



Erie Gay Community Newsletter

Calendar

☛ = New or Modified Group/Event this issue

July 4—Friends: "The One With the Lesbian Wedding" 8 p.m. on NBC.

July 6—Womynspace Picnic Info from Sal 454-2713.

July 6—Holiday Potluck Weekend at Camp Davis (Boyers PA) 7:00pm. For more info, call (412) 637-2402

July 7—Independence Day Cruise (Pittsburgh) 6pm-9:30 p.m., board 5:30 Station Sq. Dock. Advance tickets \$15. In Erie call Harvey Lindner (814)456-3674 or St. Elmo's Bookstore in Pittsburgh. Limited to 1,000 tickets.

July 9—POV: The Transformation On PBS. Profiles four Cuban transvestities, then follows two as they become "born-again." Ricardo was once "Sara," a homeless, HIV positive transvestite, living in the underbelly of Manhattan. Today, he is a churchgoing, married man, "saved" by a Dallas ministry. Hugo, a transsexual, once known as Gina, must now wear men's clothes. The men have renounced their homosexuality, but the film leaves the viewer with the feeling that their conversion is not complete. On WQLN (PBS-Erie/Ch. 54) and WPSX (PBS-Penn State/Ch. 3) July 9 at 10 p.m.

July 9—Doing Time on Maple Drive (1992) Lifetime 9 p.m.

July 9—HIV/AIDS Support Group Newcomers always welcome! Info: Cheryl Weber at 825-1085

July 12—7 Year Bitch (Cleveland) Nautica Stage (216)621-3000

July 13 & 14—Softball: Women's Invitational Modified Open 11th & 12th & Hess. Sat. 8 a.m.-11 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

July 15—7 Year Bitch (Pittsburgh) IC Light Amphitheatre (800) 628-5971.

July 17—HIV/AIDS Service Network of Erie Co. League Room at Episcopal Cathedral of Saint Paul Info Sue B. Kuebler at 452-3779.



July 17—Cagney & Lacey: The Movie (1981) On Lifetime 2 p.m. With Loretta Swit. See Background in Entertainment Notes page 9.

July 17—POV: The Transformation On WNED (PBS-Buffalo/Ch. 17) July 17 10 p.m. See July 9 listing.

July 19—Sneakers: Comic Emmy Gay w/ Guest from NYC (Jamestown) Show starts 10 p.m., \$3 pre-sale, \$4 at door. Details in Entertainment Notes, page 9. 100 Harrison.

Jul 19-21—Jones Pond: Mardi Gras & Christmas in July Weekend (Angelica NY) A weekend of campsite decorations and Lights/prizes. For more info, call (716)567-8100

(Calendar continued Page 4)

***If your event falls
this date:***

**Aug 16-Sep 15
Sep 16-Oct 15
Oct 16-Nov 15**

***Notify us by
this date:***

**July 15
Aug 15
Sept 15**

Published by:



Erie Gay Community Newsletter

c/o EGC Coalition

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**Credits: The original artwork
on the cover of this month's
issue is by Micheal A. Miller**

The *Erie Gay Community Newsletter* is published monthly as a voice for lesbians, bisexuals, gay men and their friends & families in the Erie area. A source of information, support and affirmation. A vehicle for celebrating the goodness and diversity of our community. EGCN is a cooperative effort between lesbian/gay groups and individuals to help our community develop and thrive.

Contributors: Our deadline is the 15th of the month! We welcome and encourage all readers to submit news, comments and opinions for publication in these pages. Although we appreciate the importance of fiction and poetry, we are primarily an information publication, and like most general lesbian/gay publications, we are mainly interested in nonfiction prose. We will be happy to direct you to the many lesbian/gay publications that do welcome fiction and poetry, and we will support through free publicity any local publication that publishes lesbian/gay poetry or fiction. Before submitting please send SASE for writer's guidelines. Querying before submitting an article is strongly recommended.

We will consider for publication any material which broadens our understanding of our lifestyles and each other. Views and opinions appearing in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of Bridges, the EGCN staff or their component groups.

We will not publish any material which promotes hatred or discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, race, gender, religion, age, class, physical ability or any other reason. We do not support exploitation of minors.

All materials submitted must be signed so we can contact the authors should we need to consider editorial revisions. However, within these pages, articles may appear anonymously, upon request, and strict confidentiality will be observed. If you wish to have your full name published, you must send a written and signed note that gives us permission to do so. This publication will not "out" anyone.

Advertisers: Reach Erie's lesbian/gay community directly! Space in EGCN is now available for as little as \$20 for an eight-page ad! Call (814) 456-9833 and ask for EGCN's Advertising Coordinator for more details.

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**the Erie Gay
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We Cover the Tri-State Area!

Reporting on Events & Issues of
Interest to the Gay, Lesbian &
Bisexual Communities



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Places to get EGCN...

Ashtabula

Leeward Lounge, 1022 Bridge St.

Clarion

NW PA Rural AIDS Alliance, RD #3 Box 75F

Cleveland OH

Body Language 3291 W 115th St

Erie

Barnes & Noble, 5909 Peach Street

Cup-a-Ccino's, 18 N. Park Row

The Embers, 1711 State Street

F&N Enterprises, 1115 State St

Filmore News, 2757 W 12th St

Hispanic American Council, 554 E 10th St

Lizzie Bordon's, 3412 W. 12th

NW. PA Rural AIDS Alliance, Baldwin Bldg.

Roadhouse Theatre, 145 W 11th St 456-5656

Unitarian Univer. Congreg/Erie, 7180 New Perry Hiway

Well Being, 710 Beaumont

Edinboro

Book Shelf, 200 Plum

Earthshine, 131 Meadville Street

Identity meetings

Poppa Ropp's Home Video, Edinboro Mall (ask at desk)

Jamestown NY & Warren PA

AIDS Community Services, 413 N Main St, Jamestown

JCC Group Meetings, Jamestown

Nite Spot, 201 Winsor, Jamestown

Sneakers, 100 Harrison, Jamestown

Meadville PA

Counseling Center, 898 Park Ave Suite 12

Allegheny College Bookstore

CSGLBP Meetings

Venango County

Oil Region Book Store, Oil City

Jones Pond

Campground

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

July 4-7 Fourth of July, Show Saturday Night

July 19-21 Mardi Gras and Christmas in July

July 26-28 Leather II and Nativist Workshop

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455-4009

Calendar (continued from cover page)

July 19-22—Great Lakes Faeries 10th Annual Ganowungo Gathering At Chautauqua Gorge State Forest. Very rustic (you'll have to hike in and bring drinking water, vegetarian food, candles and camping gear.) You'll need directions, so for info call (814) 456-9833

♣ **July 20—Q Classic: Funny Girl (1968)** 8 p.m. WQLN (PBS Erie/Ch. 54). For Barbra Streisand fans!

♣ **July 20—Q Classic: The World According to Garp (1982)** 10:30 p.m. WQLN (PBS Erie/Ch. 54)

♣ **Jul 20—Camp Davis: Christmas in July Weekend (Boyers PA)** Gift exchange at camp for lesbians and gay men. For more info, call (412) 637-2402.

♣ **July 20 & 21—Softball: Women's State Major Class "A" - Class "B"** 11th & 12th & Hess. Sat. 8 a.m.-11 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

♣ **July 21—10% Network Social Group: Chautauqua Institute Outing (Chautauqua NY)** Meets at noon at the main entrance. Some plan on going to the ballet in the Amphitheater that afternoon. John (716) 484-7285.

♣ **July 21—Youngstown LGB Coffeehouse: Women's Yard Party Potluck** "We especially want to invite women who've never been, or don't often come to Coffeehouse events. Come meet new people in a relaxed, homey environment. We all know what it's like to walk into a

room full of strangers, so we'll make sure you get introduced around." Bring dish, own place setting, games, lawn chairs. For directions, call Diana (216) 799-2516.

♣ **July 21—Pipedreams: "A Tribute to Ned Rorem"** 6:30 a.m. WQLN radio FM 91.3. Anthems, solos, and a spirited concerto for organ and orchestra highlight the excellent work of this Pulitzer Prize winning, out gay composer.

♣ **July 22—Northern Chautauqua Co. GLBT Support Group (Fredonia)** Garland Hall, Episcopal Church, Day St. (use side entrance facing post office.) Ample parking in rear. 7-9 p.m. Info Vince Courtney (716) 673-3183 or courtney@fredonia.edu

♣ **July 22—Patti LaBelle (Pittsburgh)** Heinz Hall (412) 392-4900.

♣ **July 22-28—16th Annual National Convention of Black & White Men Together (Cleveland)** Theme "Unity=Power=Accomplishment." Convention will be held at Cleveland South Hilton Inn. For more information: National office: (800) NA4-BWMT OR (202) 462-3599. Cleveland: (216) 467-6442 (9am-9pm please). BWMT is a national organization with 30 local chapters.

♣ **July 23—HIV/AIDS Support Group** Newcomers always welcome! Info: Cheryl Weber at 825-1085

♣ **July 24—Great Performances: Julie Andrews Back on Broadway** 9 p.m. WNET (PBS-Buffalo/Ch. 17) Repeats 7/25 at 1 p.m.

