



Erie Gay Community Newsletter

Calendar

☛ = New or Modified Group/Event this issue

☛ **June 3—Women's soccer at Family First Sports Park**

New team sponsored by Cup-a-Ccino's and American Tin & Galvanizing. Game starts at 6pm. They will be wearing dark green shirts. FFSP is located on Oliver Road. No tobacco or alcohol products permitted on or in facilities. See article on Women's sports on page 12.

☛ **June 4—Georgia O'Keefe: The Plains on Paper** (PBS-Buffalo/Ch. 17) noon.

☛ **June 5—A Question of Equality: Outrage '69** WPSX

(PBS-Penn State). 1st of 4-part series that examines the circumstances that sparked the formation of the modern movement for gay and lesbian civil rights. 11 pm.

☛ **June 7-9—50's & 60's Weekend at Jones Pond Campground (Angelica NY)** Costumes & music of the period. For more info, call (716)567-8100

☛ **June 8 & 9—Allentown Arts Festival (Buffalo)** Info (716) 881-4265. 11 a.m.-6 p.m.

☛ **June 8—G.I.F.T. Cruise (Cleveland)** Leave 7:30 p.m. Tickets (if still available \$17 adv./\$20 gate. Info and reservations (216)252-8933;

☛ **June 8—Suzanne Westenhoffer (Pittsburgh)** 7:30 p.m. Stephen Foster Mem. Theater in Oakland. \$20 gen. seating. Tickets (412) 363-5TNL, or in gay-friendly Pittsburgh stores.

☛ **June 8—Pride Erie '96 Picnic at Presque Isle** From 1 pm

to sundown at shelter 2, near waterworks area, across from beach 6. The Picnic Committee will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, rolls, condiments and beverages, you should bring your own table setting and a potluck dish to share. The picnic will be family-friendly, so please bring the kids! Volleyball and horseshoes will be provided; feel free to bring your rollerblades, bikes, beach accessories, and any other outdoor or board games for grown-ups or kids. Tables will be provided for area lesbian groups to share age-appropriate information. Open to all supportive individuals, their friends, and families; admission is free! Donations gratefully accepted. Remember, alcohol is not permitted on the park. For more info, call Greg at (814) 833-3258.

☛ **June 8—Women's soccer—Cup-a-Ccino's at Family First Sports Park** Starts at 6pm. They will be wearing dark green shirts. Family First Sports Park is located on Oliver Road. No tobacco or alcohol products permitted on or in facilities. See article on Women's sports in *Entertainment Notes*, page 12.

☛ **June 8—Shades Gay Pride Dance (Buffalo)** 8 p.m.


Tiffany's Dance Bar & Lounge, 490 Pearl Street. Donation \$5 (includes buffet and show). Portion of proceeds benefit AIDS Alliance of WNY.



(Calendar continued Page 4)

<i>If your event falls this date:</i>	<i>Notify us by this date:</i>
July 16-Aug 15	June 15
Aug 16-Sep 15	July 15
Sep 16-Oct 15	Aug 15


Credits: The covers for this month's and last month's issue were by Micheal A. Miller

Published by


the **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

c/o EGC Coalition
PO Box 3063
Erie, PA 16508-0063
Phone: (814) 456-9833
Fax: (814) 452-1392
Pager: (814) 870-9128
E-Mail: egcn@ncinter.net

Web Site: <http://www.ncinter.net/~egcn/>

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 and 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. Although we appreciate the importance of fiction and poetry, we are primarily an information publication, and like most general lesbian and gay publications, we are mainly interested in nonfiction prose. We will be happy to direct you to the many lesbian and gay publications that do welcome fiction and poetry, and we will support through free publicity any local publication that publishes lesbian and gay 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 "out" anyone.

Advertisers: Reach Erie's lesbian and gay community directly! Space in *EGCN* is now available for as little as \$20 for an eighth-page 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

Counseling Center, 898 Park Ave Suite 12

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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All calls are confidential.



Pharmaceutical Research Services
5900 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15206

Calendar (continued from cover page)

Shades is an organization for lesbians of color. All lesbians and gay men are welcome to this event. For ticket info call Tiffany's at (716) 854-4840 or Sher at 896-1770.

☛ **June 8—The City of Good Neighbors Chorale: "Scrapbook Memories" (Buffalo)** 7:30 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Church (716) 883-0128.

☛ **June 9—Pittsburgh AIDS Walk '96** (412)560-9000.

☛ **June 9—Taxi: "Elaine's Strange Triangle"** Nickelodeon 3:30am.

Jun 11—HIV/AIDS Support Group Meeting: Topic "Dr. Christian Dudenhoffer: Questions & Answers" Newcomers always welcome! St. Mark's (secluded location). Info from Cheryl Weber at 825-1085.

☛ **June 12—Norma Jean and Marilyn (1996)** HBO 12:45am. Docudrama about the life of Marilyn Monroe, which includes her relationship with Natasha Lytess, one of her lovers.

June 12—A Question of Equality: Culture Wars WPSX (PBS-Penn State). Second of a four part series, 11 p.m. Weaves together three stories: the New York gay-bashing murder of Julio Rivera, the '92 presidential campaign fracas surrounding Marlon Riggs' *Tongues Untied*, and a behind-the-scenes look at Oregon's anti-gay measure, Ballot 9.

☛ **June 12—Go Fish (1994)** Cinemax 8pm. Funny lesbian love story.

☛ **June 13—Madonna: Making of Evita** MTV 8:30pm.

☛ **June 13—The Sum of Us (1994)** Cinemax 11pm. Comedy/drama about a young gay man and his father who tries *too* hard to be gay-supportive.

June 14—Chautauqua Co. Flag Day Fish Fry 7 p.m. Call Vince (716) 673-3183 for reservations. Bring your own meat (BYOM).

Jun 14-16—Crafts Weekend at Jones Pond Campground (Angelica NY) Display & sale of crafts all weekend, Saturday night Karaoke, Classic cars all weekend, Sunday Car judging and Family day. Info (716)567-8100

June 14-16—Western NY Pride '96 (Buffalo) Details in "Pride Events feature," page 7-8. Info (716)883-4750.

June 15—10% Network: Pride Month Talent Show (Jamestown) 7 p.m. at First Unitarian Society of Jamestown. Details in "Pride Events" feature, page 7. Info (716) 484-7285.

☛ **June 15—Laura at Cup-a-Ccino's** Kim Piper, manager at Cups, tells us "Laura is awesome. Anyone who likes Joni Mitchell would love Laura." 18 N Park Row in Erie 9 pm to 12 am

June 15—Renaissance City Men's & Women's Choirs (Pittsburgh) Byham Theater. Info/reservations (412) 471-8208.

June 15—Cleveland Pride '96 Ninth St. Pier Park, north of Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. Rally 11 am, parade noon, festival 12:30-6 p.m. Note: Menspace is organizing a bus from Erie to go to this event. Details in "Pride Events" feature, page 8. (216) 371-9714.

☛ **June 15—Menspace bus trip to Cleveland Pride '96** This is open to all, men and women. Details in Pride Festivals article. For more info, call Larry 814-835-6712.

June 15—North Coast Men's Chorus: "We Sing the Dream" (Cleveland) 8pm Waetjen Aud. (216)473-8919.

☛ **June 15—Royal Secrets: Bizarre** The Learning Channel 10 p.m. and 1 a.m. Profiles France's King Henri III,

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who surrounded himself with male lovers, wore make-up, cross-dressed, enjoyed being publicly flagellated, and generally scandalized his country. Don't expect a role model story here; this series focuses on strange behavior of monarchs.

