## Table of Contents

### News

- First date is validating for gay teenager ........................................... 5
- International news ........................................................................... 16
- Ad lambasts Republican stand on marriage ....................................... 17
- American Express sponsors quilt ..................................................... 19
- ‘Coming out’ is a process ................................................................ 23
- Teacher’s network forming .............................................................. 23
- Paris-Jackson divorce ..................................................................... 24
- Job discrimination legal ................................................................. 25
- MCC’s new headquarters ................................................................. 26
- Talk to your doctor ......................................................................... 29
- Wisconsin school can be sued for failure to protect ....................... 30
- New video available ........................................................................ 31
- Local lesbian video show ............................................................... 31
- House of Representatives passes anti-marriage bill ....................... 32

### Views

- Barbara J. Soule ................................................................. 10
- Book review ............................................................................. 24
- Business Spotlight, TimeFrame .................................................. 12
- Calendar, current and on-going .................................................... 38
- Chris Olson, Financial news ........................................................ 4
- Club notes ................................................................................. 36
- Comics ...................................................................................... 23, 28, 30
- Cyberlust .................................................................................... 37
- Dan Carter ................................................................................. 20
- Dandelion ................................................................................... 7
- David Bianco ............................................................................... 9
- Directory ..................................................................................... 33
- Going Places, Greg Kramer ....................................................... 6
- Jen Kohout ............................................................................... 18
- Karen Carlisle ........................................................................... 27
- Lee Lynch .................................................................................. 21
- Lesléa Newman ......................................................................... 14
- Marvin Liebman ......................................................................... 3
- Masthead .................................................................................... 1
- Michael Thomas Ford ............................................................... 22
- Obituaries .................................................................................. 26
- PFLAG, Joyce Bauer ................................................................. 2
- Potluck Dinner ........................................................................... 10
- Society ....................................................................................... 27
- Veronica Ryan ........................................................................... 2

### Advertisers

- Alta’s Bed and Breakfast ............................................................ 10
- Anchorage Press ...................................................................... 38
- Apollo Travel Service .............................................................. 4
- Beach House B & B ................................................................... 5
- Capri Cinema ........................................................................... 19
- Classifieds ................................................................................
- City Mortgage ........................................................................ 13
- Courtney’s .............................................................................. 19
- Damron’s Address Book .......................................................... 17
- Design/Craft ............................................................................ 11
- Fairbanks Hotel ........................................................................ 15
- Fotos by Frank .......................................................................... 27
- Frigid Northl ............................................................................. 32
- Gallery Bed & Breakfast ............................................................ 17
- Gay and Lesbian Helpline ....................................................... 1
- Helleck & Associates .............................................................. 4
- Hill, Dr. Allison ........................................................................ 19
- Illusions Food Company .......................................................... 26
- Island Watch B & B ................................................................... 5
- Mendel & Huntington .............................................................. 15
- Mile 5.2 Greenhouse ............................................................... 17
- O’Brady’s ................................................................. Back cover
- Oldtime Music Co. ................................................................. 18
- Olson, Chris ........................................................................... 11
- Professional Infusion .............................................................. 8
- Puffin Family Charters ............................................................ 28
- Rhodes, Phillis ......................................................................... 25
- Sauerdough Lodging .............................................................. 5
- Short, Gene ............................................................................. 11
- Short, Sylvia L. ....................................................................... 11
- Slingluff, Angie ......................................................................... 11
- Spohnholz, Ann ....................................................................... 21
- TimeFrame ............................................................................. 15
- Triangle Tours .......................................................................... 4
- Unitarian Fellowship .............................................................. 3
- Wave, The .............................................................................. 32

### Advertising rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Service</th>
<th>Rate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
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### Discounts

- Three months ..................... 10%
- Six months .......................... 15%
- Twelve months ..................... 20%
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Rates are displayed on the bottom of the table of contents. Contact *NorthView* by mail or through the HelpLine at 258-4777. Advertising can be submitted camera-ready or can be composed for you for a negotiated fee. *NorthView* does not accept Personals, nor does it accept advertising that is sexist, racist, discriminatory or sexually explicit.

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Anchorage Gay & Lesbian HelpLine 907-258-4777. Hours: Wed-Sun, 6pm-11pm. Messages left during off hours will be returned as soon as possible.
Hey baby...

by Veronica Ryan

Today I am going to step down from my regular political bandwagon and peruse a lush field of nostalgia. My memories are based on the number one ... more precisely, my ‘firsts’ — first crush, first love, first kiss, first relationship. Those tempting ‘firsts’ might not have been the best, but they definitely became ingrained in my mind. Some of those ‘firsts’ gave direction to my on-going queer life. Other ‘firsts’ contained my fears, hopes, pains, and desires.

The first of my ‘firsts’ was in kindergarten ... my first crush. I remember sitting on the school bus watching Stephanie climb aboard. I can visualize her long blonde hair, her blue eyes, her red lunch box ... sigh. I remember pleading, “Stephanie, sit with me!” And on the days that she agreed, I’d feel better than if I had eaten a chocolate sundae. How simply it all began, this ordinary adoration of girls.

As time passed and I grew up, my feelings and emotions became more intense. During my sophomore year in high school I fell in love for the first time. It was wonderful, and it was miserable. Vicki was her name — blonde, track runner, rebel girl ... sigh. She was the first person for whom I acknowledged any romantic feeling. I was so love-sick I would have done anything for her. The relationship was doomed to fizzle in a “friendship only” status, and I experienced my first true case of heartbreak. It was the classic “best friend” illusion — outwardly I was her best friend while inwardly I longed to be her girlfriend. Already I knew better than to chase after straight girls, but in high school everyone was either straight or pretending to be, including me.

In my junior year I had my first kiss (with a girl, that is). Yes, it’s true, Miss Baby Dyke herself has kissed boys. I consider it my first real kiss though, because kissing guys felt like giving mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to a dead fish (What? You thought I’d lose my over-dramatic flair now? NO WAY!) Anyway, it was with my friend Sarah — tall, dark hair, quiet ... sigh. We always hung out together, and one day she asked if we could kiss as an experiment. It might have been just an experiment to her, but it was a revelation to me. Surprisingly, that dead-fish feeling was replaced by a new feeling ... like eating warm cotton candy! It was every adjective I had ever known rolled into one — wonderful, awkward, fun, scary, exciting, confusing! It was all the proof I needed to be certain that I loved girls.

Mercifully, by my senior year some degree of maturity had settled in, and I experienced my first real relationship. Melissa was her name — Filipino, cellist, deep brown eyes, activist ... sigh. I found myself experiencing agony and ecstasy at the same time. It was a constant battle, our love against society’s ignorance, our so-called friends, and our parents. We dated, on and off, for about six months, which in teenage time seemed like years! We endured the harassment of parents who banned us from seeing each other, and endured our own confusion over such a situation. The relationship finally ended when I left for college.

And here I am, in college, finally over my first infatuation, wondering (dreading?) how many other ‘firsts’ await me. As for the experiences that have already happened, I find myself hoping to add to them. Who knows ... one of my future ‘firsts’ might just turn out to be the real thing!

Veronica Ryan, age 20, is a student at A.P.U. Originally from Illinois, she is an aspiring young writer.

PFLAG, Southcentral Alaska

by Joyce Bauer

I hope all of you are having a perfectly delightful summer. As I write this, it’s sunny, warm, and wonderful. I owe a deep debt of gratitude to Jesse NR Greenman for her article on page 28 of last month’s Northview entitled “PFLAG launches web site.” What a great web site this is, too. In case you missed the article, PFLAG’s address on the Web is http://www.pflag.org. By clicking on this site, I found out that PFLAG’s Project Open Mind which features two 30-second TV advertisements, has been publicly endorsed by Nordstrom which gave PFLAG a $2,500 donation. In addition, Nordstrom is going to help PFLAG find additional corporate sponsors for Project Open Mind.

PFLAG’s new Open Mind campaign, which begins this fall, targets Seattle, Minneapolis, St. Paul, and St. Louis with TV ads entitled “They Deserve It?” and “Torn Lives.” If you live in these cities or plan to visit them in the fall, be sure to watch for PFLAG’s Project Open Mind ads.

I also learned that more than ever mainstream marketers are hiring agencies that specialize in aiming sales pitches at homosexuals. Dave Mulryen’s New York advertising agency is producing a print campaign for Barnes & Noble bookstores in 30 cities, tied to Pride Month parades and festivals in June.

Mitzi Henderson, National President of PFLAG, gave stirring testimony at Senate marriage hearings on July 11, 1996. She spoke strongly against the bill which would define marriage as being only between a man and a woman and said that same sex marriage does not pose a threat to marriage as an institution.

A good definition of PFLAG is found at the end of the press release about Mitzi Henderson. “Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian and bisexual persons, their families and friends through: support, to cope with an adverse society; education, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and advocacy, to end discrimination and secure civil rights. PFLAG provides an opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity. Serving a membership of more than 60,000 households, PFLAG affiliates are located in more than 410 communities across the United States and 11 other countries.”

You are welcome to attend our meetings on the second Wednesday of each month at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3201 Turnagain Street, beginning at 7 p.m. At our August 14 meeting Ruth Mathes, retired school librarian, and Fred Hillman, PFLAG Board Member, will lead a discussion of gay issues that both teachers and students face in high school and how student gay-straight alliances can help make our high schools more gay friendly. We hope to see you there. A year’s membership is still only $15 and may be sent to PFLAG’s Treasurer, Joyce Bauer, 2201 Lake George Drive, Anchorage, AK 99504.
Cure for the cold shoulder

Despite disparate platforms, both Bill Clinton and Bob Dole converge on one point: their increasingly desperate quest for the middle ground. For Bob Dole, this means softening the hard-edged conservatism he voiced during the primary season, when he returned a contribution from a gay GOP group. Bill Clinton seems to believe that wooing moderate voters means keeping an arm’s length liberal activist groups, including those pushing for an end to state-sponsored sex discrimination in the issuing of marriage licenses.

The fall Presidential campaign promises to leave gays and lesbians feeling snubbed. Gay political leaders may resort to acting jilted and extracting promises for the future. But it would be foolish for our community to focus primarily on the Presidential candidates. As we learned in 1993, after the gays-in-the-military debacle, promises made in the course of a Presidential campaign may quickly prove negotiable amidst the political crosswinds of the Oval Office. Instead, with control of Congress and numerous state legislatures hanging in the balance this November, gays and lesbians—especially those eager to secure the right to marry—should devote our efforts to the series of House, Senate, and state legislative races where our impact could be pivotal.

Some of the most vociferous foes of the gay community—and same-sex marriage—are among the vulnerable this election year. In the House, they include two first-termers from Oklahoma. During recent House debate on the so-called Defense of Marriage Act, Rep. Tom Coburn said, “The real debate is about homosexuality and whether or not we sanction homosexuality in this country... Homosexuality is immoral... It is based on perversion, it is based on lust.” Likewise, Coburn’s colleague, former NFL wide receiver Steve Largent, said, “No culture that has ever embraced homosexuality has ever survived.” Both airy orators could see gays help trim their sails this fall. Coburn’s district sent a gay-friendly moderate, Mike Synar, to Congress for fifteen years and could send another one in Coburn’s stead this fall. Largent’s district gave Bill Clinton a twenty-point edge over Bush in 1992. With turnout heightened this November, it may once again prove hospitable to a gay-friendly candidate to replace Largent.

One particularly sweet victory for supporters of gay rights and same-sex marriage would be the defeat of Rep. Bob Dornan, the eccentric Californian who has made a career out of gay-bashing. Dornan’s opponent this fall, Loretta Sanchez, is a strong candidate in a district that has become less conservative even as Dornan has become more so. As in Oklahoma, vigorous work by the gay community in California could provide the edge for Sanchez. It may also help oust anti-gay Sonny Bono, Chastity’s father, who is opposed by Anita Rufus. Mobilized, the strength of the gay community in Palm Springs can be pivotal to Bono’s defeat and the election of gay-friendly Rufus.

The Senate has its own share of big-name gay rights foes in precarious situations this fall. They include Jesse Helms in North Carolina, engaged in a bitter rematch with his nemesis from 1990, Harvey Gantt; and 93-year-old Strom Thurmond in South Carolina, long a pillar of segregation as well as homophobia, facing a strong challenge from Elliott Close. Other stalwarts from the upper chamber with imposing anti-gay credentials who are girding for unusually hard-fought reelection contests this fall include Bob Smith of New Hampshire, a leader of 1994 drives to muzzle discussion of gay issues in schools; Phil Gramm of Texas, who, during his failed Presidential bid addressed a rally and wrote a fundraising letter for “The Report,” a virulently anti-gay organization; and Larry Pressler of South Dakota, who pursued claims by anti-gay activists that the Corporation for Public Broadcasting had an “anti-Christian bias.”

As far as state-level representation is concerned, gays and lesbians should take particular note of votes in several state legislatures this spring on bills to ban same-sex marriage. This will provide community-based gay and lesbian groups targets for this fall’s elections. By using such votes to mobilize the ranks of gay rights supporters, we will be heeding the example of our political opponents. The Christian Coalition and other homophobic groups have made state and local candidates sweat for fear of seeing their votes and statements framed unfavorably in “voter guides,” which the groups widely distribute just before Election Day. Gay and lesbian groups should take full advantage of this year’s roll call votes on gay marriage to make opposition of gay rights and same-sex marriage pay dearly at the voting booth this fall. With folks in 41 states still lacking protection from anti-gay discrimination, the gay community has a huge stake in securing friendlier representation in state capitols nationwide.

As the Presidential campaign gains steam at this month’s conventions, gays and lesbians should not expect courting from either camp. Rather than pressing for gestures of support from the top candidates, we would be advised to focus on House, Senate, and state legislative races where we can have a more direct impact. The community can debate ad nauseam, for instance, whether President Clinton should have taken a hostile stance to same-sex marriage as early as he did. But if gays and lesbians had helped elect a Congress more inclined to support the practice than to squash it, the President would be singing a different tune. And this month, as we turn off convention coverage and go to work for local candidates, so would we.

The cafeteria plan

Financial news

Our state and federal governments just do not want us non-straight types to reap any sort of tax benefit from our non-straight relationships. We have learned over the past several months that we are not deserving of our lover’s employee benefit package at work. We are not able to claim “married” status when we file our income tax return. We are unable to leave our estate, tax free, to our significant other when we die. The government discriminates against the “co-hab.” We must fight to get these benefits. Until we do, however, we should take advantage of every benefit that is available now.

The Cafeteria Plan is a seldom used ENORMOUS tax shelter of which you should be aware. A Cafeteria Plan allows you to pay for certain services and items on a pre-tax basis. The paycheck you receive from your employer is for NET earnings. You may earn $1000 per pay period, but you most likely will see a check for $750 or so. Income tax, unemployment tax, Social Security tax and Medicare tax all come out of your gross pay. The object of a Cafeteria Plan is to reduce the GROSS INCOME while increasing the NET TAKE HOME PAY to you.

