



# Erie Gay Community Newsletter

☛ = New or Modified Group/Event this issue

## Calendar

**Important Note:** Events listed here are specifically gay or of interest to a lot of lesbigay people. If you know of an event that should be listed here, please get the info to us in writing by the 15th of the month. For out of town events, call a day or two before to confirm that it is still on; mistakes can occur and circumstances can change at the last moment. Also, please note our e-mail address! From CompuServe, 70431,1622 or from Internet 70431.1622@compuserve.com

**Dec 2—Chevrei Tikva: Shabbat Services and Chanukah Party (Cleveland)** Info: (216)932-5551. 8:30 p.m.

**Dec 2—Melissa Etheridge in Concert (Pittsburgh)** A.J. Palumbo Theater. Tickets (412)391-1111

☛ **Dec 2—All-Male Revue at Lizzie Bordon's** Hollywood Creations at midnight.

**Dec 3—Womynspace Holiday Party** "Celebrate the season with friends! Come to the Holiday Party! Bring a wrapped gift (\$3 limit). Newcomers welcome! For more info: call that lovely Sal gal at 454-2713."

☛ **Dec 3—Making Love (1983)** Coming out story. Harry Hamlin, Michael Ontkean, Kate Jackson. 3:45 a.m. Cinemax.

**Dec 3—Diamond & Hollywood Male Revue at the Embers** 11:30 p.m. 1711 State.

**Dec 3—7th Anniversary Party at Leeward Lounge (Ashtabula)** 1022 Bridge St.



**Dec 4—Browns Fever at Leeward Lounge (Ashtabula)** Opens 4 p.m. to catch the game.

☛ **Dec 5-9—Edinboro University: NAMES Project AIDS Quilt & AIDS Symposium** Details in our "HIV/AIDS - NW Pa" section, for more info call Jan Kinch 734-7670.

☛ **Dec 7—Kids in the Hall Live (Cleveland)** Agora Theater, tickets (216)881-6700.

**Dec 9—Gala Night Out (Warren OH)** Formal dinner and dance. For LesBiGay people and their friends. At the Hippodrome, 150 N. High St. N.E. in Warren OH. Sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Alliance of Youngstown State University. \$20 adv./\$25 at door. For more info call Jean (216)744-4126 or (216) 742-3291.

**Dec 10—AIDS Quilt: Evidence of God's Love** Cathedral of St. Paul. Info 452-3779.

**Dec 10—Charlotte's 40th Birthday Party at Leeward Lounge (Ashtabula)** "Charlotte's one of the owners of the Leeward, come and celebrate!"

**Dec 11—Integrity: The Way of the Cross for Those Who are HIV Positive and for Those Living With AIDS** 6 p.m. Cathedral of St. Paul. Info Sue B. Kuebler at 452-3779.

☛ **Dec 12—In the Life** WNEQ (PBS-Buffalo Ch. 23) 9 p.m. Gay/Lesbian news show—See "Local News-WNY" (p. 13) for details!

*Happy Holidays from Everyone at EGCN!*

Thanks to Micheal Miller  
for this month's  
cover art

*Our Readers Notice  
When You Advertise  
in EGCN!  
Call us at 734-8155  
or 456-9833!*

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**Statement of Purpose**

The purpose of *Erie Gay Community Newsletter* is to serve as a voice for lesbians, bisexuals, gay men and our friends & families in the Erie area. We wish this newsletter to be a source of information, support and affirmation. We also see *EGCN* as a vehicle for celebration of the goodness and diversity of the lesbian, gay and bisexual communities. *EGCN* is a cooperative effort between lesbigay groups and individuals to help our community develop and thrive.

**Ad Rates**

Businesses and Sponsors! Show your support and reach Erie's lesbigay community directly! Advertising space is now available for just \$20 for an eighth page ad, \$35 for a quarter page ad, and \$65 for a half page ad. Call our Advertising Director at (814) 734-8155 or 456-9833 for further details!

**Editorial Policy**

We will consider for publication any material which broadens our understanding of our lifestyles and each other. Views and opinions appearing in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of the staff nor those of the component groups.

We will not publish any material which promotes hatred or discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, race, gender, religion, age, class, physical ability or any other reason. We do not support exploitation of minors.

All materials submitted must be signed so we can contact the authors should we need to consider editorial revisions. However, within the pages of the newsletter, articles may appear anonymously, upon request, and strict confidentiality will be observed. If you wish to have your full name published, you must send a written and signed note that gives us permission to do so. This publication will not "out" anyone.

We welcome and encourage all readers to submit news for publication and to share your comments, criticisms, and positive feelings with us.

Materials should be sent to: *EGCN*; PO Box 3063; Erie, PA 16508-3063. Call (814) 456-9833 for more information. Email: CompuServe: 70431, 1622. Deadline is the 15th of the month.

Before submitting, please send SASE for writer's guidelines.

**Dec 13—Rainbow Connection (Warren PA)**

Info: Fred or Marshall 726-1808.

**Dec 13—St. Mark's HIV/AIDS Support Group**

7:30 p.m. Transportation if you need it! Cheryl Weber at 825-1085 or 452-6113.

**Dec 14—Last Day AIDS Quilt is on Display in Erie** 133 W. 6th, Episcopal Cathedral of St. Paul.

**Dec 14—The Cranberries in Concert (Pittsburgh)** A.J. Palumbo Theater (412)391-1111.

♣ **Dec 14—Madonna: Truth or Dare** Tour documentary. 1:00 a.m. HBO

**Dec 14—The Cranberries in Concert (Pittsburgh)** A.J. Palumbo Theater (412)391-1111.

♣ **Dec 15—EGCN DEADLINE** Please!!!!!!!!!!!!

♣ **Dec 16—African-American Task Force: "Let the Healing Begin"** (Buffalo) 6:30-9:30 p.m.

Program offers education, music, and the challenge of HIV/AIDS. Features representatives from the African-American political and religious community. African dress requested. Free. (716)896-5200.

**Dec 17—Annual Christmas Party at the Leeward Lounge (Ashtabula)** 1022 Bridge.

♣ **Dec 17—10% Network Christmas Party** 7 to 11 p.m. at First Unitarian. Caroling, desserts, and coffee (bring a dessert or appetizer). There will be a donation collection for AIDS Community Services

Christmas basket project. Items needed include toys, clothes, books, and non-perishable food items (items should be new). Recipients will be both children and adults, so items appropriate for either will be acceptable. And donations of money are always appreciated! Info: (716) 484-7285.

**Dec 17—X-mas Extravaganza at Embers** Gena, Ava, Bambi Monet, Destiny, Bobbi B and Jackee. Show 11:30 p.m. 1711 State.

♣ **Dec 19—Smart Sex** WNET (PBS-Buffalo Ch. 17) 10:30 p.m. Features honest and open talk by 11 young adults, straight and gay, in a variety of sexual relationships. Christian Slater hosts.

♣ **Dec 19—Tennessee Williams: Orpheus of the American Stage: An American Masters Special** 9 p.m. WQLN (PBS-Erie) and WNET (PBS-Buffalo Ch. 17) Biography of one of the greatest American playwrights. Reportedly, the program will take an honest look at Williams' homosexuality.

♣ **Dec 19—An Early Frost** AIDS drama about a young gay man. 10:05 p.m. on TBS.

♣ **Dec 23—Christmas Celebration at Lizzie Bordon's** Fun, snack buffet.

♣ **Dec 24 & 25—Cup-a-Ccino's Closed** Re-opening on the 26th!

♣ **Dec 27—Holiday Dinner for HIV-Infected People** Put on by Catholic Charities and HIV/AIDS



*Happy & Safe Holidays*  
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**Lizzie Bordon's**

Nick & Mary Lou Panos, John, Jim, Vince, Todd,  
Joe, Luann, Jim, Mary & Eric

Open Mon-Sat 9-2  
Wed - Country Night  
Fri & Sat - DJ 10:30-2

Fri Dec 23  
Christmas Celebration  
& Snack Buffet

Outreach Ministries of the Cathedral of St. Paul (Episcopal). For details and location, call your case manager, or call Sue B. Kuebler at 452-3779.

**Dec 27—Rainbow Connection (Warren PA)** Fred or Marshall 726-1808.

☛ **Dec 28—Sincerely Yours (1955)** A pianist (played by Liberace) loses his hearing but starts doing good deeds for others. Nothing gay about the film except Liberace's flamboyant gay self. *Video Movie Guide* says, "This tepid, camp remake of George Arliss's classic *The Man Who Played God* may earn cult status because the leading man is Liberace. Ridiculous, sincerely."

☛ **Dec 30—Pre-New Year's Eve Pride Bash (Cleveland)** At U4ia, 10630 Berea Road. Performing: The Cyclone Sisters (black lesbian jazz-rock band). Info (216)371-9714.

