Pride on the Beach: Mary, Troy and Milo the wonder dog celebrate pride at the ICOAA Eklutna Picnic, May 29, 2000

Pride on the Parkstrip 2000
by Tim Brobst, Identity, Inc. Events Chairperson

With the coming of summer, it is time of year again for the 7th Annual Pride on the Parkstrip (POP), sponsored by Identity, Inc. POP is a festival celebrating the diversity that exists within our own community here in Alaska. This being the year 2000, we are planning to kick off the new millennium of Pride on the Parkstrip in a big way.

This year the Pride on the Parkstrip will be held on Sunday June 25th, 2000, with a week's worth of events leading up to the big event. Pride week events include special events at Out North and Mad Myrna's, and a walk/stroll/bike/roll/paddle for pride event at Westchester Lagoon. (See sidebar for dates and times).

Identity is a non-profit organization dedicated to developing programs and activities for the gay community, which includes lesbians, gay men, bisexual & transgender individuals and their allies. We stand for dignity and self respect, and for the right of everyone to develop his or her whole self, of which sexual orientation is a part.

This year, as in years past, Pride on the Parkstrip will include live entertainment, booths of all sorts, including GLBTA organizations, artists and food vendors. Bring the kids, mom, and allies, and enjoy a day of unity and pride, sponsored by Identity.

PRIDE WEEK EVENTS LIST:

THURSDAY JUNE 22
Video Art by Jocelyn Taylor
Including work from DYKE-TV
7:00pm 1325 Primrose
$7.00 $5.00 for students
$2.00 off for 4As food donation
For more information, call 279-8200

Country Dancing & Lessons
Mad Myrna's
7:00 pm lessons, 8:00 pm dancing

FRIDAY JUNE 23
Identity 4th Friday Potluck
Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
3201 Turnagain Street
6:30 socializing, 7:00 eating
For more info contact Tim: 727-4407

Friday Night Drag Divas
Mad Myrna's
9:00 pm 276-9762

SATURDAY JUNE 24
Roll and Stroll for Equality
(Walk, run, bike or rollerblade the trail, or paddle for pride in the lagoon)
2:00 pm Valley of the Moon Park to Westchester Lagoon
For Info, contact Dan at 274-9226

SUNDAY JUNE 25
Pride on the Parkstrip
A pride picnic for the whole family.
West end of the Parkstrip, noon - 6pm
For info contact Tim: 727-4470 or
PrideOnTheParkstrip@yahoo.com
The Rainbow Borealis is a monthly publication of Identity, Inc., a non-profit 501 c (3) Alaska corporation concerned with issues of sexual identity. The Rainbow Borealis 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.

Identity Board of Directors
Chairs: Jean Craeun and Bill Wilks
Secretary: Steve Kendall
Treasurer: Stephanie Butler
Members: Lisa Jamieson, Tim Brobst, Victoria Shaver

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Submissions
We welcome articles and letters from individuals and organizations. Whenever possible submit electronic files (via e-mail) in PC or text format. All contributions must be signed, but names will be withheld or pseudonyms used upon request. The Rainbow Borealis reserves the right to edit as necessary and to decline any article submitted. The Rainbow Borealis does not accept editorial copy or advertising that is sexist, racist, discriminatory or sexually explicit.

Copy Deadline
All articles must be received by the 15th of the month for inclusion in the Borealis dated the following month. Remember to give us information timely to the following month. (i.e. by March 15, we’ll need April information.)

The Rainbow Borealis
P.O. Box 200070, Anchorage, Alaska, 99520-0070.
borealis@postmark.net

Advertising
Contact The Rainbow Borealis by e-mail at borealis@postmark.net; by mail at P.O. Box 20070, Anchorage, AK 99520-0070 or call the HelpLine at 258-4777. Advertising can be submitted camera-ready or can be composed for negotiated fee. The Rainbow Borealis does not accept editorial copy or advertising that is sexist, racist, discriminatory or sexually explicit.

Rainbow Borealis Advertising Rates
Classified ad (five lines) $15 Full page $100
Business card $25 Back page $125
Quarter page $40 Insert (one page, white paper) $50
Half page $65 Insert (two or more pages) $25 per page

Advertising Discounts
Three months 10%
Six months 15%
Twelve months 30%

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Leslie Harder
907-333-4226 lharder@ci.net

Anchorage Gay & Lesbian HelpLine
(907) 258-4777
(888) 901-9876 Statewide Alaska
A community service of Identity, Inc.
P.O. Box 20070
Anchorage, AK 99520
The Alaska Women's Music Festival Announces Its 12th Year

by Dena R. Ivey

The Alaska Women's Music Festival would like to invite all Alaskan women to celebrate its 12th anniversary. Since 1988, the Alaska Women's Music Festival has provided a unique three-day opportunity for women from all backgrounds to unite in a safe, outdoor environment that provides, music, humor, fun and a general sense of community. Performers such as Ferron, Lisa Koch and June Millington have entertained audiences at the festival, which has historically drawn as many as 500 women from across Alaska, the United States and Canada.

The dates of the festival are typically scheduled on 4th of July weekend, making the upcoming festival's dates June 30-July 2, 2000. It will be held at the Tanana Valley Fairgrounds on College Road in Fairbanks, Alaska. For directions, please visit our website at http://www.geocities.com/akwomensfest/

The organizers of the 12th Annual Alaska Women's Music Festival are pleased to announce the participation of the following out-of-state performers: Shann Carr, a comic from Los Angeles, California; Troubadours of Divine Bliss, a Cajun duo from New Orleans, Louisiana; Tamaras, a feminist alternative rock artist from Los Angeles, California; Lisa Koch, a comedic songwriter from Seattle, Washington!

The Festival is also pleased to announce the participation of the following Alaskan artists: Marty Hinz from Fairbanks; The Full Circle Band from Anchorage; Maureen Suttman from Galena; Leah Aronow-Brown from Fairbanks; Susan Niman from Anchorage; Mari Jamieson from Anchorage; Ellen Foreman from Anchorage!

The schedule for the Festival is as follows: Friday, June 30, gates will open at noon, giving everyone an opportunity to get settled for the big weekend! Saturday, July 1, entertainment will begin at 1:00 pm. Sunday, July 2, entertainment will again begin at 1:00 pm. Performance schedules are TBA.

Admission Prices will be $25.00/day or $40.00/weekend. There is on- and off-site camping available. NO PETS are allowed at the entertainment site, but are conditionally permitted at the campsite.

For more information, please contact Dena Ivey at ivey@mosquitonet.com or (907) 456-2471. We are always in need of more volunteers and performers. Please let us know if you'd like to take a more active role in YOUR Alaska Women's Music Festival! You can also visit our website at: http://www.geocities.com/akwomensfest/ for updates and directions to our new venue!

Sorry fellas...this is a women-only event.
June is an important month in our community. Locally, it's Pride on the Parkstrip. Pride Day, of course, commemorates the fact that it was in June of 1969 that life-changing events occurred at Stonewall Inn restaurant in New York City when folks who had had enough said, “No more.” A decade later, gay beat poet William Ginsberg was to observe, “Gay men have lost that wounded look that fags all had ten years ago!”

June is also the month in which we celebrate Father’s Day. And since we’re thinking of pride and since we’re thinking of dads...

Happy Father’s Day, Senator Saltonstall

Former Massachusetts state senator William Saltonstall was featured in an extensive article in the Boston Globe talking about his decision to write a letter rebuking the Republican Party for its anti-gay positions.

Excerpts from the article:

In what he calls the most difficult letter he has ever written, Saltonstall stated: "I have a lesbian daughter who, with her partner, has adopted three children into a loving family. The national leadership of the Republican Party takes the position that no gay people should adopt children, and, if they do, the child might be taken away from them to be placed elsewhere.

He speaks proudly, too, about his progeny, son Will and daughter Abigail. He knows that Abigail's children are likely to be his only descendants; Will, 45, lives with an older woman doctor who has grown children from a previous marriage. A second daughter, Claire, died at age 16. A son, Thomas, died in infancy.

In a telephone interview from Alaska, where she has lived for 15 years, Abigail Saltonstall picks up the conversation. "I think the real motivation came from his 10-year-old grandson,"

she says, "With the presidential campaign, Peter is extremely fascinated with the civil rights movement. What's important to me is freedom of choice and equal protection under the law. That's my focus for my children."

If he feared any fallout from The Letter, he needn't have worried. It has generated what he calls an extraordinary outpouring of support from political friends, neighbors, and acquaintances. People he hasn't seen in years have jotted him notes, and at a recent high school reunion at the Noble & Greenough School in Dedham, he was surrounded by well-wishers.

"I think the letter established a point," he says. "And that is that this sort of private thing should not enter into politics." Warning to the subject, he adds: "Gay people are people who are creative and loving and they're an important part of any family's life, just like any member is. Why treat them differently?"

It's a lesson that took a while to learn, that strained a family but ultimately strengthened it. Abigail Saltonstall hopes The Letter sends a message to other parents of gay or lesbian children. "They're exactly the same children they've always been," she says. "It can be a most wonderful, joyful experience if the parents can share in their lives."
He wanted to use the Internet but his parents had put a net nanny program on the computer and it blocks out everything that says "gay," including gay youth sites.

letter

Dear Rainbow Borealis Readers,

I'd like to personally thank all the people who came to Fairbanks and those who were with us in spirit from Anchorage who came for our pride parade. It was a long way to drive for so many people. I was really amazed at the number of Anchorage folks who made it for the march. It was a very happy day and I was very happy with the event. Every year the fundamental religious demonstrators are more subdued and respectful. This year they just marched alongside us waving hate pamphlets and at some point got tired of watching us have a good time so they left. It really made me proud to be Gay today and part of the community of Gay people.

