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## 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.

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We welcome articles and letters from individuals and organizations. Ideal length is 750 words or less. Please submit on 3.5 (IBM compatible or MAC HD). All contributions must be typed, but on request names will be withheld or pseudonyms used. NorthView reserves the right to edit as necessary and to refuse any article submitted.

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

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

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Editorial

If you're not angry, you're not paying attention.

The government of Alaska is about to stick it to the homo's again. Litigating and legislating to deny us any sort of domestic partner benefits was not enough. The reich-wing demanded more. Changing the state constitution in hopes of permanently denying us the protections of marriage was not enough. Nope, these measures did not go far enough to satisfy the desires of the fire and brimstone crowd. Now we are to be burdened with onerous taxes – taxes which will apparently be based on one's marital status.

Very few of us get to be full-time homemakers. Typically, we are single by choice or single by law and never get to check off that married-head-of-household tax deduction. Now a state income tax has been proposed. Since none of our dual-income no-kids households get a family discount, most of us will pay full fare. Most of us have no dependent children and are single for tax purposes. Even those of us who do have children have generally been wise and not contributed more than a fair share to runaway population growth. It is easy to see that gays and lesbians as a group will contribute a disproportionate amount to the state. Now you may say this is no big deal, because the federal government does exactly the same thing and consequently we're already conditioned to tax discrimination. Well, that doesn't make it right and it doesn't end there.

Alaska is different from the federal government in one major way. The state of Alaska distributes state money to its citizens. This distribution is not based on need or whether an individual is contributing as a worker, but is instead based on the number of children living at home. Here's how it works out for many of us. I get to pay full fare and then in October I get one Permanent Fund Dividend check. Meanwhile in another part of town, one of those people who helped make a tax-free $500,000 political contribution to keep me down gets a different deal. The deal he gets is a special family fare, because he keeps a full time homemaker busy overpopulating the planet. Let's say this one has five or six kids so far. He will pay a far lower percentage of his income in taxes yet in October he will see seven or eight Permanent Fund Dividend checks. In effect the state will be taking from the single and single-in-law while lavishly giving to practicing heterosexuals. All is not well in Alaska's Sherwood Forest.

You may have heard propaganda about the tax being aimed at workers who live outside Alaska. I believe such workers will successfully challenge any tax discrimination based on where they live. You may have also heard that it will be a very progressive tax that will only affect the very wealthy. In the end you can be assured that "wealthy" will include anyone in the middle class who lacks sufficient deductions in the spouse and dependent child categories. Guess who that is.

So now you're paying attention and are consequently very angry. What's should you do with your anger? You can start by putting some of it in a letter. You may have seen my letter in the Anchorage Daily News attacking Republicans and what I termed the "PFD Income Redistribution Plan." If it suits your political stripes you could just as easily attack Governor Knowles, "liberal Democrats," and their "PFD Income Redistribution Plan." Letters to legislators would also be useful. Let them know you plan to make them pay politically. In your letters to the media and legislators, let everyone know you might challenge the discriminatory tax law in court. Suggest they make allowances now for domestic partnerships to avoid such legal challenges in the future. Because the tax plan falls so closely behind anti-gay legislation and ballot measures it should be easy to establish that all are part of a pattern of discrimination against gays and lesbians. While you're angry and writing anyway, you might want to write other letters regarding Loren Leman's plan to effectively recriminalize medical marijuana or the Republican majority's plan to take control of the judiciary branch and "liberal" judges who have ruled in favor of the people.

Whatever you do, don't let them think you're down for the count after the loss in the last election. Its time to get back up and give 'em the good fight.

We know that our continuing racial problems are aggravated, as the Presidential Initiative said, by opportunity gaps. The initiative I've outlined tonight will help to close them. But we know that the discrimination gap has not been fully closed either. Discrimination or violence because of race or religion, ancestry or gender, disability or sexual orientation, is wrong, and it ought to be illegal. Therefore, I ask Congress to make the Employment Non-Discrimination Act and the Hate Crimes Prevention Act the law of the land.

— From President Bill Clinton's State of the Union address, January 19.
Guest Editorial

Recently a friend asked me why we didn't still have a women's bookstore and I told her the truth. The truth is, this community didn't support the one we had. While it would be nice to have one again, I believe that if one were to open it wouldn't last. Off and on there's talk of a community center. I don't think it would survive. Now if you're saying that sounds awfully cynical, it does. The cynicism comes from personal experience and observation.

I'm on the Board of Directors for Identity, Inc. I have been for a few years now. I've seen the struggle that we have finding people willing to serve on the board because we are a working board and that means more than just showing up once a month for a board meeting. It seems like we always have at least one vacant slot. And Identity isn't alone in this struggle. If it wasn't for Dan Carter, I think EQUAL would have gone down the tubes. In the last NorthView, the Imperial Court was looking for help. Rand is struggling to keep the Capri Cinema going. I notice the gay-owned businesses that are doing well are the ones that aren't dependent on the gay and lesbian community to support them. When Joanne and Mariah had the bookstore, they told me that their best customers were the straight women who came to Pastels to get their hair done and would come into the bookstore and spend $75 to $100 in one visit.

I see the same people volunteering for things; they get burned out after awhile and there aren't always replacements. Barbara and I had the Women's Coffeehouse for about 3 years. The best year was the last one at the women's bookstore, but I still remember the year at Out North when we hauled tables and chairs up from the basement every month and then had to haul them back down. When we gave up the coffeehouse we were really fried. It just being fun; it had become a struggle. As the HelpLine coordinator for Identity, I struggle to find volunteers for the training and I spend hours on the phone every 2 months trying to fill the calendar with the volunteers that we have.

I see a lot of apathy in our community and if it keeps up, there won't be a Capri, there won't be any bars, won't be a 4th Friday Potluck for those of us who don't go to the bars, no organizations like EQUAL, Identity, OPAL, etc. I haven't seen a Klondyke Kontakt for months, where has that gone? I lived a lot of years in communities where there weren't any gay organizations or functions, or even bars. Communities where sometimes the only other gay person you knew was your partner. I remember driving over 100 miles one way to go to my first women's dance and over 200 miles one way to visit lesbian friends. Please, get involved, step up to the plate and volunteer, there are a lot of great organizations out there that need help. Check out the directory in the NorthView and support gay, lesbian and allied owned businesses. If these things go away no one will be to blame except ourselves.

Not everything that counts can be counted, and not everything that can be counted counts.
— Einstein
Whoopi Goldberg to be honored at GLAAD Media Awards

LOS ANGELES, CA — The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) announced that Oscar-winning actress Whoopi Goldberg will receive the 1999 Vanguard Award at the 10th Annual GLAAD Media Awards. The Media Awards, which will take place in three ceremonies this year, will honor Goldberg on April 17 at the Century Plaza Hotel and Towers in Los Angeles.

The Vanguard Award is presented to a member of the entertainment or media community who has made a significant difference in promoting equal rights for lesbians and gay men. Past recipients of the award include Cher, Cristina Saralegui, Roseanne, Sid Sheinberg, Aaron Spelling and Steven Tisch.

Goldberg's film debut in Steven Spielberg's *A Color Purple*, portraying a woman who among other things explores her sexual orientation, garnered her an Oscar nomination. She went onto star in such films as *Soapdish*, *Sister Act*, *How Stella Got Her Groove Back* and *Ghost*, which won Goldberg an Academy Award for Best Supporting Actress in 1990. In 1995's *Boys on the Side*, she portrayed a lesbian who befriends two women, played by Mary Louise Parker and Drew Barrymore, on a cross-country trip. In 1997, she appeared in the Christopher Reeve's HBO drama *In the Gloaming*, the story of a young gay HIV-positive man's return home. Goldberg also portrays a lesbian police officer in the film *Deep End of the Ocean*, which stars Michelle Pfeiffer and opens March 12. On Sunday, March 21, 1999 Goldberg will for the third time host the Academy Awards on ABC.

Over the course of her twenty-year career, Whoopi Goldberg has been a tireless champion for the rights of children, the homeless, and for those with HIV/AIDS. Since 1987, Goldberg — along with Billy Crystal and Robin Williams — has co-hosted HBO's Comic Relief four times, raising more than $40 million for the homeless. Recently, she appeared in a staged production of *Sweet Charity*, a one-night-only benefit performance for Broadway Cares/Equality Fights AIDS.

“Whoopi has taken numerous lesbian roles since the beginning of her amazing career; educating millions about an often invisible part of our community — African-American women,” said Joan M. Garry, GLAAD Executive Director. “Whoopi has tackled roles Hollywood is only now starting to embrace.”

The GLAAD Media Awards will also be honoring Melissa Etheridge and Julie Cypher at the Los Angeles event at the Century Plaza Hotel and Towers. RuPaul will be honored in New York City on March 28 at the New York Hilton Towers. Armistead Maupin will be honored in Washington, DC on May 8 at the JW Marriott.

Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) is the nation’s lesbian and gay media advocacy organization, promoting fair, accurate and inclusive representation of individuals and events in all media as a means of combating homophobia and all forms of discrimination based on sexual orientation or identity.

The Southern Baptist Convention has issued Sunday school lessons on how gays and lesbians can change. We can change. I’ve been much happier since I stopped being a Baptist.

— Letter to the editor of the Des Moines Register from reader Fran Bailey, February 8.

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NEW YORK CITY — Eleven major organizations representing lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender communities have announced their joint opposition to the death penalty.

The issue came to the forefront in the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender communities with the upcoming trial of those accused of beating Matthew Shepard to death in Wyoming. The two men, Aaron James McKinney and Russell Arthur Henderson, both 21, were arrested and accused of his murder. On December 28, Prosecutor Cal Rerucha filed notices of intent to seek the death penalty against both men.

Katherine Acey, Executive Director of the Astraea National Lesbian Action Foundation said: “The death penalty has no place in a civil society. As a community we must take every opportunity to speak out against violence, including capital punishment.”

Kevin McGruder, Executive Director of Gay Men of African Descent said: “The death penalty is applied in an inequitable way and when factors of race, sexual orientation and income are taken into account, there is even more inequity. Mistakes happen and innocent people are sentenced to death. In those circumstances where the sentence has been carried out, the mistake cannot be reversed.”

Julie Dorf, Executive Director of the International Gay & Lesbian Human Rights Commission said: “Human rights are not a euphemism for gay rights. We cannot pick and choose human rights,” she added. “The death penalty is wrong in all cases.”

Kevin M. Cathcart, Executive Director of the Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund said: “Lambda deals daily with the legal system’s fallibility and the effects of bias on court decisions. With this experience, we oppose the death penalty as a harsh and irreversible use of government power.”

Richard Burns, Executive Director of the Lesbian & Gay Community Services Center of New York said: “This is one of those moments when we, as a community, should lead. We consider this a teachable moment.”

Burns said the death penalty is no way to deal with anti-gay violence, “The answer to homophobic violence is not more violence, it is education,” he said.

Matt Coles, Director of the ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Project said: “The American Civil Liberties Union opposes the death penalty for those who murdered Matthew Shepard just as we oppose the death penalty for all people — because our system of justice is incapable of imposing it equally, because our system makes mistakes and always will and because the ACLU believes that the state simply should not have the power to take away human life.”

Martin Orinales-Quintero, Executive Director of LLEGO — National Latina/o LGBT Organization said: “Killing a homophobe will not kill homophobia.”

Kate Kendall, Executive Director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights said: “There are few facets of our criminal justice system more deeply flawed than the death penalty. It has been repeatedly demonstrated that rather than deterring crime, the death penalty instead stands as a most extreme example of the race and class bias which pervades much of our society.”

Kerry Lobel, Executive Director of the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force said: “We join our colleagues today to oppose the death penalty with a unified voice. We participate in a social movement that places faith in the possibility of change. Capital punishment, a final and hopeless solution to the social problem of violence, not only subverts the possibility of individual change but it also fails to solve the problem of violence. Hate crimes laws, on the other hand, recognize that classes of people become terrorized by violent acts against individuals. Hate crime laws draw attention to that problem and offer at least one solution: criminal justice resources directed toward educating and deterring the domestic terrorism of bias crime.”

Richard Haynes, Executive Director of the New York City Gay & Lesbian Anti-Violence Project said: “AVP unconditionally opposes the death penalty. As a victim services agency dealing with the physical and psychological aftermath of hatred against the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and HIV-positive community — our community — AVP understands full well the thirst for vengeance that heinous bias crimes often engender in the victim, his or her loved ones, and the community at-large. However, as a human rights organization, struggling for justice for our people, AVP also views capital punishment as an act of state-sanctioned violence — an act that is no more or less violent than the barbaric acts of our attackers — and we unequivocally oppose violence in every form, regardless of the perpetrator.”

For more information, contact <info@gaycenter.org> or Rabbi Sharon Kleinbaum, Congregation Beth Simchat Torah, at (212) 929-9498.
The love that still dare not speak its name

“It disgusts me. And besides, it’s illegal!” These were commonly heard words, a few decades ago, when the topic of homosexuality and gay rights came up. So you might expect gay people to be more thoughtful in their reactions to groups who are still marginalized today. But there’s one group that many gays and lesbians dismiss with the same knee-jerk putdown. I’m talking about men who are sexually attracted to, or actually have sex with, underage youth or boys.

Of course, the word “underage” covers a multitude of sins. At one extreme: an adult man arrested for having consensual sex with a seventeen-year-old youth in a jurisdiction where such an act is illegal only when both partners are the same sex. Most of us would feel some sympathy for this man, on the grounds that he is the victim of unfairly discriminatory laws. And many of us could imagine wishing to do such a thing ourselves, or have actually done so.

At the other extreme: a man arrested for having non-consensual sex with a boy well under the age of puberty. Most of us would recoil in horror from such an act, which seems both cruel and alien to our own desires. We might consider the possibility that the man has a mental disorder, but we would want some kind of legal or medical steps taken to ensure that he didn’t repeat the act.

The problem is the gray area between these extremes. If the younger partner consents to the sexual encounter or relationship, does that make it morally, if not legally defensible? How old must a child be before he understands the world well enough for his consent to mean anything? Are underage boys always harmed by sexual relationships with adult men? And what rights should parents have in the matter?

Rather than face these difficult questions, many gays and lesbians try to dismiss them by claiming that this kind of sexuality is not our business, or that discussing it is harmful to our own cause. Here’s an example: in 1993, when a twelve-year-old boy and his parents brought an action against the singer Michael Jackson, Los Angeles Gay and Lesbian Center Director Lorri Jean told the press that sex between a man and a twelve-year-old boy doesn’t constitute homosexuality. Men who have sex with boys, many gays and lesbians like to think, are actually heterosexual.

Regardless of how words are used, and regardless of whether boy-loving men are “like us” or not, we surely have some obligation to examine the underlying issues. One question that has been the subject of a certain amount of objective research is: What are the effects on boys who have sexual relationships with men? These studies, summarized in psychiatrist Richard Green’s book Sexual Science and the Law, suggest that a lot depends on the nature of the relationship: if it is non-consensual, problems such as fear of becoming homosexual, drug use, depression, thoughts of suicide, and abuse of other children may follow.

Boys who have consensual relationships with men, on the other hand, even over a period of many months or years, often report their sexual contacts as having been pleasant and the relationships as having been positive and supportive. Support for the notion that such relationships are not intrinsically harmful comes from the many cultures where these relationships have been condoned, even praised.

Some of the older generation of gay-rights pioneers expressed support for boys loving men — or at least for their right to present their case. Mattachine Society founder Harry Hay protested the exclusion of NAMBLA (the North American Man-Boy Love Association) from the 1986 edition of the Los Angeles gay pride parade by wearing a placard reading “NAMBLA marches with me.” Nowadays our gay leaders take a very different tack. In 1993, gay congressman Barney Frank joined arch-homophobe Jesse Helms in urging Congress to withhold payments to the United Nations until NAMBLA was excluded from one of the U.N.’s consultative organizations. “The question of age-of-consent doesn’t seem to me to be a gay issue,” Frank said.

Maybe it isn’t a specifically “gay issue,” but it’s an issue that we should think about. My own opinion, for what it’s worth, is that age-of-consent laws should be abolished, because children are adequately protected from genuine sexual abuse by other laws. Much more research could usefully be done on the topic, but such research is impossible to conduct in the U.S. today, both because of mandatory reporting laws and because of the strong public antipathy. “Here, the experience is always abuse,” writes Green, “the children are invariably victims, the adults are perpetrators, and those who later report childhood sexual experiences are, without apology to victims of the Nazi Holocaust, survivors.”

We do something terrible to men in our culture. We take them away from themselves and substitute money, power and toys.

— Rita Mae Brown
Where in the World?

