

THE CENTER NEWS

THE GAY & LESBIAN COMMUNITY SERVICES CENTER

Vol. IX, No. 1

Spring 1990

a publication of the Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center

Supreme Court Decision Focus of New Play

"To Be Let Alone," a play which examines the 1986 Supreme Court Decision upholding Georgia's sodomy law, will premiere on March 16 at the Burbage Theatre in West Los Angeles. Proceeds from the sale of tickets from this performance will benefit The Center.

Stunned by the Court's decision, author Charles Larson, attorney and Center Board member, says the *Bowers vs. Hardwick* case motivated him to become more involved in gay rights issues. "I was naive at the time," Larson explains. "I was appalled at the lengths to which the Court went to distort the issues into one of homosexuality."

In the course of the play, Larson develops the premise whereby five Supreme Court Justices are kidnapped and put on trial for their decision in the Hardwick matter.

Tickets for the opening performance on March 16 are \$35 each and can be reserved by calling The Center's administrative office, (213) 464-7400 x.251. ▼

Please join us at The Center's Annual Open House
for Elected Officials, Donors and Community Friends

Wednesday, March 14, 1990
6-7:30 p.m.

RSVP 213/464-7400, 464-0029 (TDD)

ASL Interpretation Provided

The Gay And Lesbian Community Services Center

1213 N. Highland Ave., Hollywood

Christopher Street West and GLCSC Co-sponsor Retreat

Over fifty leaders of the Los Angeles gay and lesbian community participated in a pioneering retreat in January that many called a "transformational" first step toward building a more unified and powerful movement. The three-day conference centered on healing past relationships, sharing visions for the future and celebrating our rich cultural diversity. Of major importance was work begun to outline a "Community Ethic" to guide a better working relationship among members of our co-sexual, multi-cultural and politically diverse movement. ▼



AIDS Information Directory Nears Goal

Foundation for Educational Research Board of Governors member Alan Donius (left) presents \$5,000 check for the AIDS Information Directory Fund to Center Board Co-Chair Karen Siteman (center) and Director of Development Jeff McElroy. ▼

Youth Department Receives Grant for Computers

Youth Services has received a very generous grant of \$17,500 from the Alexander Family Foundation to help finance computerization of Youth Department Case Management and resources. The total project will cost about \$40,000 and the department currently seeks the additional funds to move forward.

Special thanks go to Center employee Buzz Young who was instrumental in securing this much needed grant for Youth Services. ▼

The Center News

Spring 1990: Volume IX Number 1

Editor: Karen Aitchison

Writers: Torie Osborn, Jeff McElroy, and Karen Aitchison

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Design, Typesetting, Production: Sue Maberry

Printing: Barbara's Place, 654-5902

Mailing: Service Mailers

The Center News is a quarterly publication of The Los Angeles Gay & Lesbian Community Services Center, 1213 N. Highland Ave., Hollywood, CA 90038. 213/464-7400, 464-0029 TDD. The Center is strengthened by your financial contributions which may be sent to the above address.

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The Center Phone Directory

Main Office. 1213 N. Highland Ave., 213/464-7400 (voice), 464-0029 (TDD)

Accounting.....	x242
Addiction Recovery.....	x261
Administration.....	x251
Computerized AIDS Information Network.....	x277
Counseling.....	x257
Health Services.....	x267
Information & Referral	x221
Legal Services.....	x201
Lesbian Central.....	x205
Women's Health Resources.....	213/461-5674
Youth Services.....	x434

Addiction Recovery, 6020 1/2 Woodman Ave., Van Nuys..... 818/780-9973

Vocational Services, 3407 W. 6th St.....213/383-2488 or 464-7400 x243

West Hollywood Office` .8512 Santa Monica Blvd.

Computerized AIDS Information Network..... 464-7400 x277, 854-3006

Education Department:

West Hollywood CARES..... 659-4840

University of Gay & Lesbian Achievers (UGLA)..... 281-9835

STOP AIDS/Los Angeles..... 659-4778, 659-4779 (TDD)

Health Services:

AIDS/STD Intervention Project..... 464-7400x277, 854-1853

FAX:

Main Office..... 213/463-1702

CAIN Office..... 213/854-6708

Modem Users: You can access GLCSC through your PC modem on Delphi network. Center's user name -LAGLCSC.