June 16—**Gay Day at Cedar Point (Sandusky OH)**

June 16—**Classic Car Show: Family Day at Jones Pond Campground (Angelica NY)** Info, call (716)567-8100

June 16—**After Goodbye: An AIDS Story** (PBS-Buffalo/Ch. 23) 9 p.m. Features Turtle Creek Chorale, a 190-member men's chorus that has lost more than 60 members to AIDS over the past ten years.

June 18—**P.O.V. "A Litany for Survival: The Life and Work of Audre Lorde"** Profiles the late African-American lesbian feminist poet and writer, who wrote passionately of love and anger, civil rights and sexuality, family politics and the glories of nature. 10 p.m. on WQLN (PBS-Erie Ch.54) and WPSX (PBS-Penn State/Ch.3).

June 19—**A Question of Equality: Hollow Liberty** WPSX (PBS-Penn State). Third of a four part series, 11 p.m. Sodomy statutes and "Don't ask, don't tell" ban on gays in the military.

June 20—**Art for AIDS Auction (Pittsburgh)** Benefits Persad Center. Silent and live auction 5 p.m., dancing and dining. 1,500 expected. Tickets \$50. Info (412) 441-9786.

June 20—**thirtysomething: "Strangers"** Lifetime 1:30am. This is the series' "gay episode," which featured two male characters talking in bed after having made love. The religious right caused a major uproar and pressured advertisers to withdraw their advertising from the program, which cost the program in a major way.

June 21—**Gemini 28 at Cup-a-Ccino's** This is a female acoustic duo. They are twin sisters. 18 N Park Row in Erie 9 pm to 12 am

June 21-23—**Pride Weekend at Jones Pond (Angelica NY)** Pride Connection Sales & Events (716) 567-8100.

June 21—**And Then There Was One (1994)** Lifetime 2pm. AIDS drama.

June 21—**Suzi Landolphi's Comedy, Compassion and Condoms** Playboy 6pm. Safer sex talk, with humor.

June 21—**Fall Time (1995)** Cinemax 8pm.

June 21—**ABBA: The Movie** VH-1 9pm. Repeats 6/22 7 p.m.

June 22—**2 Girls Alone at Cup-a-Ccino's** 18 N Park Row in Erie 9 pm to 12 am

June 22—**Pittsburgh PrideFest '96** Info (412)422-3060. See page 8.

June 22 & 23—**Softball: Women's Invitational Fastpitch Open** 11th & 12th and Hess. Sat. 8 a.m. - 11 p.m., Sunday 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

June 22—**"Suffragette Elizabeth Cady Stanton"** Chautauqua lecture on WQLN-FM (91.3) 11 a.m., presented by Allegheny professor Paula Treckel.

June 22—**Dresser (1983)** A&E 10pm. Drama, with Albert Finney.

June 24—**Northern Chautauqua Co. Gay, Lesbian & Bi Support Group (Fredonia)** 7-9 p.m. Call Vince (716) 673-3183.

June 24—**Northern Exposure: "Cicely"** WJET 1 am. This episode journeys back to the turn of the century, when Cicely, Alaska was founded by two women who

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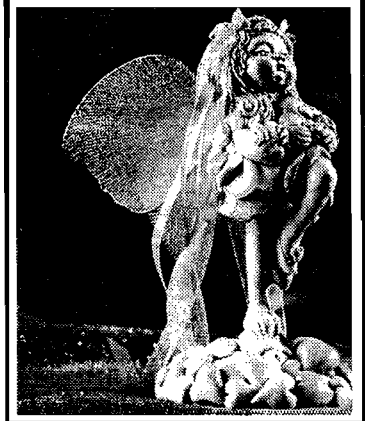
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June 25—HIV/AIDS Support Group Meeting: Topic "Northwest Legal Services Q&A: Durable Power of Attorney, Living Will" Newcomers welcome! St. Mark's (secluded location). Info Cheryl Weber at 825-1085.

June 25—P.O.V. "A Litany for Survival: The Life and Work of Audre Lorde" WNET (PBS-Buffalo/Ch. 17). See June 18 for details.

June 26—A Question of Equality: Generation Q WPSX (PBS-Penn State). Gay and lesbian teens. 11 p.m.

June 28-30—Sports Weekend at Jones Pond (Angelica NY) (716) 567-8100.

June 30—PFLAG-Erie Meets: Straight from the Heart video 2 p.m. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie. This video presents simple stories about real parents of gay and lesbian children, and was an Academy award nominee. Info Elaine Hill 864-0184.

June 30—Toronto Pride Day Details in "Pride Events feature," page 8. Info (416)92-PRIDE.

June 30—Columbus Pride March and Gayfest Assemble at Goodale Park. Info (614) 299-7764.

June 30—Neat Stuff: Glitta and Glamah 2:30 a.m. The Learning Channel. Includes a tour of Liberace Museum. We incorrectly listed this last month as airing on Discovery; this is as good a time as any to recommend that you check our listings against those in the *TV Guide* or newspaper, since we do make this sort of mistake sometimes.

July 19-22—Great Lakes Faeries 10th Annual Ganowungo Gathering At Chautauqua Gorge State Forest. Very rustic (you'll have to hike in and bring drinking water, vegetarian food, candles and camping gear. You'll need directions, so for info call (814) 456-9833.

July 1—Joan Armatrading in concert (Cleveland) Cain Park (216) 371-3000.

July 4-7—Fourth of July Weekend at Jones Pond Campground (Angelica NY) Thursday through Sunday. Show Saturday night. For more info, call (716)567-8100

July 5—Lollapalooza '96 (Barrie, Ontario) (716) 852-5000. Hey kidz, without getting into a discussion of whether drugs are good for ya, some people do get high at events like this, so here's some advice if you're going to this one: don't travel with drugs! You're going to be crossing an international border, and travelers—especially "alternative" looking ones—do sometimes get searched.

July 6—Womynspace Picnic Details at June coffeehouse. Note: there will be no Womynspace event in August. Info from Sal 454-2713.

Jul 19-21—Mardi Gras & Christmas in July Weekend at Jones Pond Campground (Angelica NY) A weekend of campsite decorations and Lights/prizes. For more info, call (716)567-8100

Festivals and Conferences

August 16-18—OutVote '96: The Human Rights Campaign Political Convention (Chicago) Info (202) 628-4160. Workshops, speakers, activities, etc.

Repeating TV Programs

Women's Sports:

LPGA Golf: 6/6 ESPN 1:30pm, 6/7 ESPN 1:30 pm, 6/8 ESPN 5pm, 6/9 ESPN 2pm

Basketball: 6/9 ESPN 4pm, 6/12 ESPN 3:30am, 6/15 ABC 1pm

Pro-Beach Volleyball: 6/16 ESPN 2:30pm, 6/22 ESPN 4 pm, 6/22 ABC 3pm

Tennis: 6/7 USA 1am

Calendar listings are free and open to gay, lesbian, and bisexual events in our area.

Please try to have info to us by the 15th of the month. Written info is always *strongly* preferred!

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Pride month events

These are the major events in nearby communities. In the bigger cities, there will also be other events going on throughout June.

Erie area

Pride Erie '96 Picnic at Presque Isle State Park

Saturday, June 8, from 1 pm to sundown at shelter 2, near waterworks area, across from beach 6. The Picnic Committee will provide hamburgers, hot dogs, rolls, condiments and beverages, you should bring your own table setting and a potluck dish to share. The picnic will be family-friendly, so please bring the kids! Volleyball and horseshoes will be provided; feel free to bring your rollerblades, bikes, beach accessories, and any other outdoor or board games for grown-ups or kids. Tables will be provided for area lesbigay groups to share age-appropriate information. Open to all supportive individuals, their friends, and families; admission is free! Donations gratefully accepted. Remember, alcohol is not permitted on the park. For more info call Greg at 833-3258.

