

### Calendar

**Oct 1—2 Girls Alone! at Breast Cancer Awareness Event** 5:30-6:30 p.m. at "67 Faces, 67 Counties," at the Millcreek Mall. For more details call Laurel Schwartz at Hamot Women's Health Connection.

**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 info, call (716)567-8100

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

**Oct 5—Womynspace Coffee-house: PFLAG Informational Night** Video, *Straight from the Heart* and presentation on PFLAG. Don't miss this important information session. Help us celebrate Womynspace Anniversary too! Bring friends and as always newcomers welcome. Sal at 454-2713 for info.

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

**Oct 5—Laura at Caffe Royale** 10th & French Streets, 9:00pm-midnight.

**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 rainbow ribbon.

**Oct 8—HIV-AIDS Support Group: Dr. Nancy Weissbach, Infectious Disease Specialist** Question and Answer. Contact Cheryl Weber at 825-1085 or 455-3786

**Oct 9—Coming Out Day Party (Edinboro)** Sponsored by Identity. Room 306C Edinboro University Center, Edinboro from 8:30 pm to 11pm. **Tamara Brown** will also be performing starting about 9pm.

**Oct 11—Nat'l Coming Out Day** 1-800-866-NCOD.

**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.)



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/>



**Original artwork on this  
month's cover by  
Micheal A. Miller**



# 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 source of information, support and affirmation for lesbians, bisexuals, gay men and their friends & families in the Erie area.

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 those who helped out with the September issue!

Many thanks to DonPaul & Jackie Lucas, Mark Ricker, Kelly, Paul Grubbs & Dave Mulholland for helping us to collate the September 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!*

**Oct 11 —Melissa Etheridge in concert (Cleveland)** Gund Arena. Tickets at Ticketmaster.

**Oct 12—Out Laughing with Lynn Lavner (Meadville)** Part of Allegheny College's National Coming Out Day celebration. 9:15 pm in Ford Chapel, North Main Street, Meadville PA. Lynn Lavner is a nationally-known comic and recording artist who does "dyke cabaret"...stand-up comedy and humorous (and sometimes serious) musical numbers. Free for members of the Allegheny College community, \$5 at the door for all others.

**Oct 12—The RuPaul Show VH-1.** First of 8 episodes. 11pm.

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

**Oct 13—Ani DiFranco in concert (Pittsburgh)** Metropol. (412)276-8300

**Oct 13—Intimate Portrait: Bette Davis** Lifetime (check listings for times).

**Oct 17 & 18—Tri-State Conference on AIDS (Chautauqua Institution)** Keynote addresses by A. Joycelyn Elders, M.D. and John G. Bartlett, 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—LGLV-Erie Wine & Cheese Party** Fundraiser sponsored by LGLV-Erie. 7-11pm at 231 W 21st St, Erie. Call Dave at 898-4210 for ticket info.

**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.

**Oct 19—Healshop** 9-5pm. Includes a private massage from a Certified Massage Therapist, the opportunity to work in the sandplay room, as well as meditations and journaling exercises. Watercolors and crayons will also be available. The total fee is \$130, and includes lunch, beverages and healthy snacks. Due to the nature of the event, it is limited to SIX PARTICIPANTS. Space will be filled on a "first come" basis, and a \$50 deposit is required to reserve a spot. For more information, call 836-9622 and request a brochure.

**Oct 19—Firing Line Special Debate: Resolved: The GOP is Better Able to Run the Country...** 9 pm. WNEQ (PBS-Buf./Ch.23).

**Oct 20—Reel Life: All Dressed Up and No Place to Go** Cinemax (check listings for time). Documentary about transvestites.

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## Did you check out page 3?

☛ **Oct 23—Jeanne White-Grinder speaks at Gannon** Ryan White's mom presents "The Ryan White Story." Part of Gannon University's free lecture series. 7:30pm in room 104, Gannon's Zurn Science Center, 143 W 7th St, Erie

☛ **Oct 24—Forum: What Is Marriage?** At Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7:30 p.m., 7180 New Perry Highway (see details page 11).

☛ **Oct 25—Irish Halloween/Féis Samhain (Cleveland)** 7:00 pm at Lesbian/Gay Community Center, 1418 W 29th St, Cleveland. Sponsored by Cleveland Irish LesBiGay Organization. See details in Entertainment Notes.

**Oct 25—VH-1 Fashion Awards**, 9 p.m. on VH-1 "...judging from last year's debut, helmed by designer Jean Paul Gaultier, this may be the gayest show of the year," — The Advocate

☛ **Oct 27—Genesis: A Living Conversation with Bill Moyers: Temptation** WNET (PBS-Buf./Ch. 17) 6 p.m.

☛ **Oct 30—In the Life: Politics Left and Right** WNEQ (PBS-Buf./Ch. 23) 9 p.m.

☛ **Oct 30—AIDS Awareness Poetry Night at Cup-A-ccino's:** 18 N. park Row.

**Nov 2—Womynspace Coffeehouse: "Let's Play Games"** "Bring your favorite game or play one of ours. (Tip: If you're shy or a newcomer, this is a really easy way to meet the women at the coffeehouse!)" More info call Sal at 454-2713.

☛ **Nov 6—Mercyhurst Film: When Night is Falling (1995)** At Mary D'Angelo Performing Arts Ctr, Mercyhurst College. Discussion 7:15, film 7:30 p.m. General admission \$3. Camille is a professor at a Protestant college, engaged to Martin. She meets Petra, a flamboyant circus performer, at the laundromat. The two become friends, and Camille falls hard for Petra. Her long-repressed desires come rushing forth in a powerfully erotic love-making scene.

**Nov 9—Laura at Cup-A-Ccino's** 18 N. Park Row. 9 p.m.-midnight.

## Festivals & Conferences

☛ **Oct 11-13—Annual IYG Youth Festival (Washington DC)** Workshops and entertainment, ends with first-ever Youth March on Washington. Sponsored by Indianapolis Youth Group. Sponsored Ramada Inn, 8500 Annapolis Rd., New Carrollton MD (317) 541-8726. (Coincides with other October Washington events; see "Entertainment Notes" in September issue).

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# Halloween Films & Videos

**Blood and Roses (1960)** Well-made, erotic Italian lesbian vampire movie.

**Daughters of Darkness (1970)** Lesbian retelling of the Elisabeth Bathory legend.

**Fright Night (1985)** Mainly of interest to fans of out lesbian Amanda Bearse. In it, she helps to investigate a suspected vampire. (Chris Sarandon). Sarandon and his gay servant pose as lovers.

**Heaven's a Drag (To Die For) (1994)** Referred to as a sort of a gay *Ghost*, this British comedy revolves around a drag queen who dies of AIDS and comes back to offer his lover advice of life.

**The Hunger (1983)** Lusty lesbian vampire tale with Catherine Deneuve, Susan Sarandon and David Bowie. Contains very steamy sex between Sarandon and Deneuve. (Lesbian comic Suzanne Westenhoeffer credits the film with bringing her out!).

**Interview With the Vampire (1994)** Film adaptation of the homoerotic Anne Rice novel, starring Tom Cruise as Lestat.

**Love Bites (1988)** A sexy vampire love story featuring the 437-year-old West Hollywood Count who seduces the novice vampire stalker (*Advocate Men* called it "The best soft-core film of 1989."). Stars porn stars Christopher Ladd and Kevin Glover.