☛ **Dec 31—Cup-a-Ccino's Closed** Re-opening January 2nd. "Wishing you a Happy New Year!" from Cup-a-Ccino's management and staff.

☛ **Dec 31—Madonna—Live Down Under** HBO 10:30 p.m.-12:30 a.m.

☛ **Dec 31—2nd Miss Thang Contest at the Slipper** Bartender Mr. Don Samples invites you to "Bring in 1995...Sleaze at the dive! We're having a non-serious drag contest: cheap, sleazy, campy, tacky, psychoslut. Judging at 12:30 p.m. And we'll have a buffet! \$1 cover."

☛ **Dec 31—New Year's Eve Party at Lizzie Bordon's**

☛ **Dec 31—New Year's Eve at the Embers** Buffet, champagne, noisemakers! A fun-filled night! \$3 cover.

☛ **Dec 31—First Night Erie** Want to avoid alcohol on New Year's Eve? Meet with a friend or someone special and do First Night Erie. A pass (last year it was

just five bucks) gets you into all kinds of events. Erie area folks can get info and a pass pretty easily, but if you're from out of town call the Erie Chamber of Commerce: (814) 454-7191.

☛ **Dec 31—New Year's Celebration at Leeward Lounge (Ashtabula)** Champagne, food, party favors. Cover charge.

☛ **Dec 31—Sneakers Celebrates New Year's Eve (Jamestown)**

☛ **Dec 31—Nite Spot: New Year's Party (Jamestown)**

☛ **Dec 31—Ballad of Little Jo (1993)** On Lifetime 3 p.m. Western drama about a woman who lives life as a man to survive in the Old West.

☛ **Jan ?—Sneakers: Watch for Female Illusionist Sometime in January (Jamestown)**

☛ **Jan 6—Odd Girl Out in Concert (Cleveland)** At U4ia, 10630 Berea Road (Special women's events first Fridays of the month). Info: (216)371-9714.

☛ **Jan 7—Womanspace: 2 Girls Alone! Performs** "Join us for a 'real' coffeehouse atmosphere. Tablecloths and candles. We begin at 7:30 p.m. and go! to elevenish. Newcomers welcome! For more info, call that lovely gal Sal at 454-2713 weeknights."

☛ **Jan 8—Christelle's 40th Birthday Party at Barnes & Noble Coffeehouse** Barnes & Noble's entertainment coordinator Jeanie is throwing Christelle DeCrease (cafe manager) a 40th birthday party, and you're invited! There'll be music, poetry, live entertainment. And open mike: Christelle says if you'd like to read a favorite poem or story step up! ("I don't want them to feel like they have to read something about me," says Christelle, "just have it be a poem or story that you really love" For more info stop by the coffeehouse.

☛ **Jan 28—Bridges Dance & Social Night** Bridges is attempting to make more of a mix of things to do: there'll be dancing, but people are also encouraged to bring a game or book and hang out, even if they aren't into dancing. Also, gay/lesbian videos will be shown. Volunteers are needed! If you'd like to help, or want more info, call Bridges at (814)456-9833. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Hiway, Erie.

## Festivals & Conferences

☛ **Feb 24-27—Gay Ski East '95 (Vermont)** East Coast's only Gay ski weekend. Starting at \$230. Info (810)673-3733.

☛ **Mar 23-26—Dinah Shore Weekend (Palm Springs CA)** "25,000 wild women..." Info (310)281-1715.

**BRIDGES  
DANCE  
& SOCIAL  
NIGHT  
JAN. 28  
INFO 456-9833**



# Lea De-Larious

by Micheal Miller

I can't believe she said that!

That was one of my many reactions to Lea DeLaria's Nov 5 performance at the Marquee at the Traf in Buffalo. She was a scream. I can't remember when I last enjoyed a live stand-up performance so much.

My husband Michael and I laughed our heads off as she bemoaned the loss of Martina Navratilova to Women's tennis: "I really had my hopes set on that little Jennifer Capriati babe, but then it turned out that she had a little drug problem. Of course we should have realized this at last year's Wimbledon when the judge yelled 'Line!' and she went S-s-s-s-n-n-i-i-f-f-f-f!"

*I can't believe she said that!*

We also howled at her "Dyke Dating Tips," a segment of her show where she answered audience questions like "What is safe sex?" Answer: "If you want to practice safe sex cut your f---ing nails; sex with you is like Edward f---ing Scissorhands!" Question: "How do you use a dental dam?" Answer: "Dental dams are square pieces of latex that you can find.... nowhere! So if you can't find a dental dam use Saran Wrap which is much better anyway, 'cause then what you don't finish you can wrap up and save for later." Question: "How can you politely wipe your mouth after oral sex?" Answer: "With Sigourney Weaver."

*I can't believe she said that.*

When she wasn't keeping us in tears, Lea also proved herself an accomplished jazz/torch singer by performing such standards as *Don't Explain*, and *Boppin'* with her excellent three piece combo.

The whole evening at the Marquee was wonderful. Lea is a top calibre stand-up, an all-around engaging performer, and she's one of ours. She proudly belts out "I am a lesbian" and carries it off not just with lesbian audiences, but with gays, straights and everyone else. If you ever have a chance to see her, go. And if you don't, pick up a copy of her tape *Bulldyke in a China Shop* on the Ladyslipper Music label. You'll love her.

One word of warning: if you're new to a Lea DeLaria performance, are easily offended, or painfully shy, DO NOT sit near the front. If you are within reach of her microphone cord, you are very liable to be

kissed, sat on, or made over into a 'diesel dyke'. Oh, and for any men who go to see Lea, you should be prepared because you *will* be made to stand up and shout as Michael and I did "I am a Lesbian!"

*I can't believe I said that, but it was fun.*

## Holiday Music

In the mood for something a little different this holiday season?

Here are some alternatives, available through your favorite gay or gay friendly bookstore or record/tape/CD seller:

*Christmastime*, by the South Coast Chorale. This mixed gay and lesbian chorus from southern California does traditional Christmas and Chanukah songs, and two gay carols, "Holiday Brunch" and "Coming Out On Christmas." On CD \$15 and cassette \$10.

*Don We Now...Holiday Favorites* by the Windy City Gay Chorus. Traditional favorites and contemporary compositions, by this gay men's chorus. CD \$15.98 and cassette \$10.98.

*I'll Be a Homo For Christmas*, by Venus Envy. Includes "The 12 Gays of Christmas," "Rhoda the Lesbian Reindeer," "I Hate the Holidays," "O Little Town in Michigan," "I'll Be a Homo For Christmas" and "Here Comes the Fairy Queen." On cassette only. \$9.95.

*Oy Chanukah!* by The Klezmer Conservatory Band. Band of 15 men and women, performing celebratory instrumentals, informatives, strong vocals...jazzy Yiddish music! Cassette \$9.98 and CD \$15.98.

*Christmas Comes Anew*, by the New York City Gay Men's Chorus. Traditional Christmas songs, accompanied by chamber orchestra and opera soprano Faith Esham. CD only \$16.98.

*Snow Angel*, by Cris Williamson. For a variety of seasonal holidays. Cassette only \$9.98.

*A Roamin' Holiday*, by the Turtle Creek Chorale. Christmas music from around the world. This Texas men's chorus raises money for people with AIDS. Cassette and CD.

# On TV This Month

These movies and programs are on more than once during the month.

**And the Band Played On (1993)** Drama about the beginnings of the AIDS epidemic, based on Randy Shilts' book of the same name. On HBO. 12/2 (1 p.m.), 12/8 (4:30 p.m.), 12/16 (9 a.m.), 12/20 (5:30 p.m.)

**Lifeboat (1944)** Hitchcock drama about survivors of a shipwreck, floating in a lifeboat. Tallulah Bankhead stars as the woman who takes charge of the situation. Bankhead was "out" in Hollywood at a time when it wasn't acceptable, and she shines in this movie. On AMC 12/17 (9:30 p.m., 3:30 a.m.), 12/28 (10 a.m., 9:05 p.m.)


**My So-Called Life** On ABC Thursdays 8 p.m. In Dec., Ricky (Wilson Cruz) will be thrown out of house when his parents find out he's gay. Exact air date not known, so watch listings.

**Switch (1991)** Cinemax 12/14 (1:10 a.m.), 12/26 (8 p.m.). Gender-changing comedy. A straight guy who treats women like toilet paper gets murdered and, in order to be admitted into heaven, has to go back to earth as a woman and find *one* woman who likes him. Some funny situations when Steve (Ellen Barkin) is in female form, like when both a lesbian and Steve's straight buddy (Jimmy Smits) become attracted to her...er, him, er...

**V.I. Warshawski (1991)** Mystery about a tough woman detective, who, although she's not played as a lesbian, holds a lot of *Cagney and Lacey* kind of appeal to lesbian audiences. On Showtime 12/6 (11:15 p.m.), TMC 12/9 (9 p.m.) 12/14 (10:45 a.m., 7:30 p.m.), 12/22 (5:50 p.m., 3 a.m.), 12/31 (11:30 a.m., 4 a.m.)

