Not only was the Living Out Loud, LOL, retreat a fun weekend where old friends could kick back and joke about old times but a chance to make new memories and new friends, all the while learning a little something about ourselves and gay history. LOL was hosted on the shore of a picturesque lake in serene Big Lake where nightly campfires toasted our marshmallows and warmed the soul. The daily hustle and bustle gave way to intimate talks about love and relationship building, family strife, and how to brown every side of the marshmallow without catching it on fire.

Besides informal discussions around the fire pit daytime activities included history of the Rainbow Flag, gays in Nazi Germany and the use of stigmatizing triangles, and an always useful session on how to effectively listen. One guest speaker in particular, Fken, lead a round-table in which he would choose a question that LOL participants wrote on a slip of paper. Unfortunately there was not enough time to get through even a handful of the inspired questions but Fken graciously gave up his time to talk one-on-one to individuals after the allotted time. Also each LOL member was provided with a handy packet crammed full of useful information that could be taken to his or her home town to be dispersed among those unable to attend. Home towns included Fairbanks, Wasilla, Eagle River, Anchorage, Sterling, and the hard to reach Juneau. From those satellites God only knows where the LOL retreat will be spoken about and excitement built upon so that the next one will be even bigger. The one next year will need to have more guest speakers over a longer period of time to allow for the maximum dispersal of information, and another night of toasted marshmallows and s’mores wouldn’t be bad either.

Jeremy Johnson
Jerakjohnson@yahoo.com
ATTENTION ADVERTISERS

The new Board of Directors for Identity would like to thank all our advertisers in the Rainbow Borealis for their patience and understanding regarding problems in the recent past regarding the publication of the Rainbow Borealis. Improving the quality and consistency of the Identity newsletter is one of our top priorities.

The following person and location will be your contact point for all advertising questions, ad changes and new ad artwork: Chris Pearson, c/o Stonewall’d 528 E. 5th Avenue (next to Mad Myrna’s) Anchorage, AK 99501, voice (907) 276-1992, fax: (907) 276-1994, e-mail: Stonewall1@att.net (please call for current store hours).

All new ads or changes must be received by the 14th of each month for the next month's publication. Advertising payments are due prior to publication. All advertisements must be submitted camera ready or e-mailed using .jpg or .tif format.

Chris will be in contact with all our advertisers in the next few weeks.

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NEWS from the Human Rights Campaign

HRC UNVEILS NEW REPORT HIGHLIGHTING THE DANGERS OF “EX-GAY” MINISTRIES AND “REPARATIVE” THERAPY

Former “Ex-Gays,” Mental Health Professionals and Community Leaders Speak Out Against Harm Caused by “Ex-Gay” Programs

SAN DIEGO - The Human Rights Campaign today released a new report that reveals the grave psychological damage done to many people who go through the “ex-gay” ministries and “reparative” therapy, which seeks to change a person’s sexual orientation. “Finally Free: How Love and Self-Acceptance Saved Us From the Ex-gay Ministries,” is a landmark publication that features the personal stories of people who have survived the “ex-gay” ministries and have come forward to expose the harm done by these groups, says HRC. “The extreme right-wing pumps resources into deceptive ads that claim gays can change their sexual orientation, but they unconsciously conceal the damage done to many people who enter these failed programs,” said HRC Associate Director of Communications and Finally Free Editor Wayne Besen at the press conference. “Finally Free exposes the ‘ex-gay’ myth and highlights how false and misleading information put out by these groups can place vulnerable people at risk.”

“After five wasted years of lies and deceit, I found the empty promises of ‘ex-gay’ ministries shallow and without foundation,” said Finally Free contributing writer Clint Trout at the press conference. “My mental health was clearly compromised by my attempts to resist my true nature as a gay man. I urge anyone to research the facts before they enter these ministries who lure people with false promises that lead to broken hearts and shattered lives.” Finally Free was released at a press conference in San Diego, the city where Exodus International - the largest “ex-gay” organization - is hosting their annual conference. The publication is intended for use as an educational tool, and to share the truth about the “ex-gay” ministries and “reparative” therapy that the political right does not want the public to hear. Unlike the political right who pay “ex-gays” as much as $65,000 per year for their testimony, no one was paid for their story in Finally Free. The publication hopes to set the record straight on the astronomical, if not complete, failure rate of the “ex-gay” ministries and “reparative” therapy.

