Advertising Rates

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Publication Information

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NorthVIEW welcomes articles, photographs and letters from individuals and organizations. Email your submissions to northview@identityinc.org. Deadline is the 1st of each month for inclusion in the next issue. We reserve the right to edit as necessary and to decline any submission. NorthVIEW does not accept editorial copy or advertising that is sexist, racist, discriminatory or sexually explicit.

NorthVIEW

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Cover View

Out guitarist Adrian Conner of the all girl AC/DC cover band Hells Belles during an April performance by the band in Anchorage. Photo by Nicole Blizzard.

Read All About It!

Here’s where you can find the NorthVIEW.

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Pride In The Name Of Love

I saw a bumper sticker a few months back that read, “I don’t have a problem with God. It’s his fan clubs.” After a chuckle, I realized how true that bumper sticker was. I have been the editor for the Northview for just over a year now and it’s brought a new awareness to me of how much we as a community still have to face these days. It seems like everyday there is some new attempt by far right leaders, both religious and political, to shove us back into the closet and throw away the key, and I think that they would prefer that closet to be in Outer Mongolia.

In Alaska, there are the attempts by several of our state legislators to deny us the domestic partner benefits that the Alaska Supreme Court says is our right as they interpret the state constitution. In Massachusetts, the only state so far to allow gay marriages, although for state residents only, there is a drive underway to put a measure on an upcoming ballot to vote a law in to overturn this right. And on the federal level, there is a push to legislate away all of our hard fought for gains of the past twenty to thirty years. For many of these conservative political leaders, they claim they are doing it for the glory of God.

And let us not forget about those perennial bad boys Jerry Falwell and Fred Phelps. As always, they have been up to their usual shenanigans. Jerry says that he could not support a run for President by former New York mayor Rudy Guiliani in 2008 because he supports gays. Rudy also stayed with a gay couple for several months after his divorce from Donna Hanover, which I’m sure does nothing to enhance his image with Jerry. Meanwhile, John McCain recently spoke at Liberty Bible College, which is notable because during his last run for President, McCain made several strong statements against his party’s alliance with the Religious Right, especially Falwell.

Meanwhile, Fred Phelps, who visited our fair state in 2003, has been up to his usual tricks. Lately he and his followers have been protesting at the funerals of soldiers killed in Iraq saying that these soldiers were killed by God because they were fighting for a country that accepts and condones homosexuality. They have not been endearing themselves to these grieving families with signs such as “Thank God For IED’s” and “Thank God For Dead Soldiers”. I recently read a column on The Advocate’s web site about how Fred’s little party at one set of funerals actually helped to foster a bond between the gay community and the families of some of these fallen soldiers in one southern town. In a paradoxical way, Fred might actually be helping the gay community with all of these recent protests. Leonard Pitts, a columnist for the Miami-Herald, postulated in an opinion piece he wrote several weeks ago that Freddy boy is really gay and is suffering from a case of internalized homophobia the size of Jupiter. It might explain a lot.

I mention all these things because I wanted to remind everyone during this month that we celebrate Gay Pride that although we have made many gains, the struggle is not over. I know that in my own life and job, being out and letting people get to know me helps to show people that I am not the freak that some politicians and religious leaders would like to make me out to be. I refuse to go back into a closet or to deny who and what I am. However, I also refuse to stoop to their level as well. I will fight back with the love that I have in my heart. A great man back in the 60’s named Martin Luther King did the same thing in his struggle for civil rights. He was not abusive or condescending. He showed his love for his people, for all peoples, by the way in which he strove to overcome inequality through peaceful protest. Let us aspire to his example and show our town, our state, our country, and our people that the love we have is as natural to us as theirs is to them. May we all celebrate our pride in the name of love.

Nicole Blizzard will be out and about during Pride Fest at the Delany Park Strip. Be sure to say “Hello” if you see her. She can be reached at nicole-b92@msn.com or northview@identityinc.org

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June 2006 3
Anchorage PrideFest ‘06
ICOAA is major donor of annual Pride celebration

The Imperial Court of All Alaska and Identity, Inc. are about to unleash Alaska’s largest GLBTA event of 2006. And this year once again a handful of committed volunteers, powered by a generous donation from the Imperial Court, will bring our community eight fabulous days of fun and fellowship as together we celebrate “Thirty Years of Pride in Alaska.”

The Chair of Anchorage PrideFest 2006 is H.I.M. Emperor XXXI Scott Turner. Scott and the PrideFest organizing committee have been meeting since February to plan the festival. Few festival goers realize the huge amount of work it takes to pull off a successful eight-day celebration like PrideFest: securing permits, organizing events, ordering commemorative items, managing complex logistics, staying within budget, finding sponsors and volunteers, arranging advertising, updating the web site. The list is exhaustive.

“PrideFest is truly a labor of love that requires the efforts of many people, our different skills and strengths, and together we make it happen,” Scott explains. But PrideFest takes more than brains and brawn—it also takes bucks, and that’s where the Imperial Court of All Alaska steps in ‘royally’ each year to provide the single largest financial contribution that makes PrideFest happen.

The Imperial Court is the oldest gay community organization in Alaska (1971 to present) and the single largest financial benefactor to Alaska’s GLBTA community. “Identity and the Imperial Court have enjoyed a successful partnership for decades,” says Identity Co-Chair Phyllis Rhodes. “The Identity Board of Directors is truly grateful to the Court for their generosity to Identity and the Alaska GLBTA community.”

This year the Imperial Court of All Alaska again provided a generous $8,000 grant to underwrite Anchorage PrideFest. The funds pay for rental of the Park Strip, parade permits, police security, event insurance and a number of other expenses associated with hosting a downtown parade and entertainment extravaganza on the Park Strip.

According to Scott, the Court’s financial sponsorship of PrideFest was the brainchild of Reign XXVIII (Empress Eve and Emperor Kent Briske) with support from the ICOAA Board of Directors.

