



# Erie Gay Community Newsletter

## Calendar

☛ = New or Modified Group/Event this issue

**Important Note:** Events listed here are specifically gay or of interest to a lot of lesbian/gay 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. **New email address!** From Internet MikeMahler@aol.com or from CompuServe, 70431,1622 or fax to (814) 452-1392

☛ **July 6—Southern Tier West's First Rural Regional Forum on HIV/AIDS Prevention (Jamestown NY)** In the Commons of the COCE Building between 6-8 p.m. For details see item in this month's "HIV/AIDS News-WNY" section. Or call Greg Rabbat (716)665-5220 ext. 204.

☛ **July 6—Mary Chapin Carpenter, Mavericks (Buffalo area)** Art-park, 1-800-659-PARK.

☛ **July 6—La Cage Aux Folles 3: The Wedding** Cinemax 6 a.m. A not highly-acclaimed sequel to the original *La Cage Aux Folles*.

☛ **July 6—Erie AIDS Walk Meeting** 6 p.m. Erie Chapter American Red Cross 4961 Pittsburgh Ave. Info Lori Pollock at 833-0942 Charlene Bushyager at 456-8849.



☛ **July 7—CC Rae at Lizzy Bordon's Part II** Comedian/Impersonator. Midnight. Cover charge. 3412 W 12th.

**July 7-8—Foot-o-Cross Rally at Jones Pond (Angelica NY)** Walking rally on grounds Info: (716)567-8100.

☛ **July 8—American Cinema: "The Edge of Hollywood"** WQLN (PBS-Erie) 8 pm. Small segment on new gay cinema.

☛ **July 8—Four Weddings and a Funeral (1994)** Show-time 8 p.m.

**July 9—Integrity: Eucharist, Discussion of Movie Priest** 133 W. 6th, 6 pm, Cathedral of St. Paul.

☛ **July 9—Patti LaBelle (Cleveland)** Palace Theater 1-800-766-6048.

☛ **July 10—Friends from the Heart Meeting** at Well Being Center 710 Beaumont. 6:30 p.m. Info 838-0123.

☛ **July 10—Visions Meeting** Gathering to work toward improving things for Chautauqua County gay men and lesbians. Info (716)484-7285.

☛ **July 11—HIV/AIDS Support Group at St. Mark's** Newcomers welcome! Info: Cheryl Weber at 452-6113 or 825-1085.

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May, 1995  
**Erie Gay  
Community  
Newsletter**

c/o EGC Coalition  
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Fax: (814) 452-1392  
Internet: MikeMahler@aol.com  
Compuserve: 70431,1622

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**455-4009**

The *Erie Gay Community Newsletter* is published monthly as a voice for lesbians, bisexuals, gay men and their friends & families in the Erie area. A source of information, support and affirmation. A vehicle for celebrating the goodness and diversity of our community. *EGCN* is a cooperative effort between lesbigay groups and individuals to help our community develop and thrive.

**Contributors: Our deadline is the 15th of the month!** We welcome and encourage all readers to submit news, comments and opinions for publication in these pages. Before submitting please send SASE for writer's guidelines.

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 Bridges, the *EGCN* staff or their 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 these pages, 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.

**Advertisers: Reach Erie's lesbigay community directly!** Space in *EGCN* is now available for as little as \$20 for an eighth-page ad! Call (814) 456-9833 or (814) 734-8155 and ask for *EGCN's* Advertising Coordinator for more details.

**AIDS**

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Call the Health Dept.  
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**This Month's Cover...**  
*Kiss the Cook*  
Drawing by Mike Miller

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## Places to get EGCN...

- Ashabula**  
Leeward Lounge, 1022 Bridge St.
- Erie**  
Barnes & Noble, 3909 Peach Street  
Cup-a-Coin's, 18 N. Park Row  
The Embers, 1711 State Street  
Lizie Borden's, 3412 W. 12th  
NW. PA Rural AIDS Alliance, Baldwin Bldg.  
Unitarian Universalist Congreg of Erie,  
7100 New Ferry Highway  
Well Being, 710 Beaumont
- Edinboro**  
Book Shelf, 200 Plum  
Earthshine, 131 Meadville Street  
Identity (formerly EGO) meetings
- Jamestown NY & Warren PA**  
AIDS Community Services, The Mansion  
Nite Spot, 201 Winnet, Jamestown  
Rainbow Connection, Warren 726-1808  
Sneakers, 100 Harrison, Jamestown
- Meadville PA**  
Allegheny College Bookstore  
CSGLBP Meetings
- Venango County**  
Oil Region Book Store, Oil City

10th Anniversary

# Buffalo's COMMUNITY PICNIC

Sunday, July 23, 1995  
2:00pm - 7:00pm

BY THE ORIGINAL ORGANIZERS

AT BUFFALO STATE GROUNDS  
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CONTINENTAL

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After Dark

We suggest Hotel Lenox 716-884-1700!  
Mention Picnic—4 Persons \$69!

July 13—**Living Proof: HIV and the Pursuit of Happiness** Cinemax 1:45 p.m.  
 July 14—**Mary Chapin Carpenter in Concert (Chautauqua)** SOLD OUT!!!  
 July 14-15—**Christmas in July Weekend at Jones Pond (Angelica NY)** Lighting, decorating of campsites w/prizes, (716)567-8100.  
 July 14-16—**"Michigan Warm-Up" Women's Camping Trip** Info: Jean (216) 744-4126. Put on by women of LGB Youngstown.  
 July 15—**On WLKK-AM: HIV/AIDS Educators Don Paul Lucas and Charlene Bushyager** 5-6 p.m. on *Vision*. Lucas will talk from a personal perspective of someone living with HIV. Bushyager works for the Northwest PA Rural AIDS Alliance.  
 July 15—**10% Network Picnic (Westfield NY)** 4 p.m.-10 p.m. Ottoway Park on Route 5. Bring a dish and table setting. Also, games, music, whatever. Kids welcome. "Folks from Erie, Warren, and elsewhere are welcome to join us!" Info: John at (716) 484-7285.  
 July 15—**Saturday Night Feveriest (Pittsburgh)** Village People, K.C., Tramps. Coca-Cola StarLake Amphitheater. Tickets at Ticketmaster or (800) LAKE MCI.  
 July 15—**The Color Purple (1985)** Lifetime 7:30 p.m. Steven Spielberg's watered-down version of Alice Walker's novel of the same name.  
 July 15-16—**Rochester NY Pride Parade & Picnic/Gay Day at Seabreeze** Parade & Picnic Saturday, Gay Day Sunday. Info (716)244-8640.  
 July 16—**Day at Geauga Lake Amusement Park (Cleveland area)** Info (216)453-8252.  
 July 16—**"Dancin' in the Streets—Carnival"** (Cleveland) Street party with couple thousand people, fundraiser for AIDS Task Force of Greater Cleveland. Erieside Avenue between E. 9th & W. 3rd (behind the Browns Stadium) 1-10 p.m. \$8 donation, nonstop dancing/live bands. Info (216)621-0766.  
 July 16—**Masterpiece Theater: "Body and Soul"** WQLN (PBS-Erie) 9 p.m. First of four-part series about

a nun torn between her religious vows and the world around her. A small subplot early in the series provides a realistic and painful depiction of "particular friendships" within a convent.  
 July 16—**Taxi: "Elaine's Special Triangle"** On Nickelodeon. Funny and gay-supportive. 11 p.m.  
 July 16—**The Women of Brewster Place, Parts I & II (1989)** Lifetime 4 p.m.-8 p.m. Based on Gloria Naylor's novel about the relationships between black women. Small subplot about a lesbian couple.  
 July 19—**Mean Streets (1982)** Comedy TBS 10:50pm  
 July 19—**HIV/AIDS Network (Erie Co.)** Episcopal Cathedral of St. Paul Education & Information Committee 4-5 p.m., Service Delivery Cmte 5-6 p.m.  
 July 19—**Boys from Brazil (1992)** Cinemax 5 a.m. Grim documentary about transvestites in Rio de Janeiro.  
 July 20—**2 girls alone at Cup-a-Ccino's** 9-midnight. 18 North Park Row,  
 July 21—**Candy Men at Lizzie Borden's Part II** All male revue from Youngstown. Midnight. Cover charge.  
 July 21—**Johnny Mathis in Concert (Chautauque)** 8:15 p.m. \$23. For info, call 1-800-836-ARTS. Read about Mathis in "Entertainment Notes."  
 July 21—**Joan Rivers: Abroad in London** Lifetime at midnight. Joan Rivers in London with Dame Edna.  
 July 21-22—**Leather I Weekend at Jones Pond (Angelica NY)** Leather themed event at gay men's camp ground. Also, *Mother M's Annual BBQ* (\$5.00 fee, reservations by July 17); inc. games, door prizes, refreshments, entertainment at Mother M's Manor. Info (716)567-8100.  
 July 22—**Erie Jazz Festival at Cup-a-Ccino's** Begins at 9pm. Part of the opening festivities. 18 North Park Row,  
 July 22—**Menspace** For info call 835-6712.  
 July 22-23—**Women's Softball: A.S.A. State Championship Major A&B Class** at 11th & 12th and Hess.  
 July 22—**Christmas in July/Gift Exchange at Camp Davis (Boyers PA)** 8 p.m. Gay & lesbian campground. Info (412) 637-2402.