♣ **July 26-28—Soap Triplecast** On Comedy Central. Marathon broadcast of the 1970s soap opera spoof *Soap*, which featured a gay character named Jodie (played by Billy Crystal), which was extremely bold and controversial for the time. 5 p.m.-11 p.m. on Friday and Saturday, 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Sunday.

♣ **Jul 26-28—Leather II Weekend and Naturist Workshop at Jones Pond Campground (Angelica NY)** Leather & Gay Naturist events at gay men's campground. For more info, call (716) 567-8100



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☛ **Jul 27—SHADES Picnic at Ellicott Creek (Buffalo)** Shades is an organization for lesbians of color. All lesbians are welcome to attend the picnic, including women from Erie, Chautauqua county, etc.! Bring a dish to pass and table setting. For information call (716)896-1770.

☛ **Jul 28—Annual Women's Picnic (Buffalo)** Bender's Grove at Chestnut Ridge Park 10 a.m.- Dusk. Bring a dish to pass and table setting.

☛ **Jul 28—PFLAG Erie Speaker: Author Mary Boenke** Mary Boenke is the author of *The Closet Within the Closet*, which is about transgender issues. She is a former district director of PFLAG's Roanoke region, and probably the first person to speak at Chautauqua about LesBiGay issues. Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie 2 p.m. Info: Elaine Hill 864-0184.

☛ **Jul 28—Dancin' in the Streets (Cleveland)** Donald Gray Gardens on Erieside Avenue, north of old municipal football stadium, 1-10 p.m. Outdoor celebration—Music, entertainment, dancing, booths. \$8 admission, benefits AIDS Taskforce of Cleveland. Info (216) 216-621-0766

☛ **July 31—Tracy Chapman (Toronto)** Tickets (716) 852-5000.

☛ **Aug 2-4—Miss Jones Pond Contest Weekend at Jones Pond Campground (Angelica NY)** "New event—Beauty, Talent & Originality." For more info, call (716)567-8100

☛ **Aug 3—Womynspace NO EVENT IN AUGUST.**

☛ **Aug 3—Benefit Women's Modified Open** 11th & 12th & Hess. Sat. 8 a.m.-11 p.m., Sun. 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

☛ **Aug 3—Camp Davis: Oldies But Goodies Weekend (Boyers PA)** For more info, call (412) 637-2402

☛ **Aug 3-4—Buddies 8th Annual Summer Festival (Buffalo)** 31 Johnson Park 2 p.m. to 11 p.m. Casino games, live entertainment, "drag races," "Jail & Bail," antique car show, quilt display, Leather Night, more. See page 11 for details. For more info call AIDS Community Services, at

(716)847-2441 (9am-9pm) or Buddies (716) 855-1313. Proceeds to benefit AIDS Community Services.

☛ **Aug 8—70s Music Explosion (Buffalo NY)** With the performers whose music filled gay bars in the 1970s: The Village People, KC and the Sunshine Band, Kool and the Gang, Vicki Sue Robinson, the Trammps. Gloria Gaynor, Denny Terrio & Motion. Darien Lakes Performing Arts Center, Darien lake NY. Tickets at Ticketmaster.

☛ **Aug 9-11—Country Western & Murder Mystery Weekend at Jones Pond Campground (Angelica NY)** Join in the fun, participate & solve the crime. For more info, call (716)567-8100

☛ **Aug 10—Gay Day at Paramount Canada's Wonderland (Toronto)** All day passports \$27 (Canadian). Proceeds benefit Lesbian Gay Bi Youth Line. Info from gay.day@wonderland or (416) 964-1916 or (416) 964-6600.

☛ **Aug 11—Barry Grossman speaks: "Talk Radio: Has it been co-opted by angry white heterosexual males?"** 10:30 a.m., at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie 7180 New Perry Highway. Open to public. For three years, Barry hosted the "We the People," an afternoon talk show on station WFLP (1330-AM). Barry has practiced law in Erie, was a Political Science Professor at Mercyhurst College for 20 years, and now owns and manages two local restaurants (Stonehouse Inn and Rax).

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✦ **Aug 13—Me'Shell NdegéOcello in concert (Pittsburgh)** Star Lake Amphitheatre (800) LAKE MCI.

✦ **Aug 16—NY State Residents: Last Day to Register for September 10 Primary**

✦ **Aug 16-18—Mud Party Weekend at Jones Pond Camp-ground (Angelica NY)** "New event—wet, slippery, dirty, fun." For more info, call (716)567-8100

✦ **Aug 17—10% Network Annual Picnic (Westfield NY)** Ottoway Park in Westfield (on Rte. 5, opposite KOA campground). Bring a dish to pass, beverages (no alcohol), and place setting. 4pm - sundown. There may be a \$1 per vehicle charge Info (716)484-7285.

✦ **Aug 17—Bears in the Woods '96 Weekend at Camp Davis (Boyers PA)** Sponsored by ARKTOS (330) 434-4860 For more info about Camp Davis, call (412) 637-2402

✦ **Aug 17—2 Girls Alone at Cup-a-Ccino's** 18 N. Park Row 9 p.m.-midnight. (This performance will be during We Love Erie Days).

✦ **Aug 17—Donna Summer (Pittsburgh)** IC Light Amphitheatre. (800) LAKE MCI.

✦ **Aug 18—Shawn Colvin (Cleveland)** Nautica Stage (216)621-3000.

✦ **Aug 20—Me'Shell NdegéOcello in concert (Buffalo)** Darien Center (716) 852-5000.

✦ **Sept 1—Lesbian Labor Day in Crawford Co.** The women of Youngstown's LGB Coffeehouse will be at Amazing Grace women's land in Crawford County (a large secluded rural location). Rustic: cold running water, outhouse, but electricity and phone. Bring food, utensils, hiking and camping gear (if you'll be camping), musical instruments, yard games, flashlight. RSVP REQUIRED: Jean at home: (216)744-4126 or work: (216)742-3291. She'll send you written directions.

Repeating TV Programs

Ellen DeGeneres Special On The Comedy Channel 7/9 (8 p.m., 2 am), 7/12 (9pm, 2am), 7/14 (5:30pm)

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...or marlena dietrich,
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Festivals and Conferences

✦ **Aug 29-Sept 1—RhythmFest (Georgia) CANCELLED!** Once again this festival of the Deep South has run into problems with homophobic landowners refusing to rent their land to them.

✦ **Sept 1—Wigstock Festival (NYC)** Huge wig/drag/ performance festival in Tompkins Square Park (East Village). Captured in the film *Wigstock* (out on video). For info (212) 620-7310).

✦ **Sept 29—Red Party (Columbus OH)** "Rudely elegant" affair. Attendance 2500+, \$25 (614)294-8309.

✦ **Oct 11-14—PFLAG National Convention (Washington DC)** Info from Elaine Hill 864-0184. Also see details in "Families" section, page 16.

✦ **Oct 12-14—Annual Women's Weekend (Provincetown, MA)** Make reservations early! 1-800-1-800-637-8696.

✦ **Nov 7-10—4th Annual Men's Singles Weekend (Provincetown, MA)** Info and reservations 1-800-637-8696

Calendar listings are free and open to gay, lesbian, and bisexual events in our area.
Please try to have info to us by the 15th of the month. Written info is always *strongly* preferred!

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- Seraphim Angels
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- Kim Anderson's "Pretty as a Picture"
- Mary's Moo Moo's
- Annette Funicello Bears

My Fairy Fée



Local news - NW Pa

PRIDE growing in Erie

An estimated 125 lesbians, supporters, and their families attended the 1996 Celebrate Pride! Picnic, making it the most successful pride event in Erie to date.

The picnic was organized by a committee of individuals involved in various area organizations. LGLV convened the first picnic in 1992. Bridges, the close-to-defunct area community-building group, had sponsored the picnic in 1994 and 1995.

Thanks go to Wegmans, Tops, Quality Market, and Garry G. Sargent, Sr. for contributing food and charcoal; also to all of the area organizations that supplied brochures and information. Over \$60 in donations will be used for next year's picnic.

Any individuals who left behind articles can claim them by calling Chris at 868-0069.

Organizing for the 1997 event will begin in January. If you wish to volunteer or have suggestions, call Elaine at 864-0184 or Greg at 833-3258.

Liberal talk show host leaves WLKK-AM

After five years on the air, Barry Dane Steinhagen has left WLKK-AM. At this point, we do not have enough information to report on the incident in depth.

According to a front page article in the June 20 *Erie Daily Times*, WLKK almost lost Rush Limbaugh's syndicated radio program because WFLP-AM sent them a tape of Steinhagen being critical of Limbaugh. WFLP is the "other" talk radio station in Erie, involved in a bitter

rivalry with WLKK, which apparently hopes to boost its lower ratings by acquiring Limbaugh's program.

In a letter to Rush Limbaugh, Kathleen DeCapua, one of WLKK's owners, stated that she believed WFLP arranged for a caller to phone in to Steinhagen's show in order to entrap Steinhagen into making remarks critical of Limbaugh. She also stated that Pat Campbell, one of WFLP's talk show hosts, has used derogatory remarks for gay and lesbian persons when referring to prominent Erie residents. Chris Hagerty, one of WFLP's owners, told the *Times* he had nothing to do with the phone call, denied that Campbell used derogatory remarks for prominent Erie residents, and put out a challenge for anyone to come up with tapes of Campbell making such remarks.

WLKK has replaced Steinhagen with Hal Slaughter, a conservative Republican.

