#### WEDNESDAY

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#### THIS ISSUE



**Bugs Bunny on Broadway** Page 9



## News Northwest

Serving the GLBTQA Community of the Pacific Northwest since 1992

## Domestic Partnerships await Governor's signature

By Joyce Crosby, Special to Stonewall News Northwest

OLYMPIA, WA — The Washington State House of Representatives passed a Domestic Partnership bill that affords same sexpartners a handful of rights traditionally reserved for married couples. House Bill 5336, passed on April 10 with a 63-35 vote, gives registered domestic partners the right to authorize medical care, visit a partner who is hospitalized, donate organs, make funeral arrangements, and administer a partner's estate if there is no will. Governor Chris Gregoire is expected to sign it into law, making Washington the eighth state to recognize domestic partnerships.

The state domestic partnership registry will be open to same-sex couples over 18 who

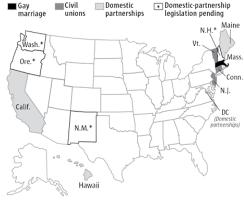
Please see
DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIPS page 15



Ed Murray is a prime sponsor of HB5336

### **Domestic Partnership Laws** Washington is about to join seven other

Washington is about to join seven other states and the District of Columbia in allowing marriage, civil unions or domestic partnerships for gay and lesbian couples.



Note: California's provisions are so extensive it's just about equal to civil unions.

"It's a great day for the state of Washington."

- City of Spokane Mayor Dennis Hession

"Barring earthquakes, famines or lightning strikes – and we're praying for any of the above – it will most likely pass."

- Rick Forcier, Executive Director, Christian Coalition of Washington.

"People aren't going to change their minds overnight on this issue, and we need to respect that. We need to bring them along. And that's what we're doing, one step at a time."

- Rep. Jim Moeller, D-Vancouver

"I beg of you to think very seriously about the road that we are going down, and about how we are going to be changing our civilization from here on in."

- Rep. Lynn Schindler, R-Otis Orchards

"This is really a sad day."
- Rep. John Ahern, R-Spokane

"It's not marriage. But it does provide for some of the rights and obligations that we ask people to undertake when they're in loving relationships recognized by the state."

- Rep. Jamie Pedersen, D-Seattle

"The simplest way to correct the inequity would be to allow gays and lesbians to enter a true marital relationship that honors their emotional as well as economic commitment to each other"

- The Spokesman-Review

#### Healthy Youth Act bill headed to Governor's desk

Medically accurate sex-ed to replace abstinence-only teaching

OLYMPIA, WA – The Washington State House passed the Healthy Youth Act (ESSB 5297) April 11 by a vote of 63 – 34. The bill had been approved in the State Senate with a vote of 30 – 19 on March

The Healthy Youth Act is quality assurance for sex education in public schools. The bill requires that school districts that choose to teach sex education provide medically accurate and comprehensive information. Anti-choice Representatives Ahern, Anderson, Bailey, Buri, Curtis, Dunn, Haler, Hinkle, McCune, McDonald, Newhouse, Roach, Ross, Schindler, Strow, Sump, and Warnick offered 33 amendments attempting to undermine the bill, all of which were defeated.

"After five years of work on this important issue, NARAL Pro-Choice Washington is very pleased that the Legislature has finally acted to protect the health of Washington teens by approving the Healthy Youth Act," said Karen Cooper, executive director of NARAL Pro-Choice Washington.

"Teens need reliable information regarding contraception and sexual health in order to make good decisions throughout their lives," said Cooper. "I am amazed that giving teens accurate, complete health information is still controversial in 2007, but clearly it is for some legislators," Cooper added, referring to the four hours of debate prior to final passage of the bill.

"A 2004 statewide survey demonstrated that 78% of Washington parents think we should be teaching ninth and tenth graders about contraception, birth control, and condoms, yet we know that many Washington schools only provide inaccurate abstinence-only programs," Cooper said. "The need for this legislation is clear and we look forward to Governor Gregoire signing The Healthy Youth Act it into law."

## SHINE explores coming out dynamics in new documentary

"Ideally, the

documentary will

and LGBT people

build a bridge of

understanding."

help families, friends

-Ionathan Shuffield

By Joyce Crosby, Special to Stonewall News Northwest

WENATCHEE, WA - SHINE, an organization that uses the arts to promote

acceptance and equality for all people, is filming a documentary concerning families coming out after learning a loved one is gay or lesbian. SHINE President, Jonathan Shuffield explains, "The act of coming out creates a ripple effect that emanates beyond the epicenter that is the gay or lesbian individual and

sends the families and friends on their own coming out journeys." With the expertise of Wenatchee-based Howell at the Moon Productions, SHINE is scheduled to begin filming *The Other Side of the Closet Door* 

in August.

Shuffield, 31, who created SHINE two years ago to fight discrimination in a positive way, feels that art is the last venue to touch people who wouldn't normally listen to the message. Jonathan realized

the incredible power that art has to change people's minds when his mother attended a play about the relationship between a woman and her best friend, a gay man who died. At the end of the play, his mom was crying, and Jonathan knew that before her mind could register prejudice or disapproval, the message

of love and acceptance got in and touched his mother's heart. "SHINE started so

Please see SHINE page 3



SHINE President Jonathan Shuffield

## We are committed to a positive educational and work environment that encourages respect, dignity and excellence for everyone.

Spokane Public Schools is a place where:
We don't all have to think the same.
We don't all have to act the same.
We don't all have to talk the same.
We don't all have to dress the same.
We don't all have to believe the same things.

We have the right to be ourselves.

We like it that people are different.
We know that our differences make us interesting and UNIQUE.

We honor differences of being, acting, and believing – even when we don't agree with them.

We do our best to solve problems peacefully.
We speak up if we see others being treated unfairly.
We treat each other the way we'd like to be treated.

We treat each other with RESPECT



## Voices

#### Letters to the Editor

## Stop hate crimes for all!

Did you know that current federal hate crime laws don't protect everyone?

We've had a federal hate crimes law on the books since 1969, and it has never included crimes targeting victims because of their gender, gender identity, sexual orientation or disability.

Congress is about to consider a bill that would change that. It would also help under-funded law enforcement officials investigate and prosecute hate crimes.

Tell your representative to support this bill at: http://www.hrc.org/FightHate

Here's something else that shocked me: one in six hate crimes are motivated by the victim's sexual orientation. And the federal government can't investigate most of these crimes or help bring the criminals to justice. That's outrageous!

In past years, right wing groups have blocked attempts to expand hate crimes laws. They're gearing up for another fight now, so we need to make sure our representatives do the right thing and support this landmark law.

In my mind, there's no question that including all hate crimes in federal law doesn't constitute "special treatment," as some right wing groups would have us believe - there's nothing special about wanting to live safely and without fear of violence. That's something everyone deserves.

Thanks for joining me,

Kim Stankoovich Spokane, WA

#### DP into Law -Hurray, sort of

As I settle better into my 2nd half century, I find Larry Kramer's sentiments more present these days (and I used to find him over-the-top). He might have said something like....crumbs are certainly not as good as the full meal...

So, it's a bit difficult for me to throw a big party just yet. It' hard to not feel that we were just given some crumbs. Okay - it's better than starving. And, I know so many in our community who worked hard to get this passed. Without any reservation of the heart for their noble efforts, I applaud their diligent work and selfless energy. You have done superb work - you know who you are.

And, I thanked my legislators who voted for this bill. Not doing so, would have been worse, no doubt. But please forgive my uncharacteristic cynicism. We on the Marriage Equality bandwagon, spent years honing our rationale for all those reporters' questions that went like this; "...So, wouldn't civil unions or domestic partnership be just as good...?.... Why not go for DP or Civil Unions since you know that has a better chance of passing?..." And so on and so on. We got pretty good at responding. Many, with sincerity, insight and commitment, helped prepare our responses. It's not so easy to abandon our decade-plus commitments and shout "hurray" for DP while my heart still aches for equality.

With a rather subdued, "hurray,"

Cantor David Serkin-Poole Temple B'nai Torah Bellevue, WA

## Spokane & Regional

#### **Pride Foundation Announces** 12th Annual Rainbow Awards

#### Nominations accepted until May 7

The Rainbow Awards are held every year as part of Spokane's Pride Week. They honor individuals and organizations whose efforts have had a positive effect on the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community of the Inland Northwest.

The categories of the Rainbow Awards are as follows.

Individual Award - Given to an individual for service to the LGBT community of the Inland Northwest, particularly service rendered in the past year.

**Group Award** - Given to an organization for service to the LGBT community of the Inland Northwest, particularly service rendered in the past year.

Ally Award - Given to an individual who is not part of the LGBT population, or an organization that's focus is not primarily LGBT, but whose actions have directly benefited said community. May be awarded for service in the past year, or for service rendered over an extended period of time.

**Over the Rainbow Award** - Given to an individual for consistent and exemplary service to the LGBT community of the

Inland Northwest. This award is given for service rendered over a considerable length of time.

Anyone can submit a nomination by submitting the following. The name and phone number of the person making the nomination, the name of the group or individual being nominated and the award category in which they are being nominated. In addition, the nominator should explain why s/he believes this group or individual should receive the award in 500 words or less. Nominations may be mailed, faxed or emailed to:

Kevan Gardner Pride Foundation PO Box 2194 Spokane, WA 99210 Phone (509) 327-8377 or (888) 575-7717 FAX (509) 327-8403 kevan@pridefoundation.org

All nominations must be received no later than Monday, May 7. For more information, please contact Kevan Gardner.

#### Spokane's Pride 2007 ramps up

Community Service Announcement

Spokane is experiencing the beginning of "impending bloom," and that means it is time to turn on our Pride Awareness. Although the flowers are just beginning to open, OutSpokane is already working to make the 2007 Pride Parade and Rainbow Festival the largest and most visible celebration yet. Yes, Virginia...size does matter.

Surprises await you! Among them, OutSpokane's Heritage Pride Institute is bringing Col. Margarethe (Grethe) Cammermeyer (Ret.) to be the Grand Marshall and speak at our annual Community Forum. For those of you who do not recognize her name, she is a Vietnam Veteran, Bronze Star recipient, VA Nurse of the Year and was the highest ranking officer to come OUT while in the military. She was subsequently discharged, sued the government for re-instatement and WON!

OutSpokane's Vision committee will also have a Pride surprise for everyone that should cause a stir in the greater community and be an "in-your-face" visible stand for equal rights! Keep your eyes peeled on May 1st.

**Kick it off!** This year's Parade and Rainbow Festival will be held on Saturday, June 9, but the GLBTQA community's

Pride Celebration will span several weeks. The official kick off will be held on Friday, June 1, when Spokane's LGBT Film Festival's One Night Stand will present The Believers. OutSpokane's website at <a href="https://www.outspokane.org">www.outspokane.org</a> has dates and information about many of the 2007 Pride events that have already been scheduled. The list currently spans June 1 to June 15 and is growing daily.

**Schedule it!** Individuals and groups who would like their community Pride activities to be included in OutSpokane's Pride Events schedule should contact us as early as possible. Events will be posted on the Pride 2007 Events page of the Web site and noted in the advertising that is done for Pride 2007.

Win, Win, Win! This is a wonderful win-win-win opportunity. Organizations and groups get free publicity for their scheduled event, the community finds all Pride 2007 events in one place, and Out-Spokane is able to organize, coordinate and publicize everything that is happening. Please send information about your event or any questions/comments to admin@outspokane.org as soon as possible!

Volunteer Alert! This is also the per-

Please see PRIDE 2007 page 15

#### PAST RAINBOW AWARD RECIPIENTS Individual Group Ally Over the Rainbow 1996 Spokane Names Project Display Rev. Linda Laster Marion Dumoulin **Odyssey Youth Center** 1997 Mary Ellen Myrene Spokane PFLAG 1998 Spokane Human Rights Commission 1999 Keith Wolter Dean Lynch 2000 No On Discrimination Kevan Gardner Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane Lisa St. John 2001 Mary Maxfield Dean Lynch 2002 Papillon **Eunice Kennady Smith** Gary Carlson 2003 District 81 Equity Office 2004 Marilyn Langbehn Inland Northwest Business Alliance Senator Lisa Brown Ann & Charlie Wood 2005 Stormi Oshun Spokane AIDS Network Marvin Reguindin, Odyssey Youth Center Peace & Justice Action League 2006 Bonnie Aspen Spokane LGBT Film Festival Khalil Islam-Zwart John Deen

<u>SHINE –</u> continued from page 1

that we could do that kind of work; battle those forms of discrimination; educate the public; promote awareness; instill self-empowerment—through music, plays, film, dance, all aspects of art." SHINE is currently developing a workshop called "Self is Sacred," focusing on body image and self-empowerment. Shuffield hopes to have the workshop ready by summer.