From the Executive Director

-Torie Osborn

Welcome to the Gay 90's! I am convinced that, despite the continuing horrors of HIV and homophobia, this decade will truly be at last our decade. I trust my instincts after twenty-plus years of organizing and advocacy, and I deeply sense the vitality of a gay and lesbian movement finally come into its own, a movement in full bloom projecting powerfully and inexorably forward in our collective struggle to take our rightful place in the world at large.

Ironically, we as a people have never been so painfully aware of life's fragility, yet at the same time so strongly in touch with the potency of our community's life force -- of gay men's and lesbians' commitment to life and to the continuation of our unique culture -- a wonderfully feisty, campy, compassionate and courageous one.

And there is a new generation of young lesbians and gay men coming up, with far more sense of self-confidence and even greater potential for self-expression and success than we have, but yearning for mentoring and role-modelling, for a sense of connectedness to their older "sisters and brothers." We have the unprecedented opportunity to pass on to them the torch that will help light the future for them, and for others to come. I see this as not only an exciting and rare opportunity, but a responsibility to our community, a gay and lesbian "community service" to our extended community family. As lesbian writer Marcy Adelman puts it: "We are at once, generation to generation, each other's future and past."

In this spirit of looking forward to the promise of the gay 90's, I invite all of you to GLCSC's Annual Open House, to be held March 14, 1990 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. As well as providing an opportunity for donors, elected officials, volunteers, staff and community members to mingle, this year's event will feature a special memorial tribute to Sheldon Andelson, and the public launching of an exciting new project for the 1990's.

"Sundays at The Center: Building Lesbian and Gay Leadership Present and Future" will be a dynamic series of Sunday afternoon panels, debates, teach-ins, town hall meetings, and lectures designed to mobilize the rich diversity of gay and lesbian leaders in all fields -- business, the arts, community service, politics -- to pass on to others their stories of success, of courage, of coming out. Some programs will simply present one or more talented individuals telling their personal and professional tales; other programs will tackle topics as diverse as "The Gay Experience in Hollywood," "Lesbians and Feminism in the 1990's," "Is There a Gay Aesthetic?" and many more. Some sessions will focus on currents special to people of color and lesbians; overall, the programming will seek to be as diverse as our community.

The time is ripe for creating this new channel for role modelling, leadership training and development, and articulating and passing on our vital community culture. How many of us wish we had had the public opportunity to learn from the extraordinary lives of Sheldon Andelson, of Chris Brownlie, of Pat Parker?

I urge you to come to The Center on Wednesday, March 14, to hear more about this project. And keep your eyes open for ads in the gay and lesbian press as the programs become finalized over the coming months. Please drop me a line if you have an idea for an issue we should address, or a resource person in our community whose story should be told in this upcoming series. For information, call (213) 464-7400, extension 251. □



La Fabula Hosts Business Donors

La Fabula will be the location for the regular lunch-time gathering of the Center's Business Donors on March 7, 1990 at noon. This popular West Hollywood Mexican food restaurant is owned by Center Business Donor Peter Kallen. Held every two or three months, this social event provides an opportunity for businesses in the community who support the Center to network among themselves and to come to know each other in a social setting.

Business Donors make an annual pledge to the Center of \$1800 or more. Pledge payments can be made monthly, quarterly or in a lump sum. Donors are listed quarterly in this publication and the community press. This month Business Donors received distinctive decals to display at their place of business. The community is urged to support businesses displaying these decals.

The Business Donor Campaign was begun two years ago by Board Member Michael Epstein and about twenty Center supporters with a goal of raising \$100,000. Since then the group has grown to ninety members who collectively pledged over \$150,000 last fiscal year.

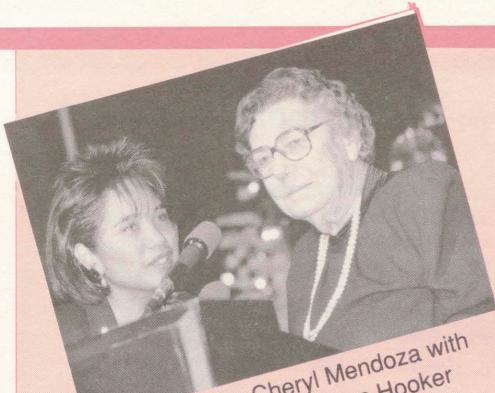
Cost for the lunch is \$12, which includes tip and soft drink. Those planning to attend should contact the Center's Development Office at (213) 464-7400 extension 254 by March 4. La Fabula is located at 7953 Santa Monica Blvd., West Hollywood. ▼

Watch for the Date!