Most corporations offer a cafeteria plan (other versions are called Flexible Spending Accounts or FSAs and Section 125 Plans). Here are some of the items you can pay for with pre-tax dollars:

- your cost for any insurance premiums for yourself or a dependent
- insurance deductibles and co-insurance amounts (for you or a dependent)
- medical expenses not covered by your insurance: eye glasses, contact lens solution, acupuncture, cosmetic surgery, orthopedic shoes, vitamins, massage therapy, back supports, hair transplants, braces, water treatment machine, hydrotherapy
- child care expenses
- other benefits your employer wants to offer you on a pre-tax basis

These things add up. You can actually arrange to pay for these out of your GROSS PAY and not your NET INCOME. This is how it works: Calculate how much you think you will spend next year on insurance premiums, medical expenses, etc. You instruct your employer to deduct this amount from your pay, spread out over each pay period. This money is placed in an account on your behalf. You submit receipts for purchases to the account for reimbursement to you. You never pay any tax on these funds. Your net income is increased by the equivalent of your income tax bracket! Anyone who is paying part of their group insurance premium should jump at the chance to do this. Your paycheck will increase by 28% (or your tax bracket). I PROMISE. There is no downside to this, my fellow homos.

There is a downside for larger expenses like braces or child care expenses. If you calculate your annual expenses incorrectly and OVER fund your account, the balance reverts to your employer if not used by the end of the year. If you UNDER fund your account you will have to pay for the remainder of your expenses with after-tax dollars.

Employers like Cafeteria Plans because they pay their required FICA, FUTA, state unemployment taxes, and worker’s compensation premiums based on a LOWER GROSS PAYROLL. Check it out at work. If you can, sign up. If your company doesn’t have a Cafeteria Plan, ask them to install one. It will save both of you money.

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

Quote

“It really bothers me when I see people doing my mother in drag. I mean, just imagine if you saw people doing that with your mother.”

Cher’s lesbian daughter, Chastity Bono, to Portland, Oregon’s Just Out
First date is validating for gay teenager

by Anonymous

The following anonymous letter is a reprint from the Anchorage Daily News, just in case you missed it. It appeared on Thursday, August 8, in “Perfect World,” the teen page.

Editor’s note: This article was written by a gay 17-year-old Anchorage high school senior.

The first boy I ever kissed was a younger gay friend of mine. I’ll just call “Tom.” I spent a Sunday afternoon hanging out downtown with him, and then we went to see a movie at the Capri. Tom was the first gay boy I had ever met. Meeting him was so validating because I had felt alone ever since I had come to terms with my sexuality six months earlier. I was so enthralled that I could be true to my natural self around him and check out guys.

If you are wondering why this is anonymous, it’s not because I’m worried about my parents and friends knowing about my sexuality. I came out to them months ago, and now they are pretty supportive. Mostly, I’m worried about angry, prejudiced people in this town. I could imagine them looking up my address in the phone book and burning down my house or somehow hurting my family. Maybe I’m being paranoid, but that’s how scary it feels to be a gay teen in this town.

Although I might be able to partially describe for you how it feels to be a gay teen, I could never fully express the burdens of extreme loneliness and self-hatred society forced me to face. For a while, dating was a secondary concern. Mostly, I just tried to deal with feeling alone and depressed. It was more important to find supportive people I could talk to than it was to find a date.

The loneliness thing is common among gay youth, and it’s probably the most dangerous thing for us. We have an increased risk of depression and drug abuse (both of which I have experienced), and, according to recent government studies, lesbian and gay youth are two to three times more likely to commit suicide than heterosexual youth.

But back to the story.

Being lonely only added to the wonderful, giddy feeling of a first kiss. During the movie, Tom snuggled up to me and held my hand, which felt good. After the movie, we were sitting in my car talking, and Tom asked if I could kiss me. “Sure ... I guess,” I replied. He moved closer to me. When our lips touched, I knew that I had found what was missing when I had kissed girls.

So my friendly outing with Tom turned into my first date. Since then, I’ve only dated two other people because it is very hard to meet other gay teens. Most dates that I have been on were just “hanging out” dates because most kids have to hide their queerness from their parents. I had to stop dating one kid because his parents suspected that I was gay and wouldn’t even let me in the house.

Anyway, I prefer to date people who are out of the closet. I don’t like having to sneak around in fear or hide my feelings. I also have tried group dating and the sort of date that involves dinner and a movie, but my favorite thing to do on a date is to be physically active, like inline skating or working out.

As for what happened with Tom and me, well, we saw each other for a week or two. I think we only got together because we were the only gay kids we knew. I wasn’t his type, and he wasn’t mine. So we’re just friends now.

If I could give a piece of advice to other gay kids, it would be to remember that things get better and there are tons of other people like us. Growing up gay is not an easy task but it gets better, really.
Going places

by Greg Kramer

I picked up the family troops from flight #843 and immediately began fielding questions: How high is Denali? How much postage does it take to mail a letter from Alaska? Do bears really eat PEOPLE? (Absolutely! Especially if they're frustrated postal workers sorting all those postcards with not enough postage...) Will my sunblock still work with all this daylight? Aarrghh ... I was in for a long visit.

So much to think about in setting up the PERFECT vacation (for other people, naturally - they're visiting you!). I wasn't sure if I was going to be able to figure it all out. Thank goodness I had a local, professional, and — most importantly — GAY, travel agent to handle all the arrangements needed to make a splendid itinerary worry free, thus freeing me up to sort out the plethora of unnervingly dull questions. (Yes, the animals at Denali National Park DO come from the San Diego Zoo. But it's very expensive to rent them so Alaska has to return them in October. Besides, do you want to feed bears at twenty below zero?)

There are many options for sharing lesbian/gay Alaska with your visiting friends/family and other assorted loved ones. I am continually amazed at how warm and wonderful these lesbian/gay/ally are - ESPECIALLY when they are being visited by other M.O.T.T.'s (members of the tribe). From Fairbanks to Homer, there are increasing numbers of lesbian/gay/ally hospitality, tour, and specialized activity providers who are filling a much needed niche in our community. Their expertise, in conjunction with providing a quality product delivered in a warm, friendly, yet assuredly professional atmosphere, has enabled lesbian/gay visitors and locals to explore and experience the "Last Frontier" with a sense of "family" in a hassle free environment.

Almost everything that can be done here in Alaska is available through a lesbian/gay/ally medium. Bed and Breakfasts, flightseeing, wilderness adventure (outdoor adventurers' heaven), boat charters for scenic views or fishing, river rafting, bicycle riding, kayaking - the list goes on.

Don't know the best way to put it all together? Wondering if there are any hot women working on the Alaska Railroad? (If anyone knows one, PLEASE let me know. I'm asked all the time.) Don't have time to make seventeen thousand phone calls to suppliers that don't answer the phone? (They've gone fishing!) Take advantage of resources available to you. There are a number of lesbian/gay travel agents out there - let them help you design an itinerary that will encompass all your desires while making sure that Cousin Eunice doesn't fall through any crevasses on Exit Glacier. Unless you really want her to, of course. She's the one asking all those silly questions!

The time people spend here is so varied, especially if they're friends and family. (The entire MCI Corporation just arrived.) You'll want to show them Denali National Park, Fairbanks, take them on a Resurrection Bay tour out of Seward, then perhaps ease on down to Homer for a few days to see some galleries and stay at a wonderful bed and breakfast with a view of Kachemak Bay. TA DA!! You're now able to do this in an environment that is lesbian/gay friendly, spending the same, or often times less than you normally would, all the while receiving service that is a million times friendlier than straight counterparts. Not that our straight friends aren't providing a good service - but how many of them do it to the Priscilla soundtrack?

Don't let me mislead you. Not every available service out there has a lesbian/gay/ally counterpart. (This is a not so subtle hint to those of you thinking now is a good time to get involved in the travel industry - whatever your particular talent.) However, more are coming on line all the time, and in any event, a good agent will steer you to whomever is providing the best service at the fairest price. In my experience those providers with the best service at the fairest price ARE our fellow M.O.T.T.'s!

I realize that I am a little harsh in utilizing the services of your local gay/lesbian travel agent. Part of this is self-preservation, but in all honesty, a good relationship with your travel agent will not only save you money, but countless hours as well. (You don't really think that if you call every single airline you're going to find the best price, do you?) In addition they are providing a FREE service. Who wouldn't want to get free, expert advice while having someone else do all the work?!

So, with Alaska's bounty so close at hand, coupled with the wonderful weather we've been having - get out there and support your community! They'd love to meet you and you'll love their service. So will Cousin Eunice.

Happy Travels!

Quote

"One of the many purposes of being queer is to outrage parents — it is an essential part of establishing an independent identity. Being accepted as queer by the general community is fine, but having your parents happily place condoms in a hand-painted bowl by your bed when you and your boyfriend turn up is just not one."

Columnist Bruno Bouchet writing in Sydney, Australia's Capital Q.

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"Dedicated to providing the lesbian/gay community with quality travel related services."
Please VOTE!!

by Dan Carter, cochair, EQUAL

In order to keep our supporters informed of important issues affecting our community, EQUAL's database must be kept current. When mailing information out to our supporters, at least 10% of the mail is usually returned due to no forwarding address. If you are a current member of EQUAL, please complete the form in the lower right hand corner of this page and mail it to us as soon as possible (write UPDATE at the bottom of the form if you are already on the mailing list and need to make a change). We particularly need phone numbers and email addresses.

If you are not currently on our mailing list, there is no better time than now to get involved. Statewide primary elections will take place in August and the general election for legislature, US Congressperson, US Senator and President will occur in November. If you need more information about EQUAL, use the same form below and write MORE INFO at the bottom of the form and I will give you a call. There are numerous progressive candidates running in legislative races throughout the state — including Anchorage. Many of them are run

you would like to volunteer to help a candidate but are unsure how to do it, complete the form below and write VOLUNTEER at the bottom of the form. I will be attending the Standing Committee on Rules for the Democratic National Party in Pittsburgh, PA in early August and then will attend the Human Rights Campaign Out Vote '96 Conference in Chicago from 15-19 August followed by the Democratic National Convention, also in Chicago from 25-29 August. I hope to bring back many new ideas on organiz

August 27th
Primary Elections

Name(s):________________________
Mail Address:________________________
Home Address:*________________________
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Past out

by David Bianco

When did Rock Hudson’s homosexuality become public knowledge?

Rock Hudson is an excellent example of the complex nature of the closet and public awareness of a prominent figure’s homosexuality. Hudson was rumored to be gay from the earliest years of his career, yet some people denied he was gay even after he died of AIDS in 1985. As Hudson was both an active lover of men and the movie star who throughout the 1950s and 1960s seemed to personify masculinity, his case is almost a textbook study of American anxieties over masculinity, sexuality and fame.

Born Roy Scherzer Fitzgerald in 1925, Hudson made his first major splash as an actor in the 1954 film Magnificent Obsession, in which he played an unruly playboy who becomes a surgeon. As a 29-year-old bachelor, though, Hudson raised eyebrows throughout 1950s America, and articles with headlines such as “Too Busy for Love” appeared in the popular press. The scandal-happy magazine Confidential wanted to do an exposé on Hudson’s homosexuality and even offered his lover $10,000 to discuss the subject, but no story appeared. Some say that Universal Studios offered Confidential some dirt on another of its stars in order to keep Hudson’s sexuality out of the publication.

To quash the rumors, Hudson quickly married Phyllis Gates (who Hudson later claimed was bisexual, although she denied it). The three-year marriage temporarily boosted Hudson’s heterosexual image. But in the following decades, as Hudson established himself as a leading man in feature films and on TV’s “McMillan and Wife,” rumors about Hudson continued to spread, although it was never discussed explicitly in print. In 1971, someone sent fake invitations to the wedding of Hudson and Jim Nabors (TV’s Gomer Pyle) to several gossip columnists. Although the pair had been good friends, they were not lovers and certainly never married — but the hoax still seems to have hurt Nabors’ career. In Hudson’s case, none of the rumors seemed to slow his fame as a masculine idol — or his pursuit of handsome men.

In the 1970s, Hudson became friends with Armistead Maupin, whose serial novel “Tales of the City” about gay and straight San Franciscans appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle. Maupin (among others) urged Hudson to come out and break down stereotypes about gays and lesbians. Hudson consistently demurred, considering his sexuality to be private and objecting to the public spectacle of the gay liberationists with their parades (which he once described as marching with a jar of Vaseline). Nonetheless, Hudson threw parties for dozens of handsome men and joined Maupin in exploring the sexual playground of 1970s San Francisco. Maupin later satirized Hudson by including him as a character in Tales of the City.

Hudson was diagnosed with AIDS in mid-1984, although his disease remained a secret for more than a year. When he appeared increasingly gaunt in his role on Dynasty and in public appearances, his publicists insisted that he was simply dieting. He looked particularly ill in his last public appearance, which ironically was a commercial promoting his old friend Doris Day’s new show on the Christian Broadcasting Network. In July 1985, news of Hudson’s illness hit the papers, garnering far more public attention about the disease than any previous AIDS-related story. Several newspapers and TV stations initially treated the story as proof that AIDS affected more than just gays and drug users. Amazingly, some gay-run AIDS organizations cooperated in this farce. A representative of one such organization even told the press that Hudson’s illness proved that “AIDS is not a gay white male disease.”

Soon, however, the Chronicle and several other newspapers ran lengthy stories about Hudson’s decades-long struggle with vastly different public and private lives. The media coverage of Hudson’s illness was often ridiculous — several news outlets raised the question of whether Linda Evans might now be infected since she had kissed Hudson (her co-star on Dynasty) on TV. Tasteless jokes abounded about the widespread attention brought public awareness of the ongoing AIDS crisis to a new level. Calls to AIDS hotlines soared, and private-sector fund-raising for AIDS research skyrocketed, boosted by a $250,000 contribution from Hudson himself to jump-start the American Foundation for AIDS Research.

David Bianco, M.A., teaches gay and lesbian history at the Institute of Gay and Lesbian Education in West Hollywood. If there’s anything about the history of gays and/or lesbians you’ve always wondered about, contact him care of this newspaper or through his E-mail address: AriBianco@aol.com

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Stargazer commentary

“How did I get here: practicing an ‘alternative’ spirituality?” I have a life — a very earthly, mundane kind of a life and a spiritual life that is almost unbelievably rich, joyful and wonder-ful. I don’t know why anyone else wants you or I to join their religion. We can hope these people feel that they have a marvelous spiritual life. It started for me by trusting my “guts” for what is right for me, using it on the little things like should I have milk or orange juice this morning. Those “gut” feelings are my intuition. The term “guts” refers to the response some people have: a tightening of the abdominal muscles in certain situations usually to signal that what appears to be right is actually wrong. I not only trust that intuition but do what it tells me. The more I followed those instructions the more this part of me developed.