SHINE's five member board of directors is interested in exploring how coming out works from the family's viewpoint. The group has done extensive research and has not found a documentary that covers the subject. "I have some friends whose parents were amazing from the very beginning, so supportive, never a question." Shuffield

confided, "Then there are ones like my parents. It was very, very difficult for them. The minute I told my parents, it sent them on a roller coaster ride. They fought it tooth and nail." Shuffield continued, "Then there are those families who are in the middle, who want to try to be supportive, but it's not always easy. I want to know what it is in them that put them at these different levels. And what's this journey like." The film will feature interviews as well as candid footage of families as they deal with issues ranging from shame and isolation to dignity and acceptance.

Shuffield believes that the documentary will be a wonderful tool for bridging the gap between families and their gay or lesbian loved ones. "I feel it would have helped my parents immensely if they could have watched a film that gave them permission

to not get it right every day; that encouraged them to try to understand and love their child but that they don't have to accept it right away. It's okay to have hard times and to struggle as long as you keep going."

"Ideally, the documentary will help families, friends and LGBT people build a bridge of understanding," Shuffield stated. "They say that until every heterosexual knows a homosexual, the prejudice will not die. I think "The Other Side of the Closet Door" can help everyone." With the support of a network of volunteers, SHINE is searching for participants and raising \$200k to finance the project." The full-length documentary is scheduled for release in the summer of 2008.

For more info on SHINE or this documentary please email <u>info@shineorg.com</u> or call 509-860-7354



Visit Stonewall online... www.stonewallnews.net

# There's Power in Our Pride.







Participate in the largest LGBT Community Survey in history, and help demonstrate the growing Power in Our Pride.

Everyone who completes the survey by May 15, 2007 will be entered into a drawing to win one of FOUR free airline tickets from/to any of the participating airline's destinations in the 48 continental U.S. States, plus Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean. Restrictions apply.

Please take the survey today, and tell your friends!

## www.GaySurvey.com www.LesbianSurvey.com

Tremendous strides toward full equality have been achieved by our communities over the past decade. There's Power in Our Pride. Power to make a difference:

- Gay and lesbian survey studies have opened doors (and minds) in leading corporations and organizations, which in turn have recognized the value of their LGBT employees through the establishment of equal hiring policies and domestic partner benefits. This has been a catalyst, leading to sweeping changes in political and social inclusivity.
- Demographic reports also influence marketing investment. Virtually absent until recently, we now see a growing variety of products and services represented in gay media, celebrating our diversity. Ads keep LGBT publications and websites in business, serving their communities with independent news and information.
- Beyond simply advertising, though, these companies support us in many ways, including sponsoring community events and funding community-based charities in order to earn our loyalty.
- Taking an annual pulse on market trends through surveys helps demonstrate the LGBT community's growing power, and influences positive change.

We respect your privacy. All personal survey data is held confidentially by Community Marketing, Inc., an independent market research and communications firm based in San Francisco (founded 1992, and proudly 100% gay-owned and -operated) and will not be sold to third parties or used for marketing purposes. Thank you!



Community Marketing, Inc.

Gay Market Research + Development Lab®

www.CommunityMarketingInc.com

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Share your union ceremony, arrival of a child or other milestone in life with the Stonewall family at no charge! Announcements should be 150-250 words. Include your name and phone number so we may contact you. You may e-mail your announcement with photo attachment or mail to Stonewall at the address above. Please include a SASE for photo returns.

#### OBITUARIES

Obituaries written by spouses, family or friends may be placed in Stonewall News free of charge. They can be sent via e-mail, U.S. Mail or fax. Include your name and phone number so we may contact you. A photo may be included as an e-mail attachment or via traditional mail. Please include a SASE for photo returns:

#### LETTERS POLICY

Stonewall News Northwest welcomes letters and e-mail. All submissions will be considered for publication. They should be typed and 250 words or less. Each submission may be edited for length and/or coherence. Full name, address and phone number must be included; letters will be verified. Names withheld by request only. Submissions will not be returned.

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#### Stonewall News Northwest Awards

2006 | Business Of The Year Award | INBA

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

#### No Rest for the Wicked

## Notes from a Lavender Graduation

By Joan Opyr

Last week, I had the privilege of giving the keynote address at Washington State University's Lavender Graduation. This event, held annually since 1997, honors the graduating GLBTQA students, who have triumphed over prejudice, adversity, and the other difficulties facing young college students today. It inspired this column.

When I was a young tomboy growing up in Raleigh, North Carolina, my grandmother told me that I'd never get anywhere by acting up, misbehaving, and being the class clown. Clearly, she was wrong. I should point out that my grandmother was right about one thing, though. She said that if I kept cutting my hair short and dressing like a man, I'd never get a husband.

During graduation season, you're going to hear a lot of speeches about the future and what it means to be a success. Commencement speakers are addicted to talking about the future. Words of wisdom are the old folks' crystal meth. When we turn forty, we cannot seem to lay off the crack pipe of advice.

But predictions about the future have no more value than the daily horoscope. They have no more value than the weather report. If you want to know if it's raining, stick your head out the window. I don't want to talk to you about the future. What I'm going to talk about is the present.

We tend to forget about the present, because we've got our eyes on some distant goal, and that's all very well and good, but what you need to know is that right here, right now, you graduates are successful. You have done it. You are graduating from college, which means that you have beaten the odds. Take some time to savor that, to bask in it. Don't wait: feel good about who you are and what you've accomplished.

Do you feel good? Okay, then. I want you to remember this feeling; to put some of it into a mental bank so that you can make withdrawals when you start to feel beaten down or pessimistic. I was listening to an oldies station the other day, and they played a Billy Joel song called Just the Way You Are. Billy Joel is well before your time, but this is a song he wrote for his wife. Don't go changing, to try to please me . . . I love you just

the way you are. Billy Joel sang that wonderful song to his wonderful wife, and a couple of years later, he divorced her and married a supermodel. Rejection! You will face rejection – often – but you know how to deal with it. I suspect that you've dealt with it plenty.

I admire your courage. I was born a lesbian, but I didn't come out "officially" until I was twenty-five. Everybody knew, but it wasn't because I told them. I was too chicken to attend Gay-Soc – the Gay Society – which was just then forming at N.C. State. I really regret that. You are smarter than I was. You've stood up and declared who you are. You have fought for your freedom to be openly GLBTQA, and you have triumphed.

I know that you have felt the sting of rejection, and so perhaps this moment is bittersweet. Nothing can take that pain away, but how you choose to cope with it makes all the difference. I know this from personal experience, but rather than bum you out, tonight I thought I'd share some of the rejection letters I received when I was sending my book out to agents and publishers. It's a different kind of rejection – a kind that it's safe to laugh at.

It took me seven years to write Idaho Code and five years to sell it. I spent a fortune on postage and self-addressed stamped envelopes. I crossed my fingers when I mailed them out, and I cussed like a sailor when they came back with "NO" stamped across the top. This story has a happy ending, because the book was eventually published, but I didn't know that when I was getting letters like this:

"Many thanks for sending along the first few pages of your novel, Idaho Code. Unfortunately, my cup runeth [sic] over, and it's just not my cup of tea."

"Feedback is this: yes, there is a lot to like. Your writing has spunk and Bil is fun, her family too. However, it's too much, too many exaggerated scenes that go round and round. You could pare back a great deal on Bil's family, and the reader would get the picture."

"Thank you. I like the pace of this and I wish the writing style were more compelling. The first person POV got very tiresome. Sorry and good luck."

"Joan, this is not right for us, but on a personal note, it's nice to receive queries from lesbians for a change."

And, last but not least, my personal favorite:

"Dear Author,

Thank you for writing to the Diane Cleaver Literary Agency about your work. I am sorry to respond that Diane Cleaver is dead."

There's nothing like sending your manuscript to a corpse.

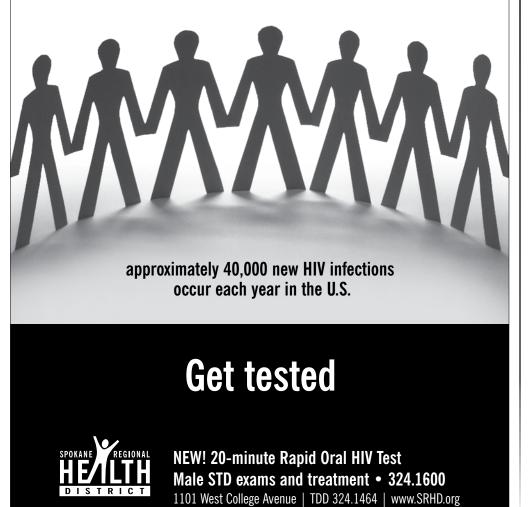
I was advised by several agents to change my main character from a lesbian to a straight guy. I was told to rewrite the book in third person. I was told to make the story longer, to make it shorter, and to drop the murder mystery. One woman told me that I would have to turn my black characters into white people. She said that the interracial family in the book made things too complicated, and that some people might think putting black people in the middle of white Idaho was racist. I was pretty dumbfounded by that. My partner's family is interracial, and they live in Idaho, but here was some faraway editor telling me that the life I was living wasn't possible, and that the way not to be racist was to make everyone in my book white.

I decided she was nuts. I ignored her. I was stubborn. I did it my way. And that's why Idaho Code took seven years to write and five years to sell.

I have been lucky. Two of the happiest moments in my life were when the Victoria Sanders Literary Agency called and said they'd take my book, and when Bywater Books called to say that they'd publish it. If I had been a sensible person, I'd have given up long before that happened. I'd have become a banker or a stripper or a trapeze artist. I didn't change professions because I couldn't. All I have ever wanted to do is write, and at some point, I realized that I'd keep at this until my work was published or I joined the late Diane Cleaver in that great publishing house in the sky.

When people tell you to be sensible, they probably mean well. When they tell you it's time to give up your dream of being a musician or a writer or a pyrotechnician and settle down in the family plumbing business, they're thinking about the future. But it isn't necessarily your future. When people offer you free advice, it's often worth exactly what you paid for it: nothing. Now I don't mean that you should close yourself off to good advice. I mean that you must learn to tell the good from the bad. Any advice that makes you feel less alive, less optimistic, less of who you are – anything that feels like settling rather than striving – that's the stuff that you absolutely must ignore. Live in the present, and pay no attention whatsoever to anyone who discourages you.

Congratulations to you, the Class of 2007. I am proud of you. Please, be proud of yourselves. You've done an amazing thing, but this is just the first of many. Think about the future, but enjoy the now. This is where it's all happening.





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.

#### **Practical Spirituality for Daily Life**

### Messengers in our Midst

By Bob Schout

Recently an opportunity presented itself to me. A client invited me to submit a proposed selection of my work for consideration. I had been yearning to work with this client for forever, and now I had my chance. I was so excited, but also anxious about what to submit. So I emailed a few friends and invited advice. I received an immediate response from one friend that simply said this, "Trust yourself. Trust your Spirit. I like, and they'll like, whatever you like. You've never needed anyone's opinion. You know what to do."

That wasn't what I expected to hear, but I desperately needed to hear it. I need to be reminded of the truth that underlies that statement. My friend was right. Our job is to trust the Spirit within no matter what, regarding every issue, big or small. I know that I sound like my mother and probably many other mothers, too. But it turns out mom was right.

Each of us has an indwelling Spirit, call it what you will – God, Love, Allah, Divine Goddess, Light, Chi, Spirit, Truth, Universal Law, or Intuition. Whatever you call it, it's there 24/7. It is your guide, your internal compass willing and ready to give you direction with anything, at any time, in every area of your life: work, relationships, finances, sex, health, school, estrangement from family or friends, and the list goes on. Each of us only needs to turn to it, instead of turning to others to tell us or show us what to do, how to live or what we should be. We simply need to turn within and tune in to hear its voice and message. The more we tune in, the more we can tune out the confusion that swirls in our minds and lives at times. We hear, learn and are able to prosper in every area of life. It's there. You know. I know it. So use it.

