

EGN

Erie Gay News

Calendar

Mar 1—LGLV-Erie Meets Info: Dave Mulholland 898-4210.

Mar 2—Queen performs on *Saturday Night Live* Comedy Central 3pm. (This is a repeat, obviously).

☛ **Mar 2—Northern Exposure: Brains, Know-How and Native Intelligence** Chris discusses poet Walt Whitman's sexual orientation on his radio show and Maurice goes ballistic. This is the first of this program's same-sex episodes, but it will probably be the least satisfying for gay viewers. A&E noon, 6pm.

☛ **Mar 2—Antiques Roadshow: San Francisco** 8pm, WQLN (PBS-Erie/Ch.54) and WNED (PBS-Buffalo/Ch. 17).

☛ **Mar 3—The Dresser (1983)** A&E 4pm, 1am. Drama with Albert Finney.

Mar 3—Erie Community Planning Committee (ECPC) meets 6-8 pm. Info & location: Tracey Thomas at 459-4775 or Michael Mahler at 456-9833

☛ **Mar 4—Community Leadership Development Council (CLD) meets** AIDS Prevention group. 6:30 PM at St. Martin's Center, 17th and Parade. Contact Tom Lee at cumcumplay@webtv.net or phone him at 455-2054

☛ **Mar 4—Garth Brooks** NBC. (Two hours, most recorded in Dublin). Air time not known.

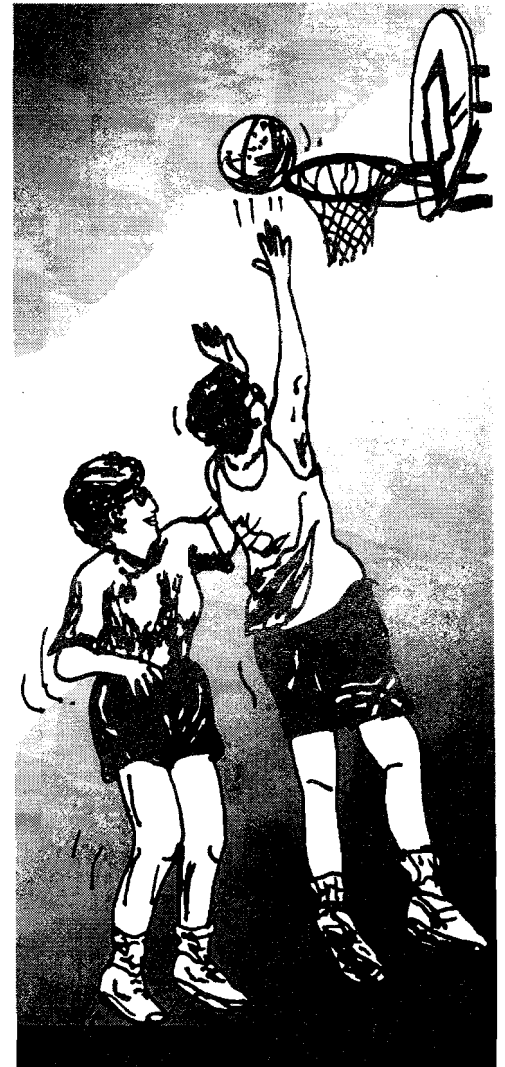
Mar 5—PFLAG-Erie: TBA 7:00 pm Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Info: Elaine Hill at 864-0184.

Mar 5—South County Support Meets For HIV infected & affected people at 1115 Prendergast Ave, Jamestown NY. Info: Hop and Cindy Chase at (716)488-1070.

☛ **Mar 5—Film: Antonia's Line (1995)** At Edinboro University. 7pm University Center multipurpose room, 9:30pm at Memorial Auditorium. Four generations of women in a Dutch family, including Danielle, a lesbian artist whose life and relationship are handled matter-of-factly. 732-2799. Alternative Film Series

☛ **Mar 7—Womynspace: Social Gathering/Refreshments** Newcomers always welcome! For information and location, call Helen at 451-0359 or email aichess@hotmail.com"

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On the Cover:
B-Ball
by Micheal A. Miller

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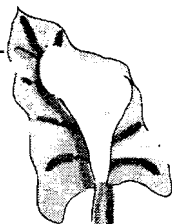
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If you would like to reprint original articles or artwork that appeared in *EGN*, please contact us for permission, and please credit *Erie Gay News*. If an article or illustration contains the author's/creator's name, please credit them as well.

Thanks!

Items to send us in March

March 15— Deadline for info related to April and early May events:
Beginning of Spring, April Fools,
Easter, Passover, Purim, Mothers' Day,
Take Back the Night, Cinco de Mayo



c/o EGC Coalition, 1115 W 7th St, Erie, PA 16502-1105
Phone: (814) 454-9833
Fax: (814) 452-1092
Pager: (814) 870-9128
E-mail: egnc@eriedns.net
Web Site: <http://www.ncintor.net/~oacn/>

The *Erie Gay 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 EGN 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 won't 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 EGN staff.

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Thanks for the February issue collators!

Thanks to Paul Grubbs, Peggy Faulkner, Richard, Gary, Dave Mulholland, Jim, Dave Amy, Brian Skelly, Dave and Bernie Bright for helping us to collate the February issue of *EGN*!

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 7—Breakfast with the Arts: John Steinbeck** A&E 9am, 6pm. Includes an assessment of Steinbeck's works, by Gore Vidal.

☛ **Mar 7—Sonic Youth on Sessions at West 54th** 11:30pm on WQLN (PBS-Erie/Ch. 54)

☛ **Mar 8—Corry Partners group meets (Corry PA)** Call for times. 814-664-7090 (Luella).

Mar 9—Friends from the Heart Meets 6 pm Well Being Ctr, 710 Beaumont. Info Deb Monohon 838-0123.

Mar 9—Laura Branigan performs on Saturday Night Live 3pm on Comedy Central.

