Calendar

Nov 3-Election Day

Nov 5 & 6— "Falling in and out of Love" Workshop For info call the Health Dept. 451-6543.

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

Nov 6—In The Life (Erie) WQLN TV-54 10 pm, nationally syndicated gay and lesbian program featuring news, culture, features. The October/November episode of this gay and lesbian program features: "Decisions in Hawaii," "Housing for Gay Seniors," "Same-Sex Shakespeare," "For God and Country: the Southern Baptists," "Children's Books, Adult Battles," and "Patience and Sarah." Episode details at website http://www.inthelifetv.org

Nov 6—Tamales Live from the Border Grill 10 p.m., Food Network. Features lesbian chef Susan Feniger and her co-chef Mary Sue Milliken.

Nov 6—Bravo Profiles: You're the Top: The Cole Porter Story Bravo 8pm. Profiles the gay American composer ("Anything Goes," "I Get a Kick Out of You," etc.)

Nov 7—Womynspace: Drumming "Drumming and Percussion for listening and/or participation!! Led by Jen, a percussionist and really fine young womyn! Join us to make a little noise, dance a little, laugh and enjoy each other. For more info, call Helen at 451-0359 or email aichess@hotmail.com"

Nov 8—Depeche Mode in concert (Cleveland) Gund Arena.

Nov 8—The Heidi Chronicles On Lifetime 1 pm. Comedydrama about a woman's life. Her best friend is a gay man womand Peter.

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

Nov 11—An evening of D&A: HIV/AIDS Support Group meets The group welcomes Dr. Richard Ortoski for an evening of Q&A regarding HIV/AIDS. Meets at St. Mark's Center. Info: Cheryl Weber at 455-3786.

Nov 11-BYKOTA meets Christian Spirituality Group. Contact Julie or Sue at julie.sue@juno.com or 734-3959. Nov 11-15—National Gay and Lesbian Task Force: Creating Change 1998 Conference (Pittsburgh PA) Ad/info in last month's issue. For more info, see article page 5.

Nov 14-Menspace 7:30 pm at Brian and Dave's. Call Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or email egcn@ncinter.net for more info.

Continued on page 3



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On the Cover: Sitting Under the Maple Tree by Micheal A. Miller

If you want to reprint...

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 November

Nov 15— Deadline for info related to December and early January events:

Hanukkah/Festival of Lights, Christmas, Yule/ Winter Solstice, Kwanzaa, New Year's



c/o EGC Coalition, 1115 W 7th St, Erie, PA 16502-1105

Phone: (814) 456-9833 Fax: (814) 452-1392 Pager: (814) 870-9128 Email: egcn@ncinter.net

Web Site: http://www.eriegaynews.com/

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 <u>STRONGLY</u> 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 October issue collators!

Thanks to Jerry McCumber, Brian Skelly, Paul Grubbs, Gary Yuhas, Dave Mulholland, Bernie Bright, Amy Terrizzi, Ro, and Richard Mentz for helping us to collate the most recent 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!

Nov 19–Riverside Gala Weekend (Franklin PA) Large annual CD/TV/TS/TG weekend event sponsored by the Erie Sisters held at the Inn at Franklin. All TG-friendly people welcome. For more info, call 814-437-3361, fax to 814-437-5996 or email bus36@usachoice.net or http://www.geocities.com/Wellesley/1614/

Nov 20—White Eagle: How Sweet the Sound WNEQ (PBS-Buff/ch.23) "Traces the life and career of Rosebud Sioux opera tenor White Eagle, from his early life in South Dakota through his journey into the world of opera, and his public and inspiring struggle with AIDS." —WNY Public Broadcasting

Nov 21–Gay Night at *Rocky Horror* "Many of us are going to the 8 PM performance of *Rocky Horror* at the Roadhouse Theatre, 145 W 11th St. You are welcome to join us. Call the box office (ASAP—the shows tend to sell out quickly!) at 456-5656."

Nov 21–11th Annual Lambda Ball "Temptation" (Pittsburgh) Gala event—fine food, dancing, formal attire is the norm here. This is the primary fundraiser for the Lambda Foundation, a gay charitable foundation. Ticket information and reservations from Lambda Foundation at 412-521-5444.

Nov 21–10% Network Auction (Jamestown, NY) 7 PM at the Unitarian Church in Jamestown, 1225 Prendergast Ave. "As we have done in past years, we will be having an auction to benefit the AIDS Community Services Christmas Project. Bring a new or used item or items for the auction. This is a silent auction. Auction slips will be available next to each item to write in bids. Bring a drink or munchie to share. Here is a chance to pick up a holiday gift or two." For more info, call John at (716) 484-7285.

Nov 22—Rear Window (1998) On ABC 9 pm Remake of the Hitchcock suspense film will feature some changes: one apartment is inhabited by a gay couple, and there will be more emphasis on disability issues. Produced by and starring Christopher Reeve.

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

Nov 25—BYKOTA meets Christian Spirituality Group. Contact Julie or Sue at julie.sue@juno.com or phone 734-3959

Nov 26—Party of Five: Ides of March Lifetime at noon. Ross (Jamestown's Mitchell Anderson) experiences problems adopting a child because he is gay.



Fridays 8 pm

\$10 per person

LIVE



Open Run of Shows

Saturdays 8 pm & Midnight

ON STAGE

Tickets now on sale

Roadhouse Theatre, 145 West 11th St, Box office 456-5656

Nov 26—Thanksgiving

Nov 27 – Little Big Man (1970) TBS 2:10 am. An unusual and outstanding western, with a 121-year-old fellow remembering back on his experiences in the Old West. There is a small part featuring Robert Little Star playing a gay Cheyenne.

Nov 28–*Buffalo Girls (1995)* Lifetime 6pm. Anjelica Huston plays the swaggering cowgal Calamity Jane.

Dec 1—World AIDS Day See page 7 for details on area

Dec 3—PFLAG-Erie meets 7:00 pm Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Info: Elaine Hill at 864-0184.

Dec 5—Womynspace: Holiday Party "A Holiday party is inevitable! Sharing Holiday treats would be appreciated (no alcohol, please). At this point, we don't know whether or not it will also be a dance—but we're hoping so!! Please offer feedback/interest by calling Helen 451-0359 or email aichess@hotmail.com Volunteers needed for ideas, planning, setup/decorations, refreshments, cleanup, etc. All womyn welcome! No admission fee required. Donations always accepted"

Dec 8—HIV/AIDS Support Group meets Call Cheryl Weber at 455-3786 for more info.

Dec 8—BYKOTA meets Christian Spirituality Group. Contact Julie or Sue at julie.sue@juno.com or phone 734-3959.

Dec 12—Menspace 7:30 pm. Call Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or email egcn@ncinter.net for more info.

Dec 14—Friends from the Heart Meets 6 pm, Well Being Ctr, 710 Beaumont. Info Deb Monohon 838-0123.

Dec 14-Happy Hanukkah

Dec 19-10% Network Holiday Party (Jamestown, NY) 7 PM at the Unitarian Church in Jamestown, 1225 Prendergast Ave. Holiday Party. "We will be having a cookie exchange and a gift exchange. For the gift exchange,

Local Erie Area Lesbian Author

"Fragments, Minus the Muse."

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Breaking all the Rules

please bring a wrapped gift priced under \$10.00 for the exchange. This will be run like a Chinese auction. Gifts are chosen and exchanged between group members before being opened. Who knows which one you'll get! For the cookie exchange, bring as many cookies as you plan on taking, wrapped with a half-dozen cookies in each bag. For example, if you bring 4 half-dozen bags, you may take 4 half-dozen bags of assorted cookies, For more info, call John at (716) 484-7285."

Dec 22 – Yule at UU 7:30 PM. Pagan holiday celebrated by GLBT-friendly Coven of Brighidshaven at Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Wear black, bring a drinking vessel for the ritual and a dish to pass for the potluck feast following. Info: Contact Sharon at medhbh@velocity.net

Dec 22—HIV/AIDS Support Group meets Call Cheryl Weber at 455-3786 for more info.

Dec 22—BYKOTA meets Christian Spirituality Group. Contact Julie or Sue at julie.sue@juno.com or phone 734-3959.

Dec 25-Merry Christmas

Dec 31—New Years Eve If you are holding an event, make sure you get the information to us by November 15!

Jan 1-Happy New Years

Repeating Programs

Mother, Mother Encore. "A young man with AIDS confronts his mother. 11/8, 11/14, 11/21

Torch Song Trilogy (1988) Bravo 11/1, 11/2, 11/14, 11/15, 11/17, 1/18. Harvey Fierstein's musical comedy about a drag queen, his search for love, and relationship with his mother.

