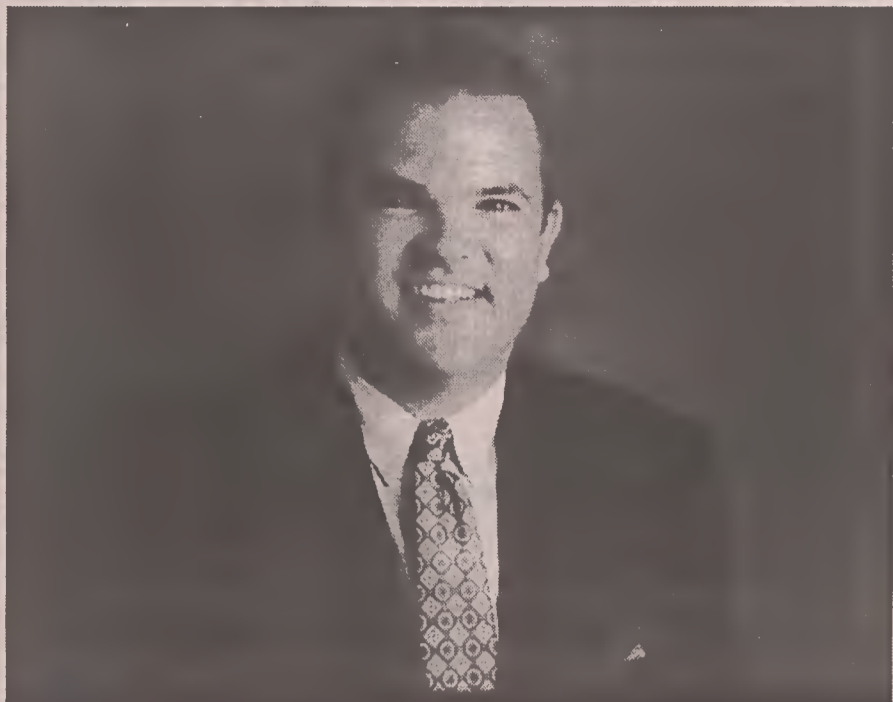


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qfyi

Compiled by Dan Van Mourik
Q-Notes Staff

OutMedia, the video/media program of OutCharlotte, plans to produce three half hour programs in 1999 that will air on public access cable TV. The programs will be aired in March/April around leadership issues in Charlotte's GLBT community, in June around Pride, and in September around OutCharlotte 99. The 1999 OutMedia Project Team is again being helmed by Curtis McLeod and Pam Pompey. They are currently recruiting new members for the project team. The team will start meeting on January 16. If you have any interest in the project, contact OutCharlotte at (704) 563-2699 or at director@outcharlotte.org.

The American Dance Festival (ADF) will hold auditions for Young Artists Tuition Scholarships at ten sites across the country for students interested in attending the ADF Six Week School from June 10 to July 24 at Duke University in Durham, NC. The only site in our area is on April 18 at 2:30pm at The Ark, Duke University East Campus, Durham. Full and partial scholarships will be awarded for tuition only. The audition consists of an hour-long technique class and a solo by each student no longer than one-and-a-half minutes in length. An application and the \$30 application fee must be submitted to the ADF office before the audition date. For an ADF School catalog, an application or more information, call (919) 684-6402, email school@AmericanDanceFestival.org or visit their web site at www.AmericanDanceFestival.org.

The 12th annual National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Conference and Institutes will be held in Atlanta, GA February 11-14. The conference will feature workshops and sessions on building organizational capacity, promoting community growth, promoting sound health practices and exploring the black gay literary tradition. The deadline for registration and reservations for the host hotel, the Westin Atlanta North, is January 21. For more information, call (202) 483-6786 or email ForumConf@aol.com.

The family of Matthew Shepard has formed a foundation in the name of the slain University of Wyoming student to help people "embrace and rejoice in diversity." Shepard, 21, was beaten, tied to a fence and left to die after leaving a Laramie bar with his accused assailants. Shepard, who was gay, died of his injuries several days later. His beating and death brought an outpouring of offers of financial help to his

Letters

Continued from page 6
time. An organization of gay men to which I belong has a large number of very frightened, closeted members. Although I feel strongly that no one has the right to force another out of the closet, I feel pain for these people who rightly or falsely believe they must hide their identity.
— Ronald Tharp, Boone, NC

Gay, lesbian, bicameral

Fair is fair. Instead of sliding into one-sided

family and a memorial fund was established. Judy Shepard, his mother, said in a statement that "the energy and resources of the Matthew Shepard Foundation, in conjunction with the Matthew Shepard Memorial Fund, will be devoted to public awareness and education programs to ensure that what Matt lived for and believed in will help others believe as well." Donations to the foundation can be made through the First National Bank of Wyoming, 2020 Grand Ave., Laramie, WY 82070.

The National Gay Pilots Association - Education Fund will again be awarding scholarships to gays and lesbians seeking a career as a pilot. Deadline for the next round is April 30, 1999. Application forms and additional information can be obtained by writing NGPA-EF, PO Box 2010-324, South Burlington, VT 05407-2010; calling (703) 660-3852 or visiting their web site at www.ngpa.org. NGPA recently awarded two \$2,000 scholarships. The first recipient was Paul R. (Randy) Hill of San Jose, CA who was already a private pilot and will begin advanced flight training at a flight school in Oakland, CA. The second recipient was Christoph Philipp of West Hollywood, CA. Philipp also holds a private pilot certificate and is currently completing training for commercial and instrument pilot certificates.

PrideFest America, the nation's most comprehensive celebration of the gay and lesbian community, will be held April 26 - May 2 in Philadelphia, PA. More than 70 events will be presented, encompassing the arts, athletics, religion, civil rights, professional, political, educational and health care issues. All of the top national GLBT organizations are planning to participate. For more information, call 1-800-990-3378; email info@pridefest.org or visit their web site at www.pridefest.org.

Family Celebrations is a new lesbian-owned business which offers a wedding and special occasion catalog for the GLBT community. The product line is specifically designed for same-gender couples. Some of the items included are ceremony and reception items; invitations and stationery, gifts for children and their parents; handcrafted ceramics; items to enhance your home; clothing and sportswear. To request a catalog, call 1-888-335-5998 (toll free); email info@familycelebrations.com or visit their web site at www.familycelebrations.com which features an "Our Family" all-occasion gift registry.

Have you heard

Eli Branscome is the new HIV/AIDS educator for the gay community at Metrolina AIDS Project in Charlotte. ▼

parliamentary democracy in which Congress can impeach the president, perhaps we need full two-sided parliamentary democracy in which a president can also dissolve Congress. This would be a countervailing power that would make congresspeople think twice before bringing down a government and also allow the will of the people to be felt in a more timely fashion.

Perhaps the entire House of Representatives should follow Rep. Livingston's example: resign and have new elections in their districts. ▼

— Jim Senyszyn
Charlotte

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