



HERLAND SISTER RESOURCES

VOLUME I, NUMBER 10
OCTOBER, 1985

HERLAND SISTER RESOURCES, INC.
1630 N.W. 19, Okla. City, OK 73106

FALL FESTIVAL STILL HAS OPENINGS

Although the site of the October 25-27 Fall Festival/Women's Retreat has been changed to Osage Hills, plans for a fulfilling weekend are proceeding with excitement. Osage Hills State Park, located between Bartlesville and Pawhuska, also served as a resort for outlaws in territorial days and for some years after statehood. The group camp has cabins with bunks and mattresses, bathrooms with hot water showers, plus a large dining area and equipped kitchen. There is a lake with rental rowboats and a creek, both offering good spots for fishing. The world-famous Woolaroc museum, home of Frank Phillips, is nearby. There are tennis courts, a softball field, hiking trails and horseback riding.

The musical treat of the retreat will be Mary Reynolds and Peggy Johnson. Attendees are also invited to bring musical instruments. Workshops will be held throughout the weekend, but there will be plenty of free time just to do what you want to do. As of this date, workshops have been planned on Lesbian Health and Woman Controlled Conception, Internalized Homophobia, International Women's Poetry and Freshwater Population Control (Fishing). Anyone interested in photography should bring her camera and there will be some nature photography sessions for those seeking help, plus a lot of things to "shoot."

You should bring food for the weekend, including something to cook out Saturday night and something to share with others, a bedroll or sleeping bag, pillow, towels, toilet articles, flashlight. You may bring your pets but they have to be kept on a leash when out of doors.

The retreat is open to lesbian and non-lesbian women and their children. There will also be sleeping areas which are designated non-smoking and/or alcohol-free spaces, if requested.

Bring arts and crafts for exhibit or sale, plus networking information.

HSR must know how many are going to attend, so please send the preregistration form below

and your check for \$10 per person by October 11, 1985, to Kris Marek, 1137 N.W. 31, Oklahoma City, OK 73118. On site registration is \$15 per person.

When your registration is received, you will be sent a map, showing the best route to get to Osage Hills. Celebrate the welcome fall with its colorful array with us. Registration will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Friday, October 25, and the retreat will end at noon on Sunday, October 27.

Sign up for CARPOOL at Herland or call 733-9331 or 528-3017.

FALL FESTIVAL RETREAT FOR WOMEN REGISTRATION

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone(____) _____

Deadline for pre-registration: October 11, 1985

Mail this form and your check for \$10 per person to:
Kris Marek
1137 N.W. 31
Oklahoma City, OK 73118

ANN JONES TO SPEAK ON BATTERED WOMEN

Ann Jones, author of Women Who Kill and Everyday Death, will speak on "Formerly Battered Women Helping Battered Women," October 6, 6:00 p.m., at the Air Space Museum in the Kirkpatrick Center, Oklahoma City.

The speech, sponsored by YWCA Crisis Services, is in conjunction with National Domestic Violence Awareness Week, October 6-12. Call the YWCA at 232-6199 for more information.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

We encourage the exchange of information, personal opinions on issues of concern to the Oklahoma women's community, and your stories and experiences.

The editor reserves the right to edit and condense letters according to space limitations. Letters should be typed, double-spaced and signed by the author(s). Include your address and phone number. If you wish to be published anonymously, indicate so, but include your name, etc., for our information, in case the editor has questions.

Mail or deliver your letter to HSR, Inc., 1630 N.W. 19, Okla. City, OK 73106. Deadline is the 15th of each month.

Dear Editor:

I am re-new to the city and discovered Herland a few weeks after arrival. I want to share my appreciation for the effort and accomplishments of the womyn who put their energy into making a place we can call our own.

Sometimes all I need to make it through another week is an understanding person, a quiet place to prop my feet up, an inspirational piece of womynsong and a chance to enrich my sense of reality with literature and discussions with my own kind. I know there are womyn here in the city who struggle daily with a restrictive, closed atmosphere at work, maybe at home, and definitely in most social arenas, and I would heartily invite one and all to visit, hang out, check out a book or come to a coffeehouse and get acquainted with the wonderful womyn who run Herland.

