DC), Aliveness Project (Minneapolis), Kupona (Chicago), AIDS Resource Center (New York City), Chicago

House and Social Service Agency, Good Samaritan Project (Kansas City), Nashville Cares, Central Valley AIDS Team (Fresno), Topeka AIDS Project, WWC AIDS Program (Washington, DC), PWA Coalition (New York City), Being Alive (West Hollywood), PWA Coalition (Dallas), Minority Task Force on AIDS (New York City), and Community Relief for PWAs (New Orleans).

*Stamp Out AIDS* also announced that through their special arrangement with participating organizations, they have given immediate funding of over \$5,000 to twelve service providing groups.

*Stamp Out AIDS* is the only national organization which directly helps the thousands of men, women, and children living with AIDS. None of the

money raised is spent on research, education, or administrative costs.

Glines said "We anticipate our contribution for 1987 to be almost half a million dollars.

That's not a lot, considering the panepidemic proportions of the disease, but we have to do something, and *Stamp Out AIDS* is one way that everyone can help." ▼

## AIDS THERAPIES & TREATMENT



A new anti-AIDS drug, which may prevent the AIDS virus from entering cells, is about to be tested in Sweden in a randomized, controlled, clinical trial. At the same time, researchers at the *National Institute of Mental Health* have applied to the *Food and Drug Administration* for permission to begin a one-month phase one trial of the drug to test toxicity only. If that trial is successful, the group wants to follow it immediately with a randomized, controlled trial in the U.S.

The Swedish investigators, led by Lennart Wetterberg of the Karolinska Institute, gave the drug, known as peptide T, to a group of four near-terminal AIDS patients last October.

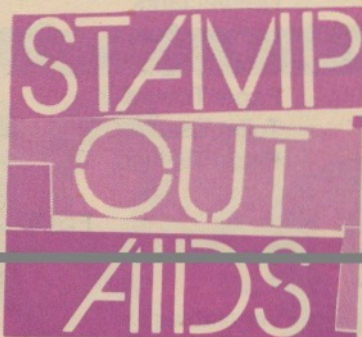
This was not meant to be a scientific study—the drug was given on a compassionate basis, Wetterberg explains. But the four men showed no ill effects during the month they received peptide T and, in fact, their symptoms abated. Their conditions have declined since the peptide was withdrawn, and the Swedish government has given Wetterberg and his

colleagues permission to give these men the drug again for a period of six months. At the same time, the group will start testing peptide T against a placebo in 36 AIDS patients.

Peptide T is the only potential anti-AIDS drug thought to work by preventing the virus from entering cells. Candace Pert of the NIMH, in whose lab it was discovered, explains that "it came out of left field and it sounded to some people too good to be true." But she adds that other investigators are becoming convinced. "Skepticism is changing to excitement."

Samuel Broder of the *National Cancer Institute* says "the important thing is that there are data that suggest peptide T can interfere with the binding of the AIDS virus. It is an interesting hypothesis and it can be tested at the clinical level. The clinical trial methodology will determine if it is useful."

Dean Mann of the cancer institute,  
Continued on Page 12



### A NATIONAL CAMPAIGN TO HELP PEOPLE WITH AIDS

For just one dollar you can make a significant difference to someone with AIDS. Stamps, similar to Easter and Christmas seals, with the message **STAMP OUT AIDS**, are being sold nation wide—\$1.00 buys 6 stamps—the money raised to be targeted specifically to AIDS service organizations through the **NATIONAL AIDS NETWORK**.

Multiply your dollar by thousands of concerned citizens, and you can imagine how much you can help improve the quality of life for someone with AIDS.

For further information, call:  
(212) 354-8899

John Glines, Project Director

**STAMP OUT AIDS**  
240 West 44th Street  
New York, N.Y. 10036

Please send me \_\_\_\_\_ set(s) of "STAMP OUT AIDS" stamps @ \$1 per set of 6. Enclosed please find \$\_\_\_\_\_, plus a self-addressed stamped envelope.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

If paying by check, make payable to:  
"National Aids Network/STAMP OUT AIDS."

Contributions are tax-deductible as provided by law.

ETTA ©1987 FORT WORTH STAR-TELEGRAM  
HULME 2-D  
NEA



"Hey, Dad — guess what's the prize in the cereal box?"

## Company Wants to Test AIDS Vaccine

The Bristol-Meyers Co. plans to ask the Food and Drug Administration to approve the testing of a vaccine on humans that appears to be partly effective in chimpanzees. Researchers at Oncogen, a subsidiary of the company, used genetic manipulating to engineer vaccinia virus so that it makes two surface proteins from the AIDS virus. In theory the proteins would stimulate the production of antibodies in humans.

The scientific director at Oncogen, Dr. George Todaro, said the experiments on chimps was encouraging, but it was reported that some chimps became infected even after receiving the vaccine though in fewer numbers than in the control group. Since animals do not develop AIDS it is necessary to test any potential vaccine on humans.

Even if Bristol-Meyers is given permission to test the vaccine on people, it could still take two to three years for the FDA to review the results before approving the vaccine for use. If permission is given there would be several phases of of human testing involving more and more people.