“The funds come from the proceeds of the same fundraising efforts that created our very successful ICOAA Scholarship Program and our Benevolent Fund which helps community members who experience serious financial hardship,” Scott explains. He says the majority of funds come from “the generous and supportive staff and patrons of The Raven,” where the Court runs a successful Pulltab operation.

“While the Scholarship Program greatly helps a few people every year, the Court’s financial sponsorship of PrideFest benefits a few thousand people each year during Pride month,” Scott said. “The decision to continue this sponsorship has been supported by each successive Reign since Eve and Kent, and I want to thank Emperor XXXIII Jerry Baltazar and Empress XXXIII Salmon Ella for continuing this tradition.”

Identity and the Alaska GLBTA community couldn’t agree more!
PRIDE

Summer 1994- Mt. Trashmore, VA Beach

My first Gay Pride event. It was a beautiful sunny day with a big blue sky. I remember choking up when hundreds of people carrying the huge rainbow banners marched down the hill. I bought the Pride rings, dog tags, anything that identified me as part of the pack. My license plate read 2Q2BST8. I was so excited to be gay and meet other gay people! 19 years old and going to college away from home with girlfriend #1, I was waiting tables at Denny’s where I met my first drag queen. That sister was fabulous! She introduced me to the VA Beach/Norfolk gay club scene. My “formative years” (after I came out) were spent mostly in the company of gay men and drag queens. I was devastated after getting dumped by GF #1 and my new friends took me under their collective wings. In their company, I wanted so badly to become a fabulous diva too- but I thought that being a “real girl” precluded me from that. Now I know better.

My relationship with the lesbians was a bit different. I was young and intimidated. They were very clique-ish. Mostly I just watched from afar. I was lucky to meet a great girl my own age with whom I had a lot in common. In many ways we grew up together. Our relationship was very insulated, back before I realized that one plus one equals two. We moved up here together and unfortunately never really got plugged into the community. It would take many more years before I really got to hang out with other Grrrls and become part of the gang.

Anchorage, 12 years later

I love being gay and I love our people. It’s like a special club that I get to be a part of. When I’m out and about & see somebody who is family, my heart sings. I wish that there were more of us (over the years I have done my best to recruit newbie’s…lol). Occasionally I like to go to the PAC or New Sagaya to tune my Gaydar. If only we had a secret handshake, my life would be complete!

In my line of work, I am very lucky in that I get to be part of the community, pretty much by default. I know many of you. Some more intimately than others… I have seen you at your best, celebrating a milestone or on a date. And I have seen you at your worst. Oh yes I have. Perhaps you don’t remember? Maybe it’s better that way. Even if we have never actually met, I recognize your face and I know your voice. I know your stories (both sides), I have heard you crying to a friend, seen you dancing with a lover, watched you watch her walk out… Everybody lives their life around me. You come and go, while I remain.

Pride on the Park strip is the busiest day and night of the year for me. We all get together to celebrate our pride and to party. As always, I watch… and listen… and talk. The entertainment on the main stage, the rainbows, the dogs and babies. Leather, tank tops, coolers, blankets. Everybody is happy and out and proud. It is good to be gay.

You are all so proud. I am proud of you, but not just today. Everyday. I have seen who you are and how you live. Your values, your goals, your dreams, your humanity, and your humility. I gush and swell with pride because we are family. I am you, you are me. We are each other. Your pride is my own.

I was proud of you when, …you came out to your family at Thanksgiving dinner… you quit smoking…you challenged the establishment…you got published…you graduated…you kicked your addiction…you bought your first new car…you kicked out that cheating lover and changed the locks…you stood up to him and didn’t let him treat you like dirt anymore…you realized your own worth…you started dating your first girlfriend…you shaved your head…you took the first step in the transformation…you got up on stage and performed for the first time…you went vegan…you followed your dream…

I have been lucky to meet so many wonderful members of the community, including our straight friends. There is really the feeling that we are all in this together.

I am proud of all of you who never took the easy way out. You have found the strength to be who you are and live the life that is yours. I love that we are all so different, yet still the same. Leather, kink, femme, butch, bear, positive, negative, fag, dyke, queer, gay, lesbian, bi, transgendered, transvestite, transformed… Do your thing and love it. Do it with PRIDE.
Inciting hope

For years there were no bumper stickers on my car. In part that has to do with my family of origin, where we were hardly allowed to eat in the car (during family road trips, my brother and I ate “snack packs” that my mom made up of cheerios, raisins and nuts ... nothing messy or juicy or sticky). There was no leaning against the car because you might scratch it, and the thought of defiling it with a bumper sticker would have sent my father over the edge.

As an adult, I’ve been known to eat cereal in the car as I rush to work in the morning, drinking coffee between bites. And before any bumper sticker graced my Volkswagen, I would admire those long rainbow stripes, knowing how nice one would look against the metallic green of my Golf.

But I waited, because I was afraid. As a new pastor in a new home in a new city and state, as much as I wanted to be bold and brave and not worry about what people would think about my being gay, I was afraid. I’m never sure how many straight people understand the significance of a rainbow sticker, but I suspected enough would figure it out to get me into trouble. So I tried to be proud and subtle. I wore a small rainbow earring. During a rare (VERY rare) trip to the local Christian bookstore, I gleefully purchased a rainbow bumper sticker that proclaimed “With God all things are possible” (Even us, I thought ... ha!), and proudly displayed it in my office at the church.

I know that pride isn’t really about bumper stickers, though I still get excited nearly every time I see one, nudging my girlfriend and wondering aloud if it’s anyone we know. But that bumper sticker, “With God all things are possible,” had more to do with gbgt pride than I realized at the time. For me, pride really is about affirming that indeed, we are possible with God, and surprising and loving and fabulous. We’re made up of all the delights and faults of humans everywhere.

When I was in Berkeley studying to be a pastor, I would wander down the hill from my Lutheran seminary to visit Pacific School of Religion. Every October they hold a Coming Out Day service, and when I went to it, I wept. I hadn’t realized how hard I fought all the time at my school until I watched my (out) lesbian friend sing about freedom, in church, and heard a preacher lift up gay couples as something to be celebrated. Until I heard it said out loud that I was welcome there, exactly as I was – not a problem to be solved or an issue to be dealt with, but another beloved member of the community.