A common thread in each essay in Finally Free is how desperately these individuals tried to conform and reject their sexual orientation, says HRC. Methods of change included all-night prayer meetings, exorcisms, fasting, lipstick application seminars for lesbians and endless, expensive sessions with so-called “reparative” therapists. Speakers at the press conference were: Trout, Wulfensmith, Steve Kesel, former “ex-gay,” Dr. Heather Berberet, director of educational and support programs, Lesbian and Gay Men’s Community Center of San Diego; Judy Shaim, San Diego psychotherapist: Joseph Hampton, San Diego youth activist, and HRC’s Besen.

In an effort to counter increased acceptance of gay and lesbian Americans, a coalition of conservative Christian organizations launched a national newspaper ad campaign in 1998 saying that gay people could change their orientation through prayer and the help of “ex-gay” ministries. A similar television campaign debuted in 1999 in Washington, and “ex-gay” who are paid staff at right-wing organizations have lobbied extensively to block legislation that would protect gays and lesbians from discrimination in housing and employment.

“Having served extensive time in an ‘ex-gay’ program, the most change in orientation that can occur has to do only with behavior and not feelings,” said Finally Free contributing writer Catherine Wulfensmith at the press conference. “Today, I am happily married to another woman. I have finally found peace in accepting myself for who I am.” “I wholeheartedly agree with virtually every respected medical and mental health organization when I say that the ‘ex-gay’ ministries can cause
PFLAG
Partnering for Safe Schools

"From Our House to the School House: Families and Educators Partnering for Safe Schools" is a PFLAG nation-wide campaign designed to help local PFLAG groups work in coalition with other groups to ensure that all schools are inclusive and safe for GLBT youth. The Coalition for Safe Schools in Anchorage is up and running. The group is composed of GLSEN and PFLAG members whose current mission is to persuade members of the Anchorage School Board to add "sexual orientation" to its list of protected groups in the anti-discrimination and anti-harassment policies. Sexual orientation discrimination and harassment are prohibited in the Alaska Code of Ethics of the Education Profession; however they are not addressed in the state statutes. Educators jeopardize their licenses if anti-gay harassment and discrimination are ignored. Following the adoption of the aforementioned policy additions, it will be necessary for the district to provide mandatory annual staff training to include information on sexual orientation and strategies for anti-gay bullying intervention. Other aspects of creating a safe environment for GLBT students include policy monitoring and enforcement, curriculum development and library resources. Due to a 1999 Supreme Court decision, schools have a legal responsibility, under Title IX, to protect students from sexual harassment, including sexual orientation, or risk losing federal funds. School districts are also open to lawsuits if they ignore anti-gay harassment.

The national PFLAG and GLSEN organizations have many resources available for use by local groups and school districts in implementing changes to insure safe schools for all. The Coalition is ready to assist the Anchorage School District in the many tasks that lie ahead in establishing a safe and inclusive environment.

Submitted by Jane Schlittler, President
PFLAG/Anchorage
untold harm to people," said Dr. Heather Berberet, director of educational and support programs for the Lesbian and Gay Men's Community Center of San Diego. "Gay men and women who come out in supportive, nurturing environments are just as likely to be happy, productive individuals as anyone else. Unfortunately, the 'ex-gay' ministries and 'reparative' therapists paint a distorted picture of what it means to be gay, at a great psychological cost to those who are caught in their web of misinformation."

The Human Rights Campaign is the nation's largest national lesbian and gay political organization with members throughout the country. HRC effectively lobbies Congress, provides campaign support, and educates the public to ensure that lesbian and gay Americans can be open, honest, and safe at home, at work, and in the community.

919 18th Street, NW, Suite 800
Washington, DC 20006
Email: hrc@hrc.org http://www.hrc.org
Contact: Wayne Besen

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**Food Fairies at the Identity Fourth Friday Potluck**

Each month, we encourage attendees to bring items that may be donated to the Alaskan Aids Assistance Association (4As) for distribution to their clients. Below, please find their Wish list of the kinds of donations they would like to receive. Although anything on the list is gratefully received, there is an emphasis on the “meal-in-a-can” type items, such as the heavy soups and stews. Bring a can or two or perhaps stop by a place like Costco or Sams where they sell four- or six-packs.

**Food**

Fruit Juices, Canned Vegetables, Canned Fruits, Canned Meat (chicken, turkey, ham, etc.), Hearty Soups or Stews, Rice, Pasta/Spaghetti, Tomato Sauce, Peanut Butter, Snack Foods, Nuts, Beans, and Canned Fish (tuna, salmon, etc.).

**Personal Products**

Soap, Toothpaste, Toothbrushes, Deodorant, Mouthwash, Shampoo and Toilet Paper.

