Advertising Rates

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Publication Information

NorthVIEW is a monthly publication of identity, a non-profit 501c(3) Alaska corporation concerned with issues of sexual and gender identity. NorthVIEW is published as a community service. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the directors, officers, or members of Identity, Inc.

We welcome articles and letters from individuals and organizations. Whenever possible submit electronic files via e-mail in PC (recent versions of Microsoft Word, please) or text format. All contributions must be signed, but names will be withheld or pseudonyms used upon request. NorthVIEW reserves the right to edit as necessary and to decline any article submitted. NorthVIEW 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 NorthVIEW dated the following month's issue.

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                  Tim Weiss
                  Diana Wolfe

Contributors    Chuck Hart
                Phyllis Rhodes
                Pam Savage
                Gale Smoke
                Ron Swartz
                Deb Thompson

Cover VIEW

The Gay Memorial, downtown at Anchorage Memorial Park Cemetery, is surrounded by colorful rainbow flags and bright summer flowers following the June 19 memorial service. The marker reads “Your Spirit Lives on in Love, Peace and Pride.”

Gabriel
272-9045

Hair stylist
Cosmetologist
Licensed Masseur

1310 East 8th Avenue, Anchorage, Alaska 99501
Finding the Rainbow

June was a weird month for me, but there was a silver lining behind the clouds and I’d like to share it with you.

My sister Donna had a skydiving accident Memorial Day weekend in Pensacola, Florida. She was hospitalized for a few days and then went home to Montgomery, Alabama, to recuperate. When she was hospitalized a second time, I decided I needed to be there for her. So I spent a couple hectic hours online finding a semi-reasonable fare and flew down the same day.

My sister is a beautiful woman, but the accident took a severe toll on her physical and emotional health. She broke her jawbone on both sides, lost two front teeth, broke several small bones in her sinus area and eye orbits, bruised several ribs, and suffered extensive contusions, lacerations and sprains. Her mouth is wired closed for 2-3 months, she’s losing lots of weight she doesn’t need to lose, and she still can’t drive due to ankle injuries. So her spirits are pretty low.

I stayed with her for a week and a half as big sister, nursemaid, housekeeper, chef (via blender), driver and morale booster. But then I had to return to Alaska and my own responsibilities. So our niece (our stepbrother’s daughter) volunteered to come stay with Donna to drive her to medical appointments and help with household chores. I don’t know this young woman and I was a little concerned that a 17-year-old might get restless, but my sister explained she was mature for her age and easy to be around.

Now for the silver lining. A few years ago, Donna told me she thought this same niece might be lesbian. Then the girl began dating boys, so she thought her hunch was wrong. Well, it turns out she was right. The dating was a temporary attempt to be straight, an attempt that apparently failed because during her time at Donna’s, the young woman came out to her. She said she hasn’t talked to her parents about this (yet), but suspects they already know. She said she felt her dad would be okay with it, but not her mother.

Several years ago, this girl contacted me via email and we had a few brief chats. I sensed she was hoping for an invitation to visit me in Alaska, but I’ve never been close to her father so I didn’t pursue the friendship. Now I regret that, because she might be someone I would enjoy knowing, based on what my sister said about her even before coming out.

So I’ve decided to get to know my niece, and perhaps invite her to Alaska. It’s funny how knowing that she’s “family” has influenced my decision to get to know this family member. And we may end up having little in common otherwise, who knows. But I have to give it a shot, because it sounds like she could use a friend in the family. I’m a pretty good sister and I think I would make a good aunt. I’m going to try.

And that’s my rainbow after the clouds the month of June brought to my family. We’ll see where that rainbow takes us.

Warmly,
Teresa McPherson, Editor
MILESTONE 25

You have:

the patience and endurance of Job—except in cases requiring righteous anger.

the love of Methuselah proportions—When standing in your shadow, I feel shame

for my pettiness and distrust of the world and am encouraged to follow in your

big hearted and open minded shoes. When I foul, it is no fault of yours.

the wisdom of Solomon—I took you to the Waterworld for Light, hoping to erase

the disastrous scarring and carving up from a cadaverous 20-year marriage. As hard as it was, you let go of the Far North, along with its memories, to heal,

enjoy life more and make new ones.

the heart of a lion—With all a lion’s braveness and tenderness too.

the big poisonous dart of the little scorpion—When the world around you becomes a threat and closes in for the kill, you can be a real stinger!