Industry analysts said that several safety issues must be resolved before testing could proceed. Since AIDS is fatal some conventional human drug testing procedures may be difficult to use. Many scientists question the

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## AIDS Cases in Heterosexual Women Double

Continued from Page 1

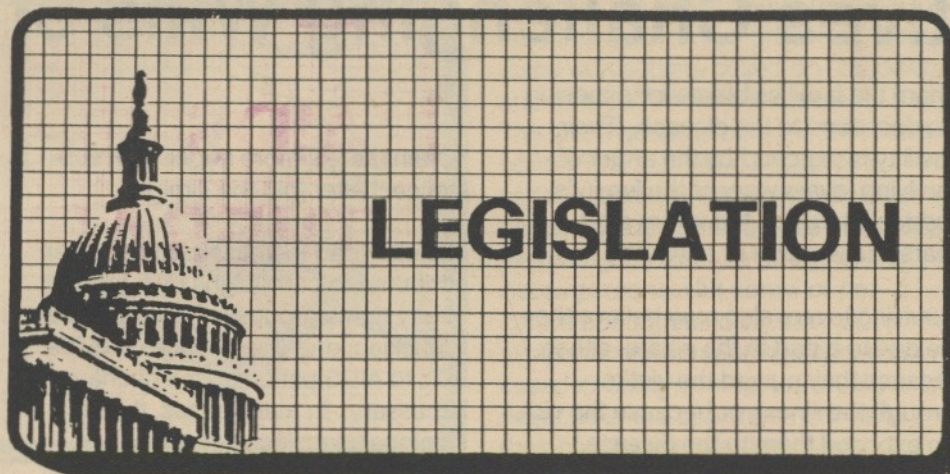
contracted it through heterosexual contact.

Direct viral access to the blood occurs when the skin or mucous membranes are not intact, therefore it appears that "the risk of transmission through the vagina or rectum may not be different," according to Guinan and Hardy.

Guinan and Hardy said that it is difficult to identify a large group of women who are at risk of acquiring AIDS through heterosexual contact. Their studies did show, however, that 70% of the women with AIDS were black or Hispanic and over 80% were of child-bearing age.

Percentage of Cases of AIDS

|                                     | 1982 | 1983 | 1984 | 1985 | 1986 |
|-------------------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|
| <b>Homosexual/Bisexual Contact*</b> |      |      |      |      |      |
| Men                                 | 77   | 77   | 79   | 79   | 79   |
| Women                               | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    | 0    |
| <b>Intravenous Drug Use</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |
| Men                                 | 15   | 16   | 14   | 15   | 14   |
| Women                               | 47   | 59   | 56   | 52   | 48   |
| <b>Heterosexual Contact</b>         |      |      |      |      |      |
| Men                                 | 0.2  | 0.1  | 0.3  | 0.3  | 0.4  |
| Women                               | 12   | 14   | 17   | 20   | 26   |



by Dave Lewis

Senator Pete Wilson (R-CA) recently introduced legislation to establish a congressional advisory panel on AIDS. If it is passed, the *National Academy of Sciences/Institute of Medicine* will develop and appoint the panel.

"On the subject of AIDS," Wilson said, "the word *crisis* is barely adequate to describe today's nightmare and tomorrow's cataclysm. . . .

"If no single solution is likely in the near future, that shouldn't prevent us from forging a national strategy -- an attack plan coordinated by public officials and private researchers. That is exactly why we need a congressional advisory panel on AIDS, a medical war cabinet, if you will. This is one war we cannot afford to lose," he said.

The panel would serve as a clearing-house on AIDS information and also would advise the President and

Congress on AIDS-related policy matters.

The charge to this Congressional panel is comprehensive. In addition to monitoring epidemiology, research, and prevention activities nationwide, the panel will:

- Evaluate health services to PWAs.
- Study employment, housing, insurance, and education problems faced by PWAs.
- Study potential violations of PWAs' civil rights, including privacy and confidentiality.
- Recommend programs and policies designed to reduce the incidence of AIDS and address problems faced by those who have the disease.
- Recommend, if necessary, changes in the direction and intensity of AIDS-related health care activities and research efforts.
- Monitor the progression of the disease among the heterosexual population, as well as among members of "high-risk groups."
- Evaluate research activities relating to the prevention and treatment of AIDS.
- Evaluate the need for a coordinated information-sharing project.

- Identify public and private financial resources to be used in the treatment and prevention of AIDS.

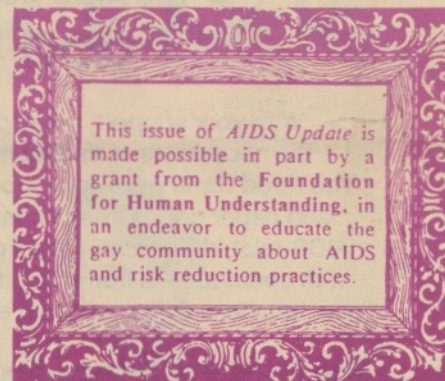
The panel is to report its findings to Congress and the President as well as to the Secretary of Health and Human Services, bringing the panel into the political loop which is essential for translating plans and recommendations into federal action.

