

Erie Gay Community Newsletter

Calendar

★ = New or Modified Group/Event this issue

► Mar 4—Chautauqua County Visions group (Lily Dale NY) Call Patrick 716-595-3801 for details.

Mar 8—Trip to Camp Sister Spirit Some people from Identity are organizing a trip to Camp Sister Spirit in Mississippi. The trip is being made to offer help and support to the Camp, which for the past couple years has been the target of a siege of homophobic hatred. It's also become a national symbol of taking a stand against this

sort of thing. If you want to help, participate, or make a donation (food and money are especially needed), or get more information, call Christie Hudson at 732-3779.

Mar 6—k.d. lang on The Late Show with David Letterman On CBS 11:30 p.m.
Mar 7—New York Primary Elections

™ Mar 8—Chautauqua County Fish Fry 7:00 p.m. Call Vince at 716-673-3183 for reservations.

Mar 9—LGLV Political Education Forum 6 pm at

231 W. 21 St., Erie. Important forum open to the entire community—speakers will make presentations on LGLV goals, local and state politics, and a gay rights ordinance for the Erie area. Presentations limited to 20 minutes each, with a question and answer period to follow. Hors d'oeuvres and refreshments served, free of charge. Info 833-3258.

Mar 9—2 girls alone! at Cup-a-Ccino's 18 N. Park Row.

→ Mar 9—Breast Care Test On 2:40 p.m. WNED (PBS-Buffalo/Ch. 17). Hosted by Jane Pauley, this program answers women's most asked questions and includes step-by-step demonstrations of self-examination.

Mar 9—Gender-Bending Line-Up on The Movie Channel Orlando 1:50 p.m. Adventures of Priscilla Queen of the Desert (3:25 pm), and Ed Wood (5:05 p.m.)

Desert (3:25 pm), and Ed Wood (5:05 p.m.)

Mar 9—Positive: Living With AIDS "Fighting for Our Lives" 10 p.m. WNEQ/Ch.23 (PBS-Buffalo) Conclusion

of 4-part series.

• Mar IO—Breakfast with

the Arts: Gielgud: Scenes From Nine Decades A&E 9 a.m. Profiles the distinguished life of out gay actor Sir John Gielgud.

Angels WQLN (PBS-Erie/Ch. 54) 4 p.m. The meaning, history and prevalence of angels are explored. If we're not mistaken, this program also takes a quick look at Tony Kushner's Angels in America.

Mar 10—Valley of the Dolls (1967) Cinemax 6:30

a.m. Campy trash.

a.m. Campy trasm.

→ Mar II—Lecture: "Do Sex Hormones Really Exist?"

(Allegheny College, Meadville PA) Ford Chapel 7 p.m..

Presented by Anna Fausto-Sterling, professor of medical science at Brown University, expert on the role of race and gender in the construction of scientific theory, and author of Myths of Gender: Biological Theories about Men and Women."

(continued on page 4)

Please try to get info and articles in by the 15th of the month!

If you want to reprint...

If you would like to reprint original articles or artwork that appeared in EGCN, please ask contact us for permission, and please credit Erie Gay Community Newsletter. If an article or illustration contains the author's/creator's name, please credit them as well.

Thanks!



" Erie Gay Community Newsletter

We Cover the Tri-State Area!

Reporting on Events & Issues of Interest to the Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Communities



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Erie Gay Community Newsletter

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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 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. Although we appreciate the importance of fiction and poetry, we are primarily an information publication, and like most general lesbigay publications, we are mainly interested in nonfiction prose. We will be happy to direct you to the many lesbigay publications that do welcome fiction and poerry, and we will support through free publicity any local publication that publishes lesbigay poetry or fiction. Before submitting please send SASE for writer's guidelines. Querying before submitting an article is strongly recommended.

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 "our" anyone.

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

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Places to get EGCN...

Ashtabula

Leeward Lounge, 1022 Bridge St.

Clarion

NW PA Rural AIDS Alliance, Clarion Univ

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 Univer. Congreg/Erie, 7180 New Perry Hiway

Well Being, 710 Beaumont

Edinboro

Book Shelf, 200 Plum

Earthshine, 131 Meadville Street

Identity meetings

Poppa Ropp's Home Video, Edinboro Mall (ask at desk)

Jamestown NY & Warren PA

AIDS Community Services, Tue Mansion Nite Spot, 201 Winsor, Jamestown Sneakers, 100 Harrison, Jamestown

Meadville PA

Allegheny College Bookstore CSGLBP Meetings

New Castle PA

PFLAG Meetings, Human Services Center

Venango County

Oil Region Book Store, Oil City

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NTEGRITY

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For more information call (814)774-0903

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Calendar (continued from cover)

■ Mar II & 12—k.d. lang in concert (Toronto) O'Keefe Center (416) 872-2262.

Mar I2—HIV/AIDS Support Group Meeting "Topic: Spirituality" Newcomers always welcome! St. Mark's (secluded location). Info from Cheryl Weber 825-1085

■ Mar I3—Speaker: ACLU President Nadine Strossen at Gannon National American Civil Liberties Union president Nadine Strossen will speak at Gannon University on Wed. March 13 at 7:30 p.m. at Zurn Science Center, Room 104. The Erie talk will coincide with efforts to revive the local chapter. Interested people may contact Richard Ruth at 453-6606 or Phil Friedman at 452-3069.

★ Mar I3— Classroom: Judy Garland and Friends A&E ¬am. Musical special also features performances by Barbra Streisand and Liza Minelli in their early days.

★ Mar I3—Joan Baez in Concert (Cleveland) The Civic (216) 371-3498

★ Mar I4—Joan Baez in Concert (Pittsburgh) Palumbo Theater

★ Mar 14—Love in Four Acts WNEQ (PBS-Buffalo/Ch. 23). 8 p.m. Four choreographers share their unique interpretations of love through dance.

★ Mar 14—Peter, Paul and Mary - Lifelines WQLN (PBS-Erie/Ch. 54) 4 p.m. The trio celebrates folk music with lesbian folk veteran Ronnie Gilbert and Fred Hellerman and the Weavers, plus Ritchie Havens, Odetta, and Tom Paxton.

★ Mar 14—*Classroom: Susan B. Anthony: Rebel for a Cause* A&E 7am. Chronicles the life of the early feminist who crusaded for equal pay for equal work and women's suffrage which led to the 19th Amendment 7a.m.

■ Mar 14—Comedy Half Hour: Judy Gold HBO 10:45 p.m. Gold reportedly came out; whether this is reflected in her material, we don't know.

★ Mar I5—Biography: Elizabeth Taylor A&E 8pm, midnight. Profile of the beautiful but troubled superstar,

whose close friends included many gay men and who has been a longtime supporter of AIDS causes.

★ Mar 16—The Embers: "The Diva Sisters" Show "Frenchy Foxx from Youngstown OH and Erie's own Bodacious Bobbi B. Special Guest: Bambi. 11:30 p.m. \$2 cover." 1711 State St. Info 454-9171

Mar 16—In the Life WNEQ (PBS-Buffalo/Ch. 23) 10 p.m.. This installment focuses on black lesbians and gays. Mar 16—That's Entertainment (Plus Reprise) WNED (PBS-Buffalo/Ch. 17).

d Mar 16—Chautauqua 10% Network Social Evening: Video Night (Jamestown) 7:00 - 11:00 p.m. Call John at (716) 484-7285.

Mar 16—Empire State Pride Agenda's Night of 100 Parties (Buffalo) Fundraising event to help raise funds to open a satellite office of Pride Agenda in Western NY. Info call Bill Goodman (716)836-6148

Mar 16—Menspace To find out more, including location & topic or event, call Larry at 835-6712.

Mar 16—Evening in Dublin With Mary Chapin Carpenter The Nashville Network 10 p.m. (for other dates and times, see "Repeating Programs").

Mar 17—St. Patrick's Day at the Leeward (Ashtabula) Food, green beer, drink specials.

→ Mar 17—St. Patrick's Day at The Embers Open 8 p.m.-2 a.m.

■ Mar 18—Breakfast Meeting for ACLU-Greater Erie 8 am at the Avalon Hotel. The ACLU has fought for many civil rights, including those of lesbigay people. For more info, contact Phil Friedman at 814-452-3069 or Dick Ruth at 814-453-6607.

★ Mar 19—Sing a Song of Hollywood: Michael Feinstein American Movie Channel 7:30 p.m.

→ Mar I9—Ohio Primary Elections

man who holds up a bank to get money for his male lover's sex reassignment surgery. Based on a real incident. TBS 2:55 a.m.