It makes me realize that even if it's just one day a year all the Gay people from both communities came together and enjoyed being part of one family. Even my twelve year-old marched with us today; he really made me proud. I told him he couldn't come because I didn't want him exposed to the ugliness. He insisted that he wanted to come and he held his banner high, he too is proud of his Gay Family. So once again thank you Anchorage for your support of our pride fest this year.

Sincerely,
Calen Thomas <ethomas@aurorawinds.ws

Identity Helpline:
(907) 258-4777
(888) 901-9876 toll-free in AK

Why I am a
HelpLine
Volunteer

By Jeff Scott

The phone rang and a quiet voice on the other end asked, "What does coming out mean?" The young man was 20 years old and he has known he is gay since he was 13.

He lives in a small town in Alaska and was able to call the statewide toll free phone number. He talked about how difficult it was living in this small town, not knowing anyone else who was gay, and feeling like he did not belong. He just wanted to talk, because we both knew there were no places I could tell him to go in his town.

He wanted to use the Internet but his parents had put a net nanny program on the computer and it blocks out everything that says "gay," including gay youth sites. I gave him the e-mail of IMRU2 and The FAMILY. I recently found out he had contacted both groups and attended meetings when he visited Anchorage.

Through this connection I guess he has gained a few pen pals in his peer group and has made friends, even though they are long distance. They sent him text off of the "what does it mean to be young and gay," sites via e-mail since he cannot access the site himself. I met one of his pen pals recently and she told me how thankful he was to have talked to this HelpLine caller.

All I can say is you are welcome and thanks - to you. Yes. Thank you.
Community Building Workshop Called
“Overwhelming Success”

by T.J.

On March 25, along with about 100 other people in our GLBTA community, I attended a
workshop simply entitled: Community Building. Later that same night, I also attended A
Place at the Table, a potluck that was held in conjunction with the workshop. The FAMILY
at UAA sponsored both the workshop and the potluck.

Kudos to the organizers — the workshop actually started on time! Jackie Buckley
presented the workshop and guided participants through a fun-filled four hours of getting to
know one another. We were paired with different people throughout the four hours and
learned a lot about each other. I learned even more about myself. I also learn a lot about
people I have known for quite some time, not to mention, that I made a few new friends.
Tom Rachel assisted The FAMILY and coordinated the evening potluck. Karl with a K
lined up poets, musicians, and youthful artists to keep us entertained, and sometimes
shocked (there were quite a few four-letter words.) It was eye-opening to hear the words of
the younger members of The FAMILY. FAMILY members ages 17 to 30- and 40-
somethings sang sweet harmonies, drummed, spoke about their struggles and did so from
their souls. It was empowering.

I left invigorated and happier than when I had come. I was pleasantly surprised to
know that all of the poetry and songs were original works.

Both the workshop and the potluck were an overwhelming success. An unidentified participant commented, "I am not out,
and this was a good opportunity to get to know people in a safe, friendly atmosphere. And on a one-to-ten scale-- 10 being the
best, today was a 15!!" I agree. Even though we did not have a wide diversity of ages or socio-economic groups, I think one of
the strengths was that there was a mixture of people representing many sub communities within our GLBTA community. Even
though there were no African Americans, for example, it was still one of the most diverse group of GLBTA people I have ever
been in where we actually interacted.

Asian, Deaf, Republican, Pagan, and Military were a few of the sub-communities represented. Three exciting groups have
formed as a result of the workshop. One is a Deaf and Proud group. I understand the group is still forming and hopes to sponsor
ASL workshops at the upcoming PRIDE Conference the weekend of October 6-8. The other group is
Womyn of Color, which is also currently organizing. Another group that is now forming is a Transsexual
Support group. Even though I am not a member of
any of these sub-communities I am excited to see them
organizing and proud of our community.

I hope that there are more community
building days, workshops, and events. If there are, I
would encourage each and every one of you to attend.
I moved to the Lower 48 and came back to Alaska
because I found out that the grass is not always greener
on the other side. For a state of our size and political
climate, we have a strong healthy community. I am
just glad that I moved back in time for this event.

Thanks to all who made it possible.
The Identity Board has had a number of recent changes. Bill Wilkes (co-chair), Jean Cracun (co-chair), Steve Kendall (secretary) and Tim Brobst (events chair) continue their terms on the Board. Departing members are Ron Swartz, Shirley Randal, Matt Grabowy and Mikel Haas. New Board members are Stephanie Butler, Victoria Shaver (soon to be the HelpLine coordinator), Lisa Jarmieson, Victor Carlson and Jo Hanson. Identity thanks the departing Board members for their dedicated service, and contributions to the organization.

This issue features Board member Steve Kendall. Tim Brobst was featured in the last RB. Bill Wilkes and Victor Carlson will be featured in a later issue.

Steve Kendall

I grew up on a dairy farm in western Wisconsin. I was a very shy and timid kid, but sometime during late high school I started breaking out of my shell. At that time I realized there was more to the world than this little corner of Wisconsin. I went off to college in central Wisconsin to get a degree in Wildlife Biology.

I always loved animals and while I was growing up, I planned on being a veterinarian. When it dawned on me that involve working with sick and injured animals and that I was queasy around blood I decided to go another route. I fantasized about being Jim from the TV show Wild Kingdom. I envisioned a life of wrestling animals in exotic places all over the world. That’s not quite how it turned out, but there are many back home that still think that’s what I do.

Shortly after graduating with my Bachelor’s degree, I was offered a job on Adak in the central Aleutian Islands. I’d never thought I’d come to Alaska, but I jumped at the opportunity.

So there I was transported from Wisconsin to the totally alien environment of the Aleutians and loving it. I remember the excitement of my first few minutes on the Island. The weather was clear when I landed on the Reeve Aleutian Electra, after a long flight from Anchorage. By the time we came out of the terminal, there was a strong squall causing a complete whiteout. There were bald eagles sitting on the cars in the park lot and sea otters in the bay as we drove to the office. I said to myself, ‘yes this is my new home.’

I really did live my “Jim” fantasy for that year I spent on Adak, traveling to many islands and seeing some of the most incredible sights. I ended up staying in the Aleutians for six years; moving from village to village in the Chain.

The only problem was my sexuality. Somehow I started coming to terms with the fact that I am gay during this time. I even was able to have a couple of relationships, one in Kodiak and one in Unalaska (believe it or not.) Eventually I realized I needed to go somewhere where I could experience a gay culture. There were three other people and myself that were the gay community of Unalaska.

My job gave me three months a year off and I usually spent that traveling to some warm exotic locations. It got more and more difficult to come back and live in the Aleutians after spending several months traveling around the world (meeting some very nice gay boys.) I finally quit my job and went off to hitch hike around Africa. After six months of that I was out of money and was back in Unalaska with no job. Another turning point was looming. On a trip in Australia I had met and fallen for a wonderful guy from New Zealand. I decided to go live with him in New Zealand.

I put my things in storage and headed for New Zealand via Anchorage. I was a little nervous about going that far to be with someone I didn’t know that well. I dallied around Anchorage and ended falling in with a wonderful guy here. So much for moving to New Zealand.

That was 1987 and I’ve been here ever since. I decided to go for a Masters degree in education at UAA. I thought teaching would be a means to still do biology, but live in a larger community with some gay culture. However, teaching wasn’t for me and I really missed working with wildlife and spending time in the remote parts of Alaska. I eventually was able to get a job with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that (Continued on page 10)
Jean Craciun

Jean Craciun has lived in Alaska for 20 years. She is the CEO for the newly formed corporation Craciun Research Group. She is considered by many to be the most innovative applied market researcher in Alaska. Her sociological training and research skills find her involved in many interesting projects in Alaska, nationally and internationally. In her work in Alaska, first as Craciun & Associates since 1989, she has strived to achieve a standard of excellence, not only in the depth of her investigation, but also in her integrity as a researcher. She has developed business practices in soliciting and recording responses, which promote objectivity, rather than obscure it. Furthermore, she crusades continually to encourage the use of high quality focus group research as a more responsive method of information gathering.

Jean has been OUT since she was featured in an article (August ‘92) on the front page of the Anchorage Daily News with fellow board member Victor Carlson—he came out way before that! She found her life partner, Amy Young, from that article.

Amy says, “I was living in Homer at the time working a lot and read the paper just once that summer, and thought, gee I’d like to meet that person.” On May 17, 1997 they formed a “holy union” with 250 of their closest friends and family and the rest is history.

Jean is very happy to be serving on the board this year.

Stephanie Butler

Stephanie has lived in Alaska for eleven years. She was born in London and moved to the United States as a child. She is particularly proud of having received United States citizenship in August of last year. Stephanie earned her baccalaureate degree in English at Barry Catholic University in Miami, Florida, and her master’s degree in business administration at Boston University’s overseas campus in Heidelberg, Germany.

Since moving to Alaska, Stephanie has served on the board of RAW (Radical Arts Women), served as co-treasurer and co-registrar of the Alaska Pride Conference, and served on the UAA Diversity Initiative Committee. She has also been a volunteer for the Identity HelpLine for the past four years.

