Season's Greetings
THE PAGAN WINTER SOLSTICE

CHRISTMAS

HANUKKAH

THE HINDU FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

MEXICAN TONANTZIN GODDESS OF MOTHERHOOD

THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN KWANZAA
NorthView

Identity NorthView is a monthly publication of Identity, Inc., a non-profit, Alaskan corporation concerned with issues of sexual identity. NorthView is published as a community service and the views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the directors, officers or members of Identity, Inc. The publication of an individual's or organization's name or photo in NorthView is not to be construed as any indication of the sexual orientation of such person's or organization's membership.


Distribution: the NorthView is free upon request and is mailed at special non-profit, bulk mailing rates. Identity's mailing list is confidential and is not sold, given or loaned to anyone. Copies of NorthView are also distributed at select businesses in the Anchorage area. Financial contributions are gladly accepted to defray mailing costs.

Copying: please feel free to copy this news-letter and give it to anyone whom you feel will enjoy it or benefit from it.

Contributions: We welcome articles and letters from community individuals and organizations. Ideal length is 1,000 words or less. Please submit, if at all possible, on 3.5 or 5.25 diskette (IBM or MAC OK). All media will be returned. All contributions must be signed, but names will not be used upon request. NorthView reserves the right to edit as necessary and to refuse to print any article submitted.

Deadlines: All articles and advertising must be received by January 13th for inclusion in the January NorthView.

Advertising: Rates are available upon request. Contact NorthView by mail or through the Helpline at 258-4777. All advertising must be camera ready. NorthView will not accept advertising that is sexist, discriminatory or sexually explicit.

Mail: Editor, Identity NorthView, P.O. Box 200070, Anchorage, AK 99520-0070.
Phone: Anchorage Gay & Lesbian Helpline 907-258-4777. Messages will be returned as soon as possible.

Meet the Next Mayor of Anchorage!

By April, there will be a lot of rhetoric about the Mayoral election. Want to ask the candidates about Lesbian and Gay rights? about schools? about nepotism in the government? about political appointees as favor’s as opposed to merit? about anything that affects you and yours?

The Mayor’s Forum is January 20th at 7:00pm at the Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3201 Turnagain St.

There you'll meet every one of them that accepts the invitation. This is a joint presentation of Equal and Identity and its sole purpose is to provide an atmosphere wherein the candidates can express their concerns, but also take direct questions from the Lesbian, Gay, Bi-, Trans-Gendered and Trans-Sexual Communities.

As you’ll no doubt already have read in the Editorial this month, this is a chance to ask questions but also to educate the very people who will be making some hard and abiding decisions about your lives.

Put it on your calendar, call a friend or two, make a date and come to the Mayor's Forum, January 20th at the AUUF.

Voice your vote with direct contact with candidates as well as at the polls.

Equal, Inc., P.O. Box 244452 Anchorage, AK 99524-4452

566-0930

It is the friends you can call up at 4 A.M. that matter.
Marlene Dietrich, b. 1901, German actress
Editorial:
The Backwards Enlightenment

When I was a child, I learned about things Jewish from my parents, other family members, the people I encountered at "Sunday School," friends of the family.... In school and with non-Jewish neighbors and friends I learned about how other people lived -- I learned how to integrate into a society that had different values from those I learned at home and at Temple. A Social Worker friend recently explained to me that this is the difference between a supporting culture (home) and a sustaining culture (everywhere else).

And this is the season of many differing cultural celebrations. Did you know that the phrase "Seasons Greetings" included Chanukah, the pagan winter solstice, the Hindu Festival of lights, the African-American Kwanzaa and the Mexican Feast of Tonantzin? In those cultures, as children, we learn not only about those special days but what they mean to our very inner selves, the core of our identification.

As a Young Gay Man (may I presume that it would be pretty much the same, in this peculiarity, for Lesbians?), I found no support either in my sustaining nor in my supporting group. At the point I needed it most (as I was discovering my sexual orientation in a conscious way, when I was ready to express myself), everyone who could have had a great, lasting and positive influence on me was out to lunch (you should pardon the expression). And yes, I considered suicide. I was lucky to not be a statistic (30% of teen suicides are due to sexual orientation issues). I wouldn't rail about this if it were true of any other group, i.e., if one is orphaned and finds out after a number of years that one is, say, from German stock, one can find lots of support in the search for self and culture. Likewise, if one comes from a line of shamans, Jews, or Gypsies.

What this means is that we as Gay Men and Lesbians learn from an early age that there is no culture for us, no support group. Our history books banish us to a crude footnote (if we're so lucky), and at worst we are written out of our lineage -- no grammar school teaches this type of cultural diversity. Even as teenagers, there is precious little material available. Oh, yes, you can find it if you hunt, but can you turn to the kid next to you, or a teacher, and say, "Wow, look at this, I just found out this neat thing about my homosexual culture, my ancestors!"? Doubtful. Even if you find the material and read about it, your peers and elders, not to mention your parents, instill in you a fear of being a "homo." No, there is no support to speak of.

So we are cut adrift. We grow up in a "sustaining culture," learning all the intricacies of social life, of dating, of playing the game, of politics and of marriage. We learn about making babies, having a family, 2.7 kids, a canary, a house with a fence, 2 cars, a cat and two parakeets. Michelangelo is a warrior turtle and even if he were personified as the great artist that he was, he most certainly wasn't queer -- at least not in any history you'll find in a schoolroom.

Cut adrift to discover our culture for ourselves: how can we unlearn all the misinformation given us over the years?; how to know which information to believe?; how to take pride in a culture that existed only in a pejorative context in school where all the formative information was imprinted on our brains?; how to overcome the homophobia blared at us not only by religious leaders, but by politicians, movie stars, teachers, parents and most importantly, our peers?

Answer: we've got to do it backwards. We're experts at the sustaining culture but know little about our supporting culture. No wonder there's such divisiveness and bickering among the leather queens, the 3-piece suiters, the Lesbian Separatists, the cashmere crowd, the drags, the Log Cabin. We each have a finger on the elephant, but with our eyes closed and our sense of touch warped by years of misinformation, we haven't a clue that we're all touching the same animal.

Meaning what? Meaning that we grow as we learn. We grow as we share information. We grow as we come in contact with others who have differing views and share that information. If we come from a place of ignorance, it will follow that when we engage each other (much less those who don't share or understand our culture) in conversation there will be precious little we have to offer except very subjective opinion. How would you define Gay Culture to someone who didn't understand it? Would you say we are defined by our sexual practices? If so, why isn't Heterosexualism so defined? Lesbian Culture? Is that about man-hating? Separatism? Sit down and write three sentences that define the Japanese Culture, the African-American Culture, the Mexican Culture. Now write the same about Our Culture.
What's important is that we don't grow as a People until we know about ourselves. Want to start a reading list? The next time you engage a rabid religioso, a redneck or a just plain benighted person, trot out a few of the thoughts from the following:


Until we know about ourselves and can speak eloquently (yet with passion) and can speak with intelligence (yet with the quiet, controlled rage that comes with years of oppression), and can connect even with our supposed enemies on an intimate level of spiritual/cultural enlightenment, we'll relegate ourselves to our own ghettos (emotional, spiritual or social) and raise fists against those who imprison us, not even realizing that we are our own jailers.

F. Kenneth Freedman, Co-Editor, Identity NorthView

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GOD TOLD ME HE HATES GAY BIRDS.
THEY CAUSE WARTS AND EARTHQUAKES,
ORANGE CROP FAILURES, SUNSPOTS,
ingrown toenails, CRAB GRASS,
URBAN BLIGHT...

RING-AROUND THE COLLAR,
HURRICANES, DANDRUFF,
CREPPING SOCIALISM, FLAT TIRE,
SOUR MILK, TRAFFIC JAMS, TOOTH DECAY,
DUTCH ELMA, TENNIS ELBOW,
HANGOVERS...

FALLEN ARCHES, ANTS AT PICNICS, FLIES IN
THE BUTTERMILK, POST-NAZAL DRIIP,
RECEDING HAIRLINES, SOGGY FRENCH FRIES,
SPLIT ENDS...

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Why a Community Center
by Marilyn Maracle

PITTSBURGH, PA -- I've been asked to address the difficult question of why we need a community center. I'd like to talk about three themes: IDENTITY, POWER, and IMAGE.

Establishing a community center is a way to affirm our COLLECTIVE identity as COMMUNITY. While many of us belong to one or more lesbian/gay organizations, we have nothing within our community which extends services to the entire community in its wondrous diversity. We have no PLACE which is truly ours. We have bars—but we need more than bars. We have religious organizations and we have lesbian gay service programs, but in committing ourselves to the creation of a COMMUNITY CENTER, we are increasing the breadth and depth of our identity as lesbians and gay men. And we are saying that we are, in fact, a COMMUNITY—we are more than individuals, we are members of a broad and diverse group. Within a community setting, we can find new ways to develop and strengthen our own self-worth and identity as individuals. Within the setting of a community, we can create new families and EMPOWER ourselves individually and collectively.

Within a community setting, we hope to construct an affirming atmosphere within which to raise our "children". While not all of us have the pleasure—a sometimes dubious one—of raising our own biological or adopted children, we as a community do, in fact, have children: those adolescents who are coming to terms with their own sexuality and discovering, sometimes painfully, that they are one of us. Those children of ours DESERVE an affirming, positive atmosphere within which to "COME OF AGE" as they come OUT and construct identities for themselves as gay men and lesbians. This center is one way, one place, to provide them the type of positive image and affirmation so many of us have lacked.

With the construction of a community center, we take another step in developing our communal power. We can provide ourselves a PLACE within which we may meet to expand and develop socially, politically, and economically. While we, as a national community, have increased our political power—indeed, we've even been courted by at least one of the national political parties! and what a heady experience that is!—there is much more that needs to be done nationally and locally. The development of a PLACE where we can gather, exchange ideas, and develop common efforts toward our common goals can go a long way to-wards developing the type of strength we will need in the long days ahead.

But beyond political power, the creation of this COMMUNITY space can go a long way towards increasing our community sense of self. It can, by its existence through OUR individual and collective efforts, be a factor in increasing our own sense of PERSONAL power. The effort to establish this communal meeting area serves to empower those who participate in its creation, as well as provide a PLACE for the further empowerment of those yet to join us in our community.

The creation of this space goes a long way toward changing our image as a community. By establishing a meeting place for our community in a safe, secure, and desirable location, we are saying, to ourselves and to the broader community within which we live, that WE ARE ENTITLED TO THIS, that we will not hide anymore, that there is no need to hide anymore. By doing this, we begin to treat our community and ourselves with the respect and dignity we have so long denied ourselves. And we are saying that we will accept no less than full citizenship in our society. We, like all other communities in this society, will treat ourselves with dignity, with pride, and with respect.

WHAT A CHANGE IN SELF-MAGE THAT IS! And what a change in the public presentation of ourselves that is!

But, as importantly, I hope you share enough of our vision to want to be a part of this important and timely effort. In short, your contribution, of money, of time, of good will, are and will be gratefully appreciated.

Thank you for your time and good evening.

Thanks to the September 1993 Community Newsletter published by the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Pittsburgh, PA. ▼
If you have any dates/events/information to put in the calendar, please call Ken at 258-4777 or 248-7722, or Angie/Linda at 337-0253, or Michael at 258-0516, or drop a line to Identity.

Dec. 16, Thurs:
* Anchorage Garden Buddies, call 248-0425
* Lesbian & Gay 12-Step, 7pm, open/non-smoking, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
* EQUAl meeting at the Unitarian Fellowship, 7pm, call 566-0930 (new number!)

Dec. 17, Fri:
* PLWA lunch, 12-1pm, FourA's, 730 'I' St. 276-1400.
* ICOAA Tour de Lumieres, 7pm, Raven
* Lesbian/Gay 12-step meetings: AA, 7-8:30pm, 637 'A' St (Anch. Ch. of Relig. Sci.)
* Midnight Sons Gay Men's AA Group, 8-9:30pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave. (Call regular AA phn for info.)
* Dancing in Fairbanks! 11pm-3am, Palace Saloon in Alaskaland.

Dec. 18, Sat:
* Free Coffee and Pumpkin Pie at the Women's Bookstore!
* Feminist Sing-A-Long and Potluck at Lucy's, call 337-3543.
* Dancing in Fairbanks! 11pm-3am, Palace Saloon in Alaskaland.

Dec. 19, Sun:
* Metropolitan Community Church, 10:45am, 7pm, 258-5266.
* Midnight Sons Gay Men's AA Group, 1-2:30pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave. (Call regular AA phn for info.)
* Northern Exposure Bowling Team at Park Lanes, 4pm.
* "Sno-Ball" Show, Live DJ, prizes and much, much more! Doors open 8pm, Sheraton, Kuskokwim Room. Show starts at 9pm, tick $10 at the door. Sponsored by ICCOA(EB).

Dec. 20, Mon:
* Lesbian & Gay 12-Step, 7pm, open/non-smoking, 231 W. 27th Ave.
* Women's music show on KRUA 88.1 FM, 7-9pm, call 786-4846, make on-air requests.

Dec. 21, Tues:
* Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays -- Fairbanks (P-FLAG) call 479-4944.

Dec. 22, Wed:
* Free HIV TEST at FourA's. 2-4pm.
* Social at the Summit Lounge-Juneau.
* Women's Prerogative. KTOO 9-10pm-Juneau.
* Blue Moon Boy-Ree-Alice (Special Christmas) Review, 9:00pm.

Dec. 23, Thurs:
* Fairbanks gay men's support group, call 457-6511.
* Lesbian & Gay 12-Step, 7pm, open/non-smoking, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

Dec. 24, Fri:
* Identity Potluck -- Hayride!! (see ad)
* PLWA lunch, 12-1pm, FourA's, 730 'I' St. 276-1400.
* Lesbian/Gay 12-step meetings: AA, 7-8:30pm, 637 'A' St (old Synergy bldg, now Anch. Ch. of Relig. Sci.)
* Midnight Sons Gay Men's AA Group, 8-9:30pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
* Dancing in Fairbanks! 11pm-3am, Palace Saloon in Alaskaland.

Dec. 25, Sat:
* Christmas Day!
* Women's Coffee House, New Words to Old Christmas Songs, 8pm, call 277-0713.
* Dancing in Fairbanks! 11pm-3am, Palace Saloon in Alaskaland.

