In this time of celebration,
to each and every generation
We'd like to make this wish
for all to set an extra dish.

If we do, we will find
in every heart, in every mind
We will start to strengthen and grow
beneath our vibrant, living rainbow.
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Identity NorthView is a monthly publication of Identity, Inc., a non-profit [501(c)(3)], Alaskan corporation concerned with issues of sexual identity. The 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 persons or organizations unless so specified.

Identity Board of Directors: Co-Chairs: Ruth Mathes, F. Kenneth Freedman; Treasurer: Kurt Parish; Secretary: Tom Rachal; Candy Bonham, Tori Lentfer, Shirley Randall-Harris.


Distribution: the NorthView is mailed (non-profit, bulk mail) to members of Identity. Identity’s mailing list is confidential and is not sold, given or loaned to anyone; however, special mailings under the auspices of Identity are occasionally sanctioned. Copies of NorthView are also distributed at select businesses in the Anchorage area. Financial contributions are gladly accepted to defray mailing costs.

Upon request, you may receive the NorthView in a First Class large envelope. Cost is $5.00 per year (includes membership in Identity and private mailing).

Reproducing: please feel free to copy the NorthView and give it to anyone you feel will enjoy it or benefit from it. Articles that are copyrighted must be so noted on any copies.

Submissions: We welcome articles and letters from community individuals and organizations. Ideal length is 1,000 words or less. Please submit on 3.5 or 5.25 diskette (IBM compatible or MAC [HIGH DENSITY ONLY]). All media will be returned. All contributions must be signed, but upon request names will be withheld or pseudonyms used. NorthView reserves the right to edit as necessary and to refuse to print any article submitted.

Deadlines: All articles must be received by the 5th of the month for inclusion in that month’s NorthView.

Advertising: Rates are displayed graphically on the last page of this newspaper. Contact NorthView by mail or through the Helpline at 258-4777. Advertising can be submitted camera-ready or be composed for you for a negotiated fee. NorthView does not accept Personal ads, nor does it accept advertising that is sexist, racist, discriminatory or sexually explicit.

Mail: Editor, Identity NorthView, P.O. Box 200070, Anchorage, AK 99520-0070.
Editorial
by Ruth Mathes

"The times, they are a-changin'" is an old saw I've heard all my life. Our les/bi/gay community is about to undergo another very traumatic change... the bookstore is closing. For good. The impact is staggering for many of us. Practically every caller on the Identity Helpline heard the words "go to the bookstore" as a part of their 'coming out' information. No more. This institution... the bookstore... Bona Dea... offered a safe haven to our community. Think about it. Need tickets to an event? Get 'em at the bookstore. Need to sell tickets to an event? Do it at the bookstore. Need a place to rendezvous, to hold a meeting, get messages, get a phone call, beg a donation, make a copy, have a good cry, hang out... the list is endless. This was, for many of the women (and a few good men) a community center of sorts.

I find myself wondering how we will ever replace this important piece of our family... I feel guilty that I may in some way have contributed to its demise through abuse of the generosity of its owners. Maybe I didn't spend enough money there, help or touch enough, send in customers. Maybe none of us did.

A celebration of the passing into history of Bona Dea will take place at the Pioneer School House on Sunday, December 3, 4pm to 8pm. I plan to attend to say farewell to a special piece of history. You should too.

LAVENDER LADIES

Identity, Inc.
Fourth Friday Potluck & Social

Join Identity at its celebrated Fourth Friday Potluck & Social. Bring a dish, whether soup, salad, entree, deviled eggs, hors d'oeuvres, fruit, bread, dessert, chips, dip, pizza, etc. Identity provides the drinks; tea, coffee, punch. Admission is free but we cheerfully accept donations.

Date: Friday, November 24

Time: 6:30pm doors open/socialize; 7:00pm dinner; 7:30pm announcements & program

Place: Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3201 Turnagain Street

Program: Mark Mathis, "Computer Technology and or What Is A Megabyte?"

Tact is after all a kind of mindreading.
--Sarah Orne Jewett (1849-1909), American writer.

Island Watch
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907/235-2265
Groups & Gatherings Circles and Clubs
News from Gay & Lesbian Organizations from around the State

Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association (4As) Anchorage: offers HIV testing Wednesday afternoons (2:00-4:00 pm) at their offices, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln., Ste. 102. Friday at noon is a luncheon for People With HIV and AIDS. We 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 call 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, every other Friday. For further information about meeting time and place, contact Jenna at 907-451-8465.

Anchorage Garden Buddies (AGB) Anchorage: 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, call Kurt at 272-3990.

Anchorage Lesbian Families' Alliance (ALFA) Anchorage: ALFA usually meets every 3rd Sunday at various locations (mostly at Regan's) to socialize and provide support for one another. Adults, children, Lesbians, allies and newcomers are welcome. Call Regan at 243-3757 for more information.

Anchorage Women’s Political Caucus: for Lesbians and non-Lesbians, meets 7:00 pm at the First United Methodist Church (Anchorage) on the first Wednesday of every month.

EQUAL, Inc. Anchorage: Equal meets on the 1st Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Metropolitan Community Church at 615 Hollywood Dr. (Government Hill). EQUAL provides education and information about political issues to our community. EQUAL is not a political action committee and does not endorse candidates. EQUAL has a social "coffee house" get together at the Hollywood Canteen (Capri Cinema) from 7:00-9:00 pm on the 3rd Thursday of each month. For more information, call 274-9226.

EQUAL, Inc. Fairbanks: purpose is to keep the community informed about political and legal events which have an effect on the Lesbian community, to educate about community issues, to organize letter writing campaigns and other forms of political action, and to promote equal rights for all Alaskan citizens, regardless of actual or perceived sexual orientation. To be on the phone tree, call Andy at 907-457-3876. For more information about EQUAL contact Laura Burleson at 907-479-7348 or email FSLEB@aurora.alaska.edu.

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

Fairbanks Gay Youth Group: for more information call Jeff or Andy at 457-3876.

Family—Anchorage: Meets every Saturday from 6:00-7:00 pm in the Arts Building, Room 121 on the UAA campus. Social group after 7:00 pm (bowling, dinner, etc.) High school people, bi-sexual men & women, transvestites and transsexuals most welcome! Call Graham at 562-8463.

Feminist Sing-a-Long, women only, Anchorage: every Saturday of every month. 1741 Westview Circle; call Carol and Fran at 333-0871. Non-singers are more than welcome. 6:30 pm potluck, 7:30 pm singing (from the KK—Thanks!)

Gay Bar, Anchorage: free legal question and answer sessions on issues of interest to Lesbians and Gays. Second Monday of every month, 7:00-8:30 pm at 845 'K' St. 279-5001.

Identity, Anchorage: founded to improve self and community awareness, understanding, and acceptance of the expression of individual sexual identities, in order to promote positive attitudes and healthful ways of living for all people within the State of Alaska. Identity builds bridges between different segments of the Lesbian and Gay communities as well as bridges between the Gay/Lesbian and non-Gay/non-Lesbian communities.

Pothuck Social: held on the 4th Friday of every month at the Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3201 Turnagain St. Doors open at 6:30 pm; dinner at 7:00 pm; program at 7:30 pm. See the Calendar for this month’s guest speaker.

Imperial Court of All Alaska (ICOAA), Anchorage: is a social and support group that contributes to our Community by being active in many causes; we plan and present wonderful entertainment, and donate money to needy organizations for them to carry out their important goals. See Calendar for this month’s planned activities, or contact Emperor Madeline XXIII at 338-3327. Or write P.O. Box 104023, Anchorage 99510-4023.

Interior AIDS Association (IAA) Fairbanks: offers medical and dental program assistance, "buddies" (volunteers who help HIV & People Living With AIDS), 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.
Amb of God Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) Anchorage: holds Sunday services at 11:00am and 7:00pm, and Wednesday at 7:00pm at 615 Hollywood Dr. Church is open Sunday through Wednesday 9:00am-4:00pm. Call 258-5266.

East Frontier Men’s Club, Anchorage: a members-only club for the Leather/Bear communities of Alaska. Meetings 3rd Thurs. of each month, 6:00pm at the Raven; campouts & weekend trips, too. Write T.L.F.M.C., P.O. Box 202054, Anchorage, AK 99520-2054.

Midnight Sons, Anchorage: Gay Men’s AA Meetings, Fri & Sun. Check calendar for times and locations.

Mt. McKinley (non-ascent) Club (MMca(c) Anchorage: is a social group open to anyone Gay, Lesbian, or ally. Look for upcoming events in the Calendar, or call Dan Cook at 561-8744.

Northern Exposure Bowling League, Anchorage: each Sunday afternoon at 4:00pm, Park Lanes. 561-8744 (Bob).

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) of Fairbanks: meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 5:30pm at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Log Cabin (Noble & 5th). Contact Nancy at 479-4944 for more information.

Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) of Juneau: meets the 3rd Sunday of every month at 12 noon at Mendenhall Mall Library. Phone 907-463-4203.

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) of Southcentral: holds meetings on the 3rd Wednesday of every month. For information call Sylvia at 562-4992 or Fred at 562-7161.

Q*Klatch, Fairbanks: meets the first Wednesday of each month and is an informal gathering of GLBs. The group offers a place to discuss current events, ideas, hopes and needs, and it extends hospitality to newcomers. Generally, the theme of each gathering is determined by the volunteer host(s), from “Show ’n Tell” to “My Personal Agenda” to “Open Forum.” Q*Klatch offers a casual environment in which to meet and share with others. For more information please contact Kathy at 907-455-6358 or Eric at 907-455-4051.

Q*K Outdoors, Fairbanks: an offshoot of Q*Klatch and a member of IGLOO (International Gay * Lesbian Outdoor Organization), is an informal, volunteer group of GLBs interested in enjoying the Great OUTdoors. Last summer, we canoed down the Tanana River to Nenana, camped out at Tangle Lakes (just south of the Alaska Range), went halibut fishing in Valdez, did some day hikes and played at picnics. For more info, call Eric at 455-4051 or e-mail to <fsebw@aurora.alaska.edu> or Kathy at 455-6358 or <klatch@northstar.k12.ak.us>.

Shanti of Juneau offers support services to persons with HIV/AIDS and their loved ones, as well as offering comprehensive AIDS prevention and educational information. Offices: 222 Seward, Suite 200; mail: P.O. Box 22655, Juneau, AK 99802-2655. 907-463-5665, 1-800-478-AIDS (2437).

SAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous) Anchorage: 12-step meeting; Tues., Thurs., Sat. Check calendar for times and locations. 566-1133

Southeast Alaska Gay & Lesbian Alliance (SEAGLA): organization for Gay Men and Lesbians of Southeast Alaska. Publishes monthly newsletter Perspective. P.O. Box 21542, Juneau, AK 99802-1452. Phone: 586-4297

Support Group (Soldotna): a group for people with HIV or AIDS or families or friends. Call Jan at 907-262-2589.

Women’s Coffeehouse, Anchorage: every 4th Saturday, 8:00pm. Sliding scale, suggested donation $2. Call Barbara or Candy at 337-2011 for information or if you wish to perform. Check the calendar for this month’s program.

