

### Calendar

➤ **Sep 6-8—Fantasy Weekend at Jones Pond Campground (Angelica NY)** What is your Fantasy? Will it happen here? For more info, call (716)567-8100

➤ **Sep 7—Womynspace Coffeehouse: Guest Musician** "Music starts at 8 p.m. Come and bring friends. Let's start the coffeehouse season off right! Newcomers welcome!" Info call Sal 454-2713.

➤ **Sep 7—Body Splash '96 (Cleveland)** Pool party to benefit Men of Color Concerned About AIDS. Entertainment, music, dancing, buffet, summer sports, Mr. and Ms. Safer and Sexiest Tight Body Competition. 5pm-midnite. Forbes Resort Camp, 256440 Harvard Ave., Highland Hills OH (Next to Cuyahoga College). \$15 ticket. ID required. Info call Marcus Lowe 216-283-3242.

➤ **Sep 7—Ohio Lesbian Festival** 11 am-11 pm. \$20 advance, \$25 gate. Send check with SASE to LBA Festival PO Box 82082, Columbus OH 43202 (614)267-3953. Free mammograms. Frontier Ranch near Kirkersville, off I-70 20 miles east of Columbus. Music, workshops, activities. Rhiannon, Heather Bishop, Ase, others.

➤ **Sep 7—Suzanne Westenhoeffer (Buffalo)** Marquee at the Tralf, 100 Theater Place (716) 852-0522. Show 8 p.m., doors open 6:30 p.m. Tickets from Ticketmaster or Marquee at the Tralf.

➤ **Sep 7—Black Widow** Lifetime 8pm. Debra Winger.

➤ **Sep 8—We Are Family Picnic (Cleveland)** Wildwood Lake, 1100 East River Road (Coppa-Mallet Creek Road) just south of Sprague Road, Columbia Station. 10 am. to 6 p.m. \$20 benefits N. Ohio Coalition funding of gay and AIDS programs. Info (216) 771-0369. (Advance tickets from NOCI, Box 15065, Cleveland OH 44115).

➤ **Sep 10—NY State primary**

➤ **Sep 10—Great Adventures of the 20th Century: Lawrence of Arabia** Discovery 10 pm, 2 am.

➤ **Sep 10—HIV/AIDS Support Group.** Info: Cheryl at 825-1085.

➤ **Sep 11—HIV/AIDS and General Dentistry (Clarion)** \$25, dinner provided. Final registration date Aug. 28. Sponsored by NW PA Rural AIDS Alliance. For more details and full training schedule, call Alliance 456-8849 or 1-800-400-2437.

➤ **Sep 12—Tori Amos in concert (Erie)** At the Warner. Tickets from Ticketmaster or 452-4857 or 456-7070.

➤ **Sep 13—Dream On: "For Peter's Sake"** Comedy Central 6:30 p.m. A straight male editor comes to terms with his own fears of homosexuality and AIDS.

*Continued on page 3*



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## If you want to reprint...

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

Thanks!

### 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/>



# EGCN

## Erie Gay Community News

c/o EGC Coalition, PO Box 3063, Erie, PA 16508-0063

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The *Erie Gay Community News* 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 timely news, comments and opinions of interest to the Erie and surrounding area's LesBiGay community for publication in these pages.

We **STRONGLY** recommend sending SASE for writers' guidelines or at least inquiring of the *EGCN* staff before submitting articles! Please include contact information with any submissions (name, phone, email address, etc.) so we can contact you if we have questions.

We will consider for publication any non-fiction article or illustration graphic which broadens our understanding of our lives and each other. 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.

Views and opinions appearing in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of *EGCN* staff.

## Thanks to Paul who helped out with the August issue!

Many thanks to Paul for helping us to col-  
late the August issue of *EGCN*!

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!*

# Calendar

☛ **Sept 13-15—Seasonal Appreciation Weekend at Jones Pond Campground (Angelica NY)** Pig Roast Saturday. For more info, call (716)567-8100

☛ **Sept 14—Leeward Lounge: Benefit for Ellen Beitel (Ashtabula)** The Leeward's owner, Ellen Beitel, has been hospitalized for weeks. The Leeward folks will be throwing a fundraiser to help raise money to help her pay expensive medical bills. There will be entertainment, food, door prizes, and raffles. \$5 cover. Ellen has done a lot for the Ashtabula community... holding fundraisers for the AIDS Task Force (which raised \$5,500). Last year she helped the Leeward beat all the other Ashtabula bars in raising the most money for the American Cancer Society. Let's reward generosity with generosity... and best wishes for a speedy recovery, Ellen! (1022 Bridge St., 216-964-9935).

☛ **Sat. 9/14—Laura at Cup-A-Ccino's** 9 pm-midnight, 18 N. Park Row. Acoustic Guitar

☛ **Sept 14—Social Night at Camp Davis (Boyers PA)** 9:00pm-1:00am. For more info, call (412) 637-2402

☛ **Sept 14—10% Network at Lucille Ball Museum (Jamestown NY)** Meet at Lucille Ball Museum, 212 Pine Street in Jamestown, at 7:00 pm. Free admission! Call John at (716) 484-7285 for more info.

☛ **Sept 16—Our Sons (1991)** Lifetime 9p.m. Julie Andrews and Ann-Margaret play mothers of two gay lovers (Hugh Grant and Zeljko Ivanek). The story revolves around the very different ways the two women deal with their sons.

☛ **Sept 17—Gerontology Forum on Lesbian and Gay Elders (Cleveland)** Fairhill Center for Aging, continuing education credit, register by Sept. 10. (216)421-1350.

☛ **Sept 18—HIV/AIDS service Network Meeting** Info Sue B. Kuebler 452-3779.

☛ **Sept 18—The Kids in the Hall: "Buddy Cole's Speech," Tammy & the Queen."** Comedy Central midnight.

☛ **Sept 18—"Behind Closed Doors: Families of Gays, Lesbians, and Bisexuals"** At Penn State Behrend, Reed Lecture Hall, Reed Union Building 7:30 p.m. This is an open forum mike discussion with lots of participation from the audience. We will have a panel for this forum. For info call Jacquie Wade 898-6111.

☛ **Sept 21—Menspace: Pizza and Magazine Party** 7:30 p.m. "Quite some time ago, we inherited some erotica (magazines). One man's trash may be another man's ...trash? So, stop out, take a look and take something if it appeals to you. If you have old stuff to trade, feel free to bring it along. Everything must go!!! We'll start at 7:30pm & all chip in some money for pizza, and a gay-related movie will be shown for those interested. Call 456-9833 or 835-6712 to vote for what movie to watch, location & info."

☛ **Sept 23—Northern Chautauqua Co. GLBT Support Group (Fredonia)** Garland Hall, Trinity Episcopal Church, Day St. Ample parking in rear. Please use side entrance facing the post office. 7-9 p.m. Info Vince Courtney (716)673-3183 or courtney@fredonia.edu

☛ **Sept 24—HIV/AIDS Support Group.** Info: Cheryl at 825-1085.

☛ **Sept 25—Law Enforcement and the Legal Aspects of AIDS (New Castle)** September 25. (Final registration date September 10). Fee \$25; dinner provided. Keynote speaker: David Herrera-Korman, Esq. Sponsored by NW PA Ru-



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**Credits: The original artwork on the cover of this month's issue is by Micheal A. Miller**

## Did you check out page 3?

ral AIDS Alliance. More details and full training schedule call Alliance 456-8849 or 1-800-400-2437

☛ **Sept 27—With God On Our Side: The Rise of the Religious Right in America #101 "The Early Crusades"** 9 p.m. WQLN (PBS-Erie/Ch. 54) and WNED (PBS-Buffalo/Ch.17). First of a six-part series. This would be a good series to use as the basis of a discussion group in your congregation or spirituality group.

☛ **Sept 27—PFLAG-Ashtabula** Donahoe Center, Route 20 East, 7:30 p.m. Info: Sharon (216)964-3350.

☛ **Sept 27-29—Steel Party (Pittsburgh)** A circuit party event for men and women, to benefit Persad Center. For info or to register, call 1-800-426-6264. Also check details in "Entertainment Notes."