April Calendar 1999
4/01-4/04 Latin Fever Weekend ------------------ Puerto Rico
4/02-4/05 White Party ------------------------ Palm Springs
4/03-4/10 Baja Sea Kayaking --------------- Mariah
4/04-4/11 Caribbean Cruise -------------- Venture Out
4/04-4/12 Costa Rica ------------------------ Mariah
4/05-4/11 Hula Heritage Festival --------------- Hawaii
4/07-4/11 Guadalajara Getaway ------------ Guadalajara
4/07-4/14 New York Theatre Tour ------- Pro Musica
4/07-4/17 Mexican Cruise -------------- Cruise Holidays
4/10-4/17 Rafting the Rio Grande ------- Spirit Journey
4/10-4/18 Costa Rica ------------------------ Mariah
4/11-4/18 Eastern Carib Cruise --------- Eastern Carib
4/11-4/25 South Africa ------------------- Venture Out
4/12-4/18 Men's Adventure Tour -------- Hawaii
4/15-4/19 Gay Spring Cruise ----------- Rainbow Travel
4/16-4/20 Women's Weekend -------------- Hawaii
4/17-4/24 Club Atlantis in Mexico ------ Atlantis
4/23-5/02 New Orleans Jazz Festival ----- New Orleans
4/23-5/10 Turkey Tour ------------------- Footprints
4/24-4/29 Women's Adventure Tour -------- Arizona
4/24-5/01 Women's Week ------------------ St. Croix, VI
4/24-5/02 Grand Canyon/Zion ------------ Out West
4/25-5/02 Queens Day Amsterdam -------- L'Arc en
4/26-5/02 Pridefest America ------- Philadelphia
4/28-5/07 Transatlantic Cruise --------- Ocean Voyager
4/30-5/08 Hawaiian Cruise -------------- Pied Piper

Family Abroad

In a recent article in Family Abroad some of the myths about gay vacations were discussed. Among those myths were:

“Gay vacations cost more.” Family Abroad tours are a great value and include a lot more of the extras that mainstream competition leaves out.

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lights of each country on the agenda. Those who want to party are pointed in the right direction, and those who prefer to be up at the crack of dawn to watch the sunrise before tackling a city's museums and other major sites are equally accommodated.

Caribbean outing

After some bad publicity from places like the Cayman Islands for gay travelers and some short sighted policies like Sandals' male/female couples only policy, there is some new light being shed on a resort for lesbian and gay couples in the area. Cormorant Beach Club and Hotel on St. Croix has 34 beachfront rooms each with a large terrace or patio, four penthouse suites and ten condominiums for families (however you choose to define the word.) It has 2 tennis courts, a large pool, and over 1000 feet of white sandy beach. Add to this an open air restaurant and bar starting at $130 per night.

Anti-gay nations denounced

The European Parliament has passed a resolution denouncing Austria, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Estonia, Hungary, Lithuania and Romania for their unfair treatment of gays and lesbians. Additionally, the Parliament confirmed its refusal to allow into the European Union “any country that, through its legislation or policies, violates the human rights of lesbians and gay men.” (From Our World Magazine.)

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

I do believe every single show dealing with the gay issue became really boring and stale. Not only did it turn off American viewers but I know many gay and lesbian people finally got sick of it because nobody's life is that gay.

— Gay activist Chastity Bono on Ellen to Melbourne, Australia’s The Herald Sun, January 30.

by Bob De Loach
Spice-Crusted Roast Chicken

2 tbl fennel seeds
3/4 tsp dried red chili flakes
1 1/2 tsp salt
1 1/2 tsp coarsely ground black pepper
6 each sprigs fresh thyme and rosemary
3 each chicken breasts
6 each chicken thighs
1 each sprig rosemary (additional)
1 each sprig thyme (additional)

Directions
Fifteen minutes before baking chicken, adjust oven rack to middle position; preheat to 400 degrees. Procedure: using a small food processor, place fennel seeds in mini-processor and process until finely ground. Add chili flakes, salt, black pepper and fresh thyme leaves. Process using 3 or 4 short pulses. Arrange additional sprigs of fresh thyme and rosemary on bottom of large roasting pan. Sprinkle both sides of chicken with spice mixture. Place seasoned chicken in a single layer, skin side up, on top of herbs. Bake in oven for 50-60 minutes. Skin should be nicely browned and no pink color should remain in the chicken. Serves 6.

Al Kaneta is a misplaced Hawaiian who loves Alaska, retirement, travel and cooking...not necessarily in that order. Any complaints? Contact Julia Childs or The Frugal Gourmet.

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I have always been gay. My wife and I discussed this before we were married. ... I have always been liberal on social issues of this kind, and part of the way we have lived our lives is occasionally I would go away for a weekend. ... I have to admit I'm in love with him [American porn star Cole Tucker]. We met in America last year when I was on holiday with my children. I have been back to see him in America on numerous occasions. He's lovely, warm and I am very fond of him. He's not into drugs or alcohol or anything like that and I feel very upset I've dragged him into this. ... Cole and I had a lovely weekend together and the videos he gave me were a present. It's ironic that is how this all developed.

— British Member of the European Parliament Tom Spencer, 50, who was outed in the press January 30 after Customs officials found marijuana cigarettes and prohibited gay erotica in his luggage.

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Openly gay British actor Sir Ian McKellen was nominated for the best-actor Oscar for Gods and Monsters February 9. The movie tells the story of gay horror-film director James Whale.

Responding to the news, McKellen told Sky Television: “There is a shift certainly in American society as there is in British society toward an acceptance of gay people as being perfectly ordinary. The film industry is at last beginning to catch up with that and reflect it." "[But] when we were trying to get a distributor to sell this movie — having received critical acclaim — there were still some producers, some very big producers whose names I won't mention, who said they wouldn't market that because it was about gays.

"It is ridiculous. There is one gay character in the movie but it is about love and friendship and companionship. The reaction I get by snail mail and e-mail is, 'Thank you for a movie that made me laugh and cry at the same time.'

"I think the world is beginning to grow up, and at last gays are at the center of films and just being treated as perfectly ordinary people. That is an added pleasure for me.”

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Ask me again if I’m gay

On the February 10 episode of Dawson’s Creek, series regular Jack McPhee (Kerr Smith) read a poem in class which led his classmates to believe he was gay, leading to taunting and a confrontation with his girlfriend Joey (Katie Holmes), in which he told her he was not gay. The youth-oriented program took the storyline to the next level on its February 17 episode.

As rumors of Jack’s sexual orientation continued to mull throughout Capeisde High, one of the school’s counselors asked Jack’s estranged father to come in out of town to discuss the issue. Over dinner with Jack and his sister Andie (Meredith Monroe), Mr. McPhee (David Dukes), too, asks Jack if he’s gay, making clear the fact that he will not support his son’s being gay.

Jack reluctantly complies with his father’s wishes, not touching too much on the subject, but toward the end of the program, he confronts his father again. When Mr. McPhee dismisses him, Jack responds emotionally, saying “This is one conversation you can’t run away from — we are going to talk about me! [Y]ou ask me again! Ask me if I’m gay!”

Jack’s father tells him, “You are not gay,” at which point Jack finally reveals that in fact, he is. “[A]s hard as you’ve tried to stamp it out and to ignore it … I have tried harder,” Jack says. “I have tried harder than you to be quiet and forget — and not bother my family with my problems. But, I can’t try anymore, because it hurts. I’m sorry, dad … Andie, I’m sorry … I don’t want to be going through this, but I am.”

Andie supports him, standing up to their father for the first time as she demands he leave their home. At the end of the piece, Jack comes out to Joey, as well, who struggles with the revelation, but is supportive and expresses appreciation for his honesty.

Dawson’s goes beyond the coming out story, though, really taking an in-depth look at the impact which Jack’s coming out has upon all those around him — his father, Joey and Andie, yes, but also upon people like his classmate Jen Lindley (Michelle Williams); her conservative and religious love interest, Tyson; and her grandmother. When Tyson makes clear his belief that homosexuality is wrong, Jen’s grandmother interrupts their conversation. She reprimands Tyson for his criticism of Jack, noting that, “If anything, that boy must be scared and alone, and he will need the understanding of his fellow man to help him through.”

The episode sensitively and compassionately dealt with Jack’s sexual orientation and the difficulties he faced in coming to terms with it. Especially important is the recognition of the power that a show like this can have on its primarily teenage audience: it tells those who are struggling with their sexual orientation that there are people who will accept and support them; it tells kids who feel isolated and alienated that they are not alone; and it sends a message to the classmates of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender youth, letting them know that it’s alright to support their friends. Furthermore, Jack is the WB’s first openly lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender series regular.

Please thank Dawson’s Creek, its creator and executive producer Kevin Williamson (who came out in the February 18 edition of New York’s Daily News) and the WB Network, for what is surely one of the most powerful pieces we’ve seen.


Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) is the nation’s lesbian and gay media advocacy organization, promoting fair, accurate and inclusive representation of individuals and events in all media as a means of combating homophobia and all forms of discrimination based on sexual orientation or identity.

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Winning the Debate

by Talmadge Bailey

Hollywood plays a major role in shaping public perceptions of lesbians and gays. In the past we were generally invisible. Later homosexual themes appeared, but not always the ones we might have liked. Frequently the portrayals of lesbian and gay characters have been unflattering. In other cases, such as _The Birdcage_, stereotypes have been reinforced. Those looking for positive role models on the big screen must search diligently because they are few and far between. For example the gay leading character in _In & Out_ was successful — as long as he remained closeted. The mother got her big wedding and renewed her heterosexual vows. The jilted bride got Matt Dillon as a replacement for her lost boyfriend. But what did the main character get? He did not get happily ever after. He got fired.

When will there be a movie like _The Incredible True Story of Two Girls in Love_ featuring boys in love? The closest we’ve come to getting that is the British film _Beautiful Thing_. The downside is it is very difficult to understand all the British slang and identify with the characters speaking with heavy British accents.

Then there is _Star Trek_. Many people would have liked to see a lesbian or gay in the future. After all the show prominently features equality for women and people of color along with other ideals. Yes, according to _Star Trek_ the future is bright — if you’re heterosexual!

Many people heard rumors that the Borg character Seven of Nine would be a lesbian and have been very disappointed so far. I on the other hand am not ready to give up on _Star Trek_. The original series has been described by some as “Morality Plays” and that pattern has continued. I can think of any episode which was anti-gay or in any way portrayed bigotry in a positive light, however some episodes have dealt indirectly with issues of sexual orientation. If you’re looking to Hollywood for help in winning the debate, I suggest you check out some particular episodes of _Star Trek_.

In one episode of _Star Trek: The Next Generation_, Jean-Luc and crew visit a planet where everyone is androgy nous — by law. The J’naii had replaced traditional reproduction with technological means and children are raised by two sexually indistinguishable parents. On this stage Commander Riker becomes romantically involved with Soren, a J’naii person who feels female and wishes to dress and act in a feminine manner. Unfortunately the moral authorities quickly detect Soren’s departure from accepted norms and schedule a reprogramming procedure. What follows is a hearing in which Riker makes the case for Soren to be allowed to retain the forbidden sexual identity. Interestingly, every argument he makes would also work just as well in support of gay and lesbian equality. In the end the morality authority prevails and Soren is reprogrammed, but is obviously no longer a whole person. If you’re looking for this particular episode, the title is _The “Outcast.”_

More recently _Star Trek Deep Space Nine_ broadcast an episode called “Chimera”. In it the shape-shifting Odo meets another of his kind — one who also chooses a male humanoid form. There was nothing overtly gay or gay positive, but it bubbled just below the surface. The visiting shape-shifter wanted Odo to join him in exploring the universe. The opinionated visitor was named Lass (pronounced Lhas) and thought Odo should not hide his difference from the crew of Deep Space Nine. Lass also felt he and Odo would be discriminated against if they flaunted their difference. This was demonstrated to be true after Lass was imprisoned for murder. The standards for justice were clearly altered because Lass was different. I was struck by the recurring themes of “be like everyone else or be outcast” and “hide your difference or suffer discrimination”. It was easy to identify with the hurt and anger being experienced by the shape-shifters. There was another gay angle in this episode. Being as the shape-shifters are asexual we can’t read too much into it, but it was interesting to see the writers were bold enough to have Odo and Lass flow together from their humanoid forms. This linking was clearly pleasurable for both and occurred not once, but twice during the episode!

There is no such thing as a homosexual or heterosexual person. In theory all are bi. In practise some are this, some are that, some exclusively, some part-time. The point is that were it not for the three monotheistic religions that have made a nice hell of all human relations — so that we shall love God the father all the more? — no one would have thought to categorize anyone because of his sexual interests.

... I suggest we work together to flush Judaism, Christianity and Islam into the Mediterranean and restore the Greco-Roman world, where, believe it or not, there was no word for fag or dyke, nor was there any conception that an occasional sexual activity constituted an entire personality.

— Author Gore Vidal to London’s Gay Times, February issue.

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The book, *Tell Me No Lies*, which my friend Julianne gave me as a Solstice gift has both a dark and light side. The book depicts itself on relationship issues that assisted me in a review of my former marriage has caused me a great deal of grief and guilt. I've been around long enough to know how to get over it — have my feeling and emotions, work my program around the issues and to get over it. The process includes prayer, meditations and affirmations.

On the lighter side, the theme of a dragon runs throughout the book. The dragon symbolically has nothing above it. No one can control it. My understanding of the symbol of the dragon is that it means — the force of the will — which corresponds with its meaning in the story. My perspective doesn't come from the book or hierarchical meanings of the dragon. The connection I have with the dragon is through my spiritual life, particularly my meditations and visionary experience.

In my meditations, I have had several visits by the Goddess Kwan Yin. Sometimes, she visits standing on the back of a red and gold dragon, a symbol of great power. This dragon has the same energy as the stellar constellation Dragone. It is a creature of regal presence, power and love. Kwan Yin holds this energy in her hands with lose reins. Dragone assists her as a partner — neither is master to the other.

I was quite astounded to “see” a dragon — they don't exist in the real world. Looking Dragone in the eye with the awe and wonder of a neophyte, I got the distinct sensation first of amusement and then a sense of approval. The dragon actually approved of me. Before the apparition left, I asked the dragon in my mind if I could “touch” it. Reaching out with my mind I did not come in contact with anything hard and scaly. Instead I felt a sense of incredible softness and unconditional love. No scent of sulfur or brimstone, just the delicious aroma of cinnamon bark and sandalwood. It was an amazing experience.

The second dragon I met was white. The story behind this involves a client of mine who operated a popular restaurant and bar with her husband and small staff. They didn't own the building. It was leased from a former neighbor of mine who was an alcoholic. This man had bouts of wet brain dementia. He was still in control of the property and was asking an outrageous amount of money to renew the lease. The man's sister and lawyer said the amount was not in keeping with the local retail rates for the same type of property, but could not talk the alcoholic into being reasonable.

My client asked me to attempt to get in touch with the property owners internal spiritual guide. Ordinarily I am just an observer or ask the spirit guide to give me information to assist that person's spiritual progress. When I ask for a spiritual guide, the being usually has a human shape, wearing flowing robes surrounded by significant colors and symbols. I was very surprised when a white dragon appeared and addressed me in a very formal manner. It sounded somewhat like the British actor, Basil Rathbone, who played Sherlock Holmes back in the 1950's. This dragon was a very proper gentleman. Explaining the situation with my client, the dragon exclaimed, "The man's insane!" I replied that we'd figured that out. "Could you help, so the man would be rational for a short time", I asked? "I'll see what I can do," came the brisk the reply.

Two evenings later I received a phone call from my client. She and her husband had met that afternoon with the alcoholic and his lawyer. She exclaimed "I couldn't believe it: the man was rational!" Then added, "You won't believe what happened. He had coffee with us, made normal conversation and asked for an amount of money we could afford. The lawyer quickly wrote the figure on the papers. Then everyone signed them and shook hands. Just as we were finishing our coffee, the man began to talk irrationally and began howling like a dog. He had to be escorted from the building by the police. They took him to API. Later that night, during my meditations, I contacted the dragon and thanked him for his assistance. He said not a word, but bowed his head gracefully in acknowledgment and disappeared.

As far as dragons go, I consider my knowledge of them limited. The two that I met are wonderful beings. Dragons appear to be neither Yin nor Yang — a balance of energy. The white dragon was an ever so proper formal English gentleman — definitely yang. Maybe the Knights of King Arthur's Round Table did have their dragons after all. As for dragons, their assistance in my spiritual life is a welcome addition. Give me a mythical dragon instead of futile reality any day.

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

Nothing is more dangerous than an idea when it is the only one you have.
— Emilie Chartier
Now Playing

**Blast From the Past**

During the Cuban Missile Crisis, a paranoid scientist-millionaire (Christopher Walken) herds his pregnant wife (Sissy Spacek) into an enormous fallout shelter and locks the door for 35 years. Running out of supplies but unable to deal with life above, they send their son Adam (Brendan Fraser) to go shopping in a world he has never seen. The film offers some rollickingly funny moments as Adam, a sweet innocent with good table manners, is set loose among drunks, prostitutes, religious cults, porn shops, and biker bars. Much of the film’s fun is due to terrific performances by Spacek, Walken, and Alicia Silverstone as a woman hardened by relationships but unable to resist Fraser’s charms.

Grade: A-

Kinsey Scale: 4 (Fraser is a babe, and Silverstone’s gay roommate is fabulously played by Dave Foley as warm and funny without the stereotypical bitchiness or camp.)

