

May 1997



EGCN

Erie Gay Community News

Inside:
Summer
fun!

Calendar

May 3—2 girls alone! at Caffe Royale 9pm-midnight. Caffe Royale is located at 10th & French.

☛ **May 3—Trigon/Closet Culture Summer Invasion Youth Night at Embers** "End-of-semester BLOW-out and kick off summer with Closet Culture, Embers and Trigon. 18 to get in, 21 to drink (must have proper photo ID). 9 pm until you hook up (a.k.a. 1:00 am.) Prizes! Be dressed in summer theme!" For more info email Trigon at trigon@psu.edu or go to <http://www.erie.net/~embers>

May 3—Womynspace: Swap Meet & Raffle "Bring items to trade...good working condition only. Extra items will be donated to the U.U. for their garage sale [see May 17].

Five great prizes to be raffled off. Have fun and take home a prize! For information and location, call Sal at 454-2713. Newcomers welcome."

May 3 & 4—Virginia Slims Legends 1997 Tour (Pittsburgh)

Billy Jean King, features Martina Navratilova, Chris Evert, Tracy Austin, Virginia Wade, Evanne Goolagong, Wendy Turnbull, Hana Mandlikova, Pam Shriver, and Zina Garrison Jackson. A benefit for Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force will be part of this event. Info: 412-242-2500 or Email: patf@trfn.clpgh.org. Please note Email address was incorrect last issue!

May 4—LGLV-Erie Meets Info: Dave Mulholland 898-4210.

☛ **May 5—MSM (Men Who Have Sex with Men) AIDS Awareness Meeting** At the Avalon Hotel at 10th & State, 2nd floor, 6pm. Refreshments provided. Call Tom Lee at 455-2054 for more info.

☛ **May 6—Mrs. Doubtfire (1993)** Fox 8 pm.

☛ **May 7—Fifth Anniversary Gala: Citizens Against Racism in Erie** See article in "Local News," page 9.

☛ **May 9—Lizzy Bordon's: CC Rae Show** 11:30 pm. Cover \$3.00. Mary from Lizzy's says "This is not a drag show. CC Rae is a variety show full of dance numbers, comedy and entertainment. This year, the show has new material and a new look, including the addition of Polly Griffin, a

lesbian, who will be joining the show." This will be an 18 and over night. 3412 W 12th St Erie, 833-4059.

☛ **May 9—Biography—Tyronne Power: The Last Idol** A&E 8 pm, midnight. Profiles the early 20th century actor; not known if this program will deal with his relationships with other men (for more on that, read *The Secret Life of Tyronne Power* by Hector Arce).

☛ **May 10—Leeward Lounge: CC Rae (Ashtabula)** 10:30 pm

☛ **May 10—Fantasy Ball (Buffalo NY)** Hamlin House, 432 Franklin St, \$15 ea or \$25/ couple, includes open bar till midnight and dancing. Fantasy dress required. Info Ron at (716)847-2434.

Continued on page 3



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On the Cover:
Mommies Queerest
 by
 Micheal A. Miller

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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/>



Items to send us in May

June/Pride Month Events
 Graduations & Commitment ceremonies
May 15-- Deadline for all June events AND 4th of July weekend events!



EGCN
Erie Gay Community News

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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 nonfiction 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 April issue!

Thanks to Paul Grubbs and William Sherow for helping us to collate the April issue of *EGCN*! Also, belated thanks to Bernie Bright for helping to collate the March issue (and an apology for the omission!)

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

May 11—Happy Mother's Day!

☛ **May 11—*In the Life*** WNEQ (PBS-Buff./Ch.23) 11 pm. Gay and lesbian news magazine.

☛ **May 11—*Q Classic: The Lion in Winter (1968)*** WQLN (PBS-Erie/Ch. 54) 4 pm. Drama about the Plantagenet family, with Anthony Hopkins as Richard the Lion-hearted, whose affair with the King of France is revealed though not portrayed. Katherine Hepburn, playing Eleanor of Aquitaine, is full of witty, acerbic zingers.

☛ **May 11—*Breakfast at Random House: Louisa May Alcott*** WQLN (PBS-Erie/FM 91.3) 4:30 pm. Profiles the lesbian author of *Little Women*.

☛ **May 11—*Fried Green Tomatoes (1991)*** USA 3 pm. Repeats 5/12 10 am.

☛ **May 11, 13 & 14—*The Last Don (1997)*** On CBS. k.d. lang will appear in this six-hour mob miniseries. Based on the novel by Mario Puzo (*The Godfather*), lang plays a film director.

May 12—*Friends from the Heart Meets* 6 pm Well Being Center, 710 Beaumont. Info Deb Monohon 838-0123

☛ **May 12—*Biography—Barbara Stanwyck: Straight Down the Line*** A&E 8 pm. Interesting title for a profile of the actress whose friend Clifton Webb once called her "my favorite American lesbian," and whose marriage to gay actor Robert Taylor was arranged by the film studio. This profile may or may not go into all that.

May 13—*HIV/AIDS Support Group meets* Call Cheryl Weber at 825-1085 for more info.

☛ **May 15—*Quantum Leap: "Good Night, Dear Heart"*** Sci-Fi Channel 7 pm. and 11 pm. Uncharacteristic of the progressive nature of this TV drama, this homophobic episode could have been written by someone from the religious right. After a lot of angry letters, and some sincere soul-searching, the producers made a pro-gay rights episode ("Running for Honor") and a gay-positive sequel to "Good Night" was issued in the *Quantum Leap* comic book series.

☛ **May 16—*Me'Shell NdegéOcello in concert (Buffalo)*** At Marquee (716)852-0522.

May 16-19—*Jones Pond Queen-for-a-day (Angelica NY)* Fri, Sat & Sun DJ, dancing & bonfire 9pm-1am. Sat-Continental Breakfast, Sun-Tea Dance, Mon-Victoria Day (Canada). For more info, call (716) 567-8100

May 16-18—*Rabbi David Saperstein: Issues in Church-State Separation* At Temple Anshe Hessed, cosponsored by NW PA Chapter of Americans United. There will be a talk at 4pm at temple Anshe Hessed followed by a reception on Saturday, May 17. For more information call Temple at 454-2426.

May 16-18—*People of All Colors Together/Youngstown 14th Anniversary Celebration (Youngstown OH)* Friday - welcoming reception, registration, then out to the bars. Saturday - registration and picnic style lunch, free time in the afternoon, evening is anniversary banquet, Sunday - have breakfast in Millcreek Park ("A Youngstown tradition") Info 330-550-0805.

May 17—*LGLV Victoria Day Fundraiser* See article "LGLV news". Call Dave at 898-4210 for more info.

May 17—*Unitarian Universalist Garage Sale* 9 am-3 pm. For more info see article in "Local news" or call 864-9300 between 9 am and noon weekdays.

May 17—*10% Network: Regular meeting (Jamestown)* Call John at (716) 484-7285 for more info. See "Entertainment Notes" for more on 10% Network.

May 17—*Ellen Beitel Memorial Reverse Raffle (Ashtabula)* Benefits Ashtabula Co. HIV/AIDS Task Force & Friends Support Group. O'Leary Hall, Mother of Sorrows School, 1514 W. 6th St in Ashtabula. Doors open 6 pm. Open bar, dinner, entertainment. Donation \$50, checks payable to American Red Cross. Tickets available at Leeward Lounge.

May 17—*Women's Golf Outing (Pittsburgh)* Hosted by Renaissance City Choirs. Info 412-766-5088. "Beginners and experienced alike can enjoy this scramble tournament."

☛ **May 17—*Me'Shell NdegéOcello in concert (Cleveland)*** At Odeon Concert Club, 216-732-5331. Tickets at Ticketmaster.

☛ **May 19—*Pride Erie '97 Work Party*** 2pm. "We're making posters and Rainbow Pride ribbons." Call Michael at 456-9833 or email egcn@ncinter.net for info.

☛ **May 19—*L7 in concert (Cleveland)*** At Agora Theatre 216-881-6700.

☛ **May 19—*Luscious Jackson in concert (Pittsburgh)*** At Metropol. 412-261-2232.

May 20—*Pennsylvania Primary Election*

☛ **May 20—Not in Our Town II: Citizens Respond to Hate** WQLN (PBS-Erie/Ch. 54) 10 pm.

☛ **May 21—HIV/AIDS Service Network Meets** 4-6 pm at the Episcopal Cathedral of Saint Paul, 134 W 7th St, Erie. Call 452-3779 for more info.

☛ **May 23—Annual Miss Buffalo Boat Ride (Buffalo)** Benefits Gay & Lesbian Youth Services. Info: (716)855-0221.