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and leave your first name and phone number.



▶ Mar 22—**Bodies and Minds: Inside the Sexes** On The Learning Channel 8 p.m. Doctors use medical science to determine real problems and treatments for AIDS, early menopause and impotence.

■ Mar 22—Firing Line Special Debate "Resolved: Cyberspace Doesn't Need Special Protection from Smut" WQLN (PBS-Erie/Ch. 54) 9 p.m. This debate, hosted by William F. Buckley Jr. and plunges into the divisive issues of the telecommunications bill currently before Congress. Many gay activists are disturbed about this bill because it may infringe on gay communications; it might be interesting to see what this group comes up with.

Mar 23—Mending of the Hearts Memorial Project Day (Jamestown) 10 an to 4 p.m. at Busti Federated Church, 875 Mill Road, Busti NY (just outside Jamestown). Sponsored by AIDS Community Services, located at 413 N. Main in Jamestown. Family, friends and partners are invited to gather to construct fabric panels to honor loved ones who have died of AIDS. Mending of the Hearts Memorial Project is a collection of 70 fabric panels designed in memory of someone. The project has become an important way for AIDS Community Services to raise awareness of the epidemic. If you're interested in constructing a panel on March 23, please call Kathleen Whitmore at (716) 487-2498.

■ Mar 23—2 girls alone! (Bradford, PA) Performing at Pitt-Bradford during International Women's Week events there. 8 p.m. at the Highlight Cafe. Info 814-362-7654.

Mar 23—PA Residents: Cut-off Date to Register in Primary

rish Dinner & Dance (Cleveland) Organized by Case Western Reserve University Gay Lesbian and Bisexual Alliance with help from the Cleveland Irish Lesbian Gay Organization. (for more info on this group see page 11) Irish Lamb Stew, Irish Vegetarian Stew & other Irish foods, Irish and other forms of dance performed by guests. 7 p.m. till ??? Guilford House, 1112 Bellflower Road, Cleveland OH 44106. Info Boman at (216)754-2215 or bxall@po.cwru.edu.

Mar 23—Firing Line Special Debate: "Resolved: Cyberspace Doesn't Need Special Protection From Smut" WNEQ (PBS-Buf. Ch./23) 9 p.m. See March 22 for description.

Mar 24—Johnny Guitar (1953) American Movie Channel 4:30 p.m., 1:30 a.m. Western Saloon owner Joan Crawford and Mercedes McCambridge shoot it out. In Vampires and Violets, Andrea Weiss wrote that "a lesbian dynamic can be perceived as the unspoken character motivation" in this and certain other movies, despite



The Embers 2nd Year Birthday Bash with Sable Chanel, Miss Gay USA 1991 & Michelle Michaels

Saturday **Apr 6th** Snacks & Fun! Exclusively at the Embers 1711 State St, Erie PA 454-9171

Erie Gay Community Newsletter - March '96



Published by Bridges...Building Community

motivation" in this and certain other movies, despite attempts by the enforcers of the Motion Picture Production Code.

Mar 25—Chautauqua County Gay, Lesbian & Bi Support Group (Fredonia) 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. Call Vince at (716) 673-3183.

Mar 26—HIV/AIDS Support Group Meeting "Topic: Dr. Baxter Dermatology" Newcomers always welcome! St. Mark's (secluded location). Info Cheryl Weber 825-1085.

✓ Mar 26—Taxicab Confessions HBO 4:05 a.m.
 ✓ Mar 27—Ballot Measure 9 On Cinemax 8 p.m. Documentary about the gay community rallying against an anti-gay measure.

■ Mar 30—Human Beings: What Happened? On The Learning Channel. Investigators use computers to determine the cause of the auto accident that killed moody gay film star James Dean at the age of 24. 10 p.m., 1 am.

■ Mar 3i—PFLAG-Erie: Ron Gainer leading panel discussion on spirituality Info Elaine at 864-0184 or Kathy at 838-6020.

★ Mar 3I— Sunday, Bloody Sunday (1971) TCM 2:10 am
★ Apr 1—Chautauqua County Visions Group Call (716)484-8434 for details.





de Apr 6—The Embers: 2nd Birthday Bash with Sable Chanel (Miss Gay USA 1991) & Michelle Michaels 1711 State St., 454-9171

State St., 454-9171

■ Control of the Apr 6 in the Apr 6 in

■ Apr 6—Womynspace Coffeehouse: Home Maintenance Tips Come with your questions, concerns, etc. 7:30 p.m. Newcomers welcome! For info call Sal at 454-2713. ■ Apr II—Reggae Against AIDS (Buffalo) At Nietzsche's, 248 Allen, 9 p.m. Musicians from NYC, Toronto and WNY will fuse musically in this reggae jam. Tickets \$10, benefits AIDS Community Services. Info Michelle Rudnicki (716) 847-0212.

p.m. Purely Delicious Cafe. Call Vince (716) 673-3183 for reservations.

♣ Apr 20—Chautauqua 10% Network Social Evening (Jamestown) 7-11:00 p.m. Call John at (716)484-7285.
 ♣ Apr 22—Northern Chautauqua Co. Gay, Lesbian & Bi Support Group (Fredonia) Call Vince at (716)673-3183.
 ♣ Apr 23—PA Primary Elections

Festivals and Conferences

Festival (Toronto) Info from Buddies in Bad Times, 12 Alexander St., Toronto Ontario Canada M4Y 1B4 Phone 416-975-8555.

★ May 23-June 2—Inside/Out Film Festival (Toronto)
About 130 films of lesbigay interest. Various locations.
More info available in mid-April. Info: (416)977-6847.

★ July 7-12—XI International Conference on AIDS (Van-

couver BC) 12,000 participants from around the world expected. Info: (800) 780-2437. Schedule won't be ready till early April.

i→ July 13-17—18th National Gay and Lesbian Health Conference (Seattle WA) Also includes 14th Annual HIV/AIDS Forum. Physical and mental health issues. For info contact NLGHC, 1407 "S" Street NW, Washington DC 20009. Ph. (202)939-7880 fax: (202)234-1467.

Thanks to the people who helped with the February issue of *EGCM*!

Many thanks to Kim Piper, Rochelle Kacek, Jeanette, Dan, and Christopher Sargent for helping us to collate the February issue of *EGCN*! Kim brought over a jug of Cup-a-Ccino's java to share.

If you would like to volunteer, please give us a call at 456-9833. You needn't feel obligated to become a regular or even to stay from start to finish. Any help is always appreciated!



Repeating Programs

Adventures of Priscilla Queen of the Desert (1994) TMC 3/4 3:40am, 3/9 3:25pm, 3/14 11am, 3/15 12:55am, 3/24 9pm. Drag comedy.

Eagles Scouts: the Story of Henry Nichols 3/7 8am, 3/15 4:30pm, 3/19 6:45am, 3/27 noon. HBO Story of an Eagle Scout with AIDS.

Ed Wood (1994) TMC 3/9 5:05pm, 3/10 3:05am, 3/14 1:55pm, 3/15 2:40am, 3/18 12:34am, 3/25 9pm. Biography about the straight transvestite director

Evening in Dublin with Mary Chapin Carpenter TNN 3/13 midnight,3/16 10 p.m. 3/17 1 a.m.

Family Video Diaries (Before You Go) HBO 3/12 7pm, 3/16 4:30pm, 3/18 1:30pm 3/21 5pm 3/26 10am 3/29 3:30pm. A daughter videos her father's struggle with AIDS.

Hollywood Fashion Machine 3/262:30pm, 3/275am. **Kids in the Hall: First Look** 3/69:30pm, 3/711:30am, 3/812am, 3/93:30pm, 3/117:30pm, 3/1310:30 am 3/199:45pm. HBO. Preview of movie version.

My Beautiful Laundrette (1985) TMC 3/9 12:30am, 3/17 3:10 am, 3/21 11:20pm, 3/26 7:20pm. Story about a Pakistani man and his punk rock lover who turn a rundown laundrette into a classy establishment. They have to deal with a racist gang, but though the issue of racial hatred is brought up it's also balanced (somehow) with comedy. A highly-acclaimed story.

Orlando (1992) TMC 3/8 10:55pm, 3/9 1:50 pm 3/20 12:55pm 3/26 5:45pm 3/30 11:45am.

Outbreak (1995) HBO 3/5 8pm, 3/10 10pm, 3/13 11pm, 3/13 8pm, 3/19 4:35 am, 3/29 12am.

