



Pride Picnic 2000 held

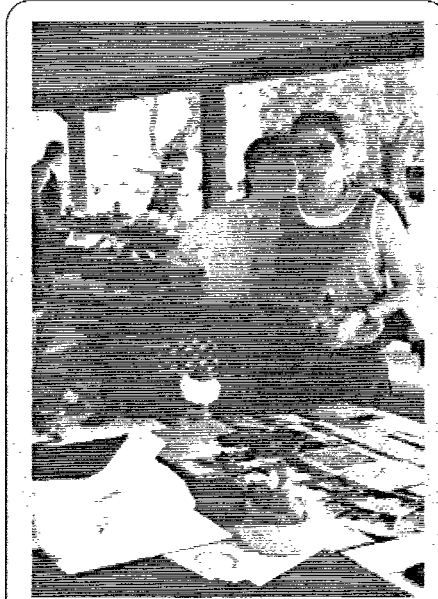
By Michael Mahler of
www.eriegaynews.com

About 60 or so people attended the annual Pride Erie Picnic on Saturday, June 10, at the Beach 11 pavilion. The picnic has been held every year at Presque Isle since 1992, with the exception of 1993. Our friends from western New York and Ohio joined us for an afternoon of food, folks and fun.

I would like to thank everyone who helped with the picnic. Big thanks go to Jeff Hill, Brian Skelly and Dave Amy for fronting the money for the pop, hamburgers, and hot dogs. They should also be thanked for taking all of the materials to the peninsula and back. Kudos also to Brian and Dave for cooking.

Thanks also to Coca-Cola Erie for donating pop and to Wegmans (West Ridge Road) for donating the bottled water and buns. Thanks to Gary Snyder for getting the ice and condiments. Thanks to Bernie Bright and Dave Mulholland for the use of their coolers.

There were also people who helped with set up and also clean up whose names we did not get. Many thanks to my husband, Micheal Miller, for all of his help (and the leather pride flag as a baked goods creation was cool - sort of like if Martha Stewart was a dominatrix.) Many thanks to those attended. It was down from about 110 last year. There are likely others who I am for-



P.R.I.D.E.'s Editor in Chief and partner, take a moment to enjoy the festivities.

Photos by Mike Miller

getting just now - apologies to any overlooked.

We took the annual Family Portrait. There are still a few books left over from the book exchange.

I am currently planning on not being an organizer for anything other than Menspace. If someone wants advice or direction on setting up either a picnic, rally or other event, I would be happy to let you know. Call (814) 456-9833 or email info@eriegaynews.com for questions/info.

I have had some inquiries, but no future picnics or rallies are definitely scheduled at this time. I have heard that Trigon will be something for National Coming Out Day (officially observed October 11) and World AIDS Day (December 1.)



Martha Stewart eat your heart out! This specialty 'leather' pride confection was created by the Master of Mischief himself, Mike Miller.

Biggest Lesbian Gathering in Ohio Planned

As the LBA steps up preparations for this year's Ohio Lesbian Festival, you can feel the energy and excitement beginning to stir. The Lesbian Business Association would like to invite you to join us in being a part of this year's celebration.

With headline performers Ferron, Suzanne Westenhoefer, Teresa Trull & Barbara Higbie, Jamie Anderson, Quartetto di Lesbos, just to name a few, and over 60+ merchant booths, sports, food, and workshops, it's no surprise that the Ohio Lesbian Festival draws the largest lesbian gathering in the state.

This year the 12th Annual Ohio Lesbian Festival will take place on Saturday, September 9th from 11 am - 11 pm at Frontier Ranch in Kirkersville. But before then there is lots of work to do and your involvement is needed.

Women are encouraged to get involved with the Ohio Lesbian Festival, now in the planning stages. With strong community support, the LBA anticipates this year's event being the biggest and best to date. Currently we need women to facilitate workshops and get involved with the planning

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Pride Picnic summer 2000 family photograph



The Pride Picnic was held at Presque Isle Beach 11 on Saturday, June 10th. Photo by Micheal Miller

To better serve you and our community. . .

It was recently brought to the staff's attention that the community has been giving mixed feedback on how we are doing in meeting the needs of our audience. In an effort to meet your interests, we are requesting feedback on what *you* like, dislike, want added or removed to help accommodate the community we represent in accurately providing newsworthy information.

Whatever it is you have to say, we want to hear about it, the good, the beautiful and the ugly. Our publication has been running on autopilot thus far with minor and some major modifications for what you think/feel is best for all of us. The staff wants to reiterate the consensus attitude that it is up to *all of us* to make a difference in the world that we live in on a day to day basis.