Bus Trip to Cleveland Pride Saturday, June 15. There will be a bus leaving from Erie to go to the Cleveland Pride celebration. For information look at the Cleveland events on the next page.

Chautauqua Co.

Pride Month Talent Show at 10% Network. Saturday, June 15 at 7 p.m. at First Unitarian Society of Jamestown. "Practice your scales and dust off those tap shoes! To celebrate Gay Pride Month, we are once again having a talent show. You are not expected to be a

professional or give a performance worthy of the Ed Sullivan show. We are just celebrating our pride in ourselves and each other by sharing some of the talents we have in an easy-going and non-threatening atmosphere. We will be having a potluck as well." Info (716) 484-7285.

WNY Pride

Friday, June 14—Pride Show 8 p.m. at Buffalo & Erie County Library, Lafayette Square. Performances by Buffalo United Artists, Hag Theater, Leah Ziccari and others, plus an appearance by the Imperial Court of Buffalo. Candlelight ceremony afterwards. *Pride Party:* Drink specials and fun at area clubs and bars.

Saturday June 15—Pride Parade Assemble at noon at Red Cross, step off 1 p.m. over to Lafayette Square. Prizes for best banner and float. *Pride '96 Festival:* Right after parade, with featured speakers and entertainers. Refreshments will be available.

Sunday June 16—Interfaith Service (Unitarian Universalist Church W. Ferry & Elmwood, 11 a.m.) *Family Picnic* (Front park, near Peace Bridge, softball starts 11

(Continued on next page)

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Take *Care* of
Each Other.

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**We celebrate our gay &
lesbian family and friends!**



a.m.). Hosted by Queen City Softball League. Activities, games, food. Also hot air balloon rides (weather permitting.)

Info on Western NY Pride (716) 883-4750.

Cleveland

Saturday June 15.

Parade Assembles at E. 22nd and Euclid at 11 a.m. Rally at 11:30 a.m. Noon step off (rain or shine).

Festival Noon to 6 p.m. at Pier Park, behind the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame. Music, dance stage on the lake, food court overlooking Lake Erie, beer garden, over 70 exhibits and concession stands on the triangle, open-air tents, lots of grass (bring blankets and frisbees). Entertainment: Comic Georgia Ragsdale, magician Eric Brouman, ex-Odd Girl Out member Anne E. DeChant.

Sponsored by Curve magazine, with publisher Frances Stevens as guest emcee. Cleveland Lesbian-Gay-Bisexual Pride Inc., Box 91031, Cleveland, OH 44101 (216) 371-9714. <http://members.aol.com/clevepride>

Bus from Erie: Menspace will be sponsoring a bus trip to Cleveland for the festival. The bus will be open to all, men and women. Cost will be \$10 per person for

transportation. Expenses in Cleveland are the responsibility of each person. Bus departs Erie at 9 am. Bus will depart Cleveland at 7pm and should arrive in Erie by 9 pm. For reservations, payment and further details, please contact Larry at 835-6712. All aboard!

Pittsburgh

Saturday June 22.

March through Shadyside to the mainstage with singers, comics, poets, speakers, booths, and tents. No more details right now...check June issues of Pittsburgh's *Planet Queer* or *Out*. Info (412)422-3060.

Toronto Pride Day

Pride Day itself (and the Pride parade) is June 30, but June 29 will be hopping as well, and Pride Week runs June 24-30. Events center around the Church Street area, south of Bloor and one block east of Yonge. The community is at 519 Church. Reserve accommodations soon—750,000 are expected for this year's Pride Day! (for accommodations, note that we have an ad on our back page from a Toronto Bed and Breakfast, the DunDonald House. They come highly recommended!)

Saturday June 29 Performances on Labatt Stage, beer gardens, Run for Pride and Remembrance, Dyke March, Garden Party, Women's Pride party and Fashion Spectacle & Dance Events center around the Church Street area, south of Bloor and one block east of Yonge.

Sunday June 30 Ecumenical Service, Pride Parade (3 p.m.), beer gardens, entertainment at Labatt Stage, Spin Party at Temple Concert Hall, and more.

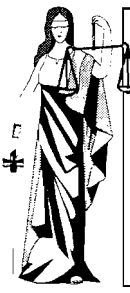
Info: (416)92-PRIDE or <http://www.pridenet.com/toronto> (they have a really detailed web site with info about events, entertainment, accessibility, maps, and more!).



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

June 7-9 Costumes and music of the 50's & 60's
June 14-16 Crafts Weekend
June 16 Classic Car Show; Family Day

Adult Male Camping
135 Sites, Water & Electric
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Local news

What is happening to Integrity

by Mark A. Davis

Many members of the Gay and Lesbian community are familiar with Integrity. It is a national Christian-based spiritual and support group sponsored by the Episcopal Church that welcomes all members of our community of all faiths.

The local chapter of Integrity of Northwest Pennsylvania has been meeting in the Cathedral of St. Paul in Erie on the second Sunday of each month at 6:00 pm. However, this past April 14 was our last scheduled regular meeting of this chapter. Social events and occasional meetings will still be held and will be announced in this newsletter.

Dorothy, who has been the leader of the chapter, as well as myself and other members will continue supporting the organization on the national level with our annual dues. Last summer Dorothy and I attended the 1995 Integrity National Convention in Atlanta, Georgia. We will continue to keep in touch with the progress of Integrity's goals in the Episcopal Church, especially the issues of same-sex unions and the ordination of Gay and Lesbian individuals. These will definitely be the hot topics of the Episcopal Church as it gears up for the 1997 General Convention to be held in Philadelphia.

We welcome anyone who has questions or needs help in some way to contact Dorothy at 774-0903 or Mark or Kay at the Cathedral of St. Paul, 452-3779.

We would like to invite all of our friends in the Gay community to join us Sunday morning, June 2nd for 10:00 am service at St. Paul's. This will be a dedication of our new facility. Hope to see you there!

WSEE series on male prostitution

In May, WSEE-TV presented a three-part series on Male prostitution in Erie. The series was produced by WSEE reporter Kim Young. It was done without sensationalism or homophobia, simply presenting the situation.

Each day's segment dealt with a different aspect: the young male prostitutes, the men who use the services of male prostitutes, and programs designed to help boys who want to get off the streets.

Speaker reveals Christian Coalition deceit

by Greg Valiga

Speaking before a group of about 100 concerned citizens, Paula Xanthopoulou shed light on the tactics and agenda of the national right-wing organization that calls itself the Christian Coalition.

Xanthopoulou is the founder, editor and publisher of the Miami-based electronic news service called "c.c. watch". The national service tracks and reports Christian Coalition activity via e-mail subscriptions.

The talk was held May 19 at Temple Anshe Hased in Erie and was sponsored by numerous organizations and individuals, including the League of Gay and Lesbian Voters.

Xanthopoulou provided her views that the organization, whose members have control of the Republican Party in 18 states, has never been granted tax-exempt status; is under the control of Pat Robertson and not Ralph Reed; is guided by partisan politics as opposed to a religious agenda; is not held accountable for its comments to the media; and is not nearly as large as it has led the nation to believe.

Prior to the actual talk, LGLV-Erie members had the chance to meet with Xanthopoulou and discuss the state of the Keystone Christian Coalition. The Keystone Christian Coalition (KC) was formed after the former

Thanks to the people who helped with the May issue!