Other people might experience more of a “hunch” or sense that something is just not right. It isn’t something that can be logically explained. You hesitate. It is only the slightest of hesitations. Pay attention, trust it, trust yourself. I’ve learned that my head might not have put it together, but my body saw it and that’s why there is a pause. If I trust those feelings, usually each time, I’ve discovered they were right after all. Later, a person graduates to situations that are observable, such as, she may be easy and fun to be with, but you’ve noticed that she seems to drink a lot, too. Time to hang out, just be friendly and keep a distance. Check her out further. Some people have heard “the voice out of nowhere” yelling, “Stop!” One woman, in her truck alone, said someone yelled in her right ear. “Hard right!” She missed getting hit by an out-of-control semi-truck.

Keep following those senses, hunches, gut responses and intuition; more than likely they will lead to better and better choices for your life. Those choices don’t have to fit anyone else or their expectations. If a person is on the right track, that person feels more like they are in the right place. Life is good. They are not in trouble at work, school, home or with their friends and lovers. If on the other hand, the same person follows their senses, and trouble dogs their steps, that person needs to question what they are putting into their body. Junk food, cigarettes, alcohol, medication, any drug — legal or illegal — can short-circuit this most sensi-tive personal mechanism. It is called “the sixth sense.” I’m not suggesting that everyone just observe life. No fun in that. Check the other side out once in a while. So, you hesitated. Jump in this time. I consistently get dumped on my head. You might be luckier.

People who develop their “sixth sense” are psychic. Yes, you can be psychic! Many people believe that psychics aren’t real. Psychics just tell gullible people some kind of gibberish so they can get your money. The implication is that anyone who says that they are psychic is a liar and a cheat. I know. I am a psychic and had to confront these internal issues. My visions just didn’t show up one day out of nowhere. I don’t believe that I started out in life with any more intelligence, family support (there was none), education or opportunities than anyone else. I consistently worked at trusting and following my senses, hunches, gut responses and intuition. The more I trusted my intuition the better I got at it. The better I got the “powers-that-be” started to test me on how far I would go in trusting the information. I have some very interesting stories about the process. More information to come...

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

Identity, Inc.

Fourth Friday Potluck & Social

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

Date: Friday, August 23 (careful, there are 5 Fridays this month!)
Time: 6:30pm doors open/socialize; 7:00pm—dinner; 7:30pm—announcements & program
Place: Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3201 Turnagain Street
Program: Tom Croke speaks on — Homosexuals and Christianity

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TimeFrame

Business spotlight

After many years (at least eight or nine) of printing the NorthView for Identity, I felt it only timely to interview Robert Thomas, manager and co-owner of TimeFrame. A morning appointment had me begging for “leaded” coffee. Robert joined me, confessing to a time crunch. I whipped out my pen.

NV: How many years have you and your dad been in business?

TE: We’ve been open 11 years in September. We incorporated in ’92, and have always occupied this site. However, we are almost ten times the size we were then.

NV: What exactly is Docu-tech?

TE: It is a machine ... actually a laser printer. Picture, if you will, the biggest, baddest copier you can. Add steroids. This monster runs 135 pages per minute, all originals. Because it operates in the digital realm, it can contain information and pictures from almost any source or medium. TimeFrame was the first in this city to have such capabilities.

NV: Wow! That’s way beyond my understanding. What could possibly top that?

TE: Docu-tech in color, and it will happen here very soon. Then we can truly say that we are on both the “leading edge” and the “bleeding edge”!

NV: (I took a swallow of coffee and mentioned the name of a familiar competitor.)

TE: Kinko’s! They’re a great copy shop ... one of the best. That’s not what we are. We are probably the most innovative printing business in the state ... first in computer rental rooms, in color, in Docu-tech. We will have a Web page in the next few weeks which will act as an incredible support tool for our customers.

NV: What is the “meat-and-potatoes” part of this business?

TE: Docu-tech, our color center, and Big color, which is our oversized color printer and lamination process. These really pay the bills for us.

NV: Have there been any setbacks?

TE: Several years ago we opened a downtown store here, and a store in Juneau. We overextended ourselves and lost the “family” atmosphere that had made this business so superior. We are just coming out from under that setback, and are carefully analyzing our market to tailor-make this business for a specific clientele.

NV: Since you just used “family” and “coming out” in a sentence (my two favorite words), I’ll ask about your hiring policy and how TimeFrame relates to the gay community.

TE: This is a liberal shop, and I’ll admit that there have probably been a few instances where this policy sent a customer elsewhere. We have not noticed any drop in business, and we don’t let politics govern the way we treat employees. We hire lots of young, bright folks, some of whom could be considered “outcasts.” They are free to move from one area of operation to another and develop a wide range of knowledge.

NV: How much formal training do your prospective employees usually have?

TE: Little if any, is the general rule. That’s okay with us ... we do OJT (on-the-job-training) and find we have a lower turnover ratio when we pick folks with a passion for technology and a hunger to learn.

NV: (Passion and hunger should never be mentioned to me before lunch. I packed my pen.) Any final comment for our readers?

TE: Our business is people and what their technology needs of the future will be. We work with the community that uses us.
It's a pleasure to serve the Community!

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“Do I have to go?” I whine to Flash.

“Yes,” my beloved replies. We’re in the Lesbianville International Airport, waiting for my flight to be called. I am off on a two week, coast-to-coast, all expenses paid book tour, complete with an at-your-service escort in every city. So why am I so glum? Because (a) there are no conjugal visits on my tour and (b) I have to put 30,000 feet between my purple pumps and the ground 18 times in the next 14 days. And I think flying is for the birds.

To calm my gay nerves, I hum “Leaving on a Jet Plane” until my beloved pokes me. I switch to “Wind Beneath My Wings.” Finally my flight is called. “Don’t forget to write,” Flash waves.

“I won’t,” I wave back. “I’ve got a story to edit, a poem to finish…”

“To me,” Flash yells. “Don’t forget to write to me.”

“I won’t,” I shout, but I’m already on board so I doubt my darling can hear me. I sit in seat 36B which also happens to be my bust line, a sign from the Goddess that my Wonder Bra and I will survive this trip intact. Soon a burly man in a business suit sinks down beside me and spreads his legs as far as they’ll go like a perfect Pap smear patient. Then a nun sits down in 36C. Now our little row is complete, with yours truly squashed between the Sister and the Suit.


“Book tour.”

“How nice,” says the Sister. “What’s the name of your book, dear?”

“My Lover is a Woman,” I brag. The businessman snaps his legs shut.

“You don’t say.” The nun leans forward. “My ex-lover is a woman.”

“Really? My lover is an ex-nun.”

“Small world,” says the nun. We take off and are soon cruising right along with the two fags in front of us at 15,000 feet.

“I’m Java.” A butch greets me in San Francisco. “Have any luggage?”

Do I have luggage? Does Heather have two mommies? We head for baggage claim. “That’s mine,” I point to the carousel. “And that one, that one, those two, that one and that one.”

“You have 7 bags for a 14 day trip?” Java is amazed.

“Flash couldn’t believe it either,” I tell her. “She thought I’d need at least 16.”

Java swallows her butch pride and gets a luggage cart. We load up and head for her car. “What’s the plan?” I ask as we pull out. “Any time for sightseeing?”

“Sightseeing? You have interviews at one, two, three, four, five, and six o’clock, and a reading at seven.”

“Can we stop at the hotel?” I ask. “I was hoping for a nap.”

“Do you have jet lag?” Java asks. “I have just the thing.”

Thank God for California girls! Of course she has some chem-free, wheat-free, dairy-free, sugar-free, yeast-free, poultice/tincture/tablet/sprout that will give me a boost. Java plugs a coffee plug into the socket where her cigarette lighter should be. “Caffeine,” she says. “The only cure.” I drink up and we whip from interview to interview. As the day goes by, I actually grow sick of the sound of my own voice, a phenomenon I’m sure Flash would be pleased to hear about, except of course I’ll never tell her.

Finally Java takes me to my hotel. I have 15 minutes to wash, dry, brush, fluff, powder, puff and pour myself into a red mini-dress “The Nanny” would die for. Then Java takes me to the reading.

“Hi, I’m Paige. Welcome to Clit Lit.” Paige has green hair, a vulva tattooed on her left cheek and ear lobes that look like Swiss cheese. She takes me to the back of the store and I get behind the podium. But something’s wrong.

“Hey, Java, give me a leg up.”

“Why?”

“Because,” I place my five inch heel in her hand, “butches have been putting me up on pedestals for year. And,” I hop into the air, “I spent half my advance on this outfit and no one can see it.” I pirouette on the lecturn and begin to read. Before I finish, Java whiskes me away. “What’s the hurry?” I ask.

“More interviews,” she says. “You’ve got one at eight, nine, ten and eleven, and a talk show at twelve.”

“But I’m so tired.” I can’t help but whine.

“Here, have some candy.” Java hands me a bag.

“What are these, Milk Duds?”

“No. Chocolate-covered espresso beans.”

Zing! I whip through the interviews, get back to my hotel and call Flash. “Hi-how-are-you-I-love-you-I-miss-you-I-need-you-did-I-get-any-voice-mail-snailed-mail-email-fax-mail-can-I-talk-to-the-cats?”

“Whoa. How many cups of coffee did you drink today?”

“I lost track after 23. Why?”

“Because you sound like Mariah Carey on speed. How’s the Brunette Ambition Tour going?”

continued...
... continued

“Oh, Flash, it’s fabulous. San Francisco is fabulous, the girls are fabulous, my hair is fabulous...” I babble away. After an hour we hang up and just as I sink into the sheets the phone rings. “Who died?” I yell into the receiver.

“This is your wake-up call,” says an automated voice that sounds like Captain Janeway. I leap out of bed, race downstairs and Java takes me to the airport. I hop onto the plane and hop off hours later. “Hi, I’m Mocha,” says my new escort. Thirteen days, 12 cities and 200 interviews later, I arrive back in Lesbianville so tired I stagger right past my beloved.

“Yoo-hoo,” calls a vaguely familiar voice. “Aren’t you the author of My Lover Is a Woman?”

“My lover is a woman,” I tell my handsome butch, “but your lover is chopped liver.”

“Sounds delicious,” Flash says, nibbling my left ear and taking me home to devour.

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**Quote**

“Frankly, why should members of Congress be allowed to extend their health insurance and ... benefits to their second and third wives when I can’t extend them to my partner [of 13 years]?”

International news

B.C. Bans teachers from Christian college
Teachers from British Columbia’s fundamentalist-Christian Trinity Western University have been banned from teaching in B.C. public schools because the university bans “homosexual behaviour,” reported Vancouver’s Xtra West.

The B.C. College of Teachers, which certifies the province’s public-school teachers, voted 17-1 to deny recognition to TWU’s graduates.

“We would be very concerned about a [teacher’s] worldview that may not be able to support a student of a different background,” said BCCT spokeswoman Maria Kerchum.

“[TWU] follows discriminatory practices which are contrary to public interest and public policy ... as expressed in the Teaching Profession Act,” she said.

The university also bans pre-marital sex, adultery, abortion, pornography, involvement in the occult, immodesty and profane language.

Australia to count gay couples
Australia’s August 6 National Census of Population and Housing will, for the first time, recognize cohabitating gay/lesbian couples as such, reported the gay newspaper Brother Sister. They were previously considered to be unrelated adults sharing a household.

Newfoundland to obey gay rights
The provincial government of Newfoundland and Labrador will not appeal a court decision ordering that sexual-orientation protections be read into the Newfoundland Human Rights Code, reported the Halifax gay newspaper Waverly. In addition, Labour Minister Ken Aylward has said the code likely will be amended formally in the fall.

Gays are protected in all other provinces/territories except Alberta, the Northwest Territories and Prince Edward Island.

In Nova Scotia, meanwhile, pride organizers put posters in all 170 Halifax public buses last month.

The “Pride, not Prejudice” placards announced the Halifax Parade for Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Rights. They suffered minimal vandalism, Waverly reported.

Spanish court supports gay couple
The Catalunya Superior Justice Tribunal in Barcelona ruled last week that a Colombian gay man whose lover is Spanish has a right to seek residency in Spain.

“This is an important symbolic advance for the recognition of the rights of gay couples, making obvious the need for promulgation of a law on de facto partnerships,” said Gemma Sanchez, Secretary General of the Coordinadora Gai-Lesbiana.

“The lack of a law of this type requires gays and lesbians to battle continuously to obtain their rights.”

Canadian couple benefits ok’d
Canada’s federal government will pay medical and dental benefits — but not pensions — to same-sex partners of public servants, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation reported July 18.

Such servants include Royal Canadian Mounted Police officers, members of the military, federal workers, and employees of federally regulated entities such as airlines, trains, broadcasters and banks.

The new policy resulted from a human-rights tribunal ruling that the government was discriminating based on sexual orientation. The benefits will be retroactive to the day of the ruling, June 13.

Gays protected nationally in nine nations
Gays and lesbians are protected from discrimination nationwide in only nine countries, according to a new report from the International Lesbian and Gay Association. The countries are Canada, Denmark, France, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, Spain and Sweden.

In related news, an attempt to ban workplace discrimination in Britain was defeated in the House of Commons July 5. The measure was introduced as a Private Members’ Bill (meaning it was not backed by the government) and, in accord with parliamentary procedure for such bills, was killed when one MP yelled, “Object!” London’s The Pink Paper called the procedure “one of Parliament’s more bizarre rituals.” “There was no chance whatsoever of this proposal becoming law,” said its sponsor, Labour MP Glenda Jackson. “The best we could have hoped for is for the title to have been read out in the chamber. From that point of view, today has been quite a success.”

Meanwhile, ILGA has just launched a new membership drive. To join the group’s work, contact ILGA, 81 Kolonmarkt, B-1000 Brussels, Belgium. Phone: 011-32-2-502-2471. E-mail: ilga@ilga.org

South African Airways welcomes gay couples
South African Airways said last week that gay couples are welcome to take advantage of its new promotion, which states, “Next time your husband flies first class to South Africa, you can fly too, for free.” “The offer applies to any couple, married, common-law or same-sex,” said the airline’s United Kingdom marketing head.

Company spokesman Steve Dunne added, “We are anxious to uphold equal opps. Many of our employees are gay after all.”

There was no direct word from the company on whether women can take advantage of the sexist-sounding offer.

(The Pink Paper)
Ad lambasts Republican stand on marriage

A political ad released by a gay rights group uses the marriages of three prominent Republicans — one of whom was previously divorced and two who wed people of other races — to criticize lawmakers for opposing same-sex unions.

As an image of GOP presidential candidate Bob Dole and his wife, Elizabeth, appears, the announcer notes “there was a time when a divorced man would not have made an ideal candidate for marriage.” Elizabeth is Dole’s second wife.

The spot by the Human Rights Campaign also shows Sen. Phil Gramm, R-TX, with his wife, Wendy, who is of Korean ancestry; and Supreme Court Justice Clarence Thomas, who is black, with his wife, Virginia, who is white.

It says “there was a time” when some marriages “would not have been accepted” or were “so shocking to the majority” that they were illegal.