**Red Ribbons** The home video release of this Quentin Crisp compilation features *Aunt Fannie*, in which Crisp plays the ghost of a 90-year-old lesbian.

**Slumber Party Massacre (1982)** A slasher movie mainly of interest to fans of lesbian author Rita Mae Brown, who says she wrote it to take on the anti-female slasher movies that were all the rage at the time. The cast and crew are all female, except for one male killer, and a male victim.

**Tenderness of the Wolves (1973)** Produced by gay filmmaker Werner Fassbinder, this black comedy about a gay blood-sucker is actually based on the life a real person (Fritz Haarman).

Check out the Buffalo Guide and  
Ways in Being Gay Festival Schedule  
Pages 16 - 20

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# Entertainment notes

## Television

Check out our rundown of the **new fall season** (Story on page 8).

THE biggest news of the TV season (making front page news!) is that **Ellen DeGeneres'** character on her hit sitcom *Ellen* may come out as a lesbian this season. According to *TV Guide*, DeGeneres and the show's producers are pushing for the change, which would make her character the first prime time network series with a lesbian or gay male as the central character. In one of this season's episodes (entitled "Splitsville, Man"), Ellen is standing behind a closet door, and when she comes out she says, "Yeah, there's plenty of room, but it's not very comfortable." When her parents later tell her they are planning to be divorced, she says, "How do you think I feel What if I said something shocking to you—like my whole life has been a lie and I'm really...left handed." Walt Disney Co., which produces and owns *Ellen*, is a little nervous about the idea in light of the Baptist boycott against their company (because they supposedly support "the gay agenda"). Rev. Donald Wildmon of the American Family Association has threatened a boycott

of the show's sponsors if Ellen's character comes out. So far, no advertisers have left, and companies involved with television advertising seem to think there's not much to worry about, and they know that LesBiGay viewers have a lot of economic clout as a group. Even if Disney doesn't give the go-ahead for Ellen to completely come out, the viewing audience will not be able to see her character as straight anymore, particularly after all the publicity, and with the numerous hints and subtexts being sprinkled into episodes. No word on whether DeGeneres plans to come out herself. *Ellen* is on ABC Wednesdays.

By the way, since the fundamentalists will be flooding Disney with anti-gay letters, why not contact them offering support for Ellen to come out? To reach them: Michael Eisner, Chair, The Walt Disney Company, 500 S. Buena Vista Street, Burbank CA 91521 tel. (818)560-1000 fax. (818) 560-1930.

## Theater

**Buffalo United Artists** will present the area premiere of the musical revue *Fairy Tales* by Eric Lane Barnes. A smash hit in Chicago, where it played for several months, this original revue is a humorous and touching look at gay and lesbian life. The production will play on Sundays at 7:00 p.m. from October 6 through October 27 at the Alleyway Theatre in downtown Buffalo. For reservations and further information, call (716) 832-7320.

<b>Erie County Department of Health HIV/AIDS EDUCATION AND TRAINING SERVICES</b>	
<b>EDUCATIONAL SERVICES</b>	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Educational Presentations</li><li>• Curriculum Development</li><li>• Program Planning</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Instructor Training's</li><li>• Policy review</li></ul>
<b>OUTREACH SERVICES</b>	
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For more information about these and other services please call 451-6727	

	<b>LGLV-Erie Wine &amp; Cheese Party</b> Sat, Oct 19 7-11pm 231 W 21st Erie For ticket info, call 898-4210
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## Parties & Gatherings

Have you ever attended a Féis Samhain? I know what you're thinking... "Attend it? I can't even pronounce it!" A Féis Samhain (pronounced Fesh Saw-in) is an Irish Halloween celebration. On Oct 25th, CILBGO (Cleveland Irish LesBiGay Organization) will sponsor a Féis Samhain at the Lesbian/Gay Center at 1418 W 29th St, Cleveland.

CILBGO was founded in June of 1995 and consists for gay, lesbian and bisexual Irish-Americans (and other ethnic backgrounds) who have an affinity for things Irish, and who long to celebrate their Irish heritage and deep love of Irish culture with others in the gay community. The group shares a commitment to keeping the Irish spirit above, while also claiming and honoring our place in the gay community. The slogan, "Double Pride" exemplifies this.

The group offers a wide variety of events and activities, with the intent of satisfying various interests and individual tastes. In the first year since its inception, CILBGO has already sponsored several cultural/social events, such as Attending the Irish Cultural festival, doing a presentation on gay Irish patriot, Roger Casement, A Féis

Samhain last October and hosting a St. Patrick's Day party at the center. Group members spoke and performed on Buck Harris' radio show on St. Patrick's Day and also did traditional music and dance at Pride '96, as well as marching in the parade.

One of the main objectives is to provide something for everyone. New ideas and suggestions are always welcomed and new or potential members are encouraged to make their interests known. Questionnaires have been provided at CILBGO events for guests to write down any suggestions or comments.

While CILBGO strives to satisfy the craving of Irish-American hearts to be filled with the delights of Irish culture, we also seek to strive a balance between social/cultural events and political awareness. Paramount to the group's philosophy is political sensitivity and responsibility to our community.

The Féis Samhain will take place at 7pm. Featured will be Irish food, traditional dancing to join in, Irish ghost stories, and a music seison. Cost is \$5.00-more if you can, less if you can't. Costumes optional. Call (216) 255-2615 or (216) 281-8384 for more info.

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# Television's new season

Note: Viewers are advised to check this schedule against their TV listings.

## Sunday

**Reel Wild Cinema** USA Network, hosted by Sandra Bernhard. (check listings for times.)

## Monday

**Melrose Place** FOX 8 p.m. Matt is still waiting for that on-screen kiss!

**Party Girl** John Cameron Mitchell plays Derrick, best friend to this sitcom's main character. FOX 9 p.m.

**Cybill** CBS 9:30 p.m. Fans of *Absolutely Fabulous* will probably love Christine Baranski (who played in *The Birdcage*).

**Lush Life** FOX 9:30 p.m. Another knockoff of *Absolutely Fabulous*, with a gay bartender named Margarita.

**Xena: Warrior Princess** WGN 12:30 a.m. Another season of the fantasy series with major lesbian overtones (produced by Liz Freeman, an out lesbian). The series has a lesbian cult following, and may include a more explicit lesbian episode in this season.

## Tuesday

**Roseanne** 8 p.m. ABC. Whatever she does with the series this season, you know it will be gay-friendly humor.

**Spin City** A black gay activist becomes part of the mayor's staff in this sitcom starring Michael J. Fox. ABC 9:30 p.m.

## Wednesday

**Ellen** TV Guide reports that star Ellen DeGeneres and the shows producers are pushing for Ellen's character to (finally!) come out of the closet. ABC 8 p.m.

**Beverly Hills 90210** Michael Stoyanov plays a recurring role of a gay man who has lost his partner to AIDS. (recurring role). FOX 8 p.m.

