



# NPAPATF-PERSPECTIVES e-Perspectives

Issue 03/November 2010

## In This Issue

[Red Plate Specials support AIDS efforts](#)

[World AIDS Day highlights](#)

[PATF 25th anniversary](#)

[Annual Benefit save the date](#)

[New hope in HIV prevention](#)

## Quick Links

[More About PATF](#)



Join the **e-Perspectives** mailing list by contacting [sorr@patf.org](mailto:sorr@patf.org) or 412-345-0596.

**Forward e-Perspectives to a friend!**

Dear Susan,

## Welcome to **e-Perspectives!**

Welcome to **e-Perspectives**, a monthly e-newsletter that highlights current and upcoming Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force events, accomplishments and programs, as well as national and international HIV/AIDS information. Through **e-Perspectives**, we keep you posted on all that PATF does to improve the health and quality of life for people living with HIV/AIDS in southwestern Pennsylvania. A sincere thank-you for your support and interest in PATF.

Have questions or comments about **e-Perspectives**? Please contact editor Susan Orr at [sorr@patf.org](mailto:sorr@patf.org) or 412-345-0596.

## "Red Plate Specials" on World AIDS Day **Proceeds to go toward local AIDS efforts**

The following Pittsburgh restaurants, bars and bakeries will participate in "The Red Plate Specials," a fundraiser for which establishments donate proceeds to local AIDS efforts on World AIDS Day, Dec. 1, during that week or during the entire month of December.

1. La Gourmadine Bakery, Lawrenceville, will donate a portion of proceeds from raspberry chocolate dessert sales on Dec. 1.
2. J'eet, Garfield, will donate 20% of proceeds from various specials.
3. Middle Road Inn, Glenshaw, will participate.
4. Quiet Storm, Garfield, will offer a red beet and lentil curry platter, with pita, salad and yogurt, for \$10. They will donate 20% of proceeds.
5. Remedy restaurant, Lawrenceville, will donate a portion of their proceeds from a World AIDS Day dish.
6. Round Cantina, Lawrenceville, will donate 50% of proceeds from red sangria sales on Dec. 1.
7. Spin, Shadyside, will offer drink specials, donating a portion of their proceeds.
8. Square Café, Regent Square, will donate 50% of all their proceeds on Dec. 1.
9. Union Grill, Oakland, will donate a portion of proceeds from an eggplant

parmesan special on World AIDS Day.

10. Sweetest Dessert Studio and Bakery, Pitcairn, will feature a new dessert - "With Love - AIDS Prevention Cupcakes" (in southern style red velvet) -- with a portion of the proceeds being donated to AIDS awareness and prevention during the month of December.

11. Vanilla Pastry, East Liberty, will donate 25% of proceeds from a World AIDS Day-themed dessert, during the week of World AIDS Day.

12. Willow Restaurant, North Hills, will donate portions of proceeds from drink and dessert specials during the week of World AIDS Day.

For more information, please email [sorr@patf.org](mailto:sorr@patf.org)

## **World AIDS Day event highlights**

### ***Organizations throughout city participating in commemoration***

This will mark the second year that organizations throughout Pittsburgh have joined forces to promote World AIDS Day. Nearly 30 organizations are participating in this year's (PITTSBURGH) Red campaign, an offshoot of the international One Campaign. Visit [www.pittsburghred.org](http://www.pittsburghred.org) for more information.

Planned highlights include a 10:30 a.m. press conference with Mayor Luke Ravenstahl; free, confidential HIV testing; the Highmark spire becoming red the night of Dec. 1; and the AIDS Memorial Quilt -- also known as The Names Project -- being on display in numerous locations throughout Pittsburgh during that week. The annual memorial service at Heinz Memorial Chapel in Oakland will take place at 7 p.m.

## **PATF to commemorate 25 years**

### ***Luncheon to take place Dec. 1***

PATF will commemorate its 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary on World AIDS Day, Wednesday, Dec. 1, with a tribute luncheon directly following a 10:30 a.m. World AIDS Day mayoral press conference at the City-County Building.

The luncheon will take place at the Rivers Club, One Oxford Centre, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. Highlighted speakers include Marty St. Clair, one of the researchers who discovered the impact of AZT on the HIV virus, and Dr. Ron Stall from the University of Pittsburgh. There is a \$35 fee to attend the luncheon. For information, contact Ron Smutny at 412-345-0593.

## **PATF Annual Benefit**

### ***Save the date!***

The PATF 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Benefit with Pittsburgh Public Theater will be held Wednesday, March 16, 2011, at the O'Reilly Theater, downtown Pittsburgh. The featured attraction will be a performance by **Tony Award-winning star Alan Cumming**, and the evening also will include a cocktail reception, a dessert party and presentation of the Kerry Stoner Award to Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS.

## **Black AIDS Institute lauds new Pre-Exposure Prophylaxis (PrEP)** ***New hope in HIV prevention***

The Nov. 23 announcement of the results of a National Institutes of Health pre-exposure prophylaxis (PrEP) study is a major breakthrough in HIV prevention because it proves that HIV infection can be interrupted.

