

More Cotillion 2002 Pics!

The Channel

TGSF

TransGender San Francisco
(formerly ETVC)



TGSF TransGender San Francisco is a group for all members of the Transgendered Community. Transgender is used as an umbrella term that includes female and male cross dressers, transvestites, drag queens or kings, female or male impersonators, intersexed individuals, pre-operative, post-operative and non-operative transsexuals, masculine females, feminine males, all persons whose perceived gender or anatomical sex may be incongruent with their gender expression, and all persons exhibiting gender characteristics and identities which are perceived to be androgynous.

The Channel

TGSF (TransGender San Francisco, a California non-profit corporation), is a non-sexual, membership based organization serving the educational, social, and recreational needs of gender-gifted people, their spouses, significant others, family members, friends, and professionals in the helping services. For details about TGSF programs, membership, article submission guidelines and classified ads, please write to TGSF Secretary, PO Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486.

ExCom 2001 - 2002 Officers

(Fiscal Year: May 1 - April 30)

President Aiyana Eveningstar
 Vice President Rachael Janelle
 Secretary OPEN
 Treasurer Stephanie Ann Blythe
 Education Ally Grillo
 Outreach Kalani Makanani
 Social Tianna Marie DeVil

Membership Report

Current 2001-2002 Membership as of:

January 15, 2002 211

TGSF (TransGender San Francisco) is a CA non-profit corporation. Donations to TGSF are TAX DEDUCTIBLE on both Federal and California income tax returns. Talk to your tax advisor for details.

The Channel, the TGSF Newsletter, is published monthly. Submissions should arrive at TGSF by the 15th day of the month preceding publication. Contents reflect the opinions of the contributors and are not necessarily those of TGSF. Other organizations may reprint or reproduce uncopyrighted portions of the newsletter for their members, provided TGSF is acknowledged as the source of the material. Copyrighted materials may be reproduced only with written permission from TGSF.

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 Advertising Inquiries to TGSF Excom
 Contributing Photographers, this Issue: Telzey Adams & Rachael Janelle

Ad Rates

	Per Issue	Six Months	Per Year
Business Card (3-1/2 x 2)	\$ 25	\$125	\$ 250
4x5	\$ 60	\$300	\$ 600
Full Page	\$100	\$500	\$1000

Personal ads from TGSF members: \$10 for up to 40 words per issue. We will not accept ads with a sexual objective. Ad deadlines are the 15th of every month. Send ad copy and check or money order to TGSF, Advertising Dept., PO Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486. Please support our advertisers, and tell them you saw their ad in The Channel!

WWW.TGSF.ORG
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TEXT OF SPEECH GIVEN AT COTILLION 2002

By **Stephanie Ann Blythe**

My friends and fellow citizens, I am Susan B. Anthony and I stand before you tonight under indictment for the alleged crime of having voted at the last presidential election, without having a lawful right to vote. It shall be my work this evening to prove to you that in thus voting, I not only committed no crime, but, instead, simply exercised my citizen's rights, guaranteed to me and all United States citizens by the National Constitution, beyond the power of any state to deny.

The preamble of the Federal Constitution says: "We, the people of the United States, in order to form a more perfect union, establish justice, insure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defense, promote the general welfare, and secure the blessings of liberty to ourselves and our posterity, do ordain and establish this Constitution for the United States of America."

It was we, the people; not we, the white male citizens; nor yet we, the male citizens; but we, the whole people, who formed the Union. And we formed it, not to give the blessings of liberty, but to secure them; not to the half of ourselves and the half of our posterity, but to the whole people - women as well as men. And it is a downright mockery to talk to women of their enjoyment of the blessings of liberty while they are denied the use of the only means of securing them provided by this democratic-republican government - the ballot.

For any state to make sex a qualification that must ever result in the disfranchisement of one entire half of the people, is to pass a bill of attainder, or, an ex post facto law, and is therefore a violation of the supreme law of the land. By it the blessings of liberty are forever withheld from women and their female posterity.

To them this government has no just powers derived from the consent of the governed. To them this government is not a democracy. It is not a republic. It is an odious aristocracy, an oligarchy of wealth, where the rich govern the poor. Perhaps an oligarchy of learning, where the educated govern the ignorant, might be endured; but this oligarchy of sex, which makes father, brothers, husband, sons, the oligarchs over the mother and sisters, the wife and daughters, of every household - which ordains all men sovereigns, all women subjects, carries dissension, discord, and rebellion into every home of the nation.

If a citizen is defined to be a person in the United States, entitled to vote and hold office, the only question left to be settled now is: Are women persons? And I ask your are they not? So I hardly believe any of our opponents will have the hardihood to say they are not. Being persons, then, women are citizens; and no state has a right to make any law, or to enforce any old law, that shall abridge their privileges or immunities. Hence, every discrimination against women in the constitutions and laws of the several states is today null and void. Thank you and good evening.

Susan B. Anthony gave this speech in 1873 following the 1872 presidential election in which she illegally voted. She was tried, convicted, and fined \$100, which she refused to pay. She died in 1906 but women did not get the right to vote until the 19th Amendment was ratified in August, 1920.

ARE YOU A VETERAN?

Are you aware that there is a gender discussion group every Monday afternoon at the Ft. Miley Veteran's Center in San Francisco? The group is open to all TS, TV, and TG's who are qualified veterans. If you are interested and wish further information, contact Lorraine Hall at: [redacted]@aol.com or call 510-[redacted]

The Vice President's Report

By Rachael Janelle

THE GOOD, BAD AND THE UGLY OF COTILLION 2002

I will start with the UGLY. There was no ugliest at Cotillion 2002. I only saw gorgeous and speculator looking people with great altitudes. The guys looked awesome that night and the girls not bad either.

The BAD, it is too bad if you did not come to enjoy this great evening. The GOOD, TGSF did made a profit of \$3500 after expenses. Also we were able to reduce the cost from last year's Cotillion by \$8,000. In addition, I heard people say it was the best Cotillion ever. We also donated a total of \$1200 to three organizations. I know all the contestants had a good time and all the people helping with the event.

I would like to thank everyone one more time for his or her support and help. I was asked many times before the Cotillion and even shortly after the event (like 3 hours after the show ended) which I was having dinner with friends at the Grubstake Restaurant My Sisters and Friends asked will you do It again? The answer was Yes!

I would be honored to do another Cotillion, which will be our TGSF 20th Cotillion. Cotillion 2003 is already on the planning board. The Date is January 25, 2003. The location is the San Francisco Design Center. The theme will be "Enchanting Evening in the Islands". Let Miss TGSF 2002, Kalani, share some of her culture and beauty of her birthplace, Hawaii, with you.

I have three new Girls who want to be contestants Cotillion 2003 and I'm still looking for more. I have spoken with FTMI in hope to have a greater involvement from their organization and maybe some contestants for Mr. TGSF/FTMI. One Goal for the next Cotillion is to profit at least \$5000 for TGSF. I believe this is an achievable goal.

What else with TGSF? I do plan to run for President of the group this March 2002. Why would you want to do that? I have been asked several times. I do believe that I can improve on some of the existing programs TGSF that had for many years. Also, to look at where TGSF can help the community and what role we need to take. In addition, to review the needs and wants of our members.

Maybe we need to consider redefining what TGSF's position is in today's changing transgender times. I'm actively recruiting girls to run for some positions on the new ex-com committee with the objective to have a full committee for the next ex-com. Not only some new girls, but also some others who have been around the community for years. These are some of my plans for the upcoming year.

PAULA-JO HUSACK, MA, LMFT, CGP
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Florida Student Isn't Allowed to Wear Shirt and Tie in Yearbook Photo

NO DRAPE, NO PHOTO, LEAVES TEEN WONDERING

Girls at Robinson High School wear drapes for senior photos. But Nikki Youngblood wanted to wear a tie like the boys do.

St. Petersburg Times; January 25, 2002
By MELANIE AVE, Times Staff Writer

TAMPA - Since she was 8 years old, Nikki Youngblood wanted to dress like a boy.

As a child, she played with G.I. Joe's and Ninja Turtles and preferred jeans and loose shirts to dresses and skirts. By the time she was 17, she was wearing tuxedos to school dances and refusing feminine clothes.

"It's just not me," she said.

So last spring, when it came time to sit for her Robinson High senior yearbook photos at Bryn-Alan Studios, Nikki and her mother decided the best attire for her would be a black suit jacket, white dress shirt and tie.

But her wardrobe choice didn't jive with the school. They were told only male students could wear shirts and ties. Female students would be photographed in a scoop-necked, black velvet drape.

To Nikki, it was "like asking a boy to go put on a dress. To my friends, it would have been the biggest joke in the world."

