

## SNN THIS MONTH

**SPOKANE** – National spokeswoman Candace Gingrich will be in Spokane at the first of the month to help launch *Building Community, Creating a Vision* for the Inland Northwest Business Alliance. *Page 6.*



**Empress 32  
Selena Blaque**

month that will attract drag celebrities from throughout the Northwest. Related picture, *Page 5.*

**SPOKANE** – A health summit expressly geared for those in the gay community offers a full range of helpful seminars. *Page 4.*



**Emperor 28  
Mark Surreal**



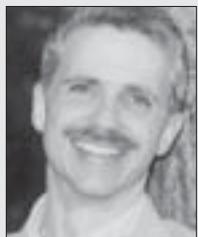
**Mark Garrett**

their services in the battle against HIV and AIDS. *Page 4.*

**HAYDEN LAKE** – It's a fundraiser that's evolved into an anticipated social event, the *Tastefully Done Wine Tasting* benefit for North Idaho AIDS Coalition at the Clark House Bed and Breakfast. *Page 9.*

**PRICHARD** – Tucked among the firs and cedars north of Idaho's Silver Valley, the Y Tavern celebrates diversity with Drag Night every Saturday. *Page 10.*

**TACOMA** – Author Michael Jensen, who introduced his *Frontiers* to Spokane audiences five years ago, has just published his latest colonial-era mystery, *Firelands*. *Page 21.*



**Michael Jensen**

**TRENTON** – Police say the alleged lover of New Jersey Gov. James McGreevey, who recently admitted to being gay, poses no security threat to the state. *Page 13.*

**FORT LAUDERDALE** – Mubarak Dahir says the gaydar functioned flawlessly during Hurricane Frances. *Page 20.*

# STONENEWALL

## News Northwest

Vol. XIII, No. 10

Serving the Gay and Lesbian Community of the Inland Northwest

October 2004

# Judge tosses state's DOMA

## Ruling favors marriage for same-sex couples

**OLYMPIA** – A second judge in two months has ruled that Washington state's discriminatory ban on same-sex marriage is unconstitutional.

Thurston County Superior Court Judge Richard Hicks ruled Sept. 7 that the state's 1998 Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) violates the civil liberties of gay men and lesbians under the Washington constitution.

"For the government, this is not a moral issue. It is a legal issue," Judge Hicks said in a written ruling.

Hicks acknowledged that the intent of the state's Defense of Marriage Act

# Public will be allowed in Scotty Joe Weaver trial

**BAY MINETTE, Ala.** – A state judge has ruled that he does not plan to seal the record or bar the public from court proceedings in the capital murder case against three young defendants in the killing of gay teenager Scotty Joe Weaver.

Baldwin County District Judge Jody W. Bishop also delayed a decision on a defense request for a gag order that would prohibit attorneys, court and law enforcement officials from making public comments about the case.

A trial date is not expected until next year.

Robert Porter, 18, Christopher Ryan Gaines, 20, and Gaines' girlfriend, Nichole Kelsay, 18 – all held without bond – are charged in the July 18 killing of Weaver.

Allegations that the slain teen's homosexuality was a motive in the gruesome killing have stirred debate about

## Comedic cavorting at the Civic



photo by Christopher Lawrence

*Exuberant cast members and a raucous script will set Spokane Civic Theatre rocking to the riotous antics of Noises Off this month. In the scene above are, from left, Wes Deitrick, Thomas Heppler, Jone Campbell Bryan, Allison Standley, Patrick McHenry-Kroetch, Melody Deatherage and Stephanie Dyer. Related story on page 18.*

was very clear: Legislators wanted to limit marriage to a union between one man and one woman. But, Hicks said, that law directly conflicts with the state constitution.

"What fails strict scrutiny here is a government-approved civil contract

for one class of the community not given to another class of the community," Hicks wrote.

"Democracy means people with different values living together as one people. What can reconcile our differences is the feeling that with these differences we are still one people. This is the democracy of conscience," he explained.

The case was brought by 11 gay male and female couples from across the state, including Marge Ballack and Diane Lantz of Spokane. Ballack

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# Voices

## Keyed up about organs

by Paul Varnell

For gays and lesbians there was little to watch for during the Republican national convention, except perhaps the presence or absence of Mary Cheney, whose visibility was as varied as a troublesome member of the Politburo in old Kremlin photographs. But as a sideshow, Illinois Republican senatorial candidate Alan Keyes, who was not a delegate and spent most of his time promoting himself to the media, almost made the whole thing worthwhile.

Interviewed by Sirius Satellite Radio talk show host Mike Signorile, Keyes delivered the following: "If we embrace homosexuality as a proper basis for marriage, we are saying that it is possible to have a marriage state that, in principle, excludes procre-

ation and is based simply on the premise of selfish hedonism."

When Signorile asked, "So Mary Cheney is a selfish hedonist, is that it?" Keyes, who never misses an opportunity to avoid being gracious, replied, "Of course she is. That goes by definition."

The next day, Keyes expatiated for the Chicago Sun-Times, "In a homosexual relationship, there is nothing implied except the self-fulfillment, contentment and satisfaction of the parties involved in the relationship. That means it is a self-centered, self-fulfilling, selfish relationship that seeks to use the organs intended for procreation for purposes of pleasure."

Although Illinois Republicans professed themselves shocked and offended by Keyes' comments, Keyes is simply stating good

Catholic doctrine. In the eccentric Catholic version of "natural law," genitals are "intended" for procreation.

People may enjoy the pleasures of sex only if sex runs the risk of creating a fetus. Any other use of the genitals, as with homosexual sex, constitutes misuse.

This is the same argument the Vatican uses against masturbation and artificial birth control: They allow pleasure while avoiding the risk of creating a fetus, so they involve a misuse of genitals. Of course, Catholic natural law also ought to disapprove of sex by women after menopause or a hysterectomy, but it wimps out and says, "Well, it is sex of an essentially procreative type even though it cannot procreate, so it is allow-

Continued on page 28

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Stonewall News Northwest welcomes letters and e-mails. All submissions will be considered for publication. They should be typed and 250 words or less. Each submission may be edited for length and/or coherence. Full name, address, and phone number must be included, and if written, signature of the author is required. Names withheld by request only. Submissions will not be returned.

## Do You Remember? Stonewall News Northwest in October

**Last Year** – Concerns for a Pride Day in Spokane mount as the sponsoring organization, Inland Northwest Pride, neglects to conduct an evaluation of the event four months ago or begin planning for Pride Day in 2004. Russ Hemphill, principal organizer for a community picnic in Coeur d'Alene Park, says the Spokane AIDS Network-sponsored event in September attracted 230 people.

The Imperial Sovereign Court of Spokane selects the DoubleTree Hotel, adjacent to the Convention Center, as its host facility for coronation. Eunice Kennady Smith, who reigned as empress in 1987-88, reports that her recent *Children With AIDS* benefit show raised \$2,027 for the charitable cause.

Owner Roma Sinn confirms that a sale of the gay bar Another Sinn is "pending."

**Five Years Ago** – Organized to preserve Spokane's new Human Rights Ordinance banning discrimination of gay men and lesbians from being overturned at the polls in November, No on Discrimination opens a campaign office in the Carnegie Square district.

Derald Long and Tim Peterson collaborate with Neila Potesham and

Linda Bergeson to sponsor a *Say Yes to No* fundraiser for the campaign at the Glover Mansion. Helen Bonser, the new president of PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays), announces the support group has donated \$1,000 to the campaign. No on Discrimination is further buttressed when comic Suzanne Westenhoefer breezes into town for a benefit at Spokane Falls Community College. Three labor organizations in Seattle also hold fundraisers to support the campaign.

The Pride Foundation and Pride Statewide provide the Rainbow Regional Community Center with \$7,000 in grants. Other area organizations named for financial assistance include Spokane County Domestic Violence Consortium, \$4,568; North Idaho AIDS Coalition, \$4,400; Emmanuel Metropolitan Community Church, \$3,100, and Spokane AIDS Network, \$2,500.

Friends of SAN President Larry Brown announces plans for the group's Two-bit Auction fundraiser and Nita Hagen, principal coordinator for Women and Friends, says her group will celebrate its first anniversary with a Halloween costume party and dance.

In Coeur d'Alene, Sandra Turtle and Tarena Coleman coordinate plans for

the 7th annual *Wine Taste and Silent Auction* benefit for North Idaho AIDS Coalition with Executive Director Keith Wolter.

**Ten Years Ago** – Rainbow Alano Club founder Dan Hansey secures a new clubhouse, on Augusta near Division, as a meeting place for sexual minorities involved in 12-step programs. In a guest editorial, Ann Wood of PFLAG, Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, advances the need and urgency to develop a "Rainbow Center" as a multipurpose community resource for the gay community. Meanwhile, at Whitworth College, President Bill Robinson announces his rejection of an application for a gay support group at the school.

Coming Home to the Heart and Emmanuel Metropolitan Community Church are among the groups to host special events related to National Coming Out Day Oct. 11. Vicki Countryman of IDS Financial Services coordinates the first Inland Northwest Diversity Career and Education Expo at Crescent Court in downtown Spokane. Arts writer Kevan Gardner hails the arrival of *The Adventures of Priscilla, Queen of the Desert* at the Magic Lantern Theater.



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# Spokane

## Laurel Kelly takes reins at Odyssey

Laurel Kelly, executive director of Odyssey Youth Center since Sept. 20, is no stranger to the organization. Kelly said she's worked closely with the group for the past six years, providing educational talks and programs she developed as education director for Planned Parenthood of the Inland Northwest.

Members of the Odyssey board of directors recognized Kelly's leadership and ongoing service to the group in announcing her appointment and, in a statement, said, "Laurel already has a strong relationship with Odyssey youth members and staff" and recently "partnered with Odyssey for our lobby trip to Olympia and our Power of Hope camp.

The board said Kelly "brings with her a strong knowledge of the local climate and needs of our youth, and the skills to continue to build this organization and to bring it to a place of even greater long term stability and influence."

A member of the Ferris High School Class of '91, Kelly was graduated from Western Washington University with a degree in political science. Peace Corps service took her to the Central American country of Belize, from 1995 to 1997, before returning to Spokane.

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## Gay health summit scheduled for Oct. 9

The Inland Northwest Lesbian Gay Bisexual Transgender Health Summit is announced for the WSU/EWU Riverpoint campus on Saturday, Oct. 9. The program is scheduled from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. in the Phase I building and is free and open to the community.

Melynda Huskey, director of the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Allies Program at Washington State University since 1996 will provide the keynote address.

Morning sessions presented by Casey Jackson and Carla Jakabosky will focus on understanding addiction and recovery through Hollywood movies.

Afternoon presentations include:

- Mental health issues and depression, by Dennis Patterson of Spokane Mental Health.

- Alternative paths to parenthood and assisted reproductive technologies, by Melanie Mikkelsen of The Center.

- Tobacco use and cessation through "Kicking Butts," by Erik Janson of Verbena Health Clinic in Seattle.

- The spectrum of sexual diversity, by Marianne Dawson and Lorin Miller of the Spokane Gender Center.

- The influence of sexual orientation on eating disorders and body image issues, by Tim Fresan of WSU.

- Directing personal attention to improve health, by Bonnie Aspen and Willow Williams of Avatar.

- Odyssey Youth Center will be present a panel for questions and discussion.

Russ Hemphill, coordinator of the Friend-to-Friend HIV-prevention program at Spokane AIDS Network, is the event's planner.

## Time is now for supporters to advocate for HIV bucks

Aware that many voices speak louder than one, HIV and AIDS agencies in the state are going all out to

enlist volunteer support to help carry their message for funding needs to officials in government.

Spokane AIDS Network, Walla Walla's Blue Mountain Heart to Heart and Spokane Regional Health District are joining with Western Washington agencies to form a *Communities in Action Network* – HIV/AIDS advocates and organizations from all over the state – to formulate a series of HIV/AIDS advocacy summits. The initial event is scheduled in Spokane at the Health District on Oct. 19. A 5-hour program begins at 10 a.m. and includes lunch.

The summits are free and will feature elected officials, federal and state issue trainings, a consumer/client caucus, and planning for next year's AIDS Lobby Day in Olympia. Arrangements for the Spokane meet are being coordinated by Mark Garrett, client advocate at SAN.

To facilitate planning, people interested in attending are asked to make reservations by telephoning Garrett at SAN at 455-8993, or toll free from outside the Spokane calling area at (888) 353-2130.

Summits also are scheduled for Bellingham and Olympia in November under the aegis of Lifelong AIDS Alliance of Seattle.

## Devine idea to march silently sparks devilish Pride repartee

A silent march to symbolically protest the government's unwillingness to extend equal rights to gay men and women stimulated a spirited discussion among those attending last month's Pride Week planning meeting.

Photographer Pat Devine, who proposed the mime-like march, said government suppression of taxpaying gays should be motivation enough for almost everybody to want to take a part in the demonstration.

He allowed that a muffled dirge from the Giant Ass Drum Corps, for instance, would compliment his protest idea. "We can let our hair down and celebrate once we arrive at the festival," Devine said.

Bridget Potter, chair of Inland Northwest Pride (INPride), the sponsoring organization for Pride Day, announced the next meeting for Oct. 18 at 6 p.m. at the Rainbow Regional Community Center.

Her hope that more organizational leaders will attend and inject their ideas for planning was greeted with a round of "second the motion" by the dozen or so in attendance.

Sandy Davidson, president of the Inland Northwest Business Alliance, suggested that Pride Week events be coordinated in a more compressed calendar schedule and that participating groups "take ownership" in events.

John Brindle, community center cochairman, wondered aloud if moving Pride Day to a new location would increase participation and community involvement.

Laura Mincks of INPride encouraged new committee members to "re-vision" fundraising projects to provide the organization with a greater degree of financial stability.

Seymore Fairies said he was finalizing plans to present a variety show to benefit INPride at The Detour on Nov. 7 at 8 p.m. Entertainers will donate their tips, he said, and a raffle will further boost the take for Pride.

The Spokane Police Department came in for a good measure of chastising for its imposed security guidelines for the Pride March as being too vague. "They seem to change the rules every time we talk to them," Potter said. SPD has socked INPride with bills of close to \$2,000 each of the past two years for mandated, but ill-defined Police security.

## Threats of Lewd Conduct/Trespassing?

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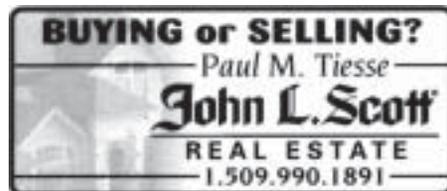
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## Coronation castle



staff photo

Drag queens and kings will descend on the Mirabeau Park Hotel at the end of the month for most of the Coronation events and activities planned by the Imperial Sovereign Court of Spokane. The host facility on Sullivan Road is adjacent to the freeway Exit 291-B. Coronation ceremonies to honor the reign of Emperor 28 Mark Surreal and Empress 32 Selena Blaque and crown their successors will begin at 6:30 p.m. on Oct. 31.

## Gay PAC candidate poll will help inform voters

Results of a questionnaire recently mailed to Spokane-area political candidates by a gay political action committee will be published by Stonewall News Northwest in its November issue.

Street and mailing date for the next edition is Oct. 29, only days – but still a significant amount of time – for readers to assess the results for balloting in the Nov. 2 general election.

Outside the Lines, inactive as a PAC since 2000, was reorganized and mailed surveys to office-seekers in the 5th Congressional Dist., the 3rd, 4th, 6th, 7th and 9th legislative districts and to Spokane County Commission candidates, said spokesman Dean Lynch, who reconvened the group.

In addition to Lynch and Cary Snyder as treasurer, members include Michael Flannery, Barbara Williamson, Barb McKay, Bonnie Avery, Dan Brown and Brad Read.

## Health District offers pin prick-quick HIV test

Rapid testing for HIV is now available for a limited time at the Spokane Regional Health District. The agency's HIV/AIDS program will utilize OraQuick tests it recently received from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta for the pilot project.

With the new test, a drop of blood from a client's finger is sufficient for running the test. Results are available in the same visit.

Testing is anonymous, free and currently available at SRHD only to per-

sons defined by the CDC to be at highest risk for HIV infection.

Walk-in clients are welcome, but waiting time can be 1 to 2 hours without an appointment. Testing times are available Monday through Thursday from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. For an appointment time or more information, telephone Lisa St. John at 324-1547 (a confidential line) or toll-free direct at (509) 456-3236.

## Traveling photo-text display here Oct. 28

A touring photo-text display created by the award-winning Family Diversity Projects of Amherst, Mass., is a scheduled feature in conjunction with a conference at the downtown DoubleTree Hotel Oct. 28-30.

The *In Our Family: Portraits of All Kinds of Families* exhibit celebrates the diversity of family life in 21st century America, with photographs by Gigi Kaeser and interviews edited by Peggy Gillespie and Rebekah Boyd.

Because children and adults can be hurt by stereotyping, prejudice, name-calling, bullying and teasing, the project will introduce viewers to single-parent families, families living with physical or mental challenges, immigrant families, adoptive families, foster families, divorced families, gay and lesbian-parented families, stepfamilies, multiracial families, multigenerational families, and others in the family circle.

A goal of the exhibit is to help eliminate prejudice, stereotyping and harassment of people discriminated against for any number of reasons, including sexual orientation.

## Len Mace offers stability through service to EMCC

Len Mace has been affiliated with Emmanuel Metropolitan Community Church for 21 years, essentially as long as there has been a church. Now he is the pastor.

Emmanuel MCC's board of directors selected Mace for the high post following the resignation of Rev. Mark Pridmore in August.

Mace was Emmanuel's first elected lay delegate and elected to the District Conference. He's a past board member of EMCC, himself, served as a deacon of the church for 10 years and volunteered as worship coordinator for a year and a half.

In related business, a board meeting at the church set for Oct. 10 at 3 p.m. includes a revised agenda that

provides for comments from the public and congregation members.

Emmanuel's annual congregational meeting will be Oct. 17 at 3 p.m. The regular Sunday worship service at 5 p.m. will follow both meetings.

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**Commentary****Is there a vision for community?****Candace Gingrich to address issue Oct. 2**

by Christopher Lawrence

How would Spokane be affected if, instead of the typical criticism and complaints about all the things that

seem to be wrong with factions of our gay community, a groundswell of individuals chose to be a call to action rather than critics commenting from the sidelines?

A group has been meeting every two weeks for 14 months with this conversation in mind.

The Vision Committee of the Inland Northwest Business Alliance, a non-profit organization established to promote and support gay and gay-friendly businesses and professionals, has been asking what it would

mean to have a visible gay community in Spokane.

To establish a community conversation working toward that goal, Marvin Reguindin, committee cochair, said they are ready to involve the gay and allied community in that conversation. Reguindin said, "We want to find out how a visible gay community can benefit Spokane as a whole."

Richard Florida, a Heinz Professor of Economic Development at Carnegie Mellon University and a speaker at Spokane's *Street Party on Post* in 2003, said the "creative class" comprises more than 30 percent of the nation's work force and represents a significant economic force.

Members of the creative class, he said, live and work in environments that allow them to spark their creativity. They are drawn to communities marked by technology, talent and tolerance. Florida's theory asserts that openness to the gay community encourages creativity and the generation of high-tech growth.

**Candace Gingrich**

to explore how Spokane can reap the economic advantages associated with developing the third T – tolerance – by supporting the creation of a visible gay community.

There are social benefits as well.

Many of our community would no longer need to isolate themselves. A visible gay community would help all of us break down the crippling fear of discrimination and the fear of having no support in the socially repressive environment of Spokane.

The organization's effort begins with an Oct. 2 event, entitled *Building Community, Creating a Vision*,

**Queen of karaoke**

portraiture photo

**Yasmine holds court for karaoke at The Merq on Sundays and Wednesdays between 9:30 p.m. and 1:30 a.m.**

with a keynote address by Candace Gingrich of the Human Rights Campaign, a national, bipartisan organization that works to advance equality based on sexual orientation, along with a subsequent series of community workshops for gathering citizen input.