☛ **Mar 9—Movie Legends: Kathleen Turner and John Waters** A&E 5:30pm. "Writer/director John Waters and actress Kathleen Turner get together for a conversation on their craft." —*Biography*

☛ **Mar 10—Film: Watermelon Woman (Edinboro PA)** At Edinboro University. 7pm and 9:30pm in University Center multipurpose room. Info 732-2799. See "Entertainment Notes" for more details on this controversial film (often referred to as "the first feature-length African-American lesbian film").

Mar 10—HIV/AIDS Support Group meets Call Cheryl Weber at 455-3786 for more info.

☛ **Mar 11—Community Leadership Development Council (CLD) meets** AIDS Prevention group. 6:30 PM at St. Martin's Center, 17th and Parade. Contact Tom Lee at cumcumplay@webtv.net or phone him at 455-2054

☛ **Mar 11—Christian Spirituality group meets** 7:00 PM. Contact Julie or Sue at julie.sue@...com or phone 734-3959

☛ **Mar 12—Laura at Aromas** 2164 West Park

☛ **Mar 13—Madonna on Rosie O'Donnell** On WICU (NBC) at 4pm.

☛ **Mar 13—Indigo Girls on Austin City Limits** 9 pm, WNEQ (PBS-Buff./Ch. 23)

☛ **Mar 14—Roy Orbison & Friends—A Black and White Night** 10 pm, WNED (PBS-Buff./Ch.17). Guests k.d. lang, Bonnie Raitt, Bruce Springsteen, others.

Mar 14—Menspace Meets: Pizza and Open Bowling "We are going to be chipping in for pizza at Larry's, followed by open bowling. You will need to RSVP to Larry by Thursday the 12th. For information or to RSVP, call Larry at 452-6959 or email larisaad@aol.com"

☛ **Mar 14—Roy Orbison & Friends—A Black and White Night** 10 pm, WQLN (PBS-Erie/Ch. 54). Guests k.d. lang, Bonnie Raitt, Bruce Springsteen, others.

Mar 17—Happy St. Patrick's Day

March 17—St. Patrick's Day Party hosted by CILBGO (Cleveland OH) Cleveland Irish les-bi-gay Organization will host party at Barbary Lane. Features Irish dancing (instruction provided) live Irish music, and raffle. Traditional Irish food available for purchase, admission free. Info: 216-531-5188 or 216-255-2615

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Fri.	5:00 to 9:00	5:00 to 2:00
Sat.	1:00 to 9:00	5:00 to 9:00

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☛ **Mar 18—Christian Spirituality group meets** 7.00 PM. Contact Julie or Sue at julie.sue@juno.com or phone 734-3959

Mar 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.

Mar 18—Managing AIDS in the Healthcare Setting Sponsored by Erie Co. Health Dept.

☛ **Mar 19—Lesbigay panel discussion at Edinboro University** 3 pm in University Center. Some members of Identity and other community people will be speaking.

☛ **Mar 19—Northern Exposure: Slow Dance** A&E noon, 6pm. Maurice hits it off with the two men who have come to buy his inn, but the fun begins when Maurice learns these two ex-Marines with his taste for the finer things are also life partners. This entertaining and sensitive episode introduces the male couple, Ron and Erick.

Mar 21—Town Meeting 2-5 pm at Admiral Room at Blasco Memorial Public Library. Call Mike at 456-9833.

Mar 21—10% Network (Jamestown NY) 7 pm at Unitarian Church 1255 Prendergast Avenue. Info: John at 716-484-7285.

☛ **Mar 21—Suzanne Vega on Sessions at West 54th** 12:35pm on WQLN (PBS-Erie/Ch. 54)

☛ **Mar 22—Corry Partners group meets (Corry PA)** Call for times. 814-664-7090 (Luella).

☛ **Mar 23—Antiques Roadshow: Pittsburgh** 8pm, WNED (PBS-Buff/Ch. 17). WQLN (PBS-Erie/Ch. 54).

Mar 24—HIV/AIDS Support Group meets Call Cheryl Weber at 455-3786 for more info.

☛ **Mar 24—Diana - A Tribute to a Model Princess** 10 pm. WQLN (PBS-Erie/Ch. 54). Documentary examines Diana's changing fashions as well as changes in her public image. Diana was respected among many gays and lesbians for her support of AIDS and breast cancer causes, and public acceptance of gay people around her.

☛ **Mar 24—Cambridge Forum "Apocalypse Now: Right Wing Populism"** 6:30pm on FM-91.3 WQLN (PBS-Erie).

Mar 27—PFLAG Ashtabula meets Info: Sharon at (216) 964-3350.

Mar 29-Apr 5—Penn State Pride (Main Campus) For info on events contact the Lesbian Gay & Bisexual Student Alliance at 814-865-3327, lgbsa@psu.edu or visit their web site at <http://www.clubs.psu.edu/igbsa/main.html>

Mar 30—HIV/AIDS and Workplace Policies Sponsored by Erie Co. Health Dept.

☛ **Apr 2—PFLAG-Erie: TBA** 7:00 pm Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Info: Elaine Hill at 864-0184.

Apr 2—South County Support Meets For HIV infected & affected people at 1115 Prendergast Ave, Jamestown NY. Info: Hop and Cindy Chase at (716)488-1070.

☛ **Apr 3—In the Life (Erie)** 10pm on WQLN (PBS-Erie/Ch. 54) The national program that examines gay and lesbian culture, politics and news. NOTE: See page 6 for *In the Life* dates of other PBS affiliates in the area.

☛ **Apr 4—Womynspace: NOT MEETING!!!** Womynspace will not be meeting, however, a musician, Pat Humphries, will be performing for the general public at our usual time and location. Tickets can be made available to Womynspace folks in advance, for \$4.00 (\$8.00 at the door!) For information, call Helen at 451-0359 or email aichess@hotmail.com

☛ **Apr 5—Corry Partners group meets (Corry PA)** Call for times 814-664-7090 (Luella).