The lesson could end there, but I tend to talk a lot, so there is more. The other blessing that came from my friend's note was another reminder of sorts. Even when we forget to tune in, there is no reason to worry about decisions or life for that matter, because it - whatever you want to call it - seems to send messengers into our midst to remind us of truth and the Truth of our Being, challenging us to live up to the simple truth that each of us is love in expression. Sometimes it sends the message in simple ways - through an opportunity to opt out of something that is clearly not in your best interest, or through an invitation to step up, volunteer and be of service to another person or to

an organization.

At other times it is not so subtle at all. Its message or messenger comes in the form of a blunt statement by a lover or friend calling you on a behavior that is not emotionally, psychologically, physically or spiritually healthy. Sometimes it shows up as a challenge for you to live in integrity or engage in an act of courage, to bite your tongue at a bar when you really want to lash out or wound someone with your words. Sometimes it shows itself as an angry or hurt co-worker or family member, whose anger or hurt invites you to show love through forgiveness and compassion. Sometimes it's in the form of a mere thought or attitude that passes through your mind, planting a seed of hope, restraint from hostility, peace, or abundance in life. It shows up at bars, in beds, at work, at school, at home. It appears as friends, foes, colleagues, customers, strangers on the street and partners in life everywhere; it is.

Regardless of how it shows up, it's always there living through a messenger that delivers one message and one message only – though the form may change – and the message is this: love and be true to yourself, to the spirit within and to all people in life. As my messenger reminded me, "Trust yourself. You don't need anyone's advice. You know what to do. Just do it and you'll be great!" Wow, what a message!



Bob Schout is a national speaker, workshop facilitator, pastoral counselor and personal life coach. You can send your comments to him at Bob@ spiritexpressing.com

#### **OUT** n' About in The Lilac City

- April 21 & 22, Bugs Bunny on Broadway with Spokane Symphony and creator/conductor George Daugherty at INB Performing Arts Center. Tickets are available at TicketsWest or by calling (509) 624-1200.
- ♣ Through Apr. 21, The Price by Arthur Miller at interPLAYERS. For tickets or more information, call (509) 455-PLAY or visit <a href="http://www.interplayers.com">http://www.interplayers.com</a>.
- ♣ Through Apr. 21, ARt's Humble Boy at the SFCC's Spartan Theater starring Patty Duke! Call (509) 838-4013 for tickets. For more information go to <a href="http://actorsreptheatre.com">http://actorsreptheatre.com</a>. (See review)
- ♣ Through April 22, The Nerd at Spokane Civic Theatre. Call (509) 325-2507 for tickets. For information go to <a href="http://www.spokanecivictheatre.com">http://www.spokanecivictheatre.com</a>
- ♣ Through Apr. 27, Prints from the Tamarind Institute at Spokane Art School's Huneke Gallery, 920 N. Howard. Free. For information call (509) 328-0900.
- ♣ Through April 27, "Explorations X," at the Chase Gallery, a group student art exhibition from regional colleges and universities. City Hall 808 W. Spokane Falls Blvd. in Spokane. Gallery hours are Mon. from 8 a.m. to 9 p.m. and Tues. Fri. from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- ♣ Through May 25, Indigenous Collection at the Huneke Gallery, Spokane Art School is a contemporary view of today's world through the eyes of the first Americans. Paintings, sculpture and ledgers from local Native American artists George Flett, Rick Gendron, George Hill, and Michael Holloman will be on display through the end of May. Reception Friday, May 4, 2007, 5-7 p.m.
- ♣ April 6-8, 12-15, 19-21, *Steel Magnolias* at Lake City Playhouse. Ticket prices and more information at 208-667-1323 or at <a href="http://www.lakecityplayhouse.org">http://www.lakecityplayhouse.org</a>
- May 3, Pride & Joy Movie Night presents My Mother Likes Women at Center-Stage Theatre, 2nd Floor. FREE. Social at 7 p.m. Movie at 7:30. Call 74-STAGE.
- ♣ Through May 5, "Fighting the Fires of Hate: America and the Nazi Book Burnings" at Gonzaga University in conjunction with the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum, This exhibition examines the post-World-War-II years, exploring how the Nazi book burnings have affected American life, politics, literature, and popular culture and features reproductions of artifacts and photographs, as well as video. More information at <a href="https://www.ushmm.org">www.ushmm.org</a> or call: (509) 323-6532.
- **♣ Through June 3, "From Head to Toe: Shoes and Hats"** on display at the MAC E-mail: <a href="mailto:themac@northwestmuseum.org">themac@northwestmuseum.org</a>. More information at <a href="http://www.northwestmuseum.org">http://www.northwestmuseum.org</a> or call 509-456-3931.

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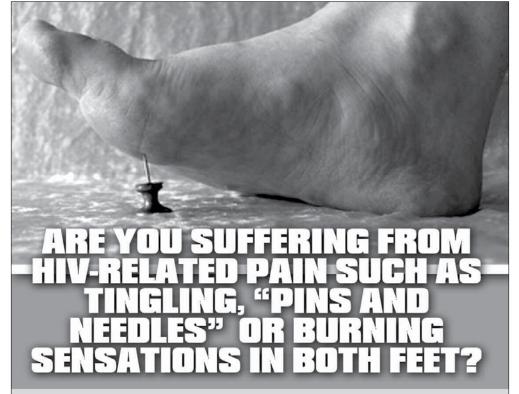
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## **National & International**

## Gay rights bills get first hearing in Oregon House panel

Conservative religious groups oppose measure



By WashingtonBlade.com

SALEM, OR - Hundreds of activists from both sides of the gay rights debate crowded into the Capitol April 9 to give lawmakers an earful on measures to allow civil unions for same-sex couples and to ban discrimination based on sexual orientation.

On the one side, gays and lesbians offered emotional testimony about the discrimination they've faced in employment and other areas and in their committed relationships to each other that are not recognized by the state.

Religious conservatives, on the other hand, worried that the anti-discrimination bill, in some cases, could erode religious freedom by forcing churches and religious institutions to accept something they might consider immoral.

The comments came as the House Rules committee opened a hearing on a civil unions measure that would give same-sex couples most of the benefits ordinarily reserved for married couples under state law.

Also before the committee is a Senatepassed bill to prohibit discrimination against gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people in employment, housing and access to public accommodations.

Among those who testified Monday night was Travis Prinslow, a gay man from Salem who said he was fired from his job at a retail store despite having an "exemplary" work record.

"As a customer put it, I was 'too gay," Prinslow said. "I was asked by my manager to tone it down" but was fired from his job a short time after that.

State Rep. Tina Kotek talked of the pain of not having being able to enter into a civil union with her "loving partner" Aimee Wilson that would afford them benefits that married couples enjoy such as hospital visitation rights or shared health benefits.

Please see OREGON page 14

## Study: Abstinence Classes Don't Stop Sex

By Associated Press

WAHINGTON - Students who participated in sexual abstinence programs were just as likely to have sex within a few years as those who did not, according to a long-awaited study mandated by Congress.

Also, those who attended the abstinence classes reported having similar numbers of sexual partners as those who did not attend the classes, and they first had sex at about the same age as their control group counterparts - 14 years and nine months, according to Mathematica Policy Research Inc.

The federal government now spends about \$176 million annually on abstinence-until-marriage education. Critics have repeatedly said they don't believe the programs are working, and the study will give them reinforcement.

However, Bush administration officials cautioned against drawing sweeping conclusions from the study. They said the four programs reviewed - among several hundred across the nation - were some of the very first established after Congress overhauled the nation's welfare laws in 1996

Officials said one lesson they learned from the study is that the abstinence message should be reinforced in subsequent years to truly affect behavior.

"This report confirms that these interventions are not like vaccines. You can't expect one dose in middle school, or a small dose, to be protective all throughout the youth's high school career," said Harry Wilson, the commissioner of the Family and Youth Services Bureau at the Administration for Children and Families.

For its study, Mathematica looked at students in four abstinence programs around the country as well as peers from the same communities who did not participate in the abstinence programs. The 2,057 youths came from big cities - Miami and Milwaukee - as well as rural communities - Powhatan, Va., and Clarksdale, Miss.

The students who participated in abstinence education did so for one to three years. Their average age was 11 to 12 when they entered the programs back in 1999.

Mathematic then did a follow up survey in late 2005 and early 2006. By that time, the average age was about 16.5. Mathematica found that about half of the abstinence students and about half from the control group reported that they remained abstinent.

"I really do think it's a two-part story. First, there is no evidence that the programs increased the rate of sexual abstinence," said Chris Trenholm, a senior researcher at Mathematica who oversaw the study. "However, the second part of the story that I think is equally important is that we find no evidence that the programs increased the rate of unprotected sex."

Trenholm said his second point of emphasis was important because some critics of abstinence programs have contended that they lead to less frequent use of condoms.

Mathematica's study could have serious implications as Congress considers renewing this summer the block grant program for abstinence education known as Title V. The federal government has authorized up to \$50 million annually for the program. Participating states then provide \$3 for every \$4 they get from the federal government. Eight states decline to take part in the grant program.

Some lawmakers and advocacy groups believe the federal government should use that money for comprehensive sex education, which would include abstinence as a piece of the curriculum.

#### Fired Transsexual Largo City Manager Won't Sue



By Associated Press

LARGO, FL. - A city manager fired after revealing his plans to have a sex change said he will not sue the city that fired him and he will begin living as a woman full-time by the end of May.

Steve Stanton, 48, said Friday during the taped segment on CNN's "Larry King Live," that he will be living as Susan within the next two months. He said he and his wife will separate.

Stanton had previously said taking Largo to court would be like "suing my mother," but the city of 76,000 west of Tampa had expected him to sue.

"It is tempting to seek retribution in the courts, but after much reflection and soul searching, I just cannot find it within my heart to sue Largo - a city I have always and will always love. I do not want to punish the citizens of Largo," Stanton said in the statement.

The National Center for Lesbian Rights said in a press release that Stanton has decided to focus on education and public advocacy on behalf of the transgender community instead of filing a lawsuit.

The City Commission voted 5-2 in February and again in March to fire Stanton from the \$140,000-a-year job he held for 14 years. Commissioners said it was Stanton's judgment, not the revelation he planned a sex change, that prompted the votes.

#### **Gay Marriage Bill Advances In Connecticut**



By 365gay.com

HARTFORD, Conn. - A bill to legalize same-sex marriage is headed to a vote in the Connecticut House of Representatives, but if the measure passes both houses it is likely to suffer the same fate as similar legislation in California - a veto.

The Judiciary Committee voted 26 - 15 Thursday to send the bill to the floor of the House for a vote.

Republican Gov. M. Jodi Rell signed a civil unions bill into law two years ago but following the committee vote she said she continues to believe that marriage is between one man and one woman.

Sen. Andrew McDonald (D) the cochair of the Judiciary Committee and one of a handful of openly gay lawmakers in the state, disputed the position taken by Rell and other Republicans - that civil unions are sufficient.

Although they provide the same state rights as marriage, using the term civil union creates a separate class of people McDonald said.

His co-chair, Rep. Michael P. Lawlor, who also is gay, agreed, citing the ruling by South Africa's highest court that there was no justification for South African laws banning gay marriage.

"They called it a form of apartheid," said Lawlor, who added that the South African parliament overwhelmingly voted that gays "should have the same right to

marriage that straight South Africans have."

Last month the Judiciary Committee heard from same-sex couples seeking marriage and from opponents of gay wedlock.

So many people showed up for the hearing a second room was opened up for the overflow.

The issue of same-sex marriage is also before the Supreme Court of Connecticut.

Eight same-sex couples filed a civil rights lawsuit against the state after they were refused marriage licenses. Last July a lower court ruled that said same-sex couples do not need marriage because they already are entitled to civil unions

Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders, the Boston-based legal group that won same-sex marriage in Massachusetts, is handing the case.

It argues that denying same-sex couples access to marriage violates the state constitution in two ways: gay and lesbian citizens are denied both equal protection and due process.

GLAD says that when lawmakers debated and enacted the civil union statute, they recognized that same-sex couples have the same capacity for love and commitment and the same need for protections under marriage laws as heterosexual couples. By calling it a civil union rather than a marriage the state is creating a separate but equal entity.

Meanwhile, in California the issue of same-sex marriage is also before the legislature and the state Supreme Court.

Earlier this week the Assembly Judiciary Committee approved a gay marriage bill.

Lawmakers passed a nearly identical bill in 2005 - becoming the first legislative body in the nation to approve a measure allowing same-sex couples to marry - but it was vetoed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

Schwarzenegger has said that if the measure passes again he will again veto it.