The flurry that followed raised questions of freedom of expression versus following the rules. Inevitably, there were lawyers. In the end, when the Robinson High Excalibur yearbook comes out this spring, Nikki's senior picture won't be in it.

Nikki, a lesbian who wears her dark brown hair cut short and a silver ring in her upper right ear, said it boils down to one thing.

"It's pure discrimination," said the teenager, who graduated from Robinson early, in December, and hopes to become a clinical psychologist.

School attorney Crosby Few had a different take: "The administration did not feel the yearbook was the place you make those kinds of statements. The next year, you might have 10 boys dressing as girls and vice versa."

That day at the studio, Nikki's mother said, the staff was pushing for her daughter to wear the drape.

"She became very embarrassed," Sonia Youngblood said. "It took everything I had not to cry."

Ms. Youngblood, a Clearwater post office employee, said the studio told Nikki they would photograph her in the shirt and tie, but only if the school said okay.

Continued on Page 13

Transcending Transgender

Sponsored by
City of Refuge UCC Outreach Ministries

A support group facilitated by Janetta Johnson and Portia Denard; Where: City of Refuge, United Church of Christ, 1025 Howard Street, San Francisco CA 94103, (415) 861-6130. When: Every Friday, 6 pm to 7:30 pm. Food and snacks will be provided.

[Editor's Note: I'm again forced to take a stab at what will pass for our Calendar of Events this month. For Event information, I strongly recommend you call the hotline or contact an ExCom member for any information.]

Tuesday / March 5 / 7:00pm

TGSF ExCOM MEETING

Continuing on with the Tuesday meeting schedule, the next TGSF ExCom meeting will be held at the office of President Aiyana, in San Francisco. All TGSF members are welcome to attend.

Wednesday / March 13 / 8:00pm

TGSF MID-MONTH EVENT

Your guess is as good as mine.

Thursday / March 28 / 8:00pm

TGSF END OF MONTH EVENT

I was instructed by the Vice President to announce that if no other definite arrangements were made, that the March End of Month Event will be held at the Blue Muse, 409 Gough Street in San Francisco.



Rachael Janelle presents Carla Blair with the Joanna Caron Award at Cotillion 2002

March's Birthdays

3/00	Jennifer Stroud	3/20	Donna Freeman
3/1	Dusty Prentiss	3/20	Geri Handa
3/2	Nicole Kucera	3/21	Jackie Conner
3/4	Lichen	3/21	Kalani Makanani
3/8	Susan Flowers	3/22	Joyce Patterson-Rogers
3/8	Erika Carter	3/23	Shelly Cohen
3/9	Aiyanna Eveningstar	3/27	Kathy Ann
3/9	Katherine Kramer	3/27	Telzey Ann
3/11	Lucy Ann	3/27	DiDi Mau
3/13	Joan Roughgarden	3/28	Evette Roque LaRay
3/14	Roxanna Rochette	3/28	Marga Meyers
3/19	Mina Schwartz	3/29	Staci Maria

Many Happy Returns of the Day!

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Nails

Wigs

Fem Fashions

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Nails Wigs Lingerie

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and understanding.*

**The Current Location of the
TGSF Library!!**

Cosmetics Fem Fashions Shoes

Calendar of Events - March 2002

OTHER BAY AREA GROUPS

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

Pacific Center for Human Growth (PacCtr)

A counseling oriented growth center sponsors all-inclusive gender support groups on every Friday at 8:00pm, 2712 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley. 510-548-8283

Rainbow Gender Association (RGA)

Meets 1st and 3rd Friday of the month 8:00pm at the New Community of Faith Church, 6350 Rainbow Drive, San Jose. Mail: PO Box 700730, San Jose, CA 95170 or call 408-984-4044.

Sacramento Gender Association (SGA)

Blue Rose Chapter meets 8:00pm the 2nd and 4th Saturday of each month in Sacramento. Write PO Box 162907, Sacramento, CA 95816 or call 916-364-7212 for meeting locations. Website: www.sga-tg.org; email: sga@transgender.org

Diablo Valley Girls (DVG)

Meets 1st and 3rd Monday of every month. 8:00pm at Club 1220, 1220 Pine Street in Walnut Creek. Write to DVG, PO Box 272885, Concord, CA 94527-2885 or call 925-937-8432.

DVG Rap Group (RCC)

Meets 1st and 3rd Thursday of every month, 7:00pm at Rainbow Community Center, 2118 Willow Pass Road, Suite 500 in Concord. For more information call 925-937-8432.

FTM

A support group for Female-to-Male CDs and TSs; Holds open Informational Meetings and closed Support Meetings. Write FTM International, Inc., 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94103 or call 415-553-5987.

TGIF

A social group for transgenders. Meets one Saturday each month at a private home in Santa Rosa for a potluck social from 4:00pm until early evening. Space is limited - Reservations Recommended! Call Diane or Anne at 707-538-1234

Silicon Valley Gender Association (SVGA)

A new transgender support group meets at the Billy De Frank Community Center in San Jose on the 2nd and 4th Friday of every month from 7:00pm to 9:00pm. For more information, call 408-293-2429.

Far West Women (FWW)

A support group for TGs affiliated with the GLBT Alliance in Humboldt County. Meets every 2nd and 4th Saturday of the month at 8:00pm in the GLBTA Center at Fourth and "D" Streets in Eureka. For information call the Center at 707-445-9760.

Santa Cruz Trans (SCT)

Bi-weekly social/support group for gender-gifted persons serving Santa Cruz and Central Coast. 1st and 3rd Thursdays every month at The Diversity Center, 1328 Commerce Lane, Santa Cruz, CA 95060; (831) 425-5422; 7:00pm

The Mid-Peninsula Transgender Group (MPTG)

A support group for the LGBT community that meets at 7:30 pm on the first Wednesday of each month at the Women's Health Boutique, 1115 South B Street, San Mateo - (408) 619-2908.

Central City Hospitality House (CCHH)

288 Turk Street, SF. 415-749-2167. Facilitated TG discussion group every Monday, 5:00pm - 6:30pm.

					1 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap 8:00 PM RGA	2
3	4 5:00 PM CCHH 8:00 PM DVG	5 7:00 PM TGSF ExCom Meeting	6 7:30 PM MPTG	7 7:00 PM DVG(RCC) 7:00 PM SCT	8 7:00 PM SVGA 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap	9 8:00 PM FWW 8:00 PM SGA
10	11 5:00 PM CCHH	12	13 7:00 PM TransBay 8:00 PM TGSF: Mid-Month Event	14	15 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap 8:00 PM RGA	16
17	18 5:00 PM CCHH 8:00 PM DVG	19	20	21 7:00 PM DVG (RCC) 7:00 PM SCT	22 7:00 PM SVGA 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap	23 8:00 PM FWW 8:00 PM SGA
24	25 5:00 PM CCHH	26	27	28 7:00 PM TGSF: EOM @ Cliff House 8:00 PM TGSF: EOM Event	29 8:00 PM PacCtr: Rap	30
31						

TGSF MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Membership Year is May 1 to April 30 / \$30 Single Membership; \$40 Family.

Please Print / Check all that apply:

New Member | Renewal Member #: _____ | with Family Member | What Year did you first join TGSF? _____

Preferred Name: _____ Birthdate (Month/Day): ____ / ____

Mailing Name: _____

Family Member's Name: _____ Birthdate (Month/Day): ____ / ____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____ Country: _____

Optional: Telephone: (____) _____ What Name should we ask for if we need to call you? _____

Your Email address: _____ Website URL: _____

Would you like a link from the TGSF Website to your URL? Yes No

Send Check or Money Order to: TGSF, PO Box 426486, San Francisco, CA 94142-6486, or hand to any Board Member at a TGSF Social.

May we use photos of you taken at TGSF events in our newsletter or website? Yes No

Our Readers Respond

FRUSTRATIONS OF A CROSSDRESSER

By Michele

I am a man content as a man and lacking the desire to become a woman. I have, however, at times felt excitement as far back into my childhood as I can remember by the thought of being able to crossdress. As I entered my teens and ever since I have experienced a profound feeling of expectation with the approach of Halloween. When I dressed as a woman at Halloween, no one asked why or even commented on it. People acted as if it was perfectly normal and I felt natural and very comfortable in female attire. Expectations turned to disappointment too often when Halloween came and went without being able to crossdress but those feelings did not last.

Crossdressing now other than as an infrequent closet dresser has been out of the question due to a fear of being found out and how it would effect my life and my relationship with my wife. It is a lonely burden and an unhealthy one to carry. I would find it therapeutic to be able to satisfy my needs and desires and be able to get away from constant everyday pressures by slipping into another role albeit that of a woman.

Why shouldn't it be considered okay for a man to crossdress and wear women's clothing and makeup on occasion without the fear of being ashamed or embarrassed? Women dress as men all the time and no one considers it abnormal.