Dec. 26, Sun:
* Boxing Day, Canada!
* Metropolitan Community Church, 10:45am, 7pm, call: 258-5266.
Jan. 1, 1994, Sat:
* New Year’s Day!
* Women’s Two-Step Dance at the
  Pioneer School House, 7:30 - 8:30.
* Dancing in Fairbanks! 11pm-3am, Palace Saloon in Alaskaland.

Jan. 2, Sun:
* Metropolitan Community Church, 10:45am,
  7pm, 258-5256.
* Midnight Sons Gay Men’s AA Group, 1-2:30pm,
  1231 W. 27th Ave. (Call regular AA phn for info.)
* Lesbian & Gay 12-Step, 8:30pm,
  variety format, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

Jan. 3, Mon:
* Lesbian & Gay 12-Step, 7pm,
* Women’s music show on KRUA 88.1 FM,
  7-9pm, call 786-4846, make on-air requests

Dec. 29, Wed:
* Free HIV TEST at FourA’s. 2-4pm.
* Minority Community Police Relations
  Task Force Mtg. call: 463-3885—Juneau
* Social at the Summit Lounge, 5-7pm—Juneau
* Blue Moon Boy-Ree-Alice 9pm

Dec. 30, Thurs:
* Lesbian & Gay 12-Step, 7pm,
  open/non-smoking, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

Dec. 31, Fri:
* PLWA lunch, 12-1pm, FourA’s, 730 ‘I’ St. 276-1400.
* Lesbian/Gay 12-step meetings: AA, 7-8:30pm,
  637 ‘A’ St (Anch. Ch. of Relig. Sci.)
* Midnight Sons Gay Men’s AA Group, 8-9:30pm,
  1231 W. 27th Ave.
* New Year’s Dance at the UFW, 9pm++ Juneau
* New Year’s Party at the Blue Moon!
* New Year’s Party at Capri Canteen! Rand, 561-0064
* New Year’s Eve Party at the Sheraton, 9pm-1am,
  (Women Only) by 15%, tix $10 at Women’s Bookstore.
* Dancing in Fairbanks! 11pm-3am, Palace Saloon in Alaskaland.
More Calendar, Still...

Jan. 9, Sun:
* Metropolitan Community Church, 10:45am, 7pm, 258-5266.
* Midnight Sons Gay Men’s AA Group, 1-2:30pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave. (Call regular AA phn for info.)
* Lesbian & Gay 12-Step, 8:30pm, variety format, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

Jan. 10, Mon:
* Gay Bar legal Q and A, 7-8:30, call 279-5001.
* Lesbian & Gay 12-Step, 7pm, open/non-smoking, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
* Women’s music show on KRUA 88.1FM, 7-9pm, 786-4846, make on-air requests.

Jan. 11, Tues:
* Fairbanks gay men’s support group, call Jeff/Andy: 457-6511.

Jan. 12, Wed:
* Free HIV TEST at FourA’s, 2-4pm.
* Blue Moon Boy-Ree-Alice Review, 9:00pm

Jan. 13, Thurs:
* Lesbian & Gay 12-Step, 7pm, open/non-smoking, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
* Fairbanks gay men’s support group, call Jeff/Andy: 457-6511

Jan. 14, Fri:
* PLWA lunch, 12-1pm, FourA’s, 730 ‘I’ St. 276-1400.
* Lesbian/Gay 12-step meetings: AA, 7-8:30pm, 637 ‘A’ St (old Synergy building, now Anch. Ch. of Relig. Sci.)
* Midnight Sons Gay Men’s AA Group, 8-9:30pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave. (Call regular AA phn for info.)
* Dancing in Fairbanks! 11pm-3am, Palace Saloon in AlaskaLand.

Jan. 15, Sat:
* Feminist Sing-A-Long and Potluck at Lucy’s, call 337-3543.

* "Cold Duck" Winter Trip to Bird. Wake-up cocktails at 11am, 12noon busses leave the Raven, call 243-6905

Jan. 16, Sun:
* Metropolitan Community Church, 10:45am, 7pm, 258-5266.
* Midnight Sons Gay Men’s AA Group, 1-2:30pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave. (Call regular AA phn for info.)
* Northern Exposure Bowling Team at Park Lanes, 4pm.

Jan. 17, Mon:
* P-FLAG of Southcentral Alaska, Kick-Off meeting, 7pm, desserts!, at Sylvia’s. Call Sylvia at 562-4992, Fred at 562-7161 or Ken at 248-7722.
* Lesbian & Gay 12-Step, 7pm, open/non-smoking, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
* Women’s music show on KRUA 88.1 FM, 7-9pm, call 786-4846, make on-air requests

Jan. 18, Tues:
* Parents and Friends of Gays and Lesbians -- Fairbanks (P-FLAG) call 479-4944

Jan. 19, Wed:
* Free HIV TEST at FourA’s, 2-4pm.
* Blue Moon Boy-Ree-Alice Review, 9:00pm

Jan. 20, Thurs:
* Lesbian & Gay 12-Step, 7pm, open/non-smoking, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
* EQUAL meeting at the Unitarian Fellowship, 7pm, call 566-0930 (new number!)
* Mayor's Forum, 7pm, Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. Come and meet and question all the mayoral candidates (them's as is willing to grace our presence. (More info inside!)

Trouble is a part of your life, and if you don’t share it, you don’t give the person who loves you enough chance to love you enough.
Dinah Shore, b. 1917, American entertainer
'SHORT CUTS' IS "SEXY!"

- Tom Jones, ESQUIRE

** -1/2 Seattle Times
Director: Robert Altman ("The Player") US 1993
Altman's fascinating, multi-leveled adaptation of several
Raymond Carver short stories is his richest accomplishment
since "Nashville".
Relocated to Los Angeles, the Carver tales become the basis
for a three-hour feast of interrelated subplots featuring
standout performances by Madeleine Stow, Julianne Moore,
Lily Tomlin, Jack Lemmon and Bruce Davison. "R" rating
for language and nudity. 189 Minutes.
(Special Engagement)
PREMIERES SATURDAY
DECEMBER 25TH

"DAZZLING!"
An awesome cinematic world tour."
- Stephen Holden
THE NEW YORK TIMES

★★★★★
This is what event filmmaking is all about—the creation of an experience
that can't be duplicated on TV.
Rush out and see this picture.
- Lawrence Cohn
NEW YORK POST

BARAKA

** -1/2 Seattle Times
Directed by Ron Fricke USA 1992
Filmed in 24 countries, this visual tone poem (from the
cinematographer of "Koyaanisqatsi") is a wondrous
evocation of the energy and the resiliency of life's forces.
Music by Michael Stearns and a diverse group of indigenous
musicians. Not rated, nothing objectionable, 96 minutes.
(Special Engagement)
PREMIERES FRIDAY
JANUARY 7

GIFT CERTIFICATES &
DISCOUNTED MOVIE PACKAGES MAKE
PERFECT CHRISTMAS GIFTS
Please Fasten Your Seatbelts, or Getting Ready to Land in Moscow, Russia
by Jean Craciu

Arriving in Moscow... sorting through my bags to get everything back in place after my 17 hour flight from Anchorage... I come across my Northview and get that old familiar panicked feeling in my gut -- "Something's wrong here. Is it OK to bring gay literature into Russia?"

I thought, "What will they do to me when they see it as I go through Customs?" For the next half hour I vacillate from "Of course, it's OK," to "Oh my, what they used to do to any gay brother and sister..." I can only imagine and shake my head. I flip through it as I decide whether to leave it in the flap in front of me or just take it. There is an article by my dear friend Katie Hickey and I begin to read it. Getting lost in it for several minutes, it is only a brief reprise and I know I have to decide. "What the hell -- let's find out!" If something happens to me at Customs, let the United States Government come and bail me out. After all I'm here working for them. I also remember an Anchorage Daily News article that talked about Moscow repealing some old discrimination laws based on homosexuality. I think it was the old sodomy obsession, being put to rest like Lenin's tomb.

On the ground; Aeroflot planes everywhere. Here I sit in the customs line, a raving-dyke, market researcher/sociologist, on assignment from the U.S. Government to teach Russia's intelligentsia how to be focus group moderators. Times have really changed.

Hoping now that my luggage has caught up with me; hoping, too, that it made the long trip from Alaska (it doesn't help that I changed flight patterns in order to get here three hours earlier). This line is of course... eternal, and, well, I've had an attitude adjustment (that woman at JFK said, "If we don't get your luggage to you, it's like it never existed in the first place!"). I find I don't even care about the gay thing anymore... and as it turns out, neither did Customs.

Note: gays and lesbians in Moscow are trying to organize and will be receiving copies of the Northview as a model. Yessss!

Jean Craciu is a lesbian activist who owns a marketing research company in Anchorage. She plans another article following her next visit to Moscow in February.
Be Here Now
by Karen Carlisle

Bessie and Daisy chewed their cud companionably together. Daisy has a pained expression on her face because the steel sucker had pinched her nipple on the last pull. Bessie, noticing, said, "What are you feeling right now, Daisy?" Daisy replied angrily (which surprised her because she hadn't been able to get angry since she'd lost the teat after they'd separated her from her mom -- sent mamma Clarabelle off to the milk barn and left her little ole' abandoned baby calf self alone in a pen. Sniff.). "I'm pissed." Daisy said it again, louder this time. "Yes, PISSED OFF; I AM PISSED OFF," she shouted twice. "I have issued with these damn machines. At least when they were pulling my teats, I got something from them; their hands were warm at least. That met some of my needs anyway. She sniffed again. "I know just how my little calf feels over there by herself. My inner child is crying, too."

Bessie lowered compassionately. "I hear what you're saying," she said. "Sometimes I feel so angry and helpless, I wish I could strangle on my tongue since I can't strangle them. This is a completely dysfunctional way for a cow to live, but we're powerless over people, places and things, aren't we?"

Daisy offered this circularly-stimulated non-sequitur from her right brain. "The only thing that makes me feel good is those sweet alfalfa stalks over in Jones' meadow. I'd give anything for a taste of them. It's all I dream about. Alfalfa stalks. Green, sweet alfalfa stalks." She began to drool.

Bessie said, "Yeah, I know what you mean. For me, it's oats. Can't leave them oats alone. I try to squeeze out an extra pinto or two so he'll give me some oats."

Daisy sighed. "I'm so depressed." She began to slap her nose with her tongue. With each slap, she tried to reach higher, wanting to hit the place right between her eyes. She became mesmerized by the rhythm of the movement. Slap, slap, slap. It was such a nice soft tongue; it made such friendly contact. She didn't ever get to touch any other cows unless you wanted to count her annual mounting by that grunting dick-breath Old Durham, but she didn't count it -- she watched from up in the apple tree where she went when she left her body when she had to suffer such abuse. No one ever asked her if she wanted it; she didn't, she wanted to nuzzle

Bessie's flanks, but she couldn't and she was suffering from touch deprivation. Pretty soon she had shut out Bessie's soft lowing, the pain of the steel sucker, her loneliness. All there was the plop plop plop of her tongue slapping her nose, her muzzle, the space between her eyes. Everything else faded as the endorphins released into her brain.

"Daisy," Bessie hissed. "Stop it! Be here now! I feel scared when you do that because I think Old Farmer Fartsworth is going to make hamburger out of you if he sees you doing that. It's gonna affect your milk production! Daisy!"

Daisy came dreamily back from her homoerotic slurping. "Oh, Bessie, I'm not hurting anyone. I'm just doing the only self-loving thing I have the power to do. I gotta have something. Ain't got no baby. Ain't got no momma. Ain't got no sweet alfalfa stalks. Ain't got no freedom -- ain't got no choices."

Bessie said righteously. "You still got yourself, and that's worth something. Don't let your slavery affect your self-esteem."

"Oh, fuck off, Bessie. I didn't ask for your five cent therapy; I just want to numb out," and she went back to slapping her nose. Slap, slap, slap. ▼
Trouble in Transylvania
by Barbara Wilson.
Seal Press, 1993, cloth $18.95.

Book review by Lee Lynch

If Helen McInnes were a feminist, if Mrs. Polifax ever comes out, if erudite Mary Renault had stooped to popular mystery writing, perhaps we would have had a tale as historically compelling, fun and full of the glamour of travel as Trouble In Transylvania much sooner. It was worth the wait, though, for Barbara Wilson to create her delightful mix of exotic settings, intrigue, matriarchal herstory and forthright lesbianism.

The first sentence is the tip-off: "I was on my way to China, by way of Vienna and Budapest . . . " Quirky Cassandra Reilly is on the road again, as she was in Gaudi Afternoon. On this journey she explores not gender, but home -- home as the place where we feel safe, even in times of political turmoil. The theme is made more poignant by setting it in a part of the world one would suspect of alienating even those of the most nationalistic bent. Yet as the heroine learns to turn inside for her safety, a host of Romanian and Hungarian characters define home with nationalistic fervor and rancor.

Cassandra is a translator and a world traveler, a lover of many women and a whirlwind of impressions. Seeing life through her eyes strikes this homebody as vastly preferable to the uncomfortable adventures and common mishaps of travel in which Cassandra seems to revel. With her old friend Jack, a woman, she regales new acquaintances with or just quietly reminisces about missed boats on one continent, moments of disturbing dangers on others.

Travel is the life Cassandra likes, for the most part, and if an enigma comes her way now and then, the same inexplicable curiosity and addiction to challenge that takes her around the world also fuels her investigative fires. Wilson is not an author to smear blood and gore on the reader's psyche or give us nightmares. As a matter of fact there is some doubt whether a murder has been committed at all in this volume, though the requisite corpse, and of an entirely unsympathetic person at that, is provided. For possible criminals there are a host of suspects with a variety of motives, endearing qualities and pecadillos.

The family Snapp, from Michigan, has returned to Europe to research the history of an adopted daughter. The child was available because of the ban on birth control which caused many poor families to give up children. In a traditional mystery device the Snapps are thrown together with Cassandra in a train compartment, along with Gladys Bentwhistle and her granddaughter Bree, both lesbians. They all, in a series of coincidences tolerated only in comedy, eventually arrive in the spa town of Arcata. Gladys is accused by the local gendarmes of responsibility for the corpse. Bree prevails (with lustful ulterior motive) on linguist Cassandra to defend her unperturbed grandmother. Cassandra stumbles on the adoption trade. Wilson, our steadfast travel guide, navigates smoothly through what could have been confusing channels.

There are many layers to this novel and each layer, laced with humor and suspense, seduces the reader into deeper waters. The political history and unrest of Eastern Europe, in particular the cruel reign of Rumanian dictator Nicolae Ceausescu, is woven into the story with invisible threads. Ancient women's history from pre-patriarchal times is frequently referenced and used with dramatic effect. There is a rollicking scene, for example, in the mud bath room that turns workaday women to primeval warriors and is both funny and empowering.