You yearn to ask religious questions in a place where scepticism and questioning are welcomed. You’d like to be among thoughtful, friendly people who stick up for gay rights. You’d appreciate joyful religious services that encourage our good instincts and offer inspiration to people of differing beliefs.

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Freedom to Marry
Plaintiffs in Hawaii Marriage Case
Bahr v. Lewis

In 1991, three couples — two lesbian, one gay — brought a lawsuit challenging the state government’s denial of their application for marriage licenses. In May 1993, the Hawaii Supreme Court ruled that Hawaii’s refusal to issue marriage licenses to same-gender couples seems to violate the state constitution that guarantees equality, and prohibits gender discrimination.

According to the Court, the state’s “different-gender” restriction on marriage amounts to unconstitutional sex discrimination, much like “same-race” restrictions on marriage were ruled racially discriminatory in Virginia in 1967.

Sending the case back to trial court, the Hawaii Supreme Court directed the state government to demonstrate a “compelling” interest for discrimination. If the state can show no compelling interest, Hawaii will be required to permit same-gender couples to marry.

In June 1994, in reaction to the court’s decision, the Hawaii state legislature passed a law reaffirming its desire to bar same-gender marriage. It stated that marriage is only between a man and a woman, and cited procreation as a compelling interest for making such a discrimination.

Since the state’s new law may not satisfy the “compelling interest” requirement, the court’s ruling that discrimination on the basis of gender is unconstitutional may still hold. A further trial date was set for September 1995, with a final decision expected by mid-1996 or early 1997.

The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD)
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Burleson, Laura: Gay
Rights activist, Chair of
Equal of Fairbanks, and in the Alaska Gay and Lesbian
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Thornley, Rand: Capri Cinema: <filmalgy@aoi.com>
Walton, Eric: NorthView Fairbanks co-Editor, Q*Klatch,
Q*K Outdoors, PFLAG, EQUAL etc.:
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Wave, The: Lesbian/Gay bar & coffee house:
<wave@alaska.net>
Wockner, Rex: San Diego-based journalist, LesBiGay info
(Internet): <rwockner@netscm.com>

Want to be listed? Write to Identity and include information similar to what you see above, or call Ken at 248-7722.

Deadlines: All articles must be received by the 5th of the month for inclusion in that month’s North View.
$21,500 in Scholarships Available for Lesbian and Gay Students

The Greater Seattle Business Association (GSBA) and the Pride Foundation are pleased to announce that applications are now available for their 1996 scholarship programs, with awards of up to $3,000 each to build leadership and promote diversity in the sexual minority community.

The Pride Foundation is a Seattle-based community foundation dedicated to strengthening our lesbian and gay community. Its primary focus is raising funds for its permanent endowment and twice-yearly granting cycles.

Applications are due March 1, 1996 by calling the 206-443-4722. Scholarships are available for vocational education in addition to general scholarships which are open to all gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth and adults, specific scholarships target gay men of color, students raised in lesbian and gay families, and students with career ambitions in design.

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THE EYE

NOT TO BE CONFUSED WITH
THE MEDULLA OBLONGATA

Well, dears, the luscious lash has decided to surface momentarily to bring you some EYE-opening rumors as they were told to someone who told someone to tell me. Is it true that <JK> may re-anchor soon in Anchortown? EYE am sure at least a blue-zillion lesbians will be interested in the answer. And EYE am truly teary-EYED over the departure of <JM> via Uncle Sam. All our covers will be slightly wrinkled without you, darling. Temporary vacancy for <BV>? EYE had hardly heard the news when it became passe. Oh, well, one does need to run to keep up with some of our swifter friends! (eow). Am told <SM&DG> may be sporting Hawaii tans when next they ‘boot scoot’ at the latest nightspot. Or maybe they weren’t out in the sun enough. EYE’m pea-green with envy, myself. Another Hawaiian vacation couple, <KP&W> returned pale as well. Hmm...lack of sleep perhaps. As for <LC&MG>, EYE guess that they will never go mountin climbing again! One of meEYE favorite long-term guy-type couples, <TR&AK> hitched a ride on the Reading (that’s a train, darling) for a little R & R (smile). They reported that ‘dinner in the diner was good, and the scenery was spectacular’. Those teeny little compartments don’t allow one to bend (whoops) over, EYE have heard. Dear Love is in from Bushville and <KC> languishes hourly in her absence, EYE’m told. And, lastly, EYE am told that our dear <KF> is extending his stay in the Emerald City... are the doctors giving him the EYE? Ta-ta, lovey, EYE’ll be seeing you soon!

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World AIDS Day – December 1, 1995
A Letter from their Majesties

While looking forward to the holidays, we are reflective of the outstanding support received from many segments of Alaska citizenry. With the Investiture and Halloween Balls, Portland's Coronation and Duchy of Juneau activities achieved, focus is now on the holiday season. Note your calendars for these events in December. On December 16, the Duchy of Juneau will have their holiday celebration. On December 22, Friday evening, a fabulous "TOUR DE LUMINAIRES" bus trip will view the seasonal light displays in Anchorage neighborhoods while stopping at selected homes for holiday cheer, nog or a traditional bite of fruitcake. On December 23 the annual CHRISTMAS BALL will be held at the Blue Moon with Lana Duvall, Madeline and Mr. and Ms. Gay Alaska hosting the show. There should be no cause for holiday blues with the abundance of gaiety we'll create throughout this season of joy and jubilation. Telephone 338-3327 for any details on the above. Remember, that all Imperial Court celebrations and parties raise money for charities throughout the state.

With mention of fundraising for charities, the 22nd Reign distributed thousands of dollars back into the community at the last Board meeting. Recipients of significant contributions were the Pediatric AIDS Units at both Anchorage hospitals, the Providence Hospital Children's Burn Unit, establishment of a Benevolent Fund administered through the MCC Lamb of God congregation, the Foster Grandparent and Senior Companion Programs of Alaska and Equal. Funds were also designated to the ICOAA Certificate of Deposit Program proclaimed for future financial growth of the Empire. Without all of our charitable support, these generous donations would not have been possible. Thank you, Alaska!

We remain, in Peace, Love and Unity ...

H.M.I.M. Denali Emperor XXXIII
The Glacier Emperor Madeline

H.M.I.M. Aurora Empress XXIII
The Flaming-O Empress Lana Duvall

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Women's Coffeehouse
by Barbara J. Soule and Candy Bonham

"Bona Dea", the Women's Bookstore, is closing. October's coffeehouse raised $123 for the bookstore. Thanks to Ellen Foreman and friends for donating their share of the door. We would also like to thank Joann and Mariah for all that they have done, not only for the coffeehouse, but for the "Community" in general. You will be missed.

The Women's Coffeehouse goes on. The next coffeehouse event is on Saturday, January 13, 1996, 8pm to 10pm at the Sociatic Tide at The Wave. The program is being organized by keyboard specialist, Barbara Wish, as an evening of Blues and Jazz. It will include local musicians and performers: Lisa Jamieson, Linda Kellem, Kippy, Donna (from SideFX) and others. Donation is $3, more if you can, less if you can't. Barbara Wish and friends are donating their share of the door, so all proceeds will go to the 4A's.

The Women's Coffeehouse is sponsoring an Erotic Poetry Contest beginning December 1. The contest is open to the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender community and their Allies, including PFLAG members. Poetry of erotic and explicit sexual content of any length up to ten double spaced typewritten pages will be accepted. There is a first prize of $100 dollars cash, second and third place gift certificates and honorable mention certificates. The postmark deadline for submission is February 1, 1996.

Poetry may be dropped off at Cyrano's Bookstore, (413 D St.), given to Barbara Soule or Candy Bonham, or mailed to: Poetry Contest, c/o Identity Inc., P.O. Box 200070, Anchorage, AK 99520. The winning poetry will be announced, prizes awarded and the poetry read at the Women's Coffeehouse Erotic Poetry Reading, Saturday, February 24, 1996, 8pm to 10pm at the Sociatic Tide at The Wave.

Winners may present their own work at the reading or someone else will read for them. Donation is $3; more if you can, less if you can't. Proceeds to go to Identity, Inc. for the Helpline.

Performers are still needed for March and April. Call 337-2011 and ask for Candy or Barbara if you are interested in participating.

Gay Bar

A monthly question & answer session on legal issues of interest to Lesbians and Gay men, such as relationships, contracts, wills, custody & visitation.

Second Monday of every month, 7:00-8:30pm. Open to the public. No charge.

Bring your questions:
any concern or issue....

Mendel & Huntington
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Just remember, we're all in this alone.
--Lily Tomlin, b. 1939, American actress.
Growing Pains!
Our newly-accepted local chapter of national Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians, Bisexuals, and Gays is now entering its second year, and it’s still experiencing growing pains. Hopefully it will continue to experience this growing phenomenon until everybody will be a part of this unifying effort—and that’s one of our fondest hopes. Meanwhile, ...

We have a new board of directors, new officers, and new ideas. A schedule of activities for our 1995-96 fiscal year includes continuing our annual 4-A’s potluck recognition dinner and participating again in the Coming-Out and Gay Pride activities. Our youth group is taking form, and we expect it to become a “talking/helping place” for teens who are experiencing new and perhaps scary incidents. We have a telephone network starting for information and support.

The three prongs of the P-FLAG stool are in place, with Leon Webber heading “support,” invigorating the youth group, wielding the “talking stick” at our circle discussions, and keeping everyone interested and involved. Fred Hillman is taking on the “education” prong, investigating exchanges with professional groups, such as mental health, education, law, medicine, social, and local government, and preparing for presentations to such groups. Advocacy is delegated to Sylvia Short, who will be contacting all the allied gay groups in the area to exchange programs and become acquainted so P-FLAG can go into action where needed when issues arise and in support of or opposition to legislation and other needed action.

Three committees have been formed: Hospitality (Shirley Randall-Harris, chair); Program (with Leon, Fred, Sylvia and president Elliott Dennis); and Library (Don Naff, chair).

We have been meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of every month at 7 p.m. at the UU Fellowship Hall (where the Identity potlucks are held), and programs for the next three meetings include a presentation on EQUAL by co-chair Dan Carter, meeting and becoming acquainted with the Four-A’s through their new executive director, Andrea Ninville, and an excerpt from TORCHSONG TRILOGY by Shirley Randall-Harris and Don Naff. We have purchased the QUESTION OF EQUALITY videotape series and will be presenting it—watch for the dates!

National Action
In March, 1996, our parent organization is planning a national P-FLAG MARCH ON WASHINGTON, in support of ENDA (the Employment Non-Discrimination Act now stalled in Congress) and just to show who we are. We'll be raising funds to send Alaskans for this important event.

Join us!
Everyone is welcome—parent, sibling, child, gay or non-gay! Call us for information: 562-7161 (Fred) or 562-4992 (Sylvia).
Sylvia L. Short, Attorney at Law, lives in Anchorage.

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One of the oldest human needs is having someone to wonder where you are when you don’t come home at night.