May 23-26—Jones Pond Memorial Weekend (Angelica NY) Fri, Sat & Sun DJ, dancing & bonfire 9pm-1am. Sat-Continental Breakfast, JP Comedy Show at 9:30 pm. Mon-11AM Morning Service in Memorial Garden. Pool Opens. For more info, call (716) 567-8100

☛ **May 24—Menspace goes to the movies!** "Please note that we are meeting later than normal this month. We will be car-pooling to see the new movie version of Terrence McNally's *Love! Valour! Compassion!* It is not known as we go to press whether this will be playing in Erie or whether we will be doing a road trip to Cleveland. For information and location, call Michael around May 20th at 456-9833."

☛ **May 24—The Women of Brewster Place** Lifetime 8 pm. Portrait of seven black women, based on Gloria Naylor's book of the same title. Includes a lesbian couple. (If you're taping, note that this is 4 hours long).

☛ **May 24—Women of the Night** Lifetime 1 am. Ellen DeGeneres, Paula Poundstone, Judy Tenuta, Rita Rudner.

May 25—PFLAG-Erie meets 2:00 pm Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Info: Call Elaine Hill at 864-0184.

☛ **May 25—Erasure in concert (Cleveland)** At Cleveland Music Hall. Reservations 216-241-5555. Website: www.cleveland.com/belkin

May 25—Renaissance City Men's Choir & The Flirtations (Pittsburgh) Info 412-471-8208.

May 26—Memorial Day

☛ **May 26—Pittsburgh Memorial Day Picnic** At North Park Lodge. Tickets available locally at Embers. \$17 in advance, \$20 at the gate. Sponsored by Delta Foundation. Dancing, games, expanded menu. More details from GLCC at (412) 422-0114, or at W. Pa. Bars, *Planet Q* or Pittsburgh's *Out*.

May 27—HIV/AIDS Support Group meets Call Cheryl Weber at 825-1085 for more info.

☛ **May 27—Intimate Portrait: Anne Rice** Lifetime 7 pm. Interview with the author of the vampire Lestat series.

May 29—Gays Educating Gays About Sexual Health Issues (GEGASHI) meets 3:30 pm at Erie County Dept of Health, 606 W 2nd St, Erie. Phone 451-6727 or email gegashi@aol.com

May 30—PFLAG-Ashtabula meets Call Sharon at (216) 964-3350 for more info.

May 30-Jun 1—Jones Pond Leather I/Rawhide Weekend (Angelica NY) With "Cactus Kickers" from Buffalo. Fri, Sat, Sun DJ, dancing & bonfire 9pm-1am. Info: 716-567-8100.

☛ **Jun 1—Western New York AIDS Walk '97 (2 locations Buffalo & Jamestown)** This year the AIDS Walk will take place in Buffalo *and* Jamestown at the same time. The Walk benefits AIDS Community Services of Western New York. For details see article in "HIV/AIDS News" (page 16) or call 716-487-2498

☛ **Jun 1—"Rites of Hope Summer Celebration" Party by AIDS Coalition of Chautauqua County (Jamestown)** Post-party for AIDS Walk (see previous entry) and fundraiser at Hundred Acre lot at JCC Campus, Curtis Street. 5 Bands, food vendors, beer tent, vendors, raffles. 2 pm - 8pm. Zeta Cauliflower, Porcelain Bus Drivers, 5 Cubic Feet and 2 other bands. (716) 661-3039 from Russ Tilero

☛ **Jun 1—LGLV-Erie Meets** Info: Dave Mulholland 898-4210.

☛ **Jun 5—South County Support (formerly known as 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.

☛ **Jun 5—NWPA Rural AIDS Alliance Meeting/Social Gathering (Clarion)** "Open to both consumers and their guests. Meeting will focus on consumer issues and the social event will be a time for relaxing and getting acquainted. This is an opportunity for interested individuals to meet other consumers and staff members. Free of charge, with all food and beverages supplied. For further details and to RSVP, please call (800) 359-2437."

Open 7 Days a Week	Poppa Ropp's Video! 734-3014 Edinboro Mall	3 Movies 2 Days \$2.50**
Over 6,000 movies to choose from! **Plus tax, General titles only.		

☛ **Jun 6-8—Jones Pond Arts & Crafts Festival (Angelica NY)** Artists and craftsmen set up booths and display their crafts. Fri & Sat DJ, dancing & bonfire 9pm-1am. Sat & Sun: Craft show & sale. For more info, call (716) 567-8100

☛ **Jun 6-8—Buffalo Pride** Details on page 11.

☛ **Jun 7—Womynspace: Music featuring Laura P.** "Come, relax, enjoy. For information and location, call Sal at 454-2713. Newcomers welcome."

☛ **Jun 9—Friends from the Heart Meets** 6 pm Well Being Center, 710 Beaumont. Info Deb Monohon 838-0123.

☛ **June 9—12th Annual Interfaith AIDS Memorial Candlelight Service (Buffalo)** At Saint Paul's Episcopal Cathedral in Buffalo, 8 pm. Sponsored by Interfaith AIDS Network and AIDS Family Services. Info 716-881-7655.

☛ **Jun 10—HIV/AIDS Support Group meets** Call Cheryl Weber at 825-1085 for more info.

☛ **Jun 11—Happy Shavuot!**

☛ **June 12—Indigo Girls in concert (Cleveland)** At Blossom Music Center 216-566-8184.

☛ **June 13-15—Gay Invitational Fellowship Bowling Tournament (Cleveland)** Buckeye Lanes, N. Olmsted. "Pajama party theme." Info from Bob at 216-226-3471.

☛ **Jun 13-15—Jones Pond Yard Sale/RV Show (Angelica NY)** "Now's the time to clean out those closets! Wilkins RV will have units on display all weekend. Fri & Sat DJ, dancing & bonfire 9pm-1am. Sat: Sock Hop 9pm-1am. Sun: Family & friends invited for a day visit 9am-9pm. For more info, call (716) 567-8100"

☛ **Jun 14—Happy Flag Day!**

☛ **Jun 14—Menspace: Moved to Pride Picnic** "See you at Presque Isle on Saturday, the UU and Waldameer on Sunday with everyone else! For information, call Michael at 456-9833."

☛ **Jun 14—Happy Father's Day!!!**

☛ **Jun 14—Pittsburgh AIDS Walk '97** Sponsored by Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force. Info: 412-242-WALK (242-9255) or Email: patf@trfn.clpgh.org. (Please note that their email address was wrong last issue!)

☛ **June 14—GIFT Cruise on Lake Erie (Cleveland)** On Goodtimes III. Info from Bob at 216-226-3471.

☛ **Jun 14-15—Pride Erie 97** Picnic at Presque Isle State Park. Cabin 2 on Saturday June 14th beginning at 1 p.m. Interfaith Pride Service at UU on Sunday June 15th, followed by trip to local amusement park (Waldameer). Contact Michael at 456-9833 for more info. Call 456-9833 for details or if you'd like to get involved.

☛ **June 16—Dream On: "What Women Want"** Comedy Central, midnight. "Martin's manhood is threatened when he finds out that his girlfriend Stephanie's former lover 'Ryan' [Jennifer Tilly] is a woman. Things get worse when he finds himself competing against Ryan for Stephanie's affections." —David Chapman

☛ **Jun 20-22—Jones Pond Spring into Summer (Angelica NY)** "Seasonal appreciation Extra Special Event. Summer-time, fun-time activities of games and lots more! Fri & Sat DJ, dancing & bonfire 9pm-1am. Sat: 11am-2pm Volleyball, croquet, basketball, etc. free hot dogs, pop & ice cream, novelties. For more info, call (716) 567-8100"

☛ **Jun 18—HIV/AIDS Service Network Meets** 4-6 pm at the Episcopal Cathedral of Saint Paul, 134 W 7th St, Erie. Call 452-3779 for more info.

☛ **Jun 21—10% Network: Pride Month Potluck (Jamestown)** "Bring a dish to pass. Is there interest in a talent show?" Info: John at (716) 484-7285.

☛ **June 21—North Coast Mens Chorus presents Wizard of Oz in Concert at CSU (Cleveland)** Info 216-473-8919.

☛ **June 22—AJ Productions Family Picnic at Edgewater Park (Cleveland)** 216-556-1046.

☛ **Jun 24—HIV/AIDS Support Group meets** Call Cheryl Weber at 825-1085 for more info.

**Jones
Pond
Campground**


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

May 2-4 New years Celebration/Camp Opening

May 23-26 Memorial Weekend

May 24 JP Comedy Show 9:30 pm

*Adult Male Camping
135 Sites, Water & Electric
Camp Store, Pool
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☛ **Jun 27—PFLAG-Ashtabula meets** Call Sharon at (216) 964-3350 for more info.