“Some are still not,” the announcer says, as a smiling lesbian couple appears on screen.

Navigating contour lines (some thoughts on friendships)

Random observations on sex and the single gal

by Jen Kohout

The short answer was “no.” But Carol deserved an explanation. For the past seven months she had patiently listened while I’d rambled on about the mysteries of relationships. We had discussed the subject over hot chocolate, frozen yogurt, greasy burritos and seventeen different flavors of bagels — although she invariably always selected a chocolate one. Now, ten months after my world had fallen apart, it was suddenly falling back together, and I had Carol to thank for helping me get through the intervening season of transition. Along with several other people I hold close in my heart, Carol had helped me maintain a sense of balance and direction in one of those periods in life where the topo-graphic lines come close together, indicating steep shifts in terrain. Without these friends, navigation would have been impossible.

Standing on the banks of a silty river in the middle of the Brooks Range last summer, I had struggled to match the wiggly topographic lines on the soggy piece of paper in my hands to the crags and ridge lines stretching as far as I could see. And I learned that image is one thing, reality another. Looking at my map, it was hard to tell whether the tightly cramped lines represented a steep mountain slope or valley wall. So I began to trust my eyes, to pay more attention to my surroundings and less to the official version of how things were supposed to look. Because at the very least, I figured I should be able to discern up from down.

Life then was mostly down. The kind of sustained downhill slog that makes your quadriceps burn as you march along, resigned to get through, hoping for a scenic pull-out around the next curve. Luckily, though, I had Carol to help carry the weight. And when it wasn’t possible to share the load, she’d pepper me with enough questions and observations to distract me from the pain.

Now, on the verge of leaving Ann Arbor, I wonder about friendships. About the mystery of connecting with someone. When, somewhere between placing your order and getting your food, you move from “how was your day?” to “what do you dream?” A depth that comes from a multitude of things... similar values, common life experiences, timing. And a healthy mix of magic, fate, chemistry, and a host of other things that defy explanation.

Of all the things we chatted amiably about, the night I first met Carol, she claims that it was the fact that I didn’t drink coffee that grabbed her attention. We were both working at a local performance space. I remember, when she walked in, I noticed her funky hair cut and determined gait. “Big L,” I thought to myself and asked what she knew about the Ann Arbor women’s community. Generally at ease around new faces, I’m comfortable finding common ground and maintaining a conversation. Sometimes it’s easier than others. Sometimes the initial connection is so immediate and easy that it feels as if it had a foundation long before that moment. It was so that night. This experience of immediate comfort with another has repeatedly reinforced my belief in the unexplainable mystery of life.

But I’m pragmatic. Soulmates are a rarity. I realize that most of my relationships have grown slowly over time, with gentle nurturing and much take out pizza. There is an undeniable richness that comes from shared experience... I suppose it’s a longing for that history that motivates my return to Anchorage. The thrill of watching month-old mountain goats grazing yards away on the top of a rocky ridgeline bonds me to a favorite hiking buddy even though neither of us said a word the entire time. An impromptu camping dessert of hot cocoa powder and instant grits will forever enshrine my reputation as having questionable culinary talents with several others. I’ve missed those memories, missed spending time with friends with whom I have a history... good or bad.

So, I’ll answer Carol’s questions and hold her sad gaze when we talk about my leaving, with the hope that she’ll know how bittersweet it feels to move away. And how glad I am that I don’t drink coffee.

Jen Kohout, formerly of Anchorage, AK, now, formerly of Ann Arbor, MI, is headed back north.
American Express sponsors quilt

American Express has signed on as the first major sponsor for the display of the entire AIDS Memorial Quilt this October 11-13 in Washington, D.C. Major sponsorship is the highest level of corporate participation in this historic event.

As part of their participation, a large contingent of American Express employees will serve as on-site volunteers, and American Express will publicize the DC '96 display to their millions of cardholders. In recognition of their support, the NAMES Project Foundation has made the American Express card the official card of the DC '96 display for merchandise, travel and donations.

Other sponsors of this display of the entire quilt are United Airlines, the official airline of DC '96, and media sponsors POZ, The Advocate, and Out magazine.

“Anchorage’s premiere alternative cinema”
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BUTTERFLY KISS (NOT RATED, ADULTS OVER 16 ONLY) — This is an off-the-wall comic horror tale set in Australia about a tattooed lesbian serial killer with pierced nipples and heavy chains wrapped around her torso. A lonely young salesgirl in a shop along the highway falls in love with her. A combat between good and evil and the battle of love to survive among damaged goods, “Butterfly Kiss” smacks you in the gut with its rawness and brilliance. Amanda Plumber and Saskia Reeves star. Premiering August 15th.

COLD COMFORT FARM [PG] — John Schlesinger directs this engaging adaptation of Stella Gibbons’ 1932 novel about a young upper-class woman who goes to live with a family of distant country relatives. A funny, fine-tuned gem (reminiscent of 1995’s “Widow’s Peak”) with a wonderful cast including Kate Beckinsale, Ian McKellen and Miriam Margolyes. Premiering August 23.

LONE STAR [R] — Writer-director John Sayles’ ("The Secret of Roan Inish") tenth feature is a murder mystery set in a Texas border town. A pair of off-duty Army sergeants are hunting for rifle slugs on an abandoned military target range in the south Texas desert when they find something unexpected — a Masonic ring, a tarnished sheriff's badge and a human skull. The discovery prompts an investigation that local townfolk would just as soon seen left alone. Long-buried secrets are uncovered, the parallel lives of the border town begin to cross and double-cross, and the quest for truth may find a local sheriff of a nearby town finding his own world torn apart. Debuts August 30.

WALKING AND TALKING [R] — Comedy about a pair of female best buddies who find the turbulent dealings with the men in their lives are threatening to grind their friendship asunder. Starring Catherine Keener, Anne Heche and Todd Field. Premieres September 6.

MAYBE ... MAYBE NOT [NOT RATED] — Contemporary romantic comedy set in contemporary Cologne, about a handsome heterosexual playboy who finds himself fending off a lot of unwanted advances after his girlfriend kicks him out and he has to move in with a homosexual male acquaintance. Based on a series of German comic books by Ralf Konig. In German with English subtitles. Coming Soon.

See You Soon at the Movies!
Christian and Gay…it’s OK!

Dan Carter is a local gay activist and attends Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church in Anchorage

This past week I went to see Episcopal Bishop John Spong of Newark, NJ as he made several speeches during his visit to the Greatland. His message was challenging and thought provoking. I found it ironic that his visit was hosted by the Unitarian-Universalists and not his Episcopal brothers/sisters.

Then I remembered events which took place five or so years ago when I was attending my first international conference of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches in Phoenix, AZ. As it turned out, Bishop Spong’s parent denomination was also meeting across town at the same time as UFMCC. The newspapers gave great coverage to both conventions and each day news was greeted with much enthusiasm as the UFMCC, the largest predominately gay/lesbian/bi/trans church in the world, was not accustomed to receiving so much positive press coverage.

As it is today, the Episcopalians were discussing (or fussing over) gay rights as well as many other issues. Bishop Spong’s “claim to fame” in his denomination was his willingness to tackle many of the toughest issues of the time and always manage to come out on the “right” side. As a Bishop, he ordained women as priests before his church approved of female ministers and he ordained openly gay priests many years ago and his church continues to struggle over this issue. He has been an outspoken advocate for the oppressed and in doing so has caused great concern in the hierarchy of his denomination. How controversial could it be for a Christian to care about the poor, the downtrodden and minorities. So controversial that many members of the Episcopal church throughout the nation thought he should have been “fired.”

I can remember so well all the positive news in the press about our conference and at the same time, the ominous news coming from across town about the divisions within the Episcopal world. At a time when almost 1/2 of the ministers in UFMCC were women, they were still debating whether Jesus would approve of women ministers since all his disciples were men. UFMCC had decided long before that Christianity is a religion kept alive by the faith of its members and all members of UFMCC share the job of ministering to people. Yes, all its members, regardless of gender, class, sexual orientation or any other item which tends to divide us a people.

When Al and I went to Bishop Spong’s speech at Alaska Pacific University on Monday night, we happened to sit behind Christine Spong, the Bishop’s wife (or maybe that should be Bishop Spong is Christine’s husband!). I recognized her from our meeting in Phoenix and told her how proud I was to have been in the UFMCC conference when she and her husband came across town to share a service with the UFMCCers. She immediately smiled and told us how the reception they received that night from several thousand members of the UFMCC brought tears to their eyes.

What type of reception did they receive from UFMCC? A phenomenal one! As soon as they were in the convention hall, the delegates stood and cheered and continued to cheer for the entire time the Bishop, his wife and Reverend Elder Troy Perry – founder of the UFMCC – made their way down the aisle to the podium. The Bishop spoke only a few words of greeting but again the convention was on its feet! Why was this man received so warmly by members of another denomination? Because he is controversial for all the right reasons! Always when you hear people speaking of Bishop Spong, the word controversial seems to creep into the conversation.

Why is he so controversial? Controversial because he follows the example of Jesus and cares about those in need — children, women, racial minorities, sexual minorities and all other oppressed people. As Bishop Spong and many members of UFMCC have taught me, you can’t judge religion by the few so-called bigots who pass themselves off as Christians on television.

NOTE: Opinions expressed above are mine and not necessarily those of Identity, Northview, EQUAL or any other group I am a member. I’m Gay, Christian and Proud!!
Best friends

When I was a really little kid, most of my friends were of the male persuasion. I mean, they were the tree-climbers and mud-diggers. They were the ones willing to play King of the Mountain, standing on top of a small rise of earth and wrestling everyone else off the hill. Great fun.

It must have been around grammar school that kids got sorted by sex. All of a sudden it wasn’t okay for the boys to be playing with a girl.

But I hated paper dolls and Tiny Tears. My female playmates started getting boy-crazy by about fifth grade. One day my best friend wasn’t home when I stopped to walk to school with her. I saw her across the street, walking with Pam. Pam! She was one of those hoody girls — the ones the older boys were after.

That’s when I found my first real best friend. Charlie was two to three years younger than me and still a tomboy. It was all so simple. We roller skated, we played cowboys. We both knew we’d be friends forever.

Then Charlie moved away. I visited her once, but by then she lived in a fancy house in a ritzy town an hour away. She never came back to the apartments where we’d grown up. And to this day I miss that joyous, laughing girl.

Things got kind of confusing at adolescence. I couldn’t find the line between friendship and romance. I was looking for what I had with Charlie but ended up making out instead of riding mock horses. I wanted the playfulness, the devotion and the companionship, but all I played was musical beds. That went on for twenty years. I forgot how to do friendship. I just kept “falling in love.”

You probably know what it’s like. On Tuesday you pledge forever as you undress your field hockey teammate, and on Wednesday you develop an unquenchable passion for the long-haired girl in the front row of World Civilization. A few years after the teammate leaves, you and your newest sweetie buy matching rings on vacation, and at work the next week the cruisey supervisor chooses you to accompany her to a conference — and to share a room.

Eventually, I got tired of the drama and trauma of it all. I wanted one true love and friends. But what was a friend?

Of course there was always Patsy, my assistant store manager. We talked on the phone every night and never ran out of things to say. There was June, our relief manager. She and Patsy would come up when the three of us were off and sit around the kitchen table talking and laughing till Patsy had to get back to her six kids, June to her husband and four kids. There was Lynn, too, an ex with whom I had dinner once a week for fifteen years or so. I take no credit for that. Lynn’s simply good at taking the time for a phone call, remembering birthdays, ignoring her shyness and reaching out.

What can I say? I process slowly. One night when I was out with Lynn, about ten years after we’d stopped being lovers, it hit me. “You know what I just figured out? You’re my best friend!”

That realization changed my perspective. If Lynn was a friend, what did that make Patsy and June? Wow! I had friends!

Then I pulled a Charlie. I moved across the country. I worked part-time out of my home so I wasn’t likely to meet any Patsys or Junes. Lynn and I talked monthly, but would we, with such different lives — she urban, mesmall, she a secure state employee, me a struggling writer — drift apart?

I’ve since found my true love, but pure friendship remains a mystery to me. We don’t get many Charlies in our lives. It’s only in childhood that we have the time to spend hours kicking around the yard with someone. Grownups (and I think I’m finally one of those) make friends while we work together or compare miserable bowling scores. And the friends are not forever. We move away, or they do. We change jobs, or someone’s new lover doesn’t like us. We burn out on a church committee or stop drinking.

It’s taken a while for me to accept that it’s okay to be friends with someone just for today. I don’t have to have the kind of intense connection that I once required.

Somewhere along the line I re-learned that old childhood talent for having fun.

Next week Lynn’s flying out here for a visit. I’m really excited. She’s the one who taught me, after all, that friendship is more like a houseplant than an exotic orchid. Varied, common, requiring a little care and a lot of constancy. We’ve known each other since 1968. Twenty-eight years. We may not climb trees together, but I think I’ve got a friend.

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Ann Spohnholz

State House

PO Box 140435
Anchorage, Alaska 99514
(907) 279-7299
Fax (907) 279-9405
e-mail: lsa@alaskn.net
Confessions of a Don't-Bee

by Michael Thomas Ford

As a child, one of my great joys was watching “Romper Room.” For those unacquainted with this children’s television show, I will explain. “Romper Room” was an idyllic day care center, where an audience of 15 or so lucky four- and five-year-olds sang, danced, and experienced nirvana in the company of the world’s perkiest host, Miss Nancy. A sort of Katie Lee for the preschool set, Miss Nancy doled out love to her assembled guests while the rest of us sat at home and watched.

At some point in every show, Miss Nancy would hold up her Magic Mirror. This clever prop was simply a hand mirror with the glass removed. Miss Nancy would stare at the camera through the hole and pretend to see all of the “Friends at Home” while she chattered on endlessly.

As much as I loved her, I thought Miss Nancy was full of crap. Even with my rudimentary knowledge of science, I knew she couldn’t really see me at home. I scorned the clearly demented children who shrieked with glee whenever Miss Nancy peered at them through the Magic Mirror.

This all changed, however, the day Miss Nancy was discussing the crucial issue of color. After going over the merits of red, blue, and green, she asked the children what their favorite colors were. “Blue!” they shouted, or “Yellow!”

Then Miss Nancy picked up the Magic Mirror. “And what’s your favorite color, Friends at Home?” she asked cheerfully.

“Purple!” I screamed back. I knew that purple was a sissy color, but what did I care. I was full of Froot Loops and feeling fine.

Miss Nancy’s face inside the mirror broke into a wide smile. “I heard a Friend at Home say purple!” she chirped. “That’s an interesting color to pick, isn’t it boys and girls?”

In that instant, my safe childhood world shattered. Miss Nancy could hear me. Not only that, but she had announced to the world that a “Friend at Home” actually preferred purple over blue or yellow. I stared at the television in horror.

Then another terrible thought entered my four-year-old brain. If Miss Nancy could hear me, then surely she could see me as well. Who knew what else she knew about me? She might have seen me engaging in my favorite hobby of thumb sucking. Worse, she might be aware that on occasion I not only picked my nose, but ate what came out.

