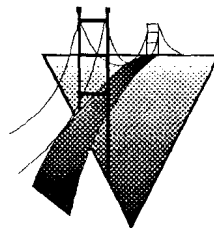


Erie Gay Community Newsletter

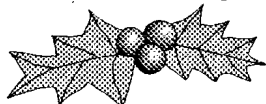
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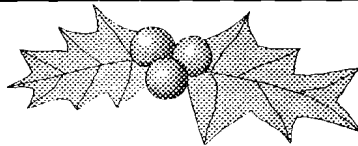
December, 1993

Celebrating the goodness & diversity of Erie area's lesbian, gay & bisexual community

• = New or Modified Group/Event this issue



Calendar



Important Note: Events listed here are specifically gay or of interest to a lot of lesbigay people. If you know of an event that should be listed here, please get the info to us by the 20th of the month. For out of town events, call a day or two before to confirm that it is still on; mistakes can occur and circumstances can change at the last moment. Also, please note our e-mail address! From CompuServe, 70431,1622 or from Internet 70431.1622@compuserve.com

•Dec 4 & 7—**A Wedding Banquet** Hit Chinese movie about a gay Chinese man, his American lover, and his attempt to convince his family he's straight. In Jamestown at Reg Lenna Auditorium, (716)484-7070.

•Dec 5—**Discovery Journal: A Time of AIDS** "Fighting for Life." Looks at the social complications of AIDS. On Discovery at 1 p.m.

•Dec 6—**Only Human: Sex** 10 p.m. and 1 a.m. on The Learning Channel.

•Dec 6—**Women's College Soccer** 1 p.m. on ESPN.

•Dec 6—**Bodybuilding** On ESPN at 9 p.m.

•Dec 6—**Lady Sings the Blues (1972)** Biographical drama about the African-American jazz singer Billie Holliday, starring Diana Ross. Don't expect the movie to go into

Holliday's bisexuality. On American Movie Channel at 3:30 a.m.

•Dec 8—**Hate Rock: MTV News Special Report** On MTV at 9:30 p.m.

•Dec 8—**HUGS East Discussion on Gay Sexuality (Mentor OH)** Led by Blance and Chris. JoAnn Loulan video on lesbian sexuality. At East Shore Unitarian Universalist Church, 8181 S. Center. For info: (216)974-8909.

•Dec 9—**Funny Gay Males (Pittsburgh)** Hilarious trio of gay male comics will perform at Pittsburgh's Metropol. Tickets are \$21 advance, \$23 at door, and proceeds benefit the League of Gay and Lesbian Voters. Ticket price includes: *Hors d'oeuvres* (hot and cold) starting at 6 p.m., *Show* starting at 7 p.m., *Dance* after the show (alternative music), and *Cash Bar*.

performers," and Variety called them "Fresh, even bracing..." For advance tickets send \$21 for each person to LGLV, Penn West Office Building, Suite 150, Pittsburgh PA 15221. For more info call (412)243-8337 or (412)362-8406.

•Dec 9—**Janet Jackson and Tony Toni Tone in Concert (Buffalo)** Memorial Auditorium, Tickets (716)847-1688 (no Erie outlets for these tickets).

•Dec 10—**Men's Coffeehouse at Unitarian**



Calendar - turn to page 3

Ad Rates

Businesses and Sponsors! Show your support and reach Erie's lesbian community directly! Advertising space is now available in all issues for just \$20 for an eighth page ad, \$35 for a quarter page ad, and \$65 for a half page ad. Write the address above or call our Advertising Director at (814) 455-0549 for further details!

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Statement of Purpose

The purpose of *Erie Gay Community Newsletter* is to serve as a voice for lesbians, bisexuals, gay men and our friends & families in the Erie area. We wish this newsletter to be a source of information, support and affirmation. We also see *EGCN* as a vehicle for celebration of the goodness and diversity of the lesbian, gay and bisexual communities. *EGCN* is a cooperative effort between lesbian groups and individuals to help our community develop and thrive.

Thanks to Paula King
for the cover art!

Editorial Policy

We will consider for publication any material which broadens our understanding of our lifestyles and each other. Views and opinions appearing in this newsletter do not necessarily represent those of the staff nor those of the component groups.

We will not publish any material which promotes hatred or discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation, race, gender, religion, age, class, physical ability or any other reason. We do not support exploitation of minors.

All materials submitted must be signed so we can contact the authors should we need to consider editorial revisions. However, within the pages of the newsletter, articles may appear anonymously, upon request, and strict confidentiality will be observed. If you wish to have your full name published, you must send a written and signed note that gives us permission to do so. This publication will not "out" anyone.

We welcome and encourage all readers to submit news for publication and to share your comments, criticisms, and positive feelings with us.

Materials should be sent to: EGCN; PO Box 3063; Erie, PA 16508-3063. Call (814) 456-9833 for more information. Email: CompuServe: 70431, 1622.

Before submitting, please send SASE for writer's guidelines.

Universalist Congregation of Erie Bring food to pass. At 7pm at UU, 7180 New Perry Highway. (814)455-9049 for more info.

• **Dec 10—Womyn's Dance (Buffalo)** Unitarian Church, Elmwood and West Ferry, \$5 admission. DJ-Shari, beer, wine, soda, snacks, smoke-free environment. Proceeds benefit Gay & Lesbian Youth Services of Western NY. Info (716)855-0221.

• **Dec 10—Janet Jackson and Tony Toni Tone in Concert (Cleveland)** Richfield Coliseum, tickets at Ticketmaster (216)241-5555.

• **Dec 10 & 11—Crying Game** Suspenseful drama in Zurn 104, Gannon University, Erie. (Dec. 10 at 9 p.m. and Dec. 11 at 7 p.m.).

• **Dec 11—Therapeutic Massage By Patrick McNamara (Jamestown)** A percentage of profits will go to Jamestown Social Group/10% Network. Call (716) 484-7285.

Dec 11—Gay and Lesbian Book Fair (Jamestown) 7:00 p.m. at the Unitarian Church in Jamestown, 1255 Prendergrast. This is a fundraiser for the Jamestown Social Group (now called 10% Network). "Many gay and lesbian titles will be featured, as well as other gift books and calendars for those who wish to shop for Christmas. There will be \$1,800 in merchandise." Refreshments, Christmas carols, and wrapping materials will also be featured. No credit cards; cash or checks only. 20% of the profits go to our group, and half of those profits will go to AIDS Community Services' Christmas basket project." This event should be considered a regular meeting of the group. They're having it a week earlier than usual to accommodate another function at the church. Info, call John (716) 484-7285.

• **Dec 11—Discovery Journal: A Time of AIDS** "The End of the Beginning." Highly medical look at the disease. On Discovery at 5 p.m. and 2 a.m. Also broadcast on Dec. 12 at 1 p.m.

• **Dec 11—Oven Productions' Holiday Party for Womyn (Cleveland)** At the Cleveland Public Theatre, 6415 Detroit Ave. Features karaoke, dancing, buffet. \$10 (more if you can, less if you can't). Advance tickets only, available at Gifts of Athena Book Store, for more info call (216)321-7799.

• **Dec 11—OWLS Potluck and Old Videos (Cleveland)** Older, Wiser Lesbians get-together. Call Terri and Doreen for place and time (216)261-3206.

• **Dec 11—HUGS East Coffeehouse (Mentor OH)** 8 p.m. to midnight. Lesbian/gay coffeehouse featuring music by Susan Hagan. \$5, more or less. Specialty coffees, teas, pop, and gourmet sweets for sale. Benefits Hard Hatted Women, a Cleveland-based group that supports women in nontraditional blue collar jobs. East Shore Unitarian Universalist Church, 8181 S. Center St. Info: (216)974-8909.

• **Dec 11—"Welcome to the Holidays" Concert by North Coast Men's Chorus (Cleveland)** at Euclid Avenue Congregational Church, 9606 Euclid Ave., 8 p.m. Tickets \$10 in advance, \$12 door, from Advantix, (216)241-6000, or the Chorus at (216)473-8919.