—Margaret Mead (19091-1978), American anthropologist.
World AIDS Day

World AIDS Day, observed annually on December 1, serves to strengthen the global effort to face the challenges of the AIDS pandemic which continues to spread in all regions of the world. In 1995, World AIDS Day will be commemorated in the 190 member countries of the World Health Organization, including the United States, to draw attention to the worldwide threat to public health that is posed by AIDS. This organized effort is designed to encourage public support for development of programs to prevent the spread of HIV infection and to provide education and awareness of issues surrounding HIV/AIDS.

World AIDS Day 1995 theme, “Shared Rights, Shared Responsibilities” highlights the importance of equality and solidarity in the global response to HIV/AIDS.

Every person has the right to (1) be able to avoid infection (2) receive care and support if infected with HIV/AIDS (3) be treated with dignity and without discrimination and (4) liberty, freedom of movement, employment, be married, have a family and seek asylum regardless of HIV status.

Shared responsibilities include: Individuals have the responsibility to protect themselves and others from infection. Families and communities have the responsibility to educate their members on HIV/AIDS prevention, and to care for those affected by HIV/AIDS. Governments have the responsibility to implement appropriate HIV prevention policies and to ensure that all their citizens have equal access to available care services. The international community has the responsibility to ensure effective global cooperation on HIV/AIDS, and to support poorer countries in meeting the challenges HIV/AIDS presents.

Anchorage Commemorates World AIDS Day
- Community Service of Remembrance and Hope, 7pm at the Museum of History and Art.
- AIDS Prevention Outreach and Condom Distribution to local bars directly after Community Service. Anyone wanting to participate is welcomed.
- The Wave will donate all cover charge funds to Four A’s on World AIDS Day.
- Gigg’s Bar will have AIDS information and bands all weekend donating proceeds to AIDS service organizations.
- “AIDS 101 Training” Nov. 22 & Dec. 13 for anyone interested in HIV/AIDS. 5-7pm at 4A’s
- “Friends and Family Group” Every Thurs. For anyone affected by HIV/AIDS, 6:30pm at 4A’s.
- “Friday Lunch” for everyone every Fri. Noon-1pm at 4A’s
- “Free HIV Testing” Every Wed. 2pm-4pm at 4A’s

Four A’s 1995 Season’s Greeting Cards

This five color greeting card features an original illustration created for the Four A’s and is printed on recycled paper. The greeting “may peace be with you and those you love” is on the inside of the card.

ORDER FORM
No. of sets (20 per set) _______
Cost ($20.00 per set of 20) $____
Your holiday tax deductible gift $____
Total enclosed $____
Name: _______________________
Address: _____________________

For more information call: Laurie Wolf, 263-2048

Please clip out this form and send with payment to the Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association, 1057 W. Fireweed Dr., Ste. 102, Anchorage, AK 99503. Cards may be picked up at the Four A’s after November 3.

All proceeds from the sale of this card go to supporting the efforts of the Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association (Four A’s). The Four A’s is a not-for-profit organization. All contributions are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law.

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BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

PROFESSIONAL INFUSION PHARMACY

BY RUTH MATHES

Curiosity over the name of this business prompted me to call Karen Cooobs-Marcy for an interview. The entire complex, done in pale gray and white, gave a serene and peaceful feeling to me as I settled in the “infusion room” to chat.

IDENTITY: What does ‘infusion’ mean in your business?

K.C.M.: People who are on medication which cannot be taken effectively by mouth need to receive it by infusion. Such medical procedures as Hickman Catheters, IV tubes, or anything which must go through a vein require infusion. Our clients can receive treatments here as well as through their physicians.

IDENTITY: You mean that you administer these drugs here?

K.C.M.: Sometimes patients prefer not to use ‘home health care’ agencies or hospitals when they require extensive or prolonged treatment. They can come here for the procedures instead. Patients who cannot give themselves shots come here. Chemotherapy pumps and hydration pumps are administered here. We have trained staff personal and can be reached for emergencies during any 24 hour period.

IDENTITY: What constitutes your heaviest case load?

K.C.M.: AIDS patients, followed by oncology (cancer) and transplant patients. We do receive many advanced referrals and provide a confidential setting. We are seeing AIDS patients who do not wish to broadcast their condition to anyone. We are seeing many more women than ever before, as well as more non-English speaking patients.

IDENTITY: How long have you been in Anchorage?

K.C.M.: I moved here in 1981. So did Danita Fischbach, my business partner and co-owner. Together with a third specialist we each have developed a field of expertise: mine is HIV, Danita’s is oncology, and our specialist in nutrition completes the staff. We built this complex in 1994.

IDENTITY: Is there anything particular about your pharmacy which sets you apart from others?

K.C.M.: We are the only pharmacy in the state of Alaska which has been admitted by the JCAHO (Joint Commission of Accreditation of Health Organizations). The evaluation and examination of this very strict and prestigious organization is stringent. We are very proud of our rating … it’s tough to get in.

IDENTITY: Do you get to update your network through conferences and seminars?

K.C.M.: We both try to get to at least one major conference per year. We must stay current on the latest information and techniques regarding HIV and other disciplines. With early testing and treatment, people with HIV are living longer, 15-17 years in some cases. This is a very good reason to stay current and keep our clients current.

IDENTITY: What prompted you to advertise in the NorthView?

K.C.M.: The gay/lesbian community has a significant population who may be concerned about HIV or AIDS treatment and procedures. We want your readers to know what we can offer them. We pride ourselves on approachability and confidentiality. We also think you have a fine publication.

IDENTITY: Would you be willing to be a speaker at community functions? (I was thinking “Potluck” as I wrote, even though I was halfway out the door.)

K.C.M.: I would be happy to. Call after Christmas.

IDENTITY: Thanks, I will. (Now where did I put my calendar?)

Ruth Mathes is mentally redecorating the laundry room.

Support the Gay and Lesbian Community

Tell Our Advertisers You Saw It In the NorthView
HISTORY

Twenty-five Years of Courtroom Trauma
Thanks to the Advocate, August 23, 1994

In the coming months each issue of the NorthView will review a couple of years of legal developments in the world of sex and sexual diversity as compiled by the Advocate. As you will probably notice, it is most often we who lead and the law that follows.

In Braschi v. Stahl Associates Co., the New York State court of appeals rules that domestic partners of gays and lesbians should be considered family members under New York City rent-control and rent-stabilization laws.

After months of intense criticism from the media and the departure of three top staffers, high profile NGRA head Jean O'Leary resigns.

In Watkins v. United States Army, a federal appeals court orders the reinstatement of an openly gay soldier whose commanding officers - aware of his sexual orientation - repeatedly allowed him to reenlist.

A Los Angeles jury awards compensatory damages to an ex-lover of Rock Hudson who said the actor endangered him by not telling him he had AIDS.

In Price Waterhouse v. Hopkins, the Supreme Court rules that an accounting firm violated sex-discrimination laws by denying a partnership to a woman because of her masculine behavior.

Cincinnati museum director Dennis Barrie is charged with obscenity for booking a traveling exhibit of works by Robert Mapplethorpe that includes homoerotic photos. He is acquitted.

Massachusetts drops the hierarchical evaluation system that kept gays and lesbians from becoming adoptive and foster parents.

The Americans With Disabilities Act, which prohibits AIDS-based discrimination, is signed into law.

The Supreme Court refuses to hear an appeal of the dismissal of Miriam Ben-Shalom, discharged from the Army for saying she is a lesbian.

In Alison D. v. Virginia M., the New York State supreme court rules that the former lesbian partner of a child’s biological mother has no legal basis to pursue visitation rights. It’s one of the first lesbian-versus-lesbian child-custody cases to make it to a state appellate-level court.

In In re Adoption of Charles B., the Ohio supreme court voids a lower court’s ruling that adoption by a gay man could never be in the best interest of a child.

In In re Estate of Cooper, a Kings County, N.Y., surrogacy court rules that a same-sex domestic partner cannot be considered a spouse for inheritance purposes, at least in New York State.
Financial News
"Insuring Against A Disability"
by Chris Olson

Most gay and lesbian people support themselves by working. Gay couples usually consist of two wage earners. We love our lifestyles and have grown accustomed to the standard of living that our jobs allow us. Did you realize that a 30 year old earning $45,000 per year can expect to earn $1,575,000 during his/her lifetime? A 20 year old who earns $25,000 now will earn in excess of $1,100,000. This is a lot of money. It will buy your food, home, clothes, furniture, vacations, and cars. It will fund your retirement. It will provide gifts for your lover.

According to the US Department of Health and Human Services, the chances of a 20 year old having at least one long term disability (longer than 3 months) is 30%. The chances are 21% for a 45 year old. These are extremely high odds. The chances of dying are more remote than the chances of becoming disabled. Additionally, the Social Security Administration reports that the average duration of a long term disability is 12 years.

Have you ever thought what would happen if you could not go to work and earn a living? I mean if you wanted to work and needed to work but could not. Your lifestyle depends on that income. If you do become disabled there are options. You can spend your savings. Most retirement plans allow you to withdraw money without penalty if you are disabled. You can sell your assets and use the proceeds. You can borrow from others (with or without interest or repayment). You could draw an income from Social Security disability. They report that 56% of their claims are denied. In order to even apply for SS disability you must be totally disabled for 12 months. You could have private disability insurance. Disability insurance pays you a monthly income if you cannot earn a living due to illness or injury.

Private disability insurance begins to pay after a waiting period (usually 90 days). It will usually replace 65% of your income. Checks are sent to you, the insured, not to a doctor or hospital. You decide how the money is spent. Group disability insurance is very common as an employee benefit. If you leave your job you lose the coverage. Private disability insurance is obtained individually. You can keep it forever as long as you pay the premiums.

Disability insurance is difficult to obtain. Insurance carriers are very wary about insuring certain occupations. They vigorously underwrite every application trying to weed out the known risks. Disability insurance is just like all other kinds of insurance. It is intended to insure against the unknown and the catastrophic. You cannot get insurance for the unknown risks. My partner was approached years ago by an insurance agent who was selling disability insurance. She was running half marathons and working out every day. She was in a "safe" occupation and was a perfect risk for this insurance. She said "no." She and I both thought that it was a scam and a waste of money.

Now that this wonderful woman has optic neuritis (a precursor to multiple sclerosis) no insurance company will touch her. I would pay any premium for her to have a disability policy now. We will have to drastically alter our life plans to accommodate the loss of her income if Michelle ever becomes disabled. So be it. Can you believe that I sell the stuff now? She does have a group disability plan at her current job. We are OK as long as she is able to stay there.

The time to purchase disability insurance is when you are healthy. You will not be able to get it if you are unhealthy. The policy you buy should be from a reputable insurer with a financial rating of at least A+. Understand the type of policy you are buying. Some policies will not pay a benefit if you are only partially disabled. Some will not pay a benefit if you can work in another occupation. Some will not pay for mental and nervous disorders. Be careful to know what you are buying. You will pay a tidy sum for the coverage ($75 per month for a 30 year old male, standard benefits) and you want the coverage to pay you if you ever need it! I know several people who are collecting on disability policies. I know a few others who have lost everything due to a disability and were not insured. A disability policy can make all the difference in the world! Think about it!

