Advertisers
Ah, Rose Marie B&B .................................. 28
Alta’s Bed and Breakfast ........................... 28
Alaskan AIDS Assist. Assn. .......................... 24
Anchorage Press ..................................... 20
Apollo Travel Service ............................... 6
Bela Bodnar ........................................... 34
Breast Cancer Detection ............................ 14
Classified Ad ......................................... 9
ComputerLand Alaska .............................. 8
Courtney’s ............................................ 3
Damron .................................................. 17
Design / Craft ....................................... 18
Elizabeth McNeill, PhD .............................. 27
Fotos by Frank ....................................... 22
Freedman, Ken ....................................... 4
Frigid North .......................................... 3
Gallery Bed & Breakfast ............................. 7
Gabriel Salon ......................................... 7
Hill Clinic .............................................. 37
Hoelting, Jill .......................................... 19
Identity Helpline .................................... 9
Island Watch B & B ................................. 29
Kodiak Kafe .......................................... 23
Mendel & Associates ................................. 33
National Gay & Lesbian Helpline ................. 22
Oldtime Music Co. .................................. 35
Perennial Plants ..................................... 36
Personal Service Realty ............................ 7
Potluck .................................................. 43
Professional Infusion ............................... 32
Puffin Family Charters ............................. 11
Rhodes, Phyllis ...................................... 29
Sauerdough Lodging .............................. 36
Short, Sylvia L ........................................ 7
Skyline B&B .......................................... 34
S.T.A.R. ............................................... 25
TimeFrame ............................................ 12
Unitarian Fellowship .............................. 6
Wave, The ............................................. 26

Views
Andrew Collins ....................................... 31
Barbara Soule ........................................ 10
Calendar, current and on-going .................. 42, 43
Club notes ............................................ 40, 41
Comics ................................................. 18, 27, 35, 40
Cyberlust ............................................ 42
Cypherdude .......................................... 27
David Bianco ......................................... 30
Directory ............................................. 38, 39, 40
Editorial ............................................... 2
Fairbanks News ....................................... 28
GLSEN Anchorage ................................... 35
Jen Kohout ........................................... 20
Kathleen Madden ..................................... 12
Karen Carlisle ........................................ 29
Karen Schwartz ..................................... 36
Ken Lovering ......................................... 16
Lee Lynch ............................................. 21
Letters to the Editor ................................ 2
Masthead ............................................. 1
Michael A. Haase .................................... 8
Michael Thomas Ford ............................. 22
Paula Martinec ...................................... 15
PFLAG Anchorage ................................... 3
Romeo San Vicente .................................. 19
Simon LeVay .......................................... 5
Volunteer Spotlight ............................... 7
"Where in the World" ............................. 6

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
Chairs: Shirley Randal and Kurt Parish; Treasurer: Mikel R. Haase; Secretary: Joyce Bauer; Members: Candy Bonham, Tim Doehler, Terry Gordon, Greg Kramer, Amy O'Mara, Davey Riddlesprigger.


Contributors:

Cover: Photo by Heidi Clifford, produced by Karen Konopacki.

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 750 words or less. Please submit on 3.5 (IBM compatible or MAC HD). 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 any article submitted.

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

Advertising
Rates are displayed 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.

If you are planning to mail an insert with the NorthView, you MUST notify Shirley Randal at 338-3708 by the 5th of the month. Otherwise, including your insert with the current issue CANNOT be guaranteed.
Editorial

The Randal Twist

Last week I was organizing my calendar for the month of May. As I was writing down the various non-profit activities I am involved in, I began to think about the whole issue of volunteerism. Volunteers are the heart of non-profit organizations. They are the vital, breathing, selfless people who make it possible for non-profits to function.

Identity is an organization that relies completely on the hard work and continuous support of volunteers. Our Board of Directors is made up of volunteers. Volunteers do all of the things that need to be done to make this a well-oiled organization.

But volunteers burn out. One of our most dedicated volunteers resigned her position on the board last month after eight years. She was not only a board member, she was also involved in many aspects of helping Identity to grow and develop into a caring, well-known organization for the gay and lesbian community. At the same time, this particular person was also volunteering for other organizations. My hat is off to her for devoting so much of her life to making the gay and lesbian community more viable. She has assured us that if we need her help on individual projects, she will be happy to give it, but she is tired.

In March another of our dedicated volunteers had to cut way back on the amount of time and effort he could contribute to Identity. Thankfully, he is still involved with helping us put the NorthView to bed each month.

It is heartening to think of how very many people have contributed time and effort to building a safe and visible gay and lesbian community. Some have worked tirelessly for many years, others have contributed smaller amounts of time. Every minute of every hour that is devoted to helping an organization grow and develop is a gift — golden.

Identity’s accomplishments are remarkable, especially in light of the fact that we have no paid staff. What we do have is a steady staff of volunteers who work each month on the NorthView. We also have a group of people who work on the Helpline. Then there are the people who choose to work on a specific project — like Pride on the Parkstrip in June or the Coming Out Day Dance or the Fourth Friday Potlucks.

We salute all of the volunteers past and present who have made such important contributions. All of us owe a debt of gratitude to the people whose gifts of time and energy make Identity such a worthwhile organization.

Now here is the Randal Twist — the pitch which you knew was coming: Before anyone else burns out from doing too much, why don’t you lend a hand? We don’t need a lot of your time but we do need YOU. No organization can continue to function without a strong volunteer base. We need fresh energy and fresh ideas.

Call us. My phone number is 338-3708; Candy Bonham, Helpline Coordinator 337-2011; Greg Kramer, Potluck Programs 274-4734. We promise to help get you involved in something you’ll enjoy doing. The best way to say “thank you” to the people who have done so much for our community is to bolster their effort by pitching in and doing your share.

Thanks for listening. We look forward to hearing from you.

Letters to the Editor

Jay and Gene,
Thank you for the joy that YOU bring to the hearts of many,
Thank you for holding the candle symbolizing faith, hope, charity and love,
Thank you for your tenaciousness, your enthusiasm and your wisdom,
Thank you for sharing your commitment with the world,
Thank you to your parents for teaching you to live in your truth,
Thank you for teaching US to live in ours.
Your Loving Family,
(Sent Anonymously)

Gay and Lesbian
National Hotline

1(888) THE GLNH (843-4564) Toll-Free
Free peer-counseling, information and referrals
http://www.glnh.org/
Open Mon-Fri 6-11p.m. & Sat noon - 5p.m. ET

Helpline Training
Sunday, May 17
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Identity Office
Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
3201 Turnagain Street, Anchorage
Telephone Candy at 337-2011
PFLAG sponsors photo exhibit

by Fred Hillman

LOVE MAKES A FAMILY is an outstanding photo-text exhibit of photographs of gay and lesbian families that has been shown in many communities in recent years. It was recently exhibited in Juneau, sponsored by SEAGLA and many others. Southcentral Alaska will be able to see this powerful exhibit during the entire month of June at Side Street Espresso in downtown Anchorage.

The exhibit shows twenty diverse families with gay and lesbian mothers and fathers and their children. Each photograph is accompanied by text taken from interviews with each family member. Together they show in a positive way the strength, vitality and mutual love in these families.

The photo-text exhibit has received national acclaim in its many showings across the country, as it invites people of all ages to celebrate diversity, and it has been used in many elementary classrooms and in university courses. Needless to say, the exhibit has also been controversial in other communities, as there are those people, most of whom profess religious beliefs, who oppose the idea of gays and lesbians forming families, with or without children, either with their own children or by adoption.

The exhibit makes a moving, potent statement in support of gay and lesbian families. In light of the current controversy over the proposed amendment to the state constitution banning gay marriage, the exhibit is timely.

The board of directors of the Anchorage chapter of Parents, Families, and Friends of Lesbians and Gays has agreed to be the chief sponsor of the exhibit and thinks that we are fortunate to have this display during June, which is Gay Pride Month. The local chapter of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN Alaska) and the Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship have also agreed to be co-sponsors.

“We have always been the cultural parents of an ungrateful heterosexual society. We give them the clothes they wear, the homes they live in, the music they listen to and the movies and plays they go to. And [it] comes right back in our face. We have the most ungrateful children.”

— Playwright/actor Harvey Fierstein to Denver’s Out Front, March 25.

“We are 15 years into the AIDS epidemic, and I have been asked my status by prospective partners only twice. Since testing positive, I have made a point of disclosing my status to any potential partner; each one told me that I was the first person to do so. Each believed that if he practiced safe sex, there would be no need to know. I practiced safe sex. There is no such thing as safe sex.”

— From a commentary by Alan J. Mayer in the November 15 New York Times.
Holocaust talk reveals little-known gay deaths

by Terry Wilson

More than 300 Chicagoans gathered to hear historian and author George Mosse discuss gays, prejudices and the Holocaust to learn about a seldom-addressed part of history. “Very few people know about that subject,” said Mosse, professor emeritus at the University of Wisconsin. “It was passed over in silence for years and years and years. Not even most gays know.”

Nonetheless, one of the more common modern symbols of a person’s gay orientation is a pink triangle. That is the symbol Nazis ordered homosexuals and those who were considered sexual deviants to wear in some concentration camps during the Holocaust.

The educational fundraiser, sponsored by the Chicago Gay and Lesbian Project of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum, was held at the Harold Washington Library.

No one knows how many gays were killed in Nazi concentration camps, said Debbie Eliason, director of special campaigns at the Washington, DC, museum. “We estimate that approximately 100,000 gays were persecuted by the Nazis,” she said. “We think 10,000 to 15,000 actually died in concentration camps.”

Interestingly, Eliason said, German lesbians were not persecuted because they could bear children. The deaths of gay men killed by the Nazis were far fewer compared to the six million Jews who met their deaths in concentration camps, Mosse said. The information, he continued, is still important.

“If one looks at who the Nazis persecuted, an important pattern emerges,” Mosse said. “Those who refused to work, vagrants, the permanently dissatisfied, beggars, the mentally impaired, the handicapped and homosexuals. What do all of these have in common? They represented the exact opposite of the ideals society was supposed to stand for: the work ethic, control over one’s passions and especially one’s sexuality.”

Many German gays were able to escape the more severe persecutions by pretending to be straight. Those who could not were viewed as threats to society and were subjected to the same punishments as other undesirables, he said. “Perhaps our society always needs an enemy for its own self-affirmation,” Mosse said. “Racism made prejudice deadly, but it could not have worked without exploiting the trends and fears of respectable society.”

Mosse credited the Holocaust Museum with informing great numbers of people about the evils of racism. “And for gays it is an important institution,” he said. “For the first time, gays are represented not in a museum made by gays for gays, but in a mainstream museum as part of a historic event.”

March 20, 1998, Chicago Tribune, 435 N. Michigan Avenue, Chicago, IL, 60611; Fax 312-222-2598 or e-mail <tribletter@aol.com>.

Hormel’s son speaks of family values

In a Pacific News Service item which appeared in the April 11 Des Moines Register, John C. Hormel, Jr., son of openly gay philanthropist and ambassadorial candidate James Hormel, writes of the integrity and courage of his dad. “When I was 11 years old, my father told me that he was gay. I didn’t find this an easy bit of information to digest, but I heard my father’s great concern for how this disclosure would affect his son,” begins Hormel, Jr. “Now President Clinton has nominated my father to be U.S. Ambassador to Luxembourg. This has made us, as a family, quite proud.”

He explains how a handful of senators are blocking the confirmation because, they say, of a “gay agenda” Hormel may “promote.” “My father has dedicated a majority of his work throughout his life to philanthropy and diplomacy,” Hormel, Jr. writes. “His qualifications as a diplomat have never been disputed. For these reasons, I have concluded that those senators blocking his nomination do so as a simple matter of discrimination.”

He finishes, adding, “My father’s agenda for our family is to encourage closeness and integrity. His agenda as ambassador to Luxembourg is to represent our country. It just so happens that he is gay. The Senate deserves the opportunity to act on the American agenda, to deliberate and vote on my father’s nomination.”

Please commend the Pacific News Service and the Des Moines Register for this heartfelt and clear commentary.

Contact Pacific News Service, c/o the Des Moines Register, P. O. Box 957, Des Moines, IA 50304, fax 515.286.2511, E-mail <letters@newsdmreg.com>.

GLAAD (Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation) is a national organization that promotes fair, accurate and inclusive representation as a means of challenging discrimination based on sexual orientation or identity.

566-1708

Individuals and Couples with special insight into issues for Gays♥ Lesbians ♥ Bisexuals ♥ Transgender People ♥ HIV/AIDS

4050 Lake Otis Parkway, Ste. 205
Anchorage, AK 99508-5224
Iken@servcom.com; fax: 249-2411
URL: www.servcom.com/counseling
“Zeus came as an eagle to god-like Ganymede, as a swan came he to the fair-headed mother of Helen. So there is no comparison between the two things; one person likes one, another likes the other; I like both.”

These lines of poetry from the days of imperial Rome suggest that there’s nothing new about bisexuality, or the need for bisexuals to assert their own identity. Bisexual men and women enjoy a broader sexual experience than most people, but they also face unique problems of identity and acceptance.

Negative attitudes towards bisexual people — sometimes called “biphobia” — have several roots. One common perception, expressed particularly by gay men, is that bisexuals don’t exist: that the label “bisexual” is simply a euphemism employed by gay people who don’t want to fully acknowledge their homosexuality.

This perception is understandable enough, for many gay men do go through a phase of calling themselves bisexual. In a 1994 Advocate survey, 40 percent of men who identified as gay said that they described themselves as bisexual at a younger age. Since true male bisexuality is not very common, the majority of men who call themselves bisexual are probably in the gay coming-out process. Still, some men are true lifelong bisexuals. Among women, bisexuality is decidedly more common than among men, although the exact numbers vary greatly depending on the kind of definition that is used.

Another complaint made against bisexuals by gay men is that they are promiscuous, have more than one partner at a time, or don’t engage in long-term relationships. Of course, gay men themselves are not famous for their monogamous ways, so this is a case of the french fries calling the burger greasy.

More puzzling are the negative attitudes towards bisexuals expressed by heterosexual people. Michele Eliason of the University of Iowa College of Nursing recently conducted a survey of attitudes towards bisexuality among 229 heterosexual college students. Most of the students said they had no bisexual friends or acquaintances and knew little about bisexuality, yet 61 percent of the students stated that they found bisexual men unacceptable, and 50 percent found bisexual women unacceptable. In contrast, only about 40 percent of the students found gays or lesbians unacceptable. Bisexuality clearly aroused stronger antipathy than homosexuality, especially among heterosexual men.

Although many of the reasons for biphobia are similar to the reasons for homophobia, Eliason found some differences. Bisexuals are viewed as even more preoccupied with sex than gay men (as if that were possible!). Furthermore, there is much less willingness to believe that bisexuals are “born that way,” compared with lesbians or gay men. This could well be a significant factor in the prevalence of biphobia. I say this because, in the case of homosexuality, the belief in the “born that way” theory is strongly correlated with positive attitudes towards gay people, and two studies have shown that providing people with evidence supportive of the “born that way” theory makes them more gay-friendly.

The notion that bisexuality is more environmental in origin is widespread, even among academics. I was surprised, a couple of years ago, when a well-known queer theorist said to me “How can sexual orientation be genetic — what about bisexuals?” According to that point of view, we could believe that a cat’s fur color is genetic as long as there are only black cats and white cats, but as soon as we find out that there are grey cats the genetic theory of fur color goes out of the window. In reality, of course, genes can set up a broad continuum of fur color, sexuality, and most other traits.

Having said that, I do confess that biologically oriented scientists such as myself have over-simplified the spectrum of sexual orientation, breaking the population down into “gay” and “straight” where more subtle gradations are called for. Simplification is often necessary to make progress, but when simplification is perceived as oversimplification, that’s a signal that it’s time to go to the next level of complexity. In the case of sexual orientation, that means focusing specifically on the development of a bisexual identity.

The scientific questions about bisexuality are paralleled by political questions. Should bisexual men and women emphasize their differences from either gay or straight people, and seek to develop their own bisexual identity and culture, or should they see themselves as the go-betweens, the natural bridge-builders between the ever-warring gay and straight worlds? These questions are for bisexuals themselves to decide. Perhaps they need to complete the former task before they tackle the latter.

Simon LeVay, Ph.D., is well-known for his research on the “gay brain.” He is the author of The Sexual Brain, City of Friends (with Elisabeth Nonas), and Queer Science (MIT Press, 1996), and the biomedical thriller Albrick’s Gold (Richard Kasak books, 1997). He can be reached at SLeVay@aol.com. For more Queer Science, visit <http://www.gay.net>.
Where in the World?

Like to dress up?
For those of you who like to dress up in costumes, there is a circuit designed just for you. It began in February 1998 with Mardi Gras in New Orleans and will repeat on February 12 thru 17, 1999. Coming up is Southern Decadence on September 3 thru 6, 1998 and the other big dress up bash in New Orleans on Halloween from October 30 thru November 1, 1998.

David’s trips and tours
“Luxury Travel in Style,” May 2 thru 17, 1998, tours Hungary, Austria, and the Czech Republic with 4 nights in Budapest, 4 nights in Vienna, 2 nights in Czech Spa City, and 4 nights in Prague.

“South Africa for the Luxurious Fantasy Journey” includes 6 nights in Cape Town, 1 night in Johannesburg, 3 nights in Conservation Corp’s Luxurious private game reserve, and 3 nights in the palace of the Lost City. Finally, “Summer in South Africa” tours are planned for Thanksgiving (November 21 thru December 6) and New Year’s (December 26 thru January 10).

Gay Games!!
There are still some great packages for the Gay Games in Amsterdam August 1 thru 9. Why not be there in the midst of it all?

Beachfest ’98
Daytona Beach is again sponsoring “Beach Fest” which runs from August 21 thru 23. Party with all the gang at “The World’s Most Famous Beach” Activities include sunbathing, volleyball, sand sculptures, and more fun than you can shake a stick at. I have had some really fun times in Daytona and recommend it for the fun, as well as its being just over an hour away from all the action of Walt Disney World.