☛ **Sept 27-29—Halloween & Costume Ball Weekend at Jones Pond Campground (Angelica NY)** Costume Judging 9pm Saturday. For more info, call (716)567-8100

☛ **Sept 28—Kathy and Mo: Parallel Lives** Comedy Central noon and 8 pm.

☛ **Sept 29—PFLAG-Erie Meeting** Coming Out panel. Election of officer (paid member only) at 1:30pm. Meets 2pm at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie Call Elaine Hill at 864-0184 for more info.

☛ **Sept 29—All-Star Woodie Guthrie Celebration (Cleveland)** The Indigo Girls, Ani DiFranco, Billy Bragg, Bruce Springsteen, Arlo Guthrie and others will honor the folk legend at Severance Hall.

☛ **Oct 1—Saturday Night Live w/Lily Tomlin** On Comedy Central 11am & 3 pm, features "Ernestine" on phone and "Edith Ann."

☛ **Oct 3-13—11th International Pittsburgh International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival** Info (412)232-3277. 25 programs featuring over 50 films and videos.

☛ **Oct 4—"Care to Dance"** at Club Marcella (Buffalo) An evening of dancing at this popular gay club, to raise money for AIDS Community Services of WNY. 9 pm-1am, 622 Main Street. Info (716)847-0212 or (716)847-6850.

☛ **Oct 4-6—Octoberfest Weekend & Camp Closing at Jones Pond Campground (Angelica NY)** Octoberfest Dinner 6pm Saturday. Seasonals sign up for next season. For more info, call (716)567-8100

☛ **Oct 5—Paula Poundstone (Buffalo)** Alumni Center

☛ **Oct 5—Womynspace Coffeehouse: PFLAG Informational Night** Video, *Straight from the Heart* and presentation on PFLAG. Don't miss this important information session. Bring friends and as always newcomers welcome. More info call Sal at 454-2713.

☛ **Oct 5—Masquerade Party & Buffet at Camp Davis (Boyers PA)** 9:00pm-1:00 am. Info, call (412) 637-2402

☛ **Oct 6—Solidarity Sunday** Organized by Dignity USA., held the Sunday before National Coming Out Day An invitation for members of the Christian community to show support for their gay, lesbian, transgender, and bisexual brothers and sisters by wearing a sign of support. See article page 16.

☛ **Oct 11—National Coming Out Day** 1-800-866-NCOD.

☛ **Oct 11—Ani DiFranco in concert (Pittsburgh)** Metropol.(412)276-8300

☛ **Oct 11—Out There I** Comedy Central 11 am TV's first gay and lesbian comedy special, first aired in 1993. Hosted by Lea DeLaria, with Phranc, Pomo Afro Homos, Marga Gomez and others.

☛ **Oct 11—Out There II** The second gay and lesbian comedy special, on Comedy Central, 3 p.m. (Apparently there will be no new *Out There* this year.)

☛ **Oct 12—Ani DiFranco in concert (Buffalo)** Shea's Performing Arts Center. (716)847-1410

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## Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (SCA)

Tuesdays at 7:30 pm  
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Erie Hotline: 453-5656

☛ **Oct 17 & 18—Tri-State Conference on AIDS (Chautauqua Institution)** Keynote addresses by A. Joycelyn Elders, M.D. and John G. Bartett, M.D. See details in HIV/AIDS News, call/stop by NW PA Rural AIDS Alliance 1-800-400-AIDS (Baldwin Building, 8th Floor in Erie) or 1-800-359-AIDS (Clarion).

☛ **Oct 19—10% Network: Safer Sex Workshop (Jamestown NY)** Presented by AIDS Community Services of Western NY. Separate concurrent sessions for men & women. Call John at (716) 484-7285 for more info.

☛ **Nov 9 —2nd Annual Lesbian Health Conference (Columbus OH)** Info from Lesbian Health News PO Box 12121, Columbus OH 43212.

## Festivals & Conferences

☛ **Nov 6-10—National Conference for the Gay Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Movement (Washington DC)** Dozens of workshops, panels, caucuses, and small group sessions. Info: Phone (202)332-6483 ext. 3329, fax 202-332-0207

## Repeating TV programs

**Must-She TV on Comedy Central** (Oct. 4 7-11pm and 11:30pm-4am. October 6 from 1-7pm.) Comedy divas: starting with Stand-up by Brett Butler and Ellen Degeneres, followed by Bette Midler in *Divine Madness!*, Julie Brown in the Madonna spoof *Medusa: Dare to Be Truthful* and the late Gilda Radner doing *Gilda Live*.

## At Cup-A-Ccino's

Here is a complete schedule of performers at Cup-A-Ccino's for the month of September. Performers marked with a ☛ symbol might be of specific interest to our readers. Regardless of who's performing, Cup-A-Ccino's is always a gay-friendly place.

**Fri 9/6 — 5 Believers** Blues  
**Sat. 9/7 — Doom Town Jug Sluggers** Mountain Blues  
☛ **Fri. 9/13 — Jazzabels** Folk duo from Buffalo, NY  
☛ **Sat. 9/14 — Laura** Acoustic Guitar  
**Fri. 9/20 — Lance Elbaum & John Thompson** Classics  
☛ **Sat. 9/21 — Tamara J. Brown** Singer/Songwriter  
**Fri. 9/27 — Armour & Strutevant** Folk  
**Sat. 9/28 — Gemini 28** Folk Duo

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# Entertainment notes

## Theater

**Directors Circle Theater** will present *Torch Song Trilogy* from September 12 through October 5 (playing Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays). Written by **Harvey Fierstein** and co-directed by **Randy Tapper** and **Rob Santos**. It concerns a gay man's search for love. "The awkward entanglement of a gay couple and a straight couple is a witty combination of satire, sentiment and structuralism," says **Michael Weiss**, managing Director of Directors Circle. This is a 'must see' comedy featuring some of Erie's finest performers including two from last season's smash hit *Jeffrey*. Directors Circle Theatre is located at 1505 State Street. Curtain time 8 p.m. For info and reservations call: 454-0636.

**The Upstairs Theater** in Pittsburgh will kick off their tenth season with *Party*, in which a group of young men (all but one gay) play a "strip" version of Truth or Dare. Info/res. (412)361-5443.

## Sports

The **Cup-a-Ccino's Women's Soccer Team** won the championship on August 8th! They defeated the second place team 8-1. Their regular season record was 13 wins and 1 loss. Pretty cool, huh? They have a very nice trophy displayed on the counter at the coffee house. Members of the community asked how the team was doing and that was very nice.

**Martina Navratilova**'s new love is **Hunter Reno**, whose aunt is the US attorney general.

## Travel

Looks like **Washington DC** will be an interesting place to be in the month of October. **The NAMES Project AIDS Quilt** will be displayed in its entirety from October 11-13. The **PFLAG National Convention** will be held October 11-14. There will be a candlelight vigil and rally at Lincoln Memorial on **National Coming Out Day** (October 11). The **Reel Affirmations Lesbian and Gay Film Festival** will be held October 10-20. The **National Association of People**

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**With AIDS** will be having their conference during the time that the Quilt is on display, and the day before that there will be a conference on **AIDS Medicine and Miracles** (alternative therapies). For more info:

Gay Washington info—Washington Gay & Lesbian Switchboard (202) 628-4667, 7:30-10:30 p.m.

General DC travel info (Convention & Visitors Bureau) is (202) 789-7000.

Quilt info look in our "HIV/AIDS news" section.

PFLAG convention call Elaine Hill in Erie (814)864-0184 (she and some Erie people are going).

For National Coming Out Day call 1-800-866-NCOD.

For Reel Affirmations call (202)986-1119.

NAPWA 1413 K Street NW, Washington DC 20005 (202) 898-0414 email: napwa@ari.net. Internet site: <http://www.thecure.org>

"AIDS Medicine & Miracles" Internet site: <http://www.csd.net/~amm/index.htm>

In **Buffalo** this November watch for the **Ways in Being Gay Festival** filled with all kinds of activities like films, art exhibits, performances and more...all month long! For info, call **Halkwalls** 716-884-5984 or watch these pages.

**October 7 is the last day  
to register for the  
fall general elections.**

**Are you registered to vote?**



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## Film & Video

At **The Movie Stop** this month is **The Birdcage** (arriving 9/17). Another movie for **Nathan Lane** fans is **Frankie and Johnny**, in which Lane plays the supportive gay friend who actually has a love life of his own.