Chris Olson is a fully licensed insurance and securities representative, has lived in Alaska for 14 years and welcomes new clients and referrals, especially from the Gay & Lesbian Community.

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TERM LIFE INSURANCE
Call: 338-3962 and leave a message for Chris
Insurance Broker for Alaska's Lesbian &
Gay Community
NorthView Classifieds & Want Ads

Looking for professional person or couple to share furnished, hillside home in Eagle River. Easy commute, great views of city, inlet and mountains and total privacy. Owner is gone over 50% of the time. Available immediately. $350 single; $55 couple including all utilities. Call: 696-0654.

Outreach Worker providing HIV prevention services for gay and bisexual men of color; 1/2x position in small community-based organization; successful applicant will have familiarity and experience with the target population, experience with support or service delivery programs and the ability to work flexible hours. Salary DOE. Minimum 2 years college preferred, significant experience may be substituted. Mail letter of introduction and resumes to IAA, P.O. 71248, Fairbanks, 99707. No phone inquires, please. Application deadline 12/10/95.

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Thursday night the Fairbanks North Star Borough Assembly narrowly voted down an ordinance that would have banned public use of display cases at the Noel Wien Public Library. Faced with a possible lawsuit, the assembly sought to somehow limit the presentation of controversial material from the view of children. A complaint alleged that information about homosexuality was "injurious to their" health. After a debate that has lasted through two assembly sessions and a work session of the committee as a whole, the vote came down close to midnight 5 - 6 against the measure. The assembly has sent the issue back to the library commission to come up with a policy that clearly states who will be able to present what in the library displays. This is a temporary stay at best.

Except for constitutional issues, the assembly does seem to be clear that homosexuality is a fact of life. Even the sponsors of the amendment repeatedly stated that they did not wish to have the community at large think that they were singling out one group. But one has to wonder what the real danger is to the community, since it is the issue of homosexuality that brought this to a vote in the first place. No one has discussed animal rights with the trapper's display that came to the library this month. No one seems to bring up the point that the assembly only honors pioneers each month and does not extend the same recognition to Alaska native citizens. None of my friends are afraid of me baby-sitting their kids. No one has accused me of molesting children. Nor have they done so to any other gay person they know personally.

People who fear this issue so much really need to ask themselves about the basis for their fears. They don't really know any gay people. In other communities, the community has adopted libraries and civic projects to better the quality of life for all. How hard would it be to extend the idea of "Adopt A Patch Of Sidewalk" in front of a Baptist church to "Adopt An Uninformed Person"? It requires little cash. There are plenty of souls that need this help, so there is no shortage on supply. If each one of us attached ourselves spiritually to one needy individual, and stayed with that person until a breakthrough occurred, just think of the positive outcomes. Libraries would be safe from attack. Kids would not have to face a wall of silence with the lack of information from parents, schooltexts and mentors. Recruitment by evangelical straights would end. The world would be a much better place.

I am thankful for many things, but ignorance and hate still tend to ruin my ability to be completely satisfied with the way things are. If we are willing to share with others the gains and successes we have achieved, we can start to see new avenues of progress. Share some history of the movement that you know about.

Pete Pinney is a UAF instructor and owner of Alta's Bed and Breakfast in Fairbanks.
Where in the World?
by Bob DeLoach

This issue of the “Northview” will be the 3rd anniversary of the “Where in the World” column. It is my hope that it has been informative to our community. That has been the intent. And no, it’s not your eyes, the type is smaller in the hopes of cramming the same information into a smaller space and reducing the overall cost of this service to our community.

1995-96 Permanent Fund Dividend Programs
With the loss of Mark Air out of the Alaska state side market the complexion of this year’s PFD airline promotions is quite different. Here is a brief breakdown on what is offered:

Hawaiian Vacations is offering 3 round trips to Honolulu.
Mark Air Express is offering 6 round trips in State.

Northwest is offering 3 round trips to most of their cities in the mainland US east of the Rockies (now the west coast) but they must originate in Alaska, must be used by members of the purchaser’s family and there are blackouts including the entire months of July and August 1996. Original of direct deposit slip of the check stub must be surrendered in the name of the purchaser at the time of purchase. 14 day prior purchase is required as well as other limitations.

Alaska Airlines offers 3 round trip trips to anywhere their jets fly on the West Coast (excluding Mexico). There are fewer blackouts and for an additional $198 you can upgrade to first class of fly to Mexico. Deposit of stub is required as well and travel must start in Alaska. 14 Day prior reservations are required.

Newcomer Reno is offering 3 first class round trip ticket to their west coast cities as well as Colorado Springs, Chicago, and Albuquerque. They do not require that you present PFD proof. If first class is not available on the day you wish to travel you can fly coach if seats are available.

United Airlines offered a large group of their cities at discounts of about 40% (directional from Alaska only) with travel to be complete by April 30, 1996. 14 day advance purchase and no PFD coupons. Also you may purchase one or more of these special fares and do not have to spend the entire dividend on travel. The other airlines who fly their routes quickly matched their fares so it was more like a fare war than a dividend plan.

The latest entry was by Delta Airlines who came up with yet another twist for the program. They offer 3 round trips to the West Coast area. For an additional $98 you can add the Central US as defined by them, and for a total of $198 you can add the East Coast or Mexico. $298 additional buys you Hawaii. Travel cannot start until after January 2nd and must be completed by December 15, 1996 with some other blackout periods of all of July and August 1996 as well as Sept. 1-2, Nov. 27-30, and Dec. 1-2, 1996. Proof of PFD is required.

Contact your travel agent for specific rules and regulations on these and other offerings for your PFD dollars.

Watch out Dutch Boys.
This reporter is departing for Amsterdam and a week tour of Holland at the invitation of the Netherlands Board of Tourism. The tour will specialize in Gay travel in the exciting country. When I return I will report to you on my discoveries!!!

Have a Great Turkey Day!!
Bob DeLoach, 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.

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Obituaries

DALE W. CUTLIP

No service was held. His body was cremated.
Mr. Cutlip was born June 7, 1957, in Meadville, Pennsylvania.
He lived in Anchorage from 1973 to 1991 and relocated because of poor health. Mr. Cutlip was a beautician at several Anchorage hair salons and owned the Hair Lair.
His family said: “Dale’s unrelenting humor and zest for life was an inspiration to all who loved him. He will be missed by many.”
Mr. Cutlip is survived by his companion, Kenneth Stranyak of Phoenix; daughter, Amber of Anchorage; sisters, JoLynn Cutlip and family and Saunya Alloway and family, all of Anchorage, and Debbie Guier and family of Ravenna, Ohio.
Burial will be alongside family members in Venango Cemetery in Venango, Pennsylvania.
Arrangements were handled by Best Funeral Services in Peoria, Arizona.

LOUIS MAYO
Former Anchorage resident Louis Mayo, 41, died October 16, 1995, at the Kaiser Permanente Hospital in San Francisco of AIDS-related complications.
A memorial service will be held in Anchorage at 2:30 p.m. November 11 at the Raspberry Road Baptist Church with the Rev. Leonard Everman officiating.
Mr. Mayo was born September 18, 1954, at Elmendorf Air Force Base Hospital. He attended elementary and junior high school in Anchorage, and graduated from West High School in 1972. According to his family, he was a member of the National Honor Society and the recipient of the Alaska Baptist Convention Scholarship to Wayland University in Plainview, Texas.
He graduated from San Francisco State in 1982 with a bachelor’s degree in marketing and advertising. He went on to practice his skills in the areas of human resources, editing and compiling computer data, customer-employee relations and law. His last full-time position was with the law firm of Jones, Day, Reavis and Pogue in Los Angeles.
Mr. Mayo enjoyed art, writing, music, interior design and reading. He became a Christian as a teen and was baptized at Calvary Baptist Church in Anchorage, later moving his membership to First Baptist Church in Valdez while working at the Alyeska Pipeline Terminal camp.
He contributed to AIDS research by participating in a special research group in California.
His family said: “We will miss his quick wit, sense of humor and whimsical smile. He will be remembered by his friends and family for his courage, strength, commitment to living and inner peace.”
Mr. Mayo is survived by his mother, Barbara Young; father, Louis Sr.; sisters, Sheri Jones and Sue Mayo; niece and nephew, Dawn and Christopher Jones, all of Anchorage; brother, David of Las Vegas; paternal grandmother, Mary Moore of Franklin, NC; paternal grandfather, Julian Mayo of Lakeworth, FL; and uncle and aunt, Mr. and Mrs. Keith McCormick of Boynton Beach, FL.
Memorial donations may be sent to a local AIDS organization of the donor’s choice.

RAYMOND W. BALDWIN
Anchorage resident Raymond W. Baldwin, 37, died October 19, 1995, at home of AIDS.
A memorial service will be held at 4 p.m. Tuesday at Lamb of God Metropolitan Church, 615 Hollywood Drive, No. 5.
Mr. Baldwin was born March 25, 1958, at Wheelus Air Force Base in Tripoli, Libya. He moved to Alaska in November 1969; attending high school in Fairbanks, then in Anchorage, where he graduated. Mr. Baldwin worked as a computer technician in Detroit after leaving Alaska in 1983. He returned to Anchorage in 1994.
His family said: “Raymond was a loving father, brother and son. He touched the lives of everyone around him, giving laughter, love and joy throughout his life. Those who knew him loved him. Raymond will be greatly missed by his family and friends.”
Mr. Baldwin is survived by his daughters, Lilah Lee and Selena Ann Baldwin of Nikiski; parents, Lilah and Raymond, brothers, Randy and Reginald, sister, Lisa Baldwin, and sisters-in-law, Mary Baldwin and Vivian Tomlinson, all of Anchorage; and longtime companion, Glenn Hall of Detroit.
Memorial donations may be sent to the Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association, 1057 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 102, Anchorage 99503; or Lamb of God Metropolitan Church, 615 Hollywood Drive, No. 5, Anchorage 99501.
Arrangements were handled by Evergreen Memorial Chapel.
"Anchorage's Favorite Movie Theatre"
Anchorage Daily News "8" Readers Poll

CAPRI CINEMA
561-0064
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"HIGH FLYING AND FUN!"