Many thanks to Christopher Sargent and ally Lynne Rhodes for helping us to collate the May issue of *EGCN!* (and congratulations to Lynne on her recent graduation!). Missing and missed was Danny, celebrating his birthday (best belated wishes, Danny!)

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!

Executive PA CC Director and President, Richard Schenker, decided to break away from the national organization because of the limits placed on supporting political candidates. The KC is currently reorganizing locally and at the state level, and seems to be in shambles.

The League learned that Pennsylvania members are advised to directly influence County Republican parties and "never mention the name Christian Coalition in Republican circles". Committee people are taught such tactics as scanning neighborhood driveways for "pro-family" bumper stickers to find like minded individuals in their voting precincts. In Erie, a "Family Forum Roundtable" is held monthly at Metro Health Center. These meetings seem to be a cover for the CC; the real discussion begins an hour before the roundtable, and a secret satellite transmission from the national organization is beamed directly following the roundtable.

After the meeting, Xanthopolou was approached by Schenker, County Council member Bob Okicki (whose election-winning campaign was headed by Schenker), and Keystone Coalition member Sam Zeisloft, all of whom attended the speech. No confrontation occurred.

Little legitimate media coverage was provided about the event, which marked the Citizens Interfaith Council for Democracy's first year in existence. A radio show on WFLP-AM, a bottom-dweller in the local ratings, aired distorted views on the talk and vilified the sponsors as "anti-Christian" and "anti-Catholic".

LGLV news

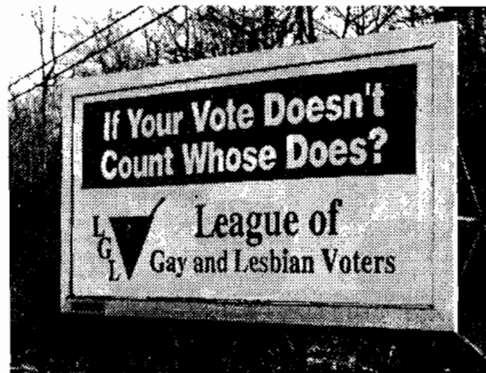
by Dave Mulbolland

The Hate Crimes Bill, SB701, unanimously passed the PS Senate Judiciary Committee on April 30, 1996. The League has been actively lobbying for this bill and wishes to thank Senator Andrezeski for his vote. If passed into law, this bill will provide greater penalties for crimes that are motivated by a victim's sexual orientation.

One of the League's public service billboards was vandalized sometime during the night of April 25. The location of the damaged billboard is Rt 20 in Fairview. "Abomination of God" was scrawled across the face of the billboard in black paint. The damage was repaired in about a week's time. Fortunately this was the only negative response to the league's bold advertisements. We feel that the backlash shows a growing acceptance of our community by the community of Erie.

The League of Gay and Lesbian Voters was very pleased to co-sponsor a speech by Paula Xanthopolou at Temple Anshe Hessed, On May 19. Xanthopolou is the director of C. C. Watch, an electronic news service that monitors the activities of Pat Robertson and his Christian Coalition. For more information about C. C. Watch, call (305) 751-5991. The League urges everyone to inform themselves about the dangers of the Christian Coalition.

In preparation of this fall's pivotal election, the League will be increasing our level of activity dramatically. We ask that everyone interested in serving the community through our League, please contact us. People of all ages and talents welcome.



The billboard as it should appear (left), then after the vandalism (right). The billboard company repaired the damage two days later.

Entertainment Notes

Television

Jamestown native **Mitchell Anderson**, who plays Ross, the gay violin teacher in *Party of Five*, is featured in article in the June issue of *Out* magazine. In the article, Anderson discusses his 12-year relationship with John Phipps, a screenwriter and director, as well as the process of coming out in Hollywood. Anderson came out publicly on March 10 at the media awards dinner of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) in Los Angeles.

TBS won't air *Bastard Out of Carolina*, a drama by lesbian writer **Dorothy Allison**, because it is "too violent." The story features scenes of an abusive childhood, and the violence is not gratuitous. It is expected to play in theaters.

Kelsey Grammer is talking with NBC about a new TV sitcom set in a drag club.

Film & Video

Kelsey Grammer has also optioned the film rights to *The Only Thing Worse You Could Have Told Me*. Written by openly-gay actor **Dan Butler** (*Frasier's* Bulldog), the one-man play is a coming-out story.

Larry Kramer reports that he and **Barbra Streisand** have given up on getting his gay AIDS-themed play *The Normal Heart* made into a movie.

At **The Movie Stop: Carrington** (portrait of the relationship between Dora Carrington and gay Bloomsbury writer Lytton Strachey). In honor of Pride Month, the store has purchased *A Very Natural Thing*. This love story is believed to be the first positive, mainstream gay feature film.

Sports

Cup-a-Ccino's and **American Tinning & Galvanizing** are sponsoring a women's outdoor soccer team. Check out the article on the next page.

Providing analysis on HBO's coverage of **Wimbledon** will be tennis greats **Martina Navratilova** and **Billie Jean King**.

Theater

Buffalo United Artists will present **PrideFest 96**, a festival of plays by and about the Gay and Lesbian Community, June 7 through June 29, with shows on Fridays and Saturdays 8:00 p.m., Sundays at 7:00 p.m. The festival kicks off with the return of the hilarious hit musical **Ten Percent Revue**: (June 7, 8, 9, 15, 22). On June 13, 16, 21, 23, 28, and 29 there will be an evening of one acts featuring the recent New York hit **2 Boys in Bed on a Cold Winter's Night**, **Andre's Mother**, and **Coming Out of the Car**. All performances are in downtown Buffalo's Franklin Street Theater, 282 Franklin St. Reservations/info (716) 832-7320.

Pittsburgh's **Upstairs Theatre** will present Nicky Silver's *Pterodactyls* from June 6th-23rd, Thursday - Saturday at 8pm and Sunday at 7pm. Tickets are \$10-\$18. Reservations (412) 361-5443.

It was pretty admirable for **Julie Andrews** to refuse the Tony for her performance in *Victor/Victoria*. She has never received a Tony, and had an excellent chance of winning the coveted award. In case you missed the brouhaha, Andrews refused the nomination because she was the only one to receive a Tony nomination, and she



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For Dad & Grads or for any occasion!

felt there were many others in the play who deserved the honor as well.

Radio

For our "mountain region" readers: There are a couple Friday night shows of interest to people living in their listening area of WPSU (PBS-radio from State College). These programs include **The Purple Rabbit**, hosted by Kim Kranich, which features lesbian (and sometimes gay male) music, comedy, discussions and more. This begins at 10:03 p.m. Then, at 11:00 p.m., they air **This Way Out**, a national gay and lesbian program that features news, interviews, humor, poetry, music and more. The programs air every Friday night. WPSU is on 90.1 FM (counties covered: Elk, Forest, McKean, Cameron, and some of Warren and Venango). Kim says if you want to contact her, you feel free to call her at the station, (814)865-3333. (*Thanks to Pamela in Warren county for getting this info to us!*)

Travel

For those of you with connections to the rural center of PA, note that **DuBois** now has a gay-friendly establishment. **The First Street Cafe** is run by Connie and Alex, who have been supporters of PFLAG-DuBois ever since it started (they carry the PFLAG-DuBois newsletter as well as other controversial literature!). Their establishment serves whole foods and beverages, and will be hosting special events, performances, and lectures in the evenings, and artists' works will be displayed. 1 East DuBois Ave., DuBois PA 15801. (814) 375-5554.

By the way, are there other gay-friendly coffeehouses or establishments in those medium and small communities in our area? If you know of any, please tell us!