More detailed information will be included in the August issue of *EGCN*.

Local news - WNY

Buffalo Gay Web site

If you like to visit Buffalo, or just keep up on what's going on there, here's a great development: A new Internet web site for Buffalo's gay lesbian and bi community was launched in June. The web site, "Buffalo Pride Online," is located at <http://www.buffalopride.com>

For more info, visit the site or contact Ton Sokolowski at (716) 832-8363 or e-mail him: info@buffalopride.com

Thanks to the people who helped with the June issue!

Many thanks to Dave Mulholland, Danny, Dearick, and ally Lynne Rhodes for helping us to collate the June issue of *EGCN*!

If you would like to volunteer, please give us a call at 456-9833. You needn't feel obligated to become a regular or even to stay from start to finish. Any help is always appreciated!



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

Letters

The following letter was received via e-mail. We've left the Internet "punctuation" and "shorthand" in place, because that's how it was written. For those not familiar with this, note that the odd-looking punctuation marks in the body of letter are actually facial expressions. For example, this :) is a smile (look at it sideways!). We've put other "translations" into brackets:

I've been a frequent visitor to your fine EGCN home page for some time now, and thought I would take a second or two to tell you what a *great* find it was for me!

I live in Erie, am out, and have been picking up the newsletter either at Barnes and Nobles or at the Unitarian Church. As soon as I found out you were on the Net, I've been a regular visitor.

I am an America Online Operational Team Leader for the Gay and Lesbian Community Forum (GLCF)...and spend a great deal of my time online, working with the gay community at large. Sometimes my focus is so wide...I neglect the hometown folks. Thank you for narrowing my vision...it's nice to see what's going on in my own backyard. :> Keep up the fine work, and *please* add me to your mailing list.

I am a *big* AOL/GLCF booster—also, a lifetime of 37 years Erie booster—so feel free.

I am always happy to find people from Erie online. Mostly though, I find people on AOL—I must admit I stay mostly in the GLCF areas—who are *former* residents of Erie. I've met gay people who were born and raised here, and have moved on because of, well, life paths in general. It's such a thrill for me to make friends with someone who IMs ["instant message"] me and says: Hey! Erie!! Damn! I graduated from Villa in '71! ...or Hey, I went to Gannon!!!

Some folks haven't been back here in 15+ years. Funny, they always want to know if their favorite pizza parlor still exists in the same location. <g> ["grin"] And if Tullio is STILL alive. :>

As for the GLCF itself, we are one of the 5 most visited forums of *all* of AOL...although you won't see that statistic quoted in any of AOL's promotional materials. :) AOL has 5+million members now, so for the GLCF to be one of their most prominent forums is quite the coup for the gay community at large. We service,

entertain, inform, and keep many Gay/Lesbian/Bi/Transgendered/HIV + folk in close contact with each other. It is truly liberating and thrilling to touch so many people. :D

Thanks again!

Tish
TishLaDsh3@aol.com

Travel: Camp Davis

by Jim

Camp Davis, located south of Slippery Rock, PA, is one great place to get away for a weekend to just relax and be yourself.

Your hosts are Jim and Keith and they are wonderful people. The campgrounds are very well maintained by them, and also by the campers. They have an inground swimming pool and a large volleyball court, bocce, croquet, and even a small store for the necessities that we all tend to forget at times. There are hiking trails, and a swimming hole in the creek for those who enjoy swimming with real fish, snakes, etc. There is a recreation hall with pool tables, pinball machines and a nice dance floor that gets a lot of use on Saturday evenings or every night on holiday weekends. Eight cabins and numerous tent sites are available for those who enjoy that type of roughing it. All cabins have electricity and beds, you should bring your own bedding, towels and personal grooming products. There is a Giant Eagle in Slippery Rock for any food you may need. Also, a state store and beer distributor can be found there (you must bring your own as no alcohol is sold at the campgrounds).

Having been to Camp Davis myself, I thoroughly recommend it to anyone who enjoys the great outdoors and spending a nice weekend away from the hustle and bustle of the city. There's a real sense of community there: no fighting, everyone gets along with each other. For more information you can contact Jim or Keith at 412-637-2402 or write to them at Camp Davis, 311 Redbrush Road, Boyers PA 16020.

For a truly enjoyable weekend, or even during the week, I would recommend giving them a call. Brochures with rates and dates are available on request. Day and evening passes are also available for those who would like to get away for just a few hours. It is well worth it!!!!

Entertainment Notes

Television

Lesbian comic **Kate Clinton** is now writing for **Rosie O'Donnell**'s new daytime talk show.

Roseanne made a big thing about someone coming out for her series' season finale, and then the finale was aired and it was nothing but a big blowout between Dan and Rosie. Maybe she was expecting the series to end this year when she said that. Still, kind of a let-down. (We had five bucks riding on Dan getting in touch with his real self!).

Barbra Streisand is producing a lesbian TV movie but we can't find the name or broadcast info.

Lifetime will air the original 1981 movie version of **Cagney & Lacey**, on July 19 (2 p.m.) Some interesting history. The producers of *C&L* originally pitched the idea of two women cops to TV execs back in 1974, but they were turned down because the execs thought the whole idea was "too dykey." In 1981, CBS finally approved this movie version, starring Loretta Swit as Chris Cagney. The movie was so successful that it gave birth to the series, which also had TV execs and critics complaining that it was "too dykey," particularly Meg Foster, who became Chris Cagney on the TV series. So they gave Tyne Daley (Mary Beth Lacey) an enormous sexual appetite for her husband Harvey, and brought in supposedly softer Sharon Gless to replace the "dykey" Meg Foster. Then Sharon Gless went on to become a lesbian icon and the series became a favorite show among all those "dykey" people! Also, unbeknownst to a lot of viewers, in a lot of ways the show revolutionized how women were portrayed on TV (feminist leader Gloria Steinem called it "the best show on television.").

Nights out

Jamestown's **Sneakers** is bringing in standup comic **Emmy Gay** (her real name), one of the original members of the Out-rageous comedy trio called No Family Values. She's hosted National Coming Out Day New York and is currently on Lifetime television, and has performed in gay clubs and cabarets all over the East Coast. She pokes fun at people like Jesse Helms, Rush Limbaugh and their ilk, and has a reputation for being the most popular straight comedienne on the gay circuit. She was recently called one of New York's leading feminist comics, and performed at the Fourth World Conference on Women in Beijing China. Gay will be at Sneakers Friday July 19 at 10 p.m. Tickets are \$3 pre-sale, \$4 at the door. Ticket info (716)484-8816.

Film & Video

Commemorating the event that is a landmark in the modern gay civil rights movement, the film **Stonewall** will premiere nationally on July 26. It's a drama based on **Martin Duberman**'s book of the same name.

Lesbian comic **Lea Delaria** appears in the Quentin Tarantino take-off **Plump Fiction**. **Jason Gould** (son of Elliot Gould and Barbra Streisand) has written and directed a semi-autobiographical film about the gay son of a celebrity, called **Clear**. **Elliot Gould** and **Wilson Cruz** star in **johns**, about hustlers.

A couple months ago, writer **Larry Kramer** announced that he and Barbra Streisand had decided to give up trying to get his gay/AIDS-themed play **The Normal Heart** turned into a movie. Kramer says after he announced plans to discontinue the project, he was



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flooded with offers of support from big names in Hollywood. It now looks like the show *will* go on, with filming scheduled for September..

At **The Movie Stop: Vegas in Space** (gender-bending sci-fi spoof), and on July 9 they're getting **Nixon** (which doesn't shy away from taking an honest look at that creepy homophobic homosexual J. Edgar Hoover).

Harriet the Spy will be released in July. It's based on the 1964 children's novel of the same name by lesbian writer **Louise Fitzhugh**. The book—with its sixth grade dyke-to-be protagonist—captured the imaginations of a lot of lesbian writers (Alison Bechdel, Sarah Schulman, Louise Rafkin and others), who grew up with it. It remains to be seen if the movie stays within the spirit of the book.

Theater

The **Directors Circle Theater** just released its 1996-97 schedule of plays. Looks promising: Included are **Torch Song Trilogy** (Sept. 1996), and **Lips Together, Teeth Apart** (spring 1997), and others. We'll bring more details as the time comes closer. Info 454-0636.

The **Roadhouse Theater** has canceled its upcoming production of **Cloud Nine**, replacing it with **Lone Star** (June 20-July 19) and **Wrong for Each Other** (July 25-Aug. 24. Tickets 456-5656.

Sports

Here's updated info about the **women's soccer team** sponsored by **Cups** and **American Tinning & Galvanizing**. They play every Monday and Thursday at 6 p.m. (but not July 4) at Family First Park. **Kim Piper**, manager at Cups, says, "Currently we are in first place and have become 'the team to beat' of the League. Our uniforms are white with Cup-a-Ccino's written in red on the front,

not green like I originally thought they would be." Check 'em out!

If you're traveling to the **Olympics** in Atlanta, note that there will be an official gay/lesbian visitor's center to welcome you. It will be located just outside the Olympic Ring in the Center Stage facility at 1374 West Peachtree Street. Info (404) 892-0661.

Gay & Lesbian softball out of town: In **Buffalo**, the Queen City Softball League plays at Front Park near the Peace Bridge. In **Pittsburgh**, Schenley Park on Sundays and Sullivan Park on Wednesdays.

