NorthView
News and views for Alaska's gay and lesbian community
A publication of Identity, Inc. $3.00
December 1996 Vol. 4 No. 12

seasons greetings

from the Identity family to yours!
News
Support for teachers.............................................. 4
The day we met ..................................................... 19
Helpline news ......................................................... 20
Gay/Straight Alliance ............................................. 24
My 2nd Favorite Christmas Story ............................... 29
World AIDS Day 1996 ............................................ 27
Identity is now on the Internet ................................ 26
New legal document on-line ..................................... 31
Legal same-sex marriage ............................................ 33
Lawyer says district can’t just cancel club ............... 34
GLSTN back to school posters .................................. 34
GLSTN announces first national conference ............. 35
Wisconsin district to pay for not protecting student ... 35

Advertisers
AAA ................................................................. 32
Alta’s Bed and Breakfast ......................................... 10
Anchorage Press ..................................................... 20
Apollo Travel Service ............................................. 34
Aurora Winds ......................................................... 27
Barron Investments ................................................ 22
Beach House B & B ............................................... 26
Capri Cinema ......................................................... 15
Classifieds .............................................................. 1
City Mortgage ......................................................... 13
Courtney’s ............................................................... 21
Damron’s Address Book .......................................... 24
Design/Craft ......................................................... 11
Essential Touch ....................................................... 23
Fotos by Frank ......................................................... 25
Frigid North ............................................................ 4
Gallery Bed & Breakfast ......................................... 19
Gay and Lesbian Helpline ...................................... 14
Helleck & Associates ............................................... 4
Hill, Dr. Allison ....................................................... 33
HIV home test ......................................................... 36
Mendel & Huntington .............................................. 12
O’Brady’s ............................................................... Back cover
Oldtime Music Co. .................................................. 23
Olson, Chris ............................................................ 11
Professional Infusion .............................................. 7
Rhodes, Phyllis ....................................................... 2
Sauerdough Lodging ............................................... 19
Short, Gene ............................................................ 11
Short, Sylvia L ........................................................ 11
Singluff, Angie ........................................................ 11
TimeFrame ............................................................ 43
Triangle Tours ......................................................... 6
Unitarian Fellowship .............................................. 39
Wave, The ............................................................. 25

Advertising rates
Classified ad (five lines) ........................................... $15.00
Business Card ....................................................... 25.00
Quarter page ......................................................... 40.00
Half page ............................................................ 65.00
Full page ............................................................ 100.00
Back page .......................................................... $125.00
Insert (one page) ..................................................... $50.00
Insert (two plus pages) .......................................... $25.00
(each page)

Discounts
Three months ...................................................... 10%
Six months ........................................................... 15%
Twelve months .................................................... 20%
Identity NorthView

Identity NorthView is a monthly publication of Identity, Inc., a non-profit [501(c)(3)], Alaskan corporation concerned with issues of sexual identity. The NorthView is published as a community service and the views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the directors, officers or members of Identity, Inc. The publication of an individual’s or organization’s name or photo in NorthView is not to be construed as any indication of the sexual orientation of such persons or organizations unless so specified.

Identity Board of Directors

NorthView Editorial Board

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

Upon request, you may receive the NorthView in a First Class large envelope. Cost is $60 per year (includes membership in Identity and private mailing).

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

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

Deadlines

ARE YOU
“IN THE PINK”?!?

Look at the Renewal Date
Above your name and address on
the mailing label. If it is Highlighted in fluorescent pink,
your subscription has either expired or will expire this
month. Help the NorthView stay
“IN THE BLACK” — RENEW! RENEW!

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

Advertising
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.

Mail
Editor, Identity NorthView, P.O. Box 200070, Anchorage,
AK 99520-0070.

Phone
Anchorage Gay & Lesbian Helpline 907-258-4777. Hours:
daily, 6pm-11pm. Messages left during off hours will be
returned as soon as possible.

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

As I gaze into my crystal ball, I see that the year is 2006, ten years from now. This is my vision:

The world in 2006 is a much more gentle place for gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgendered people (GLBTs) now than it was in 1996. In Anchorage, UAA’s Board of Regents have come to the realization that the students were right and have added “There shall be no discrimination at UAA on the basis of ... sexual orientation.”

The Anchorage Assembly has passed an anti-discrimination law on the basis of sexual orientation as far as the hiring and firing of city jobs go. In fact, all city jobs now offer same-sex health benefits to GLBTs. The State of Alaska has also passed a sexual orientation anti-discrimination law, and every day more and more private companies are also offering same-sex benefits to GLBTs.

The big news, though, is that Hawaii finally gave approval to same-sex marriages, and state by state, DOMA, the so-called Defense of Marriage Act, is being voted out and gay marriages are being voted in. It took a long time, but Alaska finally approved gay marriages, and the shock of it is nowhere near as disconcerting as the conservatives would have you believe. Everyone is allowed to marry whomver he or she wishes, and no one pays any attention to who your marriage partner is.

Announcements for gay couples are allowed now in the Anchorage Daily News. They even run Deb Price’s weekly gay column.

Now that same-sex couples can legally marry, health insurance companies are treating these couples as family. If one member has insurance, the other is automatically covered.

The Alaska Club now allows same-sex partners to pay the family rate, and the other health clubs in town have done the same.

Harassment of gays is no longer permitted kindergarten through college, and Gay-Straight Alliances are thriving in all the high schools.

Let’s hope all this really does happen, and may it not take ten years for it to do so.

Thank you again for letting me be your editor these three months.

PFLAG, Southcentral Alaska
by Sylic J. Short, Secretary

The members, officers and board of PFLAG Southcentral Alaska wish you a happy, healthy, warm Holiday Season.

THANKS
And for thanks-giving, we all give thanks for people like our own Fred Hillman, who works so assiduously and thoughtfully to help everyone who may suffer the unwarranted, ignorant discrimination that mars our world. We celebrate Fred for his carefully worded letters, for his clear, persuasive testimony, for the energy and compassion he brings to all he undertakes, and especially for undertaking so much! Fred was a part of the founding of the 4As, of our own PFLAG chapter, of the successful gay/lesbian Welcoming Workshops at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, and now is inspiring and working for the formation of a chapter of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Teachers Network (GLSTN) in Anchorage. You are appreciated, Fred!

PFLAG AT WORLD AIDS DAY
With the generous provision of goodies by the nurses’ association, we were privileged to help dispense refreshments in connection with the moving and meaningful services at the museum on December 1. Laurie of the 4As told us how she was affected at the Washington candlelight services in connection with the Quilt display when she saw the large contingent of PFLAG members lining the parade grounds. The connection is inescapable, because so many parents, friends and family members of gays have been touched by this dreaded virus.

THE SCHOOL BOARD SITUATION
PFLAG members have been attending local school board meetings and testifying in support of the Gay/Straight Alliance at Dimond High School. At this writing the situation is not over, but we hope the board will continue its policy of permitting regulated clubs like the Alliance and will, in addition, institute greater safeguards against disruptive actions by those such as the adolescent hockey player. Harriet Drummond of the school board is addressing PFLAG at its next meeting, and her knowledgeable insight on the situation will guide our future actions.

JOIN US!
We meet at 7 p.m. on the second Wednesday of every month at the Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (same place as the Fourth Friday Potluck Dinners). There is a program on material interesting to our cause, refreshments, and a “talking circle.” Everyone is invited; membership is only $15 a year.

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

PHYLLIS RHODES
MEDIATOR
346-2217
State Wide
Anxiety and celebration

by Marvin Liebman

What follows are some pre-Holiday musings of an old man that begin somberly but have a happy ending, so bear with me.

A couple of weeks ago, I spoke to a group of gay and lesbian Harvard students in Cambridge, Massachusetts, from the so-called Generation X. Although I've been back many times since, I first visited Cambridge in 1947 and stayed there for almost six months as a "floater" (writing an unpublished novel and just hanging out) among the best and brightest. Cambridge was a wonderful place then, just after World War II, with optimism, hope, and new ideas everywhere.

This time — almost fifty years later — Cambridge is quite different. The best and the brightest are deeply concerned about the future, their futures. The young lesbians and gay men of Generation X with whom I met are even more worried, and they have every right to be. Along with sharing the problems faced by their straight colleagues, they face the added problems inherent in their homosexuality, in their difference from the others.

During the presidential campaign, Bill Clinton spoke incessantly about a "bridge" — that he was going to build or to cross or to wait on the other side for the rest of the world to join him (I forgot which) — into the twenty-first century. The students are not at all sure what might await them there. A young woman asked me about balancing the budget; "... maybe the conservatives are right in their approach?" I answered that "balancing the budget" was a hypocritical way of denying the fact that the United States is a bankrupt nation and has been since WW II. We owe trillions of dollars which we are unable to pay. "Balancing the budget" will never begin to pay this debt which must be shoulders by the students and their peers of Generation X, and not by the babbling, squabbling, demitted politicians here in Washington.

As I continued the discussion with the students, I began to think of just what is facing them, what they have to look forward to. I tried to project into the future. What I saw was not very promising.

Most college and university students leave school in debt. Even in today's so-called booming economy, most of them can't find the work for which they were trained, except perhaps in computer science. So the "bridge" they are supposed to cross isn't very sturdy. There is no way it can support them, together with the millions of the growing underclass of Generation X who don't have the college degree, who have the minimum wage jobs if they have jobs at all.

This is only the economic future they seem to face. What about the rest? Death and disease throughout the world, because of ignorance and hatred, ethnic and religious. In our own nation, we have millions of Generation X from the underclass of our society, silent, helpless, and hopeless. Where are the leaders to speak out for them? Where will the leaders of Generation X come from, the new politics, the new philosophies needed to address these great questions? Where is the cause, the truth, the movement to which young men and women can rally today? Nothing. Nowhere.

Clinton's bridge is dangerously weak, built largely on illusion, mirrors and shadows. We are unable to see to the other side. But consider the great strides we have made in our century, the great advances of civilization, of science, the politicians, the intellectuals, and the professors will say. But countless millions are still hungry, homeless, sick, afraid, helpless, hopeless and silent. Who in Generation X will speak for them, the people from the old anthem which ultimately proved so deceiving — the "prisoners of starvation, the wretched of the earth?" And who will speak for Generation X?

I returned to Washington from Cambridge, disheartened and sad. There seemed to be no solutions. I asked for the young people of Generation X, especially the different ones, the lesbians and gay men. And then I went to a party, a celebration of being gay.

It was the Miss Adams Morgan contest, an annual event, which was held for the first time in the Grand Ballroom of the Washington Hilton. Over one thousand people attended, mostly gay, some straight, and a number of the guests were in drag. There were ten official contestants, each more totally fabulous than the other. My friend in the contest was Frangelica Houston, and he was a Diva among Divas, statuesque and totally divine. The music was loud, the sequins blinding, and the hair was all very big. This wonderful extravaganza, here in Washington, DC, gave me real hope for the future — especially our future. Gay people can have the most fun, behave more outrageously than any other group, laugh at themselves, and form a continuous bond which holds together our own unique family throughout the world.

No matter how bleak the future may appear, we will survive. Miss Adams Morgan of 2000 will fling her feather boa over the abyss, and we will march over its great strength into the twenty-first century, heads held high, treading with ease over the sturdy feather boa. We will also walk in the assurance that God, or a Higher Power, or whatever, who made us to be as we are, will guide all of us into a better world.

Happy Holidays and a wonderful New Year to all my brothers, sisters, children, and grand-children.

Support for teachers
by Fred Hillman and Ruth Mathes

GLSTN UPDATE
A core group of volunteers and interested persons have made a commitment to establishing an Alaska chapter of GLSTN, the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Teachers Network. This is the only national organization of gay, lesbian and straight teachers, parents and community members working to address issues of homophobia and heterosexism in K-12 public, private and parochial schools.

GLSTN’s mission statement is clear. This network of volunteers “strives to assure each member of every school community is valued and respected, regardless of sexual orientation.” GLSTN has three primary focus areas: In-School Programming, Advocacy, and Community Organizing. One project already acted upon by GLSTN volunteers (and P-FLAG) has been the Gay/Straight Alliance club at Dimond High. (This issue may not be at rest due to some ASD board members identifying a national gay plot to undermine public education.)

Through a $500 grant from the 23rd reign (Madeline and Lana Duval) of the Imperial Court of All Alaska, the GLSTN Alaska chapter will be brought into existence. This initial money will provide for non-profit incorporation and a membership recruitment program.

All Alaskans are welcome to participate in GLSTN regardless of sexual orientation or occupation. An organizational meeting will be held on Sunday, January 19, 1997 at 1:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Fellowship (3201 Turnagain). For more information, contact Fred at 562-7161 or Ruth at 563-1324.
Queer science

by Simon LeVay, Ph.D.

"I am not supposed to exist. I carry death around in my body like a condemnation. But I do live." The poet Audre Lorde wrote these words in her diary in 1979, a year after losing her right breast to cancer, and thirteen years before finally succumbing to the disease.

Lorde gave uncompromising public expression to her identity as a person with breast cancer, just as she had expressed her identity as a woman, an African American, and a lesbian. In doing so, she helped women with the disease recognize and reach out to each other. Her life also helped raise a troubling question: Are lesbians particularly at risk for breast cancer?

Even if lesbians are "only" at the same risk as the general population, that would be little comfort, because breast cancer is a veritable plague among women. In westernized countries, the disease is either the leading cause of cancer deaths among women, or (as in the United States) a close second to lung cancer. One in eight American women will contract the disease during her lifetime.

No data speak directly to the question of whether lesbians contract breast cancer at an unusually high rate. But some of the known risk factors for the disease may be especially relevant to lesbians. Of particular concern is non-maturation or delayed matrimony. Carrying a pregnancy to term within a few years of the onset of menstruation confers some degree of protection against the disease, whereas going through numerous menstrual cycles without a pregnancy heightens the risk.

Of course, this would apply regardless of sexual orientation. For example, women who are members of college faculties (who tend to defer childbearing compared with the general population), are between two and three times more likely to contract breast cancer than other women. And plenty of lesbians do have children early in life. So, non-maturation or delayed matrimony may not in itself make lesbians a higher risk group, though it is obviously relevant to some individual lesbians.

Other risk factors that may affect lesbians include high alcohol consumption (especially during the years prior to first pregnancy) and high body weight. Some surveys have reported that lesbians drink more and are more likely to be overweight than nonlesbians. (But the surveys are not based on random samples — in fact, some of them focus on lesbians attending health clinics, who may be quite atypical of lesbians in general.) Finally, a tradition of homophobia in the medical industry may have made lesbians less likely to conduct breast self-examinations, to seek medical advice, or to accept mainstream medical treatment than nonlesbians. This may decrease the chances that, if they do acquire breast cancer, it will be successfully treated.

It should be stressed that only a portion of the "causes" of breast cancer are known, and some of the known risk fac-
Yuletide Greetings Everyone!

This has been a busy year for those of us in the travel industry — and a boon year for those of you who enjoy travel. It seems like more than ever there are bigger bargains for people to take advantage of, as well as new and exciting destinations offering tantalizing itineraries. If 1996 wasn’t your year to fly, look only forward — there are plenty of opportunities coming in with the new year.

With an idea that Alaska’s lesbian and gay community can capitalize on the growing popularity of Alaska as a “mainstream” destination, The Anchorage Host Committee has been formed to help usher in the idea that Alaska will be a “new and exciting” destination for lesbian and gay travelers worldwide. In keeping with that idea, a group of your fellow lesbian and gay community member formed this committee to put together a bid proposal that would woo the world’s largest organization of lesbian and gay travel professionals. We wanted the International Gay Travel Association (IGTA) to experience first-hand what Alaska’s frontier spirit and charm we’re all about.

When it comes to organized lesbian and gay travel, the IGTA calls the shots. With more than 1,400 worldwide members, the IGTA’s membership consists of travel agents, tour operators, accommodation providers, and other professionals, whose dedication lies focused on one thing — gay and lesbian travel. To accomplish this, the IGTA organizes familiarization /board meeting’s four times per year — always in different locations. Last year, the IGTA for its membership to Dallas, Sydney, San Diego and Amsterdam.

Deciding to write a proposal that would compete against Mexico City for a time slot in October 1997 was a big task to undertake. Thanks to a tremendous amount of hard work by the Anchorage Host Committee and the Anchorage Convention and Visitor’s Bureau — as well as some very generous sponsorship of the Anchorage Host Committee put together a “tres fabulous” proposal (what else did you expect) and submitted it to the IGTA board meeting in Amsterdam. After much nail biting, the IGTA made a decision:

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the International Gay Travel Association, I want to THANK your committee for an excellent proposal for the Fall 1997 IGTA Fam. By a unanimous decision, the International Gay Travel Association has accepted the offer of your committee and is looking forward to coming to Anchorage, Alaska October 8 thru 12, 1997.” —Robert Sheets / IGTA board member.