Joining Senator Wilson as co-sponsors of the bill (S 613) were Senators Alan Cranston (D-CA), Al D'Amato (R-NY), Daniel Moynihan (D-NY), Dave Durenberger (R-MN), Lowell Weicker (R-CT), Bill Bradley (D-NJ), Lloyd Bentsen (D-TX), and Frank Lautenberg (D-NJ).

It is important that we write and thank the co-sponsors, especially our own Senator Lloyd Bentsen. You may address your letter to:

Lloyd M. Bentsen, Jr.  
1100 Commerce St., #7C30  
Dallas, Texas 75242

Or you may call his Dallas office at 767-0577 and leave him a message of thanks. ▽



## AIDS Quarantine in Britain

Labor party member of Parliament Michael Meacher said last month that young people with the HIV are being detained in secure units in Britain to take them out of sexual circulation. The Health and Social Security Department responded that it had "no knowledge of any child being detained" for such a reason. ▽

## MONEY ISN'T EVERYTHING

But it CAN pay for rent, electricity and water.

We desperately need your contributions, so we can continue to help those in dire need who cannot help themselves.

Please send your tax-deductible contribution to:  
**The AIDS Financial Assistance Fund**

3920 Cedar Springs, Dallas TX 75219

# Friends, Relatives Challenging Wills of AIDS Victims

The rising number of AIDS cases in New York City is leaving an unexpected legacy: an increase in the number of friends and relatives contesting the will written by AIDS patients.

Most of the disputes involve the victim's parents or siblings, who are challenging the wills that disinherited them in favor of friends or lovers, court officials and lawyers told *The New York Times*.

The challenges usually focus on whether the patient was mentally competent when the will was written. The competency issue has grown heated in the wake of research showing that AIDS can affect the victim's brain before other symptoms appear.

Most of the challengers seem fueled by emotion, not greed, said Surrogate Marie M. Lambert, of Surrogate's Court in Manhattan.

Often, families resent seeing the patient's estate going to a person

whom the families blame for exposing the deceased to the disease. Their hostility is matched by the anger of surviving lovers wary of the family's sudden interest in the victim after years of alienation or antipathy.

Surviving lovers also may believe they are due to a part in the estate, either because they nursed the victim through the illness or because the victim exposed them to the disease.

"These cases raise very, very emotional responses," Lambert said. "The money involved sometimes seems secondary. You're dealing with parents in their 50s or 60s, and they do not accept this lifestyle. They transfer their hatred of homosexuality to the recipient of their child's affections."

Eleanor Alter, a Manhattan attorney who has represented both families and surviving lovers in will challenges, said the issues sometimes seem petty, especially as the bulk of the estate often has been spent on medical

bills.

"Often there's more anger than substance," Alter told the Times.

The caseload increase also has been attributed to campaigns by a number of gay rights groups in New York, San Francisco, and elsewhere to provide wills to AIDS patients, free of charge if necessary. In many cases, the will signings take place a few days, or even a few hours, before the patient dies—a fact that may leave the will open to a contest.

In a case expected to go to trial in Manhattan in April, a 28-year-old man signed a will six days before dying of an AIDS-related disease. In the will, he bequeathed none of his \$15,000 estate to his family. The main issue in the case is the signature on the will, a thin scribbled line that trails off toward the edge of the page. The legal expenses in the case are expected to equal the amount of the estate.

Another family in New York went to court to block their son's request that a long-time lover's name be placed beside his own on the headstone. Because the request was not mentioned in the will, the family won.

Lawyers say families often question

wills because they misunderstand the law or are ignorant of their children's lifestyles.

"Families come from Des Moines who may not have had contact with their son for years," said Gary James Wood, co-chairperson of a San Francisco-based lawyers group that provides wills for AIDS patients.

"Their argument is that he was gay, therefore he must have been incompetent. Sometimes it's hard to convince them that that's not going to fly here."

Gay rights groups are working to provide wills because the law usually provides no other protection for surviving friends or lovers.

"When there is no will, the law sides entirely with the parents," explained Thomas B. Stoddard, executive director of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, a gay rights group. "There are all sorts of sad stories."

Stoddard said he once arrived at a hospital to provide a will for an AIDS victim only to find that the patient had slipped into a coma. The patient's long-time lover was left with no rights to any property they had shared, including their apartment.

## The AIDS Resource Center Food Pantry

With your support, many people with AIDS can have the necessities of life that most of us take for granted.

The Food Pantry provides food, toiletries, cleaning supplies, and paper goods free of charge to people with AIDS and AIDS-related illnesses. The Food Pantry stocks its shelves with contributions from food drives and personal donations. Cash donations to the program are also used to stock the Pantry.

### The Food Pantry needs donations of the following:

Paper Towels - Toilet Paper - Facial Tissue - Liquid Bleach - Hand Lotion  
Deodorant - Aluminum Foil - Laundry Soap - Dish Detergent - Shampoo  
Pasta Meals (In Jars) - Spaghetti Sauce - Fresh Vegetables - Jelly/Jam  
Tuna - Bottled or Frozen Juice - Peanut Butter - Cereal - Fresh Fruit  
Ketchup - Mayonnaise - Ground Coffee - Tea - Beef Stew - Butter  
Cheese - Fresh Meat - Lunch Meat - Chili - Chicken & Dumplings

The AIDS Resource Center  
3920 Cedar Springs  
Dallas, Texas 75219  
(214) 521-5124



## FDA OKs AZT For AIDS

Late last month the Food and Drug Administration approved the sale of AZT (azidothymidine), the first drug to be approved for use against AIDS. The drug, trade named Retrovir, is not a cure for AIDS but will offer some relief from the disease.