**October Sky**

Homer Hickam (Jake Gyllenhaal) was inspired by the launching of Sputnik in 1957 to build model rockets as a way to escape an expected life as a coal miner in his small West Virginia community. This true story of Hickam and “the Rocket Boys” adheres closely to the classic underdog formula, yet it manages to push all the right emotional buttons without being too obvious about it. The characters are all-too-familiar types — loving mother (Natalie Canaderie), supportive teacher (Laura Dern), bitter father (Chris Cooper) — but you expect that in such a calculated crowd-pleaser. It’s a sweet, good-natured film with lots of exuberance genuine heart.

Grade: B-

Kinsey Scale: 1 (Teenage male bonding and a fresh-faced cast of cute guys.)

**Rushmore**

Geeky Max Fischer (Jason Schwartzman) is a massive overachiever who uses every trick in the book to prevent getting kicked out of Rushmore Boys Academy because of failing grades. His megalomaniac efforts strike a chord with the school’s primary benefactor, a millionaire who was something of a nerd in his own early days there, played by Bill Murray. Their curious friendship is strained to the breaking point, however, when both fall head over heels for the same pretty schoolteacher. Their clash of wills makes for surprisingly gentle comedy, which gives the film a feeling of emotional depth that it probably doesn’t deserve. Murray does wonderful, career-redefining work as the pallid, paunchy loser.

Grade: B-

Kinsey Scale: 0 (Nothing especially gay, unless you can read a sugar-daddy scenario in a millionaire giving a 15-year-old boy easy access to his fortune.)

**Office Space**

Office slacker Peter Gibbons (newcomer Ron Livingston) hates his job and stops showing up for work, but instead of getting fired he is promoted by corporate stuffed shirts, who deem him as having management potential. As long as this workplace comedy stays in its tight cubicles and fluorescent-lit environment, it has some inspired moments — from the receptionist chirping her phone greeting to employees exacting revenge on the ever-malfunctioning fax machine. It loses steam only when dwelling on Gibbons’s routine relationship with waitress Joanna (Jennifer Aniston). As office weirdo Milton (based on director Mike Judge’s *SNL* animated shorts), Stephen Root is a hoot, incompromisingly rumbling half-hearted threats against anyone threatening to downsize him.

Grade: B-

Kinsey Scale: 1 (Aniston and Livingston are very easy on the eyes.)

**8 MM**

Nicolas Cage plays discreet private dick Tom Welles in this thriller directed by openly gay Joel Schumacher. When Welles takes a case involving a wealthy widow who wants to determine the authenticity of a snuff film found in her late husband’s safe, he swiftly descends into the seedy world of fetish porn. He’s assisted by Max (Joaquin Phoenix), a knowledgeable clerk from a Hollywood adult bookstore; the duo makes an interesting alternative to Batman and Robin in the quest to prove or disprove the urban myth of snuff films. Cage’s character is even darker than his Academy Award-winning turn as a drunk in *Leaving Las Vegas*. Actually, the entire film is very dark: besides the downer plot, there literally isn’t a white wall to be seen for the whole two hours.

Grade: B-

Kinsey Scale: 2 (Schumacher usually shoots his male stars in a more flattering fashion, but Cage’s fine biceps can’t be denied. And there is something here for fetish fans of several varieties.)
we have always been...we shall always be.
Love among the Nazis

The plot strains credulity. A young Jewish lesbian, living under a false identity in wartime Berlin, develops a crush on a German mother of four whose Nazi-loyalist husband is serving on the Eastern front. The Jewish woman seduces the German, who discovers true love for the first time. As the Gestapo hunts down the city's remaining Jews, the couple conducts a desperate affair for nearly two years. But Aimee and Jaguar, which will kick off the Berlin Film Festival this week, isn't the product of a screenwriter's overwrought imagination -- it's history. "A story like this has certain magic because it really happened," says Max Fberbock, the film's director.

Fberbock's movie is one more sign of a new German willingness to grapple with the Nazi era. The film is opening just two months before the country's capital begins its move back to Berlin from Bonn. It will debut in the midst of a fierce debate among Germans about what kind of Holocaust memorial should be built in the city that headquartered the Third Reich. And it is one of the first German-made films to tackle the Holocaust from a personal -- not documentary -- perspective. Such movies, from the 1979 TV mini-series The Holocaust to Sophie's Choice and Schindler's List, have played well in Germany, but they've been imports from Hollywood. "There's a new generation of filmmakers, with a new maturity and a readiness to see things in a different way," says Erica Fischer, the Austrian-Jewish author of the book on which the movie is based. Are German audiences ready for yet another new take on their painful history? "The public will be able to cope with it," predicts Fischer.

The Berlin of the film is a city terrorized from above by Allied bombers and below by the Gestapo. It's also a promiscuous place, where the proximity of death drives people to take whatever pleasures they can. Lilly Wust, the German housewife, entertains Nazi officers in her bed while her husband is away; Felice Schragenheim is part of a mostly Jewish circle of lesbians who party and change partners as they try to elude their hunters. "It's not a movie just full of tears and regrets," says Maria Schrader, the actress who plays Felice. "It's really a kind of wild story."

At its center is Schrader's Felice, who combines reckless courage with steely self-control in the face of unbearable tension. She dares to woo Lilly, whose apartment services a bust of Hitler, and she takes a job at a Nazi newspaper to help gather information for fellow underground Jews. The movie's pivotal moment comes when Lilly demands that Felice tell the truth about her mysterious comings and goings. Risking all, Felice reveals that she is Jewish. After a flicker of confused hesitation, Lilly, who had mindlessly repeated anti-Semitic statements earlier in the film, swiftly changes sides.

The ending of the movie is no surprise, since the only mystery is how their affair could have lasted as long as it did. Lilly urges Felice to flee, but without conviction; she wants Felice with her. Felice passes up offers to join other Jews who are escaping from Berlin, and the Gestapo finally tracks her down. Dispatched to a concentration camp, Felice probably perished in one of the death marches from the camps as the war was ending. Portrayed as an old woman at the close of the film, Lilly wants to believe that Felice would have been her partner for life if she had survived. But in a moving flashback, Felice frankly talks about her wish to have it all -- one true love, and all the loves in the world.

Felice's courage rubbed off on Lilly, who went on to save three other Jewish women. Now 85, Lilly still lives in Berlin -- and still talks about Felice as the great passion of her life. "I have never stopped loving her," she says. She has carefully preserved all of their correspondence and the photographs they took of each other. Until recently, she had planned to have those mementos sent to Israel upon her death, away from a Germany she despised for what it had done. But the book and the movie have prompted her to alter her will: the papers and photographs will instead be donated to the new Jewish Museum in Berlin. "It's where they belong," she says. Touching the "wedding" ring Felice gave her so long ago, she adds: "I don't want her to disappear among the millions who were murdered. I want to keep the memory of my friend alive." With their powerful on-screen portrayal, Germany's new generation of filmmakers may have granted her wish.

Newsweek, February 15, 1999

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. If you would like to receive an e-mail or phone reminder, e-mail Steve at <A.G.B,@yahoo.com> or call 272-5608.
Donations for the 4A's food bank are cheerfully accepted by The Food Fairie; why not bring a couple of cans or boxes of food with you.

Date: Friday, March 26

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: Reggie Yaple, Denali Seed Company, on planting perennials.
gfn.com starts daily financial coverage for gays

NEW YORK, NY — February 9 — gfn.com, The Gay Financial Network <www.gfn.com>, today became the first financial site on the Internet to offer online daily financial news tailored to the unique needs of the gay and lesbian community. gfn.com has expanded its weekly financial coverage of 30-plus stories to include daily reporting on financial issues pertinent to gays and lesbians. In addition, gfn.com now offers two new columns and a forum area where members can discuss the financial issues of the day.

"With the introduction of daily online financial coverage, gfn.com is now the definitive financial resource for gays and lesbians," said Jeffrey L. Newman, president of gfn.com. "The financial needs of gays and lesbians are different from their heterosexual counterparts. In everything from buying a house, purchasing life insurance or opening a joint checking account, gays and lesbians face singular challenges. gfn.com's goal is to empower gays and lesbians to make informed financial decisions by providing them with information from a source sensitive to their needs."

gfn.com also announced today that it is partnering with GAYBC Radio Network <www.gaybc.com> to produce the GFN Market Wrap, a daily financial radio show that will provide listeners with a gay and lesbian perspective on Wall Street. With a debut slated for March 1, the program will be produced and hosted by Jeffrey Newman. On the 10 minute program, Newman will deliver highlights from gfn.com's daily content and columns. Produced in gfn.com's New York offices, the GFN Market Wrap will be updated daily at 6:00 p.m. EST.

"Jeffrey Newman and the editorial team at GFN make our partnership extremely valuable by broadening the scope of information available to our audiences each day," said John McMullen, Chairman & President of GAYBC Radio Network. "GFN Market Wrap is a one-of-a-kind program that provides our listeners with the resources to make more informed financial decisions."

gfn.com's expanded coverage will include the addition of weekly columns by Deb Price and Kathy Kristof that will address the special financial interests and needs of gays and lesbians. Price is an openly gay, award-winning journalist for the Detroit Free Press. Her weekly column dealing with issues of importance to the gay and lesbian community will appear each Monday on gfn.com. Kathy Kristof is the author of Kathy Kristof's Complete Book of Dollars and Sense and a financial issues columnist with The Los Angeles Times. Her personal finance column will appear twice a week on gfn.com.

The GAYBC Radio Network is a division of Seattle-based GLRadio Corporation, the award-winning pioneer in broadcasting news, information, talk and entertainment radio programs on a daily and weekly basis to a global audience of lesbians, gays, bisexuals and transgender people via the World Wide Web. The closely held company was founded in March, 1997, and is used by more than 75,000 listeners on the Web. All of GAYBC Radio's programming is free of charge and is distributed exclusively in RealAudio, the streaming media technology used by more than 50 million people worldwide. The GAYBC Radio Network is accessible on the Web at <www.gaybc.com> and through AOL at keyword: gaybc.

Launched in 1998, gfn.com, The Gay Financial Network, is the leading online resource devoted solely to the unique financial needs of the gay and lesbian community. The site exclusively provides free comprehensive financial news and information, as well as a variety of specially tailored financial and investment services. The company's headquarters are located in New York City.

For more information, contact Ed Gyurko, PR 21, (212) 352-3408, e-mail <egyurko@pr21.com> or Alice Leeds, PR 21, (212) 352-3407, e-mail <alice_leeds@pr21.com>.

I just find a lot of strength in gay people because they've had to deal with something.
— Actress Parker Posey (You've Got Mail) to Out magazine, February issue.
Lesbian Notions

The Institute of Medicine's report on lesbian health was recently released and will soon be available in bookstores. Not surprisingly, this first-ever government-funded report on the subject finds that very little is known about lesbian health. While that conclusion may seem lightweight for two years of study, its simplicity, I think, is one of its greatest attributes.

According to the report, there are just not enough data to make pronouncements about lesbians' risks for certain diseases. More studies need to be undertaken, since lesbians have been virtually ignored in medical literature. Hopefully, these conclusions will make lesbian health issues more visible to the mainstream medical community and also help ease the growing breast cancer scare among lesbians that has been fed by frenzied media reporting.

We've all heard the frightening figures: American women now have a 1-in-9 chance of developing breast cancer. We've also witnessed the medical community's sudden and maddening flip-flopping on the age at which a woman should first undergo mammography. As a result, breast cancer panic has reached epidemic proportions in this country. Some healthy women, who are genetically at risk for breast cancer but may never develop the disease, are opting to have double mastectomies as a perverse kind of prevention.

Yet many news reports have been sloppy in their dissemination of medical findings. The 1-in-9 figure is for a woman who lives to be 85. The risk of developing breast cancer is quite small for young women, then changes rapidly between the ages of 40 and 50, when the odds rise from 1 in 217 to 1 in 50. The press has also paid a limited amount of attention to other factors that can impact women's health, especially the connections among breast cancer, the environment, and geographic location.

Lesbians' risk for breast cancer is said to be even greater, currently estimated (or overestimated, in my opinion) at 1 in 3. Yet the warnings about lesbians and breast cancer have always sounded suspicious in the judgmental way they are worded. I've read one too many times that lesbians are more prone to get breast cancer because of certain "lifestyle choices." First, we tend to bear children "late" (that is, after 30) or not at all. The not-so-subtle implication is that because lesbians don't reproduce the way straight women do, we have to face dire health consequences.

Second, the higher breast cancer risk of lesbians purportedly stems from our drinking and smoking so much and, oh yes, from being overweight. But the surveys are skewed because much of the fact-finding on lesbian health has been done through questionnaires distributed in lesbian bars. It's hard to give credence to pronouncements about risk that are based so heavily on the tired old stereotype of the hard-drinking, chain-smoking, built-like-a-Mack-truck bullydyke.

My own frustrated response to these "facts" about lesbians and breast cancer points to a problem: Lesbians must pay attention to and be vigilant about our health needs, even though we may be highly (and rightly) skeptical of the medical establishment in this country. The new government report voices alarm that lesbians use traditional medical care less often than straight women, and the reasons it lists include fear of homophobia and the high cost of medical care.

But another reason some of us do not access traditional health care is deeply rooted in lesbian culture and is more about empowerment than victimization. Lesbian and straight feminists who experienced homophobia and misogyny from doctors founded the women's health movement in the 1970s. This movement resisted the medicalization of women that had been taking place in this country for a century, and it tried to put women in touch with their own health needs. It not only created women's and lesbian health clinics with payment based on a sliding scale, but it also encouraged women to get to know their own bodies, swap stories of illness and health, and educate themselves about their health care options.

And unlike most mainstream doctors, the women's health movement endorsed alternative forms of care, including chiropractic and homeopathy. Today many lesbians still rely on alternative medical providers for their care.

Sadly, many lesbian health clinics have foundered financially. Those that remain — like St. Mark's Health Collective in New York, now part of the coed Callen-Lorde Community Health Project — can serve as models to local lesbian and gay communities. Both lesbians and gay men need to take lesbian health seriously by investing time and money in it, as we have admirably done in gay men's health. And lesbians themselves need to take responsibility by becoming informed about our choices and refusing to become victims of a homophobic and sexist medical establishment. It's a simple prescription and one I hope will be discussed much more in light of the new government report.

Friends of the Klondyke Kontakt
The KK has a new e-mail address
<kk@gci.net>
Camel Caravan

by Ken Lovering

“I want to get Jackie’s picture alone on her camel, with the ocean behind her,” Nelson says, but the Moroccan men who are guiding our caravan along this Atlantic beach do not speak much English.

There are twelve of us riding high, attempting integrity — a la Lawrence of Arabia — on these salivating, single-humped beasts. The footsteps of my host rock me back and forth in a motion I never get used to; it tests muscles in my thighs and butt I never knew I had. We have been divvied up into groups of four, the rope from each camel’s bridle tied to the one in front. Their horrific tongues hang out the side of their mouths like discarded slabs, floating in mouthfuls of mucus. They pee freely and rub their noses in each other’s rectums and I think to myself — over their outcries reminiscent of Chewbacca — that I’ve never been this close to such baseness. In an odd way, I am energized by it.

Nelson’s desire to get the perfect African photo of Jackie threatens to upset the order in which we’re being led — he wants a picture of her alone. He persists with the guides, plowing his way through the language barrier, flailing his hands atop his camel, like a mad film director (or, some of us “in the know” might have said, like a raving African queen).

The most amazing thing about Nelson is his frequent success despite all odds — and this episode is no exception. Somehow, he conveys to our guides, who have clearly lost patience with this silly American, that Jackie’s camel must be untied from the bunch and guided to the breaking waves. And as their game of charades draws to a happy close — Jackie sitting proud atop her camel for Nelson’s lens, the Atlantic stretching out behind her in a magnificent sprawl — my camel separates itself from the caravan. We sully our way along the shore while the rest of the group heads inland.

I have two thoughts.

First: This is a freedom I have never known. Chances are good that this is the only time in my life I will be carried by a camel along Northern Africa’s coast. I’m overwhelmed by an unspeakable joy as we saunter — my dromedary and I — along the sands. The fact that there are no stirrups, reins, or a saddle to cling onto — just a bulky makeshift seat draped with ratty blankets — contributes to my bravado, my machismo, my growing sense of adventure.

My second thought: Do camels ever run?

We are traveling with The Big Company on this week-long training trip to Spain and Morocco. The next morning, we attend a lecture presented specifically for our group by an esteemed university professor. Standing before us in his traditional robe, he emanates grace, warmth, and humility. He speaks of the Muslim faith in which men must pray five times a day, and of Ramadan, the month-long Islamic holiday during which men must forego all appetites — for food, for sex — from sunrise to sunset. It is a fascinating talk about reverence, about sacrifice, about the lengths to which a society will go to honor its god.

When he is finished, he opens his talk to questions. “Ask me anything you want,” he says, and I know he is asking for much more than he expects.

“How does Moroccan culture treat gays and lesbians?” Nelson says, and I feel my jaw clench and my entire body tense. African cultures, I know, abhor the thought of homosexuality. The Zimbabwean president was even known to reward citizens of his country to turn in known homosexuals, who would then disappear from daily life and probably be led to their deaths.