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**The Pride Conference Returns**

*Volunteers are needed to make it happen.*

The Alaska Pride Conference 2000: Turning Diversity into Unity will be held October 13th & 14th. Like the past five Pride Conferences, it's going to be lots of fun. We need participation by all parts of our community, in order to make this event a success. If you would like to work on a dance, performance event, workshops, media, set up tables and chairs, or assist with mailings, we need you. If you are interested, please join us at the next meeting, or call for more info: Victoria 275-8763 or Lisa 278-4784
Vermont Civil Unions: Easy as Pie
by Ron Swartz

On July 20 my partner and I stood before a Vermont judge and repeated vows that made us legally a Civil Union. In less than an hour, the process was completed and rings had been exchanged. Our names have been added to the growing numbers of "Vermont License and Certificate of Civil Union's on file. Our goal was to have a personal, private ceremony committing ourselves to each other, while enhancing the statement the GLBT community is making by supporting the process of obtaining the same benefits and protections granted to traditional spouses in a marriage.

For us, a short trip from upstate New York to the beautiful historic town of Bennington, VT got the ball rolling. My gay brother came along as a witness and photographer. We found the town clerk's office just off Main Street and walked up to the counter, saying we would like to apply for a Civil Union. Expecting everyone's head to turn to check us out, instead we were welcomed to step into the office and sit down to fill out the required application form. Boxes were filled-in about our names, addresses, and parents, and the signed form was handed over with two $10 bills. In minutes the assistant town clerk had typed up a certificate while we searched the phone listings for a clergyman to do the ceremony. Not finding what we were looking for in the telephone book, we asked the clerk to find a justice to perform the ceremony. Soon we were given directions to a judge's home!

At her house, Justice Corcoran asked where we would like to do the ceremony. We chose her beautiful back deck, and nervously we stood side by side in bright sunlight and fragrant floral shrubbery listening as she read pre-printed vows prepared by the State of Vermont. After the "I wills", my partner and I exchanged gold rings and were pronounced a Civil Union! My brother was so in awe of the proceedings that he forgot to take pictures, so we re-enacted the ring exchange for him. On our way out of the residence, a lesbian couple from Kentucky was waiting for their turn at legal recognition of their union!

Vermont's Civil Union law went into effect on July 1, 2000. The lieutenant governor's website (www.sec.state.vt.us/pubs/civilunions.htm) lists 27 "legal consequences" of a civil union, and answers questions that commonly come to mind. If you, as an Alaskan resident, wish to have a legal Civil Union, Vermont requires that you apply for a license from any town clerk. Vermonters must go to the clerk in their town of residence. You must then deliver the license to a Vermont judge, justice of the peace, or member of the clergy for certification. That official must perform a ceremony and complete the certification within 60 days. Within ten days of certification, the official must return it to the town clerk. Our certified copy of the license was in our Anchorage mailbox before we returned home! While our "real" wedding, with all friends and family will be held in Alaska some time in the future, we are happy to have been able to participate in the process in the only state where same-sex unions have been legalized.

Bi-male Retreat

The first ever major bi conference and quality bi-male weekend retreat for bisexual and bi-curious MEN only.

Have a look and check your calendars! This is a one and only NOT to miss - one of a kind event - coming soon this FALL.

Information about the "Men's Awareness Conference" this October 27-29th in San Diego, CA USA.

http://www.bisexual.org/pages/newconf/sdsandiego/
BRAISED CHICKEN CURRY WITH YAMS

Canola oil
2 pounds chicken legs and thighs
2 large white onions, chopped
1 tablespoon minced garlic
1 tablespoon minced ginger
1/3 cup madras curry powder
1 banana
2 bay leaves
4 cups chicken stock
3 large yams, peeled and chopped
Salt and black pepper to taste

In a hot stockpot coated with oil, season the chicken and brown all sides.

Put chicken aside. In the same stock pot, remove chicken fat, leaving only a coating of oil and sauté onions, garlic and ginger. Caramelize well, then add the curry powder. Mix quickly for 2 minutes making sure not to burn the curry powder. Add back the chicken, banana bay leaves and chicken stock.

Check for seasoning. Bring to a boil and simmer slowly for 1 1/2 to 2 hours.

During the last 30 minutes of cooking, add the yams. Serve on white rice or with toasted pita bread.

Yield: 4 servings
daughter of a gay family speaks out
By Sophie Butigan

My mom is gay. Always has been, as far as I'm concerned. It's not strange, or weird. I have always had a loving family, more loving than most, from what I hear. I grew up in the lesbian community, which is just like growing up in any other community, except that you have more aunts.

In elementary school, a lot of my friends had gay parents. My teachers knew about my mom, but to most people, my mom's partner was just "our family friend." I wasn't ashamed of my mom, but I knew that I would get teased if word got out. So I didn't talk about it.