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

July 22—**Lollapalooza '95 (Cleveland area)** Sonic Youth, Hole, Pavement, Sinead O'Connor, Beck, Jesus Lizard, Mighty Mighty Bosstones. 2nd stage: Coctails, Dambuilders, Pharcyde, Geraldine Fibbers. Blossom Music Center, Cuyahoga Falls. Tickets @ Ticketmaster.  
 July 23—**10th Community Picnic (Buffalo NY)** Music/DJ Dancing/Entertainment/Guest Speakers/Organizations/Business Tent. \$10 (profits go to local AIDS groups). Includes beer & soda. Food concession available (or bring own lunch). 2-7 p.m. Over 1,000 people expected. Buffalo State Grounds, 1300 Elmwood Ave. See ad on page 3 for more details.  
 July 23—**Naked News: "Talk Radio"** On A&E 10 p.m. and 2 a.m. Will look at such right-wing talk radio hosts as Rush Limbaugh, G. Gordon Liddy, Pat Buchanan, and Bob Grant.  
 July 23—**Garden Party VI (Cleveland)** Special musical entertainment, live auction, silent auction (artwork, antiques, collectibles, dinner & theater packages, arts & crafts, etc.) in historic Schweinfurth House & gardens. \$30 gen/\$50 patron, goes to Cleveland Lesbian/Gay Community Service Center. Info (216) 522-1999.  
 July 25—**HIV/AIDS Support Group at St. Mark's** Transportation if you need it! Info: Cheryl Weber at 452-6113 or 825-1085.  
 July 26—**Mary Chapin Carpenter: An "In the Spotlight Special"** 10 p.m. on WNE-D (PBS-Buffalo, Ch. 17).  
 July 26—**PFLAG-Erie** Info Kathy Harris 838-6020.  
 July 27—**Peter, Paul & Mary (Buffalo area)** At Artpark. 1-800-659-PARK.  
 July 28—**Threesome (1994)** Showtime 9:45 p.m.  
 July 28-29—**Mardi Gras at Jones Pond (Angelica NY)** Costume Ball on Saturday night. Gay men's campground. (716) 567-8100.  
 July 29—**Exhibition Match: Martina Navratilova and Monica Seles** On CBS, air time not known.  
 July 30—**M. Butterfly (1993)** HBO 4:15 a.m. Based on the true story of a diplomat whose girlfriend, unbeknownst to him, turns out to be a man.

July 30—**Chantilly Lace (1993)** The Movie Channel 9:45 p.m. Ally Sheedy.  
 Aug 2—**A Mother's Prayer** Linda Hamilton plays a real-life mom (Rosemary Holmstrom) who has AIDS and is looking to find a loving home for her son before she dies. RuPaul plays a gay man from Gay Men's Health Crisis who takes her under his wing and becomes her friend. On USA Network, airtime not known.  
 Aug 4—**Fire & Desire at Lizzy Bordon's Part II** Lesbian variety show, midnight. Cover. 3412 W 12th St.  
 Aug 5—**Womynspace: No Gathering**  
 Aug 5—**Craft Weekend at Jones Pond (Angelica NY)** Set up and display your crafts Sat.-Sun. (716) 567-8100.  
 Aug 5—**Oldies But Goodies Weekend at Camp Davis (Boyers PA)** Dance 8 p.m. Campground for gay men and lesbians. Info: (412) 637-2402.  
 Aug 5-6—**Buddies Seventh Annual Summer Festival (Buffalo)** Big AIDS fund-raiser benefits AIDS Community Services. At Buddies (a Buffalo gay bar), 31 Johnson Park. Food (including vegetarian), drinks, live music, gaming, flea market, and much more. Raffle tickets/great prizes. Info (716) 847-0212.  
 Aug 6—**10% Network Day at Chautauqua Institute** "Meet outside main gate at noon. Sunday is free day at Chautauqua. Once we meet we can do whatever, stay together, split off, eat, stroll, sightsee. Some of us will see

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Clarion University      Baldwin Building  
Clarion, PA 16214      Erie, PA 16501

the ballet at 2:30p.m. If you can't meet us at noon, meet us at 2 p.m. at the Amphitheater. Info (716)484-7285.

☛ **Aug 9—Elton John in Concert (Pittsburgh)** Coca-Cola Star Lake Amphitheater 1-800-LAKE-MCI.

☛ **Aug 11-12—Family Sunday at Jones Pond (Angelica NY)** "Bring your friends and family to see the camp 2 p.m.-6 p.m. Sunday." Info (716) 567-8100.

☛ **Aug 13—Integrity: Eucharist and Supper Club** 6 p.m. at Cathedral of St. Paul, 133 W. 6th.

☛ **Aug 18-19—Country Weekend at Jones Pond (Angelica NY)** Info (716) 567-8100.

☛ **Aug 19—2 girls alone! at Cup-a-Ccino's** 9-midnight. 18 North Park Row,

☛ **Aug 19—Joan Baez in Concert (Buffalo)** Artpark 1-800-659-PARK

☛ **Sep 16—Bridges Dance/Social** At Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Ferry Highway, Erie PA. Music, dancing, games & vendors. Volunteers needed for setup, clean-up & admission table. Call 814-825-2513 to volunteer or for vendor info. Admission \$5 or \$4 with non-perishable food donation for Food Pantry of the HIV/AIDS Ministry of the Cathedral of St. Paul.

☛ **Sep 16—Erie AIDS Walk (TENTATIVE DATE!)** Info from Charlene Bushyager 456-8849.

Note: Not all Les/Bi/Gay Performers & Events appear in our Calendar. Some performers and event organizers request that we not list them. We generally respect such requests.

## On TV This Month

**Belle Epoque (1992)** This Spanish movie focuses on a lost soldier and his relationship with a farmer's four daughters, but of interest here is a sympathetic portrayal of one of the daughters, who is a budding lesbian. Showtime 7/6, 7/11, 7/22, 7/26.

**Orlando (1992)** The Movie Channel 7/16, 7/27.

**Prick Up Your Ears (1987)** Based on the life and tragic death of gay playwright Joe Orton. Encore 7/6, 7/16, 7/22.

**The Wedding Banquet (1993)** A gay Taiwanese man stages a fake wedding to placate his parents. On Cinemax 7/5, 7/16.

**Why Am I Gay? Stories of Coming Out in America** HBO 7/12, 7/18, 7/22, 7/24.

Non-Smoking Section

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7:30am-12:00mid  
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9:00am-12:00mid

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### New & Healthy Lunch Menu!

Turkey on a Dill Roll	Soup of the Day	Tuna Salad Pita
Veggie Pita	Spicy Noodles	Hummus Pita
Quiche	Pastries	Cold Drinks
Bottled Spring Waters	Mochas & Hot Cocoas	Herbal & Non-Herbal Teas

# Entertainment Notes

## MOVIES:

Watch for the movie version of *Jeffrey*, due out this month...Miramax's new movie *Kids*, about urban adolescence, is kicking up controversy because it features an HIV+ teenage boy who has unprotected sex with several girls.

## THEATER:

For the third um, straight year, the Tony award for best play went to a gay-themed play. The 1995 Tony winner for best play went to *Love! Valour! Compassion!* Terence McNally's play about a group of gay men over one summer. Actor John Glover, who performed in the play, received the award for best featured actor.

## MUSIC:

In a recent issue of *Vanity Fair*, Courtney Love of Hole openly discusses being with women...Gay crooner Johnny Mathis will perform at Chautauqua on July 21. Mathis was very big on the charts between about 1957 to 1964, with such hits as "Misty," "Chances Are," "Misty" and "What Will Mary Say." He made a comeback in 1978 (with Deniece Williams) with "Too Close to the Sun." For those who don't know, Mathis is a straight guy.

...and in a recent issue of *Vanity Fair*, Courtney Love of Hole openly discusses being with women...Gay crooner Johnny Mathis will perform at Chautauqua on July 21. Mathis was very big on the charts between about 1957 to 1964, with such hits as "Misty," "Chances Are," "Misty" and "What Will Mary Say." He made a comeback in 1978 (with Deniece Williams) with "Too Close to the Sun." For those who don't know, Mathis is a straight guy.

## TELEVISION:

NYPD Blue's gay receptionist John Irvin (*Bill Brochtup*) has gone over so well with the show's viewers that he's expected back next season. . . Showtime is considering producing TV's first sitcom about a lesbian couple. The script for the sitcom—called *Metropolitan Life*—was written by Susan Miller, a lesbian who also wrote for *thirtysomething* and *The Trials of Rosie O'Neill*. The script has been optioned by producer Barney Rosenzweig, who also produced *Trials of Rosie O'Neill* and *Cagney and Lacey*. Rosenzweig's wife, actress Sharon Gless, says that she would love to play one of the lesbians, though the two lesbian characters are about 20 years younger than Gless. Gless' role in *Cagney and Lacey* made her perhaps the most popular mainstream lesbian idol of the 1980s (even though she's straight and so was her role as Chris Cagney), and *The Advocate* suggested maybe she could be cast as a cool lesbian aunt on that lesbian sitcom. By the way, *Lifetime* airs *Cagney & Lacey* re-runs 10 a.m. on Sundays, and 5 p.m. most weekdays.