You survived:

the beatings both emotionally and physically—You did the ‘barefoot and pregnant’

nine times, not out of ignorance as much as out of despair, submission, ‘no

place to go with five little ones’ syndrome and the issue of superior seed—bear

the ‘Prince’ and all child bearing obligations are finished to the Hoary King.

the Big Change—The stressful yet joyful Coming Out to all your family and friends

after my sudden appearance and complete conjoining with your life in 1980.

losing your motherhood role due to falling in love with a lesbian—You lost all your

rights to The Five in order to establish your own identity and gain back your

self esteem and worth. You found yourself! And when feeling whole again,

you went searching to find The Five in your emotional/spiritual quest to find

closure. Fortunately, they have chosen their own paths. Unfortunately, those

paths have merged with Christianity and as a part of their ‘Christian’ ethics,

they constantly reject you for living in ‘sin’ and how that sin might rub off on

them or especially their children. (Yep, us queers are out to convert children

over to perversion again.) It’s so much easier to blame others for your miseries

and shortcomings than it is to take responsibility as an adult and make the

necessary changes. Or in short, forgive and forget. Wow! What a novel

Christian idea!

I am constantly amazed:

at our rebirth—You and I find it every time we immerse ourselves in each other.

We send the rockets flying and the chaff exploding! From the very first time

until this day 25 years later, life’s delights lie in our touch.
Deb Thompson

at our aging—Laying aside the vagaries of physical deterioration and injury is a constant fight. It’s a fence always striving to corral our spirits in. Some days this aging thing is a horror neither of us wish to endure. Yet other days, we let it peacefully lie at our feet like a scrapply dog fully stretched out at the edge of a fireplace, seeking all the warmth it can to ease its bones. I think eventually, like the dog, we will be relaxed enough to reminisce and soak up the heat.

that we keep on overcoming—I thank all the people who’ve supported us and the Life Force/Gods That Be, etc that brought us together and bear us along The River. I thank you, my love, for your understanding and persistence especially on days when I physically struggle to exist while you are mentally/emotionally fighting off your own depressions. We both long for those days of youth that can no longer be…the curse of aging. Even so, we keep on truckin’ mama.

And so young lady...

In case I haven’t said it enough, not only are you The Love of my lifetimes but you are also my Super Woman and Guiding Light!!

Thank you for every nanosecond of love and life that we’ve shared these past 25 years and, hopefully, the gazillion trillions yet to come. Love you babe.
Lure of Alaska
Olivia Cruise Passengers Find New Home

As we drove by bus from Seward to Anchorage a year ago, we basked in the scenery and absorbed the energy, cherishing every minute of our journey. Little did we know that in a few short weeks we would begin a process that would catapult us out of our home state of Montana and into life in Alaska.

We'd been preparing for a change. My partner Kris is a clinical social worker with a specialty in child and adolescent treatment. Work in the social services and therapy fields was sparse in Montana and Kris had investigated jobs in New Mexico and Oregon. We even had entertained the idea of moving here, but we didn't expect it to happen quite as suddenly as it did and without our even trying!

May 21st of last year we embarked on an Olivia Cruise up the Inside Passage from British Columbia to Alaska. My daughters had given me the trip for my birthday. At first the plan was to be a round trip to Hawaii, but I suggested we change the destination to Alaska and make it a cruise. Kris had treated me to a trip to San Francisco for my birthday a few years earlier and I always wanted to follow through with a trip to Alaska for her. So after some gentle but convincing coaxing and cajoling, we were able to make it happen. We had a trip on the ocean for a week and then spent a week with our family here in Anchorage before flying back home.

The cruise originated in Vancouver BC and we arrived there by plane the day before departure. From the start everything happened in a delightful and magical way for us. In Denver during an hour between our flights, Kris was able to see her brand new grandson just born a couple of weeks before. Then in Vancouver, the Pan Pacific Hotel was full and they had to give us a huge executive suite instead of the original room we had reserved. Since we had reserved our room so far ahead, they chose us to receive the only unoccupied suite in the hotel and gave our little room to a latecomer. The wonderful suite was a magical gift to get us off to a grand start!

Then on board the ship there was a problem with our reserved room and although we were content to stay there, we were moved to an outside suite with a balcony and a view. So far, every corner we turned had a wonderful serendipitous surprise waiting!

Along the way the cruise ship stopped in Ketchikan, Juneau, Sitka, and Skagway, giving us plenty of time to explore each place. It was a marvelous adventure to be on that ship for a week in the company of 1,200 wonderful women, and we were enchanted with the ocean and northern Pacific coastal areas. The weather was cold and rainy, but on board the ship it felt like paradise! The week contained many events, stage shows and gourmet dining. Meg Christian and Lucie Blue Tremblay were among the entertainers on board with us. Also traveling on this cruise were Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon, who were the originators of the Daughters of Bilitis many years ago.

I have two daughters living here and we had been here to visit a couple times before, so we were somewhat familiar with Anchorage. My oldest daughter and her little boy picked us up at the Egan Center and we spent an enjoyable week at her home. During our week in Anchorage, Kris happened to visit a few residential treatment centers just for a "look see." Coincidentally, she found a job opening at one of them and applied for it.