☛ **Apr 6—"Friendship in the Age of AIDS"** 8 PM Memorial Auditorium, Edinboro Univ. Sponsored by Erie Co. Health Dept. all 451-6727 to register.

☛ **Apr 8—Christian Spirituality group meets** 7:00 pm Contact Julie or Sue at julie.sue@juno.com or phone 734-3959

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Clarion PA 16214

1001 State, Suite#806
Baldwin Bldg
Erie PA 16501
nwpaids@erie.net

- ☛ **Apr 11—Menspace Meets: TBA** At Jeff and Jim's For information or to RSVP, call Michael at 456-9833.
- ☛ **Apr 11—Corry Partners group meets (Corry PA)** Call for time. 814-664-7090 (Luella).
- ☛ **Apr 13—Friends from the Heart Meets** 6 pm Well Being Ctr, 710 Beaumont. Info Deb Monohon 838-0123.
- ☛ **Apr 14—HIV/AIDS Support Group meets** Call Cheryl Weber at 455-3786 for more info.
- ☛ **Apr 14-17—NAMES Project Quilt Display (Edinboro PA)** For information call 412-343-9846.
- ☛ **Apr 15—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.
- ☛ **Apr 18—2 Girls Alone at Cup-A-Ccino's** 18 N. Park Row, 9-11:30pm.
- ☛ **Apr 18—Town Meeting** 2-5 pm at Admiral Room at Blasco Memorial Public Library. Call Mike at 456-9833
- ☛ **Apr 18—10% Network (Jamestown NY)** 7 pm at Unitarian Church 1255 Prendergast Avenue. Info: John at 716-484-7285.
- ☛ **Apr 22—Christian Spirituality group meets** 7:00 PM. Contact Julie or Sue at julie.sue@juno.com or phone 734-3959
- ☛ **Apr 24—PFLAG-Ashtabula meets** Info: Sharon at (216) 964-3350.

Woman's sports on TV

Nabisco Dinah Shore Tournament March 26-29. 3/26 & 3/27 on ESPN2 5-7pm. On ABC 3/28 4:30-6pm, 3/29 4-6pm

Basketball "The NCAA Women's Tour is split between ESPN2 (11 games) and ESPN (15 games) with the Final Four airing March 27 & 29 on ESPN"—*TV Guide*

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Festivals & conferences

- ☛ **Mar 27-29—Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network Regional Conference (Ann Arbor MI)** Info: St Eddy 616-329-2991 email stuepepc@net-link.net
- ☛ **Apr 28-May 2—Philadelphia Pridefest** 215-790-7820.
- ☛ **May 16-18—Gay & Lesbian Tennis Alliance (Toronto ON)** "Anyone can play." To enter or for info 713-868-5039 or <http://members.aol.com/gaytenis>
- ☛ **May 21—Hate Crimes Summit (Atlanta GA)** Sponsored by NGLTF, Center for Democratic Renewal, others. Info 404-221-0025 or 330-453-2609.
- ☛ **Memorial Day Weekend—Bear Pride (Chicago IL)** 1000+ bears, 312-509-5135 email BearMeat@aol.com
- ☛ **May 21-25—International Mr. Leather (Chicago)** 1-800-545-6753 or <http://www.imrl.com/iml198/98events.htm>
- ☛ **June 6—Gay Day at Disneyworld (Orlando FL)** 888-429-3527.

Note our new mailing address:
Erie Gay News
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Erie PA 16502-1105

You're Invited

*...On the 28th of March when
Robyn Skipper
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An open invitation has been extended to
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7180 New Perry Highway.
Private reception will be held
by the family after the ceremony.
However, the Wedding Party will
return to the Embers at 8:00 p.m.
We hope to see all our friends there.*

Entertainment notes

by Deb Spilko

Erie has a new pride store opening called **Scapers**. Located at 2508 Peach (half a block from Grasshopper), the store will carry pride candles, T-shirts, buttons, 10% Cards, glass clingers, and a variety of pride items. The store plans to stay away from X-rated items ("there are already three stores in town that carry that stuff," says co-owner Ross.) They also offer "The GALLERIE," a place for gay and lesbians to show or sell their work. Their phone is 456-7002 and hours are Thu-Fri 5-9 PM and Sat & Sun noon-8 PM. The store will open February 28, with the grand opening celebration March 6-7. Email them at scapers@aol.com

Places

According to an item in Ed Mathews' column in the *Times-News* (February 15), "a good source" has reported that Munn's Furniture has bought **Lizzy Bordon's** and Presque Isle Bowling Lanes, though the liquor license apparently wasn't included in the deal. Lizzy's has told us the bar will be closing at the 12th Street location and will reopen at some other location. We'll tell you the full story if we ever get it. In the meantime, people traveling to Erie to go to Lizzy's are advised to call the night before to make certain they are still a bar. As of February 28, *la bella bistro* closed "indefinitely," although they

expect to be reopening in the early fall in a new location. Tapas and Aromas Coffeehouse will remain open, and *la bella bistro* gift certificates will be honored at Tapas. Sorry we didn't get this info to you last month, but we didn't find out about it till after we went to press. Well, best of luck to Harry in his new location!

Sports

A couple sports activities are in the process of getting organized locally: watch for there to be **football** and **bowling** activities. The bowling hasn't organized yet; stay tuned to these pages for more details. For info about the football team, talk to Mike at Cup-A-Ccino's.

This month we welcome a new advertiser, the **Frontrunners of Pittsburgh**. People who are into fitness (or just watching fit people) might consider checking out groups like the Frontrunners when they are out of town. Bigger cities always have this sort of activity in their gay and lesbian communities. Just check out their resources directories in the local community publications. A big gay fitness and sports "hub" in Pittsburgh seems to be Schenley Park.

