

A celebration of diversity, dignity, and unity

THIS ISSUE



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OutSpokane pulls together impressive array for Spokane's Pride 2006

The day was glorious!

By Jim Jones
Special to Stonewall News Northwest

It was a dark and stormy night, followed by a dark and stormy morning, but from the time the OutSpokane Pride Parade and rally began to the time the booths were being broken down the day was glorious!

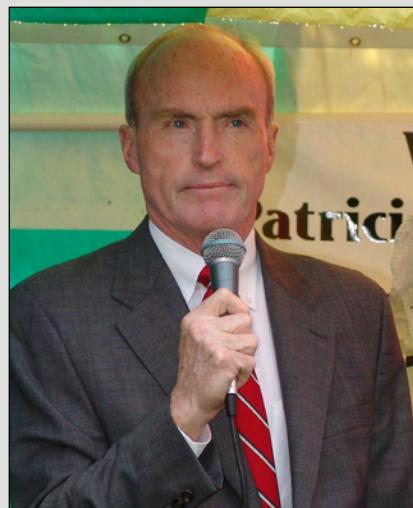
Please see PRIDE page 14

Seattle's Rainbow City Band "The Pride of Seattle" joins Spokane's Pride Parade



Photos by Pat Devine

Photo Above: Drum Major Brandon Scalf (with the goatee) and Asst. Drum Major Bob Dolan lead Seattle's Rainbow City Band in Spokane's Pride Parade through downtown Spokane. The Band also entertained at the Rainbow Festival in Spokane's Riverfront Park following the parade.



With City Proclamation in hand, Spokane City Mayor Dennis Hession addresses the Pride Festival.

Please see the August 2006 issue of Stonewall News Northwest for a one-on-one interview of Mayor Hession by Stonewall publisher Mike Schultz

Youth Forum calls for action

By Catherine D. Willis
Special to Stonewall News Northwest

"Where's the gay community? Look right here. Where is it?" asked Ann Marie Floch, a retired family therapist, Odyssey Youth Center volunteer and panelist, slightly less than mid-way into the third quarterly GLBTQA Community Forum at CenterStage on June 4. "The gay community does not support the youth," she concluded, her frustration palpable.

A smaller than expected crowd – about a dozen of Spokane's activist core – attended the two-hour event, "GLBTQ Youth: Choices and Challenges in 2006

and Beyond," co-sponsored by Stonewall News Northwest and Odyssey Youth Center (OYC).

The answer to her query, like the entire afternoon's discussion, took many paths.

Matthew Inman, physics teacher and one of the advisors for the Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) at District 81's Shadle Park High School, challenged Floch's premise: "My instant reaction ... is ... it's not their obligation to be the activist. I have lots and lots and lots of liberal friends (the Democrats, what-

Please see YOUTH FORUM page 22



Author Patricia Nell Warren serves as Grand Marshal of Spokane's 2006 Pride Parade.

Please see page 24 for "A conversation with Patricia Nell Warren".

DEDICATION

This Celebration
Issue dedicated to

Steven

for the sincerity of your smile,
the passion of your touch,
and bringing joy, laughter
& celebration into my life.

Mike Schultz, Publisher

**Fly your Flags
on Fridays!**

Spokane Pride Parade 2006

Photos Clockwise: 1) Police cruisers prepare to escort the Parade 2) Giant Ass Drum Corp 3) Northern Quest Casino limo 4) Spokane City Mayor Dennis Hession and wife 5) Odyssey Youth Center 6) Pride Parade spectator



Spokane came OUT–Joined the Journey!

Christopher Lawrence, OutSpokane Committee

Spokane's 2006 Pride Celebration was a great success! The tireless volunteers and organizations that participated in the Pride Parade and Rainbow Festival were drenched by torrential rains right up UNTIL start time for the longest, most colorful and most exciting parade in Spokane's 15 years of celebrations.

Patricia Nell Warren, our Grand Marshal, rode proudly at the front followed by six floats, several cars and 19 groups. Ms. Warren noted the outstanding musical participation of the Rainbow City Band, which came here from Seattle as an outreach to the Inland Northwest. Our own Giant Ass Drum Corps was responsive and both groups blew the crowd away with spectacular and memorable performances in the parade and on the main entertainment stage at the festival. The crowd of more than 700 people cheered and applauded their energies and expertise.

Jimmy Roland joined us to sing his wedding anthem, "I Want to Be Loved by You" and Abbey Crawford sang her heart out before hosting the final competition for the first Karaoke Battle of the Bars. Aaron Runyon, hot and handsome, performed professionally and earnestly, but the final winner was the incredible Jaime Williams, from the MERQ, whose sizzling pipes won her the title of Spokane's GLBTQ Best Karaoke Singer of 2006.

Selena Black, Imperial Sovereign Court of Spokane's Empress XXXIV, kept the audience screaming and whistling with an energetic and athletic high-heeled performance replete with cartwheels and handsprings.

The number of booths increased by 150% and we welcomed more officials to take part in our ceremonies

than ever before. Mayor Dennis Hession proudly read the City Proclamation declaring June 10, 2006, OutSpokane Pride Parade and Rainbow Festival Day and encouraged the citizens of Spokane to support our GLBTQ community and its events!

Last year we had a mayor who spent many years of his political career trying to remove our freedoms. What a difference a year makes. OutSpokane and the GLBTQ community are extremely fortunate to have a city leader who empowers us all and stands up for equal rights for ALL his citizens!

We were honored to have among us and on stage for commentary, reminding the crowd of the importance of standing up for our rights, Rep. Jim Moeller (D-Vancouver) and our own Senate Majority Leader Lisa Brown, as well as Brad Read from Washington Won't Discriminate. Candidates Chris Marr and George Orr and Spokane City Council President Joe Shogun and his wife marched in the parade. Other candidates present to show their support were Don Barlow, Ed Foote, Barb Chamberlain and Bonnie Mager.

Visitors from Seattle said they felt the Pride shown by the participants here was more heartfelt and interactive than the celebration in their own city and remarked with awe at how many successful events were included in the Pride Celebration (35 altogether) – and representing such a diverse blend of community groups.

The increased alliances among contrasting parts of our greater GLBTQA community was unprecedented. Spokane is catching the vision and gaining the power that can only be held when we all join together and work for a common cause. More and more people have envisioned our community as it really is – the most diverse minority

of them all. The energy surrounding Pride was incredible this year!

Northern Quest Casino was our number one sponsor, making it possible to bring in Margaret Cho, OutSpokane's Pride 2006 headliner. Cho had the mostly GLBTQ audience hooting, screaming and groaning for nearly 90 minutes. Her opening act, white rapper LISP, was hilarious. He is bound to make a national name for himself and broke us up with sharp-as-a-tack lyrics that lampooned the homophobia and misogyny so entrenched in the music industry.

Itron sponsored Patricia Nell Warren as the honoree of OutSpokane's First Heritage Pride Institute, ensuring that the youth and community forums on censorship, free speech and activism could be no-cost events. These were well attended and invigorated everyone.

The Family Play Area sponsored by the Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane and Quest Youth Group was a great hit and really rounded out our family-friendly Pride Celebration.

Extra Blessing: As the Rev. Dr. Richard Erhardt was performing the 3rd annual wedding ceremony, the sun favored the festival and everything stayed clear until about 25 minutes after the festival closed at 6 p.m.

The OutSpokane Board thanks all of our wonderful, sponsors, donors, supporters and volunteers. So many more did "Join the Journey" this year. You helped us reach our goal of \$50,000 to cover the expenses for making this landmark 15th Anniversary of Pride in Spokane a resounding success.

Spokane's GLBTQ citizens are growing a community we can all be proud of. Don't forget... the "Fall into Pride" celebrations in October will be here before you know it. For pictures of all the Pride Events, please visit www.outspokane.com.

our day to shine
Pride photos continue on page 14

Pride photo credits: Pat Devine



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 2006 | *Love & Support Award* | Mr. Gay Spokane XXVI
 1999 | *Rainbow Award* | Inland Northwest Pride
 1997 | *Vice Versa Award* | Q Syndicate
 1996 | *Rainbow Award* | Inland Northwest Pride

Voices

Letter from the Publisher

Great things begin when we aspire them to happen. But greatness takes more than aspiration. It takes courage and action. And that especially holds true with social movement.

My hat is off to the volunteers of the OutSpokane committee. They make social change happen every year. Rain or shine, the colors of diversity and causes of social equality rise with Spokane's annual Pride festivities. And they raise it high, where it should be.

My gratitude also extends to the Inland Northwest Business Alliance for honoring *Stonewall News Northwest* with *Business of the Year* award at last month's annual Rainbow Awards presentation. Also recognized were Penny Reid, with *Volunteer of the Year Award*, and Susan Fabrikant, Executive Director of Spokane Aids Network, with *Professional of the Year* award.

In my words of acceptance during the ceremony, however, I neglected to also acknowledge two significant people. I'd like to acknowledge them now.

When I had to find my way through very dark days last winter, with innate sense of duty to social consciousness, Catherine Willis and Christopher Lawrence aspired and took action. With selfless dedication to our community, they made sure Stonewall went out every month. To Catherine and Christopher: You both inspire me to be more and do more. Your inspiration to me and our community is instrumental in our social movement. Your commitment helps galvanize continuity of momentum. And with humility and respect, I thank you both.

Mike Schultz
 Publisher

Letters to the Editor

What is Pride to me?

I was recently asked to be part of the Gay Pride festivities in Spokane. Of course I said, "Yes, I would love to." Because being part of the community is such an important thing. To be honest, I was a little nervous. Although, I had worked a booth in the Seattle Pride in past years, I had never been to such a thing in Spokane and only knew a hand full of people.

Once the parade was over the park began to fill with people, despite the rain. There were colors of the rainbow as far as I could see and the sounds of voices in conversation and laughter. I could hear the pulse of music that drew everyone closer to the center of activity. As I continued my task I was aware of the energy surrounding me in the faces of hundreds of people making their way past the booth. Here I was, this stranger to Spokane, out there talking with people I didn't know about the {Stonewall} survey, about the parade, about the rain, about life. I felt welcomed by this community as people reached out with their hearts, their smiles and their words of acceptance. As each person opened up to me sharing with me their stories of life I suddenly realized the rain had stopped and the sky became blue. The sun gave its light and warmth upon the day and it was then I realized... I was home.

The question I was asked was, "what is Pride to me?" I would have to say that on this day Pride was in the face each person I encountered. Through the driving rain they came as one... for a common goal. Pride is the love of who we are as a people, no matter our differences, for it is in diversity that we learn from one another, through love and understanding. Pride is knowledge of where we began on this journey and how far we have come in our quest for inner strength and peace. It is with Pride that we shall stand the test of time and see into the future.

Thank you, Spokane for your acceptance of me into your wonderful community. May we always walk in the light and the warmth of the Sun.

Steven Sanford
 Bellingham, WA
 (soon to be Spokane)

Amendment is anti-gay, anti-religion, anti-American as I see it

The federal marriage amendment again defeated in the Senate should be put to rest permanently because it threatens religious freedom protected by the First Amendment.

The long legal history in this country of religious leaders performing marriage ceremonies has enmeshed religion and marriage. The language of marriage as "sacred" invokes religious images. Most marriage ceremonies are performed by clergy.

The arguments behind the amendment are essentially religious even though its proponents try to couch them in terms of inaccurate history, poor science, rejected psychological theories and statistics unsupported by the social sciences.

Based on misguided understandings of the Bible, tradition and God, proponents argue that same-sex marriages don't suit a traditional model of one man and one woman. The fact that even among the patriarchs and kings in the Bible polygamy was common must be explained away to make the argument. In an ultimate irony, the Mormon Church has been a major funder of amendments claiming that traditional marriage is between one man and only one woman.

But there are many religious people who believe that the Bible, tradition and God require them to confirm same-sex commitments. Their doctrines of marriage demand that they recognize loving commitment wherever it is found. They believe that government has no business telling God and two consenting adults whom they can and cannot love.

Unitarian Universalists, the United Church of Christ, the Central Conference of American Rabbis and others have spoken from their faith to testify that affirming same-sex marriage is a response of true belief.

An amendment to forbid the practice of these religions to perform same-sex marriages, therefore, is government establish-

Please see AMENDMENT page 26

Don't legislatively mandate psychological child abuse

Imagine the time in your adolescence when you were discovering your sexual awareness. Now imagine being told that your feelings of sexual attraction make you a worthless deviant because you feel them toward the same sex. So to survive you hide this secret and stifle the growth of your emerging identity and learn to hate yourself. This is psychological child abuse at its worst.

Then imagine the miracle of courageously overcoming this self loathing imposed by your past abuse. This epiphany restores your sense that you are a person deserving of happiness, equal worthiness and love. A hard fought internal struggle won by myself and many other gay people.

Now imagine being told the same false message by your state, your congress and even your president. Our leaders claim they are entitled to legislate their hate toward gay people and permanently incorporate it into our nation's constitution. This example sends a message of sanctioned malevolence and inequality to our children learning in school today. This is homophobia at its most shameful.

Some say being gay is a choice. They are half right. You can choose to be true to your nature and experience passion, romance and love, all essential parts of a balanced normal life. Or you can falsely pretend to be attracted to the opposite sex and live an empty passionless lie. The undeniable battle for equal civil rights for gay people is on in Washington. I believe our nation's destiny is to overcome homophobia.

However we need to stop permitting the psychological abuse of our children. A pivotal point of history is in the making. Ask yourself. Do you wish to align with those who hate, fear and discriminate or those who will help overcome obstacles in pursuit of the ideal of equality and healing?

Scott W. Snedeker MD.
 PORT ST. LUCIE FL

Previously published June 15, 2006 in the St Lucie News

Spokane

INBA Outreach kick-off tackles \$7.8k in donations

The Inland Northwest Business Alliance (INBA) Outreach, the charitable foundation for the INBA had a successful kick-off party June 5th at the Montvale Hotel. The event raised \$5,800 with another \$2,000 pledged. All money will go to the Outreach scholarship program which already totals almost 50% more than in past years. INBA Outreach Board President Penny Reid said, "we had almost 70 applicants from the Inland Northwest last year and could only fund five scholars, so hopefully we will be able to fund more scholarships to many more deserving students."

At the event the 2006-2007 scholarship winners were announced and it was formally announced that the INBA Outreach had gained 501c (3) status so that all donations are now tax deductible. The fundraiser was underwritten by the Montvale Hotel, Thinking Cap Communications & Design and the INBA.

Donations for this fund can be mailed to INBA Scholarship Fund, P.O. Box 20163, Spokane, WA 99204.

Mason Petit named GALE chairperson



Last month the Gay And Lesbian Employees Committee (GALE) of the Washington State Employees Council 28, appointed Mason Petit (husband of Connie Sagona, Marketing & Development Director of CenterStage) as Chairperson of the committee. Petit intends to act as liaison with the committee's other organizations and community members in order to connect with, and support, issues of importance to the LGBTQA community. Washington State Employees Council 28 is part of the American Federation of State, County & Municipal Employees (AFSCME-AFL/CIO), which is the largest Union in the U.S.

To start a dialog with the GALE Committee, email Petit at MasonPetit@gmail.com, or call him at (509) 981-3798. Issues do not have to be specific only to state employees, but to the greater GLBTQA community.

A Sheep in Wolf's Clothing Names reporting may look scary, but it's a familiar face

In a two part article, Mark Garrett and Cat Carrel of Spokane AIDS Network debate the pros and cons of changing the HIV reporting system from a name-to-code to a name-base system only. In this issue, Carrel presents the pro perspective.

By Cat Carrel
Spokane AIDS Network

On June 14, the Washington State Board of Health voted to adopt an across-the-board, names-based reporting system for all cases of HIV/AIDS in the state to comply with federal mandates. Perhaps no other public health policy change in Washington State has generated as much passionate debate. Now, when a person tests positive for HIV, identifying information including their name, will be held indefinitely in a statewide database. Since April, the state has been operating under an "emergency rule," allowing the DOH to convert the HIV/AIDS cases previously reported under the name-to-code system, back into names. This conversion is 90% complete.

Prior to April, Washington had both name-based and name-to-code based reporting of HIV infection and AIDS. As the policy stood, **asymptomatic** cases (HIV+ with no symptoms) were classified

under the name-to-code system. That is, when you tested positive for HIV, and if you didn't fall under the CDC's classification for **symptomatic** HIV/AIDS, your name was converted into a code for reporting purposes. Local health departments held on to your identifying information for up to 90 days in case notification of partners had to occur, and for post-test counseling, follow-up and referrals. Regardless, at the end of those 90 days, documents linking your name to your code were destroyed.

Also prior to April, Washington used name-based reporting when **symptomatic** cases of HIV and AIDS were identified. The process was similar to other "notifiable conditions" that fall under the Washington Administrative Code (WAC) including botulism, diphtheria, rabies, sexually transmitted infections like chlamydia, gonorrhea and syphilis, and Hepatitis A, B & C. All of these (and more) are notifiable conditions to the Department of

Please see NAMES REPORTING page 31

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For Love or Money?

by Lloyd M. Francis

In the debate over marriage rights for same-sex couples, the proponents often seem to give the impression that this is an all-or-nothing proposition, and that until committed couples can be legally recognized, they lack the means to provide each other with the kind of financial protections and fiduciary arrangements that heterosexual couples have.

With exceptions, some of which follow, this is really not the case. For those whose objectives are to protect the financial well-being of their partners and families, both during and after their lives together, there are mechanisms available now to establish and ensure that our life-partners will be taken care of.

My focus here is not to denigrate the meaning of what the equal marriage rights movement is working towards, say it isn't necessary, or belittle the courage of the dedicated persons who are fighting this cause. Powerful precedents are established by each stride forward. But there are challenges and priorities that couples face now in day-to-day living that can be settled and addressed without waiting for further progress in this battle. Professional persons like myself; attorneys, financial consultants, and accountants already serve our community and can nullify and circumvent the threats of unsympathetic persons and entities who

would try to undermine the strength of our relationships.

Some lawmakers who do not strenuously object to same-sex marriage, proclaim that it is an issue best left to be determined by the courts and legislatures of the individual states, as Massachusetts has done. This may serve to legitimize the symbolic status of all married couples as equal under the law, but it will not move us any closer to having any of the key spousal rights provided by the federal government,



such as the spousal deduction on federal income-tax returns or survivor rights to Social Security benefits. Bear in mind that no right-to-marry, civil union or registered domestic partnership provisions have any validity outside the boundaries of the states or countries that established them.

But to talk practically, here are some ways that you as an individual can protect the assets that you and your partner have

Please see LOVE OR MONEY page 24

LCMP continues to evolve

by Cat Carrel, Spokane AIDS Network

The Lilac City Men's Project continues to see steady growth. More than 45 men visited our booth at Pride and filled out our interest sheets! As a result of this growth, some of the programming has developed a new focus and new activities have been added.

The Project has added two social hours to its monthly schedule. These will replace the original "meet and greets" that were held on the first and third Thursdays of the month at the Rainbow Center. The first social hour (on the second Wednesday of the month) will be at Ella's Library Lounge, on the second floor of the building that houses Centerstage and Ella's Supper Club at 1017 W. 1st Ave. The Library Lounge at Ella's has a great atmosphere for kicking back with a cocktail and has drink and appetizer specials during Happy Hour on Wednesdays. The pool tables are free, and typically idle during the week. Join us this month on July 12 at Ella's.