**Why Am I Gay? Stories of Coming Out in America** A number of segments, including gay/lesbian youth, Michael Callen and the Flirtations, coming out issues, gay activism, and more. HBO 12/9 (6:30 a.m., 3:30 p.m.), 12/14 (7 a.m.), 12/19 (3 p.m.), 12/31 (7 a.m.)

**Women's Sports (check against listings)** **Basketball:** NCAA on SPC 12/5 2:30 a.m., KBL 12/7 8 p.m. Big Ten SPC 12/29 (5 p.m.), 12/9 NCAA on SPC, KBL (8:30 a.m.), 12/14 NCAA Preview 3 a.m.. **Bowling:** 12/11 ESPN 4 p.m. **Soccer:** 12/5 ESPN 1 p.m. **Volleyball:** 12/12 on SPC (2 p.m.); 12/13 KBL 8 p.m.; 12/14 SPC, KBL at noon; 12/17 NCAA Semifinal ESPN2 1:30 p.m.; 12/17 Pro Beach KBL 7 p.m.; 12/17 midnight KBL; 12/19 8 p.m. on KBL; noon KBL; 12/24 12:45 a.m. ESPN; Pro Beach 12/24 4 p.m. SPC & KBL; 12/25 midnight ESPN.



Mon-Sat Noon-9pm  
Sun Noon-5pm

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*Body Language will pay for EGCN readers' gas. Thru Dec 25th bring this ad for 10% off any regular price merchandise!*

**The Erie Playhouse Presents...**



**The WIZARD OF OZ**

Come "Over The Rainbow" with the Playhouse for the holidays and follow us down the yellow brick road to happiness.

**December 1-4, 8-11, 15-17**

**For Tickets Call 454-2852**

**Adults \$16, Seniors \$15, Students \$7**

# Michael Dithers

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by Michael Mahler

First and foremost, a great big thank you to the wonderful women of Womynspace who helped collate last month's issue which was running late.

I would like to get people thinking about something important this month. I had been thinking about getting an HIV test for a while. I wasn't really concerned about being positive, but I had never gathered the courage to actually get it done. It was sort of a health-themed day. I went to the doctor for the first time in years to check out a sore throat that afternoon, and later that night I took my cat, Smokey Joe, the newsletter's unofficial mascot, to the vet.

Like many people, I suspect, I didn't really want my employer to know I had gone in for HIV testing. But there are programs here in Erie that are free and confidential. Behrend provides them to their students. The Erie Co. Health Dept provides them both in Erie and Corry. I went to Minority Health Education and Delivery Systems (MHEDS). They were really very nice. They were quite flexible about scheduling. You don't even know at first glance that it's a clinic. I have lived a few doors down from them for the past three years and never realized that that is what they were. They get a fair number of gay and lesbian people. They do other health-related stuff, so it is not by any means only for gay people or people who want to be tested for HIV. It is also not just for racial and ethnic minorities.

If possible, you want to try to go 6 months after your most recent possible exposure because it can take 6 weeks to 6 months for the antibodies to form. I have never done IV drugs and haven't been with anyone new in a year and a half, so I was definitely in the clear. They explain to you what circumstances can cause you to sometimes show positive when you are not. But don't worry, they do test you again if you test positive and they do use the more stringent test for retesting. You do have to schedule to go back in to have your test results presented face-to-face. They have to do this because of confidentiality laws. Otherwise, someone could find out your HIV status by phoning in and claiming to be you. I was also a bit uneasy because I thought they were going to ask a whole bunch of really probing questions, but they don't really pry into your

sex life or anything. The woman who did the testing for me, said that they get folks referred to them by other doctors in town and folks from as far away as Meadville and Oil City.

Why did I wait so long to get tested? I don't know. It didn't even hurt very much when they drew the blood. It is great knowing I am HIV negative, but even if I had been positive, it would have been better knowing for sure. Please think about getting tested, whether through MHEDS, the Erie County Health Department or whatever. See, we have even been running a listing of free and confidential sites for HIV testing and counseling in the HIV/AIDS Directory, next to the Community Directory in the back. Do it for someone you love and care for—You!

You probably saw in the news section about Pedro Zamora's funeral. I got e-mail from the evil Fred Phelps Pholks that they would be protesting at his funeral (and they did). See, they want to prevent gays and PWA's from looking like martyrs. Obviously, vilifying them at funerals will prevent that. What are these people on??? This is not only mean, it can't help but create sympathy. One wonders what will happen at the funerals of Fred Phelps and his followers. I do have a modest suggestion. Wouldn't a nice lesbian and/or gay wedding on Fred Phelps' gravesite be poetic revenge? Maybe showing that love does indeed conquer all? Well, it's a nice fantasy.

I hope everyone is having a really nice holiday season. Micheal and I spent Thanksgiving at my mom's with my stepfather, brother, aunt, uncle and cousin. My cousin is also gay (which made my little brother the token straight boy for our generation.) It really meant a lot that my family has accepted Micheal so fully. A year ago there were some real problems, but I couldn't ask for more right now. Since the first of the year, there hasn't been a family function that Micheal has not been explicitly welcome at. It was rough working our way through this but we did. It made me think about when folks talk about "family values" how they can forget that all gays and lesbians are members of families and that what is really important about families is not penile-vaginal intercourse, but love and commitment.



# Entertainment Notes

- ☆ **GAY TV TEEN GETS THROWN OUT OF HOUSE**, In December, the ABC drama *My So Called Life* will air an episode about a gay kid (**Wilson Cruz**) getting thrown out of the house when his parents find out about his sexual orientation. Wilson is gay in real life, and last Christmas Eve he was, in fact, also thrown out of his parents' house. We tried to find out the air date with no luck, so you'll have to watch the listings. The show is on ABC Thursdays at 8 p.m.
- ☆ **LESBIAN MOMS ON SITCOM**: The sitcom *Friends* recently did an episode about lesbian mothers and handled it really well. The program airs on Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. on NBC
- ☆ **MATT STANDS HIS GROUND**: The Nov. 21 episode of *Melrose Place* showed gay character Matt (**Doug Savant**) asking if he can bring his boyfriend to Thanksgiving dinner. His "tolerant" parents say they'd rather not have to deal with the relationship up close. Matt refuses to go along with it, and when his mother asks what to tell the family, he says, "Tell them I'm having dinner with my lover."
- ☆ **NO TALES SEQUEL**: Fans of the highly-successful mini-series *Tales of the City* will be disappointed to learn that the long-awaited sequel is not going to be filmed. The reason? No American network wants it. Britain's Channel Four was prepared to invest \$4 million of the \$8 million budget, but couldn't find an American network that would invest the rest of the money. So Channel Four has dropped it. Although *Tales* was one of the most successful dramas ever aired on PBS, conservative pressure caused that network to back off. In the meantime, console yourself with the books that the series was based on, by Armistead Maupin. In chronological order, these are: *Tales of the City*, *More Tales of the City*, *Further Tales of the City*, *Babycakes*, *Significant Others*, and *Sure of You*.
- ☆ **PITTSBURGH THEATER**: The Tony-winning gay musical, *Falsestos*, will be performed at the Upstairs Theater in Pittsburgh from Nov. 30 till Dec. 18. Wed. thru Sat. shows will start at 8 p.m., Sundays at 7 p.m., 2 p.m. matinee on 2 p.m. For reservations or info call (412)361-5443.
- ☆ **CALL FOR FILM FESTIVAL ENTRIES CALL**: Submissions are currently being accepted to the 19th San Francisco International Film Festival, June 9-18, 1995. This is the largest lesbian and gay media event in the world. The Festival especially encourages applications for women, people of color, and the differently-able. The Festival is presented by Frameline, a non-profit organization dedicated to the exhibition, distribution, funding, and promotion of lesbian and gay media arts. For application form and guidelines, please write or fax Frameline (Festival Entry), 346 Ninth Street, San Francisco CA 94193. Fax: (415)861-1404. Tel. (415)703-8658.

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# '94 Election: The End of the Gay 90's?

by Greg Vallga

Just hours after the midterm election, Republicans were trumpeting their victories and conservative agendas across the nation. The GOP took control of both chambers of Congress, and the polls reflected the sentiment of the 'angry white male' vote.

With the right-wing takeover, a dismayed lesbian community is searching for signs that the visibility and political momentum the 90's ushered in had not gone the way of the Democrats.

It appears the incoming Congress will provide a much harsher environment for lesbian activists. In the election analysis provided by the League of Gay and Lesbian Voters, "Incoming leaders of the House and Senate, Gingrich and Dole respectively, are from the conservative wing of the Republican party. Both have exhibited hostile attitudes towards the lesbian community. This means it will be more difficult to stop anti-gay legislation...the lesbian community will have to spend valuable time and resources working to defeat anti-gay legislation, rather than working for increased civil rights protections and domestic partnerships."