#### **NH Civil Union Bill Stalls**



By 365gay.com

CONCORD, N.H. - The breaks have been slammed on a bill to create civil unions in New Hampshire that was to have gone to a vote Wednesday April 18 in the state Senate

Senate President Sylvia Larsen (D) tells the Associated Press that she made the decision to put off the vote because "I didn't want the senators to be rushed when it came time to be voting."

No new date for a vote has been scheduled and some lawmakers are blaming the heavy hand of Gov. John Lynch (D).

Lynch has not stated his position on

the bill. He already has said he opposes same-sex marriage.

Larsen's decision to postpone the vote has many lawmakers scratching their heads. In interviews with the AP, she and a large number of senators say they already have made up their minds on how they will vote.

Larsen said she would support the measure.

Asked if Lynch had put pressure on her to put off the vote, the governor's spokesperson, Colin Manning, did not directly answer questions from the AP, saying only that "the governor is certain the Senate will give this bill thoughtful consideration"

The legislation passed a key committee Thursday and a vote on the floor of the Senate was immediately set for Wednesday.

Sen. Bob Clegg (R) voted against the bill in committee, but believes it would pass a full Senate vote was surprised when a reporter told him the vote had been postponed.

"Why would we fast-track the bill and then hold it? It has to be for purely political reasons," Clegg told the AP. "The only factor left is the governor."

In committee hearings this week Gene Robinson, the Episcopal bishop of New Hampshire, and the only openly gay bishop in the worldwide Anglican Communion, called for passage of the bill.

**Federal Tax Law Hits Gay Families Harder** 

WASHINGTON - Gay and lesbian families pay higher federal income tax than their opposite-sex married counterparts. Once again the Internal Revenue Service is warning tax preparers, businesses and state governments that same-sex couples legally married in Massachusetts, who have had civil unions in New jersey, Connecticut or Vermont, or who are registered as domestic partners in states such as California must file separate income tax forms.

Citing the so-called Federal Defense of Marriage Act the IRS says that the US government does not recognize anything other than legally married opposite-sex

The law allows straight couples who are married to divide their incomes when they file jointly, usually meaning a lower tax rate.

"Each tax season, same-sex couples sit at their dining room tables and are forced to live a legal lie by checking single despite their decades together - arbitrarily dividing up their joint households income, expenses, and dependents," said Molly McKay, a spokesperson for Marriage Equality, a group



that represents gay families.

"Even in states with domestic partnerships or civil unions, we still have to check single on our tax forms because our

Please see TAXES page 15

#### Aruba First Area In Caribbean To Recognize Gay Marriage



By 365gay.com

THE HAGUE - The Netherlands Supreme Court has ordered the island of Aruba to recognize same-sex marriages registered in the Netherlands, or other areas where they are legal.

The semi-autonomous island in the Antilles is part of the Kingdom of The Netherlands. It has been in a legal battle with Dutch authorities for the past three years over gay marriage, after a lesbian couple on the island tried to register their marriage.

Charlene and Esther Oduber-Lamers were legally wed in the Netherlands in 2001.

When the two women tried to register as a married couple in 2004 people on the

island threw rocks at them, slashed their car tires and protested against gay unions outside the local Parliament.

The abuse was so bad the women ended up fleeing the island.

"If we accept gay marriage, would we next have to accept Holland's marijuana bars and euthanasia? government spokesman Ruben Trapenberg said in 2005. "They have their culture, we have ours."

After the Public Registry rejected the Oduber-Lamers' marriage certificate, the Oduber-Lamers returned to The Netherlands where they filed a lawsuit charging Aruba's government with discrimination.

The case began on the island where a court ruled their union should be recognized. The government appealed to the Supreme Court at The Hague. The court ruled April 11 that a marriage certificate signed by an official of the Netherlands, carried the "same force of law" in Aruba. "The couple can insist that they be registered as married in the municipal registry," the court added.

The Netherlands became the first country in the world to allow same-sex marriage in

Legal experts say the ruling extends to all other parts of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, including Curacao, Bonaire, Saba and Saint Martin.

#### Edwards announces gay supporters

Former adviser to Pres. Clinton signs on to campaign



By Associated Press

WASHINGTON - Democrat John Edwards is touting prominent gay supporters who have signed on to his presidential campaign, including a former adviser to President Clinton.

Businessman David Mixner is one of 25 people listed on a news release that the Edwards campaign distributed Tuesday, along with a statement from the candidate saying he is honored to have the backing of so many respected gay leaders.

"They work hard every day to make our country a better place and I am proud to join with them to fight for equal rights for all Americans," Edwards said.

Edwards is making a push for gay support in the competitive Democratic presidential primary. In February, he came out in support of legislation that would end the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy that prevents people who are openly gay from serving in the military.

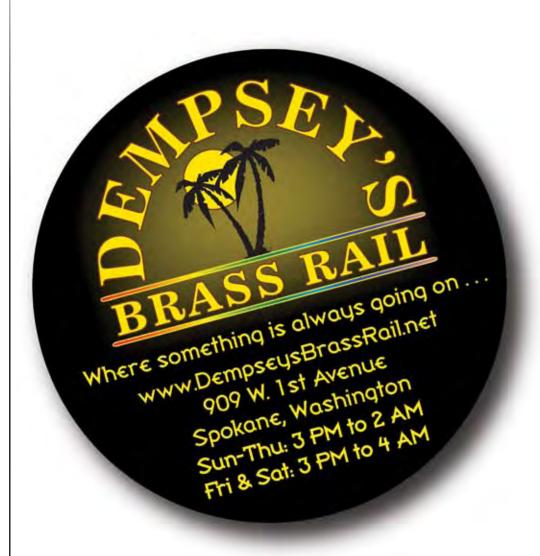
But Edwards has competition for the gay community's support—Barack Obama's campaign has also said he is opposed to 'Don't Åsk, Don't Tell," as has Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton's campaign. She also told the Human Rights Campaign last month that she wants a partnership with gays if elected president.

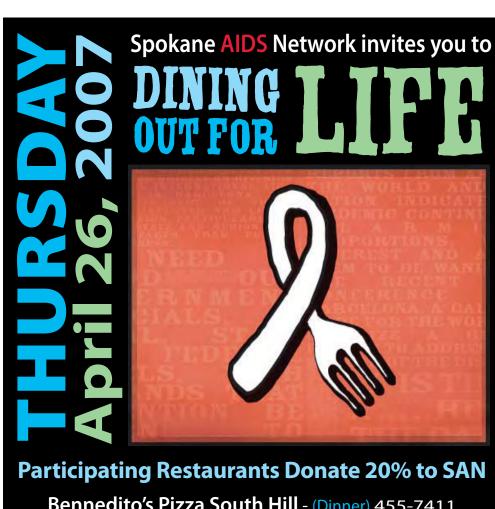
Clinton's husband, Bill, was president when the Pentagon instituted the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy, which says gays may serve in the military only if they keep their sexual orientation private. The policy was a compromise that Clinton was forced to accept.

"Don't Ask, Don't Tell" created a rift between President Clinton and Mixner, who raised millions for him among gay and lesbian voters but was later arrested in front of the White House in a protest of the policy. The two later said they patched up their differences and agreed to disagree on the administration's policy.

Dining

Mixner did not respond to an e-mail requesting comment on the Edwards endorsement.





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## Christopher Lawrence, A & E Editor

#### Humble Boy wins for ARt and Duke

Michael Weaver directs another winning show and demonstrates that ensemble work will capture and audience every time. As Patty Duke said in her exclusive interview with Stonewall, "There are no light-weights in this cast."

And this is no light comedy, even though there are moments that elicit uproarious reaction from the audience. Rather, Charlotte Jones dark exploration into the decaying relationships revealed shortly after the death of the familial patriarch is fascinating. Her dialogue is often snappy and clever with serious undertones.

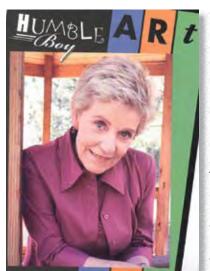
Super String Theory and Unified Field

Theory are woven into the material of the plot AND the psycho-social interactions of the Humble-Pye families (pun most likely intended).

Ms. Duke may be small in stature, but she lacks no amount of power in the role of Flora Humble who is an extremely selfcentered (not to mention stunning and stylish) matron surrounded by equally strong characters. Flora's lighter and more playful side does come to light, but the years of terminal disappointment in everyone in her life seem to have taken their toll.

Chief among those is her son Felix (Carter J. Davis), an astro-physicist whose brilliance and hyper-sensitivity combine to create a compelling sort of autistic behavior when the stress of his father's sudden death becomes a reality. Davis is extremely focused in his physically and emotionally exhausting role.

Therese Diekhans who plays Mercy Lott, Flora's best friend - meek, prim, proper and self appointed personal servant, steals the show for a few glorious moments. Like a mouse taking control



of a herd of captured house cats, she delivers a prayer-cum-soliloquycum-exhortation on the decades of abuse she suffered as a part of the extended Humble family, all while blessing the disastrous meal they are about to receive. Top drawer comedy all around.

Jim (Patrick Treadway) the gardener is played gently and patiently, filled with love for entomology, plants

and the Humbles for reasons that become clear in the evocative ending.

Jane May as Rosie Pye, the girl Felix left behind, and J.P. O'Shaughnessy as her slightly obnoxious and self-congratulatory father were equally strong in their individual characterizations.

Michael Weaver is a gifted director, no matter what the subject. His comedy expertise and sense of timing are flawless, and his ability to deliver poignant tragedy reflects an authentic wisdom and robust experience in theater. Motivation seems to consistently drive each and every body movement, voice inflection and piece of blocking of his actors. His creative gifts enhance but never suppress his actors. Their visions seem to magically blend with his. What a blessing for those of us who relish good professional theater!

Set design and lighting are creative and wonderfully visual, as always, thanks to veterans John Hofland (three year alumni at ARt) and Justin Schmidt.

Get those tickets NOW! (509) 838.4013

#### Is *The Price* the same as the cost?

Arthur Miller's offering of The Price is the story of estranged brothers brought together after the death of their father, in order to sell his furniture and other effects. As usual, in Miller's works, what appears to be the truth at first glance is plowed asunder by the night's end.

The cast is fine. The script seemed a bit long, and the pace a little slow in some places, however this is gritty stuff. Miller brings the sordid underbelly of survival instincts into play as the psychol-

Villers and Terry E. Snead. ogy of the players is revealed.

L – R. Maria Caprile, Reed McColm, Maynard

Victor Franz (Maynard Villers) is strong and gentle as the policeman/Everyman of limited means whose wife Esther (Maria Caprille) is impatient for him to retire from the force and begin a new life unfettered by the past in her desperate hope of having a more comfortable life that would reflect visible success.

Caprille shows good strength in portraying her lack of fulfillment and those moments of tenderness, yet, as is often the case with Miller's females, seemed less empowered than the lines suggest. Visually and physically, her performance seems fairly solid, but when her voice slides into her upper register, it becomes so distracting that she comes off as weak and whining.

Walter (Terry E. Snead) is a successful business owner who walked away right after the stock market crash of 1929, leaving his sibling, who felt compelled to forego his own education and care for their father. Their father had fallen into deep depression after losing almost everything. Expressing his individual perspective, Walter says, "There was no love in the Depression." Terry plays it out with an anxious lack of empathy and compassion juxtaposed against his need for forgiveness and understanding.

For 16 years, Walter's success has made Victor feel inadequate. Their ability to communicate is at a stand still, and yet now is the time to talk about their pasts and their choices.

The lighter moments and gems of wisdom provided by

89 year old Jewish furniture appraiser, Gregory Solomon (Reed Malcolm who also directed). His finely crafted character is filled with physical details of aging and skillfully balanced with the wiliness of experience. It is difficult to know if we can trust either Gregory or Walter.

What is the cost of choices we make? Haggling over the price of the furniture is the metaphor to consider. Arthur Miller jabs us with the message that the price we pay in our lives has to do with the consequences of our choices.

For Walter, the cost of success was never having a "real life" with emotional and mental health. For Victor, the cost of having a meaningful life was to sacrifice monetary success along with his vocational dreams.

Miller's dialogue operates on several levels at once. Each character's personal expositions seem largely unheard and unheeded by the others with the exception of the wise and crafty appraiser,

It really is worth seeing. Afterwards I would recommend you adjourn for a sugary dessert after this play to decompress from this insightful look at the behavioral psychology of a family not at its best.