At middle age the author examines aging. Cassandra is 46 and obviously aware of her body's new processes as well as her spirit's new needs. She discovers "a chocolate fairy-tale house" which provokes a settling-down yen and memories of growing up. By this means we're filled in on the history of this Irish-American from Kalamazoo and how she evolved to zany adventurer. The conflict that ensues, between the chocolate fairy-tale house and Cassandra's wanderlust, creates yet another layer to the tale.

With Wilson, radical statements nestle between erotic yearnings and funny lines. She tells one of the women, "Science wasn't invented when I was growing up. We just had miracles." Part of her radicalism lies in the very matter-of-fact way she treats lesbianism. It just happens that the majority of female characters are dykes, or at least up for a brief fling with another woman. Feminism is a given in Cassandra Reilly's world. Some of the feminist insights are so casually stated they could sneak up on Phyllis Shlaflly and stealthily implant themselves unnoticed.

Most of all, Trouble In Transylvania is sheer pleasure, truly a book one can read for fun. ▼
That's how is was, and how it is........  
(Remembering)

Part 8:  
Go for Baroque, the Holidays  
by Dan Cook

"In 1928 I found out the meaning of Thanksgiving and Christmas, thanks to Steve's family," (Mike was telling the story). We were almost through the album marked 1928. When I was a child, I thought the holidays were a bunch of b.s. They were just another excuse for my parents to leave the house -- a big part of their social calendar, planned for and catering to adults. "I dreaded those days.

"The three would have dinner at 3pm. At 5pm sharp, guests would come by (for the drop-bys). Each had been sent an invitation -- no surprises. At 7pm my parents would leave the house to return the complimentary house calls, and would return late that night.

Drop-bys were a big part of every holiday, rich or poor. They varied with each family, religion and ethnic background. By 1950, families had been scattered due to World War II. Although drop-bys still exist, they are taken for granted and are no longer an intricate part of the American scene."

"We had been together eight years. I finally ran out of excuses and promised Steve and his family we would go to Boise for Thanksgiving. The drive took two days. There was snow in the passes and they wanted to stop in Pendleton and pick up a check from the Cattleman's Association. (They had sold 25 steers and were looking for heifers to build their herd.)"

A photograph of Steve and two young ranchers at the stock yard. Another one of Steve standing next to a huge mound of snow on top of one of the passes.

They drove out of Pendleton before the sun came up, around 5am and arrived in Boise 11 hours later. The two-lane highway followed rivers and, in some places, was only gravel with barely room enough for two cars. Switch-backs with slow moving trucks, ice and slides didn't help. Mike did all the driving, being more competent and prone to back-seat driving when not at the wheel.

He was already apprehensive and had been a little nervous about Thanksgiving in Boise, but when they pulled up to the house, Mike's eyes were as big as saucers and his fingers were glued to the steering wheel.

The car doors were flung open, Mama grabbing Mike and Papa pulling Steve out of the car, the girls trying to get their hugs and kisses in like there was no tomorrow, and Steve and his whole family crying, including Papa.

"Happiness was nothing to hold back," Steve later recalled.

Mike had thought crying was a weakness. In eight years Steve had seen Mike cry only once, and that was when his father passed away. Steve would get all glassy-eyed every time he was happy and that was almost daily, so Mike had gotten accustomed to tears and blowing noses. But Mike was always on guard not to show his emotions in public.

"Even after all these years, we can still remember the variety of smells that came out of Mama's kitchen: pumpkin, mincemeat and apple pies, bread and turkey parts boiling for giblet dressing... and that was just the day before! Put all those heavenly aromas together with roast turkey and candied yams....makes our heads spin, even today.

"Everyone had gone to bed early. There was a lot to do on Thanksgiving day, but no one had to wake us up. The smell of coffee and bacon had both of us shaved and showered and dressed just as Mama was putting the biscuits on the table.

She had chores for everyone, and that included Mike.

"First thing, take those six pies to the Salvation Army, then pick up ice at the ice house. And when you two get back, we will have more for you boys to do." Mama Lane had a very soft voice, but her family had very well trained ears. When she said anything all other conversation stopped.

"Mike, help Steve set the table. Mike, mash the potatoes. Mike, put the butter in the butter dish and fill the salt and pepper shakers." The family was accustomed to Mama's instructions and her wonderful praises. She always did a quick appraisal... even the butter in the butter dish got a smile and a, 'Oh my, that looks wonderful.'"

They all sat down and held hands for Papa's prayer.

Now, Papa didn't believe in short prayers... his could last five minutes or more. If he got carried away, Mama would clear her throat and Papa would end the prayer graciously. (After all, the food gets
cold). But this time, no one cleared their throat. Half way into his prayer he started thanking the Good Lord for his family, starting with Mama’s cooking, each of his daughters and then Steve. Then he said, “Lord, thank you for giving me another son to love.” With that, Mike opened his eyes and looked at Papa, who was still praising him. He quickly closed his eyes because Mama and the girls and Steve had raised their heads and were nodding their approval as Papa was deep in prayer. It looked like they were all going to cry. “Oh God, here they go again,” Mike thought. But by the time Papa finished and everyone thanked him, it was time to dig in.

It was the best Thanksgiving dinner Mike had ever eaten.

**Photos included one of the table, then one of the girls with Mike and Steve, and the one they love to this day... Mama and Papa: his arm around her shoulder and her head resting on his chest.**

As soon as dinner was over, the drop-bys started to arrive. About three hours of small-talk and introductions, well over half to young, single women (who made sure they were introduced as Miss) made both guys a little uncomfortable.

Steve, Mama and the girls played the new game sensation, Mah-Jong, Mike and Papa worked the cribbage board. 

Mike had a hard time dealing with his emotions, and at times it had been a little over-whelming, but now he understood why Steve loved Thanksgiving. He would not make excuses; on the contrary, he looked forward to Thanksgiving now.

They got back to the ranch exhausted, but very satisfied.

"The staff had enjoyed Thanksgiving," Robert said with a big smile. "Glad to have you back, sir." With that he gave Mike a note to call his mother.

There would be no Christmas in Seattle; Mother was going to Lake Louise in Canada for the holidays to be with her business associates.

**The circular staircase framed the Christmas tree, and the cedar garlands with big bows draped the railings.**

Steve and Mike picked out the tree months ago. Now it had been cut down and pulled out the woods by one of horses, and everyone helped decorate it. Mike and Steve had given boxes of chocolates every year and they planned to do the same this year.

The difference between today and 1928 was that the boxes were elaborate "confection" chests. These chests came in a wide variety of sizes, shapes and designs. Made of wood, not cardboard, they looked a lot like the jewelry boxes you might find on a vanity today; not only did they contain chocolate and candy, but usually had a gift as well.

Children had two layers about twice the size of a cigar box. All contained candy; boys got marbles, tops or yo-yos; girls' gifts were small dolls, doll china sets or lockets; older girls got diaries. Family chests were huge... many had music boxes, four layers of everything one might want if you had a sweet tooth, and the most popular gift in these chests was stationary. These chests were treasured by most house-holds, and you can still find them in Europe.

Their open house on Christmas Day became a tradition for many years, but the first one set the stage for the coming years.

"Bring the whole family," the invitations read (in those days the grandparents usually stayed home to watch the children). They wanted a complete family atmosphere, they had more than enough gifts and food, so why not?

Their neighbors and friends brought food and a variety of hand-crafted gifts. Mary and Etta had invited their next door neighbors, the Kruggers.

The Kruggers were a wonderful family who made cheese from cow and goat's milk. There were six Kruggers; Mr. Kruger and his wife, his parents and two teen-age girls, all from Norway.

The Bergstroms, who owned the pig farm, were also from Norway. They brought the whole family, including Mr. Bergstrom's parents. The Kruggers and Bergstroms were instant family. You would have thought Steve and Mike had planned it. The gift of being able to talk in your own language was a God-send to the older couples, now that was really a Christmas gift.

Besides cheese, the Kruggers brought smoked sausages from the Bergstroms. Of course there were six varieties of pickles and relishes from Lucy and Carl; and preserves, jellies, cookies, fruit cake and even horseradish and mustard from the Widow Minnie Hurd. Christmas brought out the talents of those who worked the land. The variety was amazing but that's what would save John Day in the years to come.

Mike's mother had sent both Steve and Mike a complete tuxedo: hat, shoes, over coat, tails and even a silk scarf. But the gifts of marmalade and the other gifts from their neighbors were just as good -- they came from the heart, and right now that seemed more important.
Photos of two top hats surrounded by Christmas baskets of every size and shade on a long table. There was also a photo of the Bergstroms and Krugers, sitting on the staircase.

The speakeasy called the Calico Club was located below the Columbia Palace Hotel, later to be known as the Hoyt Hotel. It was a membership club for those in the theater or in the arts, and had security for its patrons. The Chief of Police liked show girls, and show girls liked the Calico Club -- a good combination. On the weekends and holidays there was a full band; during the week there was a piano bar; drinking, dancing and jamming took place every night.

Patrons took an elevator from the second floor to the basement (the elevator operator checked your tickets in the second floor lobby -- there was no other stop for the elevator except the club) but this was not a dingy, sleazy joint. There was a cathedral with white marble columns 20 feet high, a floor of black marble and parquet, and seating for 350. There was a bandstand, a bar, round tables overlooked by a balcony area, beautiful bathrooms with attendants, a hat check, and even cigarette girls. The look was avant garde, and everyone dressed accordingly.

Men could dance with men, and the same with women. You could cross-dress (after all, it was theater). Some women came dressed as Valentino, Charlie Chaplin, or Douglas Fairbanks; some of the men dressed as Greta Garbo or Gloria Swanson.

Thanks to Fingers (the piano player at the Calico and a friend of Mary and Etta) they were able to get a table for six reserved. Charles and Roland drove in from Astoria, and all three couples got rooms at the hotel.

Dinner was very formal, with chamber music in the dining room.

The Four Men in Tuxedos and Mary and Etta in Evening Gowns; Another Photo of the String Ensemble.

Cameras were not allowed in the Calico but Fingers had given Etta and Mary some great photos. They gave them to Mike and Steve as souvenirs of the club.

Mike and Steve had never been to a speakeasy. They did their best to hold their composure, but as soon as they were shown to their table, Charles and Roland hit the dance floor. Mary and Etta joined them moments later. "Let's do it," Steve said.

Mike was a bit nervous, but finally said OK. After a tango, a charleston and a continental, they didn't care if they ever got back to the table.

The band took a break and Fingers stayed on stage playing background music. His lover, Snap, came over to the table and pointed out various guests in the club. Both Mike and Steve couldn't believe how many of the beautiful women were really men. Those who came by the table and were introduced caused quite a commotion.

But they would never forget Valerie DuVal, the Prima Donna Drag Queen. A spotlight hit the staircase, drums rolled, and Fingers began his introduction. Mae West, the guys thought, as they stared at the floor-length white beaded gown, platinum hair, and a 20 ft. white fox stole. Escorted by four young men in tuxedos, the five of them did the most seductive tango routine, followed by a tap number that left Mike and Steve open-mouthed.

Snap invited Valerie to the table -- she had a voice like a foghorn -- what an illusion! They also learned that she would be on their train to L.A. two days hence.

Almost half the people were gone by 2am. Fingers invited them to stay for "after hours" festivities and enjoy the buffet. Jammers from other speakeasies started to arrive. The band that was playing could stay if they chose, and owners of other clubs came with their staff to hear Dixieland and jazz. By 4am the crowd was 80% straight. There were no raised eyebrows; they all seemed to know what to expect, and from what Mike said they all seemed to be comfortable.

Thus six friends got to know each other in the few hours before they parted for their vacations. More importantly, they learned to understand each other, and there was a little light in an otherwise dark closet, thanks to two ladies named Fingers and Snap.

Turning the page ... 1929 ... to be continued.

Cherresse AKA Dan Cook was Empress I of Eugene, Oregon, Empress 18 of All Alaska and very active in gay politics over a long period of time.

[Note: if you've been following the saga of Steve and Mike and are missing sections of the storyline, please write or call Cherresse, who will send the missing sections at no charge.]

I think that wherever your journey takes you, there are new gods waiting there, with divine patience -- and laughter.

Susan M. Watkins, b. 1945, American writer

When choosing between two evils, I always like to try the one I've never tried before.

Mae West (1892-1980). American actress
Project ICANN
Interior Community AIDS Nutrition Network

Project ICANN is a meal delivery program for Fairbanksans living with HIV and AIDS. Organized and sponsored by the Interior AIDS Association in Fairbanks, Project ICANN is also made possible, in part, by the generous support of the Fairbanks Lutheran Church. Begun in August of 1993, the goals of IAA’s food supplement delivery program are:

1) to keep individuals living with HIV/AIDS as healthy as possible;
2) to help people with HIV disease live independently and with dignity; and
3) to provide a caring link to our community

In order to provide for these goals, we need your help. Let’s care for the members of our community who need our help! Please join us by rendering your invaluable support. Currently, volunteers are needed as kitchen helpers and meal deliverers. We are urgently in need of food and a host of supply items. Following is the list of food items needed:

- **Spices**: salt, pepper, sugar, garlic powder, cayenne, thyme, sage, oregano, basil, paprika, etc.
- **Dry Goods**: Large bags of pasta (elbows, shell, spaghetti, lasagna, noodles), rice (white or brown, NO instant), barley, beans (all kinds, DRY), instant or dehydrated potatoes
- **Canned Goods**: tomatoes, corn, mushrooms, green beans, garbanzo beans, fruit cocktail, evaporated milk, Chinese vegetables, chicken or beef broth, canned chicken (Swanson)
- **Ensure Nutritional Supplement** (six-packs of chocolate, vanilla, eggnog).

Institutional sizes are appreciated when possible.

In terms of supplies, the following ten items are urgently needed: Liquid bleach, large sponges, dishwashing detergent, dish towels, paper towels, pot scrubbers Band-Aids, rubber gloves, pot holders, hair nets and/or paper hats.

Donations may be delivered to the IAA offices in Fairbanks. Please call 452-4222 to arrange delivery. Anyone interested in helping establish “Collection Can” fund-raisers should also call the IAA offices. Thank you for your continued support in helping us serve anyone with AIDS or HIV disease who is in need.

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One wonders what would happen in a society in which there were no rules to break. Doubtless everyone would quickly die of boredom.