Stephanie works for the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education at their Anchorage office.

(Continued on page 11)
Court (good luck to the newest holders).

I am a business woman (OK the truth is I hate punching a time clock) I am the owner of Hansen's Repairs which is a handy-dyke company (if you ladies need...oops I mean if it needs fixing we can do it). My main passion in life is working with people with disabilities who are more my friends then they are clients.

I am the mother of two but only have one that lives with me; the other is property of the US Army.

I am the master of time—just ask my watch it's well used. During any spare time that I have (which isn't that often) I like to hang out with good friends and harass lesbians—oops! I mean go fishing and hunting or play softball.

Well, that's me in a nutshell.

Lisa Jamieson

Lisa Jamieson describes herself as a soccer mom for the new millennium. She is the mother of a 15-year-old daughter, guardian for her 17-year-old niece, and unofficial den mother to The FAMILY, UAA's GLBTQ student group, whose members frequent her house for movies, badminton and jam sessions.

Lisa has been active in the GLBTA community for the past decade. She edited and published the Klondyke Kontakt for five years, has been active in many organizations and worked on many events. She is an amateur musician, and has performed at Celebration of Change, Pride on the Parkstrip and the Fairbanks Women's Music Festival. She recently received her Master of Social Work degree from UAA.

Of late she has been pursuing the idea of re-creating a GLBTA community center in Anchorage. She joined the Identity Board in with an eye toward helping Identity return to the vital and visible organization that it has been in the past. She is currently serving as summer correspondence secretary and Web page liaison.

She can be reached at lisaj@pobox.alaska.net or by mail c/o Identity.

Victoria Shaver

Victoria Shaver will be the new HelpLine coordinator in September. She is involved behind-the-scenes in many activities and she is most known for her work with The FAMILY and Celebration of Change.

When she is not organizing something she can be found reading, writing, hiking, dancing, playing tennis, or spending time with her family of choice. She has many diverse interests, including politics, spirituality and social justice.

She is a closeted and aspiring Martha Stewart.

Anchorage Gay & Lesbian HelpLine

258-4777
(888) 901-9876 Toll-free in Alaska

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HelpLine Guide and Directory Update

The Identity HelpLine is updating its resource guide for volunteers who staff this GLBTQ information and referral line, as well as the Directory a listing of businesses and individuals who are GLBT-owned and/or Family-friendly.

If you work for, own or know of a business, service, organization or other resource that should be listed in the directory, PLEASE provide the info to Identity asap. We are particularly interested in referrals to GLBT-friendly counselors, health care providers, plumbers, carpenters, electricians, attorneys, CPAs, estate planners, etc. Our contact information is on the inside of the first page. Please encourage the GLBT-friendly businesses and service providers you use, to list in the Directory. Thanks. You can e-mail Directory updates to Identity@alaska.net or mail them to us at PO Box 200070, Anchorage, AK 99520

For information on events and groups including Deaf and Proud!, the Womyn of Color group, and the TSsupport group, please call the HelpLine at

258-4777.

The Identity Helpline is your connection to GLBTA events in AK.

IMRU2
a discussion group for GLBTQ teens, is taking a summer hiatus. Call 566-IMRU for more information.

AGB of Alaska
A gay men's organization holding monthly potlucks and occasional other events. For more information about AGB and how to receive invitations, contact
A_G_B_@yahoo.com
272-5608
we are FAMILY

THE FAMILY
SUMMER
meetings
& events

Every Tuesday walk, run, blade, or bike with us at 6:30 p.m.

Every Saturday walk, run, blade, or bike with us at 10:00 a.m.

Every week We get together for a movie, dinner, or BBQ.

& Special Events

June 22-25
Anchorage PRIDE activities various times and locations.

June 25
PRIDE on the Parkstrip
12noon-6 p.m.

July 1
Road trip: Women’s Music FEST in Fairbanks

SUMMER TIME

NEW MEETING TIME(S)
for
THE
FAMILY
a social group for Gay, Lesbian, Bi, Transgender, Questioning & Allies

• We are a diverse group & welcome others to add to our diversity.
• We are a confidential group because many of us are not ‘out.’
• We are of every age, race, religion, creed, etc...
• We welcome everyone in our community.
• You do not have to be a student at UAA to attend our events.

Please remember that The FAMILY meeting times change EACH semester as we are a University sponsored group.

If it has been a long time since you have visited or it is your first time attending a meeting call or e-mail before you come. Our meeting times/days change!

How to contact The FAMILY:

275-8763 or 258-4777
uaa_the_family@yahoo.com
http://cwolf.aaa.alaska.edu/~abfam/
Book review

Stephen Leinen's Gay Cops

by Ron Swartz

Gay Cops is a surprisingly comprehensive book dealing with the problems confronting gay and lesbian police officers both in and out of the workplace. I say "surprisingly" because its author is non-gay.

Stephen Leinen writes from the perspective of a retired New York City Police Department lieutenant, with a PhD in sociology. After NYPD Sergeant Charlie Cochrane出了 himself in 1981 during a city council meeting debate on proposed gay rights, Leinen realized he had a lot to learn about what gay police officers had to face. This book is the result of interviews with 41 homosexual officers he met through the New York’s Gay Officers' Action League, and he feels confident that their stories accurately represent the plight of a majority of the gay cops in America.

Leinen found that most of the officers did not choose policing because of its open acceptance of gays, but because of job security, money, the non-traditional "action" of the job and generous benefit packages. Most were aware of the potential for trouble should their sexual orientation become known at work.

Gay recruits soon saw seasoned officers reacting to the gay community with degrading comments, outright harassment, denial of police services, and physical assaults and shakedowns. The young new officers were not only dealing with their personal coming out process, but had apparent incentive to keep their personal lives secret. Many would bring opposite sex partners to police social functions to maintain the illusion of heterosexuality. Concerns about personal safety were real; would an intolerant co-worker come to my assistance in a life-threatening situation as quickly as if I were straight? Case studies sometimes said the answer is, "No."

On the positive side of coming out, besides the obvious self-acceptance and honesty issues, was the attractiveness of the gay officer in general, "shrouded in an aura of authority and militaristic masculinity enhanced by the uniform and occupational accoutrements." Aside from the sexual fantasy brought on by the uniform, many gays, "...appear to be attracted to the image of police work itself combined power (which can, incidentally, also be sexual) and the sense of safety that comes from being with a protector," says Mr. Leinen.

One officer interviewed said, "It's a big turn-on to people. You are on a very high pedestal as a rule. Guys like to say they went home and went to bed with a cop.

That's hot."

Besides gay people wondering whether to disclose their sexuality at the police station, public disclosure as a policeman in a gay social setting also has its drawbacks. A date gone bad could result in disclosure to police superiors.

The author discusses the difficulties of being in a relationship with a policeman and includes chapters on coming out tentatively at work, coming out publicly at work, coming out to the family, staying in the closet, and the recruitment efforts of some large police departments to hire homosexual officers.

This book is to be recommended for anyone gay who is considering a career in law enforcement, despite the fact that its author has a limited exposure to the phenomena because of his heterosexual status.

Music review

Joni Mitchell, Both Sides Now

by Michael

Identity received a CD in the mail by Joni Mitchell. She is a singer that wanted to share her talent with various communities. The CD is wonderful and has a taste of musical style that is great. It really reminded me of the Jazz music from the big band era.

However, the songs themselves speak out to a much different audience. It is relaxing, easy listening, and delightful.

The CD is a collection of twelve classical love songs. Some of these songs are new renditions of "Stormy Weather," "You're my Thrill," "I Wish I Were In Love Again," "You've Changed," "Comes Love" and "A Case of You."

Joni Mitchell and Larry Klein produced the CD. The backdrop for the singer included the 71-piece London Symphony Orchestra.

When asked about her CD, Joni responded with, "I've always used my albums as a way to tell a story, to take the listener on a trip. I wanted this one to develop sequentially, with a beginning, a middle and an end, telling the story of what two people in love take each other through."

The CD does just that. Each song expresses a different dynamic of a relationship.

For more information about Joni Mitchell, check out http://www.RepriseRec.com/
STRENGTH

There is a certain strength
in knowing who you are
and what you need
To survive
To be happy
There is a peace in believing
your destiny is designed by you
and not another unknown force
Taking control of your life
and guiding yourself
in the direction you feel
you need to go
In the direction you derive
the most pleasure, passion, serenity.
Realizing that "I AM"
are the two most powerful words
You could ever speak
And not being afraid to use them
to craft your future
Having enough love for yourself to
give yourself the best
Everything your soul needs
There is a strength in knowing yourself
And loving yourself.
All other things fall into line.

Diana G Green

One Man's View

Mother, wife, Olympic Athlete
Some things that I'll never know,
Father, Role model, truck driver
Three things that I may never be
All these people are important
and cherished in society.

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual
How they feel, I can't know
cross dresser, homosexual, transgender
Some things that I am not
These people too are important

and cherished in the heart inside of me

I don't know how their thoughts
I can never know how it is to be
Everyone is human, to be treated equally
We're all here together as friends
different and yet much the same
people hate, love, each one of us
I don't seek understanding of others
just their friendship, love and trust

Keith - an ally and friend
It’s Never Forever

by Sylvia Short

When the AIDS epidemic first struck, and for a decade thereafter, there was no real relief for the unrelenting pain and demoralization caused by the devastation of the opportunistic diseases that inflicted the HIV sufferers. Suicide became an alternative that attracted a number of patients, and the stigma of suicide haunted all HIV patients. In several localities, helpful friends began giving assistance to ending lives that had become intolerable, despite the jeopardy of prosecution under laws prohibiting assisting suicide.