It is extremely frustrating when the desire to crossdress arises and I have to deal with suppressing it. I would again be healthier and happier if I were able to satisfy my desires and slip into heels, hose and feminine clothes when I chose.

I feel guilt when I tell my wife on a Saturday or Sunday morning that I have to go to the office and work when actually I am going to dress as Michele. I feel guilty when about once a month I tell my wife I will be on business all day and I spend the day at a salon as Michele. I do not like lying to my wife as I am betraying our trust. On the other hand, my fear is that should she discover that I crossdress it would negatively impact our marriage or even end it. "It is frustrating!"

Seminar Report

A BEAU-T-FULL WORKSHOP

By Nicole Mössinger

On January 23, I attended the workshop "Transformations for the T Community" at the Billy deFrank Center in San Jose. Brian Finney - owner of the salon "The Back Lot" in San Jose - brought his stylist Robert Reaza and lots of equipment to enhance our appearance.

After a discussion of general beauty issues and concerns, two of us got to play "models". Brian and Robert demonstrated the art of applying makeup and answered questions. Robert created a beautiful hairstyle that works very nicely for both male and female presentation - ideal for pre-transition or part-time TGs.

Brian showed little tricks on how to "dress up" hair for special occasions, using accessories we had brought to the workshop, while being sensitive not to expose any rather masculine features. Brian and Robert did a great job in making this workshop interesting and fun!

If you are interested in attending a similar workshop in the city, please email Education Chair Ally Grillo at [redacted]@email.sjsu.edu. Brian and Robert are standing-by.

[Editor's Note: I want these guys at my next Pajama Party!]

LETTER TO THE EDITOR (BAY GUARDIAN)

While I was disappointed that the Guardian chose to endorse my opponent Harry Britt, I appreciate the supportive things the endorsement board had to say about my candidacy. Rightfully the Guardian recognizes my many accomplishments such as our transgender health benefit, Proposition B (the solar revenue bond I authored which was approved by voters last fall), my work on affordable housing and my support for public power. We do share a great deal in common in our progressive agenda for San Francisco.

I did want to make one point of clarification. There was a misstatement made that I would not be "pushing for transgender rights" on the state level, while I have, in fact, already been advocating for changes in state law that would benefit the transgender community and will continue to do so if elected to the Assembly.

Current California law prohibits local governments from enforcing civil rights laws that extend to groups which are not protected by state civil rights law. This legislation spearheaded by Pete Wilson needs to be overturned so that our local laws protecting transgender people can be made enforceable. I will make that legislation a high priority if elected.

Additionally, I passed a resolution urging the state to adopt AB2142 which would have added gender identity to the list of groups protected from housing and employment discrimination. I will support AB2142, which advances civil rights for the transgender community if I am elected.

Supervisor Mark Leno

DEAR TGSF:

My name is Sam Bales and I am a JFKU student, and have been a part of the TG community for several years. I am currently doing my PsyD training at the Pacific Center in Berkeley. I am also conducting a study on "Transsexuals Experiences in Therapy" and seeking participants who might be interested. I am a member of several FTM groups and would like to be able to reach more TG brothers and sisters. Any help would be greatly appreciated.

Let Your Voice Be Heard!

- If you self-identify as a Transsexual person, you are invited to partake in a study that wants to hear about your experiences in psychotherapy.
- The majority of the research done on Transsexuals is from the perspective of researchers or clinicians. Now it's time to hear from the people themselves.
- This study entails a very brief survey that takes approximately 10-15 minutes. If you or someone else you know, who self-identifies as a Transsexual person is interested in participating in this study or want more information, please contact me either by phone or email.

My contact information is as follows: Phone Number: (925) [redacted] E-mail: Transexperience@aol.com. Thank you for your time and your help. Your voice does matter.

Sam E. Bales
Graduate Student
John F. Kennedy University
Orinda, California

Special Events This Month!

"Some Kind of Queer"

A PARTY FOR TRANS, DRAG, INTERSEX, GENDERQUEER, BEYOND...AND OUR FRIENDS!

Where: Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Community Center. 1800 Market/Octavia - San Francisco

When: Saturday, March 9th, 2002. Doors at 6pm, performances from 7pm - 1am

Price: \$5 - \$20 Sliding Scale/ No one turned away for lack of funds

Trans-Art, Transbay and TrannyFest present an extravaganza of Trans, Drag, Intersex and Genderqueer talent. A benefit for the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Community Center. Two floors of Fun! Bands, DJs, performance artists, spoken word and dance. Gospel, Soul, Hip-Hop and Rock. Video Installations and a Video Lounge. Drag Flag Patio Party. DJ Dancing and Chill Rooms. Refreshments! More! Dress to Impress!

Performers include: Shawna Virago and the Deadly Nightshade Family - Featuring local trans-activist Shawna Virago on guitar and lead vocals. With tunes like "Sailor's Mouth" and "Tranimal," this smart band combines in-your-face lefty politics with buzz saw guitar work. Queer Performance Artist Tina D'Elia calls them "dangerous entertainment." Hedwig's got NOTHING on Sexy Rocker Chick Shawna Virago!

Heklina - the Mistress of Trannyshack. This Midnight drag showcase has become the stuff of legend, and what becomes a legend more than this Queen of the Night? Legendary.

Thea Hillman - This intersex activist is the author of the critically acclaimed *Depending on the Light* (Manic D Press). A San Francisco poetry slam champion, Thea has performed her work at festivals, bookstores, and reading series across the country.

Marcus Rene Van - is a performance poet living in San Francisco. He uses poetry to fuse realistic tales about being a transgendered poet of color with his love of hip-hop. Outside of slam, Marcus has traveled to venues all over the nine counties of the bay area and beyond, spitting bold lyrics to incense racist and homophobic minds.

The Transcendence Gospel Choir - is the world's first transgendered Gospel choir. The choir's mission is to empower the strong spiritual calling of the transgender experience by reclaiming the mystical and healing essence of our trans-ancestors through music ministry. In this way we will challenge intolerance and hatred, transcend boundaries and restore hope.

Annie Sprinkle - has devoted the past 27 years to passionately researching and exploring sexuality, from the sacred to the profane. She has documented and shared her findings through films, photography, and workshops. For the past decade she has toured her controversial one-woman theater shows internationally to great acclaim. Annie co-directed the first female to male transsexual love story in 1989, *Linda/Les & Annie*.

Juanita More - is one of the more strongly felt drag personas in current San Francisco circles. Never one to hide her light under a bushel, the garrulously extroverted Juanita performs at local comedy clubs, night clubs and special events, armed to the

heels with a masterful lip-syncing ability and undeniable charisma. Her instinctive love for the coin of the realm, coupled with an almost lunatic altruistic bent has led Juanita to raise over \$100,000 for Queer causes and AIDS Charities including Visual Aid, AIDS Benefit Counselors, Academy of Friends and the Larkin St. Youth Center

Full list of Performers:

- BJ - The 1st SF Drag King
- Ali Cannon
- Ms. Bob Davis
- Deep Dickollective
- Solidad DiCosta
- Sean Dorsey
- Thea Hillman
- Veronica Klaus
- PatRIOTism - A GALLOifornia Fashion Splat with Paul Gallo,
- Vince Black and House of Bianca
- Matthue Roth
- Max Wolf Valerio
- On a Butch Trip
- Annie Sprinkle
- Marcus Rene Van
- Transcendence Gospel Choir
- Shawna Virago and the Deadly Nightshade Family
- The Woodyz

MCs:

- Machiko Saito
- Tina D'Elia and Zulma Oliveras
- Sister Kitty Catalyst and Sister Roma of The Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence
- Heklina and Pippi Lovestocking of Trannyshack
- Fairy Butch
- Cooper Lee Bombardier

Third Floor DJs:

- Juanita More! and * DJ Mermaid

Also on the 3rd floor:

- Trannyfest Video Lounge by Alison Austin, Christopher Lee and Roxxie Rosen
- Video Installations by Maïa Cybelle and Tobaron Waxman
- Remembering Our Dead Memorial Room - Gwen Smith
- Harem Chill Room by Andrea Burnett and Barb Cavutto

On the Roof Deck:

- Drag Flag Patio Party with Vinsantos, Heklina, Jeff Valentine and Chuck the Juggler. Decor by Scott Martin and Phatima



The Fabulous Tianna DeVil at Cotillion 2002

More Special Events This Month!

The Inaugural Conference of UC Berkeley's Center for the Study of Sexual Culture

"STUDYING SEXUAL CULTURE"

A conference assessing the current state of research in the field of sexuality studies, and considering the contribution research centers can make to the field.

Below you will find the schedule for the inaugural conference in March of UC Berkeley's Center for the Study of Sexual Culture—a conference originally scheduled to take place last September. You will also find information on two conference-related events in April. For further information, contact Robin Walker or Gee Gee Lang at robin_w@uclink4.berkeley.edu or geesqrd@uclink4.berkeley.edu.