I came into my first contact with the word "gay" as a derogatory remark in Junior High. Kids would talk about how "there's really nothing wrong with it," and then ten minutes later be saying how an assignment was "gay" because it was too long or it required a bibliography. Since when do bibliographies have anything to do with sexual orientation, I wondered.

Now I'm in high school. This year, a friend of mine and I started a Gay-Straight Alliance at our school. Not because there are more than about two people who are actually gay in our school, but because the majority of the population of our school is highly homophobic, despite what they may say.

Most of the people have a sort of morbid curiosity about "what those people in that gay club do." Well, we talk, watch movies, and try to get people to think about what they're saying. When we watch movies, people will come in at the point when there are two men kissing, and say "Eww!!! Those are both guys! That's disgusting!" and then they stay for the rest of the movie. Go figure.

These days there are lots of right-wingers trying to say if gay people could get married, well, then (god forbid) they might have kids, and the kids would be mentally scarred. Sometimes I want to challenge them: "Say it to my face. Not through the newspaper or your mail pamphlets, or your TV commercials. Say to my face that I am permanently screwed up. That I will never be a 'normal' person despite the fact that my mom is a happy, capable, loving person. Tell me that." But I haven't. I don't know why. But someday, I will.

Sophie Butigan is 15 years old, and is entering her Sophomore year at Steller Alternative School. She is an artist, musician and writer. This article was submitted to the GLSEN essay contest in April of this year.

living out loud retreat: my experience

By Andrew, age 19

The Living Out Loud conference was a great experience for me as an individual. I sometimes have a difficult time getting to know people, and being in a positive atmosphere with other GLBTQ youth made it easy for me to meet people. I also feel that it was extremely informative. There were workshops on communication, relationships, and GLBT history, these workshops were both interesting and thought provoking. Because I am not completely out in the community; the conference made me feel much more connected with other GLBTQ youth - dynamic youth!

This retreat accomplished a great deal of objectives - as planned. In one way or another, I know that not only I got something out of it but that each person left with something to hold on to. Gaining greater confidence was my main for that weekend. I can honestly say that the confidence I was looking for was instilled by the workshops and by the bonds that were formed with the other youths. Consequently I've gained a greater security about myself because of the new friendships that were developed. I highly recommend the organization of another conference, because from one, who was not very involved in the GLBTQ community, it was a great tool for meeting people and developing lasting friendships.
July 25, 2000

RE: Letter of Resignation as Co-Chair to Identity Inc.

Please accept this letter as my notice, effective immediately, to resign from the board of directors of Identity Inc. This has not been an easy decision to make but I believe that I no longer possess the time required to carry out the duties of this position due to the press of my current job. I believe that Identity would be better served by someone who could commit more time and resources to the organization than I can currently provide.

I would like to also take this opportunity to thank each and every board member for their hard work and dedication to the organization. As board members you have accomplished many things. As board members, you have brought back from the ashes our monthly magazine that is the organization’s primary revenue source. In addition, you have maintained all critical functions of the organization in the face of a high turn over rate by other board members who filled the treasury, secretary, helpline coordinator and important board positions.

Although I will be resigning from the board, I plan on continuing my membership in Identity and providing my assistance as a volunteer to the organization when the opportunity presents itself.

Good luck and best wishes.

Sincerely,

Bill Wilks
never knew my life could change over the course of one weekend, but going to the Living Out Loud retreat changed my life forever. On Friday, I entered the retreat a very insecure, quiet, shy and reserved person and left Sunday confident, empowered and more flaming than the human torch. I can't even describe how scared I was when I arrived at the retreat; I didn't know anyone, I thought I would have nothing in common with these people, and secretly hoped that people would talk to me first. I kept thinking, "What if they don't like me" and other self-pitying thoughts like that. After about forty-five minutes of hiding in the corner, I forced myself to introduce myself to others because this weekend was, after all, about building unity within our community, making new friends and finding the leaders inside of us. So I thought why not and I took a chance. To my surprise, everyone was very warm and friendly and before I knew it I was knee-deep in conversations.

Over the course of the weekend, we had various workshops and discussions about breaking stereotypes, building leadership skills, and learning better ways of communicating with others. During these workshops, I got to know some people, not very well, but it was in these discussions where some people opened up and showed their souls. It was during our free time, however, where I started really talking to people and getting to know them - while also starting to get to know myself. I don't think I will ever forget the Friday night where a bunch of us stayed up until 5 a.m. or later talking about anything and everything around the bonfire. During those precious hours, our masks that we always wear came off and we say each other as we really are: gentle and passionate human beings. I was very surprised that everyone at the retreat acted the way they did. I was expecting (from previous retreat experiences) close-mindedness, attitudes and very few friendly faces. From the second I arrived there, people were introducing themselves and it made the atmosphere very easy-going. I started talking to people after a period of hesitation and I even made a couple of friends in the process. One person I don't think I'll ever be able to forget is Natalie (who I have to say has a beautiful singing voice). She was a bit shy, but I had a wonderful conversation with her over the weekend and she was one of the few that I feel I connected with.

