



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

Aug 4—Fire & Desire at Lizzy Bordon's Part II Lesbian variety show, midnight. Cover. 3412 W 12th St.

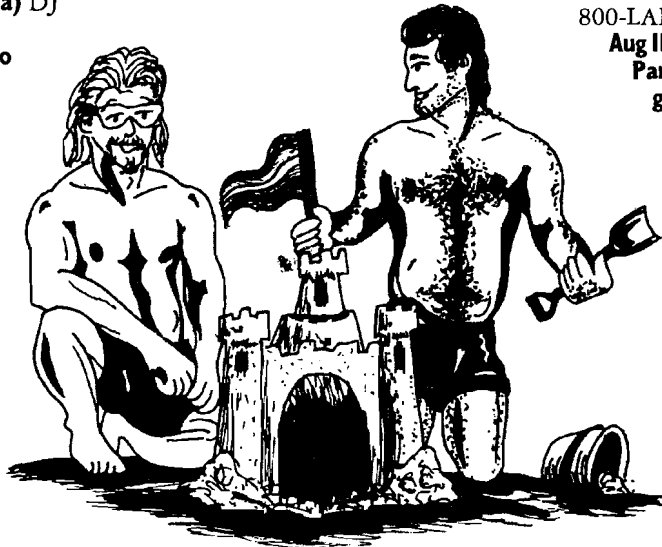
Aug 4-5—Craft Weekend at Jones Pond (Angelica NY) "Set up and display your crafts." (716) 567-8100.

☛ **Aug 4-6—Harbor Days at Lee-ward Lounge (Ashtabula) DJ** Friday & Saturday.

Aug 5—Womynspace: No Gathering

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—People of All Colors Together: Key West Tea Dance (Youngstown)** Formerly Black & White Men Together, now welcoming women to participate. Info: (216) 788-5693.



Aug 5-6—Buddies Seventh Annual Summer Festival (Buffalo) Big 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 the ballet at 2:30 p.m. If you can't meet us at noon, meet us at 2 p.m. at the Amphitheater. Info (716) 484-7285.

☛ **Aug 8—HIV/AIDS Support Group** 7:30 p.m. For info call Cheryl Weber at 452-6113 or 825-1085.

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

Aug 11, 12, 13—Jones Pond: Pool Party & Family Sunday (Angelica NY) Regular weekend and Pool Party Friday and Saturday. Then on Sunday you're invited to bring your friends and family to see the camp 2 p.m.-6 p.m. Info (716) 567-8100.

☛ **Aug 13—Integrity: Field Trip to Chautauqua** Art show. Dinner. Even song at Amphitheater. Call 774-0903 for details. No meeting at the Cathedral.



May, 1995

Erie Gay Community Newsletter

c/o EGC Coalition

PO Box 3063

Erie, PA 16508-0063

Phone: (814) 456-9833

Fax: (814) 452-1392

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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 lesbian/gay 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 lesbian/gay 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.

This Month's Cover..

Castles in the Sand

Drawing by Mike Miller

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Places to get EGCN...

- Ashtabula**
Leeward Lounge, 1022 Bridge St.
- Erie**
Barnes & Noble, 5909 Peach Street
Cup-a-Ccino's, 18 N. Park Row
The Embers, 1711 State Street
Lizzie Bordon's, 3412 W. 12th
NW. PA Rural AIDS Alliance, Baldwin Bldg.
Unitarian Universalist Congreg of Erie,
7180 New Perry Hiway
Well Being, 710 Beaumont
- Edinboro**
Book Shelf, 200 Plum
Earthshine, 131 Meadville Street
Identity (formerly EGO) meetings
- Jamestown NY & Warren PA**
AIDS Community Services, Tue Mansion
Nite Spot, 201 Winsor, Jamestown
Rainbow Connection, Warren 726-1808
Sneakers, 100 Hartison, Jamestown
- Meadville PA**
Allegheny College Bookstore
CSGLBP Meetings
- Venango County**
Oil Region Book Store, Oil City

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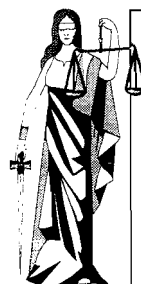
◆ Education/Prevention

Providing services in Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield,
Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Jefferson, Lawrence,
McKean, Mercer, Venango and Warren Counties

1-800-359-AIDS or 1-800-400-AIDS

B-3 Wilkinson Hall
Clarion University
Clarion, PA 16214

1001 State, Suite #321
Baldwin Building
Erie, PA 16501



**Attorney
David A. Baxter**

512 Main Street East
Girard, PA 16417

(814) 774-4163

General Civil Practice

☛ **Aug 16—Red River (1948)** Many gay viewers see lots of repressed sexuality in this western, with Montgomery Clift (who was gay in real-life) who is attracted to John Wayne's character and a cowboy named Cherry. TBS 1:50 a.m.

☛ **Aug 18-19—Country Weekend at Jones Pond (Angelica NY)** Fri & Sat. 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 (Lewiston NY)** Artpark 1-800-659-PARK

☛ **Aug 19—Favorite Harbor Hang-Out Party (Ashtabula)** Ashtabula bars are in competition for who can raise the most money for the American Cancer Society. Winner gets traveling trophy and banner and 10 T-shirts. "The goal is \$500 and I think our crowd has shown we can reach that goal."

☛ **Aug 19—Paris, France (1993)** Cinemax 11:35 p.m. Lots of straight and bi bed-hopping, with the gay character being the only monogamous, stable one in the bunch.

☛ **Aug 19—Social Night at Camp Davis (Boyers PA)** Dance & group fire 8pm. (412)637-2402.

☛ **Aug 21—Closet Culture Trip to Cedar Point (Tentative date)** See article in our "Local News" section. Info: Mike 825-6131.

☛ **Aug 22—HIV/AIDS Support Group** 7:30 p.m. New-comers welcome! Info: Cheryl Weber at 452-6113 or 825-1085.

