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The North View continues to seek volunteers to write articles, columns, reviews, and stories, and to help with layout, editing, and distribution.

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

All articles must be received by the 10th of the month for inclusion in the North View dated the following month (i.e. by March 10, we’ll need April information).

The North View
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Identity, Inc. is searching for creative people to help produce Alaska's Gay & Lesbian News Magazine, the northVIEW.

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This ad provided by Jan Carolyn Hardy of New Realities Counseling. 248-5933
This is my last issue of the NorthView as designer and editor. My work over the last thirteen months has been a significant achievement for me, fulfilling a goal I had made not long before I started. I hope that my work has also been useful to those of you who read the NorthView, but I must admit that my intentions in taking on the job were mostly selfish.

You see, I wished to more actively cultivate my spiritual side. And by spiritual I do not mean coming to know God (whatever that means), or studying religious text in search of the Truth, or even burning sage somewhere in thanks to the almighty Earth-Mother. I simply wanted more purpose in my life. The maxim, "You help yourself by helping others," made the most sense to me and I decided to volunteer.

I chose to do this within the GLBT community here because, well, because there isn't much of a GLBT community here. I am constantly surprised at how many gay men and lesbians are reluctant to identify with a queer community. All those ultra-independent dykes and straight-acting fags have no use for one, I guess.

It has been a privilege to serve my community as editor of the NU but it has also become too much work for one person. It is difficult to find dedicated people to help with the production, and besides, do we really need a GLBT magazine? The answer to that question is up to you. By not becoming active in your community you allow others to define it. There is a handful of over-burdened people in Anchorage who are making decisions for all the queers who live here.

I will continue to volunteer within my community in other ways, and I encourage each and every one of you to get more involved. It is impossible to know what impact your contribution will make but if you don't do it for others, then do it for yourself. I don't know how much good, if any, my time at the NU has done, but it has brought me a good deal of personal satisfaction - and that's what I mean by spiritual.

Brian A. Ridder
Editor
His Story: Alan Turing

by Brian A. Ridder

It is difficult today to imagine life without computers. And for many it is just as difficult to imagine life without the freedoms gay and lesbians enjoy today. October is Gay and Lesbian History Month, an achievement that ninety years ago was not only unimaginable, but also unthinkable. It was into this world, on June 23, 1912, that Alan Turing was born at 2 Warrington Crescent, London.

Turing was a bright but socially awkward child whose parents worked and lived in India during most of his early years. He and an older brother were raised by family friends and when old enough, enrolled in preparatory school. Turing had mixed success as a student, struggling in subjects such as English and too preoccupied with his own ideas to achieve high grades in mathematics. Even so, he still managed to win every possible mathematics prize during the later years of his public education.

When Turing was sixteen he became fast friends with an older student named Christopher Morcom. The two shared a fascination with science and mathematics and the young Turing was relieved to find someone who could share his passion for ideas with. The relationship lasted only two years due to Morcom's early death due to tuberculosis. Turing was heartbroken, no doubt, and as an outspoken atheist he was unnerved by a premonition of Morcom's death he had had at the very instant his friend was taken ill. Of this he said, "It is not difficult to explain these things away - but, I wonder!"

Turing described his years with Morcom as the happiest of his life. This was perhaps the beginning of Turing's realization that he was homosexual. His premonition of his friend's death also inspired a life-long fascination with the human mind. Although competent in biology and chemistry, Turing was primarily a mathematician and he created work in this field that mirrored his interest in the complex functions of the brain.

At Cambridge University Turing found a greater acceptance of his eccentricities and original thinking. And it was while he was a graduate student here that he published a paper that introduced a theory for a machine he naturally called the Turing Machine. This machine, he claimed, could move from one stage to another using a precise finite set of rules (given by a finite table) and depending on a single symbol or series of symbols it would read from a tape. The machine could add or erase symbols from this tape, the symbols added would make up the answer or task, and the ones discarded were rough notes that were used to assist the machines "memory".

The symbols Turing used were the numbers one and zero. These numbers described the steps that needed to be done to solve a particular problem or perform a certain task. Sound familiar? It should. In 1936 Alan Turing published a paper that held the blueprint for the modern digital computer.

During the Second World War Turing accepted an invitation to work for the British Government in its Department of Communications. Here he was able test some of his theories in an attempt to decipher codes used by the Germans and their infamous Enigma Machine which was able to generate a constantly changing type of Morse code. His mathematical skill proved invaluable and Turing and his colleagues had much success as code-breakers. This work was top-secret which required Turing to have the highest of security clearances and not even his family and friends were allowed to know of his contribution to the war effort. Turing continued to assist his government in this way as the so-called Cold War presented many of the same problems in military surveillance and intelligence gathering.

continued on next page ....
His Story, cont'd.

Turing also went on to work with the National Physical Laboratory in developing the Automatic Computing Engine, one of the first attempts at creating a true digital computer. He began to look more closely into the relationship between computers and nature. He published a paper focusing on the physical structure of living things, raising the question of why organisms developed into particular shapes with particular functions. He searched for nature’s own blueprint, or series of symbols that determined an organism’s growth and function. Turing believed that machines could be built that would mimic the functions of the human brain and introduced the concept of artificial intelligence.

Turing’s ideas were not widely accepted during his lifetime and the realization of his ideas while he was alive would certainly be considered crude by today’s standards. Turing, however, never doubted his beliefs and saw an infinite potential in his theories about artificial intelligence. He never lost his sense of humor, either, claiming, “One day ladies will take their computers for walks in the park and tell each other, ‘My little computer said such a funny thing this morning!’”

Alan Turing did lose hope, though. In 1952, while police were investigating a burglary at his home, Turing admitted to a sexual relationship with a man who he thought might know the identity of the person responsible for the crime. After this confession the police dropped the burglary investigations and instead charged Turing with gross indecency, homosexual activity being a felony crime at the time.

Turing’s only defense was that he saw nothing wrong with his sexual orientation. The British Court saw it differently and gave him two choices: time in jail, or a year’s worth of estrogen injections. The female hormone “therapy” was believed to curb the male sex drive, and not wanting to spend time behind bars, Turing opted for this.

His conviction meant that Turing lost his government security clearance and the scandal meant that work would be more and more difficult to find. The court awarded punishment was humiliating to Turing who, furious, told a friend, “I’m growing breasts!”

On June 7, 1954, Alan Turing committed suicide by eating an apple laced with cyanide. He was 41.

People often talk about the need to study history in order to prevent the same mistakes from happening again and again. History, they say, is a lesson to be learned, but I’m not so sure. After all, human beings keep fighting wars — again and again. Some lessons are hard to learn, I guess. History to me is not so much a hard lesson as it is an elaborate story. Gay and Lesbian History Month is a reminder to tell the stories of those who came before us, but who are, in many ways, still with us. Alan Turing’s story ends in tragedy, but his legacy does not have to.

Imagine a world without the safety of online chat rooms. Imagine a world where loving a person of the same gender will get you a year’s worth of hormone injections. Imagine a world where nature is considered perversion. Sound familiar? It should. The story of Alan Turing is unfolding still. Stories inspire imagination and imagination, I believe, is more important than knowledge. The lesson here? Dare to imagine a world we deserve.
Pride Conference

Queer University 2002

Q.U. will take place Saturday, October 12 on the UAA Campus from 9AM to 6PM. This year’s theme is Building a Strong and Healthy Community. Queer University will feature 26 workshops and keynote speeches by Roosevelt Mosby, Executive Director of the Sexual Minority Alliance of Alameda County (SMACC) and Maria Elena Dell Valle of the Support Center for Nonprofit Management in New York.