I want to poke Nelson. “This is not Oprah,” I want to say. “This is not one of those schmaltzy news magazines. And you are not Diane Sawyer asking the probing question with the raised eyebrow! You’re going into territory that’s beyond what you could imagine in your worst nightmare.”

The silence in the room is deafening, the anticipation palpable. Nelson and I are far from closet cases; we’ve been upfront about our lives to everyone throughout this trip. What if this wise and gentle man condemns homosexuality in this very room? How would Nelson and I react? Did we have the blood of activists inside us and was it now reeling through our veins, awaiting what we already know to be hate and homophobia? Did we have a global agenda? No one but Nelson and me know the answers to these questions and I can feel the attention of our fellow travelers zooming in on us.

The professor touches his fingertips together, as if in prayer. He stares above us, beyond us, summoning cour-
age to speak words that his culture forbids him to speak. It is an incredible moment, curious for its mixture of thoughtfulness and fear, gripping for its clashing of cultural perspectives.

"This is an embarrassing question," the professor says with a slight bow of his head." He pauses. "We do not have such people here."

Behind my cupped hand, I smile to myself with relief, and even admiration. Nelson wanted to hear the truth — that gays and lesbians were considered less than human in African cultures and their behavior was considered base, unlawful, and punishable. Any American professor would have told him as much. But this African professor would not give it to him, thereby allowing them both to save face. I admire him for his strategy.

But perhaps it wasn’t a strategy at all. As I shake his hand in thanks, I detect a level of sincerity that I’ve rarely experienced. This man, I think to myself, truly believes that gay men and lesbians do not exist in his country, in his religion. For him, homosexuality is more than the elephant in the room, or camel in this case, that no one speaks about. For him, the camel in the room is a fabrication, an embarrassing notion brought to his mind by someone outside his world. He can see right through it, even walk through it when he has to. And he probably does so everyday, unaware.

As for me and Nelson, we’ve already ridden out of the room on it.

With integrity.

A la Lawrence of Arabia.

South African gays win immigration rights

South Africa’s Cape High Court ordered the government to equalize immigration law for same-sex couples February 12. The judges said the Aliens Control Act violates the nation’s post-Apartheid constitution, which bans discrimination based on sexual orientation.

“The Constitution seeks to promote a society in which diversity of identity is respected and protected,” wrote Judge Dennis Davis. “The Act prefers certain forms of life partnership over others. ... This cannot be justified.

“Where there is an obligation to treat the applicants with the same concern and respect due to married persons, such an obligation should be performed without delay and the department should have expedited the matter rather than delayed it,” he said.

The ruling resulted from a case filed against the Department of Home Affairs by the Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Equality and several gays and lesbians whose foreign partners had not been allowed to immigrate as spouses.
Twice more, the New York Post illustrates its intolerance

In the February 18 edition of the New York Post, columnist Steve Dunleavy went one step further than his usual brand of inflammatory, insensitive and homophobic commentary, moving into the territory of clear-cut hate speech and threatening the subject of his column with violence.

Queens School Board candidate Wayne Mahlke has drawn significant attention for his attempts to resurrect the Rainbow Curriculum by placing lesbian- and gay-themed books in public school libraries. Among those age-appropriate books Mahlke has been promoting: Daddy's Roommate and Heather Has Two Mommies.

Dunleavy writes that Mahlke's candidacy “worries the living hell out of me,” because “what Mahlke wants to do with these 10-year-olds is expose them to something that makes me want to loosen his teeth.” Dunleavy quotes Mahlke's opponent, Frank Borzerelli, who says Mahlke “is sick [and] can only be called allegedly brainwashing for perversion.” Dunleavy agrees with him, slinging insults at Mahlke in an apparent attempt to discount Mahlke's claim that he is trying to promote tolerance and multiculturalism.

Most appalling, however, is how Dunleavy closes the piece. He warns, “Come near my school district, and perhaps you won't be beaten up, but your legs won't touch the ground the moment you get off the train. But if I hear about gay books with daddies in bed being exposed to little kids, you may not be as safe as I promised.”

The February 12 edition of the Post included an appalling editorial cartoon about the recent controversy surrounding the Teletubbies. Five men and a sheep are shown sitting in front of a television, with the words “And now back to Teletubbies,” coming from the television’s speaker.

From left to right, the seated figures depicted are: George Michael; an unidentified man wearing lipstick and an ascot; U.S. Representative Barney Frank; Boy George, another unidentified man, his lips pursed and his finger pointing toward his mouth; and finally, a human-sized sheep. All six have their legs crossed, with large hats covering their laps — presumably to hide erections.

New York Post cartoonist Sean Delonas draws in a number of items on the floor, as well — charged images, chock-full of stereotypes and visual slurs: an open can of tuna fish, a gerbil with a string attached to its tail, a magazine which appears to have a sheep on its cover, and what seems to be a tire pump.

In 1997, GLAAD met with New York Post Editor Ken Chandler, Managing Editor Marc Kalech and one of the paper's metro editors, to discuss the paper's history of problems in covering lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender issues. At that meeting, GLAAD cited columns by now-retired Post columnist Ray Kerrison and Dunleavy as particularly hateful and damaging examples of the Post's coverage. That was before Dunleavy decided to entertain notions of gay-bashing and physical violence so obliquely in his column.

In addition, GLAAD specifically mentioned the offensive nature of many of the Post's cartoons, noting their consistent and ludicrous inclusion of a sheep in every cartoon featuring even the most marginal lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender themes.

The much-criticized Teletubbies controversy — which ensued when religious political extremist Jerry Falwell asserted that one of the show's central characters was gay — certainly warrants parody. But the New York Post chose not only to advocate for the very intolerance that Falwell and his colleagues brought to the nation — it went one step further, adding even more insipid stereotypes to the mix. The Post has once again demonstrated its complete disregard for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people — and for the diversity so present in its own home base of New York.

Point your browser to <http://www.glaad.org> to check out the cartoon on GLAAD's website, GLAAD Online, and then tell the Post that this kind of bigotry is simply unacceptable.

Contact Ken Chandler, Editor, New York Post, 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10036-8790, fax 212.930.8540, e-mail <letters@nypost.com>.

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Deep Inside Hollywood

Kathy Bates, Front Runner

Kathy Bates, the Academy Award-winning actress who garnered her second nomination for her turn as a lesbian campaign press secretary in Primary Colors, may make another giant step for gay-kind. Bates (who based on buzz for her made-for-TV work is gaining a reputation around Hollywood as a sought-after director) is considering helming the feature version of Patricia Nell Warren's acclaimed gay novel The Front Runner. The book, which was originally published in 1973, focuses on the struggle of a gay Olympic hopeful and his coach who must face bigotry and pay a high price to reach their goals. This isn't the first attempt to bring this landmark gay work to the silver screen. In the past, the ever-dashing Paul Newman expressed interest in the role of the coach, but to no avail. Hopefully the tide will turn now that David Geffen's studio DreamWorks SKG owns the rights to the novel.

Dawson's closet

Gay writer and Hollywood hot property Kevin Williamson's homosexuality is finally making headlines. Dawson's Creek's new role model for gay teens everywhere is based on the show's creator, Williamson freely admits. Jack McPhee (played by handsome young thang Kerr Smith) a hunky high schooler recently disappointed adolescent girls everywhere when he told his dad, his sis, and his horny young girlfriend "Yep, I'm gay!" Williamson claims he never posed for the cover of The Advocate because he wanted his work to speak for itself. While much of the press seems to have been in the dark about Mr. Williamson's gayness, Deep inside Hollywood called him "Hollywood's Scariest Queer" sixteen months ago and has followed his career ever since. That's why we're "Deep," folks!

Hollywood's other scary queer

Gay writer Clive Barker, the evil genius behind those scary Candyman pics is directing a new horror film for New Line. Currently titled American Horror, the film will be set in the 1860s in the old west during the expansion of the railroads. While western in setting, expect a flick similar in scope to classic European horror flicks Frankenstein and Dracula. This will be Barker's first return to the director's chair since 1995's Lord of Illusions.

Mame! I'm gonna live forever

Barbra Streisand has sealed a deal with gay producers Craig Zadan and Neil Meron to adapt the Jerry Herman musical Mame into a three-hour made-for-television movie for ABC. Considering Babs' involvement, and the Zadan/Meron penchant for lavish productions (this was the team behind ABC's Cinderella starring divas Brandy and Whitney Houston), the project has the potential of becoming the most expensive telefilm ever. Babs won't say if she'll star in the project until she reads a script, but it could be her first musical role since Yentl. Mame, the play, which won Angela Lansbury a Tony way back in the '60s tells the tale of eccentric auntie Mame Dennis who has to raise her orphaned nephew Patrick, and does so in a wildly scandalous, liberated, and diva-like way. Babs, Zadan, and Meron have a successful history as a threesome. The trio teamed up in 1995 to produce Serving in Silence: The Margarethe Cammermeyer Story about the high-ranking soldier-nurse who was fired due to her dyke tendencies.

Romeo San Vicente would love to have a character based on him in Dawson's Creek. Romeo can be reached at <RomeoDeep@aol.com>.

HelpLine Training

Being a volunteer requires a commitment of at least 6 months, one night a month, from the comfort of your own home 6 p.m. to 11 p.m. The HelpLine is not a crisis line but an information and referral line. We get a lot of calls from people looking for the "bars". It's not glamorous but we provide a valuable service. We are the only visible link for people looking for the Anchorage gay and lesbian community. The next training will be Sunday, April 25, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship church at 3201 Turnagain Street, upstairs in the Identity office. We provide not only the training, but the information you'll need on bars, organizations, counselors, etc. For more information or to sign up for the training, please call Candy at 268-9884 or e-mail <solcandy@bigfoot.com>.

Are you interested in performing in this years Celebration on April 23? Call Victoria at 751-7234.
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The Amazon Trail

butchgear.com

by Lee Lynch

Lover was out of town, working in some snowy outback, so the Hotelier and the Revered Poet helped me survive my loneliness over an elegant dinner. Outside it hailed furiously. We three huddled around the candlelight and talked lesbian talk, sometimes exchanging chat with a friendly gay fellow at the next table.

Settling down was particularly welcome that evening because, without Lover to scan the dark roads for me, I'd managed, in the midst of a perfectly legal u-turn, to sink my front tires into someone's lawn. I'd burst into the restaurant to announce my crisis. The hostess and we three became a maestrom of activity. AAA pledged to arrive in 30 minutes.

Meanwhile the Hotelier, stalwart butch that she is, said, "Let me take a look" and, with fists burrowed into slash pockets, longshoreperson's cap on her head, she strolled out to the hail and gusting winds. I followed. I'd wondered if I could drive my way out of the mud, but the Hotelier wasted no time pondering. Under her measuring eye I plunged forward onto concrete and rolled to safety. Who needs AAA when one's got two good butches around?

Over blackened catch of the day, a fisherman's stew and other delicacies we spoke about our creative drives and what got our juices going. The Revered Poet talked about the arts and group process and shared writing. I spoke of the joys of silent hours alone with my imagination. The Hotelier thought for a while and announced that starting a new business gives her that creative jolt.

Decadent desserts were wheeled to our table. The three of us chose two to share. As we plunged into them we also plunged into business dreams. My favorite was The Screening Me-Me's. We'd be on call to repair window and door screens at homes and businesses. Of course that one won't work because every glass company in every strip mall in every town already does it. The other ideas I won't reveal because who knows, the Hotelier may pull one of them off.

My little brainchild is called Butch Gear/Pretty City: A catalogue for women afraid of hardware stores and their partners who fear lingerie shops. Femmes (or het women) don't understand what a thrill the gift of a four-in-one screwdriver or a pocketknife can bring a butch (or male partner). On the other hand, what butch (or...?) wants to receive a Victoria's Secret catalogue in the mail? The BC/PC catalogue offers selections guaranteed to please your other half, without exposing you to the trauma of cross-shopping.

I have to admit this potentially booming business was inspired by a femme. Not Lover, who is wonderful about supplying me with gadgets, but an e-pal who told me of gifts she'd bought her very significant other. They were perfectly good gifts, but I had to suggest that she think in future about presenting the four-in-one screwdriver as a token of her affections. Her response appeared on my monitor like this: WHAT IS A FOUR-IN-ONE SCREWDRIVER? TO KEEP MY WOMAN ARE YOU TELLING ME I MUST ENTER THE HARDWARE ZONE? OH, GODDESS!

I try to live up to my soft butch image, so I offered to shop for her and now have in my possession, ready for shipping, a red-handled screwdriver with two slotted and two Phillips head fittings that cleverly disappear into their handle and themselves. I couldn't resist a companion tempered steel mini pry bar (one for me too!), which pulls nails and staples, pries lids, drawers and moldings and scrapes glue and caulking! (Surely it could have prised my car from the muddy lawn?) Tomorrow, when the knife shop opens, I'll go get another pocket knife. The knife peddler knows my weakness for gadgets and last week animately shared his newest find: a ten dollar, clear-handled pocket knife with a tiny red bulb that serves as a flashlight and bathes the whole knife in a red glow. Be still my heart.

Of course I made the leap from helping out an e-pal to opening butchgear.com within seconds. Pretty City followed naturally. Not every woman hungers for a pocket wrench. Lover must be growing bored of the all-occasion bouquets she receives for every occasion. Not to worry — Pretty City came to my rescue for Valentine's Day! I gave her — you guessed it — a pocket knife that glows red in the dark like my loving heart. It's true, not every femme hungers for a pink teddy. Maybe. I'd better check with the experts at prettycity.com.

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My Queer Life

Cheaper by the Dozen

by Michael Thomas Ford

Michael Thomas Ford’s book Alec Baldwin Doesn’t Love Me & Other Trials from My Queer Life is a finalist for a Lambda Literary Award in humor. He welcomes e-mail at <shopiltee@aol.com>.

Twice in the last month I have been asked if I would like to become a father. Some of my lesbian friends have gone baby-mad, and two different couples put out tentative queries about maybe anccing up into a little cup to help them out.

I’m honored to be asked, of course. But I don’t know. The last time I did this, it almost gave me a nervous breakdown.

I was 13. It was eighth grade. Health class. We were discussing the responsibilities of parenting. Our teacher, Mr. Travis, decided that we were taking the whole thing far too lightly, and needed a lesson in the difficulties of having young ones to care for. So we all became parents for a week.

Our children were eggs. Mr. Travis gave us each one and we held them anxiously while he explained what his exercise entailed. We were to name our baby eggs and decorate them. We had to have them with us at all times. They couldn’t sit in our lockers. And if we had to be involved in some activity that took us away from our charges — like gym class — we had to find a babysitter. At night, of course, we were allowed to refrigerate them, lest they become overly spoiled.

If we managed to make it through the week without any harm coming to our egg children, we would receive an A on the assignment. But should our little ones become scrambled, or even cracked, we would fail. It was that simple.

We took to the challenge with mixed emotions. Most of the girls thought it was great fun, while the boys looked at the fragile eggs cradled in our clumsy hands and immediately considered hard boiling them to make them sturdier. This, however, was one of the many options forbidden to us. So we did the best we could.

What we hadn’t counted on, however, was the almost irresistible appeal of infanticide. What started out as a well-intentioned exercise in parenting soon turned into a bloodbath. Like some kind of primal instinct, destroying other students’ children became our foremost goal. Each of us wanted to be the last one standing come Friday. We jostled our rivals on the stairs and “accidentally” bumped into one another in the lunch line. The sound of an egg hitting the floor while a bereaved parent howled in anguish became music to our ears.

My egg was named Rupert. He had a cheerful little painted-on face. I was careful to keep him with me at all times, eyeing anyone who came near me with suspicion. I even walked home with him every night, lest some high school bully on the bus kidnap him and pitch him out the window, as had happened to Anne Chattam one afternoon when she refused to hand over five bucks to free her precious Charlotte from the clutches of a tenth grader.

By Wednesday, fully half of the class had lost their egg babies to either neglect, accident, or murder. There had even been one case of a hired nanny shaking an egg in her charge so badly that it had cracked, and although she claimed she was just rocking it to sleep, none of us believed her.

On Thursday, the pressure intensified. Those without eggs decided that the rest of us would join them in failure. It was an all-out slaughter. Eggs were ripped from their parents’ arms and hurled against walls. Some anxious kids tried to protect their offspring by sending them to live with younger siblings in the lower grades for the day. But that proved their undoing, as day care was strictly forbidden and Mr. Travis pronounced them unfit parents.

By Friday morning, there were only two of us remaining, me and my friend Carolyn. This wouldn’t have been a
problem under normal circumstances, but Carolyn and I were always vying for the top spot in our classes, and at the moment we were in a dead heat. Whichever one of us was the best parent would be victorious.

When the moment came to present our healthy bouncing babies to Mr. Travis, Carolyn went first. She carried Mellicent to the front of the class and held her up. Mellicent had beautiful yellow glued-on hair, and she was the picture of health. Mr. Travis beamed and wrote an A next to Carolyn's name.

Carolyn started to return to her seat. As she passed me she stumbled (I swear it was an accident), sending Mellicent to the floor. But instead of the usual smacking sound, there was just a gentle cracking as Mellicent shattered into a hundred tiny pieces. There was no yolk, no gore. Mr. Travis walked over, bent down, and examined the remains of Carolyn's egg.

