

Participants name their loved ones lost to AIDS

■ AIDS

From Page A13

"That can be dangerous, because there is more to the disease than the physical ravage of the body. This is an opportunity when we can look at treating people differently in mind, body and spirit."

The Rev. Samuel Trumbore of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Punta Gorda spoke on the subject of "memory." He said with each person who dies of AIDS, there is a story. He recalled one about a widow with five children who lived in Mexico City and died in 1991. She was infected with AIDS from her husband, who contracted the disease after giving blood in the 1980s. (Donors can no longer contract AIDS from giving blood since hypodermic needles are no longer reused.)

Her story was one of survival and heartbreak of rejection. And through her questions, her last wish was to tell about her life, to inspire others to accomplish good with their lives.

To recall the lives family and friends lost to

AIDS, Rev. Trumbore's talk was followed by "The Naming," from the Jewish tradition. Participants named their loved ones as candles were lit around the church. Then, the congregation said the "Mourners Kaddish," a prayer of the Jewish tradition.

"Healing" was the next subject of the service which was led by a tall by the Rev. Victor Kempf, associate pasto

'This is an opportunity when we can look at treating people differently in mind, body and spirit.'

— David

Service offers hope and healing

AIDS victims remembered during service

Jean Palombo

PUNTA GORDA

Two banners hanging inside the Episcopal Church of the Good Shepherd spoke volumes about the mission and heartbreak of AIDS ministry.

leaders of a variety of denominations — Catholic, Episcopal and Unitarian — attended and led the event.

Among Catholic representatives were Sister Judy Simones, CSJ, director of the Charlotte HIV/AIDS Network office, and Deacon Michael

Monday, October 7, 1996

Anti-abortion rally

Hundreds form 'life chain'

By Jose Luis Jimenez
STAFF WRITER

Priscilla Morin was there because President Clinton blocked a congressional bill that would have banned late-term abortions.

David Reineck showed up because he believes life begins at conception and only God should decide who lives or dies.

Across the street stood Rusty Stetson, who's not sure she would ever have an abortion but still wants the option.

The two sides of the abortion debate lined opposite sides of U.S. 41 in Charlotte Harbor on Sunday afternoon.

An estimated 1,000 abortion protesters from 35 Charlotte churches dodged raindrops as they formed a "life chain" along the west side of U.S. 41 from State Road 776 in Murdock to Agui Esta Drive in Punta Gorda.

Armed with signs proclaiming "Abortion Kills Children" and "Adoption - The Loving Option," they waved at motorists traveling the

county's main corridor and received some supportive honks.

For the first time in the five-year history of the life chain, a counterdemonstration was mounted by members of the Unitarian-Universalist Fellowship of Port Charlotte. Those demonstrators believe in a woman's right to choose abortion.

Stetson of Port Charlotte and the nine other people on the abortion rights side did not seem deterred by the weakness in their numbers. "We all need a choice on what is done and not done to us," she said.

Another first was the October date; the demonstration is traditionally held in January to coincide with the anniversary of the Supreme Court's Roe vs. Wade decision, which legalized abortion.

The life chain for Sarasota and Manatee counties will be in January.

Charlotte County organizers said they followed the instructions of a California-based group called "Let Them Live," which organizes

the chain nationally.

Like many of the abortion protesters, Morin braved the rain because she was upset at Clinton's veto of a bill that would have banned late-term abortions except when the mother's life was at risk. Clinton said he banned the bill because it contained no exception for protecting the mother's health.

"I believe that Jesus created life and our government should not have made abortion legal because that does not support life," said Morin, a nurse at a Port Charlotte hospital. "I know what life is. I see it."

Universalist Fellowship Rev. Sam Frymberg led the abortion rights rally because he believes abortions are a decision best left to the individual. "We can't impose one belief system on another. It should be up to the individual to decide," he said.

Reineck did not mind that the abortion rights demonstrators stood across from him. "It doesn't seem to me," he said, "that many people agree with them."

sachusetts; Billerica,
s; Laramie, Wyoming; and
Petersham, Massachusetts.
by his wife, Rosemary
as well as three children
his marriage to Julia Shaw:
hville, Tennessee; Nathan
New York, and Emily of
Maryland. He also leaves his
Brandhorst, Barbara
d Molly Beard, and his
son Shaw. In addition, he is
many nieces and nephews.
ded in death by his second
l (Baer), in 1988.

al service was held
December 3, 1997, at First
Concord,
s, with the Reverend Gary
ting.

of condolence may be sent
in care of Rosemary Shaw,
ct, Petersham, Massa-
06. The family may be
lephone at 978-724-3555.