• **Dec 12—Integrity Meeting** 7 p.m. at St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Erie

• **Dec 12—Gay & Lesbian Educators Pot Luck (Buffalo)** Info call: (716) 883-4750.

• **Dec 12—Hot, Sexy & Safer With Suzy Landolph** 11 p.m. on Comedy Central Channel. A humorous, erotic approach to talking about safer sex.



INTEGRITY

A Christian-based spiritual and support group sponsored by the Episcopalian Church that welcomes people of all faiths. Meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month at 7 pm at St. Paul's Cathedral, 133 W 6th St. Erie, PA

Our mailing address is: Integrity-NWPA, PO Box 1782, Erie, PA 16507-1782.

For more information, call (814) 774-0903



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COME IN AND ASK US ABOUT HOLIDAY BASKETS AND BEANS.. THE COOL COFFEE GIFT TO GIVE THIS SEASON!

Calendar, cont'd from page 1

- **Dec 13—Dignity Meeting** For gay, lesbian and bisexual Catholics. At 8 p.m. Telephone 864-4627 for location.
- **Dec 13—Bodybuilding** On ESPN at 9 p.m.
- **Dec 14, 15, 19—Johnny Mathis Christmas Show (Cleveland)** Palace Theater, 1615 Euclid Avenue, Cleveland (216)241-6000. Other dates during his Cleveland gig are for season subscribers. By the way, Johnny came out a few years ago, and has been supporting gay rights causes.
- **Dec 15—American Justice: Hate Crimes** On A&E at 9 p.m.
- **Dec 15—Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory (Part 1 of 3)** On WQLN (PBS) at 10 p.m. This is part of a series that presents a portrait of American evangelism (also known as "Born-Again" Christianity), highlighting the breadth and diversity of the movement. In this part, four different congregations are profiled, including a church in California that grew out of the "Jesus Freak" movement of the 1960s.

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& GIFT CERTIFICATES for your entire
Christmas list!



- **Dec 15—Janet Jackson and Tony Toni Tone in Concert (Pittsburgh)** Civic Arena (412) 333-SEAT.
- **Dec 17—Liberace (1988)** On Lifetime at 4 p.m. Biographical drama.
- **Dec 18—Christmas Party at Leeward Lounge (Ashtabula)** Bring a covered dish. 1022 Bridge St.
- **Dec 18—"Christmas With Cherry Lane"** "Join us for a fun-filled Christmas party!" Showtime is at 11:30 p.m. Cover is \$2 at the Silver Slipper, in Erie.
- **Dec 18—Saturday Night Fever (1977)** On TBS at 10:50 p.m. Disco came out of the black and gay bars of the early 1970s, but most of straight white America was introduced to it through this movie about straight, white disco fanatics. The soundtrack was a must-have for any gay person (or anyone) who did the dance bars. There's also a substantial story line to the movie—it deals with prejudice (with a quick jab at homophobia), the sexual double standard, families, religion, and dead-end lives. Many women who saw the film were offended by its portrayal of women, but the movie was only depicting sexism, and hardly glorified it. And although it was stinky for John Travolta's ex-boyfriend to out him as a bisexual, it does somehow make John more interesting to watch.
- **Dec 19-Jan 9—Christelle DeCrease and Don Joint: "Personal Icons" Art Show at Cup-a-ccino's** 18 N. Park Row, Erie.
- **Dec 23—2 Girls Alone!** At Pie-in-the-Sky. Reservations recommended!
- **Dec 23—Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory (Part 2 of 3)** Origins and tenets of American evangelism, and how they have shaped American history and subculture. On WQLN (PBS) at 10 p.m.
- **Dec 24—Cup-a-ccino's Closes at 1:00 p.m.** Open till 3 p.m. for gift baskets.
- **Dec 24—The World According to Garp (1982)** Based on the novel of the same name, which deals with what life gives and takes away. John Lithgow plays a good-natured transsexual, living with a colony of women into a strange feminist cult. USA Network at 1 a.m.
- **Dec 24—Thelma & Louise (1991)** Showtime 11:45 p.m.
- **Dec 25—Silver Slipper Opens 9 p.m. Christmas Day**
- **Dec 26—A League of Their Own (1992)** HBO 8 p.m.

- **Dec 26—Women's College Volleyball** On ESPN at 5 p.m. (also on Dec. 27 at 1 p.m.)
- **Dec 28—A Different Story (1978)** Love story with an interesting twist: a gay man and lesbian fall in love. On TNT at 10:15 p.m.
- **Dec 28—Bill of Rights: Power to the People (An episode of Assignment Discovery)** On the Discovery Channel, 9 a.m.
- **Dec 28—Rock Hudson: Tall, Dark and Handsome** On A&E at 8 p.m. and at midnight Dec. 29. Hudson was THE male sex symbol of the 1950s, whose career in film and TV didn't end until his death from AIDS complications in the mid-1980s. His homosexuality had been rumored for a long time, though the public didn't take it too seriously (perhaps because he was romantically linked with Jim Nabors—a.k.a. Gomer Pyle—which seemed a bit far-fetched). The disclosure that the popular star had AIDS was very important: For many Americans—and this probably includes President Reagan—this put a human face on the disease and made it suddenly more real.
- **Dec 29—Great Performances "Leonard Bernstein: The Gift of Music"** The late gay maestro is celebrated in a collection of his most memorable film and TV appearances. On WQLN (PBS) at 9 p.m.
- **Dec 30—Hot, Sexy & Safer With Suzy Landolph** On USA Network at 12:30 a.m.
- **Dec 30—Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory (Part 3 of 3)** The numerical, economical and political strength of evangelism and the diversity of the movement. On WQLN (PBS) at 10 p.m.
- **Dec 30—Danny Kaye International Children's Awards** Danny Kaye was a gay entertainer who worked a lot on causes to improve children's lives around the world. This event, named in his honor, welcomes celebrity guests. On A&E at 10 p.m. and 2:00 a.m. Dec. 31.



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- **Dec 31—Cup-a-ccino's Closed for New Year's Eve** Cups will close at 4 p.m. Closed New Year's Day, will resume regular hours on Jan. 3.
- **Dec 31—New Year's Eve with 2 Girls Alone! at First Night Erie** 9:30-11:30 p.m. at the County Courthouse.
- **Dec 31—New Year's Eve Party at Leeward Lounge (Ashtabula)** \$5 includes food and champagne. 1022 Bridge St.
- **Dec 31—Silver Slipper New Year's Eve Party** 1317 State Street, Erie.
- **Dec 31—Bloomers' New Year's Eve Party (Pittsburgh)** at the Edgewood Club, Tenwood Avenue in Edgewood. Dinner (includes buffet and dessert) 8-10 p.m., DJ dance 10 p.m. Info (412)488-3990.
- **Dec 31-Jan 23—Compassion Quilts: County-wide AIDS Project (Dunkirk NY)** Exhibition at Adams Art Gallery, 600 Central Avenue, in Dunkirk. Coordinated by Kaelene Olson. (716)366-7450. Hours: Weekdays till 4:00 p.m., Friday till 6:00 p.m., Saturday and Sunday 1:00 to 4:00 p.m.
- **Jan 13—Lips Together Teeth Apart (Pittsburgh)** Performance of the play on this date will benefit Lambda Foundation/Borelli AIDS Fund. The play will also be shown on other dates in January, though not as a benefit. This is the play that had the Cobb County, Ga. County Commissioners so concerned about the arts bringing the "gay agenda" into their community that they cut off funding to the arts. The play is about two straight couples who spend a weekend in the Fire Island home a gay man left his sister when he died of AIDS. Call City Theatre at (412)431-CITY
- **Jan 8—"Midwinter Night's Dream" Concert by City of Good Neighbors Chorale (Buffalo)** At Unitarian Church, Elmwood and West Ferry. Ticket info: (716)883-1154.