I do, do you?
Thinking about tying the knot, or re-tying it? Aloha Weddings offers “Vows of Commitment” on the beautiful island of Kauai. A licensed minister will perform your ceremony amid the splendor of this Hawaiian island. These ceremonies can include still or video photography from $100 to $300. The Bali Hai package includes personalized vows of commitment, ceremony consultation, choice of several exotic locations, exchange of shell leis, souvenir commitment certificate, minister, and on-site coordinator. Price is $275.

Ladies, why not Olivia?
Olivia’s 10-day Windstar cruise from February 21 through March 3, is a 5-star voyage for the ladies. Visit Singapore, Pulau Batam, Tanjong Puanang, Thousand Islands, Semarang, Surabay, Gili Islands, and Bali Indonesia. Experience the special Olivia cruise for just $4,595. A $250 deposit will hold your berth. Price includes cabin all meals, and entertainment on the ship, plus Olivia staff assistance throughout the tour. Air is not included but American Airlines is offering special discounts off the lowest published fares.

Olivia is also offering a Thanksgiving cruise in the Caribbean, November 22 thru 29. Visit Montego Bay, Jamaica, Cartagena, Columbia, the Panama Canal, San Blas Islands, Puerto Limon, and Costa Rica. Prices start at only $895 for inside cabins, so why not hold space with your $25 deposit.

Bob De Loach, President of Apollo Travel, BG Tax and Accounting, The Electric Doctor, Apollo Real Estate, and Lock Doc, is an insurance broker and still finds time to write novels for adults, take part in community theater, write this column, and be active in the community.
Volunteer Spotlight

Amy O'Mara

by Al Kaneta

A very shy, unassuming woman, our Volunteer of the Month is Amy O'Mara. But, shy works for her, as she's definitely a work-a-holic and very much the perfectionist.

Born some 30-odd years ago in the lovely state of Colorado, she fled the city and family and arrived in Anchorage in 1986... and has called this city home ever since! After six and a half years of being a perpetual UAA student, majoring in theatre, but nearly as close to degrees in anthropology and philosophy, she has yet to receive a degree, but is considered the longest standing senior the school ever had. She's currently employed by the Federal Aviation Administration.

Hobbies are few, many reading and writing — lots of reading! — one could almost call her a "Book Dork", which in her case, is a compliment! But these talents help her be a valuable addition to the Editorial Staff for NorthView, which she's helped with for the past two years.

Amy also volunteers for Anchorage's Gay and Lesbian HelpLine. She's the one who each week calls those workers to remind them of their on-call assignments.

Back around 1992, Amy was a second Co-Chairperson of the then Gay & Lesbian Student Association at UAA, which we now know as The Family.

To know Amy is to love her. She's got a keen mind and a very sharp tongue... so watch out for her quips. But they don't hurt... just adds to an interesting conversation for the moment! Introduce yourself... you'll be glad to meet our May volunteer, Amy!

The recipe for perpetual ignorance is: be satisfied with your opinions and content with your knowledge.
— Elbert Hubbard

Sylvia L. Short
attorney and counselor at law

705 West 47th Avenue
Anchorage, Alaska 99503
Telephone (907) 562-4992

Gallery Bed & Breakfast
A cozy cottage 2 blocks from downtown Anchorage & the Park Strip
Leslie Evans
1229 G Street, Anchorage, Alaska 99501
274-2567
Your #1 Place to stay year round.

There's no place like home...
Get into The Zone...
There is no place like home.
Really!

Call Rona.
Personal Service Realty, Inc.
279-8877
rona@alaska.net

Gabriel
272-9045

Hairstylist
Cosmetologist
Licensed Masseur

1310 East 8th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Wouldn’t we all love to retire Young?

by Michael A. Haase

If I were Congressman Don Young, I’d be feeling pretty good about myself right about now. Our “Teflon Representative” has somehow managed to ignore all criticism and be re-elected time after time. Don Young has one of the worst attendance records in Congress, a reputation for being hostile to committee witnesses and a voting record that makes it clear that he represents big business instead of Alaska. Nonetheless, he has the power of incumbency in his favor and he just won’t go away.

We have a real chance to change that this year. Longtime Alaska State Senator Jim Duncan is running against Don Young, and already the race has political analysts interested. Jim Duncan is a popular state legislator with a reputation for listening to all sides of an argument before making a decision on important issues. In addition, Duncan is running a well-financed campaign. Many challengers have lost to Don Young for one simple reason: They couldn’t match what Young has been able to bring in from large outside contributors.

A Duncan victory would be wonderful news for gay rights. The state senator has a long history of defending equal rights in the Legislature. Most recently, Duncan went beyond just voting against SJR-42, the bill to amend the Alaska Constitution to make marriage only constitutional between one man and one woman. He spoke passionately against it. Dan Carter, in a campaign letter on behalf of the senator, explained how “Jim Duncan spoke about his eight children and how he hoped they would all know the contentment of a lifelong loving relationship. He recognizes that families in Alaska come in many sizes and configurations. He pointed out that the state’s interest is to encourage family stability, not to tell Alaskans — who prize their independence highly — how to live their lives.”

Don Young, on the other hand, has never been our friend. The Human Rights Campaign (a national gay rights organization) rates the U.S. Congress, Senate and President based on how they vote on issues concerning our community. Don Young received a pitiful 20% rating for the 102nd Congress and a flat zero rating during the past two sessions, the 103rd and 104th. His gay rights record, coupled with his contemptuous attitude toward the representative system in general, make it clear that now is a great time to retire the old curmudgeon. Electing Jim Duncan in his place would send a strong message that Alaska wants a concerned, qualified and fair-minded representative in Washington.

Get involved! I will be hosting a campaign party in my home on behalf of Jim Duncan on Thursday, May 28 at 6:00 p.m. Pizza and other refreshments will be served, and there will be lots of information available on the senator’s positions, including a short video. If you would like to attend, please call me at 907-258-3524 or e-mail me at <michaelh@servcom.com> and I’ll be glad to provide you with any information or directions you need. I hope to see you there!

Michael Haase is concerned with all issues relating to equal rights. He lives with his partner Michael R. Kligel in Anchorage.
GLAAD and GLSEN praise major motion picture

LOS ANGELES -- The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) and the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) today praised the new film *The Object of My Affection*, stating the movie brought audiences an important messages about friendship, family and gay teachers.

The Twentieth Century Fox film explores the friendship between Nina Borowski (Jennifer Aniston), a New York social worker, and George Hansen (Paul Rudd), a grade-school teacher. When George is dumped by his boyfriend, he reluctantly moves in with Nina, a woman he has only recently met. When Nina discovers she is pregnant she asks George to raise the child with her, instead of with Vince (John Pankow), her long time boyfriend and father of her baby. Many of the scenes in film depict George hard at work as a devoted and respected teacher. The film also stars Alan Alda, Tim Daly and Nigel Hawthorne.

"As a parent, *Object of My Affection* touches on something very close to my own heart," said Joan M. Garry, GLAAD Executive Director. "This film demonstrates to the movie-going public that families are made up of all kinds of people who love and respect one another, including gay people."

"Until this film lesbian and gay teachers, especially first-grade teachers, have been portrayed negatively or hardly at all," said Kevin Jennings, GLSEN's Executive Director. "The lesson with *Object of My Affection* seems to be that a mainstream Hollywood movie can treat lesbian and gay teachers as complex and interesting characters. It makes its mark by being sensitive and honest, and I hope other films will follow *Object of My Affection*'s lead."

"I'm thrilled to see this touching story make it to the big screen in such a stylish and accurate manner," said Chastity Bono, GLAAD Entertainment Media Director. *Object of My Affection* is devoid of the stereotypes that often plague screen adaptations of lesbian and gay lives. This film will most certainly go down in history as a landmark portrayal of a gay man."

GLAAD is the nation's lesbian and gay media advocacy organization. GLAAD promotes fair, accurate and inclusive representation of individuals and events in the media as a means of combating homophobia and all forms of discrimination based on sexual orientation or identity.

With over 60 chapters, a membership of 5,000 teachers, parents, and concerned citizens, GLSEN is the only national organization working to ensure that schools are places where all people are valued and respected, regardless of sexual orientation.

Religious institutions reevaluate role of gay people

Since Nebraskan United Methodist pastor Jimmy Creech was acquitted by a jury of religious peers on charges that he violated church law by performing a same-sex union ceremony, several other gay-related issues have developed in mainstream religions around the country.

In New Jersey, the Episcopal Diocese of Newark announced March 13 that among the five final candidates to succeed their former bishop is openly gay Rev. Gene Robinson. If elected in June, Robinson would be the only openly gay bishop running an Episcopal diocese in the United States.

In Florida, Dr. Ray Whetstone, an openly gay elder of the Second Presbyterian Church of Fort Lauderdale, is fighting for his position after a congregant contested Whetstone’s standing based on rules set forth by the national General Assembly. The case will go before the denomination’s high court in August.

"This trend is an indication that it is time for people of faith to come out of the closet in support of gay rights — and that's what is happening," said Equal Partners in Faith Advisory Committee member Laura Montgomery Rutt. "The religious right has tried to frame the debate as Christians versus non-Christians, but now we are showing that, because of our faith, many Christians and people of faith support equal rights and privileges for everyone regardless of sexual orientation."

For more information contact Laura Montgomery Rutt, Advisory Committee Equal Partners in Faith, at (202) 296-4672.

---

**Anchorage Gay & Lesbian Helpline**

258-4777 or

1(888) 901-9876 AK only

A community service of Identity, Inc.

PO Box 200070, Anchorage AK 99520
El Niño may be La Niña in disguise. Sunshine, buckets of snow and pouring rain - it's like a wannabe that can't make up his or her mind.

After a rain comes the rainbow. The rainbow is the adopted symbol of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, cross dressed, transendered nation and their straight allies that is a point of personal pride. The colors of the rainbow represent all the positive diversity of which we are capable in being human.

For me, the rainbow has a number of meanings which involve my biological and “chosen” families. I didn’t “come out” until I was thirty-six, but by that time I’d married and had a family - three daughters and a son. My children are all adults now - none of them are gay. The youngest daughter, Laura, son-in-law and family live in Florida. The colors of the rainbow are a bridge between myself and my youngest granddaughter.

Cassandra was three years old the last time I actually saw her in person. The first thing to catch Cassie’s eye in my house was a rainbow-beaded necklace which a dear straight friend of mine made especially for me.

At first I was reluctant to even let a three year old touch my precious gift, but Cassandra just kept coming back and staring at the necklace longingly. Finally, I put it around her neck, telling Cassie she could wear it as long as she was visiting. Cassandra wore the necklace royally and with dignity - like she had just been crowned queen. She instinctively knew the necklace was very important. Cassandra was so innocent, lovely, graceful and proud that I was astounded. My granddaughter reminded me of some important lessons.

As a lesbian, most of society thinks that I am wrong because of who I want to have sex with, or with whom I actually have sex. One of the things about following an alternative spiritual path is that one can question what others consider to be actual fact when it is only dogma.

Despite what conventional religion says about sex, sex is innocent, innocuous energy. It is how we use it that makes it positive or negative. There is a meditation that one of my spiritual advisors suggested that I attempt in order to consciously understand the innocence of sex.

The innocence of sex is something that I know as a fact, but it's something that mentally, physically and spiritually has to be experienced.

Do not expect to complete this whole process during one meditation. Begin any meditation in a comfortable position. Use deep breaths to relax.

After relaxation is achieved, focus on the genital area until sexual arousal begins, then start taking deep breaths again. With each intake, imagine or think of pulling the energy from the genitals to just below your belly button. When the energy gets there, observe how it feels for a few moments. Continue the deep breaths and “pull” the energy just above the belly button. The energy may “slide” to the left or some other position in that area. Most people's power center is near or over the pancreas. Let the energy settle where it wants to for a few moments and again observe how it feels. To continue the process, resume the deep breathing and imagine or think to “pull” the energy into your heart.

Coming to the heart in this manner was, the first time, for me a wonderful experience. I got a clear understanding of what self love really is. It is as wonderful, tender and innocent as a loved child. The rest of the meditation continues in the same manner, next drawing the energy to the throat, pausing, then pulling the energy into the third eye, a spot just below the center of your forehead. Spend time there.

Arriving at the third eye can open this center of psychic ability more fully, or it may be difficult to open this area. Do not force the process. Remember this is a process that may take several sessions.

After alignment with the third eye has been achieved, bring the energy through your brain to a point in the center of the top of your head, the crown chakra. The crown chakra is the point were cosmic divine energy enters the physical body. Leave your energy at the crown point and have your consciousness step out on its own and experience what divine energy is. Then in your meditation combine the divine energy with the energy that started in your genitals and is now at the crown point. It is an experience of unconditional love.

Traditional religions make their own rules about sex and being connected to God. The rainbow nation is striving to change those rules to include what we need, not just as sexual beings but as whole human beings. Each one of us is just as wonderful in our goodness as my beautiful darling granddaughter. More on the lessons of Cassandra, the rainbow necklace and gay pride next time ....

Identity has a Toll-Free Phone Number!

In Alaska (except Anchorage) you can call us free of charge!

The number is: 1(888) 901-9876

Let us hear from you!! Your calls are important!!
Identity can help!!
George Michael acknowledges homosexuality

LOS ANGELES (CNN) — For the first time in his two-decade career, British pop star George Michael told CNN in an exclusive interview that he is gay. “This is as good of a time as any,” he told CNN’s Jim Moret. “I want to say that I have no problem with people knowing that I’m in a relationship with a man right now. I have not been in a relationship with a woman for almost 10 years.”

Asked why he felt compelled to open up a part of his private life, Michael said, “I feel because I’ve already kind of done that — haven’t I? I’ve done that in a way I didn’t really intend to.”

The singer’s comments came after a trying week in which he was booked for investigation of misdemeanor Lewd Conduct and released on $500 bail. Michael, 34, was alone in the restroom of a Beverly Hills park Tuesday evening when an undercover officer saw him allegedly commit the act.

He would not talk about the specifics of the case. “I don’t even have a choice about commenting about the specifics, because at the moment it’s in the hands of the district attorney,” he said in his first public comments since the incident. But he added, “The truth is I put myself in an extremely stupid and vulnerable position.”

“I don’t feel any shame. I feel stupid and I feel reckless and weak for having allowed my sexuality to be exposed this way. But I don’t feel any shame whatsoever,” he said, adding that this was not the first time he had acted in a similar “reckless” fashion.

Michael, whose real name is Georgios Kyriacos Panayiopou, apologized to his fans for the alleged incident, saying he hoped they would stand by him. “I just want to let them know that I’m okay,” he said.

Michael earned stardom as one-half of the 1980s teenybopper duo Wham!, which hit it big with “Wake Me Up Before You Go-Go” and “Careless Whisper.” After the duo broke up, Michael went solo, and saw his 1987 debut album “Faith” sell more than 10 million copies. His last album, 1996’s moody “Older,” went to the top of the British charts but got a lukewarm reception in the United States.

In Friday’s interview, Michael also said he wanted fans to know that he’s always been truthful in his music. “I’ve never been reticent in terms of defining my sexuality (in my work). I write about my life,” he said. “I do want people to know that the songs that I wrote when I was with women were really about women. And the songs that I’ve written since have been fairly obvious about men.”

Territories resist British pressure on gay sex

Officials of Britain’s Caribbean Dependent Territories — Anguilla, the British Virgin Islands, the Cayman Islands, Montserrat and the Turks & Caicos Islands — are angry over the British government’s demand that they legalize homosexuality.

Britain took the stance last month due to concerns of being found in violation of its international human rights agreements. Anti-gay sentiment in the region was highlighted recently when the Cayman Islands denied docking privileges to a cruise ship carrying 900 gay men. The tourism ministry said homosexuals could not be counted on “to uphold the standards of appropriate behavior expected of visitors to the Cayman Islands.”

“We are a simple Christian society,” Anguilla head minister Hubert Hughes said in response to London’s demand. “That is the foundation of our society. People say homosexuality is sinful. We would like Britain to understand that even though we are dependent on British aid, we will not, definitely, compromise our principles when it comes to Christianity.”

Montserrat chief minister David Brandt said: “This issue runs to the core. ... This society will not stand for it. No politician could vote for such a law [allowing homosexuality]. There will be great anger in the community. ... There will be protests everywhere on this island and in other dependent territories [if Britain imposes the change from London]. I don’t know what the people will do. The only thing they could do is civil disorder.”

Copyright 1998 Cable News Network

Puffin Family Charters

FISHING
SIGHTSEEING
PACKAGES

1998 SPECIAL TOURS
Wildlife Cruise with Violinist Mari Jameson
Meditation Tours
Naturalist Tours & Hike
Full Moon Cruises
Special OLIVIA Bon Voyage Charters
(By Reservation Only)

FULL DAY, HALF DAY, CUSTOM TRIPS AVAILABLE

Call or Write
Captain Leslie Pemberton
Puffin Family Charters P.O. Box 90743 Anchorage, AK 99509
(907) 278-3346
Knowing destination key to retirement journey

by Kathleen Madden

You can “go with the flow” and “enjoy the ride,” but your dream vacation to that central Florida resort — the one where a certain mouse rules as king — just can’t come true if you never make it to Orlando. Successful journeys end at destinations.

Retirement is such a journey and, while many Americans are making the trip, few apparently know precisely where they’re headed. New statistics show greater saving and investing by more Americans, but relatively little planning to accompany it. Many workers aren’t truly preparing for retirement in terms of knowing what they’ll need to ensure a retirement that’s financially comfortable and secure.

At the same time, more information reveals that financial planning for retirement actually works. In real life, having a plan can result in more assets for the later years.

The home stretch...

The 1997 Retirement Confidence Survey (RCS), released by the Employee Benefit Research Institute, the American Savings Education Council, and Matthew Greenwald & Associates, suggests that most Americans do have one form of retirement objective, a goal tied to age. Two-thirds of workers would like to retire before age 65; one-third by age 55. What’s more, 69% of American workers are saving something for retirement, up from 61% in 1994.

However, relatively few Americans have any idea as to whether that “something” they’re saving for retirement will be enough.

Only 36% of those questioned in the RCS had ever tried to determine how much money they’ll need to retire. And only a portion of those individuals — just 27% of the survey total — actually succeeded in developing a realistic idea of the amount they’ll need to retire “when and how they want.” This general lack of knowledge applied to specific personal finance issues, too — less than one-third of respondents, for instance, could correctly answer three true/false questions about IRAs.