**Tony Ward** will play a hustler in the September film **Hustler White**, due out in September. Directed by **Bruce La Bruce** (*Super 8 1/2, No Skin Off My Ass*).

## Parties & Gatherings

The **Steel Party Pittsburgh** will be a circuit event to raise money to benefit Persad Center, a sexual minorities counseling center. Events will be going on around the city during the weekend of September 27-29. There will be a Welcoming Party at the Andy Warhol Museum and an "After Andy" Party at the Pittsburgh Eagle. Saturday brings on the "Pre-Heat" Party at Pegasus, then the Steel Party Pittsburgh at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center, 10 pm-6am (DJ-BUC Atlanta). Sunday is Recovery Brunch at the Westin William Penn Hotel (DJ-Brian Norwood). For info or to register 1-800-426-6264.

The Directors Circle Theatre  
presents:

1505 State St. • Erie, Pa.

## Torch Song Trilogy By Harvey Fierstein

Co-Directed by  
Randy Tapper & Rob Santos

For reservations  
**454-0636**

**Thursdays, Fridays & Saturdays**  
**Sept. 12th - Oct. 5th • Curtain 8:00 p.m.**



# Local News

## Homophobic restaurant comes to Erie

A new Cracker Barrel restaurant is being built on upper Peach Street.

The Cracker Barrel restaurant chain distinguished itself in 1991 by issuing a harsh anti-gay employment policy. After a customer complained about a gay employee, Cracker Barrel issued a statement saying that it stood for "traditional values" and that it was "perceived to be inconsistent with those of our customer base to continue to employ individuals whose sexual preferences fail to demonstrate normal heterosexual values which have been the foundation of families in society." The company fired over 28 employees for being gay.

The most well-known of these firings was Cheryl Summerville, a reliable, award-winning cook. When Summerville learned of the company's new anti-gay policy and the firings, she told her manager she was a lesbian. Her manager reluctantly had to fire her, and Summerville's official termination notice read: "This employee is being terminated due to violation of company policy. The employee is gay."

The negative publicity and picketing caused the company to rescind the policy in some locations. However, although the official policy has been rescinded, Cracker Barrel still continues to fire employees who are gay or lesbian. Also, they have not rehired the employees that were fired in 1991.

The magazine *Mother Jones* reported that since activists began protesting against Cracker Barrel, their stock has consistently declined. If you want to tell Cracker Barrel what you think of their policy, you can reach them at (800)925-9066.

(Thanks to Bob Matscherz, NGLTF, and *Mother Jones* for the info).

### Best wishes to Danny B.!

Danny B., our friend (and excellent collator!) has moved to the West Coast to be with his family. We wish him the best of luck in everything!

# Michael Dithers

Hey there! How was everyone's summer? We were extremely busy buying a house and settling in. One advantage of working with the newsletter is being aware of local resources. We were very happy with how Atty. David Baxter handled the closing of our house. We have been quite out (rainbow flag out front, across the street from a Roman Catholic Church) and the neighbors have been quite nice. A straight teacher two doors down was delighted to have a gay male couple in the neighborhood. All of which suggests to me that most people can be cool if you give them half a chance. Often, the only person holding us back and locked in the closet is ...ourselves!

Micheal's older brother Bobby died of AIDS July 5th. The family hadn't seen him for a number of years (not homophobia). Micheal and I drove down with Mike's mom over the Fourth of July to Atlanta. We knew he wasn't doing well and we knew Atlanta was about to become a zoo with the Olympics. We arrived early Friday morning and Bobby died at 10:30 that night. Bobby wasn't really able to speak, but he did obviously recognize his mom and brother. Bobby's lover had a wonderful kind and supportive son (the son's girlfriend was also there.) All too often the radical right loses sight of what family values really mean (being there for folks you care about, and maybe not so much about having divergent genitalia.)

We also lost our oldest cat, Smokey Joe, shortly after the move. Thankfully, he died peacefully of old age. He had been for a number of years the newsletter's unofficial mascot and often helped boost our morale by playing with us late at night when we were trying to finish putting together the next issue of EGCN. We buried him with a container of cream and cheese corn in the backyard. (He dearly loved dairy.)

The big theme that seems to run through all this is to face what needs to be faced. Come out, start a group, write an article, tell someone how much you love them, take that class you always wanted to take. Live, live live! As Auntie Mame says, "Life is a banquet and most poor suckers are *starving* to death!"

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



# Travel Review

## The Dundonald House: Toronto's Premier B & B

by Peter

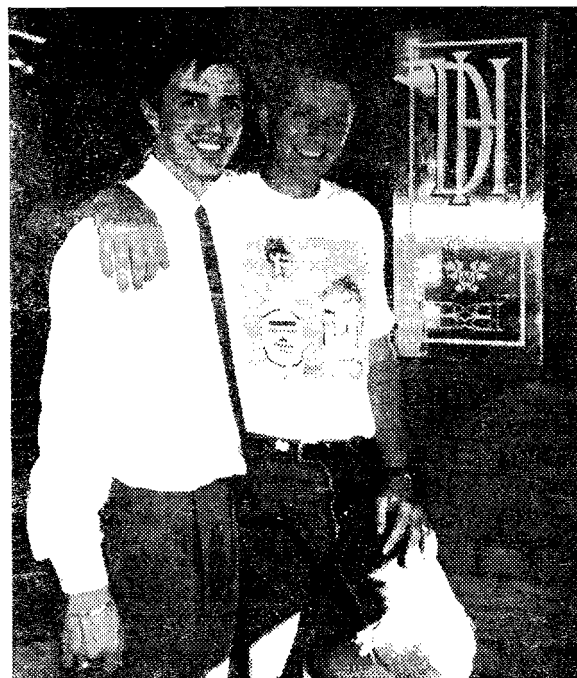
Need to get away for a few days? Don't want to spend a lot of money? Want to go somewhere gay? Why not try The Dundonald House in Toronto!

This Bed & Breakfast is situated in the heart of the gay community in Toronto. It is on a quiet side street between Yonge and Church, just south of Bloor. The hosts, Dave and Warren, have created an extremely tasteful and comfortable atmosphere to enjoy a stay away from home. The house is actually their home and it is beautifully maintained. Guests are welcome to use the sauna, hot tub, and touring bikes. Each of the guest rooms have first-class amenities. The second B of B & B is unsurpassed at any B&B worldwide. Such favorites as Belgian Waffles or Eggs Benedict come to mind! There is plenty of information available about the gay and lesbian scene in Toronto as well as other cities.


Prices for the overnight range from \$85 to \$125 (Canadian dollars). As an American traveler, it is a fantastic deal, since the US dollar is worth \$1.35 in Canada. That makes the room rates between \$63 and \$93 in US money! Applicable taxes are in addition to these prices, but non-Canadian residents can get the 7% general Sales Tax back by mail from the Canadian government by simply filling out a form and mailing it in. Parking is available for five dollars a day (Canadian).

The Dundonald House opened in May of this year and has already become the leader of B&B's in Toronto. It is also developing international fame, as it has already hosted guests from the Netherlands, Germany, Switzer-

land, France, and Australia, as well as the USA and Canada. This B&B is highly recommended to gays and lesbians worldwide. Give them a call at 800-260-7227 ... but plan ahead, the rooms get booked out quickly!



Warren and Dave, hosts of Dundonald House in Toronto.



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# Families

## Model couple breaks up

Bob Paris and Rod Jackson have announced that they have been broken up for the past year, and were separated for a year before that.

The two were married in 1989 and became gay role models, making frequent appearances in public and on talk shows. The couple wrote a book about themselves, and were the subjects of a book of semi-nude art photography.

Paris and Jackson stated that they do not want to publicly discuss the reasons for the breakup. "We have tried our best to make our marriage work," they said. "We love each other deeply and had 10 years together."

## Shorts

**US:** Melissa Etheridge announced that her partner Julie Cypher is pregnant. The news was reported in the mainstream media with little eye-brow raising.

**New Zealand:** For the first time ever, New Zealand's next census will count same-sex couples.

**Britain:** Britain's housing minister has instructed public housing authorities to offer same-sex couples in long-term relationships the same joint tenancy that straight married couples have.