The event, made possible by a grant from Spokane-Kootenai Pride and organized by the INBA, runs from 2 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 2, in the Phase I Classroom Building Auditorium on the WSU-Spokane Riverpoint Campus at 668 N. Riverpoint Blvd. Doors open at 1:30 for voter registration. Admission is free.

Gingrich, whose 1996 autobiography, *The Accidental Activist*, was a best seller among gay and lesbian audiences. She is the half-sister of former Speaker of the House Newt Gingrich. This first event in a series formally kicks off a broader conversation among Spokane's GLBTQ (gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgendered and questioning) and allied community about what it would mean to have a visible gay community in Spokane.

## WE CAN'T LET "SILENCE = DEATH" AGAIN!

Join the Communities in Action Network – HIV/AIDS advocates and agencies from all over Washington – for any or all of three HIV/AIDS Advocacy Summits this fall. The summits will feature elected officials, federal and state issue trainings, a consumer/client caucus, and planning for AIDS Lobby Day in Olympia, February 23, 2005. Put your advocacy skills to the test on behalf of HIV prevention and AIDS care services in Washington State.

"What we really need," said Mark Garrett, Client Advocate at Spokane AIDS Network, "is for every single person who has HIV or speaks up on behalf of people with or at risk for HIV or even knows anyone with HIV attend one of these important Advocacy Workshops in your area. You will learn more about how to make your voice as effective as possible to ensure that all persons living with HIV/AIDS have access to prevention, care and treatment. Together we can make a difference!"

Summit locations and dates:

**In Spokane: Tuesday, October 19<sup>th</sup>**

**10 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

Spokane Regional Health District Building Room 320  
1101 West College • Spokane

**In Bellingham: Tuesday, November 9<sup>th</sup>**

**10 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

Brigid Collins House • 1231 North Garden #200 • Bellingham

**In Olympia: Tuesday, November 16<sup>th</sup>**

**10 a.m. - 3 p.m.**

The United Churches • 110 11<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE • Olympia

We'll provide the lunch. You provide the ideas and energy.

Want to attend? RSVP to Mark Garrett, Spokane AIDS Network

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Line-up: 7 pm • Show: 8 pm

**Out of Town Show**

Friday • Oct. 29th  
Mirabeau Park Hotel  
Line-up: 8 pm • Show: 9 pm  
\$10.00 cover charge

**Coronation 2004**

Saturday • October 30th  
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**Hospitality**

Noon to 3 pm

**Protocol**

Noon to 2 pm

**Coronation**

Doors open at 5:30 pm  
Coronation begins at 6:30 pm  
Tickets: \$30:00

**Victory Brunch**

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Brunch: Noon  
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## Guys as dolls



photo by Steve Rodenbough

**BlowMe Bubbles**, front row, center, enlisted the aid of the **Dempseys Drag Idols** to recruit new talent for her weekend shows at the club. The troupe includes, back row, from left, **Tina Mesobitché**, **Lexi**, **Felicity Bliss** and **Cassia**. In front are **Courtney Cocks**, left, and **Dita Devo**. **BlowMe** performs **Fridays** and **Saturdays** at 10 p.m. and midnight.

# Regional

## Let's support equality for gender identity and expression

by Bill Dubay

Members of Washington's LGBT activist community recently met with Gov. Locke's senior staff to discuss the possibility of the governor issuing an executive order that would include gender identity and expression as a protected class for state employment. The meeting was very productive and informative.

Those attending learned that, as an elected official leaving public office, Gov. Locke is getting requests from a multitude of constituency groups for executive orders. Which ones he decides to sign or pass up will depend, in part, on the level of support he gets from each of those groups. Therefore, if we in the LGBT community are sincere in wanting our whole constituency to be included in civil rights protections in any form and at any level, it is incumbent on us to contact the governor's office about this matter.

Let's not forget that this is a governor who has been a supporter of equality for everyone in general and for our community in particular. Although House Bill 1809, commonly called the "gay" civil rights bill, was defeated by the Republican-controlled Senate in the last days of the 2004 legislative session, in no way could it be blamed on Gov. Locke. This governor did a considerable amount of political arm-twisting to get the legislation passed. He is also to be credited for his major role in implementing the current package of domestic partner benefits for state employees. These efforts often go unnoticed and unacknowledged by our community. So it would be not only polite, but very helpful to acknowledge the governor's past support when contacting his office asking him to sign this important executive order.

The time for everyone to act is now. All individuals are encouraged to con-

tact the governor's office by letter, fax or e-mail. Particularly important are messages from organizations or their boards and executive directors. Remember, messages don't have to be typed (although that is preferred) and they don't have to be long, they only have to be sent.

Contact information and a sample message follow. Please take action today.

Honorable Gary Locke  
P.O. Box 40002  
Olympia, WA 98504-0002  
Fax: (360) 753-4110

Send an electronic message: go to the governor's Web site at [www.governor.wa.gov](http://www.governor.wa.gov) and clicking on "Contact Us" in the left column.

Sample message:

Dear Governor Locke:

We/I urge you to sign an executive order that would include gender identity and expression as a protected class in state employment.

You past support of issues and legislation affecting sexual minorities shows that you have always been willing to use your office to advance equality for all citizens of Washington state. We/I now encourage you to expand that legacy to include those who are often perceived as different and, therefore, unworthy of the protections others around them take for granted.

Issuing such an executive order is the right thing to do, and the time to do the right thing is always now. The leadership you show by taking this step now will only have a positive effect on future legislation by setting an example of courage for other elected officials.

Thank you for all your support of civil and human rights, past, present and future.

Yours truly,

*Bill Dubay is a political activist who lives in Seattle.*

## Verbena hosts retreat for gay people of color

SEATTLE – A retreat for gay people of color, *Taking Care of Ourselves*, will be held Oct. 2-3 at the Martin Luther King Day Home Center, at 1855 S. Lane St. Programs are scheduled from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Workshops will include:

- Undoing Racism ... for ourselves ... in our workplaces ... and in our bedrooms,
- Community Building: How can we support each other, and
- Programs on massage, makeup and yoga.

The retreat is sponsored by Verbena Health Clinic as an adjunct to its *Queer WHAT?! Symposium* and is open to all queer women and transgendered people of color. Non-white, mixed-race people also are welcome.

The *Queer WHAT?! Symposium* is a weeklong series of workshops and discussions that focus on wellness, health, activism and transformation for gay and transgendered women and their allies. Sessions are scheduled at various locations around Seattle to accommodate all the topics.

For information, call Verbena at (206) 323-6540.

# Tastefully Done ... Wine Tasting

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**Sunday, Oct. 17, 2004**  
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Attendance is limited.

Tickets may be purchased in advance

Tickets available in Coeur d'Alene at  
The Long Ear, 2405 N. 4th Ave.,  
(208) 765-3472, and at the  
North Idaho AIDS Coalition offices,  
410 Sherman Ave., Suite 215, (208) 665-1448



**Court to gay dad:**

# Live with your male partner or your children, but not both

BOISE – The Idaho Supreme Court has upheld a lower court ruling that told Theron McGriff he could not have visitation rights with his children while he lived with a male partner.

Theron and Shawn McGriff divorced six years ago when he came out.

Under the divorce agreement the father got custody of the two children.

When he met another man, fell in love and the two bought a home, Shawn McGriff went back to court claiming a gay relationship wasn't in the best interest of their daughters.

In its ruling Sept. 21, the court said sexual orientation cannot be the basis for awarding or removing custody, unless the parent's sexual orientation is shown to cause harm to the child.

But, it upheld the lower court prohibition on McGriff's visitation rights, saying that his "living arrangements" were detrimental to the children and that the girls' mother was best suited for custody of the children.

# Whitman, Reed named to top 20 for gay students

NEW YORK – Two Pacific Northwest schools – Walla Walla's Whitman College and Reed College in Portland – are among the nation's top 20 colleges and universities for gay students. Harvey Mudd College, near Los Angeles, was the only other college in the West ranked in the top 20 for gays.

The list was compiled as part of a survey developed by The Princeton Review for its *Best 357 Colleges* annual guide published at the start of the fall school term. The survey also ranked schools for the best food, Wheaton (Ill.) College; the best dorms, Pepperdine College, Malibu, Calif., and 58 other categories, including the best for gay students: New York's Eugene Lang College.

The just-released 2005 edition includes two-page profiles on each college, with information on academics, admission, financial aid, the student body and campus life. The New York-based Review is not affiliated with Princeton University.

Rated the 20 best schools for gay students are:

1. Eugene Lang College, New York.
2. New York University.
3. Sarah Lawrence College, Bronxville, N.Y.
4. New College of Florida, Sarasota, Fla.
5. Brandeis University, Waltham, Mass.
6. Mount Holyoke College, South Hadley, Mass.

7. Reed College, Portland.
8. Hendrix College, Conrad, Ark.
9. Smith College, Northampton, Mass.
10. Bryn Mawr, Bryn Mawr, Penn.
11. Bard College, Annadale-on-Hudson, N.Y.
12. Grinnell College, Grinnell, Iowa.
13. Barnard College, N.Y.
14. Simon's Rock College of Bard, Great Barrington, Mass.
15. Harvey Mudd College, Claremont, Calif.
16. Oberlin College, Oberlin, Ohio.
17. Emerson College, Boston.
18. College of the Atlantic, Bar Harbor, Maine.
19. Whitman College, Walla Walla.
20. Lawrence University, Appleton, Wis.

## Regional Calendar

**October events:**

▼ Oct. 1-8 – *Queer WHAT Symposium*, various locations, **Seattle**, (206) 323-6540.

■ Oct. 1-10 – *Okanagan Wine Festival*, **Kelowna, B.C.**, Eagle's Nest B&B info: (866) 766-9350.

■ Oct. 9 – Eureka Arts' *Celebration of the Arts* entertainment and auction, Ferry County Fairgrounds, **Republic**, 5 p.m., (509) 775-2507.

▼ Oct. 10 – PFLAG-**Sandpoint** meets, United Methodist Church, 2 p.m., (208) 263-6699.

▼ Oct. 11 – *National Coming Out Day*; *Columbus Day* holiday.

■ Oct. 12-Nov. 20 – 3rd annual *Bringing in the Wood* exhibit, **Colville** Arts Foundation Gallery, Elm and Astor.

▼ Oct. 14 – *Marriage for Same-sex Couples* debate and call-in show, Yellowstone Public Radio, **Billings**, 6:30-7:30 p.m., YPR studio line: (406) 657-2941 local, or (800) 441-2941.

▼ Oct. 16 – Verbena Health Clinic *Transgender Health Fair*, Lifelong AIDS Alliance Transgender Resource Center, 11 a.m.-5 p.m., **Seattle**, free, (206) 323-6540.

▼ Oct. 17 – *Tastefully Done Wine Tasting* benefit for North Idaho AIDS Coalition, Clark House on **Hayden Lake**, 3-7 p.m., \$35, (208) 665-1448; and Town Hall meeting, Western Montana Gay and Lesbian Community Center, 2 p.m., **Missoula**.

■ Oct. 22 – Spokane's CenterStage presents *Quilters*, Panida Theater, **Sandpoint**, 8 p.m., \$15, (509) 747-8243.

▼ Oct. 22 and 23 – *OUT in the Middle of Wheatfields* conference, Washington State University, **Pullman**, (509) 335-4247.

■ Oct. 22-24 – 8th annual *Hot Air Balloon Competition*, Wildhorse Resort and Casino, **Pendleton**, (541) 966-1549.

■ Oct. 31 – *Halloween*; Daylight Saving Time ends.

**Plan ahead for November:**

■ Nov. 2 – *General Election Day*.

■ Nov. 11 – *Veteran's Day*.

▼ Nov. 14 – PFLAG-**Sandpoint** meets,, United Methodist Church, 2 p.m., (208) 263-6699.

■ Nov. 25 – *Thanksgiving Day*.

▼ special interest ■ general interest

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## Portland loves men, women in uniforms

PORTLAND – For more than a decade, the City of Roses has welcomed men and women who share a love for uniforms. This year, Portland celebrates its 12th annual Uniform Weekend Oct. 8-10. Cops, soldiers, firefighters and sports players will all gather for the fetish-oriented fun event.

The event begins on the second Friday with a "Meet and Greet" at the Dirty Duck Tavern, 439 N.W. 3rd, from 9-11 p.m. A men-only party continues until 3 a.m. After events on Saturday, the weekend concludes with an "At-Ease Dinner" at the House of Louie from 7-9 p.m. Tickets are \$15.

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## Y ... Yes!

by John Deen

Beyond the red door of the Y Tavern, Charlie Briante pushes his coffee mug across a red-checked table cloth and says, "This place was built in the 1940s. As a house. I guess it was converted into a bar in the mid-'60s."

To Charlie's right, Donald Williams, his partner of six years, listens patiently. But that's the way it's supposed to be.

Charlie, you see, is the go-to fixit guy around the tavern. Donald's the chief cook and bartender. And, after all, isn't that the mark of a good bartender ... to listen? Patiently? It sure works at the Y.

Charlie explains that Donald owns the bar. "I'm the silent partner – with the big mouth," he manages over a laugh.

Donald and Charlie met one May evening in 1998 at Pumps II, then one of the gay bars in Spokane. Donald had just finished his shift at the nearby DoubleTree Hotel and Charlie arrived from Libby, Mont., to visit friends.

Soon after, the two bought a house on Main Street in Libby and regaled friends with their "Funshine Festival" garden party every August. "But we got run out of town," Charlie says, accompanying himself with

more laughter, "and poked around the country here until we found this place."

They marked their one-year anniversary at the Y just last month.

A couple of "regulars" walk in and ask if they can get a beer. It's Tuesday and the Y is closed on Tuesdays. But they "saw cars out front, so figured somebody was around" to pour them a beer. They guessed right.

The bar area separates the quick drinkers up front from the sippers in the dining room in the back, with only Donald darting back and forth to

break the line of sight. For gay men who drink beer, sitting and facing

### Get to the Y

From I-90, take Exit 43 at Kingston, about 50 miles east of Spokane. Cross over the freeway. About 20 miles further on a two-lane, paved road that trails the Coeur d'Alene River, there's a fork in the road. You'll spot the big, green Y sign ahead on the left.



dog anywhere in Prichard." Donald adds, "I also make my own pizzas, from scratch, including the dough."

With advance reservations, the guys also serve seven-course dinners, from relish tray and shrimp cocktail to an entree of choice.



staff photos

Partners Charlie Briante, left, and Donald Williams welcome customers to the Y Tavern in Prichard.

The Y Tavern offers easy in and out parking, with enough room for overnight RVers, if need be.

each other is tailor made for cruising and eye contact.

Donald had quietly disappeared during one of Charlie's historical yarns of area celebrities, the likes of which included Wyatt Earp and Molly Bedammed. Now he returns, with a basket heaped with onion rings lacy and golden from a beer-batter recipe he "tinkered with and perfected over the last 15 to 20 years." Each bite is magnificent pleasure.

Charlie says Donald also makes "the finest Coney Island-style chili

Overhead, red bandanas mask the lights and also serve as napkins. Even with beer signs, posters and memorabilia obscuring the walls and ceiling, it's still easy to spot splashes of rainbow.

Saturdays at the Y are famous as Drag Night. Locals, recreationists and even some long-haul loggers are likely to show up in a dress. Everybody has a good time.

"We're not a gay bar," says Donald, "we're an open bar." Open at noon every day but Tuesdays, gay-owned and people friendly.

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# WE SUPPORT THE ARTS

## MSM focus group recommends remodeled waiting room and new STD/HIV ad campaigns.

The Spokane Regional Health District has spent the year working on an initiative specifically designed to address concerns about an explosion of new cases of syphilis that is spreading among men who have sex with men (MSM) and/or gay men on the West side of Washington State. In addition we wanted to improve access to STD and HIV prevention services, testing and other related services. The new cases of syphilis concern the MSM community because they are becoming resistant to drug therapy

that used to wipe them out with ease.

Following a decade of steady decline, particularly among African Americans and women, the number of new syphilis cases rose in 2001. This increase was largely attributable to new cases among MSM. The increase in new cases among MSM continued in 2002, with 70% of those men also testing positive for HIV. In a Washington State risk assessment for 2002, MSM accounted for 85 cases of early syphilis.

Because syphilis can be misdiagnosed and remain hidden and dormant in the body for long periods if undiagnosed, it is the goal of this Health District outreach effort to encourage all MSM to get tested for syphilis early and to get tested each year for sexually transmitted diseases including HIV.

The HIV/AIDS and Assessment Programs at the Health District coordinated two focus groups in early Spring to get ideas from MSM about

two topics: how we could develop an advertising or media campaign to encourage screening, and get feedback about past experiences accessing the Health District clinic and STD/HIV testing services. Participants offered marketing ideas and presented feedback indicating that the Health District's clinic waiting area was uncomfortable, lacked privacy, and was a barrier to accessing clinic services. A second concern was uncertainty about how to access HIV and STD testing, where to go, and the cost of the services.

In response, the Health District team coordinating the initiative was given permission to launch a full-scale remodel to improve the clinic waiting area, which was completed the end of July. Design consultants coordinated new paint, carpet, seating arrangements, dividers, plants, and a large fish tank placed between waiting areas for added privacy.

The second phase of the initiative

is the completion of two advertising campaigns based on focus group feedback, which are designed to increase MSM knowledge of STD risks and provide greater access to information about STD testing at the Health District. One campaign will run in Stonewall News Northwest, starting with this issue, and the second campaign in The Inlander. Included in the ads is information for the Health District Clinic, which offers gonorrhea, herpes, HPV (genital warts), syphilis, chlamydia, and HIV testing. Hepatitis A and B vaccines are also available. Costs vary depending on the type of service and income. Additionally, callers are invited to ask if they qualify for no-cost, anonymous HIV testing, which is offered in conjunction with the HIV/AIDS program.

For information about STD/HIV testing, please call 324-1600. For HIV testing only, call the HIV/AIDS program directly at 324-1542.

### SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASES (STDs)

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Some STDs are now resistant to antibiotics, leaving anyone who has unprotected sex vulnerable. Hard-to-treat cases are increasing in west coast cities, including Seattle and Portland. Trust us, you don't want to experience super syphilis, or a case of the clap that isn't phased by penicillin.

If your sex life puts you at risk, get tested for STDs. While you're at it, ask for an HIV test.

It's your life. Live it smart.



# National

## California redefines its hate crimes law

SACRAMENTO, Calif. – A measure that outlines protections from hate crimes has passed the California State Assembly with bipartisan support, according to Equality California, a group that works for gay civil rights. The bill, approved by a 51-23 vote and called the Omnibus Hate Crimes Act of 2004, creates a uniform definition of a hate crime, clarifies the law and aims to reduce such crimes, Equality California said.

The bill is needed, the group said, because California's hate crimes laws are inconsistent and sometimes contradictory. "This legislation will help ensure that hate crimes are prosecuted," said Steve Hansen, Equality California's legislative advocate. "This legislation is an important step in the right direction."

## San Francisco (heart) its first Love Parade

SAN FRANCISCO – The country's first Love Parade, which originated in Berlin in 1989 as an annual street festival to celebrate DJ culture and dance music in the streets, will be held in – where else, but – San Francisco, which witnessed the birth of the Hippie movement and Flower Power in the Fifties and Sixties.

The celebration is announced for Oct. 2. Berlin's event annually draws crowds of up to one million international revelers.

## Spend-not, phone-not, work-not set Oct. 8th

ATLANTA – To emphasize the contribution that lesbians and gay men make to the domestic economy and tax base – while being denied the full legal protections and civil liberties afforded heterosexuals – a one-day "Boycott for Equality" is being called for Oct. 8.

"We want to remind those in our nation who don't always see the impact of our community in terms of dollars and cents that we do have real market power," said organizer Dale Duncan of Atlanta.