The RCS confirmed “gaps” in how various groups regard — and react to — retirement issues. For example, while men were more confident than women about their retirement preparations, at 36% vs. 27%, neither gender displays overwhelming faith in what they’ve done to secure their Golden Years.

What to do?

The good news comes from another survey, this one by the Consumer Federation of America (CFA), which shows that financial planning does, indeed, typically lead to more retirement dollars. According to the CFA, consumers who developed specific financial plans nearly doubled the amount they saved compared to those who didn’t. And the statistic held true for several categories of income.

So how does one plan in addition to save and invest? Perhaps the answer is found in the reasons given for not planning. According to the RCS, 29% of workers who have not tried to calculate how much they’ll need for retirement say that they’re afraid of the answer. Another 20% said it’s too complicated, and 39% claim lack of time.

The amount associated with a retirement nest egg can seem intimidating, but it’s never the expectation that an individual must produce such resources in one lump sum. Financial planning unfolds one step at a time. If you look at a retirement goal in “steps,” establishing an amount you can set aside each month for instance, it makes the financial goal seem, and be, more achievable.

Financial planning is a process, but not one that has to be complicated. If you maintain a household budget — or the paperwork needed to prepare your income taxes — then you already have a solid start on the information you need for a financial plan.

If you participate in a retirement plan offered through your job, your employer can direct you to important information about how much you have, how your account is funded, and how the assets are — and can be — positioned. And, as for the time it takes to create a plan, more people are finding that a professional financial advisor can help them put all these elements together in a way that makes sense for both their current daily living and future financial needs.

Planning brings the “target” of a financially secure retirement clearly into view… and increases the chance of striking the bullseye.

Kathleen Madden is a Financial Advisor for Waddell & Reed. The Anchorage Waddell & Reed office is one of 200 offices nationwide. Waddell & Reed can be found at <http://www.waddell.com>.
WASHINGTON, DC — The first three Lifeline Fund grants providing support to Gay-Straight Student Alliances (GSA) have been awarded to the East High School Gay-Straight Alliance (Salt Lake City, Utah), Custer High School Gay-Straight Alliance (Milwaukee, WI) and Bellows Free Academy Gay-Straight Alliance (St. Albans, VT). Each school group received a $150 award to use for social and support activities fighting homophobia in schools.

The six-member Awards Committee, making decisions about the distribution of over $15,000 in funds, consists entirely of young people from across the country. Gina DeVries, a 14 year-old Awards Committee Member described the importance of the Lifeline Fund by saying, “Many GSAs work within their schools to urge acceptance of queer people. Providing workshops, speaking panels, and even just hang-out spaces requires financial assistance. GSAs need to be aided because they promote tolerance and give gay and straight youth a supportive social environment.”

Rea Carey, Executive Director of the National Youth Advocacy Coalition, which oversees the application process adds, “For many Gay-Straight Alliances in need of basic support to print posters, create a speakers bureau, or travel to a conference or state legislature, these $150 grants make up for a lot of bake sales and car washes.” She added, “Many GSAs are struggling to exist in educational environments that are passively supportive at best and openly hostile at worst. Many GSAs have trouble raising their own funds due to resistance on the part of school administrators and the lack of support by their peers — have you ever tried to have a bake sale in homophobic school hallways?”

The Lifeline Memorial Fund was established following the September 1997 suicide of Salt Lake City student leader, Jacob Oroco. Along with his schoolmates at East High School, Jacob had been fighting for the right of the Gay-Straight Alliance to meet as an officially recognized non-curricular student club. The current East High students who are members of the Alliance continue to face an uphill battle with administrators. Following increasing restrictions on the club, a lawsuit was filed in March on behalf of those members of the club who are current students charging that the school administration has violated the Equal Access Act, among other federal laws.

In addition to the $150 award, Lifeline recipient Salt Lake City East High School GSA students, received a special $500 grant to create a memorial in honor of their friend Jacob Oroco. Holly Peterson, co-president of the East High GSA (and sister of GSA founder Kelli Peterson), says the Lifeline grant will, “give us the chance to exist and an opportunity to remember a friend who was near to us.” With the hostility of the school administration and the pressure of the national spotlight, Holly says, “we worked really hard to unite our members, so we’re like a family. That has given us strength and we’ve created a safety net to support each other.”

Lifeline applications are available by calling 202/319-7596, ext. 10 or e-mailing <NYouthAC@aol.com>. To make a tax-deductible contribution to the Fund, individuals may call 1-800-856-1667 (reference Jacob), or send a check made payable to the Tides Foundation, Memorial Fund, c/o TCLGCFA, Post Office Box 460607, San Francisco, CA 94146. Businesses wishing to join the Tzabaco Safe Schools Initiative in this national effort to make schools safer for all students may contact Stuart Harrison, TSSI, 415/647-9003.

The Lifeline Fund is a donor advised fund of the Tides Foundation and is supported by the Tzabaco Safe Schools Initiative; Gill Foundation; Henry van Ameringen Foundation; National Youth Advocacy Coalition; Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network; Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays; and Planet Out. Contact Rea Carey, Executive Director, 1711 Connecticut Avenue, NW, Suite 206, Washington, DC 20009, 202-319-7596, ext. 15 or E-Mail <NYouthAC@aol.com>.

Join Identity, Inc. at its celebrated Fourth Friday Potluck & Social. Bring soup, salad, entrée, deviled eggs, hors d’oeuvres, fruit, bread, dessert, chips, dip, pizza, etc. Identity provides tea, coffee, punch. Admission is free, but we cheerfully accept donations. Donations for the 4A’s food bank are cheerfully accepted by The Food Fairies; why not bring a couple of cans or boxes of food with you.

Date: Friday, May 22 (not May 29)

Time: 6:30 p.m. doors open/socialize; 7:00 p.m. dinner; 7:30 p.m. announcements & program

Place: Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 3201 Turnagain Street

Program: David Bianco, author of the gay history column, Past Out.
PASADENA, CA — If Tales of the City made some of its critics apoplectic, Armistead Maupin’s More Tales of the City might give them heart attacks.

The sequel promises to be, if anything, saucier than the original PBS miniseries, along the same vein of casual nudity, pot smoking and gay sex. But Maupin, author of the Tales saga about San Francisco in the 1970s, won’t have to worry this time about cranky legislators in Georgia or weaselly PBS administrators in Washington.

The Showtime cable channel will televise Armistead Maupin’s More Tales of the City in June, four years after PBS ash-canned the proposed sequel. Showtime likes the kind of stuff that makes PBS types dyspeptic. So it was an ebullient Maupin who was in Pasadena yesterday to flog the new miniseries to TV critics and to celebrate what he called “a joyous occasion.” He was joined by four returning cast members — Olympia Dukakis, Laura Linney, Bill Campbell and Thomas Gibson, who play Anna Madrigal, Mary Ann Singleton, Jon Fielding and Beauchamp Day.

Maupin’s mood contrasted sharply with his anger at PBS four years ago. He said that not even an offshore storm, intestinal distress and overall weariness could dampen his cheer as he went to Zihuatanejo, Mexico, last year for More Tales location shooting.

“The very last night Billy (Campbell) and Paul Hopkins (in the role of Michael Tolliver) were filming a kissing scene out on a pier in Zihuatanejo,” Maupin recalled. “We were all exhausted, it was raining, and I was looking around and I thought, ‘I’m a happy man. I wrote this story, and here are these two hunky straight guys sitting there just playing tonsil hockey all night.’ I thought, ‘Things are changing. The world is changing, and we’re helping to do it. We’re doing it the way I always wanted to do it, which is to show that this is about love. It’s about affection. It’s about people connecting.’”

The sequel, beginning just days after Tales of the City ended, takes place on the Pacific coast of Mexico and in Nevada, as well as in San Francisco. The San Francisco scenes, including those of Mrs. Madrigal’s boarding house on Barbary Lane, were mostly filmed in Montreal.

Dukakis called the long-delayed sequel “a little triumph that somehow what was attempted to be buried did not get buried.” For her part, Linney took a shot yesterday at PBS’ latest slogan: “If PBS won’t do it, who will?” Leaning forward in her seat on the interview stage and raising her voice, Linney crowed, “Well, the answer is Showtime!”

In fact, Showtime had its own new slogan — “No Limits” — pasted all over its press materials for More Tales and other original movies.

Showtime will televise the 4½ hour More Tales over a Sunday and Monday night in June, said Jerry Offsay, Showtime’s programming president.

Showtime is also commissioning a series of documentaries produced by The New York Times television arm, Offsay said, and the first might be about the controversy surrounding PBS and Tales of the City. Offsay said the occasional documentaries will relate to issues in movies on Showtime.

It’s not certain whether More Tales will be the last TV production based on Maupin’s Tales series. The stories themselves, first published in The Chronicle, continue with Further Tales of the City.

Maupin, not surprisingly, is game to keep going. “With any luck at all,” he told the critics and reporters yesterday, “Mr. Offsay and the folks at Showtime will ask us back.”

Copyright 1998 San Francisco Chronicle, 901 Mission St., San Francisco, CA, 94103 (Fax 415-896-1107) (E-mail chronletters@sfgate.com).
Lesbian Notions

Since the recent controversy in Alaska, the battle for same-sex marriage rights, which had been stuck in limbo, is once again heating up. It seems like every week now, there's another state passing legislation prohibiting lesbian and gay marriage, or else another state where lesbian and gay activists have successfully beat back the opposition to same-sex marriage. As a lesbian in a relationship, I care about and support marriage rights; but the question is, as a feminist, should I? In fact, I believe that same-sex marriage is a feminist idea with potential for bringing about broad social change.

Marriage is a touchy issue for many lesbians who came out during the women's movement and claimed the hyphenated identity of “lesbian-feminist” throughout the 1970s and 1980s. While researching my just-released book, The Lesbian and Gay Book of Love and Marriage, I was stunned by the ferocity of the responses I got from some lesbians who have long identified as feminists when I asked the simple question, “If you could legally marry, would you?” Lesbians who hadn’t uttered the word “patriarchy” in 10 or 12 years were suddenly vitriolic about the oppressiveness of the institution of marriage.

I, too, believe that the institution of heterosexual marriage is oppressive to women and beneficial to men. Though the roles of many wives and husbands have changed somewhat in the last 30 years, straight married women are still primarily responsible for childcare and managing the household, even while holding down jobs outside the home. A recent ABC News poll found only that men are “helping” their wives more. It's hard to give up gender roles, especially when they work so well to the advantage of straight men.

What I found in talking to lesbian and gay couples, though, is the opposite. When a couple consists of two women or two men, they can't fall back on entrenched gender roles the way straight couples do. In terms of household tasks, same-sex couples often determine who does what around the house by logic and fairness. If Thelma's a better cook than Louise, then Thelma cooks. If Louise doesn't mind cleaning and Thelma has allergies, then Louise does it. Even the lesbian couples I spoke to who identified as butch-femme didn't always adhere to strict gender roles. “We do what we do best,” was a common response when I asked cohabiting lesbian couples about the division of household chores.

Likewise, there's no assumption in lesbian relationships that one woman will have to change her name, subsuming her identity into her partner's. Some lesbian couples with children have created a new last name for both partners and the kids, either by hyphenating or by picking a brand-new name that both of them like. There's also no assumption that a child of two lesbians will bear one partner's name rather than the other's. It's true that many straight women now keep their own last names when they marry. But doing so remains an issue for them, and most children from straight marriages still bear their fathers' last names.

In a way, the lack of gender roles and assumptions in lesbian relationships is so simple, it's revolutionary. What if gender roles didn't exist in couples? What if all couples picked a last name they both agreed on? What if there were no expectations about which person would be primarily responsible for taking care of the kids? What if mowing the lawn wasn't seen as “manly” and doing laundry wasn't considered “women's work”? (I heard a young mother tell her preschool-age son that old notion just last week at the laundromat.) Arent rigid expectations about gender what the feminist movement always hoped to change? Many of us knew that the doomed Equal Rights Amendment would never be enough; it was gender roles that had to go before women would ever see any kind of liberation.

I think the Right probably understands this better than some progressive feminist lesbians do. Extending marriage rights to same-sex couples opens up a big can of gender-role worms. As lesbian writer E.J. Graff points out, right-wingers throw around words like “unisex” and “partnership” to describe same-sex marriage; they almost visibly shudder at the idea of abolishing marriage as it now exists. Even those on the Right who aren't particularly religious or worried about defiling the supposed sacredness of marriage get the willies when the subject of same-sex marriage comes up. Don't forget that same-sex marriage activists in Hawaii and Alaska got as far as they did by claiming sex discrimination.

Ideally, same-sex marriage could transform the institution itself. It's unlikely that two lesbians who are allowed to marry legally will suddenly start behaving like a straight man and woman. But it's not so clear that straight women won't start looking at the less gendered structure of same-sex marriages and want changes made in their own, more traditionally defined relationships.

Friends of the Klondyke Kontakt
The KK has a new e-mail address <klondykekontakt@hotmail.com>
Passports and passages

What though you hide it in your trunk — Ere sailing hour has set?
Jammed down beneath your old blue serge?
Don't think you can forget!
The face within that passport book
Will rise to haunt you yet.
— Laura Simmons, Your Passport Picture

It was ten years ago that I got my first passport, twenty-four years old and ready to see the world. I had just graduated from college and was rewarding myself with two weeks in England — enacting what my mother had always referred to as my “wanderlust.”

In my old passport photo — which the government has been good enough to return with my new one, a mysterious bureaucratic generosity — I see a young man who had just transformed his fears and homophobia into the highest Grade Point Average in the university’s College of Liberal Arts. He had received two awards for community service. He was going to be a psychologist.

A conspicuous gold chain hangs around his neck and his shirt is unbuttoned to the sternum, revealing wisps of hair; he was a bit cocky, a bit of an intellectual snob — and he was scared out of his mind.

On the day the photo was taken, he knew he was again stepping out from the confines of family expectation. The Loverings were not — and had never been, to the best of his knowledge — international travelers. And his immediate family members had never attended college — at least with as much success and promise. Oh yes, and — though this was not what he was thinking at the time, because it was a “given” — neither of them was gay, at least as far as he knew.

The young man was slated to graduate on a June Sunday in 1988. There would be a gathering that evening of family and friends. And at 6:00 a.m. the following morning, he would leave for England, home to Isnerwood, Auden, Lawrence, Forster. He’d be outta there. Not gonna stick around. Not gonna wonder what the hell’s next. If he would no longer be a student, if he could no longer lose himself in his studies and his volunteer work, what would he do? Graduation, he knew, was as much an exit from academia as an entrance into his self. He was about to enter into an identity overhaul, a passage from who he’d been expected to be into who he truly was.

With a strange mix of terror and giddiness, he boarded a plane with his cliché of a backpack and, for the first time in his life, he flew. But even as we did so — even as he rose above a remarkable sea of clouds; even as, hours later, the spectacular green of England came into view far below — he knew what he was flying from. There was more to this journey than experiencing another culture, more to it than self-reward. Make no mistake: he was escaping from having to take the next step. Professionally, academically, he felt he had arrived. Personally, he was a mess.

His journeys took him to Europe three times in five years. When he finally devoted himself to honesty and integrity, he ventured into other men's arms, other men's beds, both at home and abroad. But, as purely physical trysts went, the precious few entanglements in Europe were the best ones. A beautiful young man in Paris slipped into his bed at a youth hostel; the only word he spoke was “Salut” at their parting the next morning. An American expatriate who lived in Italy seemed to rely on him — on him — to step into his own homosexuality. Then there was the man from the Amsterdam night club (so what if he was from Washington, D. C.?) whom he, much to his own surprise, picked up and brought back to his room.

“Europe is one big bed,” a friend of his once said when he described these incidents to her back home. And he knew it to be true, especially for young travelers. But he paid for the safety of distance and anonymity with loneliness — and he would not return to Europe for another five years, right around the time his passport was to expire.

Today, a new face stares back. It’s rounder than ten years ago, even a bit more conservative, framed by short-cropped hair. A white tee-shirt triangle peeks from underneath a fully-buttoned shirt.

He has dramatically changed career course from psychology to writing, but the writing is no longer a veil to hide behind. It has become a vehicle of self-expression — a way to exclaim, without apology, who he has become.

He shares his life with another now. He considers himself married and refers to his husband easily in daily conversation with colleagues and friends. He is returning to
Europe in just ten days and he will show his husband the
canals of Amsterdam, the Homomonument, the
Rembrandts.

He has tamed his wanderlust, if wanderlust is distin-
guished by the desire to travel on one's own without an
itinerary. He's far more interested in settling down, in lay-
ing claim to his space in the world and sticking with it. At
times, he'll simply watch his husband across the room —
perhaps repotting a plant, cooking a chicken, or reading
the Sunday paper — and he feels his heart well up with a
joy that feels larger than he is, that almost feels beyond
his reach. But somehow — gloriously somehow — he has
grasped it.

**Canadian Supremes order Alberta to protect gays**

Canada's Supreme Court ordered Alberta to protect
gays and lesbians from discrimination April 2.

In a case brought by a man fired from a Christian
college due to his sexuality, the court said Alberta's failure
to include sexual-orientation protections in its Individual
Rights Protection Act violated the national Charter of
Rights and Freedoms.

"The exclusion sends a message to all Albertans that it
is permissible, and perhaps even acceptable, to
discriminate against individuals on the basis of their
sexual orientation," Justice Peter Cory wrote for the
court. "The effect of that message on gays and lesbians is
one whose significance cannot be underestimated.
Perhaps most important is the psychological harm which
may ensue from this state of affairs. Fear of
discrimination will logically lead to concealment of true
identity, and this must be harmful to personal confidence
and self-esteem."

"The 7-1 decision inserted the words "sexual
orientation" into Alberta's human-rights statute effective
immediately."

"The plaintiff in the case, Delwin Vriend, 32, told
reporters after the ruling: "Ha ha, I win! ... I think it is
extremely shameful that the government of Alberta
kicked and screamed and whined for the last seven years
all the way to the Supreme Court in an effort to ensure
that discrimination against gays and lesbians continued to
occur."