☛ **Jun 28—Cleveland Pride Parade & Festival (Note date has been changed from June 21)** Parade assembles at noon, E. 22nd & Euclid. 1 pm-7pm-music, dancing, food court, entertainment, drink, vendors at Voinovich Park, behind Rock and Roll Hall of Fame. Details in June issue of *EGCN* and the *Chronicle*. Website: <http://members.aol.com/clevepride/join.htm>

☛ **Jun 29—Toronto Pride** Events all the previous week. Details in June issue of *EGCN*.

☛ **Jun 29—PFLAG-Erie: (Topic TBA)** 2:00 pm Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Info: Call Elaine Hill at 864-0184.

☛ **Jul 5—Womynspace: Annual 4th of July Picnic "No gathering at the U.U.** Bring a dish to share. For information and location, call Sal at 454-2713. Newcomers welcome."

☛ **Jul 6—Pittsburgh Three Rivers Boat Cruise** Tickets available locally at Embers. \$15 in advance, \$20 at the gate. Sponsored by Delta Foundation.

☛ **July 13—Dancin' in the Streets (Cleveland)** AIDS fundraiser/street party. Details in June issue or call AIDS Taskforce of Cleveland at 216-621-0766.

Festivals & conferences

☛ **May 22-26—Washington DC Black Pride Week-end** Info 202-961-1155.

☛ **May 22-June 1—Inside/Out Lesbian & Gay Film & Video Festival of Toronto** Info XTRA Hotline at 416-925-XTRA, ext. 2229 or website www.insideout.on.ca

☛ **June 7-8—PFLAG Poconos Regional Conference (Harrisburg PA)** Info from 202-638-4200; locally from Elaine Hill 864-0184.

☛ **June 27-29—Golden Threads Celebration (Provincetown)** For women over 50, and others. Info: GT Celebration, PO Box 131, N. Abington, Provincetown MA 02351.

☛ **July 4-6—World Conference of Gay, Lesbian, & Bisexual Jews (Dallas TX)** Info from Congregation Beth El Binah 214-497-1591 <http://global.org/beth.el.binah/>

☛ **July 7-12—National Association of Black & White Men Together Convention '97 (Charlotte NC)** Info 1-800-NA4-BWMT.

Reviews

Naked, by David Sedaris (Copy right 1997 by Little, Brown and Company, \$21.95)

reviewed by **Michael Mahler**

David Sedaris' *Naked* is a delightful book. The author has a wonderfully wicked sense of sarcasm, but is also capable of vulnerability. This work is mostly autobiographical, as opposed to his previous collection, *Barrel Fever*, which was mostly fiction and a few essays.

He grew up in Raleigh, NC, the grandson of Greek immigrants, in a family of six children. (His younger sister Amy was a cast member of *Exit 57* on Comedy Central.) His mother had a delightfully sharp tongue (and I thought my French ancestry gave my family natural bitchiness.)

Although the book deals with a lot of topics and situations apart from being gay, it does become featured in a few chapters. In one he writes about white teachers making fun of blacks as apes before busing, and then writes how hurt he felt when a black teacher in his newly integrated school did anti-gay humor:

"In late August my class schedule arrived along with the news that I would not be bused. There had been violence in other towns and counties, trouble as far away as Boston; but in Raleigh the transition was peaceful. Not only students but many of the teachers had been shifted from one school to another. My new science teacher was a black man very adept at swishing his way across the room, mocking everyone from Albert Einstein to the dweebish host of a children's television program as though it were an olive branch. 'Here,' they said, 'this is something we have in common, proof that we're all brothers under the skin.'"

Most of the book is principally about his family, but he does write about others (including his first boyfriend.) As in his previous book, he has a knack for capturing the absurd and nerdy while maintaining some compassion. and poking fun at himself.

Do yourself a favor, stop by your local bookseller (I got my copy at Barnes and Noble) and get yourself a copy. You might like his previous book, *Barrel Fever*, as well!

Entertainment notes

by Deb Spilko

On Exhibit

The **Lesbian and Gay Service Center of Cleveland** will be having a photo exhibit throughout the month of June entitled "**Love Makes a Family.**" The exhibit will open at the Beckwood Center in Lakewood on June 1 and rotate to several places, ending at the Cleveland Pride Celebration. The details were being finalized as we went to press, so you can call them at (216) 522-1999, email them at thecenter@earthlink.net or check their web page at <http://www.lgscs.org/>

What About AIDS is a traveling exhibit featuring photo essays and personal stories with video, computers and hands-on interactive devices. It will be at the Health Museum of Cleveland through spring of 1998. Also, photographer will be showing her exhibit *The Global Faces of AIDS: Photographs of Women*. A staged reading of Imani Harrington's play *Love and Danger* will be presented on May 9 and 10. For more information call 216-231-5010.

Groups

John from Jamestown's **10% Network** says they are thinking about having another Swap Meet for the men like the successful one they held in January. Let him know if you are interested and it will be scheduled for May or June. He also wants people to know that when you see a listing for "Regular meetings" at the church, it means they haven't planned anything in particular. "Many folks bring games, cards, etc., so they are available for those who wish to play," he says, "Or you can just visit with old and new friends." For information about 10% Network call John at 716-484-7285.

Film & Video

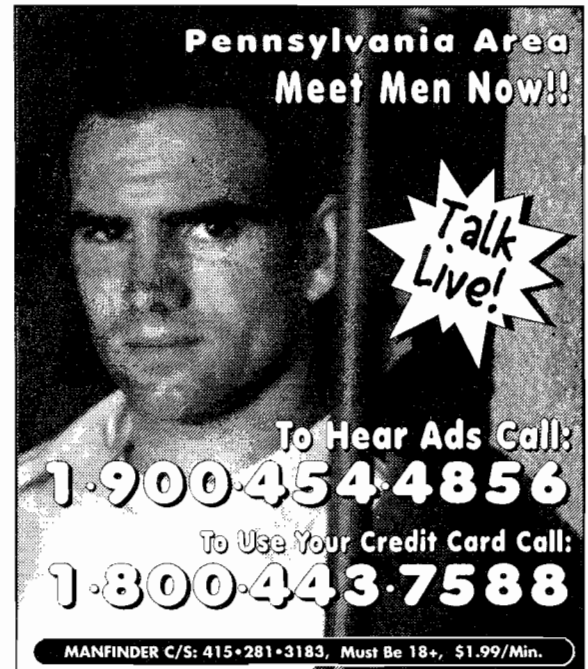
The Movie Stop has new titles: *Stonewall* (arriving 5/13, dramatized story set in the days of the Stonewall riots), *Beautiful Thing* (uplifting story about two London boys in love, 5/20), *Get On the Bus* (set during the Million Man March, 5/6), and *Losing Chase* (psychological drama/love story with Helen Mirren, 5/6),

Sling Blade is supposed to be appearing in May in Warren, Jamestown and Fredonia, but the dates are tentative at this time. Watch your film theater listings for correct dates. In the film, John Ritter plays a gentle and decent gay man who tries to help his straight woman friend (a victim of abuse by her male partner).

Television

In "Watching Dumbo: A Mother's Memories," an article that appears in this issue (page 13), Sharon Sutter mentions the ABC TV movie *Two Mothers for Zachary*. The movie is based on the story of Sharon Bottoms, a Virginia woman who lost custody of her son because she is a lesbian. The show originally aired in Sept 1996 and we tried to find out if ABC would air it again this month, because of the Mother's Day tie-in. ABC tells us that, at the present time, there are no plans to rerun that movie.

Gay comedian **Mark Davis** plays a gay character in the new sitcom *Fired Up* (NBC, Thursdays). Davis appeared in Comedy Central's *Out There*.



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Oh, how *mature*...right wing evangelist **Rev. Jerry Falwell** has been making a lot of public statements about "Ellen Degenerate." When *Time* magazine asked DeGeneres about that, she replied, "Really? He called me that? Ellen DeGenerate? I've been getting that since the fourth grade. I guess I'm happy I could give him work." So haha nyahnyah Jelly Foul Well-Fall Ill-Fooooo-Feel Willy!

Martin Mull (who has played Leon on *Roseanne* for the past six years) recently appeared on *Late Night with Conan O'Brian*. When O'Brian asked Mull what he thought about playing a gay person, he replied, "Nobody *really* believed Robin Williams was from Ork. Nobody *really* believed that Eddie Murphy was Gumby." And now we know what Mull *really* thinks of gay people.

This is hardly current, but with Jamestown's annual celebration of **Lucille Ball**, I thought it would be nice to pass along something she said to *People* magazine a few years before she died. Asked about gay rights, she replied, "It's perfectly alright with me. Some of the most gifted people I've ever met or read about are homosexual. How can you knock it?" Of course, someone wrote in and pointed out that one shouldn't have to be gifted to have rights.