Erie Area Gay & Lesbian Personnel

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# Float Letters

*After printing Greg Valiga's article on the Bicentennial Float we heard from people all over the place. Some of the letters we are reprinting here came over email, and here and there contain words and phrases that may be unfamiliar to some readers:*

Dear Members of the Erie Area LesBiGay Community:

I was in Philadelphia for the two weeks preceding Erie's Bicentennial parade. When I arrived home on the Friday before the parade, I heard about the vandalism to the float. I would have helped with the reconstruction had I not been so tired. At the parade I cheered from the moment I saw the parade until it passed by. I was proud to see our community represented.

But according to Greg Valiga's article in the June 1995 issue of *EAGCN*, it wasn't "our" community. On page 12, Mr. Valiga tells about John Horan, the Vice Chair of the Commission, and his visit to the float site. He said that nothing was offensive about the float. Then he went on, "he suggests that we remove the word 'bisexual' from the float. Larry agrees."

If nothing was offensive, what necessitated the removal of the word "bisexual"? More importantly, why did Larry comply so easily?

As a bisexual of the Erie area, I feel cheated. We are often discriminated against by both the hetero- and homo-sexual communities. Based on studies, Alfred Kinsey's in particular; more people are bisexual than monosexual, even if they lean so heavily in one direction that they see themselves as "straight" or "gay." Bisexuals can only be an asset to the LesBiGay community, yet discrimination such as that described in Greg Valiga's article pushes us to form our own community, when really we are working toward the same goals.

Sincerely,  
Ms. Kim H

*From the float committee:*

*Thanks for pointing out your feelings about the wording on the float. We fully agreed with your observation about removing the word bisexual, and to take it a step further, removing any references to the lesbian, gay, or bisexual community. However, we felt that our opposition was focusing on the 'sex' part of the*

*word bisexual to make their point about how inappropriate our message was, and we thought it would be a good compromise to simply pull out the word. In hindsight, we should have gone with the word lesbian, such as is commonly used.*

*The members of the float committee were under a lot of stress the entire week, and we had many quick decisions to make. Although some of our decisions were made in haste, we feel we did a good job in meeting our initial goal-being included in the parade. And in the end, where was the discrimination? Did you see any wording referring to the lesbian, gay, or bisexual community of Erie?*

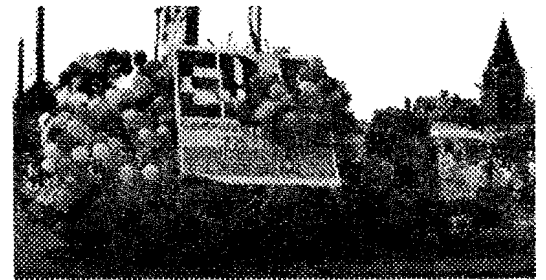
*We truly wish you had been part of the committee, or had shown up to express your views. Our actions should in no way reflect a willingness to exclude bisexuals from any activity, organization, or event in the Erie area.*

What a wonderful article, complete with photos, about the Bicentennial float. Greg Valiga had a true "from-the-heart" story to tell and did it so well. We congratulate those very courageous and determined men and women who were a part of our project & realize, "And still we stand, still they stand." A quotation we like to repeat is: "A winner never quits, and a quitter never wins."

Be proud, stand tall, and keep the public informed just as you are.

Regards from PFLAG-DuBois, Pa.

Karen and Jack Kressley  
DuBois, PA





Thanks for one of the MOST WONDERFUL POSTS I HAVE EVER READ ON GLB NEWS!!!!

I'm sitting here at work, in tears from it!!!!

I feel grateful to be connected even in a very remote and distant way to such a heroic and important action!!!!

I wish I had seen news about the float/parade/controversy there beforehand... my partner and I would have headed up to Erie...

Too often, political action seems to be people's focus, when a cultural activism like the visibility you folks did serves much good. It is too cliché to say, "everybody should just come out"... but stories about such actions as yours show what great progress is made when people little step by little step choose to be seen and heard in a nonpolitical way.

I think what I appreciated most from the story was the author's honesty. About wanting to give up, about doubting the capability, about hoping that the mention of violence might squash the idea. All of us at every level of activism experience those feelings but it is rarely talked about. Maybe more people would be willing to get involved and risk if they realize that none of us are totally without fear or doubt... that all of us need others as inspiration.

Do you still need \$\$\$\$ to cover the costs of the float???

Thomas C. Waters  
Pittsburgh, PA

Congratulations! I am impressed by your work and tenacity. I was born and raised in Erie, PA. I am heavily involved with lesbian gay bisexual activism here in Ann Arbor. If I can do anything for you, feel free to call or email me. I founded Queer Unity Project, an activist group, and the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Alliance, the umbrella organization for LGB groups on campus. I don't know what I could do, other than provide resources (through the UM Libraries, the Lesbian Gay Bisexual Programs Office, or the Internet). Queer Unity Project has about 150 members, so if you need a phone or letter drive, feel free to contact me.

Please thank Abby Conley for her support of the community. Although she and my mother had their differences, her dedication to the lesbian gay and bisexual community is commendable. *{Ed. note - Matthew*

*is the son of Denise Robison, former Erie City Councilwoman, presently serving in Gov. Ridge's administration.}*

Congratulations! Good luck with future efforts!

PS: if I return to Erie over the summer and you need help organizing activities, who should I contact? And don't worry about outing me—I'm through with the closet. Besides, most people know anyway.

Matthew W. Robison  
Ann Arbor, MI

Hi Mike-

I read the text of Greg Valiga's article for the *Erie Gay Community Newsletter* about your difficulties with the float through an Internet newsgroup. Being an ex-Erie-ite (I graduated from McDowell in 1970) I applaud your perseverance in the face of homophobia!!! I have been active in gay issues ever since high school. I helped found the gay student group [EGO/Identity], originally called the "Homophile League" at Edinboro in 1973 or 1974—in fact, Harry Miller was another founding member. I have lived in New York City since 1983, work at Columbia University and volunteer for GMHC Special Events.

It is easy for us who live in big cities with large lesbian gay communities to overlook the struggles which our sisters and brothers in small-town America must face all the time. I hope you receive tons of email support from all over the USA! I would love to be put on the mailing list for the Newsletter and will gladly send a donation if you send me an address.

Ted Goodman  
New York City

*Editors' Note: The Float Committee still hasn't made a final tally. They'll fill you in on their needs next month. And how commendable of you folks to offer to help!*



**Rocking Duck Inn**

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# Michael

## Writers

by Michael Mahler

I hope everyone had a nice Pride month. We certainly have been very busy here.

Recently, I went to the post office and found 2 subscriptions from the parents of a guy I used to know in high school. One subscription was for the parents and one for their son. I ended up calling up both and saying howdy. It was great catching up on old times and knowing that the newsletter could speak to both lesbian & straight people. This really meant a lot to me because of many folks who try to mask anti-gay stuff by stating that they are "pro-family," thus ignoring the fact that lesbian people are an integral part of many families. I am proud to say that I have given copies of the newsletter to my own mother, who is very busy now with helping to choose the new pastor at her church.

It was also a really great run of folks who came to the Pride Picnic; some folks (lesbian & straight) brought their kids and one couple also brought their parents. At one point some managers from another picnic ended up using the tables that someone had brought. Like the float in the parade this proves that it is indeed possible for all sorts of folks to live side by side.

This probably means a lot to me because I always feel that many homophobes are implying there was some sort of meeting in the past where straight folks got the copyright to clean wholesome lives and lesbian folks elected to be sex gargoyles. (Which I must have missed.) I had a friend who used to say that he spent a lot of time trying to be normal, until he realized he *was* normal.

# Consumer Reports

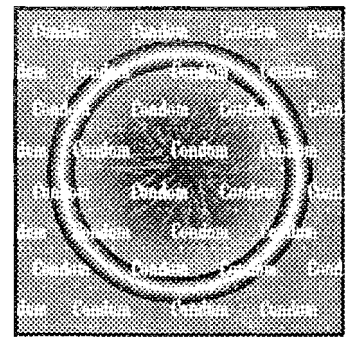
## Condoms

As you probably know, in 1989, *Consumer Reports* tested 37 condoms and found that quality varied from brand to brand.

The *Consumer Reports* tested 37 condoms and found that quality varied from brand to brand.

The article carried some very important information for condom-users. We'd recommend that you order a copy of the article for yourself. Although we've listed the brands and how they were rated, the article has a lot more in-depth information, about labeling information, sizes, correct use and storage, and much more. Again, if you want to order a copy for yourself send \$3.00 to CU Reprints 101 Truman Ave., Yonkers NY 10703-1057.