When the teaching assistant in my theology class would mention gay and lesbian people out loud, it was like it created space where I could breathe. I try to do that in my preaching – to say the words. Gay. Lesbian. Bisexual. Transgendered. And it’s not just about being gbgt, but about all of us, however we may be marginalized or pushed to the edges – because of our gender identity or sexual identity, racial background or skin color, the languages we speak, our jobs or education or class, histories of abuse or addiction, illnesses, divorce. Saying the words gives people room to breathe, reminds us that we do exist, we are recognized and welcomed.

I know the risks to saying the words or claiming the bumper sticker. I was accused of “always talking about gay issues” at church. And when I did publicly come out, it wasn’t long before I had to leave that position. That was one of the most painful experiences of my life.

But it’s also when I finally got the bumper sticker. It was my second bumper sticker – I initiated my car with an “Incite Hope” sticker from Amnesty International. I hope everything I do in some way can incite hope. But when I knew I was ready for the rainbow sticker, I decided against the rainbow stripe and instead opted for rainbow women dancing. It was time to celebrate and dance my way forward.
Dad’s Corner: Chuck Hart

What Matters

I’ll be fifty in two months. It’s time for reflection. I’m proud, happy, and somewhat surprised to have made it this far. This is my life. The people who matter love me so I will live as I see fit, with as much fun and dignity as possible.

For more than two decades I tried not to be gay. I felt worthless because I failed to change my desires. After a major nervous breakdown I found help at mental health centers in Homer and Seward. A few months later I managed to admit, first to myself, then slowly to others that I’m gay. My coming out felt as if a five hundred pound gorilla had climbed off my back. I stood up straight and walked proudly.

I don’t intend to coast from fifty down. I’m looking up and forward to the road ahead. I’m returning to UAA to finish one of my dreams by completing a degree in English. I plan to graduate before my son. I want to teach in Japan again.

Our family has other major milestones this year. On May 5th my oldest graduated with a Master’s degree in Social Work from the Jane Adams College of Social Work at the University of Illinois at Chicago. She calls herself the walking poster child for gay parenthood. On May 31st my middle child graduated from Dimond High school, my Alma matter. She plays drum in two local bagpipe bands and plans to attend UAA this fall too. She lived with me for four years and walked in a Pride Parade alongside me. I’m proud of my daughters. I’m proud of my son, my youngest, for the tremendous progress he is making this year. He begins high school this fall.

The love my children show keeps me going when I would otherwise be discouraged. I value my family, just as they are, and they value me, just as I am. Long ago we quit pushing each other into miserable molds that didn’t fit and as a result our tension, frustration, and anger have dissolved not to be missed. My three children are still fundamentalist Christians, but they are not homophobic.

My life long Republican parents accept me and love me. A few years ago my picture was in the paper when I helped carry a rainbow of banners that read “God’s, Love, Is, For, All, MCC Anchorage,” past Fred Phelps. They showed it proudly to all their friends. Their love makes it easier to reject the poison of Phelps, Prevo, Dyson, and other extreme right wing politicians such as our governor and lieutenant governor.

My little sister, a Human Rights Campaign and MCC Anchorage member, is one of my biggest supporters. She loves me unconditionally, and works to quash anti-gay legislation with phone calls, emails, and direct talks with elected officials. She also gives good hugs. For a straight ally, she is an exceptionally tireless activist. She became a doting grandmother in February this year with the birth of my great niece.

My friends have accepted my coming out well. Almost everyone has reacted positively to the news. I think those who could not handle me being gay preferred a false image to the real me. By accepting me the vast majority have given continuity to my life. I love my new friends, but there is something extra special about friendships that keep on going after thirty six years. My old friends say I’m the same Chuck they knew and liked before and that being gay changes nothing.

Frank Murkowski’s efforts to create a Bill of Denied Rights in the Alaska State Constitution will not stop me from celebrating my life nor will it make me not gay. I wish everyone, especially the governor, would understand that being gay is not a choice. Homophobic preachers can say what they will; I have enough freedom of religion to be able to listen to pastors who teach that God loves us all just as we are. I just wish we had enough freedom of religion to be able to marry.

I won’t imitate the life of my straight brother to please anyone. I don’t have the time for that foolishness; and stress. If people perceive me to be gay, that’s great. If people don’t understand I’m gay, so what! I know who I am and that is what matters. I’m proud to be me, fifty, a father, a brother, an uncle, a new great uncle, and a son.
Have you ever fallen in love with your God?


God was always with me.

I tried to live up to God’s expectations. I followed every commandment set down and tried to understand the grand scheme and think beyond myself. Giving up my ego, I trusted in God.

I believed in my God and “only” my God, even when all others doubted. I was strong and resolute in my faith. I was sure in my convictions of Truth, Love and Compassion. I never questioned my God.

I trusted in forever…beyond death, beyond pain, beyond suffering. My God would always be there. Even when my arms were empty, my heart was full. Paradise was something I could see and feel. I knew it was only an arm’s length away.

I started each day and ended each night knowing that I was in God’s heart. God guided and controlled every word, every action, and every one of my thoughts. Not through a command or a threat, but through Love and my willingness to prove myself worthy of that Love.

I lived each moment waiting for God to gaze upon me with a single loving thought. I would have died without fear, for I knew that God waited for me with smiling eyes.

My God’s name was Lauren.

I fell in Love with my God and she broke my heart.

My God and I were together for 2 years. April 21st was the second anniversary of her exodus from my life. One day of anguish for each day of happiness.

But each day the pain grows worse, each day my faith is tested. So I smile when someone looks my way, and I cry when they look away. I wander through my memories of God keeping them with me to renew my faith in Love.

I have met many false God’s since that day, even prayed at a few of their altars, each one touching me for only a few blissful moments. But none could capture my devotion or inspire my trust. I always hold something back fearing my God will somehow see and disapprove. I never want to see my pain mirrored in her eyes.