This is an incredible opportunity for Alaska! With the lesbian and gay travel market estimated at over $17 billion dollars, here is our chance to take a hunk of the pie.

When are they coming? What will they do here? Good questions. While many details have yet to be ironed out, the major part of the framework has already been established. The IGTA will bring it’s board members and 100 of its membership to Anchorage October 8 thru 12. While they are here, it will be up to us to welcome ‘em, wine ‘em, dine ‘em, and hopefully — convince them there is no better destination than Alaska for them to sell, sell, sell to their clients.

Among the activities planned are a welcome cocktail reception, dinner show at the Fly By Nite club. Each attendee will receive a personalized invitation on a can of SPAM. A three hour glacier cruise out of Whittier with a train trip back to Anchorage, followed by a gala dinner/dance. Sunday brunch and tours of the Anchorage Museum and the Alaskan Experience Theater.

Sponsorship has been arranged to provide this large group with transportation for the entire weekend. These are but a few of the 10,000 details that will need to be arranged by the Anchorage Host Committee and the ACVB to guarantee the success of this endeavor.

It is perhaps a personal contention, but I believe this event’s true success will come only with the continued support of our community. The evening functions are being structured to allow as much interaction with this group and the lesbian/gay community as possible. The dance is being planned as a public event, open to lesbian/gay and allied community members. There are tentative plans to have a “mini trade-show” in conjunction with the Saturday night gala dinner/dance, so local travel industry professionals, as well as artists and crafts persons, etc. will have first hand opportunity to benefit from this event.

Pretty exciting stuff! Please don’t hesitate to contact me with offerings of your talents or to share suggestions and ideas.

Together we will make this an amazing success. Please join me in deep appreciation for Denise Belloski of the Convention and Visitor’s Bureau for quick recognition of what this group represents: a good piece of business for Alaska and Alaskans. Not bot- hering to be slowed down with prejudice or judgments, Denise and her fellow staff members jumped on board this project, gathering support from “mainstream” travel providers, as well as the Mayor.

Let’s match this enthusiasm. The IGTA is coming here to benefit us — let’s show off our Alaskan hospitality and show them that Alaska is going places...

With already so much to be thankful for, this reporter is wishing you and yours a warm and joyous holiday season, and a peaceful, prosperous New Year.

Greg Kramer is co-owner of Triangle Tours and is dedicated to providing the lesbian and gay community with quality travel related services.
"Quality of Life is our Goal"

725 Northway Drive
Anchorage, AK 99508

(800) 262-8055 (907) 279-8055 Fax: (907) 279-8054

Karen Marcey
Registered Pharmacist

Danita Fischbach
Registered Pharmacist

- Home Infusion Services
- Oral Prescription Drugs
- Free Delivery
- One-on-one counseling in a confidential environment
- Insurance Billing
- JCAHO accredited*

A quiet, confidential, knowledgeable environment to get prescription medications and information. Information available on HIV/AIDS medications, clinical trials, parallel tract drug protocols, indigent-patient assistance programs and insurance billing.

QUESTIONS WELCOME.

* Provisional accreditation
Dimond Students: Brains, Youth & Activism!

by Dan Carter, cochair, EQUAL

As most of us know, students at Dimond High have organized a Gay/Straight Alliance to combat homophobia and educate students on living in a diverse society. As expected, living together peacefully is a concept too radical for some Alaskans. Please contact School Board members and let them know how you feel about a club of this type being on campus.

Names/phone numbers (all AC 907 for you who are Outside) and email addresses for the 7 members of the Anchorage School Board are listed below:

Debbie Ossiander (Board President)...686-2308
email: ossiander_debbie@msmail.asd.k12.ak.us

Harriet Drummond...279-7722
email: drummond_harriet@msmail.asd.k12.ak.us

Lorraine Ferrell...337-4003
email: ferrell_lorraine@msmail.asd.k12.ak.us

Kathi Gillespie...345-5335
email: gillespie_kathi@msmail.asd.k12.ak.us

Kelly Haney...522-4351
email: haney_kelly@msmail.asd.k12.ak.us

Peggy Robinson-Wilson...333-1831
email: robinson-wilson_peggy@msmail.asd.k12.ak.us

Dave Werdal...248-8533
email: werdal_dave@msmail.asd.k12.ak.us

Be sure to use _ (underscore key) as shown above in email addresses. Also the address includes k12 which some people have inadvertently written as k2 (it is k12 which means kindergarten through 12th grade). Mailing address for all is: Name/Anchorage School District/P.O. Box 196614/Anchorage, AK 99519-6614

I understand the principal, Ms. Pat McDowell, at Dimond High is still receiving mostly negative comments. If you would like to call her to express your support for her positive response to the club, her phone number is (907) 243-1141 or fax her at (907) 249-0350. Her mailing address is: Ms. Pat McDowell/Dimond High School/2909 W. 68th Avenue/Anchorage, AK 99502.

I have been out of school for a long time (too long) but I know these kids are showing much more courage than I ever had when I was their age...more courage than many of us have who are much older! I urge you to send letters of support for the student group to the following addresses and EQUAL will deliver them to organizers of the group: EQUAL/P.O. Box 244452/Anchorage, AK 99524-4452 or email to: equal907@aol.com

After four years, this will be the last time EQUAL will have a monthly page in NorthView. We will continue to have updates 3-4 times each year in NorthView and will also mail/email our supporters updates as necessary. If you are not a member, fill out the form below to receive email.

Name(s):__________________________

Mail Address:______________________

Home Address*:___________________

City:___________________________, AK Zip:__________

HOME PHONE:__________________ EMAIL:_____________________

FAX:___________________________

PLEASE PROVIDE THE FOLLOWING INFO, IF YOU KNOW IT:

YOUR VOTER PRECINCT NUMBER:__________

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

Community: 1. a group living in the same area and having interests, work, etc. in common 2. a sharing in common

Does the gay/lesbian/bi/transgendered “community” fit these definitions of community? Do lesbians and transgendered share a common interest in Alaska? Do gay men and bisexuals have common goals in Anchorage? Can lesbians and gay men work for the good of the “community”?

Until we can answer yes to the above questions and many others, it is difficult to understand how we can ever expect to obtain a common standing with the majority heterosexual community. Regardless of our “lifestyle” (whatever the hell that means), if we are not capable of working together for a common purpose, how will we ever have real “community pride”?

I recently saw the movie, “Stonewall,” at the Capri Theatre (actually I saw it in Chicago during the Democratic Convention for the first time) with Al and several friends of ours. I was very impressed with this fictionalized account of the “start of the modern gay/lesbian movement for equal rights.”

It brought back memories I would prefer to forget. Memories of things many younger gays/lesbians would assume could not be true. Memories such as:

- In 1969 in New York City it was ILLEGAL for a bar to sell a drink to a KNOWN HOMOSEXUAL
- Raids on bars catering to l/b/g/t community occurred on a regular basis
- When Al and I met in Alabama in March, 1969, it was illegal for landlords to rent an apartment to two men if the apartment only had one bedroom
- It was illegal for gays/lesbians to have a federal job
- In Alaska gays/lesbians were charged with a “crime against nature” until the Alaska Supreme Court ruled this charge was unconstitutional in August 1969

This is only a few of the ways the “establishment” not only denied us our equal rights, but helped create an atmosphere that turned many l/b/g/t community members to alcohol and drugs to compensate for their “worthlessness.” The sight of unarmed “drag queens” — the lowest of the low in those days — standing up to riot police armed with shields and batons was inspiring. How many of us would have joined them with their “showgirl” kicks as they sang...

“We are the Stonewall girls... we wear our hair in curls, we wear no underwear... we show our pubic hair, we wear our dungarees above our nelly knees...”

Also of importance were the gay/lesbian organizations of the time. Their view of how to advance the cause of equality was strictly to “look and act like heterosexuals” and usually employed a “don’t-rock-the-boat” philosophy. One of New York City’s vice cops was quoted as saying, “For those of us in the police department, things suddenly changed (after Stonewall riots)... suddenly they (gays/lesbians) were not submissive anymore.” The drag queens and their supporters at Stonewall changed that forever. Or did it?

In my opinion, we are much too submissive and invisible to make a real difference. In some ways we have willingly been put back into a more submissive role over the past decade. As an openly gay person, I realize it is easy for me to talk about being more open but it really is the key to being able to live a productive life. A single life without the burden of having to be two people with two separate lives.

Part of living openly is supporting businesses in our community. Several years ago, the Far Right Reverend Jerry Prevo told his flock to stop purchasing at gay-owned businesses so gays/lesbians would not have enough money to be so active in politics. We must support “our community businesses” and ally businesses that support our community. I was amazed to see so few gay men at the two showings of “Stonewall” attended. I was even more amazed to hear responses when I asked a number of people why they thought lesbians and straight couples seem to be so much more supportive of gay-male oriented movies. One of the strangest excuses was the size of the Capri Theatre and the fact it has many straight patrons making it difficult for gay men to attend a gay movie without being seen by others! This reminded me of a line in the movie when the “hero” was about to kiss his “activist” buddy on the beach and the activist turns away to see if anyone is looking. As the activist sadly explained, “When you’ve looked over your shoulder for so long...” Well, we must stop looking over our shoulders and live our lives. Live them as well as possible and live them with respect for others, but more importantly, respect for ourselves.

A group of people having common interests and common goals. Is that us? Are we ready to emerge as a force for change in our community, state and nation? Or are we content to being taken back to the days when there were multitudes of laws seeking to control us?

There was a report of a “sighting” of Al Kaneta at a University of Alaska Seawolf hockey game on 12/6/96?? God, maybe Elvis is still alive!
Becoming psychic doesn't usually happen over night. It is a process that took me over ten years of focus and practice. First trust your "guts" and hunches so that your intuition develops. Pray daily and learn to meditate. Do it often. While you are trusting your intuition and meditating fairly regularly, the "powers-that-be" may begin to interact with you in the most startling and wonderful manner.

Remember, a visit from the divine source is always accompanied by a sense of utter rightness, peace and unconditional love — even if it is a hard lesson. Remain calm when confronted with visions, hearing "the voice" and visitations from spirits, and attempt not to be overwhelmed or too overawed. If this happens to you, yes, you are in divine company, but it is a partnership, a mutual agreement and a serious responsibility. Ask questions about what you don't understand.

I became involved in a very unusual situation when my youngest daughter, Laura, had to have her appendix removed. The first couple of days Laura was heavily sedated and I got to know some of the patients and staff on the floor. There was a man whose head was shaved and the marks of extensive suturing were visible on his face, neck, head, arms and hands. He used a walker. The third day, I asked one of the nurses, "Who is that old guy?" She looked startled for a moment, then responded, "That person is Jerry. He is actually a young man. He got a job at a remote site, fell off a cliff, breaking almost every bone in his body. He has severe amnesia and has been here a long time. We only know his name because it's on his driver's license."

That night I was very tired so I just laid down to meditate. I got a visual picture of Jerry shuffling down the hall like an old man. The scene changed to a young vital man in motorcycle leathers and a white helmet on a sleek, shiny motorcycle, pulling in to a driveway of a residential street. The man stopped, took off a glove and extended his hand. It was Jerry’s scarred, battered hand, then that hand was replaced by a smooth unblemished hand. A voice said, "Jerry will heal." "Good," I murmured aloud and settled further into sleep. Then the same voice said, "You have to get up. Jerry is planning to commit suicide tonight. You must tell him not to do it!"

Groggily, I started to sit up. The voice yelled "Hurry!" The next second, I was standing in the middle of the room between the bed and the door. Then "something" shoved me from behind. Jammed against the doorframe, I grabbed my robe from the back of the door. The voice boomed in my head "Hurry, hurry!" I opened the door and was shoved into the hall and I ran to the lounge. When I got there, it was empty. I put on my robe. My heart raced from the adrenaline rush and I was more than just a little indignant. Never in my life had I been shoved around by anyone, much less an "unseen force". I plopped down on the end of couch and said sarcastically, "So much for the free will myth! Okay, I'm here, where is this guy?"

Momentarily, the door opened. It was Jerry. He shuffled in and sat down on the couch next to me. Stiffly he turned toward me and asked, "You having trouble sleeping, too?" I opened my mouth and froze, then blurted out, "I just had a dream about you...", telling him the two visions. Then Jerry told me his long horrible story. After a pause, I blurted out "Jerry, the same voice that told me you would heal also said that I had to come here because you plan to kill yourself tonight and you are not supposed to do it."

Jerry started to say something, but burst into tears and cried for a long time. He was such a fixture wandering the halls, the hospital staff didn't pay much attention to him. Each day he tried the doors to the locked medicine cabinet until he found it unlocked. Jerry planned to take the overdose that night. "I guess I'd better turn myself in," Jerry sighed. Somewhere in the process I'd taken Jerry's hand in mine. Hand in hand, we got up and went out to the nurses station. Jerry told the nurse on duty that he'd planned to commit suicide. The pills were hidden under the pieces in a game box one of his co-workers had brought him as a gift. A nurse followed us into Jerry's room to get his stash.

As Jerry and I sat hand in hand on the edge of his bed, another nurse came in and said Jerry was being transferred to the psychiatric ward that night. A while later, two huge, broad shouldered guys in green scrub shirts walked in. Still holding Jerry's hand, I walked with him, a nurse and his escorts to the elevator. He asked me if I'd give him a hug. We hugged. Then he kissed me on the cheek, let go of my hand and got in the elevator. There were tears in Jerry's eyes and mine, too. His road to recovery was still a long one. I didn't know at the time that my part in Jerry's recovery was not over. My own interaction with the "powers-that-be" that same night were not finished. More to come, next time...

Barbara J. Soule is a Reiki Master, a clairvoyant psychic, a lesbian artist, performer and writer.
LOOKING FOR THE PERFECT GIFT!

All you have to do is look under the tree!

China, Crystal, Flatware

Holiday Table Linens

Fabulous Gifts

Scandinavian & Contemporary Furnishings

Lighting & So Much More!

Enjoy...
Complimentary Gift Wrap
Complimentary Espresso
& Classical Guitar on Saturdays
Extended Holiday Hours

DESIGN/CRAFT, LTD
Corner of Benson & Denali
Open 7 days a week
272-4438
HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

Low Cost - Level Premium
Term Life Insurance

Leave Chris a message at 338-3962
Insurance Broker for Alaska’s Lesbian and Gay Community

Angie Slingluff
337-0253
Computer Services
Your job done your way
Layout • Simple Accounting • Thesis
Mailing Lists • Projects • Charts • Graphs
Overheads • Slides • You name it.

Sylvia L. Short
Attorney and Counsellor at Law

705 West 47th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Telephone (907) 562-4902

Alaskana
RARE AND OUT-OF-PRINT BOOKS
4617 Arctic Boulevard
Anchorage, Alaska 99503

EUGENE SHORT
ABL 080231 (907) 561-1340
• Hours: Tuesday - Saturday 1-6 p.m.
Essential Touch and Puffin Family Charters

Business spotlight

Soft lights and candles greeted me as I opened the door to Leslie Pemberton's office. Declining an offer of tea (aging kidneys), I began by asking her about her passion for boating.

LP: I moved to Dutch Harbor when I was nineteen, worked two years for a cannery, and moved on to ferry boats, tug boats, pilot boats, commercial fishing and crab boats.

NV: How did massage therapy creep into such an unlikely occupation?

LP: An article I read on anatomy and physiology classes in sunny California caused me to seek a warmer climate to certify myself in the emerging field of sports massage.

NV: But Alaska continued her siren's call?

LP: Exactly. Back to Dutch Harbor I went. But this time I went about the pursuit of my dual goals...fishing in the summer and massage therapy in the winter. The combination has really worked well for me for the past ten years.

NV: Were you born in Alaska?

LP: I was born in Naples, Italy, right on a cliff by the sea. My family moved to the states when I was two. I speak a little Italian still, which helped when I went back recently for a visit to meet all of my relatives. I think early influences of the sea led me to one of my two occupations.

NV: Which occupation do you prefer?

LP: There really is no preference. Massage is stress-free, and fishing isn't. However, my love of boating and the great quantity of learning which accompanies it make it all worthwhile.

NV: Explain to me the difference between massage and physical therapy. (I eyed the inviting massage table just visible behind a screen.)

LP: There are basically two schools of thought involving these occupations. Massage is closely aligned with the chiropractic profession, whereas physical therapy is more closely associated with the medical profession. Physical therapy also involves equipment (machines) and different treatment practices, as opposed to the more holistic approach of massage therapy.

NV: Do most of your clients come to you through personal referrals?

LP: No, I have contracts with three local chiropractors. Lots of my personal referrals are gay community clients, and those numbers are increasing, I'm happy to say.