Suicide itself has an interesting history in the annals of jurisprudence. Back in ancient Rome, Plato and others have recorded the preference for suicide for the terminally ill in lieu of the ravages of and impotence caused by extreme illness. Neither the New nor the Old Testaments of the Christian religion prohibit suicide, and although later Christian doctrine held suicide a crime, this was in response to the temptation for martyrdom of early Christians.

In English common law, the only penalty for the ecclesiastical crime of suicide was denial of a Christian burial, later forfeiture of the suicide’s goods to the liege lord, and finally as a felony, forfeiture of the goods to the king. Even then, the common law was more lenient to those who killed themselves due to inability to endure suffering of disease.

Although the crime migrated to the early United States, there is no evidence that any post-revolutionary court ever imposed punishment for suicide. In 1868 suicide was generally not punishable, and in only 9 of the 37 states was assisting suicide prohibited.

Hastening death by terminal patients has long been privately condoned. Home deaths using opiates and alcohol were common for the incurably ill, and, indeed, opiates, including morphine, were available without prescription till 1914. After opiates came under regulation in the last century, the gentle quitting of lives ravaged by terminal illnesses was dependent upon compassionate physicians. And this, too, was a not uncommon occurrence.

While suicide was on the books as a crime during the very early days of this country,

since there was no deterrent effect in the penalty, it was bypassed in favor of the crime of assisting suicide. This has become part of the law of almost every state, including Alaska, which makes it a Class A felony.

When the situation of the AIDS patients needing help became acute, efforts were made to have the penalties for assisting suicide declared unconstitutional. Finally the U.S. Supreme Court found no express prohibition in the constitution from making this a crime, and it thus became a matter left to the several states. At the present time, there is a case in Alaska, brought by a heroic AIDS patient, Kevin Sampson and another, to have our crime declared unconstitutional on several bases, including our constitutional right to privacy (rare in state constitutions).

In 1993 in Seattle, Washington, because of the problem, a number of caring professionals, led by Unitarian Universalist minister Ralph Mero, met, and the non-profit corporation COMPASSION IN DYING was formed. No criminal charges have ever been levied against this entity, although in its first year of operation it fielded approximately 300 serious and repeated requests from patients desiring rational suicide. Forty-six of these patients qualified under their strict guidelines (competent, terminal, suffering, rational), and 37 were helped to a compassionate end. Of these, 16 were AIDS patients. Compassion’s work has continued and expanded, and they now have chapters in Oregon, Northern and Southern California, New York, and, very recently, in Alaska. In next month’s issue, more about this work and what’s happening up here.

(Information on suicide history condensed from the ACLU brief on appeal in SAMPSON case)
a first worlder in West Africa

Beth Vann, MSW, a former Identity Board member, reports from the Republic of Guinea, West Africa

A wise friend told me that when she’s overwhelmed, she focuses on what she sees, hears, touches, smells and tastes. Just focus and sense, she said. I was overwhelmed; I focused.

Gueckedou market day is Wednesday. It is almost impossible to drive through town—people are walking on the street, across the street, standing in groups talking in the middle of the street—hundreds and hundreds of them. The ability of the masses to ignore vehicles until they get bumped on the shoulder by a mirror or on the leg by a bumper is astounding. Sometimes we speculate that maybe they’re not human: an alien species has taken over Gueckedou. Perhaps this is where the Pleidians wait their mother ship.

Women are selling onions and hot peppers and flour and coffee and many things unrecognizable to a First Worlder, on plastic sacks; their sacks on the road, all set up and confidently blocking traffic. Woman after woman after woman.

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more and more on top for the back to where they came from. World food program flour for sale by the cupful or by the bag. Red white and blue USA cans which used to contain the ration of canned peas, now cut up, bent, shaped, welded into life’s necessities: cooking stoves, kerosene lamps, trays, food bowls.

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The distinct smells of the Third World: A hundred different odors of mud. Wood smoke from cooking stoves clogging my nose, stinging my eyes. Heady scents of flowers, green growing jungle things after a rain in the forest. Smells of food cooking, dried fish, ripe fruit and vegetables. Latrines. Walls, corners, roadsides used as latrines. Sweaty bodies in equatorial heat — bodies that haven’t bathed in a day or more and have never been touched by deodorant.

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The heartache that comes when I say “no”: No, I cannot help you. No, I will not help you. Sorry, eh, me no go able help, sorry oh. Ee no fine. A woman from Sierra Leone dressed in rags, one baby on the breast another small child on her back, something balancing on her head, and another child or two, or three holding her hands. Ah dye come jess nah (now). Refugee and me. Me no got man. Me no got chop, no got notting, no got card, U. N. no help we. Please Sistah Beti. Jes small ting for we. Me pickine na sick. Please Si stah Beti.

She is one of about half a million people from Sierra Leone, living as refugees in a French speaking country. They are so lost. If I say yes, tomorrow there will be 50 more. And the day after that 100. Word spreads faster here than it does in the Other Worlds where there is e-mail and telephone. Each time, I say no my heart breaks a little. But I know that is not the way to help.

Babies and children and adults die every day of upper respiratory disease and diarrhea because there are no medicines to cure the simplest infection. Ten deaths in a refugee camp of 30,000 people is nothing, not even a blip on the radar screen. After all, these people are uncivilized, they will always be at war, it’s too complicated and rooted in their ancient tribal differences, and we can’t keep throwing money at them. Meanwhile, for the Kosovo refugees, there are incubators and croupiess.

Guinea is considered an “E” post for UNHCR. “A” is for Washington and Paris

(Continued on page 21)
"If you ask me what it is I came into this world to do; I will tell you that I came to live out loud!"

LIVING OUT LOUD!

A 3-day DRUG FREE leadership retreat for and by GLBTQA Alaskans

by Victoria Shaver

I walked into the room and even though every single person there came from my high school, I did not know any of them very well, and most, not at all. I sized up each one, judging and stereotyping all the way. The very first workshop was about stereotyping and judgments, and put me right in my place. I was 16.

That weekend my mind opened up a little and my walls fell down a little more, and on the second night of the retreat I felt connected to this group of people I had not known before. We talked about our lives and our experiences and found we had a lot in common. We acknowledged the diversity of our personalities and life passions and learned of respect and compromise.

During the weekend we broke up into smaller groups to role-play and learn life and leadership skills. We talked about many things, including: decision making, problem solving, and how to work as part of a team. We told our stories, shared our lives, and gave of ourselves. This was a retreat I attended more than 10 years ago, and I cannot wait to attend another 3-day retreat. Especially because this is by and for GLBTQA!

Organizers and advisors have been meeting since late April to organize the first-ever Alaskan GLBTQ Retreat for young people. People from Fairbanks, Juneau and Anchorage have teleconferenced and e-mailed many hours to make this exciting weekend a reality. Workshop topics are still being considered so if you have suggestions, please let them know by contacting uaa_the_family@yahoo.com or calling (907) 333-3745.

LIVING OUT LOUD! will be August 4-6, 2000. Students of all walks of life are welcome to attend. Any one who has a desire to make new friends and build community will benefit from this retreat. Some of us are students at high school or university and some of us are simply students of life. Tie-dye, henna, meditation, stress relief are amongst the workshop topics now being considered.

What can you expect from this 3-day weekend? Besides bonfires, music jams (bring your guitars, drums and other musical instruments), there will be workshops geared to have fun, meet new friends, build community and learn leadership skills. Bob & Gene have graciously offered to host this weekend at the Triangle Ranch, near beautiful Big Lake, AK. It has a bunkhouse, retreat-like facilities and even a place to pitch a tent or two -- not to mention a great campfire area and a lake to swim and water ski on.

I think the name best describes the retreat. When we were trying to think of a name I looked down and on my friend's clipboard boasted this statement: "If you ask me what it is I came into this world to do; I will tell you that I came to live out loud!"

Exactly! This is a retreat to renew your spirit, and help you to find your voice and your power, and to live out loud. Or louder. This is for folks, who are not out, who are out, and who don't know. This is for everyone who wants to be empowered. So come and have a fun filled alcohol free weekend while learning about yourself and those around you.

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Full and partial scholarships are available, but please note: first-come first-serve and funds are limited.
Alaskans for Civil Rights

by Nance


These are just some of the high-profile issues affecting our community that are being debated around the country, and around the world. As hundreds of thousands of people gathered in Washington D.C. to celebrate with pride at the Millennium March, grassroots activists in states across America are working toward change at the local level. And change is happening!

In January, the Mat-Su School District became one of the first school districts in Alaska to add “sexual orientation” to the non-discrimination section of the school district policy for students. In April, Vermont made history when it became the first state to legally recognize same-sex couples through “Civil Unions.” Reform Judaism, as a religious institution, passed a resolution this spring to recognize couples through same-sex commitment ceremonies. Clearly, attitudes are changing.

However, in March, California voters passed a ballot initiative to ban recognition of same-sex marriages. In April, Mississippi became the second state to ban adoptions by gay men and lesbians. In Anchorage, a confessed killer was recently acquitted when the defense successfully convinced the jury that the victim was a homosexual man who intended to rape the defendant. In his closing statement, the defense attorney quoted the Bible. Clearly, we still have quite a way to go.