If you like outdoor travel, check out **Alyson Adventures**. They offer "active travel for gay men, lesbians and their friends." Hiking, biking, diving, etc. For info call (800) ALYSON.

Stamps

The new **James Dean** stamp will be released in June, as will the **breast cancer awareness** stamp. In April, the Post Office released **Georgia O'Keefe** stamps. The Canadian postal service will be releasing an **AIDS awareness** stamp to coincide with the International AIDS Conference held in July in Vancouver.

Women's soccer

by **Kim Piper**
Manager, Cup-A-Ccino's

Cup-a-ccino's and American Tinning & Galvanizing are sponsoring a women's outdoor soccer team this summer. We are looking for women who want to win and have fun doing it. All games will be at Family First Sports Park (Oliver Road). The team is fully sponsored, except a few dollars may be needed for the T-shirts. Games, I do believe, will be held on Monday and Thursday evenings. This is a competitive league, so it is advisable that anyone interested have some degree of physical stamina and, of course, the proper equipment (i.e.. cleats and shinguards).

The first two games will be Monday June 3rd and Thursday, June 6th. Both games start at 6pm. To get to Family First Sports Park, head up Peach St, past Summit Plaza, just past I-90 and turn right on Oliver Rd. FFSP is on the left approximately a half mile. Please note that FFSP prohibits all tobacco and alcohol products on or in its facilities.

Also please note that this is not a specifically lesbian team. Any woman who is interested is highly encouraged to contact me by phone or e-mail.

Sincerely,
Kim Piper
(w) 456-1151, (h) 452-4608
kimpiper@moose.erie.net

Also, you can catch women's softball in Erie on Monday and Wednesdays at 5:45 and 7:10. The games are sometimes at 2nd and Wallace, 2nd and Pennsylvania, and also 12th and Hess. There are sometimes night games at 12th and Hess.

Pride Erie Picnic '96

Saturday, June 8
1 p.m. to sunset. Presque Isle, Cabin 2

HIV/AIDS News

Lizzy's benefit

by Mary

The staff and owners of Lizzy Bordon's would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone for their support of our recent AIDS benefit. The benefit, which was held on April 19, 1996, raised \$1,830, which was donated to the Northwest PA Rural AIDS Alliance in Michael Bores' name. As you may or may not know, Michael was employed at Lizzy Bordon's as our DJ. He passed away on February 3, 1996.

Our success would not have been possible without community support and the generosity of those who contributed to our benefit.

We would like to thank the following people who performed at the benefit. They not only gave of their time and talents, but also generously donated all their tips to the benefit. Thank you to: Rozz, Frenchy, Ginger, Cinnamon Cane, Jackee, the Roadhouse Theater, and our host for the evening, Michael Monet.

A special thanks to all the businesses who donated. The next time you are planning a getaway, a night out, shopping or in search of a gift or service, please keep in mind our contributors. They generously showed their support for our community; let's show our support and thanks by visiting their establishments or using their services. Our very special thanks to:

Academy Theatre (Meadville)	Sheptow's Cleaners
Barbato's	Director's Circle
Erie Playhouse	Roadhouse Theater
Gary's Florist	Record Den
Madeline's	First Impressions Hair
Pal Pharmacy	Salon
Perkins	Patti's Pizza
Philip James Hair Studio	Sandalini's
Pizza Hut	Excalibre Bingo
Ponderosa (Buffalo Rd.)	Roses and Lace Florist
Presque Isle Bowling	Shilling's Carpet
Red Lobster	la bella bistro
Riviera Motel	Kandyland
The Greeks Restaurant	Dig Dios
University Hair	Ringside Restaurant
Trademarks Hair Emporium	Peek 'n' Peak Resort
American Cancer Society (jail)	

Thanks again to everyone who donated their time, talents, and gifts to our benefit...it was a great success.

And another thank you...

From the Staff of the Northwest Pennsylvania Rural AIDS Alliance

The Northwest Pennsylvania Rural AIDS alliance would like to thank Lizzy Bordon's for conducting the fundraiser in memory of DJ Michael on April 19, 1996. Lizzy's raised \$1,830.00 for the Northwest Alliance. Tami Shilling, Case Manager said, "On behalf of the Alliance clients who will benefit from your support, we'd like to say thank you to Lizzie's and the Erie gay community."

Anonymous testing offered in Erie Co.

With the faces of AIDS growing everyday within our community it has become necessary to advertise Anonymous testing for HIV throughout Erie County. At Erie County Department of Health HIV testing sites you can get an Anonymous test. Anonymous testing means you do not have to give a name. Now at St. Paul's Neighborhood Free Clinic there will be a site specifically for Anonymous Testing / Counseling. This

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)

site will be by appointment only. Please call the Erie County Department of Health at 1-800-352-0026 ext. 6727 or 814-451-6727 for more information or to set up an appointment. Remember, HIV is preventable! It doesn't have to happen to you! If you do not engage in the risk activities such as unprotected sex and sharing needles you can virtually eliminate your risk for infection. You can not tell by looking at someone if they are infected with HIV. Often there are no signs and symptoms. Only a blood test can tell your HIV status. If you have engaged in risk activities for HIV, please consider getting a test. Remember always to respect yourself and protect yourself.

Bus to AIDS Quilt in DC

by Marshall Snyder

The Warren County AIDS Network is sponsoring a bus to the NAMES Project—AIDS Memorial Quilt in Washington DC on October 11, 1996. The bus will be leaving Warren, PA on October 11 at 11:55 p.m. and will arrive in Washington DC on October 12 at 8:00 a.m. It will depart Washington on October 12 at 6:00 p.m. and arrive back in Warren on October 13 at 3:00 a.m. The price for the bus is \$35, payable in advance at time of registration. Contact Marshall Snyder, 220 Onandaga Ave., Warren PA 16365 or call (814)726-1808.

Sexual health issues

The Erie lesbian community has formed a *prevention education group*, GEGASHI. GEGASHI stands for Gays Educating Gays About Sexual Health Issues. They will conduct workshops to promote the importance of practicing safer sex activities in an effort to decrease the spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases.

"We are gay people who will attend small group gatherings to help educate our community. We have been meeting now for a few months and have funding sources for materials. What we need now is a group of individuals willing to help us in our endeavors. We would love to have you join us. Look for us at the Gay Pride Picnic, Saturday, June 8, 1996 at Presque Isle!"

—GEGASHI Members

**PROTECT YOUR SELF.
PROTECT OUR COMMUNITY.
INSIST ON SAFER SEX!**

Western NY

Alternative Medicine week at Chautauqua

From July 8-12, the Chautauqua Institute will present "Alternative Medicine: Is It for You?" Among the speakers will be Joan Borysenko (author and medical psychologist), Dean Ornish (pres. and director of Preventive Medicine Research Institute), Bruce Rabin (clinical immunopathologist, University of Pittsburgh Medical Center), Wayne Jones (director of Office of Alternative medicine, National Institutes of Health), Christine Northrup (physician and holistic and women's health specialist), and Myrtle Smyth, Christian Science practitioner). Info (800) 836-ARTS.

National/World

Repealed: HIV military discharge law

WASHINGTON, April 25—Congress has repealed a measure that would have required that military service-members with HIV be discharged. The discharge law had been passed January 31.

Accommodations & travel to DC Quilt

If you are planning on going to the AIDS Memorial Quilt and wish to stay overnight, accommodations can be arranged through the Washington Vista Hotel, 1400 M St NW. This is the official hotel of the Names Project's Northeast Region chapters. Room rates are \$119 single; \$129 double; \$139 triple; and \$159 for quad. All reservations must be made by July 9. Remember to specify "Northeast Region." For reservations, call the Names Project Travel Desk at 1-800-926-2631.