Professional figure skater **Doug Mattis** has come out publicly.

Reading

Check out the new **Lambda Literary Award** winners, on page 19!

Travel

People traveling to Canada should bring proof of citizenship in case border guards request it.

Correction from last month. To get information about the gay outdoor travel group called **Alyson Adventures**, call 1-800-8-ALYSON.

Music

Me'Shell NdegéOcello was interviewed in the May 18 *Billboard* and was on the cover story for the July issue of *Out*. She revealed that her new single, "Leviticus: Faggot," is about being a young black gay male.

Melissa Etheridge will be at Darien Lakes Performing Arts Center September 1 (716-852-5000).

Extra Fancy's new video "Sinnerman" reportedly contains a very explicit gay love scene.

Soundtracks are available from many of the popular new gay & lesbian films. **Stonewall**, (Columbia) features songs by the Ad Libs, Judy Garland, Shirelles, Shangri-Las, etc. Curious choices (except Judy), since much of that music comes from an earlier musical era than the Stonewall riots (which happened the same year as Woodstock, after all); still the songs are a lot of campy fun. Other soundtracks of recent movies include: *The incredibly true story of 2 girls in love*, *The Jeffrey Soundtrack*, *Claire of the Moon - O.S.T.*, *The Adventures of Priscilla Queen of the Dessert*, and *The Brady Bunch Movie*. You can order them from your favorite record store!

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HIV/AIDS News

8th Annual Buddies Summer Festival in Buffalo

From *The Buddies News*

The eighth annual Buddies Summer Festival to benefit AIDS Community Services of WNY will be held Saturday August 3rd and Sunday August 4th from 2:00 pm until 11:00 p.m.

Buddies is a popular gay bar in Buffalo, located at 31 Johnson Park.

In addition to live entertainment, casino games, "drag races," bed races and "Jail & Bail," this year's event will showcase an exposition of antique cars by the Lambda Car Club of Buffalo on Saturday. Live music will be featured Saturday from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m., and Sunday from 5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

A featured attraction at this year's festival will be the entire Mending of the Hearts Memorial Project display; it will be on display both days from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

There will also be lots of food and great raffle prizes.

New this year is the First Annual B.F.L.O. Leather Night to benefit AIDS Community Services on Saturday evening from 10 p.m. to 4:00 a.m. The group is planning (or plotting) an especially "hot" night for your enjoyment.

Serving as Honorary Chairpersons of the festival are Buffalo Councilmember-at-large Barbara Kavanaugh (an out lesbian), and Niagara District Councilmember Robert Quintana.

For more info call AIDS Community Services at (716)847-2441 (9am-9pm) or Buddies (716)855-1313.

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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.

Street Outreach Prevention (STOP)

The Street Outreach Prevention (STOP) program, funded through the Erie County Health Department has been working in the community for the last ten months providing prevention education. They are now reaching out to the Hispanic community for help to stop the spread of HIV and AIDS.

"Sharing is Caring" was the theme chosen to bring members of the Hispanic Community together to discuss ways to improve efforts to stop the spread of HIV and AIDS. This occurred on the afternoon of June 1, 1996 at the Hispanic American Council. A panel of experts presented information on HIV and AIDS, and a plan was formulated from the excellent recommendations presented by the audience. The Hispanic community wants to be a strong vital force in the fight to stop AIDS.

We need to remember that our most effective weapon in the battle against HIV and AIDS is education. If you are interested in learning more about the fight or are interested in helping to spread information, call Wilfredo or Elizabeth at 455-0212.

HIV-INFECTED ADULTS

with CDC-defined AIDS wasting may be qualified to participate in a treatment investigational drug (TIND) program utilizing mammalian cell derived recombinant human growth hormone in AIDS wasting.

Participants must be at least 18 years old, and meet specific medical criteria. For more on this controlled clinical trial, call Roger D. Anderson, M.D. at

(800) 711-5878 or

(412) 371-7768

**(All information kept
strictly confidential)**



EGCN starts "Sex & health" feature

Starting this month, EGCN will be carrying our new "Sex & health" column on a fairly regular basis.

We'll be carrying stuff that's important (and fun!) to know for those who are concerned about sexual health.

If there's something you'd like to share with our readers for this feature, please do! An erotic safer sex video, an experience our readers might learn from, some thoughts, a great new strawberry-flavored condom-safe lube...whatever! You can write it up or just send us the info. Sign it, or not.

We'll be carrying items of interest to all sexual orientations—gay male, lesbian, bisexual, straight—because a sizable portion of our readers are bisexuals and straight allies.

Also, for this feature, we have also accepted advertising from two adult bookstores. Regardless of what one personally thinks of pornography or adult bookstores, we do believe there is a good bit to recommend them in terms of safer sex. We'll probably explore that thought more in the August and September newsletters. We hope our readers will give some careful thought to our decision—as we have—and that we can discuss our disagreements with respect for each other.

HIV/AIDS news - National/World Report on lesbians and HIV/AIDS

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention has published the first-ever federal government report on Lesbian HIV issues. *The Report on Lesbian HIV Issues Meeting* reflects the current knowledge of the impact of the disease on women who have sex with women and provides direction to the CDC on developing appropriate research and prevention initiatives. The meeting report can be ordered by calling the CDC National AIDS Clearinghouse at 1-800-458-5231.

A fuller discussion of the Report will be carried in the August or September issue of EGCN.

FDA approves HIV home test kit

The Food and Drug Administration has approved the first home test kit for detecting HIV. The test kit is called the Confide HIV Testing Service. Johnson & Johnson will market it through a subsidiary, Direct Access Diagnostics. At this point, the kit is not widely available. It can be bought over the counter only in Texas; in Florida and Texas it can be ordered over the phone.

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National/World news

Canada passes civil rights bill

OTTAWA—In early May, Canada's House of Commons passed a federal civil gay rights bill by a vote of 153-76.

Supreme Court strikes down Cincinnati's anti-gay law

WASHINGTON, June 17—The United States Supreme Court ruled against Cincinnati's Issue 3. It is considered another very important victory for gay civil rights, and was the first case the Court used applying the landmark case that overturned Colorado's anti-gay Amendment 2 in May (known formally as *Romer v. Evans*).

NGLTF on church burnings and Hate crimes law

WASHINGTON, DC, June 26—The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) applauded the passage of the "Church Arson Prevention Act of 1996" today in the Senate. The measure would broaden the ability of the federal government to seek criminal penalties in cases involving vandalism or destruction of religious institutions. The bill also provides for a six year reauthorization of the Hate Crimes Statistics Act.

The "Church Arson Prevention Act" is in response to increased crimes against religious institutions, especially black churches in the Southeast, in the past 18 months. According to federal officials, there have been 216 attacks against religious institutions—black churches and white churches, synagogues and mosques—since May 1990. Over half of these attacks have occurred since January 1995. Most disturbing, 78% of all suspicious church fires in the Southeast occurred at black churches.

The six year reauthorization of the Hate Crimes Statistics Act (HCSA) was a compromise move by the Senate to appease House leaders. The original Senate version of the HCSA bill called for permanent reauthorization of the landmark law, which the House failed to move on. HCSA, which expired at the end of 1995, was passed in 1990 and signed into law by President Bush. It requires the Department of Justice to collect and publish annual statistics on crimes that manifest prejudice based on race, religion, sexual orientation and ethnic origin.

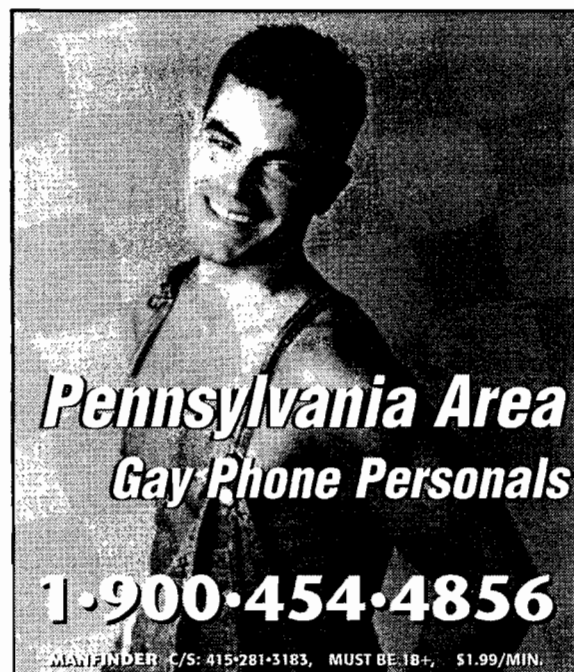
Numerous civil rights groups have been advocating for permanent reauthorization of the act.

Melinda Paras, NGLTF executive director, praised the Church Arson Prevention Act as it relates to the attacks on churches, particularly the recent epidemic of burnings of Black churches, but expressed dismay at the limited reauthorization period of the Hate Crimes Statistics Act. Paras also denounced those responsible for the climate of "intolerance and hostility" that fosters attacks on black churches and other forms of hate violence.

Poll survey: How big is the LesBiGay vote?

Washington, April 25—A new voter survey, released by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF), shows that the gay, lesbian bisexual vote is more powerful than had been thought.

Power At the Polls: The Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Vote, is based on exit polling data from the 1992 and 1994 elections, collected by the Voter News Service. It



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had been largely ignored by the mainstream media, until the NGLTF released the report.