Film and video

The highly-acclaimed film *Watermelon Woman* will be showing at Edinboro University on March 10. The film, which Cheryl Dunye directed and starred in, has been called "the first African-American lesbian feature film." Dunye plays a video store clerk and aspiring filmmaker who becomes obsessed with a black woman (called "Watermelon Woman") who played menial roles in the

In the Life

Broadcast dates from PBS affiliates around the area. Mark your calendar so you don't miss it. Check against your local listings.

Pittsburgh (WQED) March 28 11 p.m. (Airing under a banner program called *WQED X-Change*).
ERIE PA (WQLN) April 3 10 p.m.+++
State College (WPSX) April 9 at 10 p.m.
Western New York (WNED/Ch. 17) Starts in May, every Tuesday 10 p.m. (following *Fronline*) running for six weeks. More details in our April issue.

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silent movie era. The film deals with her quest to make a movie about Watermelon Woman, Dunye's relationship with a rich white woman (*Go Fish*'s Guinevere Turner) and her relationships with the gay and black communities. The film is showing at 7 and 9:30pm at the Edinboro University Center. It is part of Alternative Film Series. By the way, *Watermelon Woman* also was at the center of a Jesse Helms controversy over NEA funding for the arts; my thinking is, if it gives ol' Jesse the connipions, it's worth checking out.

Music

Great stuff happening for **Greg Ropp's 5 Empty Chambers**. In *In Tune* magazine, they won "Best Original Band" and 2nd place for Best CD (*Wasted & Spent*). Dave Richards (a.k.a. Dr. Rock) of *Showcase* reviewed the CD and gave it four stars out of four, and he wrote a nice interview/article as well. Also, the band was featured in the February issue of *Pure Entertainment*.

Former **Judas Priest** metal beast **Rob Halford** recently came out. Two, his new band, will release their album *Voyeurs* this month.

Television

TV Guide reports a couple upcoming episodes of *Xena* that will interest the show's many lesbian fans. One episode will feature Lucy Lawless as the poet Sappho, who falls for Gabrielle. Another episode will star k.d. lang.


Good news for **WNY** readers—*In the Life* is coming back to your PBS affiliate! Not only that, it will be shown on WNED (Channel 17), which is shown in a wider area than Channel 23. According to *TV Guide*, the season's episodes have been saved up and will be shown weekly on Tuesday nights at 10 pm, starting on 3/23/98. The station

says they are doing this because it is easier to program this way (the bimonthly program does cause problems for programmers at PBS affiliates, because a bimonthly program can't be scheduled in a regular slot; however, *In the Life*'s resources are limited, so the six-program thing is hardly something they are doing to annoy programmers). Letters of appreciation to the station would be a good idea here: Mr. Ron Santora, Director of Broadcasting, Western NY Public Broadcasting Association, One Horizons Plaza, PO Box 1263, Buffalo NY 14240.

Erie viewers note: our PBS affiliate **WQLN** will be having its Membership Campaign March 7-22, so if you appreciate the fact that they are now carrying *In the Life* (as well as other gay-positive programming) this is an important way to show it. If you aren't comfortable telling that to the volunteer phone tender, you could write the station later and say thanks.

Save Ellen! We weren't able to find out if ABC made a decision yet regarding renewing *Ellen*, but people are still encouraged to write and tell the network if you'd like to see the sitcom continue. Contact: Ms. Jamie Tarses, Entertainment President, ABC, 2040 Avenue of the Stars, Los Angeles CA 90037, Fax 310-557-7679, email abcaudr@abc.com


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Religious conservatives were apparently successful at getting ABC to pull an episode of **Nothing Sacred**, in which Father Jesse, who is gay and has AIDS, struggles with his vocation. Dignity USA is asking viewers to write ABC asking them to reconsider (see address previous),

Travel

Philadelphia is actively seeking gay and lesbian tourism. The Philadelphia Visitors and Travelers Bureau even publishes *Philadelphia Gay & Lesbian Travel News*, just for you. (Contact them at 215-636-4400 or 800-225-5745, or 16th & JFK Blvd., Philadelphia PA. By the way, there are two gay bus tours of the city.

American Airlines is being hit hard by right wing Christians for their support and sponsorship of gay events. They need to hear from our side too. Contact them with supportive letters: Mr. Robert L. Crandall, Chief Executive Officer, AMR Corporation, 4200 Amon Carter Blvd., Forth Worth TX 76155 or email at webmaster@americanair.com.

Citing concern over reports of unsafe sex and drug use at gay **circuit parties**, American Airlines has stopped sponsoring such events. The airline is still interested in attracting gay customers, but will instead be sponsoring events that aren't so controversial. The circuit party issue is kind of complicated for gay and lesbian organizations. They are popular with some young men (*Damron Address Book* even features a special section listing them), and many parties benefit organizations, especially AIDS or gay community groups. On the other hand, there does seem to be a lot of unhealthy stuff that goes on there. Michelangelo Signorile, in his book, *Life Outside: the Signorile Report on Gay Men* (HarperCollins) is very critical of the circuit culture, and the attitudes he sees it promoting. Most critics of Signorile's book seem to focus on

the idea that older guys had the chance to be totally promiscuous and now they're trying to keep the young guys from doing the same (note: a lot of those older guys died of AIDS). Readers who have attended one or more circuit parties are welcome to write in with their thoughts on the events. A couple things I'd personally be curious about are (because we have mixed feelings about advertizing these events in *EGN*): Is it acceptable to party your butt off there without getting into judgment-impairing drugs and unsafe sex? How many guys do it that way? And can a just regular-looking guy go there and have a good time, or will he be made to feel like a big nothing?

Theater

Buffalo United Artists tells us it will be presenting the regional premiere of *Fit to Be Tied*, "a hilarious comedy written by one of our foremost contemporary gay playwrights, Nicky Silver. The comedy was a great hit in New York last year where it starred the fabulous Jean Smart. Opens March 14 and runs through April 4 at the Franklin Theater. For info and reservations call 716-832-7320) Your admission ticket is valid for a free drink at some of downtown's gay bars."