I met so many amazing people over the weekend and each one of them allowed me to glimpse the real them. It was talking with Fken that make the weekend really powerful. In the group discussion he led, we talked about relationships, love, intimacy, building trust and how to communicate efficiently. After the group discussion, a couple of cigarettes and a lot of alone time, my entire thinking process was changing. It was like the barrier that kept me from emerging from adolescence to adulthood was broken. When I left Sunday, I felt like I had shed my skin and out rose a brand new me who was more matured, had an idea of who I was and broke all the restrictions I had placed on myself. I felt empowered and that nothing can knock me down since I've made it this far and I'm still alive and kicking.

This retreat was the pinnacle turning point in my life because I finally was at peace with myself and comfortable in my new skin. I have to thank Victoria for inviting me to the retreat, Troy and Jeremy for listening to me when I really needed to talk, and Fken for helping me put things in my life into perspective and realize things I never knew about myself. Thank you to all of you and to everyone who made this retreat possible. I know everyone didn't come out of this weekend feeling the same way I did, but I just have to let everyone know how special the retreat was to me and that I patiently await the next one.
The Power of Words

By Nancy Blake

We've all heard and/or used the terms above, as well as many other terms, too numerous to list! Similar to music and clothing, it seems that terminology also goes in and out of fashion. It can be terribly frustrating to "keep up" with all of the changes...and what's the big deal anyway???

There is power in words, as well as history. For example, the term "handicapped" was coined years ago when people with disabilities were considered to be non-productive members of society. Consequently, they were sentenced to a life of vagrancy, begging for money with a cap in hand. With such a history, it is easy to understand why such offense is taken to the use of such a word.

Preconceived notions continue to shatter as formally "impossible" feats are achieved. Mountains are climbed by a man who has paralysis of the lower body. Races are run by a ten-year-old who has both legs amputated. Our language needs to reflect these changing values.

A simple practice for inclusive language is to put the person first. For example, replace a "disabled person" with a "person with a disability." Instead of saying "wheelchair-bound" or "confined to a wheelchair," both of which are inaccurate and insulting, it would be more appropriate to say, "a person who uses a wheelchair." Furthermore, is it really a "handicapped" parking space? As its value is in its accessibility, wouldn't "accessible" describe it better? This also holds true for those larger bathroom stalls.

Language is dynamic and individual. What is so wonderful about reading poetry or discovering a new author is the enjoyment of the writer's "style." The choice of words and the phrasing create a mood and convey a message. There is no single, "right" way to express oneself.

However, let's not forget the power of our words, and the messages we convey by our own choice of words.

Corrections

The regular monthly meeting of PFLAG Anchorage is NOT moving to Immanuel Presbyterian Church. That meeting, the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 7:00pm, will remain at AUUF, 3201 Turnagain Street.
Pride Conference

The Pride Conference Committee in Anchorage is geared up for an eventful October. October is GLBTQ History month as well as National Coming Out Day (October 11th). Identity Inc. is working with the Pride Conference Committee to help plan events for the entire month in celebration of GLBTQ History month.

So far, two events are planned. We hope (with your help) to have something happening every weekend in October. Smaller events, meetings, or gatherings may even happen during the week. Alaskan For Civil Rights (ACR) will be hosting workshops focusing on political issues, as will the Stonewall Democrats. We are inviting all clubs, groups, and organizations to host an event.

To kick off the month’s festivities, a new event (maybe to become an annual occurrence?) called Unity In Our Community will be held on Saturday October 7, from 7:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m., at the Wendy Williamson Auditorium on the UAA campus. Unity In Our Community will be a large-scale performance venue, similar to Celebration of Change that the women’s community has been holding for many years, only with performers of all genders and from all aspects of our GLBTQ community. We are looking for some performers still, especially those from outside of the Anchorage area and gay and lesbian youth under 25. There will be limits to the type of performances (i.e. only X# of singers, X# of drag, X# of bands, X# of poetry readers, X# of comedy skits, etc.) to ensure variety of performances.