Bars

Both Erie bars are having youth nights...now people 18 and over have a dance club to do when they're in **Pittsburgh**. Located upstairs at Donny's Place (1226 Heron Avenue—separate entrance), **Prizm** is open to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth every Saturday from 9 pm. till 2 am. Prizm is leased and operated by the Gay and Lesbian Community Center for young adults. I.D. is required, and a \$3 donation is requested. For info

call 412-422-0114 or check their web page at <http://www.geocities.com/SunsetStrip/Club/3929/>

Music

The release date for the **Laura Nyro** tribute album has been moved up to May 13. The lineup includes **Suzanne Vega, Sweet Honey in the Rock, Jill Sobule, The Roches, Rosanne Cash**, and others. The recording company, Astor Place, says they are not "cashing in" on Nyro's untimely death; work on the album actually began last year.

Publicity for the **Erasure** tour (called "The Cowboy Concert Tour") encourages concert attendees to "Wear a Stetson and bring your spurs." Unlikely accessories to wear to a crowded spectator event...I think if I were going, I'd round out the ensemble with shin guards and a big city phone book.

Cyberspace

New email addresses: **GEGASHI, Movie Stop & Sneakers** can be found in our Resource Directory.. New web sites in our region: **The Lesbian and Gay Community Center in Cleveland**: <http://www.lgscs.org/>, **The Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Pittsburgh**, <http://trfn.clpgh.org/glcc/>, and **Body Language** of Cleveland at <http://members.aol.com/bodyla3649>.

Karin in Fredonia is keeping a web page devoted to women-based web pages. The URL is <http://www.netsync.net/users/karin>.

People wanting to check out **Pride Events** in their favorite cities can visit the IAL/GPC Global Pride Calendar at <http://www.interpride.org/igc/nsaigc.htm>

la bella pistro
a restaurant where you can be free
to be yourself...
...or marlena dietrich,
whichever you prefer!
west fourth
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Women's sports on TV

LPGA Golf CBS 5/4 at 2 pm, 5/18 4pm, 5/25 4pm.
ABC 5/24 at 4pm
Race Car Driving 5/22 Lifetime 7 pm (*Breaking Through: Women Behind the Wheel*).
Soccer ESPN 5/10 at 12:30 am., 5/15 3:30 am.
ESPN2 5/31 1pm

Local news

Penn State update

We did not know it at the time, but when we published the information about the anti-gay Penn State student group that was trying to obtain official recognition from the University, it had already succeeded.

The student government group had denied a charter to the organization known as Students Reinforcing Adherence in General Heterosexual Tradition (STRAIGHT), but a campus appeals board overturned that decision March 6.

Penn State has a policy of tolerance and nondiscrimination, and opponents pointed out that STRAIGHT's goal to "thwart the agenda of the lesbian, gay and bisexual community" conflicted with university policy.

In its decision, the appeals board wrote that "while believing that STRAIGHT's purpose might be phrased in a more positive manner, which we encourage it to do, [the Appeals Board] nonetheless affirms that a university community should be open to a wide range of conflicting and diverse viewpoints, all of which may be freely expressed. This open exchange of ideas and viewpoints goes to the heart of the university and should not be abridged."

The STRAIGHT issue had attracted national attention.

UU Garage Sale

The Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie will hold its annual garage sale on Saturday May 17, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

The sale is a big fundraiser for the church, so if you'd like to help out the congregation that offers so much to our community, consider donating to or buying from the sale. Items will be collected May 11 through May 16. Drop things off between 9 a.m. to noon, or 6-9 p.m. It's best to call the church before dropping things off, just to make sure someone will be there to let you in.

For obvious reasons, they only want items that are in good condition. Also, to make work easier for the sale volunteers, the organizers ask that items should be brought to the sale like this:

1. Clothes are clean, hung up, or folded and sorted by size.

2. Dishes, cups, glasses will be washed and in sets (a single glass or bowl doesn't sell unless it's something special).

3. Holiday items will be sorted by holiday.

4. Books sorted—fiction, nonfiction, cookbooks, etc.

5. Children's toys will be clean and in good condition, with no missing parts.

Other items are certainly welcome, but this will give an idea of what they want.

For more information call the UU office at 864-9300 between 9 am. and noon.

Johnstown hate campaign

Johnstown, Pa.—A shotgun blast injured three patrons of Johnstown's newest gay bar, the Casa Nova Lounge, on March 9.

The Casa Nova has been under a siege of vandalism, violence and harassment since it opened in January. Trouble began when someone obtained flyers announcing the bar's "Blackout Blowout" party in February; they were altered to read "Blackout Blowjob," and reportedly stuffed into gay male porn magazines which were thrown onto neighbors' porches. At the March 3 township meeting, residents brought up the magazines and flyers and complained that they were a form of harassment by the gay patrons of Casa Nova. Joe Ellis, from LGLV-Johnstown, says that the "Fox and NBC affiliates reported each allegation as fact on every news broadcast," which may have aggravated the problem.

The shooting may have been committed by persons associated with the Ku Klux Klan. Two nights before the shooting, persons associated with the KKK were heard to be making plans for "kicking some faggot ass." On March 13, a local flower shop run by a Jewish transgender person was spray-painted by the KKK, and a cross was burned in her yard.

On March 14, members of the Anabaptist religion started a campaign of harassing and picketing the bar and its patrons to rid the County of "sodomites."

On March 17, a group of about 20 students went to the florist's shop and cleaned up the destruction. Local media did cover their activity adequately and fairly.

The straight couple who own the bar—Pat and Merrit Cramer—have vowed not to be intimidated. Some people from out of town are traveling to Johnstown to show their support (recently Pittsburgh's Lesbian Avengers sponsored a "Burn in Hell Night" trip to the bar). But the bar is suffering, and the campaign of harassment has cost them a lot of business.

For more information contact Joe Ellis, LGLV-Johnstown, PO Box 1205, Johnstown PA 15907-1205 (814)535-3803.

Fifth Anniversary Gala Being Held by Citizens Against Racism in Erie

To celebrate its five years of working to dismantle racism in Erie, Citizens Against Racism in Erie (CARE) is hosting an Anniversary Gala on Wednesday, May 7, from 4 to 6 pm. at St. James AM.E. Church, 236 East 11 Street in Erie. The public is invited to drop in. Refreshments will be served.

CARE was formed in early 1992 in response to the Ku Klux Klan announcing plans to hold a rally on a farm in western Erie County that spring. Many citizens who wanted to express their opposition to hate, bigotry and prejudice represented by the Klan, came together to organize a panel discussion on racism and a peaceful counter rally to celebrate diversity and tolerance.

Since then CARE has sponsored a number of meetings and projects in support of racial harmony, equity and justice in the Erie community. Unfortunately, the problems of hatred, prejudice, and institutional racism have not yet gone away.

CARE's Gala on May 7 afternoon will include refreshments, displays of its past work, testimonials by community leaders who have appreciated its efforts, and the showing of an educational video: "The Shadow of Hate." Other groups who share CARE's vision have been invited to set up display tables. The public is invited; there is no charge. Advance reservations are encouraged, by calling Rev. Bob Lewis at 452-3364, or Lesha Powell at 452-4072, ext. 229.

Deadline for June issue is May 15

LGLV news

by **Dave Mulholland**

The League of Gay and Lesbian Voters will be changing the format of its Voters Guide for this springs primary election. In an effort to focus our resources on legislative issues, the Voters Guide will not be published in its usual booklet format. Instead, candidate information will be published in the March issues of Planet Q, Pittsburgh Out, as well as other Lesbigan publications throughout the state. Please be sure to pick up a copy and to pass it along to a friend.

A Victoria Day Party will be sponsored by the League on Saturday May 17. The party will feature entertainment, food, and drink. Please mark your calender and contact us for information on the event. The number to call is 898-4210 or email at lglverie@ncinter.net.

Volunteers are needed to help with League activities in Crawford, Mercer, Warren, Forest, Clarion, Lawrence, and Venango counties. We need the support of people in these areas if we are to continue to evaluate candidates from these areas. The Voters Guide will always be distributed freely, but it is not without cost. Volunteers are also needed in the Erie area to help with new projects as the League continues to expand its role in the community.



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Buffalo Pride celebration

From Buffalo Pride Committee

Times and locations are all pretty much tentative at this time. The 1997 Pride events for WNY, as they now stand, are as follows:

Friday, June 6

Pride Show Local entertainment. 8 p.m. Buffalo & Erie Co. Library (downtown Buffalo).

Candlelight vigil 10:30 p.m.

Saturday, June 7

Pride Parade Step-off at 1 p.m. Will march down Delaware Avenue to Lafayette Square where it will join the Pride Festival.

Pride Festival Live music, entertainment, food, crafters, community merchants, and vendors.

Shades Dance Saturday evening at Hamlin House, 432 Franklin Street.