The Price closes on Friday, April 21. Call (509) 455-PLAY for tickets.

#### A Journey Through Time - Gospel

I would never have imagined that I was about to see an unlikely and unknown phenomenon here in "white bread" Spokane when I arrived at Spokane Falls Community College. We now have an multi-faith, multi-ethnic Gospel Choir to shake the rafters and make the audience stomp their feet.

Sharon Jones has a dream. She formed the first Gospel Choir this last quarter as a class at SFCC, and the fruits



plete choir were women portasks. Dressed

of her labor combined with that of her 53 choir members and five musicians paid off with an outstanding concert.

The nearly packed house rocked through an evening that presented the history of spiritual music from the Deep South leading up to the Gospel music of

That long progression throughout our history from Negro Spirituals during slavery were not only salve and solace but inspiration for a people who had incredible hardships to overcome and horrific prejudices with which to deal. They also were sometimes a way to communicate secretly with other slaves in neighboring plantations or those trying to escape.

The narration by Brenda Taylor was touching and painfully beautiful. Interspersed among the music of the com-

vignettes with the men and traying people of color at work common in clothing that

represented the Civil War period, they each sang solos from a library of spirituals that often had the others echoing the refrain. Stirring and noble songs of hope, every one.

Most of the GLBTQA community have some inkling of prejudice and hardship because of being born who we are. This music personifies a struggle and strength of spirit from which we can learn and grow.

As Ms Jones said at one point during the evening, "You don't have to go somewhere else to find diverse culture. It's right HERE! .. In SPOKANE!"

We in the audience, who were clearly of all ages, colors and creeds, agreed heartily. How could we NOT cheer for such a stirring reminder that we shall ALL overcome?

#### My Mother Loves Women!

Hang on to your hard hats and flannel shirts! Pride & Joy Movie Night's next film has that happy ending so many of you have requested. In fact, at the end of *My Mother Likes Women*, everyone is happy, gay or gay-friendly.

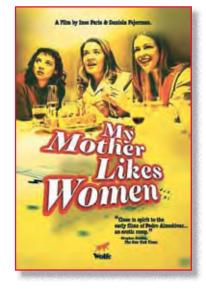
This is the lighthearted story of a mother whose three grown daughters must adjust to her surprise announcement that she is a lesbian.

Of course the ensuing onslaught of reactions is the meat of the comedy. The tag line is "Family just isn't what it used to be!"

Even though I have not had the chance to preview this 2004 film, several excellent re-

views assure us that it is not only full of eroticism and humor.

Purported to be full of "exotic accents and locales, references to Sappho, comedic highs, dramatic lows, a few outrageously exaggerated stereotypes, scenes in a lesbian bar, sexy 'butches' and lovely Spanish femmes," it sounds like it has something for everyone.



Get a group of your friends together and make it a party. Films like this are always more fun with a like-minded audience because you can laugh OUT loud together

Doors open at 7 p.m. and the movie begins at 7:30. FREE! Be sure to remember that ella's menu items are 20% off and 50% off all well drinks. See you at CenterStage on May 2!

#### **GLBT Book Group**

Spokane's GLBT Book Group meets the first Tuesday monthly in the second floor conference room of Auntie's Bookstore. Facilitator Jill Malone says review sessions begin at 7 P.M.

The upcoming review session is **Distant Echo** by Val McDermid on Tuesday, May 1.

## DEOS M

Christopher Lawrence, Dan Brown & Graham Ames

#### A Love to Hide

Christian Faure, director

Picture This Home Video, 102 minutes

This remarkably sweeping WWII drama stars two very fetching male lovers concealing their relationship while under the thumb of the Nazis occupation of Paris. Excellent cinematography reveals the stark contrast between the delicate and harsh realities of the underground gay scene and Philippe and Jean's healthy and happy relationship (Bruno Todeschini and Jérémie Renier). That they are forced to hide from family

and friends in order to remain free citizens is a disturbing fact of that era.

Just as they begin to realize that homosexuals will be the next group to be carted away to the camps, Sara, a young Jewish woman that Jean has known from childhood vacations, shows up. Her entire family has been murdered, so they create a false identity to protect her.

For a while, it seems likely that our two heroes might succeed with their multiple deceptions. Unfortunately, Jean's brother Jacques, a black marketeer, is

released from jail and their ruse falls prey to his suspicions and jealousy.

Even within this inter-generational family, there is no agreement about the

> Nazi occupation. Jacques uses it to his advantage as a Nazi collaborating, thieving mercenary. Papa's stalwart support of der Fuehrer's vendetta against Jews, homosexuals and the many other groups seen as dangerous to the 'perfect' Aryan society is hurtful to Jean, who becomes part of the resistance.

As the black sheep of the family, Jacques' familial jealousy ultimately drives him to the betrayal of his brother,

and the Nazis soon discover Jean's sexual orientation. The horrific results for our heroes and those they love are sobering.

A Love to Hide is a graceful and well-designed film of oppression that demonstrates the ability of the human spirit to survive. Our auspicious pink triangle originates here in the most ghastly example of homophobia ever perpetrated. Your personal video library is not complete without this beautifully acted, excellently produced and thoughtfully directed film.

#### Year Zero

Nine Inch Nails

Nothing Records

Uncle Trent is back again, this time without a five year break, and he seems to have something on his mind. Greed and indifference and environmental disasters and moral persecution need to be held

in check, because the result just a few years from now might be ugly. To illustrate his point, he has created an amazing concept album, Year Zero, sixteen tracks which careen through the minds and lives of people and events in this possible near future.

An opening militaristic trio of songs

("Hyperpower!", "The Beginning of the End", and lead single "Survivalism") suddenly give way to a much deeper story. "The Good Soldier" is having doubts about his job. "There's nowhere left to hide / 'Cause God is on our side / I keep telling myself / I am trying to see / I am trying to believe."The song is surprisingly fragile, and paints a complex portrait of a young man who is caught in a difficult place with a delicate touch, surprising under all the noise.

Oh, yes, the noise! Static, loops, highspectrum noises, dissonance, subwoofer workouts, bleeps, and a moment or two which defy explanation. Reznor has long relished pushing out the edges of what is considered "musical" or "melodic." In Year

**Zero**, he blazes a fresh trail into the sonic wilderness, and he leads his audience into territory that feels a bit scary at first, even for a veteran follower. Unlike the "NIN is a band" approach of With Teeth, this new album was created largely on the road in hotel rooms; "much more of a sound collage" are Trent's words. The wonder and genius is, by the fifth listen or so, all the

> noise is music. Every squeak and rattle is part of the melody or chord structure or rhythm section. Trent is having far too much fun with his portable toys.

> He is having far too much fun with this album, too. His anthem to mind-expanding numinous encounters, "Vessel," is all one downward

bass loop, vibrating the second chakra in nearly mystical rhythms. Another booty-shaker, strangely reminiscent of Pink Floyd, is "God Given," in which Trent (and I do not make this up) sings with great crowd-raising enthusiasm, "Come on, sing along, everybody now!" By the time the final, hair-raising chorus of "Zero-Sum" has been sung, one feels well traveled, like after a really good movie or novel. Yes, it is really that good.

And for all you down loaders out there, legal or not, this is an album worth physically owning. Surprises lurk everywhere, and while much of it is connected with the Alternate Reality Game, it is all just really cool and makes playing the actual CD all the more worthwhile.



### "What's up (musically), Doc?"

**Bugs Bunny on Broadway** promises to be a spectacular

fusion of classic Warner Studios cartoons on the big screen and their exhilarating scores played LIVE by our own Spokane Symphony. Created by conductor George Daugherty, this event premiered in a sold-out, extended run at The Gershwin Theatre on Broadway in 1990, Moscow's Kremlin

Palace, London's Royal Festival Hall, the Hollywood Bowl and the Sydney Opera House.

'wascally wabbit,' Bugs Bunny with his pals Daffy Duck, Elmer Fudd, Porky Pig and Wile

E. Coyote in such classic cartoons as "The Rabbit of Seville", "Long Haired Hare" and "What's Opera, Doc?" These masterpieces from Wagner, Rossini, Strauss and Tchaikovsky have been brilliantly reinterpreted through the "hare-raising" scores of Warner Bros. Studios composers Carl Stalling and Milt Franklyn.

Spring is here. Bugs and Porky wantthe child in you to come OUT and

#### Children Running Through **Patty Griffin** ATO Records

Ten years after her debut, singersongwriter Patty Griffin continues to run strong with her latest release, Children Running Through.

These twelve new songs have a sense of intimacy and nostalgia, of having been discovered just now, yet somehow fa-

miliar, perhaps from childhood. Drawing from jazz, blues, folk, tin pan alley, rock, even gospel, Patty shows she can master it all with style and substance. No wonder her fans include fellow musicians such as the Dixie Chicks (who have covered several of her songs), Bette Midler, Cameron Crowe, and Emmylou Harris, who con-

tured cunning arrangements that build spare, open spaces, allowing Griffin's beautiful voice and words to shine. Rich with subtle touches and surprising lushness, it is one of those rare recordings where every musical choice feels exactly perfect. The jangling folk/punk of "Getting Ready" brings a joyous exuberance to the realization that a relationship is over. "Burgundy Shoes" calls to mind recent Kate Bush, with its simplicity of

lyric and discovery of emotion through music. And somehow, choosing autoharp as the foundation of "No Bad News" could not feel more natural.

Griffin has a gift for lyric; nearly every song has that one line that reaches out and grabs you and suddenly makes you want to learn that song and

sing along over and over. "And as far as I can tell / most things mean nothing / except somethings / which mean everything." ("Railroad Wings") "We won't be afraid to be alive anymore / and we'll grow kindness in our hearts / for all the strangers among us / till there are no strangers anymore." ("No Bad News") This could be a great road trip album for the

With Children Running Through, Patty Griffin continues to build her already giant reputation as a first class songwriter and performer. This album is a great performance by a monumental talent and deserves a place on any wellrounded record shelf.

tributes guest vocals to this album. summer vacation. Producer Mike McCarthy has cap-

#### play. See you there, I hope! "B-dee-up, b-**Bugs Bunny on Broadway** stars that dee-up, That's All Folks!" Presley's talented fingers aid Vets

#### enjoyed crowd the superb technique and expression of Greg Presley at the Holy Names Music Center's McNally Recital Hall on Saturday April 14. Spokane is fortunate to have Yale and Julliard-trained Presley

among its citizens, and the program featured technically challenging and emotional selections. The spiritual power of the first selections, by J.S. Bach and Margaret Bonds, opened the evening. Bonds' work is rarely heard and was a treat. The dark moods of

Rachmaninoff followed, and these two

selections showcased Greg's skill and

the unique harmonies of the famous

composer. Debussy's impressionism



Asia, Spain and France, and the evening ended the adrenalin rush with one of Prokofiev's "War Sonatas". The sonata brought to mind the news features we see every day as these musical pictures of World War II scenes were heard.

conveyed the moods of

This concert was a benefit for the Fisher

House charities, which provide funds for families to be near veterans and military personnel who are undergoing medical treatment. Greg's performance again demonstrated why he is such a local favorite. His performances should not be missed, whether as a solo artist or as an accompanist. - Dan Brown

Want to write a review? Stonewall is looking for YOU to tell us what you like in your books, music, DVDs and live performances. If you are interested in being a guest reviewer, contact A&E editor, Christopher Lawrence at a-e@stonewallnews.net.

### **Pride Foundation Grants** blanket Pacific Northwest

October 2006 – March 2007 Total = \$155,750

Pride Foundation funds and awards grants twice yearly to organizations that work to strengthen the LGBTQ communities in Alaska, Idaho, Montana, Oregon and Washington. Grants are awarded through a central Seattle 5-State fund and through individual Regional Communities funds. Five Regional Communities made grants during this period—Black Hills, Inland Northwest, Pierce County, Washington Peninsula and Whatcom-Skagit. Pride Foundation can be found on the web at www.PrideFoundation.org.

#### In Support of Arts and Recreation

#### A Community Theatre dba CenterStage (Spokane, Washington)

www. spokanecenterstage.com

\$2,500 to support PRIDE & Joy Movie Night, an LGBTQ monthly activity night showcasing films which portray, support, nurture, and challenge both the LGBTQ and allied communities. During PRIDE Week they host films on three evenings, as well as host a PRIDE Breakfast and A PRIDE evening social and cocktail hour.