**Canada:** The premier of the Canadian province of British Columbia has given his support for the right of lesbians and gay men to marry.

"We share the disappointment of those of you who looked up to our marriage as a role model—no one feels that disappointment more keenly than we do. But as individuals we need to move on and look forward, as any other couple, gay, lesbian and bisexual youth. We both remain deeply committed to the concept of equal marriage rights, and we both still believe in the magic of love."

—Rod Jackson and Bob Paris,  
on their breakup



OCTOBER 11

## Coming Out Resources

EGCN has compiled an annotated list of books and resources for coming out.

Whether you are coming out to yourself, your parents, or the world, there's a lot of guidance available.

To receive a free list, send a long SASE to "List," EGCN, PO Box 3063, Erie PA 16508.

Oh, and, it will arrive in a discreet envelope.

*If your event falls  
this date:*

**Oct 16-Nov 15**  
**Nov 16-Dec 15**  
**Dec 16-Jan 15**

*Notify us by  
this date:*

**Sept 15**  
**Oct 15**  
**Nov 15**

# Youth: "Back to school" campaign

*The Back to School Campaign is organized by GLSTN, the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Teachers' Network. To contact them, call John Spear, Director of Field Services at (212) 727-0135 or write to them at 122 W 26th St, Suite 1100, New York, NY 10001. You can also fax them at (212) 727-0254, email them at [glstn@glstn.org](mailto:glstn@glstn.org) or check their website at <http://www.glstn.org/freedom/>*

## What is the Back to School Campaign?

First staged in 1995, the Back to School Campaign is an annual grass roots education and advocacy effort in which lesbian, gay, and bisexual adults and their allies write in to their former schools and use their own experiences there to help school staffs to understand the impact of homophobia on young people.

## Why do we need to go Back to School?

It's simple. Many teachers, administrators and community members believe homophobia is someone else's problem, something that doesn't happen in their community. We need to erase that notion once and for all, and can do so with the simplest of actions: writing a letter to a teacher or administrator at a school we attended. We need to tell them what it was like to attend that school as a young gay, lesbian, or bisexual person, or someone who cared about a gay lesbian or bisexual person. We need to make sure that they understand homophobia is damaging to young people, and leads to dispropor-

tionately high rates of violence, dropping out, substance abuse, and suicide in this population. We need to ask them what they are doing to protect the next generation from this kind of bigotry. We need to ask them to make their schools places where all students get the education they deserve—regardless of sexual orientation.

## How do I get involved?

1. Write a letter to someone at your former school this fall and use your own experience to educate them on what homophobia does to young people.
2. Follow up your letter with a phone call, offering to provide resources such as GLSTN's "What You Can DO" packet or even to return to your old school to speak with faculty and students.
3. Join GLSTN and become involved in your local chapter's work to end homophobia in your community's schools.

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# Local UU supports Same-Sex Marriage

by Al Richardson

On July 28, 1996, the members of the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie approved the following statement and its distribution to our elected officials, to other religious bodies, and to the local media:

Unitarian Universalists affirm the inherent worth and dignity of every person, and we advocate justice, equity, and compassion in human relations.

Part of the stated mission of the UU Congregation of Erie is to create a loving, joyful, welcoming community to which adults and children can come for spiritual, intellectual, and social fulfillment.

As people of faith, our UU Congregation has a tradition of speaking out on public policy issues involving moral and ethical matters, or where intolerant views of one religion might be imposed by government fiat on people of different religious persuasions.

We are deeply concerned by the recent campaign to hurriedly pass legislation that would ban marriage between two people of the same gender. We are now urging our legislators in Harrisburg and in Washington, DC, to not vote on such legislation without a thoughtful debate about its purpose and justification. There are valid arguments for same-sex marriages, and potential detriment to the state if such marriages are banned.

Marriage is one of society's most fundamental institutions. It starts with either a civil or a religious ceremony; the formalities (age, blood test, etc.) and legal consequences (social security benefits and various laws affecting property rights, taxes, estates, and divorce) of the union are determined by the state. To bar any class of adults from marrying as they choose is a major deprivation, not a trivial disenfranchisement.

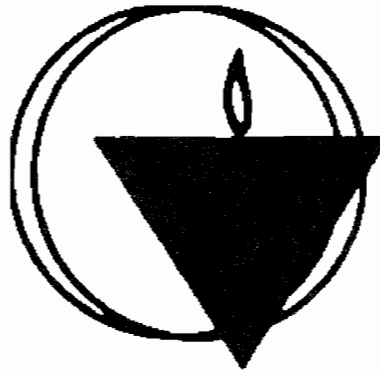
We believe no discernible state interest would be served by banning same-sex marriages. Such legislation would be self-righteous and uncharitable at best, hateful and vicious at worst. Excluding homosexuals from the

privileged status of marriage is an exercise in homophobia, infringes on civil rights, and is without any societal justification.

What are the legitimate interests of the state in the institution of marriage? We believe they are: (1) children; (2) stability; and (3) caregiving.

(1) Traditionally, most married couples conceived and nurtured children, and the state had a self-interest in encouraging population growth. In modern times many couples have no children, either by choice or because one of the partners is sterile. There are more than 6,000,000 childless heterosexual marriages in the U.S., far more than the potential number of same-sex marriages. Neither a promise to procreate nor the ability to do so has ever been a prerequisite to obtaining a license to marry in any of the 50 states.

There is growing awareness that unabated population growth has adverse environmental impact and leads to problems of hunger, poor health and child poverty, and these matters should also be concerns of the state. The prospect of being childless is no reason to withhold the benefits of marriage to a committed



couple.

(2) Marriage can have a stabilizing or settling effect on the partners.

Married men are more likely than unmarried men to stay at home and out of trouble—a goal desired by the state. One of the main benefits of publicly recognized marriage is that it binds couples together not only in their own eyes but also in the eyes of society at large. Around the partners is woven a web of expectations that they will spend their lives together—off the streets and at home. The domesticating effect that marriage brings to both parties in a loving, committed relationship, whether straight or gay, should be encouraged by the state. It is certainly better than the closet-gay culture and courting a series of different partners.

(3) If marriage has any meaning at all, it is that, when you are beset with a physical, emotional or mental problem, there will be someone to care for and comfort you. The caregiving rationale for marriage applies equally to homosexuals. One of the first things many people worry about when coming to terms with their homosexuality is: Who will take care of me when I'm ailing or old? Society needs to care about this, too, as the AIDS crisis has made horribly clear. If that crisis has shown anything, it is that no institution can begin to match the care of a devoted partner. Legally speaking, marriage creates kin. Surely society's interest in kin-creation is strongest of all for people who are unlikely to be supported by children in old age and who may well be rejected by their own parents in youth. Caregiving is much better served by marriage—that is, by one-to-one life-long commitment—than by any other institution.

The power of marriage is not just legal but social. It seals its promise with the smiles and tears of family and friends. The marriage ceremony and investment tend to deter casual commitment and to make bailing out embarrassing. Marriage is a compact between a couple and society, not just between two people: society recognizes the sanctity and autonomy of the pair-bond, and in exchange each spouse commits to being the other's nurse, social worker, and policeman of first resort.

The so-called "Defense of Marriage Act" (S.1740) introduced by Senator Nickles is a reactive piece of legislation that utterly fails its stated purpose "to protect the institution of marriage." How can same-sex marriages be a threat to traditional two-sex marriages? The real purposes of this bill are to protect prejudice and to gain political ground by playing on fear and ignorance. It

would be shameful for our government to sanction such an intolerant, partisan agenda by enacting this ill-conceived legislation. [See below for PA]

If two adults of the same gender are committed to one another and prepared to abide by the marriage compact, and if a ceremony of marriage were duly conducted by an authorized clergy or state official, it is wrong for the state to either forbid or refuse recognition of such a marriage. The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie supports legal recognition for marriage between two consenting, committed people of the same gender. For the reasons expressed above, the government would be wise to do so also.

The bills that would ban same-sex marriages in Pennsylvania (S.1558 and HB.2604) are reactive pieces of legislation. How can such marriages be a threat to traditional two-sex marriages? The real purposes of these bills are to engender prejudice and to gain political ground by playing on fear and ignorance. It would be shameful for our state government to sanction such an intolerant, partisan agenda by enacting this ill-conceived legislation.