ND IRVING W. STULTZ
lay, December 7, 1997, of
heart failure. He was 91 years

ed congregations in
(Union Church)
s and Concord, New
He was a chaplain in the
om 1940-1962, and from
e held the position of
ector, Chaplains' Division,
val Personnel. He also
ector of College Placement
ademy, Andover, New

al service was held Sunday,
, 1997, at the Second
ial Society, Concord, New
with the Reverend Joan
der officiating.

is survived by two sons,
Barrington, Rhode Island,
M. of West Virginia, as
grandchildren and two
ildren. He was preceded in
wife, Marjorie MacEachern
l. Messages of condolence
n care of his son: Mr.
ultz, 371 New Meadow
gton, Rhode Island 02806.
e number is 401-245-3864.

A GATHERING OF CHAPTER LEADERS

When: Tuesday, June 23, 1998, from 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

What: Plenty of sharing and in-depth material for presidents and program people, continuing education representatives, and good offices people.

We'll be calling all chapters with more information.

Carol Taylor, Jean Rowe,
Libby Smith, and Bill Zelazny

SILENT RETREAT

Sam Trumbore, editor of the UU Buddhist Fellowship's journal *UU Sangha*, has arranged a special silent retreat with the Rochester Zen Center. The retreat will be held Tuesday, June 23, 1998, the day before UUMA Ministry Days; it will have some structure, but it will not be formally led. One of the teachers from the zen center will be available to us for consultation.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Sam Trumbore at strumbore@uua.org by e-mail, or call 941-627-4303, or write to 1532 Forrest Nelson Boulevard, Port Charlotte, Florida 33952.

Space is limited, so get your reservation in now.



UNIVERSALIST HERALD CHANGES EDITORIAL HANDS

The *Universalist Herald*, the oldest continually published liberal religious periodical, has changed editorial hands, with Revs. John Morgan and Frank Rivas as editors. For subscription information, write to *Universalist Herald*, c/o Lewis Graphics, Rt. 4, Box 16, Elkton, Virginia 22827.

Recent issues of the *Universalist Herald* include those devoted to transcendentalism and pietism, two spiritual heritages of our faith, and the January/February issue on conflict in our midst: how we deal or fail to deal with it.

Those interested in submitting stories, sermons, articles, or photographs should send them to Rev. John Morgan, 142 Hanover Street, Northumberland, Pennsylvania 17857. Or inquire at JMorgan900@aol.com by e-mail.

Peaceful thoughts to travel Internet

In addition to cyberspace, World Peace Day events will be at churches and Siesta Key Beach.

By James Roland
STAFF WRITER

Can a person find inner peace on the Internet?

For the second year in a row, a Port Charlotte minister will share messages from people commemorating World Peace Day at his church with computer users around the world. The Rev. Sam Trumbore, of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, plans to collect written comments and ideas at the event at 7 a.m. Sunday and dispense them in cyberspace.

"You could say I'm out there doing my Internet ministry," said Trumbore, who has placed about 50 of his sermons on his church's home page on the World Wide Web.

In other parts of Southwest Florida on Sunday, more traditional observances of World Peace Day will be held.

On Siesta Key Public Beach, participants can gather at 7 a.m. for an hour of meditation, prayer, music, and discussion of world and inner peace.

In Englewood, local pastors are being encouraged to make World Peace Day a focus during Sunday's services.

In previous years, an Englewood church would host the celebration of peace. But because this year's World Peace Day falls on a Sunday, Englewood peace activist Peter Duisberg and several other event organizers decided to spread the messages through the churches rather than hold a separate observance.

Duisberg said this way, at least more people will be involved. Many area church bulletins will include literature about World Peace Day and a call to parishioners to pray for for peace.

"You could say I'm out there doing my Internet ministry."

THE REV. SAM TRUMBORE,
of the Unitarian
Universalist Fellowship

B SARASOTA
HERALD -
TRIBUNE

Wednesday, December 27, 1995

World Peace Day focus of events

PEACE FROM 1B

"Instead of reaching a couple of hundred people, we can reach thousands," Duisberg said, adding that he hopes to renew the special World Peace Day events beginning next year.

This year marks the 10th anniversary of World Peace Day, which is usually observed globally at noon Greenwich Mean Time — 7 a.m. Eastern Standard Time.