☛ **Aug 23—Biography: Remembering Patsy Cline** A&E 8 p.m., midnight. Fans of k.d. lang might be interested in this documentary: Not only was Cline a major influence on lang's singing style, but until recently(?), lang was seriously convinced that she was the reincarnation of Patsy Cline (that's why she named her back-up band "the reclines," get it?). More importantly though, Cline was able to blaze the trail for women in the country music industry, which, until she came along, pretty much shut women out.

☛ **Aug 24—Julia Rebman Fiction Award Benefit at Cup-a-Ccino's** 9 pm 18 North Park Row. For information read article in our "Local News" section or call Sharain Naylor at 899-4746.

☛ **Aug 24-26—Leather II at Jones Pond (Angelica NY)** Fri. & Sat. Info (716) 567-8100.

☛ **Aug 26—Laura at Cup-a-ccino's** 9 pm-midnight. 18 North Park Row

☛ **Aug 27—Picnic at the Pines (Ripley NY)** Fundraiser benefiting Friends From the Heart. 2 p.m. till ? DJ, food, games, fun, BYOB. At the Pines Motel on Rte. 5 (just over the PA/NY border). Info 838-0123.

☛ **Aug 27—Mary Chapin Carpenter in the Spotlight** WQLN-TV (PBS-Erie) 8 p.m.

☛ **Aug 27—People of All Colors Together BBQ Pot Luck (Youngstown OH)** Weather permitting. Make a note: the group that formerly called itself Black & White Men Together in Youngstown is now People of All Colors Together. That means it welcomes participation by women. Call (216) 788-5693 for info.

☛ **Aug 27—Rebel Without a Cause (1955)** In this drama about disillusioned teens, gay actor Sal Mineo plays a young man who has an unspoken attraction to James Dean (apparently Dean was gay in real-life as well). 2:35 a.m. on TNT.

☛ **Aug 27—Overkill: Aileen Wuornos Story (1992)** Lifetime 6 p.m.

☛ **Aug 26—Gay Day at Cedar Point** EGCN couldn't track down any more info than this at press time. For more info (216)861-5454 evenings (216)522-1999 daytime. Or check out the calendar in Cleveland's *Gay People's Chronicle*.

☛ **Aug 27-29—run, jane, run: Women's Sports Competition (Cleveland)** (216) 651-1450 or (216)522-1999.

☛ **Aug 30—Madonna: Truth or Dare (1991)** Cinemax 8 p.m.

☛ **Sept 1-4—Labor Day Weekend at Jones Pond (Angelica NY)** Show on Sunday (9/3). Info (716) 567-8100

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♣ **Sept 2—Womynspace: RESCHEDULED FOR SEPT. 9**

♣ **Sept 2—Flea Market Weekend at Camp Davis (Boyers PA)** Labor Day Covered Dish 7 p.m. Sun. (412)637-2402.

♣ **Sept 4—Pittsburgh Labor Day Picnic (Pittsburgh)** For tickets in Erie area, call Harvey at (814) 456-3674. Also, you can buy them at most gay bars and businesses in Pittsburgh.

♣ **Sept. 8-9—White Weekend at Jones Pond (Angelica NY)** "Everyone wears minimum of white or nude. Leather theme." (716) 567-8100.

♣ **Sept 9—Womynspace Coffeehouse: "All New & Different Scavenger Hunt"** "Yes—we will meet on the 9th instead of the 2nd due to scheduling problems. *Anyway*—meet at the U.U. at 6:30 p.m. for directions and teams. Ice cream sundaes and prizes following the activity. See you there! Newcomers welcome!" For info call Sal at 454-2713 weeknights.

♣ **Sept 9—Laura at Cup-a-ccino's** 9 pm-midnight. 18 North Park Row

♣ **Sept 9—Ohio Lesbian Festival (Columbus OH)** LBA, P.O. Box 02086, Columbus OH 43202. (614) 267-DYKE. 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. \$20 adv/\$25 gate. Check w/ SASE, Lesbian music, comedy, merchants, workshops and more. An easy trip from our area. Those sweet Maple Syrup Ladies will be selling their wares, so say hi to them!

♣ **Sept 10—17th Annual "We are Family" Picnic (Cleveland area)** 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wildwood Lake, 11200 East River Road (Copopa-Mallet Creek Rd.) just south of Sprague Rd. in Columbia Station. Info (216)771-0369. Reserved tickets recommended. Benefits N. Ohio Coalition funding of gay and AIDS programs.

♣ **Sept 15-17—Leeward Lounge End-Of-Summer Camping Trip** Stop by bar for details.

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

♣ **Sept 16—Erie AIDS Rally (WALK HAS BEEN POSTPONED)** See information in the "HIV/AIDS-NW Pa" section. Info from Charlene Bushyager 456-8849.

♣ **Sept 17—A Rustic Afternoon of Jazz (Pittsburgh area)** Produced by Common Grounds Coffee House. At Linhart Log Cabin, a local bed & Breakfast in a country setting. Catered brunch included. Bring chair/blanket. Performers include Renaissance City Womon's Choir, Donna Greco, Sandy Staley. 1-6pm. \$15. reservations by Sept. 10 (412)366-9946

♣ **Sept 29—Denni at Cup-a-ccino's** 9pm-midnight. 18 North Park Row

♣ **Oct 11—National Coming Out Day** If you are planning anything at all for Coming Out Day, please contact *EGCN* by the middle of August so that we can mention it in the September newsletter. It doesn't matter if your plans aren't firmed up yet, we can just say that you are planning something, with details still being worked out. For info on National Coming Out Day, contact NCOD, P.O. Box 346640, Washington DC 20043-46400. (202)628-4160 or (800)866-NCOD.

Festivals & Conferences

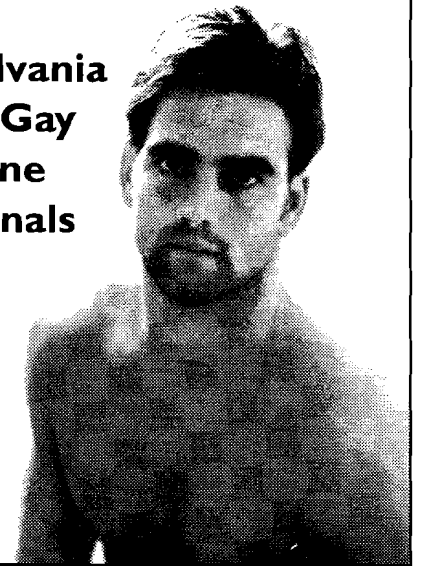
♣ **Aug 8-13—20th Michigan Womyn's Music Festival (Hart MI)** Info (616)757-4766.