Thanks for being there, Herland!

Terri O.
Midwest City, OK

Dear Editor:

I write this brief letter to you in hopes that you will print it so I may openly share with others the appreciation I wish to express for the kind consideration I received as an artist/singer/songwriter at the Herland Coffeehouse. In my ten years as a performer, I cannot remember a more decent, attentive and appreciative audience. Thank you for the opportunity to perform at your Resource Center.

Sincerely,
Patsy Benson
Edmond, OK

Dear Editor and Readers:

I've got a little item of hard news here. Then I'd like to editorialize a little, if the readers will indulge me. Thursday night, September 19, The Second Fret held its first ever Songwriters' Showcase. Actually, it was a contest; the Fret has been featuring a songwriters' night for some time now, and Thursday's Showcase was presented in an effort to make those events more economically viable. Star attraction was a first prize of \$40 cash money. The competition fielded twenty entrants, about equally divided between women and men. The judges were highly qualified and painfully impartial. The material offered by the composers was consistently of a high quality and all of it was warmly received by a sizeable house.

So what is my point? In this contest there were five finalists chosen. Of the five, four were women and three of these were lesbians. It shouldn't surprise anyone that Peggy Johnson walked off with the \$40. I gave her a tough race and came in second. The judges were very impressed with Janice Galloway's work (and so was I). In addition, several other women whose persuasion could not be immediately determined by this reporter (does it matter?) presented fine songs, gave good performances and just generally presented an excellent account of themselves. Those are the cold hard facts. Now, I'll draw my conclusions.

First of all, it should be evident that The Second Fret is an establishment where women and feminists of any persuasion can feel comfortable. I'm pretty sure I can speak for

the management when I say that they (Monica and Mark) encourage women, both performers and customers, to feel free to be themselves.

Next, I'd like to point out that all these women who participated in this contest and did so well (really, they are all so good!) should show us that times are changing. Look, there is a lot of talent in OKC. And that talent is not hanging its head and hiding in the closet. These talented people are doing their part to get their product to the street. I can testify to that. Now, what is the public--dis means youse--doing to cultivate and show appreciation for their work? I'm not going to answer that for you--you answer it for yourselves.

How long do you think these performers can exist in a vacuum?

It's events like this that make my skin crawl when I hear people say that there's nothing happening in Oklahoma City, that there's no women's community, that there's no place to socialize except the bars. My blood pressure goes up just typing these words. Then someone comes in from the West Coast, one of the big names in women's music, we go along with their West Coast contracts and their California over-heads, we think it's going to be uplifting. Then the attendance at the concerts is disappointing. The ones who were going ga-ga over the bit artists are raising the time-worn cry that OKC's community just doesn't support music. Where were they last Thursday night? Where were they when I was working six nights a week at Bianca's? And how can you expect the public here to relate to those metropolitan California women, who don't have much more to say to us than Madonna would? How can they? They don't live here. They have no idea what our lives are like. How could they?

It's not that these imports haven't encouraged us locals when they came in contact with us. They, too, have done their parts. It's the listening public--youse guys--who are letting us down. And you're letting yourselves down as well.

For every woman who performed Thursday, there is a woman who was conspicuous by her absence. Those songwriters are only the tip of the iceberg. yes, some have left town. Some only play in the sanctity of their living rooms. But others are struggling, right here in Oklahoma, women who work in all styles of music, something to satisfy any taste or lack of it. They are out there.

And, whenever you buy a beer at a club, go to a movie, turn on your TV, you are exercising your economic power. It is more powerful than your political vote. You are voting for the kind of cultural environment you want in Oklahoma City.

What we, the performers, would like to know is, are you against us or for us?

Thanks for listening,
Mary Reynolds



proudly presents

GAYLE MARIE

in concert

Friday, November 22, 1985

8:00 p.m.

First Unitarian Church
13th and Dewey, Oklahoma City

MARY REYNOLDS, OPENING

Watch for Further Notice

EDITORIAL

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS WEEK TO BE OBSERVED NATIONALLY THIS MONTH

Violence Awareness Week especially causes me to think of the hundreds of thousands of successful interventions which have been made possible by the work of a phenomenal national grassroots shelter movement. The women who do the work of providing safe housing, counseling and resources are on the cutting edge of revolution against violence in women's and children's lives.