"Well," he said. "It seems someone tried to get away with blowing out her egg. Would you like to explain this, Miss Pratt?"

Carolyn turned red. She'd been caught. She was an egg-blower. It was a trick none of the rest of us had thought of. We were impressed. But Carolyn had still cheated.

"I guess that makes Mr. Ford the only responsible parent in the class," Mr. Travis said. He picked up Rupert and shook him, making sure he was still intact. "Good work" he said. "A."

I took Rupert home that afternoon triumphant. I was a good dad, and I had the grade to prove it. But now that the week was over, I had no idea what to do with my boy. Being a father had been a good experience, but I wasn't sure I wanted to spend the next 18 years caring Rupert around and tucking him into the refrigerator every night.

My mother was in the kitchen, making a cake. A bowl of eggs sat near her. Sensing my opportunity to be rid of my responsibilities, I slipped Rupert in next to the plain old eggs and held my breath. When my mother reached into the bowl, I watched as Rupert was lifted out, cracked against the side of a bowl, and mixed into the batter. My mother, too busy reading her recipe, had never even noticed his little face as she ended his life.

That night, as I ate my piece of chocolate cake, I had a few pangs of remorse. But by the second piece I'd forgotten all about it. So when my lesbian friends try to lure me back into fatherhood, I'm tempted to give it another try. But then I think of little Rupert, and how sweet he tasted, and I think maybe it's not such a good idea after all.

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Youth Ask for Help

by Erin Barker and Karl Wojtaszek

Karl Wojtaszek, 20, and Erin Barker, 18, are gay youth activists in Anchorage. Both are currently involved in THE FAMILY, and IMRU2. They are currently organizing a queer youth rally to take place in May.

This April, Erin and Karl plan to attend the Northwest Regional Queer Conference at the University of Oregon and are in need of financial assistance for travel.

Karl is a musician and performed at the 1998 Pride Conference as well as the vigil held by THE FAMILY for Matthew Shepherd. He worked for the No On 2 Campaign and currently serves as activities coordinator for THE FAMILY and as the youth contact for IMRU2.

Erin served as president of THE FAMILY during the Spring 1998 semester and co-chair of the Anchorage P-FLAG board last year. She was involved in the production of the first g/l/b/t youth rally in Anchorage and volunteered for the No On 2 Campaign.

Both Erin and Karl feel strongly about gay issues, particularly those involving youth. They would like to continue their involvement and believe that attending this conference will aid them in future activities.

The conference will be held April 23-25, and includes pre-conference speakers, numerous workshops, and keynote addresses by Donna Redwing of the Human Rights Campaign, and GLSEN Executive Director Kevin Jennings. The conference concludes with an address by Rabbi Joseph A. Edelheit, who currently serves on President Clinton's Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS.

Various Northwest campuses and other g/l/b/t-oriented groups will be sending representatives to the conference; Karl and Erin believe that this will provide them with the opportunity to make connections with other activists in the Northwest, something that could benefit much of the Anchorage g/l/b/t community.

Erin and Karl are in need of funds to cover the cost of travel to the conference and conference registration expenses. If you are able to provide a donation, please email Erin at <erin_ak@juno.com> or call 333-9280.

You are thanked in advance.
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Four A's will mail out personalized invitations to each guest inviting them to dinner and the dessert celebration.

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From 8:30pm to 1:00am on Saturday, May 1st hosts, guests and the general public are invited to a dessert and dance celebration at the Saint Patrick's Hall, 2111 Muldoon Road. Live music by Nervis Rex and a bountiful silent auction

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For more information, call Laurie Wolf at 263-2048 or visit our website at alaskanaids.org/dinners

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No time or place to hold a dinner, but you still want to be involved?
Contact us to find out about a dinner that you can attend.

Upcoming Events:
▼ Latina Women's Conference: April 30 & May 1 @ Fairview Rec. Ctr.
▼ AIDS 101 Training: March 11 & April 7 5:00pm - 6:00pm @ 4 A's
▼ Free HIV Testing Wednesdays 2:00 - 4:00pm @ 4A's
▼ Every Friday "Friday Lunch" for clients, friends and volunteers Noon @ 4 A's
The murder of Billy Jack Gaither

A message from The Rev. Elder Troy Perry:
Once again our hearts are saddened that hate-inspired crime has claimed the life of still another member of the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered community.
We are saddened by the senseless murder of Billy Jack Gaither.
And we are saddened that his life was taken solely because of his sexual orientation.
Today we feel more than sadness.
President Theodore Roosevelt said, “The American people are slow to anger; but when their wrath is kindled, it burns like a consuming fire.” Today, I join millions of Americans whose anger is kindled at hate, injustice and intolerance.
How many more men and women must die before the U.S. government affords hate crime protection to gays and lesbians? How much longer must we wait for the promise of equal rights to be realized under the law?
Today I call upon America’s elected officials — state legislators and governors, members of Congress and the U.S. Justice Department — to transcend the forces of hate, to rise above the shifting winds of politics and enact hate crimes statutes which will honor our nation’s promise of “liberty and justice for all.” To do any less is to desecrate the U.S. Constitution.
— It is time for America to stop the murder of her gay and lesbian citizens.
— It is time for the U.S. Congress to stop resisting the creation of federal hate-crime laws covering gays.
— It is time for the twenty-nine states which afford no hate crime protection to gays and lesbians to enact them.
The time for debate has come and gone. We will not sit patiently by while our brothers and sisters lose their lives to hatred and bigotry.
The time has long passed when gay citizens should have to fear for their lives... or the loss of their jobs... or the denial of fair housing... or the loss of our children through inequitable adoption laws.
That is why I encourage all citizens to support the marches on state capitals through the Equality Begins At Home movement in March of this year and to stand with me in our nation’s capital for the Millennium March on Washington for Equality in April of 2000. Our voices will be heard!
May this be our rallying call:
We’re marching to state capitals in March of 1999!
We’re marching to our nation’s capital in April of 2000!
We’re marching to the ballot box in November of 2000!

On behalf of the members of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, I extend my love, prayers and condolences to the family & friends of Billy Jack Gaither.
And I pledge that we will not rest in our work or in our calling until the words of the ancient Hebrew prophet Amos are realized: “Let justice roll down like many waters, and righteousness like a mighty stream.”
“Natural” tendencies not best when saving and investing

by Kathleen Madden

Natural Foods, natural fibers, even natural lighting in building construction. Yes, “natural” usually is meant to be what lifestyle maven Martha Stewart would call “a good thing.” But when it comes to natural tendencies in saving and investing, the best advice might be, “Fight the urge.”

Human inclination to “not worry, be happy,” make decisions solely on emotion, and put off involved tasks as long as possible doesn’t serve a financial future very well. On the other hand, replacing these natural tendencies with just a reasonable amount of structured planning can after produce a financial outlook that’s quite healthy.

What to avoid

Overcoming the natural disposition to think in the following ways can sometimes be an important key to successful long-term financial planning...

The future will take care of itself...somehow.
The future inevitably will come to pass, and you’ll need money to pay for it. Believing otherwise is to take the infamous “ostrich approach” to saving and investing — sticking your head in the sand. Ignoring your future financial needs (retirement, college for the kids) won’t make them go away. Acknowledging your financial needs is a crucial first step to meeting them.

Time is on my side. Actually, time is on your side...but only if you use it. It’s great to have several years to deal with the long-term financial needs you identify. But this does not mean taking up the challenge of paying for college just as high school diplomas are being awarded. Investing now, even if it’s only a little every month, can make a significant difference in reaching long-term investment goals. Consider an “automatic” investment plan so as to avoid procrastinating. Every day counts; starting a little later than perhaps you could have is still preferable to never getting off the mark.

I’ll “strike” when the time is right. “Cherry-picking” investments that seem great in the moment seldom works over the long term. Most successful investors establish their financial goals and willingness to incur risk first, then select investments that match those goals. If your goals are long-term, then it makes sense to select investments designed to perform over that timeframe. Historically, market performance shows that the biggest mistake is not jumping on an investment too late, but in pulling out of the market too soon. Most investors find success in a thoughtful, long-term investment strategy that maintains focus, commitment and patience.

I gave it the ‘ol college try, it just didn’t work out. Own a house? If you’d dwelled on that dollar amount on your mortgage document — the one required by law, the one that shows how much you’ll pay over 30 years — you’d probably have determined that camping outside forever might be fun for the kids! The numbers for retirement, college and other long-term goals are high...but they’re not numbers you have to “deliver” immediately or in one lump sum. Don’t give up. “Attacking” these goals a little at a time, but on a regular monthly basis, makes them seem — and be — a lot more achievable.

Like rivers, people take the path of least resistance. But for saving and investing, doing what’s counter intuitive is often what’s best. And all those things you’d like to do, but shouldn’t — not worry, put off the hard stuff, take your time? Well, the irony is that fending off the feelings and doing them now will better enable you to do them later...when you’re more secure in your finances. It’s what personal financial planning is all about.

Kathleen Madden is a Financial Advisor for Waddell & Reed (see insert.) The Anchorage office is one of 200 nationwide. They can be reached at <http://www.waddell.com>.

Cathedral protester gets slap on wrist

London gay activist Peter Tatchell received only a slap on the wrist December 1 following his two-day trial for “indecent behavior in a church” — a violation of the Ecclesiastical Courts Jurisdictions Act of 1860.

Tatchell and six other members of the gay group OutRage! invaded Easter services at Canterbury Cathedral last April. Tatchell seized a microphone and yelled: “Dr. Carey supports discrimination against lesbian and gay people. ... This is not a Christian teaching. It is wrong for Dr. Carey to oppose an equal age of consent.”

Dr. George Carey, Archbishop of Canterbury, is leader of the Anglican Church.

In a clear slap at the 138-year-old statute, Magistrate Michael Kelly fined Tatchell 18.60 pounds (USS30.74), explaining, “I suspect that the vast majority will regard your conduct as an insignificant and transient incident in the history of a great cathedral.”

Tatchell also was ordered to pay costs of 320 pounds (USS529). He could have been jailed for up to two months. The other protesters were not arrested.

“I have been found guilty in a court of law but I do not regard myself as morally guilty of any crime,” Tatchell said afterward. “I have been convicted of ‘indecent behavior in a church’ under an unjust 1860 law that violates the right to free speech and peaceful protest. It gives the church privileged protection against dissent. No other social institution, not even Parliament, has such draconian, sweeping powers to suppress protest. ... It is the archbishop who should have been on trial. He endorses the abuse of homosexual human rights. That is the real crime.”
Mindless prejudice

Arizona's self-proclaimed moralists proudly displayed their nastiest side last week. The venom directed at gay and lesbian citizens of Arizona by Rep. Karen Johnson and Frank Meliti of the Traditional Values Coalition of Arizona made the state gag.

It was the kind of mindless, barbed prejudice that has been directed at groups of people through the ages in an attempt to dehumanize and demonize them.

Meliti said, "Homosexuals are known for telling lies and twisting the truth . . . " His words echoed other famous lies: "You can't trust a Jew." "Mexicans are lazy." "Blacks are shiftless." "Girls are weak."

The words were a siren to lure impressionable minds. A jack hammer to shatter opponents. They were spoken to discredit and silence people who belong to a group the speaker does not like.

The self-righteousness carried a message that was outrageous, not righteous.

Karen Johnson also lusted to stand on the broken bodies of those she deems morally inferior. She said, "Homosexuality is at the lower end of the behavioral spectrum."

No, the kind of intolerance that punishes people because of who they are is at the lower end of the behavioral spectrum.

Johnson aimed to punish.

She spewed in support of a bill that would prohibit city and county governments from offering health benefits to unmarried couples without a public vote. It is aimed right between the eyes of Tucson and Pima County, which both provide such benefits in the name of fairness. The bill would also forbid the state from offering health benefits to unmarried partners.

Arizona can hang its head because she got support. The bill passed the House Government Reform Committee on a party line vote. Republican Reps. Dean Cooley, Debra Brimmhall and Mike Gardner voted aye.

Those are shameful votes. Not because they represent views on the government's role in providing benefits. There is room for philosophical differences on that issue.

They are shameful votes because they came after a diatribe by Johnson in which she invited those on the committee to embrace offensive, derogatory stereotypes about fellow human beings. They are shameful votes because they show that our lawmakers have learned very little about the danger of blanket prejudice.

Those lawmakers could have stood up for common decency and walked out. They could have taken a moral stand for tolerance.

Instead they allowed Karen Johnson to paint them a nasty shade of bigotry that will take a long time to wear off.


You must not be angry at unthinking speech: if you listen to every dog that barks, you will have no leisure to learn wisdom.

— Marion Zimmer Bradley

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Why are gay men so hostile toward feminine men?

I felt for Alex McClendon, the transgender student forced out of Georgi'an Country Day School. Even the mainstream media told the story of this adolescent. Apparently, she was widely accepted by her peers and caused no problems at the school; yet still, narrow-minded administrators made her leave.

Surprisingly, even the straight press recognized the bigotry involved in Alex's case. Her classmates recognized the prejudice as well, rallying to Alex's cause by wearing hair bows in solidarity.

This story has done much to expose the outdated ideas of those persons charged with running our schools. Many in the gay community have vilified not only Alex's school, but all schools for their ignorance of this issue. This vilification is certainly justified.

Sadly, there is probably no institution further behind on issues of gender and sexuality than the school system. Rather than carry out their mission to educate, schools around the country try their best to ignore these issues.

But before members of the gay community cast the proverbial stone, we should examine our own actions. I have serious doubts that Alex will be treated any better in the gay community than she was in her high school.

Gay men are often as brutal in their rejection of anything feminine as any straight men. Teased and tormented throughout adolescence for being "pansies" and "sissies," when they reach adulthood, many gay men do everything in their power to erase any hint of femininity.

Of course there's nothing wrong with celebrating masculinity. But sometimes in our efforts to explore the masculine side of ourselves, we become as oppressive as the straight community.

For evidence of this rejection of the feminine, look no further than the classified ads in gay newspapers and magazines, read the profiles in men-for-men chat rooms, or listen to the conversations of gay men in bars.

In the classified ads, gay men used to describe what they were looking for as "straight-acting." Now that this term has been banned by most of the gay media, the new code has become "masculine," and it's often included among the most important criteria in a partner.

Chat room profiles are even harsher in their rejection of femininity. Many of the profiles proudly list the phrase, "No Fem." One profile I read recently contains the statement, "If you open your mouth, and a purse falls out, don't [e-mail] me." Gay men can be even more brutal in the bar setting, when they refuse to even speak to men who approach them if these men exhibit any signs of femininity.

At some point, it might be wise for gay men to ask ourselves, what is wrong with feminine traits? Masculinity can sometimes be more of a curse than a blessing. As strange as it may sound, I have often felt sorry for straight men. Although they are granted great privilege in our society, they can maintain this privilege only by conforming to rigid male roles. They can never feel free to express emotion or show the nurturing side of themselves because to do so would make them appear womanly.

Presumably, one of the "masculine" traits straight men and gays are eager to display is that of strength. Ironically, feminine gay men, transgendered persons, and transsexuals exhibit this "masculine" characteristic much more than any straight men. These people who choose not to conform to rigid gender roles bear the brunt of our society's hatred of difference.

Unable to assimilate, they are the ones who have to put up with verbal and even physical abuse throughout their lives. Given the extremely high rate of suicide among gay and lesbian teens, the fact that these marginalized members of our society make it to adulthood is proof of their incredible strength.

When they make their way into the gay community, they are probably hoping for a more accepting environment. Too often, they find that the gay community is just as hostile — if not more so — toward them as the straight community. Even leaders of the gay rights movement (who are supposed to be knowledgeable about human rights) refuse to acknowledge the rights of transgendered and transsexual people.

There is certainly nothing wrong with being masculine and gay, and there is nothing wrong with being attracted to masculine men. But we might want to ask ourselves why we are so vehement in our rejection of anything feminine.

Where did we get the idea that feminine traits are undesirable? If we don't accept nonconformity when it comes to gender, aren't we doing the same thing that straight people do to us?


Hating people is like burning down your own house to get rid of a rat.
— Harry E. Fosdick
Family pride

by Kathryn Crawford

Visiting relatives is always a bittersweet experience. It is great to catch up with loved ones, share news and assess how people have changed since I last saw them. But once the excitement of reuniting has passed, and all the easy topics of conversation have been exhausted, the probability of sensitive subjects arising increases exponentially with each day. The potentially bitter aspect of my visit revolved around the fact that, for the first time in three years, my partner was joining me on my annual pilgrimage to Britain. The only good thing to come out the Lewinsky debacle is that I managed to postpone close scrutiny of my personal life for days, simply by answering questions about American political antics.

My mother and I have dealt with the fact that my partner is a woman, in true British style: nothing was said directly. At first, she was horrified and pretended nothing was happening in the hope that this latest “nasty” phase of mine would pass. We then went through a lengthy stage during which she fluctuated between behaving as though: a) Connie was a good friend; b) Connie was the devil; and c) Connie was going to be replaced any day by the man of my mother’s dreams. My father and I have dealt with my lifestyle in true father-daughter fashion: we have said nothing. We rely on my mother to screen and relay information on a need-to-know basis.