#### **Alaskan AIDS Assistance Association**

(Anchorage, Alaska) www.alaskanaids.org

\$5,000 to be used for further developing a successful theater arts program educating youths about HIV/AIDS. Their current production, The Inner Circle: Changing Times dramatizes the effects of HIV on a group of high school students, and has been performed to over 4,700 high school students. They are hiring a professional theater company to direct and run the production, taking it to a new level of professionalism.

In Support of Education, Advocacy and Outreach

#### **ACLU of Alaska**

(Anchorage, Alaska) www.AKCLU.org

\$5,000 to support the Alaska Won't Discriminate Community Activism Project (AWD), a coalition of activists from throughout the state who are working on identifying and addressing issues of unequal treatment of LGBTQ individuals and their families. Funds will be used to examine the benefit packages of the state's major employers and target those employers to adopt progressive changes. Funds will be used primarily for supplies and volunteer recruitment and support.

#### **Capitol City PRIDE**

(Olympia, Washington) www.rainbowcenteroly.org

\$2,500 to support PRIDE Day 2007 in Olympia, WA. PRIDE Day provides a forum for a broad spectrum of the community, and provides entertainment, family activities, and education. This year, Olympia's PRIDE Day festivities will be expanded to a full weekend of activities rather than a single day. (Black Hills RCG)

#### Columbia Basin College

(Pasco, Washington) www.columbiabasin.edu

\$3,700 to support the Rainbow Hawks Diversity Festival, a week-long series of activities and events raising awareness and visibility of LGBTQ health, wellness and social issues. The festival provides a forum for both the campus and Tri-Cities community to experience and appreciate art and music, as well as speakers reflective of the sexual orientation diversity of the community. In addition, library materials and resources related to LGBT studies will be purchased for the library.

#### **Idaho Human Rights Education Center** (Boise, Idaho)

www.idaho-humanrights.org

\$500 to sponsor the QueerID Academic and Arts Conference at Boise State University. The conference was created to engage the issues of gender, sexual orientation and identity through a multi-issue and intersectional frame. This includes art, film, academia, social action, and community building.

#### Idaho Women's Network

(Boise, Idaho)

www.idahowomensnetwork.org

\$5,000 to support general operating expenses. The operating expenses are used to strengthen democracy and promote LGBTQ equality through community organizing, advocacy, and education. The Network has been a consistent leader in LGBTQ equality work in Idaho since its inception in 1988 working in a coalition with leaders from other communities: people with disabilities, immigrants, faith communities, Native Americans and other people of color, and low income people.

#### Montana Human Rights Network-**MHRN**

(Helena, Montana)

www.mhrn.org

\$5,000 to fund general operating expenses focused on LGBTQ advocacy. One of their primary goals is to help Pride, Inc.the statewide civil rights organization for sexual minorities – survive as it transitions to a new director after their long-standing director stepped down. The Board of Pride, Inc. asked MHRN to provide guidance and help them maintain member services during this period. During this transition, MHRN will increase its LGBTQ leadership work and advocacy in order to fill the void.

#### **Peace and Justice Action League** of Spokane

(Spokane, Washington)

www.pjals.org

\$1,000 to support their work organizing the Inland Northwest Equality Network Coalition. This coalition of local individuals and organization is committed to progressing LGBTQ justice and equality through outreach, advocacy, and public education. Funds will be used to supplement general operating expenses to encourage their LGBTQ work.

#### Peninsula PRIDE Alliance

(Port Townsend, Washington) www. peninsulapridealliance.org

\$4,110 to support general operating expenses. This organization is dedicated to nurturing and strengthening the GLBTQIA community on the Olympic Peninsula through education and the celebration of GLBTQIA culture. Their largest project this year is the North Olympic Peninsula PRIDE Celebration. The celebration includes a business, education, and health fair; a PRIDE rally and film; and an evening dance. Other ongoing activities include a 30-minute monthly public access TV show; holiday social events; and a Web-based LGBTQ Business Directory.

#### **PFLAG of Kittitas County**

(Ellensburg, Washington)

509.925.9619

\$2,000 to support general operating expenses to help carry out a public education program with a strong emphasis on improving the lives of youths in the County. One program currently expanding is the anti-bullying Strategies For Youth,

presented by Lt. Governor Brad Owen and his wife Linda. PFLAG will increase the number of elementary schools the program is presented at. They also hope to purchase LGBTQ educational films for local libraries.

#### **PFLAG Whatcom County**

(Belingham, Washington) www.bellinghampflag.org

\$1,000 to organize Bellingham's 2007 PRIDE Festival. This wonderful event celebrates the LGBT community, their loved ones and their allies, and is open to the entire community.

#### **Rainbow Center**

(Tacoma, Washington) www.rainbowcntr.org

\$4650 to support general operating expenses. Through a Web site, publications, educational and tobacco cessation programs, community PRIDE events, and police outreach, the Rainbow Center is able to provide education, advocacy, outreach, and resource services to Tacoma's LGBTQ and straight populations. The Rainbow Center also provides an LGBTQ safe resource center with information about which government and non-profit resources are safe, effective, and respectful to sexual or gender minority citizens in crisis.

#### **Rainbow Community Center**

(Olympia, Washington) www.rainbowcenteroly.org

\$2,500 to support the 2007 Community Recognition Dinner, an annual event where all LGBTQ organizations in the area are invited to recognize and celebrate their volunteers. Funds will also be used to redesign the group's Web site and allow them to host Web pages for a number of other

#### **Religious Coalition For Equality**

(Seattle, Washington)

local organizations.

www.religiouscoalition-wa.org

\$2,500 to assist them in including a faith-based voice into the anti LGBTQ discrimination and marriage equality work they are engaged in throughout Washington State. Activities will include organizing a rally in the Capitol on February 26, 2007; providing a series of marriage equality colloquies throughout the state; and working with Equal Rights Washington to lobby key Washington State legislators to explain the religious perspective that supports marriage equality.

#### Skagit PFLAG

(Sedro Woolley, Washington)

www.pflagskagit.org

\$2,300 to fund the opening day for the Human Rights Festival at the Lincoln Theatre in Mount Vernon, WA. The event will include a writing workshop for youth and adults by the LGBTQoriented Bent Arts. The focus of the event will be on the role of discrimination in one's life and the toll it can take. Other events will include a poetry slam and the showing of Out of the Past, a film documenting the efforts of a girl in Salt Lake City who fought discrimination by setting up a high school Gay-Straight Alliance in the late 1990's. A panel discussion will follow the film.

#### Tacoma PFLAG

(Tacoma, Washington)

www.pnwplag.org/washington.html

\$1,200 to support the participation of Washington State PFLAG in the 2007 Washington State PTA Conference In 2006 Tacoma PFLAG held discussions with more than 750 PTA members and other booth representatives, talking about GLBTQIA individuals and sharing Safe Schools Coalition and PFLAG materials. Funds will be used for booth space, materials, promotional giveaways, and handouts at their 90-minute workshop.

#### In Support of Health and **Community Services**

#### **Bridges Healthcare**

(Tacoma, Washington) www.bridgeshealth.com

\$3,000 to support general operating costs in their first year of service. Bridges Healthcare provides healthand wellnessrelated services to the LGBTQ community in South Puget Sound. They provide competent holistic health care services, referrals, and patient advocacy. The work of Bridges will increase LGBTQ access to culturally competent health and wellness providers and services. No one will be denied service due to inability to pay.



#### **New Connections**

(Tacoma, Washington) 253.572.1561

\$2,500 to support case management and advocacy for the residents of Irma Gary House, a residential transitional facility for ex-offenders recently released from Washington Corrections Center for Women. Historically 40% of the residents identify as lesbian. The goal of the facility is for residents to graduate with sufficient knowledge of community services-especially medical/mental health services and job placement services -- to cope with economic problems without reverting back to criminal behavior. (5-State)

#### **Sexual Assault Support Services**

(Eugene, Oregon)\

www.sass-lane.org

\$3,100 to support the development of the Engaging Change support group, their first sexual violence prevention project specifically addressing needs within, and affecting, LGBTIQIA communities. They plan to hire an advocate/support group coordinator to supplement their other efforts. In 2005 they had 143 LGBTIQIA individuals seeking support.

#### **Skagit County Community Action** Agency (SCAA)

(Mount Vernon, Washington)

www.skagitcap.org

\$3,000 to leverage state funding for a new emergency shelter facility, as well as continuing case management for homeless families in Skagit County. Many faith-based groups specifically exclude the lesbian and gay community operate other shelters in the area and SCAA is the only safe haven for LGBT families in emergency need in the county. Upon completion of the project, donors of \$1000 or more will be listed on plaques in the entryway of the learning center. As local and state government officials, business people, church members, and homeless families enter the building, they will see that the facility welcomes all, and extends to everyone, something to be proud of.

#### In Support of HIV/AIDS Service Delivery and Prevention

#### **Blue Mountain Heart to Heart**

(Walla Walla, Washington)

bluemountainheart.org

\$5,000 for general operating support offsetting costs associated with HIV/ AIDS care and prevention programs. In addition to case management, care services include an organic vegetable distribution and nutrition program and a monthly client support group. Prevention services include free HIV counseling and testing, community education, and a Latino outreach program focused on migrant worker communities.

#### **Centralia College Diversity Center**

(Centralia, Washington) www.centralia.edu

\$3,500 for HIV/AIDS awareness activities, including a film project, radio

novellas in both English and Spanish to educate listeners on HIV and LGBTQ issues, and the purchasing of brochures and materials for the burgeoning Gay Straight Alliance at the college.

#### Jefferson AIDS Society (JAS)

(Port Townsend, Washington)

www.jeffersonaidsservices.org

\$5,000 to provide emergency services for low income and disabled people living with AIDS in Jefferson County. Drastically reduced federal funding has dramatically increased the need for emergency services provided by JAS. Assistance is provided to pay for food, utilities, rent, gas, sick pet care, and other emergency needs. In rural Jefferson County, JAS is often the only place clients can go for compassion and support.

#### Kitsap County HIV/AIDS Foundation

individuals who are often isolated due to

financial and geographic constraints.

(Seattle, Washington) www.kchaf.org

\$5,000 to support the Red Ribbon Supper Club, a monthly dinner for people living with HIV/AIDS in Kitsap County. The event, which serves 55 to 80 people per month, provides clients with nutritious meals, as well as the opportunity to discuss their health and well-being. It also provides an opportunity for social interaction for

#### **Lifelong AIDS Alliance**

(Seattle, Washington) www.llaa.org

\$5,000 to produce the State Advocacy and Awareness Project, which includes AIDS Awareness and Action Day, which occurred in Olympia to support people affected by HIV/AIDS in Washington State. Lifelong AIDS Alliance will hold eight advocacy trainings with special attention to districts whose representatives have a mixed record of support for HIV/AIDS. Funds will be used for training materials, transportation, lodging, and other event expenses for this advocacy effort.

#### Missoula AIDS Council

(Missoula, Montana) 406.543.4770

\$500 to sponsor Missoula's first Dine Out For Life event. This event was a collaboration of many local businesses donating a portion of their proceeds to support Missoula AIDS services.

#### **Spokane AIDS Network**

(Spokane, Washington)

www.spokaneaidsnetwork.org

\$5,000 to support the activities of the Mpowerment Project, a community-driven HIV prevention program endorsed by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. The primary goal of Mpowerment is to reduce the rate of unprotected sex between gay, bisexual and questioning men age 18 and up. Peer- and volunteerdriven outreach includes: sponsoring large community events; targeting bar zaps in which trained volunteers descend on a bar and engage in skits and handing out "zap packs" of condoms, providing lube and informational cards; conducting wellness groups; performing informal outreach; and an ongoing publicity campaign.

#### **United Communities AIDS Network** (UCAN)

(Olympia, Washington)

\$3,500 to support the Olympia Men's Project, which serves gay, bisexual, transgender, and queer men ages 18-29 in Thurston County. The two-year old program mobilizes participants to shape a healthy community for themselves by building positive social connections and supporting safer sex practices.

#### **Yellowstone AIDS Project**

(Billings, Montana)

www.yapmt.org

\$5,000 to continue the Hands Across Montana program, which provides people living with HIV/AIDS throughout Montana with emergency services not covered by federal Ryan White Funds. These services include gas vouchers, bus passes, and assistance with utilities, veterinarian bills, medical bills, and other expenses. The focus of this program is to collaborate with other providers to bring services to people outside of the group's normal service delivery area of Yellowstone County.