The second social hour (on the fourth Wednesday) will be at the Empyrean Coffee Shop, at 154 S. Madison. A hang out of the local literati, come have an evening espresso and talk about current events, politics, and living the gay life in Spokavegas on July 26 at the Empyrean.

The core volunteers of the Project

will continue to meet on the first and third Thursdays, but this will be more of a planning and strategizing meeting for upcoming events and bar zaps. Of course, new guys are always welcome at these meetings too, but be prepared to sit and discuss the reasons why the LCMP exists and how we can better target and recruit guys into our wellness groups. These meetings will be held at the Spokane AIDS Network at 6 p.m., 905 S. Monroe St. on July 6 and July 20.



First and third, second and fourth, how does one keep up with it all? By accessing the LCMP calendar, either through the Lilac City Men's Project web site, or through the Stonewall News online calendar; you will find not only LCMP-sponsored events, but other events that are of interest to LCMP members. Hiking, biking, gardening, bowling, it's all there at your fingertips.

On another note, we now have enough members to start mailing our newsletter and calendar to those who have given us their mailing addresses. So, if you don't get our information through e-mail, watch for the July newsletter coming soon in a mailbox near you! To receive information about upcoming events, contact the LCMP at 267-9444 or e-mail info@lilaccitymensproject.org.

Thank you for a fabulous PRIDE!

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Practical Spirituality for Daily Life

Follow a Path... Any Path

by Bob Schout

Recently I had the chance to sit down for dinner at a friend's house and was introduced to a few people that I had never met before. The conversation was pleasant, but became very interesting the moment that my friend said that I was interested in studying for the ministry, and that I was heavily involved in spirituality.

With that announcement several people began to pepper me with questions about my beliefs surrounding prayer, meditation, God, religion and all other kinds of things. With each question and response the conversation opened up and included the sharing of their own beliefs, thoughts and paths.

One practiced Buddhism, one was learning about Sufi traditions, one attended a Baptist church, one attended the United Church of Christ, one followed Unity principles, and one followed the practices of Atlantians – not the practices of people in Atlanta Georgia, but those of Atlantis. The conversation was fascinating. Our beliefs about the origins of humans, creation, and connection to the Divine, were all vastly different. But as we shared stories about each path – its central beliefs and principles, and as we discussed our prayer and meditation practices we realized that though our paths seemed vastly different there were common denominators:

- The goal of each path is enlightenment.
- The purpose of each path is alignment with the One Power and Principle in the Universe, regardless of what name we give to it.
- The practices of prayer and meditation were all strikingly similar. Each practice is used to turn our attention inward and connect with a higher consciousness.
- The processes are all directed towards the objectives of finding peace, wisdom and understanding, and each in its own way used his/her process to ground themselves in goodness and send out the energy of love into the world.
- All drew meaning from his/her own spiritual process.

Spirit is incredibly important in our lives. It enriches us, sustains us, heals us and enlightens our way. We rely on it for patience when someone does not show up in the way we need them to, or doesn't give us what we need, when we think we need it. We give thanks and celebrate the joy that we feel when we're filled with It. We pray to It when we feel desperate or afraid. It is part of our daily life. But many of us run away from formalized practices, structures, or doctrines though they are



all designed to help us understand Spirit, and ourselves, more fully.

For some of us, it's because some of those formalized structures of religion have been used to promote ignorance and intolerance. They may have been used in the past to keep the masses in submission. Some religious leaders have used them to instill shame, guilt and fear. There is a semblance of truth in each of these statements depending on your personal experience. Yet for millions of people, various spiritual and religious paths have been used to overcome hate and intolerance, discern meaning in life, recover and heal the past, hope for the future, and experience love and joy more fully in daily life.

Each path – Christian, Buddhist, Sufi, Atlantian, Wicca, etc. – is legitimate and holy in its own right. What you get out of a path depends on whether you make that path and its principles (not the dogma or doctrine) your own. If you only put your faith in a person on that path – minister, priest or priestess, rabbi – then you are externalizing Spirit and not owning it. Ministers are helpful in starting you off on the road to enlightenment, but they can only point you to a destination, and give you their map, but direction is yours to decide, because the path is yours to take. Every spiritual path, if persistently followed, leads to peace and enlightenment. The practices learned along each path all have the same aim and goal – connection with a higher consciousness, awareness of your own divinity, and an invitation or expectation to express love to all people, equally. The key is to choose a path and practice its principles – really practice them, not just intellectualize them, debate or contemplate them. The point is to discover and live according to Truth itself. Get past the rules and laws, and align yourself with the essence of Spirit and the underlying Truth. Spirit is in you, on your side, and you are GOOD.

We have the tendency to criticize or degrade various paths. This stems from ignorance about Spirit and about the path, fear of discovery, and myths and misrepresentations about various paths that have been embedded within our culture. So if you feel like bashing a path, put that energy towards learning about it, from someone who has grown on the path and has found peace because

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of it. Don't seek to defend your closed mindedness about a path by surrounding yourself with other close minded people who will only reinforce your disdain for a particular religion or spiritual path. Seek to know and then you'll grow.

If one path does not work for you, no worries, just find another path. There are plenty to choose from. The goal is to find a path that helps you build peace of mind, develop a loving heart, discover your purpose in life, heal the past and create a future that is filled with prosperity and abundance in life – through Spirit.

So this week begin by seeing beyond the person or church that represents your path, to the principles and practices

that ground you in faith. Take some time to chat with people who have found a path and a road map that works for them, and learn about other paths. Most importantly, turn within. Take some time to engage in meditation or prayer, or simple contemplative reflection, and open your mind to Spirit. It will guide you and help you discern the path and practices that will work for you.

Bob Schout is based in Dallas Texas. He is a life coach, pastoral counselor, and motivational speaker for business, government, non-profit and faith-based organizations. He can be reached by email at psdevelopment@sbcglobal.net. You can also visit his website at www.powerskillsinternational.com

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Letters of the Law

We're all heroes to someone

by Jerry J. Davis

Recently, President Bush signed the "Respect for America's Fallen Hero's Act". The act was designed to prevent protests within 300 feet of the entrance of a cemetery from 60 minutes before to 60 minutes after a funeral.

Penalties for violating the act are up to \$100,000 in fines and up to one year imprisonment. This law came to be because of the Reverend Fred Phelps and his congregation of followers of the Westboro Baptist Church in Kansas. The Reverend and his wacked out flock for years have made it a practice to push their homophobic actions and messages to unthinkable levels. What got the lawmaker's attention this time is the practice of the flock to attend the funerals of fallen American military persons and picket and demonstrate insisting that the deceased were killed because of America's tolerance of homosexuals (Phelps has also made this very wise and enlighten claim as God's reason for allowing the devastation of 9-11 and the wrath of Hurricane Katrina). However much I agree with this law and its rationale, I am fuming mad over the lawmaker's utter disregard for equality.

You see, Phelps and flock have been attending funerals of gay men and women for quite a long time, taunting and tormenting and espousing hatred. Grieving family and friends would not only have to deal with the anguish of the death of a loved one, but would have to listen to things such as the "fag deserved to die", "God hates queers" and "all gays should get AIDS and die". Unfortunately for our community, the lawmakers who so urgently enacted this legislation as it pertains to funerals of "America's Fallen Heroes", they turned a deaf ear on all those affected by the same hatred when it occurred to a funeral of a gay person. To those of us who demanded action, we were told that although they found the behavior of the demonstrators to be out of line, the 1st Amendment protected the demonstrators' right to say it, calling it freedom of speech.

The sponsor of this bill, Republican Mike Rogers of Michigan, stated "Families deserve the time to bury their American heroes with

dignity and in peace... It saddens me that such a law is necessary, but it is crucial that America put its arms around these grieving families and say 'we support you and thank you for the sacrifice your loved one has made for our nation' and that we will do what it takes to protect your right to mourn in quiet peace and with dignity." Do the loved ones of a gay person not deserve the right to mourn in the same way?



It is really time to wake up see that the homophobes are advancing their agenda in many ways, some more obvious the others. While this bill on the surface appears to be logical and founded in love and respect, it really shows there is still no true equality between heterosexuals and homosexuals. Again, our advesaries have found a way to wrap their bigotry in the American flag under the guise of patriotism to prevent a discussion of the real issue at hand. I am sure I will be accused of not being a patriot and ridiculed for even having the nerve to dissect this new law.

As a society we cannot forget that we are all heroes to someone. This law should be extended to funerals of every person. I cannot print what I would want to do to Phelps or his merry band of idiots if they demonstrated at a funeral of loved one of mine, and just like the mourners of a fallen solider, I should not have to.

If you have a legal question or questions of a general nature that you wish to see addressed in this column, please send them to: mail@stonewallnews.net or write to: Stonewall News Northwest, P.O. Box 2704, Spokane, WA 99220

Jerry J. Davis, J.D., has practiced law in Washington for three years. His Spokane office caters to the general law needs of the GLBTQA community.

Regional

No Rest for the Wicked

Don't tempt me

by Joan Opyr

I opened my email the other day to find a one-sentence warning from someone called Brett Long: Never write about Kendrick again. As if. Kendrick, Idaho is about ten miles south of where I live. According to the most recent census, the population is 369—probably counting the livestock – and the only thing I've ever written about the place is that it was the site of an excellent Logo Channel documentary called "Bachelor Farmer."

If you haven't seen "Bachelor Farmer," and if you don't get the Logo Channel, you should. Bachelor Farmer is about two out gay men living in this very small, very tightly-knit town in Northern Idaho. The men are an integral part of the community, where they're not only well liked but also well loved. They volunteer at church; they help with Hospice; they live good lives and enrich their community.



I'm a notorious curmudgeon, but I found "Bachelor Farmer" honest, moving and – don't faint – deeply touching. What really got to me, though, wasn't the documentary itself but the reaction to it. A week or so after it aired, I was in the hardware store, eavesdropping on a pair of crusty old farmers. One of the fellows in the documentary is named Jerry, and he and his family have lived in Kendrick since the last ice age.

"So," said one of the crusty farmers, "how about old Jerry being on the TV like that?"

I held my breath, waiting for the painful homophobic response.

"Yeah," said the other farmer. "Wasn't that something? I thought we looked pretty good."

"We did," agreed Farmer One. "Crops looked good, too. Might be going to have an okay year."

I exhaled. That was it. The farmers like old Jerry – old in this case being a term of endearment, as Jerry is younger than the farmers in question by a good thirty years – and they thought that the town came off well and that the wheat looked good.

Welcome to Kendrick. In fact, welcome to Northern Idaho. We're not what you think; we're not as bad as you think. Sure, both of our Senators just voted to enshrine anti-gay discrimination into the federal constitution, and we're facing an effort to do the same to the state constitution this coming November. I won't lie and say that this doesn't frighten me, but I do believe that, by and large, Idahoans are good people. We're libertarians with a small "I." We live, and we let live. The unofficial motto

of Northern Idaho is Libertas Quirkas: Free to be quirky. As a state, Idaho is notorious for its kooks and its oddballs. We seem to choose our politicians not on the basis of ability, but on their potential to throw a monkey wrench into whatever's in the works in Washington. We hate the federal government, and so we're willing to be totally ineffective in playing any real part in it.

We're foolish in this. We shoot ourselves in the foot. We don't care. Huge tracts of Idaho lands are federally owned. Once upon a time, we had effective and respected representation in Washington. We had Frank Church in the U. S. Senate and Cecil Andrus as Jimmy Carter's Secretary of the Interior. Thirty years later, what could be more grim and embarrassing to have Idaho's empty-headed Dirk Kempthorne in that very same position? The Bushes have a knack for this kind of back-handed insult. When the great Justice Thurgood Marshall died, Bush the Elder filled his seat on the Supreme Court with Clarence "Ditto what Scalia said" Thomas.

What pushed my email correspondent, Brett Long, over the edge? A reference to gay people living happily in tiny Kendrick? Gay people live in tiny towns everywhere. Many of us are closeted. Many others are out in the middle of nowhere. Never mention Kendrick again? Clearly, Mr. Long is not familiar with the motto of my church, The Church of Auntie Establishment – You're not the boss of me. Gay Kendrick, Lesbian Troy, Queer Deary, Bisexual Bovil. We really are everywhere.

Good for us. Good for Mr. Long, too. He just doesn't know it yet. If he won't watch the Logo Channel or "Bachelor Farmer," then I'd advise him to take a look at the crops. Looks like it might be an okay year.

Joan Opyr, AKA Auntie Establishment, is a Moscow area fiction writer, the author of the novel Idaho Code, and the Northern Idaho Editor for New West Magazine. She invites your questions, comments, mint julep and rat recipes at joanopyr@moscow.com.

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2006 Pride Foundation Scholarships blanket the Inland Northwest

Pride Foundation has awarded a record \$172,930 to 85 recipients for 2006, bringing the Pride Foundation's total scholarships given out to \$951,888 to 561 Scholars. The average award amount increased from \$1,649 last year to \$2,034 this year.

Included in this year's awards are these regional recipients:

Ellen Adams (Spokane, WA)

Ellen is from Spokane, WA. She plans to attend Princeton University, having spent the past year in the Hispanic Studies program at University of Granada, Spain. Her educational goals include linguistics, politics, and creative writing. Ellen is a writer and a poet, and has recorded several albums as a singer-songwriter. She has extensive experience working for LGBT rights and plans to use her education to make positive change in the world.

Jeremy Bolton (Spokane, WA)

A resident of Spokane, Jeremy is a graphic designer with a passion for art, writing and photography. Jeremy attends Spokane Falls Community College and will obtain his Bachelor's degree in design from Eastern Washington University. Jeremy is involved with several service organizations in the Spokane LGBTQ community, and is excited about pursuing both his creativity and interest in leadership.

Andi Burt (Wenatchee, WA)

Andi is from Eastern Washington and is a senior at Washington State University. After receiving a Bachelors degree in English and History Education, Andi plans to pursue a Masters degree. Andi volunteers with children in the public schools and cares deeply about public school education, in particular about the need for teachers who are accessible and understanding. Andi intends to become a middle school teacher.

Schylar Canfield (Butte, MT)

Schylar attends Montana Tech in Butte, Montana and majors in Professional and Technical Communication. Schylar intends to obtain a Master's degree in social work or nonprofit management, and pursue a career advocating for foster youth. Schylar volunteers extensively with youth organizations and HIV/AIDS service agencies. Last year Schylar traveled around the country, organizing and presenting at conferences for youth in foster care.

Adam Cogswell (Spokane, WA)

Adam is a student at Whitworth University in Spokane where, in addition to his studies in vocal performance and political science, he has been an active volunteer with Young Democrats, the Campaign to End AIDS, and in his local LGBTQ community. Adam has an interest in working with deaf and hard-of-hearing students, and is excited about pursuing leadership and social justice.

Kirk Duval (Post Falls, ID)

For as long as he can remember, Kirk has wanted to be an actor. This fall, Kirk leaves his hometown of Post Falls, Idaho for theater studies at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts. Besides his studies and his love of theater, Kirk has dedicated himself to service and activism, including founding his high school's first human rights and anti-harassment organization.

Ryan Grubbs (Coeur d'Alene, ID)

A resident of Coeur d'Alene, Idaho, Ryan will enter Brown University this fall to study English, gender issues and international relations. An honor student, volunteer and high achiever in debate, mentoring, and athletics, Ryan last year successfully founded his high school's first Gay-Straight Alliance amid much public controversy, not only in the school but his hometown.

Trina Hallman (Pullman, WA)

A self-described 'non-traditional' student, Trina recently returned to academic study after a 10-year hiatus. A student at Washington State University, Trina hopes to complete a BA in Sport Management and Business Administration and graduate study in higher education. Her dream is to help transform the world of athletics for youth, eradicating gender inequality and promoting academic integrity in sports.

Heather Hoberg (Cheney, WA)

Heather is a student at Eastern Washington University with honors in pre-med and Spanish. She dreams of making a difference by working as a doctor, working in the field of international health care and health policy to effectively contribute to a better world. Heather is energized by politics and philosophy, and takes additional inspiration from her love of the arts.

Leah Hyman (Pullman, WA)

Leah is working towards a degree in Radiographic Science at Lewis-Clark State College in Lewiston, Idaho, with specializations in Business and MRI/Computer Tomography. Her immediate goal is to work in women's health care settings. A longer-term dream is to work in academics, helping other students to set their goals and succeed in the areas of women and children's health and preventive medicine.

Brett Janecek (Billings, MT)

Brett grew up in Billings, Montana, where in high school he was student body president and valedictorian of his class. Brett studies theater at the University of Notre Dame, where he is also a peer educator at his campus Gender Relations Center. Brett intends to pursue a career in theater and hopes to obtain an MFA in directing.

Please see PRIDE SCHOLARSHIPS page 30

OUT! In the Middle of Nowhere

Unlikely Longtime Companions

by Tim Anderson

Recently my friend Jeanette pulled into Pend Oreille County. En-route to a fly fishing excursion in Montana, Jeanette arrived sporting a new rig complete with camping gear and a stoked tackle box. Sharing serious visions of hand tied fly's dancing on the stunning waters of blue-ribbon rivers, Jeanette's arrival in the midst of her fishing trips serves as a reunion of sorts.

I've known Jeanette for over two decades, originally meeting her in the midst of a mutual experience of "social probation" at The Lutheran Bible Institute of Seattle (Now Trinity College). Like many other struggling gay Christians, we knew something about us was different but in that environment, we really had no clue how to reconcile faith with sexual orientation. Jeanette wore military fatigues, beamed a boyish, handsome smile, and proudly acknowledged growing up in a small red neck town nestled in the Sierra Nevada Range. Trudging in and out of the dean's office, sharing space in the waiting room, we quickly found in one another a mutual love of the most remote wilderness, a natural ability to test the limits of 4x4 vehicles and an affinity for flannel.

Our friendship defined instant. Although we still spent enormous energy surviving an alienating, doctrine-heavy environment, we also formed a unique community within a community. Charting our own course, we found acceptance while trying to juggle spirituality and sexuality. Indeed, Jeanette christened me an honorary lesbian one night after we'd climbed to the top of the schools water tower with another closeted gay student. I can still see her standing tall on that water tower, in the middle of a lightening storm, smoking a cigarette—her profile a not so femme but very female, Tom of Finland stand in.

Post our triumphant graduation, we've experienced all the typical life transitions known to man and then some. There's the failed relationships, the step kids, the AIDS pandemic, the endless questioning of the who, what, where, when, and why's of God. Yet here we are, somehow, still standing. Even now, twenty years later, the arrival of those scattered Bible College alumni newsletters seem like altered postscripts from a strange land.

These days Jeanette lives on the Kitsap Peninsula, in a small town, with her partner Paula. The two women first met in 2001 and corresponded for seven months before their first date. Paula a single mom, raising an adopted daughter with severe ADHD/OCD disorder issues,

was naturally protective of her teenaged daughter. Now, nearly four years into the relationship, Jeanette considers Paula's daughter her child as well. The two women have nearly perfected tag team parenting. Typical family discussions held around the dinner table revolve around issues of Drivers Ed, after school jobs, and the sudden, unexpected arrival of a birth control prescription after a recent visit with the family doctor.