At the end of our week, we flew back to Montana and returned to our home in Helena. A week later, after several phone conversations, the organization here in Anchorage where Kris had applied for the job flew her up to Anchorage for an interview. Three weeks later she was hired. It all happened so fast, we barely had time to catch our breath or stop our heads from spinning!
When she started the new job, Kris had to move to Anchorage ahead of me. I stayed in Montana to finish getting our house sold and belongings packed for the move. She traveled alone with two cats up the Alaska Highway. The car was laden with belongings piled high on the roof and secured with canvas and bungee cords. The cats were not easy traveling companions, but all three vagabonds made it in about a week with no problems. I stayed in Montana for two more months to finish the closing on our house and pack the rest of our goods for the final move in September.

In late September Kris flew back to Montana and we said our good-byes to family and friends, rented a large U-Haul, loaded it ourselves and drove the Alaska Highway one more time. It took us almost nine days to get here, but the truck held up well. It was sure a wonderful adventure! We made it into a vacation and took our time, relaxing, enjoying ourselves, and photographing the scenery along the way.

Now, nine months later, Kris continues at her job and we have moved into a small residence. Prior to our move, I have been semi-retired for seven years. I was a career RN and suddenly in 1994 I had a complete hearing loss due to surgery to remove an acoustic neuroma from my inner ear. I retired on disability a year later (1996). At this point I am finally feeling well enough again to entertain the idea of practicing nursing in some capacity that doesn’t require “ears.”
Susan and Tony Knowles adopt Election Day (November 2, 2004) during a visit to the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage in late May. L-R: Susan & Tony Knowles, GLCCA director Phyllis Rhodes, and Identity Co-Chair Diana Wolfe.

Rain didn’t hamper the crowd attending the annual Memorial Day picnic at Eklutna. After a couple hours, celebrants were rewarded with clear weather and the events went on undaunted. Volleyball, an egg toss, meeting old and new friends, delicious food and a beautiful Alaska setting were offered by the Imperial Court of All Alaska. (photos by Dee Gould)
**One Gay Man's Experience of Discrimination and Harassment in Medford, Oregon**

My interview with Christopher Napoleon, age 27, showed a small city school's ingrained resistance to adapting to cultural diversity. His Oregon school experiences occurred between 1988 and 1995. To put the area in some context, the reader should know that Medford is a small city of about 57,000 people in southern Oregon. The city has two high schools, two middle schools, and 14 elementary schools.

Chris's first decade of life was on the island of Oahu in Hawaii. His father was Native Hawaiian and his mother was an attractive white professional originally from the southeast United States. He had an older brother who was a popular athlete in school, an older sister, and two older half-sisters, one of which was lesbian.

Chris first knew he was attracted to men at the age of three when he developed a crush on his sister's boyfriend. Compared to other boys his age, he had a high voice and effeminate traits and mannerisms. This led his blue collar father to say Chris sounded like a little girl and acted like a "mahu" ("faggot").

Homosexuality was not discussed formally in the Honolulu school. He was picked on by classmates until the fifth grade, when a relative became the new principal. That man, likely a gay person himself, vowed he wouldn't let anybody mess with Chris.

At about age 11 his parents split up and he and his siblings moved to Medford, Oregon, with his mother. In school he did not meet or know any gay boys, but he befriended some lesbian classmates, including Vanessa. "I liked that she could be so free," he said, because she didn't give much consideration to what others thought of her sexual preference.

At some point his mother asked if he was gay. He hesitantly said, "Yeah." She replied by saying something to the effect, "Okay, that's all I wanted to hear." He had been afraid to reveal his sexual identity to her, because she had thrown his older lesbian sister out of the home. Mom explained the sister was no longer welcome to live there because she had lied about living a non-gay life, not because she was a homosexual.

When he was in his teens, it was obvious that being labeled gay often resulted in a "witch hunt" from the straight boys. Besides constant verbal attacks of "queer" and "faggot," they would slap, punch, and vandalize property of boys suspected of being homosexual. In time Chris would choose not to use any water fountains for fear of having someone slam his face down into the fixture. Male friends would stay away, fearing being perceived as guilty of homosexuality by association. Chris wouldn't use the school bathrooms, since he didn't want to get caught by gay bashers while vulnerable and in a corner. He was kept after school as punishment because he refused to get undressed for gym showers.

At about age 14, a teacher was discussing current events concerning the first war in Iraq. He talked about Iraqis running up to U.S. soldiers and kissing their hands. The teacher allegedly said to the class that in a similar situation, he would tell the locals, "Get away from me, Faggot!" At that point, Chris felt "completely alone" as a gay male student.