Unable to think clearly, I did what any reasonable child would do: I hid under the bed. I peered out as Miss Nancy moved on to the next activity. She seemed to have forgotten about me. Then there was a knock on the “Romper Room” door and Miss Nancy went to answer it. Throwing wide the door, she turned to the camera and beamed. “Hey, everyone, it’s Do-Bee!”

Do-Bee was the “Romper Room” mascot, and was, in fact, a gigantic yellow and black bee, complete with wings and bouncing antennae. Once every day, Do-Bee would come into the room and buzz around while the kids went mad. Do-Bee would cover his mouth with his hands and appear to giggle. Much later, I would realize that Do-Bee was, all along, a Queen Bee. At the time, I simply thought he was fabulous.

“We all want to be good Do-Bees, don’t we, boys and girls,” Miss Nancy would say, and we would all nod agreeably. The opposite of a Do-Bee was a Don’t-Bee, a title no self-respecting child wanted. Satisfied that we were all properly color-oriented, Do-Bee would leave for parts unknown.

Normally, I welcomed the appearance of Do-Bee. I enjoyed his cheerful way of dancing from foot to foot. But now things had changed. If Miss Nancy could see me, so could Do-Bee. Suddenly it all came together in my mind. Do-Bee was Miss Nancy’s henchman. His brief appearance each day gave her the opportunity to point out the “Friends at Home” whose bad behavior she’d spied in the Magic Mirror. Clearly, I was now a Don’t-Bee.

I scurried out from under the bed and turned the television off. For the rest of the day, I walked around in terror, waiting for Do-Bee to come for me. I imagined him taking me away to wherever it was that children who didn’t like normal colors were kept.

For the next week I slept fitfully, fearful that I’d next wake in some dank prison surrounded by other lovers of purple. My mother wondered why I didn’t clamor any longer for my morning dose of “Romper Room,” preferring instead to actually play outdoors.

Then one day I was sent to a friend’s house to visit. Andy’s mother sat us in the family room and turned the television to “Sesame Street.” For some reason, I had never seen the show before. While Andy immediately became engrossed in learning about the number 9 and the letter Q, I hid behind a beanbag chair, waiting for yet another Big Brother figure to appear, pointing an accusing finger at the boy who admitted to a queer fondness for inappropriate shades.

Instead, what came on was Bert and Ernie. At first I trembled, watching their never-closing eyes for signs of spying. But despite my fears, there was something about them that spoke to me. They joked amiably as they ate cookies and then went to sleep in their shared bedroom. They seemed to like each other in a way I could understand. On some deep level, I was certain that they, too, probably liked purple.

I sat and watched. Soon, I was laughing delightedly as Ernie counted sheep and Bert tossed restlessly, all thoughts of Miss Nancy driven from my mind. That night, imagining Ernie asleep in a bed next to mine, I slept peacefully for the first time in days.

Michael Thomas Ford lives in Boston, where he continues to watch Sesame Street. He welcomes mail at QueerLife@aol.com
'Coming out' is a process
by Arlene Zetar

I am responding to [Bill Pape's] editorial in the [October] issue of Community, encouraging us to be “OUT.” He spoke about the need for us to “come from the gut,” and I found myself having a strong “gut” reaction to his piece.

Being out has never been a question for me. I have been “OUT” about who I am all of my life. I have been “OUT” since I first became sexually active as a teenager, and I have continued to be “OUT” as a lesbian social worker, as an educator at the state university, as a writer, in the Jewish community, and in all other places my life takes me. It is my nature to be “OUT.” It is who I am, something I am proud of and comfortable with.

However, (and this is the “gut” part) — it is NOT everyone’s way. It is not everyone’s path. For some people, for cultural or religious reasons, it is not possible. People really do lose their families, their children, their jobs, and even, sad to say, their lovers, by coming out. Coming out for some people is extremely stressful, potentially dangerous, and above all, a personal decision.

I agree with the sentiment that “we must have the gut desire to want our rights” and that this “want comes from people who are ‘OUT.’” I agree that we must work hard to secure our rights, to create a world where people can come out, where it is safe to come out, where, if I may be so bold to say, heterosexuality is NOT assumed, so there is no need to come out. The work that activists have done in the past ten years has made queer issues a major item on the public political agenda. We have become a household word — I just heard that in some local high schools, kids are wanting to be gay because it’s ‘cool’ — and we have grown (let us be honest) far beyond our wildest dreams.

I also agree with empowering and supporting people who are ready to come out to do so, carefully and consciously. Coming out is a strong act of empowerment, that follows soul-searching, consciousness raising, and self-inquiry. It cannot precede them. Those of us who are “OUT” must serve as role models, not just as political activists but as sensitive guides to assist people through a holistic process of, first, coming home to themselves, and then coming out to the world.

As I read your piece, Bill, I had this sinking feeling in my gut that we long-term political activists have created as much pressure for people now to come out as we used to feel to hide who we are. As a healer committed to lesbian, gay, and bisexual people, I often work with people who came out so quickly that they were unable to cope with the effect this had on their family, work, school, relationship, financial, and professional lives.

Coming out, as we all know, is an on-going process in this (still) homophobic culture. Let us create a community that is supportive for those of us who are not “OUT.” There are many ways to serve, or be part of, our community. Being “OUT” is one way, and an extremely important one. It is not the only way.

December 1993 COMMUNITY Albany, New York

Teacher’s network forming
by Fred Hillman

The Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Teachers Network (GLSTN) was founded by teachers in the Boston area in 1990 with a mission to end homophobia and heterosexism in schools. It was instrumental in helping Massachusetts become the first state to ban discrimination in its public schools on the basis of sexual orientation. There are over forty chapters across the nation, but there is no chapter in Alaska. Several people have expressed interest in forming a chapter here.

GLSTN seeks to develop school climates in which difference is valued for the positive contribution it makes in creating a more vibrant and diverse community. GLSTN welcomes any individual, regardless of sexual orientation or occupation, who is committed to seeing this philosophy realized in K-12 schools.

If you can remember your own school years and can recall the isolation you felt or the harassment you experienced at that time, or if you are interested in social justice and want to see all children treated with respect and given the same opportunities as others, just be aware that GLBT teenagers are coping with the same harassment and isolation today in Alaska. Here is an opportunity for you to do something about it! If you would like to help form a chapter of GLSTN, or if you would like some information about the organization, send your inquiries to me, c/o Identity, Inc., P O Box 200070, Anchorage, AK 99520, or phone me at 562-7161. All inquiries will be kept confidential.

Fred Hillman is a retired physician in Anchorage.

OWLS
by Barbara J. Soule

Some Woman in the Newsletter Wants to Know the History of the Women’s Community Here. She Thinks I Ought to Talk to Her. He’s Old and Grey When I Finish Telling Her All You Know.
The Bridges Project
by Fred Hillman

As a result of last month’s review of books about gay issues in the public school system (School’s Out, Being Visible, and One Teacher in 10), I received a call from Jenie Hall, Director of The Bridges Project of the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC). It’s an outfit worth knowing about.

Ms. Hall writes: “The Bridges Project ... acts as an information clearinghouse on LGBT youth issues. ... Working with organizations and individuals nationwide we are building an anti-racist, anti-sexist national network of LGBT youth and supporters.”

The Friends published one of the pioneering resource guides for LGBT youth, Bridges of Respect: Creating Support for Lesbian and Gay Youth. First published in 1989, it has been out of print, but a new expanded edition is due out soon.

The Bridges Project, in addition, supplies a number of publications at modest cost. These include:

- Information packets on educational, religious, and policy issues.
- Crossroads, a national newsletter addressing LGBT youth issues.
- Bridges Project Resource Guide: 70 articles on advocacy, safe schools, HIV/AIDS, suicide, youth of color, information for providers, and many other issues.
- Alone No More: Developing a Support System for Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Youth. Originally published by the Minnesota Department of Education, but no longer printed by them, this comprehensive guide for working in school systems is still available through the Bridges Project.
- Safe Zone stickers to signal that an adult, such as a teacher or a preacher, is understanding, supportive, and trustworthy.

Contact the Bridges Project at 1501 Cherry Street, Philadelphia, PA 19102-1479, or telephone (215) 241-7133.

Fred Hillman is a retired physician in Anchorage.

Paris-Jackson divorce
by Rex Weckner

The famous gay couple, Bob Paris and Rod Jackson, have broken up.

In a statement by Paris on July 18, the bodybuilder/model couple said, “Rumors have been circulating in the gay community regarding the status of our relationship, and while neither of us is comfortable discussing the very private aspects of our lives, we want to address those rumors directly to prevent any misunderstanding.

“For the public record, we have been broken up for the last year and were separated for a year before that. The past two years have been an extraordinarily difficult time for both of us as we have faced the dissolution of our marriage. The details and reasons for our separation are complicated, painful and personal, as they are when any marriage fails. And while our marriage was lived in the public eye for many years, its demise is not a subject either of us can expand upon in the media. We have tried to handle the breakup in a mature, quiet fashion, and are trying now to find new ways to still be in each other’s lives.

“We tried our best to make our marriage work,” the always publicity-sensitive couple continued. “We loved each other deeply and had ten years together. Seven of those years were spent as activists for gay civil rights and we were fortunate to have been able to do some very difficult, rewarding and exhausting work together. Like so many couples, we found ourselves in very different places, and our partnership could no longer be the source of joy and shelter it was for so long. Living and working so much in the public eye, our marriage took on a life of its own, and our full schedule of gay rights activism often came at the expense of sustaining our personal relationship.

“We share the disappointment of those of you who looked up to our marriage as a role model — no one feels that disappointment more keenly than we do,” Jackson and Paris said. “But as individuals we need to move on and look forward, as any other couple, gay or straight, would at this point in their lives. We both remain completely committed to the cause of making the world a better, safer place for gay, lesbian and bisexual youth. We both remain deeply committed to the concept of equal marriage rights, and we both still believe in the magic of love.”

In a telephone conversation, Paris — a former Mr. America and Mr. Universe — said the couple prepared the statement because, “I think readers of the gay press are interested.”

Paris and Jackson got married in 1989, after Paris came out publicly in the July 1989 issue of the muscle magazine Ironman. Thereafter, they spent several years as sort of freelance gay role-models — showing gay and straight America that two All-American guys could fall in love and live happily ever after.

They made scores of speaking and television appearances, and released two coffee-table photobooks of themselves.

Quote

“I like dogs better than people. They give you unconditional love. They either lick your face or bite you, but you always know where they’re coming from. With people, you never know which ones will bite. The difference between dogs and men is that you know where dogs sleep at night.”

Gay, HIV-positive Olympic gold medal diver Greg Louganis to the Philadelphia Inquirer.
Job discrimination legal

by Human Rights Campaign

Job discrimination based on sexual orientation legal in 41 states
WASHINGTON — Americans who are fired from their jobs simply because of their sexual orientation are not protected by federal law, the head of the largest national lesbian and gay political organization told Congress today.

"Today, it is still perfectly legal under federal law to fire a person simply because he or she is gay, lesbian or bisexual," said Elizabeth Birch, Executive Director of the Human Rights Campaign. "Let that sink in for a moment because it is reminiscent of other cruel, shameful moments in American history."

Birch testified at a historic hearing before the House Small Business Subcommittee on Government Programs to consider the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA). ENDA, which has broad bipartisan support in the House and Senate, would make it illegal to discriminate in hiring, firing, promoting or compensating workers based on sexual orientation.

"This kind of discrimination happens in every region of the country," Birch said. "It is un-American. It is unbusinesslike. And it is wrong. But it remains sanctioned by federal law, or rather, by the absence of any law prohibiting it."

Birch cited national polls showing that more and more Americans believe this kind of discrimination is wrong. "In May of this year, a Newsweek poll found that 84 percent of Americans support equal rights in employment for gay and lesbian people," she testified. "More recently, in June, an Associated Press poll found 85 percent favor this kind of legislation."

Corporate America has recognized this fact and has adopted nondiscrimination policies that cover sexual orientation, Birch said. She cited a recent HRC report that found slightly more than half of the Fortune 500 companies have such policies.

"Despite the overwhelming public support for the principles behind ENDA, there are political groups here in Washington that oppose it," she added. "They have attacked this simple piece of popular legislation in the same way that they have vilified gay and lesbian Americans — with naked hostility, fabrications and distortions."

ENDA would not apply to religious organizations, small businesses or the military, and it would not require employers to provide equal benefits to the domestic partners of employees.

Chai Feldblum, a Georgetown University law professor and a consultant to HRC, testified that passing ENDA would be a "profoundly moral response" to the discrimination that currently exists in America. Feldblum said a majority of Americans reject the view of ENDA opponents that gay people should be punished for being honest about their lives.

RAW. Radical Arts for Women, is searching for a logo. We encourage all women artists to submit designs that will convey our vision of a women's arts organization, supporting and promoting artistic events and projects by, for and about lesbians and feminists. The winner will receive $100. Please send camera-ready 8” x 10” designs by September 10 to:

RAW
P. O. Box 101201
Anchorage, AK 99510
or call 566-3783 for more information.

Keep your eyes peeled for a RAW-sponsored photography exhibit this fall. Thanks for your support!

IN CONFLICT OR DISPUTE?
MEDIATION MAY BE THE ANSWER
Communicative Problem Solving
Fair & Prompt
Informal
Private
Economical
Flexible
Win-Win
Safe

PHYLLIS RHODES
MEDIATOR
346-2217
State Wide

The American majority is stating a different moral vision for society," she testified. "Under this vision, people are to be judged on their merits and not on the basis of a characteristic that has no relevance to their ability to perform their jobs. Under this vision, gay people are to be protected from punishment and harassment based solely on their decision to respond honestly to their given sexual orientation."

Human Rights Campaign
1101 14th Street NW
Washington, DC 20005
email: communications@hrcusa.org
http://www.hrcusa.org
MCC’s new headquarters

The Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC) and Metropolitan Community Church of Los Angeles purchased a $3.8 million modern complex of buildings on Santa Monica Boulevard in West Hollywood, California.

The property, which includes a 5-story office structure and an adjacent 2-story building (plus basement and parking areas), is the new Global Headquarters of UFMCC and also the new home of UFMCC’s historic “mother” church, MCC Los Angeles, whose previous church was destroyed by the 1994 earthquake.

Rev. Elder Troy Perry, UFMCC founder and Moderator, said “This is a great day for UFMCC, and for lesbians and gays everywhere. Our new Global Headquarters and the new MCC Los Angeles will be a highly visible symbol of the maturity, stability, decency, and permanence of the gay/lesbian community.”

—Press Release from UFMCC; for more information, telephone (213) 464-5100.

Obituaries

Phillip M. Fear

Anchorage resident Philip Matthew Fear, 41, died August 7, 1996, at home.

A celebration of his life will be held at 4 p.m. Thursday at Evergreen Memorial Chapel, Eighth Avenue and E Street. Additional services will be held in Illinois.