♣ **Sept 8-10—20th Sisterspace Pocono Weekend (PA Poconos)** Camping, entertainment, merchants, etc. Info: Sisterspace, 542A S. 48th St., Philadelphia PA 19143.

♣ **Sept 28-30—National PFLAG Convention (Indianapolis)** Also pre-convention tours and attractions of Indianapolis. Info (317)632-1234.

Not all LesBiGay events are listed in the *EGCN* calendar. Some event organizers and performers have asked us not to list them, and we generally respect such requests. Also, if we aren't notified of an event, we won't be able to tell people about it!

Pennsylvania
Area Gay
Phone
Personals



1-900-454-4856

MANFINDER C/S: 415-281-3183, MUST BE 18+. \$1.99/MIN.

On TV This Month

Chopper Chicks in Zombietown (1990) Action comedy for fans of trashy camp humor. A gang of women bikers, whose leader is a lesbian battle the flesh-eating zombies. Cinemax 8/13 and 8/28.

A Mother's Prayer (1995) USA 8/6, 8/12. Linda Hamilton plays a mom with AIDS who is trying to find her son a loving home before she dies. RuPaul plays the gay man who befriends her.

Orlando (1992) The Movie Channel, 8/24, 8/28.

A Streetcar Named Desire (1951) Based on play by gay playwright Tennessee Williams, about Southern belle Blanche DuBois. John Preston wrote, "So many drag queens have modeled themselves on Blanche DuBois that many assume she was one. Equivocal elements, such as the irresistible allure of the brute and the alienation of the hypersensitive in a coarse world, open it to an interpretation that an all-male cast might some day illuminate." Left out of film version: Blanche's husband killed himself after she found out he was gay. AMC 8/5, 8/16, 8/31

Taxicab Confessions HBO 8/25, 8/28. *Candid Camera* meets *Taxi*, as passengers are unknowingly caught for the camera. Among them is *Go Fish*'s director, trying to get a date with the woman who picks her up in a cab.

Women's Sports: LPGA Golf On SPC on 8/26-

3am, 8/28-7:30pm, KBL on 8/29 at 3:30pm;

SPC & KBL on 8/29 at 3am. **Mountain Biking**

ESPN2 8/6 3pm, 8/13 at 3:30pm, 8/20 at 2 am.

Surfing ESPN2 on 8/7 at 9:30am **Soccer** SPC 8/

7 7pm & 8/9 10pm.

Entertainment Notes

Movies

Seems like when actor **Hugh Grant** got caught being a bad boy, interest in him perked up. If you're interested, you may want to check Grant out in a couple of gay roles that he has played. One is in the movie **Maurice**, a gay love story set in the early part of this century. He also played one half of a young gay couple in **Our Sons**. The movie actually focuses a lot on the reactions of their mothers (Julie Andrews and Ann-Margaret).

Television

Serving in Silence: The Margarethe Cammermeyer Story garnered a number of important Emmy nominations, including for best movie, best actress in a miniseries or special (**Glenn Close**), best supporting actress (**Judy Davis**). Also, gay friendly sitcoms **Frasier** and **Friends** were nominated for best comedy series. **Frasier's Dan Butler** will join Candace Gingrich as spokesperson for 1995 National Coming Out Day. Butler plays the macho, very het "Bulldog" on the NBC sitcom . . . Openly-gay **Scott Thompson** (*Kids in the Hall*) is now playing Hank's gay assistant on *The Larry Sanders Show* on HBO (Wed. nites) . . . **Jessica Savitch** was a national anchorwoman on NBC who led the way for many women in broadcasting, and met an untimely death in an automobile accident. In September, Lifetime television will air two programs about her: *Almost Golden: The Jessica Savitch Story* and *Intimate Portrait: Jessica Savitch*. We have no broadcast dates at this time, nor do we have information on how the shows will treat Savitch's relationships with women.

Video

The **Pittsburgh International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival** is issuing a juried open call for entries. The top four winners will be shown at the festival (this October), and the top film or video will be awarded \$1,000. Deadline for applications is August 15. For information contact Pittsburgh International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival, PO Box 9007, Pittsburgh PA 15224. (412) 521-9089 If you can't meet this deadline, think ahead to next year!



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Open Letter to Three Heroes

I feel very strongly that Larry LeVasseur, Heidi Streich and Greg Valiga be honored and recognized for their unbelievable stand and bravery in the heat of controversy in regards to the float in the parade. I wonder if the folks in the lesbigay population understand the position that these three people were placed in and what heroes and leaders they are. Not only in the days before the parade, but during the actual event.

It was estimated that anywhere from 80 to 90,000 people showed up to the actual parade. In the days before the parade there were a series of very serious threats, ranging from the float being rushed, to stoned, and even death threats. The threats became realized by the float being trashed on the day preceding the parade.

I defy anyone to describe with any accuracy the terror of feelings that must have overcome these brave souls as they faced the crowd of 80-90,000 people, not knowing what way they were going to be received. The lesbigay community is in the thousands and even though these people might have only been three in total, they represented Erie county's lesbigay community in its entirety. They should be embraced and acknowledged as today's civic leaders, as the people who have furthered the cause of acceptance. The community owes these three people this acknowledgment in this lifetime, for they will certainly be seen as the Martin Luther Kings of the next.

Thank you Larry, Heidi and Greg!

Abby B. Conley

EGCN Staff Responds: We couldn't agree more!

But it is modest of Abby not to mention that she too was on that frightening ride. Abby, a heterosexual ally on the Erie Bicentennial Commission, was very outspoken about her support for the presence of the LesBiGay float in the Bicentennial Parade. She became the object of a lot of attacks on Pat Campbell's hate radio program on WFLP for her support of the float and for allowing the Erie Gay Community News to be placed in the Bicentennial time capsule. Hats off to Greg, Larry, Heidi AND Abby!