Lesbians, gay men and bisexuals spend close to \$500 billion a year – nearly \$1.4 billion a day on the average – and the one-day nationwide economic boycott is to make that point clear, Duncan said.

Duncan is calling for all gays and their allies to withdraw from the economy in three specific areas:

- Do not purchase anything.
- Do not generate sales tax or business revenue.
- Don't work.

"Take the day off. Do not generate payroll taxes, income taxes or add to the economy. Do not use cell phones. Dropping out of the communication network is a way to measure the im-

pact of your presence," said the event sponsor.

Duncan and his partner, Joe Henderson, began exploring the possibilities of a "Boycott for Equality" in February, following President Bush's announced support for a federal constitutional amendment that would ban marriage for same-sex couples.

"His remarks just hit us in a profound way, and we decided we had to do more than just throwing money to other people and groups to do the work of fighting for our rights," Duncan said.

A spokesman for the Human Rights Campaign termed the proposed boycott a "legitimate" strategy, but added, "I don't know that its (impact) is going to be measurable," according to the Washington Blade. He said he was unaware of any plans for HRC to officially endorse the campaign.

"I think by including asking people not to use their cell phones, that is one immediately measurable thing we can use for data," Duncan proposed. "If people aren't using their cell phones, then those phone companies will report a significant drop in their activity for that day."

Bruce Seaman, an economics professor at Georgia State University, called the boycott a "lovely idea," but said the effort is misguided.

"I agree with the premise of making visible the work force power and spending power of the gay community, but a one-day failure to use your cell phone would be utterly non-noticeable," commented Seaman, who is gay.

Witeck-Combs Communications, a Washington, D.C.-based public rela-

tions company that researches gay spending trends, says the buying power of gay and bisexual adults was estimated at \$485 billion in 2003.

Bob Witeck, CEO of the firm, called the planned boycott a good-hearted attempt that will have "limited potential to make a dent."

Witeck, who is gay, said, "I personally completely understand the desire to capture America's attention. However, I think it's a very long shot to convey the economic clout of gay people in this fashion."

Duncan said about 80 percent of the feedback he's received about the boycott has been positive. "If people don't like our idea, we certainly understand, but we hope they will think of and do something else to make their voices heard," he said.

## Club drug ingredient dyed pink to foil users

WICHITA, Kan. – It might fall a shade shy of catching thieves red-handed, but for farmers fed up with the methamphetamine cooks filching their fertilizer, staining them pink will do just fine. The new product GloTell, which is added to tanks of anhydrous ammonia, will besmirch the hands of those who touch the fertilizer and leave its mark on anyone who snorts or shoots the popular gay club drug.

In the two years it took to develop GloTell, researchers at University of Southern Illinois-Carbondale found it did much more than stain thieves pink. Even if washed off, the stain was still detectable by ultraviolet light 24 to 72 hours later.

As a benefit, the additive helped farmers detect any tank leaks, said Truitt Clements, spokesman for Illinois-based GloTell Distributors. Best of all, the treated anhydrous ammonia rendered any meth it was used to make difficult to dry and turned it an unbleachable pink, he said.



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Cutting-edge journalism:

# Washington Blade marks 35th year

WASHINGTON, D.C. – A scant three months after the Stonewall Inn Rebellion in New York in 1969, a small group of committed activist volunteers here gathered in a basement and an apartment to publish the first edition of the Gay Blade, a one-page newsletter hand-cranked from a mimeograph machine. Running off 500 copies, “We wanted to inform the gay community of their rights,” said the Blade’s first editor, Nancy Tucker, 58, from her home in Albuquerque, N.M.

Now under the banner of the Washington Blade, one of the most highly respected gay newspapers in the country marks its 35th year of publishing.

The idea for the newsletter emerged from the D.C. chapter of the Mattachine Society, one of the first gay civil rights groups in the nation. Tucker said they wanted a title that was catchy and also slightly humorous, perhaps using the word “gay” with an image of weaponry.

The first issue of the Gay Blade contained 10 short blurbs and announcements, ranging from a warning about people who were targeted for blackmail after their cars were spotted in Dupont Circle to a call for readers to participate in a blood drive. Copies were distributed to popular gay bars in the city.

“In its earlier years, it really provided an above-ground symbol of this community ... proof that there really was a gay community,” said Rodger Streitmatter, a journalism professor at American University and author of the book *Unspeakable: the Rise of the Gay & Lesbian Press in America*.

Streitmatter said the Blade’s greatest accomplishment is its visibility. “Bars come and go and organizations come and go, but the Blade has really been a consistent institution and a consistent part of the gay community.”

The original, all-volunteer staff of 15 quickly dwindled to two, Tucker and another activist, Art Stone. When Stone departed in 1973, Tucker soon decided to halt production.

The newspaper “was sort of my identity. I was the editor,” said Tucker. “I did not want to turn it over to another group of people who might crap it up.”

But a random phone call from someone wanting to volunteer prompted Tucker to rethink her plans. The newspaper incorporated in 1975 and dropped “Gay” from its masthead. In 1978, it began publishing biweekly.

A front-page headline on July 10, 1981, proclaimed: “Rare, Fatal Pneumonia Hits Gay Men,” distinguishing

the Blade as one of the first gay publications to cover AIDS. The sheer amount of news that was happening at the time, as well as the fact that thousands of people were coming out as a result of the disease, prompted the editors to turn the Washington Blade into a weekly publication the following year.

Senior news reporter Lou Chibbaro Jr., who began writing for the paper in 1976, credited the newspaper as “the glue that held the community together for many, many years.”

Today, with a full-time staff of 35 employees, the Washington Blade is recognized nationwide as the newspaper of record on HIV/AIDS and gay civil rights issues. It consistently publishes more than 100 pages of news and features each week.

Since 2001 it has been a publication of the Window Media group, a gay-owned company that also includes the New York Blade, the Southern Voice in Atlanta, the Houston Voice and Impact News in New Orleans, as well Eclipse, a nightlife magazine of the South.

*Information for this story was developed by Blade writer Bryan Anderton, who receives e-mail at banderton@washblade.com.*

## Ivan delays Womenfest event in Florida Keys

KEY WEST, Fla. – Hurricane Ivan gets the blame for upsetting Key West’s plans for this year’s Womenfest in early September. Organizers say the nationally acclaimed festival for lesbians and their friends now is rescheduled for Oct. 8-11. In its 17th year, the event will coincide with the Columbus Day weekend rather than Labor Day, as originally planned.

Spearheaded by Atlantic Shores Resort, the festival typically draws more than 5,000 women to celebrate the freedom, fun and diversity that has made Key West one of the United States’ premier vacation destinations for gay men and lesbians.

## Sherman tanks reporter for Hamm on wry request

NEW YORK – Cyd Zeigler Jr., associate editor of the New York Blade and a reporter for Outsports.com, was denied access to a press conference for American Olympic medalists Paul and Morgan Hamm after he identified himself as writing for a gay publication.

The Hamm media handlers for the Aug. 26 event worked for the public relations company Keith Sherman & Associates.

## Police: Gov’s lover posed no security compromise

TRENTON, N.J. – New Jersey’s security measures have been dramatically updated since a former gubernatorial adviser took brief tours of state facilities. But the man never compromised safety, assured State Police Superintendent Col. Rick Fuentes.



Golan Cipel

Golan Cipel visited state police security areas at Newark Liberty International Airport and the bridges and tunnels into New York, Fuentes said. “Specifically, he was given a cook’s tour of state police deployments,” Fuentes said.

Fuentes’ comments came a day after Gov. James E. McGreevey made similar statements about Cipel, who has been identified by the governor’s aides as a man with whom McGreevey had an affair. Nearly all of what Cipel saw during early 2002 has changed, Fuentes said. “Given these changes, I am confident that any insight gained at that time has no impact on our ability to effectively protect New Jersey’s citizens today,” Fuentes said.

## Latin group closes shop amid financial shortfall

WASHINGTON, D.C. – LLEGÓ, the national organization for gay Latin men and women, abruptly shut down its operations this fall, laying off all 14 of its employees in the face of a \$700,000 deficit.

From Denver, Rodger McFarlane, executive director of the Gill Foundation, which gave LLEGÓ \$90,000 this

year and \$400,000 over the past 10 years, cited “sheer financial desperation” and an overreliance on government contracts instead of a “serious and sustained” donor base as the death knell for the organization.

The Seattle-based Pride Foundation recently sent LLEGÓ \$2,500 to help fund a conference announced for Seattle later this month. Local organizers rallied to maintain the Encuentro conference, though on a smaller scope, for Oct. 8-10. A meeting is tentatively scheduled Oct. 5 in Miami to insure maximum community input into development of a new framework for the national collective voice.

Former LLEGÓ president Martín Ornelas-Quintero said he left the organization to spend more time with a recently adopted child. He was sole manager of LLEGÓ’s finances and some close to the organization charged that his six-figure salary contributed to the organization’s demise.

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# International

## Pope aroused about 'nature of marriage'

VATICAN CITY – Pope John Paul II kept up his campaign against gay marriage in September, telling the ambassador from Canada – where some provinces allow same-sex couples to wed – that such unions create a “false understanding” of marriage. In past months, the pope urged authorities to stop approving gay marriages, saying that they degrade the true sense of marriage.

The Associated Press said the pope told new Canadian Ambassador to the Holy See Donald Smith, “The institution of marriage necessarily entails the complementarity of husbands and wives who participate in God’s creative activity through the raising of children,” according to the text of the speech released by the Vatican.

“Spouses thereby ensure the survival of society and culture, and rightly deserve specific and categorical legal recognition by the State. Any attempts to change the meaning of the word ‘spouse’ contradict right reason: legal guarantees, analogous to those granted to marriage, cannot be applied to unions between persons of the same sex without creating a false understanding of the

nature of marriage,” the pope stated, according to the Vatican source.

## U.S. adviser faces 5-15 years for gay sex

KABUL, Afghanistan – Officials here said an American adviser to the Afghan government was arrested last month for allegedly having sexual relations with an Afghan man. The man was arrested after an Afghan detained by police told investigators the American had paid him for sexual relations at a hotel here in the capital city, the officials said.

Afghan authorities say homosexuality remains a crime, even though it no longer brings the brutal punishment handed out under the Taliban before its ouster in 2001. Under its harsh interpretation of Shariah, or Islamic law, homosexuals were crushed to death by having walls toppled on them, although Afghans say closet gay relationships remain widespread.

Abdul Halim Samadi, a prosecutor in the case, told the Associated Press, “Islam doesn’t allow homosexuality. Prostitution is also punishable in Afghanistan under Islamic law.” Samadi said the American, who was not identified by the AP, could get a jail term of 5-15 years if convicted.

## Nude beach arrests laid to sting operation

TOWNSVILLE, Australia – Gay and civil rights leaders here have called for an end to plainclothes police operations that target gay men in Queensland. Their denouncement of police tactics followed the arrest of two men in September here on the nation’s northeast coast.

According to the newspaper Australian, Queensland police charged one man, 73, with indecently assaulting a policeman and another, 43, with indecent behavior after their arrests at a popular nudist beach and gay area north of Townsville. Terry O’Gorman, president of the Australian Council of Civil Liberties, labeled the use of plainclothes officers in such operations as “utterly reprehensible” and a throwback to the 1960s. “They (the police) should not themselves engage in sexual behavior in order to check people out,” O’Gorman told the press.

According to police, the officers were following up on complaints from local residents about men engaging in “inappropriate behavior.”

## Lesbian opts out as party ‘standard bearer’

LONDON – Openly-gay members of the Independence Party here want to install a “homosexual wing” in their organization, but the party’s 6-foot-4 lesbian secretary has rejected their call to become the contingent’s leader.

Nikki Sinclair, 36, shocked other party members recently when she outed herself in a letter to the Pink Paper, a gay publication, and declared that there was a significant – but secret – gay membership in the party. Sinclair told

the daily Telegraph she outed herself to combat the perception that the party is an intolerant, anti-gay group.

Sinclair twice has been asked to serve as “standard bearer” for gay party members in a move that puts the spotlight on a split between liberals and traditionalists within the party. The Independence Party won 16 percent of votes cast in Britain’s European Parliament elections three months ago.

## Prince Harry shows abiding concern for AIDS

LONDON – A television documentary for British audiences will show Prince Harry following in his mother’s footsteps by working with people affected by AIDS, a royal spokesperson said Sept. 10. *The Forgotten Kingdom: Prince Harry In Lesotho* was filmed during the 19-year-old prince’s eight-week stay in the tiny southern African kingdom earlier this year, where he spent part of his time volunteering at a home for children orphaned by AIDS.



Prince Harry

Harry’s mother, Princess Diana, worked with gay men and others affected by AIDS in the early days of the epidemic before her death in a car crash in 1997. A spokesperson said Prince Harry “was really affected by his experience there and by the people he met. He hopes his visit and now the film will help raise awareness and money to help tackle the problems faced by people in Lesotho.”

Nearly one-third of Lesotho’s 2 million people are thought to be infected with the AIDS-causing virus HIV.

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# ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

## Local filmmaker Frank Hays debuts in next month's Gay/Lesbian Film Festival

**Popular movie marathon at Riverpoint Nov. 5, 6**

by Christopher Lawrence

Frank Hays can be excused for looking forward to next month's Gay/Lesbian Film Festival with a greater measure of anticipation than most festival-goers in the gay community.

Hays is the director of a new documentary included in Saturday's matinee for the two-day festival slated early next month and the event will mark his debut – a coming out, so to speak – as a film director. Attending with him will be Susan and Tonya, the main characters in Hays' 30-minute film *The Lyons: A Real Family*.

Hays has lived in Spokane most of his life and has been out as a gay man since 1984. He served in the Navy in California and then lived in Seattle for a short time before returning to Spokane 10 years ago.

His friendship with the two women featured in *Lyons* started when Susan

introduced him to his now-partner, Chad Hays, in the spring of 1998. Chad is listed as co-producer for this documentation of Susan and Tonya's four-year struggle to create a family.

Being witness to the trials and disappointments during 14 attempts at conception affected Frank Hays deeply.

About the decision to show their story, Frank said, "Knowing them personally, I wanted to capture the love and joy they have for their three children. I wanted to capture one special day in the life of the Lyons family."



Frank Hays

The ordeal paid off because, when they finally did conceive – using a drug to force multiple eggs to be delivered at once for fertilization – the doctor announced they were going to have triplets. This meant that decisions about serious considerations had to be made. When a "reduction" was suggested, the

women chose to find a doctor who would support them in having all three children.

Susan said, "Our hope is that our story will inspire others who are thinking about creating a family or have had difficulties with conception. Our family will treasure this film for many years to come!"

The majority of the film was shot in 24 hours on July 11 this year and Frank finished editing the documentary two months later. It has been entered into other film festivals and he has hopes it will be shown all over the country and in Canada.

Frank said he is "very thankful to the Spokane Gay/Lesbian Film Festival. I am very proud of this film. I hope everyone comes and supports our film and the festival."

The 6th annual film fest is scheduled the weekend evenings of Nov. 5 and 6 at Riverpoint Auditorium, with a matinee segment on Saturday. Tickets are \$8 per night, \$5 for the matinee, \$12 for two shows or \$15 for the entire festival.

## Cho whips into town for two performances at Big Easy

by Christopher Lawrence

When I think of comic Margaret Cho, I am reminded mostly of her acid-tongued reviews of the state of discrimination and the state of the Union, which she often ties together through hilarious revelations in her own experiences of life. Not only self-identified as out and queer, she has even gone so far as to claim she is a "homo trapped in a woman's body."

Bless her twisted little heart for having the guts to spit a little poison at our detractors.

Cho is scheduled for two Saturday night performances at the Big Easy on Oct. 2, just hours after Candace Gingrich's address to the gay community at Riverpoint. The Cho concerts are at 6 and 8 p.m. We are being deluged with two of our most outspoken



Margaret Cho

icons in the same day. How delightful is that?

Margaret recently received the first-ever Golden Gate Award presented by

GLAAD, the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. The organization honored her as "an entertainment pioneer who has made a significant difference in promoting equal rights for all, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity."

Ramona Ripston, GLAAD executive director, said this: "In these very troubled times, when the rights and liberties guaranteed by the Constitution are in jeopardy, we applaud (Margaret's) courage to speak out

about the dangerous policies of the Bush administration and (her) commitment to organizing others to do the same. More than ever before, this country needs activists and artists like (her) to stand up and let their voices be heard."

Margaret is described as "Brilliant ... one of the funniest comedians in America" by the New York Times, and "Gut-bustingly funny" by Variety. The Toronto Eye said, "Surely every one of Cho's blow jobs is a blow for freedom."

This is a chance to see a demonstration of her renowned "talent" for channeling, whether she is re-creating the past or doing one of her deft impressions of a family member or Anna Nicole Smith. It should get us all in the mood for National Coming Out Day on Oct. 11.

Tickets are \$29.50 and \$39.50 for reserved and concert seating, respectively, and available by calling the Big Easy at 244-3279.

## Symphony sets tribute to classic MGM musicals

Popular Christian vocalist Sandi Patty joins Spokane Symphony in opening its SuperPops season at the Opera House on Oct. 2. The symphony will return the following Friday to celebrate four of its own incredible musicians. Both performances are at 8 p.m.

Associate conductor Morihiko Nakahara will conduct the opening portion of the symphony's Saturday concert with *That's Entertainment - A Tribute to MGM Studios*. The program includes Hoagy Carmichael's *Stardust*, Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess* and *On the Town* by Leonard Bernstein.

Noted for her stunning, multi-octave voice, Patty is the most awarded female

vocalist in contemporary Christian music history. She has garnered 39 Dove Awards, five Grammys, four Billboard Music Awards and scored three platinum and five gold recordings.

On Oct. 8, to highlight the symphony's vast talent of musicians as soloists, Kelly Ferris on violin, bassoonist Lynn Feller-Marshall, cellist John Marshall and oboist Keith Thomas will perform Haydn's *Sinfonia Concertante*. The *sinfonia concertante* was a popular form at the end of the 18th century and is really a concerto for a small group of soloists rather than a symphony. Tickets are priced from \$15 to \$34.

SuperPops tickets are \$17 to \$38 and available at the Symphony ticket office at 818 W. Riverside Ave. or by calling 624-1200. Tickets are also available, with a service charge, at TicketsWest outlets.

## Art auction to lay groundwork for unique, community gallery in Republic

A landscape by noted Western artist Everett Russell will be among the featured items for sale at a special event in Republic on Oct. 9

Eureka Arts' *Celebration of the Arts* will be held at the Carousel Building of the Ferry County Fairgrounds beginning at 5 p.m. Wine, cheese and snacks will be served to a background of music by a local band.

A silent auction featuring donations by area businesses will begin at 5 p.m. Bidding in a live auction, for works of more than 20 fine artists and craftspeople, starts at 7 p.m.

Russell won Best of Show at the recent National Western Art Show in Ellensburg. Besides his landscape,

contributed works include a side chair, real-fur teddy bears, a bed quilt, digital art, pastels, ceramics, watercolors, oils, jewelry, photographs and wearable art.

Proceeds from the event will go toward opening Eureka Arts' new Gold Mountains Gallery, a gallery unique in scope for its broad support among the community and involvement of the business community from its inception.

Said David Wermuth, president of Eureka Arts, "This gallery is not like other artist's co-ops. We will be implementing a strong business plan and pursuing the guidance of business leaders. We will staff our gallery with professional sales people, not artists.

"There are an amazing number of talented people in this small community. We need a place to showcase all this fine work. That's what Gold Mountains Gallery is going to do," Wermuth said.

## Allegro opens fall season with vibrant King Arthur

Drama, intrigue, music and magic all merge in Allegro's season-opening concert at The Met on Oct. 15.

The company's small baroque ensemble - accompanied by a cast of singers, actors and dancers - will perform an adaptation of Henry Purcell's *King Arthur*, one of the lesser-known Arthurean legends, Arthur's defense of England against the Saxons.