The VNS 1992 exit polling data found:

* Gay, lesbian and bisexual self-identified voters constituted 3.2 percent of the total voting population in the 1992 elections. That is roughly the size of the national Latino vote in the same year, more than double the size of the Asian vote, and slightly less than the Jewish vote. It's also as large as the old staple of American politics, the family farm vote. "Because we know that fear still keeps the majority of gay people in the closet, this figure of 3.2 percent must be considered a floor rather than a ceiling, and a basement floor at that," said John D'Emilio, NGLTF Policy Institute director and author of the report. "In other words, the total number of these voters is certain to be higher than three percent and is likely to be considerably higher."

* The self-identified gay, lesbian and bisexual vote is a younger vote, and will inevitably grow in size. In comparison with the overall voting population, the self-identified vote is under-represented in the older-than-60 group, is concentrated in the under-40 group, and is represented especially heavily among voters younger than 30.

* The self-identified gay vote was strongest in larger, urbanized areas. In towns with a population between 5,000 and 10,000 people, the self-identified vote is slightly more than one percent. But in cities with populations between 250,000 and 500,000, the figure rises to more than eight percent.

* The gay, lesbian and bisexual voter leans heavily toward liberal positions on key issues.

The VNS 1992 exit polling data is based on a nationally representative sample of 15,488 voters. The poll allowed gays, lesbians and bisexuals to identify themselves for the first time in a presidential election.

For a copy of the gay vote report, contact NGLTF at (202)332-6483 ext. 3303, or visit the NGLTF web site at <http://www.nglrf.org>.

Check out the EGCN Web Page!

Latebreaking news, Pointers to area
lesbigay resources, and more.
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Web site address is
<http://www.ncinter.net/~egcn/>

Disney Boycott

The Southern Baptist Convention has officially ordered a boycott of Walt Disney theme parks, movies, and products. The boycott was primarily due to Disney's positive relationship to...and policy of inclusion of gays and lesbians.

You can help to counter the influence of the boycott. Some of the actions you can take:

(1) Write a letter to Disney thanking them for the positive things they have done for the gay and lesbian community and for being a leader in helping to counter bigotry and homophobia.

(2) State in your letter that you plan on increasing your purchase of Disney products and serves as a direct result of the Southern Baptist Convention boycott.

(3) Write a letter to your local paper encouraging people to counteract the boycott as a means of fighting intolerance and homophobia.

(4) Call and send letters and email to your friends and associates asking them to do the same. Please redistribute and repost this widely.

You need not identify yourself as lesbian/gay/bisexual when you write. Also, straight allies are strongly encouraged to write. If you have children, mention that.

To contact Disney:
Michael Eisner, Chair
The Walt Disney Company
500 S. Buena Vista Street
Burbank CA 91521
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White lace and promises

by Sharon Sutter

What does a wedding ring mean? A commitment? A promise to love, cherish, and share? Sexual monogamy? Sure it does—it means all these things and more. Legend tells us that we wear the wedding ring on our left fingers because it was once believed that a vein from this finger led directly to the heart. So, I guess a wedding ring means your heart is circled with love—if you're straight that is. If you're gay, you're not allowed—legally—to make any such commitments. Why not?

Well, politicians and others who protest gay rights and gay marriages seem to feel that it "normalizes" the relationship. But what's more normal than two people in love wanting to spend their lives together—and wanting society to sanction and recognize—legally—their union?

Actually, though, marriage didn't begin with such a noble idea as love as its foundation. Basically, it started as a socioeconomic device. Thousands of years ago, the King from Tribe A decided he wanted the land that the King of Tribe B owned. King A had a daughter, King B had a son, so King A offered King B six cows and his daughter, and King B responded with an offer of four acres of land and his son—and a marriage was made. Maybe the boy and girl grew to at least like one another, but who knows? There were no guarantees.

Eventually, society moved away from deciding marriages based solely on economics—but marriage is still an important economic and legal safeguard for two people.

If a man dies in a car accident, his wife will still have a home. Her children will still be allowed to live with her. And, while her husband is in a coma, it is to her the doctors speak, telling her of their findings and the poor prognosis, and finally, stepping back to give her a few precious, private moments to say good-bye. But what if you're gay?

If a gay person's partner dies, will the landlord ask you to leave your home because the lease specified both of you in the apartment? Will the bank, concerned it may not get paid, give you hassles? Will the doctor talk to you—can you participate in decisions

about your partner's care? Will the courts take the children you have been raising together? If your partner's parents or siblings weren't supportive of the relationship, will you ever get in to visit? Well, maybe—if you and your partner have foreseen every conceivable problem that might occur and have spelled out, with a lawyer's help, what you wish. And each of you better have papers for the other.

Why should it be that complicated when a simple trip to the courthouse, a few dollars for a license, and a few words by a justice-of-the-peace, and his signature on a piece of paper would legalize your commitment to your partner and grant you the rights any straight couple has?

Many who oppose gay marriages seem upset with the idea of two men or two women having sex with each other. In fact, to me, this seems to be almost the entire reason for opposing gay marriages. But, certainly, politicians don't think they can regulate sexual behavior, do they? All people—gay and straight—will have sex married or not. So knowing that, the

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argument becomes two-fold: gay people want "special privileges" and marriage is a holy union, a sacrament to God, joining a man and a woman together.

The religious argument presumes marriage is a holy, God-sanctioned union between two people. Maybe that's true. But St. Paul, as you may recall, wasn't too keen on marriage. He actually believed people should remain single, like him. Still, he said, if you can't control your lust, it's better to be married then. So marriage also sanctions sex. And religious conservatives tell us that God doesn't approve of same-sex unions. They use the Bible to back up that claim. But the Bible was written by men (and some women, too), and reflects the beliefs of the writer. And, if you accept the premise that God is an omnipotent, omniscient Being, then I, for one, would not presume to know this Being's thoughts.

So, we come to the argument that wanting the right to marry is a "special privilege." The lawmakers realize they can't keep tow gay people from having sex, so they try the next best thing—refusing to allow society to sanction a gay person's love and commitment for a partner.

Gay marriage is a "special privilege" because it challenges society's long-held belief that only people of the opposite sex can join together and form a family. It challenges society's concept of the "traditional" family. So, gay marriage is a special privilege that gay people are demanding.

We don't want any "special privileges." We want what society has accepted as a basic right for hundreds of years—the right to love whom we choose and the right to live with that person in a loving, committed and legal, relationship. I guess that is pretty special, after all.

If you want to reprint...

If you would like to reprint original articles or artwork that appeared in *EGCN*, please contact us for permission, and please credit *Erie Gay Community Newsletter*. If an article or illustration contains the author's/creator's name, please credit them as well.

Thanks!

Families

PFLAG National Convention in DC

The National Convntion of Parents Friends and Families of Lesbians and Gays will be held in Washington October 11-14. It will be held in conjunction with the AIDS Quilt Display and National Coming Out Day. PFLAG will be Quilt caretakers on Saturday night, and for National Coming Out Day there will be a candlelight march and a rally at Lincoln Memorial. There will be workshops, exhibits, speakers, computer training with Digital Queers, and more. Thursday night there will be a Family-to-Family National Hotline. Interested persons should note that they only have till mid-August to take advantage of early-bird specials on costs. Elaine Hill and the Keelers of PFLAG-Erie will be attending, and others are expected as well. For info contact Elaine at 864-0184 or the national office at 202-638-4200.

PA marriage bill postponed

from Chris Newman, LGLV

Thanks to everyone who called or faxed their state senators! [regarding state gay marriage ban].

We succeeded in postponing the marriage bill for the moment. This is an excellent victory and has opened the doors to more negotiation on the issue. Senators on the Judiciary committee were impressed by the number of faxes and phone calls we generated. Most of them "missed" the session when the vote was scheduled to take place.

However, the religious political extremists will continue to press the anti-marriage bill. Because the political groundwork for same-sex marriage hasn't been set in Pennsylvania, our prospects are not good on this issue. LGLV will do whatever we can and with a lot of luck we just might be able to prevent the anti-marriage bill permanently.

If you want to help now, write personal letters to your state legislators about the issue. Talk about how the anti-marriage bill will effect you and focus on issues like hospital visitation rights and insurance, which even conservative representatives will understand.

The bad news is that this whole marriage issue has had a negative impact on the hate crimes bill. It had passed the Judiciary committee, but the Republican caucus sent it back due to concern over the marriage issue. It is unfortunate the marriage issue has come up so many years before we are ready to deal with it politically.

MediAlert

by Al Kielwasser

MEDIALERT/BRIEFS

*** GOOD ADVICE . . . Ann Landers — the undoubted queen advice columnists — has given a noteworthy boost to PFLAG's visibility and stature. In her top-syndicated column (June 18), Landers printed a letter from two PFLAG coordinators — Bob and Laurie — who thanked her "for stating that counseling will not change sexual orientation." The couple went on to recommend (in some detail) PFLAG's various services, and encouraged "both gay children and their parents contact their local chapter."

As the letter explained: "PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian and bisexual persons, their families and their friends and offers support to help them cope with an adverse society. We provide education to enlighten an ill-informed public and advocacy to end discrimination and secure equal civil rights. PFLAG provides opportunities for dialog about sexual orientation and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human dignity."

