

# LETTERS TO ...

To the Editor:

Dear friends and supporters of the Fine Arts Work center, you'll be pleased to learn that thanks to your generosity the Center's 11th Annual Auction was a tremendous success. This event raised a net of \$36,000 which will be applied to our Fellowship Program

All of us at the Work Center are deeply appreciative of your support, and we extend a heartfelt "thank you" for your help.

Susan Slocum  
Acting Director  
Fine Arts Work Center  
in Provincetown

To the Editor:

Several hundred people confronting police in the small space in front of Spiritus Pizza could have had tragic results. It should not happen again.

Provincetown has been and is a tolerant town. As in great seaports everywhere, people of many cultures have mingled here with the local population so that we have become accustomed to differing lifestyles and on the whole have been willing to live and let live. No doubt prejudice does exist here on grounds of religion, race, national origin, values, taste, sex, etc. and probably always will, given the human need to look down on somebody. But here we have been more willing than most to accept, or at least to overlook, our differences.

What I believe is behind the recent violence against gays and the confrontation with police is a general decline in civility, or respect for the rights and feelings of others. Those who attack peaceful gays are obviously ignorant bullies. Those who turn Commercial Street late at night into a convention hall disregard the comfort of hard-working people trying to sleep nearby. The large crowd confronting the police did not stop to think of the danger nor to remember that they are in a small town that in the summer suddenly becomes a city and is not equipped to handle a city's problems. Cities have police specially trained in crowd control—a frightening and touchy job.

That the decline in civility is very real can be seen wherever one looks—in abusive language at public meetings, in litter and loud music on our beaches, in careless disregard of the safety of small boats and swimmers on our waterfront, the behavior of motorists and pedestrians alike on our narrow and congested streets, the careless use of limited resources and the disregard

of the environment on which we all depend.

Our peace and freedom depend on our respect for one another's rights.

Miriam Hapgood DeWitt  
Provincetown

## Correction

Last week's issue of *Provincetown Magazine* contained an error of omission in the feature by Tara Adler on the Golden Gull Awards Ceremony. Our humble apologies are offered to the members of the John Barocas Company for failing to mention their act which was the show opener for the awards ceremony. Their lively dance performance, gorgeous costumes, and lip synch skill set a high standard for the rest of the acts to follow. If you're heading down to Florida this winter keep your eyes and ears open for news of this talented troupe of entertainers.



**PRONTO**  
RESTAURANT

*An Intimate Eatery  
Featuring Italian Cuisine  
and fresh seafood  
specialties*

Breakfast & Lunch from 9 am  
Dinner from 5:30

Lopes Square • Provincetown  
487-2318



*Front Street*  
a restaurant

487-9715 Provincetown