The price for the Conference is $20 for those over 21 and $5 for those under 21. The price includes admission to all workshops and keynotes and a continental breakfast and lunch. Scholarships are available for an exchange of two hours work at the Conference.

Also, on Friday, October 11, Identity Inc will join with Adam-and-Steve to sponsor Fiesta, a community-wide Latin-themed potluck and party at UAA.

Fiesta starts at 6PM and will include entertainment, dancing, great food, piñatas, and much more. Plan to attend this FREE event and to bring a Latin-themed dish to share.

Registration forms will be available at the GLCCA, the Four-As offices, and many more locations starting September 10. For more information, call Conference Director, Pete Gregson at 263-2048.

Queer University - Alaska Pride Conference 2002 is a project of Identity, Incorporated and is proudly cosponsored by the Pride Foundation, the Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association, and The Family at UAA.

This year will include a special set of workshops for educators presented by GLSEN and PFLAG, workshops for HIV Prevention Providers, and workshops on many topics of interest for all members of the GLBT community. Workshop titles include:

- Master Daters
- Body Image in Queer Culture
- Creating the Whole GLBT Person: Integrating the Physical, Mental, Spiritual, and Social
- Ozzie and Harriet: Have We Gone Too Far?
- Under 21: Queer 101 for the Next Generation
- Pillow Talk: Talking to Your Partners About Sex and many more...
In Our Community

by Ron Swartz

Frank Tano is an intelligent young man from Palmer who aspires to be a professional comic. He commutes regularly to Anchorage for his work and to be with his partner. Here are his responses to some of my questions. His style is unique enough that I have chosen not to rewrite our interview into a feature story format...

Ron: Where did you grow up, Frank?
Frank: For the first bit of my life, I was an Army Brat. My father was an M.P. in the Army. We did our fair share of moving around. I hated it. Good friends were always moving away and when they weren't, I was. There were some good things that came out of it though. I have a younger sister and we are the best friends in the whole world. We were each other's only constants after each move. So, that's one good that came from being an Army Brat. The other was getting to be around all those uniform.

In 1984, my father got stationed in Anchorage at Ft. Richardson. My folks liked Alaska so much that they decided to make it home. I remember how I was told. It was my birthday and I had come home and my folks had got me a hamster. I had always wanted one, but they told me that we couldn't get one because it wasn't the kind of pet we could take with us when Dad would have to be reassigned to a new base. Seeing the hamster in my room clued me in that we had found a home. Shortly thereafter, my folks moved the family out to Palmer and I have been there ever since.

Ron: Where did you go to college?
Frank: I attended the University of Puget Sound in Tacoma, WA. I had plans of becoming a veterinarian. I love animals and thought that being able to treat them would be the coolest thing in the world. Besides, doctors in scrubs and lab coats are sexy. I didn't take well to chemistry and I needed quite a bit of it for Vet school. I turned my learning to more general biology with the hopes of maybe going into wilderness biology. I graduated from U.P.S. with a BS in Biology. I am not using that degree now but I don't regret ever going to that school. The people I met there were instrumental in forming the man that you see today.

Ron: Do you have a coming-out story?
Frank: Where to start? I know the date exactly. It was March 23rd, 1998. I was working at Wal-Mart at the time and I had been paying quite a bit of attention to a co-worker of the same sex all shift, the shift before, the shift before that, when I was asleep, when I was awake, you get the idea. It was on that day in March that I finally decided to face the fact that the thoughts that I was having were not normal for a straight guy. I was quite methodical in my coming out. I blame my background in science. My first step was to build a support network of people I could talk to. So, I chose a few of my friends who I knew would not have a problem with my new found discovery. When that task was done, I spent some time trying to figure out what it meant to be gay. This took almost a whole year. In that time I came out to my family who were quite accepting. My sister thought it was cool, my mother, a phase, and my father well he didn't speak to me for a 24 hour period, but he eventually came around. The same with my mom. She no longer thinks it is a phase.

By year two, I had to start dealing with being happy with who I was. It was a rough year. I made some bad choices near the end of that year. I had yet to actually socialize in the gay community so I was feeling quite alone and starting to get desperate. Near the end of year two, things were looking bad. I was beginning to show clinical signs of depression and only the worst seemed ahead of
me. My friends, the support network I built in my first year were all telling me the same thing. I had to get out and meet people GAY PEOPLE. So I did.

Year three was dubbed the year of social interaction. Always planning ahead, I decided that "Romantic" encounters would be slotted for year four. Silly me. Things don't always quite go as planned. Coming out to the community caused a landslide of events in my life that I don't think I could ever have been prepared for.

My first gay event was the Memorial Day Eklutna Picnic. I was surprised to learn that one of the largest gay social events in Alaska was held just fifteen minutes away from my home. I was surprised at the number of people that were there. I didn't talk to anyone though. Just sort of wandered around. My next events were Pride On The Parkstrip: 2000 and the Gay Anchorage pageant at Mad Myrna's where I met the fabulous Kristara for the first time. I still managed to lose myself in the crowd and avoid socially interacting.

My next event was the Identity's Fourth Friday Potluck. It looked like it would be the social mixer I was looking for. It was held in a basement and I imagined that it wasn't the sort of event that drew a massive crowd that I could hide in. I would be FORCED to talk to people. So, I went. It was there that I met a number of people that would shape my life in ways I never would have thought. After the potluck, I was filled with an energy of excitement that I hadn't had since the Christmas that I knew I was getting a crap load of He-Man action figures. I wanted to meet more people as quickly as possible.

I decided that volunteering would be the best way. So I volunteered to help with the upcoming Pride Conference. You could say that the Potluck was the start of the Frank that people in the GLBTA community of Anchorage know and love. It was there that I met my boyfriend and it was there that Victoria smelled my "fresh blood" and seduced me into the world of volunteerism. My involvement with Pride Conference would lead me to my stand-up comedy performance at Unity in The Community which some consider my grand unveiling to the GLBT community at large.

Ron: What are you doing for a living?
Frank: I've had quite a few jobs. I've worked at a distribution warehouse, security for the State Fair, Wal-Mart, and hell, I was even a Kelly-Girl. I currently am schlepping Macintosh Computers at the Alaska MacStore. Quite boring, isn't it?

Ron: You? Boring? Tell me about past or current love interests?!
Frank: Ah, well I don't know how to answer this one. What is "love", exactly? My first love was the character Monroe from the sitcom Too Close For Comfort played by J.J. Bullock. Naturally I was too young to really understand my feelings. All I knew then was that I would love to have a slumber party with him.

At this point, I still didn't know what "gay" was. I just knew I liked these guys. I never really understood that the attraction was sexual. It wasn't till high school that I started to suspect something was up (pun intended). I started

Continued on next page ...

“I consider myself a pessimist and if it were not for my sense of humor, I probably wouldn't be here today.”
Community, cont’d.

dating in college. My first relationship was with a member of the opposite sex. Her name was Amy and I truly thought that I loved her– until about one month into the relationship. I started to flake out, which caused a tension in both our lives but we’ve since recovered and are the best of friends now.