Therefore if nothing is ever remodeled, revised, or improved upon, everything stays the same. Now we want to hear back from you, and you can do so by dropping us a line, sending an Email, leaving a voice mail, or whatever. You can contact us at: pridenews@hotmail.com, 461-3102 (please leave a message), or at P.R.I.D.E., 3882 Hereford Rd, Erie, PA 16510-2457.

P.R.I.D.E.

Mission Statement:

P.R.I.D.E. is a nonprofit communiqué aimed at informing and entertaining the gay, lesbian, transgender, bisexual and ally community, we realize that we are limited to what we know. If you have ideas, comments, or suggestions, send them our way. You can contact us by pager at: (814) 461-3102 or Email us at pridenews@hotmail.com. Submissions are gladly accepted but we ask that you contact us first for writing guidelines. When sending submissions please include your name, Email address, and phone number for contact. Anonymous submissions will not be printed. Views and opinions appearing in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of the P.R.I.D.E. Staff. We will not publish or reproduce any submissions that include the context of anger or discrimination against sexual orientation, gender, race, spirituality, or physical ability. We do not support the exploitation of minors. Subscriptions are available for \$15.00 per year. Check or money orders can be made out to P.R.I.D.E. and mailed to P.R.I.D.E. Subscriptions, 3882 Hereford Road, Erie, PA 16510-2457. *Please include your mailing address when sending payment. Subscriptions will begin the month following receipt of payment.*

Positively Representing Identities of Diversity in Erie



Directors Circle brings comedy and suprizes with *Jimmy Dean*

The Directors Circle Theatre announces its second summer production to open August 17th.

Come Back to the 5 & Dime, Jimmy Dean, Jimmy Dean is set in a small town dime store in west Texas in 1975, where the "disciples of James Dean" gather for their 20th reunion. Now middle-aged women, they were teenagers when Dean filmed *Giant* in 1955 in nearby Marfa.


One of the women, an extra in the film, has a child whom she says was conceived by Dean on the set. The child is the Jimmy Dean of the title. The ladies' reminiscences mingle with flashbacks to their youth until the arrival of a stunning and momentarily unrecognized woman sets off a series of confrontations that upset their self-deceptions and expose their well hidden secrets and disappointments.

The show is full of homespun humor and sure-fire comic gems. This play was Chers' Broadway and ultimately her movie debut as well. It was written by Ed Graczyk, formerly of Erie and with the Erie Playhouse.

The shows cast includes Carolin Lynn, Karen Shelinsky, Linda Gamble as well as Maripat Grant, Elisa Cunningham, Maggie Regan and Keven Regan. Michael Weiss will direct.

Each summer the Directors Circle has produced gay-themed play for local audiences and this one is no exception, but we can't tell you much without giving it away.

The play will run weekends through Sept. 16th with the exception of Labor Day weekend. Ticket prices are \$9.00 general admission and \$6.00 seniors and students. For reservations call 451-0036.

P.R.I.D.E. 

Newsletter is currently printing with a run of approximately 425 issues each month. Information on advertising is available by leaving a message for the staff on voicemail at: 461-3102 or email: pridenews@hotmail.com

Ohio Gathering

continued from page 2

committee. There are still areas of the festival that need leadership.

In addition hundreds of volunteers are needed to assist with setup and tear-down and the work of making it all happen the day of the event. Anyone interested in volunteering for the weekend of the event, helping with planning and coordinating, or offering a workshop should contact the LBA line at 614-267-3953.

According to Carol-Lynn Manche, festival committee member and LBA trustee, "Volunteering for the Ohio Lesbian Festival is wonderful way to make new friends, have a great time and be a part of building lesbian community."

Begin experiencing the excitement of the festival today by being a part of such a great tradition that celebrates who we are.

Let the celebration begin!

CONTACT: Chris Cozad (W) 294-0580 or Carol-Lynn Manche (W) 737-5726 (H) 777-8931

Transitions

This month's issue has been modified to cover two months for a couple of reasons. The staff would like to apologize for making the change rather quickly and unannounced, but there is method behind the madness. First, was the recent news of an immediate family member of our Managing Business Editor passing away unexpectedly and this consequently changed some time frames and commitments to the newsletter. The staff sends its condolences.

Secondly, the July issue itself was looking rather slim, for the lack of local news to announce/events to include in the calendar, and everyone just wanting to do the usual summer things like the beach, picnics and such. The staff has not officially decided on a bi-monthly status, but will be looking into it as a possibility for future development. It is imperative that we receive feedback on how you feel about this idea.

We have always been open to volunteers for staffing, and our immediate needs are in advertising recruitment, article submission and distribution/delivery. If you are interested, please contact us to join the P.R.I.D.E. Staff. We look forward to hearing from you.