Speak to the Future!

On September 10, 1995, the Erie Bicentennial Commission will bury a Time Capsule to be opened in the year 2095.

Making that 100 year journey will be the September issue of the *Erie Gay Community Newsletter*.

You are invited to appear in that issue.

Individuals and organizations can take out an ad in *EGCN* which will send your message into the future. We are offering ads at the usual prices for each size, plus a classified-style ad (25 words) for \$10.00. If you truly can't afford it, please contact us at 456-9833 so that we can work something out. If you want to be included, we want you with us, and we don't want money limitations to stand in the way.

Please type (or *very* neatly print) your message *exactly* as you want it to appear, and include check or money order. Please get it to us by August 22 at:

EGCN
P.O. Box 3063
Erie, PA 16508

We'd appreciate it if you would also include your address, fax number, or e-mail address so that we can contact you if we have any questions.

Everyone who supports Les/Bi/Gay rights is welcome and encouraged to do this. Gay, straight, out-of-town...you may say whatever you want however you want—a simple greeting, a poem, some thoughts. But act now so you don't forget!

Ad Prices:

25 Words \$10
1/8 Page \$20
1/4 page 35
1/2 page \$65
One Page \$125

Media Watch

By Al Kielwasser

Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation - San Francisco Chapter

Newsweek Discovers "New Sex"

On June 21, 1993, an embracing lesbian couple filled the ubiquitous cover of *Newsweek* magazine. "Lesbians have always been the invisible homosexuals," the caption announced, "now these women are stepping front and center." This week, the magazine has similarly discovered bisexuals. *Newsweek's* July 17 cover story declares: "A new sexuality emerges . . . Now it's coming out in the open—in pop culture, in cyberspace and on campus."

Of course, bisexuality is hardly a "new sexuality." But it IS news to much of the mainstream press and—consequently—to much of the public. In that regard, this cover story is a particularly welcome (and long overdue) contribution to bi visibility.

Across seven, well-illustrated pages, *Newsweek* paints a fairly affirmative portrait of bisexual identities. Significantly, the authors manage to avoid much of the sex-negativity and "voyeuristic" style that has marred similar attempts. And while the article touches upon a broad range of subjects—myths, history, media, sex, love—not a single bigot was quoted for "balance."

Newsweek's coverage is not perfect, of course. In contrast to (or perhaps because of) the article's emphasis on bisexual identity, there is relatively little said, directly, about bisexual politics. The authors gloss over

such concepts as "community" and "movement," though these are fundamental to the very "emergence" announced on the magazine's cover.

Nevertheless, the article is still a groundbreaking achievement for a mainstream medium . . . especially one of this stature. This issue of *Newsweek*—vivid, unapologetic and (literally) covered with bisexuality—will reach several MILLION readers.

*** Encourage *Newsweek* to continue providing fair, accurate and diverse coverage of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender subjects; send comments to Richard M. Smith, Editor-in-Chief, *Newsweek*, 251 West 57th Street, New York NY 10019-1894, fax 212-445-4120, e-mail letters@newsweek.com.

There's No Place like Home

July 19 marks the season premiere of *The Larry Sanders Show*, which is entering its fourth year on the Home Box Office Network. In the season's second episode, scheduled for July 26, the cast will be joined by a continuing gay character. The new addition will be played by the (VERY) out gay actor, Scott Thompson (formerly of *Kids in the Hall*).

Scott Thompson's appearance should continue HBO's good record on lesbian and gay representation. Last year, the network made a positive contribution to lesbian visibility with *More Than Friends: The Coming Out of Heidi Lister*, which portrayed the story of a high school senior who comes out to herself and her parents, falls in love, and takes her girlfriend to the senior prom. This year, HBO's Sports Division hired Martina Navratilova as a Wimbledon commentator; such high-profile positions are rarely given to lesbian or gay athletes (unless they are closeted). And next year, in February, HBO will debut *The Celluloid Closet*, a documentary film based on author/activist Vito Russo's seminal history of homosexuality in the movies.

*** Supportive feedback can be sent to Home Box Office, HBO Building, 1100 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036.

Get your message
into the
Erie Bicentennial
Time Capsule!
See page 7 for details!

MEDIA BRIEFS

Movie Milestone . . . Robert Hofler of the Reuters news service reports: "Amy Heckerling, who directed *Fast Times at Ridgemont High* in 1982, brings back the much-maligned teen genre with one of the best comedies ever made about pretentysomethings. *Clueless* stars Alicia Silverstone (*The Crush*) as a 90210 babe with the heart of a Gold Card, and newcomer Justin Walker, who plays the screen's first gay 16-year-old heartthrob." (Reuters, July 12, 1995).

Gay-Per-View . . . Last month, the *Wall Street Journal* reported that Tangueray vodka and Pierre Cardin "have signed on to sponsor the television show *Freestyles*, hosted by Amanda Bearse, the openly lesbian actress from the *Married...With Children* TV series...The paid program will run this summer on cable channel VH-1 with features that appeal to both gay women and gay men." *Freestyles* has since premiered, on July 16 and 17. VH-1 even placed an ad for the program in *TV Guide* (July 15-21, San Francisco Metropolitan edition p. 87). However, the *Freestyles* ad avoids every using the words "gay" or "lesbian," simply describing the program as "A Show About Freedom...With Style." Contact: Viewer services, 1515 Broadway, New York NY 10036, tel. 212-258-7800 or 212-258-8000.

Lesbians to Watch For . . . *Drop the Dead Donkey*—a British sitcom, now airing on Comedy Central—includes a recurring lesbian character (Comedy Central, 1775 Broadway, New York, NY 10019). [Ed. note: the show airs Mondays 8:30 p.m., Sundays 11:30 p.m.].

The pilot has been shot for *Courthouse*, a new prime-time series on CBS that will feature "a leading character in a lesbian relationship." (CBS, 7800 Beverly Blvd., Los Angeles CA).

Founded in 1988, the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of GLAAD is a volunteer-based community organization dedicated to cultural advocacy and media activism. GLAAD/SFBA promotes the fair, accurate and diverse representation of lesbian, gay, and bisexual lives. GLAAD challenges homophobia in and through the mass media...shaping the forces that shape our society.