Diana Daffner, organizer of the Siesta Key observance, said she thinks global peace can only happen when people around the world have achieved inner peace. Gathering for a common purpose such as praying or meditating for peace can help individuals and reinforce the need for peace in society.

"There's something powerful

about people who gather with intent," she said. "I believe it's an experience for ourselves, but I believe it also has ramifications off the beach."

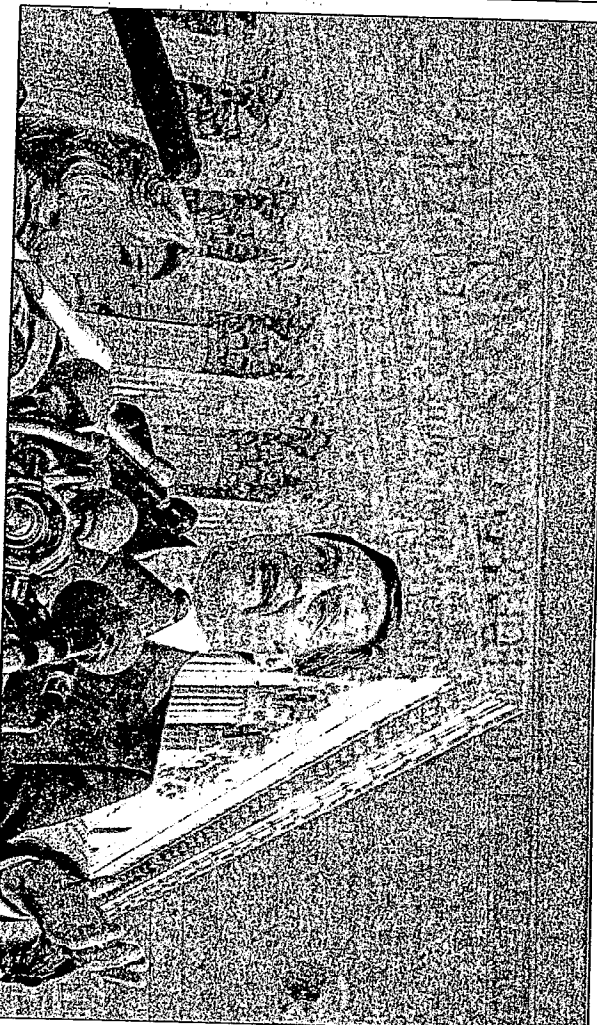
Daffner, a tai chi instructor and musician, is encouraging anyone who wants to participate Sunday at Siesta Key either with a song, poem, or other message to call her this week at 346-1024. She's also asking Southwest Floridians to concentrate on warmer weather for the early morning gathering at the beach.

As with most World Peace Day events this year, the focus of many people will be on the peacekeeping forces recently dispatched to Bosnia.

Trumbore said, "We'll be praying the peace holds there and takes root."

PLEASE SEE PEACE ON 3B

ASSISTED SUICIDE DEBATED



Dennis Vacco, New York attorney general, talks with reporters Wednesday outside the Supreme Court after arguing to have New York's law barring criminal charges in assisted suicides reinstated.

Minister advocates individual choice

By Eddie Robbette
STAFF WRITER

San Trumbore was at his mother's side when she died. "She went peacefully,"

But she had the books on how to kill herself, if the pain from cancer made life unbearable. "My Dad didn't talk to me about it, but I think she was prepared to take her own life," Trumbore said.

He would have supported that decision. The minister of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of



Charlotte County and a member of the Hemlock Society, Trumbore believes people should be able to decide how they die.

He hopes the U.S. Supreme Court decides that family, medical doctors and ministers should help those who are dying decide their fate — not the government.

"My feelings come from a desire for people to have self-determination (that they should determine how they live their lives and end their lives," Trumbore said.

It isn't just a matter of personal freedom, Trumbore, 59, believes doctors should be allowed to legally assist in the dying process. Banned suicide attempts some-

PLEASE SEE TRUMBORE ON 7A

Woman's husband leaves end to nature

By Yolanda Rodriguez
STAFF WRITER

Ed Johnson's silver wedding ring is inscribed with words inspired by the Bible's Song of Solomon: "I am my beloved's." My beloved is mine.

His wife, Kay, has the same engraved message on her wedding ring. The words, he said, are the very essence of their marriage.

But for the last seven months the couple have been living apart. She is in a hospice dying of cancer. He visits her daily.