☛ **Jan 10, 11, 12—American Playhouse: *Tales of the City*** On 9 p.m. three nights in a row on WQLN (PBS). Based on Armistead Maupin's *Tales of the City* series of fictional novels, which take place in San Francisco. Reportedly, the gay content has been left intact.

☛ **Jan 22, 1994—Bridges Dance/Pizza Party** See ad on back page!

☛ **Feb 26—Cause for Celebration! (Buffalo, Jamestown & Western NY)** Western NY's largest AIDS fundraiser, benefiting the work of AIDS Community Services. It's a two-part event: From 7 p.m. - 10 p.m., fundraising parties are held throughout Buffalo and western NY. From 10 p.m. to 2 a.m., guests from all of the parties gather together at the Main Place Mall, downtown Buffalo, for a gala celebration, featuring a Silent Auction, Casino gambling, Dance (live music), Cash Bar, and Fine Desserts. Jamestown's 10% Network (formerly Jamestown Social Group) is planning a fundraising party, and a celebration in Jamestown. For info contact them at (716)484-7285. If you are interested in hosting a party at your home or business, contact AIDS Community Services by January 3, 1994 (idea and information packets are available, complete with party invitations). People who can't host or attend a party may make an individual donation to Cause for Celebration. Make checks payable to AIDS Community Services, 121 West Tupper Street, Buffalo NY 14201 (716)847-0212.

Festivals & Conferences

☛ **May 21-22—Regional PFLAG Convention (Buffalo)** At Buffalo Conference Center on University of Buffalo's North Campus. Hosted by Buffalo and Erie Co. (NY) PFLAG (716)883-1154.

Unity '94 International Pride Celebration in New York City June 18-26, 1994: For an information/registration packet, contact Unity 94, 19 West 21st Street, Suite 1202, New York NY 10010 or call (212)633-9494.

June 18-25, 1994—Gay Games IV

June 26, 1994—Stonewall 25

June 18-26—Cultural Festival

A Reason to Celebrate: Margie Adam in Concert

by Sharon

There's something about Margie Adam which makes your heart stop and your mouth go dry. One minute she's there, as big as life, singing from a soul which must reach down to her toes; the next, she's all ebony and ivory, completely consumed by the instrument before her. Watching her at the Steinway, it's easy to lose track of who is playing whom. And so it was on Sunday, November 7, when Margie performed to a full house at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie.

It has been many years since Margie last toured. When she came off the road in 1984, the wellsprings had run dry. Listening to her now, it is difficult to believe that the Muse she fought so long to recapture could ever have been out of reach. Yet perhaps it was as elusive as she.

Margie's music defies definition. It is at once spiritual, poetic, political, humorous & intense. If art defines the artist, it is easy to see why Margie's eclectic style holds such wide appeal.

The true test of a musician's ability rests on how well s/he communicates with an audience. It is here that Margie's light shines most brightly. With her, the audience embarked upon a fabulous tour which combined moving lyrics, stunning instrumentals, wry wit, and just plain fun. Margie's performance was a cause for celebration in which Pink Sands and the Erie lesbian community should indeed "celebrate the distance each of us has come." ▼

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homo for the holidays
Give the gift of a subscription
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Newsletter this holiday season

Acceptance Comes in Small Steps

By Matt Bogardus


In 1987, the *Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders* (third edition - revised) was published and made available to the psychiatric community.

The manual is a psychiatric "bible" enabling psychiatrists and other mental health professionals to diagnose mental health disorders based on symptomology. For the gay community, this revision boosted our fight for acceptance by deleting almost all references to homosexuality.

The traditional psychiatrist view of homosexuality was as a psychosexual disorder resulting from disturbed relationships between parents and their children. As recently as 1973, many clinicians supported this view while others wished to reclassify homosexual behavior as a category of sexual dysfunction. Still others wished to drop homosexuality from the manual and view it as a normal variant of sexual behavior. On December 15, 1973, the American Psychiatric Association no longer considered homosexuality a mental disorder. A new category was established and called sexual orientation disturbance. This category remained when the third revision of the manual was published, but it was changed to ego-dystonic homosexuality. Their diagnosis referred to individuals who experienced homosexual arousal while stating an interest/desire in increasing heterosexual relationships. Their desire is most often due to societal pressure and not internal need. The trauma of these conflicting desires supposedly disables the individual from establishing healthy relationships (especially sexual). The revised third

edition dropped this diagnosis, citing its use only 13 times since the introduction of the third edition in 1981. The diagnosis is currently referred to as sexual disorders not otherwise specified. This diagnosis is still given to individuals reporting persistent distress over their sexual orientation and experiencing the inability to form healthy intimate relationships with those they are truly attracted to.

But even with the move toward viewing homosexuality as a disorder only if disabling because of societal pressure, gays still object to any mention of homosexuality in the manual. The mere mention of the label still gives the appearance of "sickness." In late 1993 or early 1994, the manual will be released with possible changes to this diagnosis. This revision may delete all reference to homosexuality and see it as a normal variant of sexual expression. At least in the psychiatric community, we will be seen as we really are—normal—and this will hopefully move us a small step closer to acceptance in society. ▼



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Entertainment Notes

- ☆ **WHERE TO GET GAY VIDEOS IN ERIE** We welcome the **Movie Stop**, which is advertising in the newsletter for the first time. They tell us that they're getting gay and lesbian videos into the store all the time and would like to let you know about that. They're located on 13th and State Streets, and are open every night till midnight.
- ☆ **COUNTRY INVITE** Lynne S., Line Dancer Extraordinaire, would like to send out a friendly invitation to come dancing: "If you're looking for something fun and free to do on Wednesday nights, when those midweek nothing-to-do blues hit, come out to Lizzie Borden's for country line dancing! Our official hours are 9:30 to 11:30, but sometimes we start at 9:00 and don't stop till 2:00. Our very patient and talented teacher, along with her many helpers, help us learn at least one new dance every week, as well as reviewing the ones we've already learned. So even if you're brand new to line dancing, you can jump in at any time. It's more like a party than a regular club night, so grab a friend and stop by Wednesday to dance or just to watch!"
- ☆ **TV CANCELLATIONS** Paula Poundstone's television show got the axe after only two shows. And the wonderfully gay-friendly **The Joan Rivers Show** has been cancelled, and will be off the air at the end of the year. Replacement Shows: **Henry Winkler** will play a Rush Limbaugh-like right wing talk-show host in Fox's new sitcom, *Monty*. (That's entertainment???)
- ☆ TV veterinarian **Steve Kritsick** announced on ABC's *Good Morning America* that he is gay and has AIDS. He says he came out because of a desire to help others, and wants to be "a spokesperson for life."
- ☆ **OCCASIONAL EXPOSURE** Last month, we noted that CBS's **Northern Exposure** had two recurring characters who were gay men. Some readers have complained that they haven't seen them on the show yet, perhaps because of a misunderstanding about the term "recurring character." So here's some clarification: a regular character appears regularly, like Ed or Maggie. A recurring character shows up from time to time, but isn't one of the regulars...like Chris's African-American brother Bernard.
- ☆ **RIVER'S END** Hollywood suffered a tragic loss last month when 23-year-old actor **River Phoenix** died from a drug overdose. Among the many movies he appeared in was *My Own Private Idaho*, which revolved around a group of male prostitutes. Phoenix decided that the movie should show love between his character and another man, and wrote the whole scene himself. In an interview with *The Advocate*, the interviewer said he thought that might have been the first romantic declaration of love between two men in a commercial American film, and River responded, "That's beautiful. I'm so proud." The movie is available at local video stores. Other Phoenix films you may want to check out include *Dogfight*, *Little Nikita*, *Mosquito Coast*, *Running On Empty*, and *Stand By Me*.
- ☆ **DOLLY ISN'T ONE** There's no truth to the rumor that **Dolly Parton** and close friend Judy Ogle are lovers, said Parton in the Nov. 27 *TV Guide*. "We have done everything together—but not *that*," she said. "But what would be the big deal if the rumors were true? There are a lot of gay people in the world! I'm just not one of 'em." She added, "I have many wonderful relationships with men and women that are love affairs of a sort. I mean, sex and love are two different things."
- ☆ **NO PERVERT PUPPETS** A couple weeks before the *Sesame Street Live* show made its Nov. 12 debut in Tupelo, Mississippi, rumors started flying that **Bert and Ernie** were lovers and would soon be married. Folks down that way got a little concerned and began calling the Coliseum. Jim Henson Productions took it seriously and announced that "There is no truth whatsoever to the rumors that Bert and Ernie are married." We know we'll all sleep better knowing those two

rascals aren't off somewhere gettin' a quick piece of felt.