The Alaska Pride Conference 2000: Turning Diversity Into Unity will be held the next weekend - October 13, 14, & 15. There will be a large kick-off potluck and entertainment on Friday evening. Workshops will be held all day Saturday and possibly Sunday morning. We may have more performers/speakers on Saturday evening. There may also be a dance held either Friday or Saturday night. Events are still being planned. Keynote speaker and other details will be announced as soon as they are finalized.

Any suggestions or questions regarding the conference or for any other events you would like to see occur during the rest of the month are appreciated and should be directed to akpride2000@yahoo.com or 907-275-8763.
Out North 16th Season 2000-2001

Friday, September 1 at 7pm (*First Friday* event)
SEASON ANNOUNCEMENT PARTY
with music by Parallax1 and Malaka; open house of Media Arts Lab, video preview of season. Special one-night-only discounts on season subscriptions will be available at this event, so bring your checkbook or Visa/MasterCard.
www.parallax1.com
FREE ADMISSION

Saturday, September 9 at 7pm
FILMS FROM APPALACHIA:
Justice in the Coalfields, Tragedy at Johnson Fork, Whoa Mule!
Maxine Kenny from Appalachian cultural center in rural Kentucky will introduce a program of films about life in Appalachia, and talk about an exchange being developed with Alaskan artists and communities.
www.appalshop.org
Admission: $2 at the door. High School students FREE with school ID.

Friday, September 22 at 7pm
Saturday, September 23 at 7pm
KAREN FINLEY: "SHUT UP AND LOVE ME"
Ms. Magazine's Woman of the Year, and Coagula Arts Journal's Artist of the Decade, performance artist Karen Finley creates outrageous and hilarious one-woman shows as powerful expressions of anger, hatred, anguish and black comedy covering such issues as sexism, homophobia, AIDS, racism, political hypocrisy and corruption. Her work was labeled "obscene" by U.S. Senator Jesse Helms and landed her before the U.S. Supreme Court in Finley v. NEA. In her Alaska debut Finley will explore the exploitive, darker, and exhilarating aspects of sexuality. Don't miss the opportunity to see this controversial internationally-acclaimed artist!
http://seattlepi.nwsource.com/visualart/finq.shtml
Tickets (only 99 seats per night!) available only from Out North: 279-8200

Saturday, September 7 at 7pm
SNEAK PREVIEW: MILLENNIUM VIDEO
Young Alaskans - including Queer youth -- have been working on the creation of a video with New York video artist Jocelyn Taylor. Audience feedback is encouraged for this work-in-progress.
www.artistsandcommunities.org
FREE ADMISSION

Friday, October 10 from 5pm to 7pm
ARTIST RECEPTION: UNRAVELLING by TINA TATUM
Sculptures, acrylic paintings, chalk drawings and mixed media by Alaskan artist Tina Tatum explore how family, community, mass media, politics and religion contribute to the unraveling of American culture.
FREE ADMISSION
Gallery exhibit runs through October 28; call 279-8200 for hours.

Saturday, October 14 at 7pm
FILMS FROM APPALACHIA:
The Big Lever, Reaching for a Higher Ground, Judge Wooten and Coon on a Log.
www.appalshop.org
Admission: $2 at the door. High School students FREE with school ID.

Tuesday, October 17 at 7pm
PREVIEW: THE UNRAVELLING OF EDISON P. RUPRIGHT
A dark comedy by Amy Bridges and Erin Williams.
First seen as a one-act multi-media solo performance in last season's UNDER 30, this new two-act version expands the satirical look at characters surrounding and shaping a boy who blows up his school.
Admission: $5 at the door. High School students FREE with school ID.

Thursday, October 19 at 7pm
Friday, October 20 at 7pm
Saturday, October 21 at 7pm
Thursday, October 26 at 7pm
Friday, October 27 at 7pm
Saturday, October 28 at 7pm
PREMIERE: THE UNRAVELLING OF EDISON P. RUPRIGHT
A dark comedy by Amy Bridges and Erin Williams.
First seen as a one-act multi-media solo performance in last season's UNDER 30, this new two-act version expands the satirical look at characters surrounding and shaping a boy who blows up his school.
Tickets available only from Out North: 279-8200

Out North Contemporary Art House
1325 Primrose, Anchorage AK 99508
Box Office: 279-8200 email@outnorth.org

Out North Contemporary Art House is located in east Anchorage in the blue and green building at Primrose and DeBarr, one block west of Bragaw.

Out North, a nonprofit arts, education, and community development organization, is Alaska's host for Artists & Communities: America Creates for the Millennium. Out North is funded in part by the Municipality of Anchorage, Alaska State Council on the Arts, Alaska Community Share, Western States Arts Federation, Mid Atlantic Arts Foundation, National Performance Network, National Endowment for the Arts, John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation, and the Diana, Princess of Wales Memorial Fund (U.S.)
AGB is a monthly potluck for gay and bisexual men. For more information please contact A_G_B_@yahoo.com or 272-5608.