In 1984, on the 300th anniversary of John Dryden's original composition, David Dutton and Beverly Biggs revived *King Arthur* in Spokane. Now, 20 years later, Biggs and Dutton revisit that performance, expanding the 1684 text to produce a full evening of the *King Arthur* legend as envisioned by Purcell and Dryden.

Purcell's instrumental music is tuneful and delightful and features soloists

Ann Fennessy, Max Mendel, soprano Julie Wieck and Michael Caldwell.

Director William Marlowe, Sara Edlin-Marlowe, Dan Anderson, Brad Bleck, Jeremy Lindholm, Lisa Brunemier and Jessica Nichols will perform scenes in a readers' theatre format. Choreographed by Sara Donally, Theatre Ballet members Noelle Connolly, Leyna Swoboda, Hillary Eaton and Shareen Deryan will dance two instrumental selections.

A pre-concert talk by Dr. Richard Evans, free to all ticket holders, will begin at 7:15 p.m. followed by the concert at 8.

Ticket prices range from \$10-\$23 at TicketsWest. Single and series tickets are available from Allegro by telephoning 455-6865 or on the Internet at [www.allegrobaroque.org](http://www.allegrobaroque.org). At-the-door, space-available tickets for full time students and military personnel are \$5 each. Discount tickets for groups of 10 or more are available until Oct 10.

## Discovering Japan will be made easy

Have a desire to learn about the exotic culture of Japan? A free lecture series on the country will be presented by Mukogawa Fort Wright Institute students Oct. 25-28. The programs are scheduled from 7-8:30 p.m. at the Kusaka Memorial Library on the campus adjoining Spokane Falls Community College.

Topics scheduled for discussion include the Great Hanshin Earthquake, Osaka Castle and Kawachi dance. Also, traditional Japanese cooking, Japanese gardens and tea ceremonies.

## Russian troupe will entertain in 'Finnglish'

For a show that is a lot of fun, utterly captivating and unique, the Karelian Folk Music Ensemble will present a concert on Oct. 14 at 8 p.m. at the Woman's Club, 9th and Cedar.

The talented and entertaining trio play a variety of traditional instruments and sing in Finnish, Karelian, Russian and a dialect suggested as "Finnglish," revealing their citizenship the Russian Republic of Karelia, which encompasses both sides of the Finnish/Russian border. Tickets are \$15 at the door.



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## Turtleneck advised for Interplayers' *Dracula*

Interplayers' second play of its 24th season is classic 1927: *Dracula*. The production at the professional theatre on Howard Street opens Oct. 14 and plays through Nov. 6.

The by-now infamous Professor Van Helsing – remember him? – suspects a vampire is responsible for our heroine's illness and her friend's death. Could it be the new neighbor, Count Dracula?

As always, the dark and slightly campy tale of *Dracula* deals with sex, possession, surrender and redemptive love – themes as fresh and relevant today as when this perennial favorite was first written. But you may want to wear a turtleneck sweater.

New York actor Michael Maher stars in the title role. Local actors include Caryn Hoaglund, Todd Wallace, Damon Abdallah, Craig Dingle and regional actors John Ulman, David

Seitz and Kate Parker. Interplayers Artistic Director Nikè Imoru directs.

Jon Hofland designed the sets. Cheri Vasek designed the costumes and Dean Panttaja is lighting designer.

Evening performances are Tuesdays through Saturdays plus Saturday matinees at 2:00 p.m. Weeknight shows start at 7:30 p.m.; Friday and Saturday performances are at 8 p.m. Tickets may be purchased by calling the Interplayers box office at 455-7529 or online at [www.interplayers.com](http://www.interplayers.com).



## Civic stage will bounce with lively *Noises Off*

Spokane Civic Theatre begins its 58th season with a gala reception and auction before Friday's opening night performance of *Noises Off* Oct. 1. The silent auction begins at 6:30 p.m., complemented by hors d'oeuvres, desserts and wine.

At 8 p.m., award-winning director Troy Nickerson and his cast and crew will present *Noises Off*, dubbed the funniest farce ever written, Michael Frayn's story of a hapless English acting troupe. Be prepared to laugh and leave your sensibilities at home, for there will be excessive amounts of door slamming, sexual dalliances and hilarious confusion.

Players contributing to the main stage mayhem include Melody Deatherage, Jamie Flanery, Patrick McHenry-Kroetch, Allison Standley, Stephanie Dyer, Wes Deitrick, Jone Campbell Bryan, Bil Childress and Thomas Heppler.

*Noises Off* will continue through Oct. 23 with performances Thursdays

through Sundays at 8 p.m. and Sunday matinees at 2 p.m. Curtain for a performance on Oct. 20 is 7:30 p.m.

Opening night tickets that include the gala reception are \$35. Reserved seats for all succeeding nights are \$17 for adults, \$14 for seniors and \$12 for students. Tickets may be purchased at the Civic box office, across from the Arena, or by calling 325-2507.

## Cows with Guns cocked as benefit

At CenterStage on Oct. 6, singer/songwriter Dana Lyons will definitely moo-ve the audience with his popular *Cows with Guns* concert. The show begins at 7:30 p.m. as a benefit for The Lands Council and Thin Air Radio.

Lyons' concerts bring together a mix of comedy, ballads and love songs punctuated with his sharp wit and beautiful voice. His songs have been rerecorded by many artists, among them Pete Seeger.

*Cows with Guns* was a No. 1 cross-over hit playing on country, rock, alternative, college and oldies radio stations worldwide.

Light appetizers and cocktails will be available during the show. Tickets are \$8 per person and may be purchased by calling CenterStage at 747-8243 or in person at the theatre, 1017 W. 1st Ave. Tickets also are available through all TicketsWest locations.

A Fabulous Fall Season ...

## Spokane in October

"Spokane. Near nature. Near perfect."

**Saturday the 2nd** – It's a one-two punch: Candace Gingrich of the Human Rights Campaign speaks at Riverpoint at 2 pm and comic Margaret Cho provokes laughter at the Big Easy at 6 and 8 pm.

**Saturday the 9th** – At midnight, and every Saturday this month, you can hoot 'n' holler at CenterStage's feature du noir nomination in *The Worst Midnight Movie Series Ever*.

**Thursday the 14th** – *Dracula* stalks the stage at Interplayers, with performances through Nov. 6th.

**Thursday through Sunday, Oct. 28th - 31st** – The Imperial Sovereign Court of Spokane celebrates Coronation and the *Reign of Flash, Class and Attitude*. Thursday show at Dempseys at 8 pm • Balance of events at the Mirabeau Park Hotel in Spokane Valley. *Congratulations Emperor 28 Mark and Empress 32 Selena!*

**Halloween Weekend Oct. 30th and 31st** – Catch the party spirit and enjoy the costume contests at Dempseys, The Merq and The Loft. They're special.

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# Bianchi video raises the bar for male sexual expression

## On the Couch compelling view into photo journalism

by Christopher Lawrence

Most of us recognize the name of Tom Bianchi from the litany of striking coffee table books displaying nude and seminude men of stunning looks and masculinity. In this double DVD set from Mercury Releasing, Bianchi pulls us into his vision of male bonding and intimacy with a sharpness that threatens to steal the breath away.

Bianchi's mission for this masterpiece was an investigation: "Can we look each other in the eye and tell each other *who* we are?" The project evolves into Bianchi's "record of the sexual energy of men working to free them-



selves from the problems of sexual shame."

Although the coupling is often hardcore, it is much more like the journey a lover might take. Bianchi has created an intelligent, wonderful, beautiful expression that smoothly transitions from color to sepia to black and white with no evident effort and the flow of a symphony.



## Killer Tomatoes at CenterStage

If you love to hate bad cinema, CenterStage may be just the ticket for you. The popular three-story theatre and entertainment venue a block west of Dempseys this month launches its latest project: *The Worst Midnight Movie Series Ever*.

First flick picked for tossing is a vine-ripened favorite, *Attack of the Killer Tomatoes*, on Saturday, Oct. 9, at midnight.

Instead of catapulting its cast members to stardom, *Killer Tomatoes* sent them packing. Can you correctly guess which one went on to become a California state senator, a community college speech teacher, a superintendent with the National Park Service and an employee of the Department of Housing and Urban Development?

Other candidates vying for the title of "best of the worst" midnight movies include:

- *Chopper Chicks from Zombie Town* on Oct 16,
- *Bride of the Monster* on Oct 23, and
- *Squirm* on Oct 30.

Each film in the series will be preceded by an episode from one of the old serials, such as *Flash Gordon* or *Charlie Chan*.

Since evil can't be fought on an empty stomach, cocktails, beer, popcorn and snacks will be available. Tickets are \$3 per person and may be purchased at the door or by phone by calling the CenterStage box office at 747-8243.

Volume One was shot in San Francisco, and most of it takes place on and around a leather couch, which is a warm backdrop for the video of these very steamy photo sessions.

In any other director's hands this videography could have simply been pornographic and prurient. Most of these muscular men are not models and Bianchi's direction and frank interviews before each shoot allow them to be direct and clear in their feelings. This is not acting to which we are privy, but rather the earthy stuff of being present to passionate and joyful sexual connection.

Volume Two takes place in Toronto and, again, there are singles, couples, a trio and a quartet of healthy males



Tim and Marty from the book *On The Couch*, Volume One

joining in sensual fantasies that welcome the camera and Tom to participate. The discussions are revealing and touching, with shared moments of important impacts in these men's lives and sexual passages.

The amazing fine quality of lighting, photography and sexual and emotional tone in these two discs is phenomenal. Bianchi notes that most of what we have been given in the form of visual expression of our sexuality is poorly done. At just over two and a half hours of viewing, *On The Couch* raises the bar for graphically portrayed sexual expression and, in so doing, raises itself above the garbage that we have long accepted. We deserve better and now we have it.



Hunter and William from the book *On The Couch*, Volume One



# DRACULA

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# Gaydar, gay bars flawless during Hurricane Frances

**But it's lesbians who rescue gay men in emergencies**

by Mubarak Dahir

I had never been in a hurricane before, and I am not ashamed to say I was sufficiently nervous. After all, Hurricane Frances, the forecasters told us for up to a week before she hit, was to be the biggest hurricane to pummel Florida in more than a decade.

But I was trying not to get unduly worried. Don't worry, just prepare, I kept telling myself.

So there I was, standing in the local Home Depot with a "hurricane preparedness" list in my hands that I had gotten off of one of those Web sites aimed at people like me, who'd never been in a storm of this magnitude before and had no idea what to do.

It was Thursday afternoon and, at the time, the weather forecasters were calling for Frances to touch down on land sometime Friday. We didn't know at the time that Frances was going to stall out in the Atlantic, at times com-

ing to an actual standstill before hitting our coast sometime that Sunday.

So there was a sense of urgency, bordering on panic, at the home improvement store, as everyone grabbed as many 10-packs of batteries and five-gallon water jugs and flashlights and candles as they could fit into their carts.



Mubarak Dahir

Like everyone else, I was running around trying to get all the items on my list checked off, although I suspect I looked a little more frazzled than most other shoppers, who, it appeared to me at least, had actually been

through a hurricane and knew what they were doing.

\*\*\* \*\*

I had never had to board a place up with plywood before, and I wasn't quite sure just how to go about doing it. If I dress right and posture myself correctly and don't talk too much, I can pull off "butch" in the local gay bar. But when it comes right down to it, I am more *Martha Stewart Living* than *This Old House*.

I knew I needed a drill of some sort and special nails that go into concrete walls. But I didn't know the nails were called tapcons or that I had to have a special masonry bit to fit the drill for this purpose.

I learned this only after swallowing my pride, and throwing myself at the mercy of a store worker who, my gaydar told me, would "understand" my ignorance on these issues.

He was a big, strong man with a blond beard, and blue eyes that smiled patiently at my blundering questions in a way that somehow made me feel safer. It was as if he was telling me, in

some secret gay language that we all share but never quite speak, that it was OK, he understood.

After scouring the shelves and coming up with the last package of tapcons, my Home Depot helper informed me that the store was all sold out of drills, except for heavy-duty macho ones that cost somewhere around \$400.

As he was explaining this to me, he paused, and his eyes seemed to smile even wider at me. He was about to give me my first taste of gay hurricane humor. I should have known that even faced with the worst of natural disasters, we, as gay and lesbian people, could keep a collective sense of humor about our own survival.

Later, I would think about that more, and I have since come to believe it is a gift we have, maybe one we've developed over the years as we've invented ways to survive daily in hostile, man-made climates.

But, at the moment, I wasn't thinking about anything more than surviving Frances. Maybe that's why I was taken a little off guard when he leaned toward me and almost whispered, "Don't you have anyone you can borrow a drill from? You don't know any lesbians?"

This time, we both smiled.

Continued on page 28

# What a life! Living glamorously with HIV

by Stephen J. Fallon, Ph.D.

HIV is no big deal anymore. You've noticed that guy at the gym everyday; he doesn't seem to be any worse off for having HIV. He takes long lunches, relaxes at the coffee shop every afternoon and then tools over to the mall to fill the trunk of his new BMW Z-3 with lots of purchases. Doesn't seem like such a bad life.

Maybe catching HIV now would be a relief. You'd just pop one of those new high-octane medications each morning with breakfast, then claim disability so you could quit your frustrating job and live off the state.

I've heard guys say things like this. Maybe this explains why, after a decade of holding steady, new HIV infections in gay and bisexual communities rose 17 percent during the past three years. So I decided to ask some of my HIV-positive friends what living with HIV is really like these days.

**Unseen illnesses and side effects**

That lazy-paced lifestyle that seems enviable is actually a result of being tired "a majority of the time," Alan

from Fort Lauderdale, Fla., tells me. Ted in Smyrna, Tenn., says that his fatigue often immobilizes him for "days on end." Bob in Little Rock, Ark., has only had HIV for one year,



Stephen J. Fallon, Ph.D.

but already reports "fatigue, night sweats, extreme sensitivities to heat/cold, depression."

Besides exhaustion, these guys face a wide range of complications, both from HIV and from the medicines that fight it. Rick from South Carolina has had HIV for two years and has been plagued with polyps that form in the nerves of his feet, giving him numb-

ness some days, sharp pains other days. David, HIV-positive for seven years in Miami, describes an embarrassing and frequent "drug rash" that appears on his face. In New York, Larry says, "I am experiencing memory loss, depression, breakdown of gums from the medication, with endless dental problems, fatty lumps, numb feet, and tremendous migraines for days on end." Alan jokes about another medicinal side effect: "Thanks to years on AZT, my round ass is now flat, with a double chin!"

Several of the guys I spoke to mentioned more embarrassing symptoms. John in Pittsburgh, positive for five years, has "Neuropathy in my bladder, causing embarrassing (urine) leakage." Nate from Fort Lauderdale describes, "carrying around an extra pair of underwear and wet wipes in the car and briefcase in case of an attack of the runs."

Ted calls these common bouts of diarrhea "meds farts." He's had to learn "all the clean rest rooms on habitual routes for an emergency stop." Dave from Santa Barbara, Calif., has "stomach discomfort, cramps and gas about 80 percent of the time" along with "horrible diarrhea" and "absence of sex drive."

**Social stigma**

All the guys I spoke to have felt socially or sexually rejected by other gay

guys because of their status. John in Philadelphia says that some guys actually just turn and walk away when he reveals his status.

Ted adds, "Neg guys describe themselves as clean, so what does that say about how they view us?" Alan flinches when he reads "Web-based personal ads that say 'HIV neg. UB2.'" Nate adds grimly, "I've heard people say in front of me, not knowing that I'm HIV-positive, that poz men spend money, drink and screw around more because they aren't going to live much longer."

**Limitations on daily life**

The fatigue that HIV causes and the rigid medication schedule required interferes with everyday activities. Dave says he's "not able to do things with friends/family on the spur of the moment."

Nate and his partner "count our pills over weekends, upcoming holidays or trips to see if we'll need extra medication." Alan is careful to "drink water all day long to avoid kidney stones that the medications cause." He also has to "eat a diet low in fat to reduce damage already caused to the gall bladder by years of medication."

David says, "Twice a day, about a half-hour after I take my meds, I become unable to concentrate. The effect on my professional life has been serious. Clients lose confidence in me

Continued on page 28

# REVIEWS & PREVIEWS

## BOOKS

### **The Realm of Possibility**

David Levithan

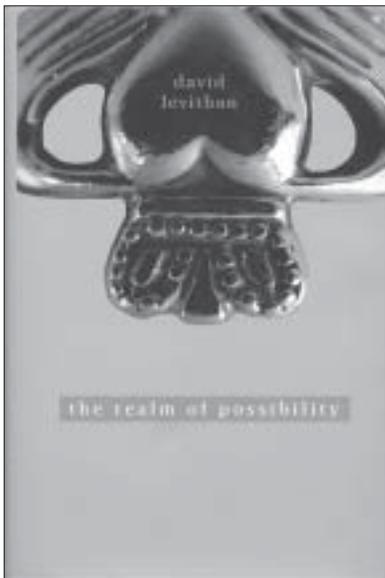
*Knopf, 210 pages, hard cover, \$15.95*

We seldom realize how much we are a cause and affect in each other's lives, but profound influences can come from those whose lives we barely understand. Never has that been more effectively illustrated than in this exceptional teen anthology of "20 different teens that go to the same high school – straight and queer, Goth and gospel, hopeful and heartbroken."

In this novel-in-verse, secret loves and longings in the self-conscious thoughts of tortured and angst-filled young adults carry us back to the years when everything seemed so dramatically confusing and final. Unforgettable stories piece together that complex journey of high school and leave us wondering what has become of each of them today.

Each section in this book is a collection of four characters written from individual points of view. I found it to be universal and unique ... haunting vignettes that are at once depressing, amusing and uplifting. If you have the nerve, I dare you to enter their high school and welcome the realm of possibility.

The author won a Lambda Literary Award for young adults in his first novel, *Boy Meets Boy*. This time out, he is, once again, refreshing and insightful. The pages hold a wonderful journey of self-discovery. – C.L.



### **King & King & Family**

Linda de Haan and Stern Nijland

*Tricycle Press, 30 pages, hard cover, \$14.95*

These two female artists and writers have written and illustrated a delightful children's picture book about King Bertie and King Lee as they get married and begin an adventurous honeymoon trip through the jungle. Subtly challenging gender roles without being preachy, the playground they create is punctuated with brightly-colored illustrations of all the animals and their babies while they travel.

At the end of their adventure they find that a little girl from the jungle was hiding in their suitcase and realize she is the perfect child to become their daughter. The adoption is short and sweet and, of course, they all live happily ever after.

An adult and small child could spend hours looking through this book and discovering the

many little critters and inventive ideas throughout the marvelous collage artwork. If you know a small child, this will be a fun and meaningful present for them in many ways. You may even enjoy it all by yourself. – C.L.



ture. This tale takes up where *Frontiers*, Jensen's previous novel about John Chapman (who will eventually be known as Johnny Appleseed), ended. Written as a narrative from the voice of Cole Seavey, a strapping young frontiersman who is only beginning to come to terms with his sexual orientation, we immediately

are plunged into a horrendous gale in the harsh backdrop of the Ohio Territory at the onset of winter.

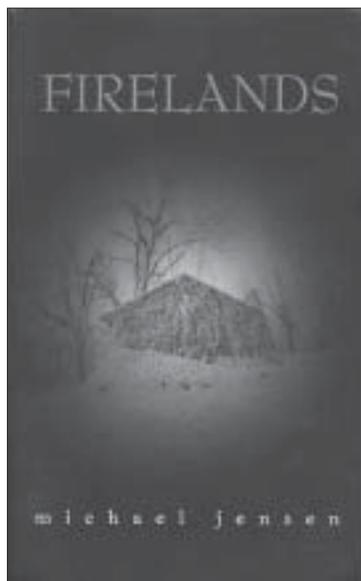
While attempting to rescue a wounded young woman seemingly stranded in the wilderness, Cole is injured by a creature that is "neither man nor beast, but something from the bowels of hell, reeking of the grave." When he regains consciousness, he discovers that he, himself, has been rescued – by the handsome young Delaware brave Pakim – delivered to the cabin of John Chapman and his male lover and is being tended to by an Indian woman healer who has befriended them.