### Friends From The Heart

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# HIV/AIDS News

## Magazines at the Alliance

The Northwest PA Rural AIDS Alliance carries a great selection of magazines that are free.

You are welcome to stop by and check them out or pick them up, whether you are a client or just someone interested in the issues around HIV/AIDS.

The publications include:

*POZ* (general: spirituality, care, treatment, diet, sex, politics, interviews, etc.)

*Art & Understanding* (fiction, poetry, art, music, media)

*Positively Aware* (focuses on treatment and living with HIV/AIDS)

*Lifetimes 2* (general, put out by Stadtlanders).

*BETA* (Bulletin of Experimental Therapies)

The Alliance is located on the 8th floor of the Baldwin Building (10th & State) and at Clarion University.

World AIDS Day Events—  
Deadline for getting info to EGCN is October 17!!!!

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## Health Department online

The Erie County Health Department can now be reached on the Internet. The web site address is: <http://www.ncinter.net/~ecdh> and our email address is [ecdh@ncinter.net](mailto:ecdh@ncinter.net). (Thanks to John Schroeck for the info).

## AIDSWalk raises \$70,000

It's late news but good news—AIDS Walk '96 raised \$70,000 for AIDS Community Services of Western New York. Nearly 2,000 people united for the 5-mile walk of solidarity.

## October Events

☛ **Oct 1 & 2—Paul Mitchell Stylist - Haircuts \$5** At Gannon in the Commons from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.. All monies go to service organizations.

☛ **Oct 11-13—NAMES project Quilt in Washington DC** Bus from Warren, call Marshall Snyder at (814)726-1808. From Pittsburgh (412)441-9786. Other travel info 800-926-2631. Local NAMES Project info Sue B. Kuebler 452-3779, national info 415-882-5500.

☛ **Oct 11 - 13—National Alliance of PWAs in Washington** NAPWA 1413 K Street NW, Washington DC 20005 (202) 898-0414 email: [napwa@ari.net](mailto:napwa@ari.net). Internet site: <http://www.thecure.org>

☛ **Oct 10—"AIDS Medicine & Miracles"** Internet site: <http://www.csd.net/~amm/index.htm>

☛ **Oct 17 & 18—Tri-State Conference on AIDS (Chautauqua Institution)** Keynote addresses by A. Joycelyn Elders, M.D. and John G. Bartett, M.D. See details in HIV/AIDS News, call/stop by NW PA Rural AIDS Alliance 1-800-400-AIDS.

☛ **Oct 19—10% Network: Safer Sex Workshop (Jamestown NY)** Presented by AIDS Community Services of Western NY. Separate concurrent sessions for men & women. Info: John at (716) 484-7285

☛ **Oct 23—Jean White (Ryan White's mother)** Details next month.

☛ **Oct 27-Nov 1 —Gannon's HIV Awareness Week** Info 1-800-866-NCOD.

# "What I Did on My Summer Vacation"

by **DonPaul Lucas**

This summer was a very busy time for me. I was in Detroit, Chicago, Pittsburgh, Latrobe, Clarion, Boston, Springfield, MA and of course Erie.

I guess the most interesting part of the summer was my trip to Chicago.

I arrived at Erie International Airport at 7:00 a.m. for a 7:30 flight.

As I was turning in my ticket and checking my luggage I heard the CNN morning report about the crash of TWA flight 800. I tried to talk the person behind the desk into giving my ticket back, but she said too late.

So there I was waiting for my flight as CNN detailed the crash. Well, I boarded my flight and clenched my teeth. My flight arrived in Chicago with just a delay in Detroit because of rain.

After a four day weekend of meetings with the National Hemophilia Foundation, I arrived at O'Hare International for a 5:30 p.m. flight back to Erie. It was a pleasant flight, but we had to fly low because of turbulent weather.

I was scheduled to be in Clarion at 8:00 a.m. Monday morning, so I left the house at 6:00 a.m. When I got to Clarion, Charlene Bushyager from Northwest Alliance said, "You made it!" I said, "Of course. Why wouldn't I have?" She then went on to tell me that they had found a pipe bomb on one of the tarmacs at O'Hare Sunday night. On CNN later that night they reported that there were two bomb scares and then the bomb was found. All this happening just 30 minutes after my flight left.

So, how was everybody else's summer?

It's also been an exciting time as far as information about HIV/AIDS is concerned. The International Conference in Vancouver gave a lot of new hope.

Triple combination therapy, viral load reporting, and other new drugs on the horizon are all reasons to be hopeful. A report from Dr. Ho suggested that triple combination therapy may actually be able to eliminate the virus from some people's systems. I was able to download and print over 200 pages of synopses from the conference.

Other advances have also been made in HIV/AIDS research are also reason for optimism. A group of researchers from the Aaron Diamond AIDS Research Center reported that there is a rare gene that some people have that protect them from HIV infection. This gene produces a protein, CKR-5, that does not allow HIV to enter into CD4 cells. This information has renewed the hope that a vaccine can be found.

So, there seems to be a glimmer of light on the horizon. But until more information is gleaned from this mountain of figures and statistics, I would once again ask everybody to be careful. Keep yourselves safe and enjoy life. Nobody ever expects to get on a TWA Flight 800.

Safe Journey.

P.S. Some interesting things have been going on with me medically. I hope to be able to report on those next month.

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# National/World News

## Government sues Christian Coalition

WASHINGTON, July 30—Four members of the Federal Election Commission voted to sue Pat Robertson's Christian Coalition for illegally acting as a political action committee. The organization, which is supposed to be nonpartisan, distributed voters guides and supported certain Republican candidates.

## Gay activists denounce Kemp

(From the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force)

Former Senator Dole's selection of Jack Kemp as his running mate is one more attempt to pacify the Christian Coalition and the ultra-right wing Council for National Policy.

Over the last fifteen years, Kemp has been part of the leadership of the hard Right, whose agenda is antithetical to democracy. His voting record brands him as a right-winger on such issues as abortion, discrimination against gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgenders, and people living with HIV and AIDS...

[Kemp opposes gays and lesbians as teachers and opposed the Supreme Court's recent decision to overturn Colorado's Amendment 2. Both Kemp and Dole have sided time and time again with arch-conservative, notorious anti-gay lawmakers Jesse Helms and William Dannemeyer on numerous hostile amendments, including one to cut off all funding to gay community health organizations, mandatory HIV reporting and others. Kemp has made an about face on his more moderate opinions on affirmative action and immigration since being named to the ticket.

## Not one of our prouder moments

The International Lesbian and Gay Organization has taken back its ultimatum making all member organizations sign a letter that they do not support pedophilia. Members who did not sign the statement were to have faced expulsion.

In 1993, the ILGA was granted "consultative" status at the United Nations. When some anti-gay members of Congress pointed out that some of ILGA's mem-

ber organizations supported sex between adults and persons under the age of consent, and Congress threatened to cut off funding to the UN until the ILGA was free of organizations it saw as condoning pedophilia. The North American Man-Boy Love Association and two European pedophile organizations were thrown out of ILGA, and the ILGA directed member organizations to sign the anti-pedophilia statement or face expulsion. When less than half of the statements were returned signed, the ILGA Secretariats' Committee suspended the decision until the next general membership meeting.

## Debate coverage

The Unitarian Universalist Association has signed on as a sponsor of "DebateWatch 96" a nonpartisan (truly!!) project of the Commission on Presidential Debates, which offers materials to organizations to sponsor community discussion right after the presidential debates which air Sept 25 through Oct 9. They provide discussion guides and suggestions for civil, non-inflammatory discussion, and then ask for information on what the various focus groups thought about the debates. Make your opinions count! They'll publicize all of the responses to the media afterwards. For more information, email them at [presdeb@falcon.cc.ukans.edu](mailto:presdeb@falcon.cc.ukans.edu), or visit their website at [Debates96.org](http://Debates96.org).

(Thanks to UU's in the News)

## No statewide ballot measures

Washington—For the first time since 1992, there will not be a single antigay initiative on any statewide ballot in the US.

"This marks a political sea change, and the well-deserved death of an extremist tactic," said Cathy Woolard from the Human Rights Campaign.

Statewide anti-gay initiatives haven't really enjoyed much success. Although they have appeared in Maine, Colorado, and Idaho, and twice in Oregon, only Colorado's Amendment 2 had passed.