Video Diaries: Before You Go: daughter's Video Diary A daughter keeps a video journal of her father's struggle with AIDS. On HBO, 11/7 11/10, 11/19, 11/22.

Women's Sports

Golf *ITT* 4-6pm ESPN 11/19 &11/20, ESPN2 11/21 4-6 p.m., ABC 11/22 4-6 p.m. *JC Penney Classic* ESPN 11/4 4-6 p.m., ESPN 11/5 4-6 p.m. ABC11/6 4-6 p.m.



Creating Change Conference activities

It's almost here...

The nation's largest conference for creating a better world for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered per-

The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force will be holding their 11th annual "Creating Change Conference November 11-15. It's open to all who are interested in GLBT rights, and will be held nearby in Pittsburgh.

Besides featuring nationally-known speakers, workshops, and serious and fascinating discussions, there will also be entertainment, connecting, and other activities.

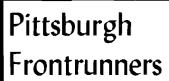
To register, or for more info, call 202-332-6483. For up-to-the-minute info on additional activities, check out the November issues of the two Pittsburgh publications, Out and Planet Q, available at the bars and Cup-A-Ccino's.

Here is some of what will be happening at the conference and in connection with it:

Thurs Nov 12—"Creating Change Beyond the Beltway" For GLBT Federal Employees. Info kitti@fedglobe.org or 301-869-9856.

Fri Nov 13—The Prom "The Prom Committee encourages singles and costumes." Westin Wm. Penn Hotel-William Penn ballroom. For information call 412-795-514. Fri Nov 13-15—Second Gay Men's Sex Summit "Coincides with Conference. signmeup@gayactive.com or 317-780-0001, ext. 2.

Sat .Nov 14-Triangle fest of Humor and Music lesbian comic Karen Williams, HIV + comic Steve Moore, the Amazing Circus of Love, Bitch and Animal: A New Breed of Entertainment, and Cross Current: Dynamic Performance Group. Dance to follow, sponsored by Shades of Black. Call 412-795-5141 or 412-422-0114. Proceeds benefit gay & les-



WEB: http://www.ce.cmu.edu/~sgodsen/pittfr

Runners and walkers of all speeds and capabilities, meeting Saturday morning (9:00 a.m.); and Tuesday and Thursday nights (7:00 p.m.), at the Columbus statue in Schenley Park bian Community center. For into. Starts at 8:30 pm, William Penn Ballroom, Westin Penn Hotel. Limited seating, reservations recommended.

Workshops

There will be over 150 workshops. These include: Equality Begins At Home: Building a Movement

in Every State, Civil Rights Laws, Anti-GLBT Hate Crimes, Adoption and Custody, Freedom to Marry, Domestic Partnership, Elections, Fundraising, Lobbying, Sodomy Laws, Media Activism, Sexuality and Gender Identity, Rural Organizing, Statewide Coalitions, Health, Communities of Faith, Youth Organizing, Volunteer Management, Aging and Ageism, Boards of Directors, Community Centers, Grassroots Organizing, Organizational Development, Workplace Organizing, Public Speaking, School and Campus Organizing, Leadership Skills

Rainbow Pride Gift Shop

Now with 2 locations to serve you better. 175 Hodge Ave, at Elmwood (716) 881-6126 31 Johnson Park in Buddies (716) 855-0222

Hours:	Hodge Ave	Buddies
Sun	1PM to 5PM	CLOSED
Mon	CLOSED	CLOSED
Tue	10AM to 9PM	5PM to 2 AM
Wed	10AM to 9PM	5PM to 2 AM
Thu	10AM to 9PM	5PM to 2 AM
Frì	10AM to 9PM	5PM to 2 AM
Sat	1PM to 9PM	5PM to 2 AM

Queenie Beanies Start Your Collection Today Monique, the Monkey Prissy, the Piggy Nellie, the Horsey Daisy, the Doggy Felicia, the Froggy Blanche, the Moo-Moo Cow \$5.95 - All in Rainbow Colors Buffalo's Pride Headquarters

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Letters

"Straight" to the Point

"You, pick a gender and stick with it," so said a friend of mine. He was joking, of course, but the sentiment behind it is all too common. I am a bisexual transgendered person, this is not that uncommon, however many people do not seem to understand that.

When I come out as Bi, I get challenged immediately. I'm told I'll come out as gay eventually, "they all do." Some tell me that I'm not Bi, I'm gay and should deal with it. Others say I'm too feminine to be Bi (What?!!?) I've been asked "are you really bi or are you just saying that?" Why would I just say that? Maybe it's "Just because you're in Erie, doesn't mean you have to say you're Bi." Why are people so reluctant to admit that someone can find a person attractive regardless of their gender? Maybe they are insecure about their own sexuality.

As a transgendered person, I have to deal with a lot of prejudice as well, and unfortunately, much of it is in gay surroundings. I'm constantly being asked "Are you



'monin' it?" I am not now, nor have I ever been, on hormones. I don't know If I ever will. I don't think, however, anyone has the right to just blurt that question out in public.

I'm often told I should live full-time as a woman. That would be denying a part of who I am, not that I haven't considered it in the past. It is also very difficult to do with an unmistakably masculine name, it's hard anyway. I'd love to meet some TG people who successfully live as the opposite gender (especially in Erie, do they exist?).

One more thought, why must a Transgendered person, in female attire use the men's room in gay bars? That's not who we are.

Connie

Where did the TV's go?

(Editors' note: Diane had planned to speak at the Pride Rally as a representative of the Erie Sisters but ran into problems en route. Connie agreed to step forward and speak in Diane's place. We received the following by e-mail to explain:)

Hello dears, well sorry Diane didn't show at the Pride Rally but I know my girls can be a bit chaotic, ergo Connie was ready to go. But Diane had an episode of her own. Going through Meadville on I-19, with a state cop right behind her, She had a new outfit on she bought just for the rally, She was slowing down for an amber light when her brakes hit the floor!!! A '56 Mercury then jumped the light and Diane hit it! The very large redneck then jumped out the car and called Diane just all sorts of things, good thing the cop saw all, he promptly called for backup. Diane ID'ed herself as a CD. The officer then politely asked Diane if he should call her Diane or by her male name. When the afore mentioned redneck heard Diane was a crossdresser, Well... he got a bit excited!!! Threatened to kill her. That's when they cuffed him and hauled him off!! Hats off to the PA State police. They are to be commended for the professional, courteous way they handled the situation. So.. that's why Diane didn't make it. Connie tells me 2 other trans people contacted her, that makes it a success as far as I'm concerned.

Hugs Lisa K.

World AIDS Day events

This is tentative as some groups may not have all events in. You may want to call to confirm events before traveling.

Erie

from HIV/AIDS Ministry, Cathedral of St Paul's

World AIDS Day Observance December 1, 1998 The Cathedral of St. Paul's HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry will, for the eighth year, observe World AIDS Day in our community. The focus of this years observance is, "Be a Force for Change." Towards that end, we are again collaborating with the Erie County Department of Health and the Erie County AIDS Service Network to be a force for change as well as to provide hope and healing to those infected and affected by HIV disease and AIDS. This year's observance will include another NAMES Project AIDS Memorial Quilt display. Six 12x12' sections of the Quilt will be on display at the Cathedral from November 21, 1998 through December 5, 1998. The Quilt display will be open to the public and free of charge. Hours for the actual viewing are incomplete at this time, but, as always, information can be obtained by contacting the Cathedral at 452-3779. We anticipate that several of the 12x12's will include panels created for individuals from our area. Last year over 300 students from various schools, adjudicated centers and religious organizations visited the Cathedral, viewed the Quilt panels and received an hour long presentation (free of charge) on the prevention and transmission of HIV/ AIDS provided by our ministry educators and the Erie County Department of Health. If your school, group or organization is interested in scheduling such a presentation, please contact the Cathedral. The World AIDS Day observance is, Tuesday, December 1, 1998 beginning at 5:30 P.M. in the East Park at Perry Square. Individuals are invited to meet in the park, and be a force for change by placing a ribbon on the "Tree of Hope." A candlelight procession to the Cathedral of St. Paul, 133 West 6th St. will take place at the conclusion of this brief ceremony Immediately following the procession our World AIDS Day Healing Service will begin. Various clergy from throughout the community will participate in the observance which will include:

Christian Ecumenical Healing Service,

World AIDS Day Names Project Quilt Display Presentation of new quilt panels to be forwarded to the NAMES Project.