NV: What is their major complaint?

LP: Back and neck problems directly related to stress. Massage is a wonderful stress reliever, and so is conversation, whenever it seems appropriate. In a one-hour session I apply a wide variety of massage techniques, and charges are computed on a sliding scale.

NV: Is competition keen in Anchorage in this field?

LP: When I opened my office there were 15 massage therapists in the city. Now there must be over 100. Back then licenses were not required; now they are. Unlicensed operators often provided more than massage!

NV: Is there a network for commercial fishing as well?

LP: Yes, there is a new group known as Alaska Women Outdoors Association, and their contacts are good ones. I advertise nationally throughout the winter and have a listing on Ferrarri's web page. In the spring and summer I do local advertising, and receive good referrals from the gay network as well as a regular booking agency.

NV: Is there a way to combine two totally unrelated occupations such as yours? What is the big picture for you?

LP: The big dream is to own a 60 foot boat complete with a Jacuzzi and massage room. It would carry 6 to 8 people, have a zodiac and 2 kayaks, would feature vegetarian food, yoga, music and massage therapy, and would tour the Kenai Fjords and Prince William Sound in a stress-free natural setting.

NV: Sounds fabulous! Would you include me on your first tour? (I made ready to depart, asking one last question in the process.) Any particular wishes you have regarding your businesses?

LP: Only that I wish a larger percentage of my clientele were from the gay community. An ultimate goal for me would be to have an all-gay clientele. That would make everything perfect!

Gay Bar

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

Second Monday of every month

7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Open to the public. No charge.

Bring your questions, any concern or issue.

Mendel & Huntington

845 'K' Street

2(9)3001
It's a pleasure to serve the Community!

Call Lynn Thomas* today to discuss your
☑ Financing & refinancing needs
☑ Tax preparation
☑ Self-directed tax-deferred retirement plan

For an appointment or more information call

263-0720 office; 248-2974 home

* formerly LaPerriere
Dear Mr. President:

To our readers: Lesléa Newman has granted us permission to reprint this letter which originally appeared in The Advocate. We eagerly accepted her offer.

Dear Mr. President:

Well, I was simply delighted to catch a glimpse of the First Lady and the First Offspring right here in our little town of Lesbianville! How exciting to see the First Family, sans Papa, strolling down the streets of our fair city! At first, I thought my middle-aged eyes were playing tricks on me again, or maybe I was having a flashback (I dropped acid, Bill, but I never swallowed). Actually, Flash noticed the Dynamic Duo first. We were in Queer Shlock, our favorite downtown store, when she looked up from the labia-shaped lampshade she was admiring and said, “Hey, isn’t that Eleanor Roosevelt?” I looked up from the book I was reading and said, “No, Flash. That’s Chelsea Clinton.”

“Chelsea Clinton?” We raced out of the giftstore and into the streets where a small crowd had gathered. “Is it them?” I asked Snoop, our local Brenda Starr.

“It’s them all right.” Snoop was scribbling furiously in her notebook. “They’re checking out the local college scene.” Her voice dropped to a whisper. “Rumor has it that Chelsea’s applied to Dyke University.” Dyke U? My old alma mater? Oh, be still my heart! Mr. President, is it true? Are you really sending the First Teenager to the Land of Lesbos to receive an education? I am just dripping at the thought. Now Billy Boy, don’t have a cow. It’s not your darling daughter I’m all shook up about. Unlike the Lesbian Avengers, I do not recruit. No, what floats my boat is the thought of all those secret service dykes protecting the Wee One. Oh, how I do love a lady in uniform!

As I stood in the crowd all a-tremble, Bill, I realized, in my haste to see the Chief Executive, I had forgotten to pay for the book I still clutched in my hand, a children’s book called How Would You Feel if Your Dad Was Gay? Which is what prompted this letter, oh Fearsful Leader. What I want to know is this: how would you feel if your daughter was gay?

Now, before I am hung up by my bra straps for outing the First Teenager, let me assure you, Mr. Clinton (any relation to Kate?) that I know nothing about Chelsea’s sexual proclivities. She was here for such a short period of time, I didn’t ask, and she didn’t tell. But, let’s just give her the benefit of the doubt. Let’s just say Chelsea is lucky enough to grow up to be a happy homo like moi. What will her life be like?

The first thing Chelsea does, to the cheers of every gay boy in the nation, is cut her hair. She looks so adorable in her new do that she instantly meets the grrl of her dreams. The grrl is kind, gentle, sexy, sweet, and strong enough to stomach the fact that her girlfriend’s very own father signed a bill into law that prevented his own daughter from being legally wed. Let’s say Chelsea and her Amazon (whom we’ll call Babe) settle down and decide to raise a family. (It takes a village to find a sperm donor.) Little Tyke is born and everyone is happy. For a while.

Then Chelsea loses her job because she’s a lesbian (as I’m sure you know, Mr. Prez, the antidiscrimination bill did not pass). Chelsea is all stressed out, tensions mount in the marital bed, and Babe decides to take little Tyke home to mother. Babe also decides that Chelsea is not really Tyke’s parent, and Chelsea goes to court.

Unfortunately the Judge deems Chelsea a “biological stranger” to the child, and grants her no custodial or visitation rights.

But don’t despair, Willie. Our brokenhearted heroine is young, she’s resilient, she falls in love again. This time she makes sure no babies are in the picture. Doll is just not the maternal type. Chelsea is in seventh heaven until Doll falls ill with a mysterious disease. Her parents whisk her off to a treatment center and don’t allow Chelsea near their darling daughter. Again Chelsea takes to the courts, and again a judge decides she is not immediate family. Chelsea is devastated. In despair, she decides to join the military, but as all her trials and tribulations have been in the tabloids, she’s as good as told. So, what’s a girl to do?

Well, you know what I always say: when in doubt, hire an agent. Chelsea writes her memoirs, a book called First Dyke which sells over a million copies. The book is translated into forty-seven languages. It becomes a movie, a play, a musical, a sitcom. Chelsea becomes rich and famous and a regular on The Rosie O’Donnell Show. Oh wait, that’s not Chelsea’s life. That’s my life. In my dreams.

Anyway, Mr. Bill, the point is November 5th has come and gone. And on the same day my fellow Americans decided you were going to rule the roost for the next four years, I turned forty-one. So, even though you didn’t ask, I’m going to tell you what I’d like for my birthday (there’s always next year). I wouldn’t mind some cash, which is something an our lesbian writer can always use. Short of that, my birthday wishes are these: I want to be able to walk down the street holding Flash’s hand without being afraid that such a simple show of affection will result in a broken jaw. I want my marriage to be legally recognized. I want health insurance. I want hospital visitation rights. I want my friends to stop worrying about losing their kids and their jobs. I want my friends who want to join the military to be able to do so. In short, I want my civil rights. And I want them now.

Let you forget, First Father, I am somebody’s daughter, too.

Yours for more,

Lesléa
THE CAPRI CINEMA
presents the 4th annual
NEW YEAR'S EVE GAY-LA
MOVIE CELEBRATION.

Hosted by Rand and Darin on December 31.
Doors Open at 9:30
presenting
"BEAUTIFUL THING"
at 10:00
Intermission and Champagne Toast
to the New Year
Munchies will be served during the
break
"HUSTLER WHITE"
follows the bringing in of the New Year
at 12:30
Admission $10. per person
Advance Tickets Available Now at
the Capri Boxoffice

Critic: Brandon Judell

Get ready for "A Taste of Honey" for the nineties. Jonathan Harvey's splendid adaptation of his own play has been astutely helmed by Hettie MacDonald in her directorial debut.

The screenplay focuses upon a group of working class neighbors who all live on the same floor in the Thamesmead Estate in southeast London. Streetwise pub manager Sandra Gangel (Linda Henry) shares a flat with her son Jamie (Glen Berry). One of the high points of her life was winning a year's supply of toilet paper for writing a poem, her first and last. For bedside entertainment, she believes in serial monogamy, her latest beau being a politically-correct hippie who seems to be forever incarcerated in the sixties.

Jamie is a sensitive lad, who'd rather answer trivia questions about the "Sound of Music" or stare at photos of Hedy Lamarr than play football. His peers are not amused, but as Sandra notes, "So you get me for a mother, but you're all right." And he is.

Next door, on the Gange's' right, is Ste Pearce (Scott Neal) who lives with his abusive dad and equally obnoxious drug-dealing brother. Ste, who excels at sports and cleanliness, possesses a body that's a collection of bruises earned for so much as looking the wrong way at home.

To the left of the Gangels resides Leah (Tamiya Empson) and her grandmother. This young girl's dream is to be the new Mama Cass, but being black, a school drop-out, having a yen for drugs and sex, plus being impoverished, doesn't predict much of a future for her in today's England — nor does there seem to be much hope for the rest of her nearby dwellers.

Yet each soul keeps on trying, all going about their assorted affairs with misguided vigor until one night after a particularly brutal beating, Ste asks if he can stay over with the Gangels. Sandra directs him to Jamie's bed, and to her annoyance the two fall in love.

The boys themselves are not at first that delighted either with the fact that they might be gay, nor being exactly sure what being gay involves. They eventually pick up a homosexual magazine and see the word "frottage," and guess is must be "French for frottage."

As the days drag on, Ste and Jamie do get enough nerve to enter a gay bar where drag queens sing "Ha ve Nagilah," and the duo realize they are no longer alone. Even Sandra, who is pained by this turn of events, believing she made Jamie queer by pushing him in a pram with the brand name "Queen of the Road" when he was a tot, finally comes around. She comforts Ste by saying, "You're a good lad, and somewhere there are people who don't want to kill you." Then she recalls where: "There is an island in the middle of the Mediterranean called Lesbian."

What might seem a little far fetched here regularly rings true. Each performance is on target, the writing has deservedly earned Harvey the title of "the new theatrical voice of his generation," and MacDonald has used her own enormous theatrical experience to create one of the top films of the year. "Beautiful Thing" is that rare little masterpiece, a piece of celluloid you'll want to scoop up and treasure for a long, long time.

("Beautiful Thing" was a highlight of the Montreal World Film Festival.)

Also this month at the Capri don't miss...
BOUND starring Jennifer Tilly on December 20
SURVIVING PICASSO with Anthony Hopkins Premieres Dec. 20
SECRETS & LIES directed by Mike Leigh on December 27

CAPRI CINEMA
3425 EAST TUDOR ROAD - PHONE 561-0064
The best laid plans of mice and dykes

Hallelujah from Hermitage

Dear readers, the great, romantic, transcontinental train ride turned into the body-wracking, always unnerving, sometimes terrifying transcontinental U-Haul truck ride. Yes friends, my dear love and I drove a 40 foot rig (24 ft truck hauling a car trailer) through mountains, urban nightmares and the blissful flat terrain of Texas and Oklahoma. Never before was I glad to see the Great Flat.

How did this happen you may ask. Never trust phone instructions or cost estimates. Even after you have talked to the freight company 3 or 4 times. Never assume you have all the answers to all the questions because there are questions you didn’t even know to ask, like do the household goods have to be packaged in any certain way, or who will load the barge and unload the freight truck. For some reason, the barge company and the freight company don’t think to tell you that the stuff must be shrink-wrapped before the freight company will accept consignment, that you must find someone at the stateside port to load and unload, and other tons of important detail of which we had no idea. Dear readers, the freight company tripled the price. Scurried calls to other freight companies and moving companies while waiting for the barge in Seattle resulted in ever-spiraling costs — not a good time to find all this out when The Stuff is in transit. There was even a moment when I prayed for the barge to sink.

With a sinking heart, I called U-Haul. Yes, their cost for a nine-day rental was within our original budget with free mileage up to 2400 miles (surely MO can’t be that far from Seattle). As soon as we knew the barge container would be available to us, we went and got the standard transmission 26 ft long international truck and trailer.

I drove it around one block, got stuck on a hill in the middle of an intersection, stalled it, jerked it around the corner into a KFC, stopped it, had hysterics, shook for ten minutes and then took it back to U-Haul. Yes, I’ve driven big trucks, and RVs and trailers. But none of them had an entire cab stickered with diagrams and instructions that were impossible to read while shifting and watching traffic, etc. Not to mention that it would have ripped my permanently damaged rotator cuffs out of my shoulders. So much for dykes being manlike. Thank the goddess that I was woman enough not to keep trying to do something that I knew was going to be a nightmare. Thank the goddess that we hadn’t already loaded it. We took the sucker back and exchanged it for a shorter automatic and I smiled widely when the clerk made his macho, but subtle put-down, and I didn’t knock his block off.

The unloading of the container and loading of the U-Haul is another whole story, but one fraught with one problem after another, finally solved with the help of an out-of-work trucker. The dykes I hired finked out on me. Next time, I’m going straight for the testosterone.

The trip in the U-Haul took three times as long as we’d planned, so cost twice as much as we planned. Who knew when studying the map and planning distances for each day that we would never make even 350 miles in a day, and that while driving through mountainous states we’d make as few as 135 miles on the shortest driving day? Who knew we could only stay at Motel 6s and an occasional other motel because we had to pull-through because the rig couldn’t be backed? Who knew that driving the freeway through any big city would be a nightmare? You know who consistently caused the most danger for us because of their impatience? Young, het women. You know who helped us the most? Straight red-neck truckers and other Texas cowboy angels.

You may think that Dear Love and I adjusted to all of this with perfect equanimity. You would be wrong. By mid-afternoon, our carpet tunnels were in full flame, we’d both begun the daily ascent into infantile behavior and by night were totally cranky. We frequently resorted to screaming at each other at the worst times. Once, we were stuck in rush hour traffic after dark in San Jose on a sky bridge, with the panel lights out, both terrified. I was driving, we were stopped in traffic going up in an arc. It felt like being trapped on the top of a Ferris wheel with 12,000 pounds hanging off the back of the seat. Our solution to this situation was to scream at each other since there were no other alternatives, we thought. I screamed at Dear Love: “Don’t scream at me when I’m driving, it’s dangerous — even if I’m being the biggest asshole in the world”...which I was. Oh yeah. Praying. I spent the rest of the time on the sky bridge repeating the Serenity Prayer aloud over and over which calmed me little by little.

Because of the mountain factor, which meant that the trip was obviously going to take longer than 9 days, we had to cancel almost all our visits. After the allotted time, we had to pay daily charges and mileage. What a giant disappointment.

Never promise anyone you will e-mail them from anywhere, or promise anyone you will visit, and particularly don’t promise you will come on a certain date because we never know what the universe has in store for us.

But we made it, dear readers. And with no real mishaps. We are kind of stunned. The other day, Dear Love and I turned to each other and said, “What are we doing here?” We don’t know the answer to this question, but we know this shared experience has deepened our commitment and intimacy. We know that we both have an infinite capacity for forgiveness.

Our cash flow has diminished to a trickle, so we have both started substitute teaching before we have had a chance to recover. We had wanted to spend a couple of months writing and painting without working to get a pattern established and to set that priority. But Dear Love is painting and I am writing and getting writing jobs. Not to the extent we wanted, but it’s happening. It seems that high school kids are into masks big-time and our cat sitters think Dear Love could sell her masks in a flash, so we may both be able to generate some funds out of our passion. That’s what the prosperity...
Deep Inside Hollywood

Gay Frat Movie Announced
Don’t start standing in line for popcorn yet, but Warner Bros. recently made a six-figure deal to purchase an original screenplay called “Boyfriends,” which follows a group of queer college boys who start their own fraternity at a conservative university. The studio has hired openly gay director Joel Schumacher (“A Time To Kill,” “Batman Forever”) to lend his special brand of homoeroticism to the film. His previous successes for Warner Bros., and his anticipated success with next summer’s “Batman & Robin” puts Schumacher in the catbird seat at the studio, and should signal the fact that Warner Bros. expects “Boyfriends” to be a major film (if it ever really gets off the ground). Studios are often known for putting so-called vanity pictures (pet projects of hot directors and actors) into pre-production to encourage their continued activity with the studio. Often, these more personal projects never see a foot of exposed film. However, with the success of gay-themed episodes of Warner Bros. TV shows (such as “Friends”) and the surprise hit film “The Birdcage” (for rival United Artists), the studio may be willing to tackle a gay-themed feature film of its own. Look for Schumacher to assemble a mostly cute, largely unknown ensemble cast in the tradition of his 1987 small hit “The Lost Boys.”

More than Friends?
Now I know that homo hearts all over the country are working overtime thinking about the male half of NBC’s sextet on its hit series “Friends.” Well, there may be hope for all of you yet! I won’t identify which Friend I’m talking about, but you have a one in three chance to figure it out on your own. So, have a good time.