Michael Dithers

by Michael Mahler

Micheal and I thoroughly enjoyed *The Incredibly True Adventure of 2 Girls in Love* when we went to the Cedar-Lee Theatre in Cleveland to catch it this past month. Actually, they show rather a lot oflesbigay-themed films there. Before the movie came on they had previews for *Jeffrey and Wigstock*. We had caught *Priscilla and Strawberry and Chocolate* there before. It may seem like a really trivial thing, but it was nice to see lesbigay folks leading ordinary lives and falling in love like everybody else. Anyway, it's worth catching!

I would like to thank everyone who was so kind and supportive to me after my father's death. It really meant a lot. My father and I had not been very close at all, but we did manage to achieve some understanding towards the end. I really felt glad that my mom was able to as well. I think we all dreaded contact with him for years. It was as if we were afraid of a rabid Doberman and found out we were dealing with a Pekinese with asthma. In a weird way, it reminds me of a discussion I had with some friends a while ago. We were talking about coming out, one of the women mentioned she wasn't sure how much of the fears she had were genuine and real and how much were just the product of her own fears. It reminded me of one of my favorite maxims, "You don't get a refund back on the parts of life you don't live."

Talking with my dad at the end was an opportunity I am deeply grateful I had and that I took advantage of.

You have probably read that next issue's newsletter will be the one that will go into the time capsule. Micheal and I are planning on putting in an ad that celebrates our love and our spirituality. It is very cool indeed to think that folks 100 years from now will know that we were here too. Maybe think about what you want to have remembered. This is your chance.

Local News

Local News—NW Pa

Julia Rebman Fiction Award Benefit

August 24, 1995

9 p.m. at Cup-a-Ccino's

Friends and colleagues of the late Julia Rebman are raising money for a fiction writing award at Penn State-Behrend in her memory.

Julia was a published poet and wrote short fiction as well. While working on her degree, she helped many people through her love and support, as an activist in many differing areas outside of school. Julia was working toward her baccalaureate degree in English, focusing on creative writing at Penn State-Behrend. She died last October. During the 1995 Commencement, Julia Rebman's family proudly accepted her degree.

Because of her dedication to writing and helping others, we want to honor her with this annual, monetary award, in her name, to go to Penn State-Behrend students who also show excellence in creative fiction writing.

During this benefit at Cup-a-Ccino's, you are invited to read poetry and fiction or just show your support for this award. In order to speak at the mike, you must make a donation.

Some of Julia's writing will be read at this event. Again, the funds generated from this evening will establish the annual Julia Rebman Fiction Award at Penn State-Behrend.

If you want to reserve a time slot at the mike or make a donation, please call Sharain Naylor at 899-4746. We look forward to seeing you there!

—Sharain Naylor

Dancing in the Streets

Several members of Closet Culture, Erie's Lesbian youth group, packed themselves into a car to head for Cleveland last month. A couple of hours and a few wrong turns later, we made it to the *Dancing in the Streets* AIDS benefit. Despite the heat, the event was full of dancing, games and plenty of booths full of books, souvenirs and jewelry. The event was great for the youth group; the number of same-sex couples walking around openly annihilated any *I'm the only one* syndrome in us. It was very encouraging to see the larger community of a larger area than our own.

Cedar Point Trip

Erie's lesbian group, Closet Culture, is planning to make a road trip to Cedar Point. Currently, the date has been tentatively set for Monday, August 21st. The group will probably leave early and spend the whole day at the park. Closet Culture would like to open the trip up to other members of Erie's lesbian community. The cost would be approximately \$30, including a small contribution toward car-pool gas and not including money for food and souvenirs. Contact Mike at 825-6131.

Transitions

DIED: Pete Mahler, on July 9, three days short of his 55th birthday. He had ALS (Lou Gehrig's Disease). He had participated in P&ALS, a gay organization that existed in Erie from the mid-1980s to the very early 1990s. He was the father of *EGCN* co-editor Michael Mahler.

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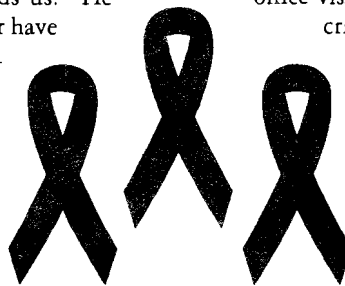
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455-4009

A Friend Died Today

By Lynne

A friend died today. We were more than acquaintances, but not yet best pals. Can i share some thoughts & feelings? He was 32, i'm 36. i've already had 4 years more..a reminder that we rarely know how much time any of us has, and a question - how well have I lived those 36? We've got to, once in a while, just STOP. Look around you, look at you. (No, don't "check your look"). What do you see, do you like it? Is it who, where, & what you want to be—is it as much as it could be? Are your relationships (family, friends, partnerships) what you want them to be? Do they know you—and how you feel? How about work..is it you? Do you remember those dreams you had.. are you working towards them, or have they been forgotten, forsaken, or given up on? Go outside & look—at birds, flowers, bugs, sunshine, rain—don't ignore the beauty that surrounds us. He hadn't wanted to suffer, wither away, or have his loved ones watch a slow, painful demise—so there's relief & joy for him—that his pain & suffering were ended quickly, gently. But the sorrow and senselessness remain, for it wasn't his wish to die yet. My friend and his partner shared a very loving, laughing, compassionate & beautiful life. i smile at his partner now, rub his back, hug him, tell him i love him & am there if he needs anything. As families & friends gather, i'm thankful he's blessed with loved ones who say it & show it, and pray we never stop saying & showing it...not just at our saddest or happiest occasions, but always. As we grow & learn & experience more, i find myself & friends saying 'i love u' before we hang up, or when we hug goodbye..it started some time ago, the bonds & support & genuine love have become a visible, vocal part of our lives. Walking into the funeral home-the sounds, sights, smells, emotions - always the same. It never fails to bring memories of all loved ones who've gone beyond this life. A rush of loss, remembrance, sadness, acceptance. Mom once said dealing with death doesn't get easier simply because we age—more because the more we experience it, the more we realize death is as much a part of life as birth is. We learn to accept it easier & we learn that for the departed,