In reply, Landers wrote: "Dear Bob and Laurie — I have received a lot of letters from parents who want to be supportive of their gay children. You are sure to get a big response. There are a great many people out there who need your help."

Contact: Ann Landers, P.O. Box 11562, Chicago, IL 60611-0562; Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, 1101 14th Street, Suite 1030, Washington, DC 20005.

** READING IS FUNDAMENTAL(IST)? . . . A media watcher in Springfield, IL reports: "Our Barnes & Noble bookstore in has a display for Pride Month throughout June. A local Christian fundamentalist group is objecting and threatening a boycott, saying B&N is anti-family. We need supportive letters...." B&N stores in other cities have created similar displays, despite similar threats, and the company is generally perceived as "queer-friendly."

Contact: Tom Tolworthy, President, Barnes & Noble, 1205th Avenue, New York 10011; Kim Balinsky, Manager, Barnes & Noble, 3110 West White Oaks Drive, Springfield, IL 62704.

WEBWATCH

** COOL CAT . . . The Children's Animated Television Homepage (<http://www.qcfurball.com/cat/>) has announced its welcome return. The CAT site has been moved, and revamped. Highlights include "AIDS Daily Summaries" (<http://www.qcfurball.com/cat/aids.html>) and "The Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Youth Advisor" (<http://www.qcfurball.com/cat/glb/glb.html>). "The CAT Chronicle" newsletter is also scheduled to return soon. Contact: Claude DiDomenica, e-mail claudede@qcfurball.com.

** THIS BEAT GOES ON . . . "Queercore Beat" has set new sites and "joined on with The Youth Arts Project (<http://www.qcc.org/yap>) to bring queercore music news to gay youth." The Youth Arts Project "provides an opportunity for young people to get hands on experience with the web. To check out the Youth Arts Queercore Beat pages, go to the above URL and find 'music' in the table of contents. Click on and voila... Queercore Beat!"

** SHELF HELP . . . "A Different Light" — billed as "America's largest lesbian & gay bookseller" — can be browsed at: <http://www.adlbooks.com/~adl>.

MEDIALERT

"MediAlert!" [TM] is an activist-oriented column of media criticism, focused on lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender issues, and distributed weekly on request.

Contact: "MediAlert!", 163 Park Street, San Francisco, CA 94110-5835, voice-mail 415-826-5203, fax 415-826-5203 (ext. 8), e-mail MediAction@aol.com.

AUTHOR NOTES

Al Kielwasser is the editor of "Gay People, Sex and the Media" (Haworth Press) and has taught a wide range of courses and workshops in media theory and practice. His research appears in the "Journal of American Culture," "Journal of Homosexuality," "Journal of Popular Culture," "Feedback: The Journal of the Broadcast Education Association," "Critical Studies in Mass Communication," and other publications; recently, he completed a two-year term as Chair of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation/San Francisco Bay Area (GLAAD/SFBA).

Lambda Literary Awards

The 8th Annual Lambda Literary Awards presentation was held on June 14. The "Lammys" recognize excellence in gay and lesbian writing and publishing.

The public nominated their favorite gay and lesbian books, in 19 categories. Five finalists were announced and a single book from each category was chosen by a panel of 104 judges.

Since their inception in 1989, Lammys have witnessed a still expanding publishing boom. Deacon Maccubbin, publisher of the *Lambda Book Report*, which sponsors the Awards, said "This year marked the maturation of the gay and lesbian book industry, as many of the books that a few years ago made news for their six figure author advances from mainstream houses began to appear on the shelves. At the same time, the gay and lesbian small presses continue to thrive and expand. As a result, the pool from which we draw the finalists and winners of the Lambda Literary Awards grows in size and depth. We are proud of the part that the Lammys have played in developing and celebrating our literary tradition."

The "Lammys" are sponsored by the *Lambda Book Report*. For more information, contact *Lambda Book Report*, 1625 Connecticut Avenue NW, Washington DC 20009-1013 or (202) 462-7924.

And the winners are...

Lesbian Fiction

Autobiography of a Family Photo, Jacqueline Woodson (Dutton)

Gay Men's Fiction

Flesh and Blood, Michael Cunningham (Farrar, Straus & Giroux)

Lesbian Studies

Dyke Life, Karla Jay, editor (BasicBooks)

Gay Men's Studies

De Los Otros, Joseph Carrier (Columbia University Press)

Lesbian Poetry

Dark Fields of the Republic, Adrienne Rich (W.W. Norton)

Gay Men's Poetry

Atlantis, Mark Doty (HarperPerennial)

Lesbian Mystery

Intersection of Law and Desire, J.M. Redmann, (W.W. Norton)

Gay Men's Mystery

Closet, R.D. Zimmerman (Dell)

Lesbian and Gay Science Fiction/Fantasy (tie)

Shadow Man, Melissa Scott (TOR Books)

Slow River, Nicola Griffith (DelRay)

Lesbian and Gay Anthologies/Fiction

Tasting Life Twice, E.J. Levy, editor (Avon)

Lesbian and Gay Anthologies/Nonfiction

Gay and Lesbian Literary Heritage, Claude J. Summers, editor (Henry Holt)

Lesbian/Gay Small Press Book Award

The New Fuck You, Liz Kotz and Eileen Myles, editors (Semiotext(e))

Gay and Lesbian Humor

The Butches of Madison County, Ellen Orleans (Laugh Lines Press)

Children's/Young Adult

From the Notebooks of Melanin Sun, Jacqueline Woodson (Blue Sky Press)

Photography/Visual Arts

Paris Was A Woman, Andrea Weiss (HarperSanFrancisco)

Lesbian and Gay Drama (tie)

Thinking About The Longstanding Problems of Virtue and Happiness (Slavs!) Tony Kushner (TCG)

Go Fish, Guinevere Turner and Rose Troche (Overlook Press)

Lesbian Biography/Autobiography

Aimee and Jaguar, Erica Fischer (HarperCollins)

Gay Men's Biography/Autobiography

Tom: The Unknown Tennessee Williams, Lyle Leverich (Crown)

Lesbian and Gay Spirituality

Wrestling with the Angel Brian Bouldrey, editor (Riverhead Books)

Editors' Choice

Forbidden Passages, Intro. by Pat Califia and Janine Fuller (Cleis Press)

Restricted Entry, Janine Fuller and Stuart Blackley (Press Gang Publishers)

Publisher's Service Award

Nancy Bereano

Publisher, Firebrand Press

Lambda Literary Foundation Pioneer Award

L. Page "Deacon" Maccubbin

President and CEO of Lambda Rising Inc.

Sex & health

Experimental safer sex gel

Researchers are optimistic about a gel that could be used to stop the transmission of HIV. The gel might be able to be used when condoms are not available or when the insertive partner refuses to wear them.

In a study done at the University of California at Davis, six female macaque monkeys were exposed to simian immunodeficiency virus (SIV), which is a relative of human immunodeficiency virus, or HIV. Of the four monkeys who received the gel, none became infected with SIV. The two who did not receive it did become infected. In a University of Washington study in November, PMPA injections prevented infection when given within 24 hours after injection of the gel, monkeys were injected with SIV. This latter finding also provides hope for people exposed to HIV through needle sticks or cuts.

The gel is called PMPA, an abbreviation for its full name: (R)-9-(2-phosphonylmethoxypropyl) adenine. It acts like the HIV/AIDS drug AZT, but is 100 times less toxic. Further testing must be done before the gel is released

onto the market. Most important among the questions is if the results shown in primates will be the same as in humans. Another issue is safety.

Hot & healthy sex mag for bisexuals

Options is an erotic publication for bisexuals that really pushes the idea that safer sex is not only ethical and smart but really hot as well. In the male-male stories, the writers sometimes share thoughts on bisexual issues, as well as the conversations and struggles they have with sexual partners over what kind of sex they're willing to have. Unprotected male-male sex happens in *Options* stories, but only if the story is set in the era before AIDS. Interestingly, in the women-woman sex stories latex barriers are not used.

You can pick up *Options* at gay stores and adult book stores. Subscriptions \$19.95. *Options*, PO Box 470, Port Chester NY 10573. For info about getting a sample copy, send a long SASE.

(More on next page)

Erie's Most Popular Adult Theater/Bookstores

**FILMORE
NEWS**

2757 W.12th Street

**MODERN
NEWS**

1113 State Street

- ★ Private Video Rooms
- ★ XXX- Magazines
- ★ Video Trade Rental Program
- ★ Doc Johnson's Toys for Joy
- ★ Two Mini-Video Theatres
- ★ Video-Go-Round Booths
- ★ Buddy Booths
- ★ Gay Nights:
 - Filmore News— Tuesdays
 - Modern News— Sundays
 - & Thursdays



We've got the hots for you!

Use the right lube

The *single* biggest reason for breakage in latex condoms is using an oil-based lubricant. Use only water-based lubricants for latex condoms or dams.

Here is a list of lubricants that are safe for condoms. You might want to save it for comparison shopping!

Brands available in drug stores and pharmacy sections of department stores (usually with condoms and/or birth control products):

K-Y
Astroglide
Women's Health Institute brand
House brands (*K-Mart lube? Yes...and Phar-Mor, Revco, Rite Aid, CVS, etc. They're the same stuff as K-Y but about a buck less*).