"The Canada Family Action Coalition denounced the
decision. "By every objective measure — economic
income, cultural influence and political clout — Canada's
homosexuals are a privileged, even pampered
community, carrying none of the natural burdens of
families," said spokesman Roy Beyer.

All other provinces and territories protect gays under
their human-rights laws except Prince Edward Island
(PEI) and the Northwest Territories. PEI has announced
plans to rectify the situation.
IDENTITY, INC.
PRIDE ON THE PARKSTRIP
Booth Application

1. Name of Business or Organization: ________________________________

2. Address: _________________________________________________________

3. Contact Phone: ____________________ 4. Contact Person: ________________________________

5. Will you be _____ selling a product or a service?
       _____ providing an informational booth?

6. If you are selling a product/service, please explain what product/service you are selling:

7. If what you are selling is a non-packaged food item, do you have a health certificate from the Municipality? yes __no__ (this is required to sell any non-packaged food item)

8. Will you need a table and/or chairs? yes _____no ___________

9. If you want to be contacted for next year's Pride on the Parkstrip, please check here: ________

Booth space is $25 for businesses or vendors selling a product or service; or, $10 for non-profit organizations providing informational booths. (note: non-profit organizations selling goods will be classified as a vendor.) Booth Applications can be sent to:

Ms. Barbara J. Soule
ATTN: Pride on the Parkstrip
3900 E. 9th Ave. #5
Anchorage, AK 99508-2644

Applications must include a check or money order payable to Identity, Inc. for the booth space. Questions should be referred to Barbara Soule at 337-2011. Booth applications must be received no later than 1 June 1998, Pride on the Parkstrip is June 28th.
Deep Inside Hollywood

Baby makes three
Madonna has reportedly recruited Carlos Leon to father another child for the 39-year-old diva, who thinks it's time toddler Lourdes had a sibling. Leon, a struggling actor, was said to be reluctant about repeating his most famous role as Madonna's impregnator, even holding out for marriage. But when Madonna made it clear that wasn't going to happen, Leon acquiesced.

Though she says she has no other firm acting commitments besides the Nicholas Hytner (The Madness of King George) screen version of Chicago, which will co-star Goldie Hawn, Madonna is said to be interested in Under Girls, about five working-class gals from Brooklyn (are there any other kind?).

Mad about Ellen
With her ABC series in seemingly perpetual limbo, Mad About You producers say they would love to have Ellen DeGeneres join their cast next season. DeGeneres guest-starred on the season finale of the NBC show as a "chatty caterer" who baby-sits little Mabel Buchman, and producers say they would be interested in making her character a recurring one. DeGeneres's crossover visit coincides with million-dollar woman Helen Hunt's guest appearance on the season finale of Ellen.

Meanwhile, Ellen's coming-out episode was honored recently with a prestigious Peabody Award, which honors media pioneers.

Fill in the box(ers)
Alleged screenwriting wunderkind Matt Damon of Good Will Hunting fame has signed on to replace Antonio Sabato Jr. as the next Calvin Klein underwear model. Damon was said to be very reluctant about taking the gig but was persuaded by a very generous offer from CK. As to what comes between Matt and his Calvins, you'll have to ask Winona Ryder, the golden boy's latest squeeze.

Tube talk
It hasn't been a good month for gay-friendly TV. Besides Ellen's questionable future, it appears that Cybill and possibly The Nanny might be history.

Cybill Shepherd's eponymous comedy is all but dead, as CBS has already pulled the show from its schedule. And ratings for The Nanny have slipped noticeably this season, leading to speculation that it too will be canned.

NBC, meanwhile, is hoping to have Wonder Woman ready for its fall schedule, but a well-publicized nationwide search for the next Lynda Carter turned up nothing, leaving the show on the shelf for now. Unable to find an unknown to twirl the golden lariat, producers are said to be considering Alexandra Paul (Baywatch) and B-movie queen Julie Strain, whose 6-foot-3 frame would certainly befit an Amazon princess.

Speaking of Amazons, dyke heroine Lucy Lawless of Xena fame recently married her show's executive producer, Robert Tapert. No word on who wears the leather pants in that family, which includes Lawless' nine-year-old daughter from a previous marriage.

Bette does Bette
Bette Midler is in talks with a British producer to star in a proposed Broadway musical remake of Whatever Happened to Baby Jane, the 1962 camp film classic starring Bette Davis and Joan Crawford as sisters. Midler would fill Davis' role.

Birthday suit?
As expected, Leonardo DiCaprio is suing Playgirl, seeking unspecified damages from the magazine for its planned publication of nude photographs of the actor. The pictures show full frontal nudity, and DiCaprio is miffed, among other things, that the "ladies" magazine won't reveal its source for the glossies. In his suit, DiCaprio says word of the nude pictures surfacing has caused him "shame, mortification, hurt feelings, emotional distress, embarrassment, humiliation and injury to his privacy and peace of mind."

It can't be that small, can it?

Penis envy
Though you won't find me complaining, Hollywood has certainly developed a preoccupation with the penis when filming those '90s "costume epics." First there were the anatomically ridiculous Batsuits in last summer's Joel Schumacher laughfest Batman and Robin. Now comes word that the loincloth for this summer's Tarzan movie will be longer in front and shorter in back.

Or so brags Casper Van Dien (Starship Troopers), who will play the Lord of the Apes in the latest adaptation of the Edgar Rice Burroughs novel. Van Dien also reports he has slimmed down to a 29-inch waist for the first time since high school in preparation for the role. Well, at least he's smart enough to know what got him this far.

Romeo San Vicente, who wishes more would come between him and his Calvins, can be reached at <RSVicente@aol.com>.
Climbing rock walls, calling legislators, and watching the rain fall

by Jen Kohout

A dark blue Cherokee drives by, windshield wipers working at a steady pace. I imagine the intermittent squeak as the wipers slide back and forth across the glass. But from the couch where I sit, all I hear is the mellow beat of an unidentified jazz tune playing on the stereo. That and lunch sounds emanating from the kitchen — the refrigerator door opening, the rustling of a plastic bag, the lid of a condiment jar rolling along the kitchen counter.

A red mini-van turns into the alley next to the house. I watch as it bounces through a row of puddles near my neighbor's blue garbage cans. Meanwhile Karen reappears in the living room — a glass of orange juice in one hand, a garden burger on wheat toast in the other.

Definitely not the makings of a great American novel, I think as I gaze over the blank screen of my laptop, watch the cars. Is it contentment or complacency that courses through my veins as I sit on this couch with my legs propped up on the end table?

Last night, I dreamt that I was climbing a mountain. The air was cold and thin. Enveloped in a stiff Gore-tex jacket and thick mittens, I felt like a spaceman walking on the moon. Making my way up a steep and narrow ridge, sheer cliffs to either side, I stopped to catch my breath and carefully turned to see what lay below — a horizon of peaks identical to the one I was climbing. An expanse of ice and rock. I felt completely alone. Completely mesmerized by the view. And completely overwhelmed by the prospect of getting myself back down the peak without cartwheeling down the rock face.

My conscious adventures, however, are much more tame than my subconscious ones, my comfort zone far too narrow to ever venture up the kind of Himalayan peaks that appear in my dreams. But I am intrigued by the prospect of climbing a mountain that would push me to the limits of my existence. In- trigued like a moth to flame.

But I'm not a moth. I'm far too pragmatic to skip across some glacial crevasse without pausing to ponder the consequences of tripping over my own crampon. In fact, I'm much more like a cat than a moth. Specifically, my ex-girlfriend's cat, Sara. A round gray feline with the courage and temperament of a field mouse. While Sara spent a large percentage of her existence cowering behind the couch, she far outlived Kathryn's other cats — who were run over at an alarming rate. A point I remind myself of occasionally when I'm kicking myself for being timid.

But as I sit on this couch, pondering risk and watching the traffic, I am reminded that both activities have their place in my life. I don't need to get too close to the edge of a cliff to be reminded that my life on this planet is finite; however, I do occasionally need to get close enough to appreciate that I am alive.
The Amazon Trail

Vacation?

It's that time again. Teachers are perusing travel brochures, office workers are jockeying for the best weeks of summer, lesbian moms and gay dads are trying to finagle some private time into their two weeks with three kids in a pop-up tent trailer.

Definition of a vacation, grinch-style: a) a period of time spent away from the conveniences of home in a strange place usually crowded with people who also want to get away from it all; b) participating in as many exhausting sports, sightseeing and shopping adventures as possible while still tending to the necessities of life such as standing on lines of cranky people waiting for restaurants, toilets and roller coasters.

All this while the pets back home are acting out by peeing on bedspreads and burglars are gleefully making off with the heirloom silverware. And we pay money for the privilege of a vacation.

My dream for many years has been to spend a vacation on the couch with a stack of trashy novels beside me and decadent food within easy reach. This punctuated by several naps a day and an occasional foray outside to finally identify the trees, wild flowers, birds and chipmunks that share our land.

It's not that I don't like seeing new places and doing new things. It's just such hard work.

Checklist. Find and train friend to house sit. Pack. Cancel paper and mail. Re-pack. Plan transportation and accommodations by calling several vendors of each, waiting on hold for hours at a time, comparing rates, routes. Buy cheapest tickets.

Check list continued. Pack emergency rations for survival beyond the range of organic fodder. Complete all work that's been pending for months. Train replacement at job. Train house sitter. Clean house for house sitter. Tune up car. Re-pack. Type itinerary for friends and family. Buy bathing suit (exchange post diet). Buy batteries, film, miniature shampoo and toothpaste, tickets, sunscreen, hat — is there money left for the vacation?

Not everyone is obsessive-compulsive about leaving home. I have a partner who loves to travel. She's scaled mountains, explored exotic underwater seas and thinks white water rafting in a tiny rubber dinghy is fun. She cancels out my natural affinity to staying by going. With or without me. Why she wants this balking, worrying damper on her adventures I have no idea. And I love it.

Away from home, I'm transformed. Well, not completely. Searching for a natural food store in Corpus Christi for hours was not exactly planned. But discovering a show of 1930s etchings at the Corpus Christi art museum was a dream come true!

Once when Lover pried me and my stack of vacation reading from our ancient camper to the great outdoors, we found an enchanted wood. There were trees as old as Bilbo's Ent and vegetation as exotic as Dr. Doolittle's moon flowers. We fantasized having a great gathering of women there for a moonlight celebration.

On overnight trips we've found wetland trails behind Safeway, mill ponds filled with waterfowl and coyote in the wild grasses of nowhere.

When I recall our trip to the Canyons of Utah and Arizona, I decide being squashed into planes, losing luggage and finding strange motel rooms is worth it. All those little western towns complete with Gunsmoke architecture, those prairie dogs and mule deer and gorgeous maples — oh, and the canyons too.

Lover got me to the Pike Street Market in Seattle and to the Chicago Art Institute. She led me out on a boat to see a whooping crane colony. She hauled me through the rooftop gardens of Los Angeles, so I kind of believe that L.A. really is the city of angels.

Why do I resist? My memories of javelinas in the wild and a space station-sized craft fair in Anaheim are unexpectedly precious. As are the fettuccine dinner deep in a wildlife refuge and the miles of hills we hiked in flowered San Francisco.

This year, because we moved, I absolutely refused to travel. I was overwhelmed and felt impoverished. And guilty. Because I really do love seeing the sights with my sweetie once I can cut the tether to home.

So she went out and found us a discount semi-tropical vacation for our tenth anniversary next spring. And strangely enough, I can't wait! I spend hours on maps and day dreams — and on the Web looking for cheap plane fares.

Oh, we'll be exhausted. We'll be sore from hauling tons of natural foods and air filters. We'll return to a house not as perfect as we'd have kept it.

Yet, Lover will say as fervently as me, "It's so good to be home!"

"What I would hope is people realize that it was honesty that got me into trouble, it was honesty that made me lose my job [in the military], and I'm not about to change my position in terms of being honest. Just think, you could have someone you could trust in Congress!"
— Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer, who is running for Congress from Washington state, to Atlanta's Southern Voice, March 26.
My Queer Life

**Wy Not Me?**

“You’re listening to what?” Katherine asks incredulously.

“Wynonna Judd,” I say, turning the volume down so she can’t hear any more through the phone.

“Why would you do that?”

“Um, I have to review it for someone,” I lie, fumbling for an answer.

You see, I’m too embarrassed to admit that deep down in my heart, I want to be Wynonna. Yes, it’s true. I want to have big jouncing breasts and masses of thick red hair. I want full, pouty lips that curl up in an Elvis sneer. I want to caress my guitar while thousands of lesbians squeal in delight and wet their cheap vinyl seats as they watch me totter across the stage in tight cowboy boots.

I know there are classier people who want to be. Like k.d., for instance, or perhaps even Melissa. I’ll admit that I did go through a phase where sticking my hair back, putting on an old dinner jacket, and crooning “Constant Craving” into a hairbrush felt oh-so-right. And many were the times when I pictured myself on stage with Mel, belting out “Bring Me Some Water” while the women in the crowd ripped off their Martina for Attorney General T-shirts and flung them at the stage with abandon.

But Wy has something different. She possesses what I call the I-Could-Be-That-Too quality. She’s famous, sure, but she’s still one of us. When we listen to her singing, we can imagine ourselves doing the same thing, and it doesn’t seem so ridiculous. Why couldn’t we have a hit single? Why couldn’t we tour the country in a special bus with Clint Black? After all, Wynonna did it, and she’s just a regular gal who likes bingo and eating buckets of buffalo wings during the Super Bowl. For heaven’s sake, she’s even married to a used car salesman.

Wy isn’t, of course, the only celebrity to rise to stardom based on this elusive quality. In fact, American pop culture is largely based on it. Think about it for a minute. Why do millions of people run out and buy Madonna records? Her voice is nothing spectacular. Her acting talent is often at a level below that found in grammar school productions. Without the benefit of makeup artists and hairdressers, she’s no great natural beauty. But we love her. And why? Because she looks as though someone snatched her out of a crowd at the mall and made her a star.

Not that this is a bad thing. If anything, it makes us all feel better about ourselves. Take, for example, Cher. I adore her. So do you, and you know it. It doesn’t matter whether Cher is singing, acting, dancing, or pitching hair care products. She does everything with an air of surprised amusement that the world is letting her get away with it. And we do. We like her because, even if we never get to be as famous as she is, on some level we are all like her.

When Meryl Streep wins statue after statue at the Academy Awards, we applaud politely, secretly hating her for her talent and her stupid accents. But when Cher won an Oscar for Moonstruck, we went wild. She was every person who ever practiced making an acceptance speech in front of a mirror, and now she had her chance to give our collective thanks. Not only that, but she did it in a dress even Madonna wouldn’t have the balls to wear.

While I love Cher, Wy is more my style. She doesn’t care what she weighs. She doesn’t care if the critics like her albums. The people love her, and that’s what counts. She looks as though she’d be more than happy to come over and give you a hand with that wallpapering job, and
unlike, say, Jodie Foster or Robert DeNiro, you can easily imagine Wy spending a boring Sunday afternoon parked in front of the television watching Godzilla movies and eating Ben & Jerry's Chocolate Chip Cookie Dough ice cream. Hell, she even signs her name with little musical notes at the end.

It also helps that she sings country music, which is perfect for an I-Could-Be-That-Too star. No matter how polished the sound, it still always comes across as though a bunch of people were sitting around on the porch one night and decided to make a record. And no one is better at putting across that down home feeling than Wynonna. When she was with her mother, Naomi, and they were simply The Judds, the two of them looked forever like the results of some frightening post-season sale at K-Mart. Standing on stage, Naomi with her big doe eyes and Wynonna with her big hair streaked all the wrong shades of blond, they were the embodiment of every wish any of us ever had to be stars. Like some kind of escapees from the Barbizon School of Modeling, they were Star Search gone big time, and they took us right along with them.

Now that Wynonna has gone solo, she's even more fabulous. The chubby little girl who got to be homecoming queen, she steadfastly refuses to go home before every cheerleader in the gym cries uncle and admits that she's really cool. Just to prove she knows a thing or two about being the belle of the high school ball, she even recorded a cover of the 1980s adolescent anthem “Freebird” on her album Revelation. Putting it on and singing along, we're instantly transported back to those anxious nights when we stood against the wall, nervously sipping flat Coke while we stared at whatever boy we had a crush on dancing with his girlfriend and prayed no one would notice us there. Only now that Wy is in control, he's dancing with us and everyone is jealous.

I used to watch Wynonna strutting around in leather jacket and motorcycle cap and hope she was a dyke. And maybe she is, despite baby and husband. After all, she does drive a Harley. But even if she isn't, I love her just as much. Because if she can do it, so can I. And so can you. In fact, take out those sticks and start practicing your drum licks. I'm going to need a backup band.

“I still hear people say that I should not be talking about the rights of lesbian and gay people and I should stick to the issue of racial justice. But I hasten to remind them that Martin Luther King Jr. said, 'Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.' I appeal to everyone who believes in Martin Luther King Jr.'s dream to make room at the table of brother- and sisterhood for lesbian and gay people. Gays and lesbians stood up for civil rights in Montgomery (and) Selma, in Albany, Georgia, and St. Augustine, Florida, and many other campaigns of the civil rights movement.’”
— Coretta Scott King, Martin Luther King Jr.'s widow, speaking to the 25th Anniversary Luncheon of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, March 31 in Chicago.
Is Half a Cure Better Than None??

Edited, from contributors to the Names Project

The past year has brought the most exciting advances in the treatment of HIV and AIDS since the epidemic began in 1981. As you know, dramatic improvements in drug therapies have translated directly into prolonged life spans for many people with HIV and AIDS. For the first time, deaths from AIDS in the United States dropped 13% across the country over the first half of last year. Indeed, new drug therapies such as the protease inhibitors have enabled many with AIDS who once were wasting and bedridden to reclaim their lives, health, and re-enter the workforce.

However, the hope felt by those of us battling AIDS is countered by new challenges. While effective combinations of protease inhibitors have thrown a lifeboat to many people with AIDS, we are still navigating through rough waters. The drugs' effectiveness and tolerability vary widely among people, and their extreme expense puts them out of reach for the vast majority of people with HIV. In fact, it is estimated that a mere 5% of all people with HIV have access to them. Even more importantly, protease inhibitors do not prevent a single HIV infection, and media messages hailing the imminent end of AIDS may actually be undermining some HIV prevention efforts. The end of AIDS will come only when an effective AIDS vaccine is developed, and the slow rate of progress in this difficult area of research will not bear fruit until well into the next century.