In nearby Hugh's Lick, murderous carnage attributed to a legendary creature known as Wendigo causes tension to escalate among the settlers, our heroes and the Delawares. As they

join together to end the bloody violence, Cole and Pakim become ever more aware of the bonds forming between them and how the experience of these strange emotions and desires may shape their futures.

The author has invented a new genre of gay literature, utilizing the rugged men of the early frontier as protagonists battling evil in the name of justice. The deft use of colloquial English and mannerisms lends an authenticity to his tribute to a time in history that molded the morals we all would hope to see in our present time.

*Firelands* is an absorbing study of male



### **Firelands**

Michael Jensen

*Alyson Books, 299 pages, \$14.95*

This is the second novel from what I hope will be a continued series based on the fictionalized lives of men who braved the American frontier at the turn of the 18th cen-

interaction and an excellent read. – C.L.

### **Spare Parts**

Scott Pomfret and Scott Whittier

*Romantics, 182 pages, \$12.99*

A few years ago when I discovered my first gay romantic novel, I must admit that I read it through very quickly, never once mentioning it to any of my friends, for fear of ridicule. As of late, however, I have noticed a strong surge in popularity of these idealistic and yet bubble-gum brained books in the gender sections of bookstores nearly everywhere. I found this one to be delightful and delicious candy even though the reality of romance novels is not similar to the reality of most gay or heterosexual relationships, even if they do sport Fabio on the cover.

During a low point in Trent's young life, he wanders the waterfront district, known for male hustlers and the daddies who pay for them. Dan, a successful mechanic who is several years older and lonely, also is wandering the waterfront ... "Boy meets boy."

We witness an obvious bad start with the dual misconceptions that one is a professional hustler and the other a john. After a very hot tryst, fol-

lowed by a complete lack of communication but budding feelings, they part ... "Boy does boy."

Believing their original assumptions about their meeting sets the scene for ... "Boy can't have boy."

Dan decides to help Trent, even though they still are not clear why and what secrets their relationship hides ... "Boy overcomes all obstacles to get boy."

Realizations abound for each of them and we have another very hot scene that ensures what we all hope will happen ... "Boy gets boy and they live happily ever after. Finis!"

*Spare Parts* is a well-crafted romp that delivers a few hours of sweet escape from the complications of our real lives. These two young authors from Boston have found a great niche. Not great literature, but still a fine read. Enjoy it with no guilt. – C.L.



### **GLBT Book Group**

Spokane's Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered Book Group meets monthly in the second floor conference room of Auntie's Bookstore. Facilitator Julie Smith says review sessions begin at 7 p.m. and visitors are welcome.

Upcoming reviews include:

**Oct. 6:** *Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers* by Lillian Faderman.

**Nov. 3:** Nina Revoyr's *Southland*.

# REVIEWS & PREVIEWS

## MUSIC

### Keep Hope Alive

Blaze and various underground dance artists

King Street Sounds CD

Bass-filled beats combined with silky, lyrical vocals create the "soulful house" sounds pioneered by Blaze, the production team formed by Kevin Hedge and Josh Milan, a powerhouse in the dance music scene. They used the clout gathered over 20-plus years to pull together a huge group of dance hall artists for a charity album benefiting LIFEbeat (The Music Industry Fights AIDS).

Blaze wrote and produced the 12 tracks on this album using such singers as Barbara Tucker, Kenny Bobien and Joi Cardwell to front each tune, and gathering together the entire cast of lead and backup singers together for a *We Are The World*-style ensemble title track, which opens and closes the album. The result is an energetic, yet smooth album that meditates deeply on love, inward or outward, and its role in all our lives.

No beat-mixed, DJ-style presentation here because each track stands on its own. Still, it's plain that Blaze envisioned this album as a whole piece. With the proceeds, they hope to pull us all together to help LIFEbeat (lifebeat.org) fight AIDS. An excellent purchase to make for a worthy cause. — G.A.



chestra to simple voice and piano arrangements, makes Jane Monheit's fifth CD a delightful listen. Growing up with influences like Ella Fitzgerald has clearly left a mark on her song selection and vocal style, although she makes every song on this latest CD definitely her own.

She debuted her career at 1998's Thelonious Monk Competition and is on the forefront of the younger jazz renaissance. Her live performances have garnered stunning reviews and her studio work never lacks energy or joy.

Jane's interpretive talent shines in *Bill*, where she transforms the tune from *Showboat* to a full-fledged torch song. After exploring songs from Gershwin and Porter, she closes this 12-

song set with a delicate and beautiful *Over The Rainbow*. It's an hour well spent, and one worth spending again and again. — G.A.

### Hymns of the 49th Parallel

k.d. lang

Nonesuch CD

There are few female singers who move me as deeply as k.d. Her expressive alto voice has been put to wonderful use throughout her career. Tony Bennett called her one of today's greatest living singers, and after working with him on an album from the *Great American Songbook*, k.d. decided it was time to explore (and maybe create) the Canadian equivalent.

The 11 tracks on this CD explore the works of Neil Young, Joni Mitchell and Leonard Cohen, among others. Each

is eye- and ear-opening, with sparse arrangements which not only allow k.d. to shine new light into the lyrics, but also create a timeless, genre-breaking mood that pulls these familiar songs out of their original settings and into someplace deeper.

Listening to her sing Young's *Helpless* or Cohen's *Hallelujah* is magical. I've heard most of these songs before, but had never really "heard" them. Now, I doubt I will ever hear them the same way again. This is truly a great album from a gifted and thoughtful artist. Thank you, k.d., once again. — G.A.

### Pure

Hayley Westenra

Decca Records CD



ranging from Carl Orff to *Amazing Grace*. A couple Maori songs, a Kate Bush cover, even a song by legendary Beatles producer Sir George Martin, this album showcases Hayley in a variety of settings, always leading you back to the title: her voice is very, very pure. — G.A.

### Live and Well

Dolly Parton

Sugar Hill Records double CD and DVD

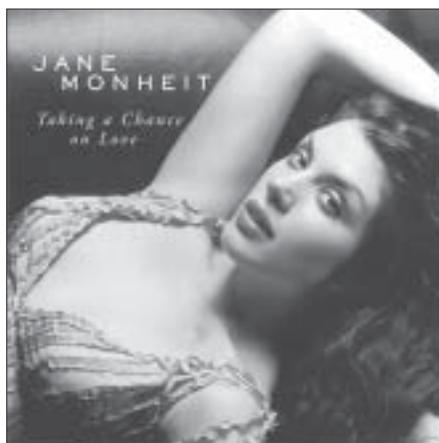
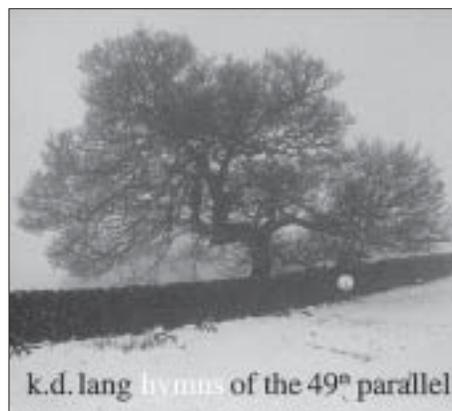
Dolly Parton amazes me. I don't own any of her 71 albums, but she always enchants me whenever I encounter her work. Her latest release, a double CD documenting her 2002 Halos and Horns

tour, weaves in and out of her 35-plus-year recording catalog.

Interspersed with the mainly self-penned songs are contemporary numbers such as Collective Soul's *Shine* and even a couple of surprises like *Stairway To Heaven*. Backed up by The Blueniques, she pulls together this vast array of 23 songs into her own bluegrass style and sprinkles more than a little of her backwoods country charm into the show that may win over even the most skeptical listener. This is Dolly doing what she loves, by sharing her music and her stories with a friendly crowd — the show was recorded at her Dollywood theme park — and making them all feel completely at home.

It's easy to understand why she is one of the world's most recognized and beloved entertainers. She transcends boundaries, pulls in everyone around and generates an aura of joy with her music. A tour-de-bluegrass double live CD from a reigning country music queen. It's charming, it's amazing, it's totally Dolly.

For true-blue Dolly fans who would love to hear her in person, she's booked into the Star Theatre at the Spokane Arena for a concert on Dec. 18. — G.A.



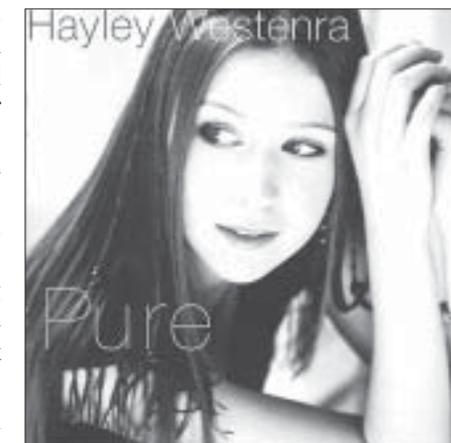
### Taking a Chance on Love

Jane Monheit

Sony Classical CD

Jazz is alive and well, after years of declining sales and public apathy. Happily, this comeback is being led by offerings such as this CD. The strong bass line that opens *Honeysuckle Rose* quickly establishes that good things are to come.

Familiar material from the *American Song Book*, ranging from full or-



pitch, seems as if it were destined to sell 10 million copies in her home country of New Zealand, the number one-selling album there for 25 weeks and counting, and millions more all over the globe. Her first worldwide release has leapt to the top of both the classical and pop charts in the United Kingdom and is making similar remarkable waves everywhere it has been released.

I would put her in the same category as Sarah Brightman and Enya, although devoid of the lush production layers of the latter. Her bell-like voice is underscored by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra on 13 tracks,

# REVIEWS & PREVIEWS

## VIDEO

### Relax ... It's Just Sex!

P.J. Castellaneta

TLA Releasing DVD, 1:50 running time

This earnest, compassionate and matter-of-fact portrayal of gay men and lesbians includes some graphic sex and a male rape scene, which may be the reason it could not get the proper rating for general release in theaters. *Friends* meets *Queer As Folk* came to mind during some of the opening scenes, but the film takes story lines that could have been soap-opera clichés and rescues them with beautifully written dialogue and sharply acted characters. Indeed, had this film been made after the introduction of *QAF*, it may have been very successful.

Jennifer Tilly (*Bound*) plays Tara, a straight woman and gossip, storyteller,

mother hen to her circle of friends, who are mostly gay men or lesbians. Mitchell Anderson, openly gay actor (of *Party of Five*, *Last Place on Earth* fame), plays her best friend who is searching for the right guy and is earnestly believable as the tortured homo without a match.

Even though all the actors were superb, in one scene Lori Petty, as Robin, gripped my soul and pulled tears out of my heart. I believe she deserved a mention for Best Supporting Actress for 1997. Watching the DVD with director's comments, I learned she made that scene in one incredible, moving take.

A few of the characters are humorously stereotypical, but endearing. Plenty of twists and turns, especially among the lesbians, which included a classic and hilarious bit with a mother (Susan Tyrrell) who had become a staunch member of PFLAG only to find that her

"lesbian-of-10-years-daughter" had the audacity to go straight and leave her perfect partner. This caused the mother to wait that she was being "robbed of the daughter I had never had!"

Direction was above average, although due to the small budget, some scenes were a bit uneven. All in all, this is still one of the best movies of gay interest I have seen this year. Make a point to rent or buy it. It's a keeper. — C.L.

### I Will Survive

Spanish with English subtitles

TLA Releasing DVD (1:42)

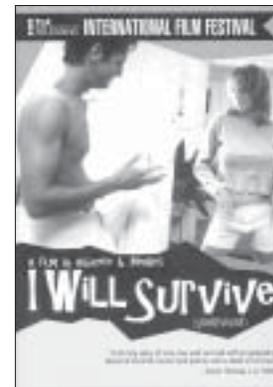
The third film from the Spanish writing-directing team of Alfonso Albacete and David Menkes once again brings us into a world of ambiguous sexuality. Spanish dialogue with subtitles in English never distracts from this story of tenderness, humor and pa-

thos tempered with some fairly saucy scenes.

Marga, our pregnant heroine, is struck by tragedy when her boyfriend is killed and she loses her job because of the disloyalty of a trusted friend. She bravely carries on with her life and meets a lonely Cuban woman who she eventually asks to move in and help take care of the child so that Marga can find work to support the three of them.

While working at her new job in the video store, she meets the very handsome Iñagui and they begin to fall in love. A small problem soon evidences itself as his ex-boyfriend reenters his life. How this wildly colorful group of survivors comes to form an extended family is the real substance of the movie.

Released on Sept. 7, this is a refreshing film, charming and unapologetic, while exploring the art of love and friendship outside of the typical family model. My spiritual sweet tooth was definitely satisfied. — C.L.



### Latter Days

C. Jay Cox

TLA Releasing and Funny Boy Films DVD (1:47)

Banned by the Mormon Church. This film treatment of the confusing process of coming out is moving and profound in its reach to examine the inner conflict many of us experience while reckoning ourselves with societies moral standards.

Christian (Wes Ramsey), a young, hunky West Hollywood party boy, gets more than he bargains for when he tries to seduce Elder Aaron Davis (Steve Sandvoss), a sexually repressed and ambivalent Mormon missionary who moves into his apartment complex.

When Christian exposes Davis' covert sexual yearning, he is rejected for being superficial and devoid of character. The encounter drives Christian to search his soul and his life to discover more meaning to his life than merely focusing on the next sexual conquest.

The sudden awareness of their differences is powerful and heartening, leading them to new discoveries about themselves. An affinity grows between them and, abandoning resistance, they

tumble passionately into a romance that risks destroying any possibility of continuing their relationship. The sexual exploration scenes between these two men are intense, erotic and earnest.

Mary Kay Place and Jacqueline Bisset shine as Davis' inflexible Mormon mother and Christian's worldly and understanding boss, lending balance and depth to this emotional clash between spirituality and sexuality. Anyone who has felt this conflict in their

own life is likely to have strong and empathetic reactions to the powerful and heart-rending scenes of rejection by Davis' misguided and brainwashed Mormon parents.

The writing, directing and production values are all of excellent quality. *Latter Days* is a charismatic, sexy and poignant tale that left me believing in the transformational power of love.

No DVD library would be complete without this soon-to-be-classic story of the age-old struggle between the rigid rules of the church and homosexual/homospiritual self-realization. The film debuted in New York in January and, when released for wider distribution, was banned in Salt Lake City. Of course, it was never booked into Spokane, except for now, via DVD format. — C.L.



### Men's Mix: One

A collection of 7 short films

TLA Releasing DVD (1:28)

Seven superior short film entries on DVD by first-time filmmakers from the United States and Argentina grant us a range of serious insight and comedic hilarity. Each one is worth watching at least once, but three of them really stand out as films that are impactful and insightful looks at the often-solitary lives many of us have chosen to lead.

Here is what you will find on the disk:

*Touched* (U.S. 2003) reveals a destined encounter of two disparate gay men who have a shared need that will save both their lives. Quietly spiritual and echoing the dark loneliness of solitude and some despair, this surprisingly rich story gives new meaning to the power of touch and its ability to heal.

*Safe Journey* (U.S. 2000) poses the chance meeting of a young man, who is homeless, abused and beaten, to be the instrument of survival for a man who is losing his sight and relinquishing his hold on a meaningful life. I found it to be an ironic tale of regained faith and remarkable compassion bestowing grace on both of their lives.

*Burl's* (U.S. 2002) poignantly captures a 10-year-old boy's exploration of his sexual identity. Appearing more as a girl than a boy and having his family try to mold him into something he is not turns out to be an impossible task as his mind sidesteps each new tactic in favor of daydreaming about guys.

*Masturbation: Putting the Fun in Self-Loving* (U.S. 2003) won the Audience Choice award at Spokane's Gay and Lesbian Film Festival last year. Clever to some degree, its humor was

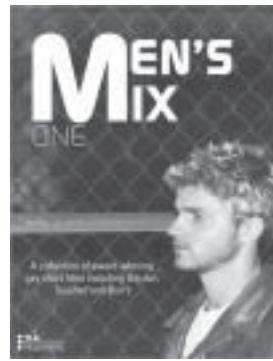
derived from spoofing those foolish sex education films of the 1950s.

*Gaydar* (U.S. 2002) is as close as they could get to gay slapstick in an effort to figure out the sexual orientation of one ambiguous hunk.

*10 Pesos* (Argentina 2003) was a very short, but intriguing documentary about 10 lives that were linked only by a single peso.

*Shaving the Castro* (U.S. 1996), digitally remastered in 2004, was of historic interest but only because the barbershop was in the Castro district.

All in all, *Men's Mix: One* is not a bad compilation, but probably a rental. It was released for distribution last month and is available locally at Borders Books and Music. Suggested purchase price is \$24.99. — C.L.



# Political

## National platform:

# Republicans go on record opposing gays

## *In 'bold statement against discrimination,' Log Cabin Republicans decline to endorse Bush*

NEW YORK – At its national convention here, which concluded the first week in September, the Republican Party approved a platform that is much more expansive in opposing legal recognition of gay couples than original drafts submitted by subcommittees and in the GOP platform of four years ago.

One day after Vice President Dick Cheney split with President Bush on whether the U.S. Constitution should be amended to ban states from marrying gay couples, conservatives reportedly insisted that the GOP beef up its plank opposing gay marriage.

By specifically endorsing the Federal Marriage Amendment, the 110-member platform committee ignored pleas from gay Republicans and party moderates and went beyond the marriage plank adopted by the party four years ago.

The 2004 platform “strongly supports President Bush’s call for a Constitutional amendment that fully protects marriage” so “that neither federal nor state judges nor bureaucrats should force states to recognize other living arrangements as equivalent to marriage.” The platform also endorses the Marriage Protection Act passed by the U.S. House that would limit the federal courts’ jurisdiction to decide the constitutionality of the Defense of Marriage Act.

Elsewhere the platform condemns “activist judges” who “threaten America’s dearest institutions and our very way of life,” citing decisions on gay marriage, the Pledge of Allegiance and the Ten Commandments.

The platform committee rejected a call from Log Cabin Republicans, a national gay caucus for the Republican Party, and Republicans for Choice, among other moderates, for a “unity plank” that specifically acknowledged party division on abortion and gay rights.

The in-your-face and spiteful anti-gay platform prompted Log Cabin Republicans to withhold its endorsement

from President Bush, an action hailed as “a bold statement against discrimination,” by the president of the Washington, D.C.-based Human Rights Campaign.

Four years ago, Bush won Log Cabin’s endorsement and, consequently, the votes of an estimated one million gay Americans. But after four years of discriminatory policies and divisive politics, in addition to the anti-gay Republican convention, Log Cabin Republicans this year voted to withhold its endorsement of President Bush.

“American values like freedom and equality should not be forfeited to partisan politics. The Log Cabin Republicans understand this and we’re proud to call them allies in the fight for equality,” said HRC president Cheryl Jacques.

“During the Federal Marriage Amendment vote in the Senate we saw a divided GOP playing politics with the lives of hard-working, taxpaying Americans. The Log Cabin Republicans’ decision ... rejects the politics of



*Vice President Dick Cheney was accompanied on the campaign trail by his lesbian daughter Mary, but she was conspicuously missing – to gays, anyway – when it came time for the family portrait on the rostrum at last month’s Republican convention.*

division and makes clear that unity and equality are paramount.”

The platform also takes a few additional stabs at gay rights elsewhere in the document:

■ In the section “Honoring and Supporting our Armed Forces,” the party carries over language from the 2000 platform that “homosexuality is incompatible with military service.”

■ A section supporting federal funding to “faith-based and community initiatives” affirms that “the hiring rights of religious organizations must be maintained so that religious charities do not have to abandon their religious character in order to provide publicly funded services.”