"Kelvin's Dinner" A shared meal held in memory of a former ministry volunteer.

NAMES Project merchandise will be available for purchase at the dinner.

Those individuals unable to attend the candlelight procession are invited to wait in the Cathedral, where names of those memorialized on the Quilt will be read. The service is expected to begin at approximately 6:00 P.M. The pandemic of AIDS is not over. The numbers continue to grow both locally and across the globe. We at the HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry have strived to be a place of safety, hope, and healing for those infected and affected. The community has been wonderful in affirming that we are in fact living up to our mission statement which is "to provide a Christian response to the pandemic of AIDS. "Thank you for the confidence you have placed in us. Each year proves to be a more wonder-



455-8597

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Serving the HIV-Affected Community

ful expression of those things that bring us together rather than divide. The differences melt away and only the compassion and love remain. God's grace is truly present as we come together to celebrate, mourn, heal and be present to one another. All are welcome to participate, all are encouraged to volunteer." For additional information please contact: Sue B. Kuebler, Chairperson, HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry, Cathedral of St. Paul, Episcopal, 452-3779.

The Erie Community Planning Committee (ECPC) will be sponsoring extended testing hours at local clinics and other locations. Details will be at the Observance on Dec 1 at St. Paul's and other sources.

Mercyhurst College: A speaker from Cleveland is tentatively scheduled for December 2nd, a movie for Thursday, Dec 3rd. Patricia K. Puline, HIV/AIDS Education Training person from the Dept. of Health, will be doing an AIDS education program on Friday, Dec. 4 at 2:00 p.m. in the Student Union. She is tremendously enthusiastic and it should be good. For final details, contact Veronica Ledoux at 456-1922 or yledoux@hotmail.com

Western New York

As part of the Ways in Being Gay Festival, Hallwalls and just buffalo present DAY WITHOUT ART/WORLD AIDS DAY December 1 at 7 pm. Cosponsored by Rockwell Center for the Performing Arts and Buffalo State College & AIDS Community Services at Rockwell Hall, 1300 Elmwood Ave. TONY KUSHNER Pulitzer Prize winning playwright (Angels in America) interviewed live on stage by Lorna C. Hill, Artistic Director of Ujima Theatre Company, and Ron Ehmke, theatre artist, performer and writer. Info (716) 835-7362



That's not a scarecrow

by Rev. Bob Lewis

"Matthew Shepard, 21, died at Fort Collins, Colorado hospital on Monday (October 12th) after spending several days in a coma. His skull was so badly fractured by the beating that doctors said they could not even operate."

His "crime" for deserving such a beating was simply that he was gay.

In Laramie Wyoming, a young man was savagely beaten, tied to a fence post and left there in freezing temperatures until a passerby found him eighteen hours later. The passerby initially thought he was looking at a scarecrow because of the way Matthew's body was strung up. Upon closer examination he exclaimed, "That's not a scarecrow!"

No it wasn't. It was a person. A person with feelings. Someone's son. Someone's friend. That wasn't a scarecrow; it was a person! When will we stop treating gay people as though they were less than human?! Shades of Nazi Germany!

The Matthew Shepard incident did not happen in a vacuum, though. The person responsible for this heinous crime learned from somewhere that it was acceptable to hate gay people. Sadly, that message is often perpetuated by the Church.

In our zeal for righteousness and morality, we the Church create the environment that tolerates gay bashing. I have even heard some preachers say, "God hates gays and lesbians, and so should we."

The Church shares in the guilt of Matthew's death by baptizing hatred and bigotry. Our prejudice and hatred make events like Matthew's death acceptable in some people's minds. "He 'deserved it' because we know that God hates gays and lesbians; he had it coming." So goes the rhetoric. We seem to be teaching that's okay to hate certain people if you disagree with their lifestyle.

Hatred and bigotry are taught and learned. No one is born hating gays and lesbians. You have to be taught to hate. The Church should be in the forefront of the struggle against human oppression. But, instead we are

giving people permission to hate, using our scriptures to reinforce our prejudice and bigotry.

If Matthew Shepard's death is not to be for naught, if we can find any meaning or purpose in such a senseless act of violence, let the Church change direction. Let the Church strive for an understanding of and compassion for who these people are, instead of categorically condemning and hating them.

Let the Church open its doors, and proclaim to the people who have been told that God hates them, that instead God loves them. Hatred is not the way of Christ. And hatred was never a tool in the toolbox of the carpenter from Nazareth. It should not be in our toolbox either, as we strive to build His kingdom of love, on earth as it is in heaven.

Let the Church repent!

Rev. Bob Lewis is Pastor of the Cascade United Methodist Church and Coordinator for Citizens Against Racism in Erie (CARE)

Identity holds Candlelight Vigil for Matthew Shepard

Edinboro University GLBT group Identity held a candlelight vigil for Matthew Shepard on Wednesday, October 21. About 75 people attended, including Edinboro University President Dr. Frank Pogue. Sue Laurie, M.Div., of local Christian group BYKOTA read from the Book of Matthew and led the very moving service. Her partner Julie sang and played the guitar and Ro sang the funeral chant from the Taino traditional Pipe ceremony, conducted later.

Many people, gay and straight, shared their thoughts, their anger and their resolve to continue the fight against homophobia and all forms of bigotry. Kudos to the organizers and participants for showing a loving response to a despicable act!

Shepard fund

A fund has been set up in Matthew's name. Funds will be used to help Matthew's family with the medical costs involved in trying to save his life. Additional moneys will be sent to organizations he supported. Donations can be sent to Fund for Matthew Shepard, Account #1926083, c/o First national Bank, PO Box 578, Fort Collins CO 80522.

Urge passage of hate crime laws

Press Congress to pass Federal Hate Crimes Prevention Act

There are 2 levels of hate crime legislation-federal and state. We've included both.

The Hate Crimes Prevention Act would permit federal prosecution for anti-GLBT violence and enhance sentencing for offenders. It is currently awaiting passage. Call Senator Orrin Hatch's office (202)224-5251 and urge him to pass the Hate Crimes Prevention Act.

Also write or call your Congressman and US Senators. When communicating with your Congressman, refer to the bill as **HR 3D81**. With your US senators refer to it as **S. 1529**.

Your Congressman and US Senators names and addresses should appear in the government section of the phone book.

NY hate crime bills

Info from Empire State Pride Agenda

New Yorkers can encourage their Assemblyperson and State Senator to pass these two bills.

1. Bias-Related Violence Bill

Assembly 1242- Use this number when contacting your assembly member

Senate 572 - Use this number when contacting your state senator.

2. Hate Crimes Act of 1998



(Referred to as "the Governor's" bill because it was written by the Governor's staff and introduced into the Senate at the Governor's request.)

Senate 3427-A - Use this number when contacting your state senator.

For more information on these bills visit the Empire State Agenda web site at http://www.espany.org/

PA hate crime bills

from Statewide PA Rights Coalition (SPARC)

PHILADELPHIA, Oct. 21 — In the aftermath of the brutal beating death of gay college student Matthew Shepard in Wyoming, Pennsylvanians are calling on the state legislature to change the laws dealing with crimes motivated by the victims' sexual orientation and /or gender identity.

The Statewide Pennsylvania Rights Coalition (SPARC) announced at a news conference Oct. 21 it is lobbying lawmakers to pass two bills introduced over a year ago by Rep. Lita Cohen, R-Montgomery:

House Bill 730 would amend the state hate-crimes law so it covers crimes committed based on the victim's actual or perceived sexual orientation.

House Bill 731 would require the state police to collect information on crimes and incidents motivated by the victim's actual or perceived sexual orientation. The law already requires them to collect similar information on crimes and incidents motivated by race, color, religion or national origin.

"Every concerned citizen needs to call and write his or her state representative and state senator and say: Fix the hate-crime law now, and take the common-sense step of starting to gather information so we can track how many of these crimes there are, where they are happen-



ing and other important trends," said Stephen Glassman, co-chair of SPARC. "Both of these bills should be further amended to include gender identity as a protected class," Glassman added.

Of the 41 states that have a hate-crimes law, Pennsylvania is one of the 20 whose law does not address sexual orientation and/or gender identity.

Gov. Tom Ridge said last week he will sign a bill to correct that if the legislature passes it. Both of Cohen's bills have remained stalled in the House Judiciary Committee.

Glassman noted that the phrase "actual or perceived" in Cohen's bills would also cover heterosexuals who are mistakenly perceived to be gay. The process of changing the law could begin with reporting Cohen's bills out of committee or by amending bills on the floor of the House or Senate. The legislature is currently in recess and returns to Harrisburg Nov. 9.