First there was Smoke, then there was fire...Auggie and his friends are back with more out-of-this-world tales. This improvisational spinoff, shot in six days is about, among other things, the wife of a smoke-shop owner who tries to convince the shop's manager to run off with her to Las Vegas. Directed by Wayne Wang from a scenario by Paul Auster with Roseanne, Harvey Keitel, Lily Tomlin, Madonna, Michael J. Fox, Mira Sorvino, RuPaul and Jim Jarmusch plus many more colorful characters. Rated R for language and a scene of nudity; 89 min. Premieres Nov. 22

CANADIAN BACON
This dark comedy is about a desperate U.S. President declaring a cold war on his neighbor's north - and the sheriff of Niagara Falls, who leads an unauthorized and misguided raid upon America's new enemy. Written and directed by satirist-documentarian Michael Moore (Roger & Me). Starring the late John Candy (his final film role), Rhea Perlman, Alan Alda, Kevin J. O'Connor, Kevin Pollak, Wallace Shawn and Rip Torn. Rated PG for mild language and violence. 91 min.
One Week Only Nov. 29-Dec. 5

DOUBLE HAPPINESS
A film by Mina Shum

A college-age Chinese-Canadian girl finds her relationship with her Occidental boyfriend is threatening to her tradition-minded parents, who want to steer her toward an older Asian professional her father has chosen for her. Rated PG13 for strong language, subject matter and brief nudity. 92 min. Premieres Dec. 1

MOONLIGHT & VALENTINO
With the help of her friend and family, a young woman tries to put her life back together after her husband is killed while out jogging. Starring Elizabeth Perkins, Whoopi Goldberg, Kathleen Turner, Gwyneth Paltro and rock star Jon Bon Jovi. Rated R for brief strong language; 105 min. Debut Dec. 15

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mute witness
A mute makeup/special effects artist working on a low-budget slasher film in an old broken down Moscow film studio think she witnesses the making of a snuff film. Thus begins a night of terror as this exhilarating suspense thriller takes the audience gleefully from laughter to terror. Rated R for violence and a strong scene combining sex and violence; 95 min. Premieres Nov. 24

"BUDDING SEXUALITY...STUNNING YOUTH."
-Stephen Salam, DETAILS

WILD REEDS
Against the backdrop of the Algerian War, four teenagers in France grapple with their emerging politics and nascent sex. Candid, knowing and rich this drama set in 1962 features a Beach Boys/Chuckie Checker soundtrack with intense teenage discussions of Ingmar Bergman's symbolism, and school boy debates about communism and colonialism. A lovely coming of age saga of youth on a sentimental journey. Winner of four Cesar awards including best picture and best director, Andre Techine. Not Rated but includes nudity and rough language. 110 min. Premieres December 1

EMPIRE RECORDS
Comedy about a group of young record store employees who find their individual and collective lives unraveling and unraveling over the course of a single day. Directed by Allan Moyle (Pump Up The Volume) with Anthony LaPaglia, Debi Mazar, Johnny Whitworth, Maxwell Caulfield and Rory Cochrane. Rated PG-13 for sexual situations, language and a drug issue. 88 min. One Week Only Dec. 8-14

All Programs and Schedules are subject to change. Please call ahead to avoid disappointment.

The Management reserves the right to restrict admission to young children. Please call ahead to check on age restrictions.
Ice Packs and Videos
by Jen Kohout

Sitting on the couch this morning with a bag of frozen corn wrapped around my swollen knee, I began to appreciate the myriad of ways people cope with stress. Now, because I am a lawyer, not a therapist, it should become immediately clear that I am absolutely unqualified to say anything profound about healthy coping mechanisms. (I am, however, qualified to ramble on at great length about things I know very little about, once I disclaim all liability.)

Personally, I am of the “you can outrun your problems” school of coping. Admittedly, some people don’t take that principle quite as literally as I. But I find that a very long run usually leaves me feeling quite centered and restored. Besides, it has added benefits. First, it is better for your lungs than smoking. This assumes of course that you do not jog along the shoulder of a major interstate highway.

Second, it is less expensive than drinking. I figure I spend approximately $60 on running shoes a year. A beer at the local gay bar sets me back $2.50. Let’s see...24 bottles of Rolling Rock or a new pair of Saucony’s? Finally, you get in shape when you run a lot. So, if heart-break happens to be the source of your stress, you at least have the consolation of knowing that a couple heads may turn for a better view of your well-defined quads when you walk into the local gay bar for your glass of water.

Of course, running all the time will only get you so far. As I’ve recently discovered, it has its limitations. Your joints may rebel. For some odd reason, the cartilage beneath your knee cap may not be pleased that you have chosen to get through a major life crisis by scampering up and down the pavement. In fact, it may get so bad that you have to pay some hot shot young MD a lot of money to tell you not to run so much. Add another $60 onto your annual shoe bill and suddenly you’re up to 48 domestic beers in opportunity cost. Now, not only are you limping around the living room, but you’re relegated to finding another way to cope with your stress.

I had a friend in law school who, after being dumped by her girlfriend, quit school and joined the Marines. She made it all the way through boot camp only to come to her senses the morning she was supposed to sign on the dotted line and accept her commission. I thought Pam’s initial choice was a tad excessive. That was until last week when I decided that I couldn’t possibly run far enough. Nursing a sore ankle, I put on my Birkenstocks and marched (gingerly) over to see the Peace Corps recruiter.

Upon hearing of my plans to spend the next two years of my life in a mud hut in some politically unstable African country, a couple of my friends decided to take me out to dinner. (I think it’s called an intervention). “Come on, Jen, you might as well join the Foreign Legion,” said one politically correct friend who argued that the Peace Corps was nothing more than an instrument for US propaganda. “How about a nunny?” helpfully suggested the other. I rolled my eyes. At least they paid for the meal. I did at least appreciate the underlying message which was that running off to some exotic savanna might not necessarily solve everything or make the pain go away. In fact, it was more likely that I’d end up with malaria on top of my broken heart. Heck, I’d rather stay home and watch videos until I feel better.

This line of thought led me to more sedentary coping mechanisms. The most prominent of which is sleep. Sleeping through a stressful period is an attractive idea, but it has some major disadvantages. Look what happened to Rip Van Winkle. He went to sleep and woke up twenty years later with a lot of facial hair and no friends. I’ll pass, thanks. Besides, you miss out on the opportunity to make tremendous gains in personal growth as you simultaneously help some therapist afford her next foreign vacation.

I guess ultimately the trick in dealing with a stressful period is to find a healthy balance between distraction and conscious reflection. And if that doesn’t work, call your lawyer, she’ll probably have some helpful suggestions for you.

Jen Kohout (is distracting herself at the keyboard)
Nun of the Above
by Leslea Newman

Here’s a quiz for all you gay history buffs: what occurred on August 5, 1962?
A) Marilyn Monroe died.
B) Flash entered the convent.
C) All of the above.

The correct answer is C. For 200 bonus points, choose one:
A) Marilyn Monroe, upon hearing that Flash was no longer available, did herself in.
B) Flash, after crossing M.M.’s name off her list of potential girlfriends, took a vow of chastity.
C) Sister Flash ain’t telling.

Around August 1, my beloved grows nostalgic for the nunnery. She shows me photos of Mother Masochist kneeling on a cheese grater and Sister Sadist flicking her whip. She tries to deny yet again that she and Sister Lola Brigid had a particular friendship going, but I am not convinced.

Each year we observe the day Flash entered the convent. We’ve seen Nunsense, Sister Act, The Singing Nun, and The Flying Nun. Last year we got drunk on a bottle of Blue Nun, which is a tough act to follow. Luckily Flash has the answer.

“Look what came in the mail today,” she says.

“An invitation to Sister Mike’s Golden Anniversary. She’s been a nun for fifty years.”

“How come this says Sister Mary Maria Marie?”

“That’s her official name,” Flash says, “but to us nuns she was always Sister Mike.”

“Are we going?”

“I wouldn’t miss it,” Flash says. “The Sisters of Perpetual Latency are known for their parties. And besides, it’s on August 5, and you know what that means.” Flash folds her hands and an angelic look appears on her face. “God works in mysterious ways,” she says, proving you can take the nun out of the convent, but you can’t take the convent out of the ex-nun.

August 5 dawns bright and sunny. We climb into Flash’s car, and before I can sing “Like a Prayer” for the twentieth time, we arrive at Flash’s alma mater. “Let’s go in the main entrance,” Flash says. We enter a great, deserted hall and a voice booms out of nowhere, “You’re late, Sister Flash!” My beloved starts shaking like the cowardly lion in that scene where Dorothy and company meet the Wizard of Oz.

“Relax, Flash,” I say. “Who do you think that was, God?”

“No, w-w-worse,” she stammers. “M-M-Mother G-G-General.”

Mother General? Should I salute? Before I can ask, the Grand Poobah of Mothers comes out from behind a curtain. Since her presence has reduced my brave butt into a mass of quivering Jell-O, I step forward. “Hello, Mother General, I’m …”

“Silence!” Mother General thunders. I run shrieking back to Flash. “The Great and Powerful Mother General knows who you are and why you have come. And I have every intention of granting your wish to see Sister Mary Maria Marie.”

“Oh, th-th-thank you, M-M-Mother G-G-General,” Flash trembles on her knees.

“Silence!” Mother General barks again. “Off with you to the social hall, before I change my mind.”

“C’mon.” Flash and I race to the social hall where Sister Mike’s party is in full swing. In fact, a choir of alter boys whose members bear a striking resemblance to Lesbianvillian’s Gay Men’s Chorus are singing “I Will Follow Him.”

“Sister Flash! I knew you’d come.” Sister Mike has a deep, groveling, Harvey Fierstein voice that makes this femme weak in the knees. She looks me up and down. “Who’s this, your roommate?”

“No, Sister Mike. She’s my companion.”

“Your companion? Sister Flash, shame on you.” Flash hangs her head. Sister Mike lets a moment pass before she growls, “I believe the respectful term is beloved companion.”

Flash lifts her head. “You mean you approve?”

“Of course I approve.” She slaps Flash on the back and my beloved companion goes flying.

“Congratulations. She’s a hell of a lot cuter than Sister Lola Brigid.”

“Is she here?” I ask.

“No, my child,” Sister Mike answers.

“Too bad,” Flash says. Sister Mike throws her a dirty look. “Sister Flash, go get us some refreshments.”
Flash hurries off. Sister Mike whispers to me, "Can I ask you a personal question?"
"Sure."
"What do you think of these shoes?" Sister Mike lifts the hem of her habit discreetly.
"They're very nice, Sister. Chunky heels are in this year."
"You don't think they're too..." She lowers her husky voice even further, "...fem mee?"
"No. On someone else maybe, but you can get away with it."
Satisfied, Sister Mike drops her skirt as Flash returns. "Isn't the food heavenly?" Sister Mike asks.
"The rolls are out of this world," I answer.
"Nun buns," Sister Mike says. "Take some for the road." She opens my pocketbook and dumps in a dozen.
"We'd better be going," Flash says.
"You can't leave now," Sister Mike rasps. "Mary and the Magdalenos are just about to start." And sure enough, the singing nuns break into "Song of the Soul."
"Flash," I whisper. "That's the Lesbian National Anthem."
"I believe Cris Williamson sings it," Sister Mike says in her scratchy voice. Then, as if on cue, all the nuns stand, form a circle, link arms and start swaying. As I stand there between Flash and Sister Mike, I ask myself:

A) Am I still at the convent, or have I been beamed up to the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival?
B) Did Sister Mike just goose me on the behind, or was that a love pinch from Sister Flash?
C) Is that a nun bun in Mother General's pocket or is she just happy to see me?

Of course the correct answer to all three questions is, "I don't know." Because a sister is a sister is a sister, and Sisterhood is Powerful, wherever you're lucky enough to find it.

Leslie Newman is the author of twenty books and the editor of five anthologies. Her newest titles are The Femme Mystique and A Loving Testimony: Remembering Loved Ones Lost to AIDS.
StarGazer
Commentary
by Barbara J. Soule

Our gut feelings, intuition, spiritual guides or our
wardian angels often give us vital information and
assistance. Just by living life, the day-to-day experi-
ence adds up to a wealth of knowledge. Our guida-
ance and lessons can take any number of forms. It's
been my experience those lessons appear in many
guises. Lessons come in all areas of our lives. Our
sexuality and sex practices are an issue in the Gay,
Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender community.