I had crushes on a number of guys in college but never acted on any of them. I thought I was in control. I could be straight if I wanted too. Well, that didn’t work. After deciding to finally live as me, I met a man that I never would have guessed would have such a profound effect on my life. I met Jim at an Identity 4th Friday Potluck in July of 2000. I would run into him again and again as I tried to meet new people by volunteering with Identity. I was quickly falling for this cute import from the east coast. I was so nervous about asking him out. All the times we interacted, I was normally very quiet and reserve. As far as I knew, he had no idea that I could be fun and exciting. I had to show him.

I decided to do just that by getting on a stage at Unity in the Community: 2000 and doing a stand-up comedy routine. I guess that worked because here we are, together for almost two years now. Of course after that first show, I learned that I got the attention of a number of other people. I’ve kept the list. I threaten Jim with it occasionally when he forgets to leave the toilet seat down.

Ron: Frank, what would you say you are passionate about?


Seriously though, I am passionate about my partner. I’m also passionate about sex. I just don’t think I can separate sex and passion. Humor, yes, I am deeply passionate about my humor and about comedy in general. I consider myself a pessimist and if it were not for my sense of humor, I probably wouldn’t be here today. It’s helped me through a number of rough spots as I am sure comedy has for a number of people.

I mentioned the ceremonies of the Olympics because I am passionate about people and our potential. The Olympics are a time when, even though it is candy coated, the world gets together for a good time. Differences are celebrated instead of ridiculed. I cry every time. The sport teams? Well, just look at them!

Nature, yeah, I am a big fan of nature too. I think it bugs people though. I can sit and watch a bird for an hour poking around for food while those around me just get frustrated and wonder, "What’s all the fuss about". I don’t know, I just find living things incredible.

Ron: And what impresses you?

Frank: Uniforms.

Ron: As Oprah would say, what do you know, "for sure"?

Frank: That uniforms turn me on.

Ron: To you, what makes a quality relationship?

Frank: Oh, the usual suspects. Honesty, caring, friendship, and blind faith. That last one is the most important I think. I am not much on faith. I’ve got that noose of a science background around my neck. Things have to be proved, disproved, or tested further. A quality relationship, by my definition, has to have an element of blind faith. I can’t be suspect of my partner. It’s more than just faithfulness to our monogamy. It’s other things too like having faith that he’ll make decisions that are in the benefit of both of us without my needing to be there.

Ron: What are your aspirations and goals, professionally or personally?

Frank: Ah, I hate this question. Couldn’t I have “What kind of tree would you be?” or something like that? Professionally, I want to escape the bounds of retail and be professionally employed in some field that requires humor. I want to write, I want to perform, I want to create things that make people laugh AND GET PAID TO DO IT!!! Of course, not having any confidence in myself has prevented me from biting the bullet.

So, personally what are my aspirations? That’s right, I aspire to be more confident in myself and my abilities. I have done some amazing things since my coming out. Things I never thought I would be capable of, yet still, I don’t see myself as the powerful person that others do. I always said that if I had any self-confidence, that I would be dangerous... I want to be dangerous.

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Cool kids
Two-Mom Families Look Pretty Good To Me
by Teresa McPherson

My partner's band, Full Circle, was asked to play for an anniversary party recently at the local Unitarian fellowship. While the venue was a bit small for a lively (and loud?) rock and blues band, I don't know when I've been in a room with more happy, smiling faces.

Three lesbian couples from our community were celebrating ten-, fifteen- and twenty-year anniversaries--impressive numbers by anyone's standards. But I was even more impressed by their kids, especially the teens.

I had already been through the food line and decided to go back for dessert. A young man about 16 or so offered me his place in line and handed me a plate. I thanked him and explained I'd already eaten. I guess I'm not used to kids with good manners because his politeness surprised me. Most of the teen boys I've seen wouldn't think to hand a stranger a plate, much less risk not getting a full portion by offering to let someone get in line ahead of him.

A few minutes later, I saw the same kid standing with a group of other teens with full plates looking for a place to sit. I walked over and offered them the table where I was sitting with the band before the music started. The kids smiled and thanked me and sat down.

These teens were polite, well dressed, and well mannered, the kind of kids you wouldn't mind living next door to. They were attending a gathering of mostly women at a small fellowship on a Friday night to celebrate their moms' anniversaries. Later I saw one young man dancing while moms throughout the room watched and smiled.

As I watched these kids, what went through my head is that their moms are very lucky to have such cool kids. But it also hit me that the kids are pretty lucky, too. These women must have done quite a number of things right to have such great kids.

I have immense respect for single mothers who raise kids alone. It takes a very strong person to do that. And I firmly believe that children who are blessed with two parents have the best shot at success in life, because two heads are often better than one. And I also firmly believe that the gender of those two heads is irrelevant.

The next time I hear people say children deserve both a mother and a father, I'm going to say that I believe children need the love of two parents whenever possible, regardless of gender. And then I'll tell them about a very cool anniversary party I once attended...
Living Out Loud Youth Conference 2002: Another Successful Year

Identity is proud to recognize all of the funders and donors who helped make Living Out Loud Youth conference happen. Without your generous support it would not have happened. Thank you

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Katherine Davey
Leaders Are Made Not Born

by Victoria Shaver

The Third Annual Living Out Loud Youth Retreat took place at Birchwood Camp on August 23-25, 2002.

27 Youth & adult advisors from Juneau, Anchorage, Mat-Su Valley and the Kenai came together for three days to share their stories. It was a weekend of simple yet powerful connection. The dynamics of a weekend retreat helped create a safe place for all to be who they are. I could write more about it but the young people involved with the program say it best:

“I came alone, not knowing anyone. I do not know any other gay people, well, until now. And I feel good about who I am! I have not been able to say that in a long time.” - J, 16

“I was able to meet so many great people. I really enjoyed being able to talk with them and relate to so many people out of a group that size. Being a part of Living Out Loud means a lot to me. My opinion was valid and the people there wanted to hear it. I think a retreat like this is of great value to our community and I think it helped everyone who went, facilitators and youth participants. There is a real lack of fun and interesting things for GLBT youth to do together, where they do not feel pressured or the odd one out. So this was a really great experience for me and I am sure it was for others as well.” - Emily, 18

“The food was awesome, as was the bonfire, the sharing circle, the beautiful surroundings, the people... the self-defense workshop was tons of fun!

Living Out Loud provided me with my first opportunity to get in touch with the queer community. It is a place to build strength, self esteem, and to come together to create bonds for our own queer cultural identity, awareness, and sense of a wider group.” - Lea, 18

“Leaders are made not born,” says one youth as she points to a flyer with the famous quote. She continues, “We are learning how to plan and organize and even more importantly - we are learning things about ourselves and about each other.”

A theme that seems to echo from all of the participants is the powerful feeling of being connected to something greater than oneself. Even with gay issues in mainstream media, the feeling of being alone in the world is still something gay youth (and adults!) struggle with.

Living Out Loud seeks to help the youth of our community find their voices, individually and collectively. To tell their stories, share, learn, and grow.

Thanks to all of the people who helped make LOL a reality. The Alaska Mental Health Trust Authority Small Project Grant will allow us to continue to hold monthly programming support to help keep this network of youth connected and motivated. Youth or adults interested in being a part of LOL can contact Victoria Shaver 884-9131 or victoriainalaska@hotmail.com.