#### In Support of Lesbian Health

#### **Family Planning of Clallam County** (FPCĊ)

(Port Angeles, Washington)

www.familyplanningofcc.org

\$5,000 to continue outreach, education, and access to breast health screening for sexual minority women through their Honoring Women's Health Project. The 2007 goal is to expand the provision of culturally-appropriate breast health education and access to breast cancer screening among medically-underserved, low-income, rural, sexual minority, Latina, and/or American Indian women on the Olympic Peninsula. Funding will also be used to expand community-wide cultural competency training program, which can and will impact care for the entire LGBTQ community. This program will build on a successful program previously held in 2006 that attracted service providers from FPCC, the Olympic Medical Center, Peninsula Community Mental Health, the YMCA, and the Makah and Lower Elwa Tribes.

#### Mt. Baker Planned Parenthood

(Bellingham, Washington)

www.mbpp.org

\$3,000 to provide ten Whatcom County women who have sex with women (WSW) basic health care services they would otherwise not be able to afford. Most WSW do not qualify for this program because they do not meet the eligibility criterion of being "at risk of pregnancy." The clinic will also host an educational event to raise awareness about the specific sexual health needs of WSW and to promote these free services to the community.

#### **Planned Parenthood of Central** Washington (PPCW)

(Yakima, Washington) www.ppcentwa.org

\$5,000 to help them bring professional educators from Verbena Health to provide LGBTQ competency training to PPCW staff and local community organizations. The training will focus on medical issues facing GLBTQ youth, as well as educate staff about the ways to be more inclusive during the provision of medical services. It is expected that in addition to PPCW employees, attendees will include Educational Service Districts, Central Washington Family Medicine, Kittitas Valley Hospital, La Clinica, and Blue Mountain Heart to Heart.

#### In Support of Youth and Families

#### Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education **Network Washington State (GLSEN)**

(Seattle, Washington)

www.glsenwa.org

\$7,500 from three separate grants to launch the Transgender Youth Awareness Program, a program which seeks to create a safe learning environment for transgender youth by promoting the delivery of culturally competent services and by providing resource referral to transgender youth and their allies. Currently, an advisory committee is being formed; information about transgender youth is being collected for the GLSEN Web site and resource referral; a speaker's bureau is being established; and training is being provided for educators and other people who work with youth. In addition, grants from Washington Peninsula and Inland Northwest Pride Foundation will support expansion of services into those counties by delivering better service to Gay-Straight Alliances (including regional summits), school districts, and colleges and universities. A GLSEN office is planned for Spokane as well.

#### Good Samaritan Behavioral Healthcare

(Puyalup, Washington)

www.goodsamhealth.org

\$4,650 to support the Sexual Minority Support Group for LGBTQ youth, ages 14 to 21, in rural Pierce County. Meeting weekly, the group provides youths a place to talk about issues that matter to them, including coming out to themselves; coming out at school; dealing with family and friends; problems with family religious values and doctrine; depression; and drug use and abuse. Funding supports costs incurred by providing for a Washington State Licensed Mental Health Counselor to facilitate the support group, as well as some snacks and supplies to make the group an inviting place for teens.

#### **Kitsap Safe Schools Network**

(Bremerton, Washington)

www.kitsapsafeschools.org

\$4,780 to help them expand and institutionalize their outreach, training, and organizing. The Kitsap Safe Schools Network is designed to empower Kitsap County educators, students, and parents in confronting and reducing bullying based on perceived sexual orientation and gender identity. Activities will include three educators' workshops--each attended by at least 30 educators in North, Central, and South Kitsap locations; a collaboration with GLSEN to do a Kitsap Gay- Straight Alliance (GSA) summit for the 6 GSA's in Kitsap County; and attending at least 4 community and/or school-related events such as the Kitsap County Human Rights Conference and the Youth Human Rights

#### **OASIS Youth Center/Pierce County AIDS Foundation**

(Tacoma, Washington)

www.oasisyouthcenter.org

\$4650 to fund the planning and implementation of the 2007 Youth Retreat. This is a three night/two day retreat held at Camp Seymour on the Kitsap Peninsula. The retreat is coordinated by OASIS staff, but is a collaboration of several Western Washington LGBTQ youth service organizations. The purpose of the

retreat is to provide opportunities and tools for LGBTQ young people to develop healthy living skills, acquire techniques for improving the quality of relationships in their lives, and create bonds and connections that build and foster strong supportive communities.

#### **Odyssey Youth Center**

(Spokane, Washington)

www.odysseyyouth.org

\$5,000 for general operating expenses finishing commercial focused on improvements to their new facility. The new location doubles the size of their dropin center. Half the space was immediately usable; the other half needs to be converted from residential to commercial space in order to accommodate the Center's needs. This expansion will help them fulfill their mission in a number of ways, including accommodating a growing number of youth and enhancing their ability to deliver quality programming. Being in a residential community, and no longer hidden in a commercial area, allows them to more easily model that leading a full and honest life is worthwhile.

#### **OUTKITSAP**

(Bremerton, Washington) www.outkitsap.org

\$4,110 to support the OK Youth Program, ages 14 to 18, and the OK Youth Drop In Center. Funds will be used for support staff costs, rent for the drop-in space, technology costs, outreach and education, field trips, and social activities. While their mission is specific to Kitsap County, youth from surrounding counties also reach out to the program. This is the only non-school related LGBTQ youth program in the area.

#### **Shalom Zone Nonprofit Association**

(Seattle, Washington)

www.roots.udsp.org

\$5,000 to meet the operating expenses of the ROOTS Young Adult Shelter. ROOTS meets emergency needs of young adults, ages 18-25, including shelter and food for homeless and other low-income people in Seattle's University District. It also connects people with the longer-term services that will help them move off the streets permanently. 40-45% of their clients identify as LGBTQ. All their LGBTQ clients refer to familial problems with their being LGBTQ as the reason they are homeless.

#### **South Puget Sound Community College**

(Olympia, Washington)

www.spscc.ctc.edu \$2,500 to support speaker's fees for the 2007 Power of One Conference: Prioritizing Identities: Ethnicity and Sexuality. This is a two-day conference attended by students, staff, and faculty from colleges and universities primarily in Washington State. The conference provides educational opportunities and leadership development for LGBTQ students and their allies. This year's focus is on the challenges of LGBTQ people of color.

#### **Stonewall Youth**

(Olympia, Washington) www.stonewallyouth.org

\$5,000 for general operating costs required to coordinate the organization's weekly support group, speaker's bureau, and theatre project. The weekly support group has 12-25 LGBTQ youth attend each week, where participants receive support from their peers and their adult mentors. The speaker's bureau travels to local schools and organizations, sharing stories and reaching over 300 students, teachers, and service providers each year. The theatre production is a new venture which the youth are creating with a local theatre artist.



#### **APRIL 18 - MAY 19, 2007** CALENDAR

Covering Spokane, Tri-Cities, Pullman, Moscow, Walla Walla, Yakima and Seattle area

#### Spokane, WA

#### APRIL

Wednesday, April 18th Stonewall Goes To Press

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Pride in Sobriety Gay AA Meeting (at Bethany Presbyterian Church) Open AA meeting to support those in our community who have the disease of alcoholism and or addiction.

Phone: 624-1442

#### Thursday, April 19th

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Queer Sounds Radio Show Queer Sounds is an eclectic mix of GLBTQ music and commentary at 92.3 or 89.9 FM, KYRS "Thin Air Radio," your local community radio station. Hosted by Irey and Bob. Callin number is 747-3807.

Contact: Irey

Email: queersounds@kyrs.org Phone: 747-3807

Saturday, April 21st

10:30 am – 12:30 pm **OWLS Brunch** (at Old Country Buffet-Franklin Park Mall) OWLS Brunches will be held the 3rd Sat. of the month (Sep-May) at 10:30am at The Old Country Buffet in Franklin Park Mall on N. Division. If you are the first to arrive, ask the cashier where we can pull tables together for approx. 20 women. Then ask the cashier to direct arriving OWLS to that area. (Schedule for Jun, Jul, & Aug to be appropried) announced)

Contact: Ginny Email: way2qt\_99@yahoo.com

#### Sunday, April 22nd

5:00 pm – 6:00 pm **EMCC Worship Service** (at Bethany Presbyterian Church) Contact: Wayne Shull

#### Wednesday, April 25th

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Pride in Sobriety Gay AA Meeting (at Bethany Presbyterian Church) Open AA meeting to support those in our community who have the disease of alcoholism and or addiction. Phone: 624-1442

#### Thursday, April 26th

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Queer Sounds Radio Show

Queer Sounds is an eclectic mix of GLBTQ music and commentary at 92.3 or 89.9 FM, KYRS "Thin Air Radio," your local community radio station. Hosted by Irey and Bob. Callin number is 747-3807.

Contact: Irey Email: queersounds@kyrs.org Phone: 747-3807

Sunday, April 29th

 $5{:}00~\text{pm}$  –  $6{:}00~\text{pm}$  EMCC Worship Service (at Bethany Presbyterian Church)

Contact: Wayne Shull

#### MAY

#### Tuesday, May 1st

7:15 pm – 9:00 pm **OutSpokane Meeting** (at RiverPark Square) Meetings are the Kress Gallery on the 3rd floor of RiverPark Square each Thursday from 7:15 to 9 pm. Located next to and behind the food gallery near the theater ticket

Contact: Christopher Lawrence Email: simba82047@comcast.net Phone: 509 624-9639

More Info: http://www.outspokane.com

#### Wednesday, May 2nd Stonewall Goes To Press

5:30 pm – 7:00 pm Vision Committee Meeting (at Northern Exposures Studio)

Meetings are informal potlucks at Northern Exposures Studio on the first Wednesday and third Monday of each month. We work on projects to help the visibility of Spokane's GLBTQA community. Currently working on a local billboard project. Contact: Bonnie Aspen

Phone: 509.838.3866

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Pride in Sobriety Gay AA Meeting (at Bethany Presbyterian Church) Open AA meeting to support those in our community who have the disease of alcoholism and or addiction.

Phone: 624-1442 Thursday, May 3rd

#### 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm Queer Sounds Radio Show

Queer Sounds is an eclectic mix of GLBTQ music and commentary at 92.3 or 89.9 FM, KYRS "Thin Air Radio," your local community radio station. Hosted by Irey and Bob. Call in number is 747-3807. Contact: Irey

Email: queersounds@kyrs.org Phone: 747-3807

#### 7:00 pm - 10:30 pm Pride & Joy Movie Night

(at CenterStage) Made Possible by The Pride Foundation Eat. Drink. Mingle. Be Entertained! CenterStage hosts this LGBT activity night to showcase films that directly portray, support, nurture and challenge the LGBT community and allied supporters. Join us as we view feature films, shorts & videos by the hottest national & international filmmakers of our time. \*FREE (excludes food & beverage) Join us for Live Music & a Spaghetti Dinner at ella's before each showing! Cocktail Service Available

Contact: Deb Noah

Email: deb@spokanecenterstage.com Phone: (509) 747-8243 ext. 114 More Info: www.SpokaneCenterStage.com

**Location Details** 

#### Friday, May 5th

6:00 pm – 10:30 pm LCMP First Friday: Dinner & a Movie! (at River Park Square) Join the Lilac City Men's Project for our monthly First Friday: Dinner & a Movie event at River Park Square at 6p.m. for new friends, food, flicks, and fun. This event takes place at 6p.m. on the first Friday of every

month. Grab some dinner from the food court and join us in the Kress Art Gallery (located behind the 3rd floor food court adjacent to the rest rooms) where we'll eat and then vote on a movie. This event is open to all gay, bi, and questioning guys 18-29. Bring a friend! Dinner and the movie are on your

Contact: Ryan Email: Ryano@san-nw.org Phone: 455-8993 ext. 231

#### Sunday, May 6th

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm EMCC Worship Service (at Bethany Presbyterian Church) Contact: Wayne Shull

#### Wednesday, May 9th

12:00 pm – 1:00 pm INBA Luncheon (location rotates) Interesting speakers every month. Great opportunity to network with other business people in the area. Meet new people in town and have fun. Bring a friend.

The location of the event is rotating every two months. Please check the web site for this month's location.

Email: admin@inbaspokane.org Phone: 509-455-3699 More Info: www.inbaspokane.org

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Pride in Sobriety Gay AA Meeting (at Bethany Presbyterian Church) Open AA meeting to support those in our community who have the disease of alcoholism Phone: 624-1442

#### Thursday, May 10th

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Queer Sounds Radio Show

Queer Sounds is an eclectic mix of GLBTQ music and commentary at 92.3 or 89.9 FM, KYRS "Thin Air Radio," your local community radio station. Hosted by Irey and Bob. Callin number is 747-3807.