Susan Howatch, b. 1940, British writer

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Program Coordinator: REYNA
A View From the Street:
Sissies in the Showers
by David Williams

Suddenly, there we were. Not quite where we wanted to be, of course (when has that ever happened?), but out there nonetheless. "Gays in the Military," the headlines roared, day after day, as the National Enquirer was now running the Associated Press.

"Gays in the Military," General Powell spat out in a neatly typed memo. You wonder if he has lesbian secretaries, like Eisenhower did.

"Gays in the Military," Sam Nunn thundered pompously through the halls of Congress as the rest of his colleagues cowered.

"Gays in the Military," Pat Robertson threatened from his electronic pulpit as the dollar bills came showering down atop of him (you can never have enough cash, you know).

My lover and I, both of us veterans, got so sick of hearing that phrase, we almost wished they'd start saying "Sissies in the Showers" or "Lezzies in the Latrine" (which is what they really meant).

We've always known how deeply mired in homophobic gau this culture is. But now that sticky syrup of fear, ignorance, and biblical bile has spilt out in the press for all the world to see. It's still a long way to Tipperary.

As a gay Vietnam Era veteran (the official term, whether or not we ever went to Vietnam, which I didn't), I have to wonder what all the fuss is about. I was still pretty closeted when I was in the Army and I told only a few close friends I was gay. But I did my job with heterosexuals, I showered, shaved and went to the bathroom with heterosexuals, yes, even after I told some of them about me. I went out with heterosexual boys for a beer, I went back to the barracks and slept in the same room with them. I even slept in pup tents with them. I didn't bother them and most of them didn't bother me.

So what's the big deal?

The big deal, of course is Colin Powell, who fought Sadam Hussein to a standstill but is oddly scared of having another man look at him in the shower (what dark secrets lurk beneath these shiny medals?)

And the big deal is Sam Nunn, who looks like an owl ready to swoop down on a hamster (no doubt to save the hamster from some depraved faggot.) Maybe he just hates queers (he fired a couple of men from his staff after he found out they were gay). Real beacon of morality, that Sam.

And, ah yes, that other big deal, that perennial loser, Pat Robertson, who keeps raking in tax-free dollars from those kitschy "PTL Club" broadcasts so he can deprive gay and lesbian taxpayers of their rights. I finally figured out why he giggles so much: wouldn't you giggle with all that tax-free money in your pockets?

I've never felt that allowing gays and lesbians in the military was a hot topic on the much-touted "gay agenda" (whatever that is). Actually, in a perverse way, I've always felt that ban was one of the few advantages we have. Who really cares about the military, anyway? For most of us it's one big yawn, one of the few things straights and gays feel the same way about. If the ban on gays and lesbians weren't such a slap in the face, few of us would think twice about it.

On the other hand, in an ocean of discrimination, the military ban is the most visible tip of the iceberg. It's the clearest example in this country of the kind of discrimination we face.

Whether or not you care one way or the other about the military, you should care about whether this ban is lifted or not. If we fail to get it lifted, you can kiss a national gay rights bill goodbye. And forget about a local Fairness amendment in Louisville or Lexington anytime this century. Can bar closings be far behind?

Already, since the anti-gay Amendment No. 2 passed in Colorado, gay men and lesbians have been fired from their jobs and anti-gay and lesbian violence is soaring. That famous mountain air is being poisoned with hate, fear and bigotry. Pat Buchanan is breathing again.

But we can all do our part to put this kind of hatred behind us once and for all. Call or write your Congressman and get your friends and family to call them. Send letters to the editor. Support the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and the Human Rights Campaign Fund with donations, letters and volunteering. And of course, come out to friends and family. Straights tend to be more supportive when they can count one of us as their friend.

The next four months may prove to be the most pivotal time in the gay and lesbian movement since Stonewall. Whether we like it or not, we have all become draftees in this newest cultural war. The time to raise our arms is now.

David Williams has been a Gay Activist in Louisville, KY since 1982. He is Director of the Kentucky Gay and Lesbian Educational Center, a library and archives. He is also Editor of Heart Beat, the newsletter of Community Health Trust, Inc., a community-based AIDS support organization.

A little of what you fancy does you good.
Marie Lloyd (1870-1922), English entertainer
Where in the World?
by Bob De Loach

Holiday howdy's
'Tis the season.... Greetings to one and all at this festive season. This reporter would like to take a moment to wish you one and all a very very Merry Christmas and extend our wishes for a Happy and prosperous New Year!!

Bargain hunting
Once the mad rush for the Christmas season is over there may well be a lot of "white sales" in the travel industry. Typically, this is a somewhat slower season for the airlines and tour companies and they are more inclined to lower their prices to help fill seats or hotel rooms or tour spaces as the case may be. Check with your travel agent for the latest hot buys. Many times they are not advertised in advance and may come up on short notice. I hope that you all got in on the PFD tour prices which most of the airlines serving Alaska offered this year. United, Delta, Alaska and Mark Air all had PFD deals to attract your annual gift from the State of Alaska (in spite of the legislature).

After Christmas tours
Passport Travel is offering it's annual tour to London January 8-15th. The emphasis is on bargain hunting, there is a wealth of sightseeing including an overview of the city and a special St Paul's tour, a Gay History walk, an excursion to Greenwich, and a West End Theater production. All of this and plenty of shopping time for $1,395.00 per person double occupancy from New York. Tour includes 7 nights lodging, daily English breakfast, admission to all the sights and a tour escort.

There are lots of Gay Ski Specials available this season, with Whistler seeming to have risen to the top of the heap as the most desirable. Tahoe Winterfest is another winner offered by Above and Beyond Tours. It is the Gay & Lesbian Festival at Lake Tahoe the week of March 13-20. Hundreds of rooms have been booked in the area in prime skiing season for the event and start at only $395.00 including lodging, daily buffet breakfast, private shuttle bus service to all of the events and admission.

Gay and Lesbian yacht tours are all the rage this season in Florida Clone Charters is offering 6 hour day reef trips and all equipment and instruction provided. Sail, snorkel, swim or just lounge around your special yacht the "Clone" all sails are clothing optional. Escape Cruises and Phallosena Sailing Charters are also offering similar day cruises strictly for the Gay & Lesbian community.

Men on Vacation is offering a special Mardi Gras '94 tour to Australia February 28th - March 7th. Price of $1,399.00 includes air from LA or SF, Hyatt hotel, Sydney Harbor Cruise, Mardi Gras Party pak and more.

The women are not excluded from the cruise craze. Women on Water of Key West has a 30 foot yacht which does day sail for snorkeling, swimming plus daily sunset cruises.

Winds of Change out of Seattle offers women the opportunity to explore sailing with the emphasis on ecology, history and culture on their voyages. There are more and more sailings for both women and men popping up all over; for the latest call your IGTA travel agent.

Don't forget "Whistler" the week of Feb. 6-13. Packages start at $675.00 for 7 nights hotel, maid service daily (an essential), 5 out of 6 day dual mountain passes, All applicable taxes, and the welcome reception and more.

For longer and more traditional cruises, RSVP is featuring the Sea Spirit on their Panama Canal and Aruba cruise from $1,255.00 and the Seafarer's Cruise March 20-27 from Miami to San Juan, St. Marten, and St John/ St Thomas with an option tour to Virgin Gorda from $795.00 plus several other great cruises in '94.

Women's cruises include Mariah Wilderness Expeditions, Olivia Cruises, Woodswomen, Robin Tyler Tours, Skylink Women's Tours, Undersea Expeditions and many more. There are many more opportunities for all of us in the Gay world of Travel so hop in board and get your feet wet!!

Bob DeLoach is president of Apollo Travel, BG Tax and Accounting, The Electric Doctor, Apollo Real Estate, Lock Doc, is an insurance broker and still finds time to write novels for adults, take part in community theatre, write this column and be active in the Community. ▼

A mother is neither cocky, nor proud, because she knows the school principal may call at any minute to report that her child has just driven a motorcycle through the gymnasium.

Mary Kay Blakely, b. 1957, American writer
Out Law
by Sylvia L. Shrot

"Lambda Update" and "Glad Briefs" contain a wealth of information on what's going on in the courts nation-wide concerning sex subjects relating to gay/lesbian and related issues.

After reading the latest summaries, I'm left with a surge of real distaste for the actions which give rise to most of the lawsuits, but there's also a feeling of real hope that changes are taking place. Much credit goes to Lambda (Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund) and GLAD (Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders) for their tenacious and persevering work. Below are digests of some of the more interesting cases:

Colorado: (Evans v. Romer): The Colorado Supreme Court has declared that the anti-gay constitutional amendment passed by Colorado voters last November infringes upon fundamental constitutional rights of lesbians and gay men to participate in the political process, and unless the state can present "compelling" reasons to justify it, the amendment will be struck down as unconstitutional. Plaintiffs in the cases include tennis champion and Aspen resident Martina Navratilova, a local school district, and the cities of Aspen, Boulder and Denver, which have existing gay rights protection ordinances which would be repealed if the amendment takes effect.

Oregon: (ACT/UP-Portland v. Bagley): The plaintiffs were strip-searched by Federal marshals in full view of other detainees after their arrest for blocking the entrance at the FDA building in Portland in connection with an AIDS demonstration in February 1989. The U.S. District Court held that the search was constitutional, so the matter is being appealed to the Ninth District federal appellate court.

Oregon: (Lowe v. Kelsling): The same right-wing group that proposed the narrowly-defeated anti-gay constitutional amendment in 1992, the "Oregon Citizen's Alliance" has proposed another initiative entitled "the Minority Status and Child Protection Act" which would prohibit Oregon government from recognizing domestic partnerships or teaching about lesbians, gay men, or homosexuality in a positive manner. Lambda, with the Oregon ACLU and the National Lawyers Guild have filed a challenge seeking to declare the proposal unconstitutional and keep it off the ballot.

Maine: A similar case has been filed by GLAD and the Maine Civil Liberties Union and has already slowed up the process. The referendum would repeal local gay rights ordinances, but the petition does not specifically mention sexual orientation. A Superior Court has held that the ballot title substantially misrepresents the content and would mislead the public. The case is pending.

California: (Long Beach Lesbian and Gay Pride v. City of Long Beach): A decision is being awaited in this case where the City required the Pride organizers to pay for insurance as well as police and clean-up fees for gay pride day. This is apparently not a traditional requirement, so the lower court's ruling is being appealed.

California: (City and County of San Francisco et al v. Superior Court): Recently the California Court of Appeals held that the state's Fair Employment and Housing Act, which does not prohibit discrimination based upon sexual orientation, preempts and nullifies city ordinances prohibiting such discrimination. The ruling is being appealed to the California Supreme Court.

District of Columbia: (Brionza v. United Press International): Julie Brionza, former Supreme Court reporter for INS has brought suit for $12 million for unlawful job termination. She alleges that religious broadcaster Vic Eliason discovered her sexual orientation when she discovered she was writing for The Washington Blade, the local lesbian and gay newspaper, and that he organized a campaign resulting in her termination, supposedly for minor professional infractions. Case is pending.

New York: (Coddington vs. Floyd v. DeFelice): A guardianship and custody dispute over an infant whose biological mother died shortly after childbirth. The infant has resided with the mother's partner since release from the hospital. Guardianship of the infant has been sought to prosecute a wrongful death action in connection with the mother's death, and the would-be guardians include the biological mother's husband who was long separated from the decedent, the decedent's mother, and the biological father of the child.

North Dakota: (Johnson vs. Scholtman): A biological mother is seeking a change of custody from her former husband, father of the child, based upon his interference with her visitation when she came out as a lesbian. The court originally not only denied change of custody but also the visitation rights, but this ruling has been relaxed. This court is following 1981 ruling in Jacobson v. Jacobson which considered a parent's homosexuality as an automatically negative factor in custody decisions.
Wisconsin: (In the Interest of Angel Love & M): A lesbian is asking to adopt Angel, who was previously adopted by her lesbian partner and husband. The adoptive father (now ex-husband) has consented to termination of his parental rights, and the court has found that the adoption sought would be in Angel’s best interests. However, the adoption was denied on the basis that the adoption statute does not specify same-sex couples who could not legally marry. The case is on appeal to the Court of Appeals which has certified it to the Wisconsin Supreme Court on the question of whether this interpretation violates constitutional due process and equal protection rights.

North Carolina: (In re: Jane Doe): In this case the biological father is seeking custody and visitation of the child born to a lesbian mother from his sperm donation. They had entered into an agreement where he agreed to donate sperm and waive all parental rights, and she agreed not to seek child support. They also agreed he could visit the child which he did for a few times in the child’s first year. Then his mother started to insist on having a role in the child’s life, and he began to refer to himself as the father. After trial, the donor was denied custody and allowed extremely limited visitation, but the judgment is not final.

New York: There are a spate of cases concerning the requirement that landlords recognize “family” members as continuing tenants when a tenant dies. Most of the lesbian and gay partners have had to seek a determination by the Department of Housing and Community Renewal to stay on the premises, and the cases are still under consideration.

Hawaii: (Baehr v. Lewin): The Hawaii Supreme Court has held that denying marriage licenses to same-sex couples appears to violate the state constitutional guarantee of equal protection, and the case has been remanded to the trial court to permit the state to show a “compelling” interest for its discriminatory action. The prospects look good for a favorable result in the Supreme Court.

New York: (In re: Estate of Cooper): In New York, as in most states, a spouse may seek spousal election against the estate of a deceased spouse for inheritance rights. However, a gay man was denied this right against the estate of his deceased life partner, despite a finding that refusing to permit same-sex marriages and then refusing standing on inheritance claims because of same sex are constitutional issues.

Sylvia L. Short, Attorney at Law, lives in Anchorage. She is Chair of the Social Justice Committee of the Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (AUUF). ▼

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Groups & Gatherings
Circles and Clubs

News from Gay & Lesbian Organizations from around the State compiled by Kurt Parish

Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association (4As): offers HIV testing Wednesday afternoons at their offices. Friday at noon they host a luncheon for people with HIV and AIDS. They are always looking for groups willing to donate and provide these meals. If you are interested in helping with the luncheons, volunteering with the 4As, or need information, please contact the 4As at 276-1400.

Alaska Gay and Lesbian Association of Fairbanks (AGLA); a UAF Student Organization, has regular meetings open to gays, lesbians and allies. For further information about meeting time and place, contact Pete at 457-0246.

Alaska Women's Political Caucus: for lesbians and non-lesbians, meets 7:00pm at the First United Methodist Church on the first Monday of every month.

Anchorage Garden Buddies (AGB): is a social group for Gay Men looking for an alternative to the "bar scene." For next meeting time and place, or to get on the mailing list for AGB, call Kurt at 248-0425.