**Party of Five** Out gay actor Mitchell Anderson returns as out gay violin teacher Ross. FOX 9 p.m.

**Public Morals** CBS 9:30 p.m. NYPD Blue's gay receptionist (Bill Bochtrup) moves to this new Steven Bochco cop comedy.

**The Larry Sanders Show** Comedy with Scott Thompson as a gay assistant (go figure!) HBO 10 p.m.

**Tracey Takes On** Lots of gay content in this comedy show! HBO (check listings for times).

## Thursday

**Friends** Will return on NBC (8 p.m.) along with the lesbian moms that are recurring characters in the show.

**ER** NBC 10 p.m. Some episodes with gay content; always dealt with well.

**Bedtime** A drama series that features a young lesbian couple. On Showtime at 11 p.m., repeating Mondays and Thursdays at 10 p.m.

## Friday

**Nash Bridges** CBS 10 p.m. Cheech Marin's character inherits a gay bar in this police drama.


## Saturday

**My So-Called Life** MTV 8 p.m.

**Relativity** ABC 10 p.m. Lisa Edelstein plays the lesbian sister (with a girlfriend of her own!) of the show's male star in this drama about twentysomethings.

**The Real World** Featuring, among the roomies, gay model Dan. MTV 10:30 p.m.

**The RuPaul Show** debuts on October 12 and will run for eight Saturdays on VH-1. 11 p.m.




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# Torch Song Trilogy: A review

*Produced by Directors Circle Theatre*

*Reviewed by Michael Mahler*

Micheal and I spent a delightful night catching the Directors Circle Theatre production of Torch Song Trilogy by Harvey Fierstein. The six person cast did a fabulous job of bringing this funny and moving play to life. The play was directed by Randy Trapper and Rob Santos and produced by Michael Weiss

Hugh Rial did a fantastic job as Arnold Beckoff, a Brooklyn drag queen who falls in love with a bisexual (Ed, played by Dan Curry) and later a young model (Alan, played by Jeff Rodland) Alan marries and later separates from Laurel (played by Carolin Prichard, who also sings a few torch songs as Lady Blues) Arnold later adopts a son, David, who is also gay (Justin Fischer, who also plays piano.) Arnold's mother is played by Sue Hansen.

It was very nice seeing the play, because I had only seen the movie before, and there are some scenes that are included in one and not the other. It was also uplifting seeing a play that depicted men in loving relationships

and family situations like normal folks. A few of the cast and crew had been involved in the recent Roadhouse Theatre production of *Jeffrey*, (which Micheal and I also saw and very much enjoyed.)

Harvey Fierstein, I must admit, is one of my all time heroes. Witty and proud, his wonderful personal style shines through in the play. (I still have a framed postcard I once received from Mr. Fierstein after writing him a letter.)

Directors Circle Theatre has several plays of interest to gay folks upcoming in this season, including two by openly gay playwright Christopher Durang, as well as *Lips Together, Teeth Apart, Women Behind Bars* and more. I think that we are very lucky to have so much good theatre in the area.

The Directors Circle Theatre is located at 1505 State Street (where the Roadhouse used to be) and the box office is 454-0636. So, if you're looking for a nice evening out with that special someone, why not check it out?

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# Cup-A-Ccino's under new ownership

by **Deb Spilko**

Six years after opening Cup-A-Ccino's, Jerri Quigley has sold the popular coffeehouse.

"I wanted to take time for myself," says Quigley. "Right now I am on the Board of Directors of the YWCA and I would like to do more volunteer work. I'd like to put a lot of energy into educating Erie about racism and discrimination in all forms."

The new owner is Kurt Sahlman. Sahlman is from Erie, and has worked in health care since 1982.

Will the coffeehouse change?

"I don't want to tamper with a winning formula," says Sahlman. "When Jerri and I were talking about my buying the business, she was concerned that her vision of the coffeehouse stay the same. If there are changes they will be gradual. The coffeehouse will still have performers and art. And I don't plan to change the staff."

Quigley was so concerned about her vision of Cup-A-Ccino's being maintained that her contract stipulated she be a consultant to the business for a year after its sale.

Asked whether Cups will remain gay-friendly, Sahlman states emphatically, "I want to make this place welcome to all. Whether gay or straight, rich or poor, black or white. I want to make this a really cool place to meet to help promote constructive dialog between people."

Although he doesn't see changing Cup-A-Ccino's in any fundamental way, Sahlman does have some ideas for changes that reflect his own interests and slant on things.

Because of his long history in the health field, (e.g., he helped set up the HealthPLACE program), he hopes

to bring an emphasis on good health to Cup-A-Ccino's. For example, Tai Chi Classes are held there from 7:30-8:30 a.m., free of charge. Also, the healthy food menu will also be emphasized more.

Sahlman plans to bring in a computer, fax machine, and copier for customers to use. He may bring in a newsstand, where customers can buy publications (free publications would still be available).

An idea he is presently working on is the Cup-A-Ccino's Club. Members would have certain privileges, like being able to take out books and games, being able to come to the coffeehouse afterhours, etc.

The coffeehouse will be open on Sundays now, from 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Also, people who have attended a concert downtown are invited to bring in the stub to receive a free cup of regular coffee.

Watch these pages for other Cups news of interest!

## At Cups this month

Following is a listing of events at Cup-A-Ccino's this month. Events marked with a ♣ symbol might be of specific interest to our readers. And Cup-A-Ccino's is *still* a gay-friendly place!

**Oct 4—House Band Jam** Blues, jazz

**Oct 5—Jerry Hayes**

**Oct 8—Poetry - Mental Illness Awareness Week**

**Oct 9—Clifford Nerer**

**Oct 10, 17, 24—Earnest Hemmines - Ambient Sounds**

**Oct 11—Sangita**

**Oct 12—Wildflower**

♣ **Oct 18—Solitaire Miles**

**Oct 19—Kilrain**

**Oct 25—Ohm Trohoske**

**Oct 26—Gemini**

♣ **Oct 30—Poetry: AIDS Awareness**

♣ **Oct 31—Halloween Story Night & "Micro-Rave"**

**Art**

till Nov. 15—Kerry Fleischaure

After the 15th—John Farnen, Stephanie Barto

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# Local News

## Forum: What Is Marriage?

*A public forum for reasoned discussion of same-sex marriage*

What are the defining attributes of a "marriage?" Are they present or absent in a union between two committed people of the same gender? What are the pros and cons of legislation that would deny legal recognition to same-sex marriages? What are the threats to opposite-sex marriages in contemporary society? What issues of justice, civil rights, human rights, public good, and free exercise of religion need to be considered?

These questions and more will be addressed at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie on Thursday evening, October 24, at 7:30 p.m. Five panelists will offer diverse views on the wisdom or fallacy of laws banning same-sex marriage. There will be ample time for comments and questions from the audience. This is your opportunity to become better informed on a timely but not often discussed societal issue.

The forum, hosted by Unitarian-Universalists in Community, will begin at 7:30 p.m. on Oct. 24 at 7180 New Perry Highway (about 0.3 mile north of I-90 on PA Route 97). It is free and open to the public; seating is limited. The panelists are:

Very Rev. John Downey, Dean of Cathedral of St. Paul Episcopal; Rev. Terry Bryant, Pastor of Family Development, First Assembly of God; Attorney Elizabeth Kelly, Elderkin Law Firm; Suzanne Csop, Licensed Psychologist, Lake Erie Counseling; Michael Mahler, Editor, Erie Gay Community News

The moderator for this program is Jerry Trambley. For more information, call Al Richardson, 455-9730.