Friends From The Heart

710 Beaumont, Erie PA 16505

(814)838-0123



Founded for the purpose of assisting individuals, and their families, who are HIV+. The underlying foundation of this organization and the services it provides are caring, dignity, and respect.

Sex news

FDA refused to approve anal condom

The Food and Drug Administration refused to approve an anal condom, says Gabriel Rotello in the April 16 issue of *The Advocate*. Rotello writes that the so-called "female condom" could have been adapted and marketed to gay men for anal sex. But when the company that produces the female condom went to the FDA for approval of an anal condom, the FDA adamantly refused. According to the company, the FDA told them that because sodomy was illegal in almost half the states, the government couldn't approve a device that was designed to be used for an illegal act.

The female condom, which is inserted into the vagina, has a lot to recommend it. It is made of polyurethane rather than latex, so it can be used with oil-based lubricants, is thinner, more sensitive, and doesn't interfere with the sensation of the penis. Most importantly, it allows the receptive partner to have control over whether or not protection will be worn.

The female condom was tested on gay men for anal sex in 1991, with good results. None of the condoms broke or dislodged. Although half of the men using the female condom did report some discomfort, the people conducting the test believed the female condom's design could be easily adapted to anal sex.

Until the FDA wises up, men can get the female condom (in pharmacies, usually stocked near condoms or with birth control items).

Condoms and the Church

The Bishops Conference of the French Catholic Church have gone against Vatican doctrine and encouraged the use of condoms for protection against HIV. They stated "Many competent doctors state that a viable condom is today the sole means of [HIV] prevention. In this respect, it is necessary. The condom is...understandable for cases in which a person who already engages in sexual activity needs to avoid a serious risk."

In the meantime, Father Tom Connolly, director of the Scottish Catholic Media Office, told *ScottsGay* magazine, "You are not meant to use condoms at all, at all, at all. Even if in marriage one partner has HIV, the use of a condom is still wrong."

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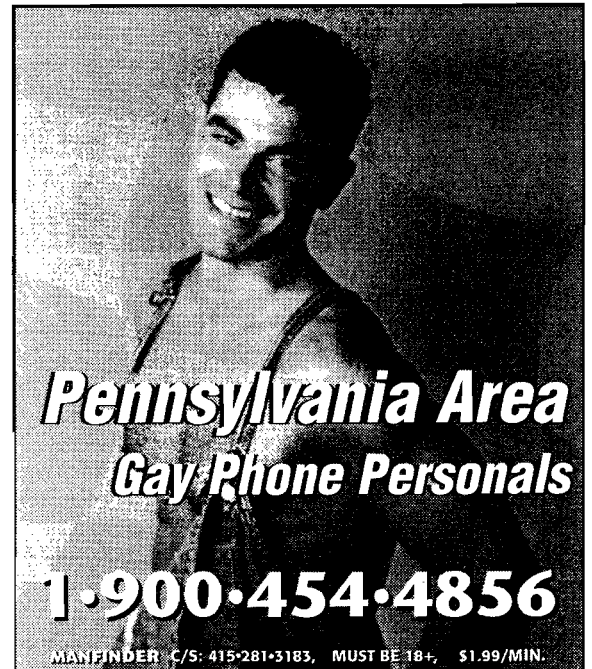
◆ Education/Prevention

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Clarion, PA 16214

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Baldwin Building
Erie, PA 16501



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

Setting an example

by Sharon Sutter

Over Christmas, two co-workers of mine fell in love and have since moved in together. One of them, Bob (not his real name), has worked at this place for several years and is well-known and well-liked. The other, Tom (also not a real name), has only worked there for a few months and is a bit more unknown. After she heard they moved in together, a co-worker confessed to me, "I don't know what to do. What should I say to Bob?" "Congratulations," I suggested. To my surprise, Bob told me that she took him aside and said exactly that.

Remember when you were a kid and you'd do something you weren't supposed to do, like give the leftover pizza to the dog, or say a "bad" word? Of course, your Mom or Dad would correct you. "But Dad," you'd protest, "You do it." And sagely, he'd reply, "Do as I say, not as I do." Chastised, you'd stalk off to your room muttering about the unfairness of it all.

Despite your parents' best intentions with the "Do as I say" instructions, you know, as children, we more often "Do as we see." The same is true even as we age. At 10, me may call the school outcast cruel names just

because "everyone else" does. Or, if we have a good example in a teacher or classmate, we may treat him kindly.

Often, others look to us for cues on how to behave and respond—our children, our peers, our co-workers. If we criticize, condemn, or ridicule, the others will too.

On the other hand, if we accept, tolerate, and offer compassion, then others, seeing our example, may be inspired to do the same. What America really needs are strong political leaders to encourage equal rights and tolerance for all people. But, for now, you may have to be that leader—at work, in school, in the community. You don't even have to be "out" to show compassion. I never told the woman who asked what to say to Bob that I was gay. Instead I offered her a simple answer to a simple question—how do I treat someone I don't understand? With respect—the same way you want to be treated.

We may not be able to change the world, but we can change misconceptions, and help to end intolerance. If someone is out where you work, treat him/her with respect—encourage him/her to talk about his/her partner. When others see it's no big deal, they may be more accepting, more tolerant. And it will have been by your example.

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Pride Erie Picnic '96

Saturday, June 8

1 p.m. to sunset Presque Isle, Cabin 2

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Supreme Court strikes down Colorado Amendment 2; historic victory

WASHINGTON, May 20—In a decision that has been called “historic” and “a striking victory for gay rights advocates,” the United States Supreme Court decided 6-3 to strike down Colorado’s anti-gay law, called Amendment 2,

Amendment 2 was a state constitutional amendment that banned communities from giving civil rights to gay and lesbian people. Colorado was then sued by a group of individuals and three cities with gay rights protection laws (Denver, Aspen, and Boulder), claiming the amendment violated the constitutional rights of gays.

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force said, “The Supreme Court decision...on Colorado’s Amendment 2 is a profound victory for all who believe in basic equal rights and the fundamental principle that all Americans deserve to live free from discrimination. It [Amendment 2] would have created special barriers to basic equal rights. It would have blocked the open and free participation in our democratic process for gays, lesbians and bisexuals.”

Elizabeth Birch, director of the Human Rights Campaign, said, “The highest court in the land has said that no state can make its gay and lesbian citizens unequal to everyone else ‘or a stranger to its laws.’ This is all we have ever asked for.”

Amendment 2 is the only state anti-gay ballot measure that has ever been passed by voters. In 1994, voters in Idaho and Oregon defeated anti-gay initiatives in the midst of the Republican sweep. And last year, voters in Maine rejected a similar effort.

—Info from Human Rights Campaign and National Gay and Lesbian Task Force

Obituary

Michael Hardwick, who was a plaintiff in the U.S. Supreme Court landmark anti-gay case known as *Bowers vs. Hardwick*. Hardwick’s death from AIDS complications was only recently discovered; he had in fact died June 13, 1991. He was 37. Hardwick had been arrested and convicted under Georgia’s anti-sodomy law, and took his case to the U.S. Supreme Court in 1986. In strongly homophobic language, the Court upheld the law, stating that there is no constitutional right for adults of the same gender to have consensual sex.

by Al Kielwasser

A NEWS STAND....

“We are not a fad, we are here, WE ARE EVERYWHERE, and we are here to stay.” So writes Stephen Johnson, editor, in an inaugural declaration for *Whazzup! Magazine* (May 1996).