Violence seems to be as pervasive a social problem as any our country and movement for women confronts today. We have already learned that to exclude any demographic segment of the population from violent acts or argue violence as less likely to occur among any specific group is false. As stated in much of the literature, it cuts across all racial, socio-economic, class and cultural lines. This pervasiveness of violence similarly does not exclude same-gender relationships.

The topic of this editorial is lesbian battery, in honor of Domestic Violence Awareness Week. That women do violence to women in relationships is something we must be aware of and as service providers and friends, take responsibility for in our community. As with battering among heterosexual couples, we must be willing to recognize that a problem exists and provide support to the battered woman.

Barriers for services, I believe, begin with our unwillingness to see women, rather than men, in the role of the batterer. Our first response may be denial of violence in a lesbian relationship. Our next response, as with heterosexual battering, may be to blame the victim. According to Jean Grossholtz, longtime activist in the domestic violence movement and political scientist from South Hadley, MA, "nothing in our understanding of lesbian battering challenges our analysis of male violence." So the dynamics of the battering syndrome may be the same. This painfully challenges our attitude toward the abusive woman we may believe generally incapable of violence.

Barriers for services and intervention in a violent lesbian home is further complicated by the social isolation and alienation which makes all services lesbians receive one step removed. As with heterosexual battered women, lesbians may be geographically isolated and friendships may be limited. Intervention and accessing services may be more difficult for lesbians, however, because lesbians are generally disenfranchised to at least a slightly greater degree than heterosexual women.

When a heterosexual battered woman confides in a friend, she may or may not be met with a supportive response. When she makes the deci-

sion to enter shelter, she will probably receive the services available to her. Whether or not a battered lesbian enters a shelter is a very big question, since her batterer is not a man and her sexual orientation may not be accepted by shelter staff or residents of the shelter. It may be that fewer lesbians enter shelter because of real or imagined homophobia. I believe that often the battered lesbian turns to her community, her circle of lesbian friends, for support and safe space. If she knows of no one she can turn to for help, she truly confronts the void when considering leaving the abusive relationship.

The issue for the shelter movement should be the provision of safe space. Women's lives are at stake, no matter the gender of the batterer. In lesbian relationships, battering still escalates to serious injury and murder. Shelter staff may insist they do not discriminate, but this doesn't take into account the pre-existing barriers to services. Many shelters probably welcome intakes from lesbians who simply change the gender of their batterer on the forms, in counseling and support groups, and never know. Certainly this situation does not treat the whole person, already in crisis. This invisibility needs to stop or at least be compromised and the feminist women's shelter is a place to begin.

What we can do as members of our community is to be aware of battery among lesbians, regard it as a serious crime and not just the way "that couple solves problems," or consider it an isolated incident if you can see it isn't. We can encourage the shelter(s) in our area to be responsive to lesbian battery and to educate themselves about it. The inclusion of lesbians in organizational nondiscrimination policies and in informational brochures which list for whom services are provided will name us and a lesbian in need of shelter will notice. Specialized inservice workshops for staff and discussions about service provision to lesbians in staff orientation will help diffuse the dis-ease service providers may feel.

Individuals working with Herland Sister Resources, Inc., serve as state contact people, in conjunction with a network set up by the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, Lesbian Task Force. Contact us for further information, referrals for counseling or safe space at 524-3017 or 946-5395, or write HSR, Inc., 1630 N.W. 19, Oklahoma City, OK 73106.

by Elaine Barton

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POT POURI

Comedian Kate Clinton will appear in Little Rock in October. Call 501-676-2477 for information.

The next Oklahoma Gay Rodeo Association meeting is October 6; OGR contests are October 20. Write them at P.O. Box 12485, OKC, OK 73157 for details. The Texas Gay Rodeo at Houston is November 14-17, 1985.

The AIDS Medical Foundation raised over \$300,000 in research grant monies from their "Comic Relief" benefit featuring Joan Rivers, Steve Martin, Phil Donahue, Penny Marshall and many others.

