

—Slug:..... COMM-0873.arts.ALS_film
—Contributor.....
—Contributor email.....
—For section..... The Arts
—Format..... News - no byline
—Dateline..... Putney
—Article Number:..... 43899

Notes from editor (not for publication):

HEADLINE ELEMENTS:

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1 Groundbreaking ALS film ‘Stitching Strength’ screening
2 at Next Stage

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4 TEXT BODY:

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5 The Center for Solace and ALS Association will host a
6 special community film screening of *Stitching Strength* Friday,
7 July 24, at 7 p.m., sponsored by Farnum Insulators of East
8 Dummerston.

9 This documentary highlights the deeply moving work
10 and philosophy of Dr. Richard Bedlack, who is a Stewart,

11 Hughes, and Wendt Distinguished Professor of Neurology and
12 Faculty Network Member of the Duke Institute for Brain Sciences.

13 There are approximately 50 people living with ALS in
14 Vermont at any given time, making Vermont No. 1 in the country
15 for cases of ALS per capita. *Stitching Strength* is not a story of
16 surrender; it's a story of style, strength, and the power of believing
17 in what's still possible.

18 Bedlack, famous in the medical community for his
19 compassionate care, clinical trials, and distinctively vibrant
20 wardrobe, will be traveling to Vermont to attend the screening in
21 person. Following the film, Bedlack will take the stage to
22 entertain questions from the audience during an intimate Q&A
23 session. He will be joined by Karin Hammer-Williamson,
24 Manager of Care Services for the ALS Association in Vermont.

25 All proceeds from this special evening will directly
26 benefit two vital organizations: Center for Solace, which provides
27 free-of-charge support and services surrounding serious illness,
28 hospice and grief to southeastern Vermont and neighboring New
29 Hampshire towns, and the ALS Association of Vermont, ensuring
30 that Vermont families battling Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis (ALS)
31 receive the care, respite, and resources they need.

32 Bedlack's approach to medicine and life "reminds us all
33 that hope and dignity remain powerful forces, even in the face of
34 a devastating disease. We invite the entire community to come
35 out, support an incredible cause, and be part of this vital
36 conversation," organizers said in a news release.

37 For tickets, visit nextstagearts.org. Early registration is
38 highly encouraged, as seating is limited.

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BIO/COATTAIL:

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LAST ISSUE IN WHICH THIS FILE CAN BE RUN:

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LINKS:

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VIDEO:

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LOGLINE (SOCIAL MEDIA):

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