AZT was first given to AIDS patients in July, 1985 on a test basis and has been approved in record time by the FDA as a result of new policy which considers AIDS drugs for top regulatory priority. It takes an average of 8.5 years for a drug to be studied before approval is given. Usually once a drug is licensed by the FDA there are no restrictions on how it is prescribed, but with AZT the distribution is being controlled by its maker, Burroughs-Wellcome Co. to make sure only AIDS and ARC patients who meet certain criteria get the drug.

Dr. Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Health, commented that "One of the frightening things is that because of the cost of the drug, it will offer some false hope for people who simply can't afford the \$8,000 to \$10,000 a year that this drug will cost." He noted that some patients received the drug free as part of research programs may find themselves forced to pay for it and may have to discontinue treat-

ment. This message was also related to a congressional panel who were told that the drug may be unaffordable for many, especially those who have lost their jobs and health insurance because of AIDS.

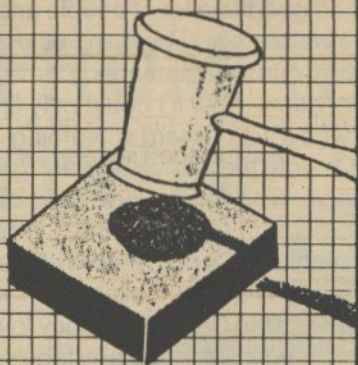
At Parkland Hospital in Dallas about 52 persons have been treated with AZT. About 75 percent responded well to treatment, gaining weight and returning to work while 10 patients suffered serious side effects. Several needed to have blood transfusions or discontinue use of the drug. Seven patients who had been taking the drug for 2 to 3 weeks died because of the short period they received the drug.

In Memoriam

Mark Wiggington

Thanks for years  
of service as  
DGA signer for the  
hearing impaired

# AIDS LEGAL ISSUES



by John Rogers

The Supreme Court issued an important decision that could protect Persons With AIDS (PWAs) from discrimination in employment. The court held in the case of *School Board of Nassau County v. Arline* that persons with contagious diseases are handicapped individuals within the meaning of the Rehabilitation Act and thus protected from discrimination in employment.

The case is widely seen as setting a precedent for workers with AIDS. Gay rights advocates have declared the decision as a major victory. Benjamin Schatz, an attorney for National Gay Rights Advocates in San Francisco stated: "It's a tremendous, wonderful ruling and we're very excited about it. It's going to send a clear and unmistakable message to employers across the country that AIDS-based discrimination is illegal."

Arline was an employee of the Nassau County school system. She contracted tuberculosis in 1979 and was dismissed from her teaching position because of fear that her ailment would be passed on to students. Arline sued the school system claiming that the school was required to make reasonable accommodations in employment for her under the terms of the federal Rehabilitation Act.

The Rehabilitation Act was enacted by Congress to protect handicapped persons from discrimination in employment. The act defines a handicapped individual as a person who has a physical impairment which substantially limits his major life activities. A handicapped individual is also a person who has a prior history of illness or is perceived to have an illness. Employers who receive any federal funding may not discriminate against otherwise qualified handicapped individuals.

The decision of the court is major blow to the Reagan administration in that it discredits an opinion issued earlier in the year by the Justice Department. That opinion presented the (absurd) argument that while

employers may not discriminate on the basis of handicap, they may discriminate on the basis of fear of contagion. The Justice Department attempted to separate the disease from the social repercussions of having a disease. This led the Justice Department to the illogical conclusion that employers may fire employees out of fear, no matter how irrational that fear may be. For example, the Justice Department argued that employers may fire employee confined to wheelchairs if they have an irrational fear that they too will be confined to a wheelchair. The goal of the Justice Department was to render the Rehabilitation Act useless in fighting discrimination.

The Supreme Court rejected the Justice Department position by looking to the Congressional intent of the Rehabilitation Act. The court stated that the act was an effort "to share with handicapped Americans the opportunities for an education, transportation, housing, health care and jobs that other Americans take for granted." Further, the court stated that "it would be unfair to allow an employer to seize upon the distinction between the effects of a disease on others and the effects of a disease on a patient and use that distinction to justify discriminatory treatment."

Although the opinion concerns tuberculosis, one passage of the opinion is particularly applicable to PWAs. The passage states: "Allowing discrimination based on the contagious effects of a physical impairment would be inconsistent with the basic purpose of (the Rehabilitation Act), which is to ensure that handicapped individuals are not denied jobs or other benefits because of the prejudicial attitudes or the ignorance of others... Congress acknowledged that society's accumulated myths and fears about disability and disease are as handicapping as are the physical limitations that flow from actual impairment. Few aspects of a handicap give rise to the same level of public fear and misapprehension as contagiousness..."