life is simply changed, & the spirit goes on forever. What was my friend's favorite color? Was it green? Does it matter? Maybe not, but there were questions i never asked, thoughts we never shared, that now it's "too late" for. i'm reminded to listen more, ask more real questions, and care more about what matters to those who matter to me. Cancer took this friend. How's your health? When was the last time you checked? Are you doing all you can to stay healthy—are you treating your body with the respect it deserves? How about exercise, rest, & eating right.. all that stuff we so easily let slip by? This friend had helped deliver his sister's baby, and spoke to an adult church group about disease and prejudice..what compassion and courage!! i feel compassion & conviction for family, friends, & causes—but do i actively act? Do you? Shouldn't we? This friend had AIDS. He said of a doctors office visit..half the people there would've run & cringed if they'd known they were "exposed" to him..but how much more potentially, realistically dangerous they were to him - with their colds, uncovered coughs, & other contagious, (and for him, life-threatening), diseases? Do i pay enough attention to health safety? Do i remember that the ill-mannered, slow, or irritating stranger may have troubles far worse than mine? What have i done lately to help in the battle against deadly, deadly ills? Do i promote education-have I donated time, money, or help to a local/national care organization? Do i go the extra mile for those i know have AIDS, or cancer, or...? Do i have insurance and a will? Have i made plans so that if the next statistic is me, i'll be prepared? How about mentally —do I say 'it can't/won't happen to me'? if so, i better wake up and smell those roses—cause we never know what's around the bend. Bottom line? Its my life. i alone am responsible for who i am, how i treat myself & others, for how i live, & speak, & act. What happens may be acts of fate, or God's plan—but how i react, how prepared i am, my legacy, & my attitude are up to me. i feel my friend's presence, and am warmed by his eternal friendship. May i honor his memory by living the lessons he, and so many others, have taught...may i start now, and continue until he & i meet again.

Families

Proposed Law: No Adoption Rights for Right-wing Fundamentalists

OLYMPIA, Wash.—Should right-wing fundamentalists have the right to adopt children? William Humphries decided to turn the tables on the same religious conservatives who have been creating anti-gay initiatives in various states around the country. Humphries' proposed law used exactly the same wording of an anti-gay adoptions law currently on Washington's ballot (Initiative 167) but substituted "right-wing fundamentalists" everywhere that the words "gay and lesbian" appeared.

Humphries, who writes for Seattle's alternative paper, *The Stranger*, came up with the idea of a counter-initiative while writing an article about the how easy it was to get an initiative on the ballot. "These groups can pay just \$5.00 to file to get on the ballot, and then they get their name and hate messages all over the media," says Humphries.

Humphries' initiative won't go on the ballot for this election, though. By the time the state gave him the legal go-ahead to proceed, he had only one week in which to collect 181,000 signatures. Still he thinks the response was good, with many people calling to volunteer and 5,000 signatures being collected in that one week. He also notes that people in other locales have noticed and may do the same thing, and doesn't rule out the possibility of trying it again for a future election.

Conservative Coors Gives Same-Sex Benefits


GOLDEN, Colo., July 7—The Adolph Coors brewing company has long been criticized and boycotted because it has given generously to conservative groups which, among other things, oppose gay civil rights. Now they are offering full benefits to partners of gay and lesbian employees. They also have a gay and lesbian employee association, and a nondiscrimination policy for gay employees. In response to the puzzlement this has caused, Coors says that the foundations and the company are two separate entities.

U.S. Survey: One-third Support Same-Sex Marriage

LANSING, Mich., July 5—A third of American voters support same-sex marriage, according to a new poll. Higher educated and more affluent respondents were the strongest supporters, as were younger people.

Canadian Retired Benefits Decision

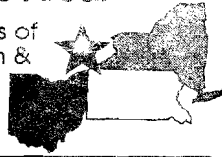
OTTAWA, May 25—Canada's Supreme Court has ruled that the partner of a gay man is not entitled to his retirement benefits. Jim Egan, 73, and Jack Nesbit, 64, have been together since 1948. The Court stated that the Old Age Security Act was developed to help low-income elderly women who had stayed home to raise children rather than to work outside the home. The Court did, however, affirm that Canada's Charter and Freedoms prohibits sexual orientation discrimination. Gay and lesbian rights activists say that they will use this affirmation of gay civil rights in numerous other discrimination cases throughout the country.

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Liberal Dutch

The Netherlands parliament is considering giving same-sex couples the right to legally marry. According to a recent survey, almost three-quarters of the Dutch support the right of same-sex couples to marry. At present, 70 cities and towns allow same-sex couples to register their relationship. In September, The Netherlands parliament will consider extending marriages rights to same-sex couples.

Australian Gains

June 23—Governor General Bill Hayden came out in support of legal recognition of same-sex marriage and adoption rights for same-sex couples.

July 20—A gay male couple and their son have won recognition as a family for health insurance. The government ordered NIB Health Funds to insure them at the family rate. Gay activists say the decision opens the way for requiring other insurance companies to do the same.

Briefs

Toronto, May 11—An Ontario provincial judge granted adoption orders for four lesbian couples. The decision sets a legal precedent.

Buffalo, May 11—A lesbian has been granted joint custody of her dead lover's children. Pamela Hennessy will share custody with the children's maternal grandmother. Attorneys say it is the first ruling of its kind in the nation.

London, June 22—The makers of Guinness stout are producing the first TV ad in the United Kingdom featuring a gay couple. The ad starts with a couple having a fight and later reveals they are both men. The slogan used is "Guinness: Life isn't always black and white," with Tammy Wynette wailing "Stand By Your Man" in the background.

Chapel Hill, N.C. April 25—The Town Council of Chapel Hill, North Carolina voted unanimously to grant some benefits to same-sex couples and heterosexual domestic partners.

Tallahassee, Fl. April 27—The Florida Supreme Court order a new hearing for a gay man who wants to overturn the law banning gays from adopting. Florida and New Hampshire are the only states that specifically prohibit adoptions by gay and lesbian people.