Kay Johnson's bone cancer has robbed her of her speech and mobility. Still, the thought of assisted suicide is not one that her husband contemplates.

"I feel selfish," he said Wednesday, in the living room of the hospice of Southwest Florida in Bradenton.

"I pray for the good Lord to take her home every day," Johnson said. "And yet in the morning I just look forward to the fact that I come here and I still have a wife... Let nature take its course."

Lori Scales, a nurse supervisor at the hospice, said that the philosophy of the home is to give terminally ill patients relief from their

PLEASE SEE JOHNSON ON 7A

The Supreme Court is reviewing rulings that struck down criminal prohibitions against doctor-assisted suicide.

By Linda Greenhouse
N.Y. TIMES NEWS SERVICE

WASHINGTON — By the end of two intense hours of Supreme Court debate Wednesday over whether the Constitution gives terminally ill people a right to doctor-assisted suicide, it was clear that the justices were fascinated by the issue and deeply engaged by the arguments — but at the same time eager to keep the court out of another, more contentious question of life and death.

"Everything you've said, it seems to me, could go on in a legislative chamber," Justice Kitl Bader Ginsburg told Kathryn Tucker, a Seattle lawyer arguing that Washington state's law against assisted suicide violates the due process rights of terminally ill patients who want a doctor's help in dying in a "humane and dignified manner."

Justice David Souter asked Tucker, "Why shouldn't we conclude that as an institution, we are not in a position to make the judgment you want us to make?" Referring to the consequences of opening the door to doctor-assisted suicide, Souter said, "It would just be guesswork."

Although the doctrinal jargon of due process and equal protection was sprinkled throughout the argument, this was a Supreme Court session notable for the proportion of plain English that was spoken.

"This is an issue every one of us faces, young and old, male and female, whatever it might be," Justice Sandra Day O'Connor said at one point. And Ginsburg, whose mother died of cervical cancer at age 47, said, "Most of us have parents and other loved ones who have been through the dying process, and we've thought about these things."

Yet this was not a policy forum, but a legal argument before a Supreme Court that is years past any desire to hand itself at the frontiers of constitutional law. The lawyers asked the justices to weigh terminally ill patients' interest in avoiding uncontrollable pain against the states' interest in protecting life.

PLEASE SEE COURT ON 7A

Sarasota Herald-Tribune
 Charlotte's Complete Daily Newspaper
AM
 Edition
 Thursday, January 9, 1997
 Partly cloudy
 High near 80, Low near 60.
 Mostly cloudy Friday.
 COMPLETE REPORT 12
 25 CP

Deacon: 'God has given us our lives'

By Jill Crage Hilliard

STAFF WRITER

As long as there is life, the Rev. Martin Saphars believes, there is hope that God plans some kind of change.

And so, after decades of intimate experience with people suffering and dying, while working as a registered nurse and now in AIDS ministry, the ordained Episcopal deacon is convinced that doctor-assisted suicide is wrong.

Saphars, who is on staff at Bradenton's Christ Episcopal Church, does support relieving the pain of terminal patients, and letting them ease out of this world.

But, she says, "I think my belief would be that God has given us our lives and nowadays there are medications available to keep someone, you know, comfortable."

In fact, she has talked some AIDS patients out of suicide, encouraging them to look for a way to make something good out of what has happened. She shares with them her own struggles with multiple sclerosis, a disease that leaves her never knowing what days she will feel well enough to get up and walk around.

"I've been able to bring some people back from that point so that they realize that God may be able to use this," she says.

Saphars also opposes capital punishment and abortion.

"My own feeling is that nobody has a right to take their own life or to take the life of another or to assist another (in committing suicide) in any way."

In about 10 years of AIDS ministry in Sarasota and Manatee counties, Saphars has known at least 125 people who died of acquired immune deficiency syndrome. One was a young man who lost his life in October.

"He just slipped away when it was time," says Saphars. "During the waiting period to die, at that point his misery was pretty well over, because, thank God, he had a merciful doctor who put him on the morphine pump."

Justices hear arguments on doctor-assisted suicide

COURT FROM 1A

But the justices' concern often appeared to be the court's interest in avoiding the vulnerability that comes from folding into the Constitution a claimed right that society has not fully embraced.

Scouter, observing at one point that "20 years ago, we weren't even reading about this," said "Maybe the court should wait until it could know more." That led Ginsburg to ask whether it was merely a question of "just waiting" — the issue, she said, might be whether the court should endorse the concept of doctor-assisted suicide now or ever.