Now is the time to get active, now is the time to be visible, now is the time to educate, instigate, inspire. Now is the time for grassroots activism, Alaska-style.

“Activism” That’s a scary word for some of us, and an exciting word for others. Putting your partner’s picture on your desk at work is activism. Writing a letter to your legislative representative is activism. Participation in a gay-rights demonstration is activism. Lobbying the Congress in Juneau is activism. WHAT you do is not the important part; the important part is THAT you do.

One opportunity to work for change is through Alaskans for Civil Rights. Alaskans for Civil Rights (ACR) is a statewide group committed to attaining civil rights for all people, regardless of sexual orientation and/or gender identity. All across the state, members of ACR work to educate their neighbors, business people, and legislators on the issues that affect us—their neighbors, customers, and constituents. Join us in the fight for equality. We WILL succeed.

For more info, contact us at:
Alaskans for Civil Rights P.O. Box 240751
Anchorage, AK 99524. (907)586-ACR1.
AlaskansforCivilRights@yahoo.com

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New Club Takes to the Trails Here in Anchorage

Frontrunners/Walkers is a new club that started in May 2000. We are part of an international gay/lesbian organization that that cities. We meet 2 times rollerblade on the An- wards, those who dinner or breakfast. May 2nd by meeting at Tuesday evenings and have had a really nice We have had about an who jog, walk and rol- come, too! This isn’t a meet to enjoy our in- company. All levels welcome. Call Peter @ 337-3682, visit www.frontrunners.org, or just show up!

Mad Myrna's
Weekly
Jack's Country Dancing (7:00pm Lessons / 8:00pm Dancing)
Mad Myrna's Friday Night Drag Divas (Fridays at 9:30pm)

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www.alaska.net/~madmyrna

Let our very capable staff assist you with that special event!
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(Continued on page 21)
community resources directory

Gay Bar
Legal Clinic on issues of concern to GLBTQIPA's 2nd Monday at Noon. 845 K Street (Mendel & Assoc). 279-5001 or <aem@gci.net>.

Gay/Lesbian Book Club
Meets at Barnes and Noble on Third Wednesday, 7-9pm, Kim Meek, 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, 562-7181 or <thillman@alaska.net>.
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 healthy ways of living for all people within the State of Alaska. Identity sponsors a statewide Helpline, Pride on the Parkstrip, NCOD and other events. Potluck social is held on the 4th Friday of each month at the AUUF, 3201 Turnagain. Doors open at 6:30pm, dinner at 7pm, program at 7:30pm. Call 258-4777 for more information, or visit the Identity webpage at www.alaska.net/identity.

Imperial Court of All Alaska (ICOAA)
A social support group that contributes to our community by being active in many causes. P.O. Box 104032 Anchorage, Alaska 99520-3032. Current Monarchs: Emperor XXVII Dennis at Myrna's or call Empress Silva Stone at 907-245-0302.

IMRU2

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 are interested in volunteering or need assistance, please call the IAA at 452-4222.

Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church (MCC)
A predominately gay/lesbian/bi/trans Christian Church. Sunday services at 2:00pm at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke (just east of 24th Ave. & Boniface Pkwy) 258-5266 or email LOGMCC@aol.com mailto: LOGMCC@aol.com

The Last Frontier Men's Club
Alaska's oldest social club for the Levi/leather/bear community. Meets the 2nd Sunday of each month for a brief business meeting & potluck social at 5pm in the upstairs area of Mad Myrna's (530 E. 5th Avenue) and at 9pm on the 1st Friday of each month for our First Friday Fetish Night social at The Raven. In addition, we hold monthly movies and dinner nights on various dates throughout the month along with several campouts throughout the summer which are open to the entire community. Check website for an updated list of events at www.tffmc.com/calendar.htm. Eastchester Station Post Office Box 202054 Anchorage, Alaska 99520-2054 (907) 337-6593 web: http://www.tffmc.com e-mail: tffmc@micronet.net

The Last Frontier Women's Club
Social group. Contact Jo at 337-2755 or <akbabydyke@aol.com>.

Living Out Loud
Organized by and for youth in the community statewide, this retreat will be held at the Triangle ranch August 4-6. Pre-registration is required. No drugs or alcohol allowed.

Mt McKinley (Non-Ascent) Club
A social group open to anyone gay, lesbian, or ally.

Northern Exposure Bowling League
Bowlers of all genders meet Sunday afternoon at 4:00pm, Park Lanes, Anchorage. Please call to confirm time and venue. 561-8744 milt@alaska.net

OLOC (Old Lesbians Organizing for Change) & Travel 50
Two groups for women over 50. Voice mail 337-6779 or <rosemelbyno@hotmail.com>.

OPAL
A social organization open to all Lesbians. OPAL sponsors different events throughout the year and occasional potlucks. Anne at 345-3818 or opal@gci.net

Out North Contemporary Art House
Cutting edge art, theatre, film, educational programs and more. 1325 Primrose Anchorage AK 99508, Call voice mail: 279-8098, box office: 279-8200, fax: 279-8100, or write: email@outnorth.org

PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays) of Anchorage - holds meetings at 7:00pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at AUUF, 3201 Turnagain St. For info call Sylvia at 562-4992 or Jane at 333-0115.

Pink Ink
Interior Newsletter c/o IAA, P.O. Box 71248, Fairbanks, AK 99707 (907)452-4222 or e-mail pinkink@alaska.com
clubs, groups, organizations

If you have any changes or additions to the groups and clubs list please contact Victoria at 258-4777 or e-mail victoriaNAlaska@hotmail.com. This list is a work in progress. All information believed to be accurate, but changes occur—do call ahead.

Remember: For info and events 7 days a week call the GLBT Helpline at 258-4777

AGB Social Club (Formerly Anchorage Garden Buddies) a social group for gay and bisexual men looking for an alternative to the "bar scene". The group gets together once a month in a different member's home to talk, eat (pot luck), and just hang out. A_G_B_@yahoo.com or 258-4777

AKPRIDE is working together to build a community center in Anchorage. If you are interested in helping, volunteering, sponsoring a house party or fundraiser, etc. 275-5900 or akpride007@hotmail.com.

Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association (Four A's) Mission is to be a key collaborator within the state of Alaska in the provision of supportive services to persons living with HIV/AIDS and their families and in the elimination of HIV infection and its stigma. They have many services that cater specifically to women. 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste 102 263-2050. Statewide: 1-800-478-AIDS


Alcoholics Anonymous; Gay, Joyous, & Free Open AA meeting Mondays and Thursdays 7pm - 8pm @ Universal Unitarian Church at 3201 Turnagain St.

Anchorage Women's Political Caucus Open to all women, meets 7pm at Elmer's Restaurant, New Seward and Fireweed, on the first Wednesday of each month.

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

Arctic Bears First Friday of every month. Fairbanks 479-8680

Bruin Brotherhood of Alaska A Levi, Leather, Bear club. 1441 E. 12th #2, Anchorage, Alaska 99501. Contact Dan at 258-2629 or 276-6947, meets the third Saturday at 7pm.

Celebration of Change A performance of women artists for women. This event normally happens in the spring time but planning begins well before that. If you would like to perform or volunteer, please call Victoria or Trang at 278-7264 for more information.

Committee for Equality Box 34202, Juneau, AK 99803 or e-mail bsara@gci.net

EQUAL, Inc. Purpose is to keep the community informed about political and legal events which have an effect on the GLBT 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 or e-mail at AlaskaDan@aol.com In Fairbanks call Laura Burleson at 479-7348

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

The Family (UA Student Club) You DO NOT have to be a UAA student to attend and many that do attend UAA are non-traditional students. The Family hosts community wide dance, potlucks, various social, political, and awareness events. 258-4777 or e-mail <uaa_the_family@yahoo.com>.

Feminist Sing-a-Long (women only) Third Saturday of every month, call Carol and Fran at 333-0871 or <bestinterests@gci.net>. Non-singers and children are more than welcome. Pot luck starts at 6:30pm and singing at 7:30pm.

Frontrunners Anchorage Front Runners/Walkers: Meets Tues. 6:30pm and Sat. 10am at Westchester Lagoon (far west parking lot) for a fun run/walk/rollerblade. All levels welcome. Call Peter @ 337-3682, visit www.frontrunners.org or just show up!

Games night (Sept-April) 4th Saturday, Get a Clue, Catch a Phrase, have some fun for Scrabble playing gals. No potluck just board games. Children welcome. Carol or Fran at 333-0871 or <bestinterests@gci.net>.

Gay and Lesbian Helpline Sponsored by Identity, Inc., this information and referral line is answered daily from 6:00pm to 11:00pm. The Helpline is staffed by unpaid volunteers and provides information and referrals to businesses, professionals and service providers that are supportive of the goals and objectives of Identity, Inc. If you would like to be a part of this service or if you need information, please call 258-4777 or toll free (in Alaska, outside Anchorage) 1-888-901-9876.

Gay and Lesbian Parenting Group Meets the 2nd Sunday of the month at 2pm. Call for location. Contact: Jo at 337-2755 akbabydyke@aol.com.
The Community Center Project...
Not Dead Yet!

Rumors abound, but if you heard the Community Center Project is dead, you heard wrong. We've just been taking a little rest. E-mail akpride007@hotmail.com, if you want to be on the mailing list, want to work on getting the community center off the ground, or want to donate time, a space, or vast quantities of money.