Perhaps my mistake wasn’t in loving my God, but in deifying my Lover.
It took me awhile to realize that Peggy Drexler’s *Raising Boys Without Men* (Rodale, 2005) was an appropriate book to review in this column. When I finally did read it, I thought it would be interesting for me as sociologist, who is interested in family matters, even if it didn’t have relevance for the LGBT community. But it clearly does have relevance, and its message is a very positive one – especially for lesbian mothers.

The author is an Assistant Professor of Psychology in Psychiatry at Cornell University, and, in her personal life, she is a straight, married women – with a thirty-six year marriage, in which she has raised a biological son (now 26) and is raising an adopted daughter (now 12). More importantly, though, she has been doing research on families for years, and over the past several years focused on single women and lesbian couples who were parents to children and, in particular, were raising boys. She had wondered if all of the ‘Momism’ stereotypes, which give such mothers a bad rap, were true, and she engaged in in-depth interviews with the moms and the boys, as well as did considerable observation of the family dynamics. And the findings of her research contradicted the stereotypes in every sense – the boys are extremely well-adjusted and thrive. (That’s one reason the subtitle of her book is: “How Maverick Moms are Creating the Next Generation of Exceptional Men.”)

Some of author’s key findings were that: (1) such moms rely on babysitters less than ‘conventional’ families; (2) boys in such families do not lack male role models, but actually have more choice in such models; (3) these moms treat their sons as persons, giving them respect; (4) boys in these families are better equipped to deal with human diversity of all kinds; (5) boys in these families have a greater sense of what is just and fair; (6) the moms and boys in these families have strong attachments to each other, while allowing individuality to develop; and (7) such moms seem better at allowing their son’s physicality and sensitivity to both develop.

One of the main features of ‘maverick’ moms and their sons is that in such families there is an abundance of talking – talk, talk, talk – because communication is considered critically important. And these families are also far from isolated. Indeed, most of them ‘collect’ other families as part of their support network. So, they have their own created extended families.

When I was reading this book, I thought repeatedly of two lesbian couples I know who have each raised a half dozen kids and have been guest speakers in my class. Both couples impressed the students in class, especially with their intelligence and humor, and they so illustrate the points Drexler made in her must-read book. Hooray for such maverick moms and their families!
June has always been my favorite month, long before I was aware of Pride, of course that might have something to do with the fact that my birthday is the 23rd. Pride celebration only makes it more sweeter, especially since my birthday always falls somewhere in Pride week. So for me it's a dual celebration. And while I love the celebration, I want to share the reason behind it, for those who don't know.

Prior to the Stonewall Riots, raids on gay bars were a fact of life. Not only could you find yourself in jail and beaten but sometimes names were published in the newspaper. There was often a lookout at the bars and if the word went out, the women who of course had been dancing with other women and then men who were dancing with other men would switch so when the police showed up male and female were dancing together. If you were a woman you were supposed to have a three items of female clothing on, the same if you were a guy. Feminine looking lesbians were often let go but a butch dyke could find herself beaten and sometimes even raped. Effeminate men and those dressed in drag were also mistreated.

In 1966, the Mattachine Society (an early gay rights organization) complained to city officials, that gay men were being entrapped by police and charging them with indecency. The Mattachine Society also challenged the State Liquor Society regarding their policies on gay bars. At that time, a bar could lose its liquor license if it was found serving a group of three or more homosexuals. And it was instrumental in getting the laws changed and gay bars sprang up all over the city.

In the summer of 1969, John Lindsay was the mayor of NYC and running for reelection. He had lost his party’s primary and grasping at straws decided to clean up the city bars. Stonewall Inn had a number of reasons that the police would target it. It operated without a liquor license, had ties with organized crime, and offered scantily clad go-go boys as entertainment. Race was probably also a factor, the Stonewall bar was heavily frequented by blacks and Hispanics. The decision by the police to raid the bar in the manner they did may have been influenced by the fact that most of the “homosexuals” they would encounter were of color and therefore even more objectionable. A large percentage of the rioters were also men of color. The other reason for the raid “supposedly” was because it was the central location for gathering information on gay men who worked on Wall Street. Eventually the scene quieted down, but the crowd returned again the next night. While less violent than the first night, the crowd had the same electricity that was seen in the first. Skirmishes between the rioters and the police ensued until approximately 4:00 AM. The third day of rioting fell five days after the raid on the Stonewall Inn. On that Wednesday, 1,000 people congregated at the bar and again caused extensive property damage. Anger and outrage against the way police had treated gay people for years previous burst to the surface.

The following year, in commemoration of the Stonewall Riots, the Gay Liberation Front which had grown out of the riot, organized a march from Greenwich Village to Central Park. Between 5,000 and 10,000 men and women attended the march. Many major American cities including New York City, Chicago, Houston, San Francisco, Seattle and Minneapolis as well as cities in Canada, the UK and Australia hold Gay Pride Marches in June, in honor of Stonewall.

So by all means enjoy yourself at Pride and have fun, just don’t forget the people of Stonewall and what our celebration is really about.

Cameron is currently going through puberty and menopause at the same time. He is currently job hunting and thinking about going to university. He is looking forward to Pride and his birthday and you can find him at the GLCCA Fridays between 3 and 6.
YWCA Anchorage to host Social Justice Event featuring local Lesbians

Opening Minds and Hearts – Introducing You to Cultures in Your Community (OMH) is a social justice initiative of the YWCA Anchorage, meeting the YWCA’s mission of Eliminating Racism and Empowering Women. During Pride Week, a panel of three Anchorage lesbians will speak at this luncheon, sharing about their experiences of how being a lesbian has affected their personal and professional lives.

This June OMH event featuring Lesbians is the sixth in this series of luncheon events, which features different panels of women community leaders from specific ethnic, racial, and social communities – each at it’s own event. Past events have featured panelists of politicians, Native, African American, Asian, and Pacific Islander women.