*Howard Hanna-
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One compassionate voice of love: a letter of truth from the Heart of Vermont

By Sharon Underwood

Reprinted from The Valley News/Vermont on Sunday, April 30, 2000

As the mother of a gay son, I've seen firsthand how cruel and misguided people can be. Many letters have been sent to the Valley News concerning the homosexual menace in Vermont. I am the mother of a gay son and I've taken enough from you good people.

I'm tired of your foolish rhetoric about the "homosexual agenda" and your allegations that accepting homosexuality is the same thing as advocating sex with children. You are cruel and ignorant. You have been robbing me of the joys of motherhood ever since my children were tiny.

My firstborn son started suffering at the hands of the moral little thugs from your moral, upright families from the time he was in the first grade. He was physically and verbally abused from first grade straight through high school because he was perceived to be gay.

He never professed to be gay or had any association with anything gay, but he had the misfortune not to walk or have gestures like the other boys. He was called "fag" incessantly, starting when he was six.

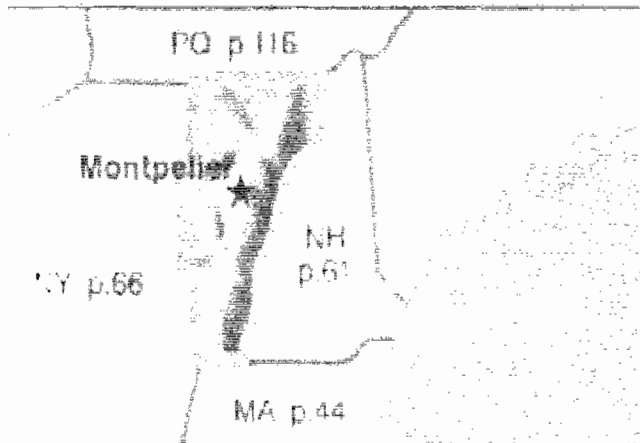
In high school, while your children were doing what kids that age should be doing, mine labored over a suicide note, drafting and redrafting it to be sure his family knew how much he loved them. My sobbing 17-year-old tore the heart out of me as he choked out that he just couldn't bear to continue living any longer, that he didn't want to be gay and that he couldn't face a life with no dignity.

You have the audacity to talk about protecting families and children from the homosexual menace, while you yourselves tear apart families and drive children to despair.

I don't know why my son is gay, but I do know that God didn't put him, and millions like him, on this Earth to give you someone to abuse. God gave you brains so that you could think, and it's about time you started doing that.

No choice

At the core of all your misguided beliefs is the belief that this could never happen to you, that there is some kind of subculture out there that people have chosen to join. The fact is that if it can happen to my family, it can happen to yours, and you won't get to choose. Whether it is genetic or whether something occurs during a critical



time of fetal development, I don't know. I can only tell you with an absolute certainty that it is inborn.

If you want to tout your own morality, you'd best come up with something more substantive than your heterosexuality. You did nothing to earn it; it was given to you. If you disagree, I would be interested in hearing your story, because my own heterosexuality was a blessing I received with no effort whatsoever on my part. It is so woven into the very soul of me that nothing could ever change it.

For those of you who reduce sexual orientation to a simple choice, a character issue, a bad habit or something that can be changed by a 10-step program, I'm puzzled. Are you saying that your own sexual orientation is nothing more than something you have chosen, that you could change it at will?

If that's not the case, then why would you suggest that someone else can?

A popular theme in your letters is that Vermont has been infiltrated by outsiders. Both sides of my family have lived in Vermont

for generations. I am heart and soul a Vermonter, so I'll thank you to stop saying that you are speaking for "true Vermonters." Principles?

You invoke the memory of the brave people who have fought on the battlefield for this great country, saying that they didn't give their lives so that the "homosexual agenda" could tear down the principles they died defending.

My 83-year-old father fought in some of the most horrific battles of World War II, was wounded and awarded the Purple Heart.

He shakes his head in sadness at the life his grandson has had to live. He says he fought alongside homosexuals in those battles, that they did their part and bothered no one. One of his best friends in the service was gay, and he never knew it until the end, and when he did find out, it mattered not at all. That wasn't the measure of the man.

You religious folk just can't bear the thought that as my son emerges from the hell that was his childhood he might like to find a lifelong companion and have a measure of happiness. It offends your sensibilities that he should request the right to visit that companion in the hospital, to make medical decisions for him or to benefit from tax laws governing inheritance.

How dare he? you say. These outrageous requests would threaten the very existence of your family, would undermine the sanctity of marriage.

You use religion to abdicate your responsibility to be thinking human beings. There are vast numbers of religious people who find your attitudes repugnant. God is not for the privileged majority, and God knows my son has committed no sin.

The deep-thinking author of a letter to the April 12 Valley News who lectures about homosexual sin and tells us about "those of us who have been blessed with the benefits of a religious upbringing" asks: "What ever happened to the idea of striving . . . to be better human beings than we are?"