Thursday, March 7, 2002 - 370 Dwinelle Hall

7:30 p.m. Lecture by Gilbert Herdt, San Francisco State University - "Sexual Culture and Human Rights After the Cold War"

Friday, March 8, 2002 - 370 Dwinelle Hall

10:30 a.m. Lecture by Geeta Patel, Wellesley College "South Asia, the Diaspora and Sexuality"

1:00 p.m. Lecture by Elizabeth Povinelli, University of Chicago - "Notes on Gridlock: Genealogy, Intimacy, and New Social Imaginaries"

3:00 p.m. Lecture by Paisley Currah, Brooklyn College "Not the United States of Gender: Identity, Expression, and Transgender Civil Rights"

5:00 p.m. Lecture by Carla Freccero, University of California, Santa Cruz - "Heteroerotic Homoeroticism"

Saturday, March 9, 2002 - Maude Fife Room, 315 Wheeler Hall

10:00 a.m. Panel 1. Differing Working Definitions of "Sexuality" and "Sexual Culture" - Eliyahou Farajajé, Graduate Theological Union; Adele E. Clarke, Social and Behavioral Sciences, UCSF

1:00 p.m. Panel 2. Mapping the Field Today - Anjali Arondekar, Women's Studies, UCSC; Judith Halberstam, Literature, UCSD; Lisa Rofel, Anthropology, UCSC; Miranda Joseph, Women's Studies, University of Arizona

3:30 p.m. Panel 3. Events and Emergences in the Study of Sexual Culture - Jody Greene, Literature, UCSC; Vernon Rosario, UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute; Jennifer Terry, Comparative Studies, Ohio State University

Conference Sponsors: University of California Humanities Research Institute, Doreen B. Townsend Center for the Humanities, Dean of the Arts and Humanities, Dean of the Social Sciences, English Department, Rhetoric Department, Women's Studies Department, Beatrice M. Bain Research Group, Center for Race and Gender, LGBT Studies Minor Program

Please also note the following conference-related events that have been scheduled for April, 2002:

- A lecture by Carolyn Dinshaw, New York University, "GLQ in Malaysia: LGBT Studies, Censorship, and Other Transnational Problems" / **Wednesday, April 10, 2002** / 5 p.m. / 370 Dwinelle Hall
- A lecture by Karma Lochrie, Indiana University, with a response by Carolyn Dinshaw, "Before Sex Was Normal: Heterosexuality and Deviance in Medieval Culture" / **Thursday, April 11, 2002** / 4 p.m. / Location TBA



Miss TGSF with Miss GAPA

NEW ONLINE SO LIST!

New online mailing list for wives and SOs of crossdressers and men who consider themselves to be transgendered; no topic off limits. Attitudes range from complete acceptance to really struggling. Open to women only - no crossdressers please! Women need a place where they can feel safe to discuss these issues. Write to Cheryl at [redacted]@yahoo.com and explain a little about your situation.

Special Announcements!

Your Special Invitation!

ESPRIT 2002 - AN EVENT NOT TO BE MISSED!

I'd like to take this opportunity to invite all of you who have been associated with Cal Dreamin' to take part in Esprit 2002, the Pacific Northwest's premier Transgender Conference!

Esprit 2002 promises to be the best Esprit conference yet! For the past 14 years, Esprit has been jointly planned and hosted by The Emerald City of Seattle, Northwest Gender Alliance of Portland, and The Cornbury Group of Vancouver BC. If you come to Esprit and really participate, we promise you a full week of fun, learning, growing, and meeting new friends. That's right, you get to spend a full week "en femme"! Esprit 2002 starts on Sunday May 12, 2002, and finishes up one week later on Sunday May 19th! It is held at the Red Lion Inn in Port Angeles, Washington, about a three-hour drive from Seattle. Port Angeles is beautifully situated on the Straits of Juan de Fuca separating the US and Canada, and at the base of the Olympic Mountains.

We have a full slate of seventy classes planned along four separate themes, including the Basics of Crossdressing, The World of Transgender, Transitioning, and an extensive Couples program for those in a relationship with a Significant Other. We bring in nationally known speakers such as Sandra Cole, Peggy Rudd, and Anne Lawrence along with thirty-five local Northwest experts to lead each class.

And girl, do we have fun too! Each day features social activities such as a Prom Dance, Cabaret Talent Show and our special Graduation event for first time attendees. We also have a fashion show, lots of dancing, and an afternoon set aside for fun activities in the local community.

Did I mention our fabulous vendors yet? They are ready, willing and able to help you with makeup, wig selection and care, voice, image, breast forms, nails, jewelry.. Just about everything a girl could want! Plus we also feature a carefully selected list of vendors and businesses that welcome us in the local community.

And if you think this is just a regional conference, think again! Last year we had attendees from 18 different states and provinces, plus several girls that came all the way from New Zealand. So hop on a plane or get in your car and get to Port Angeles WA for a week you'll never forget! Visit www.espritgala.com for more information on our unique event.

Thanks! And we hope to see you at Esprit 2002!

Kelly Hansen
Education and Schedule Coordinator

Barbara J. Anderson

Ph.D., L.C.S.W.
Clinical Sexologist

Certified Sex Therapist

1537 Franklin St., Suite 104
San Francisco, CA 94109

Ph (415) 776-0139
Fax (415) 441-0936

Coming on April 13, 2:00pm

BEAUTY SCHOOL DROP-IN - A TGSF EDUCATIONAL FORUM ON HAIR & MAKEUP

Tired of relying on women's magazines - or worse, your kid sister - for tips on hair and makeup? Well then here's your chance to work with a pro: Brian Finney, proprietor of Back Lot Studio in San Jose.

Brian will be holding a beauty workshop at the Women's Building (in San Francisco's Mission neighborhood) and invites you to bring your makeup kit, your favorite hair spray, or anything else you'd like to work with. He'll be happy, by the way, to answer emails about the seminar bf@backlotstudio.com. We'll all have a gorgeous time!

The Women's Building is at 3543 18th Street near Delores in the Mission neighborhood, San Francisco. It's four blocks from the 16th Street BART station. People driving should allow a few extra minutes to find parking.

Saturday, March 9th

"BI AND FOR THE PEOPLE"

On Saturday, March 9th, The Center for Sex & Culture and the LGBT Community Center will present **Bi and For the People**, a gala celebration of unity and diversity for the bisexual community and friends. Bi and For the People will be held at the new home of the Center at 1800 Market Street at Octavia.

Bi and For the People will feature entertainment, community acknowledgements for local activists, and a festive atmosphere of mingling and celebration. Doors open at 7 p.m. and the event will run until 1 a.m. Early arrivers will mingle to the sounds of Radio-Free Pusspuss with DJ Pusspuss, and enjoy refreshments.

Performances start at 9 p.m. Post-porn modernist and diva Annie Sprinkle headlines the evening with her inimitable spoken word. Keith Hennessy and Jade Blue Eclipse of Circo Zero will also perform. Stand-up comic and Safe Sex Slut Rob Yeager joins us from Minneapolis. Other performers and amusements are still being booked. Carol Queen will MC. Performances will be interpreted for the hearing impaired.

Following the performances, DJ Pusspuss will close the evening. Door prizes are being donated by local bi-friendly individuals and businesses.

Bi and For the People will not turn anyone away for lack of funds, but all proceeds beyond the evening's costs will benefit bisexual programming at the Center. Suggested sliding scale is \$10 and up. For a \$20 door donation, students, youth, and low-income people will receive a one-year membership to the Center. For non-low income people, a \$30 or greater donation will include a one-year Center membership.

Volunteer support is needed. Those interested in volunteering please contact Robert Lawrence at (415) [redacted] afternoons or evenings. The Center for Sex & Culture, founded by sexologists and longtime bisexual activists Carol Queen and Robert Morgan Lawrence, is a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to sex-positive education and support for people of all orientations. For more information about the Center's opening week activities, see <http://www.sfcenter.org>.

More Special Announcements!

Coming June 1, 2002

SAN FRANCISCO GLAAD MEDIA AWARDS - FEATURING SANDRA BERNHARD

Did you reserve too late, and get left out of the SF GLAAD MEDIA AWARDS last year? This year you can guarantee a seat for yourself and your friends by claiming a table "on-line". And instead of buying ten tickets up front, you only have to charge "one" ticket to your card, and can deal with the rest later... and the table's yours.