Annual Summer Lawn Party

Volunteers are sought to help stage this year's event.

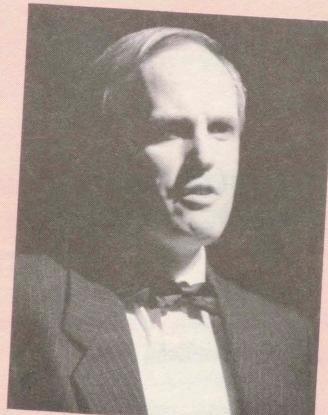
For more information, contact Jeff McElroy
213/464-7400 x251



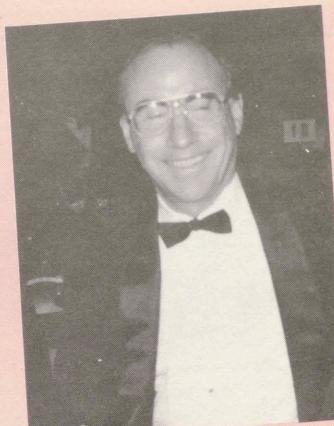
Deputy Director Cheryl Mendoza with
Dinner Honoree Dr. Evelyn Hooker



Torie Osborn and Dennis Odums
celebrate the start of the Gay 90's.



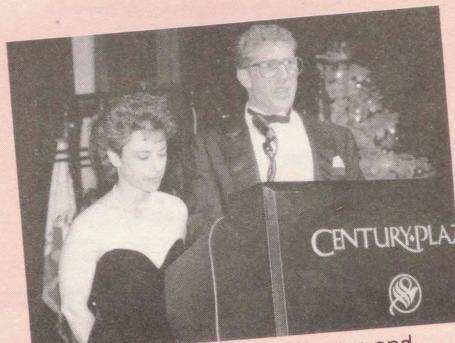
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Board Co-Chairs Karen Siteman and
Mason A. Sommers, Ph.D.

Photos: Kent Garvey

Center Dinner Spotlights Gay 90's

Nearly a thousand Center supporters gathered at the Los Angeles Ball Room of the Century Plaza Hotel to honor the Center's 18th birthday this past December and celebrate the arrival of the "Gay 90's."

The festive New Year's theme provided an electric setting for dancing and a fast paced program. Highlights of the evening included the presentation of awards to Dr. Evelyn Hooker and Martin Delaney. Executive Director Torie Osborn dazzled the audience with a rousing speech outlining a bold and exciting agenda for the lesbian and gay community in the 1990's.

This year's dinner was chaired by Board member Eric Shore who was assisted by Board members Michael Epstein, Dennis Odums and Mason A. Sommers. The dinner was coordinated by Events Unlimited with the assistance of JOVI productions. ▼

GLCSC Business Circle - GLCSC Wishes to Thank the Members for Their Support.

▼ Michael Epstein, Chair

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Publisher Sandy Dwyer

Community Rallies Around *THE NEWS*

News that Sandy Dwyer's *THE NEWS* had ceased publication due to funding problems generated an immediate response from community leaders and businesses who joined together to raise \$50,000 to get the paper going again. The paper will resume publication on March 9.

An award-winning newspaper of 15,000 circulation, *THE NEWS* could easily become L.A.'s largest circulation gay and lesbian publication with more consistent advertising support.

For more information regarding an upcoming Celebration Party on March 9 or to join the Save *THE NEWS* Campaign, please call Tony at (213) 464-7400 x249. ▼



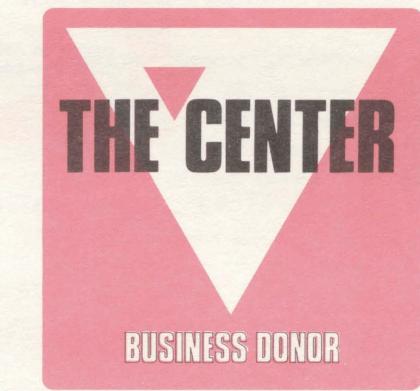
The Men's Exchange held their yearly training earlier this year for new and veteran facilitators. The Exchange holds drop-in rap groups every Monday and Wednesday evening at the Main Center from 8:00 pm to 10:00 pm, as well as special closed topic groups.