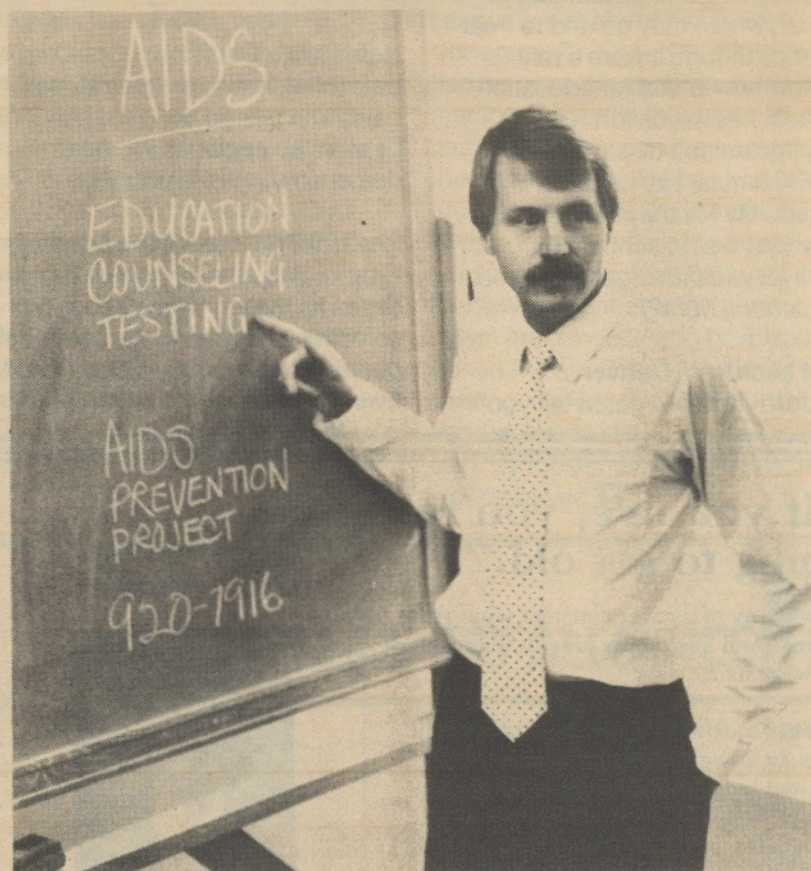
"The (Rehabilitation) Act is carefully

structured to replace such reflexive reactions to actual or preceived handicaps with actions based on reasoned and medically sound judgements... The fact that some persons who have contagious diseases may pose a serious health threat to others under certain circumstances does not justify excluding from the coverage of the Act all persons with actual or perceived contagious diseases. Such exclusion would mean that those accused of being contagious would never have the opportunity to have their condition evaluated in light of medical evidence and a determination made as to whether they were 'otherwise qualified.' Rather, they would be vulnerable to discrimination on the basis of mythology- precisely the type of injury Congress sought to prevent. We conclude that the fact that a person with a record of a physical impairment is also contagious does not suffice to remove that person from coverage under (the Rehabilitation Act)."

The court was careful to limit the decision to the facts of the case. In a footnote to the decision the court stated that ruling would not necessarily apply to the situation where the individual was merely contagious without also having a physical impairment. As an example of a situation where a person might be contagious without any impairments, the court made reference to AIDS. The court stated: "we therefore do not reach the question of whether a carrier of a contagious disease such as AIDS could be considered to have a physical impairment, or whether such a person could be considered, solely on the basis of contagiousness, a handicapped person as defined by the Act." Despite this comment, it is very likely that the Supreme Court would find that AIDS falls within the scope of the Rehabilitation Act for two reasons. First, AIDS cannot be communicated through casual contact and thus poses no hazard in the

Continued on Page 10

## MEDIC.



*Rick Billingsley is a medic in the fight against AIDS. Every day he works with people who are frightened. Some of them are sick. Rick began as a volunteer in the AIDS clinic at Parkland. Now he's on our team.*

**AIDS Prevention Project  
Dallas County Health Department**

926-7916 TTY 920-7915  
8:00 AM - 4:30 PM Weekdays

# PATTI LE PLAE SAFE



Have you heard the latest from Germany? During Easter a German chocolate company began producing chocolate bunnies with condoms inside. Now I must admit this is very ingenious but I hope the children aren't that involved in sex. *[What makes you think they're for children, Patti?]* My source didn't say if the **Condom Bunnies** would be available at the Crossroads Market, but if they were they'd be melted by now, I suppose, now wouldn't they.

Speaking of children I know a **SEX Education** teacher who began a campaign to stop SEX among children by making a direct order for all his students to carry a 10 pound bag of sugar everywhere they go and to treat the sugar as though it were a real baby. Now how is that for education. He also teaches the children about sexually transmitted diseases and **SAFE SEX**. I must say I was very impressed. My *My they didn't tell me...* all this when I was in school *[Patti, there is a lot you didn't get while you were in school, right?]*

I just got back from **Denver Colorado!!!** And I've got to tell you

the **Colorado AIDS Project** has got their act together. They went up on stage in black tuxes and had Black and White Check accessories carrying banners proclaiming **PRIDE IN SAFER SEX**. I was very pleased with their presentation, while I attended the **Coronation of the Imperial Court of the Rocky Mountain Empire**.