The YWCA Anchorage’s June OMH event will be held Wednesday June 21, 2006 at the Wilda Marston Theatre in the Loussac Library. Lunch will be served in the lobby from 11:45 am – 12:10 pm, and the program will begin in the theatre at 12:15. The cost to attend will be $10 including lunch, and $2 for the program only. Seating is limited and reservations are required.

Three Anchorage Lesbians will serve as panelists: Betsy Haines, a past Olympian, committed partner and mother of two, and Alyeska Pipeline executive, Melba Cooke, an AIDS Activist and entrepreneur, and Leslie Kimiko, a dancer, dance instruction, writer, drummer and step-mom, will serve as panelists. Each woman will have 10-15 minutes to answer four questions:

1. Will you please share with us about your personal journey of personal acceptance as a Lesbian and your involvement in the LGBT community?
2. Can you please speak about any discrimination, barriers, challenges and/or obstacles you have experienced personally and professionally due to your being a lesbian?
3. What advice do you have for young lesbians?
4. How can our community be more accepting and supportive of LGBT individuals?

The YWCA Anchorage is proud to sponsor this Opening Minds and Hearts event as part of Gay Pride Week. Please call 644-9607 or e-mail harnett@ywcaak.org to make your reservations and advance payment.

The YWCA Anchorage offers programs in Women’s Health, Women’s Finances, Social Justice, and Empowering Youth. More information about our programs and events can be found on our website www.ywcaak.org or you may call 644-9600.

F ken Freedman Counseling

566-1708

Individuals and Couples
...with special insight into issues for Gays & Lesbians & Bisexuals &
Transgender People & HIV/AIDS

650 W. International Airport Rd., Ste. 204
Anchorage, AK 99518-1121
fken@alaska.net/fax: 248-2421
URL: www.alaska.net/~fken

Submit!

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

It is also a forum for personal expression, including creative fiction, non-fiction, poetry, drawings, comics, art, and photographs.

Submissions are due on the 10th for possible inclusion in the next issue, but are accepted at any time.

Photos should be in JPEG format, and at least 300 dpi.

Submissions can be sent digitally to northview@identityinc.org or by mail
P.O. Box 200070
Anchorage, AK 99520-0070

June 2006
I am a graduate school dropout. I rarely pay my RV storage bill on time. My car is overdue for an oil change. Something in my fridge is rotten. Maybe two things. I have visible roots. I never fold my underwear. I consumed corn dogs, Laffy Taffy, and Bud light for dinner. My cat likes my girlfriend better than me. Sometimes my stepdaughter goes to school with store bought cookies for the bake sale. But I’m gay. And, wonder of all wonders, this allows me a get out of failure free card come one sunny day each June.

Pride, (because we convert verbs to nouns, us gays), is a lot like Thanksgiving. Not the gluttonous free for all that one usually associates with the holiday, but rather a day to look back, take stock, and acknowledge the good stuff.

When I was 19, Pride was one of a slew of days where my sexual orientation took center stage. Sporting a shaved head, rainbow rings, white ribbed tanks, baggy jeans, and so help me, even a chain wallet, I wore my dyke aesthetic like too much teenage eye shadow. Gay was my identity in those days. I was a lesbian avenger, president of my college gay organization, Girlfriend of the month in Girlfriend’s magazine, a go-go dancer at a lesbian nightclub. I spoke on panels, (wo)manned information tables, organized rallies, hosted fundraisers, campaigned against anti-gay legislation, wrote letters for Amnesty International, (which I suppose one doesn’t have to be gay to do, just as straight boys can join drama club); Pride was another day on a very gay calendar.

At 30, I’ve earned many more things to be proud of, and the importance of being gay no longer holds the same urgency. Come to think of it, few things lately exert that raw pull which sent me running into the fray, eager to discover what all the fuss was about. Not that I’m slowing down, by any means. Friends who know me can attest to the fact that instead of rainbow rings and a buzz cut, I now often sport exercise gear and a harried expression, emblematic of a woman with little trouble staying busy.

But has “I’m gay” become just an afterthought? I suppose in a way it has. It’s the thought I have immediately after a straight boy tries to pick me up. It’s the thought I have after, having met my stepdaughter, neighbors inquire about my husband. It’s the thought I have after particularly mind blowing sex with my girlfriend.

Suffice it to say that I’m proud of who I am, on most days. And I happen to be, among other things, pretty gay. It’s not the kind of slogan that could grace a bumper sticker, or a tee shirt, but I’m becoming more convoluted in my (hardly) old age. If there’s any justice in the world, my personality will form wrinkles at a faster clip than my forehead.

But come June 21st, I will be Gay, and. Gay and thirty, Gay and a step mom, Gay and adjunct faculty, Gay and brushing my teeth, Gay and impossibly late on the RV storage bill, Gay and thirsty, Gay and bloated, Gay and proud.

Sans chain wallet.
Stride for Pride in the Name of Love

Author’s note: It’s been a year, and Madison and Stephanie are doing fine without us watching them. Okay, they’re not. They broke up. Again. But I’m still taking a break from their story. To complain or give thanks, email lcarpenter@gci.net.

My girlfriend and I are sitting at the curb before the start of the Heart Run. All these healthy people in spandex are walking around with water bottles and baseball caps. Freckled girls are pinning on their racing bibs, and burly men and women stretch their legs.

“Isn’t this fun?” I say, invigorated from our bike ride to UAA and nervous about the number of good runners I’ve seen.

“Yes,” she agrees, grateful her coffee didn’t melt her Nalgene bottle. “Imagine, at the Outgames, these will all be gay people.”

And I imagine. And I am very excited indeed. The Outgames isn’t something that my wallet could easily swallow, so among many fundraisers, I am organizing the inaugural Stride for Pride, a five-kilometer run/walk. Who knows, it could be the beginning of our own Alaska Gay Games.

Imagine. It is a day like so many summer days in Alaska. Gray clouds float in a blue sky over the Chugach Mountains. Moose munch on shrubbery. And fairies are running the streets of Anchorage.

“Mommy! Mommy!” A little girl runs to the window, pointing. “Look at all the fairies!”

“That’s nice, dear, finish your cereal.” Her mother says, flicking the newspaper open.