### **Christine L. Gaaglano, A.C.S.W., L.S.W.**

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# LGLV-Erie Wine & Cheese Party

LGLV-Erie will be holding a pre-election wine and cheese fund raiser on Saturday, October 19, 1996 from 7:00 pm to 11:00 pm. The event will be held at 231 West 21st Street, Erie. For ticket information, please call 898-4210. Tickets will be available at the door, but reservations will be appreciated. Several local candidates have already committed to attending, so this will be a wonderful opportunity to express your views and concerns to them. Suitable attire is preferred.

The League would also like to encourage everyone to vote in this most important upcoming election. Every vote counts, and collectively our community can generate a great deal of political clout. So, even if you have no interest in the political process or doubt its ability to make a real difference in your life, we urge you to take just a little of your time to consult our voters guide and on election day vote for the most gay friendly candidates available. Many of your lesbian and gay friends are working extremely hard to make some much needed changes. Our opposition is very well organized and active. Unless you add yourself to our numbers on election day, our whole community will continue to be trod upon as we have been in the recent past.

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# A story from the quilt

by Elaine Hill

Try, if you will, to envision a sea of 45,000 rainbow-colored panels covering 15 city blocks. Then, imagine that each of these 3" by 6' panels represents the life of at least one person who died of AIDS. Each of these AIDS people (*I refuse to call them victims because, to me, that connotes an image of someone who has been cowered, has given up. But the opposite was true of my son Mark and each of the other AIDS patients I've known. All have shown great dignity and valor in the face of their dire circumstances.*)—These people—most in their peak years of creativity and productivity, many even younger—have suffered physical, mental and emotional pain beyond description. All have left behind partners, families and friends who loved them and still miss them every day regardless of the time elapsed. Now realize this is not an exercise of your imagination, it is a fact just too immense to really get your mind around.

That is the purpose of the AIDS Memorial Quilt—to help you get past the statistics of over 300,000 AIDS related deaths and understand the enormity of the loss in terms of the individuals involved. Each panel tells a story—the story of

the life of a person, or the impression he made on those who knew him or how they saw him—each story as individual as the person it represents.

You will have the opportunity to see and feel the impact of those stories this October 11-13 when the NAMES Project Foundation take the entire Quilt (*most probably, for the last time*) to the nation's capital, Washington DC. At the Inaugural Quilt display October 11, 1987 in Washington there were 1,920 panels. The last time the entire quilt was displayed was in the fall of 1992 when it contained 22,128 panels. At that time, because of the enormity of the undertaking, it was thought that the quilt would never again be displayed as a whole. But,

in 1994, after a poll of the membership, the NAMES project decided to do it one more time.

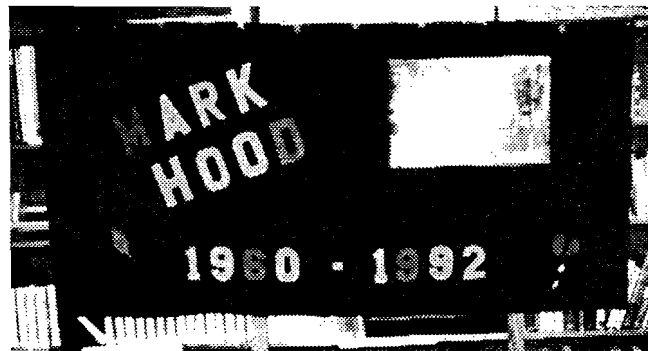
I planned to attend the Quilt display as soon as I knew one was planned. Then I discovered the PFLAG Annual Conference, which I also planned to attend, was also scheduled for the same time. As a matter of fact, PFLAG members will be caretakers and read the roll of names for a time on Saturday. (In all, over 10,000 volunteers will be needed to caretake the Quilt over the weekend.) A Candlelight March Against AIDS across Memorial Bridge to a Quilt Vigil at Lincoln Memorial is scheduled for Saturday evening.

I'm glad the NAMES Project decided to exhibit the entire Quilt again because it gave me the opportunity to

have my son Mark's panel as part of the display. Mark died on July 28, 1992 but for one reason or another, mostly because I just wasn't ready, I have never completed a panel for him. When I knew the entire Quilt would be in DC this fall, that gave me the motivation I needed to get busy. I was surprised at the emotional

jolt I felt just on buying the material. It was as if, somehow, that little bag of sailcloth represented all that was left to me of Mark here on earth—a little crazy—but, nevertheless, my feeling at the time.

Finishing the panel was yet another catharsis of sorts on the way to healing. To me, there is so much symbolism and love in each little detail of Mark's panel. He was a no-nonsense, modern "less is more" kind of person with an unsentimental veneer. I tried to respect and convey that in his panel. I chose black sailcloth for the background to combine the somberness I felt with his appreciation of austerity. The centerpiece of the panel is one of his photographic panoramas. The one I chose was taken



in an opulent hotel lobby in Monaco, his only panorama in which he appears because of the mirrored wall. This particular panorama holds special significance because it was the last one Mark completed as his sight was failing. In fact he washed the glue off after he was completely blind and just before he was admitted to the hospital having suffered bilateral collapsed lungs. The colors of the material for his name and the dates were chosen not only to coordinate with the colors of the panorama but also to represent the many shadings and varied facets of his personality. Since the rest of the panel was so spare and in keeping with Mark's philosophy, I indulged my sentimentality in the green leaf which, of course, represents his unrealized youthful potential. But it also represents a special childhood memory of Mark's. The broken heart is obviously that of those who loved him and the tears are only two of the many that were shed.

I hope as many of you as possible will be able to travel to DC this October to see the Quilt in person. And, when you do, remember, each panel embodies the story of a life that was precious to those who loved him.

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# A tribute to Kelvin C Wheeler

On August 29, 1996 Erie lost a very good friend and person who was very active in the fight against HIV and AIDS. Kelvin was and still remains always in the hearts of those who know him and loved him.

I will always remember the joy in his life at being able to bring a smile to anyone no matter what the circumstances. He always had a positive attitude and a great love of life. The silly grin, the sly smile, and the constant need to be involved were his trademark. At anytime you could find him at the Episcopalian Cathedral, the Alliance, or doing a presentation at one of the many college campuses in the area which he always complained about but loved to do. I will never forget the beautiful man that was and shall remain forever in my heart. And to say **thank you Kelvin** for the time we spent together and the patience you taught me. I can only try to emulate your memory and continue your life's work in your absence. Sleep well, my friend you earned it, and now it is time for the rest of us to take up your torch and do all we can to continue the fight.

Good bye my friend, I will never forget you,  
—Jim

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# Of T-cells and Viral Loads

by **DonPaul Lucas**

I thought I would use my article to update everybody on the recent developments on my physical condition. As the Grateful Dead said, "What a long strange trip it's been."

First, a little explanation about what has been the "buzz" this summer in the news about HIV/AIDS, viral loads. There have been numerous articles talking about viral loads and their importance in tracking the progression of this disease. The other day I heard an explanation that helped me understand it better. Think of this disease in the context of a car crash test, where a car is heading towards a wall. The T-cell count tells you how close to the wall you are; the viral load tells you how fast you are going. So, an initial high viral load means a person will progress through HIV disease rather quickly. The lower the load, the slower the progression. When taken together, the two results give a very reliable indication of how a person will deal with HIV infection.

I had my first viral load done just prior to starting the new protease inhibitor, Crixivan. The test results came back undetectable.