The results of this recent study are somewhat different than earlier studies (the Mariposa study and *Consumer Reports* '89 study). In these studies, Goodyear's came out very well in this study. In *Consumer Reports* '89 study, Goodyear's was not the best. In this study, it would appear that, like cars, the year of the model might vary. So, considering the importance of condoms in saving lives, it seems more effort should be made to rate condoms every year, like automobiles are rated. According to Daniel Bao at the Condom Resource Center, the only other major condom studies were the *Consumer Reports* 1989 study, and the Mariposa study. Although results of the Mariposa study were released fairly recently, the researchers reportedly used many



old condoms, because they didn't have the funding to buy new ones.

The studies were conducted using an airburst test. Condoms were filled with air to see how much they could hold. Airburst testing assesses how much stretch a condom has, and the amount of "stretch" a condom has is apparently what determines how well it can resist breaking. The U.S. government has recently adopted the airburst test.

A couple things need to be pointed out. Just because a condom didn't have a perfect airburst test, it doesn't mean it will fail during sex. The airburst tests filled the condoms to the size of watermelons and put it through a somewhat more rigorous test than they would have during sex. (Those on the bottom of the list, though, should probably be avoided.) The other important point is that most condom failure comes from improper use or storage of condoms. Read the instructions on the packages, and learn how to treat condoms the right way.

*And remember—if you're having high-risk sex, ANY condom brand is better than none at all!*

*This is how the condom brands performed in the Consumer Reports test best to worst with number 1 being best:*

1. \*Excite Extra Ultra-Ribbed, spermicide
2. \*Ramses Extra Ribbed, spermicide
3. \*Sheik Elite (renamed **Sheik Classic**)
4. Lifestyles Vibra-Ribbed
5. Ramses Extra, spermicide
6. Ramses Sensitoi
7. Sheik Elite Ribbed, spermicide (renamed **Sheik Classic Ribbed**)
8. Sheik Elite, spermicide (renamed **Sheik Classic, spermicide**)
9. Trojan-Enz Large
10. Trojan-Enz Nonlubricated
11. Lifestyles
12. Touch from Protex ("A Best Buy")
13. Trojan-Enz spermicide
14. Saxon Gold Ultra Lube
15. Trojan Magnum
16. Trojan Very Sensitive
17. Lifestyles, permicide
18. Trojan Ribbed

19. Rough Rider
20. Lifestyles Extra Strength, spermicide
21. Gold Circle Coin, Nonlubricated
22. Sheik Elite (the Japanese version of the product, since discontinued)
23. Trojan Naturalube Ribbed
24. Class Act
25. Kimono
26. Pleasure Plus
27. Beyond Seven
28. Gold Circle Rainbow Coin Nonlubricated
29. Sheik Super Thin
30. Ramses Ultra Thin

*The following brands did poorly. They are listed in alphabetical order:*

31. Lifestyles Ultra Sensitive
32. Trojan Extra Strength
33. Trojan Mentor
34. Trojan Plus
35. Trojan Very Thin
36. Trojan-Enz
37. Trojans Nonlubricated

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(716)488-1971

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# Local News

## Local News—NW Pa

### Hate Radio

Perhaps it was because of the virulent nature of the local hate radio attacks on the gay and lesbian community in the weeks before the gay and lesbian float was in the Bicentennial Parade. Or perhaps it was because, since the Oklahoma City bombing, there has been a suspicion that hate speech causes hateful actions.

Whatever the reason, the subject of "hate radio" has become a hot issue in the Erie area.

On June 12, Abby B. Conley called a press conference about hate radio in Erie, specifically Pat Campbell's program on WFLP-AM. Campbell had made numerous attacks on the gay community during the float controversy, and had made other remarks about individuals, minority groups and organizations in the past. Campbell had also targeted Conley during the weeks prior to Bicentennial Parade, and during that time her car was vandalized and she began receiving obscene phone calls. Campbell had attacked Conley because, as a Bicentennial Commission member, she was supportive of the float's presence and had also okayed placing a copy of *EGCN* in the Bicentennial time capsule. Conley began contacting businesses that advertise on Pat Campbell's program, and encouraged other individuals and organizations to do so as well. Members of the gay/lesbian community, the Jewish community, the peace and justice community, and others who had the desire to do something about the hatred and prejudice that was coming out of Campbell's program. An organization called Citizens for Fairness and Equality was formed this time.

On June 12, back in Lancaster, Conley's sister Patti called in a boy in a telephone call to sponsor Dave Limbaugh's radio program. She accused hate radio hosts of "creating violence" and spewing hatred. Knoll made her remarks while she was in town for the State Convention of the Pennsylvania Federation of Democratic Women.

On June 13, WSEE-TV reporter Carol Pella did a segment on Pat Campbell's radio program. On the WSEE segment, Pella interviewed Conley as well as

Sr. Anne McCarthey, a Benedictine nun. Campbell has frequently attacked the Benedictines on his program. WFLP Program manager Chris Haggerty was also interviewed, and stated that so far the station hadn't been hurt by the call to contact the stations advertisers.

Local talk show host Barry Dane Steinhagen, of WLKK-AM, spoke at the Erie Kiwanis Club on June 13, and expressed concern about the increase in hate radio. He said many hate radio hosts "have rushed—no pun intended—to dismiss criticism, wrapping [themselves] in the First Amendment when questions are raised about a bombing in Oklahoma City, the spraying of the White House with gunfire or the vandalizing of a parade float."

### DuBois PFLAG Launches Newsletter

The DuBois Chapter of Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays has just published the first issue of its newsletter. They did a great job, too! The first issue has local/area news, national/world news, book reviews, a couple articles on understanding homosexuality, and a list of pride festivals. (not to mention two advertisements! It's not easy to pull something like that off in a place like the DuBois area, and these folks are to be congratulated! To receive the *DuBois PFLAG Newsletter*, or get it to someone who would be interested, contact the DuBois PFLAG Chapter: 1491 Treasurers Lake, DuBois PA 15801 (814) 571-4939.

### Local News - WFLP

#### Mayor Quishin's Speech at DuBois Picnic

Mayor Quishin's speech at the Community picnic July 1st will be addressed to Jamestown name Jimmy Lord Jr. Lord Jr. who was very active in DuBois gay community, ran the games at the picnic. He died of AIDS complications in April. For info about the picnic check the ad on page 3 of this issue or look in the calendar. Looks like a lot of fun!

# Speaking Out Against Hate Radio

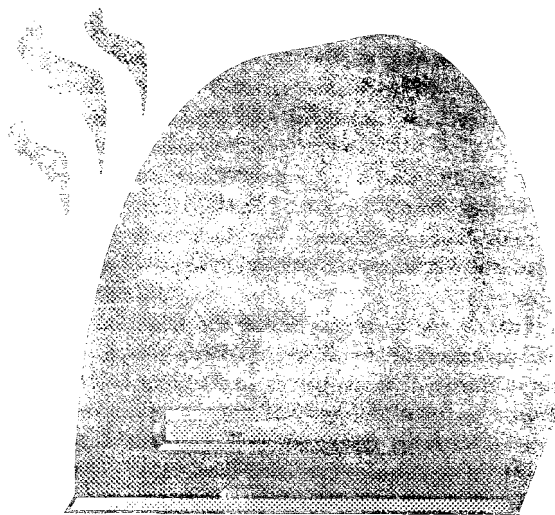
A group calling itself Citizens for Tolerance of Erie, PA has decided to take a stand against the never ending barrage of homophobic, anti-Semitic, ageist, racist, sexist and generally intolerant comments made by local radio talk show host Pat Campbell of WFLP AM. Citizens for Tolerance, an ad-hoc group consisting of members of the Jewish, Benedictine, Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual communities, has begun distributing a flyer listing WFLP advertisers and their phone numbers. The flyer also urges people to call these advertisers and express the opinions and concerns that they have about the support that these advertisers have given, in the most part unknowingly, to the hate and prejudice spawned on Campbell's program.

Though some people have referred to this action as a boycott, according to one supporter of Citizens for Tolerance, Abby B. Conley, the idea behind the flyer is one of building tolerance and empowering people to speak their minds. Ms. Conley said that many of the advertisers just didn't know that their ads were supporting Mr. Campbell's brand of hate radio. In fact, according to Conley, one Jewish business owner started to cry when she found out that her advertising dollar was paying for the broadcast of anti-Semitic slurs.

Why not just turn off the radio and let Mr. Campbell say whatever he wants? After all, he's protected by the First Amendment isn't he? According to Ms. Conley, he's crossed the line into public intimidation and incitement of violent behavior, "he leaves no dignity for his victims." Ms. Conley voices no doubt that Mr. Campbell's on air gay-bashing was at least in part responsible for the destruction of the float sponsored by the Gay Lesbian and Bisexual community in Erie's Bi-Centennial Parade. "Intimidation has power. We can't stay silent. We have to stand up to intimidation." says Conley.

According to WFLP general manager Chris Haggerty, responding on a June 13 Newswatch 35 broadcast, Pat Campbell's show would continue to air, and the station had not lost any advertising support over what he referred to as a boycott, pure and simple. But this was said a day after at least one advertiser, Hamot Medical Center, decided to withhold broadcasting Hamot Health Calls on the station until Campbell was replaced as host.