Upstairs Theater in Pittsburgh will be presenting *Angels in America* (*A gay fantasia on National themes*) Parts 1 & 2. It will run March 19-April 4. Info/reservations 412-361-5443.

Etcetera

The publisher of *Out* magazine fired its female co-founder and replaced her with a male; the magazine is now aimed specifically at a gay male audience. *The Advocate* is now the only publication serving both genders.



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Anti-gay column controversy

The January issue of *Pure Entertainment* ran a letter from a reader annoyed about the local music scene. "I'd like to walk into one of the disco-fag shows and just start kicking people in the ass..." He wrote "I think Erie is like the biggest f***ing fag closet in the world." He also described Erie as a "fag town" a "pussy town" and said most local people would rather go out and "gargle balls" than support the good acts. The reader signed himself "the Big Mo' Freakey."

The magazine's editor, Terry Wood, mildly chided Big Mo' (heretofore called BM) for hurting gay people's feelings with his language, and for using the word "pussy" to describe weakness. However, Wood also referred to gays as people with "perversions," who have "unnatural sex" and who do things "the mere thought of which makes heterosexuals shiver in disgust."

Inexplicably, in the February issue, *Pure Entertainment* carried a new feature: The Big Mo' Freakey column. Oddly enough, in this issue the editor said nothing about the possibility that BM might hurt some people's feelings. Instead, there was only a humorous description of how creepy BM really is, and an explanation that BM's identity was being withheld to protect him from getting into fights. "We can't reveal his true identity," the editor wrote, "because people rarely want to hear the truth."

In his first column, BM managed to make about a dozen fag jokes, griping about the "Pecker Puffers" who come to local shows, "disco fag pud pounders, and wimpy-ass fag s**t," and insisted "I won't support the disco fag groups." (The curiously chosen asterisks are *Pure Entertainment's*) When a female wrote in and suggested BM must be depressed and lonely, he boasted about how attractive he is, saying "Lonely? I might be lonely if it

wasn't for the fact that the only thing equal to the number of fags around Erie is the number of whores. A big stud like myself can't keep whores like you away from me. I kick skanks like you to the curb all the time. You know the only reason you wasted the stamp was because you had to lick *something*." Continuing on, BM flies into an anti-Steeler rant apparently meant to evoke the anal rape scene from *Deliverance*. In closing his column, he states, "I guess I could sum this up by saying: lick it, you disco fag pud pounders."

A number of people called or wrote to complain to the editor about how upset or offended they were with the BM column. Also, the publication has apparently lost some distributors. It remains to be seen if it will continue to be carried in the G-rated free publications racks that can be found in supermarket and department store entrances around the tri-state area.

Local recording artist Greg Ropp and *EGN's* Mike Mahler have struck up an e-mail dialog with *Pure Entertainment's* editor Terry Wood (excerpts from these letters will apparently be carried in the March edition of

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Pure Entertainment.) Both Ropp and Mahler pointed out that BM's attitudes actively reinforced discrimination and violence against women and gays. Wood has stated that he intends to keep BM on, but in a toned-down version.

Wood has given us permission to reprint excerpts from his correspondence with Mike Mahler. We have tried to stay true to the context in which they appeared. It should be pointed out that it was not easy summarizing Wood's thoughts because there seemed to be some change going on. Also, it is only fair to remind readers that e-mail correspondence is written in a casual style, and doesn't necessarily reflect the regular writing style of the individual using it. If you are interested, you may want to check the March issue of *Pure Entertainment* for Wood's statements.

Check out the EGN Web Page!

Latebreaking news, Pointers to area
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Response from Pure Entertainment Editor

First, I would like to apologize for having acted irresponsibly and insensitively. I should know better, and will make every attempt to be fair in the future. The MoFreaky column, although it is parody, was seriously over the top last month, and although I received many comments from people who 'loved it,' I see the point that you and others have brought up, and will do my best to make an apology and be more professional and sensitive on these issues.

Let me say that I do agree that we acted irresponsibly, myself especially, by letting these things get published. This will not happen again, and as I said, I will personally be apologizing to our readers for the lack of good judgement.

You couldn't be more wrong about myself or the staff of this magazine when talking about our pent up aggressions or hiding behind the words, so as to say something and then hide behind it, with the defense that it is a joke - just kidding. As Greg Ropp brought up in a letter to me recently, he has noticed anti-gay comments in a lot of our issues. All of which was in the letters to the editor section. That section comes with my name directly connected to it.

See, it was not hiding behind a pen name, it was plain and simple ignorance to other people's feelings, and it was right there for everyone to see. I do not have an antigay agenda. I believe that everyone should do what they do, believe in what they believe in, and leave one another alone. I personally listened to a lot of the parade float talk radio debacle. I agreed that the float was not

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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.

appropriate (just as I will certainly agree that MoFreakkeys comments are not appropriate) for a parade in which hundreds of children would attend. There is no reason to make sexual and lifestyle alternatives an issue during such an event. I also strongly believe that what was done to the parade float was much worse than having to explain to a young child what the float was for. Destruction of someone's property for any reason is wrong, and this particular incident reeked of all the racist goings on in the 50's and 60's.

I labeled myself when I labeled others, even though it was not meant to be hurtful. The only way I can explain my personal actions in the past is through my upbringing. I am a very gentle, caring husband and father, and I have no interest in making trouble for others. When using the term 'you are gay,' or 'what a fag' or anything like that, with me, there was no malice attached. It was simply ignorance to the fact that these terms were hurting others. I mean I knew it could hurt an individual, I'm not that ignorant, When my brother calls me a homo, or I someone else, we never put it into the context of the fact that someone who is gay would be offended. It's just something you do. It's meant to be funny, not to hurt. Being that there are no people I know of in my life who are gay or lesbian, I never connected it to the human factor. Simple as that.