- ☆ **GAY TEEN COMIC** Earlier this year, cartoonist **Lynn Johnston** (*For Better Or Worse*) did a sensitive five-week sequence about a teenage boy who reveals that he is gay. That sequence—which was a landmark in newspaper comics—is included in her new book *There Goes My Baby! A For Better Or Worse Collection* (Andrews & McMeel \$8.95)
- ☆ **ROBIN WILLIAMS DOES DRAG** In the new comedy movie, *Mrs. Doubtfire*, **Robin Williams** plays a sweet nanny. Actually, he starts out as an immature, irresponsible father who blows his visitation rights. But he wants to see his kids, so the only solution he can see is to pass himself off as Mrs. Doubtfire, mild-mannered British housekeeper-nanny. The miraculous transformation is brought about with make-up, expertly applied by his gay brother, played by **Harvey Fierstein** and his brother's lover.
- ☆ **AIDS DISCRIMINATION MOVIE** Watch for *Philadelphia*, the new movie starring **Tom Hanks** as a successful gay lawyer who sues his firm for AIDS discrimination. **Denzel Washington** plays his attorney, who has to deal with his own homophobia and AIDS-phobia. Showtime will broadcast *Making of Philadelphia* on Dec. 22 at 9:40 p.m., Dec. 26 3:40 p.m., Dec. 28 at 11:40 p.m.
- ☆ **CHRISTMAS BALLET** *The Nutcracker* was composed by gay Russian composer **Peter I. Tchaikovsky** and has been a perennial Christmas favorite for generations. This beautiful classic is interpreted in a variety of programs on TV this month. There is the Bolshoi Ballet's performance, called simply *The Nutcracker*, on A&E (Dec. 8, 23, and 25). Then there is *Disneyland Presents Mickey's Nutcracker* on the Disney Channel (Dec. 8, 21, and 24). And the Care Bears get into it with *Care Bears' Nutcracker Suite* on Disney at Dec. 4 and 24. Now playing at theaters around the country is the new movie (George Ballanchine's) *The Nutcracker*, starring MacCauley Culkin. You
- might* be able to get a ticket to see one of Lake Erie Ballet's Dec. 11 performances, but you act fast.
- ☆ **CLASSY CHRISTMAS CONCERT** If you're in the mood for a classy Christmas concert, tune into the PBS *Great Performances* program with "Jose Carreras, Diana Ross & Placido Domingo: Christmas in Vienna." The trio will offer a wide-ranging repertoire of some of the most beautiful Christmas songs, in a concert in Vienna. WQLN will broadcast the concert Dec. 11 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 25 at 10 a.m. and 8 p.m.
- ☆ **GIRL GROUP DRAMA** Encore will be airing the movie musical *Sparkle*, about a Supremes-like singing group that breaks up when one of its members hits it big. Air times are Dec. 7 at 11 p.m., Dec. 8 at 4:45 a.m. and 1:00 p.m., Dec 10 at 1 a.m., Dec. 10 at 11:00 a.m. and Dec. 16 at 7:00 p.m.
- ☆ **CAMP FUN** Pick up some classic dance moves and settle in for some camp entertainment with *That's Entertainment* and *That's Entertainment Part 2* on Showtime. The first movie features scenes from almost 100 old MGM musicals. (Airs Dec. 23 at 11 a.m. and Dec. 29 at 2:30 p.m.). *That's Entertainment Part 2* shows more musicals, but also includes scenes from comedies and dramas (Airs Dec. 13 at 4 p.m. and Dec. 29 at 4:45 p.m.).
- ☆ **LADY DRAGON** If you think a women's martial arts action flick sounds like fun, check out *Lady Dragon* and *Lady Dragon 2*, both starring Cynthia Rothrock as the kickboxer who takes on all kinds of creeps. *Lady Dragon* is on HBO Dec 7 and Dec. 11. *Lady Dragon 2* is on Pay-Per-View (Dec. 2, 4, 5, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31).
- ☆ **MONKEY SEE...** A condom-wearing monkey in Georgetown Guyana upset residents there. Named Jacko, the monkey broke into about 20 homes, putting on cosmetics, trying on condoms, dancing and gesturing vulgarly, and playing with food. Jacko was finally caught. Okay, so it's not exactly entertainment news but it's funny enough to share with you. ▼

Local News

Bridges "Escape to the Tropics" Dance on Jan 22!

Bridges will be having a reprise of last year's eminently successful "Escape to the Tropics" Dance at the Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. We are trying to preserve the best of what worked in the past and trying a few new things. Why not join us at 6:00 for pizza? The cost for pizza and the dance are only \$8, but please try to call ahead and let us know how many people you'll be bringing, so that we know how much pizza to order. You can also just come to the dance at 8:00 for just \$5. If you bring a non-perishable item for the AIDS Council of Erie County's food pantry, deduct \$1. They need toilet paper, kleenex, & paper towels the most. Why not have a fun night out and help others in the process? Phil Huntley will be spinning records again. For more info, call Michael at (814) 456-9833.

Dignity & Bridges Put Free Condoms in Local Bars

Bridges and Dignity went in on an order of 3,000 condoms that were put in local gay bars, and made available free. The condoms were donated in observance of World AIDS Day. Representatives from Bridges and Dignity would like to help find funds to keep free condoms in the bars at all times, as is done in other communities. If you have ideas or feedback, contact either of the two groups.

Correction: la bella bistro

Last month we ran the wrong number for la bella bistro. That number has been corrected in the ad, so if you're calling over there for a reservation or to get a gift

certificate for someone you really like, note the correct number: 454-3616.

Cup-a-Ccino's Has New T-Shirts

If you wanna look really cool, you might want to check out Cup-a-Ccino's new T-shirts. They're only \$10.95 apiece, pick 'em up at Cups.

Project Blue Light

Don Lucas at Cocoon notes that people with AIDS around the country have started something called Project Blue Light. The idea is to put a candle with a blue bulb in your window to show support for people with AIDS. Don suggests we do that here. So go ahead and do it, or for more info talk to Don at Cocoon, 1164 W. 10th St (814)459-6608..

Blood Donor Appeal

January is National Volunteer Blood Donor Month, and blood banks all over the country will be encouraging all healthy, safe blood donors to roll up their sleeves and save a life in 1994.

They are also concerned, however, about people who donate blood as a way of getting an "AIDS test." A spokeswoman for the Erie Community Blood Bank appeals to people not to do this. "With the

AIDS epidemic sweeping the nation, it is very important for the blood bank to recruit healthy donors. There are eight tests performed on each pint of blood collected to insure the safety of Erie's blood supply. We strongly discourage individuals from coming to the blood bank for an AIDS test. It takes anywhere from four weeks to six months for your body to develop antibodies against the AIDS virus. Someone who has



Casual Fine Dining
463 W 8th St, Erie PA
459-8638
Breakfast Mon-Fri 7:30-11:00
Lunch Mon-Fri 11:30-2:00
Dinner Thur-Sat 5:30-9:00

been recently infected and donates would pose a severe threat to the community blood supply. One infected donor can change the lives of many people.

"There are two designated sites in the Erie area where individuals can get free testing. These sites include the Erie County Department of Health, and the Minority Health Education delivery system (MHEDS). It is very important for individuals who feel they may be at risk to be tested at one of these designated sites." People living outside Erie County can call their local health departments or AIDS offices for locations of sites near them.