Almost as soon as the plane touched down at Heathrow, I whisked Connie off to London for a few days. From there we went to stay with friends, so in the first week we only spent a couple of days with my parents. Whew! The last week was a challenge. We spent the entire time based at my parents’ house, the perfect opportunity for family discord. My tension heightened. But Connie had done her homework. In addition to learning all the subjects of family conversation that were bound to provoke a breakdown in international relations, she researched the fundamental cultural differences between Brits and Americans. Thus armed, she managed to avoid the many social pitfalls that can sabotage an exuberant American tourist visiting a country deeply biased against optimism and unbridled enthusiasm. The week passed without incident!

I am still recovering from the shock of my mother’s totally un-British behavior at the airport as we prepared to depart. She took Connie aside, and looking her directly in the eyes, told her that she could tell how much Connie loves both her grandchild and daughter. She thanked her for being part of our lives and embraced her. The only thing that has kept me breathing and conscious in the aftermath of this extraordinary behavior is that at least she didn’t say it to me!

Experts on gay relationships maintain that, given enough time and support, loving parents do learn to accept what makes their children happy. They may not like it, but they do accept it. I cannot begin to express the happiness and relief that I feel. The people I love most are no longer antagonists. The pride that I feel in my parents, who I always believed were my stalwart supporters, even when they struggled to understand my life choices, cannot be contained. One of the few things guaranteed to make discussions of homosexuality totally explosive is the inclusion of children in the mix. How is a boy going to achieve a normal life without a father and with the added stigma of lesbian parents? And ironically, the deciding factor in this family evolution, is the love that is evident between my partner and our son. If my parents, who carry the habitual homophobic baggage associated with being a British Catholic in your late sixties, can recognize this love and overcome their prejudice, perhaps love can conquer all?

Sylvia L. Short
Attorney and Counsellor at Law

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Past Out

Who was Diego Vinales?

The riots that took place at the Stonewall Inn in June 1969 have come down in history as the impetus of the lesbian and gay liberation movement. But a gruesome incident several months later also roused the fledgling movement, making the name “Diego Vinales” a rallying cry to action.

In the early morning hours of March 8, 1970, New York City police raided a bar in Greenwich Village called the Snake Pit. Much like the Stonewall Inn, the Snake Pit was a dark, dingy, overcrowded “private club” operated by the Mafia without a liquor license. The licensing violation was the ostensible reason for the raid, though Sidney Pine, the police inspector in charge, told reporters that people in the neighborhood had also complained about noise.

Pine and his officers had closed two similar bars the night before. Both of those raids had occurred early in the evening, however, before many customers arrived. The police sent the handful of clients home and arrested only the management and employees.

In contrast, the evening was in full swing at the Snake Pit when the police arrived. Officers hauled a total of 167 people, staff and customers alike, off to the precinct house. Pine, who had also been responsible for the Stonewall raid eight months earlier, was aware of the danger of “a riotous crowd milling around outside,” he told a Village Voice reporter. “Our purpose in making the arrests was to get them out of there.”

Paddy wagons arrived to transport the men to the police station. Reports of what actually happened at the precinct house varied wildly. “Things were terribly disorganized,” one eyewitness later said. Some men asserted that they were never read their rights or apprised of the charges against them. Others said the police verbally abused them by calling them “faggots.” Still others claimed the police were incredibly polite and referred to them as “gentlemen.”

In this confusion, a 23-year-old Argentinean named Diego Vinales panicked. Worried about deportation and the fact that his family didn’t know he was gay, Vinales raced up the stairs to the second floor of the station and either leaped or fell from a window. An iron fence surrounded the building, and Vinales was impaled on six 14-inch spikes. Inside the precinct house, the gay men arrested with Vinales listened with horror to his screams.

Amazingly, Vinales was still alive when the police got to him. Because they couldn’t move him off the fence without causing further injury, the fire department’s special rescue squad was called in. Using an electric saw, the rescue team cut away the section of the fence on which Vinales was impaled and brought him to the hospital with the fence prongs still imbedded in his thigh and pelvis. During a two-hour surgery, doctors dislodged the spikes from Vinales’s flesh.

News of Vinales’s grisly ordeal spread quickly. The Gay Liberation Front (GLF) and the Gay Activists Alliance (GAA), two organizations who usually had different priorities, worked together to rally people for a march on the precinct. In addition to holding an all-day phone-a-thon, activists distributed 3,000 flyers in bars and on the streets. “Any way you look at it,” the flyers read, “that boy was pushed! We are all being pushed!” One activist, Allen Warshawsky, recalled how Vinales’s fall made him and others feel: “I [began] to feel an anger welling up inside me... An anger at the stinking, rotten, corrupt system that defines, fosters and promotes my ‘criminal’ status.”

At nine o’clock that night, 500 gay people marched en masse to the Sixth Precint. GLF carried its banner, while other signs read “Gays Are Getting Angry.” Shouts of “Say it loud... gay is proud!” and “Stop the killings!” went out from the crowd, but the demonstrators were in general orderly and well-behaved. After a protest at the police station, the crowd continued on to St. Vincent’s Hospital, where they held a “death vigil” for Vinales.

Miraculously, Vinales didn’t die, though he underwent surgery several times and spent more than three months in the hospital. Arthur Bell, a reporter for Gay Power, visited Vinales in the hospital and found the young Argentinean unwilling to talk about the incident in detail, perhaps out of fear. “His family may now know of the Snake Pit incident,” Bell wrote. “He has not heard from them.”

In the aftermath, GAA emerged as a leader of the movement. It achieved several major coups, like winning the support of then-Congressman (and later mayor) Ed Koch, who wrote an impassioned letter to the Police Commissioner calling for an end to police harassment of gay people. Vinales’s tragic fall galvanized the lesbian and gay community as nothing since the Stonewall riots had.

Pride on the Parkstrip
Sunday, June 27, noon to 5pm
Vendors and entertainers needed. For more information or to sign up, please call Candy at 268-9884 or e-mail <solkandy@bigfoot.com>

by David Bianco

David Bianco, M. A. is the author of Modern Jewish History for Everyone. He can be reached at <DaveBianco@aol.com>. For more Past Out, visit <www.gay.net>.
News from Capri Cinema

Broadway Damage

Mr. Right finally finds a true love: Plain Dwayne

Once upon a time, Hollywood cranked out mediocre romantic comedies about Mr. Right and his best pal, Plain Jane. Plain Jane loved Mr. Right, but his interests were focused elsewhere, usually on Miss Wrong, because in those days there was no Ms. Wrong, and if there had been, he would have fallen for her, too.

Plain Jane could never believe she might win the heart of the handsome, decent, just plain wonderful Mr. Right. And he (poor fool) never noticed those starry eyes twinkling behind her spectacles. So Plain Jane, who was sensible as well as terrifically romantic, looked elsewhere for her soul mate, but somehow nothing ever clicked.

And then, one day, after being used and abused by Miss Wrong, Mr. Right suddenly realized Miss Right had been there all along. And he and the former Plain Jane smooshed and, presumably, lived happily ever after, beginning just as soon as the audience turned its attention to the better half of the double feature.

This sort of cinematic cliche isn’t dead. It limps back now in the form of Broadway Damage, which relies on the tired old formula with one significant difference. Mr. Right is still around, but the best pal is now Plain Robert.

In this labored and insufferably cute film, written, directed and edited by Victor Mignattl, Marc (Michael Shawn Lucas) is Mr. Right and Robert (Aaron Williams) replaces Plain Jane. Never mind that they look too old for their roles; the two are recent New York University graduates. Marc hopes for a career as an actor. Robert dreams of writing a great musical. Robert still lives with his mother, and Marc finds an apartment in Greenwich Village, where his rent-sharing roommate is their old pal Cynthia.

Cynthia (Mara Hobel, the child Christina Crawford in Mommie Dearest and Charlotte on Roseanne) has problems. She is overweight, a binge eater, usually lovelorn, a compulsive shopper supported by wealthy parents who want her to come back to Long Island, and relentless in her fixation on a job with Tina Brown, the editor of The New Yorker.

Cynthia, who is meant to be funny in a charming way, can also be counted upon to say something tasteless at the wrong time.

Mr. Wrong comes along in the person of David (Hugh Panaro of Side Show, among other Broadway musicals), a handsome, charming singer living in a nearby apartment and spied by David from his fire escape. It takes a while — during which Robert pursues a bookstore clerk, Cynthia draws the attention of the FBI and suffers a nervous breakdown, and David is revealed as despicable — but eventually Marc and Robert wind up just the way Mr. Right and Plain Jane did.

Greenwich Village looks sunny and romantic throughout. If there is any justice in the world, Lucas, Williams, Ms. Hobel and Panaro will be seen in a better film someday.

Tentatively opens March 21 for 5 days. Unrated.

Religious leaders join equality week

WASHINGTON, DC — Hundreds -- possibly thousands -- of religious leaders across the country will devote their sermons during the week of March 21-27, 1999 to calling for equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (g/l/b/t) people. Congregations across the country will be called upon to support the full equality and dignity of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people and to challenge the anti-gay attacks of the religious right. Equality Begins at Home (EBAH) is the first-ever coordinated political campaign of actions in all 50 states, the District of Columbia, and Puerto Rico for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender equality. Religious-themed actions and organizing will be a major component of the week's events.

“For many of us faith fuels our passion for social justice, while others of us feel forced to choose between our faith and our sexual orientation,” said National Gay and Lesbian Task Force executive director Kerry Lobel. “These Equality Begins at Home faith-based events and coalitions are critical to countering the homophobia and misinformation of the religious right. We thank all religious leaders and faith-based activists who join us in this historic week,” added Lobel.

As part of Equality Begins at Home faith-based organizing, Equal Partners in Faith is developing a Proclamation of Equality for religious people -- of all faiths -- to sign. This proclamation will be read at prayer vigils, rallies, and worship services during Equality Begins at Home week. Equal Partners in Faith is a multi-racial, multi-faith national network of religious leaders and people of faith committed to equality and diversity.

“We are going to show mainstream America that this is not a polarization issue. There are many people of faith who support the full equality of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender people,” said Reverend Steven Baines of Equal Partners in Faith and an ordained Southern Baptist minister.

In Michigan, houses of worship across the state will fly rainbow flags during EBAH week, and religious leaders will speak out against hate violence. In California, there will be an interfaith service at the capitol building. Other states planning worship services and other faith-based activities for equality include Colorado, Florida, Illinois, Iowa, Missouri, Nebraska, New Mexico, New York, Virginia, and Wyoming.

Equality Begins at Home is coordinated by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force and organized by the Federation of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender Statewide Political Organizations.

GLSEN criticizes school for failing to protect gay student

NEW YORK — The Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) sharply criticized San Marin High School officials in Novato, California, for allegedly failing to protect an openly gay high school student from repeated harassment and physical abuse. The harassment culminated in a vicious physical attack in which “fag” was carved into the student’s chest and forearm.

According to newspaper accounts, senior Adam Colton has been subject to ongoing verbal harassment at school, has had personal property vandalized on school grounds, and recently decided to enter an off-campus independent study program because he felt unsafe at school. GLSEN again urges school officials around the country to step up efforts to provide safe and affirming school environments for all students, regardless of sexual orientation.

“The fact that any student feels a need to leave a school community because of fear for personal safety should outrage any parent,” said GLSEN Communications Director Jim Anderson. “Parents want assurance that when they send their kids off to school in the morning, they'll be returned in the same physical condition in the afternoon. That clearly isn't the case when talking about gay youth.”

According to newspaper accounts, Adam Colton, who came out at San Marin High School last September and went on to form a Gay/straight Alliance club, awoke in the hospital last Friday with memory loss, substantial bruising and the word “fag” carved into his forearm and chest. Police reportedly suspect the attack was bias-motivated and more than likely to have occurred on school campus. Anderson notes that if school officials consistently failed to provide a safe learning environment for the student, they could be found liable by a court of law. He points to a 1996 decision in which Jamie Nabozny of Ashland, Wis., was awarded nearly $1 million after a federal jury found school district officials liable for failing to protect him from anti-gay abuse ranging from verbal to physical harassment.
Knighted actor unhappy about outing

Unlike most celebrities who get outed, newly knighted British actor Nigel Hawthorne, star of The Madness of King George and TV's Yes, Minister, did not find the experience liberating. "I felt it was a terrible intrusion on my privacy," he told The Times of London. "[Gay actor Sir] Ian McKellen always said I should come out. But why? I make my living playing heterosexuals.

"My partner [Trevor Bentham] and I don't want to stand up and say we're gay, because we think [announcing it publicly] is wrong. The best way to get people to accept you is to move about the community and show them there's nothing to be afraid of."

You are going to lie: the fear of poverty govern your life; and your reward will be that you will eat, but you will not love.
— George Bernard Shaw

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If this is something you (or someone you know) are interested in doing, please contact Tom at 333-7504 or Shirley at 338-3708.
Harvest Metropolitan Community Church, Denton, Texas, a congregation of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches, has been the target of vandalism and arson. The vandalism began in January with the theft of a rainbow flag from the front of the church. In a separate incident, the church's flag was set on fire, destroying the flag, causing damage to the flagpole and scorching the ground around the flagpole.

In the most recent incident, an accelerant (believed to be gasoline) was thrown on the church sign and the front driveway of the church and set on fire. The police, fire department and Country Fire Marshall have filed reports and have taken the remains of the church sign for analysis and later use as evidence.

Because the vandalism involved fire on property owned by a church, the crime was reported to the Federal Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF). After confirming that an accelerant had been used in the crime, the ATF in turn reported the arson to the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Hate Crimes Task Force. An FBI agent has been assigned to the church to investigate the incident.

According to church officials, there is no evidence at this time to clearly identify the arson as a hate crime, as the church has not received recent hate mail or hate phone calls. However, over the past year the church has faced an organized campaign of community opposition to their growth and expansion.

The church is heartened that both local and federal authorities are viewing the three incidents as related, continuing their investigations and looking for hate crime links.

The Rev. Colleen Darraugh is senior pastor of the Denton, TX congregation. E-mail messages of love, support, encouragement and prayers may be sent to the congregation at <Harvest@HarvestMCC.org>.

Over the past 30 years, more than 20 UFMCC congregations have been targets of arson and firebombing, and many more have been victims of vandalism and desecration. In the past year alone, bomb threats were made against the Cathedral of Hope MCC, the world's largest predominantly gay congregation, and MCC Bournemouth in Bournemouth, England, and death threats were received against the MCC pastor and congregation in Bloemfontein, South Africa.

"The recent vandalism and arson against Harvest MCC is sad yet powerful testimony to the unfinished justice work to be done on behalf of gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgenders," said the Rev. Troy D. Perry, Moderator of UFMCC and a past delegate to the United States Conference on Hate Crimes. "I call upon all people of goodwill to uphold the Rev. Colleen Darraugh and the members of Harvest Metropolitan Community Church with their prayers during this time."

"For far too long, hate crimes against predominately gay houses of worship have flown beneath the radar of public perception. Far too many have been overlooked by the civil authorities and the majority have been ignored by the mainline press," Perry added.

Now in its 30th year, UFMCC is composed of 300 congregations in 15 countries. Additional information on the church is available at the denominational website at <http://www.ufmcc.com>.

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Tom Spencer is a very fine man. There is nothing seedy about our relationship. The sexual side only developed after our first meeting. I find him very good company and was not aware at first he was a Euro MP. He made it clear from the word go that he was a family man and his wife and children come first. I have never met his family but it is clear he is very fond of them. ... I have been HIV[+/-]positive for a long time. But I don't have full-blown AIDS. I told Tom about my condition — but I don't know if he told his wife. Nothing has happened that could affect Tom. I practice safe sex.

— American gay porn star Cole Tucker, 45, in response to the outing of his boyfriend, Member of the European Parliament Tom Spencer.
Message from Empress XXVI

by Kristara

The time has once again come to say a few words for this month's NorthView. First, I must thank each and everyone of you for the wonderful and dedicated work you have given to make my reign the success that it is. This, of course, is due to the cooperation of all the Courts and individuals that make up our Imperial Court System. One person alone cannot do the job. It takes us all, pulling in the same direction for the same purpose. I also would like to mention the good coronations that have been taking place all over the country. The exchanging of ideas and talking to one another face to face is a step in the right direction. Many new ideas are coming forth and changes have been made. This I hope will cause us all to move ahead in a positive way.

I am looking forward to upcoming events in the month of March. March 17 is the annual St. Patrick's Day Auction at The Raven starting at 7 p.m., proceeds benefit the College of Monarchs' College Scholarship Fund. I would like each and everyone of you to participate in this worthwhile cause.

I would also like to invite everyone to come down to Mad Myrna's on March 27 for the stepping down of Imperial Crown Prince, John Erickson and Imperial Crown Princess, Silva Stone. The Masquerade Ball starts at 6 p.m. This court function promises an evening of fun and camaraderie.