Anchorage Lesbian Families' Alliance (ALFA): (formerly Lesbian Moms) usually meets every 4th Sunday at various locations (mostly at Susan & Janet's) to socialize and provide support for one another. Adults, children, lesbians, allies, and newcomers are welcome. Call Lynne/Marion at 338-5253 for more information.

Bear Society: of Anchorage, a group for transgender persons has been more active in the community - notably at the Blue Moon on Wednesdays at the 9:30pm show. Nora Jean facilitates the group. If you want to get in contact, their mailing address is in the NorthView Directory.

QUAL Inc: has been meeting regularly on the 1st and 3rd Thursday evening at the AUUF Church in Room A. Equal is a politically active group addressing such issues as the Gay/Lesbian Rights Ordinance at the Assembly, the Municipal Elections and many other areas of concern. Please see Calendar section of NorthView for time, place and current agenda.

Fairbanks Gay Men's Support Group: meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month at the Interior AIDS Association office at 2210 S. Cushman, #210. If you'd like more information on upcoming activities call 452-4222.

Fairbanks Dance Club: The Palace Saloon, in AlaskaLand, is still the hottest spot in town to meet. You can go dancing on Friday and Saturday nights from 11:00pm 'til the wee hours of the morning. It is a straight, tourist bar at all other times. The DJ will be spinning Country, Disco, Top 40, and Oldies for your dancing pleasures.

Fairbanks Think Tank: Joint Lesbian and Gay group forming in early January. Come join Fairbanks' newest "think tank" by contacting Jeanie or Debbie at 479-8242. And look for future listings in the New Year!

Feminist Sing-A-Long: Women only: Third Saturday of every month. 1741 Westview Cir. (maps available at the Alaska Women's Bookstore) or call 337-3543. Non-singers are more than welcome. 6:30 pm, potluck, 7:30 pm singing. (from the KK. Thanks!)

Gay Bar: Free legal question and answer sessions on issues of interest to lesbians and gays. Second Monday of every month, 7-8:30 pm at 845 K St. 279-5001.

Gay Men's Support Group-Fairbanks: meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of every month. Information -- call Jeff or Andy at 457-6818.

Identity Potluck Social: 4th Friday of every month, Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3201 Turnagain St., doors open at 6:30 pm, dinner at 7:00 pm, and program at 7:30 pm. This Christmas Eve features two sleigh rides and a joint social with the AUUF, who will have had their Christmas services upstairs. Plenty of cross-cultural socializing! See Calendar and Identity notes for more information.

Imperial Court of all Alaska (ICOAA): is a social and support group that contributes to our community by being active in many causes, planning and presenting wonderful entertainment, and donating money for needy organizations to carry out their important goals. For December there are several events being offered; The "Tour De Luminaries" will take place on the 17th at 7:00 pm at the Raven. A bus will be leaving to view the spectacular Christmas lights about town with a few stops at peoples homes - much like a Progressive Dinner. Cost is $25 a couple & $15 a single. On the 19th, the "Sno-Ball" will be held in the
Kuskokwim Room at the Sheraton Hotel. There will be prizes, pictures, and more. Cost is $10 a person. Also through the week of the 11th-19th there is a Canned Food & Toy Drive. You can donate items (unwrapped) at the Blue Moon, Raven, O'Brady's, and Cheechako Bar. Coming in January there will be a winter version of the Bird Trip called the "Cold Duck Trip" and the much to do Closet King and Queen Ball.

Interior AIDS Association (IAA): offers medical and dental program assistance, "buddies" (volunteers who help HIV+ individuals living with AIDS), a meal delivery food supplement program, a lending library and counseling support. If you're interested in volunteering or need assistance, please call the IAA in Fairbanks at 452-4222. What's in store for '94? The IAA will be sponsoring its Annual Valentine's Day Dance on February 12th. See NorthView Calendar and/or call IAA.

Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church (MCC): holds Sunday services at 10:45am at 615 Hollywood Dr. Sunday evening Services started on August 1st at 7:00pm. Tuesday evenings is a study of "The Bible and Gay and Lesbian People". Wednesday evenings, Darl Schaff is teaching a self-defense class at the church. Call 258-5266.

Mt. McKinley (non-ascent) Club (MMenAC): is a social group open to anyone gay, lesbian, or ally. The Birchwood Lodge has been rented for a New Years bash which will include dinner, sleep-over, breakfast and fireworks. For more information call Dan at 561-8744.

Northern Exposure Bowling League: 4:00-7:00pm each Sunday, Park Lanes at 4350 Ames Ave. in Mt. View. Come out to enjoy the fun.

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays of Fairbanks (P-FLAG): meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 5:30pm on the 5th floor Fairbanks Memorial Hospital. Contact Nancy at 479-4944 for more information.

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays of Southcentral (P-FLAG(SC)): Kick-off meeting at Sylvia's, Jan 17th (see Calendar); call Sylvia at 562-4992, Fred at 562-7161 or Ken at 248-7722. 7:00pm meeting, desserts galore!

Women's Coffeehouse: every 4th Saturday, 7:30pm, Grandview Garden Cultural Center, 1325 Primrose (near corner of DeBarr & Bragaw, same building as Out North's headquarters.) Sliding scale, suggested donation $2. Call Barbara or Candy at 337-2011 for information or if you wish to perform.

Women's Two-Step Dance: first Saturday of every month, Pioneer School House, 3rd & Eagle, $3. Lessons at 7:30pm, dancing at 8:30pm. Come learn, meet new women, and enjoy. (from the KK. Thanks!) ▼
...on the shores of Waikiki

\( \nabla \) MCC Pastor Named Interim Head of Hawaii's Council of Churches: In an unprecedented move, the Hawaii Ecumenical Council of Churches announced that John Bullock has been elected to a one-year term as chairperson of that body. This marks the first such position held by an openly gay minister in Hawaii, and perhaps nationally.

\( \nabla \) City Council Chair Endorses Same-Gender Marriages: Gary Gill, chairperson of the Honolulu city council spoke to an almost capacity crowd at Hula's Bar and Lei Stand and gave support to attempts here to legalize same gender marriages. In the wake of the May 5th Hawaii Supreme Court ruling that protects the legal right of people of the same gender to marry unless the state can provide a compelling interest to continue not to allow the practice, Gill said "You're going to win. It isn't going to be easy, but ultimately, what makes our country great...is that justice always prevails."

\( \nabla \) Coronation XXII Held: The 11th Imperial Court of Hawaii came to a close on October 30, 1993, and was replaced by the 12th Imperial Court with newly elected monarchs Emperor Gladys Hayes and Empress Michelle Michaels. The coronation, which was held earlier in the month and attended by two Alaskans, was an evening filled with much ceremony and even more fun. The 11th Imperial Court reported a gross income of about $45,000 including cash and in-kind donations.

\( \nabla \) Benefit to Support Local Gay Organizations: Sonny Sorrels is bringing his latest play to the stage with a benefit performance in Honolulu. Sorrels, winner of "Best Actor" for his role in La Cage Aux Folles at Leeward Community College, has stated that the benefit will be held for Pacficare Buddy Program/The Life Foundation, and the Gay and Lesbian Community Center's "Equal Rights Marriage" project. The play, entitled "Low Life and High Heels" is loosely (pardon the pun) based on Sorrel's life and dedicated to the memory of his best friend who recently died of AIDS.

Thanks and XOXOX to Herman Coen. \( \nabla \)

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Alaska Community Share+

Keep your eyes peeled! Alaska Community Share forms are now on your desks, or soon will be, and assuming your employer has expanded her/his charity base to include ACS (along with United Way), you'll find Identity listed as number 5214. Check it out!
The Amazon Trail: Haircut
by Lee Lynch

I just changed my hairstyle for the first time in almost ten years. Lover found this treasure of a cutter, a former Vidal Sassoon talent who retreated from the jet set circuits to ply his trade in his backwater home town. How could I resist?

It took me hours to realize that although he’d done a wonderful job, and declared that he simply followed the way my hair grows, “softening” the lines as he went, he’d given me Lover’s cut. “The Bobsey twins,” she groaned after admiring his handiwork. Of course we look nothing alike, except for being two skinny white girls, but in this big heterosexist world I’d at least like it clear that I’m butch.

Maybe our hair does grow exactly alike and the key to queerness is not in our genes at all, but in hair patterns? Or, if he really follows natural growth, perhaps true love is determined by an attraction to twin follicle configurations? Only our hairdresser knows for sure.

Whatever brought Lover and me to this which-twin-has-the-Toni juncture, I was reminded that I prefer a good old-fashioned femme beautician who has a feel for how a butch is supposed to look. Otherwise, I am at the mercy of an altogether different culture that doesn’t comprehend that distinction.

I don’t remember my first haircut, but I’ve heard about it so often that I can almost re-experience the trauma. I was five. My mother claims I had “long, beautiful curls.” My brother tells me I looked like Shirley Temple. My first short-haired photo depicts a rugged little tomboy in a Dutch-boy cut wearing a striped jersey and long pants, posing between her big brother and her big boy cousin, with whom she’d just been rock-climbering.

At puberty I was led to the slaughter of my first beautician. He had a tiny shop -- no, shoppe -- and insisted on engaging his customers in small talk. I was all elbows and ugly glasses and grass-stained knees. The more he talked, the more I writhed in an agony of shyness and humiliation at being among these helmeted alien women in their curlers and rotten-egg smells. He gave me the then-universal feathered pixie cut. I felt like Julie Harris in Member of the Wedding, but I looked like Mary Martin in Peter Pan.

Over the years I have been to dozens of hair cutters. Strange men debutching me. Puzzled women feminizing me. Hairspray to be refused, teasing to fight off, gossip to endure. How does one explain b-u-t-c-h?

Then something changed. My generation invaded the salons. Suddenly there were unisex cuts and shops done up like discos. Cellophaning replaced dying. Women refused perms and men demanded them. Musak was tossed out and the Village People reigned. The hairdressers danced with scissors in hand and even straighted stylists were glimpsed in gay bars. Out dykes became professional snippers. A haircut was no longer an ordeal. My hair and I had come of age.

Now I’ve grown fuzzy. Though when Lover comes home from our gay-positive disco-stylist holdover she looks so good I want to jump her, today I got out of the shower and, half-asleep, automatically combed my hair the old way. Combed out the softened lines and the ghost of pixie haircuts past. Something isn’t right. I want an old-fashioned femme beautician who respects that some women have evolved from rugged little tomboys -- and agrees we should look that way.

Lee Lynch is a columnist/author based in southern Oregon. She writes “The Amazon Trail” regularly for The Dallas Voice, Just Out, The Washington Blade, the Identity NorthView (some 16 papers, in all) and is the author of ten books. Copyright Lee Lynch, 1993. 

Love is not enough. It must be the foundation, the cornerstone -- but not the complete structure. It is much too pliable, too yielding.

Bette Davis, American actress
**Dandelion**

The organization for activist/apathetic, conservative/middle-of-the-road/progressive/liberal, Democrat/Green/Independent/Non-partisan/Republican, Gay/Lesbian/Bi Alaskans (and their friends/supporters)

Vol. 1 No. 6  
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**Oh No, It's Time for... New Year's Resolutions**

Although this page is usually reserved for comments of a more political nature, considering the “gaiety” of the season, I will try to refrain from openly political statements (a few “closeted” political remarks may slip in).

As we end one year and begin another, it’s traditionally a time to look back to our accomplishments or to less successful efforts. More importantly, it’s a time to focus on the future and resolve to make our lives and those around us better during the next year.

Listed below are a few of my resolutions and, if I may be so bold, suggested resolutions for our community:

-GET INVOLVED - Whether it's with the 4-A's, your church or community organizations involved with issues of the homeless, equal rights, etc., commit to do your part to help. By the way, we're all in a generous mood this time of the year but most organizations need us throughout the year (rather than donating food to the 4-A's for the holidays, commit to make small donations every month).

-LOSE WEIGHT - It's much healthier to be...Oh, God, I don't know how this slipped in. Sorry, about that!

-SHOP AT GAY/LESBIAN OWNED BUSINESSES - We all know it's difficult to survive as a small business. With Prevo urging "good" Christians to stop shopping at gay owned businesses, WE should support businesses listed in this newsletter's DIRECTORY.

-BECOME AN ACTIVIST (you didn't really think I could avoid politics entirely, did you?) - Register to vote, help behind the scenes if you can't be "out," volunteer to help candidates, sign up with the *Dandelion* Movement, encourage your friends to be aware of what's happening but most important - be sure to VOTE in every election!

Ann Milton (345-5922) & Dan Carter (274-9226) are co-chairs of *Dandelion*.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

A voter registration drive will begin in mid-January. This drive is non-partisan and not in support of any particular candidates in the upcoming races for Mayor and School Board. We need volunteers to help with this effort. Please call Dan (274-9226) after January 3 for more information. The State of Alaska will also pay you 50 cents for each new voter you register.

Name(s): 
Mail Address: 
Home Address:* 
City: , AK Zip: 

PHONE: 

PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFO, IF YOU KNOW IT: 
YOUR VOTER PRECINCT NUMBER: 
YOUR VOTER DISTRICT NUMBER: 

* If you receive your mail at a post office or any location other than your actual residence, please put your home address or the nearest intersection to your home so we can determine which information will be sent to you. Thanks!

In order to receive information: Dan Carter  
from the Dandelion Movement, PO Box 210072  
cut out and mail to: Anchorage, AK 99521-0072
The Video Corner
by Joann Contini

Lots of new videos have been pouring into the bookstores. If you missed the opportunity to see Claire of the Moon when it showed this summer at the Capri, you now can have a copy of your very own ($89.95) or rent it overnight. Spend some time with Claire Jabrowski, Dr. Noel Benedict and Maggie in the beautifully photographed Pacific Northwest. A sensual look at two women's attraction and growing intimacy. And, even if you did get to see it at the theater, it's worth checking out again just to see the dance scene.

Unless you've seen it in Canada, you have probably not been able to see k.d. lang's Salmonberries because it was never released theatrically for the United States. However, it is now available for purchase ($69.95) or for overnight rental. Filmed on location in Kotzebue, Alaska, Salmonberries tells the dramatic story of two women in search of their past who find each other instead. It includes that great song "I'd Walk Through The Snow Barefoot."