"Just about every state lawmaker would probably tell you that he or she is against hate and violence. Here is a chance to do something about hate and violence. Practically every state lawmaker wants to be known as tough on crime. Here is a chance to be tough on crime," Glassman said. "We are asking the people of Pennsylvania — straight, gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered — to call and write their state representatives and senators as soon as possible to get sexual orientation and gender identity included in the hate-crime law and include these crimes in the state police reports. These should be easy votes for any lawmaker. It's so little to ask."

The mission of the Statewide Pennsylvania Rights Coalition (SPARC) is to work to develop and seek passage of statewide civil rights legislation on behalf of the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered communities in Pennsylvania

Contacts: Sue Rankin, Ph.D.Steve Glassman sxr2@psu.edu 794 Dicks Dam Road 313 Grange Bldg., New Oxford, PA 17350 The Pennsylvania State University 717-624-3339 University Park, PA 16802 814-863-8415 (Office) 814-625-2780 (Home)

Don't be intimidated about writing to your representatives. You do not have to *explain* the bill unless you want to. A *polite* request to pass the bill is sufficient.

Erie's First Pride Rally a huge success

Over 300 people showed up for Erie's first Pride Rally on Saturday, October 10 from noon to 4 PM in Perry Square. This was the first public gathering of GLBT people and their families, friends and supporters in local history.

Erie Community Pride Organization, the group sponsoring the event, began planning at their initial meeting this past January. All 3 local network affiliate television stations and both editions of the Erie Times-News included coverage. Local radio station WLKK had coverage the day before and the day of the Pride Rally on talk shows. A reporter from local Christian radio station WCTL was present at the rally and spoke with the organizer. Dan Conley filmed the event and Al Richardson will be shortly editing it and getting it onto Community Access Television.

Elected officials attending and speaking included a representative from Congressman Phil English, Erie County Council member Joy Greco, Erie City Council member Rubye Jenkins-Husband, who once again reaffirmed her stance of GLBT inclusiveness and celebrating diversity. Mrs. Jenkins-Husband was briefly interviewed by WICU TV-12. She also delivered greetings from the Mayor's office. Openly gay Presidential Appointee Jono Smith flew up from Washington to read an address from President Clinton. Smith applauded Erie for holding such an event and reminded us how important it is for gay people to get involved in light of recent events, such as the gay bashing that just happened in Laramie, Wyoming. Letters were on display that had been received from Gov. Tom Ridge, Sen. Arlen Specter, State Senator Jane Earll, State Representatives Italo Cappabianca, and Linda Bebko-Jones, who had planned to attend but was unable to do so due to her husband's battle with cancer.

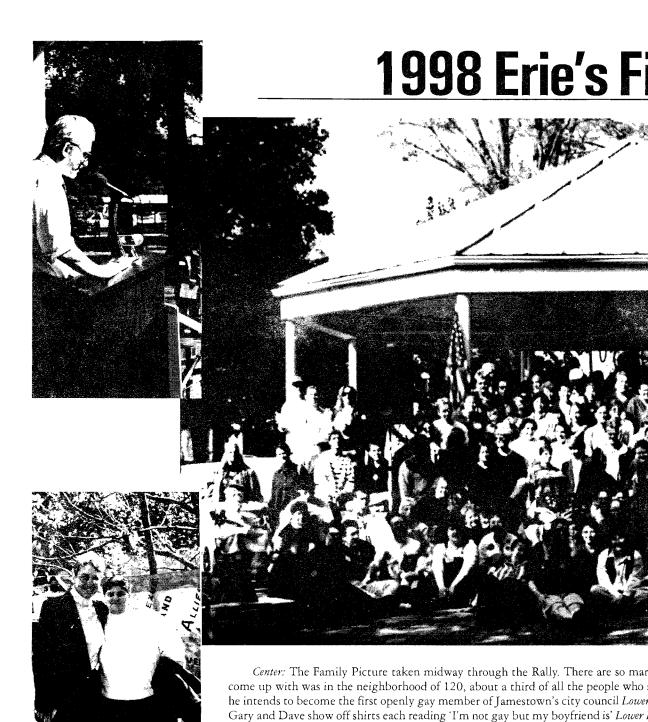
The first speaker was Greg Rabb, who ran for Jamestown NY City Council last year as an openly gay Democratic candidate. Rabb spoke of how, during the election, many voters told him that they would vote for him because if he was willing to be honest about his sexual orientation then he must be honest about his political views. Rabb received 3,200 votes, only 200 short of winning a seat and plans to run again next year. He also feels optimistic about winning a seat.

Long time friend of our community Abby Conley spoke of her experiences riding in the float that was rebuilt after being vandalized just before Erie's Bicentennial Parade in 1995. The four people riding in the cab were afraid for their very lives after the committee had received death threats. They were overjoyed to receive standing ovations and thumbs up all along the parade route. Conley was also serving at the time as Commissioner for the Bicentennial Committee and has also run for Erie City Council. Abby also left us with five words to remember so we know what to do whenever faced with oppression or bigotry because of being gay, lesbian or whatever. She told us to proudly "STAND FOR WHO I AM".

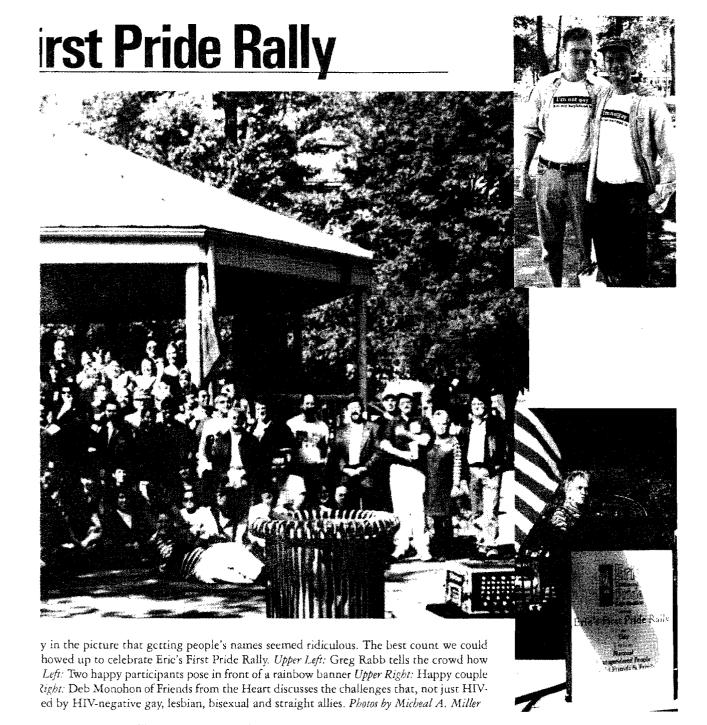
Presenters speaking from a specifically Christian viewpoint included Sr. Mary Louise St. John, OSB. Sr. St. John reminded us that Moses had his closet, too, being a Hebrew living as an Egyptian. Sue Laurie, a Methodist pastoral assistant who is the founder and coordinator for local GLBT Christian group Be Ye Kind One To Another (BYKOTA), talked about allies needing to come



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positive people must face in the future, but also those challenges which must be fa-



out and speak for GLBT rights. Speaking from a Jewish perspective was Rabbi John Bush of Temple Anshe Hered

Rita Kilbane and Heather Malobisky performed a few scenes from Kilbane's original dramatic piece, Silent Inequities, about lesbians and HIV.

Youth perspectives were represented by Jeremy Snyder, contact and cofounder of local youth group Closet Culture and fellow Closet Culture member Mark Ricker. Mark reminded us of the crisis that confronts gay youth from unsupportive friends, family and schools that still allow anti-gay prejudice and how much we need to help support the next generation of GLBT people to prevent gay-bashing and suicide.

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays coordinator Elaine Hill spoke as an activist and as the mother of a gay son. Elaine called for not just gay and lesbian people but their friends and family to come out, and to confront bigotry.

Friends from the Heart coordinator Deb Monohon Cleer discussed her group's volunteer support for people living with HIV/AIDS.

The event concluded with musician Frank Singer of One World Tribe playing a mellow guitar beneath a gently waving rainbow flag as the crowd slowly dispersed. Many collected signs as souvenirs. Some people made plans to talk later with newly met friends. Others stayed to help clean up.

About 120 people were in the Family Portrait. The picture can be viewed in fiull color pn our web site, www.eriegaynews.com.