Indeed, sir, what ever happened to that? (Sharon Underwood lives in White River Junction, Vermont.)

Calendar of Upcoming Events

By Michael Mahler from www.gaynews.com

Aug 11-Indigo Girls in Concert (IC Light Amphitheater, Pittsburgh PA) For tickets, browse www.ticketmaster.com or call (412) 232-6200. Tickets range from \$15-\$25. If you are interested in a group outing, contact Amy Terrizzi at (814) 868-1840 or email missrainbow@yahoo.com

Aug 12-Menspace (Gay/bi men's social group) Bring a dish or snack to share if you like or not if you don't. Will be held in Evans City, with an optional side trip to Camp Davis. For more info, contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or email info@eriegaynews.com.

Aug 13-Indigo Girls in Concert (Nautica Stage, Cleveland OH) For tickets, browse to www.ticketmaster.com or call (216) 621-3000. Tickets range from \$21.50-\$36.50. If you are interested in a group outing, contact Amy Terrizzi at (814) 868-1840 or email missrainbow@yahoo.com

Aug 19-10% Network meets-Annual Picnic (Jamestown NY) For more info, call John at (716) 484-7285 or email otto@madbbs.com

Aug 20-kd lang in Concert (Cain Park, Cleveland OH) For tickets, browse to www.ticketmaster.com or call (216) 371-3000. Tickets range from \$29-\$46. If you are interested in a group outing, contact Amy Terrizzi at (814) 868-1840 or email missrainbow@yahoo.com

Aug 20-"Voices Against the Silence" Surviving and Thriving: A Celebration of Life (Tri-C Metro Campus, 2900 Community College Ave, Cleveland OH) Presented by The AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland & The Prayer Warriors. Featuring: The Prayer Warriors with special guest Michael Medcalf. At Tri-C Metro Campus, 2900 Community College Ave, Cleveland OH. Call (216) 621-0766 for more info.

Aug 25-Group outing to Canterbury Feast (Riverside Inn, Cambridge

Springs, PA) Medieval dinner theater. Musical comedy, dinner served without utensils. Jim Shiffer is organizing a group outing (open to men and women). call (814) 763-2022 or email gpride9@hotmail.com.

Sept 9-Menspace: Bonfire at Paul's. For more info, contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or email info@eriegaynews.com.

Sept 9-10-Ohio Lesbian Festival (Columbus OH) Booths, workshops, sports, food. \$24 in advance, \$30 at the gate. Send check with SASE to LBA Festival, Box 82086, Columbus OH, call (614) 267-3953 or (614) 294-6034 or email jhbirkhoff@juno.com.

Sept 10-Annual NOCI We Are Family Picnic (Cleveland OH) Benefit for Northern Ohio Coalition's funding of gay and AIDS programs. Call (216) 781-6624 for more info.

Sept 21-More Light Presbyterians meet (First Presbyterian Church, 112 W 3rd St, Waterford, PA). For more info, call (814) 864-1920 or email evon@erie.net.

Oct 5-2nd Annual "Stop the Hate Vigil" (Erie County Courthouse, Erie PA). Sponsored by Citizens Against Racism in Erie (CARE). For more info, call (814) 452-3364 or write to Cascade United Methodist Church, 1001 W 21st St, Erie PA 16502.

Recurring Events

Party: Play (Buffalo United Artists, 884 Main St, Buffalo NY) Buffalo United Artists will present David Dillon's hit comedy "Party" August 5th-27th, Saturdays at 8:00 p.m., Sundays at 7:00 p.m. at BUA's Upstairs Cabaret, 884 Main St. in downtown Buffalo. The play contains nudity and adult situations. No one under 18 admitted. For reservations call (716) 886-9239. Check out the cast at our web site <http://www.buffalobua.org>

Psycho Beach Party: Play (Roadhouse Theatre, 145 W 11th St, Erie PA) Runs Fridays and Saturdays at 8 PM through August 19. Campy comedy by Charles Busch, author of Vampire Lesbians of Sodom. Tickets are available by calling the box office at (814) 456-5656

Groups

10% Network (Jamestown NY social group) Usually meets third Saturdays. Contact John at (716) 484-7285 or otto@madbbs.com for more info.

"Always Our Children" First Wednesday (Aug 2) at 7 PM at Catholic Charities, 329 W 10th St, Erie PA. Support group for Catholic parents of gay children. Call (814) 456-2091 for more info.

Be Ye Kind One To Another (BYKOTA) (Ecumenical Christian Group) 2nd and 4th Thursdays at 7. Contact Sue or Julie at (814) 734-3959.