Bright spots do exist nationally, however. A record number of openly gay officials have been elected to office, according to the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, an organization that provides funding for openly gay candidates. Of the 17 candidates which received funding, 12 (75%) won. Also winning seats were four incumbents who originally were elected with the help of the Victory Fund.

Ballot initiatives that would have repealed or blocked anti-gay discrimination laws in both Idaho and Oregon were rejected. Support for the Employment Non-Discrimination Act will remain about the same—all the incumbent Senate cosponsors were re-elected, and while the House lost 10 supporters, 10 newly elected members have pledged to support the legislation.

In PA, the news was mixed. Our biggest setback was the defeat of Senator Harris Wofford by the Christian Coalition-backed Rick Santorum. Lesbian leaders were upset with the Wofford campaign, citing the slow start, lack of organization, and at times avoiding public support from the lesbian community.

Locally, gays and lesbians were contacted by Wofford campaigners and actively recruited to help.

Phil English, another right-wing candidate, became Tom Ridge's successor in the 21st Congressional district. English's "I'll be an independent voice for the 21st District" rang hollow as he raked in anti-gay Christian Coalition, Eagle Forum, and other conservative PAC money. When questioned about gay rights and the amount of religious right contributions on the campaign trail, English responded with the stock Christian Coalition answers "I support equal rights for everyone" and "I'm really not sure how much." Anti-gay Jerry Knight ran this campaign, which doesn't bode well for the lesbian community.

Tom Ridge as Governor appears to be at least somewhat supportive of lesbian issues. LGLV Chair Chris Young states, "Tom Ridge will be more receptive to our community than Governor Casey. Ridge has indicated that he supports the Hate Crimes Bill." His support may actually shift some votes in both chambers. This will be needed, since some strong supporters in the PA Senate have not sought re-election, and the Republicans now have control of the state Senate and House.

Although the country has experienced a right-wing shift, a post-election poll by Meilman Lazarus Lake, Inc. shows that Americans still support ending discrimination against lesbians. The poll surveyed a random sample of 800 people who voted in the midterm election; the margin of error is +/- 3.5%. The results show that 70% feel that gays should not face unfair job discrimination, 57% supported the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, 78% are in favor of increasing efforts against AIDS, and 54% opposed eliminating lesbian teachers and school books discussing homosexuality. Interestingly, the poll found that 40% of those surveyed were more worried about a "religious right wing agenda" than a "gay agenda" (21%).

LGLV concludes that "Voters were looking for a change, and this year that change was to vote for Republicans. Although Americans elected a more conservative congress, this resulted from economic uncertainty and dissatisfaction with President Clinton, not

an agreement with an anti-lesbigay or socially conservative philosophy.”

It remains to be seen how national and state leaders will react to the new conservative Congress, and how much support the lesbigay community will receive from legislators, even those who support our goals. This election may make elected officials reassess their positions on our issues because of the volatility of the electorate.

## Election Round-Up

### Compiled by **EGCN**

**USA:** The Human Rights Campaign Fund reported that most of the openly gay/lesbian candidates were successful across the country. Anti-gay initiatives in Oregon and Idaho were defeated, but one was successful in Florida. Candidates endorsed by the Christian Coalition were very successful all across the country.

**NY:** Democratic Governor Mario Cuomo lost to George Pataki in the race for New York Governor. The gay civil rights movement has lost a strong ally. Democrat Karen Burstein, an open lesbian running for state attorney general, lost to Republican Dennis Vacco, even though she was ahead in the polls fairly late in the race. Analysts don't seem to think the sexual orientation was the issue, especially since homophobic statements coming from a prominent Vacco supporter seemed to turn voters off. Liberal Democrat Patrick Moynihan won a fourth term.

**OHIO:** None of the candidates in the list of pro-gay candidates we ran last month (taken from endorsements by Ohio's *Gay People's Chronicle*) won in the Ohio elections.

**PA:** Christian Coalition-backed candidate Rick Santorum beat Harris Wofford in the race for U.S. Senate. Bill Leavens was beaten by Christian-Coalition-backed Phil English. Neither the Wofford nor the Leavens campaigns made any major reference to religious right supporters, even though other campaigns have successfully defeated religious right candidates when they made their extremist associations public.

**CA:** Out lesbian Sheila Kuehl, best known as Zelda from *The Many Lives of Dobie Gillis*, won a seat in the state assembly. Republican Gov. Pete Wilson, who has vetoed gay rights legislation, won re-election by emphasizing tough stands on illegal immigration and crime. Gay rights supporter Sen. Dianne Feinstein won in the

nation's most expensive race, against Republican Michael Huffington.

**MASS:** Republican Governor William Weld won re-election. Weld has been initiating pioneering legislation to deal with the problems faced by gay and lesbian youth. Democrat Edward M. Kennedy, our strongest supporter in the Senate, won in a race against Republican businessman Mitt Romney.

**MINN:** Republican Governor Arne Carlson, who supports gay civil rights and legalized abortion, won re-election.

**WISCONSIN:** Republican Congressman Steve Gunderson won re-election even though he recently came out.

## Gay Civil Rights Groups

Here are some of the organizations that work for gay/lesbian civil rights. They need your support:

**Human Rights Campaign Fund** is a national political organization for Lesbians and Gay Men, devoted to civil rights, AIDS, and women's health issues. Works through lobbying Congress political action, and grassroots organizing. Publishes *Momentum*; *Capitol Hill Update*. HRCF, 102 14th St. NW #607, Washington DC 20005 (202)628-4160.

**League of Gay and Lesbian Voters.** State-wide (PA) Puts out a Voters Guide, does lesbigay voter registration, more. Erie area chapter meets once a month and does activities throughout the year. LGLV-Erie at P.O. Box 8083, Erie PA 16505-0083 (814) 833-3258. E-mail: kidithart@aol.com

**Local Agenda.** Western New York organization that works to support candidates who support gay and lesbian rights. In Chautauqua County, contact Greg Rabb at (716)665-5220.

**People for the American Way.** National. Not specifically gay, but works to stop the intrusion of the religious right agenda and to promote tolerance of different races, cultures, sexual orientations, and lifestyles. 2000 M St. NW, Ste. 400, Washington DC 20036 (202)467-4999.

**Stonewall Cleveland** (Ohio) P.O. Box 5936, Cleveland OH 44101 (216)741-9105.

# Local News - NW PA

## Cocoon To Close In Jan.

From Cocoon Co-owners Don and Tina:

Cocoon will be closing some time in January. A promising venture with Phoenix Fire has presented itself and the offer is too good to pass up.

The plan to combine our jewelry with the Phoenix Fire line will afford Tina the opportunity to quit her job at Country Fair and do what she's wanted to do—devote her time to our business. We're looking at doing mall locations in the tri-state area.

We would like to thank the gay community for your support and encouragement. Without you, your support, and your encouragement, we wouldn't have made it this far. We would also like to take this opportunity to thank the staff of *ECCN* for their support during the past year, you guys have been great.

Don would like to apologize for the abbreviated hours at the store. He recently became a Red Cross

AIDS educator and requests for speaking engagements have been coming in.

Stop into Cocoon during December. Many of our items will be 30% to 50% off. We're at 1164 W. 10th in Erie (call for our hours at 459-6608).

Once again, thank you for your support, and we'll see you on the road.

## Grind & Squeeze Future Uncertain

Here's the latest on the Grind & Squeeze Coffeehouse, in Edinboro:

The owners of the coffeehouse, Gabriella Savelli and Sean Rockey, haven't had any luck in locating another place. Edinboro is not a community with a lot of vacant spaces. The Grind & Squeeze will be open until December 15 at 105 Erie Street, but after that, they don't know what's going to happen.

The owner of the property at 105 Erie Street has refused to renew the lease. He has reportedly stated that the coffeehouse makes too much noise, and that people in Edinboro have been complaining about the sort of people it attracts. Petitions are being circulated by supporters of the coffeehouse, in an effort to demonstrate that there is a lot of support for the Grind & Squeeze among people living in Edinboro.

Rockey and Savelli are hoping to convince the owner to allow the coffeehouse to stay at 105 Erie Street until May. They are also asking him to consider renewing the lease with a clause that stipulates acceptable noise limits.

For the latest updates, stop by the coffeehouse.

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- Becky Rudolph -  
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## Lambda Car Club International

If you are interested in antique and classic automobiles and the preservation of these vehicles, you may be interested in joining the Lambda Car Club International, the only such organization for gay people.

The Lambda Car Club (LCC) is an international organization with regional groups in numerous locations. The Finger Lakes Region, based in Rochester, NY, includes northwestern Pennsylvania.

Throughout the year, the Lambda Car Club sponsors numerous automobile-related and social events for

its members. Members also receive the club's national and regional newsletters.

