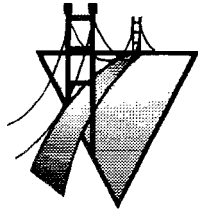


March 1997



EGCN

Erie Gay Community News

More on
Gannon
statement
on
Pg 12

Calendar

☛ **Mar 1—Leeward Lounge: Polar Bear Plunge (Ashtabula)** At Lake Side Park. All invited—Dave will take the plunge in drag.

☛ **Mar 2—LGLV-Erie Meets** Call Dave Mulholland at 898-4210 for more info.

☛ **March 2—Breakfast At Random House: Oscar Wilde** 4:30 p.m. WQLN-FM 91.3 A look at the gay 19th century Irish playwright, writer and wit.

☛ **Mar 3—In the Life** WNEQ (PBS-Buff./Ch.23) 9 p.m. Lesbian and gay newsmagazine.

☛ **Mar 6—Jamestown HIV/AIDS Support Group Meets** For HIV infected & affected people at 1115 Prendergast Ave, Jamestown NY. Call Hop and Cindy Chase at (716)488-1070 for more info.

☛ **Mar 6—The Heidi Chronicles (1995)** TNT 2:45 am. A baby boomer looks back on her life. Her best friend throughout is a gay man.

☛ **Mar 6—Lisa Koch comedy concert (Pittsburgh)** At Rosebud, one half of the feminist comedy duo, Dos fallopia (see below). Info/tickets (412-363-5TNL).

☛ **Mar 7, 8 & 9—Gary Burton performs (Pittsburgh)** Gay jazz vibraphonist will be at Craftsmans Guild.

☛ **Mar 8—Embers AIDS Benefit** All local talent. MC's for the night are Miss Embers (Michelle Michaels) and Miss Bobbi B. See ad back page.

☛ **Mar 8—dos fallopia comedy concert (Pittsburgh)** At Hilton, concert 8 p.m., dance 10 p.m. "Outrageous kamikaze comedy duo" and comedy performers/recording artists (*My Breasts are Out of Control*) presented by the Association of Women in Psychology. Tickets 412-795-5141.

☛ **Mar 8—Womynspace: "In the Life—The Funny Tape"** "An hour of gay and lesbian comics from *In the Life's* historic first season, with performances by Lily Tomlin, Kate Clinton, Karen Williams, Sara Cryton, Charles Busch, Frank Maya, and the Fabulous Flirtations with Michael Callen. Plus hilarious parody commercials. Video will run 8-9

p.m. Socializing in another area for folks who aren't into watching a video. For info call Sal at 454-2713. Bring a friend!" NOTE: THIS IS A CHANGE FROM THE FIRST SATURDAY FOR THIS MONTH ONLY.

☛ **Mar 10—Friends from the Heart Meets** 6pm at Well Being Center, 710 Beaumont. Call Deb Monohon at 838-0123 for more info.

☛ **Mar 10—Golden Girls: "Scared Straight"** Lifetime 7:30 pm. Blanche's gay brother comes for a visit.

☛ **Mar 10—In the Life: Cultural Diversity** (note program has been rescheduled for membership drive). 9 p.m. WNEQ (PBS-Buff./Ch.23) "This program examines the impact of image and identity—its power and its pull on gay and lesbian people in the 90s."—WNEQ Program Schedule.

Continued on page 3



In this issue...

Calendar	1
Repeating programs	6
Festivals for lesbians	6
LGLV Bus Trip	7
Allegheny College hosts gay lit conference	8
Abby Conley to run for Erie City Council	9
HIV/AIDS News	10
Michael Dithers	11
Gannon Pastoral Statement update	12
Letters	13
Reading List: Lesbian & Gay Catholics	14
Explosion rocks gay bar in Atlanta	15
LGLV/Library brick	15
Entertainment notes	16
EGCN Crossword by Mike Miller	16
MediAction	18
Sex & Health	19
EGCN Personals	20
Resource Directory	20
E-Mail	22

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/>



On the Cover:
Rain Girls
by
Micheal A. Miller



EGCN

Erie Gay Community News

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

Phone: (814) 456-9833

Fax: (814) 452-1392

Pager: (814) 870-9128

E-Mail: egcn@ncinter.net

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

The *Erie Gay Community 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 February issue!

Thanks to Greg Knowles, Greg, Knowles, Paul Grubbs, Dave Mulholland, and William Sherow for helping us to collate the February 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

Mar 11—HIV/AIDS Support Group meets Call Cheryl Weber at 825-1085 for more info.

☛ **Mar 11—Saturday Night Live** Guest host Chris Evert plus Eurythmics. Chris does a hilarious skit about always being second best to Martina Navratilova (played by Nora Dunn). Comedy Central 11a.m. and 3 p.m.

☛ **Mar 12—Improv** Lea DeLaria is among the guest comedians. 6 a.m. on A&E.

☛ **March 14—Lizzie Bordon's Crowning of New Miss Erie** 11:30pm Miss Bobbi B will be new Miss Erie. \$2 cover charge. Includes Miss Ginger, Rozz and friends. 3412 W 12th St, Erie. 833-4059.

☛ **Mar 14—Last day to sign up for LGLV Toronto Bus Trip** See story in local on page 7 or call Dave Mulholland at 898-4210.

☛ **Mar 14—Mary Tyler Moore: "My Brother's Keeper"** Nickelodeon 10 p.m. MTM's gay episode, remarkably well-handled for its time (1971).

☛ **Mar 14-16—Ms. Pittsburgh Leather 97 (Pittsburgh)** Several events, sponsored by Pittsburgh LeatherGrrrls. Contact them c/o the Gay & Lesbian Community Center (GLCC), PO Box 5441, Pittsburgh PA 15206 412-422-0114 or send email to NakedHeart@aol.com.

Mar 15—Menspace meets 7:30 pm. For information and location, call Michael at 456-9833.

Mar 15—Mending of the Hearts (Jamestown) 8:30 am to 4:00pm AIDS Community Services of Western NY will host a session for displaying and making AIDS memorial panels at St. James Parochial School, 10 Prospect Street in Jamestown. Lunch will be provided. Call for more info/RSVP Kathleen Whitmore at (716)487-2498.

☛ **Mar 15—Mary Chapin Carpenter: Evening in Dublin** TNN 10 p.m.

☛ **Mar 15—Saturday Night Live** Guest musician is Tracy Chapman. Comedy Central 11 a.m.

☛ **Mar 16—Dr. Katz** Analyzing Judy Tenuta and Garry Shandling. Comedy Central 10 p.m., 1 a.m.

☛ **March 17—Happy St. Patrick's Day!**

☛ **March 17—Lizzie Bordon's: St. Patrick's Day Party** Will also be 18 & over night. \$1 cover charge or canned food item donation for food bank. 9pm-2am. 3412 W 12th St, Erie. 833-4059.

☛ **March 17—Leeward Lounge: St. Patrick's Day Party (Ash-tabula)** Green beer, corned beef & cabbage, \$2 cover.

March 19—Breaking the Surface: The Greg Louganis Story USA Network, 8:59 p.m. Premiere of biographical drama about four-time Olympic gold medalist Greg Louganis. Deals with his childhood, being gay, becoming an Olympic champion, and having AIDS. Based on his book of the same name. For other dates see Repeating Programs.

Mar 20—GEGASHI (Gays Educating Gays About Sexual Health Issues) meets 3:30 pm. Meets at Erie County Health Dept. See article in HIV/AIDS News.

☛ **Mar 21—Golden Girls: "Isn't It Romantic?"** Dorothy's college classmate Jean falls in love with Rose. Lifetime 1 pm.

☛ **Mar 22—Cleveland Irish Lesbian Bisexual and Gay Organization (Cleveland) St. Patrick's Day Party** 6-10 pm at Gay and Lesbian Community Center, 1418 W 29th St. Features Irish food, dancing, music and raffle. Suggested donation \$5 (more if you can, less if you can't).

☛ **Mar 22—Dream On: "Pop Secret"** Comedy Central 6:30 p.m., 10:30 p.m. Martin learns that his father's "friend" is really his life partner, and they begin the pro-

Lake Erie Counseling Associates

350 West Tenth Street, Erie

Gay-Affirming Individual, Family & Couples Therapy

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

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

455-4009

cess of accepting him into the family. This episode was directed by Betty Thomas (*The Brady Bunch Movie*)

Mar 23—PFLAG-Erie: ABC's of Running for City Council "Abby Conley, who is running as a Democrat for Erie City Council will be our featured speaker." 2:00 pm at the Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. For information call Elaine Hill at 864-0184.

☛ **Mar 23—Twilight of the Golds (1997)** Showtime 8 p.m. Premiere of Jonathon Tolins' 1993 play. See Repeating Programs for description.

☛ **March 23—Breakfast At Random House: Truman Capote** 4:30 p.m. WQLN-FM 91.3. Profiles the flamboyant gay writer, whose works included *Breakfast At Tiffany's* and *In Cold Blood*.

Mar 24—Chautauqua North County Social Group Meets. Call Vince at (716) 673-3192 for more info.

Mar 25—HIV/AIDS Support Group meets Call Cheryl Weber at 825-1085 for more info.