Apart from 2 fundamentalists who principally harangued BYKOTA coordinator Sue Laurie, there were virtually no negative incidents. No one was verbally or physically assaulted.

www.quiltkit.com

Rainbow Textileart Kits Co PO Box 2045, Cotuit MA 02635 FUN!:) Great GIFT and HOBBY!:) There were a staggering amount of people who worked to make this event a success! We would like to thank everyone who showed up; all of our speakers and performers; Helen for being stage manager, making 50/50 tickets and countless other tasks; Abby Conley; Georgia Carpenter; Ross Berrier and Scapers; Tom Fourspring; Gary Yuhas & Dave Mulholland; Ro; Heidi Oldaker; Jeff Hill; Robert Tredway; Michael Marshall; Larry Sawdy; Char Markiewicz and the Erie City Parks Department; Dan Conley; Al Richardson; Sue Mack & Serenity Hall; Deb Spilko; Micheal Miller; Jerry Trambley; Womynspace for making signs; Barry for security; Grise for handling the sound system and the Roadhouse Theatre for volunteering their space as a backup site in case of rain. We apologize for the folks we have doubtless forgotten.

Thank you's also to musician Greg Ropp and Erie Sisters member Diane who planned to attend but were unable due to family and personal emergencies, respectively.

Many thanks again to everyone! It is expected that this will become an annual tradition!

A special thanks

Thanks so much to all the wonderful people who helped with the Pride Rally and with preparing the Womynspace exhibit at the Rally! There are so many people to thank - I'd hate to leave anyone out! But I must express Special Thanks to Donna (Aunt Killer), the Womynspace banner-maker; Donna, Laura & Georgia, itinerant sign-makets; all the womyn in the mask-making workshops; volunteers who staffed our tables, info/referral volunteers, setup/cleanup folks, ticket sellers, illustrious decorators, planners, gatherers, etc. Special thanks also to Ross at Scapers for materials and info, planning and phoning, Gary for planning and tables, Tom for decorating and phoning, Micheal Miller for advertising, and the UU Church for furniture(!) EXTRA SPECIAL THANKS to Georgia, my partner, support, and co-conspirator (!) and to Michael Mahler, the relentless steam engine responsible for pulling this train into Erie for the first time ever! Thanks Michael!!

—Helen

Open Letter to the mainstream media

by Micheal A. Miller (Opinion)

I would like to say thank you to all the local network affiliates and other news media who covered Erie's First Pride Rally in support of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgendered Community and its straight allies friends and family. Thank you for what was, in the most part very positive coverage of what was a historic event not only for our community but also for Erie itself. It is historic when a city the size of Erie can celebrate and support an event encompassing a level of diversity usually expected only of much larger cities like Cleveland, Pittsburgh, and New York.

But I would also like to divorce the media of a certain illusion of 'fair reporting' that some of them seem to demonstrate whenever they cover an event in the GLBT community. In a disturbing amount of the coverage of the Pride Rally, equal time for comment was given to right wing religious people who don't agree with our "lifestyle" as they so often choose to put it. This breaks the canon of 'fair reporting' for a number of reasons.

Giving equal time to a group of over 300 GLBT people plus supportive bystanders on the one hand, and 2 or 3 individual fundamentalists on the other hand paints a distorted picture of public response to the event. You probably wouldn't give equal time to a pair of antigovernment people on election day because their viewpoint is so unrepresentative of the public at large, and because it has so little to do with the main point of the story anyway, which is who won the election.

Not that minority opinions should never be presented. I'm gay, which probably represents a 10% minority of the population, and would certainly hope I have some voice in the news media, but I also recognize that when one opinion is being presented that it's not always appropriate to present an opposing one. The Pride Rally was a public celebration of the GLBT community falling on National Coming Out Day, the closest thing our community might have to a nationally recognized holiday. Doing a story on the Rally and then asking for comment from the very people who would deny our rights to be who we are is about as inappropriate as doing a story on the Jewish holiday of Passover and then asking for comment from a band of Neo-Nazis. Instead of giving the impression of presenting a fair picture of a minority, you actually give credence to their oppressors.

The Pride Rally was as much a call for the equal civil rights of GLBT people to free expression and protection from oppressive injustices as it was a celebration of diversity. Being about *civil* rights, asking fundamentalists for their religious convictions about the Rally made no sense. If you were doing a story on Affirmative Action or the Equal Rights Amendment you wouldn't ask Bishop Trautman what the Bible says about it, because it's irrelevant.

Even if coverage of religious opinion in combination with GLBT opinion was relevant or fair, it hasn't been applied fairly. If clergy is allowed to comment on GLBT events and issues, then GLBT people should equally be allowed to comment on religious issues or events. You don't see members of the Erie Sisters (transsexual, transgender, crossdressing group) being asked to comment on the latest Pope's Encyclical.

The religious opinions given on GLBT events and issues are frequently uninformed or misinformed anyway. The people asked to comment on the Pride Rally were certainly in no way involved with it. They may not have even known about it until either walking onto Perry Square or being approached for comment. There were plenty of people, including clergy, representing many religious faiths, who not only attended the Rally but were active participants and speakers. To the best of my knowledge, none of them were quoted by local media. You wouldn't do a story on Martin Luther King Day and run out and ask the first KKK members you saw for comments, especially if they didn't even know who Martin Luther King, Jr. was. That would not only be unfair to all black people, but it would also portray a distorted perspective of all white people as ignorant supremacists.

None of this is intended as a condemnation of local news media or as a means of limiting their ability to report on GLBT events to some politically correct straight jacket. If anything, it is an attempt to help give them a more informed basis upon which to make their own decisions about how to fairly cover a major segment of the newsmaking population.

Again, I would like to thank the local media for giving predominantly positive coverage of the Pride Rally and I hope they continue to honor the spirit of the First Amendment by allowing our community to have a voice.

Entertainment notes

by Deb Spilko

The **Partners Group of Corry, Pa** plans to go to the lighting of Niagara Falls sometime in November and a trip to Casino Niagara is also in the works. Contact Luella Clayton at 814-664-7090 early morning for details.

The Erie Broadway Series presents *Tap Dogs* Dec. 2 & 3. *Showcase* described the show as "part dance, part theater, and part construction zone, with six young, athletic male dancers redefining the term 'tap.'" Reservations from Ticketmaster or call 814-452-4857.

There were some eyebrows raised over the fact that one of the TV stations repeatedly referred to the **Pride Rally** as "Mahler's rally," even though an organization involving the hard work of a number of people—called the Erie Community Pride Organization—was responsible for its success. I guess I'm used to this sort of thing, being the main editor and writer of this publication for six years, and knowing that Mike *Miller* works hard on making it an attractive publication, it's still considered by some to be "Mike Mahler's newsletter." In both cases I think it's unfair to blame Mike Mahler—be even gets pretty upset when he sees other people not getting credit.

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Mike puts out an enormous amount of energy on the projects he's involved in—EGN, the Rally, the Pride picnic, etc.—and is willing to put his face out there in the media, and so people with certain ideas about leadership sometimes draw these conclusions. Both the Pride Rally and this publication are the work of a number of people, and Mike would be the first to tell you that. His energy and drive, however, *are* unique in our community. We should be appreciative about that.

I actually thought the media did a pretty fair job of reporting the rally, although I do agree with the points made by Mike Miller in his opinion piece appearing elsewhere in this issue. At this point, however, we need to expect that there may be some representation of the other side in a controversial issue like this, if for no other reason than the fact that they would otherwise be hounded by hate-types for promoting Sodomite filth.

Because of zoning laws, it turns out that the **Angel** and the **Eagle** won't be able to sell their neat relaxation items. They will be at shows, so we'll try to keep you up on those when they're nearby.

In theaters starting in November, is **Gods and Monsters** with Ian McKellen playing gay Hollywood horror movie director James Whale, who falls for his gardener.

Before going to Buffalo's **Ways in Being Gay** events, check their web site http://www.pce.net/hallwall or call 716-835-7362 in case there have been changes.

In putting together the list of **books** for our article on Native Americans, I was reminded that some readers express dismay over not being able to afford books. I've been there, so I know the feeling, but check the library (they're carrying more and more GLBT titles) ;if they don't carry what you want, use the Interlibrary Loan sys-



Fridays

before you buy us!

Native & gay

What is 2-Spirited?

"The term "two-spirited" has a number of meanings within several different contexts. For instance, in contemporary times, with the advent of lesbian and gay liberation, "two-spirited" means aboriginal people who identify themselves as gay or lesbian. The terms "gay" and "lesbian" are European in origin. Therefore, "two-spirited" is preferred because it is more culturally relevant to Aboriginal lesbians and gay men.