If you don't have e-mail, you can leave a message for us at 275-8763 or 275-5900.

HOW TO CONTACT IDENTITY INC.
Phone: Helpline (information and referral line): 258-4777
Statewide Toll-Free: 1-800-901-9876
Mailing address: PO Box 200070, Anchorage, AK 99520-0070
E-mail: Identity@alaska.net
Web page: www.alaska.net/~identity

In person: Look for us at Pride on the Parkstrip, June 25
And the Identity Potluck, every fourth Friday.
At the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship in Turnagain.


Okay, that's just the model. Still, nobody gives you the 4-1-1 on the lesbigaytrans scene like Damron.

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or call 800-462-6654 for a free book list of all our gay-friendly travel guides.

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and Geneva. Posts are graded based on security and infrastructure. “E” is the lowest, toughest grade. Guinea is E because of the lack of infrastructure. Downright undeveloped is more like it. And here in this E country, we get the B or the C team from the United Nations. Here in the E place, the place where the A team is most needed, we get B team geniuses who can’t add 2 and 2 and get the same answer twice. How can anyone expect them to manage a complex and enormous refugee crisis?

Mohamed Sylla is my driver and my friend. He was a diamond dealer in Kono district, Sierra Leone. He’s actually a Liberian, of the Mandingo tribe, which is hated and hunted in Liberia now. He gets me everywhere safely and negotiates the checkpoints and the Guinean military deftly and calmly. He gracefully tolerates my need for the air conditioning. I tolerate (less gracefully) his taste in music. He gets into and out of mud holes, gets us through the stacked up traffic at mud holes where multiple vehicles are stuck and blocking everyone, slows down for the chickens, ducks, goats, sheep, cows, dogs, and children in the road near villages, and avoids every head-on-collision in the making by the crazy bush taxi driver roaring through the blind curves on the wrong side of the road. In all these 40,000 km we’ve driven together, he’s only hit one dog on the highway. He felt really bad about that, but it honestly wasn’t his fault. Somehow, Mohamed hits fewer bumps and doesn’t swerve as much as the other drivers. My neck and shoulders aren’t sore after three hours (or more, one way) of bad road jostling the way they are with the other drivers.

Mohamed gets us to the camps. He rests and watches me work. We park near the women’s building. This is a mud brick and grass roof structure with blue UNHCR-ECHO tarpaulins tacked on top. Everyone recognizes the green IRC logo on the side of the white Land Cruiser with the enormous radio antenna. The women, men, and children come to see what’s going on. The women call their friends to gather in their building. Everyone tries to shoo away the children who gather in droves to stare at me—the white woman—and vie for my attention. Most of the refugees I see are Kono or Mende. I am translated at least once, if not twice. I always talk a lot. Perhaps that’s why I love the work. I get to talk a lot. I talk, people translate what I say, and people listen and smile and laugh and applaud and sing to me and thank me profusely in several languages. I also listen. I hear a mixture of really sad things and exceedingly inspirational and encouraging things. I do a lot of teaching in this job. It is so much fun. Thinking of ways to show concepts and ideas about human rights, tangible ways men and women can help women. Learning about how they do things and offering ideas that are closer to their ways than our ways.

The truth is, I like being here. Despite being cut off from all the people I love, despite the rain that makes mold and the bugs and the heat and the smells and the desperation. Here, everyday, I know I am a good person and feel good in my skin. I am a person with integrity. I listen; I speak kindly and treat people with kindness. And people respond in kind. I am doing what I have always done, being who I think I’ve always been. Being the person my parents hoped I’d be (I think) (I believe).

Sistah Beti, or Auntie Bett, or Madame Bett. I haven’t fixed anything or anyone–and I probably won’t. I just treat people the way I want to be treated. And it is reflected back to me in the faces and eyes, and words of those around me. Each day, in every situation, I know that I have value as a member of the human race.

It’s a good feeling. A big feeling.
community resources directory

(L) Connie's House Cleaning Svc., Connie, 276-3147
(A) Green Valley Cleaning, Tara, 345-4657
House Sitting:
(L) Victoria Shaver 278-7264, VictoriamnAlaska@hotmail.com
Odd Jobs:
(L) Deb, 275-3018
(A) Service with a Smile, Liz, 274-5290
Painting:
(L) L&L Painting, Lisa, 277-7549
Kites, Games, Banners, Puzzles:
(G) Aurora Winds, Calen, 479-8680 (Fairbanks)
(A) Northwind Kites, Pat, 279-4386
(G) Stonewall'd 528 E 5th Avenue, 276-1992
Legal:
(L) Mendel & Associates, Allison, 279-5001
(L) Rhodes, Phyllis; Mediator, 346-2217
(A) Short, Sylvia, 562-4992 (see ad)
Media:
(See Newsletters)
Music/Instruments:
(A) Oldtime Music Company, Marge, 561-6862 (see ad)
Native Arts/Culture:
Does anyone know of any? If you do, please call 258-4777
Newsletters/Newspapers:
(A) Alaska Women Speak, Mary Lee, 696-0924
(A) Anchorage Press, Nick, 561-7737
(L) Klondyke Kontakt, kk@gcc.net
(GLA) Rainbow Borealis (Identity), 258-4777
(GL) Perspective (SEAGLA in Juneau), 586-4297
Pet Care & Veterinarian:
(A) Alaska Pet Palace, Sharon, 276-0668
(A) Doggie Hut, Arlid, 279-5661
(A) Dr. Ginny, 345-1515
(L) Dr. Vicki, 345-1515
(A) Dr. Jean Battig (Fairbanks) 452-6055
Photography:
(G) Fotos by Frank, Frank, 337-3399
Political:
(A) Alaskans Concerned About Latin America (ACALA), Ruth, 333-1190
(A) Anchorage Women's Political Caucus, Rhonda, 274-9308
(G/L) Equal, Inc., 274-6226
(G/L) Log Cabin Republicans, (503) 642-7292
Printing, Electronic Graphics:
(A) TimeFrame, 562-3822 (see ad)
Recovery & Support:
(G/L/B) Pride Institute (Minnesota), 800-54 PRIDE (547-7433)
Also Los Angeles, CA, Coconut Grove, FL & New York City,
Support Groups:
(G) Ability Design Associates, Doran, 562-9575
(G) I.M.R.U.2 (Youth Group), 566-4678
(A) PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Anchorage), Sylvia 562-4992, Fred 562-7161
(A) PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Fairbanks), Mary Jo, 907-459-8985
(A) PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Juneau), 907-463-4203
AA:
(G) Gay, Joyous and Free, see Clubs Section
Deaf Support:
(A) Interpreter Referral Line, 277-3323 voice, 277-0735 TTY
(A) Deaf Rehabilitation Serv., 277-3456 voice, 258-2232 TTY
Recreation:
(L) Alaska Woman of the Wilderness, Rachel, 688-2226
(A) Knik Glacier Tours; Palmer, Alaska; Tom Faussett, 745-1577.
(L) McKinley Air SVC., Keli, 800-564-1785
(L) Puffin Family Charters, Leslie, 278-3346 (see ad)
(G) Triangle Tours, Greg, 786-3707, 800-779-3701
(G) Roy's Bikes, Roy, 333-8221
(A) Wild Iris Fishing and Sightseeing Charters (Valdez) Barb, 907-389-2725
(A) Flies by Ilene (Eagle River), 907-894-6946
(L) Equinox Wilderness Expeditions, Karen, voice mail: 274-9087
Real Estate:
(G) Apollo Real Estate, Bob, 561-0661 (see ad)
(A) Bela Bodnar, RE/MAX, 244-4415 (see ad)
(L) Brynwyn Real Estate, 907-277-4744
(L) Century 21 (Missouin), Lucille, 417-745-6798 (w);
417-993-4302 (h)
(A) Coldwell Banker, Elaine, 562-2378
(L) Dynamic Properties, Jill, 261-7663
(L) Waitraud Barron, 276-1981
Research:
(1) Cracius Research Group, 279-3982
Security Alarm Systems:
(G) Mark, 278-2029
Social/Educational:
(G) Anchorage Garden Buddies, a_g_b_@yahoo.com or call
258-4777
(GL) Imperial Court of All Alaska, (See Clubs Section)
(GL) Southeast Alaska Gay & Lesbian Alliance (SEAGLA),
(Juneau) 907-586-4297
Spirirtual:
(A) Anchorage Church of Religious Science, Center for
Positive Living, Rev. Nancee Sweeney, 258-0010
(A) Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, Art, 248-
3737 (see ad)
(A) Church of the Covenant (Matanuska Valley), Pastor
Howard Bess, 746-1089
(A) 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, 486-5276
(A) Unity Church of Anchorage, 346-2824
Student Organizations:
(GL) Alaskan Gay and Lesbian Association (AGLA,
Fairbanks) Pete, 907-779-7348
(GL) The Family (formerly Lesbian, Gay & Bi Student
Association), UAA call 258-4777 for more information
Consultants, Graphic Design, & Desktop Publishing:
(G) Ability Design Associates, Doran, 562-9575
(A) Alaskan Support Consortium, Walter Erskine, 522-4275
(L) Angie, 337-0253
(A) Binky's Den, 205 4th Ave., Seward, Sue or Terri, 224-PAWS
(L) Catworks, Catherine, 563-5492
(L) CDA Services, Walltraud, 276-6862
(G) Ekstatic RAM, Robert Iris, 522-4275
(G) Greg Parsons, 288-40800
(G) grafx, Lucian, 561-5816
(L) Helleck & Assoc., Terry, 279-3869
(G) Mad Dog Graphx, Michael Ardia, 276-7279
(G) PC Possibilities, 248-6277
(L) TechLink, LeMiel, 276-8862.
Supplies & Equipment:
(A) Frigid North, Tom, 561-4633
Training:
(G) Seven Treasures Ent., Don, 562-9496
(A) Find It! Business Services (Macintosh); Larry, 279-4862
Education Services:
College and Boarding School Selection:
(A) Tom Croke, 277-7004
Tutoring:
(G) Gabriel, Spanish, 272-9045
(L) Carolyn Lancaster, M.Ed., School Survival Skills, 274-5059
(A) Kathleen L. McDonough, School Survival Skills, 274-5059
Entertainment:
(G) Art Services North, Daryl, 561-2115
(A) Mascarella Music, Diane, 277-9751
Bars & Restaurants:
(G/L) O'Brady's, 344-8033, 338-1080, 563-1080 (see ad)
(G/L) Mad Myrna's, 530 E 5th Avenue, 276-9762
(G/L) Palace Saloon (Fairbanks), Alaskaland (Fri & Sat ONLY)
(G/L) The Raven, 708 E 4th Avenue 276-9672
Disk Jockeys:
(A) Lake Webb, 373-2689(hm), 279-3300(wk)
Drag Shows:
(G/L) Mad Myrna's, 530 E 5th Avenue, 276-9762
Theatre:
(G) Breakeven Productions, Linda 277-5630
(A) Out North Theatre, Gene/Jay, 279-8009
Financial, Insurance, Investments:
(L) Kathleen Madden, Waddell and Reed, 349-3559
(A) Catherine Smith, C.P.A., 562-2438
Income Tax Preparation:
(A) Lynn (LaPerriere) Thomas, 263-0720
Independent Marketer:
(A) Mark, 279-5264
Mortgage Brokers:
(A) City Mortgage, Lynn (LaPerriere) Thomas, 277-0700
Retirement Plans:
(A) Lynn (LaPerriere) Thomas, 263-0720
Florists/Greenhouses/Nurseries:
(G) Every Bloomin' Thing, Jerry, Malcom, 274-3158
(A) Mile 5.2 Greenhouse, Dale, 694-3978
(A) Tryck Nursery, Doug, 345-2507
Furniture/Furnishings/Gifts:
(G) Stonewall'd 528 E 5th Avenue, 276-1992
Haiirstyling:
(G) Gabriel, 272-9045 (see ad)
Health:
(A) Alpine Indoor Air Purification Systems, Marjory, (907) 746-6381
(L). Health Advocacy-Medical/Legal Research, Linda, 337-0253
(A). Home Health Care, 261-3173
(A). Nature's Own Way, Roberto/Debby, 561-0181
Alternative Medicine/Health:
(A). Natural Health Center, Hope, 561-2330
(A). Gatekey, Ketki/Jaimini, 561-7327
(L). Movement Options, Shari, 274-FLEX (3539)
(A). Rainbow Counseling, Maureen, 277-0582
(A). Thee Cutting Edge (Seward, AK), Connie, 907-224-8996
Body Work:
(L). Beth (MT), Debbie (CMT), 566-0842
(G). Don, certified, nonsexual 338-8826
(G). Gabriel, 272-9045
(L). Leslie, 278-3346
(G). Terry (LMT) 240-6474
Counseling:
(A). Connie, 562-1826
(G). F ken Freedman, 566-1708, fken@alaska.net, www.
.alaska.net/~fken
(A). Psychological Services Center, UAA 786-1795
(A). Barton Sloan, LCSW, 563-5765
(A). S.T.A.R. (Standing Together Against Rape), 276-7279
Electrolysis:
(L). Gentle Touch Electrolysis Clinic, Bronwyn, 258-6608
Dental Care:
(A). Ward Hubert, DDS, 248-0022
Health, Naturopathy:
(A). Hope, 561-2330
Obstetrics & Gynecology:
(A). Jane, 563-5151
Reiki/Counseling:
(A). Joyce, CMT, 562-1916
(A). Karen Lasota, 566-6056
(L). Spirit Services, Barbara, 274-4089
Helpline:
(G/L) Anchorage, Identity Helpline, 258-4777
(G/L) Fairbanks Lesbian/Gay Line, 907-458-2828
(G/L) Gay & Lesbian National Hotline, 1-888-843-4564
(G/L) Juneau, SEAGLA, 566-GAYS
Home Maintenance & Repair:
Carpet & Linoleum Installation:
(A). Don, 349-1065
Floors & Tile:
(A). Quality Floors, Bob & Ruth, 248-3900
Electrical:
Does anyone know of any? Call 258-4777
House Cleaning:
The Anchorage Press: This is an alternative weekly paper that is not focused on the GLBT community but is friendly. They have a great personals section and can be contacted at 561-7737.