That meant that there was a very low level of virus in my system. But my T-cell count was also fairly low, 218. This is just above the limit set for an AIDS diagnosis. It seemed odd to me that my viral load would be so low after 13 years of infection. I decided it was time to try to get some answers. Through an unusual set of circumstances, I was able to get a virologist from Cleveland Clinic to look at the particular strain of the virus that I was infected with. After two attempts, he was unable to culture the virus from my samples because it was so low. It seems that I was at a dead end. Three more viral load tests have been performed and they have all come back the same, undetectable levels of virus.

I am currently waiting on the results of the fourth test. This is going to be the most telling one because I went off all medication the weekend I was in Chicago. One of the side effect of Crixivan is kidney stones. After a bout when I was 600 miles from home, I decided I didn't want to go through that again. Well, anyway, I stopped all meds and I feel fine. Still no symptoms. If my

viral load hasn't changed and my T-cell count is stable, I'm going to make another attempt to get one of the researchers to look at my blood and try to figure out what's going on.

One of the interesting sidelights on this whole situation was a miscommunication between my doctor and I. We have a very good working relationship, something that's of the utmost importance in this disease.

She respects my opinions and we talk about the latest research that either one of us has read. But in communication, what someone says is not always what we hear. We were talking about my test results that I got for my baseline (the tests that were done before I started Crixivan) and I heard her say that my T-cell count was at 48 in January, and jumped to 60 in May. That meant that I had an AIDS diagnosis. Since I was still asymptomatic, I would have had one of the rare asymptomatic AIDS diagnosis'. I was concerned, because that's the second biggest step a person takes in this illness. (The first being going from HIV- to HIV+).

But it seemed really strange that my T-cells were so low, when my viral load was undetectable. It didn't make sense. That's what started the whole situation with Cleveland Clinic.

When I got to talk to my doctor in person, I asked about my T-cells and she said, "What? Your count isn't that low. Your still at just above 200." When I asked what the 48 and 60 were she informed me that that was my T4-T8 ratio (another test done to determine how a person is dealing with HIV).

I guess the moral of the story is, if something doesn't seem right, it probably isn't. If you have a question about something make sure you ask that question.

Finally, just one question about DOMA? Since a marriage is defined as "a partnership between one man and one woman", how long will it be before there are other restrictions put on that partnership? Will the next step be a partnership of one man and one woman of the same race? Or religion? Or nationality? Or age? I don't know, just asking.

Well, that's it for this month. I'll keep you posted about the results of my current viral load and T-cell in next months issue.

Safe Journey

# HIV/AIDS News

## Tri-State Conference on AIDS Former Surgeon General to speak

Nationally recognized speakers will present at the first Tri-State Conference on AIDS, October 17 and 18, 1996. The conference will be held at the Chautauqua Institution in Chautauqua, New York. The unctioin will include participants from Pennsylvania, New York, and Ohio.

This conference is designed for physicians, clinicians, social workers, counselors, clergy, educators, and other professionals in the Tri-state area who provide or plan to provide HIV/AIDS services. Keynote speakers:

**Joycelyn Elders, M.D.**, pediatric endocrinologist, former United States Surgeon General and professor at the University of Arkansas Medical School, will address the psychosocial issues related to HIV and AIDS on Thursday, October 17. She will also discuss the state of HIV and AIDS in the United States and its effect upon young people. Dr. Elders will emphasize the importance of health and human sexuality education in our schools as a means of AIDS prevention.

**John G. Bartlett, M.D.**, is professor of medicine, and chief, division of infectious diseases, at the Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine in Baltimore, Maryland. He has been at the forefront of HIV/AIDS treatment since the epidemic began in the US and was recently appointed to the AIDS Clinical Trials Group (ACTG) executive committee. Dr. Bartlett will present new directions of care for the HIV-positive patient, including cost/benefit analyses, on Friday, October 18.

The conference will offer a variety of classes. The conference will also offer the latest scientific information regarding HIV and AIDS, the latest HIV and AIDS treatment options available to patients, as well as facilitated communication among medical and psychosocial professionals within the tri-state area.

For registration and/or information, please call (716) 643-3705, between 9am and 4pm, Monday through Friday.

The Tri-State Conference on AIDS is cosponsored by the Northwest PA Rural AIDS Alliance, Erie County Medical Center Healthcare Network in Buffalo, New York and the State University of New York at Buffalo School of Medicine and Medical Sciences.

## Erie County Resident to speak at National AIDS Conference

Charlene Bushyager of the Northwest PA Rural AIDS Alliance will present "Overcoming the Barriers of Providing AIDS Education in Rural Areas" at the National Skills Building Conference, which will be held in Washington DC on October 10-13. The conference is for front-line community-based organizations (CBOs) and will offer over 100 courses in many areas. More than 1,800 participants representing 1,044 agencies in 47 state, the District of Columbia, Canada and US possessions attended the 1995 Conference in Los Angeles and more than 2,000 participants are expected this year. Charlene has presented over 500 education programs over the past 3 years for the Alliance

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# Ways in being gay

Buffalo's *Ways in Being Gay Festival* brings together films, theater, art, performances, speakers, music, workshops, poetry and more. It is organized by Hallwalls Contemporary Arts Center, which is located at 2495 Main Street, Suite 425, Buffalo NY 14214. For details or to receive a complete and updated version of the *Ways in Being Gay* schedule, call Margaret Smith at Hallwalls at (716) 835-7362. You may also want to confirm events before traveling.

## Exhibitions

November 9 - December 21, 1996 Lani Maestro, Cradle, Ugoy Lani Maestro, born in the Philippines, and now living in Montreal, questions formulated notions of immigration, exile, origin and the construction of identity through a poetic sensibility. It features three installations: Ako Ikaw. Ang Desyerito. (I am You. The Desert.), A Book Thick of Ocean (Un Livre en Plein Mer), and Cradle. Ugoy.. Opening Reception: Saturday, November 9, 1996 9 p.m. - 11 p.m. Artists Talk: Saturday, November 9, 1996 8 p.m.

November 9 - December 21, 1996. That Way: Gorth Amundson. Opening Reception: Saturday, November 9, 1996 9p.m. - 11 p.m. Artists Talk: Saturday, November 9, 1996 8 p.m. Amundson's work explores the politics of masculinity, using a language that relies on his sense of beauty and history as well as theory.

Saturday, November 2 Wedding of the Century: Photographs by Bill Giancursio At Savage Cat Cafe, corner of Lexington and Ashland Opening Reception, Saturday, November 2, 1p.m. - 3 p.m. November 2 - November 29, 1996 Using Ken and Barbie dolls, Giancursio meticulously constructs scale models of same sex couples being married in outdoor settings and photographs them. This work was inspired by litigation in Hawaii to legalize gay marriage.

Tues 5 - 8 pm Free The Gay & Lesbian Community Network Of Western New York and QNews present NEWS Election Night Brouhaha Let's put the "party" back in party politics! Free.

Friday 8 Benefit for Leslie Feinberg 8pm \$10 suggested donation with Feinberg's partner and author Minnie Bruce Pratt. Presented by Friends Unitarian Universalist Church Elmwood and W. Ferry Workers World, HAG Theatre, Hallwalls and Shades A benefit to help defray over \$10,000 in medical expenses for author and transgender activist Leslie Feinberg (*Stone Butch Blues*, *Transgender Warrior*) will be held in her honor in her hometown of Buffalo. This is an evening to meet with

Leslie Feinberg, who plans on attending, health permitting, to say hello to old and new friends alike and sign copies of her new book *Transgender Warrior*.