By high school, his lesbian friends had left the school district. His popular older brother helped minimize the harassment, but graduated after Chris's freshman year. His books and other possessions were sometimes taken from his shared locker. His car was vandalized, the seats slashed open, stereo damaged, and a trash can was thrown into the windshield.

School officials did little in response. Campus surveillance video stopped taping prior to the vandalism. City police also did little, and apparently believed the incidents were just "kids having fun." Medford Police claimed they had no corroborative evidence to file criminal charges, and seemed to believe Chris must have done something to instigate such behaviors. When he broke his neck in a car collision and was bedridden for awhile, Chris said he was almost glad because he didn't have to go to school.

At age 18 Chris got a duplicate identification card from his 21-year old brother. This allowed him to join his sister at a popular gay bar in nearby Ashland. He found the gay scene there "so damned fun... people were inviting and carefree." It was his first exposure to men kissing men, and he got to talk with some older gay women. For the young man, it was a "breath of fresh air."

In time, Chris had his first gay relationship. The months spent with Jesse taught him much about communication, trust, and domestic violence, though mostly in a negative context. Even within the gay community in Ashland and Portland, he was suspicious and untrusting of men. He preferred the company of women, and still does.

When a sister moved to Anchorage with the military, he was encouraged to come here also. Though the atmosphere at this city's gay establishments was not the same as he experienced in Ashland, he found that people actually smiled at him in southcentral Alaska and he decided to stay for awhile.

I know our community is the better for it.
DEAD EYES

Thirty years ago I said
Upon observing many adults,
“I don’t want to be like them.
Their eyes are dead.”
Today I look in the mirror
And my eyes are tired,
Ringed in raccoon black,
Glazed over with life.
Maybe dead or lackluster?
When did they change?
When did I change?
I think I know the reasons.
But I struggle against the ‘whys.’

Why does life seem,
To get sucked out of us as we age?
Now I like to think,
Maybe, we’re giving it away,
Bit by bit, to those who need it,
Those we love (and hate).
Or maybe it’s a physics thing-
Energy escaping its container,
To end up pure energy again.

Or on a darker note,
Maybe we’re just “crucifying ourselves”
(A la Tori Amos)
With the weight of all our
ambitions and burdens
Until the body crumbles back to earth
And the spirit is forever free again
to soar and reunite with the Light.
Hell, maybe it’s just gravity,
Beating the crap out of us.
(Hopefully, it’s not our loved ones
or ourselves!)

All I know is:
I’m one of those adults I saw,
My body is tired
But my mind is forever young,
My emotions are as reliable
As the shifting sands,
My heart has loved more
And lost more,
And my soul, one day,
Will be so ecstatic
To be cart-wheeling
Through the stars!

PFLAG/ANCHORAGE
would like to thank the Anchorage GLBTA community for making the photo project

“OUT & ELECTED IN THE USA”
such an outstanding success!

All funding was provided by the following local sources:

IMPERIAL COURT OF ALL ALASKA • MAD MYRNA’S • FULL CIRCLE
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Thank You!!!

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ANCHORAGE SCHOOL DISTRICT • MUNICIPALITY OF ANCHORAGE
The Lavender Scare

I know that I’ve seemed preoccupied with gay history the last couple of months, but I simply must tell you about *The Lavender Scare* (The University of Chicago Press, 2004) by historian David K. Johnson.

The book concerns the Cold War persecutions of gays and lesbians in the federal government, and the author provides a much more complete picture of what happened than past accounts, because he was privy to so many documents and made an exhaustive search of other resources.

Most of the story takes place in Washington, DC, and Johnson shows – much as George Chauncey did for New York City in *Gay New York* – that the capitol had a very vibrant gay community operating in the city during the 1930s and 1940s. Most of this had to do with Roosevelt’s New Deal and the growth of the federal government. An extraordinary number of gay men and lesbians found job opportunities in the Civil Service System in the capitol and it gave them a degree of economic independence and security they previously found impossible (especially for the lesbians). Indeed, Washington, DC was becoming a “gay city.”

But the bubble burst after World War II ended and Joe McCarthy began his purge of “Reds” who he claimed were endemic in the federal government. Of course, there weren’t that many Communists in federal employment, but the focus shifted to all of those who were “security risks” and that opened up the purge to other categories of “undesirables” including homosexuals or, as was the common reference in those times, “sex perverts.”

Indeed, the campaign to root out homosexuals who were federal employees began earlier and lasted longer than for other groups. The rationale was that sex perverts were security risks because they were subject to blackmail, which made them vulnerable to giving secrets to the enemy. There never was a single documented case of this happening, but it didn’t matter. The purge was on and gay life in the capitol became far more risky and closeted.