The Men's Exchange is a program of the Education Department and has existed since the inception of The Center 18 years ago. For more information please call (213) 281-9835 (24 hours). ▼

Business Donor Decals Unveiled

Business Donors are now able to display their support of The Center proudly with new decals unveiled at the December Business Donor lunch at La Fabula in West Hollywood. The pink and white insignia is designed to be displayed next to cash registers and in store windows. Center supporters are encouraged to patronize stores that support The Center. Be sure and thank the business owner and let them know that you are a friend of The Center too!

Any business owner interested in becoming a Business Donor should contact The Center's Development office at (213) 464-7400 x254. ▼



Center Co-sponsors March 9 Women's Day Event

Politics, passion and feminist insight ignite an extraordinary celebration of International Women's Day to be held on Friday, March 9 at the Woman's Building.

Co-sponsored by The Center and the Woman's Building, the event will feature singer Jamie Anderson, Latina feminist comedienne Monica Palacios and New York comedienne Beth Lapides who will perform her critically acclaimed "Globe-O-Mania." Tickets to the event are \$8-\$10 and may be reserved by calling 213/221-6161. ▼



Center Bids Farewell to Counseling Director Lynn Warshafsky

After five and a half years directing The Center's Counseling Services Program, Lynn Warshafsky has left to pursue other professional interests.

Under Ms. Warshafsky's astute management, Counseling Services has grown dramatically over the past five years and now offers a broad range of services, including ACCESS counseling for HIV affected people, training and research in gay and lesbian domestic violence, and therapy groups for Latina and African-American lesbians.

Lynn gives credit for the program's success to the staff and volunteers, noting "I've had the good fortune to work with highly competent and dedicated volunteers and staff." Her commitment to quality care for our community has inspired her colleagues and influenced Center programming for a number of years. Good luck, Lynn. We will miss you. ▼



June Swoon

Save the Date

Sunday, June 10
3-6 p.m.

Annual Fundraiser for Women's Services

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LESBIAN WRITERS SERIES March 17: Kitty Tsui. Willyce Kim. April 20: Susie Bright. April 21: Terry Wolverton. Teresita Bosch. Karen Sterling.

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Center Donors To Be Honored

The Center's Major and Golden Donors are the guests of honor at a reception on March 4, at the home of Paul Diener in Beverly Hills. Diener, a long-time Center supporter and Golden Donor, is the owner of the Athletic Club in West Hollywood.

Golden Donors will also enjoy a reception at the home of Roy Sklarin and Michael Stray on April 22. Well known personality Big Ed will entertain the group with his wit and singing. Sklarin is owner of International Interiors Inc.

Golden Donors and other key supporters were invited to a breakfast with Center Executive Director Torie Osborn on January 31, 1990 at The Center.

Golden Donors each provide a contribution to the Center of \$6,000 or more annually. Major Donors make an annual contribution of \$1200 or more. Payments can be made monthly, quarterly or annually. Anyone interested in becoming a Major or Golden Donor should contact the Center's Development Office at (213) 464-7400 x254. ▼

STOP AIDS Project Faces High Risk Behavior Relapse Concerns

Responding to data gained from recent research indicating that 76% of a sample of educated, urban, gay white and latino males "at least rarely" engaged in behaviors considered to be a high risk for transmitting HIV, Dr. Marty McCombs of our Stop AIDS project has designed a workshop to address high risk sex relapse behavior.