It’s safe to say that “Friends” (whose co-creator David Crane is out) is one of the most gay-friendly shows on television, but just how “gay-friendly” are the actors willing to get? Last season, the lesbian wedding episode of the show was one of the highest-rated episodes in the series’ history. With the recent revelations about “Ellen” (and all of the press attention it attracted), it is only a matter of time before even more characters and actors also start to come out of the closet. You can imagine my surprise when I learned that at a recent primarily straight Hollywood party, a certain male Friend disappeared into a cozy closet with another man. The two of them emerged sometime later as though nothing had happened, though careful observers noticed that the shirt on the Friend was awkwardly reconfigured when he reappeared. Perhaps he was just showing off a new tattoo... or giving a goodwill tour. Maybe there is more than one way to come out of a closet. Will we ever know the truth?

Queer Holiday Cheer
A good measure of how far gays and lesbians have come in Hollywood is the ever-increasing presence of celebrities at the annual dinner for the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center. I recently dined with that organization’s former director, Torie Osborn, who lamented the difficulty of garnering open Hollywood support during her early years at the Center. But this year, honorees included Elizabeth Taylor and Elton John, both of whom actually showed up. In addition, nearly every major entertainment company in Hollywood hosted a table. Just a few years ago, even getting a single celebrity such as Lily Tomlin was considered a major coup.

Elton John was at the dinner to receive the Rand Schrader Distinguished Achievement Award, which is given to outstanding champions of lesbian and gay equality and visibility. On the heels of this award, it became public that Elton John has begun to form his own film production company, Rocket Pictures. The company will be located in England and has a five-year development deal with... the Walt Disney Company. Yes, the same company that earlier this year gave conservatives serious palpitations over their announcement of domestic partnership benefits (not to mention the release of the gay-themed film “Priest,” from their randy independent division, Miramax Films), has entered into a development deal with the very openly gay British pop star. Will wonders never cease? Never mind that Elton John helped compose the award-winning score of Disney’s monster hit film “The Lion King,” soon to be a major Broadway musical (shades of “Cats” I fear) — it is pleasing to see how the conservative Mickey Mouse organization continues to move forward on gay and lesbian visibility.

Speaking of visibility, outside of the major award shows, nothing in Hollywood gets more press than the annual Hollywood Christmas Parade, which took place on the first day of this month. This year, a first in parade history: TV actor Dan Butler (“Frasier”) rode on a float with his life partner, Richard Waterhouse. The float represented the Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center. This is a major step forward, not only because Dan Butler is openly gay. Only celebrities and their families are allowed to ride on the floats. By allowing Waterhouse to ride with Butler, the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce accepted them as the equivalent to a married couple, and gave millions of people all over the world (in 135 American cities and 90 countries) the opportunity to do the same. Thanks to the pioneering efforts of the Center and Hollywood Supports (an organization dedicated to creating awareness in Hollywood of HIV and gay issues), we all have a little something to cheer about this holiday season.

Miss Paige Turner interviews celebrities on PlanetOut on America Online (keyword: PNO Events). If you have questions or comments for Paige, contact her at PNOPaige@aol.com
From the cover of Newsweek to the pages of my photo album

Ruminations on courage

I'm standing in the check-out line at the local Fred Meyer's. Trying to reach for the checkbook in my pocket without dropping the recycled paper towels, the gallon-sized jug of medium salsa, or the cantaloupe balanced precariously in my arms. I decide that the effort is futile. And glancing over at the magazine rack where staring back at me are Melissa Ethridge and her partner, Julie, announcing their plans to have a baby. Mainstream America discovers gay families.

I glance around to see if anyone is mesmerized as I am. Apparently not. The woman in front of me is frantic to replace the candy bars her two year old is snatching for closer inspection. While the gentleman behind me has abandoned his cart to race back to the frozen foods aisle for some essential frozen dairy product he neglected to grab on his first pass through.

I'm fascinated by the magazine cover and fantasize about taking over the store's public address system. To make sure that not one single shopper in aisles 1 through 36 leaves without noticing Melissa and Julie. An all-knowing voice floating down from the fluorescent lights above: "Fellow shoppers, as you exit the store, please take time to notice the happy, well-adjusted lesbians smiling at you from the magazine rack."

But Anchorage is not the most progressive place and I suspect that even use of the L-word might cause some folks to flee screaming for the automatic doorways. Dragging their small children behind them. Or at least, that's the impression I get sometimes.

I drop my items on the end of the counter and toss a copy of the magazine on the pile. At home, stretched out on my ugly floral couch, I flip to the story on gay parents. And I start to ponder the concept of bravery.

I have a lesbian friend who is a mom. We went camping one weekend last spring. After setting up the tent, we grabbed water bottles and headed down a nearby trail. It rained. My Gortex cowboy hat was so saturated from the downpour that it drooped around my ears. But what I remember most about the hike wasn't the stream of water running down the back of my back. It was when Shawn explained how it felt to be a parent. And I got it. As she described the kind of unconditional love she felt for her two children, I experienced a warm sensation in the center of my chest. I could see her holding her infant daughter and grasp some sliver of that incomprehensible bond.

And I marveled at her courage. Shawn did not bear her daughter; her lesbian partner did. As a result, my friend risked losing that profound connection. Puts the demisexual co-workers, the strained looks of strangers, and even the drifting away of friends in perspective. My coming out process holds only limited risks.

Which isn't to suggest that it's easy. It's rarely easy. My heart pounds in my chest as I wait, poised, for the confused look, the outburst, the misguided support. I suppose the ongoing challenge of the coming out process is why I look for heroes. Not the pull-twentysix-children-from-burning-orphanage kind of hero. A more mundane variety. The kind of person who wades upstream with conviction and with integrity. An individual who sees beyond the next REI sale or trip Outside. Not that those are bad things. It's just that the world is so much bigger than that. And demands so much more.

Sometimes it seems as if heroes are few and far between. I was lounging with several lesbian friends trying hard to fulfill my preordained dyke stereotype by watching NFL football one night when I overheard two muscular women discussing Troy Aikman.

"So what if he is," snorted one, "who cares if he's gay as long as he can throw a decent spiral." "Are you kidding," I jumped in, "can you imagine what it would be like if the number one quarterback of 'America's Team' came out of the closet." But my fantasy was doused by others in the room who pointed out that he had far too much to lose to ever make the leap. As did any other successful male professional athlete — too many endorsements, too much money, too much fame, and not to mention legitimate concern about their physical well-being. I knew that much. The whole topic was depressing. I wandered back into the kitchen for some more mushroom pizza.

And stood there gnawing on the cold, rubbery triangle thinking of proper rejoinders for the woman across the room who thought that we should leave poor Troy's sexuality out of it and judge him on his yardage. It was the same argument gay men and lesbians use every day of our lives. Judge me by my mettle, not my orientation. It's called civil rights.

Unfortunately, it also overlooks reality. Reality is that our sexuality is an invisible attribute. The assumption is that everyone is straight. Unless proven otherwise, we do not exist. And so brave men and women must voluntarily step out in the current and say "no, I am not like you." Because difference in this society is a source of discomfort to most, however, the news is rarely met with huge accolades.

Which is why, even without famous quarterbacks or wealthy actresses, I find my heroes easily. They are my upstairs neighbors, like Coniie, who launched into a frank discussion about her orientation with the salesman at the Maytag outlet last week. A young assistant listening to the conversation finally couldn't contain herself. "I don't have a problem with gays as long as they don't flaunt what they do," Conie turned to him, waving her hands for emphasis, and muttered with frustration, "flaunt what they do? This is what we do. We buy dryers."

And I think of Susan Peck and Jon Howe and Kurt Parrish and Doug Frank and Dan Carter and Ken Freedman and Tom Rachal and Ruth Mathes, and a host of other who have tirelessly given of their free time and their sanity to bring light to the gay community in this urban outpost. I'm not always sure why they do it. What keeps them working so much for so little tangible return. And yet I'm eternally grateful for their unflagging efforts. Because I draw strength from their courage and conviction. Because I need strength some days. The days when I read another depressing statistic about gay-related suicides in teens and realize that it isn't necessarily getting easier. And the days, when I forget. The days when I whip through the check out line at Fred's without asking myself whether I'm wading in or standing on the shore letting someone else get their feet wet.

Jen Kohout is happy to be back and even happier to have lots of new material. [Reprinted with permission from Between the Lines.]
Imperial Court

by Salmon Ella

To the good people of all Alaska:
Seasons Greetings to all of you, and special thanks and praises to everyone that helped Peggy with the Christmas auction down at the Raven. We raised $2410, some of which will be used to buy toys for hospitalized children and for local shelters. The remainder will be given out to several local charities, including the court scholarship fund.

The court is once again placing boxes in the bars to collect canned food donations, and this year canned fruit is especially needed. Our goal is to restock the 4A’s food bank, and our biggest competitor is Izzy at the Cheechako Bar. Every year Izzy and his bar collect more food than all the other bars combined! A very special “thank you” to Izzy.

Our Christmas Ball, held December 15th at the Elks Club, was quite a success. The emperor and I performed, and donated our tips to charity as we had promised. Everyone ate, drank, and was merry!

Speaking of balls, it would be super to see some fresh, new faces supporting our court parties and galas. I hear through the grapevine that some of you feel uninformed of our events. One solution is to call 275-0046 and leave your phone number on my voice mail. You will receive a personal call-back from moi giving you all the details on upcoming events. Isn’t that special?

Special may be the word to describe a favorite charity you may have which would benefit from court donations. If there is an organization you wish to recommend for our target list, please call and let me know.

On December 21st there will be a special fund-raiser at the Raven hosted by Teddy Bear. Late that afternoon a bus leaves for the Imperial Court’s Christmas Lights Tour ($8). The money from this combined event will go to two former residents of Anchorage, one of whom is a local favorite. Peggy moved from Anchorage to Florida with her lover, Deborah, who has endured several cancer surgeries. Join us as we celebrate Christmas and help us extend a helping hand to others.

All my love and thanks,
Her Most Imperial Majesty
Empress XXIV of All Alaska
Salmon-Ella

The day we met

by Eric Britten

After twelve years of being happily married, I had early pangs of uncertainty about what sort of unusual memento I might present my significant other on our “lucky thirteenth” anniversary. In our home, unusual surprises are often the way we count coup on one another. I think I’ve pulled it off.

About this time of year back in 1983, I was fighting early snows in Yellowstone, working as a cook and mule packer for a big game guide. Each Saturday when the camp chores were done, I’d saddle a horse and ride out of the mountains to the base camp where we kept our vehicles. Then, I’d drive about twenty miles to the nearest pay phone. The phone was outside a service station in Yellowstone Park, which was closed down. I’d park at the edge of the plowed roadway, climb over the snow embankment, push the snow away from the phone booth, and dial my new pal in sunny warm California. Those Saturday conversations were fun, warm, and full of hope.

We met each other in Jackson Hole the previous summer, and spent one incredible long weekend together. Then, before he flew back to Santa Cruz and I headed back to work in the mountains, we agreed to elope to Alaska together in December. There’s a little more to the story than that, but I’ll save those details for another time. That’s not the kind of well thought out decision that would lead either of us to consider what we might be doing thirteen years later.

Nevertheless, here it is thirteen years later. Thirteen really good years later. And what have I pulled off?

Do you know who Jack Hart is? Well, if the answer’s not right on the tip of your tongue, don’t fret. Jack Hart is an author. He collects short gay-themed stories and publishes them in book form. He’s published three volumes so far. Each volume follows a particular theme. Ah, I see a glimmer of recognition in some of your eyes.

Alyson Publications, the well-known publisher of gay literature, is in the process of printing Jack’s fourth book right now. The title of the volume is “The Day We Met.” It’s a collection of short stories about long term gay couples. The title tells it all. In the book is a story named “Happy Landings”. Those other details mentioned above...

The new book should hit bookstores just about December 4. Happy Thirteenth, Honey!
Helpline news

by Candy Bonham

There have been so many terrific things that have happened with the HelpLine during the past year. We, of course, have been testing a new system for ATU called Remote Call Forwarding, which, by the way, is now available to the general public. We got the HelpLine out of Ken’s house, which made him extremely happy, and got a voice mailbox to take messages when the HelpLine isn’t staffed. I’m happy to report the new system has been working great, and even though Identity got a computer of their own, it’s not needed for the HelpLine and frees it up for the NorthView staff.

Effective November 1, the HelpLine is being staffed 7 days a week instead of 5 days. We’re a little short on volunteers, but everyone has done a tremendous job of doing their share and more so the HelpLine is covered. We need more volunteers, so there will be a HelpLine training on Saturday, January 18th from 10:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. in the Identity office upstairs at the Unitarian Universalist church. Lunch will be provided.

If you are looking to get involved in the community but don’t have gobs of time, this is a good place to start. The HelpLine is not a crisis line; we are an information and referral line helping people connect with the gay and lesbian community in Alaska, especially Anchorage. We get calls not only locally and statewide, but from people in the Lower 48 and other parts of the world: our number is listed in Damron and other guides, we advertise in the Anchorage Daily News on weekends, the Anchorage Press, in the bars we are listed in the phone book. With the women’s bookstore gone, we are sometimes the only visible entity in the gay and lesbian community.

Our next goal is to get an 800 number, and we are working to get a grant to finance it; we also rely on the community for support. Some fund-raisers that were going to benefit the HelpLine fell through. We are one of the projects of Identity that isn’t self-supporting. Even though we are staffed by volunteers, we do have expenses: telephone, voice mail, resource notebooks, data forms and postage all add up. So next time you’re feeling generous, send some money to Identity for the HelpLine; it’s tax deductible to the full extent of the law. And if you’re interested in becoming a volunteer, please call me at 337-2011 evenings or weekends and sign up for the training. Please come and join us.

Candy Bonham is the Identity HelpLine coordinator, co-producer of the Alaska Women’s Coffeehouse and a community activist.

HELPLINE TRAINING Saturday, January 18 from 10:30 a.m. to 3 p.m.
Identity, Inc. Office Upper Level, Unitarian Fellowship 3201 Turnagain Street
Lunch will be provided Telephone Candy at 337-2011
Tomboy holiday

by Lee Lynch

As a kid I celebrated the holiday season with my family on December 25. We lived in New York City which was then proud of its reputation as a melting pot, long before the fighting began over multi-culturalism. I was very aware there was more than one way of celebrating and that we called it Christmas, but ours wasn't a religious observance. And although presents were a big deal, it wasn't a time of hysterical commercialism.

This was the late 1940s and early 1950s. War rationing and the Depression weren't that far behind. Calling the family long-distance was considered an exorbitant part of the holiday. Such recent scarcity made gifts all the more special.

Of course I received a Tiny Tears doll, a pretty plaid dress, new white anklets. But I was lucky. My parents had raised a son for 14 years before I came on the scene. When I sat on Santa's lap at Macy's and told him I wanted a double holster and two six-shooters, this was not unfamiliar to my mother. There's a picture of me with those six-shooters on my hips, cowboy hat on my head, grinning gap-toothed in a cowgirl suit. The humiliation of dressing in Dale Rogers drag was worth it for the guns.

The holidays became for me a season to express my real self, the one that was discouraged the rest of the year but indulged during this time of goodwill. The spirit of Christmas somehow carried with it a spirit of acceptance. My butchness, apparently born full-blown when I was, came to be represented by my favorite gifts, both given and received.

Early on my mother gave me full, if not affluent, rein to choose presents for the family. Let's say I learned a lot about femme searching perfume and hankie aisles for something for her.

It was with my father that I could shop for the inner me. Every year I gave him a tie. Even when I learned that this was a really tired gift, I continued my onslaught. This was partly his fault — he told me I had excellent taste in ties. What he didn't know was that I was choosing the ties I would have worn given the chance. I picked his gift with intense discrimination. The opportunity to linger in the heady region of men's departments was a delight to a grade school baby butch. I didn't want to be male, but men's stuff meant comfort and freedom of movement. My father respectfully lifted the diagonal stripes from their nest of tissue paper and smiled approval. I never otherwise experienced.

The winter holidays are also marked by my brother's audaciously pre-feminist gifts. The frontier town was a highlight. Its false-front buildings were like a movie set. He and my father assembled the tin tabs and slots meticulously. The cowboys came in "stand" and "ride" positions, and the doors on the saloon really swung. There were fence rails for corrals and water troughs where I could tether a horse to a post along the covered fake-wood sidewalk.

These must have been gifts the family couldn't afford when my brother was a child. The next year he brought home a fleet of trucks. Their doors opened, the dump truck cranked up and down, the tires turned. Best of all, he made a multi-door garage of their huge cardboard box. How long my mother let these shenanigans go on in the living room of the apartment I don't know, but I was in baby dyke heaven while she did.

I suppose the set of toy trap drums my brother gave me was no more popular with her. My favorite record was Gene Krupa's "Big Noise From Winnetka" and I wore those grooves down trying to match Krupa's frenzied sticks.