The only real silver lining relating to the Lavender Scare was that it led to the formation of Mattachine Society and other homophile organizations as some very brave pioneers in the gay rights movement fought back. The book relates many of their stories, and the final one to me was the most poignant, discussing the ouster of Frank Kameny, an astronomer, in the late 1950s. Kameny was one of the first to fight back legally and openly, and took his case all the way to the U.S. Supreme Court. He lost, but he didn’t give up.

Helping to resurrect the Mattachine Society of Washington, which had become inactive, the fight was pressed forward in both a legal and extra-legal basis (such as the first public picketing of the federal government by gay people in 1965). And slowly the situation changed, with the Civil Service Commission having to change a number of its policies toward gays as it began losing court cases.

My only quarrel with the book is that it ends the story around 1970. I would have appreciated a final chapter briefly outlining what has happened between now and then, such as the attempts to pass ENDA. But I still highly recommend Johnson’s work.

Gale Smoke teaches Sociology 387: Gay & Lesbian Lifestyles at UAA. You can reach Gale at gls烟ke@alaska.net.

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**Identity**

Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage

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July 2004 11
Thank you, May Adopt-a-Day Sponsors!

May 1 Phyllis & Pam’s commitment anniversary
May 6 Tamra Sheldon (birthday)
May 7 Women’s Book Club
May 8 Mary Gilson (birthday)
May 8 Tess Bensussen & Carol Rose Gackowski 10th anniversary
May 10 Phyllis for daughter Emily’s birthday
May 11 Tim Weiss
May 15 Steve Cook & Bert Mead
May 19 James Bruce
May 20 Phyllis Rhodes in memory of Marie Dupree Moss
May 21 Teresa McPherson & Danny Templeton
May 23 Metropolitan Community Church of Anchorage
May 24 Brian Chen & Tim Pearson
May 25 Phyllis Rhodes in honor of Identity Board
May 27 Victor Carlson in memory of Doug Middleton
May 28 Victor Carlson in memory of Matt Oyster

Adopt a Day for only $50. Make any day of the year YOUR day at the GLCCA. Help us keep YOUR Center’s doors open!

Some of our donors give through United Way, Community Share, and the Combined Federal Campaign. Your donations arrive in a lump sum without donor names. We’d like to know who you are so we may thank you individually. Please e-mail us at info@identityinc.org. Whoever you are, we thank you!

GLCCA News

We wish you a sunny summer, but should there be rainy, stormy days, consider coming by the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage to check out the movies available for loan in the lending library. There are more than just those wonderful books! How about something from our 200+ tape and DVD collection?

All the movies have been donated by members of our community. Along with wonderful mainstream classics, we have some great GLBT classics as well:

- Beautiful Thing, from the 1996 Cannes Film Festival
- The Crying Game, a multi-Oscar-nominated masterpiece
  - Cabaret (no comment needed!)
  - Framing Lesbian Fashion, a fun documentary
  - Fried Green Tomatoes, the story of two women who lived over half a century ago in Whistle Stop
  - In and Out, Kevin Kline dances his was into the arms of Tom Selleck
  - Jeffrey, with Patrick Stewart and Segourney Weaver
  - kiss me guided
  - Priscilla, Queen of the Desert, a favorite fun movie from “down under”
  - and from cable television Out There, episodes from Network Q

This is just a sampling. We hope to see you browsing the books and movies soon!

Identity Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage

All GAY cruises 2004/2005 Mexico, Alaska, Caribbean

CAPITOL HILL TRAVEL
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Volunteer Spotlight

Julie Schmidt and Gayle Schuh first visited the community center during the GLCCA Second Anniversary Celebration in January. The duo signed on as staff volunteers shortly after.

Who Uses the GLCCA?

Practically everyone. The following groups and organizations have met at the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage so far in 2004:

- Gay, Joyous and Free AA Group
- PFLAG
- Identity Help-Line Training
- IMRU2 Youth Group
- Transgender Social/Support Group
- Celebration of Change Organizing Committee
- PrideFest Committee
- GLSEN
- Dine In with Dykes
- Identity Board of Directors
- “L-Word” watching party
- Lesbian Fun Book Group
- Gay/Straight Alliance Youth
- Legal Issues presentation on protecting your money
- YAYA (youths, adolescents & young adults: building assistance program)

If your GLBTA group or organization needs a quiet safe place to meet, contact the GLCCA at 929-4528.

Announcing The Opening of a New Private Practice:

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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

July 2004
Moving Sucks, But Then You’re in the Better Place

I moved in April. This was my 40th move since I left home in 1978. With all that practice, you would think I could do it in my sleep. When I move in my sleep, I wake up screaming from the nightmares. I loathe moving. I would rather donate complete toenails than move.

This time I had to move. I always have to, of course. My daughter needed to live within the boundaries of the high school where she is thriving. We also needed to be within walking distance of a grocery store.