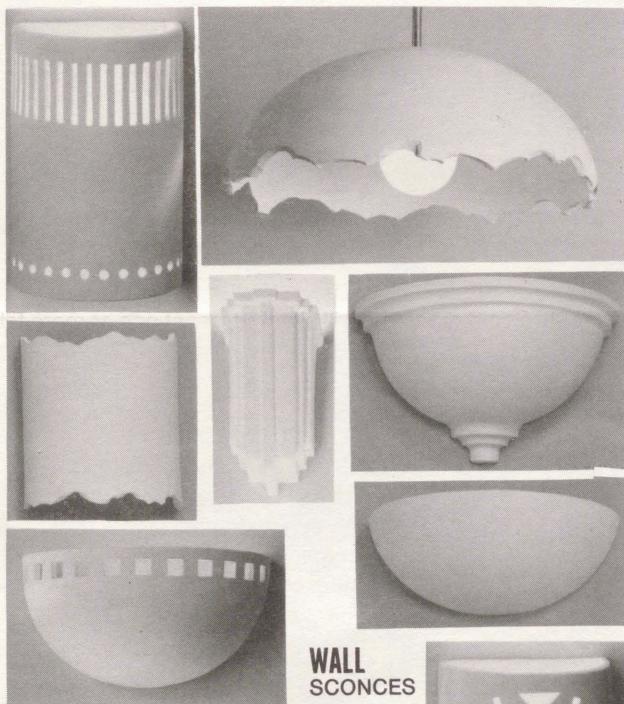
This relapse behavior "is especially alarming in this population," says Dr. McCombs, "because, with the exception of the latino populations represented in the study, the urban, gay, white males were supposed to be the people with whom AIDS education had been most effective."

McCombs' "Keep It Up" workshop will address issues of coping styles, personal support, isolation and community, self-esteem, grief, sexuality, homophobia, eroticism and sensuality. "It's innovative and delightfully ironic," notes Dr. McCombs, "that by making gay men

happier homosexuals, better networked in gay-affirming environments, and therefore less isolated, we increase the likelihood their lives will better tolerate the general overwhelm the HIV epidemic prompts." So far, the workshop has been piloted in San Francisco, Sacramento and Los Angeles with very positive feedback.

"We don't know all the reasons gay men who changed their behavior slip every now and then," adds McCombs, "but safe sex is *not* like a diet regime where an occasional stolen calorie is harmless. Even one exposure through high risk behavior can be life-threatening, and of course we must understand how best to keep that from happening."

Further information about workshop schedules in the future may be obtained by calling the Stop AIDS office at (213) 659-4778. ▼



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GLCSC Happenings

The following groups meet at The Center regularly. This list is subject to change. For further information about these events, please call the number given at the end of each listing.

Alcoholics Anonymous/Alcoholics Together
Mondays, 12-1 p.m. Room 117 (Women only) (213) 387-8316
Tuesday, 12:30-2p.m. Room 203, (213) 387-8316
Thursdays, 12:30-2p.m. Room 203, (213) 387-8316
Fridays, 8-10p.m. Room 117, (213) 387-8316

Battered Lesbian Support Group
Closed Group, (213) 464-7400 x257

Black & White Men Together
Saturdays, 7:15-10 p.m. Room 203/207, (213) 664-4716

Black Lesbian Therapy Group
Closed Group, (213) 464-7400 x257

Emotional Health Anonymous
Wednesdays, 6:30-8 p.m. Room 203, (213) 931-7826

Gay and Lesbian Latinos Unidos
2nd Thursday, 7-10 p.m. Room 203, (213) 665-2196

Gay and Lesbian Parents of Los Angeles
Wednesdays, 8-10 p.m. Room 117, (213) 654-0307

Gender Awareness League
Wednesdays, 8-10 p.m. Room 207
Elizabeth Anne Wescott, (805) 254-2818

HIV Couples Group
Closed Group, (213) 464-7400 x247

HIV Intake/Support Groups
Saturdays, 10 a.m.-noon, (213) 464-7400 x257

Lesbian Singles Rap
Thursdays, 8-10 p.m. Room 117, (213) 659-4739

Men's Exchange
Mondays & Wednesdays, 8-10 p.m. (213) 659-4739

Overeaters Anonymous
Tuesdays, 6:30-8 p.m. Room 203, (213) 657-6252
Thursdays, 6:30-8p.m. Room 117, (213) 657-6252
Saturdays, 6:30-8 p.m. Room 117, (213) 657-6252

Police Advisory Task Force
1st Thursday, 7-10 p.m. Room 203, (213) 467-4141

Seniors Brown Bag Lunch: Project Rainbow
Wednesday, noon-2 p.m. Room 203, (213) 621-3180