Here is a list of brands available in gay stores and sex stores. There tends to be more variety to choose from among these. All lubricants listed in this article are fine for either vaginal or anal intercourse, but note that Embrace and Slippery Stuff are especially popular for anal intercourse:

Embrace	ForPlay
Slippery Stuff	Probe
Astroglide	EroGel
Persona	Aqua Lube

Wet (*Although the label says this brand is safe to use with latex, it contains Vitamin E, which is a vegetable oil. We are contacting the company with our questions about this and will report on their response in the August or September EGCN*).

Too embarrassed to buy the stuff?

Glycerin is safe to use with latex condoms, even though the label doesn't say so. It's in a plain-looking bottle, generally stocked with the first aid items.

NOT SAFE FOR LATEX CONDOMS OR DAMS:

Anything containing mineral oil, vegetable oil, or animal oil.

Petroleum jelly (a.k.a. Vaseline or petrolatum).

Cold cream, hand lotion, baby oil, massage oil, butter, lanolin, Crisco.

Anything that says "J/O" formula, "oil-based" or "men's cream" on it.

Anything that is packaged in a jar.

Anything (besides glycerin) that doesn't *explicitly* say that it's safe for latex and/or condoms.

Groups & Organizations

10% Network and Social Group (Chautauqua County)

Meets 3rd Saturday of the month 7-11 pm at First Unitarian Society of Jamestown. No smoking or alcohol. Call John at (716) 484-8434.

AIDS Bereavement Support Group

Sponsored by HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of the Episcopal Cathedral of St. Paul. For families, partners, spouses, friends & caregivers with loved ones/friends who have died with AIDS. Cofacilitated by The Rev. Canon F. Kay Johnson and Sue Kuebler. Meets 1st and 3rd Tues, 8 - 9:30 pm. Safe & confidential. Call Kay Johnson at the Cathedral Ofc, (814) 452-3779

Bridges

Community building, also publishes *Erie Gay Community Newsletter* and sponsors community events. Write to Bridges, PO Box 3063, Erie, PA 16508-0063. Call (814) 456-9833. Email to egcn@ncinter.net or fax to (814) 452-1392.

Chautauqua County Gay Lesbian & Bi Community Svcs

Works to increase visibility & support for lesbian/gay citizens in Chautauqua County, NY. Meets 1st Mon of month at 7 pm. 716-484-8434 or 679-3560

Chautauqua North County Support Grp (NY)

Support for lesbians in northern half of county. Meets 4th Mon 7 - 9 pm, also fish fry 2nd Friday of the month. Call Vince 716-6733183 or N County Infoline 716-679-3560

Closet Culture

Focuses on social activities. Open to any lesbian, gay or bisexual 22 or younger in Erie or surrounding area. Write to: PO Box 10274, Erie PA 16514-0274.

Comte in Support of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual People

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 CSGLP, Box 186, Allegheny College, Meadville, PA 16335. Call Nancy at (814) 332-4358 or Erny at 332-4375. Email to csglbp@alleg.edu

Erie Sisters

Nonsexual social support group for TV/TS/CD. Monthly meetings on 4th Saturday, newsletter. Meetings in even numbered months are social events held at accepting establishments. Interview with a club officer required before 1st mtg. Write: Erie Sisters, 2115 W 8 St, Suite 261, Erie, PA 16505.

Friends from the Heart

Volunteers helping deliver help with food, rent, transportation, moving and clothing to people with AIDS. Call Deb Monohon at (814) 838-0123 to see how you can help. Donations *greatly* appreciated.

HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of St. Paul Cathedral

Call (814) 452-3779.

Identity

Student group for lesbian/gay & allies at Edinboro Univ. On hiatus for summer. Call Christie Hudson at 732-3779 or Dr. Dave Herendeen at 732-2555. Write to Identity, c/o Dr. Herendeen, Edinboro Univ, Heather Hall, Edinboro, PA 16440

Informal Lesbian/Gay Student Group of Erie

Now forming. Email to ILSGErie@aol.com

Integrity

A Christian-based spiritual and support group, sponsored by the Episcopalian Church that welcomes people of all faiths. Write to Integrity-NWPA, PO Box 1782, Erie, PA, 16507-1782. Phone: Dorothy (814) 774-0903 or Rev. Kay Johnson (814) 452-3779.

JCC Support Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Support Group

Peer counseling & support attempting to live fulfilling, open, integrated lives as lesbian/gay people in W NY & NY PA. Open to college & non-college people. Meeting date, time & place vary. Contact: Greg Rabb. Write to JCC, 525 Falconer St, PO Box 20, Jamestown NY 14702-0020 or call (716) 665-5220 ext 204 or 664-9174. Email to Greg at rabbgp@jccw22.cc.sunyjcc.edu.

Lambda Group AA

Alcoholics Anon. for Lesbians. Open discussion. Meets Sunday evenings at 8:00 pm at Unitarian Universalist Church of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. Open to all Lesbians who think they may have a problem with drugs and/or alcohol. You are not alone. For more info call 452-2675 ☎

League of Gay and Lesbian Voters (LGLV)

Nonpartisan voters group. Publishes Voters' Guide for elections, voter registration/education, lobbying, advocacy. Meets first Sun. Call Greg at (814) 833-3258. Call before faxing to (814)833-3258.. Write to LGLV-Erie, PO Box 8083, Erie, PA 16505-0083. Email to kidithart@aol.com

Menspace

Meets once a month. Call (814) 835-6712 for info.

Northcoast Rainbow Families

Support, advocacy, and education group for lesbian parents and their families; play group for kids in western NY, northeast OH, and northwest PA. Affiliated with Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International. Call Chris in PA at (814) 868-0069, or Judi in NY at (716) 366-1453. Write to: NCRF, PO Box 254, Fredonia, NY 14063. Email to: glpcerie@aol.com

PFLAG

Support group for Parents & Friends of Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals & Transgendered. **Erie PA:** Meets last Sun of month. Call Elaine at (814) 864-0184 or Write to PFLAG-Erie c/o Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, PO Box 3495, Erie, PA 16508. **DuBois PA:** Meets 7 pm on 2nd Tues of month. Call Jack & Karen Kressley at (814) 371-8962 or write to PFLAG-DuBois, 1191 Treasure Lake, DuBois PA 15801 **New Castle PA:** Meets 7-9 pm on 3rd Thurs of month at Human Svcs Ctr, 130 West North St, New Castle. Call Lois Skuta at (412)652-6893 **Jamestown NY:** Meets last Tues of the month, call for site. (716) 488-1264 or 763-1529. **Ashtabula OH:** (216)964-3350

Pitt-Bradford/BiGALA

Support group for students. Meetings are Fridays from 12 noon. Call Melanie Ostrowski at (814)398-9119 or write to: University of Pitt Bradford BiGALA, Attn.: Director of Student Activities, 300 Campus Drive / 235 Commons, Bradford, PA 16701 email to mhost4@vms.cis.pitt.edu.

Rainbow Connection (Warren, PA area)

Support group, social group, activism, gay rights advocates, AIDS education & support for Warren, PA and surrounding area. Meets once a month. Call for meeting info. Fred Adams or Marshall Snyder at (814) 726-1808 or write to 220 Onandaga Avenue, Warren PA 16365.

SUNY-Fredonia B-GLAD

A support group for students at SUNY Fredonia. (716)673-3424

Support Groups for Persons with HIV/AIDS

Open to people of all faiths. *Meetings:* 2nd & 4th Tues 7:30-9:30 pm at Catholic Charities, St. Mark Catholic Center, 429 East Grandview Blvd. Fax to (814)825-1075. For more info, call Cheryl Weber at 814-452-6113 or 825-1075 ☎

Trigon

Support group for Behrend students, faculty, alumni. For more info, call Al & Ginny at (814)825-8211 or Sue Daley (814)898-6164. or write: College Mailroom, Box 1054, Behrend College, Station Road, Erie, PA 16563. Email to Ginny at vls121@email.psu.edu or Al at alr126@email.psu.edu

Venango-Forest AIDS Support

Meets Tues at 6:30 pm at Christ Episcopal Church, 16 Center Avenue, Oil City, PA For more info, call 800-359-2437

Womynspace Coffeehouse

An alcohol & smoke-free environment for lesbians, with a particular theme, topic or activity for each month. Meet 1st Sat. at 7:30 pm. at Unitarian Universalist Congreg of Erie. Contact Sally at (814)454-2713.

E-Mail

Now you can get vital information for EGCN through the Internet! To get on your 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". We'll take it from there.

The Web Site is back! We have the Calendar of Events, Latebreaking News and pointers to area lesbian resources and web searchers. We're your one stop for info. The Web Site address is:

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

If your group has an email contact address or a Web page, please let us know so we can include it. We want everyone to be included.

Thanks for your help!

E-Mail Addresses

CSSLBP/Allegheny College csglbp@alleg.edu
Chautauqua Cty NY Groups courtney@fredonia.edu
EGCN/Bridges egn@ncinter.net
Informal Lesbian Students of Erie
..... ILSGErie@aol.com
Jamestown Community College Group
..... rabbgp@jccw22.cc.sunyjc.edu
LGLV-Erie kidithart@aol.com
North Coast Rainbow Families glpcerie@aol.com
Pitt/Bradford-BiGALA mhost4@vms.cis.pitt.edu
Trigon vls121@email.psu.edu
..... or alr126@email.psu.edu

*Please
have ads and
articles to us by
the 15th of
the month!!!*

HIV/AIDS Directory

AIDS Organizations & Services:

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 Group (216)350-2554

Jamestown NY/Chautauqua Co.