I had an apartment fall into my lap that met both of those qualifications and had a bunch of other wonderful features. It is about 70% larger than our last place, the stove is gas, it is on a quiet cul-de-sac, and the friendly gay landlord pays all utilities. I am happy to finally be here. I will be happier when I am completely unpacked.

You didn’t see my column in June because I dropped my computer in the move and had to have someone repair it. I procrastinated on the repair for fear of the costs, or worse, that it could not be repaired.

I find that an in-town move is always the most difficult because I tell myself I can always go back for another load. I also am much less selective about what I pack for local moves. Moving from one part of Alaska to another leads to careful packing to save money on shipping and postage. My interstate moves have been with tightly packed boxes containing only important goods. My international moves have been even more selective on what gets sent and taken.

I hear that moving companies are the way to go, but for some reason that has never worked out for me. Once an employer rented a big yellow truck that I got to load and drive myself from Graham, Washington to Gervais, Oregon. That was a nightmare. The guaranteed reservation got a hotel room for two days for my wife, three children and I so we could wait for a truck. When we reached Oregon, the landlord wasn’t ready for us so we waited two weeks in a state campground five miles from my new office. We did get a yurt, so it wasn’t too bad. We cooked on a grill or on the campfire every night. I didn’t go to work with the smoky aroma; the office was too professional for that. I felt out of place changing into a suit every morning in the men’s facilities. More than the suit, having to shower everyday in a public facility was scary because I was putting so much energy into suppressing my gay feelings. I went out of my way to close my eyes or look away from other men. I was terrified that anyone,

stranger or not, might find out. This was about eight months before I finally came out to myself.

On the gay parent front, my son goes to a fundamentalist church with his mother every week. He is part of their imitation Boy Scout program, and went to camp in Fairbanks this June. When he got back, we had a one-sided discussion based on Genesis, the gist of which was that I would go to hell if I don’t change my “choice of lifestyle.” He was adamant that I had two choices and I was making the wrong one. He wanted to know why. He was not really ready to hear any of the explanations I offered and we ended the conversation with me saying, “I love you” and him screaming, “You’re just a faggot!”

I know he is only 12. I know he is having a rough time at home. But it is frustrating.

Chuck Hart is 47, single, a father of three, an Alaskan of 40 years, and an avid reader.

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EventVIEW

Identity Programs

Winter & Spring  Living Out Loud Youth Program
October    Pride Conference
Daily      Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage (GLCCA). Ste. 103, 2110 East Northern Lights Boulevard, Anchorage. 907-929-4528
Nightly    Helpline for GLBT information and referrals (6 PM to 11 PM). 907-258-4777 or 888-901-9676
Monthly    NorthVIEW newsmagazine

Anchorage Events

Mon      AA Gay, Joyous, and Free, 7 PM, GLCCA
Tues     PFLAG, 7 PM, third Thursday (except November & December), Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke St., 566-1813
         SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous), 8 PM, 566-1133
         Line dance lessons/dancing, 7-9 PM, Mad Myrna’s
Wed      IMRU2, 5:30 - 7 PM, first and third Wednesdays, GLCCA, 566-IMRU, leave message for more information
         GLSEN, 7 PM, second Wednesday, GLCCA
         “Karaoke Night” hosted by “K” Entertainment, 8:30 PM, Mad Myrna’s
Thu      SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous), 5:30 PM, Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 566-1133
         Friends and Family Support Group, 6:30 PM, 263-2050
         Country Dance Night, lessons 7-8 PM, open dancing 8-10 PM, Mad Myrna’s
         “Karaoke Night” hosted by “K” Entertainment; 10 PM; Mad Myrna’s
Fri      Lunch, everyone invited (HIV+ volunteers, and friends), Noon - 1 PM, Aaskan AIDS Assistance Association (4A’s), Ste. 102, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln., 263-2050 (Lori)
         “Friday Night Divas Show,” 9 PM, Mad Myrna’s
Sat      SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous), Noon, Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 566-1133
         Buddhist Morning Service, 11 AM, White Lotus Center for Shin Buddhism, 123 E. 11th Avenue., 258-1851
         Center for Spiritual Practices & Education Worship Service, 11 AM, 8050 Old Seward Highway, 522-0940 (Rev. Guy Johnson)
         Metropolitan Community Church Service, 2 PM, Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke St.
         Northern Exposure Bowling League, 4 PM, Park Lanes, 4350 Ames Ave., 561-8744
         Sunday Dinner, 5 - 8 PM, Mad Myrna’s, 276-9762 (Jim)