In May, the US Supreme ruled Amendment 2 to be unconstitutional, demonstrating that anti-gay measures would have a hard time holding up.

HRC's Woolard sees anti-gay groups shifting efforts to other arenas, like state legislatures.



# Spirituality

## Dignity organizes "Solidarity Sunday"

Dignity USA has selected Sunday, October 6th (the Sunday before National Coming Out Day) as the second observance of Solidarity Sunday.

Solidarity Sunday is an invitation for members of the Christian community to show support for their gay, lesbian, transgender, and bisexual brothers and sisters by wearing a sign of support. As last year, this sign will be a swath of rainbow colored ribbon pinned to one's clothing.

Secular, as well as religious organizations, are encouraged to work with members of their local clergy to invite entire congregations to join in the observance of Solidarity Sunday. Ribbons are handed out on a piece of card containing the Solidarity Pledge, as well as the Solidarity Prayer.

Perhaps this could be a tool to open discussions with churches we do not normally approach in our human dignity work.

One side of the card reads:

I wear this ribbon in Solidarity with my Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered Sisters and Brothers.

Solidarity Prayer:

God, You are the Creator and Lover of all, regardless of race, religion, sexual orientation or gender identity. We pray that verbal and physical violence against our lesbian gay, bisexual, and transgendered brothers and sisters cease. We pray in the name of Jesus, who welcomed all to his circle of friends. Amen.

We must end verbal & physical gay bashing!

The flip side reads:

Pledge: I pledge

1. I will work for civil and human rights for all people, including gays, lesbians, bisexuals and the transgendered. \*Civil rights are not special rights.\*

2. I will seek to stop jokes and unkind language about anyone, including gays, lesbians,

bisexuals and the transgendered when spoken in my presence \*Words hurt and bigotry is not funny.\*

3. I will speak out against slander, debase-ment, lies or dehumanization of anyone, including gays, lesbians, bisexuals and the transgendered, including when spoken by political or religious leaders \*Violent speech leads to physical violence.\*

4. I will work to stop physical violence against anyone, including gays, lesbians, bisexuals and the transgendered. \*Violence against any person is violence against all people.

For more information about how you may work in your community to promote Solidarity Sunday contact:

Bruce Jarstfer, MD

PO Bo 701592

San Antonio, TX 78270-1592

Voice: (210) 545-9097

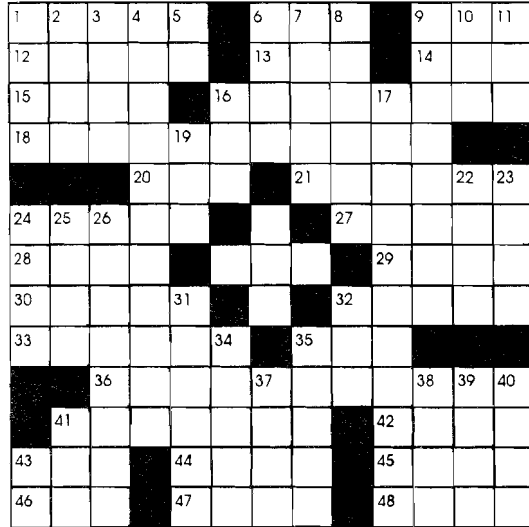
email: BruceSJ@aol.com

Bruce Amsbary

**October 7**  
is the last day to  
register to vote in the  
fall elections.

**Are you registered to  
vote?**

Solution on page 20



**Across:**

- 1 Celery unit
- 6 Public TV channel
- 9 One fighting AIDS
- 12 Jeans
- 13 Indoleacetic acid (abbr.)
- 14 Feel ill
- 15 Butter substitute

- 16 Speck
- 18 Openly gay Congressman
- 20 Goy slang for straight
- 21 Command on the *Enterprise*?
- 24 Photog Adams
- 27 *Fun With Dick and Jane* actor
- 28 Manilow hit *Cabana*
- 29 Gay author Miller
- 30 Russian leaders, once
- 32 Bradley classic \_\_\_ of *Avalon*
- 33 Parodied
- 35 Words at commitment ceremony
- 36 Openly gay Congressman
- 41 There's no fool like one
- 42 #4 Down to his thralls
- 43 Honest president
- 44 Playwright William
- 45 Tragic Shakespearean King
- 46 Had sex with (slang)
- 47 Tidy
- 48 Village People hit
- 6 Singer Edith
- 7 Wilkes-\_\_\_, PA
- 8 Belongs to Church Lady's foe
- 9 Wraps
- 10 *ID4* actor Smith
- 11 Pub potable
- 16 Pretty young thing (slang)
- 17 Cleverly
- 19 Electric fish
- 22 Stride
- 23 Building additions
- 24 Emotes
- 25 Cyrano's fame
- 26 Simon play *Star \_\_\_ Girl*
- 31 Beach Boys hit \_\_\_ *USA*
- 32 Mountain Daylight Time
- 34 On one's belly
- 35 Small island
- 37 Eastern exercise regimen
- 38 *Carpe \_\_\_*
- 39 Dracula, to his friends
- 40 Day hit *Que Sera \_\_\_*
- 41 \_\_\_-Wan Kenobi
- 43 Sponsor's space

**Down:**

- 1 Unkempt one
- 2 Brain tissue
- 3 Affirm
- 4 Richard I descriptor
- 5 Kaposi's Sarcoma for short

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—**Coretta Scott King**  
at Atlanta Pride 1996

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# Sex & Health

## Vitamin E in lube formulas

We recently contacted the makers of Wet brand lubricant, and asked about their water-based lube, which contains Vitamin E. We were curious, because Vitamin E commonly comes in oil form. The company wrote back, "Wet Original and Wet Light Formulas contain a powder form of Vitamin E which does not contain any oil."

## More on plastic wrap dams

A common bit of advice regarding lesbian safer sex is to use *nonmicrowaveable* Saran Wrap or plastic wrap as a dam. The reasoning: that microwaveable plastic wrap is porous. But can you even get nonmicrowaveable plastic wrap anymore? A couple of determined lesbian shoppers searched local grocery store shelves and couldn't find any. But is the nonmicrowaveable stuff even necessary? According to one source on lesbian safer sex, the plastic wrap only becomes porous when heated to very high temperatures. If the regular stuff is actually okay, then it means you get to use that neat colored wrap.

## Poppers and safety

**Q:** It seems to me lately that I require the use of poppers more and more to really enjoy sex. What I'm not sure about is how safe are they?

**A:** Well, according to the National Institute of Health in the USA, using poppers even once or twice a week is sufficient to produce sustained alteration to the immune system. This was concluded based on a study among HIV-negative men. Other, larger studies have found a correlation (though not a cause effect relation) between nitrate inhalation and unsafe sex (Gee, go figure). Poppers might make you feel good during sex, but don't become a slave to them, and don't be stupid. Condom first, then poppers, should be the rule of thumb. And don't spill any on your skin, it burns!

*(From "Clinical Advice," Fab/Toronto courtesy Gay Men's Health Crisis and the Toronto Hassle Free Clinic).*

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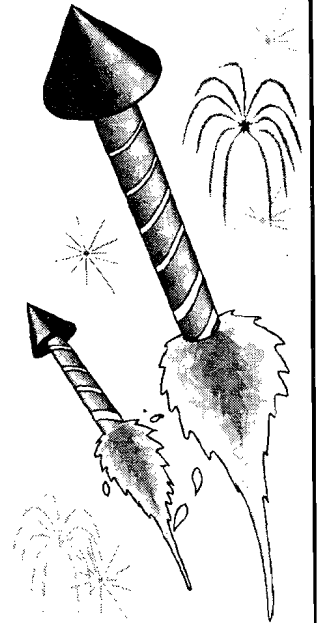
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# MediAlert

by **Al Kielwasser**

\*\*\* SPECIAL WRITES . . . Patricia Nell Warren — noted novelist (“The Front Runner”) and syndicated columnist (“News You Didn’t See On TV”) — is also the publisher of an innovative online venture: The YouthArts Project (YAP).

“A small group of us have been supporting gifted gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and questioning youth for a year now, by providing a web space where they can publish poetry, art, photography, graphics, commentary, etc. and actually be part of the publishing process,” Warren explains. “We have workshops where local kids can learn about the Web, html and graphics programs, and be part of designing and posting their own pages.”