Mr. Fear was born October 16, 1954, in Olney, Illinois. He graduated from Newton High School in 1972 and Illinois Eastern Community College in Olney in 1987.

A woodworker, he created many custom pieces, including the altar for St. Thomas Catholic Church in Newton. He also worked as a disc jockey in Champaign, Illinois, and bartender in Chicago, before moving to Anchorage in July 1987. He also tended bar in Anchorage.

His hobbies included gardening, traveling, and all kinds of music. He loved dogs, especially his dog, “Child.”

His family stated: “Philip was loving, generous and loyal. He attracted many friends with his sparkling personality, wry sense of humor and zest for living. He will be sorely missed by all who were lucky enough to be touched by his life.”

Mr. Fear is survived by his life partner, Lewis Penman of Anchorage; mother, Clara Fear of Newton; brothers and sisters, Loren Fear, Thomas Fear, Fonda Fear and Carolyn Bachelor, all of Illinois; and many nieces and nephews. He was preceded in death by his father, Loren Fear.


If the big religious questions interest you, you should know where to come on Sunday morning:

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

See the Anchorage Daily News Saturday religion page for topics and speakers.

3201 Turnagain Street, 248-3737
Informative message: 248-0715
What are mothers to do?

How would you like to spend 18 hours in a box with no water, food or toilet? Me neither! But that is exactly what awaits Verushka, Bodi, Yaga and Fancy Chickapaca. Our beloved cat companions are our biggest conundrum in getting our stuff to Missouri, and don't tell them or Dear Love that I included them in stuff. Not the bazillion boxes of books (I can't help it, Beth. I'm a word thief), not all the odd-shaped musical instruments, bikes and objects d'art. How to move the kitties causing the least trauma to them and us.

The up side is that if they were children, we couldn't send them in a box; we'd have to be closeted with them in some small space for a month of travel. I was often one of the children in such a scenario and I know the myriad ways a group of children can make an adult wish she, or the children, had never been born. The down side is that there will be retribution. Can you imagine what retribution await Dear Love and me in our new home in Missouri after that? We'll probably arrive after a month of separation and find turds right in the middle of our bed like Wendy Claire left in Liz's bed the first time Janna spent the night and she was put outside the room. But I'm getting ahead of myself.

Who, you may ask, is going to receive these flint-eyed felines on the other end after such treatment? Could we possibly trust a stranger or a friend who doesn't like cats to drive to Springfield, pick up four cats whose carriers weigh 25-30 pounds each, each carrier holding a cat that looks as whiggled out as Bill the Cat of cartoon fame? And then expect them to stop on a grassy knoll nearby, set up a litter box, feed and water all four crazed critters without having them bolt? And then to take one at a time out, fit them with a harness and leash and stretch them a bit before escorting them to the loo?

No doubt, dear readers, those of you who are dog girls and boys and cat haters are falling over laughing at this point. I hope the cat girls and boys are sending great waves of empathy towards Dear Love and me.

We do have a plan; of course, we have no idea if it is a good one, but it's the best we could think up. Dear Love will leave two weeks early and fly to Missouri. She will buy litter boxes, nice shiny new ones, cat dishes, cat food and set the cat quarters up in the new house. Then, when she is ready, I will air freight the cats and the computers to her in Springfield. Next, she will buy a truck, or borrow Lucy's, hire a bundle of muscles for the afternoon and drive the hour to Springfield to meet the plane. She will rescue the girls, get them home with no mishap, into the house and settled before she pays and releases her assistant. Doesn't that sound easy?

I shudder to think of the possible things that could go wrong. The airlines could air freight our cats to another city. They could put paperwork on the carriers that say “dead animal” instead of “live animal” and they could put them in the freezer cargo hold. Yaga and Bodi could wince incessantly while they are waiting in baggage for the next flight and drive some unstable baggage handler around the bend so s/he feels compelled to silence the girls.

Angered by such an ordeal, one could scratch the shit out of Dear Love and run off across the prairie. The nightmare possibilities are endless. I'm not going to articulate any more of them, though, because Dear Love will read this and I don't want to give her any ideas. She probably has her own nightmare visions.

We have been trying to habituate the cats to imprisonment and constraint. Are you laughing yet? We have made them sleep in the basement with no beds, no humans, no windows. We have put collars and halters on them which they didn't mind at all, until I put a five pound bell on Bodi-the-Bird Killer's collar. She showed me. She sauntered home, bird in mouth, halter and liberty bell disappeared forever. I searched. It was purple with rhinestones on it. Some lucky raven has taken it home and is showing it off.

I took Verushka outside on the leash. She ran forward a couple of times, hit the end of the tether, and commenced a sit-down strike. When I tried to lift her gently with the lead and move her in the direction I wanted her to go, she just hunched down and started backing up. I grabbed her up right before she backed right out of the collar. It's halter time for you, princess. I succeeded equally well with the other cats.

Back to the fantasy of “The Cats Go to Missouri.” Dear Love will find a cat sitter who will go into our house every other day, feed and water the cats, clean their litter boxes and play with them. This person will do this for $10 an hour, a handsome wage in Missouri, and we will consider this money well spent. The cats will be good, not tear down the drapes, or do anything nasty in the house.

Dear Love will fly back to Seattle to join me, and we will commence the Great American Train Ride across the U. S. of A. together. Maybe this will work. I can't think of anything else brilliant. Can you?

Karen Carlisle, Bested in Bushville
DUE TO LACK OF RESPONSE TO OUR APPEAL, THE BOARD OF IDENTITY HAS VOTED TO SUSPEND LOCAL NATIONAL COMING OUT DAY (NCOD) ACTIVITIES.

If any individual wishes to chair the event, or if any organization wishes to host the event for Identity, they MUST contact Ruth Mathes at 563-1324 no later than August 31.

There will be no further announcements or appeals regarding NCOD for Anchorage.

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...AND HE'S BUCH. HE'S SO BUCH, HE DOESN'T EVEN USE A HAIR DRYER.
Talk to your doctor  
by Bill Maetz, M.D.

Patients are often reluctant to discuss sexuality with their personal physician. During an initial visit or physical examination, as an integral part of the patient history, I will ask a patient, “Are you gay, straight or bisexual ... do you date women, men or both?” The response I receive from patients is often quite dramatic: “I’m straight, of course!!!” or (pause) (stutter) “Straight ... sort of... I think.” Then there’s “Why do you want to know?” or “It’s none of your business!” And, “I’m gay — does that matter medically?”

I believe it’s important to discuss your sexuality openly with your physician. The first reason is to maintain an open, honest relationship with each other. If your physician proves to be uncomfortable with this issue, then I strongly suggest that you search out a physician who is more enlightened. If you are closeted, this may be a good opportunity to practice coming out. (Even though it is confidential, you may be surprised to find out later that your physician is also homosexual.) You have every right to say to your physician, “I’m gay, but please don’t write that in my medical record.” (Some people do not want their insurance company finding out that information.) After tackling this hurdle, you will find that in future visits, if you are suffering from anxiety, stress or depression, you will be more comfortable discussing these issues with your physician. Furthermore, if you ever experience medical problems directly associated with sexual practices, you will also find it much more comfortable approaching your physician for assistance.

There are additional medical reasons to discuss your sexual preferences with your physician. If you are sexually active (of any preference) and not in a monogamous relationship, your physician may recommend a hepatitis B vaccination. In order to properly discuss safe sexual practices (avoidance of HIV and sexually transmitted diseases), it is best for your physician to know about your sexuality. There are medical issues specific for gays and lesbians. Gay men are at higher risk for multiple rectal conditions (warts, hemorrhoids, tears), urethritis (discomfort on urination), prostatitis and atypical pharyngitis (sore throats due to gonorrhea or chlamydia), hepatitis B and HIV infection. Lesbians may be at much lower risk for cervical cancer and many sexually transmitted diseases, but may be at higher risk for ovarian and breast cancer.

It is crucial for both physicians and patients to feel comfortable during each visit. You need to ask the question, “If I cannot discuss an important issue of sexual preference and practice with my personal physician, will there be other important matters which I cannot discuss or trust my physician to understand?” It is also incumbent upon you to raise the issue.

Many physicians are uncomfortable with this issue, or simply make the assumption that all patients are heterosexual. I encourage all patients to work with their physicians to achieve this level of comfort, or find a physician with whom you can be comfortable discussing your orientation instead of waiting for your physician to ask.


Society

Good things happen to good people! 
Commitment ceremony receives top billing

Our North Theater was the scene of wedding bliss on Saturday, August 8, as Carolynn Lancaster and Vicki Howell spoke their vows before a packed house. The curtain went up at 5:00 p.m., heralded by “sounding brass” and stage smoke. Family and friends rejoiced as Beatrice Hitchcock, intern pastor of UUF (Unitarian Universalist Fellowship) led the couple in a double ring ceremony, highlighted by individual vows that included their love of children and animals. Local community members and family participated in the circle of commitment with prose and poetry befitting such a special occasion.

Sumptuous is the only word suitable for the buffet following the ceremony, and a three-tiered wedding cake was cut and served to all the well-wishers. Toasts and the flash of cameras filled the air well into the evening, as guests moved back into the main hall for music and dancing. The evening provided the opportunity for many in attendance to re-affirm their own vows of commitment. This occasion was truly special for everyone, and all shared equally in the radiance of this union.

Anniversary celebrated

Tom Rachal and Al Kaneta quietly celebrated their 15th anniversary on July 25 by having an excellent dinner at the Double Musky Restaurant in Girdwood. When asked the secret of keeping a relationship together for such a long time, Tom stated the most important words that came to mind were honesty and communication. He stated, “If you are truthful with each other in all matters and have the ability to discuss your differences until a compromise is reached, it is possible to have a long-term relationship.” May they have many more years together!

New baby!

Allison Hill and Debbie Bloom announced the birth of their son, Evan Hill Bloom, on August 6 at Providence Hospital. He weighed in at 7 lb, 12 oz. Debbie and Evan are home and doing great. “He’s really super,” Debbie reported. Allison remained with Deb during the entire event, and cut the cord herself. Congratulations to you both!

Lucy returns for August Women’s Sing-A-Long

We knew Missouri had to loosen its grip on Lucille Fry ... or maybe she just could not pass up the cheap fares! We’re the lucky ones, though.

Lucy will arrive the second week in August. She’ll be at her same old house (a.k.a. Carol’s, Fran’s and Shell’s house) and you can reach her at 338-0871. Time has not changed Lucy so much that you must make an appointment but, if you want some individual time, you’d better line it up with Lucy pretty early on.

Also, ATTEND THE WOMEN’S SING-A-LONG ON SATURDAY, AUGUST 17 (as usual, the potluck dinner begins at 6:30 p.m. and singing begins at 7:30 p.m.) Bring your favorite dish, an instrument if you like (wind, string, or song) and let’s celebrate!
Wisconsin school can be sued for failure to protect against assault

by Jessev N.J. Greenman

CHICAGO, July 31, 1996—In a landmark case that could improve the lives of lesbians and gay men in the nation’s schools, the Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals ruled today in favor of a young gay man who sued his former Wisconsin school for failing to protect him from constant, at times brutal, anti-gay assaults and harassment while he was a student.

The appeal, Nabozny v. Podlesny, was brought by Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund and is the first of its kind to challenge anti-gay violence in the nation’s [public] schools. The decision reversed a lower court’s ruling throwing the case out and remanded it to the federal district court in Madison, Wisconsin for trial.

Patricia M. Logue, managing attorney for Lambda’s Midwest Regional Office, who argued the appeal, said, “This ruling in favor of Jamie Nabozny is spectacular news for young lesbians and gay men facing violence and harassment in their schools. It means the federal constitution requires schools to offer gay students the same protections and safety given other students. This may seem obvious, but school officials regularly deny young lesbians and gay men refuge from violence.”

A jubilant Nabozny said: “I hope the thousands of other gay teens forced to live through this kind of terror will be encouraged by my victory and will not give up. I feel like someone has finally recognized that it was the violence that was the problem, not me or my sexual orientation, and I am deeply grateful.”

During his four-year ordeal in middle and high schools in Ashland, Wisconsin, Nabozny and his parents repeatedly asked the schools to safeguard him from his attackers, but school officials told them that Nabozny had to learn to expect such abuse because he is gay. During an assault that resulted in injuries requiring surgery, 10 students surrounded Nabozny while another student wearing boots repeatedly kicked him in the stomach. Another time, students urinated on him, and in another instance, students pushed him to the floor and acted out a mock rape. Nabozny attempted suicide several times and ran away to escape the abuse.

“America’s heartland is on notice that its schools are responsible for the security of their gay as well as non-gay students,” Logue said. She said the ruling directly affects courts in Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin and will be influential nationwide.

David Buckel, Lambda staff attorney and co-counsel in the Nabozny case, added, “The issue of anti-gay violence against schoolchildren has exploded, with hearings in states including Kansas, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Texas.”

“This decision sends a message to every school district in the country not to sweep problems of anti-gay violence under the rug,” said Lambda Legal Director Beatrice Dohrn. “This is a pervasive problem that all schools must face. Young lesbians and gay men have the right to a safe education,” Dohrn said.

Nabozny, now 20 years old, sued his high school. In 1995, his case was thrown out without a trial in the federal district court in Madison, Wisconsin. Lambda represented Nabozny in his appeal of that ruling which was argued before a panel for the Seventh Circuit appeals court on March 28, 1996. The court ruled that Nabozny could pursue his gender and sexual orientation discrimination claims under the equal protection clause of the U.S. Constitution. Unless the school district petitions the full Seventh Circuit or the U.S. Supreme Court for review, today’s reversal of the district court decision means that Nabozny now can take his case to trial to establish the school’s liability.

A friend-of-the-court brief was filed in support of Nabozny’s appeal by the National Association of School Psychologists, the National Association of Social Workers, the national organization of Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, and the Chicago lesbian and gay social services agency Horizons.

Lambda is the nation’s oldest and largest legal organization dedicated to the civil rights of lesbians, gay men, and people with HIV/AIDS. With headquarters in New York City, Lambda has regional offices in Los Angeles as well as Chicago and will open an office in Atlanta in 1997.

For additional information, contact:
jessea@uclink4.berkeley.edu

such is LIFE!
New video available  
by Rob Guzman

Announcing the availability of a new educational video targeting gay, lesbian, bisexual, and questioning youth.

“Inside Out,” a new educational video designed to reach queer youth and their heterosexual peers, is now available from Lifecjackets Productions at 1-800-366-2150. This video was produced by Special Programs for Youth of the San Francisco Department of Public Health.

This 13 minute video has two main purposes: First, to educate young gay, bisexual, and questioning males about HIV prevention. Second, to educate heterosexual youth to help them understand some basic issues that queer youth can face and how they can be supportive. It is designed particularly for middle school age youth in the process of forming their sexual identities, but will also be helpful for older youth, not to mention teachers and school administrators.