Fairbanks Events

Tue      GLSEN, 5 PM, third Tuesday, Fairbanks Education Association on S. Cushman St.
Fri      Free anonymous HIV testing, 3:30 - 5:30 PM, Interior AIDS Association, 710 Third Ave.
         “Outlooks,” 5:30 - 7 PM, KSUA-FM 91.5
         Socializing and dancing, 9 PM - 3:30 AM, Club G (mix crowd), 150 Farmer’s Loop
         Arctic Bears, first Friday, 907-479-8680
Sat      Socializing and dancing, 9 PM - 3:30 AM, Club G (mix crowd), 150 Farmer’s Loop
Sun      PFLAG 4 - 5:30 PM, third Sunday, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 4448 Pike’s Landing Road
         Homophonic Radio, 3-5 PM, KSUA-FM 91.5

Juneau Events

Wed      Social gathering after work, Summit Lounge
         “Women’s Prerogative,” 9 - 10 PM, KTUU-FM
Fri      Juneau Pride Chorus, 5:30 - 7:30 PM, Resurrection Lutheran Church, 907-789-5167 (Marsha)
Sat      PFLAG, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM, first Saturday, Mendenhall Library Conference Room

PLEASE HELP KEEP THIS SECTION CURRENT!
SEND NEW AND UPDATED LISTINGS TO NORTHVIEW@IDENTITYINC.ORG

July 2004
non-smoking meeting Mondays 7 PM to 8 PM at the Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage (GLCCA).

Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. GLBT-friendly liberal religious church, where people of all beliefs are welcome. 3201 Turnagain St., Anchorage. 907-248-0715.

Anchorage Women's Political Caucus, open to all women. 7pm, first Wednesday. Elmer's Restaurant: New Seward and Fireweed.

Arctic Bears. First Friday. Fairbanks. 907-479-8680.

Aquinarian Foundation services. 8 PM Wednesdays, 11th floor, Anchorage. 907-244-0680.

Breakeven Productions has been bringing up lesbian performers from around the country since 1987. 907-277-5636 for upcoming events or production. breakevenproductions@alaska.net

Break and Cervical Health Check, a cancer screening service offered by the Alaska Department of Health & Social Services, Breast and Cervical Cancer Early Detection Program. Free breast and cervical cancer screening is available to women ages 18-64 who have no insurance or whose insurance does not cover these services. Call the YWCA of Anchorage for eligibility guidelines, enrollment, and group presentation opportunities: 907-644-9620 (Anchorage), 1-800-410-6266 (statewide).

Celebration of Change, a performance of woman artists for women. 907-566-3783 (for performance and volunteer information). celebrationofchange@email.com

Committee for Equality. Box 34202, Juneau, AK 99803. bsamu@geci.net

Fairbanks Gay Youth Group. 907-457-3524 (leave message for more information).

The Family (a UAA Student Club), discussion and social, political, activities. You DO NOT have to be a UAA student to attend. Many that do attend UAA are non-traditional students. www.uaa.alaska.edu/clubs/council/thefamily

Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage (GLCCA). The Home of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgendered Individuals and Our Allies. The GLCCA is a safe space to meet, hang out, hold or attend a meeting, or visit the resource library or computers. Staffed by trained volunteers 7 days a week. 3 - 9 PM Mondays through Fridays, 12 - 6 PM Saturdays and Sundays. 2100 E. Northern Lights Blvd., Ste 103 (between the Burger Cache & Don Jose's). 907-892-GLBT gcase@identityinc.org

Gay & Lesbian HelpLine, an information and referral line sponsored by Identity, Inc. The HelpLine is staffed by volunteers and provides information and referrals to businesses, professionals, and service providers. HelpLine is open to all and available to be a part of this service, please call 907-258-4777 (Anchorage), 888-901-9876 (statewide).

GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network). Membership is confidential. We welcome educators and non-educator allies who are interested in problems of GLBT youth in our public schools. Anchorage 907-562-7161 (Fred tillman@alaska.net; Fairbanks Lisa Skelton or Jeff Walters c/o GLSEN, PO Box 85315, Fairbanks, AK 99708, 907-457-2787.

Identity, Inc., a nonprofit Alaska corporation concerned with issues of sexual and gender identity. Identity envisions a world where all are free to express and be proud of their sexual and gender identities. The mission is to build the infrastructure for a strong GLBT community in Alaska. Programs include the Gay and Lesbian HelpLine, NorthVIEW, PrideFest, Living Out Loud Youth Conference/Seminar, and the Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage. PO Box 200070, Anchorage, AK 99520-0070, 907-292-GLBT. www.identityinc.org

Imperial Court of All Alaska (ICOAA), sponsors the Memorial Day weekend Eklutna picnic, the Fur Rondy parade float for the GLBT community, PrideFest Festival on the Parkstrip, Labor Day weekend Coronation, and numerous other events. PO Box 104032, Anchorage, AK 99510-4032. www.icoaa.org

IMR2, the social group for GLBT youth, ages 13 to 18. We eat, chat, watch videos, plan events, and do lots of laughing. Join us and tell your friends. 5:30 PM Wednesdays at GLCCA. 907-566-IMR2 (4678) to leave message.