When the Europeans came to Turtle Island [the so-called New World] they brought with them their religions, their values and their way of looking at the world, which adversely affected Aboriginal communities, including our sexual expression. We have come to believe that two-spirited First Nations people are disgusting and perverse. We learned that, before colonization, that to be "two-spirited" was a gift, which had promise and potential. Two-spirited people were respected and honoured, and were visionaries and healers in our communities. We have rediscovered that we continue to have a spiritual place in our world.

Aboriginal culture is recognized for its emphasis on balance and harmony in all creation. No one element, force, or impulse dominates the others. The term "Two-Spirited" originates from the First Nations recognition of the traditions and sacredness of people who maintain a balance by housing both the male and female spirit.

Some of our elders teach us that two spirited people have a special place in our communities. We believe that two-spirited people have specific duties and responsibilities to perform. These include counselling, healing, being pipe carriers, visionaries (seers), and conducting one-self in accordance to our belief which states to respect all life.

Based on historical evidence that comes from recorded material; out of 99 tribes, there were references to Gay culture in 88 of them, of which 20 made specific references to Lesbianism. Among the Crow, for instance, two-spirited men were responsible for cutting down the tree which is used for the Sun Dance ceremony. This is a respected and vital position to hold in the ceremony.

---reprinted from 2-Spirited People of the First Nations, Toronto November is Native American Heritage month. In honor of that we are presenting these resources.

Books

Changing Ones: Third and Fourth Genders in Native North America by Will Roscoe (St Martins Press \$24.95). "Will Roscoe makes a valuable contribution to our understanding of both Native American culture and alternative gender construction in this extension of the groundbreaking research in The Zuni Man-Woman. This book represents the results of 15 years of research into a subject that anthropologists and others have overlooked for years. Highly readable biographies of third and fourth gender Natives are combined with a provocative analysis of gender and its diverse forms."—www.amazon.com

Two-Spirit People: Perspectives on the Intersection of Native American Gender Identity, Sexuality, and Spirituality (University of Illinois Press, \$12.95), edited by Sue-Ellen Jacobs, Wesley Thomas, Sabine Lang.

Customer's comments: "The book had lots of good information but was hard for me to wade through. It's a series of college papers on the subject of gender and two-spirit people. I think the second half was most helpful (the stories of several two-spirits). Like I said, there was lots of info, it was just a little hard to follow."

Two Spirit People: American Indian Lesbian Women and Gay Men (Monograph Published Simultaneously As Gay & Lesbian Social Services, Vol 6, No 2) Lester B. Brown (Haworth Press \$12.95) Scholarly research, perhaps a bit too densely written for some readers.



6831 Peach St. 868-1547 Open 7 days Living the Spirit: A Gay American Indian Anthology by Edited by Will Roscoe (St. Martin's Press \$10.95). Poetry collection.

Firebrand Books publishes a number of books by Native American women, some of which are lesbian. You can get a free catalog from them by writing or calling: Firebrand, 141 The Commons, Ithaca NY 14850.

Groups

We were not able to locate many gay Native groups, but fortunately found one nearby, in Toronto. Called 2-Spirited People of the 1st nations, they provide counseling, activities, AIDS education, and socializing for Native people (in Canada, they use the term "First Nations" instead of "Native American," for at least one obvious reason).

Our Native readers will probably want to know if they can just stop by on a visit to Toronto, to meet others like themselves. A spokesperson for the organization says that while they don't hold coffeehouses or dances per se, they have activities and people around, especially in the evenings, and you are welcome to just stop in and relax and talk or join in the activities.

They are located at Suite 201A, 45 Charles Street East in Toronto. It would be best to call ahead 416-944-9300

If you ask for them to send you information, they will probably want you to send an International Reply coupon for postage. Ask about that.

Submissions encouraged!

We would like to welcome our Native American gay or two-spirited readers to send us their thoughts, essays, and experiences. Please keep in mind we don't publish poetry, (though if someone wanted to collect and publish the poetry of area Native gay people we would be very happy to help in getting that together).

Native American items

Please remember that one of our advertisers, Earthsongs, carries Native American items. It's at 210 High Street. Waterford PA (796-6255). If you don't see an item there, ask about special ordering it.

Michael dithers

by Michael Mahler

As mentioned in the write up about the Pride Rally, I would like to thank the many people who helped with the event and everyone who attended.

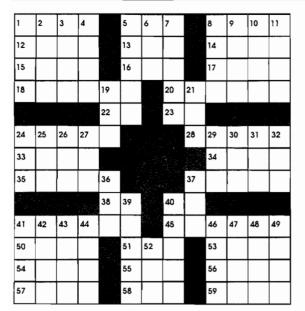
I have a confession to make. Around the beginning of September, I heard a fair amount of indirect comments that suggested people might not be showing up. I was worried that the participants and I would be standing in front of a nervous crowd of 15 people and it would feel like 4 hours of public humiliation. After folks had been so enthusiastic when we started this process in January, it would have felt like a betrayal. So I privately told Deb and Micheal that if at least 100 people didn't show up that I would probably drop out of this newsletter and all organizing stuff for the GLBT community. Need I say that I regarded the Pride Rally as important. Deb thought that 100 people might be a bit high because she remembered a lot of events that were smaller. But I felt that I had to act in good conscience and give it my best shot to work with others to make the event as successful as we could.

I thought I was going to be proven wrong about people wussing out and was delighted that we had over 300! What made it really cool was that we seemed to have a really wide representation-young, old, different racial and religious backgrounds, folks I usually primarily see at group meetings and folks I primarily see at the bars. That was particularly nice. It felt terrific that we had too many people in the Family Portrait to do the normal index card with name thing. That was a good problem to have!

It occurred to me that I was facing some of the same issues faced by people coming out for the first time-trusting others to do the right thing. People need to trust that their friends, neighbors and co-workers can be fair and good-hearted, and I needed to trust that Erie is not just a bunch of apathetic folks who talk a good game and fail to support anything.

See! People in our area do care about our community and aren't scared bunny rabbits! Deep in my heart, maybe I knew it all along. Bless you all!

A special thank you to my beloved husband for his love and support and for sending me long-stemmed roses (at work!) for Sweetest Day!



Across: *Themed clues

- 1 Type of humor epitomized by the films of 18 across*
- 5 Kathleen Turner kills in '94's Serial by 18 across*
- 8 Upon
- 12 Hawaiian party
- 13 Arizona State University
- 14 Superman's main squeeze
- 15 Saudi
- 16 Goes with Coke or "Yo-ho-ho"
- 17 The Employment Nondiscrimination Act, which would prevent unfair hiring/firing practices on the basis of sexual orientation
- 18 Gay director and self proclaimed "Puke King" John*
- 20 Most recent film release by 18 across*
- 22 West of PA
- 23 Opposite of NW
- 24 Star Christina of The Addams Family and 20 across*
- 28 Talk show hostess and star Lake of 18 across' Hairspray*
- 33 Egyptian mother goddess

- 34 Unsophisticated or sexually inexperienced person, (var.)
- 35 Star Mary Kay of The Big Chill and 20 across*
- 37 Famous '60's hostage and actress Hearst with cameos in both 5 across and 20 across*
- 38 Trademark, for short
- 40 Spanish affirmative
- 41 Actress Plimpton who plays lesbian love interest to Ally Sheedy in Chantilly Lace and fag hag in 20 acrass*
- 45 Actress Lili who plays murderess in I Shot Andy Warhol and agent in 20 acrass*
- 50 Butter substitute, once
- '80's rock group _ Speedwagon
- 53 -Dynamic or -plane prefix
- 54 '72 Divine comedy from 18 across Flamingos*
- 55 Often derogatory slang for girl
- 56 Drag queens' needs?
- 57 Diminutive suffix
- 58 Exist
- 59 Bottled water brand

Down:

- 1 Talon
- 2 Distinctive air
- 3 Goddess of justice
- 4 Slang for nan-facial hair
- **5** Swamp
- 6 Ohio State University
- 7 Disease to quiet cheeky children?
- 8 Star Wars' Obi-Wan Kenabi Sir Guiness
- 9 Word with drunk, fish or Sherman
- 10 French wave
- 11 Fruit native to Bosc or Aniou
- 19 French drag king?
- 21 Ever, to one ever the poet
- 24 Flamboyant prop-comic Taylor
- 25 Island, to a cartographer
- 26 Central Intelligence Agency
- 27 Civil Service Commission
- 29 The Black Orchid actress Balin
- 30 Tennessee Williams penned, Liz Taylor Paul Newman classic on a Hot Tin Roof
- 31 Word with drum or first aid

- 32 "Poison" variety of this plant has leaves of three, so leave it be
- 36 Ethiopia, for short
- 37 Actress-model Zadora with cameo in 18 acrass' Hairspray*
- 39 Very out lesbian comic Gomez
- af Polyester, 40 Actress Mink and 20 across, among others by 18 across*
- 41 Sulk, or expose oneself to a blind person
- 42 Landed
- 43 Hit Braadway show, or monthly hill
- 44 Drag on a cigarette
- 46 Act of boredom
- 47 '77 Carrie Fisher danishbraided role
- 48 Wild sex party
- 49 '60's bus-riding black equal rights activist Parks
- **52** Outré piercing location?