The Klondyke Kontakt (The KK): This is an every-other-monthly newsletter by and for the lesbian community in Anchorage and dykes in the Bush. For more information e-mail at kk@gcl.net.

The Perspective: A newsletter published for the Southeast Alaskan. News, events, and all can be found in this publication. For more information contact SEAGLA at P.O. Box 21542, Juneau, Alaska 99802-1452 or phone 566-GAYS.

The Pink Ink: A newsletter published in Fairbanks for the Fairbanks GLBT community. For more information contact Interior Newsletter c/o IAA, P.O. Box 71248, Fairbanks, AK 99707 (907)452-4222 or e-mail pinkink@alaska.com.

The Rainbow Borealis (The RB): The monthly newsletter that Identity Inc. publishes and distributes to its membership. Contains interesting local articles, and editorials. Primarily and Anchorage publication it does publish articles relevant to other areas of the state. Submissions and Ads can be sent to P.O. Box 200070, Anchorage, Alaska 99520 for more information call (907)258-4777 in Anchorage or 1-888-901-9876 within Alaska.

DID WE GET IT RIGHT?

To update the information on clubs, groups, organizations, events or Directory business Listings, PLEASE contact us by e-mailing Identity@alaska.net or mailing new information to Identity Inc, PO Box 200070, Anchorage, AK 99520-0070. We want to include all community information in the Rainbow Borealis. Don't be left out—let us know.

Business Directory:

This directory is our "yellow pages" and reference guide. It's free! The designations of (L)Lesbian, (G)ay and (A)lly indicate the business or service ownership. All people are welcome to call for further info. NOTE: in some instances you might encounter employees who are unaware of this Directory and its significance. Don't be offended: enlighten. All listings are in Anchorage unless indicated.

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

AIDS:
(A) Alaskan AIDS Assistance Assoc., 263-2050
(A) Anchorage Neighborhood Health Center (free HIV testing), Stephanie, 257-4637
(A) Interior AIDS Assoc. (Fairbanks) 452-4222
(A) Pierce County AIDS Foundation (WA), 206-383-2565
(A) Shanti of Juneau, 907-463-5665, 1-800-478-AIDS (2437)
(A) S.T.O.P. AIDS Project, Koala, 278-5019

Apparel & Clothing:
(A) The Look, Karen, 278-5655

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

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

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

Bed & Breakfasts, Accommodations:
(G) Alta's (Fairbanks), Pete, 907-389-2582 (see ad)
(G) Arctic Feather, Doug, 277-3862
(G) Aurora Winds, James/Bill, 346-2533
(L) Cheney Lake B&B, Mary/Janetta, 337-4391
(G) Crabtree Guest House (Fairbanks), Phil/Bobby, 907-451-6501

(A) Fairbanks Hotel, (Fairbanks) Doris Lindun, 888-329-4685
(A) Gallery Bed & Breakfast (Anchorage) Leslie Evans 274-2567
(A) Island Watch, Eileen (Homer), 907-235-2265 (see ad)
(L) Northern Comfort, Reeda, 278-2106
(A) Regina's, 278-4904
(L) Rose-Beth's B&B, (Anchorage) Rose Beth, 337-6779
(G/A) Sauerdough Lodging (Seward), Gordon, 907-224-8946.
(L) Wandering Women (Juneau) Carol/Sudie 907-586-2410

Books:
(L) AAA Online Real Estate Bookstore, Christen, 1-303-774-0470
(A) Into The Woods Bookshop (Fairbanks), Connie, 907-479-7701

Churches:
see Spiritual

Computer Services:
Bulletin Boards:
(G) The Wilde Side, 333-4039
(G) Wings!, 243-7818; 243-7371 (G/Internet access)
RAW (Radical Arts for Women) - A non-profit group which support and promotes women in the arts. Grant funding available for artistic endeavors. 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; Mall P.O. Box 22655, Juneau, Alaska 99802-2655. 463-5865, 1-800-478-AIDS (2437)

Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous (SLAA): 12-step program meeting, Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Call 566-1133 for meeting times and places.

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 of people with HIV or AIDS or families or friends. Call Jan at 262-2589

Two-Stepping (October - April) - All ages & genders welcome. Smoke and alcohol free two-stepping held once a month from 7:30pm to 11:00pm at the Pioneer Schoolhouse at 3rd & Eagle. Contact Katie for more info at 278-9174 or email ktcreative@chugach.net.