Interior AIDS Association (lAA) Fairbanks offers medical and dental program assistance, "buddies" (volunteers who help HIV & People Living With AIDS), meal delivery & food supplement program, lending library, and counseling support. 907-452-4222 (for assistance or volunteering information).
OVERVIEW: Resources

The Last Frontier Men's Club, a social club for the Levi/leather/bear community. Brief business meeting & potluck social at 6 PM second Sundays at Mad Myrna's, 530 E. 5th Avenue. “Dinner Night Out” and several campouts are open to all throughout the summer. Check the website for information and list of community events. TLFMC, P.O. Box 202054, Anchorage, AK 99502-2054. 907-338-3862. info@tlfmc.com www.tlfmc.com

Metropolitan Community Church of Anchorage (MCC), a predominantly gay/lesbian/bi/transgendered Christian church, where ALL are welcome to worship a loving and compassionate God. 2 PM Sundays. Immanuel Presbyterian Church, 2311 Pembroke St. (East of 24th Ave., & Boniface Pkwy.). See website for location map and calendar of current events. 907-238-5266. mccanchorage@yahoo.com www.geocities.com/mccanchorage

Northern Exposure Bowling League for bowlers of all genders. 4 PM Sundays. Please call to confirm time and venue. Park Lanes: 4350 Ames Avenue, Anchorage. 907-561-8744 milli@alaska.net

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

OPAL (Old Lesbians) a social organization open to all Lesbians. OPAL sponsors different events throughout the year and occasional potlucks. 907-345-3818 (Anne) opal@gci.net

Out North. Cutting edge art, theatre, film, educational programs, and more. See online calendar. 1325 Primrose St., Anchorage, AK 99508. 907-279-8099 (voicemail), 907-279-8200 (box office), 907-279-8100 (fax). email@outnorth.org www.outnorth.org

PFLAG of Anchorage (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays). Meetings: 7 PM third Thursdays except November & December. Immanuel Presbyterian Church: 2311 Pembroke St. 907-566-1813 (voicemail).

PFLAG of Fairbanks, promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual, and trans-gendered persons and their families and friends through support, education and advocacy. 907-45-PFLAG (for meetings and events).


P.O. Box 6515, Sitka, AK 907-747-3674. sitkapflag@yahoo.com

PrideFest Steering Committee of Identity projects plans and presents the annual Anchorage Gay Pride Week events in June. Meetings start in Sept. The committee invites and welcomes corporate and individual sponsors, parade entries, entertainers, volunteers, and more. 907-929-GLBT prideonthepark@yahoo.com

Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous (SLAA); a 12-Step program. Meetings on Tuesdays, Thursdays, and Saturdays. 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. 222 Seward, Ste 200. P.O. Box 22655, Juneau, AK 99802-2655, 907-463-5665, 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. PO Box 21542, Juneau, AK 99802. 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. 1 - 4 PM Mondays and Wednesdays. 907-278-5019 (Anchorage).

Support Group (Soldotna), a group of people with HIV, AIDS, families and friends. 907-262-2589 (Jan).

Women's Ultimate Frisbee. 10:30 AM Sundays. West end of Delaney Parkstrip. 907-278-5179 (Jen or Karen). Jenkout@aol.com

E-MAIL LISTS

Alaska Gay Discussion, providing an opportunity to discuss gay issues relevant to Alaska and a calendar of events. Participation available via website and/or e-mail. For more info contact Michael Hause at michealh001@gci.net or michealh001@palm.net. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/alaskagaydiscussion

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: alaskagbtnews@yahoo.com

AnchoragePride, a mailing list for information concerning Anchorage & Southeast Alaska's GLBT community. http://groups.yahoo.com/subscribe/anchoragepride

FairbanksPride, a mailing list for information concerning Fairbanks & Interior Alaska's GLBT community. http://groups.yahoo.com/subscribe/fairbankspride

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@gci.net

National and Political GLBT News, Landmark case decisions and other newsworthy announcements from national organizations. To join, send an e-mail to: bsara@gci.net

PUBLICATIONS

Alaska Women Speak, a publication by/for Alaskan women. 907-689-7922.

The Anchorage Press, an alternative weekly paper that is not focused on the GLBT community but is friendly. There is a large personals section. 907-561-7737.

The Perspective, a newsletter published for the Southeast Alaskan. SEAGLA, PO Box 21542, Juneau, AK 99802-1452. 907-586-GAYS.

The Pink Ink, a newsletter published in Fairbanks for the Fairbanks GLBT community. Interior Newsletter, c/o IAA, P.O. Box 71248, Fairbanks, AK 99707. 907-452-4222. pinkink@alaska.com

July 2004