Erie Sisters Club (ESC) (CD/TV/TS/TG) 4th Saturday of the month at accepting establishments. Changing facilities available. Write to 1903 W 8th St Ste 162, Erie PA 16505-4936, email Lothar.lk@cwix.com or browse www.geocities.com/Wellesley/1614 for more info.

HIV Counseling and Testing (Free) Erie County Department of Health, 606 W 2nd St, Erie PA. Mondays 12 to 3:30 PM, Thursdays 9:30 AM to 1 PM. For more info, call ECDH at (814) 451-6727. Other times can be arranged.

Menspace (gay/bi men's social group) Usually 2nd Saturday at 7:30 PM at varying locations. For more info, contact Michael Mahler at (814) 456-9833 or email info@eriegaynews.com.

Womynspace (gay/bi women's social group) A particular Saturday at varying locations. For more info, contact Peggy at zippywahoo@csonline.net or call Robin at (814) 868-8969.

News Pieces from Across the Nation

\$1.79 Million Dollar Lawsuit Filed Against Army for Gay Soldier's Murder

Criticism of the military's 'don't ask, don't tell, don't pursue' policy was reborn earlier this year as the announcement of a lawsuit against the Army came to light with last July's death of Pfc. Barry Winchell, 21, of Fort Campbell, from his mother Patricia Kutteles.

The claim seeks \$1.49 million in lost earnings and \$300,000 for apin and suffering Winchell might have experienced before he lapsed into a coma. Adam Pachter, the lawyer for Patricia and Wally Kutteles (Winchells Mother and Step-father), said "This is not about money. This is about the Army accepting responsibility."

The claim of wrongful death cites evidence from the trials that Army officials:

* Failed to stop anti-gay harassment of Winchell, including supervising sergeants.
 "The Army was creating a climate in which

it was perceived as acceptable to harass someone like Barry Winchell," Pachter said.

* Ignored a supervisor's written complaint that other soldiers were harassing Winchell.

* Knew that the soldiers convicted in the murder had made threats against Winchell, yet did nothing.

* Allowed underage drinking in the barracks.

* Failed to equip Winchell's barracks with a 911 system, which delayed in the arrival of medical help.

In a survey of service members at 38 military installations worldwide released in March of this year, the Pentagon Inspector general found that 80% had heard anti-gay slurs in the past year, and 85% believed such derogatory speech was tolerated. More than 33% said they witnessed or experienced anti-gay harassment.

No report follow ups have been made available as of yet. *USA Today 042500*

Vermont Gets Civil Unions Bill Signed and Approved

On Wednesday, April 26, 2000, Gov. Howard Dean of Vermont, signed the first-in-the-nation law granting gay and lesbian couples almost of the benefits of marriage.

As of July 1st, gay couples can form civil unions which will entitle them to all of 300 approximate rights and responsibilities available to married couples under Vermont law in such areas as inheritance, taxes, and medical decision making.

It is expected that other states will not recognize the Vermont civil unions. As of July 14th, 26 Civil Unions have been licensed. Of those 26, 18 were for non-residents. It appears that the personal mental security of being committed is more important than the legal one for our community. Slowly humanity will progress into our natural evolution that recognizes all individuals as equals in every respect.

*Springfield NEWS-SUN 042700
 /AP Wire Internet 071700*

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Living wise and Healthy

HIV/AIDS and Sports

Patty Puline, HIV/AIDS Education & Training
Erie County Department of Health

Sports is an all-American tradition, and as we participate in summer games, it is important to remember that there is a very minute risk of HIV/AIDS infection through blood to blood contact during sports activities. However small, it is important to practice universal precautions at all times.

Coaches and sports attendants need to wear latex gloves while cleaning up body fluids or dressing wounds. Body fluids from injuries sustained during the game may be splashed or sprayed on open cuts or wounds. These body fluids may contain HIV, Hepatitis, germs or other bacteria. Wearing latex gloves affords protection from other person's body fluids coming in contact with cuts or tears in your skin.

Transmission and Steroid Use

A significant risk of becoming infected with HIV is present when sharing needles or syringes. The virus from an infected person can remain in a needle or syringe and then be injected directly into the next person who uses the needle. Those drugs include steroids, hormones, and vitamins. Two cases have been reported in which body-builders who shared needles to inject steroids became infected with HIV. Detailed personal histories given to the CDC revealed that neither individual had participated in any other risk behavior. HIV-Infected Players and Participation in Sports HIV-infected individuals can participate in sports; exercise is encouraged. Each HIV-infected athlete's case should be judged on an individual basis depending on the overall physical and mental health of the player and the nature of the sport; athletes, doctors, trainers and coaches should make this decision together.