Here are WFLP's advertisers as listed on the Citizens for Tolerance flyer in case you want to call or write any of them and let them know your feelings on the matter.



Darth's C. Top Menu .....	455-6097
Dietary .....	659-2433
General Electric Heating .....	864-4984
Greenwood Center .....	836-2363
Hamot's Big Country Store .....	864-8316
Dave's Hardware Chevrolet-Geo .....	452-6731
Hamot's Inc. ....	835-4200
H. Jack Langer Plumbing .....	838-2270
Lawnmower .....	456-3100
Lacchetto's Flower Shop .....	833-4713
Maple Hill Dentist .....	455-6408
Medical Center .....	833-0717
Pedden's .....	864-3077
Peppers Deli .....	456-3471
Sara's Grill .....	833-3421
Shawnee Optical .....	838-2870
Warrens Sunoco .....	459-1476

# Families

## Brit "Lesbian" Wedding

For the first time in England, two lesbians will be legally wed. Well, sort of. Tracie-Anne Scott and Tina-Louise Dixon will wed on June 28. How is this possible, if England doesn't recognize same-sex marriages? Because Tracie Anne was born a man. Although she has had a sex-change operation, she is still considered legally a man. The marriage is still considered to be "lesbian" and the wedding is being considered an historic event in England.

## Briefs

Gay couple role models **Bob and Rod Jackson-Paris** say that they will retreat from the public eye, at least for awhile. They can be seen as smooching sailors on the new Diesel clothing ad.

**Alaska:** April 14—Employers in Alaska are required to give health and retirement benefits to same-sex partners and partners of heterosexual unmarried couples.

**Northampton MA:** May 14—Northampton MA city council voted 8-1 to allow same-sex couples to register their relationships.

**London:** June 6—Same-sex couples and unmarried heterosexual couples should be welcomed into congregations of the Anglican Church, says a Church panel. Also, the panel recommended ceasing the use of the phrase ceasing use of the phrase "living in sin" because it is judgmental.

## Melissa & Julie's Wedding Plans

In her article in the June 1 *Rolling Stone*, **Melissa Etheridge** talks about wanting to legally marry Julie Cypher. "Julie and I talk about it a lot. I think it will be barefoot. And we'll both wear dresses. But it won't be traditional". (To which Julie responded, "Been there, done that.") Melissa also remarked that the couple would like to become parents.

# Pedaling for AIDS

by DonPaul Lucas

On June 17, 1995, I had the pleasure of being support person for Jim Petretta during one of the legs of his 5000-mile bicycle journey to raise money for and awareness of AIDS.

Jim's mission of fund-raising is twofold. First, he is riding to help raise funds for the Pediatric AIDS Unit of Buffalo Children's Hospital. Then, in each city he visits, he challenges that community to support the local AIDS Service Organizations (ASO's).

Due to a few snafus, Jim's stay in Erie was a bit hectic. I contacted Jim about two weeks ago to make preliminary arrangements for his brief visit to Erie. Because his press-kit and update information was turned over to the fax department of the facility handling this information and I don't have a fax, I never got the information. (Jim had no knowledge of this until he got to Erie.) I knew Jim was due in Erie on June 16th but, life being what it is, I got busy with other things and filed that information in the back of my mind.

11:00AM Friday June 16, my phone rang. It was Jim. His ETA in Erie was between 3:00 and 4:00PM. The next two hours were frantically spent on the telephone trying to make arrangements for his arrival and overnight stay. Unfortunately, as things sometimes go, nothing was working out.

At 6:30PM Jim and his support person, Carl Lebman, arrived at Summit Plaza. I drove up to meet them and get them settled into a local motel. As I explained the situation to them, I learned what great people Jim and Carl were. I presented a couple dinner ideas to them and Jim spotted the Old Country Buffet and said, "Let's go there." We decided to get them settled in a room, get interviews set up and have a late supper.

Carl, as manager, explained the situation to two motel managers at two different motels—trying to get a room donated. Both places had rooms when they thought we were paying, but were suddenly booked when asked for a donation \*\*\*to an AIDS related cause\*\*\*. Undaunted, Carl tried the Knight's Inn at 97 and 90. Without hesitation, they gave Jim and Carl a room for the night.

I got a call a little later saying we had reservations and had to leave around 10:00. I had to go to the office to get some things. I had to go to the office to get some things. I had to go to the office to get some things.

WUSA, WJZL, WJZL and the Evening News all showed up for interviews. Jim and Carl were impressed with the coverage given Erie was the first city where all the media showed up.

During dinner Carl mentioned he had to drive to Buffalo, then Rochester on Saturday. That would have left Jim to ride alone all day. I volunteered to drive as support.

We left Saturday morning after Jim's interview with the gay and lesbian newspaper and a second interview with WJZL. On our way out of the city on Route 6, we were met by Sue Kuebler from St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral AIDS Outreach Ministry. She had toiletry bags for both Jim and Carl. Over the next four hours—very hot, humid hours—we made our way along Route 6, then Route 20 to Ashtabula.

Jim and I had support person and manager Carl, and on the way across the country. They have a meeting with the staff on June 29th, so have an eye on the local HIV/AIDS. Also watch for more information on the local HIV/AIDS coming soon.

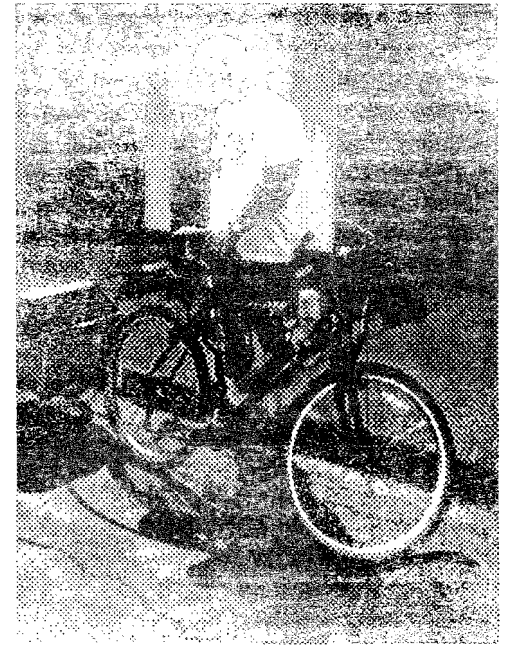
In each city that Jim goes to, he challenges the people in those communities to donate to their local grassroots AIDS Service Organizations. These are organizations like Friends from the Heart, and the food pantry of the HIV/AIDS Ministry of the Cathedral of St. Paul (Episcopal). Contact info on p. 22.

He says it doesn't have to be a huge donation, everyone can give something.

Also, you can volunteer time at an organization that serves people with HIV/AIDS.

And/or donate nonperishable food items to a food pantry that serves people with HIV/AIDS.

Last but not least, you can get involved with the upcoming Erie AIDS Walk (help with organizing, pledge money, collect pledges and walk yourself).



"Persons with HIV & AIDS, and this is also for the AIDS agencies. Do not victimize people, and do not allow yourself to be victimized. You think you're doing yourself a favor by sitting around and collecting disability when you don't need it? —You're actually doing yourself in for an early grave because you're not gonna feel good about yourself. Get up and do something productive. Now for the people who are really sick: Yes we love you, and we'll give all the care and compassion that we can, but for those of you who can get off your ass and do something, do it like I did. I went from a T-cell count of 66 and I'm up to 249, and climbing, and I expect to be up to 400 by the end of this trip. If I can do that, you can, too. So if you need to be on disability or welfare, fine, but get out and do something. Do some volunteer work, give something of yourself, and give something back to society. You're not a burden."

*Jim Petretta's words to the people of Erie.*

# Rating the Gay Guidebooks

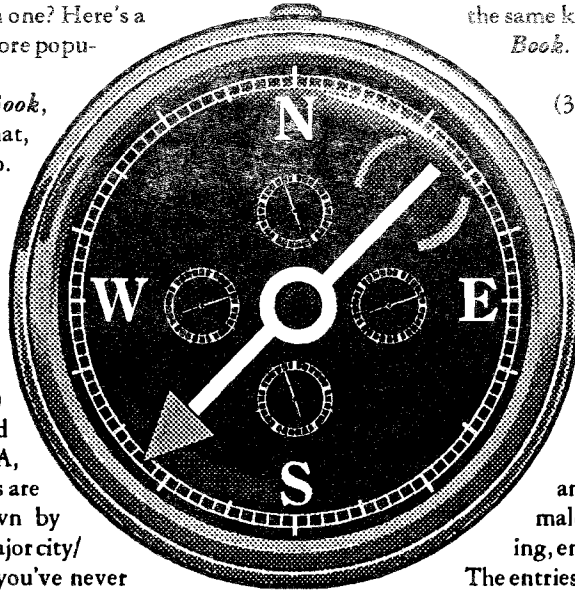
by Micheal Miller

The weather has finally warmed up, and many gay people's minds turn to thoughts of road trips and vacations. You want to get away from it all, but you don't want to get lost in unknown, potentially gay-unfriendly territory. If you're a lesbian into women's music, you probably don't want to go into a place only to find out that it's a guys' leather bar, and if you're a male fitness buff, you probably don't want to go to a lesbian coffee klatsch. So you take your friendly gay guidebook. But which one? Here's a brief look at a few of the more popular guidebooks:

*Damron Address Book*, (3"X6" Pocket book format, \$13.95 from Damron Co. inc. PO Box 422458, San Francisco, CA 94142) lists gay-oriented information & community services, accommodations, bars, restaurants & cafés, gyms, retail/bookstores, travel services, publications, (sex) clubs, erotica stores and cruisy areas for the USA, Canada & Mexico. Listings are conveniently broken down by country, state/province, major city/region and area code. (If you've never heard of the city name before, the area code will clue you in.) State & area code appear at the top of every page for quick reference. City listings are broken down further by type of service in roughly the same order mentioned above. Every entry in the listing is followed by a series of coded letters that indicate whether the service is targeted primarily to gay men, women, gay-friendly straights; different races, age groups; food, entertainment, alcohol, dancing, fitness; country/western, professional, leather, popular set. In the front you will also find warnings on safe sex, cruising, and sodomy laws.