Some other new videos which are now available for overnight rental or purchase are: ▼ Et L'Amour -- a sensuous, tasteful, romantic, temperature -- raising visual look at love between women; ▼ Gymnastikos: Power and Grace -- an artful study of male motion and fluidity as five eastern European world ranked competitive gymnasts perform both clothed and nude; ▼ Goddess Grace -- a moving meditation invoking 26 goddesses in a combination of affirmation, yoga and modern movement; ▼ Radio Craze -- by the 160 member gay Seattle men's chorus showcases 22 classic melodies from the big band era in an unabashedly gay USO show (including their own version of the Andrew sisters); ▼ Out In Paradise -- lesbians in Hawaii talk about their lives, coming out, having children, working, being in the community -- a wonderful strong and empowering documentary; ▼ Framing Lesbian Fashion -- a fun trip through the evolution of lesbian dress codes -- butch, femme, flannel, androgynous, leather, lipstick, corporate drag, cross-dressing, and more; ▼ Last Call At Maude's -- weaves a story of the world's longest running lesbian bar and brings to life the gay bar scene from the 40s through present day -- entertaining as well as informative; ▼ Gay Man's Guide To Safer Sex -- filmed in Britain (their accents only make them cuter) this video candidly shows the practicalities and pleasures of safer sex for gay men -- six models perform explicit safer sex in a manner both sensual and sensuous; ▼ Well And Sexy Women: Safer Sex For Lesbians -- also filmed in Britain, this video presents six women explicitly demonstrating safer sex techniques and also pointing out clearly what is not considered safe -- also very sensuous as well as sexual; ▼ Art Of Touch: Intimate Guide To Male Massage -- Volume 1 demonstrates the ancient art of touch and massage techniques by men for men. Volume 2, A Taoist Erotic Massage, presents six international male models who demonstrate ancient secrets of channeling sexual energy throughout their entire bodies; ▼ Sluts And Goddesses -- a video workshop not for the faint of heart on how to be a sex goddess in 101 easy steps. Presented by sexpert Annie Sprinkle, it features exotic ways to stimulate sexual and sensual pleasures; ▼ All Out Comedy -- two men and two women out and proud and hysterical 78 minutes of non-stop laughter with four funny queers; ▼ Coming Out Is A Many-Splendored Thing -- a lesbian comedy video which explores coming out, techniques used to meet other lesbians and finding someone to date plus sprinkled throughout with actual and true coming out stories.

...and these are only some of the new titles -- we have over 175 different videos including stories of women's lives, spirituality and personal growth videos, videos of gay and lesbian history, comedy videos, movies with strong women characters, videos about sexuality, movies about lesbians and gays, and music videos.

Joann Contini is co-owner of the Alaska Women's Bookstore. ▼

Amy English

You're not my Grandma! My Grandma doesn't read VOGUE, she reads the "North View"!
It's a pleasure to serve the Community!

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"My Closet Door Had Been Blown Off!"
by F. Kenneth Freedman

When you go to see the movie "Sex Is..." at the Capri in January, be cautious. You may well be, um, seduced by the wonderful sex scenes and that would be too bad, because you'd have missed the movie.

It's 15 gay men talking about their sexuality and their deepest fears and joys and losses (and the sex clips are gay male), but it speaks to the lover/partner/mate/spouse/friend in all of us.

This is a film about being a gay male and what sex is to the wonderful array of different types, sizes, shapes and colors -- ranging in age from 19 to 74. They are performers, historians, writers, a porn star, an MCC minister, an AIDS worker, a criminal investigator; the are young, middle aged and older; they are African-American, Caucasian, Hispanic, Asian, drag, couples, vanilla, etc.

They said Sex Is:
"...a constantly withering rose"
"...everything"
"...love"
"...a nice, warm relationship with one man"
"...me."

They said of their first sexual experience:
"...it was the closest thing to bliss"
"...I was scared"
"...a religious experience."

Some said they were not satisfied with a "just sex life", and wanted to not be alone; they wanted to share a life.

And then there was Jesse Helms. "If they would stop what they're doing, there would not be one additional case of AIDS." Yes, Virginia, there is comic relief. Would that this man, Helms, were not such a powerful bigot -- he could actually be effective, ah, well, perhaps creative and helpful would be a better way to put it. Fear-mongering is well portrayed here, too.

So, while you watch the film, prepare yourself for two different levels of stimulation. There's the

erotic, into which it will be easy to fall. From there, you may not easily make the transition back to listening to the powerful and empowering words that come from the speakers. You might find yourself waiting for the next clip, be it one second or 10. Switch from left to right brain with the movement of the film -- from erotic to comprehension, from stimulus to thoughtful. Marry the two after the film, and you'll have a full evening ahead of you.

When I saw this film with two different sets of friends, the reactions were powerful and quick....

One young man (in the film) opined that it used to be radical to think about sex toys and different partners. Now, he maintains that it's radical to find himself in a trusting relationship. Others thought of relationships as "romance," "dating," "a centering force," "a good balance," and "goofy."

One of the most powerful moments occurs when one man describes his suicide attempt. His lover grabbed his wrists to stop the bleeding, then started kissing him, saying how much he loved him. As they wrestled, the lover kept up the pressure and the kissing until, at some point, his partner started kissing back. In thirty seconds it changed from lifesaving to caring to loving to blood and eroticism. It was the best sex they ever had. Now the lover who had saved him is gone. AIDS. "HIV robbed me of something really rich and really pure and really wonderful. I miss him."

Other things to watch for: "I met Jim when I was seventy. " "There's light coming out of the other person and it's transcendent. " "I'm a flower that's blooming. I'm HIV positive and my soul and my spiritual selves are taking it all in and working it out. " "Sex is destruction and rebirth, like the phoenix."

F. Kenneth Freedman is co-Editor of the NorthView. □

---

Sanctuary

Slowly
you lower your head
to my heart
drink my being deeply
like roots drawing
from a mossy bank
touching a deep river that curves
around your tired spirit.
I feel you
seeking rest in dark places,
seeking pools of quiet, finding
sanctuary.

Karen Carlisle
© Copyright Spring 1988
Out, Proud, and Loud
by Janet Romig

I was recently upbraided by an acquaintance for outing her to one of her high school friends. It was not a malicious or gossipy thing I did. In fact, I was at a fund-raiser for the Community, attended by friends and members of the Community. All I did, really, was to confirm that the long-haired blonde she was always being seen with was in fact her girlfriend.

Well, I thought long and hard about that and you know what? I am not responsible to keep yours or anyone else’s secrets. If you want to live in the closet, than don’t tell ANYONE! I am not an accomplice to you crime of secrecy. I certainly do not make a point of broadcasting the preferences of my friends to the world but I will be damned if I will live anyone else’s lie with them. I am out of the closet. I am out at both my jobs. I am out at home with my kids. I am out with all my ex-husbands and friends and family and schoolteachers and clerks at the grocery store. You won’t hear me cloaking any relationship with words like “partner.”

When I have them, I have girlfriends. I won’t mince around trying to discourage a male suitor. “I’m really complimented, but hey, I’m a queer,” seems to work and you know what? I have never had a man get offended or angry or insulted.

I am not discriminated against. Being out is the most powerful weapon queers have. What is someone going to do? Call me a dyke? That is like calling me a brunette or a right hander. It is impossible to blackmail someone with public knowledge. If we act like it is a dirty little secret than that is what it is.

People out there have a lot less respect for all of you obviously gay men and women who are hiding it. Most people really don’t care if you are gay or not. Sure, a handful of Prevo-ites may spout and rant and certainly the bombings, beatings and murders are a serious threat, but if we continue to hide in fear then they have won. It is time we quit the “I am queer, hear me whine,” dogma and stand proud, with our shoulders back, and dare them to find something wrong with us.

When my acquaintance decided to reprimand me for talking about her “lifestyle,” as she put it, she tried to drum up a little sympathy by bad-mouthing me to some of our fellow straight employees. She didn’t get any. I think all the people who know me and work with me are so used to my openness that they are surprised every time they hear about someone being closeted. Being out is powerful. Try it. You’ll love it.

Janet Romig is about to take her noise to Chicago, making a lot of noise here before going so “they won’t forget me.”

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Discrimination Intake Questionnaire

Name: ___________________________ Date: ___________________________

Address: _________________________ Phone: _________________________

City: _____________________________ State: _________________________ Zip Code: _________________________

Please provide the name of an individual at a different address who is in the local area and who would know how to reach you.

Name: ___________________________ Relationship: _________________________

Address: _________________________ Phone: _________________________

City: _____________________________ State: _________________________ Zip Code: _________________________

What action was taken against you that you believe to be discriminatory? What harm, if any, was caused to you or others as a result of that action? (If more space is required, use additional sheets of paper.)

Do you believe this action was taken against you because of: (Check the one(s) that apply and specify your race, sex, age, religion or ethnic identity).

Race ___________________________ Sex ___________________________ Nat'l Origin ___________________________ Age ___________________________

Retaliation _________________________ Color ___________________________ Marital Status ___________________________ Physical Handicap ___________________________

Religion ___________________________ Sexual Orientation ___________________________ Other ___________________________

I was discriminated against in: (Check the one(s) that apply.)

Housing ___________________________ Financial Institutions ___________________________ Employment ___________________________ Public Accommodations ___________________________

Educational Institutions ___________________________ Practices by the MOA ___________________________ Other (specify) ___________________________

I was discriminated against by:

Name: ___________________________

Address: _________________________

City: _____________________________ State: _________________________ Zip Code: _________________________

What was the most recent date the harm you alleged took place?

Have you sought assistance about the action you think was discriminatory from any Government agency, from your union, an attorney, or from any other source? _____ No _____ Yes (if answer is yes, complete below)

Name of source of assistance: ___________________________

Date: ___________________________ Result (if any): ___________________________

Signature: _________________________ Date: ___________________________
Community Councils "R" Us
By Ann Milton

I want to apologize to all the politically active women (and men) whom I have let carry me, lo, these past 51 years. My resolves to do better slide down the drain like an elusive contact. BUT! I have seen the light. I have watched the video, "Sacred Lies, Civil Truths" from the Women's Bookstore. I have listened to Libby sing of the Thunder Rolling 'Cross the Land, and I have realized what a sneaky game of "Mother, May I" the Right Wing Extremists are playing. (Remember how "mother" would rarely grant you three giant steps forward, but was inclined to allow two baby steps?; how you would get caught running full out behind her back, but barely be seen cheating in almost imperceptible inches?) Well, while there are some wild-mouthed preachers shouting from the housetops that are easy to keep an eye on, there are other haters quietly infiltrating our civic government, making tiny baby-step changes in the fabric of our lives, and scaring the shit out of me.

I suggest we shamelessly copy their tactics, and take some tiny baby-steps of our own toward being involved in our government. An easy first move is to call 277-1977 and get on our community council’s mailing list. For no money and only a few moments of our time, we will be sent the newsletter of our community council. We’re not even talking about the second step yet, a step which may involve READING the newsletter or actually attending a meeting to meet the people powering our neighborhoods -- we’re just talking about getting into the information loop on the ground floor, beginning to organize in the same effective manner as the extremists. It sounds simple, but I know us procrastinators and rationalizers, those of us living in denial of our ability to impact society -- we "aw wellers," too. We are not good at doing. That is why we are edging toward this slowly, not really getting too involved, just reaching out in case we ever want to know where to start raising our voices to be heard.

Again, my apologies to the already politically active. I know you can’t believe that there are those of us, that is to say, at least one of us, (me) who is politically challenged, and still on a very rudimentary political level, but it is so. Thank you for your battle scars, and forgive my late start. I have no idea what I was doing when the rest of you were out fighting for our rights. My astrologer told me I’m a late bloomer, and I’m using that as a perfectly logical excuse. Just in case there are any other later bloomers who have bypassed learning the political structure of Anchorage, I offer the following information.

There are 36 Community Councils within the Municipality of Anchorage. They each meet monthly in their respective areas, and are often attended by assembly members and state representatives. Community Councils provide local citizens with a voice that is heard and usually heeded by members of boards and commissions, agency staff, Assembly members and state legislators.

(Definition taken from "Neighbor to Neighbor," the monthly newsletter written by the Federation of Community Councils staff.)

The central community council office is located at 301 E. Fireweed Lane, Suite 101. The office manager eagerly provides enough reading material on community councils and city government to make you an expert.

I have to admit that I attended my first community council meeting last month, and found it borderline dull, but it was obvious that this is a good way to make our voices heard. The more we show we care about our neighborhoods, the more seriously we will be taken when we demand our rights in other areas. There’s nothing in the charters that says we have to attend these meetings with dull faces and weary jaws. We can sit and wink and nudge one another and have a little social outing at the same time.

Being the fanatical dreamer that I am, 1 envision us dominating our community councils by our very numbers (believe me, it will not take many, especially over in Dyke Heights around 20th).

BUT... I shake my head to clear the wild poundings of virtual reality... one baby step at a time. Call 277-1977 and get your name on the list!

Ann Milton is coming out as a political activist.
Identity Fourth Friday Potluck & Social

... and in December — a horse (of course!). Our monthly potluck falls on Dec. 24th. Come partake of the usual goodies and join us in a horse-drawn hayride and carol-sing! (There will also be songs...)

Come to Identity’s Fourth Friday Potluck Social. The tradition is to bring a dish, anything from soup to nuts, i.e., main dish, salad, bread, rolls, desert, chips, dip, pizza, etc. Identity provides the drinks (tea, coffee, punch). Admission is free. Donations are openheartedly appreciated.

Date: Friday, December 24th.
Time: 6:30pm doors open, 7pm dinner, 7:30pm announcements & program
Place: Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Fellowship, 3201 Turnagain Street, Anchorage.
Program: In addition to the potluck and hayride and singing, etc., we'll be joined by the AUFF folks who will have been having services upstairs. A great opportunity to meet our hosts, mingle and make new friends.

Paid Advertisement
Funds Needed for Small Building Project

If you’re reading this, you may be able to help. I need someone who will invest in my education and my family's future. You, or perhaps someone you know could want to be a part of some community-based solutions to human dilemmas.

I am the single mother of two young boys who have disabilities and behavioral challenges. I am also a pre-med senior at UAA with a 3.6 GPA, and I am struggling. Because of the overwhelming home scenarios that my children's disabilities embody, as well as my absences from school during their sick days, it is clear to me that I cannot progress with my schooling without intensive help at home.

Our laundry list of needs are best satisfied by a live-in helper. For that to happen, I need an addition built onto my small 2 bedroom house to make room. I am seeking funding from private sources for this project because a conventional loan is not feasible in our case, and because public service systems don’t address needs like ours very well.