“It is our goal to entertain, educate, inform and provide positive representation of and to the African-American Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender Community and their friends,” Johnson explains. “We feel that this community is not only deserving but has been deprived of positive commentary and images about themselves for far too long.”

Whazzup! hopes to offer “something for anyone who has interest in the advancement of our communities. The magazine’s tabloid-style pages feature everything from politics to poerry.

“Take what you can use and leave the rest,” Johnson advises readers. “We do intend to represent all facets of our community. This should prove to be controversial at times. However, it is evident that as a community, we need to respect and accept ourselves, all aspects of ourselves, before we expect anyone else to respect us.”

** Contact: Stephen Johnson, Editor, *Whazzup! Magazine*, 2501 Ivy Drive, Suite 19, Oakland, CA 94606, tel. 510-836-4759, fax 510-836-4758, e-mail Whazzup411@aol.com.

DROPPING OUT?

Dispatches, a publication of the Western Journalism Center, has reported that the National Education Association intends to drop a resolution supporting the concept of observing “Lesbian and Gay History Month” in public schools. The NEA adopted the statement (Resolution B-9) last July.

The March 13 *Dispatches* cites a source on the NEA’s Resolutions Committee, who claims the teacher’s union is bowing to pressure from Right Wing advocacy groups. According to *Dispatches*, state and local NEA affiliates have been “inundated” with protest letters.

Anti-intellectual and pro-censorship capitulation would be uncharacteristic of the NEA. The 2.1 million member teacher’s union has previously encouraged schools to “acknowledge the diversity of the student body,

including the presence of gay as well as non-gay students" (1994), defended the right of lesbian and gay students "to positive role models, both in person and the curriculum" (1994), and promoted the "accurate portrayal of the roles and contributions of gay, lesbian, and bisexual people throughout history, with acknowledgment of their sexual orientation" (1988).

*** CONTACT: National Education Association, 1201 Sixteenth Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036-3290; NEA/Gay and Lesbian Caucus, P.O. Box 3559, York, PA 17402-0559, tel. 717-848-3354, fax 717-843-9790, e-mail jtesterman@aol.com or bullison@aol.com.

"MediAlert!" (TM) is an activist-oriented column of media criticism, distributed weekly, on request. Al Kielwasser is the editor of "Gay People, Sex and the Media" (Haworth Press) and has taught various communication theory and research courses at San Francisco State University and the University of San Francisco. He recently completed a two-year stint as Chair of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/San Francisco, and his current work seeks to integrate activism and academia at the intersection of queer and popular cultures.

Restaurant review

by Kenneth E. Petke
of the Chautauqua County Fish Fry Group

The group had its regular monthly meeting on May 10, 1996, at the Stockton Hotel, Stockton, NY. Most had the fish du jour; portions were more than generous and exquisitely prepared. I had a 20 oz. New York strip "Pittsburgh rare," and so perfectly done that I demanded to see the chef, so that I could tip him personally. In addition, the bar mixed an excellent Brandy Manhattan.

Personnel were courteous and efficient, and an overall pleasant ambience was all the more greatly enhanced (for us) by the decor, viz. "hanging baskets" over the entire ceiling.

Prices were slightly above average, but certainly a bargain, considering the quality.

So if you want a special place to take your honey on a birthday or anniversary, or want to really impress your first date without spending a fortune, I highly recommend the Stockton Hotel. Overall rating A+ +.

Youth

Cyber counseling

Gay, lesbian & bisexual teens can get now anonymous peer counseling on the net. Trained young adult counselors (under 24 years old) will respond to e-mail. Send to lyric.talkline.info@tlg.net or check out the Lesbigen Youth Resource and Information Center (LYRIC) web page at <http://thecity.sfsu.edu/~lyric>

—from *Source*

Seminar: Rural gay & lesbian youth

The isolation that gay kids face is compounded when they live in rural areas.

DuBois PFLAG is organizing a September 21 seminar, called "Issues Facing Gay and Lesbian Youth in Rural America." Speakers have been recruited from Penn State at State College and from the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Teachers Network in Cleveland.

Right now they could really use donations. If this is an issue that concerns you, consider sending PFLAG-DuBois a donation (in any amount; it does add up). Specify that it should go to the "Rural Youth Seminar."

Also, if you'd like to participate, they'd like to hear from you.

To contact them: DuBois PFLAG, 1191 Treasure Lake, DuBois PA 15801 (814)371-8962.

Utah bans gay school clubs

SALT LAKE CITY, April 17—Utah legislators passed a bill banning three kinds of school clubs. Banned clubs include those that "encourage criminal or delinquent conduct, promote bigotry, or involve human sexuality." The bill's sponsor is State Senator Craig Taylor (R), who stated that the bill was specifically designed to stop gay clubs. Taylor stated that the gay clubs were being pushed by "adult homosexual organizations...Since [gays and lesbians] can't reproduce, they have basically said, 'We will seduce and sodomize your children.'" The law will be the only one of its kind in the nation, and civil rights groups have promised the bill will be litigated.

Pride Erie Picnic '96

Saturday, June 8

1 p.m. to sunset

Presque Isle, Cabin 2

Families

Federal same-sex marriage bill

The first federal bill to ban same-sex marriage has been unveiled in Congress. The "Defense of Marriage Act," as it is called, was sponsored by Reps. Bob Barr, R-Ga. and Steve Largent, R-Oklahoma. Now-former Senator Bob Dole was the first to sign on to the bill,

The legislation would, for the first time, create a federal definition of marriage. According to this federal definition, marriage would only include heterosexual couples. The Federal government would not recognize legally married same-gender couples. Currently, civil same-gender marriage is not permitted anywhere in the United States. This federal legislation, like over 30 anti-marriage measures introduced on the state level, is in anticipation of an upcoming Hawaii court decision that could legalize same-gender marriage in that state.

President Clinton has stated that he will sign the bill, a statement that has drawn much criticism from gay rights activists. Melinda Paras, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, said, "The Right-wing groups behind this measure are as shrewd as they are pernicious. Along with doing real damage to real families, this is a blatant ploy to alienate gay voters from President Clinton. The Right is forcing Clinton's hand on the issue of gay marriage because they know his opposition to this hot button issue could alienate one of his most important constituencies."

PA news

Ban on same-sex marriage proposed A pair of Republican lawmakers have proposed legislation to bar legal recognition of same-sex marriages in Pennsylvania. The bill, proposed by Representatives Allen Egolf of Perry County and Stephen Maitland of Adams County, would allow the state to only recognize marriages between men and women. The lawmakers say a court case now pending in Hawaii could force states without such laws on their books to recognize homosexual marriages.

Organization A western Pennsylvania chapter of a national marriage rights organization has formed in Pittsburgh. It is called the Western Pennsylvania chapter of the Freedom to Marry Coalition. For more info contact them at WPFTMC, c/o 507 Gettysburg St., Pittsburgh PA 15206-4547 or call (412) 362-4685.

New York state couple sues for marriage rights

A gay male couple in Ithaca, New York has sued New York State for the right to a marriage license. In May 1994, Toshav and Philip Storrs applied for a marriage license at the city clerk's office. The clerk said she wanted to give the couple a license, but stated that New York state law would not allow it. In July, Ithaca's Common Council gave unanimous approval to a resolution that encouraged the state to legalize same-sex marriage. In December the city noted that the city clerk had no other choice, because a Health Department directive said that city clerks should not issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples. Some advocates of same-sex marriage have asked the couple not to go through with this suit for fear of having an effect on a similar case in Hawaii. The couple has said they intend to pursue it.

Shorts

The Wilkes-Barre, PA *Times Leader* now publishes same-sex wedding announcements.

The Common Council of Albany NY has passed a domestic partner registry for straight and same-sex couples.