Philadelphia (Year) TMC 3/6 9pm, 3/23 6:50pm, 3/24 5:25am.

The Private Files of J. Edgar Hoover (1978) Encore 3/6 7 p.m, 3/7 6:15 a.m., and 3 pm 3/25 7pm 3/26 12:30pm.

Real Sex Features Annie Sprinkle's Post-Modern Pin-Ups. On HBO 3/5 10:15pm, 3/11 11pm and 3/21 2:30am.

Why Am I Gay? Stories of Coming Out in America HBO 3/5 8am, 3/10 7am, 3/15 10am, 3/20 7:30am.

Note: We are now placing programs broadcast late at night on the chronologically correctdate (the system we used to use put the early morning programs in with the previous date.) Anyway, if it's on between midnight and 6am, check our listings against your *TV Guide* or whatever, because we're bound to make some mistakes till we get used to the new way of doing things.

Women's Sports: *

LPBT Bowling ESPN 12:30 a.m. 3/21 12:30 am LPGA Golf (live) On ESPN: 3/21 2 p.m. ESPN Stand. Reg. Ping 1st Round; 3/22 1 p.m. 2nd round; Final Round 3/244 p.m. ATP Lipton Championships Women's Final (same-day) 3/30 4p.m. on ESPN. On ABC: 3/30 Dinah Shore Classic 3rd Round ABC 4:30 p.m. 3/31 Dinah Shore Classic Final Round(live) ABC 4 p.m. Tennis ESPN ATP Champions Cup Women's Final 3/16

2 p.m. Lipton Champ. Semifinal ESPN 3/28 1 p.m. **College Basketball** ESPN will broadcast 25 of the tournament games throughout the month. Some are: 10 NCAA Women's Selection Special; 3/17 1-1st Round games; 3/18 2-2nd Round games, 3/23 5 regional semi-

finals 3/25 4 reg. semifinals. Final Four: 3/29 2 semifinals, 3/31 1996 NCAA Women's Championship Game.

*To our male sports fans: We're not being sexist by only listing women's sports; most TV and radio sports programs focus on male athletes and we wouldn't begin to

*To our male sports fans: We're not being sexist by only listing women's sports; most TV and radio sports programs focus on male athletes and we wouldn't begin to have enough room to list them. If there are particular sports that our male readers would like to see, do please inform us!

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Letters

Just to let you know, I went to the Leeward last night, partly for the great 15-cent wings, but mostly to pick up a copy of EGCN, my favorite mag (If you're under 30, substitute "'zine "here.), I hear some of my romantic notions were published.

I'm so excited, because I've gotten an extremely favorable response from two people who read them (both straight women, unfortunately). I thought perhaps I could wander around the bar bragging about how I'd been published, and see if what I wrote caught the fancy of any eligible men. But alas! The Leeward's supply of EGCNs was already depleted! Woe is me, my spinster status continues...

I just wanted to let you know of the popularity of EGCN here in 'Bula, and to suggest that you increase the Leeward's allotment of copies if it is feasible to do so. I've noticed that EGCN's are often 'out of stock'. Actually, you might want to check with Lizzies as well. I was in there on Friday, and to my eyes (I didn't look real hard) there was only one copy of EGCN remaining there (which I generously donated to the education of my straight girlfriends, forgetting that I might be published this month).

Not to worry, Jane will send me a copy of what you printed, just to satisfy my curiosity. And I can imagine that the size of your printing runs is determined by finances rather than popularity. Nonetheless, I thought I'd let you know, the supply of EGCNs is not meeting the demand - which I think you should take as a compliment.

Happy post-Valentine's Day,

Kurt Ashtabula

Editors reply:

Well, thanks for the compliment! And for passing along the useful info about depleted supplies!

Actually, our distribution system is badly in need of revamping. It's a chore we hope to get to this spring.

We aren't really rationing out issues...although we seem to have given people this impression. We really appreciate it when our readers give us feedback about our supply situation. If a distribution place runs out of issues early in the month. tell us, and we'll send more! On the other hand, if they're not moving at some location, please tell us that, too. You will not hurt our

feelings, and you'll help us help us save money if we aren't putting out copies that just sit somewhere unread.

We sent another batch of February EGCNs to the Leeward. If you weren't able to pick one up, contact us and we'll send you a copy.

And best wishes finding a Valentine, Kurt!

Michael Dithers

by Michael Mahler

Well, I hope everyone had a nice Valentine's Day. Micheal and I spent time together and we also went out to the all-gay Valentine's Day at la bella bistro. Kudos to Harry Miller and his always warm and courteous staff. I believe that this was the first time in local history that a business had an event specifically for lesbigay folks. It was fun and the food was yummy!

You may have noticed that we have changed the e-mail address (to egcn@ncinter.net) and the web page (http://www.ncinter.net/~egcn/), which should be for the last time for the foreseeable future. We are now listed on North Coast Internet's page of area businesses. Cool, eh? Micheal has also done some fab work in dressing up the page (okay, I am hardly unbiased on my husband's skills as a graphics artist), so if you haven't seen the web page lately, you might want to check it out.

"Should two abusers, cheats, racists, liars, philanderers, or hell-raisers apply for a marriage license, there is no prohibition and seldom so much as a throat-clearing to be heard. Provided one is female and one is male.

But let two devoted, responsible, productive, law-abiding people of the same gender seek the sanctity of marriage with every intent of minding their own business and treading not at all on us, and someone starts yapping about moral equivalency."

——Deborah Mathis, Syndicated columnist Column appeared in February 22 Erie Daily Times

HIV/AIDS News

NW Pa

The Embers raises \$800 for Catholic Charities

At a benefit performance at The Embers on February 17, \$800 was raised for an AIDS charity.

The money will go to the Catholic Charities special HIV/AIDS fund.

Performers in the benefit were Gene Brandt, Jackee Regina, Michelle Michaels, Bobbi B. Miss Ginger, and Aleda Blake.

Catholic Charities administers the HIV/AIDS Support Group that meets every second and fourth Tuesday.

"These funds will be used to assist individuals with emergency requests not possible too be funded by other sources," said Cheryl Weber, executive director of St. Martin's Center, case manager, and facilitator of the support group. "We are grateful for this donation and we'll be able to meet these emergency requests."

National/World

HIV Inequity

(Sources: BWMT-Youngstown Newsletter, and Chicago's MACT News)

According to a National Cancer institute study conducted by Phillip Rosenberg, minority individuals are hardest-hit by HIV. Results of his 1993 study were released recently in Science (an NCI publication); the finding reveals that among men ages 25-44, 1 in 92 whites, 1 in 60 Hispanics and 1 in 33 African-Americans are HIV+. Among women the incidence of HIV is less in general, but the disparity between white women and women of color is still greater than among men: Among women 27-39, 1 in 1,667 whites, 1 in 222 Hispanics and 1 in 98 African-Americans are infected with the virus. Raw data would suggest that the white population is the hardest hit, but Rosenberg's study is enlightening because it views the raw data in the context of the total number of each subgroup in the general population; African-Americans make up only 12% and Hispanics only 8% of this total number.



The Laughfest Comedy of the 90's

by Paul Rudnick
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In this, the most out (and outrageous) romantic comedy written today, Paul Rudnick skewers every gay stereotype imaginable while fearlessly celebrating what makes the gay lifestyle so compelling and controversial.

"Wildly funny ... Just the sort of play Oscar Wilde might have written had he lived in 1990s Manhatten."

- Stephen Holden, N.Y.Times

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AIDS Community Services, located at 413 N. Main Street, Jamestown, will sponsor a Mending of the Hearts Project Day Saturday, March 23, 10 am – 4pm at Busti Federated Church, 875 Mill Road, Busti, New York (just outside Jamestown). Family, friends and partners are invited to gather to construct fabric panels to honor loved ones who have died from AIDS.

The Mending of the Hearts Memorial Project is a collection of 70 fabric panels each designed in memory of someone. The project has become an important way for AIDS Community Services to raise awareness of the epidemic.

If you're interested in constructing a panel on Saturday, March 23, please call Kathleen Whitmore at (716) 487-2498.

AIDS Community Services



What can I do?

By DonPaul Lucas

Scene opens on two teenage girls doing dishes. Younger sister: "Have you ever done it?

Older sister: "It?"

Younger sister: "You know...'it'...with a boy. My friend says boys won't like you if you don't do it.

Older sister: "I don't do it...and neither do my friends. There's no such thing as safe sex!"