Believe me, I am taking the comments I receive very seriously. Although I have received many favorable comments about the column, and the column will remain, it will not be filled with things that are so obviously wrong to say. ...MoFreaky is ...meant to be a parody. It does not excuse our ignorance in the printing of the comments, and that will change. But the parody will continue. The intent is to insult people. Not based on race, creed or color, but just because the character is mean arrogant

ass, everyone knows someone like that, and the character's creator went to hell with the idea.

But the Mofreaky is going to continue to be a typical mean hearted, close minded freak with a mind of his own. I guess the character was closer to the actual people involved with him than we knew.

I could have ignored the [negative] responses and went with the flow of the overwhelming 'ayes' we received, but Greg R[opp]'s letter had a big impact on me and went straight to my gut. I felt that I was deeply in error. Not because I am afraid of any repercussions...I didn't feel that it was right. If you and I spoke sincerely about the entire thing you could probably talk me into driving the famed pink triangle float in the next parade as penance—do you see how far I am going in my guilt feelings.

Your letter and others have made me rethink some things that I previously have not bothered to give thought to. That is a start.

Sincerely,
Terry Wood

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**Remember Our deadline is
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W. PA meeting on state civil rights bill

from Statewide PA Rights Coalition

The Statewide Pennsylvania Rights Coalition (S.P.A.R.C.) will hold a town meeting in Pittsburgh to discuss the work S.P.A.R.C. is doing to develop and seek passage of statewide civil rights legislation on behalf of the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered (LGBT) community in Pennsylvania.

The meeting will take place on Tuesday, March 10 at the Friends Meeting House, located at 4836 Ellsworth Avenue in Pittsburgh, and will start promptly at 6:30 PM. S.P.A.R.C.'s co-chairs Steve Glassman and Barbara DiTullio will be conducting the meeting. S.P.A.R.C. steering committee members Andrew Park and Deni Scott will also be present.

Members of the LGBT community, LGBT activists, LGBT community leaders and others supportive of LGBT rights are encouraged to attend this important meeting. We need your input, participation and support!

The Statewide Pennsylvania Rights Coalition (S.P.A.R.C.) is now the largest gathering of organizations and individuals in this state working together to secure

equality on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity through protective legislation. Talented and experienced individuals from dozens of gay identified and allied groups throughout the Commonwealth are joining forces to successfully challenge the conservative majority in the legislature.

We welcome everyone's participation in this exciting effort to launch a variety of projects which we have initiated since we first came together in State College last October. At that time a number of organizations and individuals decided to proceed with a statewide effort and to build on the work which had been done thus far.

S.P.A.R.C. STEERING COMMITTEE: Stephen A. Glassman (Co-chair), Barbara B. DiTullio (Co-chair), Paul Arcure, Steve Black, Debra Dobransky, Phil Goropoulos, David Greer, Kathy Miller, Emily Novakowski, Andrew S. Park, Dr. Sue Rankin, Dr. Gail Ann Rickert, Deni Scott, Dr. Eric W. Selvey, Dr. Deborah Sleger, Dr. Tramble Turner, & Jan Weatherford

For more information, call Steve Glassman at 717-624-3339 or e-mail Deni Scott at dscott@pgh.net.

Friendship in the Age of AIDS

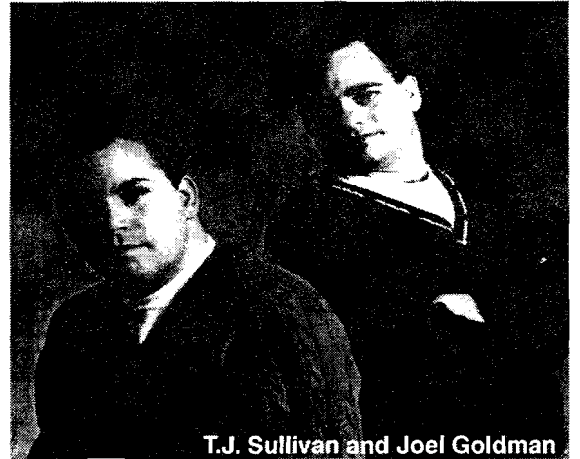
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HIV/AIDS News

Mandatory HIV surveillance system could start next year

As the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention officially makes its case for implementing a national HIV surveillance system, and more states support its position, mandatory HIV reporting could begin as early as this summer, CDC officials say. The division over whether such a system should use names or unique identifiers, however, is a major stumbling block that may delay implementation, public health officials note.

The CDC continues to study the pros and cons of HIV name reporting and to educate the public about the epidemiological perils of continuing to rely solely on AIDS reporting. *Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report* will soon publish the results of its evaluation on alternatives to HIV name reporting. Look this spring to see yet another report they will publish in the Federal Register regarding the type of "best practices" which could spell out the standards for conducting HIV name reporting.

The biggest drawbacks of the unique identifier system is that duplicate reporting cannot be eliminated, and the system cannot be linked to other public health databases. Confidentiality is also a concern for the CDC, as well as the high costs of such a unique identifier system.

The CDC is particularly sensitive to issues surrounding confidentiality, since an incident in Florida where a public health official passed around an AIDS case registry, says John Ward, CDC chief of AIDS surveillance. The CDC is improving the security of computerized AIDS and HIV data collection systems. It may also set standards for how those programs should be run, such as restricting the number of name-based registries, encrypting programs so that access is limited, and auditing programs to assure security guidelines are followed. Of further interest is the exploration of how names could be destroyed once they are no longer needed for surveillance systems.

We are fortunate to live in a state where partner notification is legal. In Pennsylvania, counseling and testing is a two-step process for clients. Upon their return visit, nurses counsel the positive patient regarding partner notification. We maintain confidentiality according to PA Statute (Act 148) for all our clients.

What about anonymous testing, you might be asking yourself. Even anonymous test should trigger a referral into the medical care system. The push for follow up care with HIV positive clients should send out a red flag that we need names. A nationwide HIV name reporting surveillance system would seem to preclude the need for anonymous testing, but CDC officials insist that anonymous testing has a role to play. However please note that 10 states make anonymous testing illegal. However, anonymous test needs to be available to those people who, for whatever reasons, will not be tested any other way.