**Chuck and Chennelle** were stepping down from Emperor and Empress of the Crystal Reign and I have never been treated so well as a guest in another city like Denver treated me. **Arnie** deserves the greatest applause for his wonderful hospitality. He is the best tour guide Denver will probably ever have.

**Nebraska's** Court from Omaha gave a presentation with a large realistic penis and a large condom. And they deserve an applause for their demonstration of **SAFE SEX**.

The **United Court of the Lone Star Empire** had special plans to present Dallas as the night time soaps but something happen to the script before our trip. I was going to play Pamela Ewing and pretend I had dreamed the

whole thing, anyhow we certainly looked good to a lot of people and were well received by many other cities' Courts that attended Denver's Coronation. Now if I could only find out who it was I heard screaming **PATTI** from the audience *[Patti they were screaming for you to get down, as if you didn't know, Editor.]* A special thanks to **Danny Woodruff** designer of the **WOOD'S** Collection. I wore his designs in Denver and they loved them. If you ever need any fabulous clothes let me know and I'll refer you.

One of the latest endeavors of **The United Court of the Lone Star Empire** is to begin visiting the **PWA House** and entertain the residents. Hey what a way to do it! I am so proud of the work they are doing for supporting Persons With AIDS.

I attended the wonderful AIDS Benefit concert of the **Turtle Creek Chorale** recently and was amazed once again with the spectacular performance they can only give. I can only wish I could see them more often. **RSVP** was fabulous and they had just arrived back in town after entertaining the President. Congratulations to **RSVP!!!** The auditorium was packed and very pleased I shall say.

We love you Mark W. Sing to God for us, honey!

Well, by now, the **BURNING of CROSSROADS MARKET** is old news and we all still can't believe it happened but needless to say we all could learn a lesson from it and apply this to our current health crisis. *Protect yourselves from the unexpected -- Wear your rubbers and don't expose any "loose wires."* Sat., April

## AIDS Legal Issues

Continued from Page 9

workplace. Second, PWAs typically have physical impairment in addition to being contagious, and thus would clearly fall within the definition of "handicapped individual".

The *Arline* decision has extra impact for gays and PWAs living in Texas, because Texas has its own version of the Rehabilitation Act. The Texas version is broader in scope because it affects private employers as well as employers receiving federal funds.

The moral to be learned from the *Arline* decision is that workers need not resign themselves to discrimination based on AIDS or HIV antibody testing. The courts have now shown a willingness to support the right of gays to be productive members of society. If you have been discriminated against in your employment, there is now a remedy. ▽

### M. William Nelson Attorney at Law

1010 Regency Plaza  
3710 Rawlins Street  
Dallas, Texas 75219  
(214) 526-9881

18, was the biggest sale ever on the corner of Throckmorton and Cedar Springs. Bill and Terry say the store will be ready for business in a few weeks, but first everything must go.

Good Luck to **Ovations!!!** who just opened where the old Patrick's used to be. Live shows return to the entertainment bar. Opening night they gave complimentary cocktails and after 10:00 for each drink bought that night 50 cents went to the **AIDS Resource Center**. Thank you **Ovations!!** May your business prosper.

Thank God Summer is around the corner. I bought a few new swimsuits to try out by the pool maybe even for **Tropicana '87** it's right around the corner too. Get ready for the big splash event this year a lot is in store for you this time!!!

Well **Killer** and I plan to take our vacation soon and we plan to tour around to states and promote **SAFE SEX**. We have been considering going to the smaller towns of rural USA you know it is possible that they just can't handle it yet. *[I don't know about handling SAFE SEX, but I'm sure rural America is not ready to handle you, Patti! - Editor]* But **Killer** will handle those who can't. Wish us Luck!!

I need to make a request from my readers this month, we need money from you. It seems we have to cut back on how much we are giving out to PWA's and it is sad. Your help is needed today. So drop a little bit into the donation jar at the AIDS Resource Center or mail in a donation to the Center, P.O.B. 190712 Dallas, Texas, 75219. Thank You!!

Best Wishes to the Cast and Staff of **La Folle'**. We miss you.

The **All Queen's Easter Egg Hunt** was Easter weekend in Midlothian, Texas. Child I had such a good time, I

## "If you live, you're going to get old."

How many of us ever consider what that means? And how many older lesbians are showing us the way?

Twenty-four older women share their lives in *Long Time Passing*, this long-awaited look at lesbians and aging. They give us first-hand accounts of lesbian life in decades past, of aging, and of facing their own mortality.

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edited by Marcy Adelman, Ph.D.

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### Long Time Passing: Lives of Older Lesbians



Edited by  
Marcy Adelman, Ph.D.

actually got to play Scarlett O'Hara. [If you played Scarlett, who played Rhett -- Pee Wee Herman?] The mansion belongs to Miles and Leslie and they call it "Tara." If you missed it, well, you missed one hell of a time. Oh Ashley, how I love you so!