Protease inhibitors are doing nothing to curb this rising tide of new HIV infections. In fact, these new therapies may be exacerbating the situation. Media reports of AIDS becoming a chronic manageable illness, and whispers of possible viral eradication, may lead some people to become less vigilant with safer sex and safer injection practices. Some liken protease inhibitors to the "morning after pill." Indeed, San Francisco has become the first city in the United States to offer a controversial "post-exposure HIV clinic," in which patients who've had unprotected sex or shared needles to inject drugs will receive immediate antiviral therapy in an attempt to prevent HIV from "taking hold" in the body during these first few critical hours of HIV infection. It is yet to be seen what the consequences of this program will have on the behavior of individuals in the community.

The good news about AIDS also threatens to throw a wrench into HIV prevention efforts underway in a variety of communities around the country. HIV prevention is a complex, difficult task involving more than simply distributing condoms and information. In San Francisco, it is estimated that the city adds as many as 1,000 new HIV infections each year, mostly among gay men. Even though this population is highly educated about HIV, a range of cultural, psychological and emotional issues prevent consistent condom use. A tragic irony of the advent of these drugs that may make HIV a chronic, manageable disease is that they might further complicate HIV prevention in gay communities across the country by lessening the perceived dangers of infection.

Last, it is yet to be seen what the long-term effects of these drugs will be not only for HIV-infected bodies, but also for AIDS service organizations. If a crisis mentality is lost among the public, will it continue to support AIDS organizations with gifts of time, service or money?

---

"Protease inhibitors are doing nothing to curb this rising tide of new HIV infections. In fact, these new therapies may be exacerbating the situation."

Upcoming Events:
- RAVE for AIDS Dance-a-thon, May 15, 1998, contact Laurie @ 263-2050
- AIDS 101, 5:30-6:30pm, Thursday May 14 @ Four A's
- Free HIV Testing Wednesdays 2:00 - 4:00pm @ 4A's
- Every Thursday “HIV Support Group” 7pm - 8pm @ Alaskan Urban Coffee & Art
- Every Friday “Friday Lunch” for clients, friends and volunteers Noon @ 4 A’s

Upcoming Events:
WASHINGTON, D.C. — Exactly one year after Concerned Women for America (CWA) began protesting American Airlines support of the homosexual lifestyle, American Airlines (AA) has agreed to stop promoting homosexuality. At a meeting with AA President Robert L. Crandall, Jim Woodall, CWA's CEO, presented Crandall with advertisements, videos, and letters documenting what American Airlines funds are promoting. Crandall promised that AA subsidizing of homosexual "cruise parties," lobbying groups, and activities will stop.

Joining Concerned Women for America at the meeting with Crandall were representatives of the American Family Association, Focus on the Family, the Family Research Council, and the Southern Baptist Convention's Committee on Ethics and Religious Liberty.

Carmen Pate, Concerned Women for America's President, commented: "No longer will air travelers on American Airlines fear that a portion of their fares are funding activities that may be in direct conflict with their religious beliefs."

Pro-homosexual activities promised to cease by American Airlines include:

* Sponsorship of homosexual parties. According to the Washington Times and The Advocate, illicit drug use and promiscuous sex are rampant at these parties.
* Targeting and promoting the homosexual travel market. AA aggressively advertises discount fares for "domestic partners" and discount tickets to "cruise" parties in gay publications. AA promised to send 5% of the ticket price to the homosexual group of the traveler's choice.

* Donations to homosexual organizations. This includes the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Teacher's Network (GLSTN).

"American Airlines agrees to continue to provide equal treatment for homosexuals, but to stop going out of its way to provide special treatment and services to the homosexual community," said Pate. "AA has agreed that providing special services is an endorsement of a lifestyle that is deadly for the individuals involved. It tears at the fabric of our society — the institute of traditional marriage which is a union between one man and one woman."

Pate continued: "American's sponsorship of homosexual pride events and homosexual cruise parties constitutes an open endorsement of promiscuous homosexuality. We are so pleased that American has decided to stop endorsing this deadly behavior."

Concerned Women for America press release. CWA is the nation's largest pro-family women's organization with a half million members nationwide. Reach them at 901 D St. SW, Suite 800, Washington, D.C. 20024, Phone: (202) 488-7000, E-Mail <paula@cwfa.org>.

Statement of American Airlines regarding gay and lesbian marketing and employee policies (March 25, 1998)

FORT WORTH, Texas — American Airlines issued the following statement regarding a meeting held with conservative groups regarding the company's marketing and employee policies as they affect gay and lesbian groups and individuals.

"American Airlines executives met March 23 with leaders of several conservative religious and family organizations which have objected to American's policies towards the gay and lesbian community. At that meeting, we made clear that our objective is to provide quality air service for all customers and a discrimination-free workplace for our employees.

"As we have said for several years, we have a strictly neutral stance with respect to lifestyle. Neither our marketing nor our personnel policies are intended to signal otherwise.

"American must and will promote its services to all constituencies, and we will continue to treat every employee with dignity and respect.

"We urge individuals and organizations of all perspectives to respect our neutral position, and one another, and to avoid misrepresenting our position."
United Airlines gay employees form network

SAN FRANCISCO — United Airlines employees forged a new leadership and support network for the company's lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered community on March 4. The group, United With Pride, formed as a collective voice for diversity and positive change within a corporation recently publicized for its controversial involvement in gay and lesbian issues.

United With Pride's Executive Director, Nick W. Morse, said although the group is forming objectives regarding domestic partner benefits, the new organization's mission extends beyond merely taking an activist role in current issues facing United Airlines.

"We're also offering resources and networking opportunities through alliances with other organizations," he said. "We want to utilize the various strengths of our community to help educate our colleagues, families and friends about lesbian and gay issues. We want to foster support and communication among our membership base."

Morse said membership involvement is the mainstay of United With Pride. "If the members aren't directly connected with the actions of the group, the group loses its credibility," he said. "We set up United With Pride so that our members will remain actively involved with everything the group does."

Previous attempts to organize the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community at United Airlines have lacked member involvement, according to Morse. "We've heard from a lot of people who had lost touch with groups they held membership in," he said. "United With Pride won't make that mistake. We're in frequent contact with all our members, whether by e-mail, newsletter, phone or fax."

Morse said that when founding the group, he was concerned primarily with establishing a durable management structure. "I knew that our first task was to establish a foundation — a board of directors, a mission statement, a constitution and bylaws and to file for incorporation," he said. "After that, other tasks just fell into place; we now have an interactive website where new members can join or contact us, our first newsletter will be distributed next month, and member meetings are slated to begin mid-May."

United With Pride expects to complete the process of incorporation by May 4. The current management comprises six directors and four officers, and the group gains new members daily.

"We are positioning this group to become the main public voice for all lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered employees of United Airlines worldwide," Morse said. "We are off to a powerful start. We have a strong foundation of dedicated and motivated people behind this movement."

The website address for United With Pride is <http://www.unitedpride.org>. The site contains information about current events for the group, links to related organizations, and provides links to contact the board directly.

For more information contact United With Pride, P O Box 423284, San Francisco, CA 94142-3284; telephone (415) 906-6776 or e-mail <info@unitedpride.org>.

"It is with great disappointment that I see that, once again, our colleagues in Washington have chosen to play politics with human lives. It is somewhat gratifying that, after many months of study, the Secretary of Health and Human Services, Donna Shalala, has made a positive determination and has validated the science which demonstrated, many years ago, that needle exchange programs reduce HIV infections and do not increase drug use. A scientific determination is an empty gesture, however, that can be made meaningful only when this administration puts its money where its mouth is and allows the federal funding of needle exchange programs at the community level."

— Elizabeth Taylor in an April 21 press release.
Cypherclue

In this game, every letter in the coded message consistently stands for a different letter of the alphabet. If the letter X stands for M, for example, it will stand for M in the entire message.

Today's hint: The L you see stands for the letter Y.

WOU CRBYQT SDSUWUUUSWO-FUSWQXL IRDSWUX, XYTR NYSOUQX, QTQRJL AYXU BUS'T FJYWODSK RSH ART YSFU RXXTWUH RT R HXRK EQUUS AOUS TOU AUSW YQW DS R HXUTT.

CYPFHERCLUE solution can be found on page 28.

Mr. Gay Poland contest delayed by bomb threat

The Mr. Gay Poland contest was delayed by a bomb threat March 27 in Warsaw. Police searched the club Tango for two hours as the 400 attendees, including Secretary of State Barbara Labuda and several members of Parliament, waited outside in the cold. No bomb was found.

Poland's most popular female singer, Kayah, performed at the event, which also included handing out of the "Rainbow Laurel Awards" honoring individuals and institutions for their contributions to the struggle for gay equality.

Wienielslaw Gasz, 26, from Knurow was selected Mr. Gay Poland 1998. He works in a men's clothing store where he was threatened with firing if he opted to go ahead as a contestant.

The contest and awards were organized and sponsored by the gay magazine Nowy Men. All profits from the evening were sent to the new Bosnian Gay Group in Sarajevo.

Pride on the Parkstrip

Sunday, June 28, noon to 5 p.m.

Vendors and entertainers needed. The booth application is enclosed in this issue of NorthView. Entertainers can call Candy at 337-2011 or e-mail <solcandy@bigfoot.com>.

Elizabeth Maria McNeill, Ph.D.
Clinical Psychologist
By Appointment
2600 Denali - Suite 701
Anchorage, Alaska (907) 278-6732
99503

such is LIFE!

LIKE MARIA???

LIKE HIV???
LIKE BIGOTRY???

GAY ACTIVISM DOES HAVE ITS MUSICAL MOMENTS!!!

@EARL STORM
Fairbanksan

Further North in the Heart of Alaska

No more darkness in the Interior now until the end of August. Great time to get out and start building your float for the Pride Parade.

The Palace Saloon

Now open for the summer, Fridays and Saturdays at midnight. Music being provided by Homophonic Radio.

Homophonic Radio

Moving time again for Homophonic Radio. Still on Sundays, but now from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. to catch the after-brunch crowd. KSUA-FM 91.5 is the spot for community updates, gay & lesbian news and, of course, music.

PFLAG Fairbanks

The Fairbanks Chapter of PFLAG meets on the third Sunday of the month at Into The Woods Bookshop & Coffeehouse, 3560 College Road, at 4:00 p.m. Main topics this month are Senate Joint Resolution 42 and the upcoming Pride Weekend in Fairbanks. For more information call 45P-FLAG.

Pride Weekend

Start gearing up for this year’s Pride Weekend, June 26 through 28. This year festivities have been expanded to the entire weekend, starting off on Friday night with a dance slated to be at the Alaskaland Civic Center from 9:00 p.m. until midnight with a $3 cover. Saturday has a rally at 2:00 p.m. in Bicentennial Park (7th & Cushman), with the parade following. This year’s parade will feature a downtown loop using the streets if possible and allowing for floats. After the parade, the festivities move to Alaskaland’s Wilderness Pavilion for a potluck barbecue (parking at the pavilion off Peger Road at the Chena River). Midnight on Saturday is “Summer Kamp” at the Palace Saloon. Finishing off the weekend is a Sunday Victory Potluck Brunch at Into The Woods on College Road at 1:00 p.m. with Community Awards to be given out. Anchorage and everyone is highly encouraged to attend, making this the biggest event this year in the Interior.

Contact Pat at the IAA (907) 452-4222 or PFLAG at (907) 45P-FLAG for more details, to volunteer, or to enter your group.

10th Annual Alaska Women’s Music & Arts Festival

If Pride Weekend wasn’t enough incentive to visit Fairbanks, July 4th weekend is also filled with fun and frolic. The festival begins on Friday the 3rd at noon, with music on Saturday, and softball on Sunday. Contact Louise at P.O. Box 156, Ester, AK 99725 or call 479-0618, Marbeth at 278-8044 (Anchorage), or Darla & Karen at 790-2941 (Juneau) for more information or to be a participant. The extensive list of performers can be found at <http://www.geocities.com/Wellesley/8170/>.

Into The Woods Bookshop & Coffeehouse

With the longest hours of any bookshop in town, it’s still the place to meet friends or have a group. Call Connie at 479-7701 for upcoming events like weekly music and other functions, or drop by at 3560 College Road.

GLSEN Fairbanks

Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network meets on the third Monday of the month at the Fairbanks Education Association offices, 2118 South Cushman at 5:00 p.m., promoting safe education for all.

QNetAK

Fairbanks and Anchorage calendar of events, home pages, statewide information and family friendly businesses can be found at our website.

Find a bed & breakfast, travel agency, florist and much more, or have your business listed whether or not you have a website yourself <http://www.mosquitonet.com/~qnetak>.

“...the best way to meet a woman is to stop looking for one. Just as long as you don’t stop going to places where a woman who also isn’t looking can find you.”


AH, ROSE MARIE B&B
302 Cowles Street, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701
We’re DOWNTOWN

907-456-2040
John E. Davis, proprietor
OPEN Year Round

[Class was once started as a drop-in when she went on in]

[Philotechnique Solution: The famous micro-techni-century]
Dear Love

Two hearts, one love, one life

by Karen Carlisle

Tulips, crocuses, violets, and daffodils have bloomed in my yard... and Vinca minor! About to burst out are oriental lilies and day lilies, and daisies which are already smiling up the roadsides. And today: rust, lavender and blue irises three feet tall! And delicate, small paper whites. Eat your hearts out, Alaskans! Possums and skunks have mated, and males, satiated, have committed suicide in masses reeling drunkenly across the roads; and now we are dodging box turtles and snapping turtles who are headed for ancient breeding waters, Ozmandias roads be damned!

“Oh, look,” Dear Love cooed. “A grandmother turtle! Can’t we stop and get her off the road so she doesn’t get murdered?” For once, this road had a shoulder. In the benign, lazy rays of sunlight, I pulled over. Dear Love is so tenderhearted, she scooted out of the car and knelt over the ancient one. Forthrightly, she picked up Grandmother Turtle, scolding her about crossing the road, and instead of withdrawing her head as box turtles do when frightened, Grandmother Turtle struggled mightily, stretching her long neck to shag Dear Love’s arm within her snapping jaws.

Inside the car, I shouted, unheard. “Let go, honey, let go!” But Dear Love doggedly tried to pick her up and move her off the road. True, she had picked up a board and was using it to move Grandmother Snapper who gave a good demonstration of the power of her jaws as she latched onto the stick and held on tight. Dear Love persevered and kept extricating the stick by twisting and turning it. She upended the turtle twice, and finally shoved her into the ditch by the side of the road, and neither was harmed.

Now this is the same Dear Love who recently suffered a series of rabbit shots for another animal compassion act, at a cool cost of $2500, now risking her life to prevent a snapping turtle’s demise. Does she know how fast that turtle can move? No. Does she know how long or supplemental that turtle’s neck is, how strong its determination? No. She was on a mission, this lover with the compassionate heart.

The heart is a metaphor for so many qualities and experiences — love, grief, tenderness, joy, fear, guilt, compassion. We forget it is an overworked muscle, and when it gives up beating its valiant life, we are awed, and surprised.

Dear Love’s mother only died a short time ago, and since, between missing her dreadfully, and being glad she isn’t suffering the heart’s final struggle anymore, we are both having cardiac moments... not yet events. And Dear Love wasn’t talking about it. Maybe we’ve been hyper-aware of news from the heart frontier and thought we imagined it: 50% of people don’t survive their first heart attack; women are under-diagnosed because, by the time they show symptoms, it’s sometimes too late; women’s symptoms are different than men’s, and come later in life, so doctors don’t recognize them.

So maybe she thought she was being hypochondriacal; and what woman hasn’t been discounted by a doctor, patted on the head, given tranquilizers and sent home? If not, it wasn’t because the doctor didn’t try it. Dear Love recently experienced this, and from a woman doctor yet. Maybe she didn’t want to scare me. So I didn’t know about the intermittent tightness in her chest, though I’ve nagged her for two months to get a physical and an angiogram — she’d already been told earlier she had plaque build-up in the aortal artery (I hope this is the right term).

And I? I’ve been having a flippin’ heart for two weeks, mentioning it lightly and dismissing it as nothing, but becoming uneasier daily. Until finally I became scared when the flippin’ around persevered for fourteen hours, and more.

I head for the health clinic instead of work, and chastised myself soundly on the way. What do you think you’re doing, ignoring this? Why do you value yourself so little? For goddess sake, you may have missed an opportunity for healing. Premature ventricle contractions. I see it on the EKG. The medical staff is exultant that they have successfully captured a picture. It’s not an emergency event, but it’s necessary to determine the cause. So, no more coffee, antihistamines, or liquid mineral supplements. One might be the culprit. Physical, nuclear and chemical stress tests are on the horizon. And Medline on the Internet for me.

And today? I’m skipping my final exam in sociological research methodology to go with Dear Love for her nuclear and chemical stress tests (the best kind for women). We are both weepy and intensely connected right now, as we face the certain knowledge that, even if not soon, one day, one of us will ultimately be without the other.

Copyright 1998 Karen Carlisle
Past Out

What were the lesbian sex wars?

The first battles in the lesbian sex wars occurred in the late 1970s, when cultural feminism began to dominate the movement. Cultural feminists talked about lesbianism not as a sexual orientation, but as a political choice and the logical extension of living as a feminist. In theory, any woman could be a lesbian as long as she was "woman-identified" and rejected men and their patriarchal structures. This take on lesbianism resulted in a playing down of lesbian sexual experience. Though plenty of lesbians were having sex, they just weren't talking about it publicly.

For cultural feminists, "acceptable" lesbian sexuality took on a narrow definition, which branded many sexual practices as "politically incorrect" and the lesbians who enjoyed them as outlaws. S/M dykes were turned away from music festivals, and the butch/femme heritage of the 1950s and early 1960s was demeaned — or even denounced outright. For some lesbian-feminists, any kind of penetration or "dirty talk" in sex was taboo, a mimicking of aggressive male sexuality.

