

news notes

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Q-Notes Staff

Carolinas

THP director elected to board

GREENSBORO, NC—Sam Parker, executive director of Triad Health Project (THP), has been elected to the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers. Parker will serve the organization as treasurer-elect during the coming year. THP is Guilford County's leading AIDS service organization.

National

Church cancels all weddings

HOUSTON, TX—Bering Memorial United Methodist Church is a "reconciling congregation." Among Methodists, that means a church that works to include everyone, whether gay or straight. Because the United Methodist Church prohibits clergy from officiating at same-sex union ceremonies, the church and its pastor, the Rev. Marilyn Meeker-Williams, have banned all weddings — gay and straight.

Gay bank set for net

PENSACOLA, FL—The federal govern-

ment has issued a federal banking charter to G&L Bank, an Internet bank created to meet the special and routine banking needs of gays and lesbians. G&L Internet Bank will provide "banking for any lifestyle" and operate solely on the Internet. The bank will provide a full array of consumer and business banking products. G&L will allow customers to open accounts online instantly and approve online credit applications within seconds. G&L will commence operations on National Coming Out Day, October 11, and is located at www.glbank.com.

Drag dance

SOUTH BRUNSWICK, NJ—A first-grade, married teacher was dressed in drag when township officers arrested him for asking two security guards and a truck driver if he could "dance for them," police said. Allan S. Tepperman, 39, told police he had done this several times before and asked for leniency because he was "three days from getting tenure" as a teacher. Both security guards and the truck driver said Tepperman had not threatened them in any way but seemed determined to dance, police said. Tepperman was charged with disorderly conduct and harassment.

GOP endorses gay ban

SALEM, OR—Republican Party leaders have quietly endorsed a proposed anti-gay ballot initiative despite some members' concerns

that the party will now be associated with the prominent anti-gay rights group that proposed the measure. The initiative is one of two that the Oregon Citizens Alliance is proposing for the 2000 ballot. It would prohibit public school instructors from "encouraging, promoting or sanctioning" homosexuality. The Republican state central committee supported the measure during a meeting that was off-limits to media coverage.

Suspect gets life

AUSTIN, TX—A Travis County jury found David Dunkin Ludwick guilty of capital murder in the January 1998 death of John Davis Cavness Jr., a gay man who was robbed, beaten and had his throat slashed in his Austin home. Since prosecutors did not seek the death penalty, Ludwick, 25, was automatically sentenced to life in prison. He must serve 40 years before being eligible for parole. Ludwick is the first of three men charged with capital murder in the slaying. The other two defendants, Christopher Kotaska and Ryan Hanson, still face trial.

Airlines lose

SAN FRANCISCO, CA—US District Judge Claudia Wilkin has ruled that airlines must begin offering certain domestic-partner benefits to unmarried employees. Wilkin ruled that United Airlines, Federal Express and several other airlines had failed to show that nonhealth benefits — such as fare discounts,

bereavement and family medical leave — would hurt their bottom line or employee morale. United has since appealed the ruling. In 1997, San Francisco became the first city in the nation to require companies doing business in the city to offer benefits to gay and lesbian couples — just as they would for married couples. Five members of Equal Benefits Advocates wearing Tinky Winky costumes were arrested for closing United Airlines' downtown ticket office to protest United's decision to appeal. The Tinky Winkys blocked the entrance to the office for a half-hour during the office's busiest period.

Booklet will help

WASHINGTON, DC—The US Office of Personnel Management (OPM) released a 13-page booklet aimed at helping federal employees who believe they are victims of sexual orientation discrimination at work. The booklet, "Addressing Sexual Orientation Discrimination in Federal Civilian Employment: A Guide to Employees' Rights," will help OPM enforce President Clinton's executive order prohibiting sexual orientation discrimination in the federal workforce. OPM has been accused of failing to take adequate steps to fully enforce the order.

Case dropped

SACRAMENTO, CA—A judge dismissed the case against a gay journalist accused of using the Internet to solicit sex from a teenager. The journalist had argued that he was merely doing research for a story. On the second day of Bruce Mirken's trial, Judge Rudolph R. Loncke dismissed the charge that Mirken attempted to perform a lewd and lascivious act on a child. The judge agreed with the defense that there was insufficient evidence against Mirken, 42. Police started investigating Mirken after he answered an electronic message they posted in a chat room, posing as a boy named Anthony. Anthony's message said he was looking for an adult friend. Mirken was arrested last July in a Sacramento park where he went to meet who he thought would be the 13-year-old. He was instead met by an undercover police officer taking part in a sting operation.

Students win

MANCHESTER, NH—A group of high school students who were initially barred from forming a gay afterschool club filed a lawsuit in federal court against the city school system, saying officials violated their rights when they were denied. In March, the students were told to submit a formal proposal and explain the club's purpose. A week later, officials rejected their request, telling the group to ask the city school board. No other student group had ever needed prior school board approval. The students' attorney said school officials violated the federal Equal Access Act which bans discrimination against any student group based on what's discussed at their meetings. And the school board agreed. The board conceded that federal law requires it to allow formation of the Gay Straight Alliance and authorized principal Robert Baines to approve it.

Scouts get rent hike

SAN LUIS OBISPO, CA—A politically charged compromise allowing the Boy Scouts to lease its city-owned office long enough to build a new one was unanimously approved by
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The Back Door

The Best Entertainment At the Beach!

All New Schedule Beginning in August

MONDAYS

**Ladies Night — Party with Julie! Yes, she's back!
Drink & Shot Specials along with female dancers**

TUESDAYS

To Be Announced

WEDNESDAYS

**Local & Service Industry Appreciation Night
Watch for all kinds of specials**

THURSDAYS

**The only Place to be on the Grand Strand; featuring our
exciting show cast. Also, dance to '80s music with DJ David
Riddle. Come see why the Back Door is
the place to be on Thursdays!**

FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS

Features some cast members and MALE DANCERS!

SUNDAYS

Macy Alexander Hosts Surprise Sundays. NO COVER!

The Back Door features national entertainment

Thursdays - Sundays at 12:30pm

July 30 & 31 - Victoria Parker

Aug. 5 & 6 - Cass Westbrook

Aug. 12 - International Male

Aug. 13 & 14 - Ashley O'Neil

Aug. 20 & 21 - Brooklyn Dior & Tiffany Storm

Huge Summer Blowout - 2 Big Weekends

Sept. 3 & 4 - Jeana Jones & Denise Russell

both former Miss US-A At Large title holders

Sept. 10 & 11 - From Charleston, WV - Viki Williams

**Watch for details on the
Miss Back Door Pageant coming in October
\$500 Prize Package**

Watch for details on
Go Go Boys & Girls
in the Dance Bar

**Kitchen Open
Wed. - Sun.**

**Dance Bar
New Open**

OPEN 7 DAYS A WEEK

The Back Door

2891 Tourism Drive (17 Business)

Garden City, SC

(843) 357-6941

Last Saturday each
month - Theme Night
Aug. 28 - Studio 54

Under New
Management
The Friendly Staff

I Buy Homes!

Can Pay Cash



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