HIV Testing of Players The issue of mandatory HIV testing of athletes has arisen in discussions of HIV and sports. Most professional and collegiate athletic organizations encourage, but do not require, testing. The exceptions are in boxing. "There is no medical or public health justification for testing or screening for HIV infection prior to participation in sports activities." World Health Organization. Routine HIV testing of all ath-

letes is unnecessary, impractical, unmanageable, and costly for many reasons.

One thing is for certain, we still need education on and off the field. Unless game players are sharing needles or practicing unprotected sex with each other, the chances of them becoming infected in other ways are minor. Play sports and don't worry too much about HIV infection on the field. Practice universal precautions, follow the rules and regulations of your sport, and have fun. Don't be afraid of HIV infected team players. They cannot harm you, and in fact, your germs and bacteria are more likely to infect them. Please have compassion and understanding for fellow players who are HIV positive or diagnosed with AIDS. They need your support and acceptance.

Remember to keep confidential any information you may have on players who are HIV positive or diagnosed with AIDS. This article attempts to clear up common misconceptions people may have about HIV/AIDS and sports. It is designed to help high school, collegiate, and professional athletic personnel make informed decisions about issues related to sports and HIV.

Corrections

We wanted to make corrections for the 'Rocking for Equality' article from the last issue. The celebrities and performers were: Nathan Lane, Albita, Rufus Wainwright, Kristen Johnston, Ellen DeGeneres, k.d. lang, Kathy Najimy, Anne Heche, Neil Tennant and Christopher Lowe of the Pet Shop Boys, Tipper Gore, Betty DeGeneres, Michael Feinstein, Judy and Dennis Shepard, George Michael, and Garth Brooks along with family members of victims from hate crimes - Louvon Harris and Darrell Varrett, the sister and nephew of James Byrd Jr., who was dragged to death behind a truck in Texas; Chuck and Eleanor Kadish, parents of Ben Kadish, a young boy seriously injured when a man carried out a violent rampage of a Jewish day school in Los Angeles; and Ismael and Deena Illeto, the brother and sister-in-law of Joseph Illeto, a Phillipino-American postal worker who died during the rampage. Again our apologies for any names we left out or misspelled.

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Call: 1-800-400-AIDS

Baybreeze brings divinely eclectic dining to Erie!

By Gary Snyder

As of July this summer, Chef Clemens, of Tapas Bodega and the highest bid winner at this past November's March of Dimes Chef's Auction, opened the doors to his newest establishment in Erie, Baybreeze. Not leaving anything out for personal taste and panache, Clemens has created a new entertaining world of enjoyment for those who prefer dining out versus at their abode, if they are willing to diversify.

Located in the popular strip of West Eighth Street (2727), almost directly across from the Bel Aire Hotel, Baybreeze is the newest addition to the recent redevelopment along an ever expanding route in Millcreek Township. The locale is nice for providing ease in finding the restaurant, not to mention its name reminds the patrons of the nearness to our reverently beautiful Presque Isle State Park and Lake Erie just minutes away.

Clemens helps reaffirm the need for more cosmopolitan scenes with the use of uniqueness as the trademark for Baybreeze, from the waiting area in the front beyond the inviting entrance, with rugs and logos blazoned, to the sophisticated bar upon entering, it creates a refreshing and stimulating layout for the first time diner. Baybreeze helps freshen the senses with intimate tables in various themes and designations throughout the space, an open kitchen window into the main dining room, and has been designed to accommodate many different tastes, including the use of a 'Cigar Room' for the aficionados of Erie. (A hot spot for sure!)

Of course no visit is complete without the 'nature call' trip during your meal. In true international but creatively hip style there are three restrooms available to choose from: one for the men, one for the women, and of course for the undaunted, is the use of a unisex bathroom (handicap accessible).

Be aware that dining here is not for the traditional. Do not look for anything typical in your meal - such as bread and cheese during your dining. My party found this item of some dissonance to them. I personally understood the concept being used, International Fusion Cuisine. This means *expect the unexpected*. American fare is not the par here nor should it be.

Our party was promptly seated at a round table next to the electric piano with a real

musician for the meal. Some felt the music was too much, but I found it highly enjoyable - Who can't resist listening to the echoes of Andrew Lloyd Weber anyways? (Piano music is provided Monday through Saturday with live jazz on Sundays. Call for details on performances.) Tables with linens and cloth napkins enticed our party to finer dining adventures. Wine glasses for both red and white wine were provided at every place setting including polished flatware. Enhancing the concept of color for the senses was cobalt blue drinking glasses served with lemon in every glass (bravo from the water drinkers at the table)!

Our server introduced himself shortly, Steven, and immediately prepared us by asking for patience since it was his first night on the floor (highly commendable - considering it is much better than an obtrusive brightly colored pin that says "Hi! My name is I'm in training!")