How easy is that? Reserve your table right now at <http://mediaawards.glaad.org/index.cfm?loc=sf>

Questions? Contact Kurt: E-mail: [\[REDACTED\]@codacreative.com](mailto: [REDACTED]@codacreative.com), Phone: 510/[REDACTED]

Celebrities scheduled to appear at this year's SF GLAAD MEDIA AWARDS include:

- The Inimitable Sandra Bernhard
- Stephen Weber From "Jeffrey" And "Wings"
- Pretty Baby Brooke Shields
- And From Queer As Folk: Peter Paige
- ...And Many, Many Others.

The Thirteenth Annual GLAAD Media Awards, presented by ABSOLUT Vodka, will take place Saturday June 1, 2002 at the Westin St. Francis Hotel in Union Square in San Francisco. If you attended last year's event, you know what a terrific celebration it was - and this year will be bigger and better than ever. Be there as we honor this year's outstanding and inclusive representations of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community in film, television, print and online.

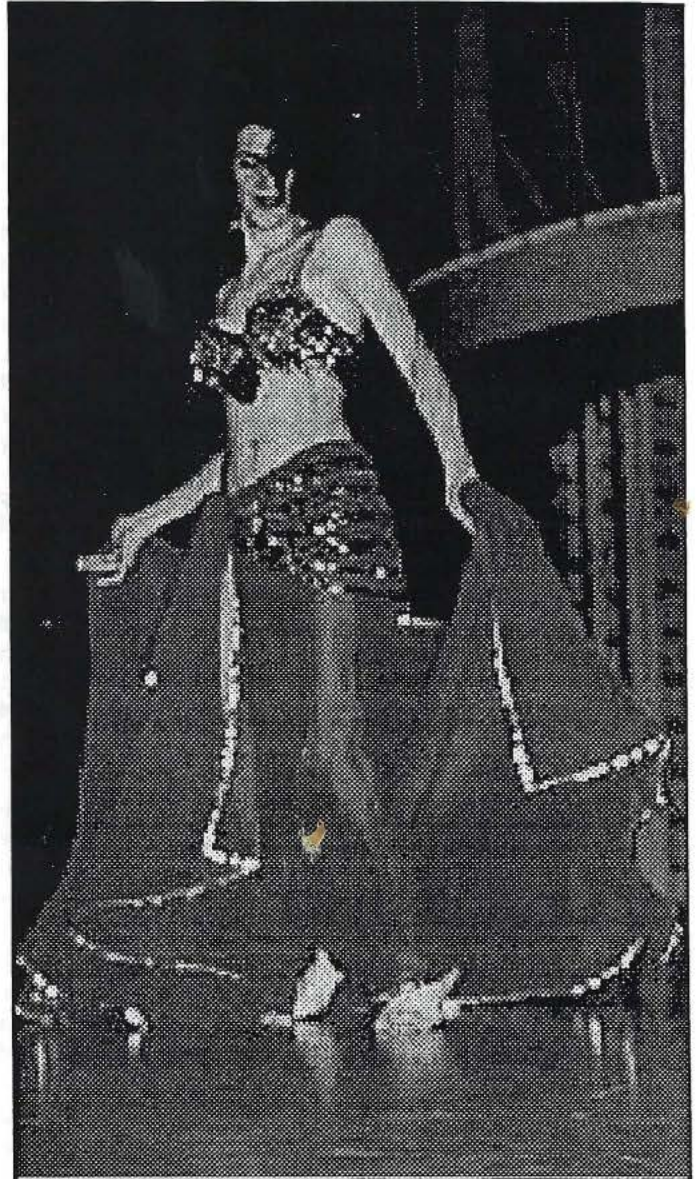
Want to be real part of it? Then host a table at the GLAAD Media Awards. The nine friends you bring together will thank you for creating an unforgettable evening of glamour, laughter and celebrities. More importantly, you'll provide much-needed support for GLAAD's important work.

In return, you'll receive two tickets to the private, star-studded VIP Afterparty, which immediately follows the Awards. You'll also receive invitations to three underwriters' parties in the months before the Awards at San Francisco's hottest galleries and restaurants, exclusively for GLAAD's top supporters. At the event itself, you'll also receive premium gift bags and entries in an exclusive raffle for a great weekend getaway.

GLAAD's event coordinator, Levy, Pazanti & Associates, will help you keep track of your guest's reservations and payments and even send out official invitations on your behalf. Just fill out the enclosed form. Tickets are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. Sign up for a VIP table by April 9th for priority seating & inclusion in the official invitation. The GLAAD Media Awards always sell out: don't be disappointed, sign up early this year!

Check out www.glaad.org for the most up-to-date information on the event, including information on corporate sponsorship, advertising and volunteer opportunities. Thanks for your support.

Sincerely,
Kurt Stammberger and Janis Callon
Co Chairs



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Takin' Care of Biz...

TGSF BALANCE SHEET

(January 19, 2002 through February 20, 2002)

Assets

Cash	\$6,987.90
Event Equipment	
Decorations	\$1,000.00
Food Service	\$200.00
Office Supplies	\$50.00
Total Assets	\$8,237.90

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$0.00
Educational Fund	\$1,600.00
Taxes	\$0.00
Insurance	\$0.00
Utilities	\$0.00
Operations	\$0.00
Total Liabilities	\$1,600.00
Equity	\$6,637.90
Total Liabilities & Equity	\$8,237.90

Monthly Income Statement

Revenue

Membership	\$90.00
Advertising	\$870.00
Cotillion	\$6,926.00
Donations Received	\$30.00
Social	\$0.00
Education	\$0.00
Outreach	\$0.00
.....	\$7,916.00

Expenses

Cotillion	\$2,487.32
Halloween Party	\$0.00
Big Shew	\$0.00
Pride Parade	\$0.00
Social	\$0.00
Education	\$110.00
Outreach	\$0.00
Newsletter	\$141.00
Operations	\$25.23
Donations Paid	\$0.00
.....	\$2,763.55

Net Income **\$5,152.45**

TGSF DONATIONS

*Our Friends Who Give
as of February 20, 2002*

Joanne and Geri Handa \$30.00

Bless You and Thank You!

CONTACT TGSF!

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Calendar @tgforum.com

Submissions of descriptions of upcoming events of
TGSF and other groups for publication in The Chan-
nel, the calendar on the TGSF web site, the TGSF
Telephone Hotline, the TGSF email list, and shar-
ing with other groups.

TRANSGENDERED STONEWALL LEGEND PASSES ON

Sylvia Rivera, popularly credited as being the instigator of the Stonewall Riots, passed away at approximately 5:00 AM, February 19, 2002, in the intensive care unit of St. Vincent's Hospital in New York's Greenwich Village. She had been in and out of the hospital recently due to cancer of the liver. Both her lover, Julia Murray, and Reverend Pat Bumgardner of the MCC-NY (Metropolitan Community Church-New York), were at her side as she passed on. She was 53.

An internationally recognized pioneer in what became known as the "Gay Rights Movement", Ms. Rivera was one of the collection of drag queens, transsexuals and stone butch lesbians on the scene, June 27, 1969 — the fateful moment of the Stonewall Riots. Though the uprising is the subject of legend, Sylvia Rivera's name was always synonymous with the catalytic moment that became history. On an annual basis, she was requested across the country, and across the globe, to recount the historic incident in first-person detail.

One misconception that persisted throughout was that Ms. Rivera was the first to throw a 'stone' or 'brick' at Stonewall. In actuality, it was Molotov cocktails that were thrown which began the ebb and flow of protester vs. police conflicts. Another misconception that Sylvia was quick to point out was that she did not throw the first Molotov cocktail, but the second one instead. An unidentified "queen" threw the first.

Yet another popular misconception is that police frisked and arrested the 'queens' from inside the Stonewall Bar. In actuality, Stonewall was strictly for gay men — the transsexuals, queens and butches were relegated to the streets outside. When police began hauling the arrested patrons outside, the collected group began verbally challenging the arresting officers — some throwing coins (not rocks).

In 1970, less than a year after the infamous Stonewall Riots, Sylvia Rivera joined forces with another Stonewall veteran, the late Marsha P. Johnson, to form the group Street Transvestite Action Revolutionaries (STAR). Later renamed Street Transgender Action Revolutionaries, STAR and Sylvia Rivera worked tirelessly for the civil rights of transgendered and other queer people.

Across the country and around the globe, she was frequently called on to address audiences of rising activists and advocates. Sylvia's firebrand demeanor was world-renowned and instrumental in galvanizing the transgender community to fight to further the cause of justice for all. Rivera was involved in the struggle for human rights until the moment of her death.

Last year, Rivera resurrected STAR in response to the high-profile murder of transsexual prostitute, Amanda Milan. Ms Rivera herself was the spearhead of both the vigils immediately following Milan's death, and another awareness vigil before the beginning of the murder trial of Milan's killers.

Recently, just out of the hospital, Sylvia participated in the lobbying effort to include gender identity in New York State's pending SONDA (Sexual Orientation Non-Discrimination Act) legislation. She challenged the lead organization, ESPA (Empire State Pride Agenda) to push for revised wording to expand the coverage to transgenders.