■ The platform appears to drop language from 2000 that opposed giving



AP photo

*Democratic presidential nominee John Kerry acknowledged supporters during a campaign stop in Charlotte, N.C.*

“sexual preference” any “special legal protection or standing in law.” Instead, a section of this year’s platform on “Ensuring Equal Opportunities” merely backs existing civil rights protections, ensuring no one is “discriminated against on the basis of race, national origin, gender, or other characteristics covered by our civil rights laws.”

■ The platform also dropped language affirming the Boy Scouts of America’s ban on gay members and leaders, though the issue has receded from the national stage.

■ On HIV and AIDS, the platform backs the “ABC” approach to prevention, without identifying what the “C” stands for: “Abstinence,” “Be faithful in relationships,” “Condom usage.” Instead the platform explains “ABC” as “encourag(ing) abstinence and being faithful to one lifetime partner, along with other behavioral changes intended to eliminate or reduce expo-

sure risk.” The platform backs Bush’s efforts to double federal spending on “abstinence-only education and to promote healthy relationships.” The HIV/AIDS plank lists those affected by the virus deserving of special efforts, including orphans, women and girls who are victims of coercive sex. No mention is made of gay men, still the largest affected group domestically.

■ In a section called “Promoting Healthy Choices, Including Abstinence,” the GOP opposes allowing school-based clinics to provide “referrals, counseling, and related services for contraception and abortion.”

## From Oregon to Texas:

# GOP seeks to subvert gay people

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Republican state party platforms from across the country reveal the true extent of the anti-gay, homophobic GOP agenda.

“Republicans will trot out pro-gay moderates like Rudy Guliani at their ... convention in an attempt to masquerade the party’s real agenda from the American people,” said Eric Stern, Director of GLBT (gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered) Outreach at the Democratic National Committee.

“Well, these state platforms rip that mask right off and expose the truth. By refusing to put an end to the discrimination found in his own party’s platforms, Bush is telling America that he agrees with these divisive and dangerous beliefs. The proof is in the writing,” said Stern.

A sampling of language included in the platforms includes the following anti-gay rhetoric:

**Oregon Republican Party platform:**

- “We believe all forms of homosexuality and the so-called homosexual agenda are morally wrong and damaging to society in the long term. We oppose ... adoption and foster parenting as a moral transgression against the party.”

**Iowa Republican Party platform:**

- “We support a landlord’s right to refuse leasing property to cohabiting homosexuals based on moral grounds.”

**Minnesota Republican Party platform:**

- “We should amend the U.S. Constitution and the Minnesota Constitution to define marriage as the legal

Continued on next page

Continued from previous page  
union between a man and a woman. We oppose civil unions or their legal equivalents between same-sex couples."

And, from Bush's own state, the Texas Republican Party platform:

• "The Party believes that the practice of sodomy tears at the fabric of society ... homosexual behavior is contrary to the fundamental, unchanging truths that have been ordained by God, recognized by our country's founders, and shared by the majority of Texans."

## Regional candidates win national support

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund's latest round of political endorsements includes two candidates from the Pacific Northwest who won their primary election contests in May.

Considering strategic, state-level battles over anti-gay amendments and referendums looming this fall, the Victory Fund has endorsed Idaho's Nicole LeFavour and Oregon's Rives Kistler.

Kistler was appointed to the state's highest court in 2003 and is seeking to retain his seat as Supreme Court Justice as an openly-gay elected official.

LeFavour won the Democratic nomination for state representative in District 19 with 54 percent of the vote. While sexuality was not an issue in the primary, the former lobbyist and campaign worker told Boise's Diversity newspaper, "I have to be careful (in the general election). Because I'm gay, my opponent could decide to run a negative campaign, so I'm going to be really ready, ready to work hard."

According to the Victory Fund, while the 275 openly-gay Americans serving in public office represent a 500 percent increase since the organization's founding in 1991, it is a small number compared to the 511,000 elective offices at all levels of government. Further, 13 states claim no openly-gay officeholders at any level of government.

## 'Pledge to Vote' now fashionable

NEW YORK – The fashion world has backed many causes and issues but, until last month, stayed out of the political fray. To promote Olympus Fashion Week in September, the Human Rights Campaign and a slew of fashion designers, models and celebrities launched a Pledge to Vote initiative to encourage voter registration in the fashion industry.

Designers involved in the project include Calvin Klein, Michael Kors, Donna Karan, Kenneth Cole, John Bartlett, Patrick Robinson and Jerry Kaye for Perry Ellis and Alice Roi, among others.



# Tell Trinity

No beans or onions:

## When the right time for as sleep-over comes

Dear Trinity,

After three weeks of dating, my girlfriend wants me to finally "sleep-over." But I am afraid it will ruin everything. When is it a good time to finally sleep-over?

Sincerely, Sleep-over  
Quandary  
Grand Rapids, Mich.

Dear Sleep-over Quandary,

I, myself, think it's important to wait a while. There are many benefits such as anticipation, respect and the joy of knowing you took your time. Then, once you do start sleeping over, there'll be plenty of evenings to make up for all those lost snores, farts and sleepless nights! Did I just say that?

So, Pumpkin, please wait until it feels right! You have nothing to lose. And remember, stay away from beans or onions when that night finally comes!

Love, Trinity

Hey Trinity,

My new boyfriend is giving me troubles for wanting to, as he puts it, "catch a buzz" with bad drugs. Isn't it natural to want to loosen up after work? And what are "good drugs" anyway?

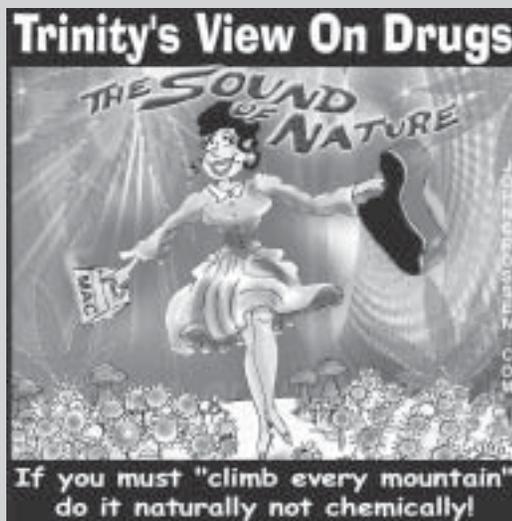
Yours truly, Loosening Up  
Albany, N.Y.

Hey Loosening Up,

It is natural and common to want to escape once in a while ... as long as you have a handle on it. But if you don't, or too many people tell you that you don't, then beware!

Now, when it comes to good/bad or healthy/unhealthy drugs, I have always been taught that "if it grows out of the ground then you will "catch" a much healthier "buzz" for

your head and your body as opposed to something manufactured in some "chemi-kill" factory.



## Dating Dilemma No. 98

Hey Trinity,

How do you know when someone you are dating is scamming you?

Yours, Scam Jam  
Seattle

Hey Scam Jam,

You know you are probably being scammed when:

- you really know nothing concrete about someone and what you do know doesn't all pan out,
- you are "in love" with someone whom your trusted friends call "a thief and a liar,"
- you are suddenly paying someone's rent, wardrobe, drug habit and/or credit card bills, and, lastly,
- when checks bounce, he or she is always in trouble with inflated excuses or when things start disappearing!

Oh, and the remedy for this is: a) call the police, b) change your locks and your phone number, and c) go on a nice, far away vacation!

Good luck, Trinity

Hello Trinity,

I was recently "eighty-sixed" (kicked out) at a bar for drinking too much. Should I sue them?

Sincerely, Kicking Out  
Topeka, Kan.

Hello Kicking Out,

Before you go crazy finding out your legal rights as a drinker, maybe you should get serious about finding out your limitations as a drunk.

That's why I have compiled:

## Trinity's Cocktail Tips for Knowing You're a Drunk When ...

- You look straight ahead and you see the sky.
- You get kicked out of a bar and you don't know why!
- You can't walk, talk or stand straight and you're sure you're not high!
- You think you're in the bathroom but you notice cars going by and people yelling at you!
- You keep laughing at the cop who's repeating, "Walk a straight line, touch your nose, breath into the paper bag, lady!"
- You spit, drool, nod-out and stutter yet you complain, "I know it a-I-I!"
- You've been "shut off" by the bartender and your friends but you still insist that they are trying to ruin your night!
- You're lying on your front lawn watching your spouse throw suitcases at you, crying, "I can't take the drinking anymore!"
- You're in the back of a taxi listening to the driver yell, "For the last time mister tell me where you live or I'm dropping you at the police station!"
- Lastly, you know you're a drunk when you turn your head side-to-side and all you see are garbage cans, vomit, liquor bottles and the ground!

Reverend Trinity has a masters of divinity and hosts the weekly radio drama Spiritually Speaking. She also performs globally. To "Tell Trinity," send e-mail to Trinity@telltrinity.com or a letter to Tell Trinity, P.O. Box 1362, Provincetown, MA 02657-5362.

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## Georgia's anti-gay ballot measure challenged

ATLANTA – A lawsuit filed in the Superior Court of Fulton County on Sept. 16 asks that an amendment dealing with same-sex couples be taken off of Georgia's November ballot. Represented by Lambda Legal, the American Civil Liberties Union of Georgia and the law firm Alston & Bird LLP, the plaintiffs allege that the ballot language is affirmatively deceptive and unconstitutional.

Earlier this year, the state legislature approved an amendment to the Georgia Constitution that would prohibit same-sex couples from marrying, may prohibit civil unions and seeks to limit the court's jurisdiction on matters involving same-sex couples. The legislature's approval put the measure on the ballot, but lawyers for the plaintiffs argue that the required process for amending the Georgia Constitution was not followed.

"Unfortunately, the process employed for adoption of this proposed amendment is fatally defective," said Johnny Stephenson, a partner at Alston & Bird.

"This amendment is constitutionally flawed, period. Not only does it combine four different subjects, in violation of the Georgia Constitution, the clearly-deceptive language voters will see on the ballot creates the misperception that its only purpose is to define marriage," charged Jack Senterfitt, senior staff attorney in Lambda Legal's Southern Regional office here. "Furthermore, separate and apart from the lawsuit, Lambda Legal believes that a group's civil rights shouldn't be put to a popular vote."



### Garden Clippings

# Michael outs tulip that gives great head

C O L U M N

by Michael Loundagin

## If you fertilized your lawn when St. Helens blew, that doesn't count

Okey dokey. We made it through September without a frost. Wanna place bets on making it through October? I didn't think so.

The cool, rainy weather we had has caused many plants to have a "second spring," where flower buds intended for next year are suddenly popping open. I've had a few calls at work from concerned gardeners wondering what's going on. Really, this isn't that unusual in Spokane; in fact, it happens almost every year. Certain plants are more prone to fall blooming than others. PJM rhododendrons almost always do it, as do saucer magnolias and, sometimes, even lilacs and forsythia.

What causes it is summer stress, which induces a form of dormancy, which "fools" the plant into thinking it's gone through winter. So when spring-like weather comes in late summer or early fall, the plant's flower buds respond. Rarely do so many buds open that the spring display is jeopardized, so I tell people not to worry about it, just enjoy the little preview of spring. I think it's kinda neat.

It wouldn't be fall without crocuses, and I know I mention this every year, but you simply must (I demand it!) get yourself some *Crocus speciosus* corms! For the first time in years, I've found this crocus for sale in one of our better known retail outlets (unfortunately not the one where I work ... by the time I joined the team, the bulb orders had already been placed.) so you won't have to mail order it. Plus, this same place sells the white form (the regular being lavender-blue) and another species I've not tried, *Crocus cartwrightianus* (weren't those *Bonanza* dudes Cartwrights?). A wee bit spendy, these, at about a buck apiece, but the *speciosus* is going for \$8 for 20. Surely you can handle that. I recommend you plant at least one thousand.

There are several new varieties of my faves I want to draw your attention to.

A new narcissus called Katie Heath has two flowers, sometimes three, per stem, and the little cups are a nice pink, backed up by a white perianth (you'd call them petals). She's a pretty critter.

Another pink I don't think I can describe is called Pink Wonder. It simply doesn't look real. The cup, or

corona, is split into segments, which alternate between the petals ... I knew I couldn't describe it. Gorgeous, gorgeous, gorgeous!

And then there's Green Pearl, which is a pure white narcissus with a small white cup and a bright green eye. I've never been partial to the all-whites, but this one can't be refused.

Tulip Casa Grande claims to have the largest blooms of all the tulips. It's very red. And I've seen a picture. Either the tulips have flowers the size of large grapefruits, or the girl holding them has the world's dinkiest head.

And though I would never call it red, hyacinth Red Magic is the closest yet. It's miles ahead of Jan Bos, which, if we could hear color, would sound like fingernails scraping on a blackboard. I hate that hyacinth.

Have you fertilized your lawn yet? I don't mean, like, ever, I mean this fall? This is the *feeding* not to forget, and the only time I fertilize, because I have clover in my lawn, which does a great job of fixing and releasing nitrogen to the grass. Core aerate, too. And top dress with a thin layer of compost. And trim the edges, while you're at it. They look messy.

Resident garden guru Michael Loundagin receives e-mail at [Mlaua1034@aol.com](mailto:MLaua1034@aol.com).

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**STONEWALL**  
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## Black gay, straight Christians see unity

LOS ANGELES – Organizers say the 11th annual National Spiritual Convocation here Oct. 3-11 will embrace the country's largest gathering of African American gay and heterosexual Christians, clergy and laity leaders.

*Unconditional*, the convocation theme, will bring together progressive congregations from around the country to celebrate and strengthen the black gay community in Christ. Featured topics will include homosexuality and the Bible, domestic violence, gay marriage and the African American community, internalized homophobia and oppression, HIV/AIDS, youth and "Transgender 101."

Registration is \$50 and, along with conference information, is available by calling (323) 938-8322 or on the Internet site at [www.ufc-usa.org](http://www.ufc-usa.org).



# The plateau before the next steep climb

C O L U M N

essay by Ken Lovering

John Deen, publisher of this fine newspaper, asked me after reading about my Massachusetts wedding day in last month's column, "What's next?"

The question gave me pause, and got me thinking about plateaus.

Saying the words "I do" and knowing they carried legal weight felt absolutely victorious. I won't pretend to have stood in the front lines of debate or written letters to the editor of *The Boston Globe* (at least recently). I was not among the couples who filed the fated lawsuit eight years ago. My contributions to equality have been a bit more modest.

Ten years ago, in the small New England town where I lived at the time, I was browsing the magazine rack of the Main Street bookstore and saw that the region's gay and lesbian newspaper had been displayed in the pornography section, in a dark corner of the already dimly-lit store. Beside all the breasts and chests, all of them concealed behind cardboard, was some of the finest journalism around. The message was clear: gay and lesbian ideas and behavior were pornographic and should not be seen.

I bought a copy, and when I brought it to the poor blue-haired clerk who probably just earned some spending money here during her retirement, said, "This is a newspaper. It should be with the other newspapers."

As I recall, she literally said nothing, so stunned was she that an actual gay person (or at the very least an advocate for gay people, which was just as bad) stood in her midst.

A couple of years later, my now-husband and I lived in Vermont while he earned his master's degree. We lived an idyllic life there that I miss still. It was there that this column was born hot on the heels of two letters that found their way into newspapers, one of them *The Globe*. I wrote to *The Globe* about Independence Day, saying there's no freedom for gays and lesbians to celebrate because we didn't enjoy the same rights as other Americans, that it was in fact a day of mourning. I was stunned they published it.

The other letter was in response to a minister in our small town who constantly thumped his Bible against

us. I basically called him an idiot, but as eloquently as I could. Again, I was amazed to see it in print.

A few years later I was working for The Big Company when the issue of domestic partner benefits came up. Sure that I was writing myself a pink slip, I joined others, researched numbers and wrote letters to the chairman urging him to do the right thing. It took a few months, but he did the right thing.

It occurs to me that this sounds like a lot of boasting. But remember I started by saying that I have not been on the front lines of the war. I did not march on the Massachusetts State House last spring; I did not canvas neighborhoods for signatures. I kept my engagement to smaller skirmishes or battles. But even then, I've always believed, and still do, that we who are simply ourselves, getting our cars repaired, marching down grocery aisles, buying stamps at the post office, working nine to five, are making the biggest impact. When we're out in the world as decent human beings with our own blemishes and worries, we're showing everyone there's no need to relegate us to the pornography rack, that we're pretty much like everyone else.

And now, in Massachusetts and I hope soon in Washington and everywhere, we walk in the world as husbands, and as wives. I couldn't

wait to attend the wedding of a straight friend a few weeks back, mostly because it was my chance to try this line out for the first time in my life (and who would've thought I would ever utter these words?):

"I'm Ken, and this is my husband Paul."

And we are looked upon with some amazement by our brothers and sisters outside our state. For our honeymoon, we indulged in a lovely bed and breakfast, the Riverbend Inn, in New Hampshire. Jerry and Craig are transplants here from California, where they had lived a high-stress life. They were thrilled to learn of our marriage; Jerry even sought us out as we sipped wine on the river's banks so he could ask questions through dreamy eyes. "Does it feel different?"

Ah, the most common question. I won't share my answer; I don't want to ruin it for you.

But I'll tell you one thing about how it feels.

Being given the right to marry after having been viewed in the same light as pornography, after writing letters to editors, after risking my job for domestic partner benefits, and even after writing for these pages each month for eight years, feels like the final chapter.

The summer has had all the makings of a denouement in which

the underdog snags the hard-earned prize. Previous to May, we all felt the suspense and uncertainty as our heroes went head to head with our villains. There was much at stake, and no one truly knew how it would end.

And so I've been thinking about plateaus. We have to be careful here in Massachusetts, and everywhere, for this is not the end of the play, just the end of this act. So Mr. Deen's question is more relevant than he knew: "Now what?"

*Ken Lovering makes his home in central Massachusetts and receives e-mail at kenlovering@hotmail.com.*

## Home Depot's 'bad dog' policy reversed by HRC

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Home Depot will now offer domestic partner health insurance to its employees, according to a memorandum issued the day after the Human Rights Campaign publicly denounced the company's policy to cover employees' pets but not their partners.

"Home Depot is finally putting its people first," said HRC President Cheryl Jacques, after learning that the Atlanta-based home building supply company issued a statement announcing the change.

HRC's WorkNet project had revealed that Home Depot was one of four Fortune 500 companies that offered pet insurance but not health insurance for domestic partners, despite published policies prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation – and one covering gender identity. The others are Sprint, based in Overland, Kan.; Waste Management of Houston, and Ecolab of St. Paul, Minn.

"We now call on Sprint, Ecolab and Waste Management to recognize that good business is putting an employee's partner above the family pet," admonished Jacques.

# not knowing is scary.

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**EDITORIAL: KEYED UP**

Continued from page 2

able." They try to say this with a straight face.

As for Keyes' "organs intended for procreation," he seems ignorant of female anatomy. Someone should explain to him and the boys at the Vatican that the primary source of sexual pleasure for women is the clitoris, which is not involved in reproduction. So women engaging in homosexual sex are not using, much less misusing, organs of procreation. Perhaps a human anatomy text would help.

But "natural law" is pretty much discredited nowadays. To say genitals were "intended" for procreation ignores the fact that genitals, like the rest of our bodies, evolved as they did because they were more efficient means of reproduction than other means. Nothing about their development in the random mutation and natural selection process of evolution requires or implies any "intention" – or precludes their use for other purposes. The mouth evolved as an efficient way to eat, but people also use it to talk, sing, whistle and suck venom from snakebites. The Vatican has never really come to terms with evolution.

Recall, too, that in the Genesis story God first intended Adam to be alone in the Garden of Eden. So God must have originally intended Adam's penis for urinating, since there was no other use for it. It was only later, after God created Eve, that God could have added using the penis for sex, although it does seem an odd choice. And since Adam

and Eve were not told to have children until they were expelled from the Garden, God must not have initially intended Adam's penis for procreation even after creating Eve. Here, as so often, "natural law" conflicts with the Bible.