An added note: Sometimes people can feel a lot of pressure to give blood if their co-workers are doing it. If you have allowed yourself to be pressured, and you have reason to believe you may have been recently exposed to HIV, be sure to tell that to the person doing intake. If you didn't do it at the time, make sure you call them back afterwards and tell them.

Jamestown AIDS Office Update

The sudden cancellation of a benefit for the AIDS Community Services Southern Tier Office in Jamestown has resulted in rumors about the state of that organization.

The benefit had been set up at Sneakers by Dennis Long, who was Director of Volunteers with AIDS Community Services' main office in Buffalo. He abruptly quit his position, and the benefit was canceled without much explanation.

The cancellation came from Long and not the main office. "Nobody was more disappointed than I was that the benefit had been canceled," said David Paul, who works through the main office and is Community Educator to the Gay and Lesbian Community. "I see these events as a really good educational opportunity. I talk with people and hand out condoms, buttons, brochures, and things like that."

He adds that Long's resignation has caused the agency to think about how Long's newly-vacated position is set up. "We're going to make the next person responsible to other people in the agency," he said. "And we're hoping to get someone who knows how to attract volunteers who are interested in AIDS. A lot of

the volunteers that Long attracted got involved because of him. After he left, a lot of those volunteers left as well. We'd also like to see more of an effort to involve diverse communities: African-Americans, Hispanics, women..."

Long could not be reached for comment.

Paul stated that he would like the gay and lesbian community of western New York to know that they are welcome to contact him for information, to get him to speak somewhere, or to give input. Call him between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m. at AIDS Community Services (716)847-0315.

Other related items:

The Jamestown AIDS office is alive and operating. Jill Johnson, founding Case Manager of the Southern Tier office, has left. Eric Anderson is the new Case Manager.

Sneakers management is hoping to put on a benefit some time in the near future. Watch our calendar to find out when. Or call them at (716)484-8816 if you're interested in helping.

The Jamestown HIV+ Support Group dissolved over the summer, but will probably get started up again after the first of the year. If you're interested, call AIDS Community Services at (716)664-7855.

The Jamestown Social Group/10% Network will donate half of its Dec. 11 book sale profits to the local Christmas Basket Project of AIDS Community Services. The group is also hoping to put together an AIDS fundraiser for the Cause for Celebration event on Feb. 26; if you're interested, call them at (716)484-7285.

Condom Week Planning

Area agencies and groups concerned about safer sex education, take note: National Condom Week is Feb 14-21. Pharmacists Planning Services Inc. has a kit of materials for consumers, patients, students, professionals, and activists. Materials in the kit, which costs \$15, deal with correct storage and use of condoms, how to negotiate safer sex, and other related stuff. Contact Pharmacists Planning Services, Frederick S. Meyer, Box 1336, Sausalito CA 94966. (415)332-4066. ▼

National/World News Bits

Pittsburgh Native Heads National Task Force

WASHINGTON—A Pittsburgh native has become the new head of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. Peri Jude Radevic, 33, became executive director of the 32,000-member gay rights organization on Nov. 1. She is replacing Torie Osborne, who resigned in September. Radevic (pronounced RAD-ah-sik) has been working for gay and lesbian causes since she was a teenager. When she was just 15, she did lesbian-feminist programming at a Pittsburgh community radio station. She was the director of the National Organization for Women's lesbian project, and has spent the last several years lobbying for the NGLTF on gay civil rights, health care, AIDS prevention and education, and anti-gay violence. She is a graduate of the University of Pittsburgh.

Education News

NEW YORK—New York City high school students will be able to get condoms-on-demand from their high schools, unless their parents forbid it. The policy comes from the city's new schools chancellor, Ramon Cortines, who had opposed condoms-on-demand during his election campaign. New York City has one of the highest rates of HIV infection in the country.

Cortines also plans to go alter the school district's Children of the Rainbow curriculum, which some parents allege promotes the "homosexual lifestyle." According to a vague description offered by a Cortines spokesman, the changes will result in a curriculum that condemns discrimination without necessarily promoting diversity.

Gay Kids Get Cigarette Money

BOSTON—\$450,000 cigarette tax money will be going to programs aimed at improving the lot of lesbigay teenagers in Massachusetts.

The Governor's Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth had recommended implementing programs to develop support groups for gay teens and anti-harass-

ment policies in the schools, train teachers in suicide prevention and stopping violence against gays, and to provide family counseling. The Education Department plans all-day workshops around the state for teachers on harassment of gays at school.

(Information from Cleveland's *Gay People's Chronicle*)

Bisexual Rats

AMSTERDAM—Dutch scientists announce that they were able to create bisexual behavior in male rats injected with a hormone-like substance called ATD. They report that sexually mature male rats injected with ATD tried to mate with both sexes. They also noted that sexual orientation changed with time of night.

The research is published in the December issue of *U.S. Behavioural Science*. The researchers are careful to point out that their findings are about rats, and that no such changes have yet been demonstrated in human beings.

U.S. Senate Passes Hate Crimes Bill

WASHINGTON—The U.S. Senate has voted 95 to 4 to dramatically increase sentences for people convicted of hate crimes, including gay-bashing. The amendment (called the Hate Crimes Enhancement Sentencing Act) was passed as part of the Omnibus Crime Bill.

The passage of the bill is "a landmark vote of major significance to the lesbian and gay community," said a spokesperson for the Human Rights Campaign Fund, which is the nation's largest lesbian and gay political organization. According to HRCF Executive Director Tim McFeeney, Sen. Carol Moseley-Braun (D-IL) and Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-CA) deserve special praise. "They were able to squelch the effort of Senator [Jesse] Helms to remove sexual orientation from the bill," said McFeeney. "Helms was really out-manuevered."

The legislation increases the penalty for hate crimes by at least three offense levels over the present

sentencing guidelines. Hate crimes are defined in the bill as any crime in which the defendant intentionally selects a victim because of race, color, religion, national origin, disability, ethnicity, sexual orientation, and gender. Daniel Zingale, Public Policy Director at HRCF, notes that the bill sends a message to local law enforcement officials that hate crimes should be aggressively prosecuted.

The bill also authorizes funds for efforts to combat violence against women.

Why Hate Crimes Law is Needed

NEW ORLEANS—Gay-bashers here brutally attacked two straight men who they mistakenly thought were gay. One of the men died of his injuries, and the other was seriously injured. The attack occurred Nov. 11 in the French Quarter, a district that is popular with gay men. Three men were charged with first degree murder in the attack and jailed without bond.

No Military Recruiters on Buffalo Campus

BUFFALO NY—As long as the military discriminates against gays, military recruiters must stay off the campus of Buffalo's state law school. New York State Supreme Court Justice Dianne Lebedoff made the ruling Nov. 18, stating that the presence of military recruiters at the state university violates Governor Mario Cuomo's anti-discrimination order.

Although the ruling applies only to that school, an attorney for the group that brought the suit (Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund) said it should apply to all of New York's state universities. Military recruitment is limited or banned in other law schools in the state, including Columbia University, the University of Albany, and Syracuse University.

U.S. Gov't to Study Lesbian Health

WASHINGTON—Lesbian health issues will be figured into the largest women's health study the federal government has ever conducted. The project is called the Women's Health Initiative, and is being conducted by the National Institutes of Health.

Areas of investigation will include testing the assertions that lesbians have a higher incidence of breast and gynecologic cancers, and heart disease.

Lesbian health activists had lobbied the NIH for several months.

Paula Ettelbrick, from the National Center for Human Rights, credits the Clinton administration with making possible the inclusion of sexual orientation issues. "This is one area where having a new administration makes a big difference," she said in an interview with *The Advocate*.

Lesbian Moms Lose Kids

NORMAN, Okla.—A lesbian mother, Donna J. Fox, lost custody of her two daughters Sept. 29 for the sole reason that she is a lesbian. Custody was granted to the children's father, Fox's ex-husband. The court ruled that even though Fox was a fit mother, the children "might encounter future prejudice by a disapproving society" because of their mother's sexual orientation.