If you would like more information about the Lambda Car Club, write LCC - Finger Lakes Region, P.O. Box 20545, Rochester NY 14602-0545. Ownership of an antique or classic automobile is not a requirement for membership, only an interest in such vehicles.

### **EGCN Considering Name Change**

We have been considering changing the name of this publication and are looking for your input. Some of the reasons we are considering change are that we seem to cover more than just the city of Erie. We don't know if "Newsletter" is quite the right word to describe this publication. One of the alternatives we were considering was Tristate Triangle News. Are lesbian and bisexual readers concerned at all about only the word "Gay" being in our title? Do folks think that by removing the word "Gay" from the masthead would we be making it easier for folks in mixed environments (like Barnes & Noble) to pick it up without feeling as if they were outing themselves or less likely to realize what it was? Is *Erie Gay Community Newsletter* too long of a name? Please write to us at PO Box 3063, Erie PA 16508-0063 and let us know what you think. Let us know whether you want to keep the name, or what you think the new name should be or that it doesn't matter at all to you.

### **Transitions**

**DIED: Milton Shapp**, former Democratic Pennsylvania governor, of Alzheimer's Disease complications, on Nov. 24. He was 82. During his two terms of office in the 1970s, Governor Shapp instituted the Pennsylvania Council for Sexual Minorities and issued an executive order passing a state non-discrimination policy which included sexual orientation.

**ANNIVERSARY: Pete & Tim**, Celebrated 12 happy years this November!

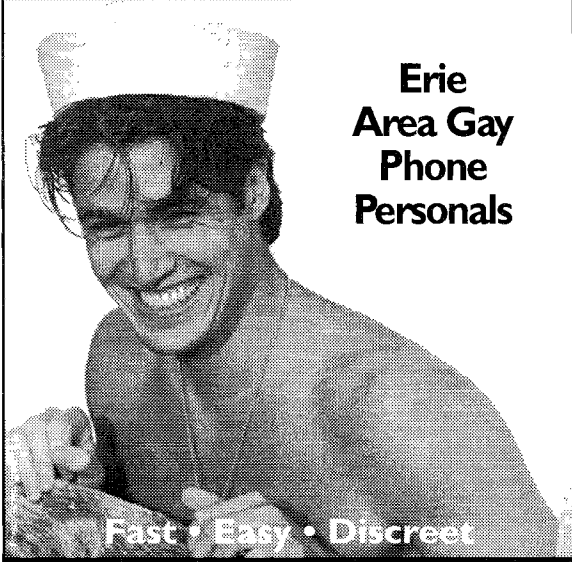
**Give the Gift of Pride:  
A Year's Sub to EGCN!**

(Mailing list is confidential)

# **Local News - WNY**

## **Gay/Lesbian TV Show Comes to WNY**

WNEQ (PBS-Buffalo, Channel 23) will be airing *In the Life*, a gay and lesbian newsmagazine. The first broadcast will be on Dec. 12 at 9 p.m. According to their program guide here's what to expect in that episode. "First, a look at the culture of "two-spirited people," the name for gays lesbians and transgendered people of the Native American communities. Then, a look at Terrance McNally's off-Broadway *Love, Valour and Compassion!* Finally, experts from *Straight From the Heart*, a moving profile of parents who have come to a new understanding of their gay and lesbian children." Unfortunately, there seems to be a question about how many communities in Chautauqua County actually get WNEQ. More details in our next issue!



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# National/World News Bits

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## Massachusetts Teachers Must Learn Gay Issues

BOSTON, Nov. 15—Future Massachusetts public school teachers and administrators must now learn about issues faced by gay students, lesbian, and bisexual student. The course material is required in order to be certified in that state. Massachusetts is the first state in the nation to implement such a change, which was recommended by the Governor's Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth. Massachusetts Governor William Weld, a Republican, has been a strong supporter of programs and approaches that address the seriousness of the problems of gay and lesbian teens.

## Priest Dies in Gay Sauna

DUBLIN, Ireland, Nov. 13—A Catholic priest died in a gay sauna club here and was given last rites by one of two priests who were also at the club. According to one report, the priest suffered a heart attack while watching a pornographic movie. The dead priest reportedly was a regular at the club. "We would not normally give out this information," said Liam Ledwige, the club's manager, "but as a gay community we rebel against the Catholic Church, which refuses to recognize us."

## Study: Gay Men Have Bigger Ones

NEW YORK—Researchers report that in a study comparing the brains of gay and straight men, they discovered that a key passageway between two parts of the brain is thicker in gay men. The structure, called the isthmus of the corpus callosum, is a communication conduit. When the men's brains were scanned it was found that that part was about 13 percent thicker in gay men. Peri Jude Radecic, Executive Director of the Gay and Lesbian Task Force, said that the study "is an important addition to the growing body of evidence indicating a biological basis for homosexuality in some people. And it shows that homosexuality is a naturally occurring and common variation...Regardless of the origins of homosexuality, however, discrimination based on sexual orientation is wrong and must end. This is

especially true if science should ever discover a gene responsible for homosexuality."

## Martina Retires

NEW YORK, Nov. 15—The woman widely regarded as the greatest player in women's tennis lost her game (6-4, 6-2) in a match with Gabriela Sabatini. The Madison Square Garden audience of 18,000 applauded Navratilova's farewell game, and gave a powerful ovation during a farewell ceremony. During the ceremony, a video recapped her career, and a banner bearing Navratilova's name was raised to the rafters.

## Gay Sperm Donor Wins Paternity Rights

NEW YORK, Nov. 19—A gay man who artificially inseminated a lesbian has won paternity rights to the daughter that she bore. Thomas Steel, 44, had had a mutual agreement with the biological mother to visit with the girl, and Steel visited with her during the time when she was four to nine years old. The girl's mother is in a committed relationship with another woman who has a daughter. When in 1990, Steel asked if his daughter and the other child could visit him in California without their mothers, the women cut off all contact. The New York Supreme Court's Appellate Division ruled 3-2 in favor of Steel's rights, stating, "The notion that a lesbian mother should enjoy parental relationship with her, but a gay father should not, is so innately discriminatory as to be unworthy of comment."

## Helms Death Threat

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22—On the anniversary of President Kennedy's assassination, Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) made an indirect death threat against President Clinton. Helms stated that the president "better have a bodyguard if he visits North Carolina" implying that people in the military hate Clinton so much (because of gays in the military, among other things), that they are likely to try to kill him. Helms, who is being considered for the chairmanship of the Foreign Relations Committee, quickly retracted the statement.

Many influential Republican legislators, concerned about Democratic charges that the Republican Party was being taken over by right-wing extremists, scrambled to distance themselves from his remarks.

### Republican Family Values

WASHINGTON—The Republican Party, which officially supports traditional family values, unveiled a welfare reform plan that would place children of poor parents in orphanages. Under the plan, aid for school lunches would be cut, young unwed mothers could not receive assistance, and if the father could not be located, the mother could not receive assistance for children. Those parents who simply could not afford to support their children without public assistance would be placed in orphanages. Money saved from these welfare cuts would be used to fund the orphanages.

### Gingrich on Gays

WASHINGTON—New Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich (R-Georgia) says he thinks the Republican Party's position on gays "should be toleration." But he also believes homosexuality is "an orientation in the way that alcoholism is an orientation," and that it is "madness" to include anything but heterosexual couples in a definition of families. The interview appeared in Washington D.C.'s gay newspaper *The Washington Blade*.

### Serial Killer Nabbed

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. Nov. 23—Just days after being placed on the FBI's Ten Most Wanted List, a man who murdered several gay men was captured. Gary Ray Bowles, 32, has confessed to killing six men. He was a hustler who met his victims in gay bars, after which he would brutally kill them and mutilate their bodies. The men he chose were closeted, older gay men. In giving a reason for his actions, Bowles said that as a child he had been physically and mentally abused by his stepfathers. The murders apparently all took place between Maryland and Florida.

### Court: Military's Gay Policy Upheld

WASHINGTON, Nov. 22—The military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy is constitutional, according to the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia.

The court made the 7-3 ruling in the case of Joseph C. Steffan, who was expelled from the Naval Academy in 1987 when he admitted he was gay. Steffan was six weeks from graduation when he was expelled. The ruling reverses the earlier finding of a three-judge panel.

### Deaths

**Pedro Zamora**, on November 11, of complications due to AIDS. He was 22. Zamora, his life, and his struggle with HIV became known to and loved by millions of people who watched him on the MTV program *Real World*, which he taped earlier this year. Because of his participation in *Real World*, millions of young viewers have now known someone with AIDS. Zamora, who spoke before congressional committees several times, was 17 when he was infected, and was adamant about the need for frank, relevant AIDS education approaches for young gay men. Memorial contributions can be made to the Pedro Zamora Fund, AIDS Action Foundation, 1875 Connecticut Avenue #700, Washington DC 20009. Phone donations 1-800-790-2332.

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## Places to get EGCN...