The holidays still smack of excitement for me. My brother and father always put up the Lionel trains — and I bought a tiny HO gauge set at a yard sale a couple of years ago. I don't know what I enjoy more — rediscovering favorite tree ornaments year after year, putting down the tree skirt, shopping for Lover, wrapping her gifts or watching her pleasure in opening them.

Or getting a toy. I still love Matchbox trucks. Frontier towns are gone, but I played mini-football till my fingers hurt. Guns no longer appeal to me, but picture books of New York, my holiday city, make my heart pound like a drum set.

Have all those gift-laden years tainted me with crass commercialism? I suppose so, but along the way haven't I revealed in this season of fantasy, hasn't loving and giving released parts of myself I wish I could express year round?

Happy winter holidays to you — however you celebrate, if you celebrate — and may your best self come out.
Dyke the halls
My queer life
I have always had a close group of lesbian friends, so having the
girls over for a little Christmas get-together seemed like a fine
notion. It would be a wonderful way to celebrate with our
extended gay family before the annual horror of going home to
our real ones.
I called Willow first.
“Christmas is a patriarchal holiday that bastardizes traditional
goddess worship celebrations,” she said.
“I always thought it was about presents and singing and
eves,” I said.
“Furthermore,” continued Willow, “this whole celebration
which really you should call Yule anyway — is supposed to be
about the coming of the Horned God, not about some fat white
man in a suit abusing endangered animals by making them pull a
sligh.”
“Okay, so it’s a Yule celebration,” I said.
“The point I’m trying...”
“We’re having cheesecake,” I said.
Willow said she’d be there by six.
Next on my list was Rachel. “I’m having a Christ... er... Yule
party,” I said warmly. “I was hoping you’d come.”
“I’m Jewish,” she said. “We don’t do Yule.”
I sighed. “What do you do?”
“Nothing,” Rachel said. “Well, there’s Hanukkah, but I find
the whole thing ridiculous. People rushing all over buying pre-
sents just because they feel bad that their kids don’t get to visit
Santa.”
“Look,” I said. “This isn’t about presents. We’re just getting
together and it happens to be Yule or Christmas. Are you coming
or not?”
“Well, if you’re going to make me feel guilty about it.”
Anne was last. Prepared by my encounters with Willow and
Rachel, I told her I was having a holiday party, which I would
like her to participate in so that we could nondenominationally
celebrate nothing and have a good time.
“Fine,” she said.
“Fine?”
“Yes, fine. I’ll be there,” she said, adding before hanging up,
“I’ll bring my new girlfriend.” So excited was I by her smooth
acceptance that I failed to register the last part of her sentence.
The day of the festivities dawned cold and gray. A light snow
was falling, the perfect backdrop for what I hoped would be a
pleasant evening with my friends. I made the last batches of
cookies and set them out to cool.
They all arrived simultaneously. “It’s snowing,” said Rachel
grimly.
Willow handed me a package wrapped in brown paper and
tied with twine. “Here,” she said. “It’s a candle to burn for
Yule.”
“I thought we weren’t giving presents,” Rachel said defensive-
ly. “I didn’t bring anything because you said...”
“It’s not a present,” I said hurriedly. “It’s a... a... a ceremonial
object.”
“I thought we weren’t doing anything religious,” Rachel
started again, but was cut off by Anne, who entered accompanied
by a woman wearing an Army surplus jacket and John Lennon
glasses.
“This is Hannah,” she said. “We met at the co-op.”
Thankful for the distraction, I picked up a plate of cookies.
“Nice to meet you,” I said. “Would you care for a gingerbread
boy?”
“Person,” said Hannah.
I looked at her blankly. “Gingerbread person,” she repeated.
“Not boy. Do they have sugar, butter, or eggs in them?”
“Yes, yes, and yes,” I said. “Why?”
“I don’t eat anything with animal products or processed
sweeteners. But never mind. I brought my own soy milk and
some rice cakes.” She pulled a bag from her oversized
Guatemalan peasant’s pouch.
Thankfully, no one else had any qualms about sugar or fat, and
dove into the piles of cookies. After a half hour or so of munching
and chatting, I announced that it was time to decorate the tree. I
put Rachel in charge of stringing lights, Anne was responsible for
hanging ornaments, and Willow and Hannah volunteered for tinsel
detail because it involved the least amount of physical contact
with what they insisted on calling “the wounded soul.”
I should have been watching Rachel more carefully. “There
we are!” she said triumphantly, plugging the lights in so the

Anchorage Gay & Lesbian HelpLine
258-4777
A community service of Identity, Inc.
PO Box 200070, Anchorage AK 99520
room filled with merry color. The lights were on the tree, all right, and they all worked. But they were arranged in a strange pattern.


“They’re in the shape of a vulva,” she said proudly. “See how the labia wrap around the sides?”

I sighed. “It’s lovely,” I said. “Let’s just hang the decorations.”

“I don’t know about these,” Anne said, looking doubtfully at my box of ornaments. She held up a glass ball in one hand and a hand-blown icicle in the other. “How come these are all phallic-oriented? Don’t you have any pink triangles or labryses or busts of Gertrude Stein?”

“Pretend the balls are breasts,” I said. “And the angels are drag queens.”

Anne was skeptical, but she went to work, hanging balls and icicles and angels with abandon until she’d gone through the entire box. “Are there more?” she asked.

“In the guest room closet,” I said, busy trying to arrange holly on the mantel. “Top shelf.”

Anne disappeared. I stood looking at the tree. “This hasn’t been so bad after all,” I said to Rachel, who was trying to get a red light to line up with where a ditoris should be.

All of a sudden, Anne ran back into the room crying. She grabbed her coat and headed out the door. “What’s wrong?” I asked her.

“Willow is in the guest room teaching Hannah the basics of tantric yoga!” she sobbed before running out.

A moment later, Hannah and Willow appeared in the doorway, looking slightly flushed. “Hey, what’s going on?” Willow asked.

“Anne saw you two playing O Come All Ye Faithful,” I said menacingly. “Now she’s gone.”

Willow snatched up her coat and left, followed closely by Hannah, who ran down the driveway yelling, “Wait, I need a ride!”, her Birkenstocks making patterns in the snow.

I shut the door. “Well, that was fun!” Rachel said. “Now, shall we hang this tinsel or not?”

I grabbed a handful and flung it at the tree, where it landed and hung like some cheap stripper’s bedraggled fright wig, reflecting the changing colors as the vulva twinkled gaily. I sank into a chair and moaned. On the table cheesecake sat untouched, while the wine mulled in silence.

“Look on the bright side,” Rachel said, unwrapping Willow’s Yule candle and lighting it. “There’s always New Year’s.”
Gay/Straight Alliance at Dimond

by Dan Carter

The following information is provided concerning the
discussion held by the Anchorage School Board
12/9/96 concerning the Gay/Straight Alliance at
Dimond High School.

Overall, responses by the District's legal staff, the
School Superintendent and area principals to questions
posed by the School Board members were in favor of the
Gay/Straight Alliance.

Some important quotes from this meeting follow:

From legal staff:

"Anchorage School District has a legal obligation to
prevent harassment based on sexual orientation under
Title IX."

"The club meeting does not materially and substantial-
ly interfere with the orderly conduct of educational activi-
ties within the school."

"Apprehension or fear of reactions of other students is
not sufficient to deny club status."

"Violence by club members would be reason to dis-
band club under District policy."

"When a limited open forum has been created, you
cannot discriminate or deny a fair opportunity for stu-
dents to form a club on the basis of religion, political,
philosophical or other content of the speech at such meet-
ings... it is pretty clear that the District cannot discrimi-
nate."

"Even if Equal Access under federal rules did not apply,
under the State of Alaska Constitution, the club would be
protected."

At the end of the meeting Superintendent Bob Christal
said... "The School District Administration is in full com-
pliance with the direction of the policy. Pat McDowell
and her Dimond staff have done an outstanding job fol-
lowing the policy, supporting their staff and students in a
way the Board had directed them to do a few years ago. I
have heard personal attacks against her (Ms. McDowell)
and her staff and they are totally unfounded. She has
done an excellent job."

The issue is still not on any future agenda for a vote.
Those opposed to the club want to continue to receive
additional information from Salt Lake City and see if
there is legal precedent to deny the club.

Also this week, an Anchorage Times editorial appealed
to our "conspiratorial" nature by trying to tie informa-
tion passed through the Internet (such as this) to a broader
gay/lesbian AGENDA. One of the School Board
Members (Ms. Gillespie) had also compiled a rather thick
binder of material she had obtained from the Internet in
gain to Gay/Straight clubs and youth activities. Some
people would prefer to operate in a "vacuum"... sorry,
those days are over for good!

More later...
Stock Market update - is it time to get out?

by Chris Olson

The stock market is putting investors through a roller coaster ride. Admittedly, the ride has been mostly uphill. Consider autumn of 1994 when the Dow Jones Industrial Average was at 3400 points. In just two short years it has nearly doubled. In late November of this year the Dow exceeded 6500. This is an annual internal rate of return of almost 34%. If you had invested $1000 (your permanent fund dividend) in October of 1994 and left it to grow in a stock market index fund, you would have over $2050 today. Were any of you smart enough to do this?

The average, individual investor often watches the market and waits. They (you) watch, read and wonder if now is the right time at which to invest. The market rises. Is now the right time? Or now? Or maybe now! Oh, I'm not sure yet. There is a technical indicator that the experts use in determining when to get in and out of the market.

THE BUY OR SELL SIGNAL IS LINKED TO WHAT THE SMALL, INDIVIDUAL INVESTORS ARE DOING.

The rule is that when a majority of little investors are putting "new money" into the market, the market is overpriced and it is time to sell. The little guy always waits until it is too late to get in. The reverse is also true. When the little guy sells out, then the market is at a low. This is the correct time to buy for the rest of us. The individual investor often is reluctant to get out. They (you) wait and wait and watch the market decline. You realize too late that you must cut your losses and sell.

Technical indicators are only indicators. It seems to hold true that very few people are able to consistently buy low and sell high. In my practice as a financial planner, I do not make a living on timing the market. History has put many experts out of the market-timing business. It is just not worth it to try to predict when the market will climb and when it will dive. Once in awhile you may be lucky but you cannot be lucky consistently.

So what about now, December 1996? The Dow is hitting the top and maybe sliding some. I believe the fun part is about to begin. If you are "in the market", you must be ready for its downs. It takes a solid stomach to handle not only the scariest of roller coasters but also a fluctuating stock market. You may experience a loss ON PAPER if the market declines. I think that we will have some fluctuations. Remember that a paper loss is not an actual loss. Ride it out!!! Sit back and thank the goddess that you have money invested.

What proactive steps can you take? I am accumulating cash in a money market mutual fund. When it appears that the market has declined I will have cash to get into new investments. This is called saving for an opportunity. This is buying low. I am not selling the stuff that I already own. This is invested for the long haul. I continue to "dollor cost average" monthly into a handful of mutual funds. I am deliberately broadly diversified across many sectors of the domestic and global markets. I am ready to sit back and let anything happen.

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.
Identity is now on the internet!
by Tom Rodal

Thanks to Talmadge Bailey at SEAGLA (The Southeast Alaska Gay and Lesbian Alliance) in the Juneau area, Identity now has a web page on the Internet.

We were contacted by SEAGLA after the November issue of NorthView went to press. It seems they have a goal to include web pages for all LesBiGay organizations within Alaska, and wanted to know if we were interested in being next. Interested? You’ve got to be kidding! Those of you who’ve ever tried constructing one of these “nightmares” will understand the complexities involved. Why, there’s companies who make quite a good living constructing such for clients. And SEAGLA wants to do this for us without charge? And they’d keep it as part of their own web page until such time as Identity has an Internet connection of its own? Well...it didn’t take but a couple of hours to collect the basic information and send it via e-mail to Talmadge; he immediately copied it into the first version of the web page. In less than FOUR hours (I’m not exaggerating folks) we were on the Internet!! I mean this guy doesn’t fool around one second. It was absolutely amazing how quickly all this was completed.

Of course there’ve been many changes made to the first version, and Talmadge has placed several graphics and a colorful background on the web page. He will tell you that web pages are never really finished; there’s always something which is added, deleted or modified. But the good news is that we have the initial entry completed, all because of SEAGLA and Talmadge.

We encourage those of you who have access to the Internet to take a look — not only at our web page but that of SEAGLA and the other LesBiGay organizations within Alaska. And, by all means, support the advertisers you may see while “surfing the site.”

Here are the appropriate addresses:
For SEAGLA itself:  http://www.ptialaska.net/~seagla/
For Identity, Inc.
http://www.ptialaska.net/~seagla/identity.htm

Alaska Women’s Coffeehouse
by Candy Bonham

Lisa Parker, and possibly some of her friends, will start the women’s coffeehouse season off in 1997. Ms. Parker is originally from Oklahoma where the federal building was blown up by militant extremists. She says that she is so glad that she lives in Alaska, now. Lisa sings a lot of her own material, but is familiar with some of the more obscure folk/country music. She has some amusing songs as well as short patter and the stories behind the lyrics. Ms. Parker sings and plays folk, blues and country music. The women’s coffeehouse is on the fourth Saturday of the month, January 25th, 8:00 to 10:00 p.m., at the Out North Gallery of Grandview Gardens Cultural Center, Primrose at DeBarr Road. All women are welcome. It’s a good place to socialize, meet new people and enjoy Lisa’s music. For further information or directions, call Barbara or Candy at 337-2011 after 6:00 p.m.

Quote

“People in the minority get used to living in the minority, and I think that’s a negative thing...The best possible lifestyle is to be integrated. Little ghetto’s of people are not what we are going for.”

Cher, before attending an October 11 PFLAG reception in Washington, D.C., with her lesbian daughter, Chastity Bono.
World AIDS Day 1996

by Lisa Jamieson

World AIDS day is presented each year on December 1st by a number of agencies in cooperation.

This year's World Aids Day, as in years past, was a beautiful memorial to those who have died and those who live with HIV/AIDS. Billed as a community service of remembrance and hope, this year’s event included music, words and images of AIDS. Speakers included families and friends of people who have died of AIDS, a medical doctor, and a number of people who work in the fields of HIV/AIDS prevention and support.

Music was presented by the International Women’s Peace Choir, Three of Hearts, and Susan Campbell playing the dulcimer. Doug Frank and others shared visual images and experiences from the display of the Names Project Quilt in Washington DC earlier this year. New quilt panels were dedicated for Alaskans, including AIDS activist Robert Soule. Bob Butcane and Rick Benjamin led the audience in a litany of dedication, commitment and remembrance. This year for the first time, the event was broadcast statewide on public radio.

The most striking difference in this year’s service was information about recent dramatic improvements in treatment of HIV/AIDS, which were described in medical terms by Dr. James Sprott, and in personal terms by Michael Hughes. The service ended with all of the participants, presenters and audience together, holding candles, filling the atrium of the museum. The Northern Lights Drummers drummed a powerful closing.

I’ve attended World Aids Day almost every year for a number of years. I am always surprised at how affected I am. I know that AIDS exists; I have lost friends to the virus; it is in my family. Yet, each year I am surprised by my tears, by my sorrow for the individuals we have lost, and for the huge waste of vital and wonderful young people. This year, I was most moved not by my grief, but by the spark of hope, by the courage, faith and hard work of the members of my community, and by the unity of such a diverse group. I am so proud of how much we care for and about each other.

Aurora Winds
Anchorage's Exceptional Bed & Breakfast Resort

The Aurora Winds far exceeds the standards expected by today's most discriminating traveler. This 5200 sq. ft. home has 5 sumptuous guest rooms with connecting baths affording the guests both privacy and comfort. The atmosphere at the Aurora Winds is one of quiet elegance; contemporary, with an Alaskan homestyle ambiance. Each room exudes a luxurious and comfortable atmosphere, with queen or king sized beds, television, VCR, phone, and private sitting areas. In addition to your private suite, you have your choice of either a full complement of culinary delights in the dining room, or an expanded continental breakfast available en-suite.

You will be pleasantly surprised by the many amenities the Aurora Winds has to offer: the 10-person Jacuzzi where you and the other guests can relax, under the stars and enjoy a glass of wine following your workout on the gym. You may wish to schedule a personal Massage, take a relaxing sauna, play a game of billiards, or curl up with your partner in front of one of the 4 fireplaces.

At the Aurora Winds you will find many of the features today’s seasoned traveler has come to expect at the most luxurious accommodations. As your hosts, we strive to satisfy any special request you may have and look forward to giving you the special type of hospitality that only Alaskans can offer.

The Aurora Winds is really only missing one thing YOU!