Alaska GLBT News

Alaska GLBT News is an e-mail broadcasting system providing information about Gay & Lesbian activities throughout Alaska.

We distribute messages concerning upcoming events, news, your business, rental opportunities, personal items for sale or sought, special announcements, etc.

For more information about receiving notices and/or sending your message, please contact:

AlaskaGLBTNews@yahoo.com
What is going on around you

by Laura E. O'Lacey

Gay Bashing at Howard University! Lesbians fire-bombed in Colorado! Attack in broad daylight in Auburn Maine! For any of us who thought that the world was becoming kinder, more accepting or even safe, it is time to wake up and smell the coffee...or is that burning crosses? I watched the movie Mississippi Burning the other night, and I can see some parallels between the issues of the GLBT community and that of the early black community portrayed in the movie. Granted, we haven't seen large-scale round-ups (yet) or fire-bombing of meeting places, but the bigots who tormented those people used the Bible to justify their actions then, just as they use it to justify their actions against us now!

The horror of 9-11-01, for a moment, brought us all together. For a split second of history we were ALL Americans, unified! However, it only took a couple of weeks before the "WE" began to slip back into separate camps. Partners of G/L victims had to plead and fight, and in some cases lose, the right to victims compensations that were freely granted their heterosexual counterparts. The Gay HEROES of 9-11 were buried by the press and the politicians. The Fire Chaplain who was killed by a jumper from the burning World Trade Center, the GLBT activist aboard the flight that crashed as the crew and passengers decided to fight back against the terrorist plot, these and others have been hard-pressed to remain in the publics view of that tragic event. The new wave of "patriotism" that has been sweeping the country seems to be dragging with it a resurgence of "redneck-ism!" The attitude of these people can be explained as being not that, "we are all Americans" but that, "in order to be AMERICANS you must all be like ME!!" I overheard one serviceman say that "Americans don't wear rags on their heads." Not only is that bigoted and incorrect, but it goes against the entire concept of BEING an American! AMERICANS can wear whatever they damn-well FEEL like wearing! THAT is part of what being an AMERICAN is supposed to be all about!

But I digress. I write today to inform or remind us all that the world is NOT yet safe for all of us. What happened in West Hollywood, Florida, Colorado, and Maine can VERY EASILY happen to us here in Alaska or anywhere else we choose to roam. We need to take on an attitude of awareness and protect ourselves and ANY of our community members. We may belong to ONE part of the GLBT community and feel that we don't relate to ANOTHER group (Just for example: Bears and T-folk) but we need to watch the back for each other. When ONE of us is threatened, we ALL are!

How do we protect ourselves and our community? Surprisingly the FIRST thing we have to do is VOTE AS A BLOCK! I have been enlightened that if just 60% of the GLBT community would vote for the people who support us that we could take control of the political situation in Alaska. Sound far-fetched? Not at all! The last 4 elections had a voter turn-out of less than 65%!! Why is Alaska a Conservative Republican state? Because liberals don't go to the polls enmass and the folks who hang with Jerry Prevo, who is both Pastor AND leader of the Republican Party for Alaska, not only plan to vote as a group, but they arrange for busses to take their "troops" to the polls to ensure that they are the ones in control of how rights are divvied up in Alaska! If the GLBT community had come together as a political block a decade ago we would 1. Have already HAD same-sex unions here and 2. NEVER passed a "Defense Of Marriage Amendment" to our state constitution!
We are faced with an election in November, and the choices are easy, and the results stand a good chance of being horrifying!! Fran Ulmer has been a friend to the community for quite awhile. However, having Frank Murkowski for Governor is frightening enough, but the thought of Loren Lehman as Lt. Governor is enough to make me wake up screaming in the night! Mr. Lehman, is you will remember, is the one who sponsored an initiative that would have allowed landlords to evict anyone, mostly us, who they considered might be in violation of their religious beliefs! Let the witch-hunts begin! We HAVE to come together and get off our duffs and VOTE!!

Watch the old movie, CAST A GIANT SHADOW. Israel was once a splintered community, with a splintered group of military forces. The in-fighting against each other was as fierce as the combat against the Arabs. It wasn't until all factions came together as one unit that they stood any chance of winning. OUR Community is the same. As each splinter group we are like an un-bundled group of loose sticks...easily breakable! However, if we can finally band together as ONE COMMUNITY we become like the tied bundle that cannot be broken!

The second way to protect ourselves is to follow the same steps as most women have been taught for years.

⇒ STAY AWARE OF WHAT IS GOING ON AROUND YOU!
⇒ AFTER DARK, KEEP YOUR KEYS IN YOUR HAND, READY TO OPEN YOUR DOOR.
⇒ CHECK YOUR BACK SEAT BEFORE GETTING IN THE CAR!
⇒ TRY TO STAY IN WELL-LIT AREAS! AVOID DARK PLACES ALONE!
⇒ TRY NOT TO TRAVEL ALONE AFTER DARK, ESPECIALLY ON FOOT.
⇒ TAKE A SELF-DEFENSE COURSE!

The third method of protection may upset many people, but I recommend that we find some means of protection that we are comfortable with carrying and using. For some that will be a portable light and siren unit, for others a pepper-spray unit, others may opt for a stun-gun or Taser, and for a smaller group, the acquisition of a Concealed Carry Permit (CCP) and handgun may be the answer. For this last I offer these words. If you tend to be hot-headed OPT FOR ANOTHER WEAPON, like a stun-gun! A gun can get you into as much trouble as it can get you out of! For those that are squeamish about the idea of USING a gun, opt for something that you CAN trust yourself to use!!

The purpose of this article is not to stir panic among our community, but to focus awareness that things are beginning to slide back on us and the gains we have made as a community nation-wide this past year. Last year the Native Community was attacked by kids with paint ball guns. OUR community has no protection under Alaska law. As of now, we are fair game for whomever wishes to do us harm.

⇒ WAKE UP!
⇒ BAND TOGETHER!
⇒ VOTE AS A COMMUNITY!! EVERY ONE OF YOU!
⇒ STAY AWARE OF YOUR SURROUNDINGS AND WHO IS IN IT!
⇒ KEEP THE ODDS AS EVEN AS YOU CAN!

Large Marge, or Margaret I, our first Empress, brought the GLBT Community of Anchorage as a political entity when she was brutally beaten to death in a hate-crime. It is my sincere hope that the community will never have to come together for that reason again. We need to rally together now, BEFORE anyone becomes a victim. And we need to change the political scene in Alaska so that we can all live a safe, free life.

Laura E. O'Lacy
Can be reached at usmclass@gci.net
When people began coming out of the closet, I was in the room. I had been unaware of the closets, but these doors kept opening, and more and more guys and gals started appearing. It was an interesting time.

I had no objection to people coming out of the closet. Living with secrets is almost always bad for the soul, and people who tell the truth about something important tend to feel buoyant afterward -- even if not everyone is happy with the truth.

Still, as a heterosexual in the room, I had some social discomfort. I was not sure what to say. "I support the aspirations of your people." That did not seem quite fitting. "Hey, I'm here for you." Ugh. "Was it really stuffy in the closet?" That's sort of what I wanted to know, but it seemed like prying.

On the other hand, it seemed rude to pretend that nothing had happened. Clearly, something had. Perhaps it required acknowledgment. Maybe I could invest in commemorative medallions.