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### Erie

Barnes & Noble, 5909 Peach Street  
Cocoon, 1164 W. 10th  
Cup-a-Ccino's, 18 N. Park Row  
The Embers, 1711 State Street  
Lizzie Bordon's, 3412 W. 12th  
Silver Slipper, 1317 State Street  
Well Being, 710 Beaumont

### Edinboro

Book Shelf, 200 Plum  
Earthshine, 131 Meadville Street  
Identity (formerly EGO) meetings  
Grind & Squeeze Coffeehouse, 105 Erie St.

### Fredonia

Pathways, 21 Water Street

### Jamestown NY & Warren PA

AIDS Community Services, Tue Mansion  
Nite Spot, 201 Winsor, Jamestown  
Rainbow Connection, Warren 726-1808  
Sneakers, 100 Harrison, Jamestown

### Meadville PA

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## Dancing!

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We'd like to make this more fun for people who aren't into dancing, so we'll have games (Bring your favorite) and other stuff. Your suggestions appreciated!

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Set up \* Clean-up Afterwards (help especially needed here!) \* Greeters \* Other Miscellaneous Tasks

### Please Call to Volunteer



## Message From Erie Co. Health Dept.

*From Alicia Manus, Health Promotion Division, Erie Co. Dept. of Health*

Holiday Greetings!

Dear Readers and Sponsors:

During the 1994 Holiday season, we would like to extend wishes to you and your families for a healthy and joyous Christmas season. The Holidays afford the opportunity to look back with gratefulness for another year past and the faith and hope to look forward to the new year.

The Erie County Department of Health provides personal, environmental, public health promotion and emergency management services to all residents. please call for more information regarding these services. (814)451-6700.

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

## Edinboro: Quilt, AIDS Symposium

NAMES Project: AIDS Quilt will appear at Edinboro University December 5-9.

In conjunction with this, the Edinboro AIDS Symposium will be held. Events will be held at the University Center and Multi-Purpose Room.

Opening Ceremonies will be held December 5 from 7-7:45 p.m. Among selections for the music will be works by Romanovsky and Phillips. There will be a number of events and activities going on during these fourdays: Videos, discussions, presenters, and more. For more information call Dr. Jan Kinch at 734-7670.

## Crawford Co. Directory

The Crawford County AIDS Coalition has published the Crawford County AIDS Resource Directory. It includes a variety of services available to people with HIV/AIDS in the county, plus information about out-of-town and national resources of interest. To get a copy, contact the American Red Cross office in Meadville at 337-3241.

## Buffalo Museum of Science Opens What About AIDS? Exhibit

*From AIDS Community Services newsletter:*

The young mother whose husband must raise their sons alone; the boy who misses his little sister; the gay couple who knows that one of them may soon die; the 19-year-old woman who didn't realize she was at risk. These stories are featured in the Buffalo museum of Science's display of a national exhibit, What About AIDS? A bulk of the graphic exhibit is targeted to teenagers and college students—in the past two years, teens and young adults (18-24) diagnosed have increased over 75 percent. The Buffalo Museum of Science has become one of a handful of museums in the country to host the exhibit which also examines the science beyond the infection.

Three sections explore different aspects of the infection:

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# HIV/AIDS - US & World

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➤ **What is HIV/AIDS?** Examines viruses, including HIV, explaining how immune system works and why our bodies can't fight HIV.

➤ **Protect Yourself** Personal stories, games of chance demonstrating risks, an AIDS hotline, a video, and information on abstinence, protected sex, needles, and HIV testing.

➤ **What Can We Do About It?** Addresses a variety of scientific and social responses to the epidemic. Information is also provided about new treatments and drugs designed to attack HIV at different stages. A special book in this section allows visitors to write their thoughts or remember a loved one who has passed away due to AIDS.

What About AIDS runs through January 3, 1995. The exhibit was produced and developed by the Franklin Institute for the National AIDS Exhibit Consortium (a group of eight science museums), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the American Medical Association.

Admission is \$5.25 adults; \$3.25 children, senior citizens and students with I.D. Museum hours are Tuesday-Saturday 10 a.m.-5 p.m., and Friday 10 a.m.-10 p.m. For more information please call the Buffalo Museum of Science (716)896-5200.

"I am frustrated with the programs that are more concerned with offending people in the general public than with saving lives. If you want to reach me as a young gay man, especially a young gay man of color, then you need to give me the information in a language and vocabulary I can understand and relate to."

—PEDRO ZAMORA, speaking before a congressional committee on AIDS. Zamora contracted HIV when he was 17

## New AIDS Czar

WASHINGTON—President Clinton has appointed Patricia C. Fleming as the new AIDS policy coordinator, a position more popularly known as "AIDS Czar." She had been special assistant to Health and Human Services Secretary Donna Shalala, helping to coordinate their strategies and policies about AIDS. Regarding HIV in teens, she encourages abstinence and delaying sex for as long as possible.

## Home Testing Controversy

WASHINGTON—AIDS activists are charging that Johnson and Johnson is illegally promoting its home HIV testing kits in order to influence and cause the FDA to approve the tests without closer scrutiny. Companies are not allowed to promote products that have not yet been approved, and the home testing kits have not been approved. The test is to be taken by pricking one's finger and sending a dried sample of blood to a lab. Post-test counseling would take place by phone. Opponents question how an untrained person can take an adequate blood sample when health workers often have problems doing it. They are also concerned about the sort of counseling that could take place by telephone. Proponents of the test say that it will allow people to be tested in the privacy of their own home, and that people who might not otherwise be tested might take the home test.

## Baboons Provide Vaccine Hope

SAN FRANCISCO, Oct. 28—Researchers have been successful in infecting baboons with HIV, and the animals appear to develop full-blown AIDS symptoms. Animal rights activists are critical of the experiments, while the researchers say that having animals that react to HIV like humans allows them to test new drugs and vaccines more quickly.

## Male-Female Sex: Women at Higher Risk

An Italian study has determined that HIV transmission is 2.3 times more likely to happen from male-to-female than from female-to-male. The study was reported in the journal, *Epidemiology*.

## AmFar Cutbacks

LOS ANGELES, Oct. 21—The American Foundation for AIDS Research (AmFAR) announced that it was cutting back 11 jobs. They cited a falling-off in donations. Reportedly, no programs will be cut. If you are interested in the work of AmFAR or would like to make a contribution, you can contact them at: AmFAR, 733 Third Ave #12fl, New York NY 10017-3204. (212) 682-7440.

## Israeli AIDS Murder

TEL AVIV, Israel—A gay man who is believed to have dedicated his last year of life to intentionally infecting others with HIV was found murdered in his apartment. Yeshayahu Demner, 46, was a "kindly" and respected professor. His detailed personal records indicated that after he discovered he had HIV, Demner had sex "with many dozens of men," always insisting that condoms not be used. Police believe the murderer may have been a sex partner of Demner's, who discovered what Demner was doing. Gay activists in Israel are concerned that this incident will have serious negative effects on public opinion of gays.

## Youth Booklet

Announcing the booklet *ALONE NO MORE: Developing a Support System for G/L Bi and Questioning Youth* by the Minnesota Dept. of Education, 1994. Cost \$4, payable to the Minnesota Dept. of Education.

The purpose of this booklet is to reduce HIV infection transmission among youth at high risk for HIV infection and to reduce the other significant risk factors faced by gay/lesbian/bi/questioning youth—chemical use/abuse, depression, and suicide.

Send to: Prevention and Risk Reduction Team (AIDS/HIV/STD Program) Minnesota Dept. of Education, Rm. 984 550 Cedar St. St. Paul MN 55101

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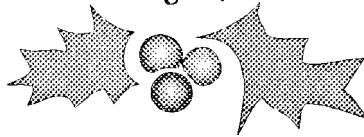
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## Please Don't Drive Drunk

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2. Pick a designated driver.
3. Be a designated driver.
4. Stay over at a hotel or motel.
5. Ask someone for a ride.
6. Offer to drive someone home.

Have a Happy and Healthy Holiday Season!

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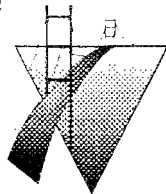
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## Area Bars and Places

### Ashtabula

**Leeward Lounge**, 1022 Bridge St. Open 7 days, 7 p.m. - 2:30 am, food til 1:30 am. (216)964-9935. Fri & Sat - \$1 cover, half goes into 50-50 drawn at end of night, other half goes to person taking cover. Carries *Gay People's Chronicle*. AIDS Food Pantry collection site.

### Erie & Edinboro

**Cup-a-Ccino's**, 18 North Park Row. Mon-Wed 7:30am-11pm, Thur-Fri. 7:30 am-12 mid., Sat 9 a.m.-midnight. 456-1511. A gay-friendly coffeehouse. New expanded space, non-smoking section, retail store. Poetry and story nights on alternating Thursdays, live music most Saturdays, some Fridays. Wheelchair accessible. Bike rack for cyclists.