BENTONVILLE, Ark.—A judge ruled that a lesbian mother's two children should be removed and custody awarded to the mother's ex-husband. The judge made the decision because the mother's "gay lifestyle would subject the children to ridicule and embarrassment."

Places to get EGCN...

Ashtabula

Leeward Lounge, 1022 Bridge St.

Erie

Cocoon, 1164 W. 10th
Cup-a-ccino's, 18 N. Park Row
Lizzie Bordon's, 3412 W. 12th
Perceptions, 2654 Peach
Silver Slipper, 1317 State Street

Edinboro

Book Shelf, 200 Plum
Earthshine, 131 Meadville Street
EGO meetings

Jamestown NY & Warren PA

Nite Spot, 201 Winsor, Jamestown
Rainbow Connection, Warren 723-1719
Sneakers, 100 Harrison, Jamestown

Want to make newsletters available in your group, community, or business? Call us at (814)456-9833!

HIV and AIDS News

World Health Organization: Stop Laws Against Condoms and Gays

MANILA—The World Health Organization (WHO) on Nov. 25 appealed to governments around the world to get rid of laws that discriminate against gays and ban promotion of condoms. The agency said that these changes are needed in order to stop the spread of AIDS.

WHO is an agency of the United Nations. The statement was issued by the WHO Asia-Pacific regional office in the Phillipines. "It is essential to remove impediments to the dissemination of frank and informative messages about sexual health, as well as those that hinder people from receiving and acting on prevention messages," said a WHO newsletter.

HIV & Lesbian/Bisexual Women

SAN FRANCISCO—A study of lesbians and bisexual women in San Francisco has revealed some startling findings:

25% of women who call themselves lesbians have had sex with men in the last three years.

The HIV infection rate for the women in this study (1.2%) was three times higher than that in the general population of adult or adolescent women in San Francisco.

Among the women who reported having sex with men, many reported unprotected sex with a male partner in the past three years. Over half (56%) reported unprotected oral sex, 39% reported unprotected penis-vagina intercourse, and 10.9% reported unprotected anal intercourse.

Some women were having unprotected sex with gay men or bisexual men. 14.6% had unprotected oral sex, 9.6% had unprotected penis-vagina sex, and 3.2% had unprotected anal intercourse. Bisexual women were much more likely than lesbian women were to do this.

Among those having sex with male I.V. drug users, 6.4% reported unprotected oral sex, 5.2% unprotected penis-vagina sex, and 1.7% unprotected anal intercourse.

As far as sex between women, 91.9% reported unprotected oral sex, 28.8% unprotected sharing of sex toys, and 25.2% unprotected vaginal fisting.

The researchers found no clear evidence of woman-to-woman transmission among the HIV-infected women in the survey.

The study was conducted by the AIDS Office of the San Francisco Department of Public Health. The study was done on 498 lesbians and bisexual women 17 years old or older, at 25 different locations in San Francisco and Berkeley CA in 1993. Survey locations included such varied places as bars, lesbian/bisexual events, pride parade, dance clubs, street fairs, film festivals, and sex clubs.

The researchers concluded that "Although the rates of HIV infection among lesbian and bisexual women are currently low, these rates may rise given the high levels of risk behaviors in this population. These studies suggest that targeted prevention programs should be expanded to address the needs of lesbians and bisexual women."

Vatican & Condoms

VATICAN—The French scientist who co-discovered the AIDS virus urged the Vatican to take another look at its ban on condoms.

Luc Montagnier, speaking at a Vatican convention on children and society, said, "I don't want to give lessons to the Church but I do invite it to be more pragmatic and tolerant," he said. He told of priests who would not give communion to couples if it was known that the couples used condoms. "If AIDS is a diabolical disease," he said, "no method to beat it can itself be considered diabolical." Citing villages in Uganda that are being decimated by the disease, he said, "To beat the disease they need various weapons, that of abstinence, that of faithfulness, and that of the condom."

Graham Apologizes

TV evangelist Rev. Billy Graham apologized on Oct. 6 for saying that AIDS may be a judgement from God. He made the "judgment" remarks on Sept. 26 in Columbus, Ohio. Graham blames fatigue for the

remarks, and said he didn't really believe AIDS was a judgment. In his apology, he told of meeting people with AIDS, and said, "I have put my arms around them, and personally told them that I love them."

Alternative to Condoms Hoped For

BERNE—The World Health Organization (WHO) has announced it is working on the development of a new foam or gel that could kill the AIDS virus inside a woman's vagina. The U.N. health agency said it believes that such a substance would give women more control over safer sex and could be ready within two or three years.

Research has shown that currently-available spermicides do seem to lower transmission of sexually-transmitted diseases. However, there is some concern high dosages and frequent amounts of spermicide could irritate and damage the vaginal wall, thus facilitating HIV transmission.

Male condoms remain the most effective means of preventing HIV transmission, and should be used even when a spermicide is applied.

Gay Rights Votes Around the Country

**(Now You Have 'em, Now You
Don't, Now You Do, Now
You...)**

Colorado Anti-Gay Law Blocked

WASHINGTON—The Supreme Court ruled on Nov. 1 that the state of Colorado cannot enforce its anti-gay rights amendment until state courts have decided its constitutionality. The Colorado amendment, known as Amendment 2, struck down gay rights laws in the cities of Aspen, Boulder, and Denver, and prevented any more pro-gay rights legislation from going into effect. Colorado voters passed the amendment with a 53-47 per cent margin, in the November 1992 election.

A suit against the Amendment 2 was launched by the three cities whose gay rights ordinances were being struck down, and by nine Colorado residents (one of whom was Martina Navratilova). In January 1993, state Judge H. Jeffrey Bayless blocked the enforcement of Amendment 2, and the state Supreme Court upheld that ruling, saying that the Amendment 2 "expressly fences out an independently identifiable group" from equal citizenship. "A citizen's constitutional rights can hardly be infringed simply because a majority of the people choose that to be," the court said.

The amendment led to a boycott against Colorado, and the state has lost more than \$20 million in cancelled meetings and conventions.

Federal Judge Blocks Cincinnati Anti-Gay Vote

CINCINNATI—In Cincinnati, a federal judge has blocked a vote that would have removed sexual orientation from its anti-discrimination policy, saying that the amendment was unconstitutional. In the Nov. 2 election, Cincinnati voters voted 62 per cent to 38 per cent to pass the anti-gay rights action. It is believed that this may be the first time a federal judge has made such a decision. The action is expected to stand unless overturned by another court.

Cincinnati's year-old human rights ordinance—passed 7-2 by City Council—prohibits discrimination in housing, public accommodations, and employment, on the basis of race, gender, religion, age, marital status, disability, Appalachian origin, or sexual orientation.

U.S. District Judge S. Arthur Spiegel said that the anti-gay rights amendment violates the U.S. Constitution's First Amendment (the right to petition) and 14th Amendment (equal protection clause).

Two Oregon Towns Defy Pro- Gay State Law

OREGON—Voters in the Oregon communities of Oregon City and Kaizer have voted in favor of anti-gay rights measures in their communities. The votes defy a recent state law that bans such ordinances.

Michael Dithers

by Michael Mahler

Hey there. Did everyone have a good Thanksgiving? Looking forward to the winter holidays? November was fairly eventful.

Kudos to John of LGLV for having put on a reception for Tom Paniccia, the speaker at Gannon on November 3rd who was expelled from the Air Force for being honest about being gay. Tom's speech was very well-received and it was great seeing so many in our community showing up to be supportive. The reception afterwards was attended by about 30 people. Thanks to John for organizing the reception, opening his house and providing goodies! Nice job!!

EGO is also to be commended for their Edinboro Coming Out Day. Some folks wore purple to show their support of lesbigay people throughout the day. There was a panel discussion on relationships with about 11 panelists and about 30 people in the audience. There were lots of different perspectives given: a straight mother supportive of her gay son, a lesbian mother, folks both single and in long-term, committed relationships. I was very touched by the number of people who shared their experiences and feelings. This took some courage.