"Unity in Our Community" - a community-wide event showcasing talent in our community. We are looking for men and women to help organize this performance art evening of song, poetry, dance, comedy, and anything else we can think of! Please call or email victoriainalaska@hotmail.com or 278-7264.

Vegan Potlucks (Sept-May only) - 2nd Sunday of the month at 5 p.m. Kate & 338-2380 or email <yomeza@alaska.net>.

Women's Coffeehouse (Sept-May only) - Music, poetry, discussion panels and connection with other women through the arts. Kate 337-1044.

Women's Movie Group (Sept-April) - Discreet group meets once a month. New women always welcome! Don't be shy! Lee at 563-4422 or alaskan_athlete@hotmail.com

Women's Music Fest - happens the weekend of July 4th. Contact Deana Ivy at <ivery@mosquotonet.com>. (907)456-2471 or (907)322-7950 or PO Box 80164 Fairbanks, Alaska 99708

Women's Ultimate Frisbee gathers Sunday mornings 10:30 am on the west end of the parkstrip. Interested frisbeeheaders should contact Jen or Karen at 278-5179 for more info. or e-mail <Jenkout@aol.com>.

e-mail lists

FairbanksPride: http://www.egroups.com/subscribe/fairbankspride
A mailing list for information concerning Fairbanks & Interior Alaska's GLBT community, emphasizing in announcements, politics, information, etc.

AnchoragePride: http://www.egroups.com/subscribe/anchoragepride
A mailing list for information concerning Anchorage & Southcentral Alaska's GLBT community, emphasizing in announcements, politics, information, etc. Primarily event announcements.

Alaska Gay Discussion: http://www.egroups.com/subscribe/alaskagaydiscussion
Many Alaskan gay and lesbian issues are not covered - and sometimes completely ignored - by the mainstream gay press. This is an opportunity to discuss gay issues relevant to Alaska. New issues crop up all the time, and its important to have a venue specific to Alaska where they can be discussed. Primarily an online discussion forum.

Alaska GLBT News: alaskaglbtnews@yahoo.com
An e-mail event notification service which spun-off from the AGB distribution list.

Anchorage Community Center List: AKPride007@hotmail.com
A list for the GLBT community center still in the planning phase for Anchorage.

Interesting national and political articles: Every so often an e-mail gets sent out about what is happening nationally in the GLBT communities. Landmark case decisions and other news worthy announcements from national organizations. To be placed on this list send an e-mail to bsara@gti.net

Girls List: This is a list of the lesbians in the community, it has information on upcoming events, activities, socials, and other interesting items geared solely for the girls. You can get on this list by e-mailing akstranger@hotmail.com and letting them know in the subject line or in the body of the message you want to be placed on this list.

publications

Alaska Women Speak: a publication by Alaskan women on topics for Alaskan women. They can be reached at 696-0924
community events and calendar

June
June 20, PFLAG Youth Group Advisory Board, 7:30 pm, 5618 Gatekeeper, call 333-9280 for directions, information
June 24 Pride Ride: Roll and Stroll for equality
    Valley of the moon Park @ 2pm
June 25 Pride on the Parkstrip Picnic
    West end of Parkstrip from 12noon to 6pm
June 27 Board meeting 7:30 pm a@ Q Café. Members welcome to attend.

Ongoing Events
SUNDAYS
   (A) Metropolitan Community Church Services, 2 pm Sunday at
       Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke
   (F) PFLAG, third Sunday, 4-5:30 pm, Unitarian Universalist
       Fellowship Hall, 4448 Pike's Landing Road
   (A) Northern Exposure bowling league, Park Lanes, 4:00 pm
       561-8744 for more information
   (A) GLSEN, first Sunday, 1 pm, AUUF

MONDAYS
   (A) Gay Bar, Anchorage, noon, Second Monday, 845 K St.,
       279-5001
   (A) Gay, Joyous & Free, 7pm, AA Meeting, AUUF, 3201
       Turnagain Street
   (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, 7-9 pm, AUUF
   (A) The Family, call 258-4777 for current meeting time and
       day or e-mail uaa_the_family@yahoo.com
   (F) GLSEN, 5 pm, FEA on S. Cushman, every 3rd Tuesday

WEDNESDAYS
   (A) Free HIV test at 4 A's, 2-4 pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln.
       Ste. 102 Lori 263-2050
   (A) IMRU2 566-467_out for summer break will resume in

September
   (J) Social at Summit Lounge, after work.
   (J) "Women's Prerogative," KTOO-FM, Wednesdays, 9 pm-10
       pm.
   (F) Dames on the Dial, KSUA-FM 91.5, 10 pm – midnight.

THURSDAYS
   (A) SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous), 5:30 pm,
       Unitarian Church, 566-1133.
   (A) Friends and Family Support Group, 6:30 pm, call 4As, 263-
       2050.
   (A) Gay, Joyous & Free, 7pm, AA Meeting, AUUF, 3201
       Turnagain.

FRIDAYS
   (A) Lunch, 4As, noon-1 pm, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln, Ste. 102,
       Lori 263-2050. Everyone invited – HIV, volunteers and
       friends.
   (A) Midnight Suns Gay AA Meeting, 7:30 pm-9 pm, 3202
       Minnesota (Z-Plaza) & Benson.
   (A) Identity Fourth Potluck Friday, 6:30 pm, AUUF.
   (F) Free anonymous HIV testing, 3:30-5:30 pm, IAA offices.
       710 3rd Avenue.
   (F) Outlooks, KSUA-FM 91.5, 5:30 pm – 7 pm.
   (F) Arctic Bears meet first Friday, call 479-8680 for information.
   (J) Juneau Pride Chorus, 5:30-7:30 pm, Resurrection
       Lutheran Church, Marsha at 789-6167 for info.

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

Please send calendar activities, club notes, and directory updates
   to identity@alaska.net

LEGEND
   (A) = ANCHORAGE, (F) = FAIRBANKS, (J) = JUNEAU
OPAL!

For all wild succulent women who love women

OPAL LIKE IT USED TO BE

Yes, that is right sisters, a new group is forming, in the roots and traditions of the original OPAL board. For all wild succulent women who love women - a safe and supportive social group for professional women. This group is lead by women who are NOT OUT, so it is of course a safe, comfortable space to meet friends and 'family' for all women - including women who are both all the way out and or not out at all and everything in between. The group will hold it's first meeting on the First Friday in August, that is August ___ and Mildred is cookin' so bring your appetite to this fun filled social evening of cards, movies, chatting over tea/coffee/beer. For more information call 338-2967 or e-mail mvmack@customcpu.com

Fourth Friday Potluck June 23
Special Pride Forum

Join Identity, Inc. at our celebrated Fourth Friday Potluck and Social. Bring your choice of soup, salad, entrée, appetizers, hors d’oeuvres, fruit, bread, dessert, chips, dip, pizza, deviled eggs -- be creative! Identity provides the coffee, tea and punch. Admission is free, but we cheerfully accept donations. The Food Fairie also cheerfully accepts donations for the 4A's food bank; so why not bring a couple of cans or boxes of food with you?

- Date: Friday, June 23
- Time: 6:30 p.m. socialize, 7:00 p.m. dinner; 7:30 pm announcements and program
- Place: Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship 3201 Turnagain Street

Open Forum
Special Pride Program

new groups!

For information on

Deaf and Proud!
Womyn of Color
TS Support Group

Call the HelpLine at 258-4777.
The Helpline is your connection to GLBTA events in AK.

Anchorage Gay & Lesbian HelpLine
(907) 258-4777
(888) 901-9876 Statewide Alaska

A community service of
Identity, Inc.
P.O. Box 20070
Anchorage, AK 99520

TRANSGENDER ? TRANSEXUAL ? CROSSDRESSER ? QUESTIONING?
A facilitated support group is forming for TRANS-folk. If you are interested, please contact the Identity Helpline at 258-4777, or e-mail Identity@alaska.net
Thank You!

I personally would like to thank all of those that have helped to make this endeavor possible. There are some special people and business that I would like to thank publicly. Without their generous financial support, long volunteer hours, and dedication to bring you this incredible event, there would be no Pride on the Parkstrip.

I would like to thank Jean Craciun and Amy Young with Craciun Research Group and The Body Shop. Without their generous financial and morale support, I would not have been able to work on this event. The number of hours that were put into this project at work are countless, and without their support, this event truly would not be happening.

I would also like to thank Allison Mendel with Mendel and Associates for their generous donation and guidance with parts of the festivities. Trojan Condoms, Id Lube, 10% productions, The Desert Bear Bed and Breakfast, Jewel Lake Bed and Breakfast, Kaladi Brothers Coffees, Snow City Café, Quest Art, The Dimond Athletic Club, and others that donated items for the silent auction, raffle or door prizes.

I especially want to thank everyone that was on the committee to make this happen. Bear, Lisa J, Victoria Shaver, Micheal French, and Geoff Stewart who all worked countless volunteer hours to make this happen. It has truly been a great team to work with and I glad that we had the chance to work together. They are worth their weight in gold.

I hope that everyone will be able to attend this year’s Pride on the Parkstrip and enjoy the fruits of our labor. They will be well worth it.

See you there.

Tim
"Quality of Life is our Goal"

725 Northway Drive
Anchorage, AK 99508

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

Karen Marcey
Registered Pharmacist

Danita Fischbach
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QUESTIONS WELCOME.