Pornography was at the top of many lesbian-feminists' hate list. Citing statistics connecting rape with the viewing of porn, groups like Women Against Pornography launched a campaign to ban porn as discrimination against women.

Self-identified lesbian sex radicals began raising their voices in protest. Fierce battles raged in lesbian-feminist newspapers and magazines, most of which were controlled by cultural feminists. To pursue a frank discussion of sexuality and challenge the lesbian "sex police," academic and activist feminists came together to plan a conference, held under the auspices of Barnard College's annual Scholar and the Feminist Conference. "Toward a Politics of Sexuality" opened on April 24, 1982, with 800 women in attendance. Several speakers explored how feminists had oppressed each other by instituting right and wrong ways to have sex.

The day after the conference, the newly-formed Lesbian Sex Mafia held its first public speak-out. As 200 women listened, volunteers stood up to talk about their experiences. "I love sex rough," Dorothy Allison boldly admitted, "and I have many fetishes. If it's possible to do it, I'll try it three times." Pat Califia openly declared herself a sadist, "and that is not spelled r-a-p-i-s-t."

The Barnard Conference divided lesbian-feminists into opposing camps that continued to skirmish throughout the eighties, mostly in print. Battles over "porn" versus "eroticia" were the most heated.

By the early 1990s, there was a new generation of lesbians, many of whom had never heard of the Barnard Conference, who embraced the culture introduced by lesbian sex radicals without really understanding its history. Sex clubs for lesbians, complete with back rooms like those in gay men's clubs, for a time replaced the tamer women-only dances of the 1970s. Strap-sons and butt plugs entered the lesbian lexicon, and Susie Bright (a.k.a. Susie Sexpert) packed auditoriums with lesbians anxious to hear her ruminations on latex and labia piercing.

From the Editorial Staff: David Bianco will be the guest speaker at this month's Fourth Friday Potluck Dinner. See the Potluck Dinner ad which appears on page 13 for details.

Mormon gays & lesbians to hold conference

Preparations are well underway for the annual Conference of Affirmation: Gay and Lesbian Mormons, to be held over Labor Day weekend (September 4 to 6, 1998), in Portland, Oregon. This will be the 21st annual conference for an organization that has been largely unrecognized by its own church.

According to Scott MacKay, Affirmation Executive Director, "The church leadership has formally denied that we even exist, and despite the value the church claims to place on the family, its hostility toward gays actually drives families apart. The conference is a unique opportunity to help heal wounds, bridge differences, and show people the true meaning of family."

The conference committee is currently organizing speakers and activities for the conference weekend. Workshops will focus on such topics as same-sex marriage, issues of special concern to youth, internalized homophobia, surviving excommunication, alternate paths to spirituality, and understanding and dealing with the antigay political right.

Persons and groups who are interested are invited to contact Henry Miller, the conference chair, by e-mail at <rfhm@northwest.com> or by phone at (503) 228-2037.
Out of Town

Washington, DC, by night

By Andrew Collins

If days spent museum hopping and sidewalk strolling in Washington DC, don't sap you entirely of your energy, gear up for the capital's heady nightlife and culturally rich culinary scene. This is a great dining town: Politicking involves a lot of hobnobbing, backscratching, and other forms of schmoozing that work best over a bottle of wine and a good meal. Add to the hungry politicians a constant stream of hungry tourists, and you can see why the city has so many eateries. More impressive than the quantity of restaurants is the culinary diversity: from Latin American to Central Asian to East Asian to Central European, every conceivable cuisine is well-represented.

The trendy gay restaurant row is along 17th Street near Dupont Circle. Here Trumpets, a favorite of liberal power brokers, prepares gussy New American grub, such as North Carolina barbecue pork with corn-scallion griddle cakes. When you've finished dining, enjoy drinks in the stylish bar. Across the street, the classy Mercury Cafe makes for an ideal rendezvous for pre-dinner drinks or a terrific setting for the main event. Such inventive creations as pan-seared Southwestern chicken breast with a tomato-corn relish and sweet potato puree earn the chef here high marks. For years DC's "gay Denny's," Annie's Paramount Steakhouse has been pleasing hungry late-night disco bunnies with steak and eggs, burgers, and other meat-and-potatoes dishes.

The hunky waiters account for part of the success of the queer-popular Grill from Ipanema, a trendy Brazilian restaurant in the District's own culinary United Nations, Adams-Morgan. Beware that as few as two caipirinhas (a sweet but dangerous Brazilian cocktail) leave most patrons dazed and dizzy — but still rather happy. Across the street, Perry's, a popular Japanese restaurant with a commendable sushi bar, has an acclaimed Sunday drag brunch; a delightful experience if you don't mind a towering drag queen plopping down on your lap and scrambling your eggs to the disco remix of "Don't Cry For Me, Argentina."

Two Quail is a romantic gay-popular eatery on Capitol Hill, well-regarded for its eclectic Continental and American cuisine, such as pan-seared tuna with onion marmalade, and chicken stuffed with cornbread and pecans. Adjacent is classy Cafe Berlin, where you can warm to hearty German dishes (such as smoked loin of pork with sauerkraut) and the smiles of cute servers. The Capitol Hill pub Mr. Henry's, with one of the best (antique) jukeboxes in town, has long been a friend to Washington's lesbian and gay community. Upstairs is a smoke-free cabaret with a mix of piano and folk acts. Another sure bet for both excellent food (of the Latin American variety) and lively cabaret is the Banana Cafe, a colorfully decorated spot with a crowd completely diverse in age, gender, and style.

Dupont Circle is the main hub for nightlife, with about 75 percent of the city's gay clubs and bars spread throughout the neighborhood. Most of them draw a typical mix of guppies and crusty guys, but a few have a noticeable following among women, and still others draw predominantly African-American and Latino crowds; Washington is a multiracial city with an ethnically diverse gay community. Just down the street from the Dupont traffic circle, Latin-popular Escandalo has some of the best drag shows in the city and a small but potent dance floor. Formerly the Frat House, the grandpa of Dupont Circle bars, Omega remodeled its downstairs disco recently; upstairs is a noisy video bar, a dark room with one tiny TV showing porn, and a roadhouse-style lounge. Guys hit the nearby Fireplace when they're really ready to meet somebody (and it's late, and their standards have dropped a couple notches).

Downstairs, oglers gather around a central bar; upstairs, serious looking young men stare blankly at music videos and each other.

The largest disco near Dupont Circle is Badlands, an old brick building that comprises two floors, several rooms, and at least a half-dozen bars swarming with pretty boys. The Circle is a three-story complex north of the traffic circle; the basement and street-level floors contain a mix of bars, dance areas, and lounges, and the top floor has a large video lounge and a great outdoor terrace. Another alternative is Ozone, a narrow two-level space with a small but hot and sweaty dance floor.

Over along stand-and-model-oriented 17th Street, the staggering popularity of Cobalt, the city's main guppie cruise bar, makes it impossible to walk the entire bar without sliding up against countless strangers — which is clearly okay with most of these guys. A work of hunter green, brass, and mirrors, nearby J.R.'s is in keeping with it epitomizes the city's sometimes standoffish, glaring manner — but the ones who dump on it the loudest can't seem to get enough of the place. It's always packed. Pop Stop, the 17th Street caffeine headquarters of Washington's alternavags, is open all night on weekends and is sometimes cruisier than J.R.'s, a few doors over.

Given that Washington has a highly active lesbian community, it's kind of surprising that there aren't more nightspots for women. This is not to take anything away from the main dyke club, Hung Jury, which is a great club in the safe Foggy Bottom neighborhood.

The District's only country-western bar, Remington's is a spacious club with a small but potent dance floor, and plenty of space for mingling. The crowd is often bigger after work than late at night. Not far away, Bachelor's Mill/Back Door Pub, a sprawling complex near the DC Navy Yard, is a predominantly African-American bar and disco that's always packed on weekends and draws a young, fast-paced crowd.

The best club on DC's infamous, and impressive, "sex block," La Cage Aux Follies is a must for many visitors. Washington is among the few U.S. cities where strippers shed all of their clothes. La Cage has a handsome stable of guys who shake and gyrate out of their scant attire. It's against the law to touch them, but it's amazing what goes on here, and for that matter, what a couple of bucks will get you.

Andrew Collins recently authored the greatly expanded second edition of Fodor's Gay Guide to the USA, as well as six gay guides covering the West Coast, New York City, South Florida, and Amsterdam. He can be reached at <gayfodors@aol.com>.
"Quality of Life is our Goal"

725 Northway Drive
Anchorage, AK 99508

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

Karen Marcey
Registered Pharmacist

Danita Fischbach
Registered Pharmacist

- Home Infusion Services
- Oral Prescription Drugs
- Insurance Billing

- Free Delivery
- One-on-one counseling in a confidential environment

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.
Intimate look into life of gay, lesbian teens

by Jack Fischer

The sexual awakening of adolescence, with all its searing emotions and psychic upheaval, is tough enough. How much tougher it must be when the flower yearning to bloom is of an unexpected color.

The toll which puberty takes on gay and lesbian youth was most heart-rendingly told in an otherwise rather dry report produced in 1989 by the federal Department of Health and Human Services. The report, a task force study on the burgeoning tragedy of youth suicide, revealed that suicide rates were two to three times higher for gay and lesbian youth than the youth population in general, making it their leading cause of death.

That grim document, along with attempts by certain conservative U.S. senators to suppress it, galvanized photographer Rita Reed to action. Seeking to lessen the pain for gay and lesbian youth, Reed, who is lesbian, decided to chronicle their difficult coming-of-age. Not only misery, but hope, too, appreciates company.

After much effort, Reed, a staffer at the Minneapolis Star Tribune, located two local teenagers willing to share their stories. The result is Growing Up Gay: The Sorrows and Joys of Gay and Lesbian Adolescence (Norton, 143 pp., $35, $19.95 paperback).

Reed’s photographs reflect what must have been more months of work before the first shutter was ever tripped. The trust her two subjects placed in the photographer’s hands is obvious in every image. She seems to have succeeded in that most crucial and least-discussed task of the documentarian: becoming invisible.

In pictures and the first-person narratives that accompany the photographs, subjects Amy Grahn and Jamie Nabozy tell of their initial bewilderment, their isolation, the cruel mistreatment by peers and, ultimately, their roads to self-acceptance. Along with the many moments of despair Grahn and Nabozy experienced for the inadvertent offense of being different, the photographer captures the universal rites of passage: the proms, the dates, the breakups, moving out.

In the best tradition of documentary photography, her pictures do not distract from the tale with showy aesthetics. These are intimate, unadorned pictures that simply show the complicated reality of being a gay or lesbian teen.

If there is a shortcoming in the presentation, it is in the trade-off Reed and her subjects made by telling their stories in the first person, an approach that offers intimacy but constrains the insights of growing up gay to what can be understood and articulated by the two youngsters in the throes of the experience. What is lost to the reader is a better sense of what the journey was like for parents and friends.

But of the spate of photography books published in the past 18 months that purport to explode stereotypes and describe everyday gay life in America, none is more poignant and compelling than Reed’s. It’s a valuable book not only for teens who may be experiencing what it describes, but perhaps even more important, for parents, teachers and peers to learn what they can do to support and protect these anguished kids.

Copyright 1998 San Jose Mercury News, 750 Ridder Park Drive, San Jose, CA, 95190. Fax 408-471-3792, E-Mail <letters@sjmercury.com>.

HELP US TO HELP YOU

There are many ways in which our readers may assist in the publication of NorthView. It may be that you have a few hours of time to donate in some manner, or you may have skills which you could apply on a volunteer basis. If there are no extra hours in your schedule and you have no skills which could be applied, why not consider sponsoring the mailing of one issue of NorthView.

Each month it costs approximately $100 to mail this publication to our members. Our primary sources of revenue are membership fees and advertising income. As postal rates have escalated over the years, so have our mailing expenses. We’re using the lowest rate structure available to non-profit organizations, but the costs continue to increase. If you have the ability to donate the cost of mailing a complete issue of NorthView, we would like to speak with you about it. Or, if this is more than your checking account permits, why not contact one or more friends to see if a sharing of the expense can be worked out. You’ll find we are more than willing to work with you in whatever configuration is best.

In return, we would encourage you to allow us to publicly acknowledge your donation by displaying the following statement at the bottom of the front cover (not the bulk mail page which is visible to the entire world): “Mailing of this issue of NorthView was generously donated by …………..” If you prefer to remain anonymous, we understand and would simply insert “an anonymous donor” in the space.

If this is something you (or someone you know) are interested in doing, please contact Ruth at 563-1324, Tom at 333-7504 or Shirley at 338-3708.
National lesbian foundation celebrates 20th birthday

April 13, 1998 — Astraea, the National Lesbian Action Foundation, celebrates its 20th year with “Astraea's Ascent: A Gala Celebration” dance at The National Museum of Women in the Arts, Saturday, May 9, Washington, DC. Among the honored guests at the VIP reception will be renowned Lesbian author Dorothy Allison and the Honorable Sabrina Sojourner, U.S. Representative (Shadow-DC). Live music and dancing will follow the VIP reception.

Astraea is a multicultural, multiracial, multiclass foundation that supports organizations directly addressing issues related to or serving lesbians. Consideration is given to local, regional, and national groups which focus on organizing, advocacy, leadership development, or educational activities and which have the least access to traditional funding. Projects funded by Astraea embrace inclusion and reflect the diversity of the geographic region in which they do their work.

A sampling of past recipients include:
- Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays' Project Open Mind, Washington, DC, PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of lesbian, gay, and bisexual persons through support to cope with an adverse society; education to enlighten an ill-informed public; and advocacy to end discrimination and secure equal rights. Project Open Mind uses the media and grassroots organizing tools to reach mainstream heterosexual Americans with positive messages about lesbian and gay youth.
- Alma de Mujer Center for Social Change, Austin, TX, a project of The Indigenous Women's Network, serves primarily as a low cost retreat center for non-profit and community based organizations and individuals working in the fields of education, health, the environment, and social justice. Alma de Mujer has hosted, mentored, and facilitated various lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgendered groups.
- Holy Wisdom Inter-Faith Community of Miami, Miami, FL, is a multicultural-cultural lesbian/gay faith-based group which provides a safe environment free from racism and gender bias and from religious intolerance to lesbians, gay men, and their friends. All share a background of intolerance and exclusion from mainstream culture, particularly organized religion.

Other Astraea programs include the Lesbian Writers Fund to support emerging writers in the fields of poetry and fiction and the International Fund for Sexual Minorities to support organizations abroad who meet the needs of people oppressed or discriminated against because of their sexual identity or behavior. Both of these funds are believed to be the only funds of their kind.

"I can't believe it's been twenty years already," said Executive Director, Katherine Acey. "In many ways, we're just beginning. We just began an endowment fund to ensure that Astraea's great legacy of creating an inclusive and diverse philanthropic community is always alive. And I am especially pleased to be celebrating our 20th year at the National Women's Museum in the Arts. I can't wait to meet the DC community."

The Astraea National Lesbian Action Foundation, Inc., is a nonprofit public charity whose purpose is to advance the economic, political, educational, and cultural well-being of lesbians. Astraea works to expand the community of donors supporting lesbian issues, to raise and distribute funds to organizations, projects and individuals; and to educate individuals about money, power, and giving. Astraea's programs work to benefit lesbians, gay men and all women and girls both in the U.S. and internationally to eliminate all forms of oppression and exploitation. Contact Darice Clark at 301-581-2149.

Skyline
Bed and Breakfast
907/235-3832
email: skyline@xyz.net

Homer has glaciers, eagles, moose, and a spectacular bay. See it all from our deck!
Full Alaskan breakfast, hot tub, ten wooded acres, very quiet. Rates range from $70 - $110 nightly

Special Winter Rates Available Now
60855 Skyline Drive, Homer, AK 99603
Visit our web site at http://akns.com/skyline
(Lesbian Managed)

Bela
Bodnar 244-4415
RE/MAX Properties
2600 Cordova, #100 Anch., AK 99503
e-mail address bela@alaska.net
home fax (907) 274-Fax (3299)
Middle schools can be safe, too

GLSEN News Report

The GLSEN Alaska chapter of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network recently heard a report from a teacher at Clark Middle School who had attended a national conference of middle school educators. This non-gay friend noted a marked increase in the prominence of sessions concerning gay and lesbian issues, compared with a previous conference two years ago. She heard encouraging reports of schools across the country that have taken effective steps to eliminate anti-gay harassment and discrimination, even in localities where school district policies are silent or tepid about the issue. She came back with many practical suggestions about what non-gay staff in schools can do, even without the support of supervisors and school boards. For example, a teacher can be self-identified as a safe person for a student to confide in. “Safe Zone” stickers can be placed on classroom doors. “Teachable moments” can be used to confront bigotry. There are many others.

Last year, national GLSEN conducted a “Report Card” campaign to evaluate the quality of efforts by schools and school districts in combating homophobia. Some schools in Massachusetts and San Francisco got As. The Anchorage School District rated an F for failure. In this year’s campaign, GLSEN Alaska will work to raise our grade.

Alberta mayors refuse pride proclamations

Even though Canada’s Supreme Court inserted sexual-orientation protections into Alberta’s human-rights act April 2, the mayors of Edmonton and Calgary still say they will not proclaim gay-pride week.

Edmonton Mayor Bill Smith said, “There’s only one judge in the supreme court here [in my office]. It’s nothing I’m going to debate. My position is that I’m not going to proclaim gay-pride days. It has nothing to do with discrimination.”

Calgary Mayor Al Duerr told reporters: “Nothing has changed from that perspective. We do not proclaim a special day on any issue perceived as divisive within the community.”

In Ontario, the provincial Human Rights Commission has fined mayors up to $10,000 for refusing to issue gay-pride proclamations.

David Bianco will be our guest speaker for the potluck on Friday, May 22nd.
The hours will be 7:00 - 9:30pm.