SF mayor marries 165 same-sex couples

San Francisco mayor Willie Brown officiated at a mass wedding for 165 gay and lesbian couples on March 25. "We're leading the way here in San Francisco for the rest of the state and the rest of the nation, Brown said at the ceremony, "to fully embrace the diversity and legitimacy of people in love regardless of their gender or sexual orientation."

(Continued next page)

"Procreation is used as an argument [against gay marriage] but interestingly enough, no heterosexual couples are asked that question. If two 75-year-olds walk in for a marriage license, they don't say, 'What the hell are you doing here?'"

—**Thomas Gill**, chairman of *Hawaii Commission of Sexual Orientation and the Law*

Reform rabbi group endorses same-sex marriage

March 28—The 1,750-member Central Conference of American Rabbis endorsed same-sex civil marriage. The group did not recommend that rabbis perform such weddings; that issue is expected to be voted on at next year's meeting.

Reform Judaism is the largest of the three branches of Judaism. They are not the only branch to take a stand on same-sex marriage however: the Reconstructionist branch has accepted same-sex marriages for years, but the Orthodox rabbis say the Bible forbids marriage between people of the same gender.

Sweden's top female rocker weds girlfriend

Eva Dahlgren, Sweden's top female rock star, was legally married to her girlfriend Efva Attling. The wedding was a major news story in Sweden, where same-sex weddings are recognized. The gay publication *QX* called for making the couple's January 25 wedding date Sweden's coming-out day.

Hawaii marriage ban derailed

A state constitutional amendment that would have defined marriage as "reserved exclusively for the lawful union of man and woman" has been defeated by the Hawaiian state legislature. Conservative Christian groups lobbied for the bill. If the lawmakers had approved it, the measure would have been put before the electorate in November. Many other religious leaders have signed a statement in favor of same-sex marriage.

Netherlands: House passes pro-marriage resolution

April 16—The House of Representatives here passed a resolution encouraging marriage rights for same-sex couples. A second vote supported equal adoption rights for gay/lesbian people and single heterosexuals. The resolutions encouraged the government to take action.

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) 484-8434.

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.

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 CSGGBP, Box 186, Allegheny College, Meadville, PA 16335. Call Nancy at (814) 332-4358 or Erny at 332-4375. Email to 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.

HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of St. Paul Cathedral

Call (814) 452-3779.

Identity

Student group for lesbigay & allies at Edinboro Univ. On hiatus for summer. Call Christie Hudson at 732-3779 or Dr. Dave Herendeen at 732-2555. Write to Identity, c/o Dr. Herendeen, Edinboro Univ, Heather Hall, Edinboro, PA 16440

Informal Lesbigay Student Group of Erie

Now forming. Email to ILSGErie@aol.com

Integrity

A Christian-based spiritual and support group, sponsored by the Episcopalian Church that welcomes people of all faiths. Write to Integrity-NWPA, PO Box 1782, Erie, PA, 16507-1782. Phone: Dorothy (814)774-0903 or Rev. Kay Johnson (814)452-3779.

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 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. 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.

Northcoast Rainbow Families

Support, advocacy, and education group for lesbian parents and their families; play group for kids in western NY, northeast OH, and northwest PA. Affiliated with Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International. Call Chris in PA at (814) 868-0069, or Judi in NY at (716) 366-1453. Write to: NCRF, PO Box 254, Fredonia, NY 14063. Email to: glpcierie@aol.com

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 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 Ostrowski 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@vms.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.

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 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 vls121@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 emailing 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 lesbian 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

CSGLBP/Allegheny College	csglbp@alleg.edu
Chautauqua Cty NY Groups	courtney@fredonia.edu
EGCN/Bridges	egcn@ncinter.net
Informal Lesbian Students of Erie	
.....	ILSGErie@aol.com
Jamestown Community College Group	
.....	rabbgp@jccw22.cc.sunycc.edu
LGLV-Erie	kidithart@aol.com
North Coast Rainbow Families	glpcierie@aol.com
Pitt/Bradford-BiGALA	mhost4@vms.cis.pitt.edu
Trigon	vls121@email.psu.edu
.....	or alr126@email.psu.edu

Please
have ads and
articles to us by
the 15th of
the month!!!

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

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 Grps 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 Action Team (AACT) Gannon 871-7233

☛ AIDS Network Information 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 - Tami 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) Hispanic American Council 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 Assoc (\$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 7:30 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.

Lizzy Bordon's Part II, 3412 West 12th. 833-4059. Open Mon-Sat. 9pm-2am. DJ Music. Wed. Country Line Dancing. Fri & Sat-90's Dance Music. 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

24 Hour Counseling:

Erie Hotline 453-5656 or (800) 628-0190
Saint Vincent 452-5151
Family Crisis 456-2014
Hamot 877-6136
Victims of Anti-Gay Hate Crimes 1-800-259-1536

Community-Building Organizations:

Bridges 456-9833
Chautauqua GLB 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
Fredonia Office (716)679-3455
Great Lakes Counseling-Ashtabula (216)992-5995
Lake Erie Counseling Associates 455-4009
Family Medical (Warren PA) 726-3310
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:

Karen A. McLoughlin, Licensed Esthetician, skin care
specialist, facials & body treatment . (814) 838-4802

PA Breast Cancer Coalition 455-7833

Patrick McNamara, Licensed Massage Therapist
716-679-3430

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

Integrity Chaplain Rev. Kay Johnson 452-3779

Unitarian Universalist Congreg. of Erie 864-9300

Social Organizations:

Menspace Larry at 835-6712

10% Network (716)484-8434 or 664-5556

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) 332-4368

Closet Culture *Mail to PO Box 10274, Erie PA 16514*

Covenant House Teen Hotline 1-800-999-9999

Gay & Lesbian Youth of Buffalo (716)855-0221

Identity 732-3779 or 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 (716)673-3424

Teen Hotline (412)771-8336

Trigon (Penn State Behrend) . 825-8211 or 898-6164

Support Groups

Rainbow Families (716)366-4153

EAGLES (Gay/Lesbian Elders) (716)882-2959

GLPCI (Lesbigay parents) 814-868-0069

Erie Sisters 2115 W. 8th # 261, Erie, PA 16505

Lambda Group—Gay AA 452-2675

Every Sun, 8:00 p.m. Unitarian Univ. Congreg of Erie.

PFLAG-Ashtabula OH (216)964-3350

PFLAG-DuBois PA Karen or John at 371-8962

PFLAG-Erie Elaine 864-0184

PFLAG-Jamestown (716) 488-1264 or 763-1529

PFLAG-New Castle PA Lois at (412)652-6893

Violence and Abuse:

24 hour Hotline (Domestic abuse/Sexual Assault,
women and men) (814)726-1030

Erie Hospitality House (Domestic abuse, women and
men) (814)454-8161

Jamestown - YWCA Alternatives to Violence

(Domestic abuse, women and men) Daytime

..... (716)488-2237, evenings (716)484-0052.

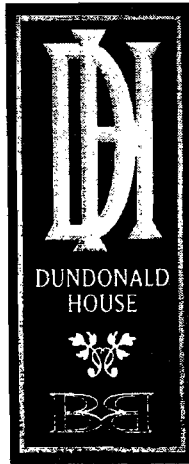
Women's Center of Warren & Forest Counties 24

hour Hotline (Domestic abuse/Sexual Assault,

women and men) 800-338-3460 or (814)726-1030

All numbers are area code 814 unless noted.

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Wed & Sat 10am-6pm

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Erie, PA
Phone
456-1151



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Thurs-Fri
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Sat
9:00am-12:00mid

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