The **Bath House Cultural Center (BHCC)** will be hosting a major event -- May 6,7,8,13,14,15 - 8 p.m. each night is a benefit for the **Oaklawn Counseling Center**. [Bath house culture -- That sounds like it is right up your alley, Patti. Watch out for the hot tub!] The event is the long awaited **THE NORMAL HEART** with the original cast and staff from the so missed **New Arts Theatre**. I hope you to see this marvelous production. Killer and I saw a scene from the show at a DGA meeting and it is just marvelous. The BHCC is located at White Rock Lake and information about the play *The Normal Heart* can be gotten by calling the OLCC or the BHCC.

"Plae Safe" and remember your Mother for Mother's Day. Killer is going to meet my mother this year, she's been waiting to meet him for a long time. He's such a big egg you know!!



## Decline in Unsafe Sex

In a recent study, the *Centers for Disease Control* reported a 90 percent drop in the kinds of sexual activities that involve the exchange of bodily fluids in gay and bisexual men. The report covered a seven year period starting in 1978 and showed that the men were having far fewer sexual partners in 1984 and 1985 than in 1978, before AIDS was discovered. ▼

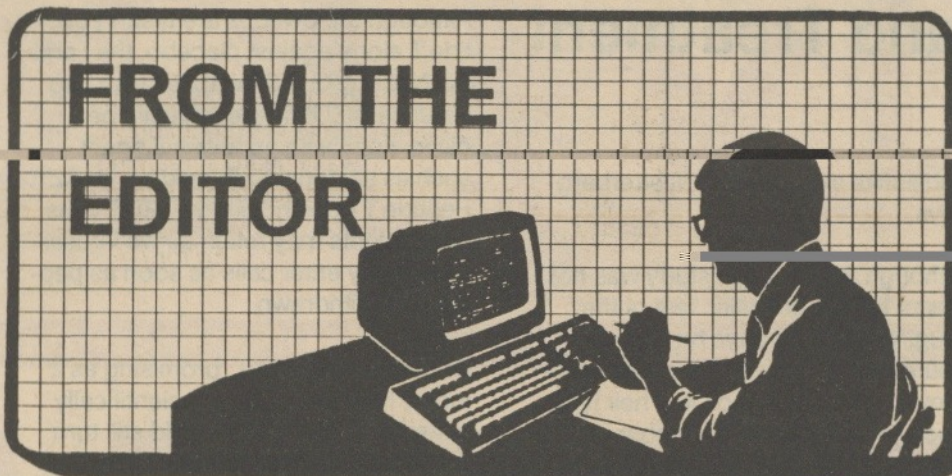
## VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Continued from Page 3.

Jim feels his volunteer time at the **AIDS Resource Center** has been his greatest reward. "If everyone who reads this article donates one hour a week, that would be 5,000 volunteer hours. A lot of wonderful things can happen with that amount of time." We couldn't agree more.

If you are interested in volunteering for the *Visitation Committee* or any other activity of the Center, call Craig Hess (521-5124) or stop by the Center (3920 Cedar Springs). All we need is YOU. ▼

## FROM THE EDITOR



by Dave Lewis

This month's cover story tells about an important service of the **AIDS Resource Center**. All of the services provided by the Center are important, but the Center is the only agency in Dallas which provides direct financial assistance to persons with AIDS. The availability of such financial aid is key to the survival of many PWAs in Dallas. Even if a person has savings, the medical expenses associated with AIDS can rapidly deplete them. The weakness and the opportunistic infections associated with AIDS can limit a PWA's ability to work and AIDS-related discrimination can also limit his/her ability to find work. However, the utility and rent bills keep coming and the *AIDS Financial Assistance Fund* may be the only answer.

Unfortunately, recently Dr. Crowder and the members of the *AIDS Visitation Committee* who screen applications for assistance have had to say, "No." The requests are increasing, but the funds are not. The bequest which established the fund was depleted long ago as was the money raised in the *Fabulous Faces and Fashions* benefit at the Apparel Mart.

I know that you are constantly reading about and attending benefits for AIDS -- some of them for the *AIDS Financial Assistance Fund*. But think about how fast the money goes. Dr. Crowder tells me that the Center is now helping 120 PWAs and he receives at least six new applications for assistance each week. If the fund were to provide each PWA with \$250 towards rent, utilities, telephone, and transportation; it would cost \$30,000 per month to assist 120 people.

The current policy limits each recipient to a maximum of \$500 per month up to a total of \$2000 per year. The **Foundation for Human Understanding** has had to set a monthly cap on the money available for assistance, trying to keep the fund raising ahead of the need. The Foundation is also seeking grants to help underwrite the costs of the fund, but it can never be enough. It is important that we all do as much as we can to help our brothers and sisters in need.

Your contributions to the fund are tax deductible. For more information about the *AIDS Financial Assistance Fund*, call the **AIDS Resource Center** at 521-5124. ▼

## CROWDER NOMINATED FOR AWARD

by Craig S. Hess

Dr. Douglas Crowder, Chairperson of the *Visitation Committee* of the **AIDS Resource Center**, has been nominated for a very special award in the Dallas community - the *1987 Outstanding Volunteer of the Year Award*. These awards identify and recognize outstanding and innovative efforts by volunteers in Dallas County and are made possible by the *Volunteer Center of Dallas*, *Atlantic Richfield Company*, and the *Southwestern Bell Foundation*. The winners will be announced at a banquet on April 28 at the Hyatt Regency.