So goes a commercial released by the Arthur DeMoss Foundation.

Erie' only conservative talk show host recently had Micheal Fumento, author of *The Myth of Heterosexual AIDS*, as a guest. His whole focus is, as fat as HIV is concerned, that the original risk groups have not changed. Gay men, intravenous drug users and the sexual partners of IV drug users are still the only people at risk. He also stated that we should see the peak of the epidemic during 1995-1996. (In his book he suggested 1991-1992 would be the peak. I guess if you keep changing the peak year, eventually you'll be right.)

The Millcreek School Board voted to continue the CHAMPS program at the one school. Because of the concerns of a few very vocal parents the other elementary schools have been put on hold.

With 1996 being an election year, including presidential, I'm concerned about the conservative atmosphere that seems to be getting so much press. Talk about cuts to Ryan White Funds, plans to boycott Disney and other companies that offer benefit packages to samesex partners, censorship on the net, and other attacks by

Don't ye be Trustin'
the Luck o' the Irish!
Wrap that wee leprechaun
so's he won't be
causin' no harm!

conservatives have me wondering what the next 8 to 9 months are going to bring. Will the vocal conservatives continue to dominate the headlines, or will those who believe in equality begin to speak up? Will we see a repeat of the last elections, when conservatives gained a majority in the House and Senate?

"If you are not a part of the solution, you are part of the problem" - Eldridge Cleaver.

"What can I do?", you may be asking. Register to vote and vote. Contact the League of Gay and Lesbian Voters. Stay informed.

If it's within your comfort level, let your voice be heard. Letters to the editor, talk radio, letters to your legislators, etc.

Remember the two rules: Rule #1-Just show up! Rule #2-Try to have fun.

> Safe Journey DonPaul Lucas

HIV-INFECTED ADULTS

with CDC-defined AIDS wasting may be qualified to participate in a treatment investigational drug (TIND) program utilizing mammalian cell derived recombinant human growth hormone in AIDS wasting.

Participants must be at least 18 years old, and meet specific medical criteria. For more on this controlled clinical trial, call Roger D. Anderson, M.D. at

(800) 711-5878 or (412) 371-7768

(All information kept strictly confidential)



Concert Review

k.d. lang: Torch, Twang and Then Some Reviewed by Rochelle Kacek

k.d. lang is back on the road and Saturday, February 10th, the Grammy award winning vocalist brought her show to the Cleveland Music Hall.

Opening with herself silhouetted behind a black screen and singing "Sexuality", the recent radio hit off her latest cd release, *All You Can Eat*, k.d. set the stage for a two hour performance that included nine of the ten songs off the newest cd. As the song continued, the screen lifted, bringing to view the music force behind the singer, her eight person band.

Diversity was the key for both singer and the band as k.d. pulled out songs from all her many genres over the years. Though her vocals were consistently near perfection, the singer showed her true essence on her more country flavored songs and her performance of Roy Orbison's classic, "Crying", was beautiful.

Songs included in her country, film and Lawrence Welk tributes were: "Three Cigarettes In An Ashtray", "Rose Garden" and "Barefoot" from the film that was her acting debut, *Salmonberries*.

While k.d. did have a good rapport with the crowd, even using a bubble making toy given to her by an audience member, the concert seemed a bit precalculated as she would say a phrase or tell a story that would lead right into the next song, leaving little room for spontaneity.

There were lively performances of "Miss Chatelaine" and "World of Love" and the show concluded with the song for which she won her Grammy Award, "Constant Craving".

The songstress was brought back on stage for two encores that included a strong version of "Pulling Back The Reigns", energetic versions of "Keep Moving" and "What's New Pussycat" and a soft closing song, "Infinite and Unforeseen".

The only down point to the evening was in the actual sound, as the soundperson seemed to be having an off night. At times the bass was much too strong and the sound itself a bit weak.

All included, k.d.'s entertaining performance of an almost a greatest hits list was brilliant.

Irish & LesBiGay

Cleveland Irish LesBiGay Organization

This March 23, the Cleveland Irish LesBiGay Organization (CILBGO) will be co-sponsoring an Irish Dinner and Dance (check the details in our calendar.)

CILBGO started last year with a commemoration of Roger Casement, gay Irish patriot who was hanged for treason by the British.

Dian Killian was the main force behind establishing the group. She lived in Ireland for six years, where she received her masters degree in Anglo-Irish literature.

CILBGO will also be commemorating Oscar Wilde this year, the gay Irish wit and playwright who was imprisoned on charges of sodomy a century ago.

The group doesn't take a stand on participation in the Boston and New York Saint Patrick's Day parades, but they do like to attend Irish events together, like the Cleveland Irish Festival.

Last October, they co-sponsored a real Irish Halloween (called Feis Samhein; they like to use the Irish terms for things whenever possible.) The event included Irish ghost stories, live Irish music, Barm Braid (traditional Halloween food), same-gender Ceilidh dancing and a roaring open fire.

CILBGO events offer same-gender Ceilidh dancing, and folks who don't know how to do it, or are rusty, can follow along as a sympathetic dance leader walks you through it.

Within CILBGO, a musical group that performs Irish music has developed. They perform at CILBGO events and have been asked to perform at general Irish events.

You don't have to be Irish or lesbigay to attend CILBGO events. A tip, though: You'll probably want to keep your standard St. Patrick's Day outfits at home. Just come as you are! Or call them and ask about attire, if it concerns you.

At this point, the group does not have a newsletter. People who become members (for \$10), however, will be put on the mailing list.

For information call Dian at (216)281-8383 or Dave at (216)261-8542.

V

Local News

WNY

Rabb appointed Democratic Ward Chair

Gay activist Greg Rabb was recently appointed as Chair of Ward One for the Jamestown City Democratic Committee. He is apparently the first openly-gay chair of a ward in Jamestown political history. As ward, he will get a vote in deciding endorsements for city council races and the mayor's race.

Also, while openly discussing being gay in Jamestown on a local call-in show, the chair of the Jamestown City Democratic Committee called in, identified himself by name, and let the listeners know that Rabb was someone he was proud to be associated with.

NW Pa

ACLU forming chapter in **Greater Erie**

The American Civil Liberties Union is holding a Breakfast Meeting on March 14 at 8 am at the Avalon Hotel. The ACLU has a long history of supporting civil rights for gay people, among others. Interested parties should contact Phil Freeman at 814-452-3069 or Dick Ruth at 814-453-6607.

League invites public to community forum

Lesbigays in the Erie area should seriously consider attending the Political Education Forum sponsored by the League of Gay and Lesbian Voters, held on March 9, 6 pm, at 231 W. 21 St. in Erie. The forum will address questions and concerns about the League, its goals, and politics. The purpose is to educate people about what the League is and to provide basic 'civics class' type information about how local and state politics work and a status report on supportive legislators.

Don't be discouraged by the political nature of the forum—presentations will be brief, and questions will be answered after each. Four presenters will provide insight in three key areas: 'LGLV Issues' (with a brief lesson on state politics); 'Local Politics and Party Philosophy'; and 'Gay Rights Ordinance for Erie?'

This is your chance to see and get involved in efforts to change the political and social climate for lesbigays in Northwestern PA. Hors D'oeuvres and refreshments will be served. Admission is free. For additional info, call 833-3258.

Lambda Foundation offers \$3,000 Scholarship to student leaders

The Lambda Foundation of Pittsburgh is pleased to announce that it is again accepting applications for its annual Lambda Foundation Scholarship. The Foundation is a non-profit charitable organization which has been serving the gay, lesbian and bisexual community since 1983.

A scholarship is awarded to a student who has made an outstanding contribution toward the integration of gay, lesbian and bisexual people, culture, and organizations into his or her college community. Sophomore and junior students who attend college in the western Pennsylvania or the tri-state area of Pittsburgh (i.e., PAOhio-W. Virginia) may apply for this scholarship. Past scholarships have gone to students at Penn State University, West Virginia University, Indiana University of Pennsylvania, and Chatham College.

William Nist, President of the Lambda Foundation, says: "One of the long term goals of the Lambda Foundation is to create a non-homophobic environment in our community. One of the ways to do this is to encourage positive leadership on issues of sexual orientation; this can be accomplished by any student regardless of his or her sexual orientation or gender."

Applications are available from the Lambda Foundation, P.O. Box 5169, Pittsburgh PA 15206 and must be returned no later than April 15, 1996. Scholarships will be awarded in July and disbursed in August 1996.