AKPRIDE is working to build a community center in Anchorage. If you are interested in doing the work to make the community center happen, or donating funds, contact us c/o Identity, Inc.: 258-4777 or identity@alaska.net

Alaskans for Civil Rights (ACR)
A locally organized and operated statewide political organization dedicated to obtaining full civil rights for lesbians, gay, bisexual, transgender, polyamorous, and intersexual people in all aspects of personal and public life. P.O. Box 240751, Anchorage, Alaska, 99524 (907)566-ACR1 AlaskansforCivilRights@yahoo.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

Alaska Gay/Lesbian Association (UAF student organization) - c/o Student Activities Box 4/Wood Center/University of Alaska, Fairbanks 99775. (907) 474-1136 <fbagla@uaf.edu>. Web site <http://www.uaf.edu/agla>

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, Anchorage. 349-9955

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

Breakeven Productions:
Has been bringing up lesbian performers from around the country since 1987. Vickie Shaw a comic from Texas will be performing September 30. For all those who missed the Commonbond concert last March... Mark your calendars for November 18. Both shows will be at UAA's Arts Bldg. Rm 150. For more information about these upcoming events or Breakeven productions, call 277-5630 or akpups@alaska.net

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. 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
clubs, groups, organizations

EQUAL, Inc. - Keeps the community informed about political and legal events which have an effect on the GLBT community, 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. In Anchorage call Dan Carter at 274-9226 or e-mail at AlaskanDan@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 (UAA Student Club)
The Family hosts discussion groups, potlucks, and various other social, political, and awareness activities. You DO NOT have to be a UAA student to attend and many that do attend UAA are non-traditional students. 258-4777 or e-mail <uaa_the_family@yahoo.com>.

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

Identity Helpline
Information and Referrals
Gay/Lesbian/Bi-sexual/Transgender community resources

(907) 258-4777/(888) 901-9876
(Toll-Free) Statewide Alaska

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

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

Gay and Lesbian HelpLine
Sponsored by Identity, Inc., this information and referral line is answered daily from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. The HelpLine is staffed by 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 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>.

GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network)
Anchorage: Membership is confidential. We welcome educators and non-educator allies who are interested in the problems of GLBT youth in our public schools. For meeting times or more information call Fred, 562-7161 or <fhillman@alaska.net>. Fairbanks: Meets third Tuesday, 5 p.m., 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, the Rainbow Borealis, 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, and program at 7:30pm. Call 258-4777 for more information, or visit the Identity web page at www.alaska.net/identity.

Imperial Court of All Alaska (ICOAA)
A social group that contributes to our community by being active in many causes. P.O. Box 104032 Anchorage, Alaska 99510-4032. Current Monarchs: Emperor XXVII Dennis at Myrna’s or call Empress Silva Stone (907) 245-0302 Coronation activities begin August 26 with voting. Contact Rand at 223-3699 <randthornsley@aol.com> for more info on Coronation.

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. &
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 or milt@alaska.net

OLOC (Old Lesbians Organizing for Change) & Travel 50 Two groups for women over 50. osebethlevno@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: 279-8099, box office: 279-8200, fax: 279-8100, or write: email@outnorth.org

PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays) of Anchorage holds its monthly meeting at 7:00pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship AUUF, 3201 Turnagain Street. Call 566-1813 for a recorded message.

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.

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

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, Alaska 99802-2655. 463-5665, 1-800-478-AIDS (2437)

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 566-GAYS

S.T.O.P AIDS PROJECT – Center for Drug Problems Provides education and outreach specific to injection drug users and their sexual partners regarding HIV/AIDS prevention. Free anonymous HIV testing is provided on a walk-in basis, Mondays and Wednesdays from 1-4pm. Anchorage. 278-5019

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" - Saturday, October 7th, is a community-wide performance event showcasing talent in our community. We are looking for men and women to help organize this evening of song, poetry, dance, comedy, and anything else we can think of! Please call or e-mail victoriainalaska@hotmail.com or 275-8763.
organizations, volunteer opportunities...

Women's Music Fest - happens the weekend of July 4th. Contact Dena Ivy at <ivey@mosquitoonet.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>.

publications

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

The Anchorage Press This is an alternative weekly paper that is not focused on the GLBT community but is friendly. They have a large personals section and can be contacted at 561-7737.