Sunday, June 8

Church service Interfaith service

Community/Family picnic Front Park

Softball Tournament Front Park

We're in need of volunteers, food, arts, and crafts vendors, and organizations interested in tabling. Of course we could use donations to help put this event on.

Organizations interested in being in the parade, either marching or entering a float, can call the number below for information or to get an entry form sent to them.

We're doing something different this year. People can donate \$50 and dedicate a flag to be flown along the parade route on Delaware Avenue.

People interested in becoming involved in any way can call 716-883-4750 or mail donations to Community Network, 2316 Delaware Ave, Suite 267, Buffalo, NY 14216.

You can also email to bfloprde97@aol.com or check out our Web site at <http://members.aol.com/bfloprde97/pride97.htm>.

Schedules of other area Pride Events will appear in June issue of EGCN.

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Pride Erie 97

Saturday June 14 Picnic at Presque Isle

Cabin 2 (near Beach 6).

Free, but donations appreciated.

Food will be provided, but you're encouraged to bring a dish to pass.

Games & activities!

Sunday June 15 Interfaith Pride Celebration

Unitarian Universalist Congregation

10:30 a.m.

Waldameer Park

Visit Waldameer Amusement Park

starting at 1 p.m.

(wear rainbow ribbons!)

Note: this event is not sponsored by Waldameer Park.

Info: Elaine Hill at 814-864-0184

Pittsburgh cruise

by **Christalle**

My **parents** taught me a few wonderful things as a young person that have stayed with me all my life.

One of the philosophies, of sorts, was to "Always take a vacation!" A trip to the Greek Isles, a world tour of the great museums or a weekend jaunt, but always take a vacation!!! So, with thanks to my parents who are nearly 70 and still eternally tan, I have become the master of the whirlwind weekend and the flight of fancy.

One of these little luxuries that I try to enjoy every year, is the Three Rivers Gay and Lesbian Cruise in Pittsburgh. Each time, it has proven to be a memorable four hours that leaves me feeling refreshed and alive again.

The cruise is a colorful excursion, which is what I love best. The refreshing panorama of people who enjoy this event are worth the short trip from Erie to Pittsburgh. I have continually been moved by the visual proof of our exuberant diversity on this cruise, with everyone dancing, chatting, laughing and celebrating getting acquainted, together. It reminds you of why we are identified by a glorious rainbow flag. You can't help but feel proud.

You cannot feel left out during this little getaway. You will certainly enjoy a parade of cruise goers, about 250 people, which includes everyone from neatly outfitted couples in L.L. Bean to vivacious outfitted drag queens in every shape and size. You will find the enthusiastic groups of flawless young men in their Calvin Klein wear and the distinguished older boys in khaki shorts and wire rimmed glasses, and it's always a good "hair day" on the cruise. Oh, and I'm not forgetting the shaved headed leather vested, tattooed that bring life to the atmosphere. Yes! There are women, "Oh the women!" From the pressed panted professionals that you just greeted at your office or local bank to a plethora of young, chic, crop-haired girls who make you stop for just a moment, and try to remember if you looked that good at 21!!! All kinds of women are there, over 40, over 50 no-nonsense and full of vitality. I saw a couple of women, who I am sure were the original inspiration for Malibu Barbie. This is *not* a dull party!!

So what do 250 people do for four hours on a slow boat, on the river? Well, the disc jockey will make sure you are dancing. Everything from twisting with Chubby Checker to pulling out your disco steps to a familiar old Black Box mix and of course the newest and the coolest steps to very danceable 90's tunes.

If you're a lover and not a dancer, then you can escape with your partner or date upstairs for a romantic walk on the deck of the ship. It is amply supplied with lounge chairs, tables and a misty breeze. There are two bars, up and down, for food and drinks. The serving staff will insure that you don't have to miss a beat by waiting in lines for refreshments. In one of my conversations with a staffperson, I learned that the gay cruise is very popular with the employees of the ship. Both the gay and straight wait-staff request working this cruise because everyone has so much fun!

There is a serious side of the cruise that I really applaud. Numerous gay and lesbian organizations set up at side tables that provide information, petitions, t-shirts and inspiration to get involved and make a difference. You don't *have* to walk over to the tables, but I liked the idea that with a few signatures I could take my small stand to make a better world. For a cruise ticket of \$15 in advance or \$20 at the gate, the Three Rivers Gay and Lesbian Cruise is a four-hour escape to a better world.

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Watching *Dumbo*: A mother's memories

by Sharon Sutter

I was working the night *Two Mothers for Zachary* first aired, and, for a fleeting, insane moment, before work, I considered taping it. But I did not tape it, so have not seen the program. But I have lived the story.

In 1979, when my daughter was seven, my mother decided that I was unfit to be a parent because I was gay. Never mind that my daughter and I had a strong relationship, that she was well-adjusted, happy, and doing well in school. No. I was a lesbian, my child was female, therefore, I was molesting her—so claimed my mother.

Early one Saturday morning, after my daughter had spent the night with my parents, they appeared at my home without her. Concerned, I asked where she was. "Safe," they said. "Until you get help."

I was dumbfounded. Help for what? Amazingly, no one—not my father, not my mother, not the police who came to the house, not my then teenage brother—would tell me what I was being accused of, and why Jen was being kept from me. I felt much like the hero of a Kafka story. Someone who wakes up and finds herself a cockroach—or, accused of an unknown crime, therefore, totally unable to defend against it.

Essentially, that weekend, I was helpless—Children's Services, who had been called into the case—was on strike. The only one available to come and assess the situation was an overworked, tired supervisor. He arrived early Sunday morning, and, for the first time, gently told me of the accusations my mother had made. I wept, bitterly. I had no clue as to how I was going to make her see reason, because, she was, as I had long believed, insane. Truly. Two years later, she would finally be diagnosed with paranoid schizophrenia, and started on medication to silence her voices. But on that bleak Sunday morning, there was only me, mumbling desperately to an overworked man, that, please, believe me, my mother is mistaken. Okay, I'm gay, but I wouldn't molest my daughter. Surprisingly, he was sympathetic and understanding—and, he believed me. He thought the problem could be resolved by Monday. Unfortunately, he was grossly overoptimistic.

My mother had obtained a court order forbidding me to see my daughter. I needed a lawyer. Frantically, I scanned the yellow pages, wondering who would take

the case, who would help me, or believe me, or not be turned off by my sexual orientation. I chose a lawyer based on the recommendation of an acquaintance, and, as he was part of a much larger (and more expensive) group of partners, I was assigned to a young lawyer in the practice.

At work, I couldn't concentrate. I lost weight. I couldn't sleep. I lived in Millcreek, and had been driving a car my parents had lent me—they took it back. As I worked at Hamot, getting to work was impossible, and I lost my job. Desperate to save money, yet prove I could support a daughter, I moved to downtown Erie, took a job within walking distance of my apartment, and spent my days planning court strategy and my nights crying.

Actually, though, our case never ended up in court—not like Sharon Bottoms. Our case was heard by a custody counselor—a man whose job it was to decide what was in the "best interests of the child." Well, my child was well-adjusted. She was seven and expressed the desire to live with me. She wasn't afraid of me. The supervisor at Children's Services wrote that he found no evi-

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dence of abuse in the home and that his recommendation was that Jen be returned to me. A psychologist that I was forced to see made the same recommendation. So, naturally, custody was awarded to my parents.

Even today, just writing about this, reliving those horrible days, can make me cry. But I was luckier than Sharon Bottoms. One weekend, when I was supposed to visit Jen, she wasn't available. When I called, angrily demanding to know why not, my father haltingly confessed that my mother had taken her and flown to Tennessee, to escape the demons that were following them. I was frantic, not knowing if Jen was safe, not quite sure what lengths my mother might go to in order to "protect" herself and Jen. Still, I couldn't convince anyone that my mother was dangerous, that Jen belonged with me.

Then, on a snowy Saturday afternoon in 1982, my father appeared at my apartment with Jen. He handed me her suitcase and I said I'd have her back by the appointed time.

"Why don't you just keep her. Your mother isn't feeling well," he said. "I've been thinking, some of the things she said in the past, well...I'm just not sure how true they were, or, if they were," he said. Then left.

Turns out my mother's behavior had become increasingly bizarre. She had accused my father of trying to kill Jen when he tried to give her some cough medicine. And, she had attacked my father, threatening to kill him. At last, she was hospitalized, correctly diagnosed, and

treated. And just like that, Jen stayed with me. No more courts. No more lawyers. No more of other people deciding what was "right" for me and her.

But we had lost two years together. Two years when I couldn't hold her, or wipe her tears, or comfort her after a bad dream, or read stories to her or help her with her homework. Two years when she could call for me endlessly, and I could not come.