PrEP is one of the most promising prevention tools on the horizon. With PrEP, high-risk HIV-negative individuals take antiretroviral medications daily to prevent becoming infected with the virus. The first round of PrEP studies tested tenofovir alone -- also known as Viread -- the anti-retroviral and one of the so-called HIV 'morning after pills' effective in post exposure prophylaxis (PREP). This study and later clinical trials are testing tenofovir and emtricitabine, the combination known as Truvada.

The study found a daily dose of Truvada reduced the risk of acquiring HIV infection by 43.8 percent among men who have sex with men (MSM). Even higher rates of effectiveness were reported -- up to 73 percent -- among participants who adhered most closely to the daily drug regimen.

For more information, visit [www.BlackAIDS.org](http://www.BlackAIDS.org)

Source: Black AIDS Institute

## **Spotlight on...Kathryn Hens-Greco**

*Hon. Kathryn M. Hens-Greco has been appointed as the Administrative Judge of Allegheny County Court's Family Division effective Jan. 4, 2011.*

*The Family Division is Allegheny Common Pleas Court's largest and busiest division and includes both the Adult Family Section and the Juvenile Section.*

*Upon taking the bench in January 2006, Judge Hens-Greco was assigned to the Adult Family Section where she has presided over matters of custody, alimony, equitable distribution, protection from abuse and support.*

*In May 2008, Judge Hens-Greco expanded her docket to include juvenile dependency cases involving abused and neglected children and in January 2010, she began hearing juvenile delinquency cases.*

*Judge Hens-Greco was a presenter on "Gay and Lesbian Legal Rights" at the 2006 Statewide Trial Judges Summer Conference and served as a facilitator for the Court of Common Pleas-New Judges School in January 2010.*

*Judge Hens-Greco is a graduate of LeMoyne College in Syracuse, N.Y. and of the Antioch School of Law in Washington, D.C. Prior to her election, she was a partner in the Law Office of Kathryn and Sam Hens-Greco and a partner with Stokes Lurie Cole and Hens-Greco with a primary area of practice in family law.*

## **How/when/why did you become involved with PATF?**

My husband Sam and I moved to Pittsburgh in 1987 and opened our law office out of our dining room. We were young attorneys, had very few contacts and almost no clients. However, we both had a deep commitment to being of service. Sam had worked with a legal service office in Washington, and I had worked at a law office in Maryland that was one of the first firms to openly and actively work with the gay and lesbian community. One of my first clients were six Navy recruits who were discharged from the Navy for being gay.

When we arrived in Pittsburgh, we made a conscious decision to make sure the doors to our law office would be open to members of the gay and lesbian community. Our first legal advertisements were placed in OUT Magazine and in the Renaissance City Choir brochure. We also realized that the best way to be of service and to meet the most concerned attorneys would be to sign up and do *pro-bono* services. We signed up for overflow cases at Neighborhood Legal Services, the Indigent Divorce Program, YWCA Legal Resources for Women, and the ACBA Legal Referral Service.

In 1988, Eileen Yacknin recruited me to serve on the PATF Legal Committee. Additionally, I trained for the PATF Buddy Program and worked with CRYOUT/ACT UP on a Funeral Home Initiative.

**What were your volunteer responsibilities while you volunteered for PATF?**

In the late 1980s, the treatments for HIV were ineffective. Many young men quickly found themselves in serious medical crisis and completely unprepared for the medical reality, let alone the legal reality. I spent a great deal of time in hospitals helping very young people create wills and powers of attorney that were immediately used. Sadly, we also had to assist the survivors with having to probate estates of people who should have lived long, healthy lives.

**Any memories of volunteering for PATF that you'd like to share?**

My most vivid memories are of the many brave young partners who stood by their young partner during an extraordinary time. This was a medical crisis that baffled everyone. I remember counseling partners who were faced with calling parents and siblings, many whom they had never met, with news of their son's sexual identity and this horrible and fatal disease. I watched as these young men had their own feelings of loss and fear of infection, overwhelmed by the families' emotional fall-out and ill feelings.

On a practical side, enormous medical bills needed to be paid, complex documents needed to be assembled, and doctors and nurses, who were sometimes less than sensitive, had to be convinced that this power of attorney gave this young man all the rights of a spouse, parent or siblings.

As an attorney, I tried to do my best to help, but the dedication of the partners of these young men, learning to negotiate daily with people, often professionals, who wanted to separate themselves physically and emotionally from anyone associated with HIV, is the memory I carry from that time.

**Anything else you'd like to share?**

Anything I did as a PATF volunteer was dwarfed by the quiet courage of the partners who were the real heroes, finding within themselves the ability to stay present with their partner, to advocate effectively on their behalf, and manage the hostility and yet remain resilient, a beacon of hope.



*Try it FREE today.*

This email was sent to [sorr@patf.org](mailto:sorr@patf.org) by [sorr@patf.org](mailto:sorr@patf.org) | [Update Profile/Email Address](#) | Instant removal with [SafeUnsubscribe™](#) | [Privacy Policy](#).

Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force | 5913 Penn Ave. | Pittsburgh | PA | 15206