Recently, I read "Stone Butch Blues." Leslie
Feinberg is a stunning writer. Her book could either
be a composite of the experiences of many butches in
one character or autobiographical
... it's not clear.
The book had me
alternately in
ears, outraged and
ashamed of the
judgments I've
made about
women that I did
not understand.
A
"stone butch" is a pariah among Gay women, the
kind of woman that other Lesbians speak in whispers
about to each other. She's a woman who'll make
love to you, but you can't touch her.

One night, about twenty years ago, a woman I was
talking to at the Village mentioned she had no place
to sleep for the night. I took her home to bunk with
me as a sisterly gesture. When we got to my house,
she said, "Let's get one thing straight ..." She would
make love to me, but I could not touch her sexually.

I was wide-eyed and speechless for several min-
utes. I'd thought it too cold outside for the woman
to be sleeping in her car and knew that in inviting
her home there was an unspoken possibility we could
end up sleeping together, but that was something
we'd both have to agree to. I was uncomfortable,
embarrassed ... moving quickly past the thoughts
and feelings; somehow it didn't seem "right." So, I said I
didn't consider that a fair exchange between two
people. After reading Leslie Feinburg's book, I feel
very sad for my long-ago guest, I'd judged her as not
being "right," instead of unbearably hurt. It's too
late to apologize to that woman, but I can reserve my
judgment of people that I do not understand.

We can all give each other that gift. I attended
the conference workshop about what keeps the (gay)
community apart; it is clear just such judgments of
each other can divide and alienate sections of the
Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community.
Let's give each other the gift of acceptance. That
would be something for which we, as a community,
could be very thankful. Have a wonderful, warm,
compassionate Thanksgiving.

Barbara Soule is a Reiki Master, a clairvoyant psychic, a Lesbian
artist, performer and writer.

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Expectations Ruin the Peace

by Karen Carlisle

The wise ones say if we begin the day by smiling, good things will come all day. It’s easy to smile when dear Love and I awake simultaneously. It’s such a miracle to find her beside me, and besides, her bed hair makes me laugh.

Today I woke up all broody like the dark Irishwoman I am, but then my calico cat, Yaga, jumped up on the bed, stuck her cold nose in my armpit and began to chew on the hair. That made me laugh. Calicos are a little touched, you know -- my little divine Fool!

But I’m still broody. ’Tis the season when griefs bubble to the surface -- ghostly remnants of all our unfulfilled expectations about family, about goodness, about peace. The wise ones say that most people die in the darkest part of night -- and in the darkest part of the year. It’s true in my life.

Today, I just realized, is the anniversary of my mother’s death. After 17 years, all the presages it is a restlessness, a turning inward so that sometimes the day passes without my noticing. Certainly one of my unfulfilled expectations about family was that there’d be a mother waiting at the door with cookies, milk and kindness. Damn “Leave it to Beaver,” “The Donna Reed Show,” “The Brady Bunch” et al. Who lived in my house was a roaring harrikan who staggered through the door long after dinner, or not at all, a woman trying to stuff her grief into a bottle. My father’s gone too -- disappeared into war when I was ten, never found. I was right with Yitzhak Rabin’s granddaughter as she said goodbye to him. Don’t I keep saying goodbye to my mother and father? Dear Love and I, both orphans, watched the funeral together with twin lumps in our throats. And when Rabin’s friend held up the bloodyed peace song in his shaking hand, my Dear Love overflowed with sorrow that juxtaposition of symbols that open the heart of the artist and poet she is. I gathered her close, murmuring into her hair as she wept, and soon, I was weeping too, and we rocked each other into stillness. A holy moment. Grief shared -- a rare moment, dear readers.

It is easy to share old, distant griefs and those tolling bells of the world that touch us all collectively, but not personally. Easier anyway. But it’s not so easy to let your lover grieve in the present. Maybe it’s because it stimulates unresolved pain in our own hearts, or maybe because it takes away from our own pleasure. It doesn’t seem fitting to feel joyful or excited when my Dear Love is sad. Or maybe it’s because I feel responsible to fix it. Is any of this true for you, dear readers? For you Dear Love?

you have done well so far in letting me pour my grief into your body and giving me back the peace of your love. And we both have seen how releasing sorrow scrubs away depression and leaves us shining serenely. Last year, after reaching out for reconciliation with an only child gone missing voluntarily, and failing, you put up with the anger misdirected at you until the dormant volcano of pain I was determined not to feel exploded. you were there, if uneasy, and I love you for that. This is a ghost that won’t be laid to rest.

But now there is Ken -- brother of my heart suffering terribly and I can’t fix it and even if I were with him I might be a burden because he’s on a journey I can’t share, and it hurts and you don’t want me to feel this pain. Is that right, love?

So I have an expectation that you should receive all my grief as if you were a toxic waste dump? Do I think I must do the same for you? We are taught that it is having expectations at all that causes disappointment. I feel disappointed so I must have held this expectation. I don’t blame you or anyone, even myself, for shying away or being angry. It’s hard to let someone share her grief. It punches all those sad buttons, doesn’t it? But I know this much: Not letting the grief flow damps up my love and my laughter as well. So it’s to be poured out.

Did you notice, Dear Love, that I shut down a little after a certain conversation about Hawaii? Maybe you didn’t do this, but I perceived that you were trying to prevent my expressions of grief and that you were afraid that grief might ruin our vacation. Girl-friend, not feeling it would ruin our vacation, trust me. I would be sulky, resentful and withdrawn. My first morning alone after you went to Anchortown, sitting in the quiet, that sad stuff bubbled right up and I cried and cried, loudly with my mouth hinged wide open and for a long time. And now the river flows unimpeded. Sometimes I have to be alone and quiet to know what I feel, to be free to give free rein to my sadness. Sometimes, maybe, none of us can accept any more sorrow...ours or anyone else’s.

Thank you for your gifts of gentleness, acceptance and unconditional love...so much more than I’ve ever had or hoped for. And if you don’t reach the height of St. Dear Love, I can live with that, if you will forgive me when I don’t live up to your expectations.

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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 Assoc., 263-2850 (see 4A's page)
(A) Alaskans Living with HIV (ALHIV), Juneau, 463-5688
(A) Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center (free HIV testing), Stephanie, 257-4637
(A) Interim AIDS Assoc., 452-4222
(A) Pierce County AIDS Found. (WA), 206-383-2565
(A) Shanti of Juneau, 907-463-5665, 1-800-478-AIDS (2437)
(A) S.T.O.P. AIDS Project, Koala, 278-5019

Air Service:
(L) Mt. McKinley Air Service, Kell or LeeAnn, 800-564-1765; 907-733-1765

Alternative Medicine/Health:
(A) Hope, 561-2330
(A) Gatekey, Ketki/Jaimini, 561-7327

Amusement:
(G) Hollywood Canteen, Rand, 561-0064

Apparel:
(A) The Look, Kari, 278-5665

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

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

Automotive:
(A) Courtney's, Linzy, 562-1227 (see ad)
(A) S&W Radiator Supply (Fairbanks), RJ, 907-452-2220

Bakery:
(G) Illusions, Brian, 561-8458 (see ad)

Bars:
(G/L) The Blue Moon, 277-0441
(G/L) O'Brady's, 344-8033, 338-1080, 563-1080 (see ad)
(G/L) Palace Saloon (Fairbanks), Alaskaland (Fri and Sat Only)
(G/L) The Raven, 276-9672
(L/G) The Wave, 274-7511 or 561-WAVE

Bed & Breakfast:
(G) Alfa's (Fairbanks), Pete, 907-457-0246 (see ad)
(G) Arctic Feather, Doug, 277-3862
(A) Aurora Winds, James/Bill, 346-2533
(A) Beach House, Mary (Homer), 907-235-5945 (see ad)
(L) Blue Heron B&B (Missouri), Lucille, 417-999-4302

Bicycle Repair:
(G) Roy's Bikes, Roy, 333-8211

Boarding School Selection:
(A) Tom Croke, 277-7004

Body Work:
(L) Movement Options, Shari, 272-0816

Books:
(A) Bona Dea Women's Bookstore, Joann/Marla, 562-4716 (see ad)
(A) Alaskan, Gene, 561-1340 (see ad)
(A) Cymo's Books, Sandy/Jerry, 274-2599
(A) Into the Woods Bookshop (Fairbanks), Connie, 907-479-7701

Carpet & Linoleum Installation:
(A) Big Bob's, Mark, 561-2121
(A) Don, 349-1065

Catering:
(G) Alaska Best Catering, Maurice, 338-1080, 337-1969
(G) Illusions, Brian, 561-8458 (see ad)
(G) Silver Spoon Cleaning & Catering, Brent, 258-0828

Chemical Dependency:
(G/L/B) Pride Institute (Minnesota), 800-54-PRIDE (547-7433), Also Los Angeles, CA, Coconut Grove, FL and New York City.

Child Care:
(G) Kid Zone, Andrew, 337-3082

Churches:
see Spiritual

Coffee Houses:
(G) Hollywood Canteen, Rand, 561-0064
(G/L) The Socialite Dine at the Wave, Trina, 274-7511 or 561-WAVE (see flyer)

College Selection:
(A) Tom Croke, 277-7004

Computer Bulletin Board:
(G) The Wilde Side, 333-4039
(G) Wings!, 243-7818, 243-7371 (G/L/Internet access)

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

Computer Consultants, Graphic Design, & Desktop Publishing:
(L) Angie, 337-0253 (see ad)
(G) By-Teq Alaska, Inc, Fken, 248-2422
(L) CDA Services, Walter, 276-6862
(A) Computer Magik, Phil, 274-3828
(G) gra./x., Lucian, 561-5856
(L) Helleck & Assoc., Terry, 276-3869
(G) Mark, 338-3357
(G) PC Possibilities, 248-6277

Computer Training:
(G) Seven Treasures Ent., Don, 338-9068

Costume Design:
(G) Every Bloomin' Thing, Jerry, Malcom, 274-3158

Construction:
(L) R&L Construction, Lisa, 279-4606

Counseling:
(G) Ability Design Associates, Daren, 562-9575
(A) Connie, 561-1826
(L) Jann, 248-9408
(L) Katie, 561-4284
(A) Marion, 562-0012
(A) Psychological Services Center, 786-1795
(L) Tess, Alternative Counseling, 562-8281

Dancing:
(G/L) The Wave, Trina, 274-7511 or 561-WAVE (see flyer)

Deaf Support:
(A) Interpreter Referral Line, 277-3323 voice, 277-0735 try
(A) Deaf Rehabilitation Serv., 277-3456 voice, 258-2232, try

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

Dr. Shows:
(G/L) The Blue Moon, Misty Dawn, 277-8441
(G/L) The Wave, Trina, 274-7511 or 561-WAVE (see flyer)

Drug Dependency:
(G/L/B) Pride Institute (Minnesota), 800-54 PRIDE (547-7433). Also Los Angeles CA, Coconut Grove FL and New York City.