☛ **Mar 26—Law & Order: "Silence"** A&E 3 a.m. "A young politician's death leads police to a blackmailer of gay men, but his victims are too afraid of public scandal to testify." —*Biography*

☛ **Mar 26—Paula Poundstone: Cats, Cops and Stuff** Comedy Central 8 p.m. "All-new stand-up special..." —Comedy Central Program Schedule.

☛ **Mar 27—Saffire - The Uppity Blues Women performs (Cleveland)** At Wilbert's.

☛ **Mar 26—"The Politics of AIDS" (Jamestown)** Speaker will be Gregory Rabb, Associate Professor of Political Science at Jamestown Community College and Member of the New York State HIV Prevention Planning group. Program will take place in the Fireplace Room at the Prendergast Library in downtown Jamestown at 7 pm. It is free and open to the public, and sponsored by Com-

peer, a local non-profit organization assisting mentally and physically challenged adults and children. Info 716-665-5220 (ext. 204) or 664-9174.

Mar 28—PFLAG-Ashtabula meets Call Sharon at (216) 964-335- for more info.

Mar 29 & 30—Pennsylvania Partners Summit: Statewide conference on same-gender couples' issues Sponsored by Center for Lesbian and Gay Law and Public Policy. Currently in planning stage. Contact CLGLPP@aol.com (Andrew Park) for more info. 215-413-0509.

☛ **Mar 30—Happy Easter!**

☛ **Mar 30—Easter Service at Liberation United Church of Christ (Cleveland)** 700 Prospect, 216-781-5822. 10:30 a.m.

☛ **Mar 31—Your Job and Exposure Control of HIV and Hepatitis B** Put on by Erie Co. Dept. of Health HIV/AIDS Education & Training Program. Details in HIV/AIDS news or call 1-814-451-6727.

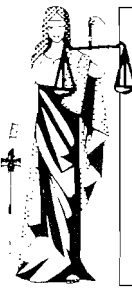
☛ **April 1-4—AIDS Awareness Week at Edinboro University** At this point, it is expected that four panels of the NAMES Quilt will be on display April 1-5. Info from Erie office of NW PA Rural AIDS Alliance 456-8849.

☛ **Apr 3—Jamestown HIV/AIDS Support Group Meets** For HIV infected & affected people at 1115 Prendergast Ave, Jamestown NY. Call Hop and Cindy Chase at (716)488-1070 for more info.

☛ **Apr 3—Ani DiFranco in concert (Cleveland)** Lakewood Civic Center.

☛ **Apr 4—Lizzie Bordon's: US Mail Strippers** Cover charge. 3412 W 12th St, Erie. 833-4059.

☛ **Apr 5—Womynspace: "Spring Fling Dance"** "Back by popular demand is DJ Karen spinning the tunes from the 70's 80's and 90's. Come early and stay late. Music starts at 8 p.m. For information and location, call Sal at 454-2713. Newcomers welcome."



**Attorney
David A. Baxter**
512 Main Street East
Girard, PA 16417
(814) 774-4163
General Civil Practice

Always check TV listings against your weekly or daily listings. Sometimes the information we get is incorrect or changes; sometimes, since we are a very small group of volunteers here, we make mistakes and don't catch them.

We have noticed a good number of gay and lesbian publications in other communities have been reprinting our TV listings and accompanying blurbs. Permission is granted for doing so, but because a good bit of time is invested in locating these listings, we request that you give credit to EGCN where it is due. Thanks and Happy Viewing!

☛ **Apr 6—LGLV-Erie Meets** Call Dave Mulholland at 898-4210 for more info.

☛ **April 7—"Kelvin's Dinner"** Covered dish dinner at St. Paul's Episcopal Cathedral at 6 p.m. "For anyone who is HIV-infected or -affected," says DonPaul Lucas, who is a major organizer of the event. "Everyone's affected, so in effect, everyone's invited." He adds that this potluck, which he hopes will become ongoing, is "named in memory of Kelvin Wheeler, because this was his dream." (Kelvin passed away from AIDS complications last year). Info from DonPaul at Erie office of NW PA Rural AIDS Alliance, 456-8849.

☛ **Apr 8—HIV/AIDS Support Group meets** Call Cheryl Weber at 825-1085 for more info.

☛ **Apr 8 & 9—Stomp performs (Erie)** Warner Theatre.

April 11-13—Allegheny conference "History and Memory: Gay and Lesbian Literature Since World War II" Article on page 8.

☛ **Apr 11—Chautauqua North County Social Group Meets.** Call Vince at (716) 673-3192 for more info.

☛ **Apr 11-13—LGLV Toronto Bus Trip** See story page 7.

☛ **Apr 12—Menspace meets** 7:30 pm. For information and location, call Michael at 456-9833.

☛ **Apr 14—Friends from the Heart Meets** 6pm at Well Being Center, 710 Beaumont. Call Deb Monohon at 838-0123 for more info.

☛ **Apr 19—10% Network meets (Jamestown)** Call John at (716) 484-7285 for more info.

☛ **April 20—In the Gloaming** HBO. Drama about a young man with AIDS who returns home to reconcile with his family. Air time not known.

☛ **Apr 21—PA voters: Last day to register to vote in PA primary elections.**

☛ **Apr 22—HIV/AIDS Support Group meets** Call Cheryl Weber at 825-1085 for more info.

☛ **Apr 22—Happy Passover!**

☛ **Apr 25—PFLAG-Ashtabula meets** Call Sharon at (216) 964-335- for more info.

☛ **Apr 25—HIV * Substance Abuse * Public Health** Registration: April 11, 1997. Registration and details (814) 451-6727, also see details in HIV/AIDS News, page 10

☛ **Apr 27—PFLAG-Erie: (Topic TBA)** Meeting 2:00 pm at the Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Info: Call Elaine Hill at 864-0184.

☛ **Apr 28—Chautauqua North County Social Group Meets.** Call Vince at (716) 673-3192 for more info.

☛ **April 30—Ellen's coming out episode?** See Entertainment Notes.

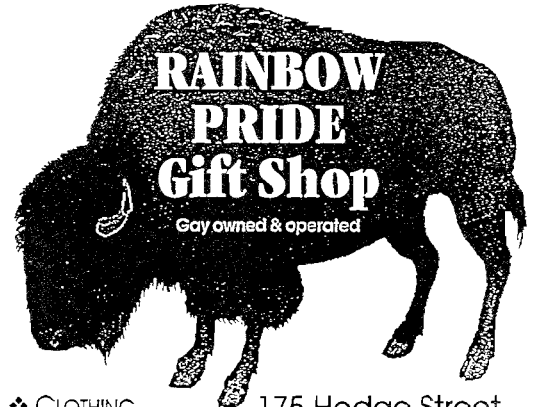
Festivals & Conferences

☛ **May 22-27—Bear Pride 1997 (Chicago)** 1,200 men expected—biggest Bear gathering anywhere in the world. Events, entertainment, parties, picnic, tours, more. Info from Great Lakes Bears 773-509-8172 or 312-509-5135 or see their website at <http://glbears.com/BP/>

☛ **May 23-26—International Mr. Leather (Chicago)** c/o 5015 Clark St., Chicago IL 60640. (800)545-67753

Open 7 Days a Week	Poppa Ropp's Video! 734-3014 Edinboro Mall	3 Movies 2 Days \$2.50**
Over 6000 movies to choose from! **Plus tax, General titles only.		

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

Repeating programs

Armistead Maupin's Tales of the City Bravo 3/4 10pm, 3/5 1am, 3/11 10pm, 3/12 1am, 3/18 10pm, 3/19 1am, 3/25 10pm, 3/26 1am. Based on Maupin's *Tales of the City* novel.

Breaking the Surface: The Greg Louganis Story (1997) Showtime 3/19 8:59 pm, 3/22 10pm, 3/29 1pm.

Other Mothers (1993) A teenage athlete tries to deal with his friends' reactions to the fact that his parents are a lesbian couple. Meredith Baxter and Joanna Cassidy are the well-adjusted, model-parent lesbian couple. Originally a CBS Schoolbreak Special, the stars offered their appearances in the special at union rates (that is, they worked for the lowest amount, as a way of showing support for the project) HBO 3/4 7pm, 3/8 5pm, 3/12 4:30pm, 3/17 12 pm, 3/23 1:30pm, 3/26 8:30am

Twilight of the Golds (1997) Showtime. It's sometime in the future, and genetic technology permits expectant parents to learn if their child will be born gay. This drama, based on an acclaimed play, portrays the struggle of a homophobic family as they try to decide whether or not to abort a gay fetus. 3/23 8 pm, 3/26 8pm.