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Entertainment Notes

Sports

CBS Sports has suspended golf commentator **Ben Wright** because of offensive remarks he made last May. According to an interview printed May 12, Wright said, "Let's face it. Lesbians in the sport hurt women's golf. They're going to a butch game and that furthers the bad image of the game." He also said that women golfers "are handicapped" because "their boobs get in the way." Well, with Wright's suspension, there's *one* boob who's out of the way! (For women's golf on TV, see page 7)

If you thought that the **World Wrestling Federation (WWF)** was barbaric, wait till you see the pro-gay bashing stuff they're into now! (see the story on page 19).

Television

So, this is going to be the last season for the talk-show **Donahue**. It's a shame, in a sense. Phil was a pioneer not only in the talk show genre, but in giving lesbians, bisexuals, gay males and transgendered people a safe place to speak about their lives. He also demonstrated a respect for women's issues that was not found in other areas of television for a long time. Plus, his show has managed to retain a certain intelligence even as his successors have slid into trashy dreck.

Collectors of antiques and kitsch may want to tune into **Neat Stuff** on The Learning Channel. The program is on Thurs. 10 p.m. and 1 a.m., and Sun. 2:30 a.m.

The sister on NBC's *Mad About You* came out in January.

RuPaul made an appearance in the opening part of **Ellen DeGeneres**' sitcom (February 14), showing Ellen how to walk and move in pumps and sequins.



Theater

Erie's Roadhouse Theater will present *Jeffrey* from March 28 through April 20. The play is a comedy about a man who gives up sex out of fear of AIDS, and then falls in love with a man with HIV. The highly-acclaimed play won the 1993 Obie and Outer Circle Awards for Best Play. For reservations and info call (814) 456-5656.

Film & Video

The Bird Cage, the new (and Americanized) remake of the French comedy La Cage aux Folles, will be opening in theaters on March 8. Robin Williams plays Armand, the gay father whose 21-year-old son is marrying the daughter of a conservative senator (Gene Hackman). Nathan Lane is Albert, Armand's husband. Albert and Armand own a nightclub where Albert headlines as drag artist "Starina." Much of the fun revolves around the meeting of the two very different sets of parents.

Also coming up is the film *It's My Party*, about a gay man who is dying of an AIDS-related illness who decides to commit suicide. But not before he holds a big two day party, inviting his blood family and his gay family.

Just in at The Movie Stop is Coming Out Under Fire, documentary about lesbians and gay men in the armed forces during World War II. On order, perhaps on the shelves by the time you read this: *Flaming Ears* (a lesbian sci-fi thriller taking place in the year 2700), *Crocodiles* from Amsterdam (which depicts an intense ambiguous relationship between two women, by lesbian director Annette Apon), *The Hours and the Times* (speculative story about the relationship between Beatle John Lennon and his gay manager Brian Epstein) Love and Human **Remains** (adventures of a gay actor and his not-sostraight woman friend), and *Friends*. Also arriving soon will be the erotic, classic lesbian love story **Desert Hearts**. Plus, the store ordered a couple extra copies of the lesbian love-comedy *Go Fish* because the demand for that title was so hot. The original version of *La Cage aux Folles* is on the shelves, and if you're looking for something Irish this month (and very different), check out *Pigs*, a story of a group of outcasts, including a sympathetic and stable gay male character, who become squatters in a Dublin slum building.



Opinion: Why?

by Mark Ricker & Conrad

This article was written by two people who are members of Closet Culture and is not an official position of Closet Culture.

There seems to be a problem in the gay community today. There is a total lack of concern for the gay youth population of Erie. When we were coming out of the closet, there were few older gays who were willing to help us on our way. Many of them seemed to be afraid that if they helped us out they would be blamed for our sexuality. Others seemed to be too self-involved to even care.

Our only gay youth group, Closet Culture, seems to be receiving little or no help from the older gay community. Why? We must commend *EGCN* for writing about a gay youth group, and for running articles by gay youth, we understand that this takes a lot of courage. But on the whole we seem to see little support elsewhere.

Without the help of the community, Closet Culture can do little to help gay youth. The group needs money

Panisylvania Area
Cayleione Personals

for fliers, pamphlets and activities. Ideas for activities, fundraisers would also be appreciated. If a young person should come out to you, you could direct them to this group. You must remember, that for a gay kid the hardest thing for them to do is to admit it. When you shun them, it makes them think that being gay is really wrong, and that defeats the entire message that Closet Culture has been trying to get to lesbigay youth.

Another thing we need is a phone number we can publish. Although we have a post office box and an email address, this is not enough. Not everyone has a computer, and many people don't like to write to a total stranger. Being able to talk to someone alleviates the fear.

It seems to us that unless you are 21, you are not considered part of the community. One thing you have to realize is that if you are underage, there is nothing for you to do in Erie. If we want to do anything we end up having to go out of town. This is difficult for those of us who live with our parents. It would be nice if one of the bars would at least occasionally have an underage night where we could spend time not worrying about people being abusive over our sexuality.

The older gay community seems to have forgotten what it is like to be young and gay. It's difficult to come out in this community without support and having nowhere to go makes this even harder. The community has the opportunity to help gay youth, we don't have to live in secrecy any more, so why do we continue to do so?

Remember the word "community" contains "unity", and without it we are nothing.

Check out the EGCN Web Page!

Latebreaking news, Pointers to area lesbigay resources, and more.

Help us develop this idea with your input or just check us out!

Web site address is

http://www.ncinter.net/~egcn/

14

Metro Toronto for Gay & Lesbian Travellers

Produced by the Metropolitan Toronto Convention & Visitors Association Reprinted With Permission

Metropolitan Toronto is a city of neighbourhoods and the corner of Church and Wellesley Streets is the pulsating heart of the city's large gay and lesbian community. Seeing gay men and women chatting and drinking coffee on the steps in front of The Second Cup coffee shop on the southwest corner of the intersection is just one indication of the relaxed and open-minded attitudes Torontonians have toward the gay and lesbian community.

Toronto has the largest population of gays and lesbians in Canada, and one of the largest in North America. During the last decade the city has become a remarkably tolerant and positive place for gays and lesbians. With political clout in the form of openly gay city councilors and school trustees, the community continues to forge better relationships within the city. Although there is always room for improvement, visiting gays and lesbians will find the city is a safe and welcoming destination.

What to do first

To get an introduction to the gay and lesbian community in Toronto, pick up a free copy of XTRA! at The Second Cup or any of the many gay-run or gay-positive businesses in the Church/Wellesley neighbour-hood. If you want to read this biweekly newspaper before you arrive on Toronto you can order a copy for \$2.00.

You can also phone the 925-XTRA number (ie 416-925-9872) for voice mail listings of local events, businesses and meeting places.

You might also pick up a copy of the *Pink Pages*, an annual reference directory for Toronto's gay and lesbian community, or one of several other free newspapers which appear on a regular basis in area bars and bookstores.

The neighbourhood

Many of the businesses on Church Street and the ones that advertise in XTRA! are gay-owned (many, of course, are not.) Regardless, store owners in the neighbourhood know the importance of the gay community to their success. There are a wide variety of shops, some like you find in any neighbourhood—food and such—and some aimed at more specific markets.

It is in this area, or a short walk away, that the majority of gay and lesbian bars and nightspots are located. There are also a good number of restaurants to suit various palates and pocketbooks that have a large gay and lesbian clientele.

For specific information on events and activities once you are in town, a large community center at 519 Church Street provides special emphasis on information of interest to the gay and lesbian community. It's always a good place to check for updates on what is happening in the community. The "519" sits in Cawthra Square Park—known in the summer as the "Church Street Beach." (The real gay beach is at Hanlan's Point on the

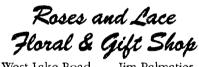


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3424 West Lake Road Erie PA 16505 Jim Palmatier, Owner (814) 838-8518



Think green for St. Patrick's Day, 3/17



Remember your snuggle bunny on Easter, 4/7

Erie Gay Community Newsletter - March '96



Published by Bridges...Building Community

south west tip of the Toronto Islands.) The park is not only a popular spot to catch the sun, but it is also the home of Toronto's AIDS Memorial and the center of activity on Lesbian and Gay Pride Day.

Pride Day takes place on the last Sunday of June or the first Sunday of July, and is the culmination of a usually frenzied week of activity at the end of June/early July. It is the largest Pride Day parade in Canada (attended by 650,00 people) and the second-largest parade in Metro Toronto, eclipsed only by the Caribana parade. For more information on Pride Day, call the Toronto Lesbian & Gay Pride committee at (416)92-PRIDE.