Plans for the San Francisco Gay Games II, August 9-17, 1986, are underway. Write Shawn P. Kelly, at 526 Castro, San Francisco, CA 94114 or call 415-861-8282 for information.

As of August 20, only time stands between the eight directors and one staff members of Gay's the Word Bookshop in London and their criminal trial for conspiracy to import "indecent or obscene" material from Giovanni's Room (book distributor in Philadelphia). Over 800 books were banned including Feminism in the 80s, The Joy of Lesbian Sex, Torch Song Trilogy, The AIDS Epidemic.

A Web of Crones newsletter is published for older lesbians. Send \$1.25 to P.O. Box 6, Hornby Island, B.C. VOR 1Z0 Canada. Send items for publication, too.

Lesbian Lives: A Celebration, conference October 18-20 in San Diego. Write P.O. Box 112571, San Diego, CA 92111 for details.

NOTICE!

HERLAND COFFEEHOUSE

The Coffeehouse, held the last Friday of each month, is replaced for the month of October with the HERLAND FALL FESTIVAL AND WOMEN'S RETREAT. Enjoy the music of Peggy Johnson, regularly scheduled for the Coffeehouse, and Mary Reynolds at this special weekend!

BECAUSE OF THE FALL FESTIVAL/WOMEN'S RETREAT, HERLAND WILL BE CLOSED THE WEEKEND OF OCTOBER 26 AND 27.



announces

the next meeting of the Collective
Open to the Public

Sunday, October 13, 1985, 6:30 p.m.
1630 N.W. 19



sponsors

an Open Discussion Group
on Lesbian Battering

Tuesday, October 8, 1985

7:30 p.m.

at Herland, 1630 N.W. 19, OKC

Plan to participate if you are interested in this subject or have been a victim/survivor of lesbian battering. A moderator will be present.



presents

A N N J O N E S

author of

Women Who Kill

and

Everyday Death

in a book reading

Friday, October 11, 1985

8:00 p.m.

at Herland, 1630 N.W. 19, OKC

RECENT LIBRARY ACQUISITIONS

The Herland lending library continues to grow, thanks to the donations we receive from the community. Remember, your donations are tax deductible. You may join the Herland library for a small users' fee of \$5 per year, or become a Friend of Herland.

All of these books are published by Harrington Park Press, Binghamton, New York, 1985.

DeCecco, John P., ed. Gay Personality and Sexual Labeling.

Golub, Sharon, ed. Lifting the Curse of Menstruation: Influence of Menstruation on Women's Lives.

Golub, Sharon, Rita Jackaway Freedman, eds., Health Needs of Women as They Age.

Gronewold, Sue. Beautiful Merchandise: Prostitution in China, 1860-1936.

Koertge, Noretta, ed. Philosophy and Homosexuality.

McNamara, Jo An. A New Song: Celibate Women in the First Three Christian Centuries.

Michael W., ed. Homosexuality, Masculinity and Femininity.

Ryan, Mary P. The Empire of the Mother: American Writing About Domesticity, 1830-1860.

Schoenberg, Robert, Richard S. Goldberg with David A. Shore. With Compassion Toward Some: Homosexuality and Social Work in America.

Ziebold, Thomas O., John E. Mongeon. Gay and Sober: Directions for Counseling and Therapy.

TOUCH AND VIOLENCE WORKSHOP IN TULSA

The CentreWorks staff, Beth Field and Lynda Jacobs, has been working on a unique project which brings touch and body-centered therapies to victims of domestic violence. It was envisioned as a way to help heal the trauma of abusive touch and to give battered women a sense of power and ownership in their own bodies. The results of the project have been dramatic and fascinating.

The workshop, Touch and Violence, will be held on Wednesday, December 4, from 7:30 - 9:30 p.m., at CentreWorks, 1432 S. Carsen, Tulsa. The staff will take this evening (at no charge) to share what they have learned and to stimulate further discussion about the role of holistic health in our crisis-filled society.

CentreWorks offers a wide variety of classes, presentations and films on natural health care, including nutrition, stress management, yoga and movement therapy, and many forms of therapeutic touch including Esalen style bodywork, acupressure and polarity therapy.