In addition to Warren, the nonprofit project is co-published by John Waiblinger and Darin Weeks. Currently, YAP exists in two editions — “YouthArts East” (<http://dolphin.upenn.edu/~lgba/yourharts>) and “YouthArts West” (<http://www.qcc.org/yap>).

Recent additions to “YouthArts West” include a section for African-American poets, excerpts from significant youth publications (e.g., Hillary Carlip’s bestselling book, “Girl Power”), and a column devoted to queercore music.

Meanwhile, “YouthArts East” has “moved into cutting-edge investigative reporting” (e.g., Paul Lukasiak’s report on the horrors of school-based ROTC programs).

YAP has also gotten “in the face of the Justice Department about CDA censorship on the Internet.” According to the publishers: “Three of the four youth affidavits filed with the federal district court, in this case affecting millions of young people, were YouthArts voices.... Their affidavits, posted on ‘YouthArts West,’ are searing statements of the need for youth free speech.”

**C o n t a c t :** Patricia Nell Warren (e-mail [wildcatprs@aol.com](mailto:wildcatprs@aol.com)), John Waiblinger (e-mail [waibling@calvin.usc.edu](mailto:waibling@calvin.usc.edu)) and Darin Weeks (e-mail [dcweeks@aol.com](mailto:dcweeks@aol.com)), YouthArts Project, Wildcat Press, 8306 Wilshire Blvd., Box 8306, Beverly Hills, CA 90211, tel. 213-966-2466, fax 213-966-2467, <http://www.gaywired.com/wildcat/wildcat.htm>.

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**Jack Kevorkian, a.k.a. Doctor Death,**  
in a controversial ad promoting condom use.

## Crossword Solution:

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L	E	V	I	S	I	A	A	A	I	L		
O	L	E	O	P	A	R	T	I	C	L	E	
B	A	R	N	E	Y	F	R	A	N	K		
		H	E	T	E	N	G	A	G	E		
A	N	S	E	L		S	E	G	A	L		
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A	B	E	I	N	G	E	L	E	A	R		
D	I	D		N	E	A	T		Y	M	C	A

# Resource Directory

All phone numbers are area code 814 unless otherwise noted. Not all resources are necessarily gay-owned nor serve primarily lesbian people; some may be just gay-friendly

▼ = Erie Gay Community News available here!

♿ = Handicap accessible

## 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

## Accommodations, Bed & Breakfasts, Campgrounds

Camp Davis ..... (412) 637-2402  
 311 Redbrush Rd, Boyers PA. Campground  
 DunDonald House ..... (800) 260-7227 or (416) 961-9888  
 35 DunDonald St, Toronto, Ontario, Canada. Bed & breakfast  
 In the Woods Bed & Breakfast ..... 436-7798/7343  
 1 hr Se of Erie in Grand Valley PA. Gay-friendly  
 Jones Pond Campground ..... (716)567-8100  
 9836 Old State Rd, Angelica NY. Adult male camping, 135 sites, water & electric, camp store, pool, DJ weekends, theme events  
 Rocking Duck Inn ..... (716)968-3335  
 28 Genesee Parkway, Cuba NY. Near Olean, 100 miles from Erie. Gay-owned Bed & Breakfast.

## Bars

The Embers ▼ ..... 454-9171  
 1711 State St, Erie PA. Open Mon-Sat 8 pm - 2 am. Live DJ music Wed thru Sat 10 pm - 2 am. Pool table.  
 Leeward Lounge ▼ ..... (216)964-9935  
 1022 Bridge St, Ashtabula OH. Open 7 days, 7 p.m. - 2:30 am, food til 1:30 am. 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.  
 Lizzy Bordon's Part II ▼ ..... 833-4059  
 3412 W 12th St, Erie PA. Open Mon-Sat. 9pm-2am. DJ Music. Wed. Country Line Dancing. Fri & Sat-90's Dance Music. Shows on some Fridays.  
 Nite Spot ▼ .....  
 201 Winsor, Jamestown, NY. 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.  
 Sneakers ▼ ..... (716)484-8816  
 100 Harrison, Jamestown, NY. Open Tues.-Sun. 2 pm to 2 am. DJ Fri & Sat 10-2.

## Coffeehouses and Restaurants

la bella bistro ..... 454-3616  
 556 W 4th St, Erie PA  
 Cup-a-Ccino's ▼ ..... 456-1511  
 18 North Park Row, Erie PA. Mon-Wed 7:30 am - 11 pm, Thurs-Fri. 7:30 am - 12 mid., Sat 9 am-midnight. 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.

## Community-Building Organizations

Chautauqua County GLB Svcs ..... 716-484-8434 or 679-3560  
 Works to increase visibility & support for lesbian/gay citizens in Chautauqua County, NY. Meets 1st Mon of month at 7 pm.

## Counseling

Chautauqua Co. Gay Infoline ..... (716)679-3560  
 Counseling Center ▼ ..... 898 Park Ave Suite 12, Meadville PA  
 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  
 Well Being Center ▼ ..... 838-0123 (Deb Monohon)

## Erotica/Adult Bookstores

Body Language ▼ ..... (216) 251-3330  
 3291 W 115th St, Cleveland OH  
 Filmore News ▼ ..... 2757 W 12th St, Erie  
 Modern News ▼ ..... 1115 State St, Erie

## Financial Advice

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

## Funding and Fund-raising

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

## Health

PA Breast Cancer Coalition ..... 455-7833  
 Patrick McNamara, Lic. Massage Therapist ..... (716)679-3430

## Info-Lines

Buffalo ..... (716)883-4750  
 Chautauqua County (North) ..... (716)679-3560  
 Chautauqua County (South) ..... (716)664-5556  
 Cleveland ..... (216) 522-1999  
 Erie ..... 456-9833  
 Pittsburgh ..... (412) 422-0114 (M-F 6:30-9:30 pm, Sat 3-6 pm)  
 Toronto ..... (416)964-6600 (M-S 7-10 pm)

## Legal

David Baxter, Esq. .... 774-4163  
 Solymosi Law Offices, PC ..... 452-4473  
 John Cooper, Esq. .... 455-3436

## Miscellaneous

Avenue Gifts & Collectibles ..... 454-1629  
 1027 East Ave, Erie PA

- Barnes & Noble** ▼ ..... 864-6300  
5909 Peach St, Erie PA
- Karen A. McLoughlin** ..... 838-4802  
Licensed Esthetician, skin care specialist, facials & body treatment
- Movie Stop** ..... 453-7696  
1229 State St, Erie PA. Also stores in McKean, Meadville & Oil City
- Pal Prescription Pharmacy** ..... 455-8597  
1238 W 6th St, Erie PA
- Poppa Ropp's Home Video** ▼ ..... 734-3014  
Edinboro Mall, Edinboro PA
- Poster Annex** ..... 455-1999  
717 Liberty St, Erie PA Poster, prints, cords, ceramic tiles
- Roadhouse Theatre** ▼ ..... 456-5656  
145 W 12th St, Erie PA
- Roses & Lace Floral & Gifts** ..... 838-8518  
3424 W Lake Rd Erie PA
- Talking Leaves** ▼ ..... (716) 837-8554  
3158 Main St, Buffalo NY

#### **Political/Advocacy Organizations**

- League of Gay & Lesbian Voters** ..... 898-4210 (Dave Mulholland)  
Nonpartisan voters group. Publishes Voters' Guide for elections, voter registration/education, lobbying, advocacy. Meets first Sun. Call for location. Write to LGLV-Erie, PO Box 8083, Erie, PA 16505-0083. Email to lglv@ncinter.net

#### **Publications**

- Erie Gay Community News** ..... 456-9833  
PO Box 3063, Erie PA 16508-0063. Fax 452-1392, Email egcn@ncinter.net

#### **Religious Organizations**

- Integrity** ..... 774-0903 (Dorothy)  
..... or 452-3779 (Rev. Kay Johnson, Chaplain)  
A Christian-based spiritual and support group, sponsored by the Episcopal Church that welcomes people of all faiths. Write to Integrity-NWPA, PO Box 1782, Erie, PA, 16507-1782.
- Unitarian Universalist Congreg. of Erie** ▼ ..... 864-9300  
7180 New Perry Highway. For Commitment Vows, ask for Terry Kime.