What to do

The gay and lesbian community is, not surprisingly, very active in arts and culture. *Buddies in Bad Times* is a theatre company which stages productions year round. Billed as the world's largest gay and lesbian theatre, the company has long been known for thoughtful and innovative works. In October 1994, the company moved to its newly renovated home on 12 Alexander Street (in the heart of the city's gay community).

Buddies in Bad Times Theatre 12 Alexander Street Toronto, Ontario M4Y 1B4 phone: (416)975-9130 box office: (416)975-8555

The Lesbian and Gay Film and Video Festival, which takes place either at the end of May or early June, features more than 100 films over ten days. For more information, call Inside Out at (416)977-6847.

There is a continuous schedule of exhibits, entertainers, and special events with gay and lesbian themes. And of course there all the *other* attractions and activities for which Toronto is known for, including fantastic theatre, restaurants and shops!

Where to stay

fax: (416)975-9293

There is accommodation in the Church/Wellesley neighborhood in both small and large hotels. There are also several gay-oriented guest houses, although some of these may be located in other parts of downtown.

Of course the rest of Toronto is worth exploring for the gay or lesbian traveller, although common sense should prevail. Like any other city, it's fine to walk hand-in-hand through the gay and lesbian area, but this may not be accepted elsewhere. What's good about Toronto, however, is that you will feel safe walking around the city no matter where you go—and there's so much to see and do outside the neighborhood too!

Toronto Visitor Information: 1-800-363-1900 XTRA! info line: (416)925-XTRA (9872)

XTRA! Magazine Box 7289, Station A Toronto Ontario M5W 1X9 phone: (416) 925-6665

fax: (416) 925-6674 or (416) 925-6503

Information subject to change without notice. Please contact numbers provided.

Other info:

Additional references

Toronto Area Gay & Lesbian Phoneline (416)964-6600. Mon.-Sat. 7-10 p.m. 925-XTRA 925-9872. Taped visitors info for 1/g/b travelers.

Check lesbigay travel guides (Ferrari's, Gayellow Pages, Damron Guide, Women's Traveler, Bent Guide to Canada)

Postage:

Sending for info? Postage to Canada from the US is 46¢

Coffeehouses:

Mocha Joe's, 399 Church Street, (416) 971-6356 Second Cup, 546 Church Street, (416) 923-7267

Bookstores:

Glad Day Bookshop, 598A Yonge Street (416) 961-4161 Toronto Women's Bookstore, 73 Harbord St. (416) 922-8744.

Accommodations (partial listing)

Hotel Selby 592 Sherbourne 1-800-387-4788. "Toronto's best rates, 67 rms. (some with fireplace), walking distance to bars, nightclubs on site."

Allenby Guest house, 223 Strathmore (416) 461-7095.

Toronto Bed & Breakfast, (416) 588-8800. Gay -friendly referral for B&B's.

Bars (partial listing: there are a lot of them):

Badlands, 9 Isabella C&W, on Sat. techno.

Boots & Kurbash, in Hotel Selby building, 592 Sherbourne. Boots is dance bar, Kurbash levi leather crowd.

The Rose 547 Parliament. Women. Dancing, patio & restaurant. Different stuff on different days of week; call 416-928-1495

Trax Toronto 529 Yonge. Piano, cabaret, vari. environments, mature crowd.

Women's Festivals

This list first appeared in *Lesbian Connection*, the free nationwide forum of news and ideas for lesbians. For more info or to get on *LC*'s mailing list, lesbians should write to *LC*, c/o Ambitious Amazons, PO Box 811, East Lansing MI 48826.

All festivals, except perhaps the National Women's Music Festival, are actually lesbian festivals. There isn't really a gay male counterpart to the women's festivals, or we would list them as well.

There is a good bit of variety as far as what each festival offers. The National Women's Music Festival, which seems to be most popular with women from the Erie area, is largely an indoor festival. It offers speakers

(for example, Margerethe Cammermeyer), 250 workshops, comedy, a night cafe, theatre, fine arts, artists and craftswomen, walks, films, videos, golf and outdoor sports. Other festivals offer different mixes of these things. Some have very rustic accommodations (tents, cabins, RVs, etc., others are more comfortable. Contact the festivals, find out what they offer, and decide for yourself what's best for you.

♀ April 4-7—Gulf Coast Womyn's Festival (Ovett MS) Camp Sister Spirit, P.O.

Box 12, Ovett, MS 39464. (601) 344-2005.

A May 10-12—Virginia Women's Music Festival INTOUCH, Route 2, Box 1096, Kents Store VA 23084 (<u>8</u>04) 589-6542.

May 22-27—Campfest PO Box 559, Franklinville NJ 08322. (609) 694-2037. TTY 301-598-9035 (eves.)

Q May 24-26—Wiminfest PO Box 80204 Albuquerque NM 87 198-0204 (505) 899-3627 email wimin@rt66.com ♀ June 6-9—National Women's Music Festival (Bloomington IN) NWMF, P.O. Box 1427, Indianapolis

IN 46206 (317)927-9355. email wia@indynet.com and also, web page at http://www.a1.com/wia/

Q June 13-16—Womongathering in the Poconos PO Box 559, Franklinville NJ 08322. 609-694-2037. This is a festival emphasizing women's spirituality.

Q June 14-16—Heart of the South (at Doubletree Hotel in New Orleans) Plus Prod. PO Box 103, Lakeside CA 92040 1-800-GET-PLUS. fax 619-390-9889 email: heart@pluspro.com

♀ July 5-7—July 4th Kickback INTOUCH, Route 2, Box 1096, Kents Store VA 23084 (804) 589-6542.

Q Aug 13-18—Michigan Womyn's Music Festival (near Heart MI) WWTMC, Box 22, Walhalla MI 494458 616-757-4766

757-4766.

Solution Aug 29-Sept 2 (Tentative)—West Coast Women's

Music and Comedy Fest Robin Tyler Productions

15842 Chase Street, North Hills CA 91343 818-893-4075 fax 818-893-1593. ♀ Aug 29-Sept. 2—

♀ Aug 29-Sept. 2— RhythmFest 957 North
Highland Avenue Atlanta
GA 30306 404 873-1551.

♀ Sept I—Midwest Womyn's Autumn Fest Athena Productions 217 South 2nd Street #193, DeKalb IL 60115 815-748-5359.

Sept 7—Ohio Lesbian Festival LBA, PO Box 82086, Columbus OH 43202 614-267-3953.

♀ Sept 6-8—Sisterspace Pocono Weekend Sisterspace of the Delaware Valley (SODV), 542A South 48th

Street, Philadelphia PA 19143 215-476-8856 TDD - 215 747-7554.

Sept. 13-15—Wild Western Women's Weekend INTOUCH, Route 2, Box 1096, Kents Store VA 23084 (804) 589-6542.

Q Oct 31-Nov 3 —Heart of the West Fest at Stardust Hotel in Las Vegas. Info: Plus Prod. PO Box 103, Lakeside CA 92040 1-800-GET-PLUS. fax 619-390-9889 email: heart@pluspro.com



US/World News

Irish rights

Ireland has joined the list of countries where lesbians and gay men persecuted in their native land due to their sexuality can apply for political asylum, reported Dublin's Gay and lesbian Equality Network.

—From just out.
Portland OR

Salt Lake City School Board: ban all school groups rather than allow gay one

SALT LAKE CITY, Feb. 22—Until very recently it looked like the Gay/Straight Alliance would have no problems becoming a recognized school organization. The language in the Equal Access Act of 1984 was pretty clear—it wouldn't be legal for the school district to keep the students from having a gay organization. So

the school district voted 4-3 to ban all student groups rather than allow one for gay students. Students who were openly associated with the Gay/Straight Alliance report that they have been heavily harassed by other students.

Advocate: Barbara Jordan was lesbian

The March 5 issue of *The Advocate* reveals that Barbara Jordan was a lesbian who carried the secret of her sexual orientation to her grave. The article said that Jordan was open in private about her relationship with Nancy Earl, but did not want to be public about it. But in Jordan's obituary, the *Houston Chronicle* mentioned Earl was Jordan's "longtime companion." Jordan was to have spoken at the National Black Gay and Lesbian Leadership Forum in Dallas in February. She served in Congress and became known for her dedication to the US Constitution and her ability to deliver powerful speeches.