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Theatre

Veronica's Room The Directors Circle Theatre Oct 30-Nov. 21

The Directors Circle Theatre announces the opening of Veronica's Room by Ira Levin.

This thriller-chiller is a totally absorbing spider's web entwining fantasy and reality. Susan Kerner, a young Boston college student, and Larry Eastwood, a young lawyer she's just met, have been enticed to the Brabissant Mansion by the Mackeys, a charming elderly Irish couple who are struck by Susan's strong resemblance to Veronica Brabissant, long-dead daughter of the family for whom they work. They view Veronica's picture in her room, untouched by time. Susan's induced to impersonate Veronica for a while to solace the only living Brabissant, her addled sister living in the past and believing Veronica's alive and angry with her. But once dressed in Veronicas clothes, Susan finds herself locked in the role—and locked in Veronica's room. Or is she Veronica in 1935, pretending to be an imaginary Susan?

Directors Circle first produced this play for its grand opening in 1995 and since acquiring a new theatre and larger following, feels it deserves a second look.

Reprising their roles are Jo Laurie as the woman, Richard Laurie as the man, Tod Lavery as the young man and replacing Karen Shelinsky is Amy Walker as the girl. Michael Weiss directs, having won a Best Directors Award in 1992 in Los Angeles for the same production.

The play will open on Friday, October 30th and play Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays through November

Ticket prices are \$9 for general admission and \$6 for seniors and students. Due to mature subject matter, the play is not recommended for anyone under 14.

The Directors Circle Theatre is located at 652 W 16th St at the corner of Poplar in the former Columbus School Building. Reservations can be made by calling the box office at 454-0636.

You don't want to miss this exciting thriller by the author of "Rosemary's Baby", "Deathtrap" and "The Stepford Wives"!!!

It's 1935...or is it!!!

(Editors' note: though this play does not contain gay content Directors Circle's Michael Weiss had graciously offered free admission to the Oct 30 performance to anyone who had bought tickets to the Cruise for Life benefit).

Resource Directory

This is an abbreviated version! The full version is on our web site. You may also request a complete version by mail. All phone numbers are area code 814 unless otherwise noted. Not all resources are necessarily gay-owned nor serve primarily lesbigay people; some may be just agy-friendly

gay-friendly	
$lacktriangle$ = Erie Gay News available here! \clubsuit = Handica	ap accessible
24 Hour Counseling	
Erie Hotline	00) 628-0190
Saint Vincent	452-5151
Family Crisis	
Hamot	
Victims of Anti-Gay Hate Crimes 1-8	
Accommodations, Bed & Breakfasts, Cam	narounds
Camp Davis(4	12) 637-2402
Camp Davis	•
Jones Pond Campground	716)567-8100
9836 Old State Rd, Angelica NY. Adult male camping. http://ww	ww.jonespond.com
Josiah Manor	140)599-8010
810 Main St, US Rt. 20, Conneaut OH 44030 B&B	
Bars	
The Embers ▼	454-9171
1711 State St, Erie PA. Open Mon-Sat 8 pm - 2 am. Live DJ musi pm - 2 am. Pool table.	
Leeward Lounge	CLOSED!!!
Nite Spot ▼	
201 Winsor, Jamestown, NY. Open Tues-Sun 7 pm - 2 am. Clo 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. Ope days a week! Suns Drag shows 11 PM-1 AM \$2 cover. DJ Fri - Sc 8 M-F, 25c off mixed drinks, draft and bottled beers. Mondays,	ın, Happy Hour 3-
Sneakers	
100 Harrison, Jamestown, NY. Open Mon-Sun 2pm-2am. Musico	Nosterv Morv os
DJ on Fri and Sat. Also Karaoke every other Fri. artemistoo@m	indspring.com
The Village	452-0125
133 W 18th St, Erie PA. Open Mon-Tue 8-2, Wed-Sun 4-2. Appe	etizer menu, darts,
2 pool tables, Karaoke in basement on Saturday. Dance hits a	t yesterday, today
and tomorrow. Happy hours 5-7 on days open.	
Coffeehouses and Restaurants	0.//50 111/11
Aroma's Coffeehouse ▼	n-Tam, Sun 9am-
4pm. http://www.goerie.com/aromas/ Cup-a-Ccino's ▼	456-1511
18 North Park Row, Erie PA. Mon-Wed 7:00 am - 9 pm, Thurs- mid., Sat 9 am-midnight, Sun 10 am-7 pm.	Fri. 7:00 am - 12
Tapas V	454-8797

17 W 9th St, Erie PA. In Tullio Towers. Mon, Tues, Wed 4 pm -9 pm. Thu 4 pm -

11 pm Fri & Sat 11 am- 11 pm. May-Oct, open every night but Sunday for dinner		
Books, Gifts, Retail		
Disc-Go-Round	864-1844	
6825 Peach St, Erie between Taco Bells & Fridays Earthsongs ▼	796-6255	
Lavender Loafer Cards	222 (202	
PO Box 1458, Meadville PA. Julia@alltel.net. Specializing in cards for		
Pal Prescription Pharmacy	JI YUY WUITIETI.	
	400-007/	
1238 W 6th St, Erie PA Rainbow Pride Gift Shop ▼(716)	001 /10/	
Kainbow Pride Giff Snop ▼(/16)	001-0120	
175 Hodge St (corner of Elmwood Ave), Buffalo NY. Also second I Buddies, 31 Johnson Park in Buffalo. Phone is (716) 855-0222.		
Scapers Limited ▼	456-7002	
2508 Peach, Erie PA scapers@scapers.com Lesbigay/pride gifts, g	allery. http://	
www.scapers.com/	007.0554	
Talking Leaves ▼(716)	837-8554	
3158 Main St, Buffalo NY. talklvbk@fcs-net.com		
Counseling		
Louanne Barton, Ph.D.	871-7682	
Counseling Center	adville PA	
David J Johnson MA MS	838-9408	
Lic. psychologist. Private & consulting svcs. 4845 West Lake Rd, Eric	2	
Family Service of Jamestown N.Y	1488_1971	
Fredonia Office	1400-1771 1470 2455	
Christine L Gagliano LSW		
Gay and Lesbian National Hotline (6 pm 11 pm. MonFri)		
Lake Erie Counseling Associates	455-4009	
Individual, family & couples counseling; psychological evals; psych	iatric evalua-	
tions & medication management		
tions & medication management Well Being Center ▼	Manahan\	
Entertainment		
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Directors Circle Theatre ▼	454-0636	
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management, crystals, jewelry, research library PA Breast Cancer Coalition		
Info-Lines		
Cleveland(216) 781-6736		
Gay and Lesbian National Hotline (6 pm 11 pm. MonFri)		
Erie		
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 864-3200/866-8881 Home) 5100 Peach St, Erie PA Contact Linda Foll-Johnson.		
John Cooper, Esq 455-3436		
Political/Advocacy Organizations		
NWPA Chapter of ACLU		
League of Gay & Lesbian Voters 452-6643 (Abby Conley)		
Nonpartisan voters group. Write to LGLV-Erie, PO Box 8083, Erie, PA 16505-0083. Email to AbbyConley@hatmail.com		
Religious Organizations		
Dignity		
BYKOTA- Be Ye Kind One To Another 734-3959 (Susan Laurie) Ecumenical. Open to Christians of all denominations/orientations. Email		

GLBT and LGBT

julie.sue@juno.com

Because there are people who prefer to be called gay or lesbian or bisexual or transgender, and because this can be a little unwieldy in talking about our community, more organizations and publications are abbreviating the term to GLBT or sometimes LGBT. You will be seeing this abbreviation more often in this publication.