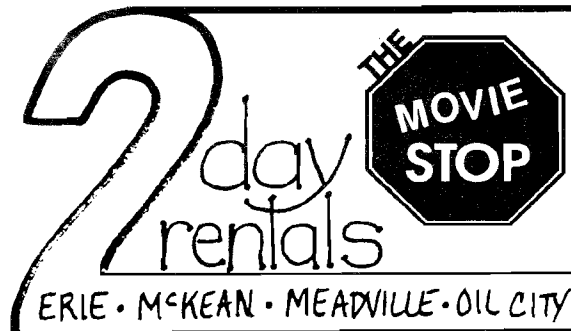
Young Man With a Horn (1950) AMC 3/9 9:30 pm, 3/10 3am, 3/22 5pm & 9:30pm. "Lauren Bacall, marries Kirk Douglas, not out of love. There are several references to hint at Bacall's lesbianism, including describing her party guests as 'colorful characters' and leaving her husband to tour Europe with a young female art student."—*Images in the Dark*

Women's Sports

LPBT Bowling, ESPN 3/30 4pm

LPGA Golf, ESPN 3/20 4pm, 3/21 3pm, 3/22 5:30 pm, ESPN2 3/27 & 3/28 5pm (Dinah Shore Classic).

Tennis, ESPN 3/13 9:30pm, 3/27 1pm, 3/29 4pm.



Festivals for lesbians

In Gaia's Lap, May 15-18 in Maryland. Box 39, Maryland Line MD 21105 (888)740-GAIA (410)435-3111.

Campfest, May 21-26 (Memorial Weekend) near Oxford PA. Campfest, PO Box 559, Franklinville NJ 08322 (609) 694-2037 TTY 301-598-9035 eves. campfest@aol.com

Wimifest fest May 23-25 (Memorial Weekend) Wimifest, PO Box 80204 Albuquerque, NM 87198-0204 505-899-3627 or 800-499-5688

Virginia Women's Music Festival, May 29-June 1 INTOUCH, Rte 2 Box 1096, Kents Store VA 23084. 804-589-6542

National Women's Music Festival, May 29-June 1 Bloomington IN. NWME, Dept LC, POB 1427, Indianapolis, IN 46206 phone/fax: 317-927-9355 email wia@indynet.com

Womongathering, June 12-15 in Poyntelle PA. PO Box 559, Franklinville NJ 08322 (609) 694-2037 TTY 301-598-9035 eves. email womongather@aol.com

July 4 Kickback, INTOUCH, Rte 2 Box 1096, Kents Store VA 23084. 804-589-6542

Michigan Womyn's Music Festival, Aug. 12-17. Near Hart MI. W'W'TMC, Box 22, Walhalla MI 49458. 616-757-4766

Midwest Womyn's Autumn Fest, Aug. 31. Athena Productions 217 South 2nd St., #193 DeKalb IL 60115 815-748-5359.

Northeast Women's Musical Retreat, (Labor Day Weekend) NEWMR, PO Box 550, Branford CT 06405 860-293-8026 email: terryseja@aol.com

Ohio Lesbian Festival, Sept. 6 near Columbus. LBA, PO Box 82086, Columbus OH 43202 614-267-3953.

Sisterspace Pocono Weekend, Sept 6-7 in PA Poconos Sisterspace of the Delaware Valley, 542A South 48th Street, Philadelphia PA 19143 215-476-8856 or TDD 747-7554 or email sodv@aol.com

Wild Western Women's Weekend, Sept. 19-21. INTOUCH, Rte 2 Box 1096, Kents Store VA 23084. 804-589-6542

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

LGLV Bus Trip

The League of Gay and Lesbian Voters and Detours Travel are pleased to announce our Spring Toronto Excursion on April 11 - 13. Detours, a Pennsylvania company that specializes in gay group travel, and the western Pennsylvania chapters of the L.G.L.V. have teamed up to provide you with this opportunity to visit the largest gay community in North America.

Departure will be Friday afternoon on April 11 by deluxe motor coach complete with open bar and lots of yummy snacks. Upon arrival in Toronto, we check into our hotel, the Clarion Essex Park, an exceptional property in the heart of the gay ghetto. A quick revival at the hotel and we're off to explore Toronto's night life. Many of the most popular bars, nightclubs, and coffee houses are within walking distance of the hotel for an easy return, whenever...

Saturday begins with a full breakfast at the hotel, enjoyed anytime before 11 am. Then we're off for an outrageous tour of Toronto, as we are joined by a very special step on guide! This afternoon, find a terrific lunch spot at one of the hundreds of restaurants in Toronto, then start shopping!! The coach will drop passengers at Eaton Center and Queens Quay.

(Not included in this package, but certainly available for anyone who for anyone who wishes, is a matinee performance of Phantom or Ragtime.) This evening, explore one of the many exciting options for dinner, then we regroup for a hilarious evening at Tallulah's Cabaret at Buddies and Bad Times Theater or to attend a performance of Angels in America, Part Two: Perestroika at the Canadian National Theater. (Part One: Millennium Approaches plays as the matinee on Saturday and Sunday, however, each part stands on its own and need not be seen sequentially.) Afterwards, those who desire

will have yet another opportunity to see what late night Toronto has to offer.

Sunday, enjoy breakfast or perhaps brunch at your leisure, the day is your own until 2 pm when we must say goodbye to Toronto. But wait, don't despair, our little adventure is not quite finished. On the return trip, we make a stop in Niagara, no, not to see the Falls, sure you can look if you want to... but you might not want to waste anytime that you might spend in the beautiful new Casino Niagara! Try your luck or grab a bite at one of the 11 restaurants on the property, including the always fun Hard Rock Cafe. Then we board our coach for the rest of the return trip, where cocktails and on-board movies speed us on our way.

The cost of the entire package is two payments of \$149.50. Please make all checks payable to Detours, and mail to: L.G.L.V.-Erie, PO Box 8083, Erie PA. 16505. We must have the first payment before March 14, 1997. For more information ask any L.G.L.V. member or call 898-4210. Everyone is welcome, we want to see you in Toronto.

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (SCA)

Tuesdays at 7:30 pm
UUC of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway
Erie Hotline: 453-5656
<http://www.sca-recovery.org/>

**EGCN now carries
PERSONALS!
See page 20!**

la bella pistro

*a restaurant where you can be free
to be yourself...*

*...or marlena dietrich,
whichever you prefer!*

*west fourth
at cherry*

454-3616

bring your own alcoholic beverage

Allegheny College hosts gay lit conference

By: Kristy L. Whisker

If you think it's impossible to orchestrate a national conference on gay and lesbian literature with money committed from the President's office of a small, liberal arts college and the Lambda Foundation, think again. That's exactly what will happen in Meadville at Allegheny College, April 11-13.

Sonya Jones, poet and professor of English, was inspired to do such a conference after Martin Duberman, noted gay historian, visited Allegheny. Duberman was so impressed with open-mindedness he encountered there, he went back to New York and mentioned Allegheny in a television documentary made about the riots at the Stonewall Inn in 1969.

Someone in San Francisco happened to be watching. His name: John DeCecco, editor of *The Journal of Homosexuality*. His jaw fell open. He had graduated from Allegheny in 1946.

You might say the rest is the beginning of history, since the April conference is billed as "History and Memory: Gay & Lesbian Literature Since World War II."

After his first speaking engagement at Allegheny, DeCecco invite Jones to guest edit a double issue of *The JH* on gay literature. She chose to move from World War II forward in order to explore three major moments in the invention of a gay and lesbian literature tradition: 1) Stonewall, 1969; 2) the lesbian seventies; 3) the onslaught of AIDS in the eighties.

"History and Memory" is scheduled to appear in 1998, simultaneously as a book from the Haworth Press, but many of its original contributors will present their ideas in advance at the April conference.

Featured at the conference will be distinguished scholars representing various universities from across the country. DeCecco will key-note the three day event on Friday with a speech entitled "The Twilight of the Sciences and the Dawn of the Liberal Arts in the Understanding of Homosexuality" in Carnegie Lecture Hall, April 11 at 8:15 PM.

Novelist Bertha Harris is the conference's featured reader. She'll be reading from what "The Village Voice" called her "trouble-making pleasure dome" of a novel entitled *Love*, first published in 1976.

Dorothy Austin, a theologian from Drew University, will offer the Winslow Lecture in Religion entitled "Gay and Lesbians in Christian Context." At Drew, Austin teaches a course on gays and lesbians in the school of theology.

Jones and Harris were friends in the seventies during the peak of the lesbian-feminist book-making period. Harris, affiliated with Daughters, Inc., New York; Jones, with The Vanity Press, Atlanta. Both attended the first conference of Women in Print, Omaha, 1976. "History and Memory" is a reunion of sorts.

Eight plenary speakers, including David Bergman, author of *Gaiety* "Transfigured in American Literature" will join a multitude of panelists speaking to topics ranging from Gay and Lesbian Film to Queer Theatre to Religion and Homosexuality. Panels are comprised of professors and graduate students from several universities, ranging from York University in Toronto to Emory University in Atlanta.

Books authored by the speakers, panelists and writers, notably Christopher Leland, who will be on hand to read from *Letting Loose* will be available for purchase during the conference. Audiotapes of each session will also be made available.

"History and Memory" is creating its own history at Allegheny, as it is the first conference of its kind in the life of the 182 year-old institution. Conference fee for all sessions is \$90; daily rates, \$50, evening sessions, \$15. Graduate and undergraduate students attend free. To be part of this history making event, please contact Sonya Jones, Conference Director at (814) 332-4339, <sjones@alleg.edu> or Kristy Whisker, Asst to the Director (814) 332-2604, <whiskerk@alleg.edu> before Mar 15 for information or to make reservations.