**The Embers**, 1711 State St. 454-9171. Open Mon-Sat. 8pm-2am. Live DJ music Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat. 10 pm-2am. Pool table, Kitchen 9-midnite, Beth at the piano Thurs 10-midnite.

**Grind and Squeeze Coffeehouse**, 105 Erie Street, Edinboro, 734-3225. Mon-9 a.m.-1 a.m., Tues.-Thurs. noon-1 a.m., Fri.-Sat. noon-2 a.m., Sun. noon-midnight. Gay-friendly coffeehouse. Second floor, above John's Wildwood Pizza.

**Lizzie Bordon's Part II**, 3412 West 12th. Open Mon-Sat., patio open Mon.-Tues.-Thurs. Bowling on Tuesday 9 pm till? Country Line dancing Wed. 9-11 p.m. w/ live DJ. 90s dance music DJ on Fri. (11-2 a.m.) & Sat. (9pm-2a.m.) Shows on some Fridays. Carries *Out & GPC*

**Silver Slipper**, 1317 State Street. Open Mon.-Sat. (Wed., Thurs. Fri. open 2 p.m.-2 a.m. Live DJ music 9 p.m. - 2 a.m. on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. On Friday the DJ plays oldies till 10:30 p.m. (50s, 60s and 70s). Saturday cocktail hour 2-6 pm: beer is \$1, schnapps is \$1. Food served. Carries *GPC*.

### Jamestown & Southwest NY

**Nite Spot**, 201 Winsor, Jamestown. Open Tues-Sun 7pm-2am. Closed Mon. DJ Fri & Sat 10pm-2am. Sun. Drag show, DJ after 9:30 pm, no cover. Nitely specials.

**Rocking Duck Inn**, 28 Genesee Parkway, Cuba NY. Near Olean, 100 miles from Erie. Gay-owned Bed & Breakfast. Call (716)968-3335 for more info.

**Sneakers**, 100 Harrison, Jamestown. (716)484-8816. Open 7 days a week, 2 p.m. to 2 a.m. DJ Fri and Sat 10-2. Sundays: Pool tournaments, starting 4 p.m.

Remember our Deadline-  
15th of the Month!

## Groups & Organizations

### **10% Network and Social Group (Chautauqua County)**

Meets every 3rd Saturday of the month 7-11 pm at First Unitarian Society of Jamestown. No smoking or alcohol. ☎ (716) 484-7285.

### **Bridges**

A coalition of organizations & people which seeks to use networking and communication skills to build a better community. Also publishes *Erie Gay Community Newsletter* and sponsors community dances and potluck dinners/forums. ✂ Bridges, PO Box 3063, Erie, PA 16508-3063. ☎ (814) 456-9833. E-mail to CompuServe 70431,1622 or from Internet: 70431.1622@compuserve.com

### **Chautauqua Gay Fathers & Lesbian Mothers**

A support group for gay & lesbian parents in Chautauqua County & neighboring counties and a play group for their kids. ☎ (716) 672-6682.

### **Committee in Support of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual People**

A committee of students, faculty, & administrators who work together to educate, bring speakers, offer films, and address concerns that relate to gay and lesbian issues specific to the Allegheny Community. ✂ CSGLP, Box 186, Allegheny College, Meadville, PA 16335. ☎ Paula at (814) 332-4356 or Erny at (814) 332-4375. Email to Roy Cerise at csglp@alleg.edu

### **Erie Sisters**

Non-sexual social support group for TV/TS/CD. Good manners, taste & common sense expected. Monthly meetings, newsletter, Meetings in even numbered months are social events held at accepting establishments. Changing room provided. Interview with a club officer required before first meeting. ✂ Erie Sisters, 2115 West 8th Street, Suite 261, Erie, PA 16505.

### **Friends from the Heart**

Volunteers helping deliver help with food, rent, transportation, moving and clothing to people with AIDS. Call Deb Monohon at (814) 838-0123 to see how you can help. Donations *greatly* appreciated.

### **Gay and Lesbian Alliance - the Other 10% (GALA 10)**

Support group for gay men and lesbians and friends and family. Open to public. *Meetings*: Call for site & time. Confidentiality respected. ✂ GALA-10/Sr. Maria Lucia Serrano, 3409 Garden Avenue, Erie PA 16508 ☎ Sr. Malu at 864-4889 around 7 pm or 824-2290 between 11am and 1 pm.

### **HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of St. Paul Cathedral**

Call 452-3779.

### **HUGS East (Mentor, OH)**

Activities, events & groups for the gay and lesbian community of Ashtabula, Lake & Geauga counties. Newsletter published. ✂ HUGS East, PO Box 253, Mentor, OH 44060 ☎ (216) 974-8909.

### **Identity (formerly Edinboro Gay Organization (EGO))**

Student group at Edinboro University. Meets every Sunday at 2:00pm at +++ Social activities (♣). ☎ John at 1-398-8005 or Dee Dee at 734-8155. E-mail to John Wetsell j663104w@vax.edinboro.edu

### **Integrity**

A Christian-based spiritual and support group, sponsored by the Episcopal Church that welcomes people of all faiths. *Meetings*: 2nd Sunday of the month (6:00pm) at St. Paul's Cathedral, 133 West 6th Street. ✂ Integrity-NWPA, PO Box 1782, Erie, PA, 16507-1782. ☎ (814) 774-0903.

### **Jamestown HIV Positive Support Group**

☎ Eric Anderson at (716) 664-7855.

### **Jamestown PFLAG**

For parents & friends of lesbians & gays. Meets last Tuesday of the month, call for site. ☎ (716) 488-1264 or (716) 763-1529.

### **JCC Support Group**

A support group run by Jamestown Community College for gays and lesbians. Open to all community members. Meets off-campus. Contact: Greg Rabb. ☎ (716) 665-5220.

### **Lambda Group AA**

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings for Gays and Lesbians. Closed discussion. *Meetings*: Sundays at 8:00 pm at Unitarian Universalist Church of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway.

### **League of Gay and Lesbian Voters (LGLV)**

Non-partisan voters group. Publishes Voters' Guide for elections, voter registration/education, lobbying, advocacy. Interested in clipping newspaper articles and/or writing summaries? Contact us for details. ☎ Greg at (814) 833-3258. ✂ LGLV-Erie, PO Box 8083, Erie, PA 16505-0083. E-mail to kidithart@aol.com

### **Meadville Group**

Now forming. ☎ Tex at (814) 337-5122.

### **Menspace (formerly Men's Coffeehouse)**

Meets on 2nd Friday of the month at 7:30 pm at Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. ☎ (814) 456-9833 for info.

### **NW PA Gay and Lesbian Task Force**

Tionesta/Titusville political/media advocacy. Write to: PO Box 213, Tionesta, PA 16353-0213.

### **Oasis**

A social/support group for the gender community. Crossdress/Transvestite/Transexual. Write to PO Box 622, Meadville, PA 16335.

### **PFLAG-Erie**

Support group for Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays. Meets last Wed. of month. ☎ Kathy Harris at (814) 838-6020 or ✂ PFLAG-Erie c/o Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, PO Box 3495, Erie, PA 16508.

### **Pitt-Bradford/BIGALA**

Support group for students. ☎ (814) 362-2179 or (814) 362-3158. or write to: University of Pitt Bradford BiGALA, Attn: Director of Student Activities, 300 Campus Drive/235 Commons, Bradford, PA 16701. Email to klfst20@vms.cis.pitt.edu

### **Rainbow Connection (Warren, PA area)**

Support group for Warren, PA and surrounding area. 2nd and 4th Tuesday of month. Call for location and meeting dates/times Fred or Marshall at (814) 726-1808.

### **SUNY-Fredonia B-GLAD**

A support group for students at SUNY Fredonia. Group renamed B-GLAD. ☎ (716) 673-3424

### **Support Groups for Persons with HIV/AIDS**

Open to people of all faiths. *Meetings*: 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at Catholic Charities, St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 East Grandview Blvd. For more info, call Cheryl Weber at 452-6113 or ☎.

### **Trigon**

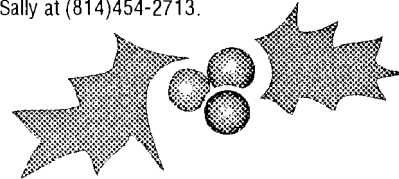
Support group for Behrend students, faculty, alumni. For more info, call Sue Daley (814) 898-6164. or ✂ College Mailroom, Box 1054, Behrend College, Station Road, Erie, PA 16563.

### **Venango-Forest AIDS Support**

Meets every Tuesday at 6:30 pm at Christ Episcopal Church, 16 Center Avenue, Oil City, PA For more info, call 800-359-2437

### **Womynspace Coffeehouse**

An alcohol & smoke-free environment for lesbians, with a particular theme, topic or activity for each month. Meet 1st Saturday of each month at 7:30 pm. at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie. Contact Sally at (814) 454-2713.



