

it to be better. Better news writing. More letters to the editor. More local involvement. And there are so many stories that I wanted to write, that should have been written, that never got done. So to the people and organizations whose stories didn't get into the paper, I apologize. ▼



Notable Notes on Jim Baxter

- Work as a community organizer as noted in "Rebels, Rubyfruit, and Rhinestones: Queering Space in the Stonewall South" by James T. Sears. Rutgers University Press; published in 2001.
- Included in *Genre* magazine's turn of the century (December 1999/January 2000) "2000 Years, 2000 Queers" honors list.
- The 1999 N.C. Pride Statewide Award of Merit was awarded jointly to Jim Baxter and *The Front Page*. Sponsored by the N.C. Gay and Lesbian Pride Committee, the award is given each year to people or organizations whose work on behalf of the community has made a positive difference. *Spectator* magazine did a cover story on *The Front Page* in its June 16, 1999 issue as result.
- Received a "Citizen's Award" in 1994 from *The Independent* and was profiled in its Nov. 23, 1994 issue.
- The Stonewall 25 North Carolina committee named Jim Baxter a "Stonewall Hero" in 1994 "in recognition of efforts on behalf of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people in the Carolinas."
- Queen City Quordinators, a Charlotte community organization, awarded Jim Baxter their "Carolinian of the Year" award in 1986.
- *The Front Page* was included on a list of "The Most Essential Newspapers," one of only five local publications cited, in "The Big Gay Book: A Gay Man's Survival Guide for the '90s" (Penguin, 1991).
- In addition to *The Front Page*, Baxter's writings have appeared in: "Revelations: Gay Men's Coming-Out Stories," by Adrien Saks (Editor), Wayne Curtis (Editor), Alyson Publications, October 1988. 2nd edition published September 1999. "Mama's Boy: Gay Men Write About Their Mothers," by Dean Kostos (Editor), Eugene Grygo (Editor), Painted Leaf Press; published in 2000. Other work has appeared in a variety of publications including *The Sun*, *Lambda Literary Review*, *The Washington Blade*, *The New York Blade*, *Gay Peoples Chronicle* (Ohio), *Outspoken* (Colo.), *Watermark* (Fla.) and others. ▼

All about Baxter

Mandy Carter

"Where do I begin to thank you for so many years of service to North Carolina's LGBT movement and community by way of *The Front Page*? I first met Jim Baxter and got introduced to *The Front Page* when I moved to Durham in 1982 to join the staff of the then War Resisters League/Southeast Regional Office. That means I've maintained both a personal friendship and professional relationship with Jim and *The Front Page* for the past 24 years. And I am truly thankful. When you think about the history and growth of our LGBT community and movement here in North Carolina we know that we can find it in the pages of *The Front Page*. And personally knowing that, like me, Jim Baxter is a pack rat means that he has every single issue since the beginning.

"Isn't it great to know that *The Front Page* outlasted Sen. Jesse Helms! When *The Front Page* started, Helms sat in the U.S. Senate representing the state of North Carolina for 30-way-too-many-long years of bigotry and intolerance. Fortunately for us, Helms didn't seek re-election after his fifth six-year term. It is now the year 2006 and as *The Front Page* has come to its conclusion we sit in a Helms-free North Carolina!" ▼



All about Baxter

Mark Kleinschmidt

"I have only the highest respect for Jim Baxter and what *The Front Page* has meant to the gay and lesbian population in North Carolina. I remember moving to Chapel Hill in 1988 and coming out in 1989. I have fond memories of how anxiously I and my friends awaited every issue of *The Front Page*. It was virtually our only source of connection to the larger LGBT community. Because we were ignored by the mainstream media, the paper was my first source for learning about issues our community was facing around the country.

"Even as the paper aged and we all became less reliant on it as a source of news information, it remained the most important way of identifying businesses in our community that we knew would welcome gay patronage. Any time I needed professional services, was seeking a roommate or just wondering what stores most deserved my gay dollars, I went directly to *The Front Page*.

The value Jim's work has had for the LGBT community in North Carolina is immeasurable. He helped define the community in North Carolina and made sure that its newest members knew that it was a welcoming and supportive one." ▼