As with many parents, the two women grappled with tough discussions surrounding sexuality and the boundaries they expect their daughter to respect. Jeanette noted, "We've kinda' reached an understanding. I think a lot of the wanting to be on the pill push has to do with peer pressure. It's considered cool to be on it. Still we've had to be innovative. We recently told our daughter that if she wants to have sex, both kids have to get an HIV test and see the other's results. A lot of emotions are involved with sex—feelings that are far more intense than just going out with someone. I even asked her, remember how you felt after you broke up with your last boyfriend? Well think how you'd feel if you'd had sex with him?"

Understanding that most high school boys aren't up for getting tested seems to have postponed their daughter's sexual activity but that hasn't postponed the women's commitment to educating their daughter about STD's. "The pill isn't going to protect her against Sexually Transmitted Diseases and HIV, so we want her to know about all the emotions involved and precautions that you need to take."

Yet, reflecting on our time at LBI Jeanette offers, "It's ironic. Even now as a mature, responsible adult and a committed parent, I think it's sad to say that my salvation would still be viewed as on shaky ground."

A writer, horseman, truck driver, and graduate of Seattle Pacific University and Lutheran Bible Institute of Seattle, Tim is the president of the Gay Truckers Association. For more in-depth information about him, visit www.highmountainranch.com, which won Web site of the Year from www.roadstaronline.com.



how our Journey continues

In their own words...

For a second year, Rev Dr. Richard Erhardt conducts a public GLBTQA wedding ceremony at Spokane's Pride Festival.

“This is a ceremony of love, a ceremony of public witness to a shared love that we covenant here today, and a ceremony of civil disobedience.”

“I’m Richard Erhardt, Minister of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane. I stand before you as an ally. And I stand before you with the full support of my church. The Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane is a Welcoming Congregation. This means that we welcome all regardless of sexual orientation. Those aren’t just words, we live that.

We are about to perform a wedding, folks. Those who are against same-sex marriage often point to the Bible to legitimize their views.

Those who believe that same sex marriage is an abomination are quick to point out that the Bible condemns homosexuality. And indeed it does in four

We are about to perform a wedding, folks. Those who are against same-sex marriage often point to the Bible to legitimize their views.

Those who believe that same sex marriage is an abomination are quick to point out that the Bible condemns homosexuality. And indeed it does in four very clear passages. It also condemns adultery in forty very clear passages. If we were Biblical literalists we might conclude that adultery is ten times worse, yet we don’t hear about constitutional amendments to remove or curb the rights of adulterers as second class citizens, do we?

Well, I too will point to the Bible and highlight its explicit acceptance of a gay marriage. For example, how many of us have heard of the Bible’s explicit acceptance of a gay relationship?

In the First Book of Samuel, Chapter 18 verses 1 through 4: there is the story of David and Jonathan. Lest we forget, David was one of the major heroes. Let me read a little:

“That same day, when Saul had finished talking with David, he kept him and would not let him return any more to his father’s house, for he saw that Jonathan had given his heart to David and had grown to love him as himself. Jonathan and David made a solemn compact because each loved the other as dearly as himself. Jonathan stripped off his cloak and tunic he was wearing, and gave them to David, together with his sword, his bow, and his belt.”

Just for clarification, Saul was

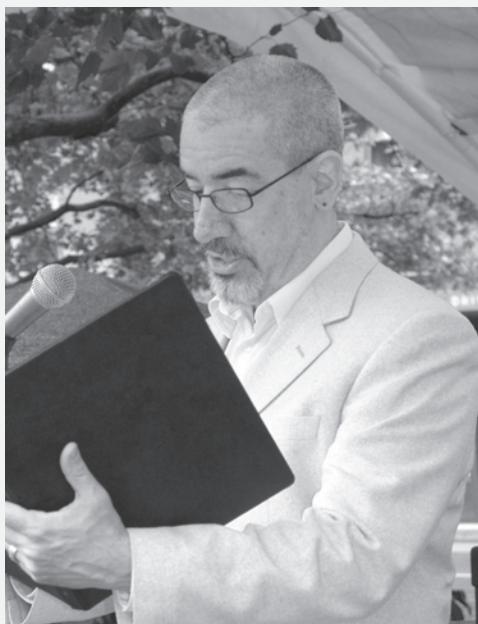


Photo by Pat Devine

Rev. Dr. Richard Erhardt
Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane

Jonathan’s father who apparently had blessed this event. Like a bride, David was to live in Saul’s house and not return to his family because he and Jonathan were in love. They sealed their love with a compact, or vow. Sound’s like a marriage, doesn’t it? This is reported with approval. In case you think I’m making too much of this, let’s hear a little further in the story. In the Second Book of Samuel, Chapter 1 verse 26, David grieves Jonathan’s death in battle:

“I grieve for you, Jonathan my brother; you were most dear to me; your love for me was wonderful, surpassing the love of women.”

So, some want to condemn same-sex unions, and deny equal rights and benefits based on the Bible. My Bible doesn’t support that.

So let’s have a wedding in the good old biblical tradition! At this time I would like to invite all those who wish to publicly covenant their love to come forward toward the front of our stage.

Together we will perform a ceremony of union. It is unfortunate that our society and its laws have not matured to legitimate and acknowledge profound and loving relationships other than heterosexual ones. So this is not a marriage in the legal sense, not in Washington State: not yet.

This is a ceremony of love, a ceremony of public witness to a shared love that we covenant here today, and a ceremony of civil disobedience. There is a long history of love and civil disobedience being linked. Jesus preached a doctrine of love while at the same time urging resistance to all that crushes the human spirit.

It is in this respect that the laws cannot stop us from formalizing and celebrating the truth and reality that deep love, mutual trust, and profound respect is sown and grows rooted between two people regardless of gender. For as long as men and women have walked on the earth, there have been some human beings who have shared their deepest expression of love with a person of the same gender. What God puts together let not the state tear asunder.

All of us together stand as a witness to your ceremony of union and affirm that we will continue to challenge a society and its laws that negate the genuine and authentic love we celebrate today.

It is our dream that one day everyone may freely express the love that was given to us by God to whomever we find ourselves linked in freedom and fate without fear of reprisal. It is our hope that one day all true love partnerships may be legally recognized and fully affirmed.

Today is a reaffirmation of the goodness of love, and the hope that love may blossom and flourish in our lives together. Together, we may build the beloved community one relationship at a time.

The Blessing before exchange of vows [by Scott Alexander, adapted]:

Let me therefore ask all of us who have gathered here today this: do we give these couples our blessings now as they enter into recognizing

these relationships, and do you promise (in the days and years ahead) to give these couples your deepest love, understanding, and support during both good times and bad? If so, say “We do.” [Congregation responds in unison.]

Vows:

If you have brought a ring today please put it on your partner’s hand as you recite your vows. If you did not bring a ring today, let the vows be a ring on your partner’s heart.

We will go through these twice so that each may pledge their love to the other.

I, [state your name] take you, [state your partner’s name]

In marriage as my life partner,
To grow together in love,
In success and adversity,
In happiness and hardship,
In health and sickness,
In wholeness and brokenness.

I affirm the unity
of my head, heart and soul,
In pledging my love to you
For as long as we both shall

live.

Blessing and Announcement:

As you have chosen to join together in a religious bond of marriage and loving union, and have pledged yourselves to each other in the presence of family and friends, it is my joy and privilege to pronounce you partners in life.

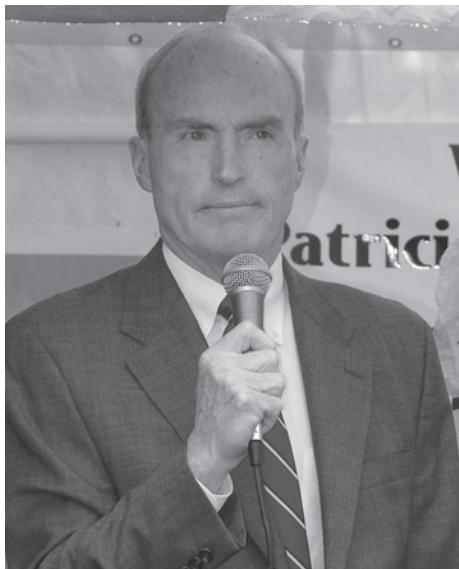
Let us close with this Apache Prayer:

“Now you will feel no rain, for each of you will be shelter to the other. Now you will feel no cold, for each of you will be warmth to the other. Now there is no loneliness for you, now there is no more loneliness. Now you are two persons but there is only one life before you. Go now to your dwelling place, to enter into the days of your togetherness, and may your days be good and long upon the earth.”

You may now seal your love with a kiss.”

City of Spokane Proclamation

"...The Pride Celebration in Spokane empowers and supports the diverse community of the GLBTQ people, their families, friends and allies in the Inland Northwest, Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho..."



City of Spokane Mayor Dennis Hession addresses the Rainbow Festival and reads the City of Spokane Proclamation

"WHEREAS, OutSpokane of Spokane is a federally recognized 501 C (4) non-profit organization; and
WHEREAS, OutSpokane, formerly known as Inland Northwest Pride, began with less than 10 members of Spokane's Gay, Lesbian, Transgender, Questioning (GLBTQ) and Parents, Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) organizations to coordinate the first march in 1991; and

WHEREAS, OutSpokane continues to fund, host and coordinate Spokane's Pride Parade, Rainbow Festival, and is inclusive of all gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and or questioning people; and

WHEREAS, The Pride Celebration in Spokane empowers and supports the diverse community of the GLBTQ people, their families, friends and allies in the Inland Northwest, Eastern Washington and Northern Idaho; and

WHEREAS, This day is declared to be a diversity-friendly event in downtown Spokane that offers entertainment, education and a multi-cultural experience; and

WHEREAS, We are a city of inclusion and on this day, it serves the community of Spokane to bring together people who seldom have a chance to congregate as a community;

NOW, THEREFORE, I Dennis P. Hession, Mayor of the City of Spokane, on behalf of the citizens of Spokane do hereby proclaim Saturday, June 10, 2006, as

OUTSPOKANE PRIDE PARADE AND RAINBOW FESTIVAL DAY

and encourage the citizens of our city to support this valuable local organization's events and show support for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and or questioning people of our Spokane community."

State of Washington Proclamation

"...gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered Washingtonians invite all citizens to join them during the month of June in events throughout the state that celebrate the human spirit and foster a greater understanding of, and appreciation for, the differences that enrich us all..."



"WHEREAS, the state of Washington recognizes one of its greatest strengths is the diversity of its people; and

WHEREAS, Washington State has a long standing tradition of upholding the dignity of the individual, supporting legal equality and fair treatment for all citizens, and ensuring that acts of discrimination and hatred will not be tolerated; and

WHEREAS, members of the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered community greatly contribute to our state's rich diversity; and

WHEREAS, gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered Washingtonians invite all citizens to join them during the month of June in events throughout the state that celebrate the human spirit and foster a greater understanding of, and appreciation for, the differences that enrich us all; and

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim June 2006 as

Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Month

in Washington State, and I encourage the people of our state to join in the festivities such as these that promote tolerance and equal protection under the law.

I also urge the citizens of Washington State to join me in eliminating discriminatory policies and practices toward any culture, race, or group, whether it be in employment, housing, or other matters essential to daily life."

Let's PLAY BINGO



July 16th

5:30 PM

at



**909 West 1st Avenue
 Downtown Spokane
 (509) 747-5362**

All proceeds will stay in Spokane to help people with HIV & AIDS

Spokane Pride Parade 2006

Photos Clockwise: 1) Author and Spokane Pride Parade Grand Marshal Patricia Nell Warren 2) Rainbow City Band joins Spokane's Pride Parade 3) Cadillac Convertible representing Pride Foundation 4) Spokane's ISCS Imperial Crown Princess 34 Sierra Myst and Imperial Crown Prince 30 Gordon Winters 5) EMCC Float 6) Helen Bonser, PFLAG member and co-organizer of Spokane's first Pride Parade in 1992 7) Marvo Requindin accompanies INBA Float



PRIDE *continued from front page.*

Those who braved the adverse morning weather found there were more booths at this year's festival, but according to OutSpokane Board Member, Bridgett Potter, the focus was on bringing in a wider variety of booths, not just more. Among the many noteworthy additions this year was the foster parent booth. There is an enormous need for GLBTQA

parents who are willing to foster both gay and straight kids. The Lutheran Community Services and Service Alternatives are in need of parents, gay or straight, who are up to the challenge and the many rewards of fostering children. Anyone interested should contact Carly Jones at Lutheran Community Services (509-343-5035) or Theresa Thompson at Service Alternatives, Inc. at (509-325-4390).

The family values of our community are reflected in our pride parade and

festival, and OutSpokane stayed true to form this year with the family-friendly nature of the events. The OutSpokane Pride Parade this year focused on our GLBTQA youth. Roughly 50 young people marched with the Odyssey Youth Center.

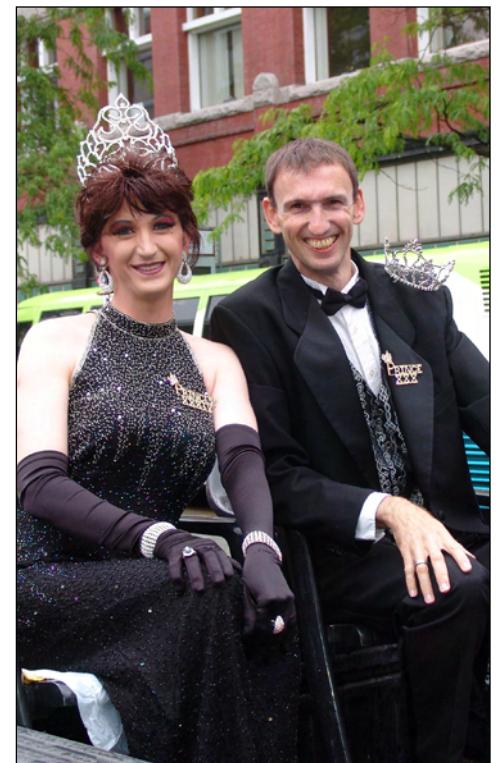
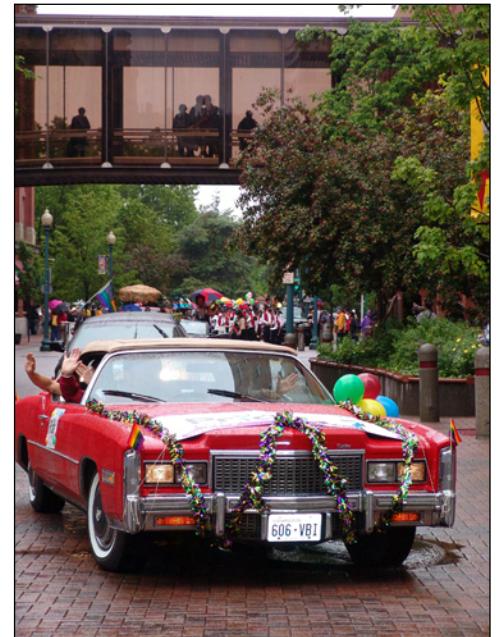
One spectator observed, "Seeing all those kids out there warmed my heart and made me think right there walks our future."

One spectator observed, "Seeing all those kids out there warmed my heart and made me think right there walks our future."

The OutSpokane Pride Parade is different from other parades in the rest of the country primarily

because of its family-friendly nature. No other pride parade provides a special area for children. The bouncy castles, funded in the past by the Quest Youth group, this year were funded by generous donations from our community and were staffed by volunteers from the Quest Youth group. The hottest activity for the youngest festival participants? "Lawn

Continued on next page.



Photos Clockwise: 1)River of Life MCC Church of Tri-Cities, WA 2) Parade participants 3) Dempsey's Float 4)Lilac City Men's Project 5)Unitarian Universalist Church 6)Inland Northwest Business Alliance 7) Couple at Pride festivities 8) Blow Me Bubbles



Continued from previous page.

bowling,” said Bonnie Aspen, one of the coordinators of this year’s events.

This was Anne McLaughlin’s third pride in Spokane. A recent graduate of Gonzaga’s School of Law, Anne took a much needed break from studying for the bar exam to attend the parade and rally.

“It was a beautiful day,” she said. “I love the Spokane weather for pride. It’s always been incredible. I was so inspired by the Odyssey Youth. To see so many kids out there was amazing.”

I asked Anne what she liked and disliked about Spokane’s pride rally. She said that as a single person she’d found that it was very hard to meet people in the area. “They all are in their little zones. I see them walking around the booths for about an hour and then they leave. If it was up to me, one thing that I would add for next year is something for the singles, like a singles café or something.” Anne McLaughlin envisions a French-style café at which single persons could sign up and names would be randomly drawn and announced by the MC. The participants would then go on “speed dates” with a variety of like-minded people. She thinks in this way that the shyness barrier might be

broken down and allow for singles to just meet and talk. She also suggested with a chuckle that a good place for this would be right between the stage and the beer garden.

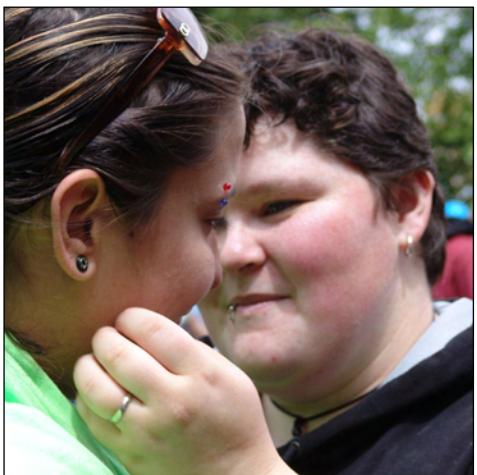
OutSpoken’s Bonnie Aspen said that Anne should look for lots of singles activities in the upcoming “Fall into Pride” events that are currently being planned for the week around National Coming Out Day in October. OutSpokane is looking for community partners to host a speed dating type of activity prior to the LGBTQ Film Festival. They had considered a singles activity for the pride festival this year, but the details were not worked out in time for the event.

The Karaoke Battle of the Bars contest drew the largest audience of all

This year’s stage events were entertaining, though the audience comprised a shifting membership. Christopher Lawrence, the event’s co-chair, seemed to be everywhere at once: entertaining kids in the family section, then onstage announcing the acts. The Karaoke Battle of the Bars contest drew the largest audience of all, but by the time Jimmy Roland returned to stage at the end of the festival, the crowd had dwindled to just a couple of dozen spectators.

Changes to the pride parade and

Continued on next page.