New York: April 26—A woman can't legally adopt her partner's child because the two women can't legally marry. The family court report recommended the adoption be approved, but the family court judge wouldn't allow it. The state appellate court ruled that such an adoption would be contrary to New York family law, even though such adoptions have been allowed elsewhere in the state.

Los Angeles: June 27—In a case that will probably certainly be cited by foes of gay and lesbian parents, a lesbian mother was sentenced to 25 years to life for the abuse, torture and murder of her infant daughter. The mother's partner was convicted of involuntary manslaughter. The 20-month-old child had old and new scars, and was emaciated. Cause of death was blunt force trauma.

Washington DC: July 3—Same-sex couples in committed relationships are now permitted to legally adopt children in the nation's capital.

Atlanta: June 23—About 80 same-sex couples were married in a ceremony during the 25th Atlanta gay pride celebration.

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HIV/AIDS News

HIV/AIDS News - NW Pa

AIDS Walk Postponed

People who were organizing the Erie AIDS Walk have decided to postpone the event until spring. The spring date will allow them more time to put together an event of that size, organizers say. There will still be an AIDS event on September 16, tentatively planned as a rally at the Booker T. Washington Center. For more information call Charlene Bushyager 456-8849.

DonPaul Lucas To Become Regular EGCN Contributor

EGCN is happy to announce that Erie area AIDS activist DonPaul Lucas will be contributing to our publication on a regular basis.

Lucas is a heterosexual man who was infected with HIV in 1985 because of contaminated blood products he used because of his hemophilia. He is the first Erie person with HIV to come out publicly about his status, lending his voice to local TV, radio and newspaper media. (Recently he appeared on the front page on the *Erie Daily Times* in an article about the number of AIDS cases in Erie County.) Congressman Phil English recently recommended Lucas for a Congressional Medal of Honor for his activism.

Last but not least, Lucas is a strong ally of the gay community. Many in the area know Lucas as the co-owner, with Tina Loomis, of the store called Cocoon, which supplied the gay and lesbian community with rainbow rings and other les/bi/gay stuff. We think his writing will be very much in touch with gay sensibilities.

HIV/AIDS News US/World

Helms Remarks Attacked, Anti-PWA Stand Rejected By Congress

WASHINGTON, July 27—The Senate voted to renew assistance to people with AIDS (Ryan White Act) but rejected mandatory HIV testing of babies and pregnant women. Senator Jesse Helms, predictably, decried the approval as a sign of giving in to the "homosexual lobby." Earlier in the battle, Sen. Jesse Helms said that AIDS funding should be cut because gays become infected with HIV through "deliberate, disgusting, revolt-

ing conduct," he was condemned by AIDS activists, gay rights activists, some Democrats, and President Clinton. Even Gingrich disagreed with Helms' remarks. In response to Helms' contention that AIDS gets more funding than other diseases, Clinton pointed out that during this fiscal year, AIDS funding amounted to less than \$6 billion, cancer \$17.5 billion, and heart disease \$38 billion.

Test Animals Mistreated, Die

ALBUQUERQUE, N.M., July 11—Monkeys and chimps in a lab doing HIV research were crowded into cages that were too small, kept them in areas that were too hot, and not provided with enough water. Seven primates died from being kept in heat that reached 140 degrees of receiving too little water. The allegations were made by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's complaint against The Coulston Foundation. The violations are expected to add fuel to the already heated debate about using animals for AIDS research.

Postal Carrier Refuses To Deliver To HIV+ Couple

CHARLESTON, W.V.—A postal worker refused to deliver the mail to a heterosexual couple with HIV. He was convinced that he might catch HIV from the metal mailbox or the envelopes and postage stamps they had licked. He went through a two-week training period with local health officials and still refused to deliver their mail, and was put on paid leave. At this writing, he has been fired. The union is appealing this decision.

National AIDS Advisory Council

WASHINGTON—President Clinton has issued an executive order creating a national AIDS Advisory Council with 23 members on it. The council will be chaired by R. Scott Hitt, a California physician and board member of AIDS Project Los Angeles.

Condoms Save Lives

Concerns About Condom Ratings

by DonPaul Lucas

Let me start by clarifying something. I participate in "safer sexual" practices, not safe sex.

Safe sex is mutually monogamous sex between two uninfected people. Since my wife and I are a discordant couple (I'm infected, she's not) by definition we can't have safe sex. This may seem like trivial semantics, but as an AIDS educator, I'm a little concerned that we use the proper terms. (One other term that comes to mind is the constant use of AIDS virus. AIDS is a group of symptoms that define the end stage of a disease—HIV disease. HIV, human immunodeficiency virus, is the actual cause of the illness. AIDS is simply the definition given to one of the stages of that illness. Once again, it may seem like semantics but I feel it's important to use proper terminology for educational purposes.)

Okay, let's get down to the business at hand..

Condom ratings, how effective are they? Does it really matter if a condom ranks high on a test, if people don't use them? Or if people don't use them correctly and consistently?

The way I feel about condom ratings is to use them as a guide. Read the *Consumer Report* on condoms, check which ones did well in their study and then do some testing of your own. If a particular brand ranks high and you don't like the feel of that brand, you're not going to use them. Take it from me, I know. I personally don't like most of the top of the ratings list brands.

Two brands which I prefer—Class Act and Beyond Seven—fall 24th and 27th on the list respectively. In a report released by the Center for Disease Control, (*Condoms and STD/HIV Prevention*, January, 1995) two studies were referred to. In one study 124 discordant couples

were studied over a two year period that were using condoms correctly and consistently. In this study, none of the uninfected partners became infected. In contrast, 121 couples who used condoms inconsistently had an infection rate of 10% or 12 infections.

In the other study, 12% or 16 partners became infected due to inconsistent or no condom use in 134 couples. Among couples who used condoms studied, only 3 partners (2%) became infected over a 2 year period.

No particular brands were named in the CDC studies as better or more effective. What *was* shown was that correct and consistent use of condoms is effective.

So have fun, experiment—a lot. Different styles, textures, colors. Lubricated-nonlubricated (this way you have the option of all sorts of different water-soluble choices which leads to more experimentation.) The more experimentation the better, I always say.

Safe Journey!