I glanced at the listings for Erie, Cleveland, Pittsburgh & Buffalo. The book's format is very logical and

readable. The overabundance of ads can be annoying, but sometimes the ads have information that aren't in the listings, (like maps). For the most part, the listings seem accurate if somewhat less than complete. There are 15 entries for Erie including Bridges, Cup's, Lizzie's & Lambda Group AA, but not including LGLV or Integrity. The Cleveland entry fails to mention the *Gay People's Chronicle*. Damron also publishes the *Damron Road Atlas* (in a 4"X6" format, \$13.95) which adds 125 color coded maps for 60 US cities along with the same kind of info found in the *Address Book*.



*Ferrari's Places for Men*, (3"X6" pocket book format, \$15) and *Places for Women*, (4"X7" pocket book format, \$13, both from Ferrari Publications, inc. PO Box 37887, Phoenix, AZ 85069) attempt to list the same kinds of information as Damron in a roughly similar format for most of the developed world from the US to Germany to New Zealand. They use pictograms instead of letters to indicate whether an entry is targeted to male, female, both male and female, dancing, entertainment, drag, leather, etc.

The entries are broken down the same way as Damron, but the page headers are only indexed by country or state. The first 60 pages of these books contain international directories of gay tours, reservation services, travel agents, campgrounds & travel services which, again, are only indexed by country or state. *Places for Women* adds a directory of international women's festivals and a brief event calendar along with the other travel directories at the front of the book.

*Ferrari's Inn Places*, (5"X8" digest book format, \$14.95) as far as I can tell mainly lists hotel, bed and breakfast, and cabin type accommodations broken down by country, state and name of establishment. Small blurbs indicate proximity to gay bars, hours, rates, restrictions, etc. which is embellished by paragraph text



presumably written by the management of each establishment.

*Ferrari's Places of Interest*, (8"X11" full-size book format, \$16) is a combination of *Places for Men & Women* whose listings are interspersed with 2-page feature articles about the state of gay travel in such far away places as Iceland and Japan. It also includes maps of major cities.

Ferrari's guidebooks are far less dominated by intrusive ads than Damron, but they're harder to read and find things in because of the way they're indexed. If you're looking for entries under Buffalo and they're listed under Niagara Falls, you might never find them. As for the information you do find, Ferrari's only lists Lizzie's, the Slipper, the Aids Hotline and the 3 adult bookstores for Erie. Ferrari lists about half as many entries as Damron for Cleveland, Pittsburgh and Buffalo, too. But some of those entries are not to be found in Damron, like the Gertrude Stein Memorial Bookshop. The pictograms are easier to remember than Damron's letter code, but there just aren't nearly as many entries for them to apply to.

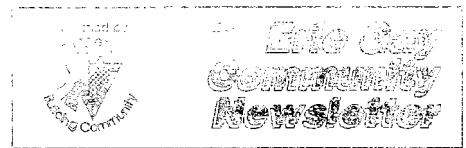
Ferrari's travel directories are something that Damron sorely lacks, but the information in them is very sparse and difficult to find. The feature articles in *Places of Interest* are nice to read. The article on Cleveland is really a good read, but it's hard to find the information you're looking for. The maps are useless. The map of Pittsburgh (there is no map of Cleveland) could be any map of downtown Pittsburgh. No gay establishments are pointed out. Even so, *Places of Interest* is the most complete of the Ferrari titles.

*Gayellow Pages National Edition*, (5"X8" digest book format, \$11.95 from Renaissance House, PO Box 533, Village Station, New York, NY 10014-0533) features a comprehensive table of contents if you're not exactly sure what you're looking for and a quick reference alphabetical index if you are. It lists any kind of service organization you might want - addiction/recovery, AIDS/HIV, art dealers, archives, computers, real estate, funeral directors, travel agents, publications, retailers, families, youth, many more - all broken down by country, state, city and area code in an easy-to-read format that isn't crowded with hundreds of ads. The entries are letter coded to indicate gay, gay-friendly, male, female, dance, entertainment, etc. Renaissance

also publishes thinner regional editions on the same format that sell for \$4.95.

This is by far the most complete and accurate resource listing focusing on organizations, goods and services rather than bars and erotica. (There are 66 entries for the city of Cleveland alone!) But it still occasionally misses some information covered by Damron and Ferrari. *Gayellow Pages* doesn't carry maps and it doesn't go into nearly as much detail about the types of people that frequent a service or establishment although it does offer more categories of types of services. If you're a gay youth you might find a listing of a gay bar in Damron that has 'YC' next to it meaning 'younger crowd.' You won't see that in *Gayellow Pages*, but you will find a heading for youth services.

No one of these guides can tell you everything. If you want a list of services and organizations in a specific area, pick up a regional edition of the *Gayellow Pages*. If you want to find all the nightspots and restaurants in a large city, consider *Damron's Road Atlas*. If you want a whirlwind travelogue of Europe, Ferrari might be for you. Use your judgement. Good luck and happy travelling.



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# HIV/AIDS News

## HIV/AIDS News - W NY

### AIDS Prevention Forum

From Greg Rabb, JCC Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Support Group:

The Jamestown Community College Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Support Group will be cosponsoring the first ever rural regional forum in the Southern Tier West Region to discuss and develop ways to prevent the further spread of AIDS and HIV in Allegany, Cattaraugus and Chautauqua Counties.

Representatives from the Health Systems Agency of Western New York and the State of New York Health Department AIDS Institute will be present to collect ideas for AIDS/HIV Prevention to be included in the State's 1995 HIV Prevention Plan. The Plan, required by the Center for Disease Control, is used to guide the state's spending with respect to HIV/AIDS prevention. New York State continues to be the state most heavily hit by AIDS with a growing number of cases in upstate New York, including our own. Please

attend the regional forum and pass this notice on to others who might be interested! The forum will be held in the COMMONS in the COCE Building on Thursday, July 6 between 6 and 8 p.m. Refreshments will be served!

For more information contact Greg Rabb, or Martha Zenns at (716)665-5520.

If you can't attend, but have ideas with respect to HIV/AIDS prevention, please put your ideas in writing and send them to Greg Rabb, Jamestown Community College, 525 Falconer Street, P.O. Box 20, Jamestown NY 14702-0020. Thank you for your concern and interest!

## HIV/AIDS News NW Pa

### Teen Focus Group

From: The Gloria Menus, Erie Co. Health Dept.:

The Erie County Department of Health, funded in part by the comprehensive Transportation of Ideas Act, will be conducting a focus group for teens. The group will meet on Thursday, August 10, 1995 at 10:00 a.m. in the Erie County Health Department Conference Room. The purpose of the group is to discuss the needs of teens in the area of HIV/AIDS prevention.

The goal of the focus group is to increase awareness of HIV/AIDS among teens and to develop strategies for prevention. The group will discuss the needs of teens in the area of HIV/AIDS prevention and will provide input into the development of a teen-focused HIV/AIDS prevention program.

If you are interested in participating, please call 432-6713 by July 9, 1995.

### Erie AIDS Walk

AIDS Walks help raise money and awareness. Several people and organizations in Erie County have expressed an interest in organizing an AIDS Walk for Erie. If you are interested, call Charlene Bushyager at the NW PA Rural AIDS Alliance 456-8849.

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## HIV AIDS News - Sex

### Safe Sex Drink

Coffee is the "Safe sex beverage" according to a report on ABC's *Day One*. The report, which was about the growing popularity of "coffee bars," went into the fact that many people are finding that they enjoy meeting an attractive person over coffee and their thinking will be clearer than if they went out for an alcoholic drink.

### About Those Condom Ratings

Next month, DonPaul Lucas will present his thoughts and comments on the subject of condom ratings. Don has always had safe sex since he was diagnosed with HIV, and has never had a condom break, and has some concerns about how people react to information about problems with condoms.