Spokane Pride 2006 Rainbow Festival

Photos Clockwise: 1) Couple at Rainbow Festival 2) Rainbow Festival participants 3) Giant Ass Drum Corp entertain at the Rainbow Festival 4) Festival Master of Ceremonies, and OutSpokane Co-Chair, Christopher Lawrence dances with Margaret Lehmbeckert 5) Family Carnival at the Rainbow Festival 6) Raging Grannies 7) Steven Sanford with partner, and Stonewall Publisher, Mike Schultz 8) Radical Cheerleaders 9) Rev Dr. Richard Erhardt performs marriage ceremony 10) Author and Spokane Pride Parade Grand Marshal Patricia Nell Warren with photographer Pat Devine



Continued from previous page.

festival being considered for next year include an expansion and re-organization of the festival booths so that the family activity area is not isolated from the main festival. Organizers also plan on getting the word out more aggressively. City involvement is also under consideration. OutSpokane would like to have parade participation from our GLBTQA family members in uniform: the Spokane Police Department, Fire Department, Sheriff's Office, and ambulance service. According to Bridgett Potter, the elected officials who made appearances this year were Mayor Dennis Hession, Senator Lisa Brown, Representative Jim Moeller, and Council President Joe Shogan, who marched in the parade. If any additional elected officials participated, they did not check in, Potter said.

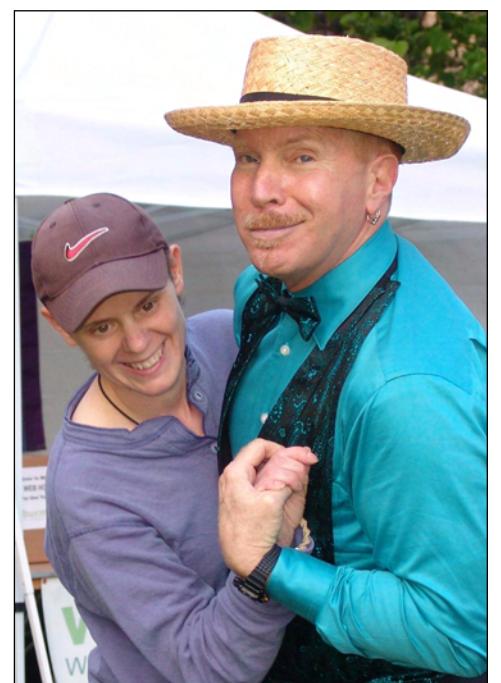
Why is being family-friendly so important to OutSpokane? Because all pride parades are a reflection of the larger community.

One complaint that was raised about this year's Spokane Pride is that although it was a youth-oriented and family-friendly event, the parade and festival were scheduled on what was graduation day for many local high schools. This

made it difficult if not impossible for many high school students, faculty, and GSA advisers to participate. Prior to last year, Spokane Pride had always been scheduled on a Sunday. In 2005, the OutSpokane committee moved the parade and rally to Saturday to encourage greater participation. This, it would seem, might have backfired. Other scheduling problems involve working around other, larger regional pride rallies in Portland and Seattle. The board of OutSpokane has taken these concerns to heart and will try in future to schedule the event to garner maximum participation.

Why is being family-friendly so important to OutSpokane? Because all pride parades are a reflection of the larger community. San Francisco, New York and Seattle are outrageous and often over-the-top with men in thongs, women with electrical tape over their exposed breasts, and all sorts of wild and crazy fun. OutSpokane is oriented more toward supporting families and children; our events are less about the single life.

I asked Bridgett Potter her thoughts *Continued on next page.*



Other Spokane Pride Events

Photos Clockwise: 1) Steven Sanford on EMCC cruise #1 2) EMCC Cruise #1, Coeur d'Alene Lake, ID 3) Mason Pettit and Connie Sagona 4) Dempsey's PR Manager Leonard Jenkins flanked by Blow Me Bubbles and Cassia at Dempsey's Push For Youth Dinner/Fundraiser 5) Dixie Longate entertains Spokane with her off-broadway show, *Dixie's Tupperware Party* 6) Dixie Longate and Jeremy Bolton 7) PFLAG at the PFLAG Mom & Pop Breakfast at the Merq 8) Margaret Cho performing at Northern Quest Casino, presented by OutSpokane 9) Merq proprietor Dave Lewis at the Customer Appreciation BBQ at the Merq



Continued from previous page.

on the future of the Spokane Pride Parade, and she said she took to heart some advice given by this year's Grand Marshall, the author Patricia Nell Warren. Warren said that the real mission of gay pride often gets lost. To many, it seems to be no more than an excuse to get naked, get drunk, and ask for money. Potter and the rest of the OutSpokane Board want to make sure this does not happen in our city. They are looking for new and different ideas to generate audience interaction while maintaining the family-friendly festive atmosphere. According to Potter, in years to come there will be an increased focus on stage entertainment to keep people's interest and generate more audience participation. The goal will be to keep the audience energized from the beginning of the parade to the end of the festival. This is a tall order, but OutSpokane is up to the challenge!

With strong leadership and a true sense of direction at OutSpokane, we should anticipate the kind of growth that will be welcomed by our community because it genuinely reflects our city's values.

Spokane is a relaxed city, and that is reflected well in our pride parade. The Spokane rally – while small in comparison to Seattle, San Francisco, and New York – is still impressive in terms of participation. Important political figures, organizations like SCRAPS – a pet foster care group from which we had to drag ourselves away since our house is already filled with companion animals – and the foster parent booth reflect well on the diversity and family-oriented nature of Spokane. Pride in our city has come a long way from its humble beginnings, and it continues to grow. With strong leadership and a true sense of direction at OutSpokane, we should anticipate the kind of growth that will be welcomed by our community because it genuinely reflects our city's values.

Jim Jones is a Community activist living in Spokane, author of www.choiceofthepeople.blogspot.com and founder of the monthly LGBTQA social hour Friday Night OUT.



ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

by Christopher Lawrence

Steinbeck lives on at interPLAYERS!

Grapes of Wrath is considered by many to be John Steinbeck's greatest work. I would be hard pressed make such an admission after viewing interPLAYERS' production "Of Mice and Men." It is a rare occasion for this reviewer to drop his analytical perspective and become hypnotized by such outstanding performances as I witnessed here. Steinbeck was an author who focused on the oppressed in this country during a time when hope seemed not to exist.

John Steinbeck, who passed away nearly 38 years ago, would have been proud to see the depth of understanding and high level of storytelling this talented cast has achieved under the gifted and thoughtful direction of Wes Deitrick.

Wes relates that it was the narrative style of Steinbeck "to first transport me to a place where I could see, smell, feel, taste and hear the locations in great detail."

When I read this statement, it reminded me of that first time I had also been transported to another place while reading and was so shocked to realize that I had been unaware of time passing. Thus, often begins the addictive pleasure of reading for many of us.

The power of words can be transformative, whether the words are written or spoken, and Steinbeck's words came to life for everyone in the audience the night I reviewed this work.

The story of two migrant workers who share their lives has some homoerotic undertones and there are allusions to this but it soon becomes clear that the love these two men share is a complicated replacement for familial safety.

George (George Green) is the protector and self-appointed guardian to the mentally and emotionally challenged character of Lenny who is played by Troy Nickerson. Troy's performance is riveting whether he is being the child-like little brother or the terrified and enraged victim who innocently underestimates his own strength. This was the first time I saw Troy take on such a troubled character, and my immense respect for his talent has grown.

George Green's character of George alternated between his loving Lenny and despising the fact that he felt saddled



L-R are: George Green as George, Jaylan Renz as Curley, Troy Nickerson as Lenny, Clarence L. Forech as Crooks, Patrick McHenry-Kroetch as Slim, Dan Anderson as Carlson) and Luke Barats as Whit.

with the responsibility to protect him. This was a solid and nuanced performance that showed his character's heroism and dedication. The dialogue between George and Lenny about their dreams of a place they could have as their own was entrancing and heartwarming.

Candy, the crippled older farmhand was portrayed by Gary Pierce with an understated power that surprised me. His usual (and always delightful) over-the-top characterizations were no where to be found, but he nevertheless elicited rapt attention to the details of Candy's dreams and suffering.

Patrick McHenry-Kroetch as Slim was very authentic in his stoic characterization of the loner farmhand who sticks to his own business and exudes the 'live and let live' attitude of the early 30's.

Clarence Forech as Crooks brought interesting and curmudgeonly texture to the only worker of color. This integral character was Steinbeck's means of reminding us of the racial injustices that were still so prevalent during the depression. It was easy to see the hold Crooks maintained on his dignity as a human being, right along with the pain he had to bear for being a man of color and the resentment which naturally followed.

Whit, played by Luke Barats, showed more subtle reflections of racism in an

otherwise likeable guy. This was contrasted by Curley, played by Jaylan Renz whose Napoleonic Complex gave him an angry and unreasonable two-dimensional style that made it easy to witness his undoing with little sympathy from the audience.

But sympathy was abundant and so was horror as the audience watched this play hurtle toward its tragic and inevitable end.

Ron Ford, Chastity Kolman and Dan Anderson were all strong and the entire cast worked together as an ensemble to bring us a work of art that is far too seldom performed.

Candy's dog, played by Bob (the dog) Deitrick deserves a mention as well, for bringing a sense of realism to the production and a tug of the heartstrings when he made his last exit.

Of interesting note: many of these actors were in the very popular **Laughter on the 23rd Floor** and exemplify the ability of truly wonderful actors to become completely different characters in the way they breathe, move, speak, and think. Audiences often mistake great personality for great acting but the ability to transform oneself from character to character is the true mark of an actor. intePLAYERS has much for which to be thankful.

Sets were effective and the staging was excellent. **Of Mice and Men** finished this season with huge success. (See the next season's schedule in the adjoining article for more information on the 2006-2007 season.)

Congratulations to everyone at interPLAYERS who was involved with this fine production.

As with Steinbeck's classic, you ended with a BANG not a whimper!

Coming Soon 2006-2007



ART's Artistic Director Michael Weaver is planning another incredible line up of productions for the 2006-2007 season at Actors Repertory Theater.

From all accounts this last year was a great season. This is your chance to catch up on some really good theater.

Aug. 24 through Sept. 9, a double header, **Greater Tuna** and **A Tuna Christmas** will blast open the season.

The Shape of Things, a story of love, sex and art opens on Sept. 22 and runs through Oct. 7.

Patty Duke will star in the Northwest premiere of an "hilarious and heartwarming new Christmas comedy," **Together Again for the First Time** from Nov. 24 to Dec. 17, giving everyone a chance to see it before the holidays take the 'fun' out of dysfunction.

On Jan. 12, Eugene O'Neil's **Long Days Journey into Night**, which was awarded both a Tony and a Nobel Prize will grace the Spartan Theater located at Spokane Falls Community College; it will close on Jan. 27.

Moonlight and Magnolias, a smart new comedy from off-Broadway will finish Art's 2006-2007 season, opening on April 6 and closing on April 21.

If you would like to order season or individual tickets or get more information on any of ART's productions, please call them at 509.838.4013 or e-mail at info@actorsreptheatre.com.



...is on vacation
for the summer.
Look for us in the Fall.

COMING SOON

2006-2007

Continued from previous page



Spokane Civic Theatre is celebrating its Diamond Jubilee! The 2006 – 2007 season marks their 60th anniversary!

This year three Main Stage musicals will be presented and one Firth J. Chew Studio musical, written by some of theatre's biggest names, and a couple of surprise original productions by well-known Spokane icons.

Main Stage productions will be:

Goal Crazy, a musical about sports and spring fever will be the Spokane Civic Theatre Academy Summer Musical which was created by Jean Hardie and runs from Aug. 10 through 18.

Singin' in the Rain is based on the MGM Film and will run from Sept. 29 through Oct. 28.

Mame. A musical that carries a young man under the influence of his eccentric aunt into a socialite world of theater with music and lyrics by Jerry Herman will run from Nov. 17 to Dec. 17.

Neil Simon's **Barefoot in the Park** will open on Jan. 12 and run through Feb. 3.

All My Sons, one of Arthur Miller's most favored works will run from Feb. 23 through Mar. 10.

The Nerd by Larry Shue is a madcap farce about an architect living the ideal life with devoted friends and a serious girlfriend. When his old friend who is an ultimate social misfit, comes to visit, everything falls into chaos. Mar. 30 through Apr. 22

The Sound of Music, by Rogers and Hammerstein will play from May 18 through June 17. (I understand that Julie Andrews has not been notified, but we can expect a great production anyway.)

At the Firth J. Chew Studio Theatre:

Isn't It Romantic, by Wendy Wasserstein opens Oct. 20 and closes on Nov. 19.

Assassins (music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim) is a "highly organized and brilliantly composed" musical that features writings from actual and perceived assassins throughout history and will run from Jan. 26 through Feb. 18

The Cover of Life by RT Robinson, runs March 9 through 31. "Life is a magazine, but real life is tough."

Dusk by Bryan Harnetiaux will run from April 27 through May 18.

Season or individual ticket rates are available by going to their box office or calling 509/325-2507 or 800/446-9576, or through TicketsWest at 800-325-SEAT (7328).

InterPLAYERS THEATER

With such a successful ending to a good season, it looks like interPLAYERS has set the bar mighty high for themselves. Wes Deitrick, the new artistic director is planning to top this year with the following offerings for 2006-2007:

Ellen Travolta and Jack Bannon will star in William Inge's famous **Bus Stop** this September 14, when passengers wait out a snowstorm. Marilyn Monroe's presence as a vulnerable chanteuse in the film created an icon in America. Closes October 1.

Woman in Black, the story of a man who believes he is cursed opens on Oct. 12 and closes Oct. 29.

Nov. 9 through 26, **Moon Over Buffalo debuts**. This very funny comedy in the vein of interPLAYERS' wonderful production of **Inspecting Carol** 18 months ago, should be delightful.

Driving Miss Daisy, a heartwarming tale of inter-racial/inter-class understanding and loyalty will play from Jan. 18 through Feb. 4.

Six Dance Lessons in Six Weeks is an introspective story about learning lessons of more than one kind and plays in March, followed by Arthur Miller's **The Price**. Miller's penchant for pointing out sibling rivalry and dysfunction is ever present in this play about two brothers deciding what is to be done with the family furniture. Opens April 5 and closes April 22.

The season concludes in May with **Ruthless!** Promoted as "**The Bad Seed** meets **All About Eve** and **Gypsy** (gone bad)", this "zany musical" promises plenty of grim humor. May 10 through 27.

For a season subscription or individual tickets call (509) 455-PLAY or e-mail heather@interplayers.com.

Box Office Hours are Noon - 5 p.m. Wed. - Sat.. The box office remains open on performance days until curtain time.



GLBT Book Group
 Spokane's GLBT Book Group meets the first Wednesday monthly in the second floor conference room of Auntie's Bookstore. Facilitator Julie Smith says review sessions begin at 7 pm. Upcoming review sessions include: **Annie Freeman's Fabulous Traveling Funeral** by Kris Radish on July 5 and **Idaho Code** by Joan Opyr on Aug. 2

CenterStage Does 'Wacky'

Tim Behrens, Artistic Director of CenterStage, is currently directing seven very short comedies by David Ives. The show, entitled **The Wacky World of David Ives**, plays most Thursdays and Fridays at CenterStage through mid-August. Since **WWDI** opens in a few days and sounds like the edgy sort of show with great appeal to the GLBTQA audience, I asked Tim to share some of his comments and a bit about the directing process with us:

For me, art creates meaning out of feeling. Be it dance, theatre, music or singing in the shower, that artistic impetus to make a statement or take a stand, starts with feeling and ends, if you're lucky, with some kind of meaning.

In theatre, this process must concern itself with language, the medium that can

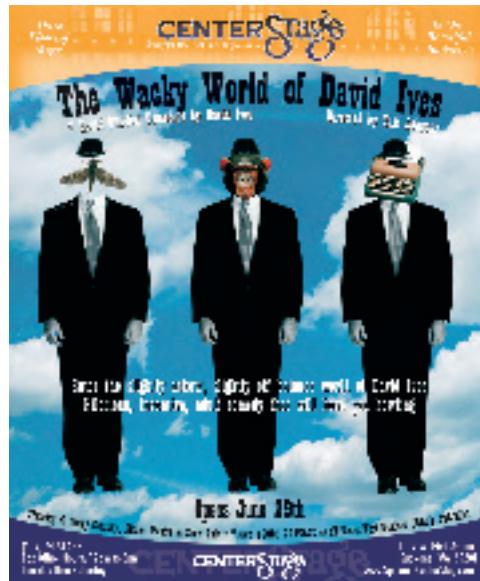
transform the author's intent into something of meaning for the audience. The director's job is to use those words to find and chart the way so that the cast and crew can allow this transformation to happen.

The works of David Ives are particularly appropriate to this dramatic process because he is consumed with language: its ability to communicate and its failure to signify anything. Ives is extremely funny and sees things from the edge with a skewed viewpoint – almost cubist.

In **Words, Words, Words**, three chimps are placed in a laboratory equipped with three typewriters: they are expected to write, out of sheer chance and randomness, some of the great works of English literature. Currently they are working on Hamlet. We, along with a lab-coated researcher, get a chance to monitor their progress. Somewhere along the line we might just get the idea that we are watching ourselves at work.

The show opens with **Sure Thing**, a kind of **Groundhog Day** depiction of a pick-up. A bell interrupts the pursuer each time he makes a faux pas in his initial approach to his intended. Then he gets to start again. Using different words to say the same thing. Sometimes he lasts longer than a few seconds before the bell rings. Somewhere in the middle of these missed opportunities, we realize we are witnessing our own "first date" progress over the years, all collapsed into a very few minutes.

So it goes with Ives: we see ourselves



constantly reflected in his character's struggles to use the language to their own advantage, to make their own discoveries. And when we do, the reflection is so clear, so honest about our own blemishes, our stupid vanities, our false intensities... that the only way out is laughter. Ives wit is full of parody, sarcasm and love.

Some of the requisite distinctions for actors involved in such a play are precise comic timing, clear speech and articulation, the ability to create or turn off a relationship with the slip of the tongue, good physical comedy and, most of all, an appreciation for the way in which we all continually strive to become something we are not...by using language we think we understand but can never truly master.

The cast of **The Wacky World** was a delight to work with. Seeing Scott Finlayson and Buddy Todd male bonding while serving as pyramid builders is more than a treat. Following the antics of Juli Wellkman as the youngest chimp in the lab was a joy to see develop. Working with Skyler McKinley as he transforms himself into a typewriter has been a kick. I cried one night when Buddy and Stephanie Brush together mastered the movement/language/speed changes of the incredibly complex piece **English Made Simple**. And what can I say: when Laura VanDerLinde ultimately became the agitating washing machine she was meant to be, it was cause for all of us to burst out in pure and prolonged joyous laughter.

And that's what these pieces are meant to do for you: create fascinating holes in your thought patterns that can be filled with laughter.

Remember: these are pieces about language, so there is some adult language. Consequently when the pyramid slaves run across an item they don't yet know the word for because it hasn't been invented, they might just have to call it a f**ker. But the language is never mean, banal or gratuitous. Ives constantly reminds us that everything is just words. something all of us are up against and fail at almost every day. ...Unless we're mimes.

...Or some other word.

REVIEWS & PREVIEWIEWS

BOOKS & VIDEOS

Christopher Lawrence, A & E Editor

An Early Frost

director, John Erman

Wolfe Video, 97 minutes

Heralded as "gripping" and "unforgettable," *An Early Frost* debuted on November 11, 1985 on the National Broadcasting Company network. It was the first American made-for-television movie and the second prime-time dramatic program to acknowledge the presence and spread of AIDS in the 1980s. Knowing they were about to open the eyes of Mr. and Mrs. America to the very sensitive material regarding both homosexuality and AIDS, writers Dan Lipman and Ron Cowen met regularly with NBC's Broadcast Standards and Practices department about the script. Such painstaking development was extremely unusual for most made-for-television movies.