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous
Tuesdays, 8-10 p.m. Room 203
Saturdays, noon-2 p.m. Room 203
Saturdays, 8:30-10 p.m. Room 117, (213) 859-5585

Significant Others Support Group
(Friends, families and lovers of people who test HIV+)
Tuesdays, 6:30-8 p.m. Room 117

STOP AIDS/Los Angeles
Many meetings each week.
(213) 659-4778 (VOICE), 659-4779(TDD)

Young Men's Rap
Fridays, 8-10 p.m. Room 203, x248

Young Women's Rap (Genesis)
Fridays, 7-8:30 p.m. Room 207, x248

Report Anti-Gay and Anti-Lesbian Violence
(213) 464-7400 x201 (VOICE),
(213) 464-0029 (TDD)
M-F 10a.m.-6p.m.

Community Calendar

The Community Calendar lists major events sponsored by gay/lesbian organizations and is coordinated by The Center's administrative office. For a copy of the 1990 calendar - or to add a major community-wide event to the calendar - write **Community Calendar**, 1213 N. Highland Ave., L.A. 90038 or call 464-7400 x251

MARCH

Friday 2

"Somos Humanos/We are Human" by Oscar Reconco and produced by Teatro VIVA! Friday and Saturday performances through 3/30/90. Tickets \$12.50. For information, call 714/829-1974.

Wednesday 7

The Center's Business Donor Lunch at La Fabula Restaurant, 7953 Santa Monica Blvd, West Hollywood. Cost \$12. For reservations and information call Virginia at (213) 464-7400 x228.

Friday 9

Center Co-Sponsors **Celebration of International Women's Day** at the Woman's Building. Entertainers include Jamie Anderson, Beth Lapidus, Monica Palacios. Tickets:\$8-\$10. Reservations: (213) 221-6161.

Tuesday 13

The Los Angeles Lesbian and Gay Alcoholism Task Force honors Jewel Williams and Michael Niemeyer as Woman and Man of the Year. The informal breakfast celebration will be held at APLA at 9:00 a.m. Tickets are \$10. For more information call (213) 464-7400 x261

Wednesday 14

The Center's **Annual Open House** will include a tribute to Sheldon Andelson. For more information contact Tony Cheek at (213) 464-7400 x249.

Friday 16

Play premiere to benefit Center: **"To Be Let Alone"**, written by Board member Charles Larson. Tickets \$35. For information call (213) 464-7400 x251

Saturday 17

Southern California Women for Understanding Lesbian Rights Award Banquet at Sheraton Universal Hotel. Honorees include Karen Thompson and GLCSC Executive Director Torie Osborn. \$85--reservations (213) 657-1115.

Sunday 25

STOP AIDS DAY. For more information call STOP AIDS L.A. at (213) 659-4776.

APRIL

Saturday 7 and Sunday 8

Gay Men's Chorus of Los Angeles presents "With A Mighty Voice". \$15 in advance, \$17.50 at the door. For more information contact Jim Bailey, Artistic Director, at (213) 462-5284.

Sunday 15

Unity Fellowship Church sponsors an **Easter Dinner** at 3pm. For more information contact Terry Stewart, at (213) 757-9714.

Sunday 22

Annual Women's Open House at GLCSC. For information call Marian at 213/464-7400 x251.

Sunday 22

AIDS Project Los Angeles presents its annual DANCE-A-THON. For more information contact APLA at (213) 962-1600.

MAY

Saturday 5

MECLA's 5th Anniversary Dinner at the Filmland Complex in Culver City. Features guest speaker Congresswoman Patricia Schroeder. Tickets are \$250. For more information contact Events Unlimited at (213) 658-5765.

Saturday 19

Los Angeles Women's Community Chorus will perform at Robert Frost Auditorium in Culver City at 8 p.m. For more information contact Pat (213) 558-4229.

JUNE

Sunday 10

The Center's **Women's Campaign** annual "JUNE SWOON". For more information contact Nancy Angelo at (213) 464-7400 x251.

Saturday 23

Christopher Street West sponsors GAY AND LESBIAN PRIDE WEEKEND. This year's theme is "Look to the Future". The festival will be held in West Hollywood Park on Saturday and Sunday. The parade is scheduled for Sunday at Noon.