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

Electronics:
(A) Frigil North, Tom, 561-4633 (see ad)

Electrolysis:
(A) Anchorage Skin Care Clinic, Barbara, 277-4247
(A) Gentle Touch, 561-6008 (see ad)

Entertainment:
(G) Capri Cinema, 561-0040, Movieline: 275-3799 (see ad)
(A) Mascarella Music, Diane, 277-9751
(L) Real Talent Productions, Karyn, 562-5777, 278-5683
(A) Syzygy/Music Magic, Linda, 274-2599

Financial, Insurance, Investments:
(L) Chris, 561-8040/338-3962 (see ad)
(G) Jon, Bank of America, 263-3273

Feldenkrais:
(L) Movement Options, Shari, 272-8816

Fishing:
(L) Puffin Family Charters, Leslie, 278-3346 (see ad)

Flightseeing:
(L) Mt. McKinley Air Service, Keli or LeeAnn, 800-564-1765; 907-733-1765

Floors & Tile:
(A) Quality Floors, Bob & Ruth, 248-3900

Florists:
(G) Every Bloomin’ Thing, Jerry, Malcom, 274-3158
(A) Growing Concern Florist, Daria, 279-6688

Flying:
(L) McKinley Air Svc., Lee Ann & Keli, 800-564-1765

Furniture:
(A) Design Craft, Laura/David, 279-0638 (see ad)

Gas:
(A) Courtney’s, Linny, 562-1227 (see ad)

General Contracting:
(G) Mat-Su Weatherization Services, L. Hansen, 907-278-9276

Gifts:
(L) Bonn Dea Women’s Bookstore, Joann/Marish, 562-4716 (see ad)
(A) Design Craft, Laura/David, 272-4438 (see ad)
(A) Love of Alaska, Talyne, 243-0876

Glacier Landings:
(L) Mt. McKinley Air Service, Keli or LeeAnn, 800-564-1765; 907-733-1765

Haitystyling:
(G) Gabriel, 272-9045
(A) 36th Ave. Hair Design, Ledjha, 561-8967

Health:
(G) Gateley, Ketki/Jaimini, 561-7327
(L) Health Advocacy Medical/Legal Research, Linda, 337-8253
(A) Home Health Care, 261-3173
(L) Movement Options, Shari, 272-0316
(A) Nature’s Own Way, Roberto/Debby, 561-0181
(A) The Ole Herb Shoppe, Constance, 522-4372
(G/L) Pride Institute (Minnesota), 800-54 PRIDE (547-7433). Also Los Angeles CA, Coconut Grove FL and New York City.
(A) Skin care, Shari, 345-7451

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

Helpline:
(G/L) Fairbanks Lesbian/Gay Line, 907-458-8288
(G/L) Identity Helpline, 258-4777 (see ads)

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

Housewares:
(A) Design Craft, Laura/David, 272-4438 (see ad)

Hypnotherapy:
(A) Rainbow Counseling, Maarueen, 277-0982

Imperial Court:
(G) Imperial Court of All Alaska, Madeline, 338-3327

Income Tax Preparation:
(A) Lynn (LaPerriere) Thomas, 263-0720 (see ad)

Independent Marketer:
(A) Mark, 279-5264

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

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

Landscaping:
(L) Wood Nymph Landscaping, Valerie, 274-8006

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

Massage:
(G) Don, 338-8826
(G) Gabriel, 272-9045
(A) Joyce, (CMT), 562-1916 (see ad)
(L) Leslie (non-sexual), 278-3346
(A) Marion, 562-0912
(L) Vicki, 277-5222
(L) Beth (MT), Debbie (CMT), 566-0842

Media:
(L) NLGIA (National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association), Kim, Alaska chapter coordinator and board member, of 277-2704

Meetings:
(G/L) The Wave, Trina, 274-7511 or 561-WAVE (see flyer)

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

Music/Instruments:
(A) Oldtime Music Company, Marge, 561-6862 (see ad)

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

Newsletters/Newspapers:
(L) Klondeky Kontact (Alaska Women’s Cultural Center), 277-9763
(GLA) NorthView (Identity), 258-4777
(GL) Perspective (S.E.A.G.I.A. (Juneau), 586-4297
Nightclubs:
(G/L) The Blue Moon, 277-0441
(G/L) The Raven, 276-9672
(G/L) The Wave, Trina, 274-7511 or 561-WAVE (see flyer)

Obstetrics & Gynecology:
(A) June, 563-5151

Odd Jobs:
(L) Deb, 275-3018
(A) Service with a Smile (non-sexual), Liz, 274-5290

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

Personal Services (non-sexual):
(A) Service with a Smile (non-sexual), Liz, 274-5290

Pet Care:
(A) Alaska Pet Palace, Sharon, 276-0668
(A) Doggie Hut, Arlid, 279-5861

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

Political:
(A) Alaskans Concerned About Latin America (ACA), Ruth, 333-1198
(A) Anchorage Women's Political Caucus, Rhonda, 274-9308
(G/L) Equal, Inc., 274-9226 (see ad)
(G/L) Log Cabin Republicans, (903) 642-7292

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

Private Instruction:
(L) Carolyn Lancaster, M.Ed., School Survival Skills, 274-5059
(A) Kathleen L. McDonough, School Survival Skills, 274-5059

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

Producing:
(L) Real Talent Productions, Karyn, 562-5777, 578-5683

Recreation:
(A) Alaska Women of the Wilderness, Rachael, 688-2226
(L) McKinley Air Svc., Lee Ann & Kelli, 800-564-1765
(L) Puffin Family Charters, Leslie, 278-3346 (see ad)
(G/L) Triangle Tours, Greg, 786-3707, 808-779-3701
(G/L) The Wave, Trina, 274-7511 or 561-WAVE (see flyer)

Real Estate:
(G) Apollo Real Estate, Bob, 561-0661 (see ad)
(A) Bronwyn Hillman, 248-2804, 563-5156 (see ad)
(L) Century 21 (Missouri), Lucille, 417-745-6798 (o); 417-993-4302 (h)
(L) Dynamic Properties, Jill, 261-7663
(G) Dream Homes (Fairbanks), Jonathan, 907-451-1828 (see ad)
(L) Waltraud Barron, 274-4089

Reiki/Counseling:
(A) Joyce, CMT, 562-1916 (see ad)
(L) Spirit Services, Barbara, 274-4089

Research:
(L) Cracun & Associates, 279-3982 (see ad)

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

Retirement Plans:
(A) Lynn (LaPetriete) Thomas, 263-0720 (see ad)

Rooming Houses:
(A) Regina's, 276-4904

Security Alarm Systems:
(G) Mark, 278-2029

Self-Healing:
(A) Joyce, CMT, 562-1916 (see ad)

Sightseeing:
(L) McKinley Air Svc., Lee Ann & Kelli, 800-564-1765
(L) Puffin Family Charters, Leslie, 278-3346 (see ad)

Social/Educational:
(G) Anchorage Garden Buddies, 258-4777
(GL) Q-Klatch (Fairbanks), Eric, 455-4051

Social Research Design, Student Consultation, Evaluation:
(L) Susan L. Johnson, Ph.D., 272-4113

Spiritual:
(A) Alaska Women of the Wilderness, Rachael, 688-2226
(A) Anchorage Church of Religious Science, Center for Positive Living, Rev. Nancee Sweeney, 258-0010
(A) Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Art, 248-3737 (see ad)
(A) Church of the Covenant (Matanuska Valley), Pastor Howard Bess, 746-1869
(A) Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, Jim, 258-5266
(A) St. James the Fisherman Episcopal Church (Kodiak), Fr. Paul, 486-5276
(A) Unity Church of Anchorage, 346-2824

Sports:
(L) Alaska Women of the Wilderness, Rachael, 688-2226
(A) Flies by Iene (Eagle River), 907-694-6946
(L) McKinley Air Svc., Lee Ann & Kelli, 800-564-1765
(G) Roy's Bikes, Roy, 333-8221

Student Organizations:
(G/L) Alaskan Gay and Lesbian Association (AGLA), Pete, 907-457-8246 (see Club Notes)
(G/L) The Family (formerly Lesbian, Gay and Bi Student Association), UAA, (see Club Notes)

Support Groups:
(G) Ability Design Associates, Doran, 562-9575
(A) P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gay, Anchorage), Sylvia 562-4992, Fred 562-7161
(A) P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gay, Fairbanks), Mary Jo, 907-459-8985
(A) P-FLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gay, Juneau), 907-463-4203

Tattoo/Psychic:
(L) Mariah, Bona Dea Women's Bookstore, 562-4716
(L) Spirit Services, Barbara, 274-4089

Therapeutic Facilities Out-of-State:
(A) Tom Croke, 277-7004

Theatre:
(A) Our North Theatre, Gene/Jay, 279-8090

Tours:
(G) Triangle Tours, Greg, 786-3707, 800-779-3701

Travel:
(G) Apollo Travel Agency, Bob, 561-0661 (see ad)
(G) Apollo Travel Agency, Chuck, 561-0661 (see ad)
(L) Apollo Travel Agency, Karyn, 561-0661 (see ad)
(E) DreamQuest Tours, Karyn, 562-5777, 274-5683
(L) Equinox Wilderness Expeditions, Karen, voice mail: 274-9807
(G) World Express Travel, Greg, 786-3701

Tutoring:
(A) James, Biology, 248-6412
(L) Carolyn Lancaster, M.Ed., School Survival Skills, 274-5059
(A) Kathleen L. McDonough, School Survival Skills, 274-5059

Veterinarian:
(A) Gim, 345-1515
(L) Vicki, 345-1515
(A) Dr. Jean Bitting (Fairbanks) 452-6055

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

Writing & Editing Assistance:
(A) Kathleen L. McDonough, School Survival Skills, 274-5059
(L) Kathy, 278-2840 ▼
The Albums of Potter's Lane
(Remembering)
by Dan Cook

Part 31
"Playing the hand you’re dealt"

The Electra Four Star lifted off the runway at the crack of dawn leaving the Miami airfield behind them. Its mission: to get to Boise as fast as possible stopping only for fuel and a quick stretch between naps on one of the couches. There was a light snow falling in the mile-high city and the tower told them a major front would probably close the airport by morning. Their best bet was to outrun the storm via Salt Lake City.

The storm hit full force halfway there, tossing the plane around like a ping pong ball. It took both Cha Cha and Vince trying everything they knew just to keep from being slammed into the Rocky Mountains. They were very grateful just to be alive when they touched down. Mike and Steve got the first train out. The train to Boise gave Steve the time to write Mama Lane's eulogy. He felt papa and mama's presence on the flight and had a different perspective now.

Steve's eulogy began with "Oh My", praising this tender loving soul. Each paragraph started with “Oh My” and at the end he said he could picture mama saying “Oh My, papa ... so this is what heaven looks like.”