Are the defeats to civil rights in the recent election in Cincinatti and Lewiston, Maine not frightening? People having rights and equality does not happen by accident. You can bet that no one invites you to come out from the back of the bus. Think about it.

The whole military thing is an emotional roller coaster for me; when the Supreme Court decided to let the new ban be enforced, I felt betrayed. When Desert Storm was going on, I remembered writing letters to service people after having read Ann Landers. I thought of all the people who had fought and died for our country who were also lesbigay. Then there was this sneaking suspicion that the argument basically devolves down to American servicemen (notice how women don't count) are supposedly wusses who live in dread fear that someone will (gulp!) look at them. Maybe we would have lost in the Gulf War if the Iraqis had simply asked the Americans for dates? Is this

incredibly vain and stupid or what? One cannot and should not legislate people's civil rights out of existence. It was good hearing about the favorable decisions in the Elzie Turner and Joey Steffan cases. Mayhap there is hope.

You have hopefully seen the condoms that Bridges & Dignity have purchased and are making available to the community at the bars and various groups. We are doing this because we see a need to be filled. Asking you for your support of this newsletter and other Bridges projects entails that we in turn invest back in the community.

You have probably read elsewhere about Stonewall 25, the big celebration in New York City commemorating what many regard as the birth of the modern gay rights movement. *Please* consider participating in this event. We are living in historical times. Those of us who went to the March on Washington last April really got to feel proud and part of a larger whole. It was definitely a peak experience.

The new *Shocking Gray* catalogue is very interesting. I got it in the mail the other day and they have all sorts of neat gay pride stuff. Some of the goods they sell fund AIDS and other gay charities/organizations. They even had a double page spread of wedding stuff, which, with the cover article in the *Advocate* seems to be to indicate a trend. The catalogue was very uplifting, which contrasts with *International Male*, which seems to be trying to distance itself from the gay market it primarily seemed to appeal to.

Snookie Bear and I caught *Mrs. Doubtfire* on Thanksgiving night. It was pretty good. Harvey Feirstein, who played Robin Williams' gay brother had a minor but very positive role. It was nice seeing gay people being pretty much part of the rest of the family. At one point, Robin refers to "Uncle Frank and Aunt Jack." Amusingly enough, the restaurant at the end of the movie is named Bridges, which Sally Field, playing Robin Williams' wife, says is her favorite restaurant. Coincidence? Hmmm... ▼

Groups & Organizations

AIDS Council of Erie

Location: United Way Building, 110 West 10th Street, Suite 214, Erie, PA 16501. ☎ (814) 455-5492. ♿
Hours: 8:30 to 4:30 Mon.-Fri. *Activities:* Bimonthly newsletter, weekly Food Pantry, Memorial service, Bereavement group. Call for more info.

Bridges

A coalition of organizations & people which seeks to use networking and communication skills to build a better community. Also publishes *Erie Gay Community Newsletter* and puts on community dances and quarterly potluck dinners/forums. ✍ Bridges, PO Box 3063, Erie, PA 16508-3063. ☎ (814) 455-0549 or (814) 456-9833.

Chautauqua Gay Fathers & Lesbian Mothers

A support group for gay & lesbian parents in Chautauqua County & neighboring counties and a play group for their kids. ☎ (716) 672-6682.

Chautauqua Gay Lesbian & Bisexual Youth Group

Those interested in forming a youth group for Chautauqua county gay, lesbian & bisexual youth, please call Patrick McNamara at (800)735-2986.

Committee in Support of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual People

A committee of students, faculty, & administrators who work together to educate, bring speakers, offer films, and address concerns that relate to gay and lesbian issues specific to the Allegheny Community. ✍CSGLBP, Box 186, Allegheny College, Meadville, PA 16335. ☎ Paula at (814) 332-4356 or Erny at (814) 332-4375.

Dignity/Erie Tri-State

A national organization for lesbian, gay and bisexual Roman Catholics, their families and friends. ✍Dignity/Erie Tri-State, PO Box 3746, Erie PA 16508-0746 ☎ (814) 864-4627.

Edinboro Gay Organization (EGO)

Student group, meetings include a business hour followed by a social hour. *Meetings:* Thursdays at 8:45 pm at Butterfield, Rm 302 (♿). ☎ Jim MacCluskie MWF 11am-1pm at (814)732-2590.

Erie Sisters

Non-sexual social support group for TV/TS/CD. Good manners, taste & common sense expected. Monthly meetings, newsletter, Meetings in even numbered months are social events held at accepting establish-

ments. Changing room provided. Interview with a club officer required before first meeting. ✍Erie Sisters, 2115 West 8th Street, Suite 261, Erie, PA 16505.

Gay and Lesbian Alliance - the Other 10% (GALA 10)

Support group for gay men and lesbians and friends and family. Open to public. *Meetings:* 2nd & 4th Wednesdays of the month. Call for site. Confidentiality respected. ✍GALA-10/Sr. Maria Lucia Serrano, 3409 Garden Avenue, Erie PA 16508 ☎Sr. Malu at 864-4889 around 7 pm or 824-2290 between 11am and 1 pm.

Gay and Lesbian Drug & Alcohol Abuse Support Group (Jamestown, NY)

Meetings: Thursdays at 7:00 pm at Jamestown Community College (in Chautauqua room at the Library). ☎ (716) 664-5556 or (716) 483-0749.

HUGS East (Mentor, OH)

Activities, events & groups for the gay and lesbian community of Ashtabula, Lake & Geauga counties. Newsletter published. ✍HUGS East, PO Box 253, Mentor, OH 44060 ☎ (216) 974-8909.

Integrity

A Christian-based spiritual and support group, sponsored by the Episcopalian Church that welcomes people of all faiths. *Meetings:* 2nd and 4th Sundays of the month (7:00pm) at St. Paul's Cathedral, 133 West 6th Street. ✍Integrity-NWPA, PO Box 1782, Erie, PA, 16507-1782. ☎ (814)774-0903.

Jamestown HIV Positive Support Group

☎ Eric Anderson at (716) 664-7855.

Jamestown PFLAG

For parents & friends of lesbians & gays. Meets last Tuesday of the month, call for site. ☎ (716) 488-1264 or (716) 763-1529.

Jamestown Social Group/10% Network

For men & women. Smoke & alcohol-free. Meets 3rd Saturday of the month at 7 pm at First Unitarian Society of Jamestown, 1255 Prendergast. ☎ (716) 484-7285 or (716) 664-5556.

JCC Support Group

A support group run by Jamestown Community College for gays and lesbians. Open to all community members. Meets off-campus. Contact: Greg Rabb. ☎ (716)665-5220.

•Lambda Group (formerly Life's Blood)

Alcoholics Anonymous meetings for Gays and Lesbians. *Meetings:* Sundays at 8:00 pm at Unitarian Universalist Church of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. ☎

League of Gay and Lesbian Voters (LGLV)

Conducting survey on anti-discrimination policies of area employers. Lobbying for PA State Senate Bill SB1218 (also introduced in House), which would outlaw gay-bashing. Non-partisan voters group. Publishes Voters' Guide for primary and general election, voter registration/education, lobbying. *Meetings:* See schedule or call. ☎ Michael at (814) 456-9833. ✉ LGLV-Erie, PO Box 3063, Erie, PA 16508-3063. ☎

Lesbian Moms Support Group

Support group for lesbian moms, co-parents and women interested in parenting. Meets 3rd Saturday of each month. ✉ Lucinda Marsh, 214 Walnut Street, Waterford, PA 16441. ☎ (814) 796-3535.

Men's Coffeehouse

The Men's Coffeehouse is an alcohol & smoke-free environment with a particular theme, topic or activity for each month. They get together on the 2nd Friday of each month at 7:00 pm. *Meetings:* 2nd Friday of the month at Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway. ☎ (814) 455-9049 for more info.

NW PA Gay and Lesbian Task Force

Now forming in Tionesta/Titusville area for political/media advocacy. Write to: PO Box 213, Tionesta, PA 16353-0213.