## FILM/VIDEO

*Ways In Being Gay* All film and video screenings are priced as follows: \$4 HW members/\$5 students and seniors/\$6 general

Friday November 1 \* 8 pm GENDER OUTLAWS & JODIE FOSTER *Shinjuku Boys* (Kim Longinotto & Jano Williams, Australia, 1995, 16mm 54 min.) is an award winning documentary on the lesbian transvestite hosts of Tokyo Cafe Marilyn. *Outlaw* (Alisa Lebow, USA, 1994, Video, 26 min.) Transgendered lesbian Leslie Feinberg author of *Stone Butch Blues*, challenges society's rigid gender definitions in this powerful documentary. *Jodie* (Pratibha Parmar, UK, 1996, Video, 26 min.) explores the phenomenon of Jodie Foster as a dyke screen idol, lending insight into her butch/femme uncertainty.

Saturday November 2 \* 7:30 & 9:30 *The Celluloid Closet* Dir: Rob Epstein and Jeffrey Friedman USA 1995 16mm 102 min. Based on Vito Russo's pioneering history and directed by the team responsible for the Oscar winning documentaries *The Times of Harvey Milk* and *Common Threads*, *The Celluloid Closet* is a sexy, funny, infuriating and instructive overview of a Hundred years of largely stereotyped depictions of homosexuals in Hollywood movies.

Sunday November 3—*Stonewall* Nigel Finch UK 1995 35mm 98 min. Adapted from Martin Duberman's book of the same name, *Stonewall* is a semi-fictional account of the chain of events leading up to that sweaty riot in 1969 which would forever change lesbian and gay history. University at Buffalo, Amherst Student Union Theater, 2nd floor.

Saturday November 9 \* 7 pm YOUNG LOUD AND QUEER Youth Video makers coming up and out in the 90's. Cosponsored by Gay and Lesbian Youth Services of Western New York. A coast to coast/international and local compilation of youth-produced poems video diaries, PSAs spoof commercials, portraits, including work from BENT-TV produced by the Manhattan-based Hetrick-Martin Institute's ( gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered youth. *The Best of BENT-TV 1995-1996* (USA, Video, 60 min.) *Lessons in Baby Dyke Theory*, (Thirza Jean Cuthand, Canada, 1995, Video, 3 min.) A baby dyke's hilarious search for her contemporaries. *Colonization: The Second Coming* (Thirza Jean Cuthand, Canada, 1996, Video, 4 min.) Aliens have landed. Colonization? Again?! A first nations baby dyke throws a wrench in the extraterrestrials plans and throws away her vibrator. *Does Your Mother Know* (Helen LittleBoy UK, 1994, Video, 18 min.) Young British lesbian and gay men reveal all in an energetic and irreverent look at growing up in the gay 90's.

Thursday November 14 7:30 *GIRL CRUSH* An exciting collection of diverse lesbian shorts exploring relationships, desire, longing and loss. Rochester-based videomakers Christine Russo and Margaret Wagner will be present to introduce the program. *Le's Be Friends* (Helen LittleBoy UK, 1994, Video, 5 min.) Lesbians and their straight friends talk about their relationships. *Sexuality/Identity* (Margaret Wagner USA, 1993, Video, 10 min.) A series of women openly talk about how they feel their sexuality has been formed. *Venice Corner* (Christine Russo USA, 1995,



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Video, 10 min.) The road is used as a metaphor for the mileage of a relationship between two close friends. *Surviving Memory* (Ellen Flanders, USA/Canada, 1996, 16mm, 8 min.) The viewer is led through a narrative about a Jewish Woman, her lovers and her engagement with past and present political forces. *The Wild Woman in the Woods* (Shani Mootoo, Canada, 1993, Video, 14 min.) A South Asian butch dyke's rendezvous with an alluring femme Goddess takes her up a snowy mountain and opens up a whole new world for her. *Looking for Labelle* (Jocelyn Taylor, USA, 1991, Video, 5 min.) A downtown homemovie of an intimate house party that heats up to the sounds of 70's cybersoul superstars Labelle. *What Is A Line?* (Shari Frilot USA, 1994, Video 10 min.) weaving the narrative of a jilted lover with footage of a moving train, this tape is a dark comedic study of the mechanics of physical and psychological progression. *Curtains* (Stephanie and Mark Morgenstern, Canada, 1995, 16mm, 12 min.) A riveting mystery about remembering the past and lost love. Numerous Festival screenings and awards.

Friday November 15 8 pm Richard Fung in Person *Dirty Laundry & Brincando El Charco: Portrait of a Puerto Rican Woman* an engaging mix of campy/soap opera fiction, documentary interviews, archival footage, historical detail, and critical insight. *Dirty Laundry & Brincando El Charco: Portrait of a Puerto Rican Woman* investigate how gay sexuality fits in? The program will be introduced by Trinidad-born Toronto-based video producer and writer Richard Fung

Thurs. November 21 *Where THE BOYS ARE (THE BODY BEAUTIFUL)* 7:30 p.m. A Group Show of work that explores gay identity, sexual longing and fantasy by some of the most exciting independent film and video makers working today. *Lonely Boy* (Steve Reinke Canada, 1993, Video, 8 min.) Scenes from a classic 1960's Canadian National Film Board documentary (also titled *Lonely Boy*) about then teen idol Paul Anka intercut with a classic gay porn loop from the late 70s, "The Summer of Kip Noll." *Tattoo Needle Pricks* (Joe Balass, Canada, 1990, 8 min.) Bob "Squid" Mckensie gets a job at Ester's go-go gram agency: the dancers dance their a lush, homoerotic tale with camp overtones. *Birch* (Steve Kokker (Canada, 1995, Video, 30 min.) turns its libido toward Russia, voyeuristically videotaping, on one hand a real life encounter with a hunky Russian cadet, and on the other hand a S/M espionage fantasy of American agents and KGB operatives. *Black Sheep Boy* (Michael Wallin USA, 1995, 16mm, 37 min.) is a dizzying and erotic journey into the artist's obsession with younger men. *Frank's Cock* (Mike Hoolboom, Canada, 1993, 16mm 8 min.) is an explicit narrative of sexual obsession in the time of the AIDS Epidemic. NFB Best Short Film Award at the 1994 Toronto International film festival.

Saturday November 23 8 pm *WHAT DOES A LESBIAN LOOK LIKE?* Shawna Dempsey and Lorri Millan In Person. Winnipeg-based Shawna Dempsey and Lorri Millan's film and video explores the lesbian gendered self. *What Does a Lesbian Look Like* (1994, Video, 2 min.) Produced as part of Much Music's Word Up series, this tape presents every stereotype about lesbians, while proudly confirming them all. *Were Talking Vulva* (1990, 16mm, 5 min.) A five foot, six inch rapping vulva, in an unexpected parody of the music video genre, leads the viewer on a complete description of female genitalia. *Object/Subject of Desire* (1993, Video, 5 min.) In their familiar humorous style Millan and Dempsey explore the elements of passionate lesbian love. Want, in all forms is discussed by Dempsey, until carnality and lesbian identity erupt, challenging heterosexual assumptions about the object of "her" desires. *A Day in the Life of A Bull -Dyke* (1995, Video, 11 min.) Performance artist

extraordinaire Lorri Millan plays a shaved-head, stogie-smokin bull-dyke butcher who does not shy away from fulfilling her desires. *Good Citizen: Betty Baker* (1996, 16mm 27 min.) A comedy that satirizes the rise of the new Right, the disparity between the rights of men and women and xenophobia. And of course it has a happy ending: everyone becomes a lesbian.