I am slowly becoming able to forgive a demented woman, who responded to internal voices and her own fears. I can forgive the man who loved her, and finally came to realize the truth. I can forgive my brother, who was young and wrapped in his own troubles at the time. But I find it hard to forgive a homophobic system that wrenched us apart, not because of what was best for Jen, but because of their own fears and mistaken stereotypical images of gay people.

That was fifteen years ago now, and the scars are still fresh, barely healed. Even today, if someone suggests that I have done something that I have not done, or that I am lying, I freak out and fly off the handle. All the terror comes rushing back, all the rage against an unjust system, all the impotence. It is a terrible feeling. And Jen has her own scars.

On the night of the broadcast, I went from room to room at work catching a snatch of dialogue here, a snippet of conversation there. About ten, I stepped into a deserted lounge where the program was playing to the empty room. In the dim light, shadows flickered, and, my heart freezing in my chest, I realized it was a court scene. I raced to the phone and called Jen.

"Hi. Are you watching the movie about Zachary?"


"Are you crazy," she asked. "Of course not."

We spoke a little longer, she calming my fears, reminding me that we still had each other and still loved each other. But I had to know something.

"Do these things bother you? Do you still get upset?"

"Why do you think I've never seen *Dumbo*?"

We finished our conversation and I returned to the dim lounge. I stood in the shadows, watching the flickering images, the sound off. Tears filled my eyes, and as I turned from the room I reflected that Zachary probably won't be able to watch *Dumbo* either.

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The End of AIDS? Not Exactly

By Dr. John D'Emilio, Director
NGLTF Policy Institute

From the beginning, the AIDS epidemic has been short on good tidings. For most of the last sixteen years, we have had to content ourselves with developments that held "promise." For instance, identifying the HIV virus back in 1983 was a first small step toward effective therapies or a cure. Developing a test that detected antibodies, streamlining the protocols for drug testing and approval, winning passage of the Ryan White Care Act: each one of these achievements was important and worthwhile as a step toward the big goal, the end of AIDS— which, unfortunately, remained as elusive as ever.

With so few encouraging signs for so long on the AIDS front, the headlines of the last year have naturally been welcome. First, there was the news pouring out of the international AIDS conference in Vancouver last summer about the astounding improvements in health that new combination drug therapies were provoking in many people with AIDS. The scientific reports were so powerful in part because they complemented what many of us were either experiencing directly, or by observation: many people with AIDS were enjoying remarkable improvements in health. In some cases, it seemed as if the dead were returning to life.

Then, just last month, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported that, for the first time since the epidemic began, the number of deaths from AIDS declined during the first half of 1996, by 12% from the first six months of 1995. Meanwhile, New York City, one of the epicenters of the epidemic, has collected statistics for all of 1996, and reports a significantly more dramatic decline in the number of deaths.

There's no denying that these developments represent very hopeful news. But they disturb as much as they encourage me because of the way they have been presented in the press, and because of the inferences that many might read into them. From many places, it seems, these glimmers of hope are eliciting the view that the end of AIDS is in sight.

While nothing would make me happier, such a conclusion is as dangerous as it is wrongheaded and unwarranted. Think about it:

- While the press makes much ado about the first yearly decline in the number of deaths from AIDS, the figure for 1996 is likely to be as high as the total caseload was in 1986! Try to remember how crazy we all were ten years ago: crazed with rage and grief and frustration; crazed enough to launch a militant direct action campaign via ACT UP; crazed enough to plan a nationwide march on Washington that drew three-quarters of a million people. A "decline" in deaths to 40,000 per year is an improvement; it does not spell the end to AIDS.

- While new drug therapies are having extraordinary life-enhancing effects on some people with AIDS, there are many others for whom the new drug therapies don't work. We also don't yet know how long their effectiveness will last; whether the virus will develop resistance to the drugs; or whether other strains of the virus will continue to spread despite these medical advances. These therapies are developing, moreover, in a political context in which government is relentlessly slashing taxes and expenditures, and a social context in which large num-

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bers of Americans lack health insurance. Who will pay for these therapies? What will happen to PWA's who lack the resources to obtain expensive treatments? Drug therapies that work for some is a good thing, but it, too, does not spell the end to AIDS.

• What do articles and headlines speculating about the fanciful end of AIDS accomplish other than to whittle away at the edges of the AIDS movement? Such claims make it more difficult to raise money, to recruit volunteers, to persuade legislators to up their commitment, and to spread convincingly a prevention message. In other words, even the hypothesis that the epidemic is ending can serve to make the end more distant.

I don't want to sound like an old curmudgeon. I don't want to pour water on the hopefulness that some good news engenders. But we need to be very clear about what the end of AIDS would really look like: no more deaths from AIDS, and a prevention effort that leads to an absence of new infections. We are not there yet, and we will only get there through the implementation of policies that require political courage: needle exchange; prevention campaigns that speak frankly about sexual behavior; a level of funding that will accelerate medical breakthroughs; and a national commitment to health care access for everyone.

The pious intoning of phrases like "the end of AIDS" won't get us there. Political mobilization and moral courage will.

*John D'Emilio 202/332-6483 ext. 3302 jdemilio@nglhf.org
National Gay and Lesbian Task Force
2320 17th Street NW, Washington, DC 20009
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HIV/AIDS News

AIDS Walk Western NY - in Southern Tier!

*by Matthew Biggam, Special Events Coordinator
Evergreen Foundation of W. New York*

New in 1997 —AIDS Walk Western New York now has two locations!

*in Jamestown at Jamestown Community College

*in Buffalo at Niagara Square

Chairpersons of the Southern Tier Walk are Dr. Robert Berke, Chautauqua County's Health Commissioner, and Chautauqua County legislator Lula M. Taylor.

The Southern Tier Walk will take place on Sunday June 1. It will start and finish at Jamestown Community College. Registration begins at noon, and the Walk starts at 1:00 pm.

J.J. Jammer from the Jamestown Jammers will be there to play catch with the kids.

Collecting pledges for the Walk can be fun when you think of what you can win!

*Raise \$500 or more receive \$500 or more and receive a personal stereo system, a water bottle, and an AIDS Walk t-shirt.

*Raise \$250 - \$499 and receive a water bottle and an AIDS Walk t-shirt.

*Raise \$100 - \$249 and receive an AIDS Walk t-shirt.

Special trophies will be awarded to Top Walker, Top School and Top team!

The AIDS Coalition of Chautauqua County will be sponsoring a party at the Hundred Acre Lot, next to Jamestown Community College following the Walk. Local bands will provide the entertainment and refreshments will be available. The party is free to all walkers and \$5 to anyone else.

To register for AIDS Walk 97 in Jamestown or for more info call 487-2498 today. For more information about the post party, call the AIDS Coalition of Chautauqua County at (716) 661-3031.

* * *

Note: DonPaul Lucas will have a column in the June issue of EGCN.

Study sheds light on sexual risk-taking among gay & bisexual men

From San Francisco AIDS Foundation

Why do gay and bisexual men fail to use condoms consistently?

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation released a study in March that offers some surprising explanations.

Gay and bisexual men in San Francisco are highly educated about HIV and have adopted condoms into their sexual activity. But while some men use them every time, many are finding consistent condom use difficult. Access to condoms isn't the problem. A range of psychological, cultural and social barriers is blocking these men's intentions to protect themselves from HIV.

Among the findings:

- Often, men were guessing at a prospective partner's HIV status when deciding whether or not to use a condom. They made faulty assumptions based on the prospective partner's living conditions, cleanliness, appearance, or sexual behavior. The guessing game was employed because of a difficulty the men had in bringing up the topic of HIV status.

- Most of the men who reported unprotected anal intercourse in the past year had also had protected anal intercourse. In other words, they were using condoms, but not with consistency.

- Men who engaged in unprotected anal intercourse often did it for non-sexual reasons. These included feelings of social isolation, disappointed love, longing for intimacy, a sense of low self-worth, a need to affirm masculinity, or a wish to escape from the traumas of HIV.

- Those men who consistently used condoms described a variety of reasons for doing so, such as a strong sense to protect themselves, a general sense of responsibility for not spreading the disease, a desire not to be blamed for infecting another person, or supportive friends who reminded them to steer clear of sexual risk-taking.

- Drug use affected the men in two different ways. The men living in the "sex for drugs" culture were in poverty situations and used sex for drugs, and sometimes for food, housing, and other needs. Men who do not insist on unprotected sex are actively sought after; also, there is the fear that in the sex for drugs exchange, if condoms are insisted on, the person insisting on condoms can be subjected to violence. "Crystal-using" men, on the other hand, tended to want to fit in with middle class

gay culture, and used drugs to fit in and feel "fabulous" and powerful. In both drug cultures, there was a strong belief that one needn't be responsible toward others.

The San Francisco AIDS Foundation has launched an innovative new safer sex campaign that addresses one area of concern: that gay and bisexual men are having unprotected sex to deal with personal problems. The campaign's innovative emphasis on emotions such as isolation and grief—instead of simple safe sex messages—distinguishes it from other HIV education in the United States.