Here are the particulars. I need $15,000 as soon as possible to complete the project during the next 4-6 weeks. I can offer a lien against the equity in my home to secure a loan with payments deferred. I will gladly accept offers of materials and volunteer tradespeople and for funding. Thank you for your investment.

M. Jane Moore, P. O. Box 232535, Anchorage, AK 99523 (907)274-7967

Did you know?

- that UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS have supported gay rights for 23 years?
- that our entire national Board of Directors participated in the March on Washington?
- as a gay, lesbian or bisexual person you will feel welcome and comfortable in our fellowship?
- here you will be free to follow your own spiritual path, whether you are an agnostic, a humanist, or a Christian.

Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
3201 Turnagain Street, Anchorage, Alaska
Tel: 248-3737
Recorded Message: 248 -0715
Religion:
An Intolerable Violence:
Denying Others Responsible Intimacy
by Rev. John Engelcke

The question of homosexuality vexes churches just now. For some it is an abomination condemned by God. For others, homosexuality -- like heterosexuality -- is a gift from God to be expressed joyfully and responsibly.

The debate in the churches involves four issues: the authority of Scripture, the function of sex, the power of prayer, and the role of science in theology.

There is no doubt that the churches' Scriptures condemn homosexuality. But they also condemn any leadership role for women: "I am not giving permission for a woman to teach or tell a man what to do."

The question then is, Why are some scriptural condemnations enforced and others ignored?

For some churches, sex is only for procreation. For others, bonding, joy, intimacy and release are equal, even superior functions.

Many churches have a profound belief in the power of prayer to heal. For some, homosexuality is a disorder, which can be cured by prayer and Christian discipline.

Yet, there are limits to prayer. No amputated limb is regenerated through prayer, nor do prayers make one taller. These are genetic givens; prayer has its natural limitations.

Most homosexuals insist that they are so naturally (by nature, not from any choice on their part), cannot change, and see no need to.

A very few can and do, if they are distressed by their homosexuality, young, well-motivated, and have long and costly psychotherapy.

Comparative studies of societies, ancient and modern, indicate that God produces homosexuals like heterosexuals, at a standard population percentage and has done so since the beginning.

The proper theological question appears to be, What is God's purpose for the homosexuals God regularly produces?

Love, as with heterosexuals, is one answer.

The role of science is also part of this question. In defending Scripture, some Christians pick the either/or, rejecting Darwin and evolution, for example.

Other Christians pick the both/and, holding that truth is truth and obligatory, whoever discovers it. They hold that all truth has its origin in God -- Truth, who has written us two books: the Book of Nature (Science) and the Book of Scripture (Bible).

They admit no conflict between the two and reinterpret Scripture accordingly, as new and certain truths are discovered.

The lawgiver Moses condemned the eunuch and banished him from the congregation of the Lord. Five hundred years later, the prophet Isaiah rejected this and welcomed the eunuch back into the congregation.

Times change; understandings improve. For some Christians, the homosexual deserves full acceptance, like that long ago granted the eunuch, in spite of those homophobic verses in Moses and Paul.

Many Christians champion the full equality of women, in spite of many Bible verses to the contrary.

Yet, homophobia runs amok on some Christian TV and radio and in certain pulpits and church pronouncements.

Furthermore, if homosexuality is a genetic given, as science strongly suggests, condemnation makes no sense whatever.

The ethical question then is not someone's sexual orientation, but the responsibility use of an intolerable violence.

Furthermore, such a denial appears contrary to science, the nature of human sexuality, and what prayer is about, and the best that is in Christian Scripture.

The Rev. John Paul Engelcke is an Episcopal priest and is editor of the Hawaiian Church Chronicle and vicar of Holy Cross Church, Malekahana. ▼

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GAY BAR:
A monthly question and answer session on legal issues of interest to lesbians and gay men such as relationship contracts, wills, custody & visitation

The second Monday of every month: 7:00 - 8:30 pm
Open to the public. No Charge.

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845 'K' STREET
Log Cabin Convention
Redefines the Values Debate
by Lee Coleman

Gay and lesbian Republicans met at the Log Cabin Federation convention in Philadelphia in mid-August to hear from the new president of Log Cabin on redefining the values debate with words of encouragement from Michelangelo Signorile. The convention elected an African American as the new president and authorized a national office to take the case of gays and lesbians directly to Republican members of Congress, the Clinton administration, and the Republican National Committee in ways that existing national organizations cannot.

Positive results flowed from the convention. Just a few weeks ago, the new Republican mayors of Los Angeles and New York said on NBC’s Meet the Press that they support equal rights for gays and lesbians. The Hate Crimes Sentencing Enhancement Act has been passed with decisive Republican support. The Republican Party chairman and various state party officials have publicly opposed anti-gay ballot initiatives and welcomed gays and lesbians into the party and its processes. None of these could have happened without the direct participation of gay and lesbian members of Log Cabin.

The new President of Log Cabin Federation, Abraham Mason, told the convention that as gay and lesbian Republicans, we are engaged in a battle about intolerance in the Republican Party and equal rights for gays and lesbians in America. However, we have allowed the debate to be framed as a fight between those who seek a return to traditional values and those who seem to oppose traditional values. As long as the issue is so framed, we will lose. Values have been and remain at the core of what it means to be an American, said Mason. For us, said Mason, the goal is "to make real in our time, in our community, in our country, and in our party, the promise of America as a place where the blessings of liberty are enjoyed by all and the pursuit of happiness is possible because we are given the right to make what we will of our own lives."

Mason pointed out that there is uncertainty about equal rights for gays and lesbians in the minds of many Americans because traditional American values have been redefined to mean either the narrow, intolerant religious beliefs of a minority on the right or the views of those on the left who support equality for all regardless of race, gender, or sexual ori-

entation, yet at every turn insist on policies that seem to create special rights categories.

At a banquet in the great hall of the Union League, bastion of Eastern Establishment power, beneath a statue of Lincoln, the elder statesman of conservatism, Marvin Liebman spoke about the core of American values, quoting Barry Goldwater. "The conservative movement ... has as one of its basic tenets the belief that government should stay out of people's private lives. Government governs best when it governs least -- and stays out of the impossible task of legislating morality." Parenthetically, it should be noted that the Chairman of the Republican Party recently opposed the anti-gay Idaho initiative, saying that "people ought to be able to lead their personal lives any way they want to as long as they're not hurting other people."

This, said Liebman, is the message that Log Cabin will continue to articulate to the Republican Party and to the country. "The gay and lesbian Establishment organizations have permitted themselves to be taken over by the Democrat Party. It is time now for gays and lesbians to move into the Republican Party to seek an alternate and a new voice."

Gays and lesbians, their friends, and their parents who are interested in joining a Log Cabin club should feel free to contact the Log Cabin Federation, care of P.O. Box 7357, Beaverton, OR 97007. Names, addresses, and phone numbers of those who respond are held in absolute confidence.

Lee Coleman writes for the Alternative Connection and is a Log Cabin flag bearer.

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NorthView Classifieds

Shear Momentum...
Upscale, fun, full-of-atmosphere salon in solid $ neighborhood is looking for 2 or 3 hair stylists (preferably with some or full clientele), to share workspace. Call Lizie at 248-7811.

Republican?
Come out of the political closet; join Log Cabin Federation and help teach Republican politicians that they can and should support equal treatment for all Gays and Lesbians. P.O. Box 7357, Beaverton, OR 97007. All replies held confidential.
Closet Door Opens

The woman next door has come out of the closet. Amanda Bearse, who plays the perky neighbor on "Married... With Children," acknowledged her homosexuality on National Coming Out Day. She said she wants heterosexuals to know that gays and lesbians are normal people. "And she joked about her decision to come out."

"There I was, staring at my wardrobe, totally uninspired," Bearse said at a news conference. "Then I said to myself, "Amanda, come out of the closet.""


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Are you ready for a gay holiday?

Stock up on holiday music by gay men's choirs like Seattle Men's Chorus; Turtle Creek Chorale; Windy City Chorus and the New York City Gay Men's Chorus or a little lesbian/gay humor with I'll Be A Homo for Christmas by Venus Envy

You can also get ready for that once upon a midnight queer by shopping for those special friends and lovers with lesbian and gay gifts and stocking stuffers

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Pride Rings And Triangles
Gay And Lesbian Holiday Cards
Rainbow Flags
Lesbian And Gay Posters
Red Ribbons For Aids Awareness
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The Directory

This directory is a fledgling "yellow pages" and reference guide. It isn't complete, either. Want to be listed? Know someone who you think wants to be listed? It's free! Write Identity or call Ken at 248-7722 or Angie/Linda at the AK at 337-0253.

The designations of (L)esbian, (G)ay and (A)llly indicate that the business or service is owned by (L)esbians, (G)ays or (A)llies. All peoples (regardless of sexual orientation) are encouraged and welcome to call for further information. NOTE: in some instances you might encounter employees who are unaware of this Directory and its significance. Don't be offended: it's an opportunity to enlighten them.

All listings are in Anchorage unless otherwise indicated.

AA:
(G) Midnight Sons, see Calendar

Advertising:
(L) KT Creative, Katie, 278-9174

AIDS:
(A) Alaskan AIDS Assistance Assc., 276-1400
(A) Interior AIDS Assc., 452-4222
(A) Pierce County AIDS Found, (WA), 206-383-2565
(A) S.T.O.P. AIDS Project, Gwen, 278-5019

Alternative Medicine/Health:
(A) Hope, 561-2330
(A) Gateke, Ketki/Jamllin, 561-7327
(A) The Ole Herb Shoppe, Constance, 522-4372

Architectural Design:
(G/A) Lipson/Brown Design, 274-0913

Astrology:
(A) Rainbow Counselling, Maureen, 277-0582

Automotive:
(A) Cournt'ys, Michael, 562-1227 (see ad)

Bakery:
(G) Illusions, Brian, 243-8457

Bars:
(A) The Blue Moon, 277-0441
(A) The Raven, 276-9672
(G) O'Brady's, 344-8033, 338-1080, 563-1080 (see ad)

Bed & Breakfast:
(G) Altsa (Fairbanks), Pete, 457-0246 (see ad)
(G) Aurora Winds, James Bill, 346-2533
(A) Beach House, Mary (Homer), 235-5945
(L) The Butterfly Inn, Kay (Hawaii), 808-966-7936
(L) Garden Cottage (Orlando, FL), Lisa, 407-894-5395
(G) Gingerbread House, Yves (Montreal), 514-597-2804
(A) Island Watch, Eileen (Homer), 235-2265
(L) Mermaid Inn, Nancy/Barrie (St. Lauderdale, FL), 305-655-8437
(L) Northern Comfort, Reeda, 278-2106
(G) The West Cook House, Donna, 277-3862

Books:
(L) Alaska Women's Bookstore, Joann/Mariah, 562-4716 (see ad)
(A) Alaskana, Gene, 561-1340 (see ad)
(A) Cyrano's Books, Sandy/Terry, 274-2599

Catering:
(G) Alaska Best Catering, Maurice, 338-1080, 337-1969
(G) Illusions, Brian, 243-8457
(G) Silver Spoon Cleaning & Catering, Brent, 258-0828

Child Care:
(G) Kid Zone, Andrew, 337-3802

Churches:
see Spiritual

Computer Bulletin Board:
(A) Myth's Reality (Berdache), 333-3425; 338-2869
(G) The Wilde Side, 333-4039

Computer Supplies:
(A) Frigid North, Tom, 561-4633

Dental Care:
(A) Ward Hulbert, DDS, 248-0022

Computer Consultants, Graphic Design, & Desktop Publishing:
(L) Angle, 337-0253 (see ad)
(A) Computer Magic, Jim, 274-3528
(A) Helleck & Assoc., Terry, 276-3869
(A) LLR Technologies, Logan, 272-7377
(G) Lucian, 272-0325
(G) Mark, 338-3357
(G) PC Possibilities, 248-6277
(G) Tom, 338-1312

Counseling:
(G) Ability Design Associates, Doran, 258-2561 (see ad)
(A) Connie, 562-1826
(A) Jann, 248-9408
(L) Jann, 562-1826
(A) Marion, 562-0012
(A) Mental Health Consumers of Alaska, Brian, 277-3817

Deaf Support:
(A) Interpreter Referral Line, 277-3323 voice, 277-9735 tty
(A) Deaf Rehabilitation Serv., 277-3456 voice, 258-2232, tty

Electrical:
(G) The Electric Doctor, Bob, 561-2225

Electronics:
(A) Frigid North, Tom, 561-4633

Electrolysis:
(A) Gentle Touch, 561-6688 (see ad)

Entertainment:
(G) Capri Cinema, 561-0864, Movieline: 275-3799 (see ad)
(A) Mascarella Music, Diane, 277-9751
(A) Syzygy/Music Magic, Linda, 274-2599

Financial, Insurance, Investments:
(L) Chris, 561-8264/338-3962

Florists:
(G) Fireweed Florist, Steve, 276-6628

Gardening:
(L) Green Earth Gardening, Susan, 337-3543

Gender:
(B) Berdache Society, P.O. Box 92381, Anch., AK 99509-2381

General Contracting:
(L) R & L Construction, Lisa, 279-4696

Gifts:
(L) Alaska Women's Bookstore, Joann/Marish, 563-4716 (see ad)
(A) Love of Alaska, Talyne, 243-0876
Hairstyling:
(G) Gabriel, 272-9045 (see ad)
(A) 36th Ave. Hair Design, Ledjha, 561-8967

Health:
(A) Gateley, Ketsel/Jainal, 561-7327
(L) Health Advocacy-Medical/Legal Research, Linda,
337-0253
(A) Home Health Care, 261-3173
(A) The Ole Herb Shoppe, Constance, 522-4372
(A) Skin care, Sharl, 688-2963

Health, naturopathic:
(A) Hope, 561-2330

Helpline:
(G/L) Identity Helpline, 258-4777
(G/L) Fairbanks Lesbian/Gay Line, 452-3745

Homeless?
(A) Brother Francis Shelter, Lynne, 277-1731

Home Products:
(G) Watkins Products, Jim, 243-5854

House Cleaning:
(L) Connie's House Cleaning Svcs, Connie, 276-3147
(A) Green Valley Cleaning, Tara, 345-4657
(G) Randy, 345-4607
(G) Silver Spoon Cleaning & Catering, Brent, 258-0828

House Sitting:
(L) Carol, 271-4620

Imperial Court:
(G) Imperial Court of Alaska, Tiger Lilly, 243-6905

Hypnotherapy:
(A) Rainbow Counseling, Maureen, 277-0822

Jewelry:
(A) Peggy's Jewelry & Repair, Peggy, 562-1095

Kites, Games, Banners, Puzzles:
(A) Northwind Kites, Pat, 279-4386

Landscaping:
(L) Green Earth Gardening, Susan, 337-3543
(L) Wood Nymph Landscaping, Valerie, 338-8338