NBC gathered a cast of actors—Aidan Quinn, Genna Rowlands, Ben Gazzara, and Sylvia Sidney who were known more for their roles on the big screen to help give this groundbreaking script the weight and carriage it would need to be accepted by the public. It became the prototypical AIDS narrative for millions of Americans who were, up to then, uninformed about and indifferent to the burgeoning epidemic.

The homosexual relationship between the two handsome lovers, Michael (Aidan Quinn) and his partner, Peter (D.W. Moffet), is presented as a same sex xerox of a customary and unoriginal, but anti-septic heterosexual marriage. What the film loses in its portrayal of their relationship it regains for its accuracy about AIDS. The movie successfully provided current information about transmission and treatment of HIV and, more importantly, dispelled irrational fears about rampant contamination and instant fatality.

Michael's parents were so programmed and invested in being the perfect Ozzie and Harriet family knew nothing about the fact that their son was closeted. The entire family dynamics are devastated when Michael discovers that he has AIDS.

For the very first time viewers were compelled to imagine feeling emotionally affected and morally engaged by the suffering of an entire family upon learning that one of them has AIDS.

An Early Frost is being released on July 18. This one deserves a special place in every library.

A literary triumph that surpasses generations and stands on its own even today. If you choose not to buy it, you will still want to rent it.

Cuddle up with a box of Kleenex and enjoy this fine drama.

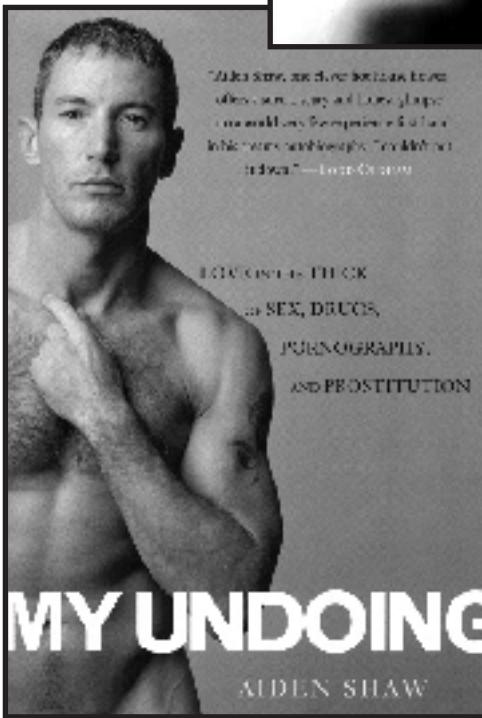
My Undoing

by Aiden Shaw

Carrol & Graff Publishers, 305 pages

I looked forward to reading Aiden's autobiography because I have been fascinated by his on-screen persona. Star of many porn films and touting a huge fandom both here and in Europe, he appears to have a certain amount of artistic talent in several areas other than porn and has written a couple of novels which I have not read.

His allusion to the musical talents of his group, **Whatever**, drawing audiences are self-admittedly the result of the size of his erect penile unit and the beautiful



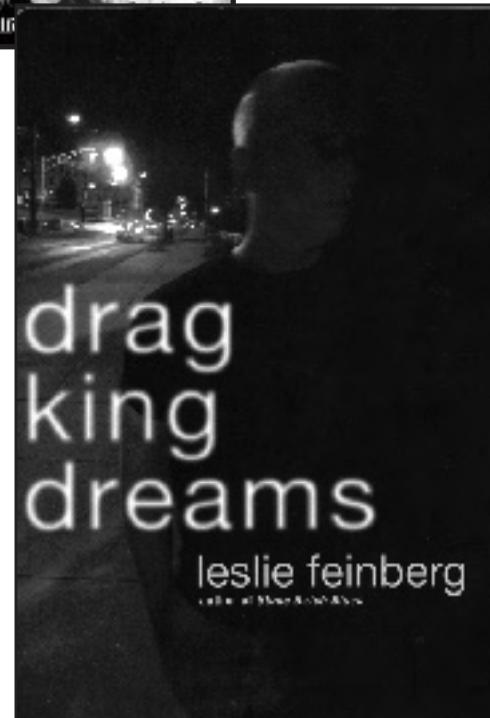
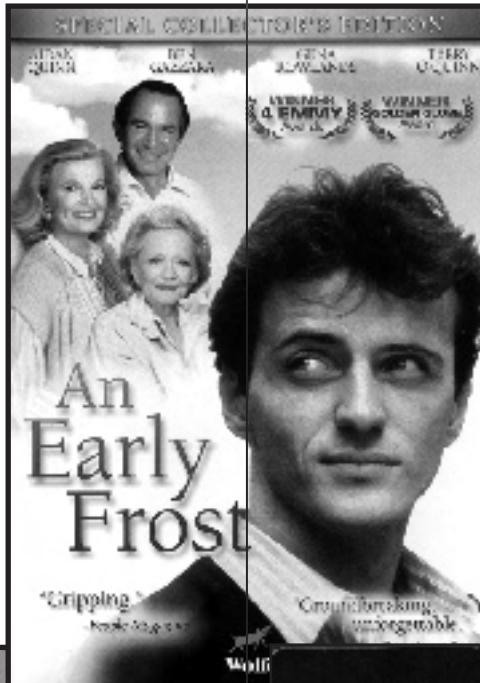
body with which he was blessed. According to him, their audiences were mostly confused. And I am too...

The famous Chi-Chi Larue (famed porn director drag diva), Michael Musto (Village Voice) and others gave shining words of adulation regarding his brevity, unapologetic honesty and intelligence. I suspect they must all be fans of his 'films' or friends who move in the same circles. He brags about consuming massive amounts of crystal meth, cocaine, 'K', Ecstasy, GHB and alcohol mixed together in varying recipes designed to remove the mind from humanity and destroy the body. (Shaw glibly praises methamphet-

amine for keeping that tiny layer of fat off his tummy in order to appear as the healthy stud he portrays.)

I'll grant you that he is an educated man and has sensibilities that reflect great possibility, but his uncaring attitude and amoral conduct only glorify the diseases of addiction and Sexually Transmitted Infections he has garnered along the way.

Nowhere does his writing engage the reader to think, hope or dream. The chapters pertaining to his accident that lead to months of rehabilitation had not one epiphany or moment when he engaged me with the urgency of life and the creation of happiness.



Instead, this is the story of a self-absorbed, self-centered, depressed porn star/prostitute/wannabe musician who continues to waste his life in search of untenable love while hurtling his body, mind and soul toward destruction on someone else's dime.

I found nothing of real worth or any literate value between the covers of his book.

In fact, I was so disappointed that I doubt I will ever be able to enjoy one of his 'films,' again.

Read it if you must. You have been warned.

Drag King Dreams

by Leslie Feinberg

Carrol & Graf Publishers, 302 pages

A couple of decades ago, I read Feinberg's first novel, *Stone Butch Blues*. Written with gritty authenticity, she described growing up as a butch lesbian at a time when you could be killed by cops or more traditional bad guys. The startling end of this story revealed that the heroine would become transgender.

Drag King Dreams is the follow up book to this, I suppose. Max is a transgender man who only goes out at night because he is more likely to be ridiculed in the daytime.

Evidently, it is not easy for Max to pass as a man, but he also risks confrontation if he uses a woman's rest room. He chooses not to use hormones and most of his friends are Male to Female or Female to Male transgender people.

Max, as the narrator, never describes himself, although we know he has short hair. And it was never clear why he cannot pass as a man or if he even wants to.

Max remembers his mother having been poorly treated as a garment worker in New York City and the only persons who treat Max nicely outside of his small circle of transgender friends are a disabled relative and a Muslim neighbor.

There are a couple of sub-plots that lead nowhere but the real story is Max's reawakened political activism following the tragedy of September 11, 2001.

Protesting the Bush administration's war on Iraq and the subsequent suspension of basic civil liberties at home arrests are made. Feinberg seems to be addressing the issue for those of us who feel helpless to stop the war.

Is getting arrested the best we can do to protest the war in Iraq? At least Max is doing something, after all.

Feinberg included more contentious issues for as well, such as American support for Israel, which disgusts Max as a secular Jew.

The realism is still gritty in this book, but it seemed more light weight than *Stone Butch Blues*. Politically correct anecdotes that are sprinkled throughout the story seem forced.

There is so little of anything like *Drag King Dreams* out there and I am glad that Feinberg wrote this book. At the same time, I wish there had been more depth in her characters and perhaps a clearer journey for Max. — Chris X.

Self-described as "your everyday average lesbian" and also a member of Auntie's GLBT Book Club. They meet the first Wednesday of each month in the second floor conference room.

REVIEWS & PREVIEWS

MUSIC

Reviews by Graham Ames

Loose

Nelly Furtado
Geffen Records

Sonic adventure abounds on this third release by Canadian/Portuguese pop artist Nelly Furtado. Underscoring the importance of the producer in the recording process, Timbaland fills this album with thumping beats and sudden shifts in tone which surprise and delight. Moving easily through and around hip-hop, tribal, reggaeton and even pop ballads, Furtado and Timbaland unleash a fun-house of sounds and moods that engage the mind as well as the bootie-shaker.

Lead-off single "Promiscuous" bumps and grinds in the same groove as the Peas' "My Humps." Soon-to-follow single "Maneater" demands a physical response with its driving voodoo beat. The infectious bilingual tunes "No Hay Igual" and "Te Busque" reflect the album's recording in Miami. Even the Madonna-esque confessions of "All Good Things (Come To An End)" feel perfect in tone for this remarkable collection of 13 songs, all co-written by Furtado herself.

The engineering on this disc is amazing, with driving drums and bass that exceed my home stereo speakers' capabilities. (Those with huge car stereos who like to go "bumping," take note: this album will rattle windows for blocks when played on the right system.) With cutting-edge production, soundscapes that push the envelope and a wicked sense of humor, **Loose** is a great showcase of creative forces inspiring each other, and us, to have a fabulous time.

Harry On Broadway, Act I

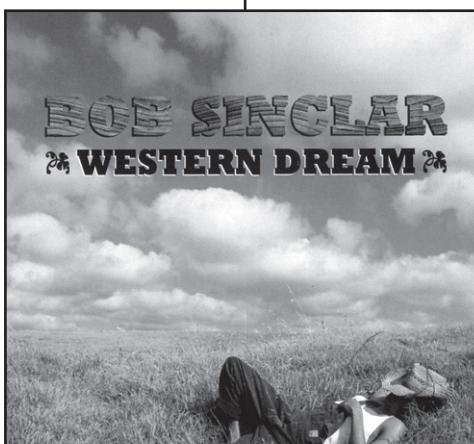
Harry Connick, Jr.
Columbia Records

Harry's Broadway experiences have been mixed. **Thou Shalt Not**, for which he wrote the music, closed its limited run with negative reviews, possibly suffering from opening just two weeks after 9/11. **The Pajama Game**, in which he starred, won the Tony award for Best Musical Revival and was the best reviewed show of the year. This two-disc set contains the original cast album of Pajama and an album of jazz quartet vocal settings of songs from Shalt featuring Harry and Kelli O'Hara, the female lead from Pajama.

When it was first staged in 1954, Pajama was huge, even spawning pop hits for Rosemary Clooney and Patti Page. It is part love story, featuring Harry and Kelli surrounded by a brilliant cast, and part union manifesto, as the main plot involves garment factory workers demand-

ing a seven-and-one-half cent raise in their hourly wage. The 25 songs include the full score from the recent production, featuring delicious big band jazz instrumental sections, presumably being filled with dancing on stage. The energy is palpable, especially during "Steam Heat" and "Hernando's Hideaway." Fans of Harry or musicals or jazz will all enjoy this crisp, alive cast album.

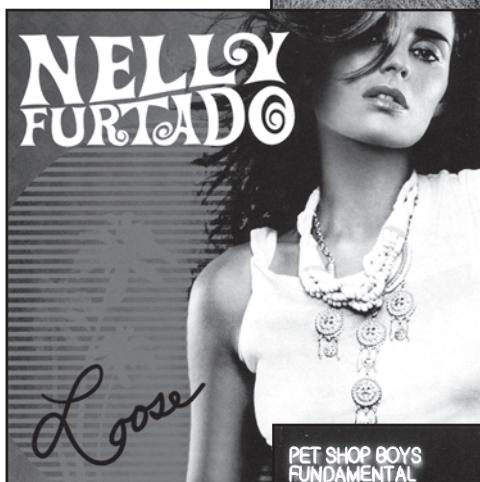
Shalt is equally excellent, although entirely different. This is not a cast recording. Instead, the 11 tunes are complex jazz numbers featuring Harry's quartet with Harry and Kelli on vocals. The real discovery here is O'Hara. After singing the Sondheim-opera of **The Light in the Piazza** and the straightforward show tunes of Pajama, she emerges here as a stunning jazz singer, with tinges of Ella color-



Europeans have such a different view on pop music from Americans, it is little wonder that so few worldwide artists can crack the U.S. charts. Given the title of this new album by French House pioneer Sinclar (rhymes with "car") and the publicity push about the new album, Bob has his eye set firmly on crossing the Atlantic.

To this end, he has assembled a melting pot of sounds and ideas ranging from country to reggae, afrobeat to britpop, and filtered, mixed, strained and finally laid down 12 tracks which strive

to unite music under the umbrella of gentle love-filled Eurodance pop. It is a bold plan, and he has powerful allies, including Gary "Nesta" Pine from The Wailers taking vocals on "Love Generation," the FIFA 2006 World Cup Theme Song.



ing her own unique style. Perfect for the late dusk of hot summer evenings, this album evokes downstairs clubs and aged scotch over ice.

Priced somewhat higher than a single disc but less than making two separate purchases, **Harry On Broadway** could pull Broadway fans into jazz, and vice versa. No matter what reason you buy these CDs, hearing both sides of this most versatile of performers is a treat and should not be missed.

Western Dream

Bob Sinclar
Tommy Boy Entertainment

This is an expert working his craft to the fullest of his ability, summoning a new genre out of nowhere: Ameridance pop. Or so he hopes.

America has never recovered from the revolt against disco, and as such tends to shun tracks that wander too close to techno or trance. By grounding his grooves in other genres, Sinclar showcases the 'danceability' underlying the music which already surrounds us, challenging us to accept that our mind may already put that driving techno beat into everything we hear. As tracks progress, regardless of where they may start or end, they spend some time deep in 'clubland' and the effect is not at all

jarring. Rather, it seems expected and natural.

If there ever was a real wake up call for the typical U.S. music listener to start paying attention to what the mainstream dismisses as 'dance music,' it would be this record. It educates while it entertains, surprises by subtle measures and invites joy and love into one's life. Longtime dance music fans will immediately revel in the creative fusions. Newcomers may require a few more listens, but so many of the tracks are so immediately appealing, it is easy to hit "play" one more time.

Fundamental

Pet Shop Boys
Rhino Records

This seems to be the year for releases by the elder statesmen of music. PSB have been together for more than 20 years now, and **Fundamental** shows they might have slowed down a bit, but they haven't lost any of the brilliance that has made them a major force in synthpop.

Teaming up with producer Trevor Horn (**Frankie Goes To Hollywood, The Art Of Noise, Seal**), Neil Tennant and Chris Lowe have created their most cinematic album since **Behaviour**, full of the lush strings and layers of sound with which Horn imbues most of his projects. Neatly updating their classic sound for the new century, the 12 tracks are at once familiar and fascinating. The irony quotient is lower than usual, replaced by political outrage. Neil rages about the squelching of personal freedoms (the fierce "Integral"), immigration policies ("Indefinite Leave To Remain") and even Tony Blair's friendship with President Bush ("I'm With Stupid"). Chris' keyboards are beautifully augmented by Horn's studio wizardry, and it is easy to hear why his complex, Debussy-inspired compositions continue to inspire generations of musicians.

PSB continue to inspire the queer community, too. "The Sodom And Gomorrah Show" speaks of discovering freedom in the forbidden, as Neil sings "I realized / the meaning of the show / you've got to love / to learn to live / where angels fear to tread / I did it and I don't regret the day." **Fundamental** is dedicated to Mahmoud Asgari and Ayas Marhoni, two Iranian youths who were executed for being homosexual.

It should be impossible: a synthpop album full of mature themes and emotionally complex music that can still make you want to get up and shake your bootie. **Fundamental** is exactly that, and seems to get better with every listen. Let Pet Shop Boys take you back to basics this summer: get **Fundamental**.

YOUTH FORUM *continued from front page.*



Forum Panelists L-R: Mathew Inman, Ann Marie Floch, Bryce Hughes, Courtney VanWinkle, Dr. John Matthews, and Derek Gerow. Ramon Alvarez, Executive Director of Odyssey Youth Center, moderated the event.

have-you) and they have the “right” opinions about these things, but they’re totally, completely complacent about doing anything.”

Having been earlier “outed as straight,” Inman posed his own challenge, “Where is the straight community?” and went on to say, “There is a resistance in me to expecting women to have to fight for women’s rights and GLBTQ folks to have to fight for rights. I feel it’s on the rest of us [the straight community].”

The larger society’s long-standing and almost totally erroneous characterization of gay men as sexual predators impacts intergenerational interactions, suggested Eastern Washington University assistant professor of social work John Matthews, Ph.D., a panelist who has studied GLBT youth homelessness and whose current research focuses on GLBT parents.

This negative perception presents a barrier to those who might otherwise consider adopting, becoming foster parents or mentoring youth, he said.

The fear runs both directions, said audience member and OYC intern Ryan Olson.

Youth panelists shared stories of fear and harassment as well as proud coming-outs.

“I never thought they’d have a GSA at Shadle,” said panelist Derek Gerow, 20, a 2003 graduate of Shadle Park High School.

A high school friend was out, he recalled. “Everyone knew him as ‘the gay kid.’” He was routinely called “fag” and threatened in various ways. A defining moment for Gerow came when this friend was accosted in a hallway by another student who said he was going to follow him home and beat him up. Two teachers were present and did nothing.

“They just stood there and watched it,” he recounted, which convinced him “I don’t think this is the time or the place to come out.”

Gerow continued, “I saw so much [involving other gays] that it scared the crap out of me. I was not going to tell anyone. I’d hear them talking. It was so hateful.” Finally, he added, “My friend actually got followed home one day.”

After graduating from high school, Gerow came out and soon thereafter got involved with OYC. As an Odyssey intern, he organized the 2006 Lobby Day in Olympia. Sex education reforms advocated by the youth in January remain important to him.

A 20-minute presentation by representatives from Planned Parenthood at OYC taught him more about sexually transmitted infections than he learned in 13 years of formal schooling, he said.

Another panelist, East Valley High School senior Courtney VanWinkle, has had an easier time of it, though she has

been the target of offensive name-calling. She came out as bisexual when she was 14 or 15.

Now 18, she took the initiative

and launched a GSA at EVHS this past school year. Despite tepid support from school administrators (the club is not district-sanctioned or funded), the GSA took part in the Day of Silence (April 26), which, said VanWinkle, “went so well – well beyond my expectations.”