Out & Proud

Support group for media issues, those dealing with coming out. ✉ OP, PO Box 3063, Erie PA 16508-3063 ☎ (814) 456-9833.

PFLAG-Erie

Support group for Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays. *Next Meeting:* Wed, Nov 24 ☎ Kathy Harris at (814) 838-6020 or ✉ PFLAG-Erie c/o Unitarian-Universalist Congregation of Erie, 7180 New Perry Highway, Erie, PA 16508.

•Rainbow Connection (Warren, PA area)

Warren, PA and surrounding area. Meets 2nd & 4th Tuesdays of the month at the YWCA. ☎ Denny at (814) 723-1719.

SUNY-Fredonia Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Student Union

A support group for students at SUNY Fredonia. ☎ (716) 673-3424

Trigon

Support group for Behrend students, faculty, alumni. For more info, call (814) 866-7387 or ✉ College Mailroom, Box 1054, Behrend College, Station Road, Erie, PA 16563.

Womynspace Coffeehouse

The Womyn's Coffeehouse is an alcohol & smoke-free environment for lesbians, with a particular theme, topic or activity for each month. They get together on the 1st Saturday of each month at 7:30 pm. They'll meet at Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Erie at least until March. Next Meet: Dec. 4 & Jan. 1. Presently looking for/open to new location. Contact Deb at (814) 453-2785 or Sally at (814) 454-2713.

•Venango-Forest AIDS Support

All welcome! Meets every Tuesday at 6:30 pm at Christ Episcopal Church, 16 Center Avenue, Oil City, PA For more info, call 800-359-2437 or ✉ PO Box 834, Oil City, PA 16301



Wishing you and
yours a happy
holiday season

Your friends at Bridges/Erie Gay
Community Newsletter

Community Directory

24 Hour Counseling:

Saint Vincent 452-5151
 Family Crisis 456-2014
 Hamot 877-6136

AIDS Services:

AIDS Council of Erie, Inc. 455-5492
 AIDS Comm. Svcs of Jamestown . (716)664-7855
 AIDS Factline 1-800-324-AIDS
 National AIDS Hotline 1-800-662-6080
 Venango-Forest AIDS Support .. 1-800-359-2437

Bars:

See back page!

Community Service Organizations:

Bridges 455-0549
 Out and Proud (Speakers' Bureau) 456-9833

Counseling:

South Shore Counseling Group 725-8504
 For more info, call Greg 833-3258

E-Mail for EGCN. LGLV, Bridges:

From CompuServe 70431,1622

Hotlines/National:

Hate Crimes (US Justice Dept) 800-347-4283
 Spanish AIDS Hotline 800-344-7432

Medical Services and HIV/AIDS Testing:

Erie Co. Dept. of Health (STD Clinic/AIDS Testing; confidential and anonymous); 2nd & Cherry St., walk-in (Mon. & Thurs., 9:30-3:30) 451-6700
 Martin Luther King Center - no longer doing HIV tests

Political/Advocacy Organizations:

League of Gay & Lesbian Voters 456-9833

Publications:

Erie Gay Community Newsletter 456-9833

Religious Organizations:

Dignity 864-4627
 Integrity 774-0903
 Unitarian Universalist Congreg. of Erie 864-9300

Social Organizations:

Men's Coffeehouse 455-9049
 Jamestown Social Grp (716) 484-7285/664-5556
 Rainbow Connection (Warren PA) 723-1719
 Womynspace Coffeehouse 454-2713

Student Organizations/Youth:

Committee in Support of Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual People (Allegheny College, Meadville) 332-4368
 Edinboro Gay Organization (EGO) 732-2574
 GALA 10 (Mercyhurst College) 824-2572
 Gay & Lesbian Youth of Buffalo .. (716)855-0221
 Indianapolis Gay Youth Hotline 1-800-347-8336 (Under 21; Available Thu-Sun 7pm to Midnight)
 Jamestown Community College Grp (716)665-5220
 National Runaway Switchboard . 1-800-621-4000
 SUNY-Fredonia G/L/B Student U(716)673-3424
 Teen Hotline (412) 771-8336
 Trigon (Behrend College) 866-7387

Support Groups

Chautauqua Gay Fathers & Lesbian Mothers (716)672-6682
 Erie Sisters 2115 W. 8th St., # 261, Erie, PA 16505
 Friends Alike (Oil City) number disconnected.
 Gay/Lesbian Drug & Alcohol Abuse 716-483-0749
 Jamestown HIV+ Support Group (716) 664-7855
 Jamestown PFLAG . (716) 488-1264 or 763-1529
 Lesbian Moms Support Group..... 796-3535
 Lifes Blood (AA).. Sundays, 8:00 PM, 110 W 10

All numbers are area code 814 unless otherwise noted. Are you a lesbigay-friendly physician or professional? Please let us know so we can list you!

A Foundation for the Community

Providing Grants and Scholarships to the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Community.

For information on applying for grants, scholarships, making donations or simply getting involved contact:

The Lambda Foundation

PO Box 5169, Pittsburgh, PA 15206 • 412/ 521-5444

Area Bars and Places

Ashtabula

Leeward Lounge, 1022 Bridge Street. Open 7 days a week, 7 p.m. - 2:30 a.m. (216)964-9935. Food served from 7 p.m. till 1:30 a.m. Fri & Sat - \$1 cover, half goes into a 50-50 raffle drawn at the end of the night, other half goes to person taking the cover. Carries *Gay People's Chronicle*.

Erie

Cup-a-ccino's, 18 North Park Row. Mon-Wed 7:30am-11pm, Thur-Sat 7:30 am-12 mid. A gay-friendly coffeehouse. Poetry every other week.

Lizzie Bordon's Part II, 3412 West 12th. Open Mon-Sat. Bowling on Tuesday nights from 9 pm till whenever. Country played on Wednesdays. DJ with dance instruction 9:30 to 11. DJ on Friday & Saturday. Shows on some Fridays. Carries Pittsburgh's *Out*.

Silver Slipper, 1317 State Street. Open Mon-Sat. Live DJ music 9 p.m. - 2 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday. On Friday the DJ plays oldies till 10:30 p.m. (50s, 60s and 70s). Food served. The Slipper will be expanding as soon as the PA LCB okays it. It will mainly be a seating area, with tables and booths.

Jamestown & Southwest NY

Nite Spot, 201 Winsor, Jamestown. Open Tues-Sun 7pm-2am. Closed Mon. DJ Fri & Sat 10pm-2am. Sun Drag show, DJ after 9:30 pm, no cover. Nightly specials.

Rocking Duck Inn, 28 Genesee Parkway, Cuba NY. Near Olean, 100 miles from Erie. Gay-owned Bed & Breakfast. Call (716)968-3335 for more info.

Sneakers, 100 Harrison, Jamestown. (716)484-8816. Open 7 days a week, 3:30 to 2. DJ Fridays and Saturdays 10-2. Country/Western every Sunday 5-10.

THE MOVIE STOP *ERIE'S ONLY ENTERTAINMENT SUPER STORE*

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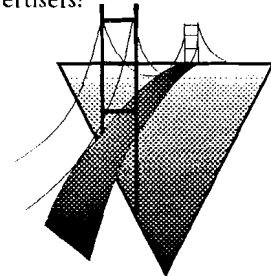
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Bridges DANCE!!



"ESCAPE TO THE TROPICS" DANCE ON SAT, JAN 22

JOIN US AT THE UNITARIAN-UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION of Erie, 7180 NEW PERRY HIGHWAY!

DANCE STARTS AT 8:00 PM. TICKETS ARE: \$5 OR \$4 with a NON-PERISHABLE ITEM for AIDS Council of

ERIE (ESPECIALLY NEEDED ARE TOILET PAPER, KLEENEX & PAPER TOWELS). OR join us for both pizza at 6:30 pm

AND THE DANCE for just \$8!

BENEFITS ERIE GAY COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER.

CALL MICHAEL AT (814) 456-9833 FOR MORE INFO.

Bridges...Building COMMUNITY!