EGCN Crossword:

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7 Filmmaker's trophy

short

5 British TV hit ___Fab, for

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"Gay Flicks" by Mike Miller (solution p.20) 7 Film starring Crisp as Queen 18 , Queen of the Desert 8 Secretly 21 Each, (abbr.) 9 Alonaside. (naut.) 22 Loneliest number? 10 Slower, musically 23 Marilyn, to family 13 Feel ill **25** Mix 19 Company, (abbr.) 29 Overdose 20 Home to first civilization 30 Tognazzi film: La 24 English rump 34 Initials on bounced check 25 Strikebreaker 35 Work a keyboard **26** 'Bve 27 It starts your engine 36 Visually impaired 38 Nickname for Stuart 28 Regarding, (abbr.) 40 Spielberg film 29 Headed toward, (slang) 41 Snipes & Swayze film Band Played On 47 Drink: Tai 32 Footballer Lawrence 48 Chinese measure Taylor, for short, 49 Carson replacement 33 Extended Play, (abbr.) 50 Former movie studio 37 Oil-based lubes cause 51 God of love condoms to become this 53 Actor Sharif 38 Film about Leopold and 54 Cagney & Lacey actress Loeb trial 55 Bond film: Dr. 39 United Nations, (abbr.) **56** The Boys in the 42 Paddle

43 Grease ball

46 Dutch money

47 We pity the fool

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even keel

Music & Arts, (abbr.)

Erie Gay Community Newsletter - March '96

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3 Latin for '1 came

4 Mental measures

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MediAlert

By Al Kielwasser Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation San Francisco Bay Area

Wrestling with homophobia

"Monday Night Raw" — a weekly TV series produced by the World Wrestling Federation (WWF) — has literally made a "sport" out of gay bashing. In addition to the usual staged wrestling matches, the WWF series now features "entertaining" acts of hate violence.

For several months, one of WWF's featured wrestlers — "Goldust" — has essentially played the role of a "gay menace," lusting after (ostensibly) heterosexual wrestlers and provoking melodramatic disgust. According to publicity materials, Goldust is a "flamboyant Hollywood legend" who — "despite his wigs and glittery appearance" — is "proving to be one of the toughest competitors in the World Wrestling Federation."

However, audiences for "Monday Night Raw" are patently cued to jeer Goldust — not simply as a villain, but a freak. Ringside announcers have referred to him as "a thing," and Goldust's opponents are described as "anxious for the opportunity to get rid of an obnoxious wrestler whose very presence bugs them."

During the January 15 broadcast of "Monday Night Raw," Goldust was violently attacked for revealing his crush on another WWF wrestler, Razor Ramon. The scene was re-broadcast during the January 20 episode of WWF's "Action Zone." While standing before the cameras, Goldust proceeded to publicly lisp his romantic intentions regarding Ramon. Meanwhile, Ramon — a classic "he-man" icon and WWF "hero" — is seen "off-camera," his anger steadily rising. "Homosexual panic" hit full tilt when Goldust revealed a heart-shaped tattoo on his chest, inscribed with the name "Razor Ramon."

In a seething rage, Ramon tracked down the "unsuspecting" Goldust and cornered him in a hallway. To assuage his insulted manhood (and entertain the fans), Ramon proceeded to savagely beat Goldust. In a fight

Just a Reminder: Are you registered to vote?

staged without resistance, Ramon repeatedly punched and kicked Goldust, hit him with various objects (including a garbage can), and attempted to crush his skull against the floor and walls. Even as Goldust crawled out of the building and into the street, Ramon continued the assault.

Though staged to excite and entertain, this attack possessed none of the comic-book overtones typical of professional wrestling bouts. As one critical viewer observed, the whole sequence "was decidedly not funny...the implicit message was, 'If a gay man comes on to you, it is okay to assault him.'" In fact — it's not only permissible, but positively DESIREABLE.

Key portions of Ramon's attack have since been replayed and rebroadcast several times — some sequences in slow motion — to create a spectacle that amounts, effectively, to a celebration of the basher's performance. Apparently, cracking open a gay man's head is not just a right, or even a duty — it's a bona fide athletic skill.

According to WWF representative Keith Greenberg, "Monday Night Raw" is now "the highest-rated weekly series on cable television" and attracts "nearly five million people just in the United States, where the program is broadcast in both English and Spanish." WWF publishes a popular monthly magazine, as well, which also targets children and young adults.

Ironically, the pages of "World Wrestling Federation Magazine" are splashed with "Presidential Seals of Approval" — certifying that WWF programs provide "Wholesome Family Sports Entertainment."

**** ACTIONS/OPTIONS! Comments and concerns should be sent to WWF headquarters and the USA Network. Contact: Linda E. McMahon, President, World Wrestling Federation/TitanSports, Inc., Titan Tower, 1241 East Main Street, Stamford, CT 06902-3521, tel. 203-352-8600; USA Network, Audience Services, 1230 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020, tel. 212-408-9100. Copy your correspondence or send additional comments to: Vincent Russo, Editor, "World Wrestling Federation Magazine," P.O. Box 3859, Stamford, CT 06905, tel. 904-445-4320 (customer service); though geared toward young readers, the magazine publishes letters from both children and adults.



Web watch... "Because it's a desert out there ..." That's one of the motivating slogans energizing "Oasis," a monthly online magazine for queer and questioning youth and "the only regularly-updated zine for queer youth on the net." Just into its third issue, "Oasis" is already a singular source for news and analysis; previous issues have featured columns on queer music and the queercore movement, profiles of queer teen life and lives, and interviews with Harvey Fierstein and Pansy Division. "Oasis" webzine is located at: http://www.outproud.org/oasis/.

About GLAAD. . .

The GAY & LESBIAN ALLIANCE AGAINST DEFA-MATION challenges homophobia in and through the mass media . . . shaping the forces that shape our society.

Founded in 1988, the SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA CHAPTER of GLAAD is a non-profit, volunteer-based, membership organization dedicated to cultural advocacy and media activism. GLAAD/SFBA promotes the fair, accurate and diverse representation of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender lives. GLAAD/SFBA is the oldest and largest GLAAD chapter in the nation.

To notify GLAAD/SFBA of any defamatory or affirmative media coverage, or to request GLAAD membership information, please call our 24-hour MediAlert Hotline (415-861-4588) or write to: Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, 1360 Mission Street, Suite 200, San Francisco, CA 94103, tel. 415-861-2244, fax 415-861-4893, c-mail glaadsfba@aol.com, URL http://www.gaytrek.com/gaytrek/glaad.html.

To assist our ongoing monitoring and response efforts, GLAAD/SFBA appreciates copies of any correspondence individuals send to, or receive from, the media.

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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. Cofacilitated by The Rev. Canon F. Kay Johnson and Sue Kuebler. Meets 1st and 3rd Tues, 8 - 9:30 pm. 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 egcn@ncinter.net or fax to (814) 452-1392.

Chautauqua County Gay Lesbian & Bi Community Svcs Works to increase visibility & support for lesbigay citizens in Chautauqua County, NY. Meets 1st Mon of month at 7 pm. 716-484-8434 or 679-3560

Chautauqua North County Support Grp (NY)
Support for lesbigays in northern half of county. Meets 4th Mon 7 - 9 pm, also
fish fry 2nd Friday of the month. Call Vince 716-6733183 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. Email to i586113s@edinboro.edu

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@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 & Lesbian Parents Coalition International

Erie Chapter of GLPCI now forming. Support, advocacy, and education for gay and lesbian parents and their families. All parents interested, please call 814-835-4532 for information or email glpcierie@aol.com

HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of St. Paul Cathedral Call (814) 452-3779.

Identity

Student group for lesbigay & allies at Edinboro University. Meets every Wed at 8:30 pm in Hendricks Hall, Rm 125. Social activities (岳). Call Dave at 734-9233 or Christie Hudson at 732-3779 or Dr. Dave Herendeen at 732-2555. Email to Dave at d660375s@edinboro.edu or write to Identity, c/o Dr. Herendeen, Edinboro University, Heather Hall, Edinboro, PA 16440

Informal Lesbigay Student Group of Erie Now forming. Email to ILSGErie@aol.com



A Constitution by the Episcopalian Church that welcomes people of all faiths. Meets 2nd Sun 6:00 pm 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 lesbigay 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. Email to Greg at rabbgp@jccw22.cc.sunyjcc.edu.