Dr. Crowder started the *Visitation Committee* in January 1986 with a handful of volunteers. The committee now has 50 members who assist persons with AIDS or persons with AIDS-Related Complex in the areas of companionship and emotional support. Doug has personally seen over 175 PWAs.

As the department head of Foreign Languages at North Texas State University, Dr. Crowder would have had no more contact with AIDS than reading about it in the paper. But he has decided to be in the front line in the war on AIDS. He has had to endure deplorable living conditions, people thrown out on the street, religious zealots, hospital visits where medical personnel won't enter the room, and families who have abandoned PWAs. But, he is still out there fighting, making the lives of PWAs a little easier. He has been called a saint by those he serves, a title that is well deserved. ▼

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## DALLAS GAY ALLIANCE



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| FOR HOUSEHOLD MEMBERSHIPS                                                                                                                                                                       |  |                          |  |
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| SIGNATURE                                                                                                                                                                                       |  | EXPIRATION DATE          |  |

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☐ YES May we print your name as a supporter/contributor?

☐ YES Do you want to be on our mailing list?

☐ Check here if you do not want to join the **Dallas Gay Political Caucus** (the Political Action Committee of the DGA) by contributing \$2.50 from your DGA dues.

Mail completed form to: DGA Box 190712 Dallas, Texas 75219

## AIDS Therapies and Treatment

### Continued from Page 6

who say that his preliminary data does not indicate that the peptide blocks the AIDS from attaching to cells, says he nonetheless has a "gut feeling" that peptide T prevents the AIDS virus from growing in cells. Pert's data indicate that when cells are treated with peptide T, the AIDS virus no longer replicates in them, although he did not measure viral binding directly.

In Sweden, says Wetterberg, the AIDS patients who received peptide T had no ill effects. the only adverse effect occurred when a nurse doubled the rate at which a patient was being given the drug intravenously. The patient's blood pressure dropped from 120 to 90. The patient, however, "did not feel anything. He had no

subjective side effects," Wetterberg says.

Although the Swedish study was not meant to be a scientific test of the drug, Wetterberg says he was encouraged by the way the patients improved when they took it. Their lymphocytes increased in number and the virus's effects on their brains, as measured by nuclear magnetic resonance, declined. One patient had a severe case of psoriasis as a result of his AIDS infection and his lesions cleared up entirely after four weeks of treatment. The psoriasis has now returned, Wetterberg says. The patients have been off the drug since the end of October.

Although the Swedes are testing peptide T alone against placebo, they and the NIMH group think that if the drug is successful it may eventually be given along with an antiviral agent, such as azidodeoxythymidine, or AZT. Peptide T does not kill the AIDS virus and patients may retain active viruses which may enter cells as soon as peptide T is withdrawn.

Of course, peptide T, promising as it looks, has not yet been scientifically tested in humans and could still turn out to be a disappointment. The real test of the drug's effectiveness will be the clinical trials.



## Company Wants to Test Vaccine

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ethics of using a placebo to test a disease that may kill its victim. There are several other companies around the world testing possible vaccines.

Bristol-Meyers plans to seek permission from the U.S. Food and Drug Administration to test a potential AIDS vaccine in humans. The company's investigational application is the start of a lengthy drug approval process. Another recent report by U.S. Army doctors has found a potentially fatal interaction between the HIV and a virus used to protect against smallpox which could complicate research by scientists who have been working on an AIDS vaccine which uses the smallpox vaccine. ▽

# INTRAVENOUS DRUGS AND AIDS

### HOW TO PROTECT OTHERS

If you are shooting drugs now or have mainlined drugs in the past, you may be infected with HIV and be giving it to others without realizing it. Even if you have no AIDS symptoms, you may have the virus and may be infecting your family and friends. To protect others, take the following steps:

1. Never share needles, syringes or cookers.
2. Use condoms when having sex.
3. Stop any sexual activity which may cause contact with blood or semen (sperm).
4. Newborn babies can get AIDS if the mother has AIDS or is infected with HIV. Fathers who shoot drugs can give the virus to mothers, even if the mothers do not shoot drugs. If you shoot drugs, it is not a good time to have children. If you are thinking about having children, you should talk with a doctor. If you don't want to have a baby, make sure that you use effective birth control methods.

### DRUG USERS CAN GET AIDS BY:

Sharing Needles or Spikes  
Sharing Cookers or Works  
Having Sex With Someone Infected

BABIES CAN GET AIDS IF THEY  
ARE BORN TO MOTHERS WHO  
ARE INFECTED WITH THE AIDS  
VIRUS (HIV).

### HOW TO PROTECT YOURSELF

Even if you have already been exposed to the HIV virus, continuing to shoot drugs can make the infection worse, so you should take these steps to protect yourself:

1. **Never share needles, syringes, or cookers! Not even once!**
2. **Stop shooting Drugs.** If you need help, get into treatment.
3. Don't have sex that may cause you to come into contact with blood and semen (sperm).
4. Always use a condom (rubber) when having sex.

### AIDS Resource Center

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An Outreach Program of  
The Dallas Gay Alliance and  
The Foundation For Human Understanding