AIDS Community Services (716)664-7855

Meadville PA/Crawford County

Case Manager - Debbie Miller (800)359-AIDS

Crawford Co. AIDS Coalition 337-3241

HIV+ Support Grps Rosemary Buzzard at 333-5800

Erie PA/Erie County

☛ Case Manager - Deb Monohon 838-0123

☛ Case Manager - Mary Richardson 456-8849

☛ Case Manager - Cheryl Weber 825-1085

☛ St. Mark's/Catholic Charities Support Group

..... Cheryl Weber at 825-1085 or 452-6113

☛ AIDS Action Team (AACT) Gannon 871-7233

☛ AIDS Network Information 451-6700

☛ Friends from the Heart (Direct Client Services)

..... 838-0123

☛ HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of Cathedral of St.

Paul (Episcopal) 452-3779

☛ NW. PA Rural AIDS Alliance (Erie office) ... 456-

8849 or 1(800)400-AIDS

☛ Well Being HIV+ Support Group 838-0123

Venango/Forest County

Venango-Forest AIDS Support 1-800-359-2437

Case Manager - Debbie Miller (800)359-AIDS

Warren County

☛ Case Manager - Deb Monohon 838-0123

☛ Case Manager - Tami Shilling 1(800)359-AIDS or

(814)226-2743

HIV/AIDS Counseling and Testing Programs (free):

The following locations offer free, confidential counseling, testing, and referral.

☛ (Corry) Erie Co. Dept. of Health 663-3891

☛ (Erie) Erie Co. Dept. of Health 451-6700

☛ (Erie) Hispanic American Council 451-6700

☛ (Erie) MHEDS 453-6229 or 453-4728

Jamestown or Buffalo (716)847-4520

Meadville PA (814)332-6947

Pittsburgh (412)578-8332

Sharon PA (412)983-5150

Youngstown OH (216)747-4805

Anonymous Sites:

(Ashtabula) Family Planning Assoc (\$30)

..... (216)992-5953

Painesville OH (216)354-AIDS

Pittsburgh AIDS Task Force (412)242-2500

☛ = Member of HIV/AIDS Service Network for Erie

County PA

Area Bars & Places

Ashtabula

Leeward Lounge, 1022 Bridge St. Open 7 days, 7 p.m. - 2:30 am, food til 1:30 am. (216)964-9935. Fri & Sat - \$1 cover, half goes into 50-50 drawn at end of night, other half goes to person taking cover. AIDS Food Pantry collection site.

Erie & Edinboro

Cup-a-Ccino's, 18 North Park Row. Mon-Wed 7:30 am - 11 pm, Thurs-Fri. 7:30 am - 12 mid., Sat 9 am-midnight. 456-1511. A gay-friendly coffeehouse. Nonsmoking section, retail store. Poetry and story nights on alternating Thursdays, live music most Saturdays, some Fridays. Wheelchair accessible. Bike rack for cyclists.

The Embers, 1711 State St. 454-9171. Open Mon-Sat 8 pm - 2 am. Live DJ music Wed thru Sat 10 pm - 2 am. Pool table.

Lizzy Bordon's Part II, 3412 West 12th. 833-4059. Open Mon-Sat. 9pm-2am. DJ Music. Wed. Country Line Dancing. Fri & Sat-90's Dance Music. Shows on some Fridays.

Jamestown & Southwest NY

Nite Spot, 201 Winsor, Jamestown. 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.

Rocking Duck Inn, 28 Genesee Parkway, Cuba NY. Near Olean, 100 miles from Erie. Gay-owned Bed & Breakfast. Call (716)968-3335 for more info.

Sneakers, 100 Harrison, Jamestown. (716)484-8816. Open Tues.-Sun. 2 pm to 2 am. DJ Fri and Sat 10-2.

Community Directory

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

Community-Building Organizations:

Bridges 456-9833
 Chautauqua GLB Svcs 716-484-8434 or 679-3560

Counseling:

Deb Monohon 838-0123
 Chautauqua Co. Gay Infoline (716)679-3560
 Family Service of Jamestown N.Y. (716)488-1971
 Fredonia Office (716)679-3455
 Great Lakes Counseling-Ashtabula (216)992-5995
 Lake Erie Counseling Associates 455-4009
 Family Medical (Warren PA) 726-3310
 Financial Advice:
 Justine R Raker (814)454-5856 or (216)593-6431

Funding and Fund-raising:

Lambda Foundation, P.O. Box 5169, PGH PA 15206
 (412)521-5444

Imperial Court 266 Elmwood Ave. Buffalo NY

Health:

Karen A. McLoughlin, Licensed Esthetician, skin care
 specialist, facials & body treatment . (814) 838-4802
 PA Breast Cancer Coalition 455-7833
 Patrick McNamara, Licensed Massage Therapist
 716-679-3430

Legal:

David Baxter, Esq. 774-4163
 Solymosi Law Offices, PC 452-4473
 John Cooper, Esq. 455-3436

Political/Advocacy Organizations:

League of Gay & Lesbian Voters 833-3258

Publications:

Erie Gay Community Newsletter 456-9833

Religious Organizations:

Commitment Vows Terry Kime at 864-9300
 Integrity 774-0903
 Integrity Chaplain Rev. Kay Johnson 452-3779
 Unitarian Universalist Congreg. of Erie 864-9300

Social Organizations:

Menspace Larry at 835-6712
 10% Network (716)484-8434 or 664-5556
 Womynspace Coffeeshouse Sal at 454-2713
 Rainbow Connection ... Fred or Marshall at 726-1808

Student Organizations/Youth:

Cmte. in Support of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual People
 (Allegheny College, Meadville) 332-4368
 Closet Culture Mail to PO Box 10274, Erie PA 16514
 Covenant House Teen Hotline 1-800-999-9999
 Gay & Lesbian Youth of Buffalo (716)855-0221
 Identity 732-3779 or 398-8005 or 732-2555
 Jamestown Comm. College Grp .. (716)665-5220 ext
 204 or 664-9174

National Runaway Switchboard 1-800-621-4000
 North County Support Group (716)679-3430
 Pitt-Bradford BiGALA 362-7694
 SUNY-Fredonia B-GLAD (716)673-3424
 Teen Hotline (412)771-8336
 Trigon (Penn State Behrend) . 825-8211 or 898-6164

Support Groups

Rainbow Families (716)366-4153
 EAGLES (Gay/Lesbian Elders) (716)882-2959
 GLPCI (Lesbigay parents) 814-868-0069
 Erie Sisters 2115 W. 8th # 261, Erie, PA 16505
 Lambda Group—Gay AA 452-2675

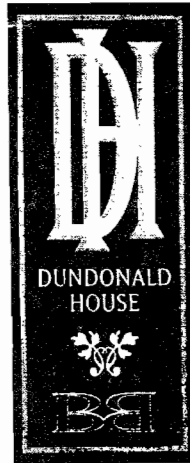
Every Sun, 8:00 p.m. Unitarian Univ. Congreg of Erie.
 PFLAG-Ashtabula OH (216)964-3350
 PFLAG-DuBois PA Karen or John at 371-8962
 PFLAG-Erie Elaine 864-0184
 PFLAG-Jamestown (716) 488-1264 or 763-1529
 PFLAG-New Castle PA Lois at (412)652-6893

Violence and Abuse:

24 hour Hotline (Domestic abuse/Sexual Assault,
 women and men) (814)726-1030
 Erie Hospitality House (Domestic abuse, women and
 men) (814)454-8161
 Jamestown - YWCA Alternatives to Violence
 (Domestic abuse, women and men) Daytime
 (716)488-2237, evenings (716)484-0052.
 Women's Center of Warren & Forest Counties 24
 hour Hotline (Domestic abuse/Sexual Assault,
 women and men) 800-338-3460 or (814)726-1030

All numbers are area code 814 unless noted.

HOME FOR THE NIGHT



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1-800-260-7227**



LIVE FROM NEW YORK CITY

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A StANd Up - ThAt StANds OuT



She was hot the last time ...

And is getting hotter this time...but,

Only at

Sneakers

Jamestown, NY

July 19, 1996

10:00 PM

\$3.00 pre-sale

\$4.00 at the door

For info call: 716.484.8816

Emmy is one of the original members of the comedy trio "No Family Values". Now out on her own, she is a pint sized, energy filled stand up comedienne who has often been referred to as the next Whoopie Goldberg. A night with Emmy as many of her X's will testify is a night to remember!

18 North Park Row
Erie, PA
Phone
456-1151



Mon-Wed
7:30am-9:00pm
Thurs-Fri
7:30am-12:00mid
Sat
9:00am-12:00mid

July Evening Drink Specials 3pm-Close

Monday Mocha Madness-Reduced price Iced Mochas

Tuesday Triple Shot Night-3 shots of espresso for one low price

Whipped Cream Wednesday-Free whipped cream added to any drink

Thirsty Thursday-Bottomless Iced Coffee for a special price

Free Flavor Friday-Add a shot of flavor to your drink for free

Sippin' Saturday-One free refill of Iced Espresso

The Coffee That Dances On Your Tongue