Lots of heterosexual people in the room were upset; I understood that was true, and I did not understand why. My own experience with sexual orientation was not complicated: I want to date one of those, please. I assumed everyone eventually played "ask my hormonies" and came up with the right answer.

The idea that people were being abused and killed and denied freedoms because of this entirely private difference was appalling. Maybe "I support the aspirations of your people" wasn't so far off after all.

But if I was clear on the politics of it all, I was not clear on the cultural stuff. I can confess it now, but then I was just thrashing around trying for a tone. Should I slap hawks more (to indicate comfort with physical contact) or less (to indicate a rejection of the macho male ethos)?

Yes, I knew, I should just follow my heart and act naturally. Back then, the only time I acted naturally in a social situation, I was working on 10 martini, and natural was not the same as appropriate.

I was aware that there were stereotypes, and I was aware that I should not fall into the trap of accepting those stereotypes, and yet the room was filling up with lots of stereotypical guys. Every time I'd get all righteous about the swishy hairdresser label, I'd meet another swishy hairdresser. "I support the aspirations of your people, and do you think my beard should be shorter?"

Praise God, there were gay people who understood the dilemma of the clueless but goodhearted. Armistead Maupin was the first man I ever danced with, and he gave me permission to laugh at all social awkwardness. I suspect he was a sort of a missionary to the straight.

Two overweight guys reeling around a living room -- it was silly and affectionate, and it made me happy.

I was thinking about all this last weekend. We went on a hike at Butano State Park (near Pescadero; great park). There were six of us, two straight couples and one gay male couple.

And it was only driving back that I realized that I had not for a moment wondered how to feel. It was just six people talking about digital cameras and poison oak and John Ashcroft and airline safety.

Sexual orientation occasionally drifted into the conversation -- the gay couple were fans of a trash TV thing called The Man Show, and one of them wanted to know if I found anything erotic about women bouncing on trampolines. "Their boobs bounce, right? Is that it?"

I said that that was probably it, but that "erotic" was not the word I would use. "So it's not just because I'm gay," he said. I assured him that our peoples could work toward a common viewpoint on this issue. And then we walked down by the river.
The Heterosexual Agenda

With all these child abductions, are straight men a threat to kids?

by John Aravosis

Are heterosexual men a threat to children? After reading the headlines this past summer, you might start to wonder.

The past few months America has seen a spate of child abduction/murders in which grown men kidnap young girls, molest, and then kill them. To wit:

*Seven-year-old Danielle Van Dam was stolen from her bed and suffocated, prosecutors say, by her 50-year-old neighbor in San Diego. Prosecutors say they found Danielle’s blood on the man’s clothes, and also found child pornography, including images of a young girl being raped, on his home computers.

*An eight-year-old girl in Arkansas was allegedly abducted by a 20-year-old man who stands accused of luring the child out of her bed by telling her the house was on fire. He then allegedly took her into the side yard and assaulted her.

*Seven-year-old Erica Pratt was grabbed by two men from a street corner in front of her home in Philadelphia. The next day, she luckily gnawed through the duct tape that was restraining her in a dirty basement and escaped through a window.

*Five-year-old Samantha Runnion was abducted, kicking and screaming from in front of her California home, by a man while playing a board game with a friend. The man lured her by saying he was looking for a lost dog. Samantha was subsequently sexually assaulted and suffocated to death.

*Fourteen-year-old Elizabeth Smart was reportedly taken from her Salt Lake City bedroom by a man at gunpoint.

*Two teenage girls were kidnapped at gunpoint on August 1, 2002 by a man in his mid-30s to early 40s.

Some might say it’s a bit unfair to castigate all straight men for the sins of a few. But why not? Many in society - the religious right and the Catholic Church top the list - regularly blame gay men as a class every time a crime happens involving a man and a boy. Wouldn’t it be only fair to apply the same standard, i.e., blaming all straight men when their brethren attack young girls? Frankly, it would be fair, if you think about it. But blaming all straight men for the crimes of a few would make me as much a bigot as those who paint gays with equally-broad, and equally groundless, accusations. Who am I talking about? Read on.

First, consider the Catholic Church. The Vatican has consistently tried, most in vain, to convince Americans that gays are to blame for the church’s scandal in which senior leaders of the church knew about accused pedophiles in its midst, yet continued to assign them to posts where they serially abused young children. This past April, Monsignor Eugene Clark of New York told the assembled parishioners at St. Patrick’s Cathedral that “disordered” homosexuals were to blame for the church’s scandal. And the Bishop of Detroit said the current crisis is “not truly a pedophilia-type problem, but a homosexual-type problem,” and the head of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops, when asked to comment on the scandal, told reporters that “it is an ongoing struggle... to make sure that the Catholic priesthood is not dominated by homosexual men.”

This in spite of the fact that the actual experts in the field of child abuse have repeatedly said that these are not gay men, nor really even straight men, who are conducting the abuse, but rather men who are very confused about their sexual orientation.

According to USA Today, “clinical experience with pedophiles suggests ‘it’s kind of a separate sexual orientation,’ says David Finkelhor, author of four books on child sexual abuse and director of the Crimes Against Children Research Center at the University of New Hampshire. “Often they have no attraction to adults whatsoever.” The Washington Post did its own re-

search, and came to the same conclusion continued on next page...
Agenda, cont’d.

sion: “Behavioral scientists are virtually unanimous in their emphatic rejection of a linkage between homosexuality and child sexual abuse by priests or any other group. ‘The only reason this is even a question is that this is a homophobic society,’ said Robert Prentky, a forensic psychologist who has spent two decades studying sexual predators at the Massachusetts Treatment Center inside the state prison at Bridgewater.”

Then there’s the religious right. In spite of what the experts say (facts are inconvenient things when you’re trying to hold a Jihad), the Vatican’s minions among America’s religious right have jumped at the chance to use the misfortune of so many innocent children for their own political gain. A few months back, a number of “religious conservative” activists began a whisper campaign, then a yelling campaign, trying to get the media and the public to buy the lie that a gay cabal was behind the Catholic scandal. But such attempts at misinformation are nothing new. For years the religious right has tried to paint gays with the lie that they routinely stalk young children for sex. Just take a look at the latest action alert from the American Family Association (AFA). AFA is apoplectic over a recent decision by the Big Brothers–Big Sisters of America (BBBSA) to support the civil rights of all Americans by not discriminating based on sexual orientation in their hiring and firing practices.

“There’s no doubt the BBBSA will become a magnet for homosexuals who exploit opportunities to engage young, impressionable children with their unhealthy lifestyle,” says AFA Chairman Donald Wildmon in a recent action alert on the issue. “It’s simply a matter of time before someone’s child becomes a sexual assault victim because of BBBSA’s political correctness.” (No word from the AFA on how they feel about the Big Brothers hiring Catholic priests.)

You’d think it couldn’t get any nastier than that. But oh it does.

AFA is responding by having its voluminous membership contact top American companies that financially support the Big Brothers – folks like Microsoft, Pillsbury and Verizon – asking them “to refuse future financial support of Big Brothers–Big Sisters of America until they repeal this dangerous and troubling policy.” Yes, the religious right is so hell-bent on spreading the lie that gays are after your kids, that they’re willing to bring down a good organization like the Big Brothers–Big Sisters of America. An organization, mind you, that helps the very kids that these so-called “religious” groups claim to be so concerned about.