Rivera met with the leadership of the Empire State Pride Agenda in her hospital room just hours before her death, presenting issues of concern to the Transgender Community and negotiating for greater support from ESPA. She left the national GLBT community as she had begun: a true and outspoken activist who was totally committed, and who never knew the word "quit."

"I am truly saddened by Sylvia's death," said Yosenio Lewis, Board Chair of NTAC (the National Transgender Advocacy Coalition). Lewis, on business in Washington DC, described Ms. Rivera as one who "provided unending inspiration and motivation to countless people through her passion and unwillingness to settle for anything less than total equality for everyone."

"I know I am a better person ... for having been challenged by her and for having taken on some of her fighting spirit."

"Sylvia was beloved by many people," added local New York activist, Rusty Moore. "We shall not see her like again."

Arrangements for a service at New York's MCC are pending. For information contact the church at 212-629-7440 (www.mccny.org), or Transy House at 718-832-1080 (www.transyhouse.org). STAR's website can be found at www.geocities.com/catskillmarina/index.html.



Sylvia - taken at the NTAC/True Spirit Conference Reception in Washington DC, February 16, 2001.

SEX CHANGE COMPLICATES BATTLE OVER CHILD CUSTODY

By DANA CANEDY

CLEARWATER, Fla., Feb. 15 — Until three years ago, Michael Kantaras mowed his lawn on weekends, played Santa at his children's school and lived like any other husband and father — almost. Since then, Mr. Kantaras's marriage has faltered. Now, a custody battle with his wife, Linda, has become a painful and public reminder that Mr. Kantaras, a 42-year-old bakery manager, was not exactly the typical family man he went to extraordinary lengths to become.

Since the breakup, Ms. Kantaras has exposed a secret that even the couple's 12-year-old son and 10-year-old daughter never knew: Michael Kantaras was, until 1987, a woman who was born Margo Kantaras. Ms. Kantaras contends that, even though she knew of Mr. Kantaras's sex change before becoming involved with him, he was never a man and therefore their marriage and his adoption of the children are invalid.

The case raises legal questions that experts and scholars say Florida laws do not address. Is Michael Kantaras legally the man he claimed to be on his marriage license and in adoption papers, or is he a woman living as a man?

The judge assigned to the case must address that question before settling what the family considers the critical issue: whether Mr. Kantaras was ever a father. "Basically Florida law does not permit same-sex marriage, and the question is whether this is a same-sex marriage or not," said Judge Gerard O'Brien of Pasco-Pinellas Circuit Court, who is presiding over the case. The case could make Florida law and establish a legal precedent for transsexuals in other states. "Everything flows accordingly under the initial question of was Michael, as a transsexual, a man."

The three-week trial ended on Feb. 8, but Judge O'Brien did not expect to issue a ruling for months. The Kantarases are seeking a divorce, and each wants primary custody of the children. "I have been a judge for 20 years, and I have had other fascinating family law as well as criminal law cases, but never anything like this," Judge O'Brien said in an interview. "I'm afraid I'm going to be living at the law library."

Law books may provide little guidance in this case, legal experts say. "I honestly believe there is no legal precedent for this in the state of Florida," said Caroline K. Black, chairwoman-elect of the family law section of the Florida Bar Association. "I do not envy this judge at all."

While the Kantarases await the ruling, they remain bitterly divided by the end of a marriage that they once believed was part of a traditional family. "I have always felt children need both a mother and a father," Mr. Kantaras said in an interview at his lawyer's office here. Ms. Kantaras, 33, a substitute teacher, did not return several calls for comment to her home in nearby Holiday and to her lawyer's office.

The circumstances that thrust the Kantarases into a nationally televised court battle began even before they met in 1988 and were compounded by their decision to create a family.

As an adolescent in suburban Youngstown, Ohio, Margo Kantaras came to detest her budding breasts and the softness in her face, anything that reminded her she was not a boy. So 17 years ago, she underwent psychological counseling and medical tests and took hormone shots to begin the transition to Michael.

No Drape, No Photo...

Continued from Page 3

"It's not a problem with us," said Eddie Ocasio, area director for Bryn-Alan. "That's between her and the school. All we do is provide the service to the school."

Ms. Youngblood called the assistant principal at Robinson and explained the situation. The answer was, if her daughter wanted to appear alongside her 280 classmates, she must wear the drape.

"Apparently there is no provision or exception for a student that doesn't fit the mold," her mother said.

Principal Kevin McCarthy referred questions to a school spokesman Thursday.

Few said that while the school remained steadfast about Nikki's senior picture, they agreed to allow a photograph of her in the activity section of the yearbook, wearing her clothing of choice.

The family is considering a lawsuit, but wonders if it's a moot point since the deadline for yearbook production has passed.

In correspondence with the school attorney, the Youngbloods' attorney, Karen Doering of Equality Florida, alleges sex discrimination based on gender stereotypes and free expression violations.

Doering wrote that it comes down to a young girl who wanted to appear as herself in her senior yearbook "rather than conforming to her school administrators' stereotyped notions of how girls should dress.

"The shirt and tie . . . is the attire that is consistent with Nikki's gender identity and expression."

Nikki said she is puzzled about why it was such a big deal, since she was only asking to wear the same clothes as the boys in her class, not something outrageous.

"I told Mom when we walked out (of the studio), 'You should have lied and told them my name was Nicholas,'" said the stocky 5-foot-8 teen. "They would never have known the difference."

Jennifer Middleton, attorney with New York's Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, called the school's decision outrageous. "That gets into a level of discrimination of who that student is," said Middleton, whose organization represents the rights of gays, lesbians and transgender people.

"Everybody wants to be in the high school yearbook and you want to look like who you were in your high school years."

Ms. Youngblood had family pictures taken of her daughter dressed in a black tuxedo, tie and Burgundy vest, at Olan Mills studio.

Nikki said she did not buy a yearbook and doubts that it will have her name in it. She had wanted to have the yearbook to look back at years from now, when she gets together with old friends to reminisce.

"I can't do that now," she said.

Significant Other Support - East Bay

Questions or concerns about your partner's crossdressing? Please call Julie at (925) [REDACTED], e-mail [REDACTED]@attbi.com or write to: Julie Freeman, PO Box 272885, Concord, CA 94527-2885.

Continued on Page 15

AFRICAN AMERICAN TRANSGENDER SO UNDER MEDIA ATTACK BY SF CHRONICLE

As many California voters prepare to cast their votes in the upcoming March 5th election, African American Transgender SO Tammy Haygood, San Francisco's Director of Elections, is caught in the crossfire of political holy war between the Board of Supervisors and Mayor Brown. The San Francisco Chronicle has played loose with the facts in a series of articles, an integral part in shaping negative public perception of the current Director who has held her post for eight months.

The Chronicle reported "voter irregularities" with respect to March 5th absentee ballots. Fact: the department's printing vendor shorted SF and two other counties in Northern California their absentee ballot order. The printer had to backfill the order. You might find this buried at the end of the article but the headline was written to grab the reader's attention and further shape negative public perception.

The Chronicle reported Tammy's recent professional experience was making diapers. Fact: Fifteen years ago Tammy worked for Kimberly Clark as a process engineer designing and manufacturing Huggies. Tammy has a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering, a Bachelor of Science in Physics, a Master of Science in Electrical Engineering, and a Juris Doctorate. Tammy was a Project Manager on the first generation Mac PowerBook. And you Mac users know that experience could not have been very recently (circa 1990). For the past five years she practiced law.

Elections officials must do their work according to Elections Code, which is effectively elections law. Additionally, the implementation of technology (information technology and voting machine technology) in a consistent manner is a critical core competency. Tammy's unique blend of career and educational experi-

ences has prepared her to turn the demoralized and under funded department around. But diapers is what you read; diapers interestingly printed in the same week the Commission's Personnel Committee has commenced its own search for a new director.

Tammy took a lot of public heat for ballot box tops floating in the Bay. Yep, they floated. Additional Fact conveniently left out: The Department of Elections has less permanent employees than the San Francisco Arts Commission, which highlights the Department's years of institutional neglect. And more to the point, the Department of Elections has not been granted appropriate physical space. Point of fact, the warehouse is in a shared open pier with a chained-link fence secured by barbed wire. This egregious situation did not happen overnight and it certainly didn't happen in the last eight months. No wonder the wind had the audacity to kick up and blow the tops in the Bay.