The bulk of the non-technical work on this video was done by young queers, from conceiving of and creating the script, to acting and being interviewed in the production. The thirteen youth on camera are all eighteen and under, and a majority are people of color.

This video takes a different approach than many HIV prevention videos. Rather than going over the safe sex basics, it focuses on self-esteem and the inherent right of every young person to physical and emotional well being.

There are six segments after an introductory dramatic scene:

1. How does it feel to tell someone you’re gay?
2. When should someone come out?
3. When someone’s afraid of gays, it can hurt people.
4. How should people react?
5. You have a right to be who you are.
6. You have a right to be healthy.

Included with the video is a detailed seven page discussion guide, as any classroom discussion after showing the video will likely be more powerful than the video itself.

As the producer of this video, I feel that having seen such a video when I was struggling with being gay and feeling isolated in the suburbs would have shown me that I was not alone. Showing this video to young people can make a difference. Is your local school district doing anything to support queer youth?

As much as I wish it was available for free, it is still relatively inexpensive for a health education video at $24.95. If you buy it, please feel free to copy it and the discussion guide for use within your school or organization as long as it is done so in order to reach it’s target audience.

Please contact me (Rob) with any questions at: guzman@slp.net or call 1-800-366-2150 to order it. I will gladly e-mail a text version of the discussion guide and am working on developing a small QuickTime (Mac only) sample movie.

Local lesbian video show  
by Barbara Soule

Jennifer Dennis presented an impromptu showing of film shorts created by teenage midwest artist Sadie Benning at the Roosevelt Cafe, Friday, August 9th. The first film was unpolished. One could see a progression, first in technique, then in creative artistry, each successive film being better than the previous one. In the last section, technique and creativity melded wonderfully together. The films were a joy to watch. Sadie Benning, a lesbian, won the 1996 Rockefeller grant, a very prestigious award. She is presently working on her first feature length film.

Quotes

“This is a mean bill. It is cruel. This bill seeks to divide our nation, turn Americans against Americans, sow the seeds of fear, hatred and intolerance. Let us remember the Preamble of the Declaration of Independence: ‘We hold these truths self-evident that all people are endowed by their creator with certain inalienable rights. Among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness.’ This bill is a slap in the face of the Declaration of Independence. It denies gay men and women the right to liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Marriage is a basic human right. You cannot tell people they cannot fall in love. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. used to say when people talked about interracial marriage, and I quote: ‘Races do not fall in love and get married. Individuals fall in love and get married.’ Why do you not want your fellow men and women, your fellow Americans to be happy? Why do you attack them? Why do you want to destroy the love they hold in their hearts? Why do you want to crush their hopes, their dreams, their longings, their aspirations? We are talking about human beings, people like you, people who want to get married, buy a house, and spend their lives with the one they love. They have done no wrong... I have known racism. I have known bigotry. This bill stinks of the same fear, hatred and intolerance. It should not be called the Defense of Marriage Act. It should be called the Defense of Mean-Spirited Bigots Act.”


“The [gay] marriage issue came up too soon. I think the gay and lesbian organizations which pushed it made a mistake to push it too soon. I asked them not to push it so hard. It was very clear we were going to lose on this one. I think in three or four years, we would have been in better shape. But we just haven’t reached that point yet.”

House of Representatives passes anti-marriage bill

WASHINGTON, DC — The House of Representatives hit a new low in gay-bashing when it passed an anti-marriage bill by a vote of 342-67.

"The House committed an ugly, cowardly and unconstitutional act by passing this bill, and history will remember it as such," said Elizabeth Birch, Executive Director of the Human Rights Campaign. "It is nothing more than gratuitous election-year gay-bashing and the Human Rights Campaign intends to hold every member of Congress accountable for this vote."

The so-called "Defense of Marriage Act" would allow states to ignore gay marriages performed in other states, and would create an unprecedented federal definition of marriage to exclude gay unions from all federal benefits should any state decide to legalize same-sex marriage.

Amendments offered by Rep. Barney Frank, D-MA — which would have preserved federal benefits in states that might allow same-sex marriages in the future — were defeated 103-311.

Sens. James Jeffords, R-VT, Joseph Lieberman, D-CT, and Edward Kennedy D-MA, have announced a plan to attach the Employment Non-Discrimination Act [ENDA], a bill to outlaw employment discrimination based on sexual orientation, as an amendment to the Defense of Marriage Act if it reaches the Senate floor.

"A gay person can't get married in any of the 50 states today, and that's not likely to change for at least another two years," Birch said. "Yet gay people can be fired from their jobs in 41 states merely because of their sexual orientation. Congress should quit wasting time on legislation to outlaw an institution that doesn't exist and pass a bill to end discrimination that does."

Birch said the Human Rights Campaign will focus on passing the ENDA amendment in the Senate and believes it has a solid chance of passing. ENDA, reintroduced in June 1995, currently has 30 co-sponsors in the Senate and is supported by Govs. William Weld, R-MA, and Christine Todd Whitman, R-NJ.
The Directory

AA...

This directory is our “yellow pages” and reference guide. It’s free! Write Identity or call our helpline 258-4777. The designations of [L]esbian, [G]ay and [A]lylie the business or service ownership. All people are welcome to call for further info. NOTE: in some instances you might encounter employees who are unaware of this Directory and its significance. Don’t be offended: enlighten. All listings are in Anchorage unless indicated.

AA:
(G) Gay, Joyous and Free, see Calendar
(A) Live and Let Live, see Calendar
(G) Midnight Sons, see Calendar

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

AIDS:
(A) Alaskan AIDS Assistance Assoc., 263-2050 (see 4A’s page)
(A) Alaskans Living with HIV (ALHIV), (Juneau), Rita, 463-5688
(A) Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center (free HIV testing), Stephanie, 257-4637
(A) Interior AIDS Assoc., 452-4222
(P) 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, Koola, 278-5019

Alternative Medicine/Health:
(A) Hope, 561-2330
(A) Gateley, Ketki/Jaimini, 561-7327
(A) The Cutting Edge (Seward, AK), Connie, 907-224-8996.

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

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

Art/Graphic:
(C) Cattowks, Catherine, 563-5492

Arts & Crafts:
(A) Daymoon (Seward, AK), Jan, 907-224-7009.

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

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

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

Bars:
(G/L) O’Brady’s, 344-8033, 338-1080, 563-1080 (see ad)
(G/L) Palace Saloon (Fairbanks), Alaskanland (Fri & Sat ONLY)
(G/L) The Raven, 276-9672
(L/G) The Wave, 274-0690 or 561-WAVE (see ad)

Bed & Breakfast, Accommodations:
(G) Alta’s (Fairbanks), Pete, 907-457-0246 (see ad)
(G) Arctic Feather, Doug, 277-3862
(G) Aurora Winds, James/Bill, 346-2533
(A) Beach House, Mary (Homer), 907-235-5945 (see ad)
(L) Rose-Beth’s B B & R, Anchorage, Rose Beth, 387-6779
(L) Cheney Lake B&B, Mary/Janet, 337-4391
(G) Crabtree Guest House (Fairbanks), Phil/Bobby, 907-451-6501
(A) Fairbanks Hotel, (Fairbanks) Doris Lundin 888-329-4685
(G) Gallery Bed & Breakfast (Anchorage) Leslie Evans 274-2567
(A) Island Watch, Eileen (Homer), 907-235-2265 (see ad)
(L) Northern Comfort, Reeda, 278-2106
(G/A) Sourdough Lodging (Seward, AK), Gordon, 907-224-8946.

Bicycle Repair:
(G) Roy’s Bikes, Roy, 333-8221

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

Books:
(A) Alaskana, Gene, 561-1340 (see ad)

(A) Cyrano’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) Pride Institute (Minnesota), 800-54 PRIDE (547-7433)
Also Los Angeles, CA, Coconut Grove, FL & New York City.

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

Churches:
See Spiritual

Coffee Houses:
(G) Hollywood Canteen, Rand, 562-0737
(G/L) The Socialite at The Wave, Vicki, 274-0690 or 561-WAVE

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

Computer Bulletin Boards:
(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:
(A) Alaskan Support Consortium, Walter Erskine, 522-4ASC
(L) Angie, 337-0253 (see ad)
(G) By-Teq Alaska, Inc., F. Ken, 248-2422
(L) CDA Services, Wiltraud, 276-6862
(A) Computer Magik, Phil, 274-3528
(G) Ekstatic RAM, Robert Iris, 522-4275
(G) gra.f/x, Lucian, 561-8586
(L) Hickle & Associates, Terry, 276-3869
(G) Mark, 274-9472
(G) PC Possibilities, 248-6277

Computer Training:
(A) Alaskan Support Consortium, Walter Erskine, 522-4ASC
(G) Ekstatic RAM, Robert Iris, 522-4275
(G) Seven Treasures Ent., Don, 338-9068
(A) Find It! Business Services (Macintosh); Larry, 279-4862

Costume Design:
(G) Every Bloomin’ Thing, Jerry, Malcom, 274-3518

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

Counseling:
(G) Ability Design Associates, Doran, 562-9575
(A) Connie, 562-1820
(A) Jann, 248-9408
(A) Marion, 562-0012
(A) Psychological Services Center, 786-1795
(L) Tess, Alternative Counseling, 562-8281

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

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

Drug Shows:
(G/L) The Wave, Vicki, 274-0690 or 561-WAVE (see ad)

Drug Dependency:
(G/L) Pride Institute (Minnesota), 800-54 PRIDE (547-7433)

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

Dental Care...

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

Electrolysis:
(A) Anchorage Skin Care Clinic, Barbara, 277-4247
(L) Gentle Touch Electrolysis Clinic, Bronwyn 561-6608/277-4744

Entertainment:
(G) Art Services North, Daryl, 561-2115
(G) Capti Cinema, 561-0064 (see ad)
(A) Mascarella Music, Diane, 277-9751
(A) Syzygy/Music Magic, Linda, 274-2599

Feldenkrais:
(L) Movement Options, Shari, 272-0816

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

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

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

Florists:
(G) Every Bloomin’ Thing, Jerry, Malcom, 274-3158
(A) Growing Concern Florist, Darin, 279-8668

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

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

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

Gifts:
(A) Design Craft, David, 272-4438 (see ad)
(A) Love of Alaska, Talyne, 243-0876
(A) The Cutting Edge (Seward, AK), Connie, 907-224-8996

Greenhouses:
(A) Mile 5.2 Greenhouse, Dale, 694-3978 (see ad)

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

Health:
(A) Gatecyk, Ketki/Jaimini, 561-7327
(L) Health Advocacy Medical/Legal Research, Linda, 337-0253
(A) Home Health Care, 261-3173
(L) Movement Options, Shari, 272-0816
(A) Nature’s Own Way, Roberto/Debby, 561-0181
(A) The Ole Herb Shoppe, Constance, 522-4372
(G/L/B) 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, 561-2380

Helpline:
(G/L) Anchorage, Identity Helpline, 258-4777 (see ads)
(G/L) Fairbanks Lesbian/Gay Line, 907-458-8288
(G/L) Juneau, SEAGLA, 586-GAYS

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

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

Hypnotherapy:
(A) Rainbow Counseling, Maureen, 277-0582

Imperial Court:
(G) Imperial Court of All Alaska, Madeline, 338-8327

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

...Obstetrics and Gynecology

Independent Marketer:
(A) Mark, 279-5264

Insurance:
(L) Chris, 561-8040/338-3962 (see ad)

Internet Service Providers:
(G) ServCom Alaska, Mark Mathis, 274-9472

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, Allison, 279-5001 (see ad)
(A) Mendel & Huntington, Karl, 279-5001 (see ad)
(L) Rhodes, Phyllis, Mediator, 346-2217
(A) Short, Sylvia, 562-4992 (see ad)

Massage:
(L) Beth (MT), Debbie (CMT), 566-0842
(G) Don, 338-8826
(G) Gabriel, 272-9045
(A) Joyce, (CMT), 562-1916 (see ad)
(L) Leslie (non-sexual), 278-3346
(A) Marion, 562-0012
(L) Vicki, 277-5222

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

Meetings:
(G/L) The Wave, Vicki, 274-0609 or 561-WAVE

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, Rosemary (Wasilla), 373-5353

Newsletters/Newspapers:
(A) Alaska Women Speak, Mary Lee, 694-0924
(A) Anchorage Press, Nick, 561-7737 (see ad)
(L) Kionoky Keatos (Alaska Women’s Cultural Center), 277-9763
(GLA) NorthView (Identity), 258-4777
(GL) Perspective (S.E.A.G.L.A. (Juneau), 586-4297

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

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

Painting:
(L) L&L 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 (ACALA), Ruth,
323-1190
(A) Anchorage Women’s Political Caucus, Rhonda, 274-9308
(G/L) Equal, Inc., 274-9226
(G/L) Log Cabin Republicans, (503) 642-7292

Printing, Electronic Graphics:
(A) Alaska Micro Associates, Rebecca, 337-0460
(A) Mad dog Graphix, Michael, 276-5062
(A) SOS Printing, Val, 562-1678
The Directory

Odd Jobs...

Recreation:
(L) Alaska Women of the Wilderness, Rachel, 688-2226
(L) McKinley AirSvc., Lee Ann & Keli, 800-564-1765
(L) Puffin Family Charters, Leslie, 278-3346 (see ad)
(G) Triangle Tours, Greg, 786-3707, 800-779-3701
(GL) The Wave, Vicki, 274-0690 or 561-WAVE (see ad)

Real Estate:
(G) Apollo Real Estate, Bob, 561-0661 (see ad)
(A) Bronwyn Real Estate, 907-277-4744
(L) Century 21 (Missouri), Lucille, 417-745-6798(o); 417-993-4302(h)
(A) Coldwell Banker, Elaine, 562-2378
(L) Dynamic Properties, Jill, 261-7663
(L) Waltraud Barron, 274-2634

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

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

Restaurants:
(A) Cyrano’s Cafe, 274-1173
(G) O’Brady’s, 344-8033, 388-1080, 563-1080 (see ad)

Retirement Plans:
(A) Lynn (LaPerriere) 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

Sightseeing:
(L) McKinley AirSvc., Lee Ann & Keli, 800-564-1765; 907-733-1765
(L) Puffin Family Charters, Leslie, 278-3346 (see ad)

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

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

Spiritual:
(A) Alaska Women of the Wilderness, Rachel, 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, 746-1089
(A) Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, 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, Rachel, 688-2226
(A) Flies by Ilene (Eagle River), 907-694-6946
(G) Roy’s Bikes, Roy, 533-8221

Student Organizations:
(G/L) Alaskan Gay and Lesbian Association (AGLA, Fairbanks), Pete, 907-457-0246 (see Club Notes)
(G/L) The Family (formerly Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Student Association), UAA, (see Club Notes)

Support Groups:
(G) Ability Design Associates, Doran, 562-9575

...Writing and Editing Assistance

(G) I.M.R.U.2 (Youth Group), 258-4777
(A) PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Anchorage), Sylvia 562-4992, Fred 562-7161
(A) PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Fairbanks), Mary Jo, 907-459-8985
(A) PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Juneau), 907-463-4203

Tarot/Psychic:
(L) Spirit Services, Barbara, 274-4089

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

Theatre:
(G) Breakeven Productions, Linda 277-5630
(A) Out North Theatre, Gene/Jay, 279-8099

Travel:
(G) Apollo Travel Agency, Bob, 561-0661 (see ad)
(G) Apollo Travel Agency, Cheresse, 561-0661 (see ad)
(L) Equinox Wilderness Expeditions, Karen, voice mail: 274-9087
(G) Triangle Tours, Greg, 907-786-3707, 800-779-3701
(G) World Express Travel, Greg, 786-3701

Tutoring:
(A) James, Biology, 248-6412
(L) Carolyn Lancaster, M.Ed., School Survival Skills, 274-0646
(A) Kathleen L. McDonough, School Survival Skills, 274-5059

Veterinarian:
(A) Ginny, 345-1515
(L) Vicki, 345-1515
(A) Dr. Jean Battig (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

WANTED

One enthusiastic individual interested in making a difference in our community. If this is you, there is a vacancy on the Board of Directors of Identity, Inc. We are a working board which sponsors the Fourth Friday Potluck Dinner, Pride on the Parkstrip, National Coming Out Day, the Gay and Lesbian Helpline. We also publish the NorthView, participate in Anchorage’s Adopt-A-Road program, and this year we are the sponsoring organization for the Pride Conference. We welcome gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgendered persons and heterosexuals to our Board. Interested? Call the Helpline at 258-4777 and leave a message indicating your interest, or come to the next Board meeting, Tuesday, August 26 at 7 p.m. in the Identity, Inc. office upstairs in the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship at 3201 Turnagain Street.
Club notes

* New listings are asterisked

AA
Gay Joyous & Free, see on-going calendar.
Live and Let Live, see on-going calendar.
Midnight Sons, see on-going calendar.

Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association (4As) Anchorage
offers HIV testing Wednesday afternoons (2:00-4:00pm) 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, volunteer-
with the 4As, or need information, please call the 4As at
263-2050.

Alaska Gay and Lesbian Association of Fairbanks (AGLA)
a UAF Student Organization, has regular meetings open to
Gays, Lesbians and allies, 1st and 3rd Friday. For further infor-
mation about meeting time and place, contact Christopher at
907-479-7348.

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 the helpline at 258-4777.

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

Community Connection Line
Voice mail for women’s events that missed the calendar(s).
Call 566-FEMM.

EQUAL, Inc. Anchorage
EQUAL provides education and information about political
issues to our community. EQUAL is not a political action
committee and does not endorse candidates. For more infor-
mation, call 274-9226.

EQUAL, Inc. Fairbanks
purpose is to keep the community informed about political and
legal events which have an effect on the LGBQT 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 per-
cieved sexual orientation. To be on the phone tree, call Andy
at 907-457-3876. For more information about EQUAL, con-
tact Laura Burleson at 907-479-7348 or e-mail FSLEB@aurora.
aka.edu.

Fairbanks Dance Club
the Palace Saloon in Alaskaland is still the hottest spot in town
to meet. You can go dancing on Friday and Saturday nights
from 11:00pm ‘til the wee hours of the morning (it’s a straight
bar at all other times.) The DJ will be spinning
Country, Disco, Top 40 and Oldies for your dancing pleasures.
Info. Phil 481-6501

Fairbanks Gay Young Group
Leave message on voice mail for info: 457-3524.

Fairbanks Radio Station
KSUA 91.5 “Queer Beans” on 5-7 p.m. Saturdays

Family—Anchorage
meets every Saturday from 6:00-7:00pm in the Arts Building,
Room 121 on the UAA campus. Social group after 7:00pm
(bowling, dinner, etc.) High school people, bisexual men &
women, transvestites and transsexuals most welcome! Call
Harry O’Brien at 786-7644.

Feminist Sing-a-Long (women only), Anchorage
third Saturday of every month, 1741 Westview Circle; call Carol
and Fran at 333-0871. Non-singers are more than welcome.
6:30pm potluck, 7:30pm 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-
8:30pm at 845 “K” St. 279-5001.

Identity, Inc. Anchorage
founded to improve self and community awareness, under-
standing, 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 between the Gay/Lesbian
and non-Gay/non-Lesbian communities. Potluck Social is held
on the 4th Friday of every month at the Anchorage Unitarian
Universalist Fellowship, 3201 Turnagain Street. Doors open at
6:30pm; dinner at 7:00pm; program at 7:30pm. See the Calen-
der for this month’s program.

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 pre-
sent 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.

I.M.R.U. 2
Anchorage gay youth group meets Wednesdays 6-8 p.m. at
4As, 1057 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 102. Contact Identity
Helpline 258-4777.

Interior AIDS Association (IAA) Fairbanks
offers medical and dental program assistance, “buddies” (vol-
unteers who help HIV & People Living With AIDS), meal
delivery, food supplement program, a lending library and coun-
selling support. If you're interested in volunteering or need
assistance, please call the IAA in Fairbanks at 452-4222.

Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church (MCC)
Anchorage holds Sunday services at 11:00am and 7:00pm, and
Wednesday at 7:00pm at 4th and Barrow. 258-4226 Church
is open Sunday through Wednesday 9:00am-4:00pm.

Last Frontier Men’s Club, Anchorage
a members-only club for the Leather/Bear communities of
Alaska. Meetings 3rd Thursday 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.

Mt. McKinley (non-assent) Club, Anchorage
is a social group open to anyone Gay, Lesbian, or ally. Look for
upcoming events in the Calendar, or call Eric at 277-3236.

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

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG)
of Fairbanks meets the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 5:30pm
at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Log Cabin (Noble &
5th). Contact Nancy at 457PFLAG for more information.

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG)
of Juneau meets the 1st Saturday of every month at 10:30am at
Mendenhall Mall Library. Phone 907-465-4203.
continued...

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG) of Southcentral holds meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of every month. For information call Sylvia at 562-4992 or Fred at 562-7611.

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 & 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 Ninena, 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 <lsbc@aurora.alaska.edu> or Kathy at 455-6358 or <kthx@northstar.1k12.ak.us>

Queer Round Table (QRT) Call to list your club's events and hear about other club events. Barb (H) 274-4984 or (W) 564-5818.

Radical Arts for Women (RAW) Voice mail 566-3783 info and message.

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. 907-468-5665, 1-800-478-AIDS (2437).

SLAA (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) a non-profit volunteer organization that provides a support network for lesbian and gay people in Southeast Alaska. Publishes monthly newsletter Perspective. P.O. Box 21542, Juneau, AK 99802-1452. Phone 586-GAYS

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. Suggested donation $3. Call Barbara or Candy at 337-2017 for information or if you wish to perform. Closed through September.

Anchorage Gay & Lesbian HelpLine 258-4777 A community service of Identity, Inc.
PO Box 200070, Anchorage AK 99520

Cyberlust

Burlison, Laura: Gay Rights activist, Chair of Equal of Fairbanks, and in the Alaska Gay and Lesbian Association: <lsbc@aurora.alaska.edu>
Blumenfeld, Warren: Author/educator/ Pride Conference presenter: <blumenfeld@edc.umn.edu>
Capri Cinema, Rand Thornsley: <eg981@prodigy.com>
Carlisle, Karen: Writer, feminist, teacher, activist: <karlcarl@aurora.alaska.edu>
Carter, Dan: Gay activist, Dandelion, Equal: <alaskan@1aol.com>
Childs, Lucian: graphic artist - <lucian@alaskacon.com> - <http://www.alaskacon.com/gifx/>
Covone, Michael R., AIDS activist and social worker: <mrc@alaska.net>
Crabtree, Phil: Crabtree B&B, Fairbanks, AK, <phil@aurora.alaska.edu>
Craciun, Jean: research director, Pride Conference: <jcraciun@craciun.alaska.net>
Digital Queers, Technical philanthropic organization: <info@dq.org> <http://www.dq.org/dq>
Chrysler, Stephen: writer / NorthView contributor: <chryslerx@1aol.com>
Freedman, E. Kenneth: Gay/Lesbian activist, <ken@servcom.com>
GLAAD: Gays and the media <http://www.glaad.org>
Hein's Ultimate Gay List: A launching pad for gay web sites <http://www.xx4all.nl/~heinis/heimidoc/gayhtp1.html>
HRC: Send a message to your congressman <http://www.hrc.org>
Into The Woods Bookshop: Connie, Fairbanks, AK, <woods@polar.net.com>
Iris, Robert: Computer training and production, <robiris@alaska.net> or <http://www.alaska.net/~robiris>
Kohout, Jen: <jenkout@1aol.com>
Last Frontier Men's Club: see club listing <FMCO@Micronet.net>
Lavender Youth Recreation and Info Center: <lyric.talkline.info@tig.net>
Olson, Chris: <CMOfaida@aol.com>
Phoenix gay community: <http://www.comcount.com>
Pinney, Pete: UAIF instructor and owner of Alta's B & B, <flippy@aurora.alaska.edu>
Rachel, Tom: <TomAndA@alaska.net>
SEAGLA Web page: <http://puffin.ptialaska.net/~seagla>
ScotsGay Magazine: Gay Scotland <http://www.scotsgay.co.uk>
Severson, Kim: Entertainment editor Anchorage Daily News, board of Nat'L Lesb & Gay Jour nalists Asso: <ksseverson@pop.adn.com>
Signorile, Michelangelo: writer The Advocate: <angel@pipeline.com>
Thornsley, Rand: Capri Cinema: <filmgallery@aol.com>
Triangle Tours, Lesbian/Gay travel services: <triangle@servcom.com>
Walton, Eric: Q*Klatch, Q*K Outdoors, PFLAG, EQUAL etc.: <lsbc@aurora.alaska.edu>
Waves, The: Lesbian/Gay bar & coffee house: <wave@alaska.net>
Wockner, Rex: San Diego based journalist, LesBiGay info (Internet): <rwockner@netcom.com>
Youth web site: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/B_Hartman3>
Calendar

August

Saturday, 17:
A Feminist Sing-A-Long special guest Lucy Frey at 6:30 pm call 333-0871.

Wednesday, 21:
A Alaska Pride Conference Meeting 7-9 pm at AUUF.

Friday, 23:
A Identity Potluck at AUUF at 6:30 pm.

Saturday, 24:
A Community voting for Emperor and Empress at John Thomas Center 3rd and Cordova. 10 am to 10 pm.

Tuesday, 27:
A Alaska Pride Conference Meeting 7-9 pm at AUUF.
A Beyond Basic appearing at the Alaska State Fair on the Borealis State from 5 pm to 6:30 pm. Call 562-9865.

September

Wednesday, 4:
A Alaska Pride Conference Meeting 7-9 pm at AUUF.

Thursday, 5:
A Women's Coop Meeting call 566-3242

Monday, 9:
A Gay Bar, see ad.

Tuesday, 10:
A Alaska Pride Conference Meeting 7-9 pm at AUUF.

Saturday, 28:
A Ann Reed in Concert at 8 pm call 1-800-947-9180.
On-Going Calendar Items

SUNDAYS
A  Metropolitan Community Church Services, 11am & 7pm, 4th and Barrow
A  Northern Exposure Bowling League, 4pm, Park Lanes, Dan or Bob 661-8744.
A  Gay, Joyous & Free, 7pm, AA Meeting, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
J  Library and Coffee House, fourth Sunday of the month, 1-3:00 pm Mendenhall Valley

MONDAYS
A  Gay Bar, Anchorage, 7 - 8:30pm, Second Monday, 845 K St., 279-5001.
A  Gay, Joyous & Free, 7pm, AA Meeting, 1231 W. 27th Ave.

TUESDAYS
A  Righteous Babes Radio Show, 7pm, KRUA-FM 88.1.
A  SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous), 8pm, Church of Religious Science, 7th & A, 566-1133.
A  MGD Light sports night at the Wave

WEDNESDAYS
A  Free HIV TEST at 4A’s, 2pm - 4pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, Lori 263-2050.
A  IMRU2 6 to 8 pm at 4A’s 1057 W Fireweed #102.
J  Social at Summit Lounge, after work.
J  “Women’s Prerogative,” KTOO-FM, Wednesdays, 9pm-10pm.
A  La Cage aux Wave (drag show), 10pm, The Wave, $3 cover.
A  Dyke Night at Sears Cars 7pm to 9pm.
A  Blue Moon Follies, 10pm, Blue Moon, $3 cover.
A  MCC, 4th and Barrow Street, Praise & Prayer at 7 pm.

THURSDAYS
J  Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual Youth Meeting (26 & under), 5:30pm, 907-463-5688.
A  SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous), 5:30pm, Unitarian Church, 566-1133.
A  Friends and Family Support Group, 6:30pm, call 4As, 263-2050.
A  Alaska Pride Chorus Rehearsal, on summer hiatus.
A  Gay, Joyous & Free, 7pm, AA Meeting, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
A  Country Dancing at the Wave, 8pm, taught by Patty, 561-9283.

FRIDAYS
A  Lunch, 4A’s, 12noon-1pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, Lori 263-2050. Everyone invited - HIV, volunteers and friends.
A  Live and Let Live, AA Meeting, 7pm, 637 A St. (non-smoking), (1st Friday, tradition/step study).
A  Midnight Sons, Gay Men’s AA Meeting, 7:30pm-9pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
A  Identity Potluck fourth of the month at AUUFS.
F  Dancing in Fairbanks!, 11pm-3am, Palace Saloon, Alaskaland.
J  Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Youth meeting (26 and under) 5:30 pm. Call 463-4396.

SATURDAYS
A  SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous), 12 noon, Unitarian Church, 566-1133.
A  The Family (UAA), 6pm (excluding school holidays).
A  UAA Arts Bldg. Rm 121, Harry O’Brien at 786-7644.
A  The Wave volleyball and B.Y.O.M BBQs at 4 pm.
F  KSUA, 103.9 FM, 5pm-7pm, “Queer Beans” (Gay issues and music).
A  IMRU2, Anchorage, 6pm-8pm, Anchorage 4As, 1057 Fireweed, call Identity Helpline 258-4777.
F  Dancing in Fairbanks!, 11pm-3am, Palace Saloon, Alaskaland.
J  PFLAG First Saturday of each month, 10:30 to 12:30 in the Mendenhall Library conference room.

Legend
A  Anchorage
F  Fairbanks
J  Juneau
V  Mat-Su Valley
O'Bryan's features the largest selection of beers and gourmet burgers in the Last Frontier, including the Prime Rib Burger made from fresh, hand cut prime rib. Try our new menu. Full service bar and full dinner menu at our Tudor location.

Chugach Square/ 6901 E. Tudor Rd./ 338-1080/ 11am—12pm M—Sat/ 12am—10pm Sun
Dimond Square/ 800 E. Dimond/ 344-8033/ 10am—10pm M—F/ 10am—8pm Sat, 12am—7pm Sun