Legal:
(L) Mendel & Huntington, Allison, 279-5001 (see ad)
(A) Short, Sylvia, 562-4992 (see ad)

Massage (therapeutic, Swedish, Shiatsu, and much more):
(G) Gabriel, 272-9045 (see ad)
(L) Leslie, 277-0713
(A) Marion, 562-0012
(L) Vicki, 277-5222

Mortgage Brokers:
(A) City Mortgage, Lynn LaPerriere, 277-0700 (see ad)

Music/Instruments:
(A) Oldtime Music Company, Marge, 561-6682 (see ad)

Native Arts/Culture:
(A) Moon Dancer Arts, Rosemary (Wasilla), 373-5353

Obstetrics & Gynecology:
(A) Jane, 561-5151

Painting:
(L) L&L Painting, Lisa, 277-7549

Pet Care:
(A) Doggie Hut, Arlid, 279-5661 (see ad)
(A) Doggie Vacations of Alaska, Constance, 344-3647

Photography
(G) Fotos by Frank, Frank, 337-3399 (see ad)

Picture Framing:
(L) Studio Designs, Lita, 279-4666

Political:
(A) Alaskans Concerned About Latin America,
Ruth, 333-1190
(G/L) EQUAL, Inc., 566-0530 (see ad)

Printing, Electronic Graphics:
(A) Alaska Micro Associates, Rebecca, 337-0460
(A) SOS Printing, Val, 562-1678
(A) Timeframe, 562-3822 (see ad)

Private Investigators:
(L) KKI Investigating, Karyn, 561-3665

Recreation:
(L) Alaska Women of the Wilderness, Rachel, 688-2226

Real Estate:
(G) Apollo Real Estate, Bob, 561-7481 (see ad)
(A) Bronwyn Hillman, 248-2804, 563-5156 (see ad)
(L) Dynamic Properties, Jill, 279-7611
(L) Dynamic Properties, Latelie, 279-7611 (see ad)
(A) Dynamic Properties, Steven, 279-7611

Research:
(L) Cracion & Associates, 279-3982

Restaurants:
(L) Cyrano's Cafe, 274-1173
(G) O'Brady's, 344-8033, 338-1080, 563-1080 (see ad)

Rooming Houses:
(A) Regina's, 276-4964

Snowmobiling:
(L) Jade Services, Julie, 688-1126

Social:
(G) Anchorage Garden Buddies, 243-3064

Sociology, research:
(L) Susan Johnson, Ph.D., 272-4113

Spiritual:
(A) Alaska Women of the Wilderness, Rachel, 688-2226
(A) Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Art, 248-
3737 (see ad)
(A) Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, Jim, 258-
5266 (see ad)

Sports:
(L) Alaska Women of the Wilderness, Rachel, 686-3365
(A) Flies by Ileno (Eagle River), 694-6946

Student Organizations:
(G/L) Alaskan Gay and Lesbian Association (AGLA), Pete,
457-0246

Support Groups:
(G) Ability Design Associates, Doran, 258-2561 (see ad)
(G) Fairbanks Men's Support Group, Scott, 457-6511
(A) P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays),
Nancy, 479-4944

Theatre:
(A) Out North Theatre, Gene/Jay, 279-8099

Travel:
(G) Apollo Travel Agency, Bob, Cherresse, 561-
0661 (see ad)

Tutor, Math & Physics:
(L) Pam, 561-2634

Woodworking:
(L) North Star Sign, Rusty, 333-7900

Writing & Editing Assistance:
(L) Kathy, 278-2840
(L) Mel Mel, 276-7269 (see ad)

Yardwork, Hauling, Snowmobiling:
(L) Jade Services, Julie, 688-1126
E_veryone I_s
EQUAL
Minutes for Dec. 2, 1993: recorded by Linda S. Kellen

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Anchorage, AK 99524

General Membership Meetings are held the 1st and 3rd Thursday’s of the month. The next meeting is January 6th, 7pm, Room A at the Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship.

Next Board Mtg: December 23rd - call the Equal phone for details.

Announcements: ▼ The December 1st Alaska Women’s Political Caucus Meeting voted to give a dual endorsement to mayoral candidates Joyce Murphy and Heather Flynn. It was announced that the addition of a baseline for candidates requiring support of anti-discrimination policies was defeated by a statewide vote. ▼ Dan Carter spoke before the Assembly on December 7th and, according to Channel 2, 75 of you showed up!!! Thank you very much for supporting the 1 year anniversary of the introduction of the Amendment. We’re still here, we’re still queer and, thanks to you, the Assembly was reminded of that.

Discussion: ▼ The majority of the meeting was spent discussing joint business with Identity Board Members. ▼ The Equal Speaker’s Bureau is STILL in formation. Linda Kellen is working a “real” job again so you will be hearing more -- promise! ▼ LGBSA, Identity, and Equal are collaborating to put together a mayoral candidate forum at the Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Thursday, January 20th at 7:00 pm. Call the Equal phone line if you are interested in volunteering. ▼ Along with the forum, Voter Registration will be getting underway after the first of the year. If you are a Registrar, or would like to be one, call the Equal phone line and someone will call you with information on what you can do to help. ▼ Equal, and possibly Identity, will be sponsoring a night of “Gay Bingo” sometime after the Holidays. Stay tuned for further details. Also, stay tuned for future “Community ‘Out’ Nights” - any night spots we can terrorize?

***********HELP WANTED***********
▼ PARENTS to attend School Board meetings. Gay teachers need your help to support diversity in Anchorage Schools. ▼ LETTER WRITERS - They have theirs, we need ours!!!!! Anchorage Daily News, Anchorage Bypass, Equal Rights Commission, Anchorage Assembly, etc… ▼ SPEAKERS- Anyone interested in being a member of the Equal Speaker’s Bureau, please call Equal at 566-0930 and leave your name and number. ▼ SPEAKING ENGAGEMENTS - Have a group that you need enlightened? Call Equal and let us know where, when, and what topic! ▼ VOTER REGISTRATION - Call the Equal Phone Line and donate some time to sign up new voters.

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International Gay Travel Association
Dr. Joyce Murphy
Leadership for Positive Change
in Anchorage
by Linda Kingkade

For those who didn't get to the last Potluck (November), here's a sketch of Joyce's talk — about her candidacy for Mayor:

This I do believe: That I and other citizens of Anchorage value a sense of personal belonging to our community — a community where people care about and help each other, where it is a safe, loving, healthy place to live and raise a family.

We must educate our citizens that they must participate in the rebuilding of Anchorage. We must get all citizens involved. We must realize that we will have to pay a fair and equitable amount to have the kind of community we all want. I believe that people will pay their fair share if they believe and trust that they will get a maximum return on their investment. We need an honest open administration to communicate with all citizens and work with the community to spend the money wisely and provide the best services to our citizens.

The mayor must be friendly and accessible to all citizens and businesses in our community. We must make our city and government responsive, and build a strong desirable environment so that businesses will want to relocate here, so that people will develop roots here, and so that we can become a generational community. As former Mayor Don Fraser of Minneapolis has said, "It is squarely a municipal job to help weave the community fabric that can strengthen families and neighborhoods."

Look for Dr. Murphy's specific plans and visions for Anchorage to be addressed in upcoming issues of the Northview. If you have any questions, you are welcome to contact her campaign at 272-9164.

Linda Kingkade is the Volunteer Coordinator for Dr. Joyce Murphy's campaign.

Editor's Note: This article does not constitute an endorsement by Identity, Inc. in the mayoral campaign. Rather, it is a review of politically pertinent events which have relevance for our members. We request and welcome articles from other candidates.
The Eye
Not to be confused with a Thigh

Heard the one about D. who showed up at a GB fest and displayed for all to see some body parts that were pierced? EYE managed a glimpse before passing out. Yes, gEYEs and gEYEn, both of them had little (medium sized?) hoops through them. By all accounts, this provides a certain pleasure when, how shall EYE say?, toyed with. EYE’ll take his word for that. ▼ Where, oh where, did EYE get a whiff of nasty? Overheard some detractor of the Anchorage Remaining Daily mention that owning stock in McClatchy was a license to steal. Boys and girls -- the lesson for today is how to best use your advantage when you own Park Place and all the Railroads. ▼ One other note... seems the EYE missed a beat (you should pardon the expression) when last reporting on Juneau’s Glory Hole. An EYESPY revealed that the original Glory Hole was an open pit on Douglas Island, near Treadwell (oh, yes, I know the very spot!), and it was said to be filled with underground tunnels (garcon, garcon, bring me mah fan!), wherein was contained gold (oooooh! EYE needs some of thatayat!!), and gold, as it were, meant power and therefore glory. EYE likes this version, but feels the original story had more ... je ne sais quoi. ▼ EYE’ll be at the Capri Canteen on New Year’s -- it’s a movie (champagne included in modest cover charge) and another movie after midnight. Sign up early... there’re only so many, um, bodies’ll fit in. ▼ Got wind of the following alleged conversation: seems D. went to the Irish Setter (a local watering hole) to sing karaoke (assuming that’s how you spell it), and seems D. wanted to video his own performance, and seems the management suggested he not do that because, well, some people who are there are having affairs and wouldn’t want to show up on someone’s TV at home as the ripple effect might be, how shall we say? shocking. This is all hearsay, you understand. Go there and see for yourself. ▼ Heard about the desecration at the Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship? Seems some ne’er-do-wells burned a Question Mark by the front door. ▼
...to the
Anchorage Assembly
by Dan Carter

One year ago this week, the Sexual Orientation Ordinance was introduced. As you know, it passed, only to have 7 of you vote for repeal. Some of you expressed hope for a return to "normal." Well, are we back to "normal?" This summer the political leader of the Baptist Temple said if good Christians stopped shopping at gay owned businesses, they -- meaning gays -- would not have enough money to be involved in politics. "Is this normal?" The Equal Rights Commission recently changed its rules in an attempt to discourage public participation. In September, ABT had a guest minister whose message was titled "How to Defeat that Pro-gay, Pro-pot, Pro-abortion Clinton Crowd." As a Christian I want to make it clear -- although my beliefs are different from theirs -- they have every right to their religious beliefs. But they want it all -- they want to espouse controversial political views and label anyone opposed as being anti-Christian.

Is this the "normal" you're seeking? Under the pretense of "saving their souls," an Equal Rights Commissioner harasses people attending gay/lesbian events. He told me he has a calling to convert people -- well, do you think we'll see him at Temple Beth Shalom or a Mormon church or a Methodist church trying to convert their members to his particular brand of Christianity? Of course not; he knows this community wouldn't allow it. My question to the Assembly and the Mayor is this: "Why do we continue to tolerate an Equal Rights Commissioner harassing any group of people?"

Are we back to normal? Regrettably, yes! Not the "normal" of having gays and lesbians hiding again. Those days are over. We must realize we're all in this together -- we all love this city but Anchorage will never reach its potential as long as you sanction discrimination against any segment of our population. I look forward to seeing each of you voting for equality -- not because we threaten to defeat you at the polls -- but because you know voting against discrimination is the right thing to do!

Ralph Reed, the director of Pat Robertson's so-called "Christian Coalition" recently said the following on Nightline: "This is about staying and staying and staying. When you get knocked down, you just get back up again. We're determined to win!" Supporters of equal rights in Anchorage, couldn't agree more and that's just what we intend to do! Win!

In conclusion, when I asked for this appearance, I hoped this would be non-confrontational -- a simple reminder to you that we're still here. I invite those of you who don't believe there's discrimination based on sexual orientation to take this simple test: each time one of the speakers following me mentions the word gay, lesbian or homosexual, change that word to African-American, Hispanic, Mormon, Disabled or any other group and see if the statement sounds discriminatory.

(I asked those in attendance to stand if they thought discrimination based on sexual orientation should end. According to Channel 2 News, approximately 75 people stood.)

Dan Carter, local gay activist, gave this speech to the Assembly on 12/7/93.

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**WORD GAYME # 135: WHAT A DRAG**

**ACROSS**

1. Lemon/Carins drag flick. Some Like It Hot
4. The whole shebang
7. Soil type
11. Hubub
12. Look at
13. Let in
15. Dustin Hoffman's drag vehicle
17. Sirensand's drag part
18. Author of Stanley Gardner's Compass setting
21. European alliance
22. Chang and
25. A Farewell to
27. Hearing organ
30. Home to many gay Hawaiians
32. Anna and the King of
35. Jay Davidson movie

**ACROSS (Cont’d)**

38. Vera
39. On airport monitors
40. Crow cry
41. Terminates
43. Detective Spade
45. Screw up
47. Big photos company
49. Poet Sarah...Jewett
53. Tom Hanks' drag TV show (with 55 across)
55. See 53 across
58. Swallowing or sore
59. 1983 cult film, Liquid
60. Carpenters' creation
61. Building extension
62. Between o and eur
63. Swine hut

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**DOWN**

1. Loathe
2. Scent
3. Implement
4. Butch
5. Flowery necklace
6. Dregs
7. Fertile hen
8. "...to Billy Joe"
9. One who's forgotten
10. Tiny crawler
14. Special attention (abbr)
16. Ball holder
20. Steam bath
23. Neither's complement
24. Most homophile
26. Flavor enhancer
27. And so on
28. Eureka!
29. Jeremy Irons' film, of Fortune
31. Snack
33. Doctor's grin
34. Kitten sound
36. Is able to
37. Brownie's org
42. Condemns
44. 60% chic
45. Abate
46. Function
48. Cookbook abbreviation
50. Banners
51. Tidy
52. Catch sight of
54. Lube
56. Stringed instrument
57. Color
Obituary

"Maggie" Lundheim

Longtime Anchorage resident Margaret "Maggie" Evelyn Wright Lundheim, 77, died Dec. 6 at Providence Hospital after a long battle with cancer.

After retiring from civil service, Mrs. Lundheim went to work for Totem Ocean Trailer Express. When her struggle with cancer forced her retirement from TOTE, she volunteered full-time for the Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association (4As).

Mrs. Lundheim received the Volunteer of the Year Award from the 4As and was crowned Royal Grandmother of the Imperial Court of All Alaska for helping in the fight against AIDS.

Thanks to the Anchorage Daily News, 12/9/93. 

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Unity Church of Anchorage...

...is hosting Individual Spirituality for people of alternative life-styles.

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7:00 PM

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