A 2004 graduate of Gonzaga University, panelist Bryce Hughes, 24, has run the GLBT Resource Center at the Jesuit institution for two years and served as volunteer coordinator for Quest Youth Group. He described a multi-phased coming out.

At the Catholic high school he

attended in Billings, Mont., no one was out, he acknowledged. Though he first discussed the possibility of being gay at 16 or 17, he denied the truth to classmates who pegged him as gay and occasionally subjected him to ugly name-calling.

He was out at GU, which “wasn’t quite as oppressive an environment.” Though Hughes still considers orientation “a hot issue on campus,” he called abortion and contraception more divisive issues for the Catholic community at GU and elsewhere.

The groundbreaking program “Will & Grace” was all the rage when Hughes came out to his parents in high school. His mother said, “I want you to think about this and make sure this is who you are and not just who you are told to be.”

“My mom didn’t say, ‘I really want you to be sure that straight is who you are.’ We need to get to the point where that doesn’t happen,” inserted Inman, referring to the tendency of parents of GLBTQs to caution their offspring out of fear for their safety and happiness.

VanWinkle’s mother Laurie did not voice this concern. When daughter Courtney came out to her, armed with research papers and resource materials, the elder VanWinkle said, “I don’t need this. You’re my daughter and I love you and I’m going to support you no matter what you do.”

Several speakers took aim at the media. VanWinkle, seven at the time, marveled at the frenzy that surrounded the coming out of Ellen Degeneres in 1997. She chastised the media for glorifying the coming out of celebrities, raising orientation above all other qualities that define them. On the other hand, she conceded that the outing of gay celebrities probably helped youth come out.

Matthews, a generation removed, recalled the celebratory mood that encircled Ellen’s coming out and told of his first exposure to a gay person on television: a figure in silhouette behind a screen, upon which two words were superimposed, “admitted homosexual.” Change has come fast, he concluded.

Floch carried the point further. “The youth of today think they are normal. They really cannot figure out what’s wrong. And the allies they have see them as normal. Now the older community here, we weren’t seeing ourselves as normal, so it’s a whole different way of thinking.”

She earlier referenced a news story about rioting gays in Moscow. A young protester had declared, “We can’t keep living in the shadows.” Today’s youth make the same proclamation, she said, as do their allies.

Floch noted, “There are over 300,000 GSAs in the country now, with three new ones forming each day.”

Program moderator Ramon Alvarez,

OYC executive director, prefaced questions to panelists with facts about GLBTQ youth, some drawn from an opening Powerpoint presentation that overviewed coming out statistics, research on school safety, educational commitment and social-emotional health, and some reflecting OYC youth profiles.

“Young people who are coming out aren’t necessarily identifying with sexual orientation,” he noted. “They just said, ‘Today I fall in love with her and tomorrow I may fall in love with him.’”

On average, OYC is seeing 500 youth visits per month. Sixty percent are female, 40 percent male; 31 percent are youth of color; 80 percent are youth between the ages of 15 and 17.

Odyssey gets calls from parents of GLBTQ kids as young as 10, the age when many youth first become aware of same-sex attractions (Donna Futterman, M.D., and Caitlin Ryan, M.S.W.). They are referred to PFLAG for support, said Alvarez. “There are no other services here.”

With increased visibility, said Matthews, comes greater demand for services. “Providers need to know specific issues of the population.” He cautioned against a one-size-fits-all mentality, concluding, “Competence in serving the

LGBT community is different for the transgendered.”

The “T” in the alphabet soup GLBTQA frequently gets short shrift. Rogers High School history

teacher Peter Perkins summarized the dilemma: “All too often as a community we’re asked to carve off certain parts of the community to make it more acceptable and palatable to other people and I think that when we do that, when we make these sacrifices, we’re doing it for the short-term gain, and the long-term effect is we become fractionalized. ...What do we end up with in the end ... if we leave people along the way?”

Hughes said, “We have a problem defining the community because we have so many different people with so many different experiences.”

“Our community is not just about sex,” said Ryan Olson. “It’s about loving each other for who we are.”

The forum concluded with a call to action. Participants were urged to contact their local schools and District 81 superintendent Brian Benzel to demand that all youth be free of bullying and harassment, so that all students can feel safe at school at all times.

Participants were also asked to demand that first responders [school counselors, social workers and family advocates] be trained to deal with GLBTQ youth issues.

Catherine Willis, a freelance writer/editor and community advocate, coordinated this event for Stonewall News and Odyssey Youth Center.

90% of GLBT students have been harassed or assaulted during the past year. –Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network

National & International

News in a nutshell

Lawmakers, Professional Groups Dispute Pentagon Document Calling Gays Mentally Ill

SANTA BARBARA, CA - Several members of Congress have sent a letter to Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld asking him to review a recently discovered Pentagon Instruction classifying homosexuality as a mental disorder, along with mental retardation, impulse control disorders and personality disorders. The document, which was found by researchers at the Center for the Study of Sexual Minorities in the Military (CSSMM), a think tank at the University of California, Santa Barbara, is a Department of Defense Instruction that was signed by the Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness in 1996 and re-certified as "current" in 2003.

<http://www.gaylinkcontent.com/storydetail2.cfm?storyid=9730>

Gay Games add sponsors

(Chicago Tribune) - ESPN and Gatorade have signed on as sponsors of Chicago's Gay Games, and singer Andy Bell of the British pop duo Erasure is slated to perform at the opening ceremony July 15, organizers recently said.

Bill Greaves, the city's liaison to the lesbian-gay-bisexual-transgender community, saluted the new sponsors for supporting the event despite previous opposition by some anti-gay groups to sponsorships by Kraft, Harris Bank and Walgreens.

Gatorade has agreed to be the official sports drink of the Games and provide sideline hydration at all sports. ESPN has agreed to underwrite the opening ceremony fireworks at Soldier Field.

Gay Games spokesman Kevin Boyer said the sponsorships, which now number more than 300, "demonstrate the mainstream support for the Gay Games in the private sector."

'Reformed' gays demand a voice in America's schools

WASHINGTON (www.telegraph.co.uk) - Angered by what they see as the promotion of homosexuality in schools, thousands of American parents are banding together to demand that their children be taught that it is possible to stop being gay.

Organizations such as Parents and Friends of Ex-Gays and Gays (PFOX), Jews Offering New Alternatives to Homosexuality (Jonah) and Inqueery are trying to ensure that their view is aired alongside gay rights messages.

BYU policy reminiscent of Nazi Germany

By Jim Jones
Special to Stonewall News Northwest

Brigham Young University values

Ironic that BYU opposes freedom of speech and yet supports a marriage amendment on the grounds that freedom of speech is stifled.

BYU represents the elimination of civil rights among their employees and students that is reminiscent of Germany in the years prior to 1933 as the Nazi's rose to power. The NSDAP (Nazi party) had infiltrated nearly all aspects of German culture,

any opposition to the message of the NSDAP was stifled by firing of employees, violence, arrests, and harassment. The systematic abuse of civil rights led to state sanctioned discrimination implemented by the Reichstag in March of 1933 with the "Enabling Act" followed shortly thereafter in April 1 of 1933 with the "Law

for the Restoration of the Professional Civil Service" which was essentially the legalized beginning of the end of civil liberties and freedoms in Germany prior to WWII.

BYU policy is surprisingly similar to the policy of higher education institutions in Germany at this time.

Prof Dropped For Opposing Anti-Gay Amendment

The "it's our way or no way" attitude on both sides of the political spectrum puts us and this country on a slippery slope.

A Brigham Young University professor who publicly spoke out against the Mormon Church's support for a constitutional amendment banning gay marriage has been told he will not be returning to the school this fall.

Earlier last month Brigham Young disciplined five students for taking part in a pro-gay demonstration by Soulforce. The students joined members of the Equality Ride for two days of demonstrations

against the school's policy on gays in April.

In Germany in the 30's it was not the Reichstag, Chancellor Hitler, or President von Hindenburg that set the tone for the abuse and loss of civil rights. It started with institutions such as colleges that systematically implemented sanctions against any employee or student who disagreed with the NSDAP political agenda.

BYU is not the lone university that is stifling political expression and opinion of its faculty, staff, and students. Many organizations from universities to privately owned businesses are now taking up the same mantra of oppression of free speech and harassment of staff who do not share the same political beliefs. It is important to note that this is not unique to the conservative spectrum; (although the most outrageous abuses seem to come from conservative extremists) liberal extremists are just as guilty. The "it's our way or no way" attitude on both sides of the political spectrum puts us and this country on a slippery slope.

Jim Jones is a Community activist living in Spokane, author of www.choiceofthepeople.blogspot.com and founder of the monthly LGBTQ social hour Friday Night OUT.

ODYSSEY Youth Center

Do you Believe...

EVERY CHILD should feel **SAFE** in their school?

EVERY CHILD should feel a sense of belonging in their school?

EVERY CHILD has the right to an educational process free of harassment or discrimination?

Support Odyssey's Safe Schools For All Initiative
www.odysseyyouth.org

-Write to Spokane Public Schools and express your support for the safety of all students, their right to a sense of belonging and their right to an education. C/O Equity Department, Spokane Public Schools, 200 N. Bernard St. Spokane WA 99201.

-E-mail Brian Benzel, Superintendent of Spokane Schools, and tell him you believe in equality for All students regardless of their gender, race, ethnicity, gender identity, sexual orientation, religion, culture or creed. brian.benzel@spokaneschools.org or call 509-354-5900

-Support the work of Odyssey Youth Center. For more information call 509-325-3637.

The Lilac City Men's Project

...build community...

...find community...

socials...outdoor activities
wellness groups...relationships
staying healthy...having fun

Bike the Hiawatha Trail

with us on July 15!

Call or e-mail for details.

What's happening in July

> Hiking Group 1st & 3rd Sun <
> Planning Mtgs 1st & 3rd Thurs <
> Social Hours 2nd & 4th Weds <
> Wellness Groups now forming <
Bowling is on hiatus through Summer. See you in the Fall!

See Web site for details.

For more information:

info@lilaccitymensproject.org
or call 267-9444

www.lilaccitymensproject.org

LCMP is a program of Spokane AIDS Network
Funded by Spokane-Kootenai Pride, Until There's A Cure,
Washington State Department of Health,
and private donations.

A conversation with Patricia Nell Warren

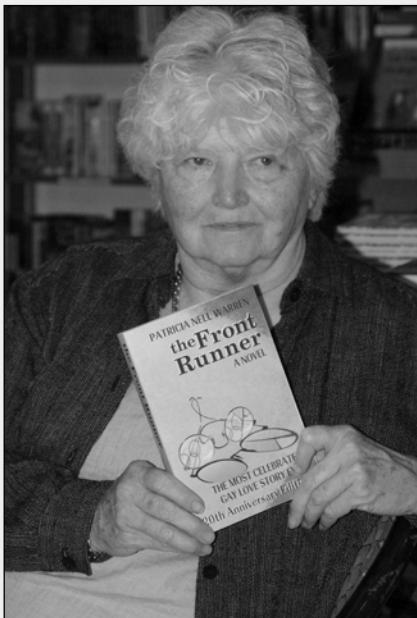


Photo by Pat Devine

Author Patricia Nell Warren, Grand Marshal in Spokane's 2006 Pride Parade, is pictured above holding her landmark gay novel *Front Runner* during a booksigning at Auntie's Bookstore in Spokane.

Following Spokane's Pride Parade, Warren responds to six questions posed by Stonewall Publisher, Mike Schultz.

SCHULTZ: Do you see yourself as one of the characters in the *Front Runner*?

WARREN: The best way to describe where my most important characters come from, inside of me, is to say that they're amalgams of different people that I've known. For instance, I grew up in a socially conservative atmosphere, and Harlan Brown is a mirror of many conservative men that I knew, especially those who had served in the armed forces. In the Sixties and Seventies, most Americans thought of gay men as liberals associated with the arts. So I wanted to dramatize the deeply conflicted journey to an openly gay identity by a man from the other side of the social spectrum.

SCHULTZ: What inspired you to write a novel about gay love (when few people knew much about it at the time)?

WARREN: In the early 1970s I was working at the Reader's Digest as a book editor, and one of the books I helped condense was *LOVE STORY*, by Erich Segal. I was already inching towards coming out, and had read many of the gay-themed books that were in print at that time. There was the moment when I asked myself, "Why aren't there any love stories for gay people?"

SCHULTZ: Who inspired you when you wrote the book *Front Runner*?

WARREN: At the time, I had been competing in long distance running, which was a new sport then. I was also one of the activists among the women marathoners who were trying to get the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) to sanction women to run the same distances as men (i.e. up to 50 miles). In the midst of all this activism, I had been running into men and women

who were closet cases like me, and realized that the subject of gay people in sports had never been written about at all. A big novel was needed.

SCHULTZ: Who inspires you now?

WARREN: Writing is second nature to me -- it's something I am, not just something I do. There are still a lot of wonderful stories to be told.

SCHULTZ: What is your impression of Spokane's gay community?

WARREN: I am impressed by its cultural liveliness and its clarity about where it wants to go. In my many years of author touring, I've been at many Pride festivals across the country, and Spokane is one of the best.

SCHULTZ: What is your advice to our gay community in the context of our journey in society?

WARREN: Nationally speaking, we need way more LGBT people to be activist -- to be voting, to be supporting activist organizations, to be pressuring their elected officials and sending the message that corrupt and uncaring politicians will be voted out of office.

"I am shocked and disturbed by the "post gay" apathy that prevails among many gay people, and many non-gays as well."

And we need to support not just our own orgs, like National Center for Lesbian Rights, but mainstream orgs like ACLU, PFAW,

MoveOn, TruthOut.

Civil liberties are vanishing fast today, and they're vanishing for all Americans, not just gay people. The religious ultraconservatives' battle against same-sex marriage is only part of a bigger agenda. They want to tighten up on marriage for heterosexuals too -- to make divorces next to impossible to get, for example.

I am shocked and disturbed by the "post gay" apathy that prevails among many gay people, and many non-gays as well. Conditions in the U.S. already border on those of a police state, but I think that we can still change things for the better if more Americans would be aroused to peaceful, forceful political action.

LOVE OR MONEY

continued from page 6.

worked so hard to accumulate for your long-term security.

Life Insurance Policies - You have the right to designate anyone you choose with an insurable interest as your beneficiary, your partner, child, estate. You can designate a trust. Challenges to beneficiary designations are practically unheard of. The money is usually distributed free of income-tax liability. If you and your partner have built a large enough estate to trigger estate-taxes, buy an insurance policy to provide the money to pay them off.

Long-term Care Insurance Policies - As life expectancy increases, so does the likelihood of needing professional nursing care at home or in a facility. This care is expensive (averages about \$65,000 per year) and is not covered by Medicare. It can crack and drain your Nest Egg. It is devastating to a couple's emotional stability, and saps the dignity from the recipient. Anyone can insure anyone for long-term care, as long as they don't already need it. It enables you to make the important choices for each other, and face

this dire need together.

Wills - In some states, wills can be simple informal matters, hand-written and unwitnessed. Some of these, if written in states that accept them, will also stand in Washington. But Washington State wills must be properly drawn according to Washington Statutes and conform with strict formatting requirements. A professional is a necessity in the wording and simply for asking all the questions you might not think of.

Trusts-There are many types and the reasons for forming them are multivarious. These considerations could and should fill an entire article, so I can't do them any justice here. Consult your attorney.

Partnership Contracts - If you want to spell out who pays what, who owns what, who gets what, the two of you are entitled to fill out a partnership contract. Yes, this is the same document that business partnerships use, but it can include any kind of instruction that relates to financial matters, including things like funeral arrangements, debt management, provisions in case of bankruptcy. It is roughly equivalent to California's registered domestic partnership agreement, with the exception that it

will be recognized in other jurisdictions. And in the event of the dissolution of the partnership (read divorce) it is a clear map for separating assets, and will be handled by a business court, if it comes to that, rather than a family court. If you want to take this thought process one step farther, the two of you may consider forming an LLC or Corporation.

Powers-of-Attorney (especially Medical) - If you are concerned about being denied hospital visitation rights, or being able to render a binding decision about healthcare based on your partner's expressed wishes, this form can be drawn up quickly and inexpensively by an attorney. Once you have it, it should always be kept handy, in your car, or on your person, given to all your caregivers and personal physicians. If you ever sign another with a later date, it nullifies all the statements in the previous one. Don't leave home without it.

Joint Tenancy - The best way for same-sex couples to own property together, and be certain that it will pass from one to the other without interference from contesting parties, is to have yourselves on title as joint tenants. This will declare that the two of you are equal owners, and are

entitled to the other partner's half upon death. One issue to consider about this: if one person is contributing less than half of the support or payment of the property, but has been deeded half of the property, there may be a gift tax issue, because the other partner has in effect given the other person more than has been paid for.

Knowing about these things may take some of the urgency out of pressing for legally married status for some people, at least from a practical standpoint. But if the reasons for stating to the world that this person is my choice for my lifetime partner, my spouse, and that my spouse should be equal in legal standing to every other person's spouse, its not really about the financial end of it. It's about love, having the right to choose, and being proud of that choice. While we're waiting and working, don't wait. Take some of the steps above to protect each other and deepen your commitment in a tangible way. Don't act solely because of what you read here. Ask a tax, financial or legal professional for advice that serves your special needs.

Lloyd Francis lives in Spokane, and works as a financial services professional for a major national insurance company.

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

Web site: <http://iceberg.ewu.edu/safe/safe.htm>

EMCC – Emmanuel Metropolitan Community Church

Christian church with outreach to the GLBT community.

Call: (509) 838-0085

Web site: www.emmanuelmcc.com

Friends of SAN

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

Write: 1212 E. Front Ave. Spokane, WA 99202

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: (509) 251-1242.

Web site: www.iscspokane.com

INBA –

Inland Northwest Business Alliance

A Professional GLBTQ/Allied Business Alliance. Monthly luncheon meetings and annual community resource directory.

Write: PO Box 20163, Spokane, WA 99204

Voice mail: 509-455-3699

E-mail: info@inbaspokane.org

Web site: www.inbaspokane.org

Inland Northwest Equality

A coalition of local individuals and organizations committed to progressing GLBT equality and justice.

Call: Krista Benson: 838-7870

Web site: www.icehouse.net/pjals/issues/inwe.html

Integrity

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

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

Lutheran Communtiy Services-SafeT Response Center

Call: (509) 747-8224

Crisis line (509) 624-7273

Lilac City Men's Project

For gay and bisexual men; a frank and open forum about sex, self, safety and socializing. For more information about upcoming meetings and events:

Web site: www.lilacitymensproject.org

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: Ramon or Bonnie: (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

OutSpokane

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

Web site: www.OutSpokane.com

Papillon

Social support group for the transgender 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

Web site: www.pflagspokane.org

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

Pride Foundation/Inland Northwest

The Pride Foundation connects, inspires and strengthens the Pacific Northwest LGBT community in pursuit of equality by awarding grants and scholarships and cultivating leaders.

Call: Spokane office (509) 327-8377 or (888) 575-7717

Email: outreach@pridefoundation.org

Website: www.pridefoundation.org

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

Web site: www.QuestYouthGroup.org

Ryan White CARE Consortium

HIV care education and planning group.