"You used to go to the Gay Pride Parade. Now you go to the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender, Transsexual... By the time you're done saying it the parade's over!"

Lea DeLaria from her album Box Lunch

Temple Anshe Hesed (Reform Congregation) 454-2426	Jamestown Comm. College Grp ▼
930 Liberty St, Erie PA. WWW: http://www.shamash.org/reform/uahc/congs/pa/	or 664-9174 (Greg Rabb)
pa007/	Open to college & non-college people. Write to JCC, 525 Falconer St, PO Box 20,
Cathedral of St. Paul (Episcopal)	Jamestown NY 14702-0020. Email Greg at rabbap@jccw22.cc.sunyjcc.edu.
134 W 7th St, Erie PA	Mercyhurst College Gay/Straight Alliance ▼
Unitarian Universalist Congreg of Erie ▼	Tara at tsamios@hotmail.com or Barbara at bwatters@mercyhurst.edu
uuerie@juno.com. http://www.geocities.com/Athens/7660	National Runaway Switchboard 1-800-621-4000
Services	SUNY-Fredonio GLBSU(716)673-3139 or (716) 673-3149
ConsumerCasket USA	Meets Tuesdays of 10 pm in Williams Center. All welcome. Email to
Palace Centre, 915 State St., Erie, PA 16501.	glbsu0000@fredonia.edu. Teen Hotline(412)771-8336
Suite 204 Le Salon 454-4691	Trigon (Penn State Behrend) ▼898-6030 or (Sue Daley) 898-6164
233 W 8th St, Erie PA	Meeting open to the public. Write: College Mailroom, Box 1054, Behrend College,
Victorian City Salon(814) 437-3361	Station Rd, Erie, PA 16563. trigon behrend@hotmail.com http://
1215 Liberty St, Franklin PA. Lesbigay and Trans-friendly	www.clubs.psu.edu/trigon
Social Organizations	Support Groups
10% Network ▼	Erie Sisters
Society of Jamestown. No smoking or alcohol.	Nonsexual social support group for TV/TS/CD. Manthly meetings on 4th Saturday,
Menspace	newsletter. Write: Erie Sisters, 1903 W 8 St, Suite 261, Erie, PA 16505.
Social group for gay/bi men. Meets second Sat (unless otherwise noted), location	esc@csonline.net http://www.geocities.com/Wellesley/1614/ Lambda Group—Gay AA 🔻
varies. Call 456-7833 for more infa ar email egcn@ncinter.net	Alcoholics Anon for Lesbigays. Open discussion. Meets Sunday at 8:00 pm at Uni-
Pittsburgh Frontrunners(412) 687-6055 Runners and walkers of all speeds and capabilities.	tarian Universalist Congreg of Erie, 7180 New Perry Hiway. Open to all Lesbigays
Womynspace Coffeehouse V451-0359 (Helen)	who think they may have a problem with drugs and/or alcahol. You are not alone.
An alcohol & smoke-free environment far lesbians, with a theme, topic or activity	Partners(814) 664-7090 (Luella) Support group for lesbigay people and their supporters in Corry PA area. Call for
for each month. Meet 1st Sot at 7:30pm. at Unitarian Univ Congreg of Erie.	meeting time and place.
aichess@hotmail.com.	PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays) see below
Student Organizations/Youth	PFLAG-DuBois PAKaren or John Kressley at 371-8962
Committee in Support of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual People (CSGLBP,	Meets 7 pm on 2nd Tues of month at St. John's Oklahoma Lutheran Church at the
Allegheny College, Meadville) ▼	corner of Maple Ave & Shaffer Road in DuBois. Write to PFLAG-DuBois, 1191 Treasure Lake, DuBois PA 15801 pflagdubois@key-net.net
csalbp@allea.edu	PFLAG-Erie Elaine 864-0184
Closet Culture	Meets 1st Thurs 7:00 pm at Unitarian-Universalist Congreg of Erie. Write to PFLAG-
Open to any lesbian, gay or bisexual 22 or younger in Erie or surrounding area.	Erie c/o Unitorian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, PO Box 3495, Erie, PA 16508.
Write to: PO Box 529, Edinboro PA 16412. ClosetCltr@aol.com Covenant House Teen Hotline	Email Elaine Hill at loislane@velocity.net
Identity &	Sexual Compulsives Anonymous (SCA) 453-5656 (Erie Hotline) Meets Tuesdays 8:00 pm. Call Erie Hotline for location. WWW: http://www.sca-
Student group for lesbigay & allies at Edinboro Univ. Meets every Wednesday in	recovery.org/
Hendricks Hall 101 @8:00 pm. email: dburdick@edinboro.edu	Violence and Domestic Abuse (Women & Men)
CAMPMOMMATOP	Erie Hospitality House(814)454-8161
C A M P M O M A T O P L U A U A S U L A N E	Jamestown - YWCA Alternatives to Violence
A R A B R U M E N D A W A T E R S P E C K E R	
O H S E TOCCIAIORD	Women's Center of Warren & Forest Counties 24 hour Hotline
RICCI	(Sexual Assault as well)
RICCI RICKI ISIS NAIV PLACE RATTY Solution	Women's Services of Crawford County (24 hour) ▼ (814)333-9766
T M 5 1	National Domestic Violence Hotline(800)799-SAFE (7233)
MARTHAITAYLOR	

HIV/AIDS Directory

IIIV/AIDO DIIGGIOI Y		
National		
AIDS Factline 1-800-324-AIDS		
National AIDS Hotline 1-800-662-6080		
Spanish AIDS Hotline 1-800-344-7432		
Ashtabula OH/Ashtabula County		
HIV + Support Grp(216)350-2554		
Erie PA/Erie County		
Case Manager - Sandra Decker 456-8849		
Case Manager - Andrea Cathcart814-764-6066		
Case Manager - Cheryl Weber825-1085 or 455-3786		
AIDS Action Team (AACT) Gannon 871-7233		
AIDS Bereavement Support Group		
AIDS Network Information		
Friends from the Heart		
Jamestown NY/Chautauqua Co.		
Case Manager - Margaret Geer, RN(800) 743-1940		
AIDS Community Services ▼(716)664-7855		
For HIV infected and affected people. Meets 1st Thursday at the home of Hop and Cindy Chose, 1115 Prendergast Ave in Jamestown.		
Meadville PA/Crawford County		
Case Manager - Sue Bobosky (800)359-AIDS Crawford Co. AIDS Coalition 337-3241 HIV+ Support Grps Rosemary Buzzard at 333-5800		

Condoms still save lives

Venango/Forest Cou	nty
Venango-Forest AIDS Support	1-800-359-2437
Case Manager - Sue Bobosky	
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 re	ferral.
(Corry) Erie Co. Dept. of Health	663-3891
(Erie) Erie Co. Dept. of Health	
Call for info on CD4 and Viral Load Testing	
(Erie) MHEDS	
Jamestown or Buffalo	
Meadville PA	
Pittsburgh	
Sharon PA	
Youngstown OH	(216)747-4805
HIV/AIDS Anonymous Tes	ting Sites
(Ashtabula) Family Planning Assoc (\$30)	(216)992-5953
Painesville OH	(216)354-AIDS
Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force	



You are condially invited to join us in decorating the

TREE OF HOPE

in observance of

WORLD AIDS DAY

Tuesday, December 1, 1998

Perry Square, East Park, 5:30 P.M.

with a procession to the Annual

WORLD AIDS DAY **HEALING SERVICE**

Cathedral of Saint Paul (Episcopal) 134 West 7th Street Buffet supper for all in the Cathedral Great Hall

"Be a Force for Change"

Sponsored by Roche Laboratories HIV/AIDS Education & Training Cathedral of Saint Faul (Episcopal)

My Goal is your Satisfaction!



Linda Foll Johnson Realtor 864-3200 or 866-8881 email: linda814@juno.com

The first step is always the hardest...so if you don't know where to start, give me a call. I am a full-time REALTOR, with 7 years experience. Whether selling or buying, I can help you take that first step! I've Moved!!! Please note my new home

Ioward annai

Spiegel Realtors



Jackie Lucas, CMT Stacy Miller, CMT 11 West 33 Street, Erie PA 16508 (814) 459-7412 lucas@erie.net

We at THE ANGEL AND THE EAGLE offer the following services...

> Swedish Massage Therapeutic Massage LomiLomi Massage Stress Management

Gift Certificates Available Available for presentations for your group

Due to zoning problems, we regret that we may no longer carry our retail products line. But look for us at various shows in the Erie area. We thank you for your support.