If you have any questions, ideas or comments please call me at 277-5747 or e-mail me at <Kristara26@aol.com>. Check out the Imperial Court of all of Alaska's website at <http://members.aol.com/kristara26>.

I remain yours in service to the crown,
Kristara, Empress XXVI of all of Alaska
The Ultimate Ecstasy

"The Wedding" to be a highlight of Millennium March

WASHINGTON, DC — The world's largest-ever celebration of same-sex marriage will be one of the highlights of the Millennium March on Washington for Equality in April of 2000, one of the world's first human rights marches of the new millennium.

Recent setbacks in the last elections in Alaska and Hawaii have fueled a new emphasis on same-sex marriage rights, according to the Rev. Troy D. Perry, founder and moderator of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches (UFMCC). UFMCC is the world's largest and oldest spiritual organization offering positive affirming spirituality to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered communities.

"The setbacks in the last election were only temporary setbacks in a long journey toward full civil rights for all people," said veteran human rights activist Perry. "We're going to continue to raise the visibility of this issue over the next two years."

As part of that strategy, Perry has announced plans for "The Wedding: Now More Than Ever," a public celebration and blessing of same-sex marriage.

Perry conducted "The Wedding" for 2600 couples at the 1993 March on Washington. That event stands as the largest same-sex wedding celebration in history.

"Based on early response, I anticipate that more than 5000 couples will take part in "The Wedding: Now More Than Ever," said Perry.

"Participants will not only be able to celebrate their love and commitment in a memorable event, but we're going to make a powerful statement to the world and we're going to make history," added Perry.

"The Wedding: Now More Than Ever" will take place in front of the Internal Revenue Service Building in Washington, DC on Saturday, April 29. The event is open to all couples who wish to publicly make their wedding vows or wish to renew their wedding vows.

For a $25 registration fee, couples' names will be registered in a permanent historical archive of "The Wedding: Now More Than Ever" and a limited edition, personalized certificate of participation suitable for framing will be prepared. There is no charge for those who wish to participate without registering for the archive and certificate.

For more information on "The Wedding," or to register on-line for this historic event, visit "The Wedding" website at <http://www.ufmcc.com/wedding1.htm>.

For additional information, contact James N. Birkitt, Jr., UFMCC Communications Department, 8704 Santa Monica Blvd., 2nd Floor, West Hollywood, CA 90069, Tel. (310) 360-8640, Fax: (310) 360-8680, e-mail <ufmccchg@aol.com>.

My religion consists of a humble admiration of the illimitable superior spirit who reveals himself in the slight details we are able to perceive with our frail and feeble minds.
— Einstein
Fairbanksan

Further North in the Heart of Alaska

by Terry A. Fauth

It's almost here! Spring is coming fast and the sun is hot to trot, staying with us to visit 49 more minutes every week. Time to start gearing up.

**PFLAG Fairbanks march meeting**

Transgender news. We have received a packet from our National PFLAG Transgender coordinators including the second edition of a pamphlet entitled *Our Trans Children* and a book, *Trans Forming Families: Real Stories About Transgendered Loved Ones*. A report on these two publications and a request for a local coordinator is on the agenda for our next meeting, Sunday, March 21, from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m. at the Unitarian Fellowship building, on Pikes Landing Rd. across from the Princess Hotel.

Gay friendly lawyers. Sherry Harris, our voice mail responder, will give a report on local gay friendly lawyers.

Alaskan gay rights advocacy survey. Nancy Kalling has received 212 completed surveys from Alaskans, gay and straight, who are interested in gay civil rights. She will report the findings of this research indicating predictors of activism for gay rights when she is done with her thesis in May. She wants to thank all respondents for their participation in this research. If anyone would still like to participate, they may contact her at <kalling@mosquitoonet.com> or at 907-479-4944 and she will send you a survey.

Howard Bess, Regional Director, to speak. Pastor Howard Bess, author of *Pastor, I Am Gay*, will speak after the closing of the Alaskan Christian Conference that will be held in Fairbanks. He is scheduled to address the topic, Homosexuality and the Church, from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., March 24, at the First United Methodist Church. Anyone is welcome to attend any of the conference, March 22 - March 24. Registration for the conference is March 22 from 9:00 a.m. to noon at First United Methodist. Call Rev. Richard Heacock, 474-0700, for more information.

**PrideFest '99**

The Fairbanks's PrideFest will be on June 11, 12 and 13. On June 11 there will be a film festival at a location to be announced later. June 12 is a busy day. At 2:00 p.m. there will be a gathering at Bicentennial Park and a parade through the downtown area. Following the parade, there will be the annual picnic at the Square Dance Shelter in AlaskaKland next to the Civic Center. Later the same evening will be "Summer Komp II" in the main gallery of the Civic Center. A dance will follow the show. Also that same evening we will be holding the election for the next Mr. and Ms. Gay Fairbanks. On Sunday, June 13, there will be a wrap party and the names of the new Mr. and Mrs. Gay Fairbanks will be announced. During the weekend a display of childhood photos of the g/l/b/t community will be on view. If you want to participate in any of these events, or in future fundraisers, call Pat at 452-4222.

**Bedroom Bash**

Miss Gay Fairbanks and Club G present an underwear and pajama party fund-raiser for PrideFest 99. Help celebrate diversity on Saturday March 20 starting at 10:00 p.m. Toss those clothes, open your mind and join the mix. Contests for Skimpiest Underwear, best chest, best buns, best bulge and tongue. So put on your favorite skivvies, or PJs if your shy, and dance the night away. Free clothes and coat check are available at the door so you won't have to freeze those precious parts. Cost is $10 at the door, or $8 if you dare to under- wear. Club G is located at 150 Farmer's Loop.

**Fabulous Feminist Fundraiser**

The Alaska Women's Lobby will hold an auction on April 10 around 6:30 p.m. at the Wickersham Hall, downtown Fairbanks, raising money to help pay the salary of the ONLY lobbyist in Juneau who works exclusively for women's and children's issues. It's a FUN auction with Susan Stham as the highly entertaining auctioneer. The $20 entry includes gour- met delights by Cafe de Paris. Donations can be made by calling 479-8242 or 455-6886, or to get further information.

**Spring Fling**

A Fairbanks tradition is upon us once more. The seventh annual Spring Fling Outdoor Potluck is the biggest event of the season. Bonfire to toast your tooties, barbecue to toast your goodies, and activities like the now famous ice croquet where the winner is the one that shoots the best. Saturday, April 3, starting at noon at the end of Killarney (off Goldstream & Hwy Way). Call 457-3876 or 479-8242, and please leave the pets at home or they might get clobbered with a croquet mallet (training animals to hide your opponent's croquet balls does not work, so think of a new way to win).

**Pink Ink**

*Pink Ink*, a new monthly newsletter, is looking for contributors articles, stories (1000 words maximum), art, photography or any black/white that can be scanned. E-mail contributions to <fsjcm2@uaf.edu>. They can be mailed to *Pink Ink*, c/o I.A.A., P. O. Box 71248, Fairbanks, Alaska 99707.

Anyone interested in getting information on *Pink Ink* or assisting in its production can contact <wagaman@arsc.edu> or <fsjcm2@uaf.edu>.

You do not have to have any experience in journalism to participate in this. We will edit your work and return it to you before going to press. If you simply want to voice an opinion, we will have a Letters to the Editor section.
Pentagon fires record number of gays

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The Pentagon released its gay discharge figures for Fiscal Year 1998. The figures show that the Pentagon marked the fifth anniversary of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell, Don't Pursue" by firing a record 1145 people for being gay in the past year under the current policy. The number of discharges is a 92% increase in gay discharges since “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell, Don’t Pursue” was implemented in 1994. The discharge figures also represent the largest number of gay discharges in more than a decade.

C. Dixon Osburn, Co-Executive Director of Servicemembers Legal Defense Network (SLDN), said, “These numbers are shameful. Military leaders have turned a blind eye to the continued asking, pursuit and harassment of gays, lesbians and bisexuals serving our country. What will have to happen before the Pentagon turns its ship around?”

The Pentagon implemented the current “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell, Don’t Pursue” policy five years ago after a bitter and protracted debate in Congress. The new law forbids commanders from asking, pursuing or harassing gay servicemembers. The new law, however, codified the same restrictions on service by gays, lesbians and bisexuals as had existed before 1994 under Pentagon regulations. Unlike their heterosexual counterparts, current policy requires secrecy and celibacy by gays as a condition to serving our country under penalty of being fired or imprisoned.

The Pentagon released the gay discharges numbers after a San Antonio Express News story revealed that Air Force gay discharges had soared to 414, their highest level in two decades. The San Antonio Express News article also reported that the basic training command at Lackland Air Force Base accounted for 271 of the 414 Air Force gay discharges, an astonishing 65%.

Michelle M. Benecke, SLDN Co-Executive Director stated, “There is something terribly wrong at Lackland Air Force Base. SLDN is calling for a impartial investigation into the reasons behind the disproportionate discharge figures at Lackland Air Force Base, something the Pentagon itself admitted that it has no mechanism to do. In fact, the April 1998 Pentagon report that first mentioned the situation at Lackland Air Force Base, concedes that ‘...the reasons for this increase are not known and would be difficult to ascertain’.”

C. Dixon Osburn added, “The Pentagon’s spin that gays are voluntarily coming out is disingenuous and tells us nothing. The real question is why are people making statements. The Pentagon is not telling you that so-called ‘voluntary statements’ include statements:

- made in federal court documents as in the case of Able v. USA
- coerced out of the service member due to fear, intimidation, assaults, death threats, threats of criminal prosecution and hostile command climates, as in the case of former Air Force Major Bob Kittle, former Marine Lance Corporal Kevin Smith, four sailors aboard the USS Eisenhower and former Seaman Amy Barnes.

“The Pentagon would have you believe that these are all ‘voluntary’ statements,” Osburn added. “The Pentagon is simply hiding the ball.”

Michelle M. Benecke stated, “A logical response to the disproportionate number of gay discharges would have been for military leaders to look into the command climate in military units.

- Is the command climate openly hostile to lesbian, gay and bisexual service members?
- Are officials herding people out who are or are perceived as gay in violation of military regulations?
- Are they forcing heterosexuals out that they do not like under guise of this policy?
- Are officials forgoing use of entry level separations and using the ‘Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell, Don’t Pursue’ policy for ulterior reasons?
- How do gay discharges at Lackland compare to gay discharges at other training sites for the Navy and Army?

“These are some of the very basic questions that we would ask that the Pentagon and Air Force apparently have not,” Benecke said.

Osburn stated, “The Pentagon might have some credibility if it had taken concrete steps to improve implementation of ‘Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell, Don’t Pursue,’ but they have not. None of the recommendations made in the Pentagon’s April 1998 policy have been implemented.”

The recommendations in the Pentagon’s April 1998 report included issuing guidance to:

- Prohibit pretrial agreements or “plea bargains” to obtain evidence of consensual homosexual conduct;
- Protect servicemembers from investigations so that they can report anti-gay harassment or lesbian-baiting without fear of reprisal;
- Limit the scope of investigations to prevent fishing expeditions;
- Require commanders to consult with higher headquarters before initiating investigations into alleged homosexuality;
- Provide necessary and effective training on the limits to investigations under “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell, Don’t Pursue.”

SLDN reports that none of these recommendations have been implemented.

SLDN will release its annual report on “Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell, Don’t Pursue” on the fifth anniversary of the policy at the end of February. The report will provide details about the Pentagon’s ongoing campaign against gays, lesbians and bisexuals serving our country.
The Directory

The designations of (L)esbian, (G)ay, (B)isexual and (A)lly indicate the business or service ownership. In some instances you might encounter employees who are unaware of The Directory and its significance. Don’t be offended: enlighten. All listings are in Anchorage unless indicated. Submit changes to <identity@alaska.net> or telephone 258-4777.

Accounting & Bookkeeping Services:
(L) Tammy S. Ackerman, CPA, 235-0662 (Homer)

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 Monday thru Friday. Call 257-4637/4638.
(A) Interior AIDS Association (Fairbanks) 452-4222
(A) Shami of Juneau, 907-463-5665, 1-800-478-AIDS (2437)
(A) S.T.O.P. AIDS Project, Gail Charles-Abbot, 278-5019

Alcohols Anonymous:
(G/L) Gay, Joyous and Free, see Calendar
(G/L) Midnight Sun, see Calendar

Alternative Medicine/Health:
(A) Hope, 561-2330
(A) Gateley, Keith/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

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

Automotive Repairs & Fuel:
(A) Courtnayes, 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, Brem, 258-0828

Bars & Restaurants:
(G/L) Mad Myrna's, 272-5297
(G/L) O'Brady's, 344-8033, 338-1080, 563-1080
(G/L) The Raven, 276-9672
(L/G) The Wave, 561-WAVE

Bed & Breakfasts, Accommodations:
(A) Ah!, Rose Marie, 302 Cowles, Fairbanks, John, 456-2040
(G) Aurora Winds, James/Bill, 346-2533
(A) Cheney Lake B&B, Mary/Jenett, 337-4391
(G) Crabtree Guest House (Fairbanks), Phil/Bobby, 907-451-6501
(A) Fairbanks Hotel, (Fairbanks) Doris Lundin, 888-329-4685
(A) Gallery Bed & Breakfast (Anchorage) Leslie Evans 274-2567
(A) Island Watch, Eileen (Homer), 907-235-2265 (see ad)
(A) Regina's, 276-4904
(R) Rose-Beth's B & B, (Anchorage) Rose Beth, 337-6779
(G/A) Sauerbough Lodging (Seward), Gordon, 907-224-8946.
(L) Skyline B&B (Homer), Lisa, 907-235-3832.
(L) Wandering Women (Juneau) Carol/Sudie 907-586-2410.

Books:
(L) AAA Online Real Estate Bookstore, Christen, 349-0298
(A) Alaskaena, Gene, 561-1340
(A) Cyrano's Book & 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

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
(L) Communication Art, Catherine, 563-5492
(L) CDA Services, Walter, 276-6862
(G) Ekstatis RAM, Robert Iris, 522-4275
(G) Greg Parsons, 562-9814
(G) gra.l/x, Lucian, 561-5856
(L) Helleck & Assoc., Terry, 276-3869
(L) Mac Doctor, Candy, 337-2011
(G) Mad Dog Graphx, Michael, 276-5062
(G) Mark Mathis, 338-3357, <mmathis@alaska.net>
(L) TechLink, LeMiel, 276-6862

Computer Supplies & Equipment:
(A) Frield 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) Baron Sloan, LCSW, 563-5765
(A) Connie Judd, 562-1826 (see ad)
(G) F. Ken Freedman, 566-1708 (see ad)
(A) Jann, 248-9408
(A) Marion, 562-0012
(A) Psychological Services Center, 786-1795
(L) S.T.A.R.(Standing Together Against Rape), 276-7279
(L) Tes Bensussen, LCSW, 230-7019
(A) Tom Gormley, ANP, 562-2110

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

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

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

Drag Shows:
(G/L) The Wave, Anita, 561-WAVE

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

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

Entertainment:
(G) Art Services North, Daryl Schaff, 561-2115
(G) Capri Cinema, 561-0664 (see ad)
(G) Cyrano's Film Gallery Cinema, 417 D Street, 561-0064.
(G) Syvexy/Music Magic, Linda, 274-2599
(L) Women's Coffeehouse, Barbara Wish, 258-0499

Family Medicine:
(A) Dr. Phyllis T. Dunkel, 257-4800

Financial, Insurance, Investments:
(A) Kathleen Madden, Waddell & 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
(G) Aile 5.2 Greenhouse, Dale, 694-3978
(A) Tryck Nursery, Doug, 345-25078

Furniture/Furnishings/Gifts:
(A) Design Craft, David, 279-0638
Directory

Hastyracing...