“But why aren’t they flying? And why are they so hairy? Can I join them?”

“Why, of course, you can join them, Little Girl,” says the voiceover from above. “No, no, don’t bother with your net because these fairies won’t fit in a jar on the mantel. These are not garden pixies who live in tulips and sprinkle dust on sleeping boys so they can fly away and meet Peter Pan. These fairies are big, some bigger than me and you and some in need of a good shave.”

There is a little fairy with pink tights, satin bows and last year’s Halloween costume. She runs and walks and skips between her two daddies and next to fairies in matching tank tops and with glitter in their mustaches. A tough girl in a brand-new sports bra surges on the hill to beat her girlfriend's ex-girlfriend. A woman who has never participated in an organized sports event walks the course in platform shoes and for the first time in her life checks the female box when she registers. A boy who has worked out in the gym for months is proud to show his muscles but unsure of his time. An athlete preparing for a marathon runs this race to show support for her friends and ends up winning a gift certificate to her favorite store as a door prize.

Stride for Pride will take place Saturday, June 24, 2006, before the annual Pride parade and be a part of the festivities of Anchorage PrideFest 2006. The course will begin on the Park Strip, follow streets to the Coastal Trail and return to the Park Strip. This race welcomes all members of our community, gay, straight, bisexual, transgender and transsexual.

Participants choose the category they most identify with, male or female, or they can wear their wings and join the special category for racing fairies. Proceeds from Stride for Pride will benefit athletes participating in the 2006 Gay Games in Chicago and the first-ever World Outgames in Montreal.

For more information, check out www.anchoragepride.com or email lcarpenter@gci.net.
More New Faces Join The Identity Board

**Jeremiah Rodriguez:** Well to begin I am a gay twenty year old male living in Anchorage. I want to be a board member because I feel (as does everyone else) we need “new blood”. My journey began when I walked threw the center’s doors last May. There I met a guy who became my mentor; my advisor. He told me some of the great things the community has done in the past, told me of its struggle to survive, than challenged me to get involved. Told me that I could make a difference, so here I stand, here and now, willing to take the risk and bring the community into the next phase of development.

I first was a walk-in patron who became a volunteer, and now I am planning on becoming a board member. Since January 13, 2006, I have rearranged the center so that it feels bigger, more homeier. Some people were kind of hesitant when it came to this task, saying that some people might not like it, my attitude was who cares what others think, I was willing to take the risk of failure by rearranging the center, as of yet I have not had one complaint about it.

Slowly change is coming to the center, and with the change will come community. The GLBTA community will once again get involved in the center like it did back when it opened four years ago, and I am more than willing to take it there.

One of the groups I want to get involved is the youth, for it is my belief that it is the youth of today that will determine rather or not we are a community tomorrow. We need to take the risk and advertise our selves, we need to let people we are here, most of the youth I have talked with have no idea there is a community center for them, so I say lets get them.

I am a man of visions, I see this place becoming more, we just have to take the risk and go for the gold. With the support of all, we can become united.

**Christie Schultz:** Presently I have a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology (BA Psychology). April of 2006 I will have a Master of Science in Counseling Psychology (MSCP). I was a prevention coordinator for the Strengthening Families Program from Sept. 2004-April 2005. The funding was cut for that program, otherwise, I’d still be there....maybe :)

Prevention coordinator for Strengthening Families Program. Acted as a personal advocate for youth and families. Provided information/referral resources and linked to supportive services, including private and public organizations. Facilitated children’s group ages 8-12.

Life Coach 1 (LCI). I Provide direct and indirect support, guidance, companionship and trainings to individuals experiencing psychiatric and/or developmental disabilities.

In addition, I’m currently working with clients that are assessed in accordance with the American Society for Addictive Medicine (ASAM) Patient Placement Criteria 2ndRevised (PPC-2R) and the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders 4th Edition Text Revised (DSM-IV-TR) for III.5 level of care, clinically managed high intensive residential services.
Pride, like joy, can be a fleeting thing. I have never been happy with my appearance. And, yes, ON PAPER, I am a Transwoman... a WOMAN with the bad luck to be born with a female brain and a “male” pelvis. But this morning I had a realization that the people that I work with lately have been treating me like any other woman. I may NEVER be “beautiful” but I was finally coming to be comfortable with me as I am, although some minor improvements can still be tinkered with……like toning up and getting more fit.

I have always hated exercise. I hated it in school PE, I hated it in the Marine Corps with a passion! So I have avoided it for a great many years. But after losing my weight with gastric bypass surgery and doing no exercise for the first 2 plus years I finally found a venue I wanted to try and was determined to give it a good effort. I went to CURVES after signing up at the woman’s show.

I went in, met with the trainer, Vickie, and filled out all the forms, waivers, and such. I went through the initial session and survived... and ENJOYED it! As much as I HATED exercise my entire life I ENJOYED this! I was excited and feeling like this was a new beginning for me. I not only enjoyed my first session, but was looking forward to my next session!

Until.........

15 minutes after I left the shop I got a call on my cell phone... I was still setting in the parking lot out front. The Owner of the shop had looked at my paperwork and noticed where my drivers license had been photocopied and saw the “MALE” on the card. The whole time I was in the shop everyone treated me as WHO I AM... but one look at the card and she called me to tell me I am not welcome there. “We have the right to a “woman’s only business”. It seems that even after all the hard work of those like Gloria Steinem, Helen Guernsey Brown, Bella Abzug and others, that a woman is defined by her vagina. Not her abilities, her personality, or her capacity to nurture or love..... her vagina.

I caused no trouble, They don’t have group-viewing dressing rooms, they only have a SINGLE shower room behind a locked door (which I had NO INTENTION of using!)...HECK! I even exercise in a flattening girdle! Nobody took me for anything other than how I am... until the state’s lil plastic “identity visa” threw me in their face.

So, if you ever go to curves, take your vagina.... They don’t take American Express, but they won’t take YOU without it either.

Laura E. O’Lacy
usmclass@gci.net

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**Anchorage PrideFest 2006**

June 17 – 25.