This is no longer a national issue, it is a local issue that affects us a nation. That's not semantics, that's perspective. The CDC is telling us that we need to get a program together that works. They are offering this as a combined structure with local, state and federal agencies working, in compliance, with each other. It just might work.

Source: "American Health Consultants," AIDS ALERT February 1998 issue

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Cyberspace

Ireland's Pink Pages provides information on Ireland's gay scene, publications, news, music, and more. Find them at <http://indigo.ie/~outhouse/>

Another Irish Web site is Wonderbar On Line, providing a "colourful" site with The Best of Gay Art in Dublin personals, news, links, guide for youth Bookshop, Cork based cafe, etc. at <http://www.wonderbar.net/links1.htm>

Notre Dame's gay and lesbian group has a site...check them out if you'd like to get a "Gay Irish" T-shirt. <http://www.glnsmc.org/newsroom.html>

Local musical group 5 Empty Chambers led by Greg Ropp has a web site at <http://www.angelfire.com/pa/5emptychambers/>

Rainbow Query provides pages about GLBT movies, directors, and other gay cinema topics, plus film lists, reviews, distributors, festivals, etc. <http://www.giweb.com/RainbowQuery/categories/Film.html>

The Isle of Lesbos provides "a place of art, culture, and learning for women-oriented women." Features include Poetry Center, Classical Art, Quotations, Web Directory and links. <http://www.sappho.com/index.shtml>

NGLTF denounces Christian Coalition

WASHINGTON, Feb. 17—The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force denounced plans by the Christian Coalition to recruit 100,000 "church liaisons" to push the group's agenda in the 50 states. The new campaign, designed to reach grassroots donors and activists, features state legislative attacks on gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people and their families. The group claimed to be emboldened by the recent repeal of a civil rights law in Maine, where they used the discriminatory ballot measure to add new members to their shrinking membership rolls.

"The election results in Maine do not foreshadow the rest of the nation. The repeal effort was the result of a campaign of lies and distortions by its promoters. This is another shallow fund-raising ploy to pad their coffers at the expense of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community," said Kerry Lobel, executive director of NGLTF.

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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 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
 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

Bars

- The Embers ▼ 454-9171
 1711 State St, Erie PA. Open Mon-Sat 8 pm - 2 am. Live DJ music Wed thru Sat 10 pm - 2 am. Pool table.
 Leeward Lounge ▼ (440) 964-9935
 1022 Bridge St, Ashtabula OH.
 Lizzy Bordon's Part II ▼ 833-4059
 3412 W 12th St, Erie PA. Open Mon-Sat. 9pm-2am. *Moving soon!!*
 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.
 Rascals ▼ (716) 484-3220
 701 North Main St, Jamestown, NY. Handicap accessible. Open Mon-Sun 3pm-2am. DJ Thurs-Sun.
 Sneakers ▼ (716) 484-8816
 100 Harrison, Jamestown, NY. Open Mon-Sun 2pm-2am. Musical Mastery Mary as DJ on Friday and Saturday. Also Karaoke every other Friday. Email artemistoo@mindspring.com

J	O	H	N	S	U	N	W	O	R	D		
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D	E	E	R	T	O	I	L	E	E	R		

Crossword Solution:

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, salaas, soups and desserts. Large quiet deck in good weather. Bike rack. Plenty of free reading material and games. Smoking permitted on deck.
 Coqui's Gourmet Deli 835-2272
 3443 W Lake Rd, Erie PA. Home of delicious guilt-free food. Pizza and sandwiches. Open Mon - Thurs 11-10, Fri 11-11, Sat 12-?, Sun 12-9
 Cup-a-Ccino's ▼ 456-1511
 18 North Park Row, Erie PA. 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 rack for cyclists.
 Tapas 454-8797
 17 W 9th St, Erie PA. In Tullio Towers. Open Mon-Wed 7am-3pm, Thurs 11am-11pm, Fri-Sat 11am-4am, Sun 10am-9pm.

Books, Gifts, Retail

- Allegheny College Bookstore ▼
 Cochran Hall Lower Level, Meadville PA. Full service independent book store
 Barnes & Noble ▼ 864-6300
 5909 Peach St, Erie PA
 Disc-Go-Round 864-1844
 6825 Peach St, Erie between Taco Bells & Fridays
 Integrity Computers 453-3227
 3119 Pine Ave, Erie PA. Contact Jill Wiggins and Mary Lynn Rote
 Lavender Loafer Cards 333-6282
 PO Box 1458, Meadville PA. Email Julia@alltel.net. Specializing in cards for gay women.
 Pal Prescription Pharmacy 455-8597
 1238 W 6th St, Erie PA
 Poster Annex/U Frame It 455-1999
 717 Liberty St, Erie PA Poster, prints, cards, ceramic tiles, creative custom framing
 Pride Gifts by Christopher 899-9511
 PO Box 11066, Erie PA 16514-1066. E-Mail PrideGifts@aol.com
 Rainbow Pride Gift Shop ▼ (716) 881-6126
 175 Hodge St (corner of Elmwood Ave), Buffalo NY. Also second location inside Budaies, 31 Johnson Park in Buffalo. Phone is (716) 855-0222.
 Scapers ▼ 456-7002
 2508 Peach, Erie PA scapers@aol.com Lesbian/pride gifts, gallery
 Talking Leaves ▼ (716) 837-8554
 3158 Main St, Buffalo NY. Email talklvbk@fcs-net.com

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)