Friends From The Heart

710 Beaumont, Erie PA 16505

(814)838-0123



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

Abby Conley to run for Erie City Council

For those of our readers who may not be aware, Abby Conley was very supportive of the float that Erie's lesbian community had in 1995's bicentennial parade. She rode in the truck with two members of our community after the float had been rebuilt after having been vandalized. She also took heat from local talk show radio hosts for allowing inclusion of a copy of Erie Gay Community News in the time capsule. If you would like to help Abby, you can call her at 452-6643.

My name is Abby B Conley and I am seeking the Democratic nomination for City Council. I have been involved in many community issues over the years. I was elected in 1994 to the Pennsylvania Democratic Party. I was appointed to the Bicentennial Commission and served as a commissioner, a member of the ethnic celebration that was combined with "We Love Erie Days" and the Chairperson of the Bicentennial Time Capsule Project. I was the past Vice Chair of the Human Relation Commission, past member of the Erie Environmental Coalition, past member of the Harbor Improvement Council, member of the Democratic Women's Council and a member of the Erie County Executive Board of the Democratic Party.

I'm seeking the Democratic nomination for many reasons. We need young people in public office. I feel strongly that we need new ideas and people that can add some solutions to problems that our city faces. It's time to change the old guards on council. The constant bickering and political posturing *must stop!* We have a city in crisis. I will be a councilwoman that will work for compromises between council and the mayor's admin-

istration. This "Them against Us" attitude hurts the productivity that government should be providing for our city. I will lobby in Harrisburg for matching funds for any state mandated programs. Again and again our state legislators pass bills that local governments get stuck with paying. This adds to our city's fiscal crisis. I also want to research instituting a volunteer police task force that can be used in conjunction with our current paid task force. The volunteers would be assigned the more simple day to day tasks, enabling our city's police department to deal with the more pressing crimes. This would help better utilize our current department. This program has been implemented in other states and has been proven effective as a tool to help prevent crime.

I could go on forever; I believe I will establish a reputation as the councilwoman that puts people before politics. I'm not afraid to take a stand for human rights. I will be that voice on council; just like I've always been a member of our community.

Christine L. Gagliano, A.C.S.W., L.S.W.

*N.A.S.W. Diplomate in Clinical Social Work
Offering Traditional & Holistic Approaches*

Counseling · Psychotherapy · Sandplay Therapy
Thought Field Therapy · Therapeutic Touch · Reiki

-Green Spring/Keystone/Select Blue Provider-
(814) 836-9622

3205 West 26th Street, Suite B, Erie, PA 16506



Linda Foll Johnson
Realtor
Million Dollar Club

5100 PEACH STREET
ERIE, PA 16509
Phone 814-864-3200
Cellular 449-0405
Residence: 814-734-7003



Phone 814-864-3200
Cellular 449-0405
Residence 814-734-7003

HIV/AIDS News

Edinboro AIDS Awareness week

Edinboro's AIDS Awareness Week will be held April 1-4. There will be panels on display from April 1-5. The complete schedule can be obtained at the Erie office of NW PA Rural AIDS Alliance 1001 State St. Suite 808 (phone 456-8849). Also, it will be on the EGCN web page, and one of Erie's newspapers, as well as the Edinboro University Spectator. Some of the schedule:

April 1—Information Fair at University Information tables, etc.

April 2—Videos and Discussions There may be a safer sex workshop.

April 3—"Women and HIV" Day Powerful HIV+ women speakers.

April 4—Remembrance Service DonPaul Lucas will present slide show of NAMES Quilt. Choral groups will perform: an Edinboro group will perform Peter, Paul and Mary's "Home is Where the Heart is," and a chorus from general McLane High School will perform a selection from the Broadway musical *Rent*. WQLN will tape

the show that evening and have the phone lines open 8-9 p.m. For phone-in questions (people may phone in after the show as well).

Funding alert

The Northwest Pennsylvania Rural AIDS Alliance is accepting applications for the following initiatives:

- (1) HIV/AIDS education and prevention funding for minority initiatives
- (2) HIV/AIDS education and prevention initiatives
- (3) HIV/AIDS case management services in Mercer County

Applications can be obtained by contacting Kimberly Swab, RD#3, Box 75F, Clarion PA 16214 or by calling (800) 359-2437. Proposals must be postmarked by March 20, 1997.

Upcoming programs

Sponsored by **Erie County Department of Health**

HIV/AIDS Education & Training Program, 606 West Second Street, Erie PA 16507 (814) 451-6727
<http://www.ncinter.net/~ecd/h/>

"Your Job and Exposure Control of HIV and Hepatitis B"

When: March 31, 1997, from 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. For personnel directors, staff development directors, hairstylists, barbers, cosmetologists, electrologists, manicurists, and similar personal service workers. At Raymond Blasco MD Memorial Library. Presenters: Alicia Manus CMA Community Health Specialist and Fran Reinsel RN, Public Health Nurse. Registration: 3/24/98.

HIV * Substance Abuse * Public Health

When: April 25, 1997 from 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. at Raymond Blasco MD Memorial Library. For counselors, educators, case managers, and social service workers. Topics: Substance Abuse in Erie Co., Confidentiality, Substance Abuse & Mental Health, HIV counseling and Behavior Change, Real People. Presenters: Thomas Turner MD, David Herrera Korman Esq., Christopher Rowe, BA, Victoria Lahcy, M.S., Ed. N.C.C., SHOUT Outreach Staff, Serenity Hall. Cost: \$20, lunch included. Credits ODAPP. Registration: April 11, 1997.

PAL **PRESCRIPTION
PHARMACY**

455-8597

1238 West 6th St., Erie, PA 16507



Open Mon, Tues, Thu & Fri
10am-8pm
Wed & Sat 10am-6pm



**Instant Lottery & Lottery Machine • Penelec Bills Paid
Prescription Delivery**

Bob Kelly Theatrical Makeup & Accessories
All Third Party Insurance, Special
Pharmaceutical Benefits (SPBP) Card & Union
Prescription Programs Honored

Serving the HIV-Affected Community

Michael Dithers

by **Michael Mahler**

As I write this, we have just finalized some of the plans for this year's Pride Erie Picnic. So here's what's planned thus far. We will be having a two day event for the first time! Saturday, June 14th will be a picnic at Cabin 2 on Presque Isle, as in previous years. We will be taking a new family portrait for those who would like to participate (Folks are quite free to determine whether or not they want to be in the picture.) There will be an Interfaith Service the next day, Sunday June the 15th, at the Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie to be followed by a picnic/get together at Waldameer Park. (This is not officially sponsored by Waldameer: we're just going to meet there.) More details as they develop, of course.

Elaine Hill, coordinator for PFLAG-Erie, was telling me recently about having spoken at a regional Presbytery meeting about an amendment to Presbyterian policy that would have required "fidelity in marriage and celibacy in singles" (i.e. All lesbian/gay clergy would be required to be celibate. Elaine mentioned having worked six minutes worth of material into 5 minutes. (Although at the speed at which I tend to talk, I guess that makes her only a rank amateur.) She was delighted that, although the vote went the wrong way, it was relatively close and much less of a gap that some had thought. Another couple we know came out about their gay son to a growth group in their church. The group consisted of about 14 people ranging in age from 50's on up. They were quite pleasantly surprised with how supportive people were, as they had been feeling anxious about it for some time.

First off, many cheers for these brave folks who stood up and took risks for us. It has always been my philosophy that a good and loving act is rarely ultimately in vain. It is intensely heartwarming to see people following their hearts in doing the right thing and also being aware that they are successfully helping to make the world a better place for everyone.

Sometimes, people can lose sight of the fact that even the smallest acts of goodness are worthwhile. Sometimes, just being kind to someone who needs it, or raising your voice against injustice is a tremendous act of courage and can have far-reaching consequences.

Micheal and I had a wonderful at the second annual Gay Valentine's Day at la bella bistro. It was nice seeing so many folks we know enjoying a romantic dinner for two or with a group of friends. We are so lucky to have the community we do! Please also note that Harry Miller (of la bella bistro), will be opening another restaurant called Tapas in April. Look for it downtown!

Micheal's mom Carol recently sent him a little note and a small flyer. Some local store was running a special on silverware. She wanted to pick some up for us. Carol actually prompted us for that most married and settled of selection processes, picking out a silverware pattern. Micheal's mom has always been a wonderfully nice and kind woman and I am grateful for having such a nice mother-in-law.

Best wishes and a speedy recovery to Dave Mulholland of LGLV, who recently had a nasty spill. Maybe send him a card?

Well, see you next month! TTFN!

Northwest PA Rural AIDS Alliance

FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL

◆ **Case Management**

◆ **Patient Care**

Physician, Pharmaceutical, Dental Emergency,
HOPWA (Housing) and Nutritional Supplements

◆ **Education/Prevention**

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

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

Northwest Alliance
RD #3, Box 75F
Clarion PA 16214

1001 State, Suite #808
Baldwin Bldg
Erie PA 16501
nwpaids@erie.net

Gannon Pastoral Statement update

The *Erie Gay Community News* was the lead story on the 11:00 p.m. broadcast of WICU News on January 31. Kristy Mazurek was the reporter covering the story.