Tues NOVEMBER 26 8 pm *She's Real (Worse Than Queer)* Lucy Thone, USA, 1996 Video 50 min Lucy Thone and Sara Valentine in Person. Video and performance by San Francisco-based video, Zine and performance artists Lucy Thone and Sara Valentine explores how women, especially dykes have been central to the creative and political phenomenon sometimes known as Queerpunk. *She's Real (Worse Than Queer)* is a high energy video-film-music documentary by and about dykes beginning to find culture/lives that they can stand through punk rock.

Friday November 29 and Saturday November 30 8 pm *Hustler White Dir:* Bruce LaBruce & Rick Castro, Canada/USA 1996, 16mm, 80 min. Romantic comedy about hustlers on Santa Monica Boulevard starring fashion model, Tony Ward as Monti.

December 1 1996 *Day Without Art* 7:30 pm Mike Hoolboom in Person. This program of intensely moving film and video testimonies addresses both the urgency and loss of life in the age of AIDS. The program will be introduced by Mike Hoolboom, one of Canada's best known and most prolific independent filmmakers, and an artist living with AIDS. *Water into Fire* (Zachery Longboy, Canada, 1994, 10 min) Longboy outs himself as a First Nations Fag living with HIV. *Internal Combustion* (Alisa Lebow & Cynthia Madansky USA, 1995, Video, 8 min.) interweaving the testimony of two friends, an HIV positive Latina lesbian and an HIV negative Jewish Lesbian, the video

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deals with mourning and loss and breaks many silences about lesbians and AIDS. *Memento Mori* (Jim Hubbard, USA, 1995, 16mm, 17 min) an emotional, understated and elegant filmic poem about the death of a friend. *Holding Steady Without Screaming* (James Wentzy, USA, 1995, 11 min) An AIDS activist "howl" about politics, the virus, himself and the euthanasia of his sixteen-year-old cat. Produced for AIDS Community TV in New York. *Letters From Home* (Mike Hoolboom, Canada, 1996, 16mm 15 min) a poetic dialogue between the filmmaker and the late Vito Russo confronts AIDS from an activist position. The film's text is from one of the keynote AID's speech of the 1980's delivered by Russo in Albany in 1989 to protest an uncaring Republican administration. (Winner of the NFB-John Spotton Award Best Canadian Short Film Award, 1996 Toronto International Film Festival) *Political Funerals* (James Wentzy/Jerry Lakatos, USA, 1995, Video, 29 min.) Simple documentary footage of a series of funerals and political actions is transformed into a fierce and moving protest against government inaction in response to the AIDS crisis. Produced for AIDS Community TV in New York. *I Hung Back, Held Fire, Danced and Lied* (Tom Kalin, USA, 1996, Video, 5 min) a moving visual montage recalling deceased artists, friends and images of happier, bygone times.

LITERATURE

Thurs. Nov. 7 Minnie Bruce Pratt Her book of prose stories about gender boundary crossing, *S/He* was issued by Firebrand Books in Spring 1995. In these lyrical vignettes, Pratt expands the boundaries of gender and explores the fluidity of sex and gender, and asks—How many ways are there to be a girl, boy, man, woman?

Sat 9 10:30 am A breakfast conversation with Minnie Bruce Pratt

PERFORMANCE

Thurs 21- Fri 22- Sat 23—Craig Hickman skin & ornaments 'Skin and Ornaments An unflinching portrait of black gay life, at times raw and affecting, at times hilarious and inspiring-always richly poetic-Hickman's skin and ornaments explores the manifestations of the most universal human emotion: fear.

Fri 29 - Sat 30 - Devon Allen Style 8 p.m. Confronting the dreams of the self and the invention of identity, Style relishes the voices of two women occupying the earth at the same time, yet separated by the chasm splitting the 50's from the 90's.

Fri 15 8 pm Bill Thomas A Day In The Life

Mon 25 David Butler Drawing Down the Moon Gays and lesbians and the new "Neo-Paganism" Songs chants, readings, personal experience Madeline Davis and Mark Ehrhardt will look back on our history as the shaman, the councilor, the midwife and the witch. We will enjoy the magic of being queer and celebrate reconnecting.

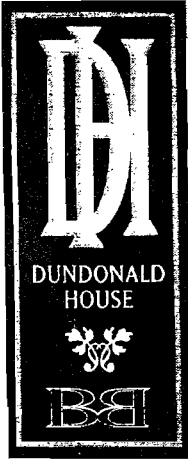
MUSIC

Sat 16 BETTY 8 pm \$14 Hallwalls members, students, seniors/\$16 general. Marquee at the Traf, co-sponsored by WBFO BETTY Festival love playing she-bop and high octane rockapella Glamazon version of the Andrew. The music is a polished pop blend that touches on everything from bluesy harmonica country to funky dance grooves, from beautiful heart wrenching ballads to fierce guitar driven rockers.

Ways In Workshops, Breakfast meetings and more

Sat 23 A Workshop with Craig Hickman FACE THE CONFLAMA! Noon This interactive theatre workshop for adolescents and young adults examines the confusion and flaming drama of life.

**HOME FOR THE NIGHT**



**DUNDONALD HOUSE**  
**BED & BREAKFAST**

- Beautifully decorated
- Hot tub & sauna
- In the heart of the gay village

Your Hosts **David & Warren**  
**35 Dundonald St.**  
**TORONTO, ONTARIO**

**(416) 961-9888 or**  
**1-800-260-7227**



◆ WHISTLE STOP ◆  
**WEEKENDS FOR WOMEN**  
 NIAGARA REGION, CANADA  
**905 871-1265**

**\$125 CANADIAN/WOMAN**  
 INCLUDES ACCOMMODATIONS & MEALS

# Buffalo Guide

*It's really easy to get around Buffalo's LesBiGay locations. Most of them are very close together in an area called "Elmwood Village," which is along and around Elmwood Avenue.*

*All addresses listed are in Buffalo NY and all phone numbers are area code 716 unless otherwise noted. Many, many thanks to Frank Ball of Rainbow Pride Gift Shop for his help in compiling this list!!!*

## CLIP & SAVE!

### Info

**Buffalo Gay & Lesbian Community Network** (716) 883-4750  
(Message tells events that are happening that night and that week.)

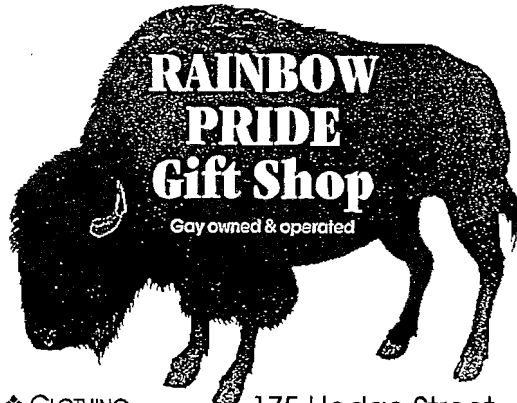
**General info: Buffalo Convention & Visitors Bureau**, 107 Delaware, Buffalo NY 14202 (716)852-0511. Free visitors info.