Consider, finally, Keyes' claim that a homosexual relationship involves nothing but the "self-fulfillment, contentment and satisfaction of the parties involved" so it is a "self-centered, self-fulfilling, selfish relationship."

To most Americans, "self-fulfillment, contentment and satisfaction" in a relationship probably sounds pretty good. Many heterosexual couples, even ones with lots of procreation, seem unable to achieve that, as witness the divorce rate.

And it seems particularly bizarre to call a relationship in which two men or women love, nurture and care for each other "self-centered" or "selfish." Keyes might try to say that of single people but, if anything, loving and caring for another person should be viewed as benevolent, even "selfless." Did Keyes avert his eyes from gay men who cared for partners dying of AIDS? Or will he say anything at all no matter how mendacious?

Keyes reveals once again how religious conservatives reduce even the most deep and loving gay relationship to sex. They are absolutely obsessed with sex. And even though most of them would agree that sex can deepen and enrich their own loving relationships – how many engage in sex only to have more children? – they refuse

to acknowledge that the same must be true for gays and lesbians. Because that would mean we are more like them than they want to admit.

*Paul Varnell receives e-mail at pvarnell@aol.com. Some of his previous columns are posted at the Independent Gay Forum (www.indegayforum.org).*

**GAYDAR, GAY BARS**

Continued from page 20

He turned out to be right. I used my cell phone to call a few friends: half a dozen gay guys, and a lesbian. She was the only one with a drill.

\*\*\* \*\*

The day the hurricane hit and passed, I got another reminder that, even in the worst of times, there is a gay sensibility that buoys us and sees us through even the most difficult times.

We were still getting bands from Hurricane Frances with strong wind gusts and downpours when a friend called on Sunday afternoon and insisted we both get out of our respective homes.

We'd been cooped up for at least two days, and we had cabin fever.

But as we drove around the city, it was clear that the electricity was out just about everywhere. Almost nothing was open. We knew if anything would be open on a day like this, just what it would be: the gay bars.

We swung by the Jackhammer, a gay bar that is normally packed for Sun-

day "tea dance." A note was taped to the door: "We will open at 5:30 today!"

When I got to the bar at about 7 p.m. that night, there was still no power. But there was certainly electricity.

Candles glowed up and down the bar, and bartenders carried little flashlights so they could see money and make change in the open cash register.

Beers were stacked in coolers of ice, and doors were propped open to try to get air passing through the place. A battery-operated boom box provided the background beat as shirtless men happily pressed against one another.

It was hot, but it didn't matter.

The storm had passed and we were here, together, and celebrating.

It reminded me of the day after Christmas, when the bars are packed with gay men who have just spent all the time they can take with their families, and just need a healthy dose of being around other gay people.

The mood was festive, and certainly there was sexual energy in the air, too.

And another gay man was about to remind me once more that, even during a hurricane, we could maintain a sensibility – and sense of humor – of our own.

"Hi," the handsome man said as he shook my hand in introduction. "I have air conditioning at home. What's your name?"

*Mubarak Dahir, recently moved to Fort Lauderdale from New York state and receives e-mail at mubarakdah@aol.com.*

**LIVING GLAMOUROUSLY**

Continued from page 20

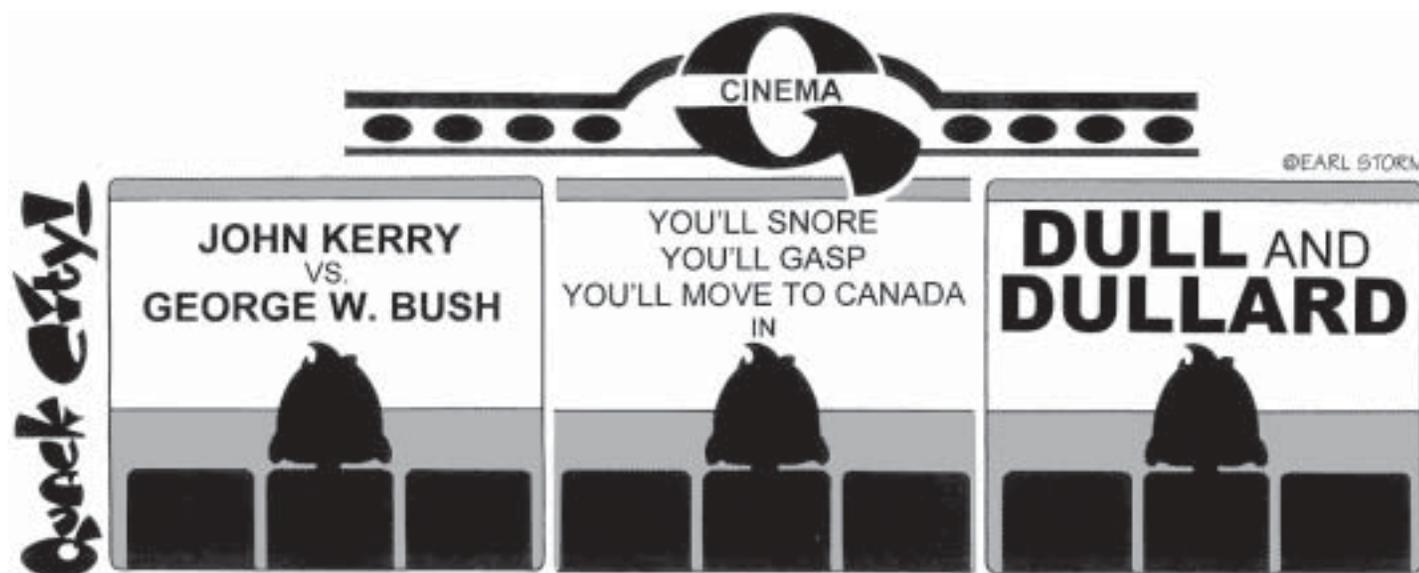
when they sense that I'm not following the conversation."

**Gnawing fears**

Though AIDS deaths have dropped by 80 percent since the introduction of protease inhibitors, these men tell me they nervously monitor changes in their bodies. When Nate "forgets something and gets very upset, nobody realizes that you are in fear of getting early dementia." Ted put it bluntly, "One cannot escape the fact: that (any new symptom) may be the start of the end."

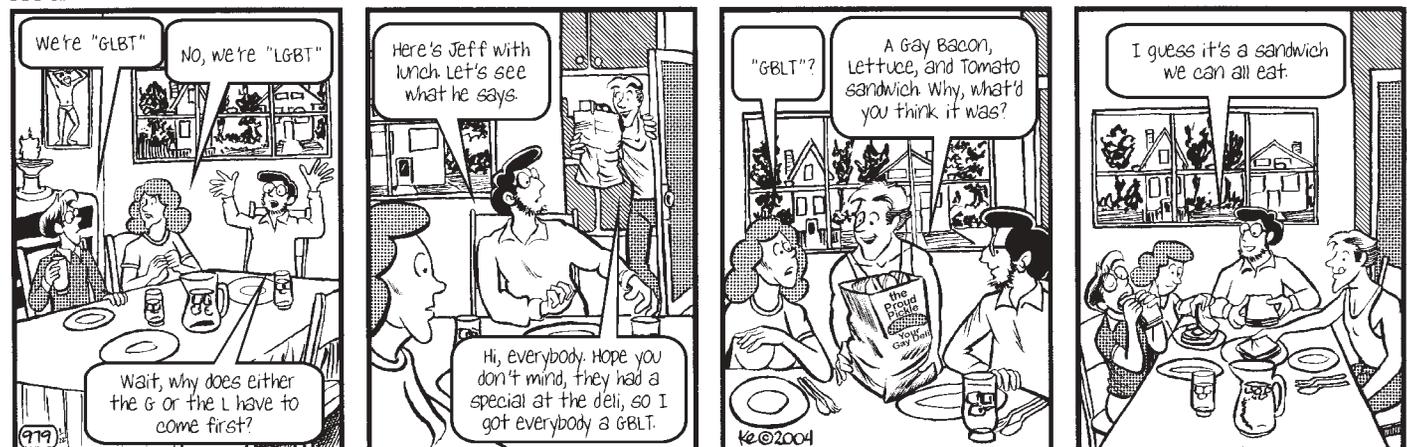
True, some HIV-positive guys living on disability have lots of free time. But whether newly infected or long term survivor, all of the guys said that the symptoms, side effects and fears they feel daily are nightmarish. They revealed the most scary and embarrassing moments of their own lives in hopes of saving anyone else from the "glamorous" life with HIV.

*Stephen Fallon is president of Skills4, Inc., a healthcare and disease-prevention consulting firm that specializes in gay lifestyle and health issues by providing workshops, technical assistance and grant writing services to community organizations and health departments. He receives e-mail him at sfallon@skills4.org.*



**MURPHY'S MANOR**

by Kurt Erichsen



**JUDGE TOSSES DOMA**

Continued from front page

and Lantz have been partners for 25 years and were married last year in Nelson, British Columbia.

The decision is the second victory for supporters of gay marriage in Washington state. A King County judge ruled in favor of gay marriage rights in a separate case in August.

Both cases will now go to the state Supreme Court, where they will likely be consolidated.

Kathleen Taylor, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Washington, which argued the case, said, "Judge Hicks wrote a wonderful opinion in support of same-sex marriage. It is very grounded in legal analysis and should be very helpful to the state Supreme Court in its deliberations."

Hicks' analysis, Taylor said, "holds the state constitution is more protective of individual rights than the federal equal protection clause."

**Bars prepare for Halloween hoopla**

Spokane's three gay bars are expected to be jumping at the end of the month with wild and zany celebrations associated with Halloween. Costume parties will translate to cash prizes for a few lucky revelers. Some might even take a couple of shots, so to speak, at winning a top prize.

Dempseys and The Merq will host the holiday huzza on Halloween Eve. Both offer cash incentives for the three

"best" costumed customers of the evening.

The Loft will open Halloween Day with incredibly low-priced Bloody Marys until 3 in the afternoon. In the early evening, hors d'oeuvres will be served with other drink specials as a prelude to not only a costume contest, but an amateur male stripper contest as well. Although audience participation will be invited, the more serious prospective strippers are asked to call the bar in advance of Halloween to arrange audition times.

# Classifieds

**PEOPLE and EVENTS**

**11-Special Person:**

TO MOLLY'S friends, Charlie and Don, at the Y Tavern in Prichard: Thanks for the good time and surprise birthday party. Great "rings," too. A friend.

**SCOOTER**

TO YOU and Gary and Alan, thank you for your warm reception and pampering at the deluxe Eagle's Nest in Kelowna. What a luxurious weekend to remember! John.

**N.F.L.**

OCT. 29: Happy 21; I hope it's a great one! But don't forget, your big brother is always boss. Josh.

**LIVING**

**21-Housemates:**

GWM seeks roomie to share 2-bdrm dwntwn apt. I am: Highly-dependable. College grad. Sports PR Specialist. Respond to: gnaacsports@earthlink.net.

**LIVING**

**21-Housemates:**

FEMALE RENTER wanted for 2-bedroom house. \$350/mo includes everything except cable. Available right now! Please call 217-1271.

**JOB MARKET**

**33-Earning Opp:**

\$250 to \$500 a week. Will train to work at home helping the U.S. government file HUD/FHA mortgage refunds. No experience necessary. Call toll free: 1-866-537-2907.

**PERSONALS**

**73-Bisexuals:**

DOMINANT, MATURE BiWM seeking discrete, erotic adventure. Open-minded to fantasies, role playing, B&D, cross-dressers, spanking, nudist. House boy wanted. Must be clean, healthy, non-pushy. (509) 624-3462.

**PERSONALS**

**76-Body Work:**

SENSUOUS, AROUND-the-world massage by 6-ft., 175-lb., 48, handsome, clean, muscular, willing to please, blue-eyed bottom masseur using latest technique and essential oils. Call Gary: (509) 889-9294.

MALE MASSAGE by Rich. Enjoy total relaxation. Let yourself go, you won't be disappointed. Clean, dependable, good looking, sensuous hands. In or out. Call Rich: (509) 994-9321.

**77-Gay Men:**

**MR. RIGHT?**

GWM, 60, 5-9, 175, NS, cut, little body hair. Tenderhearted, passionate, honest. Love touching, cuddling, good conversation and more. Like exercising, reading and good movies. Need someone to hold me with arms and words. ISO same for friendship and LTR. Reply to Box T-2, c/o Stonewall News Northwest, PO Box 2704, Spokane, WA 99220.

**PERSONALS**

**78-Pen Pals:**

PLEASE NOTE: Ads in this classification are free to people incarcerated in prisons and detention centers. SNN may edit copy submitted but does not screen ads. Readers are advised to use common sense in replying to any ads from prisoners. Contact the institution where prisoner is incarcerated to obtain information about a prisoner's conviction charge, sentence, county of commitment and release date. Additional information may be obtained from public records where the prisoner's trial and conviction took place.

SWM, 150, blue, brn, likes the outdoors, hiking, camping and sports. Looking for SWM for pen pal. My release date is February 2005. Reply to: Bryan Ellis #64295, ISCI Unit 11 C-Tier, P.O. Box 14, Boise, ID 83707.

YOUNG, ATTRACTIVE GWM, 25, brn, brn, 5-11, 155, interested in movies, card games, music and books, and love writing letters. Looking for fun, open-minded GM to correspond with; possible LTR. Reply to: Kris Jenks #61856, ISCI Unit 14-A38, PO Box 14, Boise, ID 83707.

**PERSONALS**

**78-Pen Pals:**



I'M 25, bi, 6-0, 190, brn, brn, locked up since '94 and have since lost contact with most of the outside world. I've got 10 months left to top my sentence and am looking forward to meeting new people, exploring different opportunities. Hope to meet someone who has good sense of humor, their priorities straight and lives drug-free lifestyle. Reply to: Frank Dana #46225, IMSI/A-1, PO Box 51, Boise, ID 83707.

**PERSONALS**

**78-Pen Pals:**



LONELINESS WOULDN'T be so bad if there was someone to share it with. 30-yr-old, bi, asks someone, anyone serious to join his fight against this cruelty. Reply to: Terrance Winn #296659, Camp D, Raven, LSP, Angola, LA 70712.

**Miscellaneous**

**Classified Advertising Index**

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**COMMUNICATIONS**

SNN Phone: (509) 456-8011  
SNN Fax: (509) 455-7013

**Classified Advertising Information**

**Rates:** Ads for individuals are \$10.00 for up to 25 words. Each additional word is 25 cents. For a bold face headline, add an additional \$1.50. For super bold face, add an additional \$2.50.

**Mail-In Ads:** Type or legibly print your ad on an 8 1/2 x 11 sheet of paper along with your name, address and phone number; also include your signature. Mail your completed ad along with your payment (check or money order) to SNN, P.O. Box 2704, Spokane, WA 99220.

**Phone-In Ads:** Write out your classified ad as you would like it to appear. Have your VISA or MasterCard handy and call us at (509) 456-8011.

**Personals:** Personal ads require a Post Office Box or a Personal Blind Box. For a Personal Blind Box, add \$4.00 per insertion to the cost of the ad. SNN will assign a code for your Personal Blind Box and will forward replies weekly for up to 3 months after your ad runs.

**Business Classified Display:** Cost is based on a sliding rate scale with discounts for size and frequency. Call (509) 456-8011 for a copy of our Classified Advertising Rates.

**Policy:** SNN reserves the right to reject or edit any advertisement which may be considered demeaning or offensive to our readers. Any errors will be compensated with advertising credit.

**Deadline:** Classified ads for the November issue must be received by SNN no later than **Tuesday, October 21.**



GM, 25, 5-5, 180, 9.5 inches, cut, looking for that friend to become lovers with. Is that friend you? Reply to: Kenton Coleman #163530, EKCC, 200 Road to Justice, West Liberty, KY 41472.

**BEST BUY**  
*Adult Entertainment*  
2425 E. Springfield • Spokane • (509) 624-7522  
**1-888-624-7522**

**"BEST PRICES IN TOWN"**

- Adult Videos
- Magazines
- Adult Toys
- Adult Games
- Cards & Gifts
- Body Products • Oils
- Lubricants • Lotions
- All-Natural Sexual Stimulants for Male and Female

**SALES • RENTALS • NEW • USED**

Videos • Lingerie • Insense • Candles • Magazines • Leather • Toys • Rainbow Products & More!

**Rapid HIV Testing!**  
Results in 20 minutes • Free & Anonymous

**THE VICTORIAN**  
*In Billings Montana!*

2019 Minnesota Av. @ 21st St. • (406) 245-4293 • SVETJOHN@aol.com

FREE SERVICES PROVIDED BY MONTANA TARGETED PREVENTION  
HIV SWAB TEST • WED. THRU SAT. 5 - 9pm • CONDOMS • HIV/AIDS INFORMATION

**VICTORIAN MERCHANDISE**  
**RECEIVE A 20% OFF COUPON WHEN YOU GET TESTED FOR HIV!**

# Coming Out Day will resound in Los Angeles

WASHINGTON, D.C. – The theme for this year's Coming Out Day, announced the Human Rights Campaign, is "Come Out. Speak Out. Vote."

To that, Los Angeles will add "Loud."

"This year, we need more than 'I'm gay and it's OK.' We need our families and friends to say 'It's not OK to use gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender issues as a wedge,'" said Cheryl

Jacques, HRC president. "We must talk to and involve our families and friends. Their voices are some of the strongest in the fight for equality."

National Coming Out Day is celebrated every Oct. 11 to mark the anniversary of the 1987 March on Washington for Gay and Lesbian Equality.

An HRC Foundation public opinion poll last December found that, while

77 percent of respondents consider themselves "out" as a gay man, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered, only 32 percent talk to their parents about public policy issues, and only 46 percent talk to their brothers and sisters about such topics. In contrast, respondents were much more likely to speak frankly on these topics with casual acquaintances (57 percent) or coworkers (54 percent).

In a related event, L.A. Shanti will celebrate the day with a thunderous *Come Out Loud* dance party benefit at the Hollywood Palladium. The event starts at 5:30 p.m. with a catered VIP reception and silent auction on the rooftop deck of the new Sunset and

Vine residential/retail complex and continues with a celebratory dance party at the historic Hollywood Palladium.

VIP admission to the whole soiree is \$125 or \$75 for the Palladium only. General admission tickets are \$35 in advance and \$50 at the door. All proceeds benefit L.A. Shanti, whose HIV prevention and community outreach programs and emotional support services have benefited the Los Angeles community for more than 20 years.

L.A. Shanti is the first nonprofit organization in Southern California to provide direct services to people affected by HIV/AIDS.

## Resource Directory

### SPOKANE AREA

#### BiNet Spokane

A social support group for bisexual men and women.  
Call: (509) 217-1271

#### Eastern Washington University SAFE Students' Alliance for Equality

Weekly meetings for students, faculty and staff.  
Call: Kat Olson: (509) 359-4253  
<http://iceberg.ewu.edu/safe/safe.htm>

#### EMCC – Emmanuel Metropolitan Community Church

Christian church with an outreach to the GLBT community.  
Call: (509) 838-0085  
Website: [www.emmanuelmcc.com](http://www.emmanuelmcc.com)

#### Friends of SAN

Fundraising organization for people living with HIV/AIDS to improve the quality of their lives.

Write: P.O. Box 1664  
Spokane, WA 99210

#### Gay/Lesbian Info Line

Call: (509) 489-2266  
Immediate Crisis: (509) 838-4428

#### GLBT Book Group

Discusses selected works at Auntie's Bookstore at 7 p.m. the first Wednesday each month.

Call: Julie Smith: (509) 838-0206

#### Gonzaga University GLBT Resource Center

For information and to contact resource organizations on the GU campus, September-May.

HERO (Helping Educate Regarding Orientation) gay-straight alliance.