The story concerned our publishing an article about Gannon University's "Pastoral Outreach to Gay and Lesbian Students." The paper was forwarded to us by a contact at Gannon. It had been circulated to Gannon faculty and some other professionals outside the Gannon community. It was drawn up by an ad hoc committee appointed by Msgr. David Rubino, Ph.D. whose cover letter (dated December 11) addressed the statement to "Colleagues." According to Msgr. Rubino's cover letter, the statement "carries the endorsement of President's Staff, President's Council, the Board of Trustees, as well as Bishop Donald Trautman."

The paper was well within mainstream Catholic thinking on the subject, encouraging more tolerance of gay and lesbian people, while at the same time stating that "Gannon University, in remaining committed to its Catholic moral tradition, cannot condone a sexually active gay lifestyle which is not God's intention for our gift of sexuality." The article that appeared in the January EGCN was written by a Gannon student named Rebecca. Rebecca had been active in trying to establish a gay organization at Gannon, and was asked by EGCN to comment on the statement. In an attempt to show support for the fact that Gannon University was making some attempts to show understanding for gay students, Rebecca tried to portray the statement in its most

positive light. Unfortunately, the total statement is anti-gay as well as pro-gay, and its writers intended it to be such.

Back to the report on WICU.

Michael Mahler of EGCN was interviewed for the story, and he said he wondered what the somewhat vaguely worded and seemingly contradictory document actually meant in terms of the way gay men and lesbians are treated at Gannon. Also interviewed was a student who seemed somewhat anti-gay; he also wondered what the document actually meant in practical terms.

In her coverage of the story, WICU reporter Mazurek contacted Bishop Donald Trautman for commentary on the document. Trautman stated that permission was not given to EGCN to publish the document. Here it must be pointed out that we did not publish the entire document, but simply those parts excerpted for the article. Those small quotes constitute what is called "fair use" of commentary on a written document, even if that document would have been copyrighted (and to the best of our knowledge, there was not even a copyright on it). Nor was there any indication that the document was confidential or for limited distribution.

After the story was aired, there was apparently a minor uproar within the Diocese and the Gannon community. The statement was published in its entirety in the February 5 issue of *The Gannon Knight*.

Resources for Lesbian, Bisexual and Gay Catholics

The major organization in serving lesbian and gay Catholics is Dignity. Many of the resources listed here are from or about that organization.

Linkline This hotline for gay and lesbian Catholics was set up by Dignity/NY and is staffed Thursday, Friday and Saturday evenings 7 p.m. to 11 p.m. Phone 212-620-0369.

Dignity/USA 1500 Massachusetts Ave. NW #11, Washington DC 20005 (202)861-0017 (800)877-8797 dignity@t.aol.com Publishes Dignity USA Journal

Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual Catholic Handbook A very extensive web site with scores of topics, resources, discussions and links for Catholics. <http://www.bway.net/~halsall/lgbh.html>

Dignity/Pittsburgh (412) 362-4334. Conducts service 7:30 pm at Community of Reconciliation, 100 N. Bellefield at Fifth, in Oakland. Publishes newsletter.

Dignity/Cleveland (216) 531-4469. Liturgy once a month (4th Sunday).

Dignity/Bufalo (716) 833-8995.

Letters

Gannon's Pastoral Statement: is it a step in the "right" direction?

After months of discussion - both private and public - Gannon University's Lesbigan Outreach ad hoc committee has released its statement with the local Bishop's stamp of approval.

The content of the statement came as no surprise to me. It adequately reflects the Roman Catholic Church's writings on this issue - at least those written within the last twenty years. Those who hoped for something more need to realize that Gannon does not have any authority to change Catholic moral teaching. As a diocesan institution, it is obligated to abide by it.

I found little wrong with the spirit and structure of the statement, but there were instances in which I was not very comfortable with the wording. For example, homosexuality, perhaps unintentionally, was imbedded between other contemporary concerns such as promiscuity, sexual harassment, narcissism and violence. The association of an innate predisposition, like homosexuality, to extrinsic activities of this sort is hardly in line with contemporary theological, psychological and philosophical scholarship. As an academic institution, Gannon should have exercised more caution.

The arrival of this statement gives us a wonderful opportunity to examine the argumentation against homosexual acts that it reflects. It was wise of the committee to follow the lead of recent official Church documents and stay clear of any scriptural references due to modern scholarship in that field.

The statement does, however, use the classic natural law argument which suggests that any "sexual activity that is not procreative and unitive is considered...immoral". If this argument is valid, the Church would also mandate celibacy to a sterile person. But marriages are available to sterile couples and older couples are permitted to continue sexual activity past their child-bearing years.

The pastoral statement is also consistent with church documents in its exclusion of the role of the individual conscience in ethical decision making. The free exercise of an individual's conscience is essential to upholding the dignity of the human person. Dignitatis

Humanae, a Vatican Council II document, stressed that in following our conscience we come to know God. Furthermore, a person cannot be forced to act contrary to his or her conscience - even when it goes against traditional notions of the objective moral order.

When individuals resolve ethical dilemmas and make life decisions, they are required to do more than just follow the road paved for them by a particular religion or group. They are obligated to look within themselves and to examine their own relationship with God and the world around them.

In the conclusion of the statement, Gannon resolves to support the spiritual development of gay and lesbian students. Does this include fostering an atmosphere of direction that will enable individuals to act according to their conscience even when it doesn't conform to Church teaching?

There is a catch phrase in the statement which says that the university will provide an "appropriately supportive environment". How will what is appropriate be determined? Will Gannon continue to employ homosexuals to its staff and faculty? What specific programs will the university offer gay and lesbian students to ensure their development as individuals made in the image and likeness of God?

Gannon's sincerity and commitment to its lesbigan students can only be measured when we see how this letter is interpreted and enacted in the future.

Gregg M. Costanzo

EGCN welcomes your letters. All letters should be signed (although we will respect your wishes for how you wish your name to be listed in print) and should also be 500 words or less, optimally. You may e-mail, fax, or mail us your letters. Preference is given to letters relating to local lesbigan events and news.

Reading List: Lesbian & Gay Catholics

From Dignity/New York

If you are interested in exploring Lesbian and Gay Catholic issues by yourself, here is a list of recommended reading material. Most of the books are available at lesbian and gay bookstores, such as A Different Light, and in the library at the Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center. Some of Dignity's recommendations:

Boswell, John, *Christianity, Social Tolerance and Homosexuality*. (Chicago: Univ. of Chicago Press, 1980) The single most important work in lesbian and gay Catholic history by a serious scholar. Proposes that homosexuals were accepted before the 13th century, and then intolerance set in. Criticized by gay radicals for letting the Church off the hook. Boswell rejects idea that homosexual subcultures are a recent development.

Boswell, John, *Same-Sex Unions in Pre-Modern Europe*. (New York: Villard, 1994) A groundbreaking study of the "Adelphopoia" liturgy, which Boswell argues, was for centuries used as a public liturgy to celebrate erotic relationships between people of the same sex.

Brown, Judith C., *Immodest Acts - The Life of a Lesbian Nun in Renaissance*

The Bible and Homosexuality

Countryman, L. William, *Dirt, Greed & Sex: Sexual Ethics in the New Testament and Their Implications for Today*, (Philadelphia: Fortress Press, 1988) A serious, and radical, proposal that New Testament sexual ethics are vital to us - and that the New Testament rejects notions of purity which have come to pervade much Christian discussion.

Helminiak, Daniel, *What the Bible Really Says about Homosexuality*, (San Francisco: Alamo Square Press, 1994) Gay Roman Catholic priest and biblical scholar summarizes and presents in easily digestible form for the non-expert the findings of Boswell, Scroggs and Countryman.

Robin Scroggs, *The New Testament and Homosexuality: Contextual Background for Contemporary Debate*, (Philadelphia: Fortress Press: 1983) In depth coverage by a straight Biblical scholar. Concludes that the NT has nothing to say on homosexuality. One of the best books on the subject. It's also quite short!

Theology and Homosexuality

Grammick, Jeaninne and Pat Furey, eds., *The Vatican and Homosexuality: reflections to the "Letter to the Bishops of the Catholic Church on the Pastoral care of Homosexual Persons"*, (New York: Crossroad, 1988) Text of the 1986 letter plus extensive commentary and discussion by a number of lesbian, gay and straight writers.

McNeill, John, *The Church and the Homosexual 4th ed.*, (Boston: Beacon, 1993, first ed. 1976) Classic work by a former Jesuit priest, and a former frequent celebrant with Dignity/NY. Looks at scripture, moral theology, and pastoral ministry to lesbian and gay people. The fourth edition (1993), and the revised introduction include an analysis of the 1992 Republican Party Convention, along with analyses of recent documentation from the Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith (CDF - Vatican).

Scanzoni, Letha, and Virginia Ramey Mollenkott, *Is the Homosexual My Neighbor? "Another Christian View"*, (San Francisco: Harper & Row, 1980) A good plain introduction to all the major issue. Less "academic" than some other suggestions..

Sullivan, Andrew, "The Catholic Church and the Homosexual: Alone Again, Naturally", *The New Republic*, 11/28/94 Sullivan is the gay British Catholic editor of *The New Republic*. This article is both a personal history and a major critique of Catholic teaching.

