



WOMEN'S PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL LEAGUES GO FOR THE SUP-HER BOWL



SHAME. SHAME. SHAME. ON THE UNITED STATES FOR NOT DOING ENOUGH TO STOP WORLD AIDS.



Q & CULTURE SECOND SECTION

INSIDE



Senator Diane Feinstein

6

action!alert

OPPOSE federal marriage ammendment

action!alert

SUPPORT domestic partner benefits

3

Durham murders still a mystery

13



San Francisco Fog seized the day at the first Bingham Rugby Cup

21

Women's lower status contributes to HIV/AIDS

22

"I'm Coming Out" on MTV

29

South Carolina

27

Q-POLL

www.q-notes.com

Do you vote in primary elections?

- Always
- Only presidential primaries
- Never

Q-POLL RESULTS: 31

Crape Myrtle Festival — amazing good for 22 years

Celebrating life and diversity for its 22nd year, this Raleigh non-profit raises funds and promotes awareness for persons living with AIDS/HIV and the local GLBT community

RALEIGH — The Crape Myrtle Festival (CMF), a Raleigh-based non-profit organization supporting persons living with AIDS/HIV and the local gay and lesbian community, will hold its annual Grand Gala on July 27 at the Raleigh Convention Center. This year, five panels from the AIDS Quilt will be on display, and this will be the organization's 22nd year of raising funds and promoting awareness. The event will be sponsored by GlaxoSmithKline and US Airways.

The Crape Myrtle Festival began in 1981 as a small backyard get-together in Chapel Hill, NC. Twelve years ago, it broadened its focus to respond to the HIV/AIDS health crisis. The Crape Myrtle Festival was at that time incorporated as a

501(c)(3) organization and has since become one of North Carolina's premier all-volunteer fundraising non-profits. CMF's mission is to provide financial assistance, outreach and education to identified needs within the local gay and lesbian community.

Since its inception in 1981, CMF has raised over \$850,000 for local service agencies through sponsored events as well as private and corporate donations from Fortune 500 companies. In 2001, the organization raised \$137,000 in cash and in-kind gifts for children, women and men



CMF Volunteers painted HIV/AIDS at the entrance and throughout the "expression tunnel" at NC State University campus.

living HIV/AIDS. CMF will continue its fundraising efforts in 2003 to support financial assistance, outreach and education to identified needs within the local gay and lesbian community.

During the 2002 season, CMF held

see **FESTIVAL on 15**

Expo to provide resources for unique LGBT aging issues

And the remaining diverse fellowship of lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgenders are charged with the responsibility of finding ways the community can serve and adapt.

For those of us who are baby boomed, it is important to remind ourselves and others that homosexuals do not self destruct at 50. However, our resources change, our needs change, and our life focuses shift some. The community of aging agencies and the LGBT community need to accommodate and offer a comfortable place for this to happen — for everyone to remain a viable part of the whole community.

We are healthier, more active and consequently, happier and living longer than generations before. And more of us are out in our middle age than ever before. So much has changed to make it possible to be who we are and with whom we want to be.

The community services need to be in place and everyone, whether you are 18 or 80, you need to know what there is and what will be there for you when you need it.

We all need retirement planning. We all need healthcare. We will all need alternative housing options as we retire and "downsize" our lives to make way and room for enjoying our hard-earned free time.

Our culture, and especially our community, place a great deal of emphasis on youthfulness, sex appeal and good looks. All the anti-aging creams, tummy tucks and face lifts in the world will not stop the clock. Senescence is a process that begins at birth and continues throughout the life span.

So, we must embrace all generations. We will be them! When you interact with an older gay or lesbian, imagine you are talking to your own grandparent. We can learn from each other: patience

see **EXPO on 19**



by Patrick Toal

"2-4-6-8: Are you sure your grandma's straight?" I heard this chant while attending an older adult conference a few years ago. As I looked around the room, I noticed several of the younger people chuckling while a group of older women repeated the cheer in mantra form. If you think about it, though, it is quite true—how do we know? After all, there have been many famous older gays and lesbians who were not "out" or "outed" until their golden years, but to whom we pay tribute.

Think of older individuals who are an integral part of our lives who may be lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender but have remained closeted in order to hold on to jobs, family, friends and faith fellowship. How about your favorite aunt who just "never found the right man?"

Our LGBT community has come of age as the baby boomer generation begins graying and contemplating retirement.