We took our time ordering our meal but ordered drinks; a refreshing mix of pineapple juice and Chambord Liqueur for myself, while others in the party ordered Absolut Martinis and a Fuzzy Navel, not a complaint to be found. The bar also has a wine list available with notably only SLO wines to choose from for the patrons. I also learned that Baybreeze obtained the bottle license from Tapas in which customers can bring in a bottle of their own choice and pay a nominal \$10 fee as mandated by the state.

Taking time to peruse the menu I explained the omission of zeros to the ends of the prices, a European designation. It can be confusing to those unaware of such concepts as well as the provision that checks are not separated. The primary theme of distinction on the menu is that items are 'market price structured' providing a pleasant return to the days of local bistros where what came in was what could be made.

From beef, pork and chicken to seafood and pasta including a vegan special, the menu covers various palates for pleasure. My note of interest was Clemens own 'Tishe Dish. This meal is prepared at a structured fee per person and is solely at the discretion of the Chef to create. Steven did inform us that we could make suggestions for omissions to ensure our enjoyment of the meal prepared if we ordered the 'Tishe Dish. (It has a nice ring to it.)

Eventually ordering was at hand and I decided on the Black Bean Salsa. Daring it was to try and truly delightful. Not for the timid at heart due to rating it medium to hot for spiciness but enjoyably fresh.

A service of fresh greens salad followed with our choice of three in-house prepared dressings: red pepper, garlic vinaigrette, and herbed vinaigrette. Our party's consensus was for the red pepper, a creamy style salad topping. We moved on to the main meal with Checkered Penne Pasta, Chicken Alfatto Pasta, Beef Hercules, and Pork.

All enjoyed the amusement of my pork arriving with a fresh spring onion sticking over two feet up in the air off my plate. Each main dish that was not pasta based came with fresh spring vegetables grilled for searing to provide quick cooking and delightful crispness. The pork was excellently prepared with tenderness and taste not found anyplace else. We notably all ordered half portions to save room for dessert. And what to choose from! My choice was a delightfully light Grand Marnier Souffle with Vanilla Ice Cream. But the hit of the table was the Toffee Topped Chocolate Cake. Each choice satisfying for individual tastes. Although next time I think I'll try the fresh fruit minced in honey.

The price range is above average for your usual checks but well worth it. Our group averaged \$32.00 per person. This included one drink, salad, dinner, and dessert. After paying the bill, we took seats in the lounge/bar and waited for another member of our party to join us while listening to Clemens himself on the piano once the kitchen had finished their cleanup.

With our spirits raised and tastes tantalized, overall Baybreeze rated very well. Congratulations to Clemens and his new staff on bringing the unique and cosmopolitan tastes to Erie. Many great wishes on their future success! Stop by and see what's in store, you never know what just might surprise you! Baybreeze is open 3p to 2a Monday-Saturday 3p-10p Dinner, Tapas til 2a, Sundays 3p-9p Dinner and Tapas. Located at 2727 W 8th St, Erie, PA 16505. Call for reservations 814*835*0808, fax 814*835*3437, Email baybreez@erie.net and check them out on the web at eriebaybreeze.com

Resource Directory

24 Hour Counseling

- Erie Hotline**
(814)453-5656 Toll Free (800)628-0190
- Hamot Health Center** (814)877-6136
- St. Vincent Health Center** (814)452-5151

Bars and Restaurants

- Sneakers** (715)484-8816
100 W. Harrison St., Jamestown NY
14701-6615 Open 2pm-2am 7 days/week
Email: artemistoo@mindspring.com

- Rascals** (716)484-3220
701 N. Main St., Jamestown NY 14701-
5031 Open 3pm-2am 7 days/week

- Matthew's Trattoria** (814)459-6458
153 E. 13th St., Erie, PA Contact for res-
ervations and entertainment listing.

- The Village** (814)452-0125
133 W. 18th St., Erie, PA
Open 8pm-2am 7 days a week

- The Zone Dance Club** (814)459-1711
1711 State St., Erie, PA
Open 8pm-2am Monday to Saturday

Counseling

- Virginia Ayres, Ph.D.** (814)835-3829

- Family Service
Jamestown NY Office** (716)488-1971

- Fredonia NY Office** (716)679-3455

- Gay and Lesbian National Hotline**
(6pm-11pm Mon-Fri) 1-888-843-4564

- Lake Erie Counseling Associates**
(814)455-4009

- Well Being Center** (Deb Monohan)
(814)838-0123

Info Lines

- Chatauqua County NY (North)**
(716)679-3560

- Chatauqua County NY (South)**
(716)484-8434

- Erie** (814)456-9833

Religious Organizations

- BYKOTA Be Ye Kind One To Another**
(Susan Laurie) Ecumenical. Open to Chris-
tians of all denominations/orientations.
734-3959