Lesbian and Gay Spirituality

McNeill, John, *Taking a Chance on God: Liberating Theology for Gays, Lesbians and Their Lovers, Families and Friend*, (Boston: Beacon, 1988) Dignity/New York members recognized much in this book from Fr. McNeill's powerful sermons their over the years. Argues that both tradition and Scripture support same-sex love and a positive gay identity is compatible with Christian faith. Includes an interesting chapter on the relationship between Mary and the gay community.

Nugent, Robert, ed., *A Challenge to Love: Gay and Lesbian Catholics in the Church*, (New York: Crossroad, 1987) Important and in-depth essays on social, theological and pastoral perspectives on homosexuality. Articles by Gregory Baum, Margaret Farelly, Matthew Faix, John McNeill, Daniel Maguire, Gabriel Moran, Evelyn and James Whitehead, Mary Hunt and Basil Pennington.

Explosion rocks gay bar in Atlanta

from the **National Gay and Lesbian Task Force**

Washington, D.C., February 22, 1997. A pipe bomb covered with nails exploded in a crowded Atlanta gay bar Friday night, injuring several people. A second pipe bomb was found outside the establishment and was later detonated by police.

The attack comes at a time of increasing anti-gay rhetoric. At least one anti-gay bill has been introduced each day in state legislatures thus far in 1997, according to a report recently released by NGLTF.

"As the extremist Right steps up its verbal and legislative assault, violence against gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people is on the rise," said Kerry Lobel executive director of NGLTF. "What begins as rhetoric, can often have tragic consequences."

Atlanta police said this bombing, the fourth to strike the city in seven months, has similarities to a January double-bombing at an Atlanta abortion clinic and the deadly July attack at the Olympic Games. All are thus far unsolved.

"We encourage FBI and local law enforcement officials to do everything in their power to solve these bombings," Lobel continued. "They are acts of cowardice, that strike out against innocent bystanders."

NGLTF has written to President Clinton, Attorney General Reno and FBI Director Freeh, to alert them of the incident and call for their action.

"My purpose in writing you, Mr. President, is to echo concerns we have voiced to you earlier about the rising rhetoric of hate in this country and its devastating results," wrote executive director Kerry Lobel in a letter to the President dated February 22. We ask you to speak out loudly against this crime, as you did in double-bombing of the women's health clinic, deadly attacks at the Olympic Games, and burnings of black and multi-racial churches. The time has come for people of good will from all across America to speak out against hate in our country."

In another letter to Attorney General Janet Reno, NGLTF's Lobel asked the Department of Justice to closely monitor the situation, and, if necessary, lend assistance to local law enforcement authorities "to ensure the collection of all needed information to determine whether or not this was a hate crime."

Georgia civil rights and hate crimes laws do not include sexual orientation. The state also has a same-gender sodomy law. According to executive director Lobel, "Today we stand with Georgians who are working every day to fight against discrimination and for their civil rights. Like them, we will not rest until this bomber is brought to justice."

NGLTF urges anyone with information to call FBI and Bureau of Alcohol Tobacco and Firearms hotline at 1-888-ATF-BOMB.

LGLV Library Brick

Last year, Greg Valiga paid \$50 for a commemorative brick to be placed in the new library. The library had encouraged citizens and organizations to get involved with the library by doing this. Greg's brick read "League of Gay and Lesbian Voters." A library representative expressed concern that the brick might be vandalized.

What nobody counted on, however, was that something would happen to the brick before it was even laid. When the workers were first asked to lay the brick they refused. Then somehow the brick was broken. No one seems to know what happened to it. A replacement had to be ordered. When the replacement eventually arrived the brick was given to a construction supervisor who gave it to one of the bricklayers who finally did end up laying the brick.

News of the incident became public when Brian Kinal of the *Erie Daily Times* mentioned it in his December 12th column. The day after that Hal Slaughter brought up the subject on his talk show on WLKK. He had spoken to someone from the library, he said, and they had confirmed it. Slaughter expressed outrage about the incident, calling it a case of bigotry. Slaughter asked why these workers weren't fired for refusing to do their job. He asked what if they had refused to place a brick bought by the NAACP. He implored Erie to "wake up," saying "Gay men and lesbians are your sisters and brothers, your co-workers, your neighbors."

Though at first met with bigotry in the form of the workers' refusal to lay it, the brick was laid and no more incidents have been reported. The brick can be seen in the lobby by the entrance to the H.O. Hirt auditorium.

Entertainment notes

by Deb Spilko

Travel

Check out the **LGLV Toronto Trip** on page 7. This looks like a good time for a good price. If you haven't been to this classy city, this trip could be a great way to check it out with some friends. If you're nervous about leaving your car behind, you'll be happy to know that Toronto has an absolutely fantastic (and safe and clean) mass transit system that is often easier to deal with than driving or finding parking. Also, a lot of stuff is within walking distance of where you'd be staying. There will be people from Pittsburgh who will be taking the trip as well, so it will be a good way to meet some new folks. They'll be leaving from Pittsburgh, then on to Erie. A Meadville or North Chautauqua County stop could probably be arranged if there were enough people...call LGLV if you're interested.

Television

According to the most recent reports, **Ellen DeGeneres'** character on *Ellen* may finally be allowed to come out. The date—if it happens this season—is April 30, which will put the episode into the May sweeps period. DeGeneres did ad lib a coming out scene in the episode which aired February 5. In that episode, which took place at a rock 'n' roll fantasy camp, Ellen and her "group" are performing "I'm Scared of Being Afraid" onstage with Bonnie Raitt, David Crosby and Aaron Neville. During the song, in which DeGeneres' character performs lead vocals, she broke into her own lyrics which went: "So here's what I have to say, And by the way, I'm gay! It's okay!" Reportedly, as she sang "I'm gay! I'm gay!" over and over again, the audience responded with wild enthusiasm. That part of the song, however, never aired.

Other *Ellen* news... the program was going to be put "on hiatus" from March to May, while ABC tried out Arsenio Hall's new comedy in *Ellen*'s time slot, but, apparently because of a lot of protest, orchestrated by GLAAD (the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation), *Ellen* will be seen on Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m. (following *Roseanne*) starting March 4.

If you're keeping up on all the news in this story, note that GLAAD maintains an extensive "Ellen Watch" at their website at <http://www.glaad.org/glaad/glaad.html>. The religious right is hammering ABC and Disney about keeping poor Ellen in the closet, so if you want to counter that, contact: Jamie Tarses, ABC Television Network, 2040 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles CA 90067. Fax: 310-557-7679, e-mail: abcaudr@ccabc.com. By the way, if you're hesitant about writing letters like this, because you "don't know what to write," just remember that a sentence or two is really all that's needed to convey support or protest over something. In this case "Please let Ellen come out of the closet" would be all that's needed to get the idea across. Oh, and politeness is recommended.

Bars

Leeward Lounge has a couple events coming up in March, but at press time the dates weren't nailed down. The events are an auction to benefit the American Cancer Society, and Andrea Michaels and Co. (drag act). Stop by the bar to find out dates.

Film & Video

The Movie Stop has new titles: *Bound* is here...a gangster flick with a love scene between Gina Gershon and Jennifer Tilly that has made Gershon major lesbian heartthrob. (Advisor for the scene was former *On Our Backs* editor and lesbian sexpert Susie Bright). Also: *First Wives' Club* (a Girlfriend movie with a good lesbian subplot), and *Courage Under Fire* (in which Meg Ryan plays a female helicopter pilot displaying major bravery). The very very gay-positive episode of *The Simpsons* (which aired February 16) featured the voice of gay director John Waters as an out antiques dealer. For those of you who are unfamiliar with Waters' works, they include *Pink Flamingos*, *Female Trouble*, *Desperate Living*, *Polyester*, *Cry-Baby*, and *Serial Mom*, most or all of which are at The Movie Stop. They are all comedies, the first few being of the demented variety.

Last month while listing the suggested Valentine's movie titles, I wrote that people should make sure not to get *Sirens* (with Hugh Grant) instead of the lesbian

love story *Siren*. Well, on a tip from a woman who said the movie *Sirens* (with Hugh Grant) was quite erotic. I checked the movie out and found a dreamy comedy about art, religion and the erotic, with a Sapphic thing suffused throughout.

Theater

Directors Circle presents *Lips Together, Teeth Apart* March 13 through March 29. The play was written by gay playwright Terrence McNally. Directors Circle is at 1505 State. Reservations/information 454-0636.

Pittsburgh's **Upstairs Theater** will be presenting the Tony-winning play *Love! Valour! Compassion!* Also written by Terrence McNally, this comedy play is about seven gay men who get together over three summer weekends and hash out their passions, resentments and fears. It runs from April 9-26 (Thursdays through Saturdays at 8 p.m.). Reservations required; admission \$10. Info/reservations 412-361-5443.