Volunteers Needed!

If you would like to Volunteer, please call
244-8742 or email info@anchorpride.com
or call the GLCCA @ 929-4528
1 in 4 HIV positive individuals are not aware of their status

National HIV Testing Week
June 20 - 27, 2006
Get tested at the following locations:
Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association
(1057 W. Fireweed Lane, Suite 102)
Tuesday, June 20th 3:30-6:30 PM
Tuesday, June 27th 3:00-8:00 PM
PrideFest at the Municipality Health Clinic
(9th Ave & L St)
Saturday, June 24th 1:00-5:00 PM
www.alaskanaids.org 1-800-478-AIDS(2437)
**June 14 – June 21**
- “Pride on Screen” Films at OutNorth – [www.outnorth.org](http://www.outnorth.org)
- “Diversity” Art Project on display at OutNorth

**Saturday, June 17**
- 11am – Gay Memorial Service, Anchorage Memorial Park Cemetery (6th & Fairbanks St, enter off Fairbanks St)
- 11am – Gay Days at H2Oasis. All ages welcome. Purchase tickets in advance for $20.00 at Identity. MCC will sell burgers and hotdogs in the parking lot. Bring your own towels.
- 1pm – Misty Dawn graveside service, Anchorage Memorial Park Cemetery
- 8pm – Pride Dance Party at the Den on UAA campus - $5 – All Ages

**Sunday, June 18**
- 4pm – Kick-Off BBQ The Raven (708 E 4th Ave) – Free - 21 and up.

**Monday, June 19**
- 5:30 and 8pm – Movie “Adam and Steve” Bear Tooth Theatre Pub (1230 W 27th) - $3 - food extra

**Tuesday, June 20**
- 7pm – GaYme Night – Starbucks Downtown (610 W. 5th Ave) Hosted by Sister Mary Sunshine. All ages, just buy a drink! You can bring your own games or play the ones she makes up…prizes for the winners!

**Wednesday, June 21**
- 11:45am – Opening Minds and Hearts by the YWCA, Wilda Marston Theatre, Loussac Library. Lunch and Presentation - $12.00 - Please call 644-9607 or e-mail harnett@ywcaak.org to

**Thursday, June 22**
- 6pm - Adam and Steve present Drag Queen Bingo, The Den at UAA, $10 or $5 if dressed in drag.

**Friday, June 23**
- 7pm Doors Open; 8pm Program Begins – Mr./Miss/Ms. Gay Anchorage Pageant, Bernie’s Bungalow Lounge (626 D Street, between 6th and 7th Ave) Tickets $15.00 – 21 and up. Visit [www.myspace.com/mga](http://www.myspace.com/mga) for more information.

**Saturday, June 24**
- 9am – Stride For Pride 5K Walk/Run – Applications on line at [www.anchoragepride.com](http://www.anchoragepride.com)
- 11am - The Imperial Court of All Alaska presents the Celebrating Diversity Parade, downtown (E St to 6th Ave to K Street)
- Noon - 5pm - Festival on the Parkstrip (between I & L St)
- 9pm - Sixth Annual Allie's Slave for a Date Auction, Mad Myrna's (530 E 5th Ave), $3 cover charge, 21 & over

**Sunday, June 25**
- 2pm - Metropolitan Community Church presents Pride Service, Immanuel Presbyterian Church (2311 Pembroke St near Boniface & E 24th Ave)
- 3-6pm - The Last Frontier Men's Club’s presents End of Pride BBQ, Alaska Bear Co. behind Mad Myrna’s (530 E 5th Ave) $5

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**www.anchoragepride.com**

Download application for vendors, performers, sponsors, program and events at [www.anchoragepride.com](http://www.anchoragepride.com)
Thank you,
April Adopt-a-Day Sponsors!

Less than all days are adopted each month, but the rent at the GLCCA goes on. If you would like to adopt some special day but can’t come up with $50.00 at one time, give Phyllis a call for some suggestions on adopting your special day or days. 929-4528

1 Bert Mead
1 Lorraine Eckstein & Pamela Miller - Anniversary
5 Kirt Beck & Roger Crandy - Anniversary
5 Marilyn & Arthur Carpenter for Laura's Birthday
6 PFLAG - Anchorage
8 Mikel Haase in memory of his father’s birthday
8 Happy Birthday to Patricia Bruce
9 Susie Burton
10 Corbett Mothe
11 Evelyn Doggett
12 Jackie Buckley
12 Evelyn Doggett
13 Women's Fun Book Club
14 Women's Fun Book Club
14 Transgender Support Group
15 Judy Toenies
15 Denise Trujillo for Katy's birthday
17 Phyllis Rhodes
18 Evelyn Doggett
19 Jim Bruce
20 Chris Pearson honoring Michael French & Mark Trick
21 Phyllis Rhodes
22 Happy Birthday to Barbara Stauffer
23 Jen Kohout & Karen Konopacki - everyday matters
24 Phyllis Rhodes
25 Evelyn Doggett
26 DeAnn Cain for Georgia Holton
27 Jackey Buckley
28 Happy Birthday Phyllis from Pam Richter
28 Happy Birthday Phyllis from Barbara Garrison
29 Stacy Melton congratulates Christie Schultz
30 Jackie Buckley
30 Jen Kohout & Karen Konopacki
### Identity Programs

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<tr>
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<td>Gay and Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage (GLCCA). Ste. 103, 2110 East Northern Lights Boulevard, Anchorage. 907-929-4528</td>
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### Anchorage Events

**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 Myma’s

**Wed**  
IMRU2, 5:30 - 7 PM, first and third Wednesdays, GLCCA, 566-IMRU, leave message for more information (currently on summer break until September)

Karaoke Night' hosted by "K" Entertainment, 8:30 PM, Mad Myma’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

"Karaoke Night" hosted by "K" Entertainment, 10 PM; Mad Myma’s

**Fri**  
Lunch, everyone invited (HIV+, volunteers, and friends), Noon - 1 PM, Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association (4A’s), Ste. 102, 1057 W. Fireweed Ln., 263-2050.