SODA (Sexual Orientation Diversity Alliance) law school support group.  
Direct line: Bryce: 323-5847

#### Hospice of Spokane

Physical, emotional and spiritual care for the terminally ill and loved ones; bereavement support and HIV/AIDS counseling services.  
Call: (509) 456-0438

#### ISCS –

Imperial Sovereign Court of Spokane  
Call: Empress Selena: (509) 535-9719  
or Secretary: Clyda: (509) 533-1903.  
Website: [www.iscspokane.com](http://www.iscspokane.com)

#### INBA –

Inland Northwest Business Alliance  
Supports and promotes gay-owned and gay-friendly businesses and the professional community; publishes annual directory.  
Call: (509) 455-3699

#### Inland Northwest Pride

Committee organizes annual Pride march and celebration and other community events.

#### Integrity

Gay and lesbian Episcopalians meet monthly for communion and simple meal.

Call: Chuck: (509) 326-7707 or  
Ann: (509) 624-6671

#### Landlord Tenant Information Hotline

Volunteers provide information and referrals to landlords and tenants. Free resource materials. Does not provide legal advice, but may refer.  
Call: (509) 325-3037

#### Northwest Fair Housing Alliance

Private, nonprofit organization provides education, outreach and enforcement assistance for those who have experienced discrimination and the general public.  
Call: (509) 325-2665 or  
(800)-200-3247

#### Odyssey Youth Center

Discussion/support group and social drop-in center for GLBT and questioning youth.  
Call: Elizabeth: (509) 325-3637

#### Outreach Center

Condoms, needle exchange, AIDS information. Open M-F, 3-5 p.m. at 1103 W. First Ave.  
Call: (509) 838-6859

#### Papillon

A social support group for the transgendered community.  
Call: (509) 292-8852

#### PFLAG - Spokane – Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays

Support group for parents, family, friends and members of the GLBT community.  
Call: (509): 624-6671

#### PJALS – Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane

Independent, membership organization building foundations for a just and nonviolent world.  
Call: (509) 838-7870

#### Planned Parenthood of Spokane & Whitman Counties

HIV antibody testing and counseling.  
Call: Clinic for Appt.: (509) 326-2142  
Administration: (509) 326-6292

#### Quest Youth Group

To "inspire, encourage and support" gay and bisexual guys, 18-25, in the Inland Northwest through free monthly recreational activities, discussions, service projects and movie nights.  
Call: Ryan: (509) 290-3519  
Website: [www.QuestYouthGroup.org](http://www.QuestYouthGroup.org)

#### Spokane-Kootenai Pride

A program of the Pride Foundation to involve Washingtonians outside of King County in activities beneficial to the GLBT community.  
Call: Spokane office: (509) 327-8377

#### Rainbow Regional Community Center

Support services for GLBT community and individuals exploring their sexual orientation and/or gender identity.  
Call: (509) 489-1914

#### SAN – Spokane AIDS Network

Call: (509) 455-8993 or  
1-888-353-2130  
Website: [www.spokaneAIDSnetwork.org](http://www.spokaneAIDSnetwork.org)

#### Spokane County Domestic Violence Consortium

A private, nonprofit organization with members from a variety of professions who have come together to end intimate partner violence.  
Call: (509) 487-6783

#### Spokane Falls Community College - The Alliance

GLBT and allies group to provide a safe space; to educate our community.  
Call: (509) 533-4507

#### Spokane Human Rights Commission

Call: Equity Office: (509) 625-6263

#### Spokane Regional Health District

Providing health services and referrals for the public. HIV testing.  
Call: (509) 324-1542 or  
1-800-456-3236  
Website: [www.spokanecounty.org.health](http://www.spokanecounty.org.health)

#### Stonewall News Northwest

Flagship publication for the gay and lesbian community and the Inland Northwest.  
Call: (509) 456-8011  
Fax: (509) 455-7013

#### Spokane Gender Center

Resources and support for transgendered people.  
Website: [www.gendercenter.com](http://www.gendercenter.com)

#### Unitarian Universalist Church

Gay, lesbian resource committee.  
Call: (509) 325-6383  
Website: [uuspokane.org](http://uuspokane.org)

#### Vanessa Behan Crisis Nursery

Call: 535-3155  
Website: [www.vanessabehan.org](http://www.vanessabehan.org)

#### Women and Friends

Women-only activities and events in the Spokane area.  
Call: (509) 458-4709

#### Women's Cultural Exchange

Promoting arts and entertainment events by women, for women.  
Write: P.O. Box 4795,  
Spokane, WA 99202

### IDAHO

#### Idaho for Basic Rights

Citizen action group to work for civil and legal equality on basis of sexual orientation.  
Call: (208) 343-7402

#### NIAC –

North Idaho AIDS Coalition  
HIV/AIDS prevention, education and assistance for people infected/affected with HIV.  
Call: (208) 665-1448  
Website: [www.nicon.org/niac](http://www.nicon.org/niac)

#### North Idaho College

Gay-Straight Alliance  
Email: [BCHARDISON@icehouse.net](mailto:BCHARDISON@icehouse.net)

#### Panhandle Health District

STD/HIV testing, condoms, and other methods of birth control, physical exams, shots, cancer screening, resource nurse voucher program, referrals to area resources and education. All services are confidential.

#### • Kootenai County

Call: (208) 667-3481

#### • Boundary County

Call: (208) 267-5558

#### • Shoshone County

Call: (208) 786-7474

#### • Bonner County

Call: (208) 263-5159

#### • Benewah County

Call: (208) 245-4556

Website: [www2.stateid.us/phd1](http://www2.stateid.us/phd1)

#### PFLAG - Sandpoint – Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays

Support, education and advocacy group for Sandpoint gay people, parents, family and friends.  
Call: (208) 263-6699

### LEWISTON/CLARKSTON

#### PFLAG - Lewis-Clark – Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays

Support, education and advocacy group for Lewis-Clark gay people, parents, family and friends. Meets in Lewiston.  
Call: (509) 758-6437

#### Stonewall Health Project

Great times and group discussions relating to men's issues.  
Call: (800) 493-8367

### MOSES LAKE

#### AACW – Alternative Alliance of Central Washington

A social and support group to help bring together people in the GLBT community.  
Write: P.O. Box 1282,  
Moses Lake, WA 98837

### PULLMAN / MOSCOW

#### Washington State University GLBA Program

Fun, fellowship and socializing.  
Call: (509) 335-6428  
Website: <http://cubwsu.edu/GLBAP>

#### Out There

Safer-sex information and supportive programs for young men who have sex with men.  
Call: Melinda: (509) 335-6428

#### Stonewall Health Project

Great times and group discussions relating to men's issues.  
Call: (800) 493-8367

#### University of Idaho Gay-Straight Alliance

Promoting a fabulous, positive and inclusive environment for all people on campus and encouraging individual growth and understanding by developing outreach programs, improving visibility and recognition of queer issues and history.  
Call: (208) 885-2691

### TRI-CITIES

#### Benton-Franklin District Health Department

Confidential and anonymous HIV testing, case management, educational and referral services.  
Call: (Pasco) (509) 547-9737, ext. 234  
Confidential voice mail also.

#### River of Life Metropolitan Community Church

Christian church celebrating diversity and affirming GLBT people. Sunday services at 11:30 a.m.  
Call: (509) 542-8860

#### Tri-Cities Chaplaincy / Tri-Cities CARES

Columbia AIDS relief, education and support. Survivor support group and HIV/PWA support group.  
Call: (509) 783-7416

### WALLA WALLA

#### Blue Mountain Heart to Heart

AIDS prevention education, support and services.  
Call: (509) 529-4744

Toll Free: (888) 875-2233 (pin #4744)

Spanish: (509) 529-2174

#### Seventh-day Adventist Kinship

Call: (509) 525-0202

### YAKIMA

#### PFLAG - Yakima/Yakima Valley Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians and Gays

Promotes the health and well-being of GLBT individuals, their families and friends.  
Call: (509) 576-9625

#### Rainbow Cathedral

Metropolitan Community Church  
An MCC Seattle parish extension.  
Call: (509) 457-6454

### MONTANA

#### Flathead Valley Alliance

Northwest Montana information and referral services.  
Call: (406) 758-6707

#### Gay Helena

Web site features gay social life in Montana: [www.gayinhelena.com](http://www.gayinhelena.com).

#### Lesbian Avengers

A direct action group focused on issues vital to lesbian survival and visibility.  
Call: (406) 523-6608

#### Our Montana Family

Supporting Montana's GLBT parents and their children.  
Email Barbara: [barbatpride@aol.com](mailto:barbatpride@aol.com)

#### PRIDE!

Statewide lesbian/trans civil rights advocacy group.  
Call: (406) 442-9322

or, in Montana: (800) 610-9322

#### PRIDE Celebration

Group in charge of annual Montana June PRIDE celebrations.  
Call: (406) 442-9322

#### The Rainbow Connection

Gay group for Billings and Eastern Montana meets monthly.  
Website: [www.rainbowconnection-montana.com](http://www.rainbowconnection-montana.com).

### WASHINGTON

#### Bi MEN Group

Bi and bi-curious men and gay men who enjoy and support bisexual men.  
Website: [www.egroups.com/group/bi-men-west](http://www.egroups.com/group/bi-men-west)

#### Legal Marriage Alliance

Working to achieve the right of same-sex couples to marry legally in Washington.  
Website: [www.lmaw.org](http://www.lmaw.org)

#### Lesbian Resource Center

Resources and referrals, groups and events. Monthly newspaper.  
Call: (206) 322-3953

#### Lifelong AIDS Alliance

Providing support, prevention and advocacy for people with HIV/AIDS.  
Call: (206) 329-6923

#### PositiveVoice Washington

Advocates for programs and services needed by people with HIV. Offers self-advocacy training.  
Call: (888) 704-0099

#### Pride Foundation

Grants to organizations that benefit the GLBT community. Awards educational scholarships.  
Call: (800) 735-7287  
Website: [www.pridefoundation.org](http://www.pridefoundation.org)

### BRITISH COLUMBIA

#### ANKORS – AIDS Network, Outreach and Support Society

West Kootenay and Boundary support, outreach and networking for people infected and affected by HIV/AIDS, with outreach to Creston.

• West Kootenay Call: (250) 505-5506

• East Kootenay Call: (250) 426-3383

Website: [www.ankors.bc.ca](http://www.ankors.bc.ca)

**Weekly Calendar of Events**

**SUNDAYS**

9 and 11 am: Worship services at **UNITY CHURCH** at 29th and Bernard.

5 pm: **EMMANUEL METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH** worship service in sanctuary of Bethany Presbyterian Church, 301 S. Freya.

**TUESDAYS**

7 pm: **POSTIVE POWER** meets at **SPOKANE AIDS NETWORK**, contact Terry Davis at 455-8993 for more information.

**WEDNESDAYS**

7 pm: **GLBT AA** meets at **Emmanuel MCC/Bethany Presbyterian Church**, 301 S. Freya.

**THURSDAYS**

5:30-8 pm: **RAINBOW REGIONAL COMMUNITY CENTER**.

**FRIDAYS**

2-6 pm: **RAINBOW REGIONAL COMMUNITY CENTER**.

(When known, the price of admission for one adult is shown. S/s indicates discounted ticket prices are available for Seniors and for students with ID.)

**1**

**Friday**

**Diane Schuur** guest stars with the **Spokane Jazz Orchestra** in its season-opening 30th anniversary concert – *It's About Time* – at **The Met** at 8 pm. \$29.50, S/s

**Emmanuel Metropolitan Community Church** hosts **Game Night** at 6:30 pm. Free (take snack)

Some 40 venues, mostly downtown, from **The Merq** to **Interplayers**, are included on the **Visual Arts Tour** walk-around tonight from 5-9 pm and tomorrow from 10 am to 6 pm. Free

**Spokane Civic Theatre** reprises the hilarious **Noises Off** as its 58th main stage season opener tonight, beginning with a special reception (\$35) at 6:30 pm. The play continues through Oct. 23. \$17, S/s

**2**

**Saturday**

**Candace Gingrich** of the Human Rights Campaign will be featured guest speaker at a **Building Community, Creating a Vision** program sponsored by the **Inland Northwest Business Alliance** at the **Classroom Building Auditorium** at Riverpoint at 2 pm. **Pride Foundation** grant recipients also will be announced. Free

Comic **Margaret Cho** will entertain at **The Big Easy** in shows at 6 and 8 pm. \$29.50 and \$39.50

**Sandi Patty**, the most awarded female vocalist in contemporary Christian music, will be featured with the **Spokane Symphony** in launching the symphony's **SuperPops** season at the **Opera House** at 8 pm. \$17-\$38

**3**

**Sunday**

The **Imperial Sovereign Court of Spokane** will hold its final board and court meetings before Coronation 2004. The board will convene at 6 pm, followed by a full court meeting at 7:30 pm, both at **Dempseys**.

**4**

**Monday**

**Spokane Regional Health District** offers anonymous, **OraQuick Tests for HIV** Mondays through Thursdays from 8 am to 6 pm. Appointments: 324-1547, or toll free direct (509) 456-3236.

**6**

**Wednesday**

**Odd Girls and Twilight Lovers** will be the focus of discussion by the **GLBT Book Group** meeting at **Auntie's Bookstore** at 7 pm.

Spokane's entertainment and meeting calendar for October

**October 2004**

Birthstone: Opal

Flower: Calendula

Astrological Guide: Libra to the 23rd; Scorpio from Oct. 24

**National Coming Out Month**

**9**

**Saturday**

Washington State University's **Melynda Huskey** keynotes today's **Inland Northwest Gay Health Summit** at the **Riverpoint** campus. Registration opens at 8:15 am. Free

**Integrity**, a Christian affiliation of lesbians and gay men, meets in the All Saints Chapel of **St. John's Cathedral** at noon.

When both hands point up, **CenterStage** will dim the lights for its launching of **The Worst Midnight Movie Series Ever** with an unapologetic screening of **Attack of the Killer Tomatoes**. \$3 with all kinds of goodies available

**16**

**Saturday**

**The Worst Midnight Movie Series Ever** continues at **CenterStage** with the showing of **Chopper Chicks From Zombie Town**. And you thought life couldn't get any better. \$3

**17**

**Sunday**

The annual **Congregational Meeting of Emmanuel MCC** is scheduled at the church at 3 pm.



**Drag Queen Heist will be one of the movies shown during next month's Gay/Lesbian Film Festival to be held Nov. 5 and 6.**

**10**

**Sunday**

The board of directors of **Emmanuel MCC** will meet at the church at 3 pm preceding the regular worship service. Public comment is invited.

**11**

**Monday**

**Columbus Day holiday.**  
**National Coming Out Day.**

**13**

**Wednesday**

**Ryan Oelrich**, the director and founder of **Quest Youth Group**, is the invited guest speaker at the **Inland Northwest Business Alliance's** monthly meeting at **Europa Pizzeria and Bakery** at noon. \$15 and \$18

**14**

**Thursday**

**Dracula** opens at **Interplayers** tonight, with performances through Nov. 6. \$20, S/s

**15**

**Friday**

**Allegro** opens its 2004-2005 season with a showcase performance of Henry Purcell's **King Arthur** at **The Met** at 8 pm. \$10-\$23

The **College of Monarchs** of the **Imperial Sovereign Court of Spokane** will meet at 6 pm at a private home.

**18**

**Monday**

To help gel the planning process for next year's **Pride Week**, interested individuals and representatives from all gay community organizations are encouraged to attend tonight's meeting of **Inland Northwest Pride** at the **Rainbow Regional Community Center** at 6.

**19**

**Tuesday**

How about getting off your duff and devoting a few hours as a volunteer for the cause to combat HIV and AIDS? An **HIV/AIDS Advocacy Summit** – at the **Spokane Regional Health District** building, Rm. 320 from 10 am to 3 pm – will provide you with training skills and, maybe, some incentives you haven't yet considered. The program is sponsored by **Lifelong AIDS Alliance** of Seattle with Eastern Washington participation from **Blue Mountain Heart to Heart** and **Spokane AIDS Network**. Free, with lunch included

**23**

**Saturday**

Public **voting** for **Imperial Sovereign Court of Spokane** emperor and empress candidates will be held at the **Trade Winds Motel**, 907 W 3rd, from noon to midnight.

**25**

**Monday**

A **Discover Japan** lecture series will be presented at the **Kusaka Memorial Library** at **Mukogawa Fort Wright Institute** from 7-8:30 pm and nightly through Oct. 28. Free

**26**

**Tuesday**

The public is welcome at the monthly meeting of the **Spokane Human Rights Commission** meeting at the **East Central Community Center** conference room at 6 pm.

**28**

**Thursday**

**Full Moon.**

Four nights devoted to the **Imperial Sovereign Court of Spokane's** celebration of **Coronation** get underway with an **Awards** program and performances by local entertainers at the **In-town Show**, scheduled for 8 pm at **Dempseys**.

**Gonzaga University School of Law** will present an **Election Symposium**, including a film and an open forum on voting, in the **Moot Court Room** of the **Law Building** from 6-8 pm. Free

**29**

**Friday**

Drag entertainers from throughout the region will entertain the **Imperial Sovereign Court of Spokane** and guests at an **Out of Town Show** scheduled at the **Mirabeau Park Hotel**, on Sullivan in Spokane Valley, beginning at 9 pm. \$10 cover

**30**

**Saturday**

**ISCS Coronation Day** at **Mirabeau Park Hotel**, Sullivan Road at I-90 Exit 291-B:

**Hospitality** for **Coronation**, noon to 3 pm.

**Protocol** for **Coronation** events, noon to 2 pm.

**Coronation** will be presided over by **Emperor 28 Mark Allen Surreal** and **Empress 32 Selena Surreal Blaque** and highlighted by a 20th anniversary performance by **Empress 23**, the inimitable **Joan Crawfish**. Doors open at 5:30 pm; ceremonies begin at 6:30 pm. \$30

Creativeness in costuming will be rewarded with cash prizes at **Halloween** parties tonight at both **Dempseys** and **The Merq**.

**CenterStage** wraps up **The Worst Midnight Movie Series Ever** – for the month of October anyway – with its offering of **Squirm**. \$3

**31**

**Sunday**

**Daylight Savings Time** ends – set clocks back one hour.

**Halloween.**

The **Imperial Sovereign Court of Spokane** concludes its celebration of **Coronation** with a **Victory Brunch** at the **Mirabeau** to honor the new emperor and empress. Eye-openers at 11 am, brunch at noon. \$15

It's tricks and treats tonight for **The Loft's Halloween Party**. Prizes will be awarded for best costume (**Halloween**) and best non-costumed performer (**Amateur Male Stripper Contest**).

**Coming next month**

Spokane's 6th annual **Gay/Lesbian Film Festival**, Nov. 5th and 6th.

# Dempseys Drag Idol

Friday • October 15<sup>th</sup> • 10 pm

## Who's Your Mama?



**First Prize:**  
\$80 Dempseys  
gift certificate,  
Tiara, Flowers  
and a 3-month  
Paid Contract.

**Second Prize:**  
\$60 Dempseys  
gift certificate.

**Third Prize:**  
\$40 Dempseys  
gift certificate

All entries must call to  
register for performance.  
Contact phone 218-3508.

Also Drag Idol on  
November 19<sup>th</sup>. Finals on  
December 17<sup>th</sup>.

*Dempseys Welcomes All Visitors to Coronation!*

## Halloween Party Saturday • October 30<sup>th</sup>

Prizes • 1<sup>st</sup>: \$150 2<sup>nd</sup>: \$100 3<sup>rd</sup>: \$50

Judged contest • Winners will be announced during BlowMe Bubbles' second show.

\$3 P.B.R. Pitchers All Day, All Night • Sun., Mon., Tues. Weds. & Thurs.

New: Dempseys now has Dancing on Thursdays & Sundays • 9 pm - 2 am  
(in addition to Fridays & Saturdays • 9 pm - 4 am)

Party with Spokane's Finest!

Sunday - Thursday 3 pm - 2 am • Friday & Saturday 3 pm - 4 am

909 West First Avenue • Downtown Spokane • 509.747.5362 • [www.dempseysbrassrail.com](http://www.dempseysbrassrail.com)