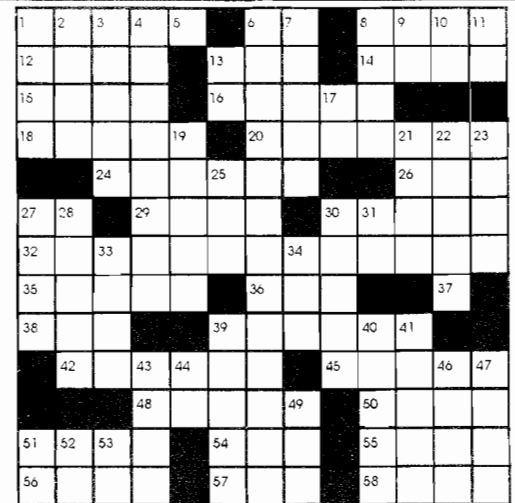
Reading

Christopher Street and the **New York Native** recently stopped publication. *Christopher Street*, which had been published since 1976, contributed greatly to gay male literature, giving national exposure to a generation of gifted writers like Andrew Holleran, Edmund White, Randy Shilts, Felice Picano, Robert Ferro, and others in a time when gay writing was not accepted in mainstream publishing. Reports have it that *Christopher Street* and the *Native* may have lost support when their publisher, Charles Ortlev, began using the publications to push his idea that HIV is not the cause of AIDS.

Sports

TV Host tells about women's college basketball coverage for this month: ESPN delivers the NCAA Women's Selection Special March 9. Once the 64 women's teams are placed in tournament brackets, ESPN will televise 15 of the tournament games (beginning March 16). If you miss some of the games, catch ESPN's two NCAA Women's Tournament Highlight Shows March 15 and 17. Again ESPN provides Final Four news, analysis and on-site coverage—this time from Cincinnati Ohio—starting with the March 26 SportsCenter. ESPN wraps up women's college basketball action with all three Final Four games: the two semifinals March 28 and the 1997 NCAA Women's Championship game March 30.

EGCN Crossword by Mike Miller



Across: * March birthdays

- 1 Hawaiian hello
- 6 Kate Hepburn's bio title
- 8 Songwriter Tommy
- 12 Singer/songwriter Mitchell
- 13 Ache
- 14 Roman poet
- 15 "Speak softly and carry ___ stick"
- 16 PWA advocacy grp.
- 18 *City of Night* author John *
- 20 Gay poet A.E. *
- 24 Football team
- 26 McGraw or Muhammed
- 27 *International Male* for short
- 29 Indigo dye
- 30 Next month
- 32 Day celebrating things Celtic
- 35 Tennis star Ivan
- 36 Vietnam to a vet
- 37 Entertainment channel
- 38 Buchwald or Linkletter
- 39 Lovers' hands are often this
- 42 Pagan Goddess of Spring
- 45 *Bolero* composer Maurice *
- 48 Bad things
- 50 Cleo's river
- 51 Hairy gay man?
- 54 1975 ABBA hit
- 55 Pre-commitment party?
- 56 Jazz great Fitzgerald
- 57 Superlative suffix
- 58 Thanksgiving side dish

Down:

- 1 descriptor for *Ellen's* closet door?
- 2 Site for a piercing
- 3 "How nice" Riunite was this way
- 4 Scotland
- 5 Sandra Bernhard's *The ___-List*
- 6 Belonging to Sistine sculptor*
- 7 Bespectacled gay musician John*
- 8 Gay slang for Butches
- 9 Tanner's concern
- 10 Symbol for Nickel
- 11 Playwright Albee to friends
- 13 12-Step program
- 17 Unitarian Universalist for short
- 19 1983 Streisand film
- 21 Antony or Singer
- 22 Similar
- 23 Physicist Bohr
- 25 Bigshot
- 27 Madonna hit *La ___ Bonita*
- 28 Woman's name (var.)
- 30 Protective covering
- 31 Transcendental number
- 33 1985 film *___ the Night*
- 34 Cigarette smoker's concern
- 39 Get up
- 40 Gay rock group *___ Division*
- 41 1997 Madonna vehicle
- 43 Doris Day hit *Que Sera, ___*
- 44 Transvestite for short
- 46 Actor Jack
- 47 Gams
- 49 Loud and fast plane
- 51 Unisex Calvin Klein scent *CK ___*
- 52 1961 film *___ Cid*
- 53 Pacino or Jarreau

MediAction

by **Al Kielwasser**

CRITICAL MASS . . . Since its Fall debut, "Spin City" has made a singular effort at inclusion and diversity. Indeed, this ABC sitcom is currently the only primetime series to feature an African-American gay character in a recurring role.

For at least one reviewer, however, "Spin City" could do even better. Of the show's February 11 plot, "USA Today" critic Matt Roush wrote: "In a Valentine's episode of romantic misadventure, Mike (Michael J. Fox) is enlisted to masquerade as Carter's (Michael Boatman) lover when Carter's ex (Luke Perry) shows up with a fiancée. Mike's panic at playing gay is below this show's dignity. It would have been fresher if he'd willingly gone along with the joke only to learn (to his dismay) he was lousy at it."

Whatever the other faults or merits of this critique, Roush does what very few mainstream critics have ever done: recognize heterosexism as a critical concern. Given the diminished expectations that homophobia encourages, his review is also an admirable reminder. Always expect the media's best, or it's the least they can do.

C o n t a c t : Matt Roush, Critic, and David Mazzarella, Editor, "USA Today," 1000 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA 22229, fax 703-247-3290, e-mail editor@usatoday.com; Jamie Tarses, Entertainment President, ABC, 2040 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles, CA 90067, fax 310-557-7679, e-mail abcaudr@ccabc.com.

WEB WATCH . . .

***** COLOR-FULL SITE . . .** An online magazine dedicated to gay and lesbians of color, "Blackout" offers news releases, reviews, stories, interviews, a national events calendar, links galore and a live chat page.

According to producers, "It's as glossy as the Internet is ever going to get!" [<http://www.networkamerica.com/~dagarrat/blackout>].

***** BOOK REPORT . . .** An online picture book written for, but not exclusively to, the children of gay or lesbian parents is now available at Open Prairie Syndicate's web site [<http://www.visi.com/~oprairie/hoover/book/book.html>]. The book — "If the Sun Were Queer" — was inspired by the Sharon Bottoms travesty and similar cases nationwide, where children have been removed from or denied placement in a queer parent's home. Online for over a year, the Open Prairie Syndicate regularly "showcases cartoonists who work outside of the mainstream press" — including Alison Bechdel's "Dykes to Watch Out For" [<http://www.visi.com/~oprairie/>].

***** LESBIAN LAUGHTER . . .** Laugh Lines Press — "publisher of award-winning lesbian humor books" — now has a website [<http://www.outbooks.com/laughlines>].

***** MENTOR-BY-MODEM . . .** A "Mentoring Site for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered Youth, Young Adults and their Friends" is currently under development [<http://www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/6210>]. According to creator Randy Olson, his new site is intended to provide "an additional resource for youth to obtain support, answers to their questions, and other information, through an online network of mentors, peer and adult." Among the featured pages is "Our Stories, Our Lives" — a compilation of "people's stories and experiences as they relate to coming out, dealing with sexuality, homophobia, etc." "Anyone interested in sharing their stories can reply via e-mail (olsonra@pacbell.net) or directly at the website," says Olson.

Crossword Solution:

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

Sex & Health

Do leprechauns have wee green ones? Who knows, but if you get lucky this month, Fiesta, Gold Circle Rainbow and Lifestyles color condoms will let you playfully don the wearin' o' the green!

If you don't care much for the water based lubricants that are on the market, there's something new under the sun! It's called Body Silk, and it's getting rave reviews! It does not contain glycerin, and has more of an oily feel to it. It's available from gay bookstores and sex boutiques and adult bookstores.

Do you use withdrawal (pulling out before ejaculating) as an alternative to using condoms? If so, you may be interested in knowing what they call straight people who use withdrawal for birth control: Parents! There's a lot that makes withdrawal a shaky method—the insertive male has to have a lot of control and concern for his partner, and there is some pre-cum before ejaculation. Teenagers are particularly discouraged from doing withdrawal

because they often haven't developed the necessary self-control. In short, if you don't have a condom and you insist on having vaginal or anal intercourse, withdrawal is better than nothing. But it's still a shaky proposition.

AIDS educators (and some regular LesBiGay people) have for a long time said that labeling people as "gay male" "lesbian", straight, etc. are not good when talking about what people do in bed. Lately two good examples of that have popped up. JoAnne Loulan, lesbian sexuality author, fell in love with a man. Tom Robinson, the rock musician who wrote and recorded the 1979-ish anthem "Glad to Be Gay" revealed he has had a monogamous relationship with a woman for the past ten years. Both Loulan and Robinson insist they are still very gay. And of course we often come across "straight" people who have sex with their own gender. So, when thinking about safer sex, one needs to think about what sex acts one does, not what one calls oneself.

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!



EGCN Personals

TO PLACE AN AD send text of your ad with check payable to EGC Coalition to:

EGCN Personal Ads
PO Box 3063
Erie, PA 16508-0063

Personals are \$10/month for first 150 characters including spaces plus \$1 for every additional 10 characters.

ALL Ads must be accompanied by check, return address, phone number, and signed statement saying that you are over 18 years of age. This information will be held confidential.

EGCN reserves the right to edit ads for length or objectionable content.