Entertainment

ARTSline 452-2000 then "ARTS" (2787)
 Directors Circle Theatre ▼ 454-0636
 652 W 17th St, Erie PA <http://www.eriefun.com/dc>
 Extreme Truthline 868-3825
<http://www.njipro.com/etl>
 Movie Stop 453-7696
 1229 State St, Erie PA. Also stores in McKean, Meadville & Oil City. WWW: <http://www.moviesstop.com/>
 Poppa Ropp's Video ▼ 734-3014
 Edinboro Mall, Edinboro PA
 Roadhouse Theatre ▼ 456-5656
 145 W 12th St, Erie PA. Email Roadhouse@erie.net <http://www.njipro.com/rthca>

Erotica/Adult Bookstores

Body Language ▼ (888)GAY-PRDE (429-7733) or (216) 251-3330
 3291 W 115th St, Cleveland OH. Email bodylanguage@juno.com WWW: <http://members.aol.com/body/a3649>
 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-Line

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/Housing

Howard Hanna/Spiegel Realtors 864-3200/Cell 449-0405
 5100 Peach St, Erie PA Contact Linda Foll-Johnson.
 John Cooper, Esq. 455-3436

Political/Advocacy Organizations

NWPA Chapter of ACLU 734-3458 (Bob Cogan)
 PO Box 1413 Erie PA 16512.
 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 News 456-9833
 1115 W 7th St, Erie PA 16508-0063. Fax 452-1392, Email egcn@ncinter.net
 WWW: <http://www.ncinter.net/~egcn/>

Religious Organizations

Dignity 451-0593 (Jerry)
 Support group for lesbigay Catholics and their friends and family.
 Ecumenical Christian group 734-3959 (Susan Laurie)
 Now forming. Open to Christians of all denominations/orientations. Email julie.sue@juno.com
 Temple Anshe Hessed (Reform Congregation) 454-2426
 930 Liberty St, Erie PA. WWW: <http://www.shamosh.org/reform/uahc/congs/pa/pa007/>
 Cathedral of St. Paul (Episcopal) 452-3779
 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.

Services

Karen's Skin Care Studio 833-3355 or 838-4802
 2554 W 8th St, Erie PA. (Execu-Fit) Licensed Esthetician
 The Light House 453-6129
 Website design and implementation service. Email tlh@velocity.net. WWW: <http://www.velocity.net/~tlh>
 TimeSavers, Etc. 866-1081
 PO Box 3014 Erie PA 16508-0014. Grocery/Errands, Car maintenance pickup/delivery

Social Organizations

10% Network ▼ (716)484-7285 (John)
 Chautauqua 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)

Products and services advertised in this publication aren't necessarily endorsed by us. However, if you have a complaint about an advertised service or product, please notify us.

Check our website
 (<http://www.ncinter.net/~egcn>) for latebreaking news, messages from our readers and more!

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

Pittsburgh Frontrunners (412) 687-6055
Runners and walkers of all speeds and capabilities. Email parkmanpp@earthlink.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 ▼ 451-0359 (Helen)
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. Email to aichess@hotmail.com.

Student Organizations/Youth

Committee in Support of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual People (CSGLBP, Allegheny College, Meadville) ▼ 332-4368 (Nancy)
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@allegh.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 ClosetCtr@aol.com

Covenant House Teen Hotline 1-800-999-9999

Identity & 732-4357 (Amy)
Student group for lesbian & allies at Edinboro Univ. Meets in the room 101 of Hendricks Hall Wed 8:30 pm. Write to Identity, Edinboro Univ, 374 Dearborn Hall, Edinboro, PA 16412

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/gay 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.sunyjc.edu.

Mercyhurst Gay/Straight Alliance ▼ . 824-2468 (Vivian Tamburello or Ofc Mgr) or 824-2700 (Tara)
Meets Tuesdays at 8:30 PM in Rm 213 Zurn. Mail to Mercyhurst GSA, 501 W 38th St Box 443, Erie PA 16546-0001. Email to Tara at tsamios@hotmail.com or Vivian @ vtambure@paradise.mercy.edu

National Runaway Switchboard 1-800-621-4000

SUNY-Fredonia GLBSU (716)673-3139 or (716) 673-3149
Meets Tuesdays at 10 pm 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
Meeting open to the public. Write: College Mailroom, Box 1054, Behrend College, Station Rd, Erie, PA 16563. Email to caraballo@psu.edu WWW: <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 esc@csonline.net

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

Northcoast Rainbow Families 868-0069 (Christopher)
..... (716) 366-1453 (Judy)
Support, advocacy, and education group for lesbian/gay 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

Partners (814) 664-7090 (Luella)
Support group for lesbian/gay people and their supporters in Corry PA area. Call or email for meeting time and place. Email to: partn5896@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.

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: pflagdubois@key-net.net

PFLAG-Erie Elaine 864-0184
Meets 1st Thurs 7:00 pm at Unitarian-Universalist Congreg 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 at Human Svcs Ctr, 130 West North St, New Castle.

Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (SCA) 453-5656 (Erie Hotline)
Meets Tuesdays 8:00 pm. Call Erie Hotline for location. WWW: <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)

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 lesbian/gay local info! <http://www.ncinter.net/~egcn/>

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 - Sandra Decker 456-8849
 Case Manager - Andrea Cathcart 814-764-6066
 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). 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 806, Erie PA. Email them at nwpaaids@erie.net

St. Mark's/Catholic Charities Support Group &

..... Cheryl Weber at 455-3786, if no answer 825-1085

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 E. Grandview Blvd. Use main entrance & follow signs for Support Group.

Jamestown NY/Chautauque Co.

Case Manager - Margaret Geer, RN (800) 743-1940

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 Prendergast Ave in Jamestown.

Meadville PA/Crawford County

Case Manager - Sue Bobosky (800)359-AIDS

Crawford Co. AIDS Coalition 337-3241

HIV still kills
Condoms still save lives

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 - Andrea Cathcart (800)359-AIDS

Warren County

Case Manager-Deb Monohon 838-0123

Case Manager-Andrea Cathcart. 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 451-6727

Call for info on CD4 and Viral Load Testing 451-6727

(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

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