## HIV/AIDS News US/World

### Weaker HIV Strain : Immunity, Cure?

WASHINGTON, June 15—A weaker version of the AIDS virus seems to offer some immunity to its host, and may provide a clue in creating an AIDS vaccine. Harvard virologist Dr. Phyllis Kanki says African prostitutes infected with HIV-2 seem to be protected from getting HIV-1, the killer virus that causes most cases of AIDS. People infected with HIV-2 may be able to live 25 years or longer and not become sick. HIV-2 is also less infectious. Kanki cautions against people intentionally infecting themselves with HIV-2, because that virus can still cause health problems.

### Stay of Execution

For the time being at least, people with HIV don't have to worry about being killed. Louisiana state representative Roy Brun withdrew a bill he sponsored which called for the "justifiable homicide" of HIV+ people who were seen as a public threat. Brun withdrew the bill after it received what he called "pretty bad reactions."

### Australian Boxers Must be Tested

MELBOURNE, June 15—Boxers and kickboxers in Australian state of Victoria will have to be tested every six months for HIV and hepatitis B and C.

### New UN AIDS Effort

GENEVA, May 30—The United Nations has created an agency to focus on and coordinate work on the worldwide AIDS epidemic. The agency, called UNAIDS, will begin in January 1, 1995.

## Media Watch

By Al Keilwasser, GLAAD-San Francisco

### A CREDIBLE FILM

This summer, theater screens will light up with a new film from writer/director (and ACT UP) activist Maria Maggenti. *The Incredibly True Adventures of Two Girls in Love* tells the comic tale of first love between two young women during their senior year of high school.

Laurel Hollimon plays "Randy Dean"—a working class "tomboy" who lives with her lesbian aunt and her aunt's lover. She falls in love with "Evie Roy"—one of the most popular girls in school—who is played by Nicole Parker.

Major Motion pictures seldom (if ever) celebrate lesbian, gay, or bisexual teen relationships. Fine Line Pictures deserves support for the decision to distribute this breakthrough film.

Contact Sarah Eaton, Fine Line Pictures, 888 7th Avenue, New York NY 10106, fax 212-956-1942.

### MEDIA BRIEFS

**By the Book . . .** The American Library Association's Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Book Awards Committee has announced the winners of the 1995 Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Book Awards. Award-winning books include Dorothy Allison's *Skin: Talking about Sex, Class & Literature* (Firebrand Books) and Phillip Sherman's and Samuel Bernstein's *Uncommon Heroes: A Celebration of Heroes and Role Models for Gay and Lesbian Americans* (Fletcher Press). Nominations are already being sought for the 1995 awards, and the deadline is November 30, 1995. For details, contact John DeSantis, Chair, Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Book Award Committee, Dartmouth College Library, HB 6025, Hanover NH John.C.DeSantis@dartmouth.edu.

**Keep Hope Online . . .** The Youth Assistance Organization (YAO) promotes the positive uses of online media for lesbian, gay and bisexual teens. Through YAO, queer or questioning youth can participate in e-mail counseling (help@youth.org) and access a World Wide Web page (<http://www.youth.org/>).

**Sound Bite. . .** "I visualize being with another man." (San Francisco Spurs forward Dennis Rodman—who also says he goes to gay bars—in a recent Sports Illustrated cover story).

# National/World News

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## Mississippi Freedom Ride Postponed

OVETT, Miss., April 26—Plans for a 1,000-member Memorial Day "freedom ride" to help the besieged Camp Sister Spirit were postponed until next year. Organizers said too few people had signed up.

## Germany Should Apologize

BONN, Germany, May 4—On the 50th anniversary of the fall of the Third Reich, Germany should apologize for the Nazi persecution of homosexuals, says parliament member Volker Beck. Beck is a member of Germany's Green Party. He estimates the number of homosexuals sentenced by the Nazis to be 50,000.

## Supreme Court Okays St. Pat's Ban

BOSTON, June 19—The Supreme Court has ruled that the organizers of Boston's St. Patrick's Day parade can ban gay and lesbian participation. The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force stated that the ruling "discusses the rights of private parade organizers, and their ability to limit the messages delivered during the parade. The ruling does not make sweeping statements about gay, lesbian and bisexual rights issues."

## Justice Dept. Won't Take Stand on Anti-Gay Amendment

WASHINGTON, June 8—Attorney General Janet Reno says the Department of Justice will not become involved with the case of Colorado's anti-gay Amendment 2 when it is heard by the Supreme Court. Amendment 2 is the only statewide law in existence. The Clinton Administration could become involved by having the Justice Department file a "friend of the court" brief, but it will not do so. The Justice Department does frequently file such briefs.

## Gay Officials Get Gloved

WASHINGTON, June 14—It couldn't have been more embarrassing to President Clinton: In an effort to reach out to gays, the White House arranged a meeting with a delegation of 40 lesbian and gay elected officials. The meeting was arranged to provide advice and input on gay and lesbian issues and AIDS policies. When the delegation arrived, White House police donned rubber gloves to inspect the guests' belongings before admitting them. A Clinton spokesman said the chief of staff and others were "distressed" by the incident and that it

is being investigated. He and others who attended the meeting said the incident didn't hurt the tone of the meeting.

## Rhode Island: Civil Rights Law Passed

PROVIDENCE, R.I., May 22—The state legislature of Rhode Island has passed a bill giving lesbians and gay men civil rights. It took 11 years to finally pass.

## Navy: Lesbian Officer Can Stay

SAN FRANCISCO, June 16—A Navy tribunal voted unanimously not to discharge an openly lesbian officer. It may be the first time the military has backed down from discharging a lesbian or gay man without being compelled by court order.

## Brit Military Ban Upheld, Condemned

LONDON, June 7—The British High Court upheld the ban against gays in the military, while at the same time pronouncing that it was time to get rid of the ban. Three gay men and a lesbian, who had been discharged from the armed forces, brought a test case before the court, only to have the court dismiss it.

## Gay/Lesbian Relatives Come to DC

WASHINGTON, June 15—Candace Gingrich and Chastity Bono were on Capitol Hill lobbying for a bill that would outlaw employment discrimination against les/bi/gay people. Chastity Bono (daughter of Congressman Sonny Bono) and Candace Gingrich (sister of Newt) joined three other gay men and lesbians to try to convince their powerful relatives to consider supporting the bill. The effort was organized by the Human Rights Campaign Fund.

(EGCN readers are encouraged to write to their U.S. Senators and Congressmembers to support the bill. It's called the Employment Non-Discrimination Act.)

## Transitions

**DIED:** Elizabeth Montgomery, 57, on May 18, of cancer. Best known for her role as Samantha on the TV show *Bewitched*. Montgomery was a longtime supporter of gay and lesbian rights, HIV/AIDS causes, human rights, and wildlife preservation. When Dick Sargent (co-star with Montgomery as Darren on *Bewitched*) came out a few years ago, Montgomery showed her support for him by appearing with him in as a grand marshal in the West Hollywood Gay & Lesbian Pride Parade.

# Groups & Organizations

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

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

## **AIDS Bereavement Support Group**

Sponsored by HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of the Episcopal Cathedral of St. Paul. For families, partners, spouses, friends & caregivers with loved ones/friends who have died with AIDS. Co-facilitated by The Rev. Canon F. Kay Johnson and Sue Mueller. Meets 1st and 3rd Tues of the month, 8-9:30pm. Safe & confidential. Call Kay Johnson at the Cathedral Ofc, (814) 452-3779

## **Bridges**

Community building, also publishes *Erie City Community Newsletter* and sponsors community events. Write to Bridges, PO Box 3063, Erie, PA 16508-9063. Call (814) 454-9833. Email to [CompuServe:70431.1622](mailto:CompuServe:70431.1622) or from internet: [mikemahler@aol.com](mailto:mikemahler@aol.com) or fax to (814) 452-1392.

## **Chautauqua County Gay Lesbian & Bi Community Svcs**

Works to increase visibility & support for lesbian citizens in Chautauqua County, NY. Meets 1st Mon of month at 7pm. 716-484-9434 or 679-3540

## **er-Globe Culture**

Focuses on social activities. Open to any lesbian, gay or bi-sexual 22 or younger in Erie or surrounding area. Write to: PO Box 10274, Erie PA 16514-0274. (814)455-4146. Phone is private so feel free to be open if you leave a message.

## **Cmte 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. Write to CSGLBP, Box 186, Allegheny College, Meadville, PA 16335. Call Paula at (814) 332-4356 or Erny at 332-4375. Email to Roy Cerise at [csglbp@allegh.edu](mailto:csglbp@allegh.edu)

## **Erie Sisters**

Nonsexual social support group for TV/TS/CD. Monthly meetings on 4th Saturday, newsletter. Meetings in even numbered months are social events held at accepting establishments. Interview with a club officer required before 1st mtg. Write: Erie Sisters, 2115 W B St, 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 Monahan at (814) 838-0123 to see how you can help. Donations greatly appreciated.

## **Gay Catholic Community**

Call Ignatius at (814) 459-5442 or write: 533 East 10th Street, Erie PA 16503  
**HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of St. Paul Cathedral**  
Call 452-3779.