TO REPLY TO AN AD send your reply in a sealed, stamped envelope with the Box # of the ad to which you are replying printed on the center. This envelope must then be placed inside another sealed envelope addressed to:

EGCN Personal Replies Box# _____
PO Box 3063
Erie, PA 16508-0063

EGCN will then forward your reply. Any ads or replies not containing all necessary information will be returned to sender or, if there is no return address, discarded.

EGCN assumes no further responsibility for outcome of ads or forwarding of replies beyond that outlined above.

A gourmet chef who does "it" with taste thinks being alone is really a waste. I'm not into drugs. I also don't smoke. I have a good sense of humor and enjoy clever jokes. I drink vintage wine with dinner at eight. I love the theatre and am never late. I like Asian males, blonds and redheads too. I prefer younger guys, ages 18-42. Box# 003

GWM, 34 Slim, likes movies and outdoors. Seeks similar for possible relationship, must be kind. Box# 004

**Remember:
the deadline for
getting stuff into the
April issue is March 15.**

Resource Directory

All phone numbers are area code 814 unless otherwise noted. Not all resources are necessarily gay-owned nor serve primarily lesbian/gay 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
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 Bed and Breakfast (905)871-1265
Niagara Region, Ontario, Canada. \$65 / Night including breakfast for two.

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. Email TheEmbers@aol.com or browse http://members.aol.com/TheEmbers/
Leeward Lounge ▼ (216)964-9935
1022 Bridge St, Ashtabula OH. Open 7 days, 7 pm - 2:30 am, food til 1:30 am. Fri & Sat - S1 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

Aroma's Coffeehouse ▼ 456-5282 (452-JAVA)
2164 W 8th St, Erie. M-Thurs 7am-11pm Fri 7am-1am. Sat 9am-1am, Sun 9am-4pm. Gay friendly, non-smoking coffeehouse, retail store, whole bean sales. Sandwiches, salads, soups and desserts. Large quiet deck in good weather. Bike rack. Plenty of free reading material and games. Smoking permitted on deck.

la bella bistro 454-3616
 556 W 4th St, Erie PA. Lunches Wed-Fri 11:30 pm-2:00 pm. Dinners Wed-Sat 5:00-10:00 pm. No liquor license, but welcome to bring own alcoholic beverages. Fine dining restaurant, price range from 10.00-25.00, average \$12.00 per entree. Gay friendly, transgendered individuals welcome. Romantic ambience, wheelchair accessible. Smoking and non-smoking sections available. Catering services and party rooms available.

Coffeeright © 451-6976
 Located in the main concourse of the new library/maritime museum complex, 17 East Front Street. Hours: (Same as the library-will change as library/museum hours change) Mon & Tue 9-9, WT & F 9-8 and Sat 9-5. Gay friendly, non-smoking coffeehouse serving a wide array of baked goods, desserts, sandwiches, soups, salads and snacks. Wheelchair accessible.

Cup-a-Cino's ▼ 456-1511
 18 North Park Row, Erie PA. Email: cups@erie.net. Mon-Wed 7:30 am - 11 pm, Thurs-Fri. 7:30 am - 12 mid., Sat 9 am-midnight. Sun 10 am-5 pm. 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.

Counseling

Louanne Barton, Ph.D. 871-7682
 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 LSW 836-9622
 Gay and Lesbian National Hotline (6 pm - 11 pm. Mon.-Fri).
 1-888-THE-GLNH (1-888-843-4564)

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) 781-6736
Gay and Lesbian National Hotline (6 pm.- 11 pm. Mon.-Fri).
 1-888-THE-GLNH (1-888-843-4564)
 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
Directors Circle Theatre ▼ 454-0636
 1505 State 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
Rainbow Pride Gift Shop ▼ (716) 881-6126
 175 Hodge St (corner of Elmwood Ave), Buffalo NY
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 lglerie@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

Temple Anshe Hessed (Reform Congregation) 454-2426
 930 Liberty St, Erie.

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)484-7285 (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 Social Grp (NY) (716) 673-3192 (Vince)
..... or N County Infoline 716-679-3560
Social group for lesbians in northern half of county. Meets 4th Mon 7 - 9 pm, also fish fry 2nd Friday of the month.

Menspace 456-9833 (Michael)
Social group for gay/bi men. Meets second Sat (unless otherwise noted), location varies. Call 456-9833 for more info or email egcn@ncinter.net

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 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 529, Edinboro PA 16412. Email ClosetCltr@aol.com

Covenant House Teen Hotline 1-800-999-9999
Identity ☞ 732-3779 (Christie Hudson)
..... or 732-2555 (Dr. Dave Herendeen)

Student group for lesbian & allies at Edinboro Univ. Meets every Wed at 8:30pm in 125 Hendricks Hall. Write to Identity, c/o 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 lesbian 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 rabbgr@jccw22.cc.sunyjc.edu

National Runaway Switchboard 1-800-621-4000

SUNY-Fredonia GLBSU (716)673-3139 or (716) 673-3149
Meets Tuesdays at 8pm in Williams Center. All welcome. Email to glbsu0000@fredonia.edu.

Teen Hotline (412)771-8336

Trigon (Penn State Behrend) 898-6030
..... or (Sue Daley) 898-6164

For Behrend students, faculty, alumni. Write: College Mailroom, Box 1054, Behrend College, Station Rd, Erie, PA 16563. Email to Danny at trigon@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, 1903 W 8 St, Suite 261, Erie, PA 16505.

Lambda Group—Gay AA ▼ 452-2675

Alcoholics Anonymous for Lesbians. Open discussion. Meets Sunday at 8:00 pm at Unitarian Universalist Congreg of Erie, 7180 New Perry Hwy. 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 lesbian parents and their families; play group for kids in western NY, northeast OH, and northwest PA. Affiliated with Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International. Write to: NCRF, PO Box 254, Fredonia, NY 14063. Email to: glpcerie@aol.com

PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) see below

PFLAG-Ashtabula OH (216)964-3350

Meets the last Friday of each month, 7:00 pm., 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 at St. John's Oklahoma Lutheran Church at the corner of Maple Ave & Shaffer Road in DuBois. Write to PFLAG-DuBois, 1191 Treasure Lake, DuBois PA 15801 Email: peanux@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 of Human Svcs Ctr, 130 West North St, New Castle.

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (SCA) 453-5656 (Erie Hotline)

Meets Tuesdays 7:30 pm at Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Web site: <http://www.sca-recovery.org/>

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

Women's Services of Crawford County (24 hour) ▼ (814)333-9766

National Domestic Violence Hotline (800)799-SAFE (7233)

HIV/AIDS Directory

National

AIDS Hotline 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 - Tami Shilling 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. 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. Meets 2nd Monday of the month at Well Being Center, 710 Beumont.

GEGASHI 451-6727

Gays Educating Gays About Sexual Health Issues. Sponsored by Erie County Health Department. Meets 3:30pm on selected Thursday in selected months.

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. Email them at nwpaids@erie.net

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 6:30-8:00 pm (Note winter hours!) at Catholic Charities, St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 East Grandview Blvd.

Jamestown NY/Chautauqua Co.

AIDS Community Services ▼ (716)664-7855

Jamestown AIDS Group (716)488-1070

For HIV infected and affected people. Meets 1st Thursday at the home of Hop and Cindy Chase, 1115 Prendergast Ave in Jamestown.

Meadville PA/Crawford County

Case Manager - Sue Bobosky (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 - Sue Bobosky (800)359-AIDS

Case Manager - Tami Shilling (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

Subscribe! Don't Miss an Issue!
 Only \$15 a Year!



EGCN



Erie Gay Community News

Name _____

Address _____

City, State Zip _____

Send \$15 Check to:

EGC Coalition

PO Box 3063

Erie, PA 16508-0063

Newsletters are mailed discreetly in a security envelope every month for a year. All information held in confidence.

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). If you hear of an event, please also send it to that address and include a first line of "Publish EMAIL".

Our Web Site is our one stop for lesbigay local info! <http://www.ncinter.net/~egcn/>

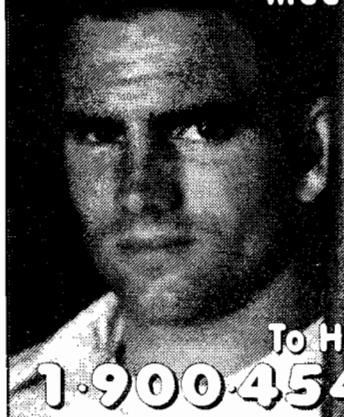


18 North Park Row, Erie, PA
456-1151

Mon-Wed
7:00am-9:00pm
Thurs-Sat
7:00am-12:00mid
Sun
10:00am-5:00pm

The Coffee That *Dances* On Your Tongue

Pennsylvania Area
Meet Men Now!!



To Hear Ads Call:

1-900-454-4856

To Use Your Credit Card Call:

1-800-443-7588

MANFINDER C/S: 415-281-3183, Must Be 18+, \$1.99/Min.



AIDS Benefit at The Embers

Saturday March 8th

All Local Talent

Your MC's for the night will be

**Miss Embers-Michelle Michaels
and Miss Bobbi B**



Coming Soon DJ Music Mon-Sat

The Embers 1711 State Street