So, no, I do not think all heterosexual men are a threat to America’s children simply because a string of them have been kidnapping, raping and murdering young girls these past few months. I also don’t think that all religious fundamentalists sodomize young girls for sport, even though one of their own – Earl “Butch” Kimmerling – did just that to his 8-year-old foster daughter a few years back in Indiana. (Ironically, if you can call it that, the little girl was previously in the custody of a gay male couple, and Kimmerling went to court to get her taken away from them, as he felt gays were a sexual threat to children. Kimmerling ended up getting the girl, then proceeded to sodomize her for over a year before the police found out. Perhaps the religious right thinks Big Brothers–Big Sisters should ban conservative Christians from being around children as well?)

But neither do I buy for a minute that gays are a threat to children simply because many in the Catholic leadership thought it okay to coddle pedophiles in its ranks. The abuse of children is a serious issue no matter where it happens. But we dishonor the memory of those children when we use their misfortune as political sport.
Identity Receives Grant.

This has been a very successful year for Identity receiving grants. We received a $6,000 grant from the Alaska Mental Health Trust for Living Out Loud, an $10,000 grant from the Gill Foundation for operating costs and technology, and $5,000 from the Pride Foundation for the Pride Conference.

Identity is very pleased to receive these grants. These grants come at an important time for us as we prepare to expand and strengthen our current projects which include the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage, the Gay and Lesbian Helpline, Living Out Loud Youth Conference, Pride Conference, Winter Workshop Series, PrideFest, the NorthView and all of the other projects we may sponsor throughout the year. All of our grants are an indication that we are on the right track in our commitment to providing quality services to the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and allied community.

If you are not familiar with the Colorado-based Gill Foundation, its mission is to secure equal opportunity for all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. Established in 1994 by software entrepreneur Tim Gill, the Gill Foundation is the nation's largest funder of LGBT organizations. With an endowment of $260 million, the Gill Foundation has invested nearly $40 million in nonprofit organizations throughout the country. The Gill Foundation has funded us previously for $10,000 to open the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage. Their continued support demonstrates confidence in our ability to allocate funds in a responsible manner that insures our continued success as an organization.

As an organization, Identity continues to expand and grow. This growth is due to the active involvement of our members, financial donors, and volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact us at 929-4528.

GLSEN Selects Creative Writing Contest Winners

Anchorage, Alaska -- Two Anchorage high school students are $200 and $50 richer after GLSEN Alaska, Inc. distributed their 3rd Annual Creative Writing Contest prize money. Emily Rose Knowles from Polaris K-12 Alternative School submitted an entry entitled "A Coming Out Story" that won her first prize in the contest. Second prize went to Bartlett High student, Desiree Gaither. She submitted two poems: Will You Accept Me? and Feelings. All the entries were very well written and showcased in prose the barriers young people face daily in their lives as lesbian, gay, bi or transgender kids. These young women poignantly shared a part of their lives that all of us have experienced. Their candid, self-actualizing has won them a place in the GLSEN record books as well as a cash prize. Congratulations to Emily and Desiree.

Each year the Anchorage Chapter of GLSEN holds this creative writing competition. Notice is sent out statewide in March and contest entries are due in May. For information on the 4th Annual Creative Writing Contest contact GLSEN at glesenalaska@alaska.net.

CONTACT: Madeline G. Holdorf
GLSEN Alaska, Inc.
P.O. Box 24-3555
Anchorage, Alaska 99524-3555

Phone: (907) 343-4798
holdorfmg@clianchorageak.us
madeline@alaskalife.net
$50,000 In Scholarships Awarded by Imperial Court

Anchorage, Alaska -- Twenty Alaska students received Imperial Court of All Alaska Scholarship Awards at Coronation XXX, held on September 2, 2002. Future architects, EMTs, teachers, human service and social workers, and oil industry workers were some of the study areas noted for the awards. Schools represented were UAA, UAF, UAA - Kenai Peninsula College, APU, Charter, Purdue, Montana State, Seattle U, LSU and a local reality school. The ICQAA Gaming Fund and the College of Emperors and Empresses Scholarship Fund provided $50,000 for distribution.

The ICQAA Board of Directors and the College of Emperors and Empresses met on July 30th to select the Scholarship Award recipients. 33 applications were received. Amounts requested totaled $140,000. Considering this response, the Scholarship Committee put in place two new procedures: (1) a rating system; and (2) a cap on the amount of individual awards. The top 20 applicants received awards. Recipients of this year's scholarships are Christina M. Alstott, Walter A. Barillas, Ryan Christopher Carroll, Cory Crowder, Rachel Danely, Linda P. Japp, Kristin (Kippy) Lenz, Alexander Levinson, Natasha Chanel Mabry, Mark Mathis, Brian Mead, April Rader, Allan Ramsey, Kimberlee Joy Roth, Roger Smith, Adam G. Thorneley, Rand Thorneley, Lynnette Warren, Karl D. Wojtezsek and Troy Wolcoff.

The Imperial Court would like to thank the entire Anchorage community for their continued generous support of the Scholarship Program these last two decades. 2003 Scholarship Award applications will be available early in the year with a due date of July 15th.

CONTACT:
Empress IX Madeline
Imperial Court of All Alaska
Scholarship Committee
PO Box 104023
Anchorage, Alaska 99510-4023
Phone: (907) 343-4798
holdorfmg@anchorageak.us
madeline@alaskalife.net

ROOMMATE WANTED
M/F to share w/2 other non-smoker's in large newer custom home in Stuckagain Hts. Front or 4-wheel dr required.

Full priv bath off large bdrm, garage, hot tub, all amenities incl. Secluded, quiet, beautifully landscaped lot with pond and views of mtns & city skyline.

$550 + own phone. 338-8885 ask for Tim

RAW Anthology Celebration
Radical Arts for Women (RAW) invites you to a celebration to honor the 17 women writers featured in Transformations: Writings by Alaskan Lesbian-Bisexual-Feminist Women

The event will take place Friday, Oct. 18, at 7 p.m. at Out North Contemporary Art House. Mark your calendar!
community VIEW

Youth CD: Your Support is Needed

There are a growing number of young and talented LGBTQ musicians. One of the first youth I worked with in "The FAMILY" was Karl. He helped create Living Out Loud 3 years ago and has been a quiet but powerful presence in the younger LGBTQ community.

It has now become Karl's personal goal to give many of the up and coming LGBTQ artist he has meet along his way the chance to record their ideas and music in an actual studio setting (thanks to Kim Acuna and RockRose Accordine Studios). The process is an important learning experience for the artists, and many have never been in real studio setting before.

Each artist will record 2-3 songs that they have written and the finished product will be a compilation CD of all the works. The recording process has begun due to generous contributions already received. However, to complete this project they need more funding.

The group of youth, lead by Karl, have decided to donate 10% of their proceeds from the CD's to the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage. If you support this project you will not only be helping local young people – you will also be supporting our the GLCWA as well.

The total cost of the project, which will include studio time, printing, editing, mastering of the CD, and duplication costs will be at an estimated $2,700.00. They hope to print 500 copies of the CD and have them screen-printed and shrink-wrapped. If you would like to donate or help in any way (even kind words of support) please feel free to contact him at anytime.