“Friday Night Divas Show,” 9 PM, Mad Myma’s

**Sat**  
SLAA (Sex & Love Addicts Anonymous), Noon, Anchorage Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 566-1133

**Sun**  
Buddhist Morning Service, 11 AM, White Lotus Center for Shin Buddhism, 4105 Turnagain Blvd., Suite G2, 334-9984

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 Myma’s, 276-9762 (Jim)

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**Fairbanks Events**

**Tue**  
PFLAG, 5:30 PM, third Tuesday, 604 Barnette Street, Room101, 907-45P-FLAG.

**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**  
Homophonic Radio, 3-5 PM, KSUA-FM 91.5

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**Juneau Events**

**Wed**  
Social gathering after work, Summit Lounge

“Women’s Prerogative,” 9 - 10 PM, KTOO-FM

**Fri**  
Juneau Pride Chorus, 5:30 - 7:30 PM, Resurrection Lutheran Church, 907-789-6167 (Marsha)

**Sat**  
PFLAG, 10:30 AM - 12:30 PM, first Saturday, Mendenhall Library Conference Room

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**PLEASE HELP KEEP THIS SECTION CURRENT!**

**SEND NEW AND UPDATED LISTINGS TO**

NORTHVIEW@IDENTITYINC.ORG
ORGANIZATIONS

Adam and Steve, a social group for young gay, bi, and questioning men. Weekly activities and fun community events. 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 Four A's at 7 PM) who plan all activities. Come meet new young queer men in a safe and supportive environment. 907-263-2050. www.anchoragecore.org

Alaska AIDS Assistance Association (Four A's), provides support to individuals living with HIV/AIDS and their families in 91% of the state (all areas except for Fairbanks), and works to eliminate HIV transmission and stigma through prevention and awareness efforts. 1057 W Fireweed, Suite 102, Anchorage, AK (907) 263-2050, statewide helpline: 1-800-478-AIDS, www.alaskanaids.org

Alaska Civil Liberties Union, a membership-based non-profit, non-partisan organization dedicated to preserving and defending the guarantees of individual liberty found in the Alaska Constitution and the U.S. Bill of Rights through litigation, education and legislative advocacy. We are the Alaska state affiliate of the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU). P.O. Box 201844, Anchorage, AK 99520-1844. Phone: (907) 276-2258, Fax: (907) 258-0288, Email: akclu@akclu.org

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. AKCR@yahoo.com

The Alaska Native Aurora Society is a social group for Alaska Native/American Indian gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning men, and those who love them. We have weekly gatherings, activities, Alaska Native cultural events and social events every month. We strive to create a healthy gay, bisexual, transgender and questioning Native community in Anchorage. Membership is not limited to those who reside in Alaska’s urban centers, but we welcome those who live in remote rural communities and those who live outside of the state. Our events and activities are drug free, safe and supportive so everyone feels welcomed. You can subscribe to our Yahoo group at ANMensgroup-subscribe@yahoo.com

Alcoholics Anonymous: Gay, Joyous, & Free. AA group for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered individuals, and their allies. Open 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.

Aquarian Foundation services. 8 PM Wednesdays, 11 AM Sundays. 8500 LaViento Drive, Anchorage. 907-349-9955.

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. 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 women artists for women. celebrationofchange@email.com

Committee for Equality. Box 34202, Juneau, AK 99803. bsara@gci.net

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

The Family (a UAA Student Club), hosts discussion groups, potlucks, and various other social, political, and awareness 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/clubcouncil/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 use 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. 2110 E. Northern Lights Blvd., Ste 103 (between the Burger Cache & Don Jose’s). 907-929-GLBT. glcca@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 supportive of the goals and objectives of Identity, Inc. 6 - 11 PM daily. If you need information or would like to be a part of this service, please call 907-258-4777 (Anchorage), 888-901-9876 (statewide).

The Gay Club (a UAF student organization), c/o Student Activities Box 4, Wood Center, University of Alaska, Fairbanks 99775. 907-474-6507. fbagla@uaf.edu, www.uaf.edu/agla

GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network). Membership is confidential. We welcome educators and non-educator allies who are interested in the problems of GLBT youth in our public schools. Anchorage 907-562-7161 (Fred) hillman@alaska.net, Fairbanks Lisa Slayton 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 GLBTA community in Alaska. Programs include the Gay and Lesbian HelpLine, NorthVIEW, PrideFest, Living Out Loud Youth Conference/Seminars, and the Gay & Lesbian Community Center of Anchorage. P.O. Box 200070, Anchorage, AK 99520-0070. 907-929-GLBT. www.identityinc.org

Imperial Court of All Alaska (ICOAA), sponsors the Memorial Day weekend Ektuma 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.com
IMRU2, 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, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays at GLCCA. 907-566-IMRU(4678) to leave message.

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, lending library, and counseling support. 907-452-4222 (for assistance or volunteering information).

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. 907-258-5266. mccanchorage@yahoo.com www.geocities.com/mccanchorage

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

OPAL, 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. 3800 DeBarr Rd., Anchorage, AK 99508. 907-279-3800. volunteer@outnorth.org www.outnorth.org


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

PFLAG of Sitka (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians & Gays) Meetings: 7 PM second and fourth Sundays. Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Hall: 408 Marine, Sitka. P.O. Box 6515, Sitka, AK. 907-747-3674. sitkapflag@yahoo.com

PrideFest Steering Committee of Identity 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


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. P.O. 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@gci.net

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 Haase at michaelh2001@gci.net or michaelh2001@palm.net. http://groups.yahoo.com/group/alaskagaydiscussion

Alaska GLBT News, a weekly 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 & Southcentral 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

Grzł List, a mailing list for the Women’s Community. Event announcements, inquiries, issue discussion, and relevant topics of concern for women. Delivered every Thursday. GrzłList@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, P.O. 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 PFLAG Fairbanks, P.O. Box 82290, Fairbanks, AK 99708. 907-45-PFLAG.
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