# HIV/AIDS Directory

## AIDS Organizations & Services:

### National

AIDS Factline ..... 1-800-324-AIDS  
 National AIDS Hotline ..... 1-800-662-6080  
 Spanish AIDS Hotline..... 1-800-344-7432

### Ashtabula OH/Ashtabula County

AIDS Task Force (Mary Ellen Conigli) .....  
 ..... (216) 998-1020  
 HIV+ Support Group ..... (216)350-2554

### Jamestown NY/Chautauqua Co.

AIDS Community Services ..... (716)664-7855

### Meadville PA/Crawford County

Case Manager - Debbie Miller ... (800)359-AIDS  
 Crawford Co. AIDS Coalition ..... 337-3241  
 HIV+ Support Groups Rosemary Buzzard at 333-5800

### Erie PA/Erie County

Case Manager - Deb Monohon..... 838-0123  
 Case Manager - Mary Richardson ..... 456-8849  
 Case Manager - Cheryl Weber ..... 825-1085

St. Mark's/Catholic Charities Support Group ..... Cheryl Weber at 825-1085 or 452-6113  
 AIDS Network ..... Jackie Tamarro at 451-6700  
 Friends from the Heart (Direct Client Services) ..... 838-0123  
 HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of Cathedral of St. Paul (Episcopal) ..... 452-3779  
 N.W. PA Rural AIDS Alliance (Erie office) .. 456-8849 or 1(800)400-AIDS  
 Well Being HIV+ Support Group ..... 838-0123

### Venango/Forest County

Venango-Forest AIDS Support .. 1-800-359-2437  
 Case Manager - Debbie Miller ... (800)359-AIDS

### Warren County

Case Manager - Deb Monohon ..... 838-0123  
 Case Manager - Tammi Shilling1(800)359-AIDS or (814)226-2743

## HIV/AIDS COUNSELING AND TESTING PROGRAMS (free):

*The following locations offer free, confidential counseling, testing, and referral.*

(Corry) Erie Co. Dept. of Health ..... 663-3891  
 (Erie) Erie Co. Dept. of Health ..... 451-6700  
 (Erie) MHEDS ..... 453-6229 or 453-4728  
 Jamestown or Buffalo ..... (716)847-4520  
 Meadville PA ..... (814)332-6947  
 Pittsburgh ..... (412)578-8332  
 Sharon PA ..... (412)983-5150  
 Youngstown OH ..... (216)747-4805

### Anonymous Sites:


(Ashtabula) Family Planning Associates (\$30) ..... (216)992-5953  
 Painesville OH ..... (216)354-AIDS  
 Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force ..... (412)242-2500



**Peninsula Counseling Services, Inc**

2700 West 21st Street  
 Suite #7  
 Erie, PA 16506  
**835-5204**

*Individual, family, couple counseling.  
 Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder  
 Gay & lesbian affirmative*



## INTEGRITY

A Christian-based spiritual and support group sponsored by the Episcopalian Church that welcomes people of all faiths. Meetings are held the 2nd Sunday of the month at 6 pm at St. Paul's Cathedral, 133 W 6th St. Erie, PA  
 Our mailing address is: Integrity-NWPA, PO Box 1782, Erie, PA 16507-1782.  
 For more information, call (814) 774-0903

## Wills, Living Wills, Closings & Cohabitation

**John E. Cooper, Esq**  
**227 W. 5th Street**  
**Erie, PA 16507**  
**(814) 455-3436**

# Community Directory

## 24 Hour Counseling:

Saint Vincent ..... 452-5151  
Family Crisis ..... 456-2014  
Hamot ..... 877-6136

## Bars & Coffeehouses:

*See page 24!*

## Community-Building Organizations:

Bridges ..... 456-9833

## Counseling:

Deb Monohon ..... 838-0123  
Chautauqua Co. Gay InfoLine..... (716)679-3560  
Family Service of Jamestown N.Y. (716)488-1971  
Lake Erie Counseling Associates ..... 455-4009  
Peninsula Counseling Services ..... 835-5204  
For more info, call Greg ..... 833-3258

## E-Mail Addresses

CGLB/Allegheny College..... csglbp@alleg.edu  
EGCN/Bridges.... 70431.1622@compuserve.com  
Identity ..... j663104w@vax.edinboro.edu  
LGLV-Erie ..... kidithart@aol.com  
Pitt-Bradford BiGALA... klfst20@vms.cis.pitt.edu

## Funding and Fundraising:

Lambda Foundation .. P.O. Box 5169, Pittsburgh  
PA 15206..... (412)521-5444  
Imperial Court .... 266 Elmwood Ave. Buffalo NY  
14222

## Health:

PA Breast Cancer Coalition ..... 455-7833

## Legal:

John Cooper, Esq. .... 455-3436

## Political/Advocacy Organizations:

League of Gay & Lesbian Voters ..... 833-3258

## Publications:

Erie Gay Community Newsletter ..... 456-9833

## Religious Organizations:

Commitment Vows ..... Terry Kime at 864-9300  
Integrity ..... 774-0903  
Gay Catholic Community Rev. Cash at 835-8302  
Unitarian Universalist Congreg. of Erie 864-9300

## Social Organizations:

Menspace (formerly) Men's Coffeehouse 456-9833  
10% Network (formerly Jamestown Social Group)  
..... (716)484-7285 or (716)664-5556  
Rainbow Connection (Warren PA) ..... 726-1808  
Womynspace Coffeehouse ..... 454-2713

## Student Organizations/Youth:

Comte. in Support of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual  
People (Allegheny College, Meadville) .. 332-4368  
Covenant House Teen Hotline .. 1-800-999-9999  
GALA 10 (Mercyhurst College) ..... 824-2572  
Gay & Lesbian Youth of Buffalo .. (716)855-0221  
Identity (formerly EGO).. 398-8005 or 734-8155  
Jamestown Comm. College Grp... (716)665-5220  
National Runaway Switchboard . 1-800-621-4000  
Pitt-Bradford BiGALA .. 1-362-2179 or 362-3158  
SUNY-Fredonia B-GLAD .. Dr. Susan Malone at  
..... (716)673-3424  
Teen Hotline ..... (412)771-8336  
Trigon (Penn State Behrend) ..... 898-6164

## Support Groups

Chautauqua Gay Fathers & Lesbian Mothers.....  
..... (716)672-6682  
Elder Action in a Gay and Lesbian Environment  
..... (716)882-2959  
Erie Sisters ..... 2115 W. 8th St., # 261, Erie, PA  
16505  
Lambda Group—Gay AA (formerly Life's Blood)  
*Every Sunday, 8:00 p.m. Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation of Erie. ....*  
PFLAG-Ashtabula OH ..... (216)964-3350  
PFLAG-Erie ..... Kathy at 838-6020  
PFLAG-Jamestown NY  
..... (716) 488-1264 or 763-1529


## Violence and Abuse:

24 hour Hotline (Domestic abuse/Sexual Assault,  
women and men) ..... (814)726-1030  
Erie Hospitality House (Domestic abuse, women  
and men) ..... (814)454-8161  
Hate Crimes (US Justice Dept.).... 800-347-4283  
Jamestown - YWCA Alternatives to Violence  
(Domestic abuse, women and men) ..... Daytime  
..... (716)488-2237, evenings (716)484-0052.  
Women's Center of Warren & Forest Counties 24  
hour Hotline (Domestic abuse/Sexual Assault,  
women and men) ..... (814)726-1030

*All numbers are area code 814 unless  
otherwise noted.*

**South Gate  
Pizza**

We Deliver  
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Phone:  
**825-8602**



Sun 4-10pm  
M-Th 11:30-11pm  
Fri - Sat  
11:30am-Midnight

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30-50% Off Selected Merchandise*



**1164 W. 10th STREET  
(814) 459-6608**

Small Rainbow Flags, Pins, Rainbow Mugs, T-Shirts,  
FREEDOM RINGS, BUTTONS, CRYSTALS, STONES, JEWELRY

**MON, TUE & THU 11-7      Fri & SAT 11-9**

**20% Off All Floral  
Arrangements with  
this Coupon!**

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Special Occasions

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7200 Peach Street  
Summit Town Center


**Phone 866-1089**

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7 days a week!**



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18 North Park Row  
Erie PA  
new phone!  
456-1151



**CUP-A-CINOS  
EUROPEAN STYLE  
COFFEE HOUSE**

Mon-Wed  
7:30am-11:00pm  
Thu-Fri  
7:30am-12:00mid  
Sat  
9:00am-12:00mid  
music, poetry, readings

A little escape...a stopping place in a modern world  
A great cup of java, a little Donovan and Dylan  
A place to hear the poets...See the Art. Feel the Beat..

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cafe latte

mocha

scones

espresso

cafe

pastries

cheesecakes

iced coffees