Oldtime Music Co.
P.O. Box 92294
Anchorage, AK 99509-2294

Specializing in:
- Accordions
- Concertinas
- Harps
- Hammer Dulcimers
- Autoharps
- Bagpipes
- Cajun Rub Boards
- Psaltries
- Mandolins
- Dobros
and All Kinds
of Unusual Instruments

(907) 561-6862

“We’ve got to stop seeing each other--I’m running out of teeth!”
Men’s locker room must shed its homophobic atmosphere

by Deb Price

Smelly socks. Snapping towels. Sweaty, naked bodies. The clang of flimsy metal doors. Raunchy humor. Steamy, confusing emotions. Cruel taunts. Aggressive put-downs, with the targets being labeled gay or girtlish in the most vulgar terms. Nonstop tests of masculinity.

With rare exceptions, the crude, competitive, sexually charged atmosphere inside boys’ locker rooms changes very little from generation to generation, school to school.

“For most gay guys, the locker room is a place of terror,” notes high school soccer coach Dan Woog. Whether in elementary school or college, an athlete who knows or fears he’s gay constantly hears that homosexuals aren’t welcome in the male sports world. That locker room message comes through loud and clear even if he’s not the intended victim of anti-gay slurs or shows.

Told that playing fields are a place for real men and that the only real men are heterosexuals, many boys and young men give up on sports because they know they can’t successfully run away from being gay. How many would-be football tackles or track stars have been lost that way? Others, like Woog in his own high school days, try to prove to themselves that they aren’t gay by sticking with sports and echoing the homophobic wisecracks that continually ricochet off male locker walls.

But, as Woog eventually learned, gay athletes jeopardize their emotional development if they attempt to deny either aspect of their dual identities. Only by making peace with being both gay and athletic do they achieve real self-esteem and lasting contentment.

Woog came out at the Westport, CT., high school where he coaches because he was “tired of living as a hypocrite.” He just couldn’t keep telling his athletes to be honest, have integrity and be proud of who they were while not heeding his own words.

Honored as National Youth Soccer Coach of the Year in 1990 before leaving the closet, Woog, 44, believes he’s a better coach now that he’s openly gay. Now he’s less on guard, less on edge, less distant from his players. “Most kids feel more comfortable talking to me now because they see me as somebody who is being honest and vulnerable, which they don’t see in a lot of adults,” he says.

Even in this era when the Gay Games draws thousands of gay athletes, gay boys who dream of pitching a no-hitter or winning a tennis title have very few visible role models. Woog’s new book, Jocks: True Stories of America’s Gay Male Athletes (Alyson Books) begins to fill that void. To keep his book focused, Woog says, he needed to keep it male since budding lesbians interested in sports confront a different stereotype: “You must be gay if you like athletics.”

Despite having gotten overwhelmingly positive reactions to his own debut as an openly gay coach, Woog began his book research expecting to find countless horror stories — players kicked off teams, coaches fired, physical attacks, serious harassment. Yet he found that most of the gay athletes he interviewed told upbeat, even inspiring stories.

* An Illinois teen-ager finds his tennis talent gives him the self-confidence to accept being gay.
* Parents in conservative Orange County, CA, rally behind an excellent running coach who happens to be gay.
* A college swimmer drifts away from sports and into what he sees as a gay life — drinking, smoking and anonymous sex. Once he finds his balance by diving back into a pool, he matures into a healthy gay man.

Perhaps even more than Woog’s first book, School’s Out: The Impact of Gay and Lesbian Issues on America’s Schools, Jocks is valuable reading for educators, especially coaches.

Every coach needs to realize how comments like “Stop throwing like a pansy” damage every player. Heterosexuals are misled into thinking that blatant homophobia is an acceptable indulgence for adults; the world will teach them otherwise. Meanwhile, gay players are being taught to despise themselves, a lesson some never unlearn.

Boys look up to their coaches as people who will teach them the rules of life as well as the rules of the game. The best coaches show by example that homophobia is always out of bounds. The socks still smell in their locker rooms, but the atmosphere isn’t so foul.


“Babies are petite and adorable, but they really don’t suit everyone’s lifestyle. They’re messy. They demand attention. They spit up on your shoes. Even worse, they grow up to be confused, acne-covered, angst-ridden teenagers who hate you. ... Baby obsession is a self-perpetuating cycle; now that the media keeps focusing on dykes with strollers, many unlikely lesbians who used to be perfectly content to spend their weekends renting videos, going to garage sales, and occasionally dressing as Drag Kings now feel compelled to shop for sperm donors instead.”

— Syndicated gay-press advice columnist Ms. Behavior, in a November filing.
Out of the closet and into the race

Pat Griffin once dated the wrestling coach at the high school where she taught, just for the comfort of appearing heterosexual. She hasn't seen the guy in ages, so she said he might be surprised to read her new book, Strong Women, Deep Closets: Lesbians and Homophobia in Sport (Human Kinetics, $19.95, 245 pp).

The book tells her own story, as a gifted athlete and coach who tried for years to mask her sexual identity. It also paints the broader picture, describing the hurdles that lesbian athletes have come up against in the past and continue to face today.

It's not unusual for women's college sports team to have an explicit "no lesbians" policy. And while other teams may quietly acknowledge the participation of lesbian athletes, coaches routinely forbid them from being open about their orientation. "The coaches may not write the policy down," Griffin said, "but they say it."

The recent Olympics are a good example. Griffin pointed out that there was not a single "out" lesbian in the games, though there were plenty of lesbians participating. "The truth be told, lesbians are so much responsible for opening up women's sports," she said. "And yet they're demonized as the problem."

Strong Women, Deep Closets is a clearly written and readable book. It includes a chapter on history, describing the way Title IX has increased women's participation in sports and made female athleticism acceptable. Yet lesbian athletes, Griffin writes, "continue to represent the boundary line between acceptable and unacceptable behavior for women."

The book also contains chapters on the stigmatizing of lesbian athletes, on tensions with Evangelical Christian sports groups, and on lesbian athletes who choose to come out. Griffin gathered personal narratives from her professional travels, as well as from conversations on the Internet.

I thought Griffin brought up a lot of tough issues and handled them well. When discussing locker rooms, she writes: "Assuming that all lesbians are leering at other women's bodies with sexual intent or that no heterosexual women are checking out other women's bodies creates a false dichotomy based on lesbian stereotypes. I remember a conversation with my swim team that occurred in the van on the way home from a meet. The conversation began with a few women expressing discomfort with the muscularity of their arms, backs, and shoulders, the visible results of weight training and hard practice sessions. As we talked more, however, it became clear that they were secretly very proud of their hard-earned muscles and strong appearance. They liked looking at themselves and each other, but they were uncomfortable acknowledging their pride in their own bodies or noticing other women's bodies."

In general, she writes, lesbians are perceived as being far more interested in sex than heterosexual women.

Griffin played basketball at the University of Maryland and was a member of the United States field hockey squad in 1970-71. She coached high school basketball in Silver Spring, MD, and went on to coach swimming at the University of Massachusetts.

She first came out publicly — and nervously — in 1987, during an address to an organization of physical education teachers. Since then, she has been leading workshops across the country on homophobia in sports.

Griffin, who is 52, teaches in the social justice education program at the University of Massachusetts. The program has offered a degree program since 1992. Griffin's courses are on racism, sexism and anti-Semitism, as well as heterosexism. She is also co-editor of Teaching for Diversity and Social Justice: A Sourcebook for Teachers and Trainers.

Griffin said the next few years may see some interesting clashes on women's college teams. As some high schools become more accepting of gay and lesbian students, athletes may enter college with their identities secure.

"I think there will be tensions between closeted coaches and out athletes," Griffin said. That story may be the sequel.

Daily Hampshire Gazette, 115 Conz Street, Northampton, MA, 01060. E-mail <letters@gazettenet.com>.

Have you tried Chiropractic for:
- Headache
- Neck pain
- Shoulder pain
- Low back pain
- Leg pain
- Stress

Relief without drugs or surgery is possible!

Dr. Allison Hill
Dr. Hill has 15 years of experience. She is a graduate of the Texas Chiropractic College, and has done post-graduate work in neurology and low back disorders.

- Auto Accidents
- Sports Injuries
- Workers Comp.
- We bill insurance
- Dr. Hill also utilizes Non-Force Techniques

The Hill Clinic
A Chiropractic Office
203 West 15th Ave., Suite 104 (corner of 15th & C)

272-1272
The Directory

This directory is our "yellow pages" and reference guide. It's free! 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. Submit changes to <TomAndAll@alaska.net> or telephone 258-4777.

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

AIDS:
(A) Alaskan AIDS Assistance Assoc., 263-2050 (see 4A's page)
(A) Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center (free HIV testing), Stephanie, 257-4637
(A) Interior AIDS Association (Fairbanks) 452-4222
(A) Shanti of Juneau, 907-463-5665, 1-800-478-AIDS (2437)
(A) S.T.O.P. AIDS Project, Gail Charles-Abbot, 278-5019

Alcoholics Anonymous:
(G/L) Gay, Joyous and Free, see Calendar
(G/L) Midnight Suns, see Calendar

Alternative Medicine/Health:
(A) Hope, 561-2330
(A) Gatekhi, Ketki/Jaimini, 561-7327
(L) Movement Options, Shari, 274-FLEX (3539)
(A) Rainbow Counseling, Maureen, 277-0582
(A) Thee Cutting Edge (Seward, AK), Connie, 907-224-8996
(A) The Ole Herb Shoppe, Constance, 522-4372

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

Automotive Repairs & Fuel:
(A) Courtney's, Linny, 562-1227 (see ad)

Bakery & Catering:
(G) Alaska Best Catering, Maurice, 338-1080, 337-1969
(G) Illusions, Brian, 277-9191
(G) Silver Spoon Cleaning & Catering, Brent, 258-0828

Bars & Restaurants:
(G) Illusions, Brian, 277-9191
(G/L) O'Brady's, 344-8033, 338-1080, 563-1080
(G/L) The Raven, 276-9672
(L/G) The Wave, 274-0690 or 561-WAVE (see ad)

Bed & Breakfasts, Accommodations:
(A) Ah, Rose Marie, 302 Cowles, Fairbanks, John, 456-2040
(A) Alva's (Fairbanks), Pete, 907-389-2582 (see ad)
(G) Arctic Feather, Doug, 277-3862
(G) Aurora Winds, James/Bill, 346-2533
(G) Crabtree Guest House (Fairbanks), Phil/Bobby, 907-451-6501
(A) Fairbanks Hotel, Doris Lundin, 888-329-4685
(A) Gallery Bed & Breakfast (Anchorage) Leslie Evans 274-2567
(A) Island Watch, Eileen (Homer), 907-205-2265 (see ad)
(A) Regina's, 276-4904
(L) Rose-Beth's B&B, (Anchorage) Rose Beth, 337-6779
(G/A) Sauder Lodging (Fairbanks, Seward), Gordon, 907-224-8946.
(L) Skyline B&B (Homer), Lisa, 907-235-3832.
(L) Wandering Women (Juneau) Carol/Sudie 907-586-2410.

Books:
(A) Alaskana, Gene, 561-1340 (see ad)
(A) Cyranos Books & Cafe, Sandy/Jerry, 274-2599
(A) Into The Woods Bookshop (Fairbanks), Connie, 907-479-7701

Churches:
see Spiritual

Coffee Houses:
(G) Hollywood Canteen, Rand, 562-0737
(A) Quiver Bean Coffee Co., Scott & Becky, call or fax 278-BEAN

--- Florists ---

College and Boarding School Selection:
(A) Tom Croke, 277-7004 or (717) 888-8652

Computer Consultants, Graphics & Desktop Publishing:
(A) Alaskan Support Consortium, Walter Erskine, 522-4275
(L) Angie, 337-0253
(A) Binyo's Den, 205 4th Ave., Seward, Sue or Terri, 224-PAWS
(L) Communication Art, Catherine, 563-5492
(L) CDA Services,Waltraud, 276-6862
(G) Ekstatic RAM, Robert Iris, 522-4275
(G) Greg Parsons, 258-1339
(G) gra./x, Lucian, 561-5856
(I) Helleck & Assoc., Terry, 276-3869
(G) Mark Mathis, 338-3357, <mmathis@alaska.net>
(I) TechLink, LeMiel, 276-6862

Computer Supplies & Equipment:
(A) Fridgid North, Tom, 561-4633 (see ad)

Computer Training:
(G) Seven Treasures Computing, Don, 562-9496
(A) Find It! Business Services (Macintosh); Larry, 279-4862

Counseling:
(G) Ability Design Associates, Doran, 562-9575
(A) Anchorage Center for Families, 276-4994 (handles all kinds of family issues.)
(A) Barton Sloan, LCSW, 563-5765
(A) Connie, 562-1826
(G) F. Ken Freedman, 566-1708 (see ad)
(A) Jann, 248-9408
(A) Marion, 562-0012
(A) Psychological Services Center, 786-1795
(A) S.T.A.R. (Standing Together Against Rape), 276-7279
(L) Tess, Alternative Counseling, 562-8281
(A) Tom Gormley, ANP, 566-2110

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

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

Disk Jockeys:
(A) Lake Webb, 373-2689(hm), 279-3300(wk)

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

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

Electrolysis:
(L) Gentle Touch Electrolysis Clinic, Bronwyn, 258-6608

Entertainment:
(G) Art Services North, Darl Schaffa, 561-2115
(G) Capri Cinema, 561-0064 (see ad)
(G) Cyranos Film Gallery Cinema, 117 D Street, 561-0064.
(A) Syzgy/Music Magic, Linda, 274-2599
(L) Women's Coffeehouse, Lisa, 561-2198

Family Medicine:
(A) Dr. Phyllis T. Dunkel, 257-4600

Financial, Insurance, Investments:
(L) Chris, 561-8040/339-3962
(G) Jon Howe, Bank of America, 263-3335
(A) Kathleen Madden, Wadell & Reed, 349-3559
(A) Catherine Smith, C.P.A., 562-2438
(A) Solutions Consulting, Laura, 243-3324

Flooring:
(A) Big Bob's, Mark, 561-2121
(A) Quality Floors, Bob & Ruth, 248-3900

Florists/Greenhouses/Nurseries:
(G) Every Bloomin' Thing, Jerry, Malcom, 274-3158
(A) Mike 5.2 Greenhouse, Dale, 694-3978
(A) Tryck Nursery, Doug, 345-25075

Identity
Directory

**Furniture/Furnishings/Gifts:**
(A) Design Craft, David, 279-0638 (see ad)

**Hair styling:**
(G) Gabriel, 272-9045
(A) 36th Avenue Hair Design, Ledjha, 561-8967

**Health:**
(A) Alpine Indoor Air Purification Systems, Marjory, (907) 746-6381
(L) Health Advocacy-Medical/Legal Research, Linda, 337-0253
(A) Home Health Care, 261-3173
(A) Nature's Own Way, Roberto/Debby, 561-0181

**Helpline:**
(G/L) Anchorage, Identity Helpline, 258-4777 (see ads)
(G/L) Fairbanks Lesbian/Gay Line, 907-458-8288
(G/L) Open Door Youthline, 456-GLBY
(G/L) Gay & Lesbian National Hotline, 1-888-843-4564
(G/L) Juneau, SEAGLA, 586-GAYS

**House Cleaning:**
(L) Connie's House Cleaning Service, Connie, 276-3147
(A) Green Valley Cleaning, Tara, 345-4657
(G) Silver Spoon Cleaning, Brent, 258-0828
(A) Sweeping Lady, Janet, 276-7608

**House Sitting:**
(L) Victoria, 245-2291.

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

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

**Legal:**
(L) Mendel & Associates, Allison, 279-5001 (see ad)
(L) Rhodes, Phyllis; Mediator, 346-2217
(A) Short, Sylvia, 562-4992 (see ad)

**Massage Therapy:**
(L) Donna (NCMT), 243-0789
(L) Beth (MT), Debbie (CMT), 566-0842
(G) Don, 338-9026
(C) Gabriel, 272-9045
(L) Leslie, 276-3346
(L) Ariel, 277-5222

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

**Moving:**
(A) Broco Cartage Company, Tim, 275-8763

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

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

**Nutraceuticals:**
(A) Hope, 561-2330

**Newsletters/Newspapers:**
(A) Alaska Women Speak, Mary Lee, 696-0924
(A) Anchorage Press, Nick, 561-7737 (see ad)
(L) Klondyke Contact (Alaska Women's Cultural Center), 277-9763
(GLA) NorthView (Identity), 258-4777
(GL) Perspective (SEAGLA in Juneau), 586-4297

**Obstetrics & Gynecology:**
(A) Jane, 563-5151
(L) Mary Rees, Nurse Practitioner, 563-7228

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

**Pet Care & Veterinarian:**
(L) Chena Ridge Veterinary Clinic (Fairbanks) 479-0001
(A) Dr. Ginny, 345-1515
(L) Dr. Vicki, 345-1515

**Photography:**
(L) Alaska Photographic & Supply, Linda, 345-5434
(G) Fotos by Frank, Frank, 566-0600 (see ad)

**Political:**
(A) Alaskans Concerned About Latin America (ACALA), Ruth, 333-1190
(A) Anchorage Women's Political Caucus, contact Janet Mitson, 688-0116
(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) SOS Printing, Val, 562-1678
(A) TimeFrame, 562-3822 (see ad)

**Real Estate:**
(G) Apollo Real Estate, Bob, 561-0661
(A) Beila Bodnar, RE/MAX, 244-4415 (see ad)
(L) Bronwyn Real Estate, 907-277-4744
(L) Century 21 (Missouri), Lucille, 417-745-6798 (w);
417-993-4302 (h)
(L) Dynamic Properties, Jill, 261-7663
(A) Rona Mason, Realtor, 242-8877 (cell) or 279-8877. (see ad)
(L) Waltraud Barron, 278-1981

**Recreation:**
(L) Alaska Women of the Wilderness, Rachel, 688-2226
(L) Equinox Wilderness Expeditions, Karen, voice mail: 274-9087
(A) Flies by Ilen (Eagle River), 907-694-6946
(A) Knik Glacier Tours; Palmer, Alaska; Tom Faussett, 745-1577
(L) McKinley Air Service, Lee Ann & Keli, 800-564-1765
(L) Puffin Family Charters, Leslie, 278-3346
(G) Roy's Bikes, Roy, 333-8221
(A) Stan Stevens Cruises, P. O. Box 1297, Valdez, AK 99686.
(907) 835-4731, (800) 992-1297.
(G) Triangle Tours, Greg, 276-2770, 888-899-2770
(A) Wild Iris Fishing and Sightseeing Charters (Valdez) Barb,
907-389-2725

**Religious/Counseling:**
(G) Rick, 333-9640
(A) Joyce, CMT, 562-1916
(L) Spiral Services, Barbara, 337-2011

**Research:**
(L) Grant & Associates, 279-3982
(L) Writing & Research Services, Lorraine, 277-7373

**Social/Educational:**
(G) AGS Social Club, formerly Anch Garden Buddies, 272-5608
(G) Imperial Court of All Alaska, Ross, 563-2110
(GL) Southeast Alaska Gay & Lesbian Alliance (SEAGLA),
(Juneau) 907-586-4297

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

**Spiritual:**
(A) Aquarian Foundation, Rev. Patricia Brown, 349-9955
(A) Anchorage Church of Religious Science, Center for Positive
Living, Rev. Nancee Sweeney, 258-0010
(A) Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Art, 248-3737
(see ad)
(A) Church of the Covenant (Matsunaka Valley), Pastor Howard
Bess, 746-1089
(A) Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke, Anchorage,
where we're all regardless of orientation, 333-5253
(A) Lamb of God Metropolitana Community Church, 258-5266
(A) St. James the Fisherman Episcopal Church (Kodiak), Fr.
Paul, 486-5276
Directory

Student Organizations...