With you generosity and help, LGBTQ youth of Anchorage and surrounding areas can record their original music and share their voices with you and the world! Advance purchases are being accepted as well as outright donations. If advance purchase is made ($10), please indicate where to send the CD. Each contributor of 20$ or over will receive a free copy of the finished product. If there are any further questions regarding this project, please feel free to contact him directly:

Karl "with a "K" Wojtaszek
(907) 841-6009
7501 Upper O'Malley
Anchorage, AK 99507
pezboyk@hotmail.com

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Let's orchestrate your financial future into a dazzling performance!

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800 East Dimond Blvd. Suite 3-350 Anchorage, Alaska 99515
(907) 349-3559
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, Inc. sponsors a statewide Helpline, the NorthView, PrideFest, Living Out Loud, as well as the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage, 2110 E. Northern Lights Blvd., Suite A (929-GLBT).

www.alaska.net/~identity

VOLUNTEER!

If you would like to volunteer with Identity, Inc. please call the Helpline @ 258-4777 or the Gay and Lesbian Community Center @ 929-4582 for more information.

The northView is YOUR community magazine! It is a forum for dialogue on any subject related to Alaska's gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered, and allied community.

It is also a forum for personal expression and welcomes original fiction, non-fiction, poetry, drawings, comics, art, and photographs from members of the GLBT community.

Submissions can be sent digitally to: thenorthview@hotmail.com

Or via mail to:
P.O. Box 200070
Anchorage, Alaska
99520-0070

Read All About It!

Here’s where you can find the northVIEW.

Please help support the establishments that help support our community.

The Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association
1057 W. Fireweed Lane, Suite 102, 263-2050

Borders Books & Music
1100 E. Dimond Blvd., 344-4099

The Gay & Lesbian Community Center
2110 E. Northern Lights Blvd., Suite A, 929-GLBT

Mad Myrna’s
530 E. 5th Ave., 276-9762

Metro Music & Book Store
530 E. Benson Blvd., 258-8774

The Raven
708 E. 4th Ave., 276-9672
Identity Helpline
GLBT Information & Referrals
907-258-4777
1-888-901-9876
Daily 6 p.m. to 11 p.m.

- The Gay & Lesbian Community Center -
of Anchorage

The Home of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgendered individuals and our Allies.
The GLECA is a safe place for GLBTAs to meet, hang out, hold or attend group meetings, or use the resource library and computers.

- GLECA -
2110 East Northern Lights Blvd., Suite A
Anchorage, Alaska 99507
(between Burger Cache and Don Jose's)

929-4528 (GLBT)

Hours of Operation
Monday - Friday: 3 P.M. to 9 P.M.
Saturday: 12 P.M. to 9 P.M.
Sunday: 12 P.M. to 5 P.M.
Help us keep this section current!
Please send new and updated listings to:
thenorthview@hotmail.com

Adam and Steve
Social group for young gay, bi, and questioning men. Weekly activities and fun community events, many taking place at the Gay and Lesbian Community Center. Also offers the monthly M-group, a fun workshop on sex and dating. Run by a Core Group (meets every first and third Tuesday at the GLCCA at 7PM) who plan all activities. Come meet new young queer men in a safe and supportive environment. Call the infoline at 907-263-2081 or visit the website at: www.adamandsteve.org.

Alaska 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, 907-263-2050. Statewide: 1-800-478-AIDS.

Alaska Gay/Lesbian Association (UAF student organization)

Alaska Women’s Resource Center
AWRC provides a variety of integrated services to meet the needs of women and children in our community. Our programs include: Information & Referral, Assessment, Vocational, Children’s, Family Support (Parent Education & Pregnancy Related Counseling), Substance Abuse Treatment (Outpatient & Residential), and Domestic Violence Counseling. We also have a strong Volunteer Program with a variety of opportunities. If we can help

Alaska Women’s Resource Center, cont’d.
you, give us a call. If you know someone who needs our help, give them our number. In Anchorage or statewide 907-276-0528 or www.awrconline.org. AWRC is located at 813 D Street. Office hours: Monday - Friday, 8:30 AM to 5:00 PM.

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 intersex people in all aspects of personal and public life.
907-566-ACR1 AlaskansforCivilRights@yahoo.com.

Alcoholics Anonymous: Gay, Joyous, & Free
AA group for gay, lesbian, bisexual & transgendered individuals and their allies. Open non-smoking meeting Mondays only 7PM to 8PM at the Alano Club, 3103 Spenard (the old Wave building).

Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship
3201 Turnagain St. GLBT-friendly liberal religious church, where people of all beliefs are welcome. Information line: 907-248-0715. See Anchorage Daily News Saturday religion page for Sunday forum and service speakers and topics.

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.

Arctic Bears
First Friday of every month. Fairbanks 907-479-8680.

Aquarian Foundation
Services Wednesday 8pm and Sunday 11am, 8500 LaViento Drive, Anchorage: 907-349-9955

Breakeven Productions:
Has been bringing up lesbian performers from around the country since 1987. For more information about upcoming events or Breakeven productions, call 277-5630 or akpups@alaska.net.

Breast and Cervical Health Check
A cancer screening service offered by the Alaska Department of Health & Social Services, Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program. Funding for this program is provided by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Free breast and cervical cancer screening is
Breast and Cervical Health Check, cont’d.
available to women ages 18 - 64, who have no insurance or
whose insurance does not cover these services. Anchorage
269-8069, statewide toll-free number is 1-800-410-6266.

Celebration of Change
A performance of women artists for women. If you would
like to perform or volunteer, please call 566-3783 or
celebrationofchange@email.com for more information.

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

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. 907-360-0340 or
907-830-4497.

Frontrunners/Walkers
Meets May thru Oct. at Westchester Lagoon. All levels of
runners/walkers/bladers and dogs welcome! Tues. at 6:30
PM and Sat. at 10 AM. Call Peter: 907-337-3682.
Email: anchoragefrontrunners@hotmail.com
Web: www.frontrunners.org/clubs/anchorage.

Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage
(GLCCA)
The Home of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, & Transgendered
Individuals and Our Allies. The GLCCA is a safe for
GLBTAs to meet, hang out, hold and/or attend a meeting
or group, or use the resource library or computers.
Located at 2110 East Northern Lights Blvd., Suite A
(between the Burger Cache & Don Jose’s). The GLCCA
is staffed by trained volunteers 7 days a week. Current
hours of operation are Mon thru Fri - 3 PM to 9 PM, Sat
12 PM to 9 PM, Sun - 12 PM to 6 PM. You can reach the
GLCCA at 907-929-GLBT.
E-mail: glccanch@yahoo.com.

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 volunteers and provides information
and referrals to businesses, professionals and service

Gay and Lesbian Helpline, cont’d.
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 907-258-4777 or toll
free (in Alaska, outside Anchorage) 1-888-901-9876.

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, 907-362-7161 or
hillman@alaska.net.
Fairbanks: for more information contact Lisa Slayton or
Jeff Walters c/o GLSEN Fairbanks P.O. Box 85315
Fairbanks, AK 99708 907-457-2787.

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 NorthView, PrideFest, Living Out Loud and other events.
For more information about these events contact the Gay
and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage, 2110 E.
Northern Lights Blvd., Suite A, 929-GLBT. You can also
call the Helpline at 258-4777, or visit the Identity web page
at www.alaska.net/identity.