Lambda Group AA

Alcoholics Anon. for Lesbigays. Closed discussion. Meets Sunday evenings at 8:00 pm at Unitarian Universalist Church of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Open to all Lesbigays 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. Meets first Sun. Call Greg at (814) 833-3258. Call before faxing to (814)833-3258. Write to LGLY-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: Meets last Sun of month. Call Elaine at (814) 864-0184 or 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: Meets 7 pm on 2nd Tues of month. Call Jack & Karen Kressley at (814) 371-8962 or write to PFLAG-DuBois, 1191 Treasure Lake, DuBois PA 15801 New Castle PA: Meets 7-9 pm on 3rd Thurs of month at Human Svcs Ctr, 130 West North St, New Castle. Call Lois Skuta at (412)652-6893 Jamestown NY: Meets last Tues of the month, call for site. (716) 488-1264 or 763-1529. Ashtabula OH: (216)964-3350

Pitt-Bradford/BiGALA

Support group for students. Meetings are Fridays from 12 noon. Call Melanie Ostrowksi at (814)398-9119 or write to: University of Pitt Bradford BiGALA, Attn.: Director of Student Activities, 300 Campus Drive / 235 Commons, Bradford, PA 16701 email to mhost4@yms.cis.pitt.edu.

Rainbow Connection (Warren, PA area)

Support group, social group, activism, gay rights advocates, AIDS education & support for Warren, PA and surrounding area. Meets once a month. Call for meeting info. Fred Adams or Marshall Snyder at (814) 726-1808 or write to 220 Onandaga Avenue, Warren PA 16365.

Rainbow Families

Support group for gay & lesbian parents in Chautauqua County & neighboring counties and a play group for their kids. Call Judy at (716)366-1453 or Patrick at 881-1878. Write to: PO Box 254; 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 814-452-6113 or 825-1075.

Trigon Support group for Rebread st

Support group for Behrend students, faculty, alumni. For more info, call Al & Ginny at (814)825-8211 or Sue Daley (814)898-6164, or write: College Mailroom,

Box 1054, Behrend College, Station Road, Erie, PA 16563. Email to Ginny at visi21@email.psu.edu or Al at alr126@email.psu.edu

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.

E-Mail

Now you can get vital information for EGCN through the Internet! To get on your e-mailing list, all you have to do is send an email message with a subject of "Subscribe to Mailing List" to us (egcn@ncinter.net). If you hear of an event, please also send it to that address and include a first line of "Publish EMAIL". We'll take it from there.

The Web Site is back! We have the Calendar of Events, Latebreaking News and pointers to area lesbigay resources and web searchers. We're your one stop for info. The Web Site address is:

http://www.ncinter.net/~egcn/

If your group has an email contact address or a Web page, please let us know so we can include it. We want everyone to be included.

Thanks for your help!

E-Mail Addresses

| SGLBP/Allegheny College jgolden@alleg.edu |
|--|
| Chautauqua Cty NY Groups courtney@fredonia.edu |
| Closet Culture |
| GCN/Bridgesegcn@ncinter.net |
| GLPCI-Erieglpcierie@aol.com |
| dentity d660375s@edinboro.edu |
| nformal Lesbigay Students of Eric |
| ILSGErie@aol.com |
| amestown Community College Group |
| rabbgp@jccw22.cc.sunyjcc.edu |
| .GLV-Erie kidithart@aol.com |
| Pitt/Bradford-BiGALA mhost4@vms.cis.pitt.edu |
| Frigonvls121@email.psu.edu |
| or alr126@email.psu.edu |

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HIV/AIDS Directory

| AIDS O |
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| AIDS Organizations & Services: |
| National |
| AIDS Factline |
| National AIDS Hotline |
| Spanish AIDS Hotline |
| Ashtabula OH/Ashtabula County |
| 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 |
| HIV+ Support Grps Rosemary Buzzard at 333-5800 |
| Erie PA/Erie County |
| Case Manager - Deb Monohon |
| Case Manager - Mary Richardson 456-8849 |
| Case Manager - Cheryl Weber 825-1085 |
| ★ St. Mark's/Catholic Charities Support Group |
| |
| ► AIDS Action Team (AACT) Gannon 871-7233 |
| AIDS Network Information |
| Friends from the Heart (Direct Client Services) |
| 838-0123 |
| HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of Cathedral of St. |
| Paul (Episcopal) |
| ► NW. PA Rural AIDS Alliance (Erie office) 456- |
| 8849 or 1(800)400-AIDS |
| W'ell 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 |
| Case Manager - Tami Shilling 1(800)359-AIDS or |
| (814)226-2743 |
| HIV/AIDS Counseling and Testing Programs (free): |
| The following locations offer free, confidential counseling. |
| toting, and referral. |

 ← (Corry) Erie Co. Dept. of Health 663-3891

(Erie) Hispanic American Council 451-6700

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 Assoc (\$30) |
| (216)992-5953 |
| Painesville OH(216)354-AIDS |
| Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force (412)242-2500 |
| |
| 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 7:30 am - 11 pm, Thurs-Fri. 7:30 am - 12 mid., Sat 9 am-midnight. 456-1511. A gay-friendly coffeehouse. 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 8 pm - 2 am. Live DJ music Wed thru Sat 10 pm - 2 am. Pool table.

Lizzie Bordon's Part II, 3412 West 12th. Open Mon-Sat. Pool night on Tues. County Line Dancing on Wed 9:30-12, regular dancing 12-?. Dart night on Thurs. 90's dance music DJ on Fri. (10 pm - 2 am.) & Sat. (9 pm - 2 am.) Shows on some Fridays.

Jamestown & Southwest NY

Nite Spot, 201 Winsor, Jamestown. Open Tues-Sun 7 pm - 2 am. Closed Mon. DJ Fri & Sat 10 pm - 2 am. 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 Tues.-Sun. 2 pm to 2 am. DJ Fri and Sat 10-2.

Community Directory

| Community Directory |
|--|
| 24 Hour Counseling: |
| Erie Hotline |
| Saint Vincent |
| Family Crisis |
| Hamot |
| Community-Building Organizations: |
| Bridges |
| Chautauqua GLB Svcs 716-484-8434 or 679-3560 |
| Counseling: |
| Deb Monohon |
| Chautauqua Co. Gay Infoline (716)679-3560 |
| Family Service of Jamestown N.Y (716)488-1971 |
| Fredonia Office (716)679-3455 |
| Great Lakes Counseling-Ashtabula (216)992-5995 |
| Lake Erie Counseling Associates |
| Family Medical (Warren PA) |
| Financial Advice: |
| Justine R Raker (814)454-5856 or (216)593-6431 |
| Funding and Fund-raising: |
| Lambda Foundation . P.O. Box 5169, PGH PA 15206 |
| (412)521-5444 |
| Imperial Court 266 Elmwood Ave. Buffalo NY |
| Health: |
| PA Breast Cancer Coalition 455-7833 |
| Patrick McNamara, Licensed Massage Therapist |
| |
| Legal: |
| David Baxter, Esq 774-4163 |
| Solymosi Law Offices, PC |
| John Cooper, Esq |
| 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 |
| Unitarian Universalist Congreg. of Erie 864-9300 |
| Facial Organizations |
| Menspace Larry at 835-6712 |
| 10% Network |
| Womynspace Coffeehouse Sal at 454-2713 |
| Rainbow Connection Fred or Marshall at 726-1808 |
| Student Organizations/Youth: |
| Cmte. in Support of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual People |
| (Allegheny College, Meadville) |
| Closet Culture Mail to PO Box 10274, Erie PA 16514 |
| Covenant House Teen Hotline 1-800-999-9999 |
| 50. chanc 110asc 1cen 110anc 1-000-///39999 |

All numbers are area code 814 unless noted.

tf your event falls on this date: Notify us by this date: April 6-May 15 March 15 May 16-June 15 April 15 June 16-July 15 May 15







Attorney David A. Baxter

512 Main Street East Girard, PA 16417 (814) 774-4163 General Civil Practice



Lake Erie Counseling **Associates**

350 West Tenth Street, Erie

Gay-Affirming Individual, Family & Couples Therapy

Dale A. Allgeier, LSW, ACSW Suzanne Csop, MA William D. Stanley, LSW, QCSW

sliding fee scale - free initial consultation evening & weekend appointments medical assistance & insurance accepted

455-4009

Non-Smoking Section

18 North Park Row Erie, PA Phone

456-1151



Expanded Space!

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 Veggie Pita Quiche Bottled Spring Waters Soup of the Day Spicy Noodles Pastries

Mochas & Hot Cocoas

Tuna Salad Pita Hummus Pita Cold Drinks

Herbal & Non-Herbal Teas

Erie Gay Community Newsletter - March '96



Published by Bridges...Building Community