This case raises the basic question of who decides, Ginsburg said.

"Is this ever a proper question for courts to decide?"

The justices will rule on the matter before the end of the term in late June or early July. The court agreed three months ago to take up the issue after two U.S. appeals courts, ruling almost simultaneously last spring in suits brought by doctors and their terminally ill patients, struck down criminal prohibitions against assisted suicide in Washington state and New York.

These were the first federal appellate rulings on the question, and both states filed appeals.

Dennis Vacco, New York's attorney general, argued the New York appeal, *Vacco vs. Quill*, No. 95-1858.

William Williams, senior assistant

Husband puts faith in nature

JOHNSON FROM 1A

physical pain. Assisted suicide robs people of the opportunity to make peace with their lives and their families, Stickle said. Medication that relieves the pain lets many people enjoy their final days, she said.

Johnson said that when the time comes, he will not allow attempts to resuscitate his wife.

But assisted suicide is not something that he supports.

"That's like playing God," Johnson said.

Key Johnson, 59, is his second wife. In 1991, his first wife died of cancer and Johnson went into the hospital because of a heart condition.



Lori Stickle says the philosophy of the hospice home is to relieve the pain of terminally ill patients.

Afterward, Johnson, 74, said he put himself in God's hands. He met Key at the Manatee Mobile Home Park, where they both lived, and they married on June 26, 1993. All of her family lives out of state.

"I believe that's why he had me meet Key, to take care of her and marry her," Johnson said.

Minister: It's your choice

TRUMBORE FROM 1A

time create even more problems, for the person and that person's family.

"If you are a dying person, do you want to ask your son or your wife to hold a plastic bag over your head? That is an incredible cruel thing" to ask of your family when a nurse or doctor could inject chemicals and peacefully end life, he said.

Legislation allowing assisted suicides should be crafted carefully. "I don't want people who could live out their lives and die a peaceful death" put in the position of being assisted in dying, Trumbore said.

What if a child or grandchild tries of paying for the care of a sick parent or grandparent, he asks? "These are the kind of people we should be

working to help improve the quality of life for," he said, "instead of assisting them in suicide."

Even more worrisome in this age of driving health costs down, what if assisted suicide becomes a medical money option?

"I want people to have a choice, not be forced into this," he said.

Trumbore knows the questions surrounding assisted suicide are complex and, ultimately, they are personal. We all die.

He has a son, 4½-year-old Andy, and a wife, Philomena.

What if Andy was in terrible pain because of a fatal disease? Or Philomena? "I would hope I have the strength to help them do what is best for them."

attorney general of Washington, argued that state's appeal, *Washington vs. Glucksberg*, No. 96-110.

The Clinton administration entered the cases on behalf of the states. Solicitor General Walter Dellinger argued in both

Wednesday.

In contrast to the states' lawyers, who urged the court to find that there was no constitutional right at stake, Dellinger urged the justices to recognize that terminally ill people have a "liberty interest" in not having the state prevent their relief through doctor-assisted suicide.

But, he said, the states' interest in "admitting the value of life and protecting vulnerable patients should be given even greater weight, and the prohibitions should be upheld."

"The systemic dangers are dramatic" in a society that allows doctor-assisted suicide, Dellinger said.

"The least costly treatment for any illness is lethal medication," he added.

The distinction between the Clinton administration's view and the states' position is more than academic. A finding by the court that a "liberty interest" is at stake would sweep the question of regulating doctor-assisted suicide within the ambit of the 14th Amendment, which prohibits the states from depriving "any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law." It would commit the court to a kind of ongoing constitutional supervision of the question.

How to define the substantive reach of the due process clause was perhaps the most profound constitutional debate on the court Wednesday, and the justices are likely to be sharply divided over this approach even if all or most agree that state laws should be upheld.

"A liberty interest crosses this whole matter back to this court," said Justice Antonin Scalia, the court's most outspoken opponent of announcing new due process rights. His tone was sarcastic.

"I suppose prodding a liberty interest is cost-free," he said. Several months ago in a speech at Catholic University here, Scalia said it was "absolutely plain that there is no right to die."

He challenged Laurence Tribe, a Harvard Law School professor who was arguing on behalf of the plaintiffs in the New York case that "when facing imminent and inevitable death," a person has the right "not to be forced to be a creature of the state" and to "have some voice" in the way the "final chapter of life" unfolds.

"This is lovely philosophy," Scalia said. "Where is it in the Constitution?"