- Temple Anshe Hessed
(Reform Congregation)**
930 Liberty St., Erie PA (814)454-2426

- Cathedral of St. Paul (Episcopal)**
134 W 7th St., Erie PA (814)452-3779

- More Light Presbyterians**
Evon Lloyd McJunkin evon@erie.net
Meetings are on certain Thurs. at 7:30 P.M.
at the First Presbyterian Church 112 W 3rd
St., Waterford PA. (Day) (814)864-1920

- Unitarian Universalist Congregation of
Erie** 7180 New Perry Highway Erie, PA
(814)864-9300

- Unitarian Universalist Congregation of
Jamestown** "Always Our Children"
For the Catholic parents of GLBT children.
Supportive, but for parents only. 456-2091

Social Organizations/Youth

- 10% Network** (John)
Chatauqua County, NY (716)484-7285

- Menspace in Erie** (Michael) (814)456-9833

- Womynspace in Erie**
info@eriegaysnews.com (814)456-9833

Student Organizations/Youth

- Covenant House Teen Hotline**
1-800-999-9999

- Erie Gay Youth Website**
http://www.angelfire.com/pa3/ErieGayTeens

- National Runaway Switchboard**
1-800-621-4000

- Teen Hotline** (412)771-8336

Support Groups

- Erie Sisters Transgender Support Group**
(TV/TS/CD) Send mail to Erie Sisters,
1903 W 8th St., Suite 261, Erie PA 16505

- GayAA** (Bernie) (814)459-7262

- Partners (LesBiGay group, Corry, PA)**
(814)664-7090 (Luella)

- Parents & Friends of Lesbians and Gays**
PFLAG-DuBois PA Karen/John Kressley
371-8962

- PFLAG-Erie Mary of Robin**
(814)868-8962

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

HIV/AIDS Resources

- AIDS Bereavement Support Group and
HIV/AIDS Outreach Ministry of Cath.
of
St. Paul** 452-3779 (Sue Kuebler)

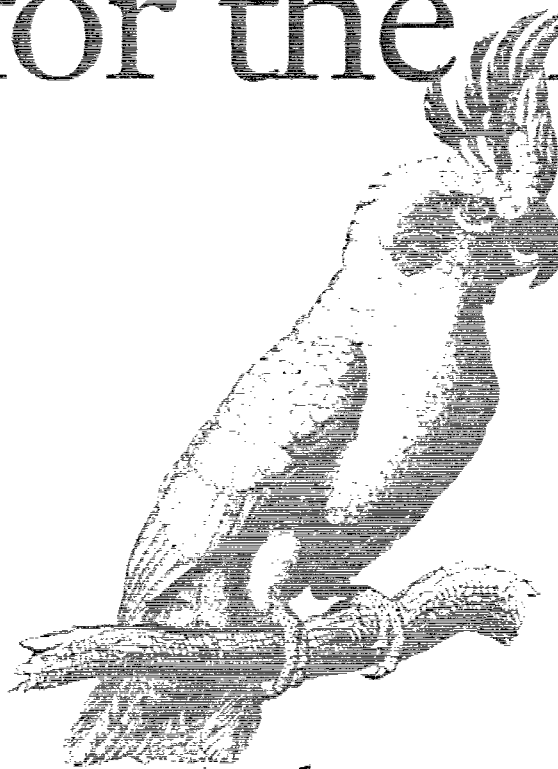
- AIDS Network Information** HIV test-
ing at Health Department Monday Noon-
3:30, Tues. & Thurs. 9:30 A.M. to 1 P.M.
Evening hours by appt. only 451-6727

- St. Mark's/Catholic Charities Support
Group** 825-1085

Is your Group/Organization Missing? Is there anything we should add?
Comments/Suggestions can be sent to:

P. R. I. D. E. 3882 Hereford Road Erie, PA 16510-2457
Email us: pridenews@hotmail.com or leave a message at: 461-3102

This Party is for the Birds.



And you too.

Join the fun, Sunday, September 3, 2000,
at the National Aviary on Pittsburgh's North Side.

Hang out with the birds, strut your stuff, peck at some great food, dance to the music of D.J. Kelly, and mingle with friends, area politicians, and other really cool people. \$35 General admission includes hors d'oeuvres and dancing. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. until 11:00 p.m. Cash Bar. Underwriters who contribute \$100 or more will be treated to a private tour of the National Aviary beginning at 5:30 p.m. Contributors of \$60 or more will be listed in the evening's program. For more information, call the League of Gay & Lesbian Voters at 412-421-4470. Email: glvpac@lgly.org



Proceeds from this event benefit **GLVPAC**. **GLVPAC** is designed to help promote candidates for office who support fair and equal treatment for all people regardless of sexual orientation, and to help prevent those who are hostile towards our community from being elected.