For further information on services, fees and registration, contact CentreWorks at 918-583-4848 or write them at 1432 S. Carson, Tulsa, OK 74119. All services are available by appointment.

WOMEN: LEARNING TO LEAD

Women: Learning to Lead is a one-day seminar for women in management/supervisory positions or those aspiring to those positions. It will take place November 11, 1985, at the Oklahoma Center for Continuing Education at OU in Norman. The cost is \$125, which includes course fee and materials, refreshment breaks and lunch. The seminar is conducted by Dr. Pam Shockley, Asst. Professor and Chair of the Department of Communication at the University of Colorado, and Dr. Connie Staley, Consultant in Communications and Management.

This is a workshop for you...about you...moving toward quality, success and leadership as a female professional. It is an opportunity to explore, exchange and learn about what has traditionally been labeled "male territory."

Other workshops sponsored by the Center for Business and Management at OCCE this fall include: Fundamentals of Supervision, Advanced Supervision, Time Management, Situation Oriented Leadership, Managing Problem Employees, Effective Coaching and Counseling Skills for Managers, and managing Older Employees.

For further information, or to enroll, call 405-325-1931, or write the Center for Business and Management for their program schedule at 1700 Asp Ave., Norman, OK 73037.

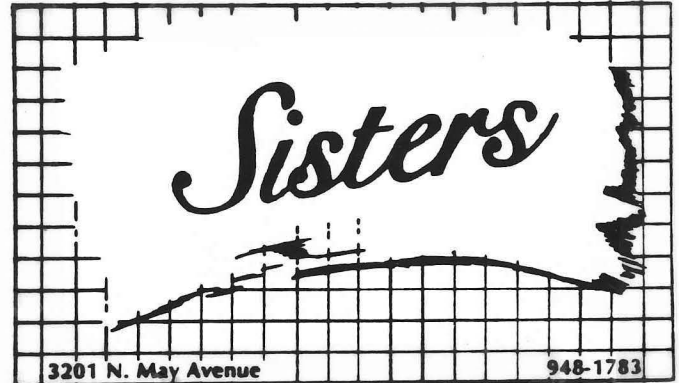


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PROJECT TO RAISE FUNDS FOR CHILDREN

"The Children" fundraising project is a year-long campaign to raise money for neglected or physically and sexually abused children in Oklahoma. The project is designed to supplement already existing service care organizations who provide counseling, advocacy, crisis intervention, placement, housing, food and clothing, referrals and educational resources to Oklahoma children and their families.

Because many service agencies have experienced severe funding cuts from state and federal sources, "The Children" projects' goal is to support agencies who demonstrate a need for additional funding for their programs.

Beginning next spring, the administration for "The Children" project will publish a request for proposals from organizations. Priority will be given to groups who document a need for additional funding based on funding cuts, leading to a reduced capacity to serve their population, or an increase in client population their services could reach by an expansion of present services.

The goal of "The Children" fundraising project after one year is to provide grants ranging from \$10,000 to \$50,000 for up to thirty applicants within the state. Organizers expect to provide a significant contribution toward maintaining quality care for neglected, physically and sexually abused children.


We invite organizations or agencies interested in making application to contact Nancy Viviani, Project Coordinator, with a letter of intent.

We invite individuals and civic organizations to get involved in the movement toward ending violence against children by taking an active part in "The Children" fundraising campaign. It is our intention to raise 1.6 million dollars before July, 1986, through a statewide, concerted effort on the part of thousands of individuals and charitable organizations. The first part of the campaign is the placement and maintenance of donation canisters. We will be placing 500 canisters across the state in the next month and are requesting volunteers to monitor and mail donations from canisters in their area. Also, many local fundraising projects will be taking place across the state in support of this effort. If you or your group would like to contribute, "The Children" project staff can assist you.

A large part of "The Children" project's intent is to draw attention to the plight of our abused children in Oklahoma, as well as the financial plight of the agencies which serve them. We believe that through education and better funding, we can make a difference in the lives of thousands of children in Oklahoma in the coming year.

In 1984, there were over 18,000 reported cases of abuse or neglect in the state of Oklahoma. Of these, 6,593 were found to be valid, with over 500 of these being sexual abuse cases. There were 16 deaths directly attributed to abuse or neglect.