The safer sex study was launched in 1996 by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation in partnership with the University of California San Francisco's Center for AIDS Prevention Studies.

Information about this study and the educational campaign can be found on the San Francisco AIDS Foundation's web site at <http://www.sfaf.org/qis/pressrel.htm>

Letters

HIV+ in Erie

Hello.

I am writing to give you my opinion on the subject of "HIV+ in Erie."

I am an HIV+ male. I have been mostly asymptomatic for 12 years. I know there are many HIV+ people here in Erie. You want to remain anonymous, which is okay, I guess. But, why not come to our support group and be around others in your same situation.

I know, from experience, having family and friends who know is easier. It still is nice to have others who are going through the same thing to be able to talk to.

I'm begging you to please come to our meetings.

Please call with questions or comments to Cheryl Weber at St. Martin's Center, at 825-1085 or 455-3786. She will tell you when and where the support group meets.

I hope to see more of you soon.

Most sincerely,
Jerry McCumber

Notable Deaths

Allen Ginsberg, on April 5, of a heart attack caused by liver cancer. He was 70. He wrote more than 40 works of poetry, and was best known as a member of the Beat generation of writers and poets. His work *Howl and Other Poems* openly described his homosexuality and Communist upbringing, and was the subject of an obscenity case, which was acquitted in a landmark ruling in 1957. A winner of the 1973 National Book Award, Ginsberg was a finalist for the 1995 Pulitzer Prize in Poetry. U.S. poet laureate Robert Pinsky said Ginsberg was "a great genius in poetry. His work changed American writing." Songwriting legend Bob Dylan stated that Ginsberg was "probably the single greatest influence on American poetical voice since Whitman." A longtime, outspoken supporter of gay civil rights, Ginsberg was also a spokesman for the youth counterculture of the 1960's (he is credited with coining the term "Flower Power"), a devout Buddhist who did much to popularize the philosophy in the West, and a strong critic of the war in Vietnam, the CIA, the Shah of Iran, nuclear weapons, and President Reagan's policies.

Laura Nyro, 49, on April 8, of ovarian cancer. "She was a groundbreaking writer in the folk genre, characterizing and setting the tone of a strong woman in a time when that image didn't readily exist," said Mary Travers of Peter, Paul and Mary. Her best-known work was recorded by other artists, including "Sweet Blindness," "Stoned Soul Picnic," "Wedding Bell Blues," and "Save the Country" (all recorded by the Fifth Dimension), "Eli's Comin'." (Three Dog Night) "And When I Die" (Peter, Paul and Mary and later Blood, Sweat and Tears), and "Stoney End," (Barbra Streisand). In 1969, three of her songs were in the Top 10 at the same time. She is survived by her partner, Maria Desiderio, and son, Gil Bianchini.

Marvin Liebman, gay conservative activist, on March 31. Liebman, who died of heart failure, was 73. He was a founding member of the Log Cabin Club, an organization for gay and lesbian Republicans, and helped found several national conservative organizations. In 1990, Liebman came out in *The Advocate* and the conservative *National Review*. In 1992, Liebman published *Coming Out Conservative* (published by Chronicle Books).

Michael Dithers

by **Michael Mahler**

A joyous spring to one and all! Spring being the time for new things, I've been trying some new stuff. Micheal and I went to Cleveland for the Irish group's St. Patrick's Day festivities. It was a small and friendly group and we had an absolutely delightful time! We both enjoyed some of the traditional dances. One was a variation of a dance I knew from the medieval/renaissance group I used to belong to.

I also went to Kelvin's Dinner at the Episcopal Cathedral of St. Paul. This is, of course, in memory of Kelvin Wheeler, who passed away from AIDS complications last year. They are planning on doing more. It was also very nice and friendly. Two days later I was one of the presenters at the Faces of AIDS presentation at Edinboro University as part of the AIDS Awareness week. Some AIDS quilt panels were also there. Kudos to Sue Kuebler, DonPaul Lucas, Charlene Bushyager and all the many wonderful people who made these events (and so many others) happen.

It may sound odd, but although both events dealt with people who have died or face a potentially fatal illness, I really felt moved and cheered by people exhibiting such love and goodness. There is a great deal that human beings are capable of that is laudable. One of the greatest joys that I have found in working with the newsletter and some of the groups in our community is that most people are basically quite decent. Sure, there are some real jerks out there, but if you give them have a chance, you usually find more good apples than bad.

An apology to folks who may have gone to the play *Mousetrap* thinking it was a gay play. I dearly love Agatha Christie and British murder mysteries, and wanted to promote the play, so I inserted it into Deb's column ("Entertainment Notes"). Of course, there is a sort of policy that that column is for items that are specifically gay or of gay/lesbian interest, so it may have given some people the idea that it was a gay play. I do think our community should also check out theater that isn't just about us, but I guess I could've made that clear, too. There *are* several interesting (some gay-themed and some not) plays at Directors Circle Theatre. Micheal and I had a great time there on our anniversary catching *Lips Together, Teeth Apart* by gay playwright Terrence McNally.

20 Years Ago: Anita Bryant

Although 1969—the year of the Stonewall riots—was an important year for LesBiGay civil rights, 1977 was a very important year as well.

In fact, as important as Stonewall was, the fact is that most gay people outside New York City probably knew little or nothing about the event when it happened. There wasn't much in the way of gay media then, and mainstream media were not very interested in gay rights.

What happened in 1977, though, was known throughout the land, and it created a national reaction by gay people that was unprecedented.

1977 was the year that conservative singing star and orange juice spokesperson Anita Bryant also became the spokesperson in a movement to squash gay rights. The issue became national when Dade County Florida passed a law barring discrimination against gay people. The homophobic Bryant was appalled, and began speaking out against gay rights and gay people. Right wing Christians organized to help her bring her hateful message to the nation, by developing the anti-gay campaign called Save Our Children.

Bryant's main focus against gays was her belief that

gay people were all child molesters who "recruit" children into homosexuality because they can't reproduce (the Village People actually played double entendre with Bryant's idea of gay recruiting in their single "In the Navy"). Among her other assertions: She blamed a drought on gays, and said she believed gay sex was a form of cannibalism.

Bryant and her Save Our Children campaign became a symbol to lesbians and gay men, as well as to their allies, and there was a groundswell of gay rights activity in response to it. Perhaps more importantly, the Bryant campaign seemed to cause a change in consciousness in the average gay person...a point where many gay people began to say "That's enough." Gay people and their allies across the country boycotted Florida orange juice (Bryant was spokesperson for the Florida Citrus Commission).

A few years later, Bryant left her husband, indicating that he had been abusive. After the divorce, her rhetoric softened, and she seemed to become more tolerant in her statements about the community whose rights she had worked so hard to destroy. —*Deb Spilko*

Erie's Most Popular Adult Theater/Bookstores

**FILMORE
NEWS**

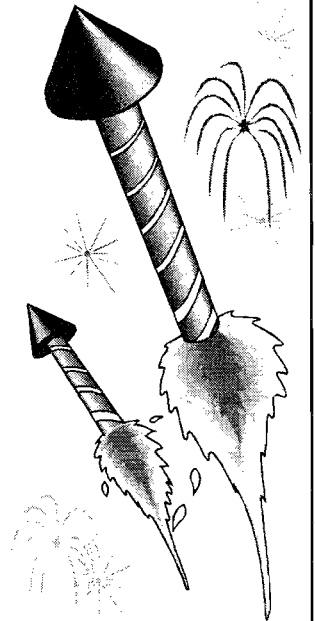
2757 W.12th Street

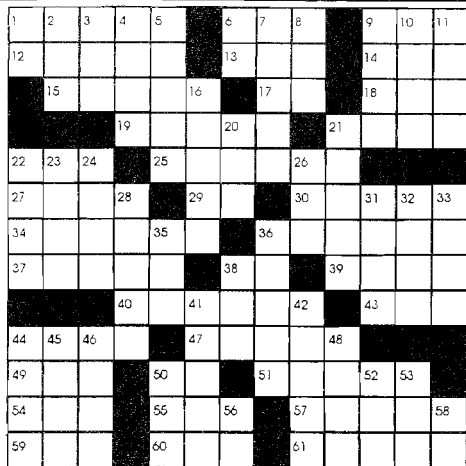
**MODERN
NEWS**

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!