She also was criticized for un-voted ballots recovered several weeks after the December 2001 run-off. Fact: Tammy asked the DA to open an investigation of the missing un-voted ballots. A drunken pollworker fired on the spot Election Day took his marbles home as well as several blank ballots. Turns out he was a homeless man who wanted to ensure he got paid for the day. His insurance for his check was the blank ballots. The department successfully recovered most of the un-voted ballots he took. Forty-nine of the un-voted ballots were allegedly found on top of a dumpster. Smells like external foul play any way you slice it. But you didn't read about the open investigation in the Chronicle. The fired homeless pollworker story was not reported until February 23rd in the Chronicle, more than two months after the press Corp knew the facts!

Another fact: The elections canvass process anticipates issues and mandates that a voter registrar provide an accounting or reconciliation of each and every voted and un-voted ballot. This process must be completed in four weeks. If no issue, administrative or otherwise, was anticipated or expected then why would county registrars have four weeks to commence and complete the process at all? It is when the issues are not explained or accounted for that the public should be outraged

One final thought- You didn't read in the Chronicle's headlines that one of its reporters had an embarrassing "situation" on Tammy's first day on the job. In the pressroom while several reporters were interviewing Tammy, the Chronicle's reporter asked Tammy the name of her partner in a way to try and out Tammy as a lesbian. Imagine her surprise when Tammy proudly proceeded to tell the press Corp that her longtime FTM partner (now husband) would have serious problems with the reporter referring to me as She. The reporter's colleagues all belly-laughed until the reporter was red in the face. She proceeded to stammer an attempt to apologize for her assumption as well as demonstrate cultural competence by citing the article she wrote on TG health benefits. And the rest is San Francisco Political history...

Take Action! Hold the San Francisco Chronicle accountable for what they write and what they don't write. Hold the new Election's Commission accountable. And yes, hold the Department of Elections accountable and lobby for the funding to do an adequate job to administer the people's fundamental right to vote. Show up to Commission meetings, volunteer to be a Pollworker, Vote! <http://www.ci.sf.ca.us/election/notices/>

**Respectfully,
Stacy Nathaniel Jackson**

Prior community service includes: SF Transgender Civil Rights Implementation Task Force, SF LGBT Community Center Board member, San Francisco League of Urban Gardeners Board member, AIDS Project of the East Bay

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EQUALITY FLORIDA LEGAL ADVOCACY PROJECT REPRESENTS TRANSGENDER FATHER IN CUSTODY BATTLE TELEVISED ON COURT TV

Anyone tuning into Michael Kantaras' custody battle in Clearwater, Florida looking for "talk show" style sensationalism got an advanced education on transgender issues instead. Due to the unprecedented Court TV coverage of Mr. Kantaras' fight for his children, more people were exposed to accurate information about transsexualism and sex-reassignment than in any case that has ever been litigated on behalf of a transsexual person anywhere in the country.

"We have heard from transgender people from around the country who see this case not only a validation of their ability to marry and be good parents, but also as an unprecedented validation of our lives as transgender men and women," said Kantaras co-counsel Shannon Minter. "In addition to Michael himself," adds Minter, "the primary credit for the educational impact of this case must go to Tampa attorney Karen Doering, the founder and director of the Equality Florida Legal Advocacy Project, a non-profit legal organization based in Tampa, Florida. Karen's dedication to this case is what has transformed this private battle into an amazing opportunity to educate the country about transgender issues."

The Advocacy Project's director, Karen Doering, was one of the three attorneys representing Mr. Kantaras at his trial, along with Minter and Collin Vauss, a private family law attorney in Clearwater. Ms. Doering worked for months prior to the trial preparing Michael's case and locating the expert medical witnesses necessary to prove that Mr. Kantaras is male, that his marriage is valid, and that a transsexual man can be a good father to his children. Litigating this case has been enormously expensive, and the Advocacy Project has depleted its resources.

Due to the nature of the case, the Advocacy Project will not recoup any of these costs even if the judge rules in Mr. Kantaras' favor. Therefore, the Transgender Law & Policy Institute is urging transgender individuals and anyone who recognizes the importance of this case to make a monetary contribution to the Equality Florida Legal Advocacy Project. All funds received are tax deductible and will help the Advocacy Project continue to fight for the rights of the LGBT community in Florida, a major battleground state in our continuing battle for legal equality.

Donations can be sent to: Equality Florida Legal Advocacy Project, Inc. 3708 W. Swann Ave Tampa, FL 33609-4522. For more information, please contact: Shannon Minter at (415) [REDACTED]@nclrights.org

Custody Battle...

Continued from Page 13

"It was probably after my second shot that the voice started to change and features started to change," recalled Mr. Kantaras, who today is stocky and broad shouldered and has a mustache. "I was very, very ready for it, very excited."

In 1987, Margo had her breasts, ovaries and uterus removed. Although her birth certificate listed her sex as female, her parents from that point on considered their daughter a son, they testified at the trial.

Linda Forsythe entered Michael Kantaras's life in 1988, when they began working together at an Albertson's supermarket in Florida. When Mr. Kantaras's feelings became more than platonic, he told her about the surgery. "She thought I was lying," he said.

The relationship continued, even though she was pregnant by a boyfriend who had recently left her, according to court testimony. Mr. Kantaras was in the delivery room in June of 1989 when she gave birth to a son. The couple married in a civil ceremony the next month, and Mr. Kantaras adopted the baby in September of that year.

Seeking to expand their family, Ms. Kantaras was artificially inseminated with sperm donated by her husband's brother and gave birth in 1992 to a daughter, whom Mr. Kantaras also adopted. The family lived rather uneventfully, Mr. Kantaras says, until 1998 when the couple split after he began a relationship with his current girlfriend.

Ms. Kantaras then told the children that their father was actually a woman. "Mom's position during that time was: 'The kids don't want to see Michael, they don't need Michael, Michael's not their father, period,'" said Collin Vause, Mr. Kantaras's lawyer.

Ms. Kantaras maintains that she now believes her husband, who, Mr. Vause says, has provided her more than \$65,000 in financial support since they split, is a woman. "If Michael can be male because Michael thinks he is a male, and because of some surgery, your honor, then we're headed for big trouble," Ms. Kantaras's lawyer, Claudia Wheeler, argued in the trial.

Now, it is up to the court to decide what Mr. Kantaras's role will be in the children's lives. Legal experts say Judge O'Brien could consider court decisions in Massachusetts and California that have recognized custodial or visitation rights of nonbiological parents, including transsexuals. Advocates following the Kantaras dispute say the judge's decision should be based on the children's best interest, but disagree as to what constitutes those interests.

"This is not about whether he was born a woman and later had a transition," said Tamara Lange, staff lawyer for the American Civil Liberties Union's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project in New York. "It is about who is a better parent, and there is no showing that he is a bad father."

That is not entirely the issue, says the American Family Association. "In a custody case, we feel it is best for a child to be in a situation in which there is no gender confusion," said Ed Vitaglino, a spokesman for the family values group.

For his part, Mr. Kantaras said he was not seeking to make legal history, or to see the most intimate details of his life publicly debated, when he decided to fight for parental rights. "Why go through it?" he asked. "Because if I didn't, then it would just be walking away from my children, and that is not something that I want to do. I've fought long and hard to keep them in my life."



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TRUE ACCEPTANCE OF A LONG-TIME TG EMPLOYEE BY THE EMPLOYER

When we finally start the journey onto this path of accepting who we are and who we want to become, we sometime blindly accept the hand that is dealt to us and the consequences that result. The path effects every aspect of our lives. Including work. Some of us try to keep and maintain our jobs, like I have and have accepted the, sometimes hostile atmosphere that does happened when one tells their employer that they are going from one gender to another ... and the consequences of my own action.

For the last 12 years I maintained a job as I watched the world around me change. I see junior engineers advance while I remained constant. I keep doing the same job, over and over again ... over these long years without hope of advancing or ever changing my position. I accepted this fate willingly since I needed that paycheck to pay for the events that happened in my life prior to the change.

There is one thing that does happen in life. Everything changes. I saw two years ago, the company I work for, being bought out by a much larger company. I saw personal changes above and around me occur. In the meantime I try to maintain hope ... saying ... one day I will do such and such.

I know for a fact, there are no policies in the new or old company concerning TS's but what has changed appears to be the attitudes of the new bosses around me. I was shocked in December when my new boss send me in an e-mail and tells me that I would be the lead engineer for a project that will start in January 2002. I was informed that this is a new client and it could lead to more work for the company. I was informed if I screw up this job, I would be canned but I have no intentions of messing this up.

This assignment is an advancement and the first signs of hope I've seen these past 12 years and I'm excited. It might not sound like much, but jumping from grunt to lead engineer on a project is a major move. It means I attend major meetings with clients. It means I get to even talk and work with the clients, which is a major change since prior I was told I could never, ever talk to a client for fear that the client would find out and turn future work away from the company I work for.