Health:
(A) 36th Avenue Hair Design, Ledjha, 561-8967

(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

(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, 751-7234

Kites, Games, Banners, Puzzles:
(A) Northwind Kites, Pat, 279-4586

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

Massage Therapy:
(L) Ariel, 275-5222

(L) Beth (MT), Debbie (CMT), 566-0842

(G) Don, 336-8826

(L) Donna (NCMT), 243-0789

(G) Gabriel, 272-9045

(L) Leslie, 278-3346

(G) Terry (LMT), 240-6474

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

Music/Instruments:
(A) Oldtime Music Company, Mage, 561-6862

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

Nutraphotography:
(A) Hope, 561-2300

Newsletters/Newspapers:
(A) Alaska Women Speak, Mary Lee, 696-0924

(A) Anchorage Press, Nick, 561-7737 (see ad)

(L) Klondyke Kontact (Alaska Women’s Cultural Center), 277-9763

(GLA) Identity, 258-4777

(GL) Perspective, SEAGLA in Juneau, 586-4297

Obstetrics & Gynecology:
(A) Barbara Norton, Certified Nurse Midwife, 561-5152

(A) Jane, 563-5151

(L) Mary Ross, 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

(G) (A) Pawsitive Puppy Training, Fairbanks, 457-1407

(L) Dr. Vicki, 345-1515

Photography:
(L) Alaska Photographic & Supply, Linda, 345-5434

(G) Fotos by Frank, Frank, 560-0600 (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) Bela Bodnar, RE/MAX, 244-4415 (see ad)

(L) Brownwy Real Estate, 907-277-4744

(L) Century 21 (Missouri), Lucille, 417-745-6798 (w); 417-993-4302 (h)

(L) Christen, 349-0293

(L) Dynamic Properties, Jill, 251-7663

(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, 688-2220

(L) Equinox Wilderness Expeditions, Karen, voice mail 274-9087

(A) Flies by Ileen (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) 835-4721, (800) 900-1297

(G) Triangle Tours, Greg, 276-2770, 888-899-2770

(A) Wild Iris Fishing and Sightseeing Charters (Valde) Barb, 907-389-2725

Reiki/Counseling:
(G) Rick, 333-9640

(A) Joyce, GMT, 562-1916

(L) Spirit Services, Barbara, 337-2011

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

(L) Writing & Research Services, Lorraine, 277-7373

Social/Educational:
(G) AGB Social Club, formerly Anch Garden Buddies, Steve 272-5608

(G) Imperial Court of All Alaska, Krista, 277-5747 or e-mail Krista266@ihaul.com

(G/L) I.M.R.U.2 (Youth Group), 566-4678

(GL) Southeast Alaska Gay & Lesbian Alliance (SEAGLA), (Juneau) 907-586-4297

(G/L) THE FAMILY, Victoria, 751-7234

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

Spirituai:
(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, Arl, 248-3737 (see ad)

(A) Church of the Covenant (Matanuska Valley), Pastor Howard Bess, 746-1085

(A) Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke, Anchorage, welcomes all regardless of orientation, 333-5253

(A) Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church, 258-5266

(A) St. James the Fisherman Episcopal Church (Kodiak), Fr. Paul, 456-5276

(A) Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Fairbanks, 4148 Pikes Landing Road, Richard Kemmlitz, 457-9009

(A) Unity Church of Anchorage, 346-2824
Directory

Student Organizations:
(G/L) Alaskan Gay and Lesbian Association (AGLA, Fairbanks)
   Pete, 907-479-7346 (see Club Notes)
(G/L) THE FAMILY, Victoria, 751-7234
Support Groups:
(G) Ability Design Associates, Doran, 562-9575
(A) GLSEN, Fred, 562-7161
(G) I.M.R.U.2 (Youth Group), 566-4678
(A) PFLAG Anchorage, Voice mail 566-1813
(A) PFLAG Fairbanks, Nancy, 907-45P-FLAG
(A) PFLAG Juneau, 907-463-4203
Tattoos:
(A) Bitchin’ Tats, Kathy, 561-3653
Theatre:
(A) Out North Contemporary Art House, Gene/Jay, 279-8099
Travel:
(G) Apollo Travel Agency, Bob, 561-9661 (see ad)
(B) Golden Travel, Albert, 272-5802
Triangle Tours, Greg, 276-2770 or 888-899-2770
Tutoring:
(G) Gabriel, Spanish, 272-9045
(A) James, Biology, 248-6412
(I) Carolyn Lancaster, M.Ed., School Survival Skills, 274-5059
(A) Kathleen L. McDonough, School Survival Skills, 274-5059

Feminist Majority endorses Millennium March

Statement by the Rev. Troy D. Perry:

A second major national endorsement within the past week has significantly increased momentum around the Millennium March on Washington for Equality.

We are excited that the Feminist Majority, under the able direction of Eleanor Smeal, has joined the growing list of organizations and leaders endorsing the Millennium March.

For the past 12 years, the Feminist Majority and the Feminist Majority Foundation have been leaders in the fight for equality through the Global Feminism Project, the Campaign to Stop Violence Against Women, the National Clinic Defense Project, and an extensive array of campus, leadership and equality programs.

We are honored to work hand in hand with the Feminist Majority to promote equality under the law through the Millennium March on Washington.

I especially salute the dedicated work of Eleanor Smeal, President; Peg Yorkin, Chair of the Board; and Katherine Spillar, National Coordinator.

In making the announcement, the Board of Directors of the Feminist Majority noted:

"The Feminist Majority endorses the Millennium March on Washington for Equality which will be held on April 30, 2000. The March for Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals, Transgenders and their Allies is an important opportunity for all movements working for human rights and equality to come together to show our strength, to empower ourselves and to mobilize for the Year 2000 elections."

The Feminist Majority joins a growing roster of organizational endorsers.

Club Notes

Anchorage unless otherwise indicated
AA
Gay Joyous & Free, see on-going calendar.
Midnight Suns, see on-going calendar.

Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association (4As)
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 and bisexual men looking for an alternative to the "bar scene." For more information, call Steve 272-5608, or e-mail <a_g_b@yahoo.com>

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, 349-9995.

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.

EQUAL, Inc.
purpose is to keep the community informed about political and legal events which have an effect on the gay 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. EQUAL is not a political action committee and does not endorse candidates. Anchorage, call Dan Carter at 274-9226.

Fairbanks 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
KSUA 91.5 “Outlooks”, 5:30-7pm. Fridays; Dames on the Dial, 10pm - midnight Wednesdays.

THE FAMILY
is UAF’s student club for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and ally students. Meets first Tuesday, 2:30pm AND every Friday, 6pm, UAA Campus Center, Room 105. For more information, call Victoria at 751-7234 or e-mail <algib_youth@hotmail.com>
website: <http://cwolf.alaska.edu/~abfam/>

Feminist Sing-a-Long (women only)
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.

Gay Bar
free legal question and answer sessions on issues of interest to lesbians and gays. Second Monday of every month, noon at 845 K St. 279-5061.

Gay/Lesbian Book Club
at Barnes and Noble on third Wednesday, 7-9 pm. Kim
Club Notes...continued

Meck, Community Relations Coordinator for B&N hosts this discussion group.

GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network)
**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.

**Fairbanks** meets third Tuesday, 5pm, FEA offices on Cushman.

**Identity, Inc.**
-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 (ICQAA)**
is a social and support group active in many causes: we plan and present wonderful entertainment, and donate money to needy organizations for them to carry out their important goals. Contact Empress Kristara at 277-5747. You may e-mail her at <Kristara26@aol.com> or write P.O. Box 104023, Anchorage 99510-4023.

**IMRU2**
youth group meets 1st and 3rd Wednesdays 5:30-7:30 p.m. at Q Cafe, 640 West 36th Avenue, 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)**
Sunday services at 2pm at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke, 258-5266.

**Last Frontier Men’s Club**
a members-only club for the Leather/Beard communities.
Meetings 3rd Thursday 6:00 pm at the Raven; campouts & weekend trips, too. Write T.L.F.M.C., P.O. Box 202054, Anchorage, AK 99520-2054. <tlfmc@micronet.net> <http://www.webindigo.com/tlfmc/>.

**Mt. McKinley (Non-Ascent) Club**
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**
each Sunday afternoon at 4:00pm, Park Lanes. 561-8744 (Bob).

**OPAL**
is a lesbian social organization with an open membership. They will be hosting a Christmas party, New Years Eve party and Valentine’s party. For more info or if you would like to volunteer, please e-mail <a_opal@hotmail.com> or call Anne at 349-1578.

**Over 50’s Social Group**
a lesbian group sharing discussions of films, books and ideas. Meets second and fourth Mondays, 7-9 pm. For location, call Rose Beth (337-6779) or Lorraine (276-3337).

**Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG)**
**Fairbanks** meets the 3rd Sunday of every month from 4:00pm to 5:30pm at Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall, 4448 Pike’s Landing Road, Fairbanks, Call 453-PFLAG for more information.

**Juneau** meets the 1st Saturday of every month at 10:30am at Mendenhall Mall Library. Phone 907-463-4203.

**Anchorage** holds meetings on the 3rd Tuesday of every month. For information call voice mail 566-1813.

**RAW (Radical Arts for Women)** is a nonprofit arts group supporting and promoting artistic events and projects by, for and about lesbians and feminists. RAW funds art projects that in some way combine feminist vision with creativity and hopefulness. For more information, write to us at PO Box 244436, Anchorage, 99524 or call our Hotline at 566-3783.

**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)**
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**
Mark your calendars for the second Saturday of each month. Contact the new Coffeehouse organizer, Victoria Shaver at 751-7234 for time and location of events.

**Hike against hate and violence**
In the wake of the high-profile sentencing of John King, convicted murderer of Jasper, Texas, resident James Byrd, the International Hate and Violence Education (IHAVE) Foundation has announced its organization of a major grassroots event to take place this summer: the International Hike Against Hate and Violence.

The 1,200 mile trek will begin on July 24 with the lighting of an eternal flame in Seattle, and end in Ft. Collins, Colorado, with a special concert and ceremony on October 12, the one-year anniversary of the death of 21-year-old Matthew Shepard. The expected $1 million to be raised by the Hike will benefit the work of a diverse group of organizations working to oppose hate and violence through educational programs.

Shepard’s mother, Judy, will participate in the Hike, as will relatives of James Byrd, Ron Goldman, Charlotte Wetzel and other victims of violent and hate-motivated crimes.

IHAVE is currently seeking volunteers, office space, and funding in preparation for the event. For more information, please contact the IHAVE Foundation at (360) 793-8500 or by e-mail <info@ihave.org>.
Cyberlust

Submit changes to <identity@alaska.net>

Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association (4A's): <http://www.alaskaanids.org>

AGB: A monthly men’s social club. <A.G.B._@yahoo.com>

AGLA: AK Gay & Lesbian Assoc. <ibgila@aurora.alaska.edu>

Burleson, Laura: <lbul@aurora.alaska.edu>

Capri Cinema, Randie: <filmgallery@compuserve.com>

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

Cheney B&B: <Chenyebb@alaska.net>

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

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

Craciun, Jean: <jeracicn@eracuion.alaska.net>

Family, The <asvils@uaa.alaska.edu> <http://cwolf.alaska.edu/~abfim/>

Fauth, Terry: <akbear@mosquitonet.com>

Freedman, F. Kenneth: <fken@servcom.com>

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

Haase, Michael: <michael@servcom.com>

Hernandez, Gabriel: <gabe@snbinad.net>

Hickey, Katie: <krerotec@chugach.net>

Hillman, Fred: <fullman@fullman.alaska.net>

Hillman, Bronwyn: <bronywn@alaska.net>

IAA - Interior AIDS Assoc. Fairbanks <iaa@polarnet.com> website: <http://www.uw2.polarnet.com/~iaa>

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

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

Into The Woods Bookshop: Connie, Fairbanks, AK, e-mail <woods@pitialaska.net> website <http://www.uw2.polarnet.com/~woods>

Jamieson, Lisa: <lisaj57@hotmail.com>

Klondyke Contact: <kk@gci.net>

Kohout, Jen: <jenkout@alaska.net>

Last Frontier Men’s Club: see club listing <tlfmc@micronet.net>

Levering, Ken: <kmpalove@juno.com>

Mautner Project is for lesbians with cancer and their families <http://www.mautnerproject.org>

Naff, Don: <donnaff@alaska.net>

OPAL: <n_opal@hotmail.com>

Out North: <outnorth@artsvoice.org>

Parsons, Greg <gparsons@pitialaska.net>

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

Anch. website <http://www.alaska.net/~identity/pflag.htm> e-mail <schlifer@micronet.net>

Pinney, Pete: <flppa@aurora.alaska.net>

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

Rachal, Tom: <TomAndAl@alaska.net>

Sauerdough Lodging: <suites@pitialaska.net>

SEAGLA: <http://www.pitialaska.net/~seagla>

Severson, Kim: Anchorage Daily News <keverson@pop.adn.com>

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

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

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

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

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

Vann, Beth: <Bethv007@alaska.com>

Walton, Eric: <esbzw@aurora.alaska.edu>

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

Calendar

March

Sunday, 21:
A Dan Carter/Al Incontro 30th Anniversary Celebration, 2-6:30pm, Lamb of God MCC (Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke, east of 24th and Boniface.)
F An address “Homosexuality and the Church” by Pastor Howard Bess, 2-4pm, First United Methodist Church, info: Rev. Richard Heacock at 474-0700.

Friday, 26:
A Identity Potluck, 6:30pm, AUUF, Reggie Yapele, Denali Seed Company, on planting perennials.

Saturday, 27:
A Women’s Coffeehouse, Q Cafe, 7:30pm, e-mail <ahltd@uua.alaska.edu>
A Masquerade Ball, 6pm, Mad Myrna’s, Kristara at 277-5747.

Wednesday, 31:
J Spaghetti Feed Fundraiser and Silent Auction for Aimee & Fabienne’s AIDS Ride, 5-7:30pm, Filipino Hall.

April

Saturday, 3:
J PFLAG, 10:30am, Mendenhall Mall Library.
A G/L Two Step, 7:30pm, Pioneer Schoolhouse.
F Spring Fling Outdoor Potluck, noon, end of Killarny (off Goldstream & Hay Way), info 457-3876 or 479-8242.

Sunday, 4:
A GLSEN, 1pm, AUUF.

Tuesday, 6:
A THE FAMILY, 2:30pm, Campus Center, Room 105, Victoria, 751-7234.

Wednesday, 7:
A Day of Silence, THE FAMILY, Victoria, 751-7234.

Saturday, 10:
F Alaska Women’s Lobby auction, 6:30pm, Wickersham Hall, info 479-8242 or 455-6886.

Sunday, 18:
F PFLAG, 4pm, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall, 4448 Pikes Landing Road.
On-Going Calendar Items

SUNDAYS
A Metropolitan Community Church Services, 2pm
Sunday at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke.
F PFLAG, third Sunday, 4-5:30pm, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall, 4448 Pike’s Landing Road.
A Northern Exposure bowling league, Park lanes, 561-8744 for more information
A GLSEN, first Sunday, 1pm, AUUF.

MONDAYS
A Gay Bar, Anchorage, noon, Second Monday, 845 K St., 279-5001.
A Gay, Joyous & Free, 7pm, AA Meeting, AUUF, 3201 Turnagain.
A Over 50’s Social Group, 2nd and 4th from 7-9 pm
Inquire 337-6779.
A Lesbian Social Group, reviews films & books, 1st, 3rd & 5th. Inquire 337-6779.

TUESDAYS
A Righteous Babes Radio Show, 7pm, KRUA-FM 88.1.
A SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous), 8pm, 566-1133.
A PFLAG, 3rd Tuesday, 7-9pm, AUUF.
A THE FAMILY, 2:30pm, first Tuesday, Campus Center Room 105.
F GLSEN, 5pm, FEA on S. Cushman, every 3rd Tue.

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, first and third at Q Cafe, 566-4678 (566-IMRU).
J Social at Summit Lounge, after work.
J “Women’s Prerogative,” KTOO-FM, Wednesdays, 9pm-10pm.

Calendar (continued...)

Tuesday, 20:
A PFLAG, 7-9pm, AUUF, 562-7161 for info.
F GLSEN, 5pm, FEA on South Cushman.

Friday, 23:
A Identity Potluck, 6:30pm, AUUF, Annual Meeting.
A Celebration of Change, 8pm, UAA Arts Building, Room 150, tickets available at Metro Books & Music starting April 1.

A La Cage aux Wave & Drag Bingo, 10pm, The Wave, $3 cover.
F Dames on the Dial, KSUA 91.5FM, 10pm - midnight.
F Socializing and Dancing at Club G, mixed crowd, 9pm - 2am, 150 Farmer’s Loop.

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, AUUF, 3201 Turnagain.
F Socializing and Dancing at Club G, mixed crowd, 9pm - 2am, 150 Farmer’s Loop.

FRIDAYS
A Lunch, 4A’s, noon-1pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste.
102, Lori 263-2050. Everyone invited - HIV, volunteers and friends.
A Midnight Suns Gay AA Meeting, 7:30pm-9pm, 3020 Minnesota (Z Plaza, Minn & Benson)
A THE FAMILY, 6pm, Campus Center Room 105.
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, 5:30-7:30pm, Resurrection Lutheran Church, Marsha at 789-6167 for info.
F Socializing and Dancing at Club G, mixed crowd.
F Outlooks, KSUA 91.5FM, 5:30pm - 7pm.
F Socializing and Dancing at Club G, mixed crowd, 8pm - 3:30am, 150 Farmer’s Loop.

SATURDAYS
A SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous), 12 noon, Unitarian Church, 566-1133.
A G/L Two-Step, first Saturday, 7:30-11pm, Pioneer Schoolhouse. Donations accepted.
J PFLAG First Saturday of each month, 10:30 to 12:30 in the Mendenhall Library conference room.
F Socializing and Dancing at Club G, mixed crowd.
A Womens Coffeehouse, 2nd Saturday, 751-7234 for information.
F Socializing and Dancing at Club G, mixed crowd, 8pm - 3:30am, 150 Farmer’s Loop.

Legend
A Anchorage, F Fairbanks, J Juneau

There was never so coarse a school of philosophy that taught that money rendered a man happy.
— Erasmus
Seven Northway Drive  
Anchorage, AK 99508  
(800) 262-8055  
279-8055  
(Fax) 279-8054  

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Registered Pharmacist  

Danita Fischbach  
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QUESTIONS WELCOME.