solution on page 22

Across: * Thematic Clues

- 1 Compy British TV comedy for short*
- 6 Female parent to 9 down*
- 9 Caesar or Vicious
- 12 Joanna Lumley role*
- 13 Appendage
- 14 Citrus drink
- 15 Jennifer Saunders role*
- 17 Lightbulb manufacturer
- 18 Lawyer's commission
- 19 Character never seen in 1 across*
- 21 From a distance
- 22 Actress Barbara ___ Geddes
- 25 Doused with water
- 27 Friendly Frenchmen?
- 29 Chemist's symbol for gold
- 30 Vote for
- 34 Gay father to 9 down*
- 36 Lover of 34 across*
- 37 *Return to Peyton Place* actress Mary
- 38 Arkansas to a postmaster
- 39 Wait for one's time
- 40 Affixed with a hammer
- 43 Confederate leader Robert E. ___
- 44 Al or Tipper
- 47 Soothing house plants?
- 49 French king
- 50 Dorothy's Auntie
- 51 Retailers' events
- 54 Dancer-actress Miller
- 55 Professional cagers' group
- 57 Sexual partner
- 59 Henpeck
- 60 Daylight Savings Time
- 61 Singer Marie

Down:

- 1 Associated Press
- 2 By to a Scot
- 3 Flower delivery service
- 4 Warranty for a used car?
- 5 Comic John or running back Ernest
- 6 Mother, affectionately
- 7 Eggs on
- 8 Frenchman's wife for short
- 9 Julia SowaIha role, for short*
- 10 Brain storm
- 11 Bambi for example
- 16 Hitler's master race
- 20 Yak-like mammal
- 21 Unrehearsed lines
- 22 ___ California
- 23 Flightless birds
- 24 Registry
- 26 Electric fish
- 28 Rock, or last name of 12 across*
- 31 Sinister
- 32 Give up
- 33 Beech or maple
- 35 A Gershwin or a savings account
- 36 Sandwich cookies
- 38 Everything
- 41 Shakespeare's feet
- 42 Apportioned, as in cards
- 44 Mother's mother to 9 down*
- 45 Mrs. Charlie Chaplin
- 46 Prop at a commitment ceremony
- 48 ___ Gin fizz
- 50 Finish
- 52 1950 camp classic *All about* ___
- 53 Member of Congress for short
- 56 In or about
- 58 Egyptian sun god

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 embers@erie.net or browse <http://www.erie.net/~embers/>
- 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 - \$1 cover. Mon \$1 burgers, Wed Wings 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 Mon-Sun 2pm-2am (Tues Open 2-10pm) DJ Fri & Sat (10-2) Karaoke every other Sun 7pm-12 mid. Email artemis@epix.net

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, nonsmoking 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. Web site <http://www.ncinter.net/~aromas/>

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 nonsmoking 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, nonsmoking coffeehouse serving a wide array of baked goods, desserts, sandwiches, soups, salads and snacks. Wheelchair accessible.

Cup-a-Ccino's ▼ 456-1511
 18 North Park Row, Erie PA. Email: cups@erie.net. Mon-Wed 7:00 am - 9 pm, Thurs-Fri. 7:00 am - 12 mid., Sat 9 am-midnight, Sun 10 am-7 pm. Gay-friendly coffeehouse. Cyberbean Computer Club. Nonsmoking section, retail store. Poetry and story nights on alternating Thursdays, live music most Saturdays, some Fridays. Wheelchair accessible. Bike rock for cyclists.

Computer/Graphics Services

DannyBoy Web. Design Services 476-0108 (Voice or Fax)
 Email DonnyBoy@erie.net or check their website at <http://www.erie.net/~dannyboy>

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

Lic. psychologist. Private & consulting svcs. 4845 West Lake Rd, Erie

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)

Lake Erie Counseling Associates 455-4009

Individual, family & couples counseling; psychological evals; psychiatric evaluations & medication management

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. Email bodylanguage@juno.com Web <http://members.aol.com/bodyla3649>

Filmore News ▼ 2757 W 12th St, Erie

Modern News ▼ 1115 State St, Erie

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

Solymosi Law Offices, PC 452-4473

John Cooper, Esq. 455-3436

Miscellaneous

Allegheny College Bookstore ▼

Cochran Hall Lower Level, Meadville PA. Full service independent book store

Edinboro Moll, Edinboro PA
 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's Skin Care Studio 833-3355 or 838-4802

2554 W 8th St, Erie PA. (Execu-Fit) Licensed Esthetician

Movie Stop 453-7696

1229 State St, Erie PA. Also stores in McKean, Meadville & Oil City. Web site <http://www.moviestop.com/>

Pal Prescription Pharmacy 455-8597

1238 W 6th St, Erie PA

Poppa Ropp's Video ▼ 734-3014

Edinboro Moll, Edinboro PA

Poster Annex/U Frame It 455-1999

717 Liberty St, Erie PA Poster, prints, cards, ceramic tiles, creative custom framing

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. Email Roadhouse@erie.net

Roses & Lace Floral & Gifts 838-8518

3424 W Lake Rd Erie PA

Talking Leaves ▼ (716) 837-8554

3158 Main St, Buffalo NY. Email talklvbk@fcs-net.com

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 lgverie@ncinter.net

Publications

Erie Gay Community News 456-9833
 PO Box 3063, Erie PA 16508-0063. Fax 452-1392, Email egcn@ncinter.net or see our website at http://www.ncinter.net/~egcn/

Religious Organizations

Temple Anshe Hesed (Reform Congregation) 454-2426
 930 Liberty St, Erie PA. Website is http://www.shamash.org/reform/uohc/congs/pa/pa007/
Cathedral of St. Paul (Episcopal) 452-3779 (Rev. Kay Johnson),
 134 W 7th St, Erie PA
Unitarian Universalist Congreg of Erie ▼ 864-9300
 7180 New Perry Highway. For Commitment Vows, ask for Rev. Terry Kime.

Social Organizations

10% Network ▼ (716)484-7285 (John)
 Chautouqua County, NY. Meets 3rd Sat of the month 7-11 pm at First Unitarian Society of Jamestown. No smoking or alcohol.
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 814-726-1808 (Fred Adams)
 220 Onondaga Ave, Warren PA 16365. Social group for Warren PA area. Call for meeting time/place.
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
GLBSU/SUNY-Fredonia (716) 673-3149 or 673-3139

Meets 10pm Fall & Spring semesters at Resource Room/Old Bookstore at SUNY-Fredonia. Email glbsu000@ginko.alt.fredonia.edu

Identity & 732-2555 (Dr. Dave Herendeen)
 Student group for lesbian & allies of Edinboro Univ. Write to Identity, c/o Dr. Herendeen, Edinboro Univ, Heather Hall, Edinboro, PA 16440
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 rabbgg@jccw22.cc.sunyjcc.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 Donny at trigon@psu.edu or check their website: http://www.clubs.psu.edu/trigon

Support Groups

Erie Sisters
 Nonsexual social support group for TV/TS/CD. Monthly meetings on 4th Saturday, newsletter, Interview with a club officer required before 1st mtg. Write: Erie Sisters, 1903 W 8 St, Suite 261, Erie, PA 16505. Email eriesister@aol.com

Lambda Group—Gay AA ▼ 452-2675
 Alcoholics Anon for Lesbians. Open discussion. Meets Sunday of 8:00 pm at Unitarian Universalist Congreg of Erie, 7180 New Perry Hiway. Open to all Lesbians who think they may have a problem with drugs and/or alcohol. You are not alone.

Northcoast Rainbow Families 868-0069 (Christopher) (716) 366-1453 (Judy)
 Support, advocacy, and education group for 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: jackk1pflag1pa@juno.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.

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Crossword Solution:

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 Facline 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 (Sue Kuebler)
 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. Call for info. Meets. At St. Paul's Cathedral, 134 W 7th St. "In
 our church there will be no outcasts"

AIDS Network Information 451-6700

Friends from the Heart 838-0123 (Deb Monohon)
 Direct Client Services. Volunteers helping deliver help with food, rent, transporta-
 tion, 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 Beaumont.

GEGASHI 451-6784 (Caryn) or 451-6727 (Fran)
 Gays/Lesbians Educating Gays/Lesbians About Sexual Health Issues. Sponsored by
 Erie County Department of Health (ECDH). Meets 3:30pm on selected Thursday in
 selected months at ECDH, 606 W 2nd St, Erie PA. Email gegashi@aol.com.

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 452-6113
 Open to people of all faiths. Fax to: 459-7310 or email to: cheryl1027@aol.com
 Meetings: 2nd & 4th Tues 7:00-8:30 pm at Catholic Charities, St. Mark Catholic
 Center, 429 East Grandview Blvd. Use main entrance and follow signs for Support
 Group.

Jamestown NY/Chautauqua Co.

AIDS Community Services ▼ (716)664-7855
 South County Support (716)488-1070
 For HIV infected and affected people. Meets 1st Thursday at the home of Hop and
 Cindy Chase, 1115 Prendergost 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

Email

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
or email cups@erie.net

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Thurs-Fri
7:00am-12:00mid
Sat
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