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Get your motors runnin'

Marc Geller

Drivers of about 145 motorcycles revved up their engines and headed out from the Kilowatt at 16th and Valencia streets in San Francisco to the Russian River on Sunday, October 15 as they took part in Shanti's fourth annual Ride for Life. Shanti's Doren Martin said the event was the agency's largest ever, with about 200 participants. An estimated $31,000 was raised for the nonprofit, which provides services to people living with AIDS and other life-threatening illnesses.

An elephant on donkey grounds

Gay GOP supe candidate runs in Mission

by Katie Szymanski

It's hard enough to find a Republican in San Francisco, let alone a gay one. But Ron Norlin, a candidate for city supervisor in District 9, chuckles at the thought of belonging to any other party.

"I've always been a Republican," Norlin told the *Bay Area Reporter*. "My whole family has. So why should I register as something else?"

Norlin, a resident of the Mission for more than 30 years, bristles at the word "gentrification," and refers instead to his neighborhood's "economic development," a trend he hopes to continue if elected.

Jane Philomen Cleland

District 9 candidate Ron Norlin

"The Mission is starting to clean up. We're starting to look like a real neighborhood, not just a slum," said Norlin. "The people saying 'gentrification' weren't here when you had to walk through blood and guts and gunfire on the

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DENISE D'ANNE
THE SUPERVISOR FOR DISTRICT 6

A District 6 resident for 25 years — A voice for the Queer Community

"She has been a strong labor advocate for unions. She's also a strong environmentalist and tenant advocate. She's not a doubletalker, and she's not new to the fray. And she doesn't mince words. She'd peel the paint off City Hall."

—Howard Wallace, Union Organizer/Gay Activist
S.F. Bay Guardian interview 9/13/00

She brings determination and 30 years experience working for our communities and working people.

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Denise D'Anne Supervisor, District 6, ID #1220594, 351 Guerrero Street, San Francisco, 431-4172
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DSCS needs volunteers for AIDS residence

by Cynthia Laird

The Richard M. Cohen residence, a program of Dolores Street Community Services, needs volunteers to contribute to the agency's community of healing. The facility is a 10-bed, 24-hour assisted-living residence for men and women living with disabling AIDS.

Bob Nelson, DSCS executive director, said volunteers are needed to help with the program's practical one-on-one support for the residents, such as assistance with laundry, errands, helping access the Internet, and companionship. There are also opportunities for people who have an interest in cooking, sewing, and simple household repairs, Nelson added.

Providing compassionate care to formerly homeless individuals as an alternative to medically deficient shelters and the streets, the Cohen residence provides a full-service supportive environment where residents live with dignity in a non-institutionalized setting. Nelson said that hours for volunteers are flexible, and the lovely Victorian house is easily accessible by public transportation in the Mission District.

For more information about the Cohen residence and volunteer opportunities, call Daniela Wotke, program assistant, at (415) 558-0503, or e-mail cohen@dscs.org. ▼

MANY GAY & LESBIAN PEOPLE MAY SOON BE BARRED FROM BUYING OR SELLING THEIR HOMES

An initiative that will harm many gay and lesbian homeowners, and would-be homeowners, has been placed on the upcoming ballot by extremists. Those of us who have been fortunate enough to become homeowners, as tenants-in-common, will be prohibited from selling our homes if Proposition N passes. The CRIMINAL PENALTY for doing so will be 6 months imprisonment, with civil penalties of $10,000.

And, gay and lesbian renters, who want a place at the table and who aspire to becoming homeowners, will be denied that opportunity. Tenancy-in-common is the most affordable form of home ownership in San Francisco, but if Proposition N passes, any tenant who attempts to purchase a tenancy-in-common unit will be subject to 6 months in jail.

For years, gay and lesbian people have fought an uphill battle to achieve equality. In many parts of the country, and in the military, gay and lesbian people are considered criminals and can be imprisoned for exercising their constitutional rights. But in San Francisco? Because we want to be homeowners like everyone else?

Many parts of the Nation are hostile to our community, and many of us have come to enjoy the feeling of equality in San Francisco. Many of us have put down roots here, have a stake in our City, and have become homeowners enjoying almost the same rights and privileges as heterosexual couples. **Proposition N reminds us that those rights can be easily taken away.**

Who would believe that, in San Francisco, extremists would push a measure that would IMPRISON gay and lesbian people for attempting to purchase or sell our homes? Well, believe it, and if you don't, get a copy of Proposition N. You might be going to jail.

THE FACTS ARE:

Tenancy-in-common has been a standard form of property ownership for hundreds of years, and predates the founding of the United States;

Many, if not most, gay and lesbian couples hold title as tenants-in-common;

Many, if not most, TIC owners are gay men or lesbians;

Many, if not most, TIC buyers are gay men or lesbians;

Heterosexual couples are permitted to hold title to their property in more ways than are gay and lesbian couples (they can avail themselves of community property rights - we are denied those rights);

If gay and lesbian couples are not allowed to hold title as tenants-in-common, we will be denied the opportunity to bequeath our property to our heirs. The right to will our property to our family and loved ones will be stripped if Proposition N becomes law.

The extremists who put Proposition N on the ballot don't care about the injustice it perpetrates on our community. Extremists, whether from the right or the left of the political spectrum, are insensitive to the unique ways in which we define family. And, they don't care that we are often FORCED to hold title as tenants-in-common as there is no other option. They, apparently, care only about exercising MUSCLE. And, their political ideology is one that includes muscling US out of our homes, and denying US the same rights and opportunities that they enjoy.

When our community has attained full equality, including the right to hold title as community property (as the extremists can and do), perhaps we can talk about giving up some of our hard fought-for rights. Till then, send the extremists a message. Fight back!

VOTE NO ON PROPOSITION N

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