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National/World News

Most New Gay-Related Laws Are Pro-Gay

WASHINGTON, July 12—Almost two-thirds (sixty percent) of the laws enacted by state governments are supportive of lesbian and gay rights. This encouraging finding was revealed by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, which surveyed 97 gay-related bills.

Republican "Wanted" Poster Condemned

WASHINGTON, July 11—Republicans issued a mock "Wanted" poster targeting 28 House Democrats for defeat in upcoming elections. Democrats condemned the poster, because 22 of the 28 congressmembers targeted for defeat are either women or members of minority groups. Among those targeted on the poster were openly-gay congressmembers Barney Frank of Massachusetts, Pat Schroeder of Colorado, and Charles Rangel of New York. The poster was being used for Republican fundraising purposes.

Judge: Government Must Pay Gay Sailor's Legal Costs

LOS ANGELES, July 19—A U.S. District Judge ordered the government to pay \$440,000 in court costs for to a sailor who sued the navy after they discharged him for being gay. Petty Officer Keith Meinhold was discharged when he revealed on national television that he was gay. After a two year legal battle, he was reinstated.

Obituaries

May Sarton, of breast cancer, on July 16. She was 83. Sarton was a prolific poet and author. She came out in 1965, with the publication of *Mrs. Stevens Hears the Mermaids Singing*, which was a novel about a lesbian love affair. Another recent lesbian novel was *The Education of Harriet Hatfield*. She also liked to write about independent women and about being a feminist. A significant contributor to contemporary literature, many believe that Sarton did not receive the honors due her because of her sexual orientation. In her 66 years of writing, she wrote 30 novels, journals, children's books, and poetry.

Jonas Salk, 80, on June 23. Salk helped develop the vaccines for polio and influenza, and since 1987 had been working on a vaccine for AIDS.

Esther Rome, coauthor (with the Boston Women's Health Collective) of the women's health guide *Our Bodies, Ourselves*, of breast cancer, on June 26. She was 49. When *Our Bodies, Ourselves* (now called *The new Our Bodies Ourselves*) was written 25 years ago, it broke new ground in the way it dealt with women's health issues and in how affirming it was of lesbians and bisexual women. At the time of her death, Rome was collaborating with another woman on a book called *Risking Health for Love*.

Warren Burger, former Supreme Court Justice, on June 25. He was 87. When the Supreme Court ruled in the now infamous *Bowers v. Hardwick* decision (1986) that gays did not have the right to "engage in consensual sodomy, even in the privacy of home," Burger took the opportunity to author a separate, and very homophobic opinion, citing old or ancient sources that harshly condemn homosexual acts. "To hold that the act of homosexual sodomy is somehow protected as a fundamental right," he wrote, "would be to cast aside millennia of moral teaching."



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

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 Kuebler. Meets 1st and 3rd Tues, 8-9:30pm. Safe & confidential. Call Kay Johnson at the Cathedral Ofc, (814) 452-3779

Bridges

Community building, also publishes *Erie Gay Community Newsletter* and sponsors community events. Write to Bridges, PO Box 3063, Erie, PA 16508-0063. Call (814) 456-9833. Email to CompuServe 70431,1622 or from Internet: 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. 716-484-8434 or 679-3560

Chautauqua North County Support Grp (NY)

Support for lesbians in northern half of county. Meets 3rd Mon 7-9pm. Call Vince 716-672-6355 or N County Infoline 716-679-3560

Closet Culture

Focuses on social activities. Open to any lesbian, gay or bisexual 22 or younger in Erie or surrounding area. Write to: PO Box 10274, Erie PA 16514-0274.

Comte 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@alleg.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 8 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 Monohon 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 j663104w@vax.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 Sun (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: Greg 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 summaries? Contact us for details. Meets first Sun. Call Greg at (814) 833-3258. Call before faxing to (814)833-3258.. Write to LGLV-Erie, PO Box 8083, Erie, PA 16505-0083. Email to kidithart@aol.com

Menspace

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 7pm 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)679-0380 or Patrick at 881-1878. Write to: 9856 Porter Road; Fredonia NY 14063

SUNY-Fredonia B-GLAD

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 Tues 7:30-9:30 pm at Catholic Charities, St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 East Grandview Blvd. Fax to (814)825-1075. For more info, call Cheryl Weber at 452-6113 or 825-1075 ☺

Trigon

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

Venango-Forest AIDS Support

Meets Tues 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. 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/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 Tarraro at 451-6700
☛ Friends from the Heart (Direct Client Services)
..... 838-0123
☛ HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of Cathedral of St.
Paul (Episcopal) 452-3779
☛ NW. 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 Shilling 1(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

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. 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, nonsmoking 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. Country Line Dancing on Tuesday nights.
Lizzie Bordon's Part II, 3412 West 12th. Open Mon-Sat., patio open Mon.-Tues.-Thurs.. Bowling on Tuesday 9 pm till ? 90s dance music DJ on Fri. (11-2 a.m.) & Sat. (9pm-2a.m.) 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. 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.

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

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

David Baxter, Esq. 774-4163
Solymosi Law Offices, PC 452-4473
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:

Crnte. in Support of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual
People (Allegheny College, Meadville) ... 332-4368
Closet Culture *Mail to PO Box 10274, Erie PA*
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

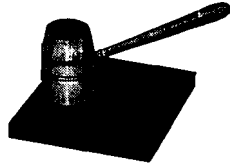
Support Groups

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.

Solymosi Law Offices, PC
Tibor R. Solymosi, Esq.



General Practice of Law

Personal Injury, Workmen's Comp, Wills,
 Real Estate, Family Matters, Business Law

821 State Street, Erie PA
(814) 452-4473
 Pittsburgh Office: (412) 471-3000

**Jones
 Pond
 Campground**



9835 Old State Road
 Angelica, NY 14709
(716) 567-8100

Aug 18-19 Country Weekend

Aug 24-26 Leather 2 Weekend

Sept 1 Labor Day Weekend - Show Sunday

Adult Male Camping
 135 Sites, Water & Electric
 Camp Store, Pool
 DJ Weekends, Theme Events

Non-Smoking Section

Expanded Space!

18 North Park Row
 Erie, PA
 Phone
 456-1151



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

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...

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