For reservations and information about our special

SKI Weekend Extravaganza

(Includes Accommodations, Meals, Transportation, Ski Rental, Chair Lift Tickets and On-premise Masseur)

Please call James or Bill at, The Aurora Winds, Your Bed & Breakfast Resort
7501 Upper O’Malley * Anchorage, Alaska 99516 * Ph. (907) 346-2533 Fax. (907) 346-3192 E-Mail (awbmb@alaska.net)
Fairbanks

FAIRBANKS IS ON THE WEB!
Fairbanks Gay and Lesbian Community events are posted at: http://www.mosquitonet.com/~pacman. Included are links to a few other sites and e-mail addresses of local interest.

IAA'S WEBSITE
The Interior Aids Association of Fairbanks has placed a webpage at: http://www2.polarnet.com/~iaa. This page has just been placed and includes links to IAA's e-mail, the Fairbanks Gay and Lesbian Community page, special events, and will be rapidly expanding to provide more information.

INTO THE WOODS HAS MOVED...
Into The Woods bookstore and coffee-house is now appropriately located in a log cabin, where else, but in the woods. The store is nestled at 3560 College Road directly north of Hot Licks. In the new location you will find two rooms filled with books and an expanded coffee-house, which, while one room is ready, will be expanding to double in size and also include a separate room that can be closed off to accommodate discussion groups and such that may wish a bit more privacy from other patrons.

At this time a meditation group is meeting weekly and a women's group will be again forming this winter. Owner Connie will also be facilitating a 13-week course in conjunction with the Unitarians in Deep Ecology and Creation Centered Spirituality commencing after New Years.

Others interested in starting a group or looking for a non-threatening environment to meet are encouraged to call Connie at 479-7701.

Now for the BIG news...

Until Christmas, Connie is offering an exciting moving-in special: a $100 Gift Certificate good at Into The Woods, sale priced at only $75.

FAIRBANKS PFLAG HOMEPAGE
The Fairbanks Chapter of Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays has also launched a webpage towards the end of November. The location is http://www.mosquitonet.com/~pflag. This page introduces the local chapter, gives meeting times and location, e-mail address and links to the National PFLAG location.

FAIRBANKS PFLAG NOTES
Nancy Kaling has once again taken the reins of the Fairbanks chapter of PFLAG at the November meeting. Topics of discussion included the upcoming forum on gay marriage planned for April; ideas on finding a comfortable place for gay youth to meet; other officers were elected and various other subjects.

HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA AT THE PALACE
Live performances, singing, and of course tasteful costumes, will headline this year's holiday show at the Palace Saloon in Alaskaland on December 20 and 21. Nearly a dozen men and women will be on stage for this event. Doors open at 8:00 p.m. both nights with the show beginning at 10:00 p.m.; cover charge is a modest $5 per person.

REMODELING AT THE PALACE
The posts are coming out! Unfortunately, this means that the Palace will be closed January 13 through 30. We've always been told that absence is supposed to make the heart grow fonder, but, come February, happy times will once again grace Fairbanks.

FAIRBANKS IN PRINT
The December issue of XY magazine features an article by Christopher Barefoot of Fairbanks with a perspective on interior life.

This information was gathered and submitted by Terry Fauth. You may reach him at: akbear@mosquitonet.com

OWLS

by Barbara J. Soule

I JUST ADORE THE HOLIDAYS...
HANUKKAH, SANTACLAUS, CHRISTMAS ALL

I HEY, I COULD USE SOME HELP WITH THE FESTIVITIES!

WORK!

My 2nd favorite Christmas story

by Andy Binkley

Last September, while going upstairs to pay my credit card bill in the local Lamont’s, I noticed a small grove of fake evergreens nestled between the escalators. I told myself they couldn’t possibly be putting up Christmas decorations yet and put it out of mind while I took care of business. The earliest I can recall seeing Christmas stuff being put out is the day after Halloween. Heck, it hadn’t even snowed yet.

A little later as I made my descent to ground level, I glanced over the side and saw strings of lights and ornaments being laid out for inspection. I don’t want to sound like the Grinch or anything but I’m starting to dread December 25th. By the time it gets here it’s hard for me to remember just what we’re supposed to be celebrating.

That may be why my favorite Christmas story, other than the REAL story, is the one the Nashville Tennessean used to publish for the holidays every few years. Here it is, to the best of my recollection.

It was a cold December afternoon in rural Tennessee not far from where I grew up and the heroine of my story, I’ll call her Susie, was making another of many holiday shopping trips to Madison, a suburb of Nashville. The quickest way to get there was on Whites Creek Pike, a narrow and winding road with scattered homes and farms on each side. Susie was cruising along the highway when a cat darted out of a driveway in front of her car. With no time to swerve or hit her brakes, Susie gripped the wheel in horror as for a brief moment both car and cat became one. After pulling over and collecting her wits, she got out and inspected the poor creature’s mangled remains. After verifying that the cat had expended all nine lives, she made the arduous journey up the driveway to deliver the bad news to the cat’s owner.

After knocking a few times with no response, she had almost decided to leave when the door opened. The woman at the door apologized for having taken so long and explained that she had been extremely ill. She was very understanding when told about the accident. When Susie asked the cat’s owner if there was anything she could do for her, the woman asked her to dispose of the remains.

Feeling that it was the least she could do, Susie agreed. After returning to her car she looked for something to put the cat in. The only thing she could find was a shopping bag, the cute colorful kind with candy canes and jolly Santa’s all over it. Dropping the cat’s mangled body in the sack, she placed it on the floor of her car and continued the trip to Madison.

This was before there were any shopping malls in Nashville. Back then we had “Shopping Centers” where all the stores surrounded a central parking area with only a sidewalk connecting the shops. After searching the packed parking lot, Susie finally found a space close to Walgreen’s Drugstore.

Getting out of her car she looked at the Christmas bag with the cat’s corpse inside and wondered just how she was going to dispose of it. She didn’t really feel like driving all the way home with a dead cat in the car, and digging a grave in the cold winter air didn’t sound like much fun either. Glancing around the parking lot and not seeing anyone nearby, she took the bag out and set it on the asphalt next to the car.

Then, thinking innocent thoughts, she was walking toward the row of shops when she noticed a woman strolling through the parking lot glancing inside car after car. Susie stooped behind a parked car and watched as the woman made her way through the parking lot. Obviously she was up to no good. When she got near Susie’s car a slight grin spread across her face as she spied the colorful Christmas bag resting on the asphalt. Nonchalantly the woman strolled by the car, dipping ever so slightly as she scooped up her prize. She didn’t even pause to glance inside to see what treasure she had snagged as she made a beeline for Walgreen’s.

Susie followed at a discrete distance not wanting to miss seeing the woman’s face when she looked inside the sack. The thief made her way through the crowded store to the soda fountain plumping herself down on a stool at the packed counter. Appearing to be just another weary shopper, she set her purse and ill-gotten goods on the floor next to her. While the woman calmly ordered a cup of coffee, Susie perused the postcard rack by the entrance.

While pretending she was reading a menu, the woman at the counter casually reached down with one hand and opened the bag. Then she leaned over and peeked inside. Emitting a whimpering sound she slumped from the stool to the floor in a dead faint.

All Hell broke loose as employees and customers crowded around to give assistance to the pale, comatose woman. Within minutes an ambulance had arrived from Madison General, and amid the confusion, the unconscious thief was momentarily lost to sight. As the crowd finally parted, Susie could see the woman was on a stretcher covered with a sheet as white as she was. The attendants strapped the woman down firmly and whisked her past Susie to the waiting ambulance. When Susie last saw the thief she was being loaded into the rear of the ambulance still unconscious. There resting safely with her on the stretcher was her purse and the Christmas shopping bag. Some considerate soul had taken care to ensure that she wasn’t separated from her “valuables”. With sirens wailing and lights flashing, the luckless thief was whisked away with the Christmas bag containing the dead cat resting safely on her stomach.

Andrew Binkley works for the Interior AIDS Association and can be reached at: (907) 452-4222 or Fax 452-8176; his email address is: iaa@polamet.com
December 28, 1986 (10 years ago this week): Terry Dolan, Reagan supporter and leading fund raiser of the New Right, dies of AIDS at age 36.

Who was Terry Dolan?

Ten years ago this week, Terry Dolan, a key conservative activist of the 1980s, died of AIDS. Even as a child, Dolan was active in Republican politics, volunteering for Richard Nixon’s 1960 presidential campaign. When he was 25, he helped organize the National Conservative Political Action Committee (NC PAC), and he soon became that organization’s director. Dolan was an extremely talented fund raiser, and many credit him and his organization with the stunning triumph of the New Right in 1980. Dolan worked hard for the nomination and election of Ronald Reagan as President, although his influence was equally significant in the defeat of liberal Senators such as George McGovern, Frank Church and Birch Bayh. The conservatives who replaced them (including Dan Quayle) gave the Republicans a majority in the Senate for the first time in a generation.

Dolan was also gay. He was a regular in the gay cocktail-party circuit of Washington, DC, and often vacationed at gay resorts such as Northern California’s Russian River. But Dolan’s relationship to the gay-rights movement was complex. Philosophically, Dolan was opposed to gay-rights laws, insisting that the government shouldn’t interfere in people’s hiring practices. He balanced that view with a strong defense of privacy — which makes sense, because a decade before “outing,” he relied on the gay community’s discretion to keep him from being discredited among his conservative peers.

In 1982, he granted an interview to The Advocate in which he repeated his support for privacy and criticized “some of the rhetoric that some of my friends in the right have used on gay activism.” But Dolan (who later denied those comments) was not above using anti-gay rhetoric himself. NC PAC sent out a fund-raising letter that declared “the nation’s moral fiber is being weakened by the growing homosexual movement and the fanatical ERA pushers (many of whom publicly brag that they are lesbians).” Some say Dolan approved the letter, although he apologized for it to the New York Times, calling it “totally inappropriate.”

In the early 1980s, Dolan joined with former Republican Congressman Robert Bauman, famed discharged gay Vietnam veteran Leonard Matlovich and several other gay conservatives to found the Concerned Americans for Individual Rights (CAIR). Unlike the gay Republican group the Log Cabin Club, CAIR found little success. Few members were willing to take leadership roles if it meant publicity, and while many gay conservatives offered words of encouragement and even cash donations, few would write checks or even allow their names to be associated with the group. At one point, the group proposed to send out a fund-raising letter to find conservatives who would support gay rights, and several of the organizers are said to have requested the names and addresses of any anti-gay responses so they could target those individuals with homophobic fund-raising appeals. By the time of Dolan’s death, CAIR had largely faded away.

When Dolan began to get sick with AIDS, he insisted publicly that he suffered from anemia and diabetes. When he died, his family held a memorial service that excluded Dolan’s gay friends. Instead, conservative mourners such as Pat Buchanan and Utah Senator Orrin Hatch came to pay their respects to a key architect of the conservative revolution in American government. A separate service was held by Bauman and others who wanted to remember Dolan for all that he was. The Washington Post accurately reported the cause of death, and later ran a long article about Dolan’s homosexuality. The conservative activist’s family and straight friends were furious. His brother Tony Dolan (a noted Reagan speechwriter) even took out a two-page ad in the Washington Times insisting that Terry Dolan was not gay.

What can we make of a person whose personal and political lives seem so contradictory? Many would settle for a simple answer — Dolan was a self-hating homosexual who never became comfortable with his sexual orientation and expressed his discomfort by trying to hurt all gays and lesbians. But the truth is probably more complicated than that. There is no inherent “gay position” on issues such as military spending or taxes — and an individual, regardless of

continued...
his or her sexual orientation, who feels that conservatives are right on such issues may find themselves having to face the same challenges Dolan did. But then, they find themselves in bed (politically, at least) with a Ronald Reagan or a Jesse Helms, and the conflicts between advancing causes they believe in and maintaining dignity as a gay person become almost insoluble. Given the slow response to the epidemic from the administration he helped put in place, Terry Dolan’s death from AIDS made for a final irony in a life full of paradox.

BOARD SHOULD PROTECT STUDENTS

Perhaps an adolescent hockey player, acting out a misguided bias, has been a boon to discourse in Anchorage. Certainly, many wise and generous words have been used, as well as many thoughtless and hurtful. Altogether, rising to the consciousness of our community is the bare fact that there is an element of intolerance that fights out against fellow citizens.

The school district should be applauded for adopting a policy that permits the formation of clubs of many kinds through a pattern which protects them from being harmful. The Gay/Straight Alliance students should be congratulated for having the courage and interest to form such a club despite a societal misconception about “gayness.” Unfortunately as it is, the incident that brought all this to light has acted as a stimulus for understanding the situation.

Now we have an opportunity to examine our school environment to see if this is an isolated happenstance or whether something needs to be done to protect students from unwarranted attack. The educational environment should be free from fear so that energy and attention can be given to the learning process, rather than just protecting oneself. Students should have the freedom that is implicit in the Bill of Rights and its freedom to assemble so that they can form their alliances which cause no harm to others.

Rather than considering dropping the club formation policy, our school board should be directing its attention toward protecting our students.

— Sylvia Short, Anchorage

KIDS MUST FEEL FREE TO BE

Congratulations to the Daily News editors of Perfect World for printing the letter from the lesbian teenager. Far more important, bravo to the writer for being so brave and speaking out her truth. It saddens me that she chose to remain anonymous, but it’s understandable given some of the community’s negative reactions to the Gay/Straight Alliance at Dimond High.

As a psychologist, I work with teens of all kinds, of all stripes, and we all know that being a teenager is hard enough. For any lesbian or gay teen to have to live in fear for being who they are is a gravely sad reflection on our intolerant, fearful community. Kids and adults must feel free to be who they are, no matter what their outlook.

— Sally Schlesmann, Ph.D clinical psychologist, Anchorage

Both of these opinions were taken from the Anchorage Daily News December 8, 1996
AIDS/ HIV Update

A "Viral Load" measurement is a newly developed technique that measures the actual number of free viral particles found in a ml., or drop of blood of someone with HIV. A viral load measurement can detect as few as 400 "copies" of HIV in a drop of blood. This is important because there is a direct relationship between the number of HIV copies in the blood and risk of progression to AIDS or death due to AIDS complications.

A viral load measurement has several uses. It can be used to shed light on unusual situations where the standard tests are not sufficient, as is the case with infants, people with early HIV infection and those with indeterminate HIV test results. The viral load measurement is also commonly used to inform important treatment decisions such as when to start treatment, or when to change treatments. A very important characteristic of the viral load measurement is its ability to quickly tell us how well drug therapies are working. That is, if a new drug therapy makes the number of HIV copies in the blood decline, then it is thought that the therapy is effective. If the number of copies does not decline, then the therapy is thought to be ineffective. This characteristic of the viral load measurement gives health care professionals and patients the information they need to evaluate treatments.

The treatment of AIDS has changed radically in the last year or so. The standard of care has moved from mono-therapy, or using only one drug such as AZT, to combination therapy which is a "cocktail" of several classes of drugs. Combination therapies prescribed in an aggressive manner, have often led to long-term suppression of viral loads and reduced resistance to anti-HIV drugs. Combination therapies are helping people with HIV live much longer and with a better quality of life.

A typical combination therapy is comprised of at least two classes of drugs: Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors and Protease Inhibitors.

Reverse transcriptase inhibitors interferes at the point in viral replication when HIV tries to infect a cell in the immune system.

Protease Inhibitors interferes at the other end of viral replication after HIV has infected a cell in the immune system. Protease inhibitors do not allow new HIV virus to be created to infect other cells.

Taking combination therapies that include protease inhibitors requires strict adherence to certain rules. Protease inhibitors must be taken regularly and at the does prescribed. Taking a "drug holiday" or skipping doses may lead to resistance and mutations making the drugs ineffective. When taking a protease inhibitor one should never take any other kind of medication, even over the counter kinds without first consulting with your health care professional. Drug interaction with protease inhibitors may lead to serious side affects and even death. Taking medication regularly, and consulting health care professionals before taking other medications will allow protease inhibitors to do their job well.

Effects of combination therapies can be dramatic with up to 80% of some patient populations obtaining a "non-detectable" viral load. A non-detectable viral load, or a viral load measurement below 400 copies in a drop of blood, is usually associated with an increased supply of CD4 cells and better health and longer life.

Dr. David Ho from the Rockefeller University of New York City has theorized that if viral replication can be totally repressed for approximately three years, the virus would be "burned out" and totally eradicated. Dr. Ho states that to do this one must not only suppress all viral replication, but eliminate long-lived cells which may harbor HIV. This theory is clearly unproven, however, offers hope to those living with HIV infection.