This new position means I'm responsible for equipment and the success of the project. It means that the door has finally opened and I going to walk through. So ... I'm doing the new assignment and I will tell you, in about one year, if I succeeded or not. In the meantime, I tell each and everyone one of you ... don't rush or do things hastily. Be patient and with time ... things do change.

April Laupe



Debutantes receive their due at Cotillion 2002

GLAAD APPLAUDS NEW ASSOCIATED PRESS STYLEBOOK GAY AND TRANSGENDER REFERENCES

As the result of an ongoing dialogue between the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) and The Associated Press, the newly released Associated Press Stylebook and Briefing on Media Law consider ed the standard for proper news reporting and terminology usage contains significant changes r elated to coverage of lesbian, gay, and transgender people.

In January of this year, representatives from GLAAD and GenderPAC, a gender rights organization, met with AP Stylebook editors and senior staff to discuss revisions in terminology for covering lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues. In the 1998 edition of the Stylebook, the definition for "sex changes" was as follows: "sex changes: Follow these guidelines in using proper names or personal pronouns when referring to them. These changes to the AP Stylebook reflect the growing respect for transgender identity, and affirm the diversity of lesbian and gay lives." to an individual who has had a sex-change operation:

- If the reference is to an action before the operation, use the proper name and sex of the individual at that time.
- If the reference is to an action after the operation, use the new proper name and sex.

For example: Dr. Richard Raskind was a first-rate amateur tennis player. He won several tournaments. Ten years later, when Dr. Renee Richards applied to play in tournaments, many women players objected on the ground that she was the former Richard Raskind, who had undergone a sex- change operation. Miss Richards said she was entitled to compete as a woman."

The 2000 Stylebook definition for "sex changes" reads: "sex changes: Use the pronoun preferred by the individuals who have acquired the physical characteristics (by hormone therapy, body modification, or surgery) of the opposite sex and present themselves in a way that does not correspond with their sex at birth. If that preference is not expressed, use the pronoun consistent with the way the individuals live publicly."

The definition for "gay" in the 1998 edition was as follows: "gay: Acceptable as popular synonym for homosexual (n. and adj.)" The new Stylebook definition for "gay" reads: "gay: Acceptable as popular synonym for both male and female homosexuals (n. and adj.), although it is generally associated with males, while lesbian is the more common term for female homosexuals. Avoid references to gay, homosexual or alternative 'lifestyle.'"

GLAAD Deputy Director for Communications Stephen Spurgeon said: "The terminology used to describe our community in the media is the foundation for fair, accurate and inclusive coverage of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people. These changes to the AP Stylebook reflect the growing respect for transgender identity, and affirm the diversity of lesbian and gay lives. We applaud The Associated Press for making these changes, and we look forward to future evolutions of terminology in the AP Stylebook."

The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) is dedicated to promoting and ensuring fair, accurate, and inclusive representation of individuals and events in all media as a means of eliminating homophobia and discrimination based on gender identity and sexual orientation.

TRANSGENDER TEEN'S KILLER PLEADS GUILTY

Ann Rostow, *Gay.com* / *PlanetOut.com* Network
Friday, February 8, 2002

Shaun Murphy, 18, pleaded guilty to second degree murder on Thursday in the death of 16-year-old Fred Martinez Jr. in Colorado last June.

According to the Associated Press, prosecutors dropped charges of first-degree murder and attempted escape in exchange for the plea. Murphy will avoid trial and face a 4- to 48-year prison term when he is sentenced May 16.

Martinez, a transgendered Native American, was found beaten to death on June 21 in a gully south of the small town of Cortez. Police quickly arrested Murphy, who had attended a party with Martinez on the fatal evening of June 16, and who allegedly later bragged to friends that he had "beat up a fag."

According to police affidavits, a friend, Clinton Sanchez, told investigators that Murphy was with him at another friend's apartment that night when he left to get some marijuana. Later, Sanchez said, Murphy returned covered in blood, explaining that he had been in a fight.

Although Murphy admitted fighting with Martinez, he claimed the fight had nothing to do with sexual orientation or gender, and insisted Martinez had been alive when the fight was over. Initially, Murphy pleaded innocent both to first- and second-degree murder and was scheduled to go to trial on the charges next month.

Although Martinez was killed by a rock blow to the head, Murphy's defense lawyer told the judge at a preliminary hearing in September that Murphy had acted in self-defense. The case drew the attention of gay rights groups, who called for the murder to be labeled a hate crime based on Murphy's alleged "fag" comment.

At the Feb. 7 hearing, the dead boy's mother Pauline Mitchell said her son's killer deserves to spend the rest of his life in jail.

"My home is so quiet without Fred," she said. "I have no one to laugh with. I just miss him so much."

GAY-RIGHTS GROUPS DRAFT GUIDE TO LAWS ON HARASSMENT

By Jessica L. Sandham

Two national groups hoping to make schools safe from harassment and discrimination against gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender students have teamed up to produce a guidebook that describes which types of state laws and policies best meet that mission.

Release of the guide comes as lawmakers in Florida and New York consider measures designed to safeguard all students against verbal and physical abuse.

The **Lambda Legal Defense** and Education Fund and the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network released *A Guide to Effective Statewide Laws/Policies: Preventing Discrimination Against LGBT Students in K-12 Schools* on Jan. 15.

The publication outlines the various legal matters the groups say legislators must consider when seeking to write statewide policies that protect all students, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity. It also describes the processes and pitfalls advocates of such policies must consider before pursuing legal protections for gay and other students.

"This isn't about the issue of sexual orientation," said M.K. Cullen, the director of public policy at the New York City-based GLSEN. "It's about whether a student can go to school without being threatened or harassed. It's an issue of equitable educational access, and that's the bottom line."

Heading Off Lawsuits

According to the guidebook, five states - California, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Vermont, and Wisconsin - have statutes that bar harassment or discrimination based on sexual orientation in their public schools.

In addition, Minnesota and New Jersey have added language to existing civil rights laws that prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation in schools, as well as other areas, such as housing and employment.

The Lambda Legal Defense Fund and GLSEN emphasize that it is important for states to provide implementation guidelines for schools after such laws are passed.

In California, for example, a task force released a report last spring that listed recommendations for how schools could put into practice a state law, passed in 2000, that prohibits harassment or discrimination against students or staff members based on their actual or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity. ("Calif. Panel Urges Safer Climate for Gay Students, Staff," April 18, 2001.)

Continued on Page 18

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Supervisor Marc Leno addressed the crowd at Cotillion 2002.

David S. Buckel, a senior staff lawyer with the New York City-based Lambda organization, said that by putting in place statutes that name gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender students as a group protected against harassment and discrimination in schools, states also could help reduce the number of lawsuits brought against school districts by students who are mistreated.

For example, in a landmark case settled in 1996, the Ashland, Wis., district agreed to pay more than \$900,000 to settle a suit brought by Lambda on behalf of Jaime Nabozny, a gay former student who said that administrators had failed to respond to his frequent complaints of verbal and physical abuse based on his sexual orientation.

Since then, Mr. Buckel said, "there's been an explosion of lawsuits cropping up around the country."

Just this month, the Titusville Area School District in Pennsylvania agreed to pay \$312,000 to settle a case brought by a former student who said that school officials had allowed name-calling, hitting, and taunting directed at him to go unchecked.

"The problem with lawsuits is that it means that some child has been terribly, terribly hurt," Mr. Buckel said. "These laws can help slow this down and hopefully stop it."

New York lawmakers are expected to take up the issue in the coming weeks. The proposed Dignity for All Students Act, which was introduced last week, would require that all schools provide students with an environment free of discrimination or harassment based on actual or perceived race, color, national origin, ethnic group, religious practice, disability, or sex, as well as sexual orientation and gender identity.

"We worked diligently over the past year to make sure this wasn't just a 'gay' bill," said Stephen B. Kaufman, the chief of staff for Assemblyman Steven Sanders, a Democrat and the sponsor of the bill in the lower chamber. "It addresses a myriad of problems in school settings. The protections it affords are probably needed in every state."

Mr. Kaufman said that the measure would likely be approved in the Assembly, which has a Democratic majority, but that its supporters were still looking for a co-sponsor from the Senate's Republican majority.

Meanwhile, some Florida legislators are pursuing a similar measure. Rep. Kenneth Allan Gottlieb, a Democrat, is the House sponsor of a bill that is also called the Dignity for All Students Act, which has yet to be heard in committee.

"I don't want anyone to be discriminated against or harassed," Mr. Gottlieb said. "This would require school districts to put policies in place and then train teachers so that we can better handle problems before they become tragic."

A Guide to Effective Statewide Laws/Policies: Preventing Discrimination Against LGBT Students in K-12 Schools is available at http://www.glsen.org/binary-data/GLSEN_ARTICLES/pdf_file/1133.pdf (Requires Adobe's Acrobat Reader.)

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