The Klondyke Kontakt (The KK) This is a every-other-monthly newsletter by and for the lesbian community in Anchorage and dykes in the Bush. For more information e-mail at kk@gci.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 586-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 local articles, and editorials. Writers, editors, graphic artists, cartoonists, people with opinions (who can write them down) folders and mailers are all needed to make this publication happen each month. Articles 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.

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 This is an opportunity to discuss gay issues relevant to Alaska. Primarily an online discussion forum.

Alaska GLBT News alaskaglbtnews@yahoo.com. A state-wide e-mail notification service distributing news and information about upcoming events of interest to the Alaska GLBT community. To receive these notices or to submit an item for distribution, contact alaskaglbtnews@yahoo.com

National and political GLBT news Landmark case decisions and other newsworthy announcements from national organizations. To be placed on this list send an e-mail to bsara@gci.net

Girlz 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 aktrangster@hotmail.com.
events...

Ongoing Events (Statwide)

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, 566-1113
(A) PFLAG, 3rd Thursday, 7-9 pm, AUUF
(A) Frontrunners: Run or walk, meet at Westchester Lagoon, 6:30pm 337-3683 or
   anchoragefrontrunners@hotmail.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
(J) Social at Summit Lounge, after work.
(J) "Women's Prerogative,"
   KTOO-FM, Wednesdays, 9-10 pm.
(J) Damas on the Dial, KSUA-FM 91.5, 10 pm - midnight.

THURSDAYS
(A) SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous),
   5:30 pm, Unitarian Church, 566-1113.
(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, 3020
   Minnesota (Z-Piazza) & Benson.
(A) THE FAMILY, 7 Campus Center Room 105.
(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) Socializing and Dancing at Club G, mixed crowd,
   9 pm-3:30 am, 150 Farmer's Loop.
(F) Arctic Bears Meet first Friday, call 479-8680
(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, 566-1113.
(A) Frontrunners: Run or walk, meet at Westchester Lagoon,
   6:30pm 337-3683 or anchoragefrontrunners@hotmail.com
(J) PFLAG First Saturday of each month, 10:30 am to
   12:30 pm in the Mendenhall Library conference room.
(A) Women's Coffeehouse, 2nd Saturday,
   751-7234 for information.
(F) Socializing and Dancing at Club G, mixed crowd,
   9 pm-3:30 am, 150 Farmer's Loop.

SUNDAYS
(A) Metropolitan Community Church Services, 2pm 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

IDENTITY, Inc.'s
FOURTH FRIDAY POTLUCK
September 22, 2000 Program:
LIVING OUT LOUD IN 2000
GLBTQA Youth in Alaska

At the September potluck, Identity board memeber,
Victoria Shaver will host an evening of youthful per-
spectives. Members of the GLBTQA youth community
will join Victoria and share a multi-media show
of GLBTQA youth in Alaska.

As usual, Food Faries can bring canned food and non
perishable items to be dontated to the 4A's. The pot-
luck is at the Unitarian Universalist Church, doors
open at 6:30, potluck starts at 7 pm, and the presenta-
tion is 7:30-8:30 pm. All are welcome.

Call 258-4777 or e-mail identity@alaska.net
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<th>SUN</th>
<th>MON</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>Hospitality Suite</td>
<td>Noon: Lunch at 4-A’s</td>
<td>Gay Day at the State FairWear pride colors</td>
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<td>hosted by TLFMC@Sheraton Anchorage</td>
<td>for clients, families &amp; volunteers. (every Fri.)</td>
<td>Noon - Closing</td>
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<td>MCC Service</td>
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<td>Frontrunners: Meet at Westchester Lagoon 6:30pm run or walk (every Tues.)</td>
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<td>2:00 p.m. Immanuel Presbyterian Church 2311 Pembroke</td>
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<td>(every Sun.) Coronation 8pm @ Sheraton</td>
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<td>10</td>
<td>Pride Conference Planning Meeting</td>
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<td>Northern Exposure Bowling Sign-up &amp; Registration 3 pm 276-7967</td>
<td>Frontrunners: Meet at Westchester Lagoon 10 a.m. run or walk (every Sat.)</td>
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<td>4:30-6:30 p.m. 1236 Redwood Ct. 278-4784</td>
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<td>PFLAG</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>HIV/AIDS Advocacy Training Register by 9/15 263-2048</td>
<td>Identity, Inc. 4th Friday Potluck 6:30p.m. AUUF 3201 Turnagain St.</td>
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<td>7:00 p.m. AUUF 3201 Turnagain St. Call 566-1813 for a recorded message</td>
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<td>Identity Board Meeting</td>
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<td>PFLAG Bd. Mtg. 7:30 p.m. Immanuel Presbyterian 2311 Pembroke St. 566-1813</td>
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**October**

identity