Imperial Court of All Alaska
(ICOAA)
The ICOAA is a non-profit organization formed in 1972.
They do extensive fund-raising for several diverse groups
in and around Alaska. The ICOAA sponsors the Eklutna
picnic Memorial Day weekend, the Fur Rondy parade float
for the GLBT community, Pride on the Parkstrip, Coronation
Labor Day weekend and numerous other events. Con-
tact Information: PO Box 104032 Anchorage, AK 99510-
4032. 907-622-2218.
Web: www.icoaa.org
E-mail: Eldon - emperor29@icoaa.org
Joani - empress29@icoaa.org

IMRU2
The social group for GLBT youth meets Wednesdays from
5:30 to 7:00 PM. We meet at Mendel & Associates office
on the park strip, 845 K Street. The group is for GLBT
youth, ages 13 to 18. We eat, chat, watch videos, plan events
IMRU2, cont’d.
and do lots of laughing. There aren’t many ways for people this age to meet each other, so join us and tell your friends about us. Call 566-IMRU if you have questions, and one of us will call you back.

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 907-452-4222.

Lamb of God Metropolitan Community Church
(MCC)
Lamb of God MCC is a predominately gay/lesbian/bi/transgendered Christian church where ALL people are welcome to worship a loving and compassionate God. LOG MCC meets every Sunday at 2:00 PM at Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke (East of 24th Ave. and Boniface Parkway). Contact LOGMCC@iol.com for more info or visit: www.geocities.com/logmcc.

The Last Frontier Men’s Club
Social club for the Levi/leather/bear community. Meets the 2nd Sunday of each month for a brief business meeting & potluck social, 6:00 PM, at Mad Myrna’s, 530 E. 5th Avenue. In addition, we hold monthly “Dinner Night Out” and several campsouts throughout the summer which are open to the community at large. Check our website for complete information and list of community events at: www.tlfmc.com/calendar.htm. TLFMC, P.O. Box 202054, Anchorage, AK. 99502-2054. 907-338-3862.
E-mail: info@tlfmc.com.

The Last Frontier Women’s Club
A pansexual social group for people with an interest in leather and the leather lifestyle. Meets the first Tuesday of each month, 7:00 PM, for a brief business meeting and social at The Raven. We hold other social events that are open to the entire community. For more information please write: TLFWC, P.O. Box 203204, Anchorage, AK. 99502. Phone: 907-222-1509 or 907-338-3862.

Northern Exposure Bowling League
Bowlers of all genders meet Sunday afternoon at 4:00 PM, Park Lanes, Anchorage. Please call to confirm time and venue. 907-561-8744 or milt@alaska.net.

OLOC
(Old Lesbians Organizing for Change)
Travel 50
Two groups for women over 50. rosebethlevno@hotmail.com or 907-868-2662.

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 email@outnorth.org. Online calendar: www.outnorth.org.

PFLAG of Anchorage
(Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays)
Contracts its monthly meeting at 7:00pm on the 3rd Tuesday of the month at Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship AUUF, 3201 Turnagain Street. Call 907-566-1813 for a recorded message.

PFLAG of Fairbanks
PFLAG promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons and their families and friends through support, education and advocacy. For more information, call 45-PFLAG for meetings and events in Fairbanks.

PFLAG of Sitka
(Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays)
Meets the second and fourth Sunday evenings at 7 PM in the UU Fellowship Hall, 408 Marine, Sitka.
Mail: P.O. Box 6515, Sitka, Alaska.
Phone: 907-747-3674
E-mail: sitkapflag@yahoo.com

PrideFest Planning Committee.
This committee plans the annual Gay Pride festivities. Meetings start in November. Members are hoping for representation from as many local groups as possible. We are planning on attracting more corporate funding, having a parade, a larger vendor display, bringing up more entertainment, and planning more Pride Week activities. For more information call GLCCA at 929-GLBT or email prideonthepark@yahoo.com.
 clubs, groups, organizations

RAW (Radical Arts for Women)
A non-profit group which supports and promotes women in the arts. Grant funding available for artistic endeavors. 907-566-3783. RAW@adnmail.net.

Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous (SLAA)
12-Step program meets Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. Call 907-566-1133 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. 907-465-5665, 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: 907-586-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 1-4 PM. Anchorage: 907-278-5019.

Support Group (Soldotna)
A group of people with HIV or AIDS or families or friends. Call Jan at 262-2589.

Women’s Dances
All ages & genders welcome. Smoke and alcohol free two-stepping held once a month from 7:30 PM to 11:00 PM at the Pioneer Schoolhouse at 3rd & Eagle. Contact Katie for more info at: 907-278-9174.

Women’s Music Fest

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 907-278-5179 for more info. E-mail: Jenkout@aol.com.

Publications

Alaska Women Speak
A publication by Alaskan women on topics for Alaskan women. They can be reached at 907-696-0924.

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 907-561-7737.

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@gei.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, AK 99802-1452 or phone 907-586-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. Phone 907-452-4222 or e-mail pinkink@alaska.com

E-mail lists

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

AnchoragePride
http://www.cgroups.com/subscribe/anchoragepride
A mailing list for information concerning Anchorage & Southcentral Alaska’s GLBT community. Primarily event announcements.

Alaska Gay Discussion
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/alaskagaydiscussion
This is an opportunity to discuss gay issues relevant to Alaska, and provides a calendar of events. Participation available via website and/or e-mail. For more info contact Michael Haase at michaelh2001@aol.com.
E-mail lists

Alaska GLBT News
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: alaskaglbtnews@yahoo.com.

Grizzly List
A mailing list for the Women's Community. Event announcements, inquiries, issue discussion, and relevant topics of concern for women. Delivered every Thursday. GrizzlyList@hotmail.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@gei.net.

NY 9-11 Fund Goes Into Effect;
Covers Gay Families

by Beth Shapiro

(New York City) A New York state law providing workers' compensation benefits to the families of some victims of the September 11 terrorist attacks on the World Trade Centre went into effect on Wednesday.

About 20 lesbian and gay survivors will receive benefits under the law which specifically includes domestic partners.

The provision gives all domestic partners of September 11 victims, whether they are gay or straight, the same benefits surviving spouses receive under the state's Workers' Compensation Law, up to $400 a week for the remainder of the spouse's life, or until the spouse remarries or takes a new domestic partner.

"We pay our taxes just as everyone else; we should be able to receive the same types of benefit," Joe Tarver, a spokesperson for the Empire State Pride Agenda told CNN.

The law is retroactive, meaning all domestic partners of September 11 victims will receive payments beginning from that date forward.

"I'm glad this law recognizes that Gene and I were a couple in every way — emotionally, financially, legally, and in our everyday lives," said Larry Courtney, whose partner of 14 years, Eugene Clark, died at the World Trade Centre.

But federal compensation is not so clear cut.

Requirements for the Sept. 11 Victim Compensation Fund is pits some gay partners against blood relatives of those who died in the terrorist attack.

Kenneth Feinberg, the special master for the fund, says it will be up to blood relatives if they or the victims' partners receive federal compensation money.

"If the next of kin is supportive and there's no dispute, it's a nonissue," Feinberg told the New York Times in May.

"If the personal representative, say a parent, comes to me and says 'Cut a check for the same-sex partner,' there will be no problem. Then it is a ministerial function. What do I care?"

In cases in which there is no cooperation from the next of kin, Feinberg said the commission will review each claim individually.

The minimum federal award is $250,000 and the average will be about $1.8 million. Recipients must agree not to sue the airlines.