Call: Tarena Coleman: (509) 444-8200

Email: tcoleman@chas.org

Rainbow Regional Community Center

Support services for GLBT community and individuals exploring their sexual orientation and/or gender identity.

Call: (509) 489-1914

Web site: www.spokanerainbowcenter.org

SAN –

Spokane AIDS Network

Call: (509) 455-8993 or 1-888-353-2130

Web site: 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

Web site: www.spokanecounty.org/health

Stonewall News Northwest

Flagship publication for the gay and lesbian community and the Inland Northwest.

Call: (509) 570-3750

Fax: (509) 267-6309

Web site: www.stonewallnews.net

Spokane Gender Center

Resources and support for transgender people.

Web site: www.gendercenter.com

Unitarian Universalist Church

Gay, lesbian resource committee.

Call: (509) 325-6383

Web site: www.uuchurchofspokane.org

Vanessa Behan Crisis Nursery

Call: 535-3155

Web site: www.vanessabehan.org

Women and Friends

Women-only activities and events in the Spokane area.

Call: (509) 458-4709

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 with, affected by HIV.

Call: (208) 665-1448

Web site: www.nicon.org/niac

North Idaho College

Gay-Straight Alliance

Email: BCHARDISON@icehouse.net

NIGMA -

North Idaho Gay Men's Association

Creating community by providing real time social activities for gay men in the Moscow/Pullman area, visitors, and allies.

E-mail: NIGMA@yahoogroups.com

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

Web site: www2.stateid.us/phd1

PFLAG - Sandpoint

Support, education and advocacy group for Sandpoint gay people, parents, family and friends.

Call: (208) 263-6699

LEWISTON/CLARKSTON

PFLAG - Lewis-Clark

Support, education and advocacy group for Lewis-Clark gay people, parents, family and friends. Meets in Lewiston.

Call: (509) 758-6437

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 Gender Identity/Expression and Sexual Orientation Resource Center

Call: Heidi Stanton (509)335-8841

hstanton@wsu.edu

www.thecenter.wsu.edu

Washington State University GLBA Student Group

Fun, fellowship and socializing.

Call: (509) 335-6428

Web site: <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

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

PFLAG – Walla Walla

Support, education and advocacy group for parents, family, friends and members of the GLBT community. Promoting the health and well-being of GLBT individuals, their families and friends.

Call: (509) 529-5320

Write: 527 E. Oak

Walla Walla, WA 99362-1248

E-mail: pflag_walla2wash@hotmail.com

Web site: www.wwpflag.0catch.com/

Seventh-day Adventist Kinship

Call: (509) 525-0202

WENATCHEE

SHINE

An organization that strives to eliminate all forms of prejudice and discrimination by promoting awareness, education, and self-empowerment through the use of the arts.

Call: (509) 860-7394

E-mail: shine_org@yahoo.com

YAKIMA

PFLAG - Yakima/Yakima Valley

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

Web site: www.flatheadvalleyalliance.org/index.html

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.

E-mail: barbatpride@aol.com

AMENDMENT

continued from page 4.

ment of one religious position while forbidding the religious practice of others. It's religious discrimination.

The marriage amendment is anti-American, then, not only because it would be the first amendment to write discrimination of a group of people into the Constitution.

It's also against religious freedom because it forbids the religious practice of cler-

gy, denominations and faith communities that believe they are divinely called to affirm the love of two adults who happen to be of the same gender.

Robert N. Minor is professor of religious studies at the University of Kansas in Lawrence. He lives in Kansas City.

Previously published June 17, 2006, in the Kansas City Star

Distribution Locations

SPOKANE DOWNTOWN

- 1st Ave Hair Salon** 1311 W. Sprague Ave
- Auntie's Bookstore** 402 W. Main St.
- Best Buy Adult Books** 123 E. Sprague Ave.
- Boo Radley's** 232 N. Howard St.
- Cabin Coffee** 141 S. Cannon St.
- CenterStage** 1017 W. 1st Ave.
- Community Building** 35 W. Main Ave.
- Dempseys** 909 W. 1st Ave.
- Europa Pizzeria** 126 S. Wall St.
- Interplayers** 174 W. Howard St.
- Outreach Center** 1103 W. 1st Ave.
- Rainbow Center** 508 W. 2nd Ave.
- Rocket Bakery** 1325 W. 1st Ave.
- Rocket Bakery** 24 W. Main Ave.
- Satellite Diner** 425 W. Sprague Ave.
- Spokane City Hall** 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd.

SPOKANE VALLEY

- Hastings** 15312 E. Sprague Ave.
- Lady Luck Tattoo** 8611 E. Sprague Ave.
- Valley Place** 12505 E. Sprague Ave.

SPOKANE NORTHSIDE

- The Rock Shop** 8 N. Post
- Borders** 9980 N. Newport Hwy.
- Diversity Counseling** 12 E. Rowan Ave.
- Gonzaga University** 502 E. Boone Ave.
- Hastings** 7304 N. Division St.
- Planned Parenthood** 123 E. Indiana Ave.
- Solarium Tanning** 1205 N. Washington St.
- Spokane Falls Community College** Fort George Wright Drive
- Spokane Regional Health District** 1101 W. College Ave.
- The Merq** 706 N. Monroe St.
- Top Notch Café** 825 N. Monroe St.
- Unitarian Universalist Church** Fort George Wright Drive
- Zanies** 2718 N. Division St.

SPOKANE WESTSIDE

- Cabin Coffee** 141 S. Cannon St.
- Quest Youth Group**

SPOKANE SOUTHSIDE

- Dr. Daniel Coulston** Deaconess Medical Bldg Suite 504b
- Hastings** 2512 E. 29th Ave.
- Odyssey Youth Center**
- Spokane AIDS Network** 905 S. Monroe St.
- The Shop** 924 S. Perry
- Unity Church of Truth** 2900 S. Bernard St.

SPOKANE EASTSIDE

- Best Buy Adult Books** 2425 E. Springfield
- Emmanuel Metropolitan Community Church** 301 S. Freya St.
- Hospice of Spokane** 121 St. Arthur St.
- STEPPS** 901 E. 2nd Ave.

SEATTLE

- Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN)** Seattle, WA
- Washington State Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) Network** Seattle, WA

WASHINGTON-REGIONAL

- Blue Mtn Heart to Heart** Walla Walla, WA
- Coco's Fine Deserts** Wenatchee, WA
- Eastern Washington University** Cheney, WA
- Out & About** Pasco, WA
- The Cellar Cafe** Wenatchee, WA
- Washington State University** Pullman, WA

IDAHO

- Mik-n-Mac's** Coeur d'Alene, ID
- Moscow Food Co-Op** Moscow, ID
- Everyday Internet Cafe** Sandpoint, ID
- Monarch Mountain Coffee** Sandpoint, ID
- Bonnars Book** Bonners Ferry, ID

MONTANA

- The Loft** Billings, MT
- The Victorian** Billings, MT
- Western Montana Gay Lesbian Community Center** Missoula, MT



HIV/AIDS Services for the Walla Walla Valley

HIV/AIDS Case Management • Syringe Exchange

Free and Anonymous HIV Testing & Counseling

Volunteer Training • Latino Outreach Services

E-mail: info@bluemountainheart.org

English: (509) 529-4744 Spanish: (509) 529-2174

Classifieds

12 - Announcements & Notices

National GLBTQ Youth 'Talk Line'

Gay or Questioning and in need a sympathetic ear? Call the **FREE** and confidential staff composed of young peer counselors familiar with the issues of coming out, HIV, bullying and parental and relationship problems. Over 18,000 listings of social/support groups, gay-friendly religious organizations and student groups. Call 800/246-PRIDE or e-mail to: youth@GLBTNationalHelpCenter.org

Items Wanted. Odyssey Youth Center has an ongoing need for bus token donations. There is also a need for a soda dispensary machine, gift cards/certificates to use as youth rewards and incentives, and an X-Box 360 video game console. To donate these or other items please call Odyssey Youth Center, 509/325-2627.

13 - Volunteers

Spokane AIDS Network Needs Volunteers
Contact Cherie at 509/455-8993

13 - Volunteers

QUEST YOUTH GROUP SEEKS QUALIFIED VOLUNTEERS TO WORK WITH YOUTH.

Contact Volunteer Coordinator Bryce Hughes at Bhughes2@gonzaga.edu

OUTSPOKANE IS LOOKING for community-minded people to help with the 2006 Pride

Call Christopher at 509/624-9639 for details on meeting the 1st & 3rd Thursday of each month.

Construction, Volunteers/ Materials Needed

Odyssey Youth Center needs volunteers with construction experience for framing walls, hanging and taping drywall and some demolition with a back hoe. Call Odyssey Youth Center, 509/325-3637.

22 - Housing for Rent

SPOKANE VALLEY QUALITY HOME

Very nice newer home. Patio Home English Garden @ end of cul-desac. 2bed/1 ba, w/ lg 2car garage. All Appliances included. Cute as a button, nice yard! \$995/mo + \$950 deposit. Call 509-993-9130 for private showing. Gay friendly.

GREENVIEW APARTMENTS

Spacious 1 & 2 Bdrm apartments. A/C, DW, Disp, patio/deck, seasonal swimming pool, onsite laundry facilities, covered parking. Very convenient to DT. \$450-\$540/mo + \$175 deposit. 612 S Lincoln, Spokane. 838-4795 Professionally managed by McVicar's & Associates.

46 - Miscellaneous For Sale

FOUR BONAIRE HUMIDIFIERS FOR SALE!

Need to be cleaned and demineralized. Work perfectly and need a good dry home to love. \$30 each. 509/570-3751

46 - Miscellaneous For Sale

CARDIO-GLIDE EXERCISE MACHINE-\$75

Good working condition but no instrumentation. Excellent upper and lower body workout. Call 509/570-3751

WOLFF TANNING BED \$445, 24 bulb, about 12 yrs old, good working condition. Call 509/570-3750 or email: talktome@mikeschultz.com

70 - General

Rent-A-Wife Errands & More!

Cleaning, Shopping, Pick-up, Delivery, General Errands, House/Pet Sitting, Personal Chef, Waiting for Repairmen. Excellent References. Family discount. Call JO 483-1236

<http://home.comcast.net/~its-about-time>

76 - Body Work

SENSUOUS MASSAGE AROUND-the-world massage by 6-ft., 175-lb., 49, handsome, clean, muscular, willing to please, blue-eyed bottom masseur using latest technique and essential oils. Call Gary: (509) 889-9294 .

Wish someone special a Happy Birthday!

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Please email or send resume with letter of interest to: publisher@stonewallnews.net, or mail to: SNN, PO Box 2704, Spokane, WA 99220.

Visit us on the web at:

www.stonewallnews.net

Rates: Classified Ads are \$10 for up to 25 words. Each additional word is 25 cents. For a bold face headline, add \$1.50.
Payment Method: You may pay for your Classified Ad by check or money order via the US Postal Service or by credit card, debit card, or PayPal by mailing, Emailing, or telephoning your information.

Email Ads: You may submit your Classified Ad at Stonewall's Web site at www.stonewallnews.net . Click on the Classifieds link to enter your information on the Email. Your payment will need to be received by Stonewall on or before the 20th of the month for the following month issue.

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; include your signature. Mail your completed ad along with your payment to: SNN, PO Box 2704, Spokane, WA 99220.

Personals: If your Personal ad uses an address, Stonewall will only use a PO Box or a Stonewall Personal Blind Box (PBB). For a PBB, add \$5 to the cost of the ad. Stonewall will assign a code for your PBB and will forward replies weekly for up to two months after your ad runs.

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

Deadline: Classified ads must be received by Stonewall by the 20th of each month for following month publication.

Mailing Address: SNN, PO Box 2704, Spokane, WA 99220

Website: www.stonewallnews.net **Email:** mail@stonewallnews.net

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**Inland Northwest
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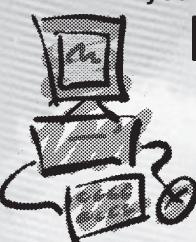
Diversity Counseling Services
 Helen Bonser, MA/ABS, LMHP
 Margie Aylsworth, MSW, LMHP
 12 E. Rowan Ave., Ste. L-4
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 Medicare and most insurances accepted.
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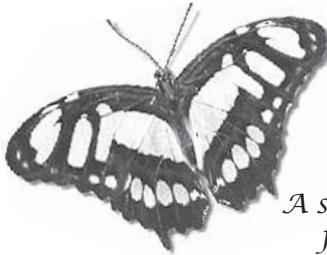


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 Christians**
 INTEGRITY meets the
 second Saturday of the month
NEXT MEETING:
 Sat., July 8th at Noon
 All Saints Chapel
 in St. John's Cathedral, 12th Ave. Entrance

**Papillon
 of Spokane**
 A social support group
 for the transgender.
 509-292-8852 www.spokanepapillon.org



JUNE 2006 CALENDAR SUMMARY

Spokane

Saturday, July 1st	8:00pm	ISCS Prince & Princess Fundraiser (at Dempseys)
Sunday, July 2nd	8:30am-2:00pm	LCMP Hiking Group
	2:00-3:00pm	Radical Cheerleaders (at RRCC)
	3:00-4:00pm	Counter Crisis (at RRCC)
	5:00-6:00pm	EMCC Worship (at Bethany Presbyterian)
	6:30-7:30pm	ISCS Board Meeting (at Dempseys)
	7:30pm	ISCS Court Meeting (at Dempseys)
Wednesday, July 5th	5:30-7:30pm	Vision Committee Meeting
	7:00-8:30pm	GLBT AA meets (at EMCC)
	7:00-8:00pm	GLBT Book Club (at Auntie's)
Thursday, July 6th	6:00-7:30pm	LCMP Planning (at SAN)
	7:15-9:00pm	OutSpokane Meeting (at Kress Gallery, Riverpark Square)
Friday, July 7th	7:00pm	Legal Marriage Alliance (at RRCC)
	8:00-10:00pm	Friday Night OUT! (at The Merq)
Saturday, July 8th	9:30-10:30am	PFLAG Mom's Group (at Conley's Restaurant)
	12:00-2:00pm	Integrity Episcopal Support Group (at St John's Cathedral)
Sunday, July 9th	2:00-3:00pm	Radical Cheerleaders (at RRCC)
	3:00-4:00pm	Counter Crisis (at RRCC)
Tuesday, July 11th	5:30-7:00pm	INWE Meeting (at RRCC)
Wednesday, July 12th	11:30am-1:00pm	INBA Luncheon Speaker: Mike Schultz (at Europa)
	6:00-9:00pm	LCMP Social Hour (at Ella's, CenterStage)
Thursday, July 13th	7:15-9:00pm	OutSpokane Meeting (at Kress Gallery, Riverpark Square)
Saturday, July 15th	All Day	LCMP - Bike the Hiawatha Trail!
	11:30am-1:00pm	OWLS Potluck Picnic (at Mission Park)
	8:00pm	ISCS Emperor & Empress Fundraiser (at Dempseys)
Sunday, July 16th	8:30am-2:00pm	LCMP Hiking Group
	11:00am-3:00pm	Spokane Area Lesbians (at RRCC)
	2:00-3:00pm	Radical Cheerleaders (at RRCC)
	3:00-4:00pm	Counter Crisis (at RRCC)
Monday, July 17th	5:30-7:30pm	Vision Committee Meeting
Tuesday, July 18th	7:00-9:00pm	PFLAG Monthly Mtg (at Unitarian Church)
Thursday, July 20th	6:00-7:30pm	LCMP Planning (at SAN)
	7:15-9:00pm	OutSpokane Meeting (at Kress Gallery, Riverpark Square)
Friday, July 21st	2:00pm	Gals & Pals Campout (at CDA Lake - Fri-Sun)
Saturday, July 22nd	All Day	Gals & Pals Campout (at CDA Lake - Fri-Sun)
Sunday, July 23rd	All Day	Gals & Pals Campout (at CDA Lake - Fri-Sun)
	2:00-3:00pm	Radical Cheerleaders (at RRCC)
	3:00-4:00pm	Counter Crisis (at RRCC)
Wednesday, July 26th	6:00-8:00pm	LCMP Social Hour (at Emphyrean)
Thursday, July 27th	7:00-9:00pm	Bowling Night with LCMP! (at North Bowl)
	7:15-9:00pm	OutSpokane Meeting (at Kress Gallery, Riverpark Square)
Saturday, July 29th	7:00-9:00pm	OWLS Sandpoint BBQ (at Sandpoint, ID)
Sunday, July 30th	2:00-3:00pm	Radical Cheerleaders (at RRCC)
	3:00-4:00pm	Counter Crisis (at RRCC)
	5:00-6:00pm	EMCC Worship (at Bethany Presbyterian)

Regional

Sunday, July 2nd	6:00-7:00pm	River of Life MCC Sunday Service (Tri-Cities)
	6:30-7:30pm	Rainbow Cathedral MCC Sunday Service (Yakima)
Monday, July 3rd	7:30-8:30pm	Rainbow Sobriety AA Meetings (Tri-Cities)
Tuesday, July 4th [Independence Day]	12:00pm	Celebrating Pride on the 4th (Tri-Cities)
Wednesday, July 5th	7:30-9:00pm	NIGMA Coffee Social (Pullman/Moscow)
Friday, July 7th	7:00pm	First Fridays (Yakima)
	7:00pm	NIGMA First Fridays (Pullman/Moscow)
Sunday, July 9th	11:00am-1:00pm	NIGMA Second Sunday Brunch (Pullman/Moscow)
	6:00-7:00pm	River of Life MCC Sunday Service (Tri-Cities)
	6:30pm	Rainbow Cathedral MCC Sunday Service (Yakima)
Monday, July 10th	7:00pm	PFLAG Monthly Meeting (Walla Walla)
	7:30-8:30pm	Rainbow Sobriety AA Meetings (Tri-Cities)
Wednesday, July 12th	7:30-9:00pm	NIGMA Coffee Social (Pullman/Moscow)
Sunday, July 16th	6:00-7:00pm	River of Life MCC Sunday Service (Tri-Cities)
	6:30pm	Rainbow Cathedral MCC Sunday Service (Yakima)
	7:00pm	PFLAG Monthly Meeting (Yakima)
Monday, July 17th	7:30-8:30pm	Rainbow Sobriety AA Meetings (Tri-Cities)
Wednesday, July 19th	7:30-9:00pm	NIGMA Coffee Social (Pullman/Moscow)
Sunday, July 23rd	6:00-7:00pm	River of Life MCC Sunday Service (Tri-Cities)
	6:30-7:30pm	Rainbow Cathedral MCC Sunday Service (Yakima)
Monday, July 24th	7:30-8:30pm	Rainbow Sobriety AA Meetings (Tri-Cities)
Wednesday, July 26th	7:30-9:00pm	NIGMA Coffee Social (Pullman/Moscow)
Thursday, July 27th	7:00-9:00pm	PFLAG Monthly Meeting (Tri-Cities)
Friday, July 28th	7:00-9:00pm	NIGMA Fourth Friday Wine Tasting (Pullman/Moscow)
Sunday, July 30th	6:00-7:00pm	River of Life MCC Sunday Service (Tri-Cities)
	6:30-7:30pm	Rainbow Cathedral MCC Sunday Service (Yakima)
Monday, July 31st	7:30-8:30pm	Rainbow Sobriety AA Meetings (Tri-Cities)

TERMS USED IN THIS CALENDAR:

(Auntie's Bookstore) Auntie's Bookstore
402 W Main Ave, Spo, WA
(509) 838-0206
www.auntiesbooks.com

(CDA Lake) Coeur d'Alene Lake, N. Idaho

(CenterStage) CenterStage
1017 W 1st Ave, Spo, WA 99201
(509) 74-STAGE
www.spokanecenterstage.com

(Dempseys) Dempseys Brass Rail
909 W 1st Ave, Spokane, WA 99201
(509) 747-5362
www.dempseysbrassrail.net

(EMCC) Emmanuel Metropolitan Community Church
301 S Freya Avenue, Spokane, WA 99201
(509) 838-0085
www.emmanuelmcc.com

(Emphyrean) Emphyrean Coffee House
154 S Madison St, Spo, WA 99201
(509) 456-3676

(Europa) Europa Pizzeria
125 S Wall St, Spo, WA 99201
(509) 455-4051

(INBA) Inland Northwest Business Alliance
Please see Resource Directory

(ISCS) Imperial Sovereign Court of Spokane
www.iscsspokane.com

(LCMP) Lilac City Men's Project
www.lilaccitymensproject.org

(Merq) The Merq Cafe & Liquid Lounge
706 N Monroe St, Spo, WA 99201
(509) 325-3871
www.themerq.net

(Montvale Hotel) The Montvale Hotel
1005 W 1st Ave, Spo, WA 99201
(509) 747-1919
www.montvalehotel.com

(NIGMA) North Idaho Gay Men's Association
Please see Resource Directory

(PFLAG) Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays
Please see Resource Directory

(Riverpark Square) Riverpark Square Shopping Mall
Downtown Spokane

(RRCC) Rainbow Regional Community Center
508 W 2nd Ave, Spokane, WA
(509) 489-1914
www.spokanerainbowcenter.org

(SAN) Spokane AIDS Network
905 S Monroe St, Spokane, WA
(509) 455-8993
www.spokaneaidsnetwork.org

(SFCC) Spokane Falls Community College
3410 W Fort George Wright Dr, Spo, WA 99224
(509) 533-3500
www.sfcc.spokane.cc.wa.us/

(St John's) St John's Cathedral
127 E 12th (& Grand), Spokane, WA 99202
(509) 838-4277
www.stjohns-cathedral.org/

(Unitarian Church) Unitarian Universalist Church
4340 W Fort George Wright Dr, Spo, WA 99224
(509) 325-6383

Spokane & the Inland
Northwest's Entertainment
and Meeting Calendar!