Mrs. Holt and Mama Lane hit it off right from the first day they met in 1928. They were as close as sisters. Writing letters each week was as common as fried chicken on Sunday. Mrs. Holt shared those letters with Lucy over coffee. On the trip back to the ranch the three men decided it was time she slowed down. They didn't want to lose her. She didn't want to hear anything about retirement and let them know that in no uncertain terms. Life had dealt her a full house ... 3 aces (Robert, Mike and Steve)and two jacks (David and Bob). She didn't have to 'take a draw'... she could 'stand pat'. She held a lot of love and admiration in her 'full house' and wasn't about to throw in the hand.

One thing they discussed was the third floor of the barn and the basement. The guys never threw anything away. They were both used to getting anything they wanted now, but whatever was being replaced was stored in the barn or the basement, and both of these were now full to overflowing. Even worse was the collection of 6 cars and 2 trucks that now lined the south side of the barn looking like they were waiting for a checkered flag to drop. It was obvious that this keeping and not trading had gotten out of hand. Mary and Etta offered their big stables that faced the highway. The girls thought it would make a great spot for used furniture, clothing and even used cars on consignment. They had offered it once before, but now was the time. God only knows the boys could give the girls a real head start on this bargain basement idea. The horse business was getting a lot tougher each year, not financially but physically. After all, they were almost 50.

The word got around that these women needed anything used. They were besieged by phone calls from friends in Bend, Pineville and John Day. If they wanted what was in an attic or shed, it was theirs (if they would come and get it). Within two weeks the girls were out of room and were using the tents from the Traveler Aid Station just to cover up mounds of boxes and furniture. They hired two young men with a truck just to pick up and deliver.

The widow next door was hired on commission, and they decided to double the size of the building. They also discovered they were great at selling cars. They didn't play sucker bets, and they knew when to double up when they had a sucker. There was nothing like drawing from an inside redneck straight and winning all bets.

Among the items kept in the barn were three large spools of electrical wire left over from the state installation. Steve had saved them, and now the power was needed to the Purty house, the three spools were a good start. The ranch would have to get many more, but the power company would do the work.

The power poles were cut and holes dug. Steve's crew had the poles in place when the electricians came to string wire for the Purty house. Mike and Steve also agreed that the boys should have running water. The boys were moving into the 20th century. The road was finally completed all the way to Purty.

Electric poles and a dirt road with deep ruts.

Linemen stringing wire. A photo of the Purty house taken at night all lit up. They had played by house rules, and getting electricity was the jackpot.

The Sisters and The Pink Lady both docked at mother's pier. The girls were all going on The Sisters (Etta, Mary, Fingers, Snap, Cha Cha and Victoria). The Pink Lady would have Mike, Steve, Vince, Roland, Charles, Parry, Brisk, Robert and Neal. Bob and David were the only ones that couldn't make it. Nick and Joe had to stay with The Sisters: they were ‘captain and crew’ until they got to the island.
Everyone but Cha Cha and Victoria were amazed at how much had been done. Even before they sailed into the cove they could see the two concrete square columns. They were about 10 feet high with round beacons set on red brick foundations flanking the entrance to the lagoon. A long pier stretched out from the ferryboat that was now a floating party house... sun decks, bar with a dance floor, pool tables, diving boards and a slide. The forest had been pushed back 100 to 200 feet from the cove. Gardens, pools, cement paths, ornate bridges and benches graced the area.

The waterfall that ran over the small bluff had been redirected; it now cascaded over two man-made falls into a cement pond before emptying into the lagoon. The pond behind father's love nest had been emptied and excavated of all logs and peat, and replaced with gravel. The cattails and marsh grass were replaced by water lilies, and the pond was so clear you could see the rainbow trout. The power house and water wheel now stood next to the other waterfall. Made of red brick, it looked as though it came out of New England.

Victoria kept her promise not to build a mansion; the house being built was no summer cottage. With five bedrooms it was quite grand, and when finished would be called a 'country colonial'. It had bay windows with window boxes full of flowers, storm shutters and a wrap-around porch. The old house was being used by the builder and his men for now, but when the new house was finished the old one would be history. In its place would be a lawn and a large reflection pool.

One thing impressed them all... the landscaper and his crew had used the natural beauty of the site and enhanced it. They were now working on three trails that would crisscross the island, giving the rain forest patches of sunlight. There was no doubt that the completed estate would be one of which even Mother would approve. But even with all the photos of the estate the one that stuck in my mind was the two yachts docked on the new pier, now that was pushy.

The workers left on Friday afternoon and returned on Monday, giving the couples a breather and allowing them to hold hands (or anything else), but during the week they played it by the book (boy-girl teams were the look of the day). Mike and Victoria let them all know that this island was theirs as well, a get-away for each couple. The grand opening was going to be in August, and once again they would all be together.

Yes, everyone was playing the hand life dealt them. But this family shared the pot of gold and that made everyone a winner.

A cute note in the album: there was a news clipping cut out from the Catholic News letter..." Sister Ruth of the Providence Hospital celebrates her 75th birthday!" The photo, taken on The Sisters showed about two dozen nuns in habits standing on the two decks. The article read: "Socialite Miss Victoria Style names her sleek black and white yacht after the Sisters of Providence".

Sister Ruth loved it even though it wasn't the truth and Victoria thought it was a hoot.

TURNING THE PAGE...

Cherressa AKA Dan Cook was Empress 1 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 Cherressa, who will send the missing sections at no charge.)
Dec. 3, Sun:
* Bona Dea Goodbye, celebration of the bookstore with lots of chocolate and other comfort foods, 4pm - 8pm, Pioneer School House, questions Marlene 338-5780 or M.E. 272-0816.

Dec. 6, Wed:
* Alaska Women's Political Caucus, 7 pm, First United Methodist Church.

Dec. 7, Thu:
* Radically Artistic Women (formerly The 15%) 6:30pm - 8pm, answer questions/field proposals for art projects, Val at 274-8006.

Dec. 8 - 11:
* Gretchen Legler Reading, Craft Lecture, Community Workshop, call UAF English Department 907-474-7193.

Dec. 10, Sun:
* AGLA Sunday Chat Session, Women's Center, 101A Walsh Hall, Jenna at 907-451-8465.

Dec. 11, Mon:
* Gay Bar, 7 - 8:30pm, Legal Q&A. Bring questions & concerns. Allison 279-5001.

Dec. 15, Fri:
* AGLA Meeting, 6:30pm, Gruening Building, Room 402, Jenna at 907-451-8465.

Dec. 16, Sat:
* PFLAG Juneau Monthly Meeting, 12 noon, Mendenhall Mall Library.
* Feminist Sing-a-Long, 6:30 pm potluck; 7:30 pm singing. 1741 Westview Circle, Carol or Fran 333-0871.

Dec. 17, Sun:
* Anchorage Lesbian Families Alliance (ALFA), 4 - 6 pm, Potluck, Regan at 243-3757.

Dec. 19, Tue:
* PFLAG Fairbanks Monthly Meeting, 5:30 pm, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Log Cabin, Mary Jo 907-459-8985.

Dec. 20, Wed:
* PFLAG Southcentral, Monthly Meeting, 7pm, AUUF, Fred 562-7161 or Sylvia 562-4992

Dec. 21, Thu:
* The Last Frontier Men's Club, 6 pm, Raven.

Dec. 22, Fri:

Dec. 23, Sat:
* ICOAA ANNUAL CHRISTMAS BALL, Blue Moon; info 338-3327.
*Women's Coffeehouse, will return in January.
Dec. 27, Wed:

Minority Community Relations Task Force Meeting, 7pm, info 586-6623.

Dec. 31, Sun:

New Years Eve Party at The Capri Cinema, specifics to be announced.

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ON-GOING CALENDAR ITEMS

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SUNDAYS

- Midnight Sons AA Meeting, 1:00pm, (Gay, Lesbian only), MCC Church, 615 Hollywood Dr.
- Northern Exposure Bowling League, 4:00pm, Park Lanes, Dan or Bob 561-8744.
- Gay, Joyous & Free, 7:00pm, AA Meeting 1231 W. 27th Ave.

MONDAYS

Gay, Joyous & Free, 7:00pm, AA Meeting 1231 W. 27th Ave.

WEDNESDAYS

Free HIV TEST at 4A's, 2:00-4:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050.
Social at Summit Lounge, after work.
- "Women's Prerogative," KTOO, 9:00-10:00pm.
- La Cage aux Wave, 10:00pm, $3 cover.
- Blue Moon Follies, 10:00pm, $3 cover.

THURSDAYS

Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual Youth Meeting (26 & under), 5:30pm, 907-463-5688.
Alaska Pride Chorus, call Jeff at 279-8308.
Gay, Joyous & Free, 7:00pm, AA Meeting 1231 W. 27th Ave.
Country Dancing at the Wave, 7:00pm, taught by Patty, 561-9483.

FRIDAYS

PLWA lunch, 4A’s, 12noon-1:00pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, 263-2050.
Live and Let Live AA Meeting, 7:00pm, 637 A St. (non-smoking).
Midnight Sons Gay Men's AA Meeting, 7:30-9:00pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
Dancing in Fairbanks!, 11:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in AlaskaLand.

SATURDAYS

The Family (UAA), 6:00pm, UAA Arts Bldg, Rm 121, Graham, 562-8463 or Kimberly 562-1421.
SLAA (Sex and Love Addicts Anonymous) 12-Step meeting, 12:00noon, 566-1133.
KSUA, 103.9 FM, 5:00-7:00pm, "Queer Beans" (Gay issues and music).
Dancing in Fairbanks!, 11:00pm-3:00am, Palace Saloon in AlaskaLand.

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GAYTIME TV

The long-running CBS daytime drama The Guiding Light has introduced an openly gay and HIV-positive character "Wyatt."

Singer/actor Keith Christopher has been cast in the role. Christopher took his place in television history last June by being the first openly gay and HIV-positive actor hired to play an openly gay character with HIV (on NBC’s Another World). The actor’s appearances on that show centered around National AIDS Compassion Day.

The character of Wyatt on The Guiding Light is an HIV counselor who supports a series regular through her testing and diagnosis.

Christopher is a recent Billboard Certificate of Achievement Award Winner for his song, “Smiling in the Dark.” The singer/actor’s 1994 self-titled debut album received critical acclaim and radio airplay. His new CD, Naked Truth, will be released this Winter.

Christopher recently appeared on an episode of Fox’s TV Nation, as one of a group of singers serenading Sen. Jesse Helms with the song, “What the World Needs Now is Love.” He has been profiled on PBS’ In the Life, and featured on Entertainment Tonight. The CBS News at Noon, The Charles Perez Show, numerous radio talk shows and in publications across the country, including Out Magazine.

A popular speaker, Christopher conducts Safe Sex and AIDS Awareness seminars for student groups. As a musical performer, he has appeared in Broadway tours across America and in many of New York’s premiere clubs and cabarets, including New York City’s Triad Theater where he launched his one-man show “The Flip Side” in October. The performance was a benefit for Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS and part of the month-long OutMusic Festival.

The Guiding Light airs Monday through Friday on CBS at 10 a.m. Eastern Standard Time.

KCT Productions
230 Riverside Drive, #14F
New York, NY 10025
Contact: Keith Christopher
(212) 222-3210
Just because the days are short, doesn't mean you've got to be in the dark.

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