For information about treatments call: 1.800.822.7422
Project Inform's Treatment Hotline

For Information about HIV/AIDS call: 1.800.478.AIDS
Statewide AIDS Helpline
Legal same-sex marriage

Partners Task Force for Gay and Lesbian Couples applauds the recent decision by a Hawaiian court ordering the state to allow legal marriage for same-sex couples. Although the state has appealed to the state’s Supreme Court, that judicial body last year favorably considered the matter and is expected to uphold same-sex marriage.

“The government has no business interfering with two consenting adults who wish to legally marry,” says Demian, co-director of Partners Task Force for Gay & Lesbian Couples. “Thankfully, the court disregarded popular prejudice and honored the state’s Constitutional prohibition of sex discrimination.”

While only recently a goal for the gay and lesbian community as a whole, legal marriage has long been sought out by individual couples. In 1971, a male couple in Minnesota filed the first court action seeking to marry. Since then, 11 such lawsuits have been undertaken through the private initiative of same-sex couples. The Hawaii case is the first to succeed at any level.

Partners Task Force first became sharply aware of the necessity for legal marriage after studying the results of its 1990 national survey of 1,622 gay and lesbian couples. The survey found an extremely high rate of discrimination — 71 percent — based not just on being gay or lesbian, but on being a same-sex couple. Most of that discrimination — in employment benefits, insurance, taxes, credit/banking, housing, hotels, hospital visitation, adoption, custody, immigration — could be remedied by legal marriage.

The Partners survey also found many indications that same-sex couples seriously regard themselves to be a family. Ninety-two percent of the women and 96 percent of the men were “committed to be together for life” or “for a long time.” The men averaged nearly seven years together and the women nearly five — despite an average age of 35 years. Twenty-one percent of the women and nine percent of the men reported caring for children. Thirty percent of the lesbians and one-third of all couples under age 35 were considering having children.

“We use the term ‘same-sex’ marriage rather than ‘gay’ marriage,” says Demian. “In opposite-sex marriages we do not know with certainty a couple’s sexual orientation; we only know them to be male and female. Homosexuals can be legally married — so long as they marry an opposite-sex partner. Therefore, the marital discrimination gay men and lesbians face is based on the sex of the two partners, not their orientation. In fact, the Hawaii court’s ruling was based on this distinction.”

“Opposition to same-sex marriage is based entirely in prejudice,” said Steve Bryant, Partners co-director and Demian’s life partner of 15 years. “Now, finally, a judge has seen that there is no logical reason to prohibit same-sex couples from protecting their families with legal marriage. We urge Hawaiians to proudly embrace this ruling as a civil right milestone and a model for the nation.”

“Religious bodies vary in their attitudes about same-sex marriage,” said Bryant, “but all of them must respect the civil regulation of marriage. Churches can continue to conduct marriage ceremonies for only those couples they deem worthy, but legal marriage is a state matter subject to guarantees of equality. Churches must honor this Constitutional separation of powers.”

Once legal marriage is finally available in Hawaii, gay men and lesbians will seek the same equality in other states. A first step will be to legally challenge various anti-marriage state laws and the so-called “Defense of Marriage Act” at the federal level.

“We’ve personally experienced the discrimination that results from a lack of legal marriage status,” says Demian, “and that has fueled our support for legal marriage. We congratulate the three couples who sued for legal marriage and won. And we offer well-wishes to the thousands of couples who will eventually fulfill their dreams of legal recognition.”

The Partners National Survey and more than 120 other documents of concern to same-sex couples may be found on the task force’s Web site: www.buddybuddy.com. A large portion of the Web site is devoted to information on legal marriage. Included are images from Partners’ video “The Right to Marry,” which features interviews with Evan Wolfson, co-counsel in the Hawaii case, and other leading figures in the campaign for equal marriage rights.

Partners Task Force for Gay & Lesbian Couples, Steve Bryant & Demian, co-directors, Box 9685, Seattle, WA 98109; 206-935-1206; demian@buddybuddy.com; www.buddybuddy.com

Preventive Family Health Care

Good health is the key to a full life.

Your participation in taking preventive measures can make all the difference in your health care.

Along with prevention, have you tried chiropractic for:

- Headache  Low back pain
- Neck pain  Leg pain
- Shoulder pain  Stress

Methods: Non-Force Techniques

Dr. Allison Hill
Chiropractor

It is possible to have pain relief without drugs or surgery.

The Hill Clinic
A Chiropractic Office

272-1272
203 West 15th Avenue, Suite 104 • Anchorage, AK 99501
272-1272
Lawyer says district can’t just cut gay club


The question of whether a club for gay and lesbian students should be allowed at Dimond High School generated electronic mail from Outside to school board members last week, and passionate testimony pro and con at Monday’s board meeting, but no change in the school district’s policy.

However, two School Board members said they are concerned that the club’s agenda could be influenced by Outside pro-gay rights groups. The board discussed its policy regarding clubs at a work session before its regular meeting Monday, and then heard testimony during a half-hour allotted for items not scheduled for action.

School district attorney Howard Trickey advised the board that it should allow the Dimond High club, called the Gay/Straight Alliance, if it allows any student clubs not directly tied to academic offerings. Trickey told the board federal law allows clubs to be banned if they’re disruptive to education — but at the same time, the district has a legal obligation to prevent harassment, including harassment of gay and lesbian students.

If the district disbanded the Gay/Straight Alliance because other students protested against the club, the district “exposes itself to liability” based on harassment of the club members, he said in a written opinion. “Actions which penalize the alleged victims, i.e., denying recognition to the gay and lesbian student club, could increase the risk of liability for the district,” his opinion noted. Board member Kathi Gillespie, who had asked the board to discuss its club policy, said she agrees the district can’t exclude the Dimond club.

But, she said, she is still concerned about the club and about possible influences of national pro-gay groups on its agenda. Gillespie said she amassed a thick notebook of material from an Internet site featuring proponents of “equity” for gay and lesbian students in public education. The site includes samples for changing curriculum, such as using same-sex couples in math problems and history lessons. “The concern I have is the interest in changing the curriculum, and changing the culture through the public school system,” Gillespie said in an interview.

Board member Lorraine Ferrell said the Internet site contains a handbook for organizing such student clubs, with suggestions for student surveys on sexual orientation, and for assemblies. She told the board, “I had some real red flags go up and felt very alarmed” reading some of the suggestions on the site. Ferrell said in an interview she doesn’t appreciate the electronic mail board members have been getting from pro-gay rights activists in the Lower 48. “This is a local issue we’re trying to deal with,” she said.

Dimond High Principal Pat McDowell told the board that while material such as Ferrell and Gillespie described exists, “What comes into our club meetings is not the same thing at all.” She said the club is student-directed; the teachers who are sponsors are responsible for making sure it stays within the parameters of its purpose, and is guided by students and not outsiders, she said.

(Anchorage teachers) Union president Rich Kronberg told the board the controversy was created by “those students and adults who have harassed, intimidated and assaulted students based simply on the belief that these students were gay.” He added, “The response to the formation of the club from certain elements in the community has demonstrated, as nothing else could have, the need for such a club.” Kronberg said the union’s executive board has not taken an official position on the Dimond club but has a long standing policy supporting tolerance and opposing discrimination.

Mears Junior High teacher Joe Fleming told the board the district was wrong to allow the club. “It will put 2,000 students in the position of being confused, and possibly recruited,” he said. “The purpose of the club is to prove that this lifestyle is normal.”

The federal law governing clubs gives districts that accept federal money two choices: They can limit high school clubs to those directly related to academics; or, if they decide to allow nonacademic clubs, they cannot deny any club based on a group’s philosophical, political or religious viewpoints.

GLSTN Back to School Posters

They depict a gay boy or lesbian with the words Faggot or Dyke obscuring the person’s face. A quote from each person is featured, which explains how hard it is to be a gay or lesbian student in America’s schools. The tag line: Because Bigotry in Our Schools is Wrong.

To request a free copy of either the dyke or faggot Back to School Poster, provide your name and mailing address in an email to: GLSTNDGray@aol.com

Thank you and good luck!

John Spear, GLSTN

This article was sent to us by Jesse NR Greenman. You may contact Ms. Greenman at: jesse@uclink4.berkeley.edu
GLSTN announces first national conference at Salt Lake City

(NEW YORK, NY) The Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Teachers Network (GLSTN) today announced its choice of Salt Lake City, Utah, as the site for its first-ever national conference, to be held March 21-23, 1997. Hosted by GLSTN Utah, the conference will bring together hundreds of teachers, parents, community activists, and students working to create schools were all people are respected, regardless of sexual orientation.

The issue of anti-gay bigotry in schools has been a hot one in Utah this year. In January 1996, students and teachers at Salt Lake City’s East High School formed a Gay-Straight Student Alliance, an act which prompted the Utah legislature to ban all student clubs in April 1996 in an effort to prevent the East High GSA from meeting. In response, teachers, parents, students, and community members banded together to form GLSTN Utah, one of the most active chapters, which led the national organization to choose Utah as the site for its first-ever national conference.

“We’ve chosen the theme ‘Stand and Deliver’ for the conference,” said Kevin Jennings, GLSTN’s Executive Director and a former high school history teacher, “because we need to stand and deliver a message of tolerance and justice in Utah. We need to let the folks who are fighting for equal educational opportunity there know that they are not alone.” Doug Wortham, Co-Chair of GLSTN Utah, added “We couldn’t be more proud to be the hosts of this historic event. The legislature obviously thought they would silence us with their actions last spring, but they’ve done just the opposite — they’ve brought us support we never dreamed we had from both Utah and beyond.” Wortham added, “To borrow the motto of the 2002 Winter Olympics, which are to be held here, ‘Utah Welcomes the World’ to the GLSTN National Conference!”

The conference will be preceded by special one-day institutes on Friday, March 21, for “Straight Allies,” GLSTN Chapter Leaders, People of Color, and LGBT Educators, as well as a “Change Agent” Training. That evening, Kelli Peterson, founder of the East High GSA, and Clayton Vetter, Utah’s first openly gay public school teacher, will welcome participants at a free reception. The formal conference will begin on Saturday, March 22, with a keynote by Urvashi Vaid, former Executive Director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and author of “Virtual Equality,” followed by workshops that day and on Sunday, March 23. The conference will close with a Brunch Celebration with comic Suzanne Westenhoefer, at which GLSTN will present its 1996-97 Pathfinder Awards for leadership in the fight to end bigotry in our schools. Registration forms are available by calling 212-727-0135. “Looking over this program, there will obviously be something for everybody!” added Jennings.

Deidre Cuffe-Gray, Media Coordinator or Kevin Jennings, Executive Director, GLSTN, 122 West 26th Street, Suite 1100, New York, NY 10001. Tel: 212-727-0135; Fax: 212-727-0254; e-mail: glstn@glstn.org or Web: http://www.glstn.org/

Wisconsin District to pay for not protecting gay student

By Shannon Tengenau, USA TODAY

A school district in Wisconsin has agreed to pay nearly $1 million to settle a federal lawsuit accusing it of violating a gay student’s rights. The case could force schools nationwide to re-examine their policies set up to protect students from discrimination, experts say. The settlement came a day after a federal jury found three Ashland, WS, school administrators liable for not protecting Jamie Nabozny, now 21, from anti-gay harassment.

“This is the first case in the country where school officials were found liable for failing to address anti-gay abuse,” said David Buckel, a lawyer for Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, a gay-rights organization that represented Nabozny. Nabozny, who had originally sought $350,000, said he can now go on with his life.

“It sends a very strong message to administrators in this country that if they do not take appropriate action to protect gay and lesbian youth, they will have to pay. And the price is high,” Nabozny said. Nabozny claimed in his lawsuit that abuse from other students ranged from name-calling to being shoved, beaten, spat upon and even having his head pushed in a urinal and being urinated upon.

The harassment occurred from the time he entered Ashland Middle School in 1988 until he dropped out of Ashland High School as a junior in 1993. The jury ruled against Ashland Middle School Principal Mary Podlesny and two administrators at Ashland High School, Principal William Davis and Assistant Principal Thomas Blauert. Jurors found the school district was not guilty of discrimination.

Chai Feldblum, a Georgetown University law professor who studies gay issues, said the case won’t set a precedent for larger damage awards but should extend harassment policies to gays. And “it will set a precedent for school administrators getting serious about the problem.”

USA TODAY, November 21, 1996; 1000 Wilson Blvd., Arlington, VA, 22229; Fax 703-247-3108; e-mail: Editor@usatoday.com

Jessie NR Greenman, <jessie@uclink4.berkeley.edu> The P.E.R.S.O.N. Project (Public Education Regarding Sexual Orientation Nationally) is an all-volunteer effort. Check out our free info-loaded web page at: http://www.youth.org/locos/PERSONProject/
If this is your idea of an HIV test... it's time you learned about ours.

Introducing the new Home Access Express™ HIV-1 test system. It's fast, confidential and greater than 99.9% accurate.

The day has finally come when you can get tested for HIV in the comfort of your own home. Presenting the Home Access Express HIV-1 test system. It's totally anonymous, extremely easy—and every bit as reliable as the tests used by doctors and hospitals.

Here's how it works: You collect your own blood spot specimen (done by a simple finger stick). Then you send the sample to our lab using the express shipping envelope we provide. Your results are available within three days (excluding Sundays and holidays) and are easily retrieved by phone 24 hours a day, seven days a week. At that time, you'll have the option of personal counseling sessions, regardless of your test results.

What's more, you have our guarantee of absolute anonymity. No names are ever associated with test results, and results cannot be linked to purchase.

The Home Access Express HIV-1 test system is also surprisingly affordable. For just $49.95 (plus $3.00 shipping and handling), you receive everything you need, mailed in a plain brown container to ensure confidentiality.

No matter why you've hesitated getting tested (or retested) for HIV, it's time you learned about the home testing system that's clinically proven—and safe to use.

2 ways to buy:

Call 1-800-HIV-TEST today. Or send your check or money order to: Home Access, P.O. Box 419576, Kansas City, MO, 64141-9276. (Be sure to include a return address where you'd like the kit shipped.)
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)lly indicate 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.

AAs:
(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 (ALHV), (Juncal), Rita, 463-5688
(A) Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center (free HIV testing), Stephanie, 257-4637
(A) Interior AIDS Assoc., 452-4222
(A) Pierce County AIDS Found. (WA), 206-383-2565
(A) Shanti of Juneau, 907-465-5665, 1-800-478-AIDS (2437)
(A) S.T.O.P. AIDS Project, Koala, 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, Karl, 278-5665

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

Art/Graphics:
(L) Catworks, 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, 561-1227 (sec ad)

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

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

Bed & Breakfasts, Accommodations:
(G/L) Alta’s (Fairbanks), Pete, 907-389-2582 (sec ad)
(G) Arctic Feather, Doug, 277-3862
(G) Aurora Winds, James/Bill, 346-2533
(A) Beach House, Mary (Homer), 907-235-5945 (sec ad)
(L) Rose-Beth’s B & B, Anchorage, Rose Beth, 337-6779
(L) Cheney Lake B&B, Mary/Jacinta, 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 (sec ad)
(L) Northern Comfort, Reada, 278-2106
(G/A) Saucers Lodge (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) Alaska, Gene, 561-1340 (sec ad)

...Drug dependency

(A) Cyran’s Books, Sandy/Jerry, 274-2599
(A) Into The Woods Bookshop (Fairbanks), Connie, 907-479-7701

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

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

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

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

Churches:
see Spiritual

Coffee Houses:
(G) Hollywood Canteen, Rand, 562-0737
(A) Quiverbean Coffee Co., Scott & Becky, call or fax 278-BEAN
(G/L) The Socatic Tide at The Wave, Vicki, 274-0690 or 561-WAVE

College and Boarding School Selection:
(A) Tom Croke, 277-7014

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

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

Computer Consultants, Graphic Design, & Desktop Publishing:
(A) Alaskan Support Consortium, Walter Erskine, 522-4454
(L) Angie, 537-0253 (see ad)
(G) By-Tex Alaska, Inc., F. Ken, 248-2422
(L) CDA Services, Waltraud, 276-6862
(A) Computer Magik, Phil, 274-3528
(G) Ekstatic RAM, Robert Iris, 522-4275
(G) gra.f/x, Lucian, 561-5856
(L) Helleck & Assoc., Terry, 276-3869
(G) Mad Dog Graphx, Michael Ardaiz, 276-5062 (w)
(G) Mark, 274-9472
(G) PC Possibilities, 248-6277

Computer Training:
(A) Alaskan Support Consortium, Walter Erskine, 522-4454
(G) Seven Treasures Ent., Don, 562-9496
(A) Find It! Business Services (Mackintosh), Larry, 279-4862

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

Counseling:
(G) Ability Design Associates, Doran, 562-9575
(A) Connie, 562-1826
(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, 277-7035 TTY
(A) Deaf Rehabilitation Serv., 277-3456 voice, 258-2232 TTY