"The Children" project has speakers available to your organization. For further information, or to make a donation, write "The Children," Nancy Viviani, Project Coordinator, 1014 Cedardale Dr., Oklahoma City, OK 73127, or call 405-525-5691.



The Children


Nancy Viviani
Project Co-ordinator
(405) 525-5691
1014 Cedardale Drive
Oklahoma City, OK 73127

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Attorney and Counselor at Law



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405-521-8434, after 5:00 P.M.

**OKLA. COALITION ON DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
AND SEXUAL ASSAULT MEMBER PROGRAMS**

Shelter Programs: Shelter, 24-Hour Hotline, Crisis
Intervention and Rape Response

AREA SERVICES FOR BATTERED WOMEN

Rebecca Burton, Director
P.O. Box 2274
Ada, OK 74820
405-436-3504 (Crisis)

ACMI HOUSE

Karen Brown Liles, Director
P.O. Box 397
Altus, OK 73522
405-482-3800 (Crisis), 482-7449 (Bus.)

WOMEN AND CHILDREN IN CRISIS, INC.

Fay Hegburg, Director
P.O. Box 2016
Bartlesville, OK 74005
918-336-1188 (Crisis)

**WOMEN'S CRISIS CENTER AND SHELTER FOR
BATTERED WOMEN AND CHILDREN**

Mary Rayner, Director
P.O. Box 1534
Clinton, OK 73601
405-323-2604 (Crisis), 323-0838 (Bus.)

OPTION HOUSE

Suzi Dickerson, Director
525 S. Quincy
Enid, OK 73701
405-234-7644 (Shelter), 234-7581 (YWCA)

NEW DIRECTIONS

Patricia Roy-Jolly, Director
P.O. Box 1684
Lawton, OK 73502
405-353-2647 (Crisis)

COMMUNITY CRISIS CENTER, INC.

M.J. Waggoner, S. Foust, G. Jarvis, Dirs.
P.O. Box 905
Miami, OK 74355
918-542-1001 (Crisis), 540-2432 (Bus.)

NORMAN SHELTER FOR BATTERED WOMEN

JoAnn Smith, Shelter Manager
P.O. Box 5089
Norman, OK 73070
405-360-5508 (Crisis), 360-0306 (Bus.)

YWCA CRISIS INTERVENTION SERVICES

Dreama Moon, Director, Pat Reaves, Supervisor
129 N.W. 5
Oklahoma City, OK 73102
405-528-5508 (Crisis), 232-6199 (Bus.)

STILLWATER DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SERVICE

Marsha Barnes, Director
P.O. Box 1059
Stillwater, OK 74074
405-624-3020 (Crisis), 624-3028 (Bus.)

HELP-IN-CRISIS

Pam Teague, Director
P.O. Box 1975
Tahlequah, OK 74464
917-456-4357 (Crisis), 456-0673 (Bus.)

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE INTERVENTION SERVICES

Nancy Kachel, Dir., Daphne McClellan, Supervisor
1331 E. 15
Tulsa, OK 74119
918-585-3143 (Crisis), 585-3163 (Bus.)

QUAD COUNTY CRISIS SHELTER

Diane Potts, Director
602 E. Main
Wilburton, OK 74578
918-465-2500 (Crisis)

WOODWARD DOMESTIC CRISIS SERVICES, INC.

Joanne Frost, Director
124 Colorado
Woodward, OK 73801
405-256-8712 (Crisis)

Crisis Programs: 24-Hour Hotline, Crisis Inter-
vention and Rape Response

**PUSHMATAHA COUNTY SERVICES FOR
BATTERED WOMEN**

Elizabeth Barlow
P.O. Box 191
Antlers, OK 74
405-298-5666

WOMEN'S SERVICE CENTER OF CHICKASHA

Jenny Roberts, Director
P.O. Box 1539
Chickasha, OK 73018
405-222-1818 (Crisis)

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE TASK FORCE, KAY CO.

Karen Maker
P.O. Box 85
Ponca City, OK 74602
405-762-2873 (Crisis), 762-7501 (Bus.)

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Tulsa, OK 74114
918-744-7273 (Crisis), 742-7620 (Bus.)

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