(A) Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fairbanks, 4148 Pikes Landing Road, Richard Kemnitz, 457-9009
(A) Unity Church of Anchorage, 346-2824

Support Groups:

(G/L) Alaska Gay and Lesbian Association (AGLA, Fairbanks)
   Pete, 907-479-7348 (see Club Notes)
(G/L) The Family (Anchorage), Victoria, 245-2291

Tattoos:

(A) Bitchin' Tats, Kathy, 561-3653

Theatre:

(A) Out North Contemporary Art House, Gene/Jay, 279-8099

Travel:

(G) Apollo Travel Agency, Bob, 561-0661 (see ad)
(G) Triangle Tours, Greg, 276-2770 or 883-899-2770

Tutoring:

(G) Gabriel, Spanish, 272-9045
(A) James, Biology, 248-6412
(L) Carolyn Lancaster, M.Ed., School Survival Skills, 274-5059
(A) Kathleen L. McDonough, School Survival Skills, 274-5059

Club Notes

AA
Gay Joyous & Free, see on-going calendar.
Midnight Sun, see on-going calendar.

Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association (4As) Anchorage
offers HIV testing Wednesday afternoons (2:00-4:00pm) at their offices, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102. Friday at noon is a luncheon for People With HIV and AIDS. We are always looking for groups willing to donate and provide these meals. If you are interested in helping with the luncheons, 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 Matthew at 907-474-6666, ext. 3535.

AGB Social Club
(formerly Anchorage Garden Buddies) a social group for gay men looking for an alternative to the “bar scene.” For more information, call Sheldon at 243-0662.

Anchorage Women’s Political Caucus
for lesbians and non-lesbians, meets 7:00pm at Elmer’s Restaurant, New Seward & Fireweed, on the first Wednesday of every month.

Aquarian Foundation
services Wednesday 8:00pm and Sunday 11:00am, 8500 LaViento Drive, 349-9955.

Bruin Brotherhood of Alaska (Levi/Leather/Bear)
1441 E. 12th, #2, 99501 Contact Dan at 258-2629 or 276-6947. Meets the third Saturday at 7 pm.

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

EQUIL, Inc. Fairbanks
purpose is to keep the community informed about political and legal events which have an effect on the lesbigay 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. For more information about EQUIL, contact Laura Burleson at 907-479-7348 or e-mail FSLEB@aurora.alaska.edu

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

Fairbanks Radio Station
KSUA 91.5 "Homophonic Radio", 4-6 p.m. Sundays

Family—Anchorage
The Family is UAA's student club for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and ally students. For the summer months only, meets at different times and days each week at Uncommon Grounds, East 6th Avenue and Barrow Street. For more information, call Victoria at 245-2291 or e-mail <akglb_youth@hotmail.com>.

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

Gay Bar, Anchorage
free legal question and answer sessions on issues of interest to lesbians and gays. Second Monday of every month, noon at 845 'K' St. 279-5001.

Continued on page 41
Gay/Lesbian Book Club
at Barnes and Noble on third Wednesday, 7-9 pm. Kim Meck, Community Relations Coordinator for B&N hosts this discussion group.

GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network)
a national organization which has a local chapter in Anchorage. Meets the first Sunday each month, 1pm at AUUF. Membership is confidential. We welcome educators and non-educator allies who are interested in the problems of GLBT youth in our public schools. For more information call Fred, 562-7161.

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 each 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 program title.

Imperial Court of All Alaska (ICOAA), Anchorage
is a social and support group that contributes to our community by assisting 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 Rosie Rotton at 563-2110. Or write P.O. Box 104023, Anchorage 99510-4023.

IMRU2
Anchorage gay youth group meets Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. at 4As, 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 1:30pm at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke, 258-5266.

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

Mt. McKinley (Non-Ascent) 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).

OPAL
is a lesbian social organization with an open membership. OPAL holds monthly potlucks with different themes on the third Sunday of the month. Please call Roby at 522-3953 for more information.

Over 50’s Club
a lesbian book and support group. Meets second and fourth Mondays, 7-9 pm. Videos and books will be a part of this positive energy discussion group. For location, call Rose Beth (337-6779) or Lorraine (276-3337).

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG) of Fairbanks meets the 3rd Sunday of every month from 4:00pm to 5:30pm at Into the Woods Bookstore & Coffeehouse, 3560 College Road, Fairbanks, Call 45P-PFLAG for more information.

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG) of Juneau meets the 1st Saturday of every month at 10:30am at Mendenhall Mall Library. Phone 907-463-4203.

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

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

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 ongoing 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
an Anchorage lesbian/feminist institution; music, readings and other events, held monthly at various venues; new performers are encouraged to participate; open mic every other month. Check calendar for more information, or call Lisa at 561-2198, or e-mail to milo@servcom.com.

"I know the extent to which the communities affected by AIDS are angry and disappointed and frustrated and grieving. But I do think it is difficult to say that this administration is doing nothing about AIDS. That's hyperbole. You come to that when after nearly 15 years — and God knows how many people died — you still have this plague here. It makes you feel like 'Why the hell are we still living with this thing?' You then take out the frustration on there not being enough this and not enough that. There are not enough of a lot of things. But I can't say the president and the administration don't care about AIDS. Could we do more? Absolutely. But the president would say that too."

— Lesbian activist Virginia Apuzzo, President Clinton’s new White House assistant for management and administration, to the Chicago Tribune, October 19.
Cyberlust

Submit changes to <TomAndAl@alaska.net>

Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association (4AAs): <http://www.alaskanails.org>

A GLBA: AK Gay & Lesbian Assoc. <fmph@aurora.alaska.edu>

Burleson, Laura: Gay Rights activist, Chair of Equal of Fairbanks: <lsleab@aurora.alaska.edu>

Capri Cinema, Rand Thorson: <filmgallery@compuserve.com>

Carlisle, Karen: Writer, feminist, teacher, activist: <krk@getonthe.net>

Carter, Dan: Gay activist, Dandelion, Equal: <alaskadan@aol.com>

Cheney BB&B: <Cheneybb@alaska.net>

Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere (COLAGE): <http://www.colage.com>

Childs, Lucian: Graphic artist <lucian@alaskana.com> <http://www.alaskana.com/gfx/>

Crabtree, Phil, BB&B, Fairbanks, <crabtreehome@geocities.com>, <http://www.geocities.com/WestHollywood/4169>

Cracium, Jean: market research, Pride Conference: <jcracium@craciam.alaska.net>

Family, The <avsw@uaa.alaska.edu> <http://cwolf.alaska.edu/~abram/>

Fauth, Terry: <akbear@mosquitonet.com>

Freedman, F. Kenneth: Gay/Lesbian activist, <fken@servcom.com>

Gay & Lesbian National Hotline: <http://www.glnn.org/>

GLAAD: Gays and the media <http://www.glaad.org>

Haase, Michael: <michaela@servcom.com>

Hillman, Fred: <hillman@alaska.net>

Hillman, Bronwyn: <bronywn@alaska.net>

IAC - Interior AIDS Assoc. Fairbanks <iaa@polarnet.com> website: <http://www2.polarnet.com/~iaa>

Identity: <http://www.alaska.net/identity>

Imperial Court of All Alaska (ICOAA): see link at <http://www.mosquitonet.com/~qnetak>

Into The Woods Bookshop: Connie, Fairbanks, AK, e-mail <woods@polarnet.com> website: <http://www2.polarnet.com/~woods>

Kauzlari, Rick: alaskanRick@geocities.com

Klondyke Contact: <klondykecontact@hotmail.com>

Kohout, Jen: <jenkout@aol.com>

KT Creative: <ktcreate@alaska.net>

Last Frontier Men's Club: see club listing <FMC@Micronet.net>

Lovering, Ken: <kmaplove@juno.com>

Naff, Don: <donnaff@alaska.net>

Out North: <outnorth@artwire.org>

Parsons, Greg <gparsong@pitalaska.net>

PFLAG: Pbs. website <http://www.mosquitonet.com/~pflag> e-mail <pflag@mosquitonet.com>

Pinney, Pete: UAF instructor and owner of Alta's B & B; <flamm@aurora.alaska.edu>

Q Net AK, Alaska's Gay & Lesbian Information Source: website: <http://www.mosquitonet.com/~qnetak> e-mail <qnetak@mosquitonet.com>

Rachal, Tom: Tom@AndAl@alaska.net

SEAGLA: <http://pitalaska.net/~seagla>

Severson, Kim: Entertainment editor Anchorage Daily News, board of Nat'l Lgbt & Gay Journalists Assn: <kseverson@pop.adn.com>

Shanti of Juneau: <http://www.pitalaska.net/~shanti>

Soule, Barbara & Bonham, Candy: <solcandy@alaska.net>

Thorsley, Rand: Capri Cinema: <filmgallery@compuserve.com>

Triangle Tours, Lesbian/Gay travel <triangle@servcom.com>

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fairbanks: <rkennitz@polarnet.com> <http://www.mosquitonet.com/~uuff>

Walton, Eric: Q*Klatch, Q*K Outdoors, PFLAG, EQUAL etc.: <esebw@aurora.alaska.edu>

Wave, The: Lesbian/Gay bar & coffee house: <wave@alaska.net>

---

Calendar

May

Saturday, 16:
A Women's Coffeehouse, 8pm, Q-Cafe, Last of the season - open mic, Lisa at 561-2198 for more info.

Friday, 22:
A Identity Potluck, 6:30pm, AUUF, Program: David Bianco.

Monday, 25:
A Imperial Court's Eklutna Picnic & Carnival, noon - 4pm, Eklutna. Bear at 277-2327 for more info.

Thursday, 28:
A Campaign Party for Jim Duncan, 6pm, Michael at 258-3524 for details

June

- Gay Pride Month -

All Month:
A “Loves Makes A Family” National photo exhibit at Side street Espresso.

Saturday, 6:
J PFLAG, 10:30m-12:30pm, Mendenhall Library Conference room.

Sunday, 7:
A GLSEN, 1pm, AUUF.

Tuesday, 9:
A GLSEN, 7pm, Picnic at Kiwanis Fish Creek Park, call 562-7161 for details.

Monday, 15:
F GLSEN, 5pm, FEA at 2118 S. Cushman

Tuesday, 16:
A PFLAG, 7-9pm, AUUF, call 562-7161 for details.

---

- Keith Goddard, head of Gays and Lesbians of Zimbabwe, as quoted by the Salt Lake Tribune, November 21. Zimbabwean President Robert Mugabe has aggressively denounced homosexuals on numerous occasions. Meanwhile, former President Canaan Banana is on trial for allegedly sexually assulting 11 men during his presdency.
On-Going Calendar Items

SUNDAYS
A Metropolitan Community Church Services, 1:30pm Sunday at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke.
A Gay, Joyous & Free, 7pm, AA Meeting, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
F PFLAG, third Sunday, 4-5:30pm, Into the Woods Bookstore.
F Homophonic Radio, KSUA 91.5, 3-6pm
A Northern Exposure bowling league, Park lanes, 561-8744 for more information

MONDAYS
A Gay Bar, Anchorage, noon, Second Monday, 845 K St., 279-5001.
A Gay, Joyous & Free, 7pm, AA Meeting, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
A Over 50's. Lesbian book club 2nd and 4th from 7-9 pm (see club notes).
F GLSEN, 5pm, FEA on S. Cushman, every 3rd Mon.

TUESDAYS
A Righteous Babes Radio Show, 7pm, KRUA-FM 88.1.
A SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous), 8pm, 566-1133.
F Farthest North Gay & Lesbian Chorus, 6pm, Into the Woods.
A PFLAG, 3rd Tuesday, 7-9pm, AUUF.

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, Wednesdays, 9pm-10pm.
A La Cage aux Wave & Drag Bingo, 10pm, The Wave, $3 cover.

THURSDAYS
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, 561-9283.
F French Club, Russian Club, alternating weeks at Into the Woods Bookstore.

FRIDAYS
A Lunch, 4A's, noon-1pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102, Lori 263-2050. Everyone invited - HIV, volunteers and friends.
A Midnight Sun's Gay AA Meeting, 7:30pm-9pm, 1231 W. 27th Ave.
A Identity Potluck fourth Friday at AUUF.
F Free anonymous HIV testing, 3:30-5:30pm, IAA offices, 710 3rd Avenue.
J Juneau Pride Chorus, 5:30-7pm, Floyd Dryden School, room 197.
F Dancing at The Palace Saloon, midnight - 2am.

SATURDAYS
A SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous), 12 noon, Unitarian Church, 566-1133.
J PFLAG First Saturday of each month, 10:30 to 12:30 in the Mendenhall Library conference room.
F Dancing at The Palace Saloon, midnight - 2am.

Legend
A Anchorage, F Fairbanks, J Juneau

No proof in Clarke pedophilia case

There is no evidence that science-fiction writer Arthur C. Clarke is a pedophile, Sri Lankan Deputy Inspector General of Police M.S.M. Nizam said April 6.

In January, Britain's Sunday Mirror newspaper quoted Clarke as saying: "Once they have reached the age of puberty it is O.K. ... It doesn't do any harm. ... I think most of the damage comes from the fuss made by hysterical parents afterwards. If the kids don't mind, it is fair enough. ... I am trying to think of the youngest boy I have ever had because, of course, you can't tell it here [in Sri Lanka where I live]."

"We are satisfied that he has not violated any Sri Lankan laws or committed any crime," Nizam said, noting that police interviewed three of the sources quoted in the Mirror story. "Two of them told us that they were given money to say what they allegedly said," Nizam said.

But, investigators are still waiting for "Interpol to help us get a copy of the taped interview one of [the Mirror's] journalists is supposed to have had with Clarke," Nizam added.

Clarke, 80, who has lived in Sri Lanka since 1956, denied the newspaper's report and said he will file a defamation lawsuit. "I have done no wrong and I know I am going to win the case," he said.

Clarke wrote 2001: A Space Odyssey and 80 other books. Sri Lanka, located off the southern tip of India, is well-known for easy access to commercial sex with young men and boys.
PERENNIAL PLANTS NOW AVAILABLE:

ALPINE ASTER - Aster Alpinus
ARNICA ALPINA - Harry Annica
ASIATIC HYBRID LILY - MAKE UP - PINK
ENCHANTMENT - ORANGE
CONNECTICUT KING - YELLOW
ORIENTAL HYBRID LILY - MONTANA - WHITE

BUTTERFLY WEED - Asclepias tuberosa
CENTAUREA MACROCEPHALA - Sun Globe
CENTAUREA MONTANA - Mountain Bluet
CHINESE DELPHINIUM - Dwarf Blue Butterfly
CHIVES - Allium schoenoprasum
COLUMBINE - Aquilegia formosa
COLUMBINE - Red/White - Pink/yellow & Mixed Colors
DELPHINIUM - Pacific Giants - Black Knight - Indigo Blue

Flushed lilac with town eyes - light purple
Cream - Yellow & Mixed Colors
DIANTHUS - Crimson
DIANTHUS - Snowdonia
DIANTHUS - Superbuss
ECHINACEA - PURPLE CONEFLOWER
ENGLISH WALLFLOWER - Chiaanthus
GARLIC CHIVES - Allium tuberosum
GAillardia - Grandiflora Mixed Colors
ORIENTAL POPPY - Brilliant Red
HOLLYHOCKS - Chaters Double Mixture
IRIS SETOSA - Alaska Wild Iris
LUPINES - Chandelier - The Chatelaine & Russell Hybrids - Mixed colors
PAINTED DAISY - Giant Mixed Colors
RUDBECKIA MARMALADE - Blazing Color
SCABIOSA - Pincushion Flower

Also have GLADIOLI
(although not perennials, by mid-September dig the bulbs off the ground and save them for next years planting, or plant as annuals and buy some more next year)

GLADIOLA - HOMECOMING - WHITE
ROSE SUPREME - PINK
BLACK GIANT - RED
SAPPHIRE - BLUE

Bring beauty to your surroundings. Improve the value and the looks of your property. Plant perennial plants and enjoy the beauty of these long-lived flowers that bloom year after year. Many perennials will produce seeds annually, but they concentrate their efforts toward survival in their roots.

Plan your summer planting!

In my excitement over the plan to landscape my property, I far exceeded my personal need of plants. Therefore, you can benefit by purchasing part of a wide variety of healthy and well-established perennials I’ve grown from seeds.

Some varieties are limited, so be the first to take advantage of this great deal.

Perennial Sale

Where: 1310 E. 8th Avenue
Anchorage, AK 99501
(907) 272-9045

Let's plan your perennial garden!
(we'll even do the planting for you!)

Purchase Plants Now!
Friday thru Sunday
10:00 a.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Perennials flower abundantly, and multiply rapidly producing seeds annually and are easy to grow. Many will tolerate considerable neglect.

For More Information, visit:
http://webindigo.com/flowers

Mention this ad to receive a FREE Forget-Me-Not (Alaska’s State Flower).