#### **Social Organizations**

- 10% Network** ▼ ..... (716)484-8434 (John) or 664-5556  
Chautauqua County, NY. Meets 3rd Saturday of the month 7-11 pm at First Unitarian Society of Jamestown. No smoking or alcohol.
- Chautauqua N County Support Grp (NY)** .... (716) 673-3183 (Vince)  
..... or N County Infoline 716-679-3560  
Support for lesbians in northern half of county. Meets 4th Mon 7 - 9 pm, also fish fry 2nd Friday of the month.
- Menspace** ..... 835-6712 (Larry)
- Rainbow Connection** ..... Fred or Marshall at 726-1808  
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. Write to 220 Onondaga Avenue, Warren PA 16365.
- Womynspace Coffeehouse** ▼ & ..... 454-2713 (Sal)  
An alcohol & smoke-free environment for lesbians, with a particular theme, topic or activity for each month. Meet 1st Sat. at 7:30pm. at Unitarian Univ Congreg of Erie

#### **Student Organizations/Youth**

- Committee in Support of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual People (CSGLBP, Allegheny College, Meadville)** ▼ ..... 332-4368 (Nancy)  
..... or 332-4375 (Erny)  
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. Email to csglbp@olleg.edu
- Closet Culture** ..... 899-6528 (Mark)  
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 ClosetCtr@aol.com
- Covenant House Teen Hotline** ..... 1-800-999-9999
- Identity** & ..... 732-3779 (Christie Hudson)  
..... or 732-2555 (Dr. Dave Herendeen)  
Student group for lesbigay & allies at Edinboro Univ. On hiatus for summer. Write to Identity, c/o Dr. Herendeen, Edinboro Univ, Heather Hall, Edinboro, PA 16440
- Informal Lesbigay Student Group of Erie**  
Email to ILSGErie@aol.com
- Jamestown Comm. College Grp** ▼ ..... (716)665-5220 ext 204  
..... or 664-9174 (Greg Rabb)  
Peer counseling & support attempting to live fulfilling, open, integrated lives as lesbigay people in W NY & NW PA. Open to college & non-college people. Meeting date, time & place vary. Write to JCC, 525 Falconer St, PO Box 20, Jamestown NY 14702-0020. Email to Greg at rabbgp@jccw22.cc.sunyjcc.edu.
- National Runaway Switchboard** ..... 1-800-621-4000
- SUNY-Fredonia B-GLAD** ..... (716)673-3424
- Teen Hotline** ..... (412)771-8336
- Trigon (Penn State Behrend)** ..... (Al & Ginny) 825-8211  
..... or (Sue Dainy) 898-6164  
Support group for Behrend students, faculty, alumni. Write: College Mailroom, Box 1054, Behrend College, Station Road, Erie, PA 16563. Email to Ginny at vls121@email.psu.edu or Al at al:126@email.psu.edu

#### **Support Groups**

- Erie Sisters**  
Nonsexual social support group for TV/TS/CD. Monthly meetings on 4th Saturday, newsletter, Meetings in even numbered months ore 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.
- Lambda Group—Gay AA** ▼ & ..... 452-2675  
Alcoholics Anon. for Lesbians. Open discussion. Meets Sunday at 8:00 pm at Unitarian Universalist Congreg of Erie, 7180 New Perry Hiway. Open to all Lesbians who think they may have a problem with drugs and/or alcohol. You are not alone.
- Northcoast Rainbow Families** ..... 868-0069 (Christopher)  
..... (716) 366-1453 (Judy)  
Support, advocacy, and education group for lesbigay parents and their families; play group for kids in western NY, northeast OH, and northwest PA. Affiliated with Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International. Write to: NCRF, PO Box 254, Fredonia, NY 14063. Email to: glpcerie@aol.com
- PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Gays)** ..... see below
- PFLAG-Ashtabula OH** ..... (216)964-3350  
Meets the last Friday of each month, 7:00 p.m., Conference Room at Donahoe Center, Rt 20 East. Email: ssimmen@interlaced.net

**PFLAG-DuBois PA** ..... Karen or John Kressley at 371-8962  
Meets 7 pm on 2nd Tues of month. Write to PFLAG-DuBois, 1191 Treasure Lake, DuBois PA 15801 Email: peanutx@aol.com

**PFLAG-Erie t H** ..... Elaine 864-0184  
Meets last Sun of month 2:00 pm at Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie. Write to PFLAG-Erie c/o Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, PO Box 3495, Erie, PA 16508.

**PFLAG-Jamestown** ..... (716) 488-1264 or 763-1529  
Meets last Tues of the month, call for site.

**PFLAG-New Castle PA** ..... Lois at (412)652-6893  
Meets 7-9 pm on 3rd Thurs of month at Human Svcs Ctr, 130 West North St, New Castle.

**Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (SCA)** ..... 453-5656 (Erie Hotline)  
Meets Tuesdays at 7:30 pm at 1505 State Street, 2nd Floor, Erie

**Violence and Domestic Abuse (Women & Men)**

**Erie Hospitality House** ..... (814)454-8161

**Jamestown - YWCA Alternatives to Violence** .....  
..... Daytime (716)488-2237, evenings (716)484-0052.

**Women's Center of Warren & Forest Counties 24 hour Hotline**  
(Sexual Assault as well) ..... 800-338-3460 or (814)726-1030

**HIV/AIDS Directory**

**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 Grp** ..... (216)350-2554

**Erie PA/Erie County**

**Case Manager - Sharon Cooper** ..... 456-8849

**Case Manager - Cheryl Weber** ..... 825-1085

**AIDS Action Team (AACT) Gannon** ..... 871-7233

**AIDS Bereavement Support Group** ..... 452-3779 (Kay Johnson)

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

**AIDS Network Information** ..... 451-6700

**Friends from the Heart** ..... 838-0123 (Deb Monohon)

Direct Client Services. Volunteers helping deliver help with food, rent, transportation, moving and clothing to people with AIDS. Call to see how you can help. Donations *greatly* appreciated.

**HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of Cath. of St. Paul (Episcopal)** 452-3779

**NW PA Rural AIDS Alliance (Erie Ofc) ▼** 456-8849/(800)400-AIDS

1001 State St, Suite 808, Erie PA

**St. Mark's/Catholic Charities Support Group &**

..... Cheryl Weber at 825-1085 or 452-6113

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.

**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

**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)764-6066

**HIV/AIDS Counseling and Testing Programs (free):**

*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

**HIV/AIDS Anonymous Testing Sites**

(Ashtabula) Family Planning Assoc (\$30) ..... (216)992-5953

Painesville OH ..... (216)354-AIDS

Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force ..... (412)242-2500

**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.

Our Web Site has the Calendar of Events, Latebreaking News, pointers to area lesbigay resources and web searchers the complete text of this issue and lots more!. 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!

**Erie County Department of Health  
HIV/AIDS EDUCATION AND TRAINING  
SERVICES**

**EDUCATIONAL SERVICES**

- Educational Presentations
- Curriculum Development
- Program Planning
- Instructor Training's
- Policy review

**OUTREACH SERVICES**

- S.T.O.P. Outreach
- Educational Outreach
- Outreach Prevention Counseling

**HIV PREVENTION COUNSELING / TESTING SERVICES**

- Free Confidential & Anonymous HIV Testing / Counseling
- Prevention Counseling Training's
- Off-site Prevention / Counseling Services
- Epidemiology

For more information about these and other services please call 451-6727

**Jones  
Pond**

**Campground**



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

Aug 30-Sep 2 Mr. Jones Pond Contest & Show

Sept 6-8 Fantasy Weekend

Sept 27-29 Halloween and Costume Ball

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

18 North Park Row  
Erie, PA  
Phone  
456-1151



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

**September Evening Drink Specials 3pm-Close**

Monday Mocha Madness-Reduced price Iced Mochas

Tuesday Triple Shot Night-3 shots of espresso for one low price

Whipped Cream Wednesday-Free whipped cream added to any drink

Thirsty Thursday-Bottomless Iced Coffee for a special price

Free Flavor Friday-Add a shot of flavor to your drink for free

Sippin' Saturday-One free refill of Iced Espresso

**The Coffee That *Dances* On Your Tongue**