**Buffalo Pride Online** <http://www.buffalopride.com> or call 832-8363

**Planet Pegasuz** PO Box 355 Buffalo 14205 883-7053  
[pegasuz.com](http://pegasuz.com), games and chat line

Also, tune in to "The Planet" 101.1 FM radio station.

*Buffalo's only store catering to the Gay and Lesbian Community*



◆ CLOTHING  
◆ JEWELRY  
◆ FLAGS  
◆ LUBRICANTS  
◆ GREETING CARDS

175 Hodge Street  
Buffalo, New York 14222  
716.881.6126

**STORE HOURS**  
Wed-Fri 5-9pm  
Saturday 1-9pm

### Bars

**Aces** 1770 Falls St, Niagara Falls

**Buddies** 31 Johnson Park 855-1313 (men, some women)

**Cathode Ray** 26 Allen St 864-3615 (men, some young women go Thurs & Sat) Video Bar

**Club Alternate** 492 19th St Niagara Fall (men)

**Club Marcella** 622 Main St, Theatre Pl 847-6850

**Compton's After Dark** 1239 Niagara 885-3275 (women, some men)

**Continental** 212 Franklin St 842-1212

**Julie's Clubhouse** 134 Dewey St

**Lavender Door** 32 Tonawanda St 874-1220 (women)  
Laid-back atmosphere, neighborhood bar

**Ozzies Club 153 153** Delaware Ave 842-6825 (younger crowd/men)

**Roxie's** New lesbian bar 884 Main St 882-5009

**Stage Door** 20 Allen St 886-9323 (men) Mellow atmosphere, older men

**Tiffany's** 490 Pearl St 854-4840

**Underground** 274 Delaware Ave 855-1030

### Gay-Friendly Coffeehouses

**Cybele's Coffeehouse & Cafe** 99 Elmwood 882-1247

**The Java Tea Coffee Shop** 2564 Elmwood 871-0523

**Solid Grounds Cafe** Elmwood & Bryant 882-5282

**Topic Cafe** 224 Allen St 883-4760

### Publications

*You can pick these up at various places listed in this feature, or contact them for subscription info.*

**Art Voice** Arts coverage in Buffalo 881-6604

**QNews** (716) 883-4814 or 881-3414

**Voices** 847-0315

## Accommodations

**The Lenox Hotel** 140 North Street 884-1700

**Olde Niagara Guest House** 610 4th St Niagara Falls, NY 14301 285-9408. Gay Bed & Breakfast

**Old School House Guest House** 1148 Townline Road, Alden NY 683-6590 (Gay male guest house, women welcome. Double rooms, shared baths)

**Whistle Stop Weekends For Women** In Niagara Region, Canada (just over the NY/Ontario border). Weekend events (outdoor excursions) for women. (905) 871-1265.

## Lesbian/Gay AA

**Wed: Open Mind** 8:30 pm Ascension Church, 16 Linwood

**Fri: Live & Let Live** 8:30 pm Ascension Church, 16 Linwood

**Sat: Sober & Proud** 10 pm St. Paul & ST. Mark's Church, 185 Niagara

**Sun: High Noon** 2 pm 104 W Ferry

**More info** AA at (716) 853-0388

## Spirituality

**Dignity/Buffalo** 833-8995

**Integrity/Western NY** 884-6362

**Pink Triangle Christian Fellowship** 845-6971

## Stores

**Cowpok** 168 Elmwood 885-0252. Piercing, jewelry.

**Rainbow Pride Gift Shop** 175 Hodge Ave (one door west of Elmwood) 881-6126. Specializing in gift items, music and publications for the LesBiGay community. Also, stop by the store to ask for info about the Buffalo scene!

**Rust Belt Books** 235 Lexington Ave 885-9535

**Talking Leaves Book Store** 3158 Main Street 837-8554

**Village Green Book Store** 765-A Elmwood Ave 884-1200

## Organizations

*These are not all of the organizations in Buffalo, but some that may be of particular interest to visitors*

**AIDS Community Services of Western NY** 206 S Elmwood Ave 847-2441

**Gay and Lesbian Youth Services of Western NY** 109 Franklin St 855-0221

**Shades** PO Box 1591. Serving lesbians of color 896-1770

## Erie's Most Popular Adult Theater/Bookstores

**FILMORE  
NEWS**

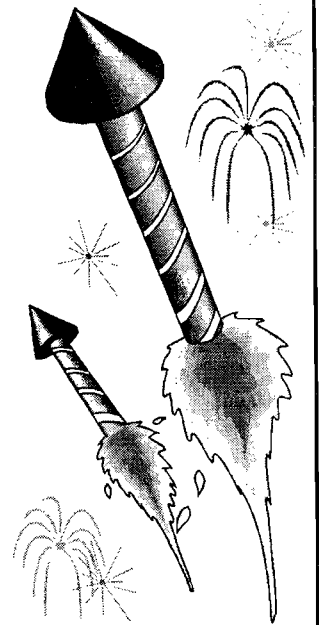
**2757 W.12th Street**

**MODERN  
NEWS**

**1113 State Street**

- ★ Private Video Rooms
- ★ XXX- Magazines
- ★ Video Trade Rental Program
- ★ Doc Johnson's Toys for Joy
- ★ Two Mini-Video Theatres
- ★ Video-Go-Round Booths
- ★ Buddy Booths

*We've got the hots for you!*



# 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.  
 Whistle Stop Weekends for Women ..... (905)871-1265  
 2583 Thompson Rd, Fort Erie, Ontario, Canada. \$125 Canadian/women includes accommodations and meals

## 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 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  
 David J Johnson MA MS ..... 838-9408  
 Family Service of Jamestown N.Y. .... (716)488-1971  
 Fredonia Office ..... (716)679-3455  
 Christine L Gagliano ..... 836-9622  
 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 ▼ (888)GAY-PRDE (429-7733) or (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)484-8434  
 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  
 Solymsi 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, cards, 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 lgloverie@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)

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) 673-3192 (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 Onandaga 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@alleg.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/a Dr. Herendeen, Edinboro Univ, Heather Hall, Edinboro, PA 16440

Informal Lesbian 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 rabbga@jccw22.cc.sunyjc.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 Daley) 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 vis121@email.psu.edu or Al at alr126@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 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.

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 Highway. 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 Danahoe Center, Rt 20 East. Email: [ssimmen@interlaced.net](mailto: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](mailto:peanutx@aol.com)
- PFLAG-Erie** ▼ & ..... 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 or 455-3786  
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. Co-facilitated 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 455-3786  
Open to people of all faiths. Meetings: 2nd & 4th Tues 7:30-9:00 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

To get on our 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](mailto:egcn@ncinter.net)). If you hear of an event, please also send it to that address and include a first line of "Publish EMAIL".

Our Web Site has the Calendar of Events, Latebreaking News, pointers to area lesbian/gay 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/>



# The Embers

1711 State Street



## Miss Embers Pageant

Saturday October 12, 1996

Hosted by Ashley Simone & Special Guest

10:30 p.m.

Come help us choose the winner!

## Halloween Party

Thursday October 31, 1996

Costume judging, Prizes, Candy.