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

Student group for lesbian & allies at Edinboro University. Weekly meetings during fall & spring semesters. Social activities ☺. Call John Wetsell at 1-398-8005 or Dr. Dave Herendeen at (814)732-2555. Email to John Wetsell [1663104w@vm.edinboro.edu](mailto:1663104w@vm.edinboro.edu) or write to Identity/EGO, c/o Dr. Herendeen, Edinboro University (Heather Hall), Edinboro, PA 16440

## **Integrity**

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

## **JCC Support Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Support Group**

Peer counseling & support attempting to live fulfilling, open, integrated lives as lesbian people in W NY & NY PA. Open to college & non-college people. Meeting date, time & place vary. Contact: Gregory P. Rabb. Write to JCC, 525

Falconer St, PO Box 20, Jamestown NY 14702-0020 or call (716)665-5220 ext 204 or 664-9174.

## **Lambda Group AA**

Alcoholics Anon. for Lesbians. Closed discussion. Meets Sunday evenings at 8:00 pm at Unitarian Universalist Church of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Open to all Lesbians who think they may have a problem with drugs and/or alcohol. You are not alone. For more info call 452-2675 ☺

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

Nonpartisan voters' group. Publishes Voters' Guide for elections, voter registration/education, lobbying, advocacy. Interested in clipping newspaper articles and/or writing commentaries? Contact us for details. Meets first Sunday of the month. Call Greg at (276) 833-3258. Call before faxing to (814)833-3250.

Write to LGLV-Erie, PO Box 8083, Erie, PA 16506-0083. Email to [lddthart@aol.com](mailto:lddthart@aol.com)

## **Newspace**

Meets once a month. Call (814) 835-6712 for info.

## **PFLAG**

Support group for Parents & Friends of Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals & Transgendered. *Erie PA Chapter:* Meets last Wed. of month. Call Kathy Harris at (814) 838-6020 or Write to PFLAG-Erie c/o Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie, PO Box 3495, Erie, PA 16508. *DuBois PA Chapter:* Meets 2pm 2nd Tuesday of month. Call Jack & Karen Kressley at (814) 371-8962 or write to PFLAG-DuBois, 1191 Treasure Lake, DuBois PA 15801

*Jamestown NY Chapter:* Meets last Tuesday of the month, call for site. (716) 488-1264 or 763-1529. *Ashtabula OH Chapter:* (216)964-3350

## **Pitt-Bradford/BIGALA**

Support group for students. Meetings are Fridays, alternate Tues 12noon & 3pm. Call Brenda or Heidi at (814)362-7694. or write to: University of Pitt Bradford BIGALA, Attn: Director of Student Activities, 300 Campus Drive/235 Commons, Bradford, PA 16701.

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

Support group for Warren, PA and surrounding area. Meets once a month. Call for meeting info. Fred or Marshall at (814) 726-1808.

## **Rainbow Families**

Support group for gay & lesbian parents in Chautauqua County & neighboring counties and a play group for their kids. Call Judy at (716)672-6682 or Patrick at 881-1076. Write to: 9856 Porter Road, Fredonia NY 14063

## **SUNY-Fredonia S-SLAD**

A support group for students at SUNY Fredonia. (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 info (814)925-1075. For more info, call Cheryl Weber at 452-6113 or 815-1073 ☺

## **Trigon**

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

## **Yenango-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 Sat. of each month at 7:30 pm. at Unitarian Universalist Congreg 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/Chesterquo Co.

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

### Meadville PA/Crawford County

- Case Manager - Debbie Miller ..... (800)359-AIDS
- Crawford Co. AIDS Coalition ..... 337-5241
- HIV + Support Groups Rosemary H. ... at 337-5800

### Erie PA/Erie County

- ☛ Case Manager - Deb Monahan ..... 451-6700
- ☛ Case Manager - Mary Richardson ..... 451-8849
- ☛ Case Manager - Cheryl Weber ..... 325-1085
- ☛ St. Mark's/Catholic Charities Support Group ..... Cheryl Weber at 325-1085 or 452-6113
- ☛ AIDS Network ..... Jackie Tarnato at 451-6700
- ☛ Friends from the Heart (Direct Client Services) ..... 888-9123
- ☛ 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 ..... 338-0123

### Penango/Forest County

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

### Warren County

- ☛ Case Manager - Deb Monahan ..... 888-9123
- ☛ Case Manager - Tammi Shilling(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

☛ = Member of HIV/AIDS Service Network for Erie County PA

## Area Bars & Places

### Ashtabula

**Ashtabula Club**, 1000 E. 10th St., Ashtabula, OH 44004. 216-928-1111. Open Mon-Fri 10:30 am-12:30 am, Sat 10:30 am-12:30 am, Sun 12:30 am-2:30 am. Pool table, bar, half goes into 50-50 draw at end of night, other half goes to person taking cover. AIDS Food Pantry collection site.

### Erie & Edinboro

**Captain Cole's**, 18 North Park Row, Erie, PA 16501. Open Mon-Fri 7:30 am-11 pm, Thur-Fri 7:30 am-12 mid., Sat 9 a.m.-midnight, 456-1511. A gay-friendly coffeehouse. New expanded open, non-smoking section, retail store. Poetry and story nights on alternating Thursdays, live music most Saturdays, some Fridays. Wheelchair accessible. Bike racks for cyclists.

**The Hooker**, 1711 State St. 454-5173. Open Mon-Sat 8pm-2am. Live DJ music Mon., Wed., Fri., Sat. 10 pm-2am. Pool table.

**Lizzie Borden's Part II**, 3412 West 12th. Open Mon-Sat., patio open Mon.-Tues.-Thurs. Bowling on Tuesday 9 pm-11 p.m. Country Line dancing Wed. 9-11 p.m. w/ live DJ. 70s dance music DJ on Fri. (11-2 a.m.) & Sat. (9pm-2am.) Shows on some Fridays.

### 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. Nite 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.

# Community Directory

## 24 Hour Counseling:

Erie Hotline ..... 453-5656 or (800) 628-0190  
Saint Vincent ..... 452-5151  
Family Crisis ..... 456-2014  
Hamot ..... 877-6136

## Community-Building Organizations:

Bridges ..... 456-9833  
Chautauqua GLB Comm Svcs .... 716-484-8434 or  
679-3560

## Counseling:

Deb Monohon ..... 838-0123  
Chautauqua Co. Gay Infoline ..... (716)679-3560  
Family Service of Jamestown N.Y. (716)488-1971  
Great Lakes Counseling-Ashtabula (216)992-5995  
Lake Erie Counseling Associates ..... 455-4009  
Family Medical (Warren PA) ..... 726-3310  
For more info, call Greg ..... 833-3258

## E-Mail Addresses

CSGLBP/Allegheny College ..... csglbp@alleg.edu  
EGCN/Bridges (Internet) ... mikemahler@aol.com  
EGCN/Bridges (Compuserve) ..... 70431,1622  
Identity ..... j663104w@vax.edinboro.edu  
LGLV-Erie ..... kidithart@aol.com

## Financial Advice:

Justine R Raker (814)454-5856 or (216)593-6431

## Funding and Fundraising:

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

## 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 459-5442  
Unitarian Universalist Congreg. of Erie . 864-9300

## Social Organizations:

Menspace ..... 835-6712  
10% Network ..... (716)484-7285 or 664-5556

Rainbow Connection (Warren PA) ..... 726-1808  
Womynspace Coffeehouse ..... 454-2713

## Student Organizations/Youth:

Cmte. in Support of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual  
People (Allegheny College, Meadville) .. 332-4368  
Closet Culture ..... 455-4146  
Covenant House Teen Hotline .... 1-800-999-9999  
Gay & Lesbian Youth of Buffalo ... (716)855-0221  
Identity (formerly EGO) .. 398-8005 or 732-2555  
Jamestown Comm. College Grp(716)665-5220 ext  
204 or 664-9174  
National Runaway Switchboard .. 1-800-621-4000  
North County Support Group ..... (716)679-3430  
Pitt-Bradford BiGALA ..... 362-7694  
SUNY-Fredonia B-GLAD ..... Dr. Susan Malone at  
..... (716)673-3424  
Teen Hotline ..... (412)771-8336  
Trigon (Penn State Behrend) ..... 898-6164

## Support Groups

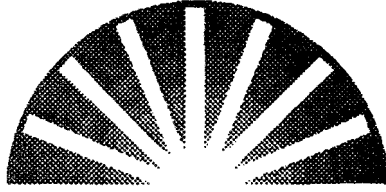
Rainbow Families ..... Judy at (716)672-6682 or  
Patrick at (716)881-1878  
EAGLES (Gay/Lesbian Elders ..... (716)882-2959  
Erie Sisters .. 2115 W. 8th # 261, Erie, PA 16505  
Lambda Group—Gay AA ..... 452-2675  
*Every Sunday, 8:00 p.m. Unitarian Universalist  
Congregation of Erie. ....*  
PFLAG-Ashtabula OH ..... (216)964-3350  
PFLAG-DuBois PA .... Karen or John at 371-8962  
PFLAG-Erie ..... Kathy at 838-6020  
PFLAG-Jamestown..(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  
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)800-338-3460 or (814)726-1030

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

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Fax:  
**(216) 992-5949**

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