Please consult
www.stonewallnews.net
for calendar event details
and updates.

Downtown Spokane offers a variety of alternative places to visit, shop, dine, dance, and stay overnight.

Whether you have cocktails and meet new friends at The Merq Cafe & Liquid Lounge or party until the wee hours at Dempsey's Brass Rail, you can have fun! Spend the night at the Montvale Hotel, have lunch at Europa and dinner & live theater at CenterStage. Check out the wide selection of books including an alternative section at Auntie's Bookstore and be sure to pick up your new 2006 Inland Northwest Business Alliance Directory... everywhere!

CASINOS

18 Northern Quest Casino
N 100 Hayford Rd, Airway Heights
(509) 242-7000 www.northernquest.com

Welcome to Spokane!

COMMUNITY CENTER

17 Rainbow Regional Community Center
508 W 2nd Ave (509) 489-1914
www.spokanerainbowcenter.org

LIVE THEATRE

7 CenterStage
1017 W 1st Ave (509) 74-STAGE
www.spokanecenterstage.com

15 InterPlayers
174 S Howard St (509) 455-PLAY
www.interplayers.com

16 Spokane Civic Theatre
1020 N Noward St (509) 325-2507
www.spokanecivictheatre.com

BARS & CLUBS

1 Dempsey's Brass Rail
909 W 1st Ave (509) 747-5362
www.dempseysbrassrail.net

2 Merq Cafe & Liquid Lounge
706 N Monroe St (509) 325-3871
www.themerq.net

BOOK STORES

5 Auntie's Bookstore
402 W Main Ave (509) 838-0206
www.auntiesbooks.com

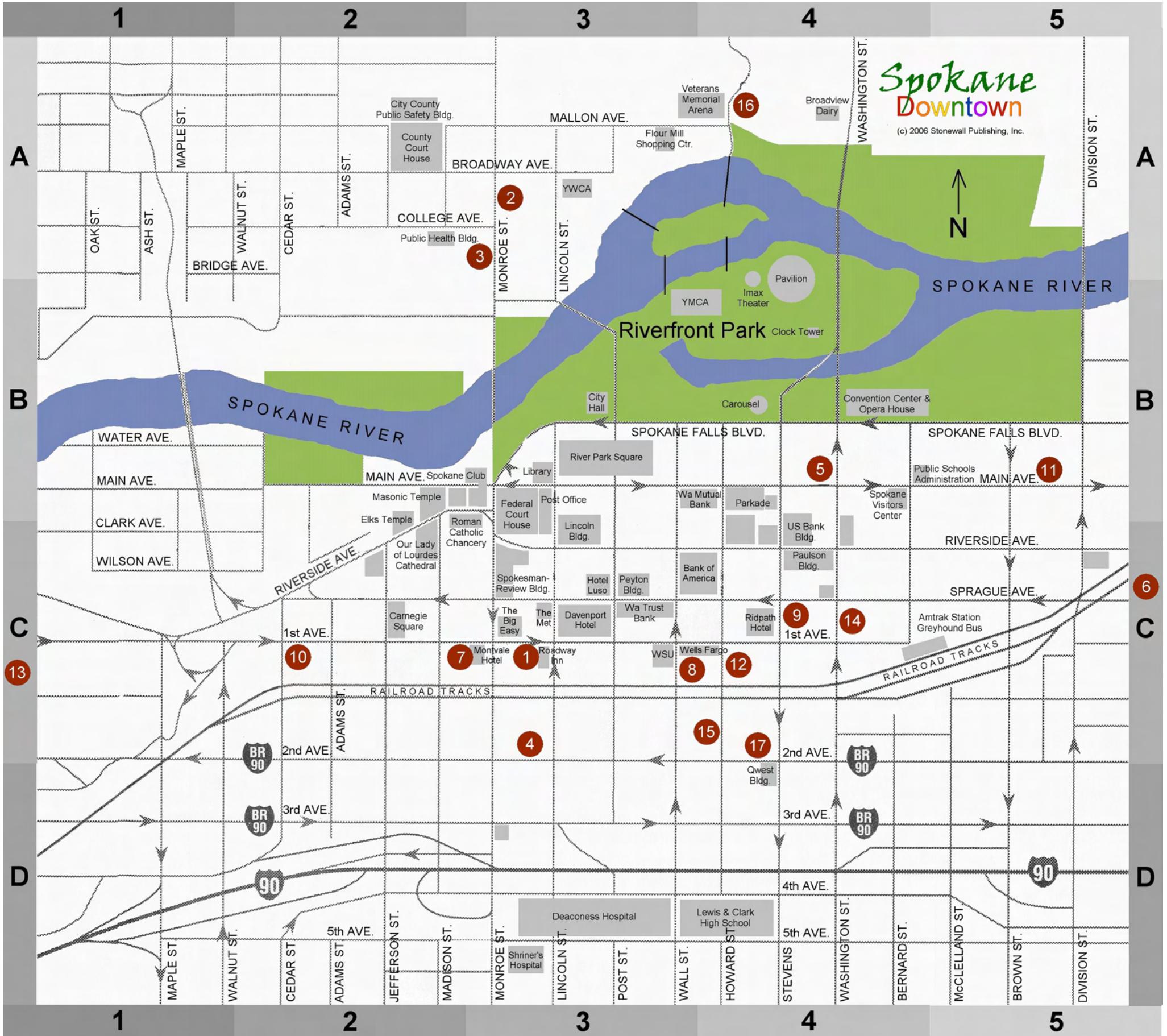
Hours: Mon-Sat 9am-9pm, Sun 11am-6pm
6 Best Buy Adult Books
123 E Sprague Ave (509) 536-7001

COFFEE HOUSES

Rocket Bakery
10 1325 W 1st Ave (509) 747-1834
11 24 W Main Ave (509) 835-3647
12 157 S Howard St (509) 838-3887
Cabin Coffee
13 141 S Canon St (509) 747-3088
14 7 S Washington St (509) 624-8075

DINING PLACES

3 Top Notch Cafe
825 N Monroe St (509) 327-7988
4 Wild Sage American Bistro
916 W 2nd Ave (509) 456-7575
www.wildsagebistro.com/
7 CenterStage
1017 W 1st Ave (509) 74-STAGE
www.spokanecenterstage.com
8 Europa Pizzeria
126 S Wall St (509) 455-4051
9 Satellite Diner
425 W Sprague Ave (509) 624-3952





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www.cowboyupmontana.com/meetme.htm

or www.pacificnwgra.org

PRIDE SCHOLARSHIPS

continued from page 11.

Jennifer M. Kinder (Yakima, WA)

A Yakima high school senior, Jennifer will be working toward a B.S. in Nursing at Seattle University. She plans on a career in public health or as an emergency room nurse working with an underserved urban population as well as advocating for healthcare programs for LGBT youth. In spite of struggle and resistance, she was successful with the creation of her high school's Gay-Straight Alliance.

Adan Longoria, Jr. (Walla Walla, WA)

Being the oldest of five children, Adan needed to step in as the secondary source of income after his mother passed away in 2000. Although it put college on the back burner, he has since realized his dream to receive his A.A.S./A.A. in Fire Science and then seek a B.S. in Paramedic. Adan's career plans are to work as a Career Fire Fighter/Paramedic. In addition to his education, he keeps busy as an openly gay man with student government and the Walla Walla Ambassador Club.

Brian Mendiola (Yakima, WA)

This Yakima high school senior will take one more step toward his dream of becoming a politician and hopefully a United States Senator in the fall when he attends Whitman College for a degree in Pre-Law/Political Science. As a member of the Yakima County Young Democrats, and the creator of the gay straight alliance in his high school, Brian tirelessly works for equality by continually coming out not only vocally but by example.

Eddie Meraz (Pasco, WA)

Eddie received his Bachelors degree in Sociology and Spanish from Gonzaga University in 1999, after which he worked in Seattle and San Francisco in HIV/AIDS social service agencies. He is pursuing a nursing degree at Yale University, and hopes to become a Family Nurse Practitioner. Eddie wants to continue serving the queer and Latino communities, and brings dignity and respect to healthcare for marginalized peoples.

Taylor Newbold (Boise, ID)

Originally from the Bay Area, Taylor attends Boise State University and majors in psychology and English. He plans to obtain a Master's degree in Public Administration and pursue his passion for HIV prevention and AIDS awareness. Taylor is a leader in his community, serving on the Idaho Care and Prevention Council and directing his school's volunteer services board, as well as volunteering extensively in HIV/AIDS. His long-term goals include holding public office.

Corey Nunn (Dryden, WA)

Originally from Dryden, Washington, Corey is looking forward to attending the

University of Northern Colorado after graduating as salutatorian of his class. His educational interests are diverse and include musical theater, math, and athletics, in which he has lettered in cross-country, and track. He is the founder and president of his school GSA and is actively involved in making his school a safe environment for LGBTQ students.

Blake Olmstead (Mountain Home, ID)

Blake is passionate about the arts and will pursue a graphic arts degree at Cornish College of the Arts in Seattle, WA. He is originally from Mountain Home, ID, and will graduate as valedictorian of his class. He has served as editor of his school's yearbook and president of the French club and participates in Academic Decathlon.

Robin Ota (Ellensburg, WA)

Robin will begin nursing school this fall at the intercollegiate Center for Nursing Education (offered through Washington State University). She has spent many years volunteering for various causes, including being a founding member of Kittitas County's chapter of PFLAG. She is interested in working in medicine to serve rural populations and minorities. Robin also dreams of being an adoptive mother at some point.

Marcy Papineau (Ellensburg, WA)

Marcy is from Ellensburg, WA, and will attend Central Washington University to study public relations and human services. She is active in the LGBTQ community in Ellensburg, specifically with GALA-GLBTSA at Central Washington University, where she has held leadership positions despite still being a high school student. She was a founder of Tolerance Awareness Alliance at her high school, a club addressing LGBT, racial and religious discrimination.

Susan Rydeen (Garfield, WA)

A student at Washington State University, Susan is currently working on a dual Bachelors Degree in Sociology and Women's Studies, with an eye toward a doctorate in Sociology. From there, she plans on designing and teaching Queer Studies courses as well as continue her research on the special needs of Transgender Elders.

Michael Van Gelder (Spokane, WA)

Michael will be receiving his B.A. in Psychology from Eastern Washington University this spring and will continue on there as he works towards a PhD. His goal is to eventually have his own practice as a clinical psychologist, specializing in working with GLBTQ youth. Michael has also been doing an internship at Odyssey Youth Center in Spokane.

For more information on the Pride Foundation visit their website at www.pridefoundation.org.



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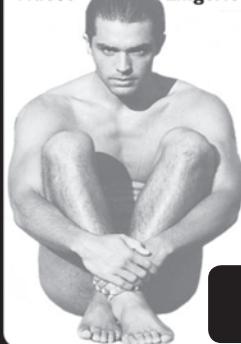
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NAMES REPORTING

continued from page 5.

Health “for the prevention and control of communicable and noninfectious diseases and conditions” (WAC 246-101-201).

But there are reasons other than simply prevention and control that Washington State, and the entire country, could benefit from a national system of name-based reporting.

A standardized, scientifically accurate and reliable method of national HIV reporting is important in determining accurate funding and social service needs.

At the end of 2005, Washington State was one of 12 states, including the District of Columbia and California, which had not made the conversion to confidential name-based reporting. **Because we do not participate in this method of surveillance (bad word these days), Washington State’s data on HIV and AIDS cases is not included in the national reporting of HIV/AIDS data.** This means that the information Congress uses to determine funds for HIV/AIDS-related social service programs including prevention, the Ryan White CARE Act (RWCA), Housing Opportunities for People With AIDS (HOPWA), and a myriad of others, does not take into account our numbers or those of 11 other states and the District of Columbia. The absence of these numbers skews the data negatively and causes nation-wide underfunding of badly needed services. It also minimizes the impact of HIV/AIDS to our leaders since they are not seeing the entire picture.

Standardized reporting also allows for de-duplication of records to more accurately reflect the HIV/AIDS epidemic regardless of state boundaries. Someone who has asymptomatic HIV may test positive in one state and then move to another state. They then develop symptomatic HIV/AIDS and are counted again as a new incident. This depletes limited resources because the same person is being “funded” in two different places. In Spokane, some people go to Seattle to get tested. Therefore, King County may have an artificially inflated incidence rate of new HIV infections and receive more funding in response, but Spokane County AIDS service organizations and health departments pay for the newly diagnosed people drawing on social services such as case management, housing assistance and other services funded by the Ryan White CARE Act.

Confidential name-based reporting is just that: confidential.

Although names will also be kept at the local level, **all records will be kept in secure systems** that are “consistent with the 2006 Security and Confidentiality Guidelines developed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention” (WAC 246-101-520). Statewide databases are to be maintained in a windowless, secure area with limited, controlled access. (For additional security measures, see WAC 246-101-520.) Even so, local health districts can opt out of the names retention program. Regardless of where the names

are kept, all locations must adhere to the same stringent guidelines for storage and security.

Unfortunately, recent breaches involving sensitive databases have occurred elsewhere in the United States, e.g. the Veterans’ Administration debacle. These incidences, though explosive, are rare. Every precaution will be taken to ensure the security of the statewide HIV/AIDS database. Washington has always used name-based reporting for symptomatic HIV and AIDS cases, so this is not a new system for the Washington State Department of Health or the local health departments. The DOH is just adding a new category to the database—for those who test positive for HIV but who have not yet developed symptoms of HIV infection or AIDS.

Name-based reporting for HIV will be consistent with other reporting of infectious diseases.

There is no doubt about it, and no sugar coating it: HIV and AIDS are public health threats. While not as easily transmittable as tuberculosis or whooping cough, HIV needs to be reported on the same par as other communicable diseases. **The State Department of Health, to better know how to concentrate their resources and track the spread of the disease, needs accurate and timely information.** Those who contract HIV may not become symptomatic for years. In that time, valuable information about population and geographic trends of the disease go unreported. The new system will address those issues.

Name-based reporting is not a factor in testing rates

Name-based reporting has caused great alarm among HIV/AIDS advocates who believe that testing rates will go down when this method of reporting is implemented. (In Washington, anonymous testing will still be available for those who want to avoid having their name associated with their test results.) In reality, studies have shown **the fear of learning one’s HIV status and ignorance of risk factors are more likely to result in delayed testing or no testing at all.** In addition, the same studies have shown many people at risk for contracting HIV are unaware of their state’s reporting system.

In conclusion, names-based reporting really isn’t anything new in Washington. For many years, we have been using this same system of reporting for symptomatic HIV and AIDS and for other communicable diseases. With Ryan White funding becoming tighter and tighter, and social service programs being cut left and right, it is very important to be able to accurately portray the face of this disease, so people with HIV and AIDS will be able to get the services they need, when they need them.

Cat Carrel is the HIV Prevention Program Coordinator for Spokane AIDS Network (SAN) and oversees the Lilac City Men’s Project, a prevention program of SAN. You can reach her at 455-8993, x231 or by e-mail at catc@san-nw.org. The opinions expressed herein are not necessarily those supported by all employees of the Spokane AIDS Network.

Where Something’s always going on...

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(\$5 cover charge after 9 pm)

- Dance till 4 am with DJ Scotty
- Drag Show 10 pm & Midnight

Saturday

(\$5 cover charge after 9 pm)

- Dance till 4 am with DJ Scotty
- Drag Show 10 pm & Midnight

Sunday

- Gay Bingo - starts at 5:30

Monday

- Karaoke with Diana, 8 pm til 1 am

Tuesday

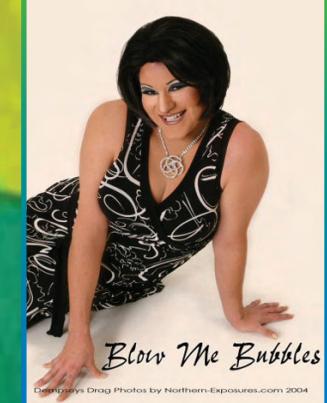
- Martinis w/Bartender Joe, 7 pm
- Happy Hour prices ...
...all day/all night

Wednesday

- Steak and Bake Dinner \$6.95
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Thursday Movie Night, 7 pm

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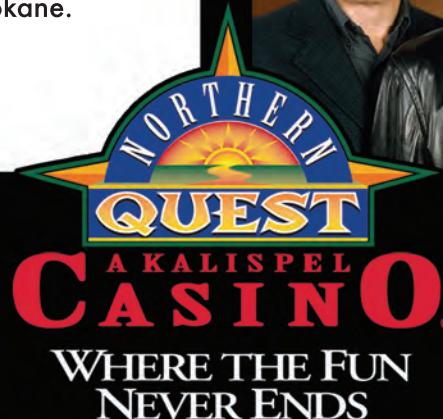
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