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

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

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

Electrical:
(G) The Electric Doctor, Bob, 561-2225
Electronics:
(A) Frigid North, Tom, 561-4683 (sec ad)
Electrolysis:
(A) Anchorage Skin Care Clinic, Barbara, 277-4247
(L) Gentle Touch Electrolysis Clinic, Browyn 561-6628/277-4744
Entertainment:
(G) Art Services North, Dar, 561-2115
(G) Capri Cinema, 561-0064 (sec ad)
(M) Mascarella Music, Diane, 277-9751
(A) Syzygy/Music Magic, Linda, 274-2599
Feldenkrais:
(L) Movement Options, Shari, 272-0816
Financial, Insurance, Investments:
(L) Chris, 561-8040/388-3962 (sec ad)
(G) Jon, Bank of America, 263-3273
Fishing:
(L) Puffin Family Charters, Leslie, 278-3346
Floors & Tile:
(A) Quality Floors, Bob & Ruth, 248-3900
Florists:
(G) Every Bloomin' Thing, Jerry, Malcom, 274-3158
(A) Growing Concern Florist, Darin, 279-8688
Furniture:
(A) Design Craft, David, 279-0638 (sec ad)
Gasoline:
(A) Courtney's, Linny, 562-1227 (sec ad)
General Contracting:
(G) Mat-Su Weatherization Services, L. Hansen, 907-278-9276
Gifts:
(A) Design Craft, David, 272-4438 (sec ad)
(A) The Cutting Edge (Seward, AK), Connie, 907-224-8996
Hairstyling:
(G) Gabriel, 272-9045
(A) 36th Ave. Hair Design, Ledjha, 561-8967
Health:
(A) Garetkey, 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/Deby, 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) Gay & Lesbian National Hotline, 1-888-843-4564
(G/L) Anchorage, Identity Helpline, 258-4777 (sec 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 (sec ad)
Hypnotherapy:
(A) Rainbow Counseling, Maureen, 277-0582
Imperial Court:
(G) Imperial Court of All Alaska, Bob, 338-3327
Income Tax Preparation:
(A) Lynn (LaPerriere) Thomas, 263-0720 (sec ad)

...Printing, electronic graphics

Independent Marketer:
(A) Mark, 279-5264
Insurance:
(L) Chris, 561-8040/338-3962 (sec ad)
Internet Service Providers:
(G) ServCom Alaska, Mark Mathes, 274-9472
Kites, Games, Banners, Puzzles:
(A) Northwind Kites, Pat, 279-4860
Legal:
(L) Mendel & Huntington, Allison, 279-5001 (sec ad)
(A) Mendel & Huntington, Karla, 279-5001 (sec ad)
(L) Rhodes, Phyllis; Mediator, 346-2217
(A) Short, Sylvia, 562-4992 (sec ad)
Massage:
(L) Beth (MT), Debbie (CMT), 566-0842
(G) Don, 338-8826
(G) Joyce, (CMT), 562-1916 (sec ad)
(L) Leslie (non-sexual), 278-3346
(L) Marion, 562-0012
(L) Vicki, 277-5222
Media:
(L) NLGIA (National Lesbian and Gay Journalists Association),
Kim, Alaska chapter coordinator and board member, 277-2704
Meeting Space:
(G/L) The Wave, Vicki, 274-0900 or 561-WAVE
Mortgage Brokers:
(A) City Mortgage, Lynn (LaPerriere) Thomas, 277-0700 (sec ad)
Music/Instrument:
(A) Oldtime Music Company, Marge, 561-6862 (sec ad)
Native Arts/Culture:
(A) Moon Dancer Arts, Rosemary (Wasilla), 373-5353
Newsletters/Newspapers:
(A) Alaska Women Speak, Mary Lee, 696-0924
(A) Anchorage Press, Nick, 561-7737 (sec ad)
(L) Klondyke Korner (Alaska Women's Cultural Center), 277-9763
(GLA) NorthView (Identity), 238-4777
(GL) Perspective (SEAGLA (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) Photos by Frank, Frank, 337-3399 (sec ad)
Political:
(A) Alaskans Concerned About Latin America (ACALA), Ruth,
333-1190
(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
(A) Timeframe, 562-3822 (sec ad)
The Directory

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

Real Estate:
(L) Apollo Real Estate, Bob, 561-0661 (see ad)
(L) Bronwyn Real Estate, 907-277-4744
(L) Century 21 (Missoula), Lucille, 417-745-6798(o), 417-993-4802(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) Cractus & Associates, 279-3982

Restaurants:
(A) Cyrano’s Cafe, 274-1173
(G) O’Bradys, 384-8032, 388-1080, 563-1080 (see ad)

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

Roaming Houses:
(A) Regina’s, 276-4904

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

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

Sightseeing:
(L) McKinley Air Svc., 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
(GLA) Q’Klatch (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. Nancy Sweeney, 258-0010
(A) Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Center, 248-3737 (see ad)
(A) Church of the Covenant (Matanuska Valley), Pastor Howard Eves, 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, 333-8221

Student Organizations:
(G/L) Alaskan Gay and Lesbian Association (AGLA, Fairbanks), Pete, 907-479-7348 (see Club Notes)
(GL) The Family (formerly Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Student Association), UAA, (see Club Notes)

Writing and Editing Assistance:
...Writing and Editing Assistance

Support Groups:
(G) Ability Design Associates, Doran, 562-9575
(G) I.M.R.U.2 (Youth Group), 566-4678
(A) PFLAG Anchorage, Sylvia, 562-4992, Fred, 562-7161
(A) PFLAG Fairbanks, Mary Jo, 907-459-8985
(A) PFLAG Juneau, 907-463-4203

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

Therapeutic Facilities Out-of-State:
(A) Tom Crote, 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, Cherresse, 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

Web site design:
(A) Indigo Graphics, Rob Whitmore, 278-9675

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

Writing & Editing Assistance:
(A) Kathleen L. McDonough, School Survival Skills, 274-5059
(L) Kathy, 278-2840

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

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST FELLOWSHIP

Call the Anchorage Daily News Newstime (277-1500) and enter 5400 for topics and speakers.

3201 Turnagain Street, 248-3737
Informative message: 248-0715
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 services. If you are interested in helping with the luncheons, volunteering 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 information 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 and 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.

Bruiin Brotherhood of Alaska
Levi/Leather/Bear 1441 East 12 #99501. Contact Dan at 258-2629 or 276-6947. Meets 3rd Sat at 7 pm.

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 information, call 274-9226.

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

Fairbanks Dance Club
the Palace Saloon in Alaska Land 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, but at other times.) The DJ will be spinning Country, Disco, Top 40 and Oldies for your dancing pleasures.
Info: Phil 451-6501.

Fairbanks Gay Youth 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 212 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 388-0871. 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.

Gay Lesbian Book Club
At Barnes & Noble on 3rd Wed, from 7 to 9 p.m. 200 East Northern Lights Blvd. Kim Meck, Community Relations Coordinator for B & N and Howard Bess, local author of Pastor, I am Gay, co-host this discussion group.

Identity, Inc. Anchorage
founded to improve self and community awareness, understanding, and acceptance of the expression of individual sexual identities, in order to promote positive attitudes and healthful ways of living for all people within the State of Alaska. Identity builds bridges between different segments of the Lesbian and Gay communities as well as bridges between the Gay/Lesbian and non-Gay/non-Lesbian communities. 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 Calendar 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 present wonderful entertainment, and donate money to needy organizations for them to carry out their important goals. See Calendar for this month’s planned activities, or contact Empress Salmon Ella at page 275-0046. Write P.O. Box 104023, Anchorage 99510-4023.

I.M.R.U. 2
Anchorage gay youth group meets Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. at 4A, 1057 West Fireweed Lane, Suite 102. 566-IMRU.

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

Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church (MCC)
Anchorage holds Sunday services at 11:00am and Wednesday at 7:00p.m. at 4th and Barrow. 258-5226 Church is open Monday through Thursday 10:30am-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, 6:00p.m. at the Raven; campsouts & weekend trips, too. Write T.L.F.M.C., P.O. Box 202054, Anchorage, AK 99520-2054.

Mt. McKinley (non-asent) 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 Lanes, 561-8744 (Bob).

Over 50’s
a Lesbian book and support group which meets 2nd and 4th Mondays 7 to 9 p.m. Videos and books will be a part of this positive energy discussion group. For location, call Rose Beth (387-6779) or Lorraine (276-3837).

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG)
of Fairbanks meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month at 5:30pm at the Unitarian Fellowship Building at 4148 Pike’s Landing Road Fairbanks. Contact Nancy at 458PFLAG for information.
continued...

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 907-463-4203.

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG) of Southcentral holds meetings on the 2nd Wednesday of every month at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. For information call Sylvia at 562-4992 or Fred at 562-7161.

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

Q*K Outdoors, Fairbanks an offshoot of Q*Klatch and a member of IGLOO (International Gay Lesbian Outdoor Organization), is an informal group of GLBs interested in enjoying the Great OUTdoors. Last summer, we canoed down the Tanana River to Nenana, camped out at Tangle Lakes (just south of the Alaska Range), went halibut fishing in Valdez, did some day hikes and played at picnics. For more info, call Eric at 455-4051 or e-mail to <sebw@aurora.alaska.edu> or Kathy at 455-6358 or <chlakdki@northstar.ki12.ak.us>.

Queer Round Table (QRT) Call to list your club’s events and hear about other club events. Barb (E) 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. 907-463-5665, 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 837-2011 for information or if you wish to perform.

Anchorage Gay & Lesbian HelpLine 258-4777 A community service of Identity, Inc.

Cyberlust

AGLA: AK Gay & Lesbian Assoc. <flsbl@aurora.alaska.edu>
Binkley, Andy: email ATTN: Andy at <ias@polarnet.com>
Burleson, Laura: Gay Rights activist, Chair of Equal of Fairbanks, and in the Alaska Gay and Lesbian Association:
Carter, Dan: Gay activist, Dandelion, Equal: <alaskadann@aol.com>
Childs, Lucian: graphic artist <lucian@alaskagay.org>
<http://www.alaskagay.org/gfx/>
Covone, Michael R., AIDS activist & social worker: mrc@alaska.net
Craclin, Jean: market research, Pride Conference: <jocrclin@cracalin.alaska.net>
Fairbanks Gay & Lesbian Community page: <http://www.mosquitonet.com/~pacman>
Fauth, Terry: email <albears@mosquitonet.com>
Freedman, Ken: Gay/Lesbian activist, <kenn@sbcglobal.net>
Gay & Lesbian National Hotline: http://www.cglh.org
GLAAD: Gay and the media <http://www.glaad.org>
Hein’s Ultimate Gay List: A launching pad to gay web sites <www.xs4all.nl/~hein/heindoc/gayhtml1.html>
Hillman, Fred: <asfjfh@uaa.alaska.edu>
HRC: Email your congressman <http://www.hrcusa.org>
I A - Interior AIDS Assoc. Fairbanks <iaa@polarnet.com>
Identity: <http://www.ptialaska.net/~seagla/identity.htm>
Into The Woods Bookshop: Connie, Fairbanks, AK, <woods@polarnet.com>
Kohout, Jen: <jenkout@aol.com>
Last Frontier Men’s Clubs: LMK club listing <FMC@Micronet.net>
Lavender Youth Recreation and Information Center: <lyric.talkline.info@gig.net>
Olson, Chris: <CMOFridal@aol.com>
Out North: <coutnorth@artswire.org>
Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays: Bob Banaszak <plagnarl@aol.com>
Phoenix gay community <http://www.comcoun.com>
Pinney, Peter: UAF instructor and owner of Alta’s B & B; <flippp@aurora.alaska.edu>
Rachal, Tom: <TomAndAli@alaska.net>
SEAGLA Web page: <http://www.mosquitonet.com/~seagla>
ScotsGay Magazine: Gay Scotland <http://www.scotsgay.co.uk>
Seversen, Kim: Entertainment editor Anchorage Daily News, board of Nat’l LesBi & Gay Journalists Assn: <kserversen@pop.com>
Thorsley, Rand: Capri Cinema: <filmgallery@aol.com>
Triangle Tours, Lesbian/Gay travel services: <triangle@simcon.com>
Walton, Eric: Q*Klatch, Q*K Outdoors, PFLAG, EQUAL etc.: <sebw@aurora.alaska.edu>
Wave, The: Lesbian/Gay bar & coffee house: <wave@alaska.net>
Whitmore, Rob: Indigo Graphics <indigo@aol.com>
Wockner, Rex: San Diego-based journalist, LesBiGay info <rwockner@netcom.com>
Youth site: <http://ourworld.compuserve.com/homepages/B_Hartman3>
Calendar

December

Wednesday, 18:
A Barnes and Noble Book Club 7 - 8 pm. 3rd Wed.
A Identity Board Meeting, 7-9 pm at AUUF

Monday, 23:
J HIV Awareness Task Force 5:30 at the Public Health Clinic

Tuesday, 24:
A Over 50's 7-9 pm at the Wave, 2nd and 4th Tuesday

Friday, 27:
A Identity Potluck held at AUUF at 6:30 pm. Christmas carols and horse drawn wagon; dress warmly and bring blankets. 4th Fri.

Monday, 30:
J Monday Night Football 463-4998

Tuesday, 31:
A New Year’s Eve dance at the Sheraton Kuskokwim Room 566-3783
A The WAVE New Year’s Eve Party
A Champagne New Year’s Eve Celebration at the Capri. (See ad.)
J New Year’s Eve Dance at VFW Hall, 780-6651 S10

Legend
A Anchorage
F Fairbanks
J Juneau
V Mat-Su Valley

January

Thursday, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7:
A Under 30 at Out North 7 pm 279-8200

Saturday, 4:
A Two-step for women at the Pioneer School House 7:30 pm, 1st Sat

Wednesday, 8:
A PFLAG at AUUF from 7-9 pm, 2nd Wed

Thursday, 9:
A Women’s Forum from 7-8 pm at the Sociatic Tide upstairs at the WAVE.

Sunday, 12:
A Vegan Potluck at 5pm, call Kate at 338-2380

Wednesday, 15:
A Barnes & Noble Book Club from 7-8 pm, 3rd Wed.

Sunday, 19:
A GLSTN at 1 pm at AUUF, 3rd Sun.

Saturday, 25:
A Women’s Coffeehouse at Out North 337-2011 4th Sat.

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

College student or ‘90s grad?

Editors Kim Howard and Annie Stevens are in search of first-person true stories for a proposed anthology describing undergraduate experiences coming out, being out and staying closeted on college campuses.

For guidelines, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to: P. O. Box 5345, Takoma Park, MD 20913 or e-mail us at: as154@umail.umd.edu

The submission deadline is March 31, 1997. Confidentiality and discretion assured, if that is a concern.
On-Going Calendar Items

SUNDAYS
A Metropolitan Community Church Services, 11am at 4th and Barrow
A Northern Exposure Bowling League, 4pm, Park Lanes, Dan or Bob 561-8744.
A Gay, Joyous & Free, 7pm, AA Meeting, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
J Library and Coffe House, fourth Sunday of the month, 1-3:00 pm Mendenhall Valley
A Feminist Sing Along/Potluck at 6:30 pm 333-0871, 1741 Westview Circle

MONDAYS
A Gay Bar, Anchorage, 7 - 8:30pm, Second Monday, 845 K St., 276-9001.
A Gay, Joyous & Free, 7pm, AA Meeting, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
A Over 50's. Lesbian book club 2nd & 4th from 7-9 pm See Club Notes.
J Monday Night Football call 463-4998

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 International Women's Peace Choir from 5:30-7:30 at Church of Religious Science, 7th and A call 278-1182.

WEDNESDAYS
A Free HIV TEST at 4A's, 2pm - 4pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, Lori 263-2050.
A IMRU2 5:30-7:30 pm at 4A’s 1057 W Fireweed #102. 566-4678 (566-IMRU)
J Social at Summit Lounge, after work.
J “Women's Prerogative,” KTOO-FM, 9pm-10pm.
A La Cage aux Wave (drag show), 10pm, The Wave, $3 cover.
A Dyke Night at Sears Carrs 7pm to 9pm.
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 Gay, Joyous & Free, 7pm, AA Meeting, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
A Country Dancing at the Wave, 8pm, taught by Patty, 561-9288.
A Women's Forum 7 - 9 p.m. at the Wave's Sociatic Tide. For info: 338-9184.

FRIDAYS
A Lunch, 4A's, 12noon-1pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, Lori 263-2050. Everyone invited - HIV, volunteers and friends.
A Midnight Sons, Gay Men's AA Meeting, 7:30pm-9pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
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). 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).
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.
O’BRADY’S

BURGERS AND BREW

CELEBRATING TEN YEARS OF FINE DINING

O’Brady’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.