Contact: Irey Email: queersounds@kyrs.org Phone: 747-3807

#### Friday, May 11th

4:00 pm - 6:00 pm CHAS HIV Educational Support Group (at Community Health Association of Spokane (CHAS))
Monthly educational/support group developed to help meet
the needs of people living with HIV/AIDS and their families
and friends in Idaho & Washington. The meetings will cover the topic of the night & provide time for discussion and support between those attending.

Contact: Tarena Coleman Email: tcolman@chas.org Phone: 509 434-0313

#### Saturday May 12th

9:30 am – 10:30 am **PFLAG Mom's Group** (at Conely's Restaurant) The MOM'S Group, an informal support group welcomes and supports mothers (and occasionally grandmothers!) of gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered children.

Phone: 509-624-6671 **Location Details** Conley's Restaurant 12618 E Sprague Spokane Valley WA 99216 USA

#### Sunday, May 13th Mother's Day

5:00 pm - 6:00 pm EMCC Worship Service (at Bethany Presbyterian Church) Contact: Wayne Shull

#### Tuesday, May 15th

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm **PFLAG Monthly Meeting** (at Unitarian Universalist Church)

We meet the third Tuesday of every month at 7 PM. 4340 W. Fort Wright Dr. Spokane WA 99224 Our mission is to provide support, education and advocacy for GLBTQ family

Contact: Tiina Buckaloo Email: info@pflagspokane.org More Info: www.pflagspokane.org

7:15 pm – 9:00 pm OutSpokane Meeting (at RiverPark Square) Meetings are the Kress Gallery on the 3rd floor of RiverPark Square each Thursday from 7:15 to 9 pm. Located next to and behind the food gallery near the theater ticket

Contact: Christopher Lawrence Email: simba82047@comcast.net Phone: 509 624-9639 More Info: http://www.outspokane.com

#### Wednesday, May 16th

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm Pride in Sobriety Gay AA Meeting (at Bethany Presbyterian Church) Open AA meeting to support those in our community who have the disease of alcoholism and or addiction. Phone: 624-1442

#### Thursday, May 17th

6:00 pm - 8:00 pm Queer Sounds Radio Show

Oueer Sounds is an eclectic mix of GLBTQ music and commentary at 92.3 or 89.9 FM, KYRS "Thin Air Radio," your local community radio station. Hosted by Irey and Bob. Call-in number is 747-3807. Contact: Irey

Email: queersounds@kyrs.org Phone: 747-3807

#### Saturday, May 19tht

10:30 am – 12:30 pm OWLS Brunch (at Old Country Buffet-Franklin Park Mall) OWLS Brunches will be held the 3rd Sat. of the month (Sep-May) at 10:30am at The Old Country Buffet in Franklin Park Mall on N. Division. If you are the first to arrive, ask the cashier where we can pull tables together for approx. 20 women. Then ask the cashier to direct arriving OWLS to that area. (Schedule for Jun, Jul, & Aug to be announced)

Contact: Ginny Email: way2qt\_99@yahoo.com

#### Tri-Cities, Pullman/Moscow, Walla Walla, Yakima, WA

#### APRIL

#### Sunday, April 22nd

10:30 am – 11:30 am [Kennewick, WA] **River of Life MCC** (at 2625 Brneau Place Ste A) Email: info@riveroflifemcc.org More Info: http://www.riveroflifemcc.org

6:30 pm [Yakima, WA] **Rainbow Cathedral MCC** (at 225 N 2nd St)

Phone: 509/457-6454

#### Thursday, April 26th

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm [Tri-Cities, WA] PFLAG Monthly Meeting Check website for meeting location Email: info@tcpflag.org More Info: http://www.TCPFLAG.org

#### Sunday, April 29th

10:30 am – 11:30 am [Kennewick, WA] River of Life MCC (at 2625 Brneau Place Ste A) Email: info@riveroflifemcc.org More Info: http://www.riveroflifemcc.org

 $6:\!30$  pm [Yakima, WA] Rainbow Cathedral MCC (at 225 N 2nd St) Phone: 509/457-6454

#### MAY

#### Friday, May 4th

7:30 pm - 8:30 pm [Yakima, WA] First Fridays (at 1st Street Conference Center)

Yakima's gay social group welcomes you and your friends to our monthly gathering

Email: 1st-Fridays@gayakima.com Phone: 509/576-0276 More Info: http://www.gayakima.com/1stfridays.html **Location Details** 1st Street Conference Center North 1st Street at East Lincoln Avenue Yakima WA

#### Sunday, May 6th

10:30 am - 11:30 am [Kennewick, WA] River of Life MCC (at 2625 Brneau Place Ste A) Email: info@riveroflifemcc.org
More Info: http://www.riveroflifemcc.org

6:30 pm [Yakima, WA] Rainbow Cathedral MCC (at 225 N

Phone: 509/457-6454

#### Sunday, May 13th Mother's Day

10:30 am – 11:30 am [Kennewick, WA] **River of Life MCC** (at 2625 Brneau Place Ste A) Èmail: info@riveroflifemcc.org More Info: http://www.riveroflifemcc.org

 $6:\!30~\mathrm{pm}$  [Yakima, WA] Rainbow Cathedral MCC (at 225 N 2nd St)

Phone: 509/457-6454

#### Monday, May 14th

7:00 pm [Walla Walla, WA] **PFLAG Monthly Meeting** (at First Congregational Church Fellowship Hall) Contact: Carol

Email: pflag\_walla2wash@hotmail.com Phone: 509-529-5320

More Info: http://wwpflag.0catch.com/

#### Seattle area, WA

#### MAY

#### Saturday May 12th

7:30 pm [Seattle, WA] Rise Up & Sing! Songs of Peace, Protest and Liberation (at Seattle Unity Church)

The Seattle Lesbian and Gay Chorus is pleased to present "Rise Up & Singl Songs of Peace, Protest and Liberation", on Saturday, May 12, 2007 and Sunday, May 20, 2007 at Seattle Unity Church Church in Seattle, and on Saturday, June 16, 2007 at the Capital Playhouse in Olympia.

"Rise Up & Sing" features music born of revolution: the labor movement, the civil rights movement, the fight for GLBT rights, the fight against apartheid, Vietnam protests, and more. The concert will include a lively program of folk, pop, and traditional music from several different eras and from as far away as South Africa and Israel. It will also feature songs from Broadway in the spirit of protest, including music from "Les Miserables" and "Wicked."

Seattle Unity Church 200 8th Ave N, Seattle 5/12/07, 7:30 PM 5/20/07, 3:00 PM \$15 adults \$12 students, seniors, youth ages 12-18 Free ages 11 and below \$12 groups 10 or more in advance

Capital Playhouse 612 4th Ave E, Olympia 6/16/07, 7:30 PM \$15 suggested donation

For tickets and more information www.brownpapertickets.com/event/11347 www.slac.ora 206-860-SLGC Phone: 206-820-SLGC More Info: http://www.slgc.org Location Details Seattle Unity Church 200 8th Ave N Seattle WA

## Truth wins

**Truth Wins OUT (TWO)** is a non-profit think tank and educational organization that counters right-wing disinformation campaigns, debunks the ex-gay myth, and provides accurate information about the lives of GLBT people.

#### **TWO**'s mission:

- **Provide opposition** research on the ex-gay industry
- Discredit right wing propaganda
- **Educate America** about the GLBT community

www.TruthWinsOut.org



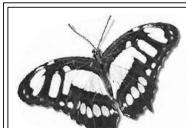
## **Northwest Business Directory**

#### Lesbian and Gay Christians

INTEGRITY meets the second Saturday of the month

**NEXT MEETING:** Sat., May 12th 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

#### Diversity Counseling Services

Helen Bonser, MA/ABS, LMHP Margie Aylsworth, MSW, LMHP

> 12 E. Rowan Ave., Ste. L-4 Spokane, WA 99207

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## OUTREACH

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Activism

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## **Resource Directory**

#### SPOKANE AREA

#### **BiNet Spokane**

A social support group for bisexual men and

Call: (509) 217-1271

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

Weekly meetings for students, faculty and

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

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

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.lilaccitymensproject.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

Social support group for the transgender 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.

#### Web site: www.pflagspokane.org PJALS -

Call: (509): 624-6671

#### **Peace and Justice Action** League of Spokane

Independent, membership organization building foundations for a just and nonviolent

Call: (509) 838-7870

#### **Planned Parenthood of The Inland Northwest**

HIV antibody testing and counseling. Call: Clinic for Appt.: (800) 788-9128 Administration: (509) 326-6292

#### **Pride Foundation/Inland Northwest**

The Pride Foundation connects, inspires and strengthens the Pacific Northwest GLBTQ community in pursuit of equality by awarding grants and scholarships and cultivating leaders. Call: Spokane office (509) 327-8377 or

(888) 575-7717 E-mail: outreach@pridefoundation.org

Website: www.pridefoundation.org

#### **Ryan White CARE Consortium**

HIV care education and planning group. Call: Tarena Coleman: (509) 444-8200 E-mail: tcoleman@chas.org

#### **Rainbow Regional Community Center**

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

Call: (509) 489-1914 Web site: www.spokanerainbowcenter.org

#### **Spokane AIDS Network**

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

Web site: www.spokaneAIDSnetwork.ora

#### **Spokane County Domestic Violence Consortium**

A private, nonprofit organization with members from a variety of professions who have come together to end intimate partner

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

#### **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

#### **Unitarian Universalist Church**

Gay, lesbian resource committee. Call: (509) 325-6383

Web site: www.uuchurchofspokane.org Vanessa Behan Crisis Nursery

Web site: www.vanessabehan.org

#### **Westminster Congregational UCC**

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you ARE welcome here! An Open and Affirming Congregation of faith in downtown Spokane. Informal worship at 8:30am, traditional worship at 10:30am. Located at 411 S Washington St. (corner of 4th and Washington) Call: 535-3155

#### **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

Call: (208) 665-1448 Web site: www.nicon.org/niac

#### North Idaho College

Gay-Straight Alliance
E-mail: BCHARDISON@icehouse.net

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

Call: (208) 263-6699

#### **Planned Parenthood of The Inland Northwest**

HIV antibody testing and counseling. Call: Clinic for Appt.: (800) 788-9128 Administration: (509) 326-6292

#### 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**

#### **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

#### **Planned Parenthood of The Inland Northwest**

HIV antibody testing and counseling. Call: Clinic for Appt.: (800) 788-9128 Administration: (509) 326-6292

**Washington State University** Gender Identity/Expression and Sexual Orientation Resource Center Call: Heidi Stanton (509)335-8841 E-mail: hstanton@wsu.edu

Web site: www.thecenter.wsu.edu

#### **Washington State University GLBA Student Group**

Fun, fellowship and socializing. Call: (509) 335-6428

#### Web site: http://cubwsu.edu/GLBAP

Safer-sex information and supportive programs for young men who have sex with

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

Call: (Pasco) (509) 547-9737, ext. 234 Confidential voice mail also.

#### River of Life **Metropolitan Community Church**

Christian church celebrating diversity and affirming GLBTQ 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 sup-

Call: (509) 783-7416

#### WALLA WALLA

#### Blue Mountain Heart to Heart AIDS prevention education, support and

Call: (509) 529-4744 Toll Free: (888) 875-2233 (pin #4744)

services.

#### Spanish: (509) 529-2174 PFLAG – Walla Walla

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

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

**WENATCHEE** 

Call: (509) 860-7354 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

#### **PFLAG Billings** Meets monthly Sept. - May.

Call: (406) 255-7609 PRIDE!

Statewide lesbigaytrans civil rights advo-

cacy group. Call: (406) 442-9322 or, in Montana: (800) 610-9322

Call: (406) 442-9322

**PRIDE Celebration** Group in charge of annual Montana June PRIDE celebrations.

#### **Western Montana Gay & Lesbian**

**Community Center** 127 North Higgins, Suite 202 Missoula, MT 59802 (406) 543-2224 E-mail: wmglcc@gaymontana.org

Web: www.aavmontana.ora/wmalcc

#### WASHINGTON

#### **Bi MEN Group**

Bi and bi-curious men and gay men who enjoy and support bisexual men. Web site: www.egroups.com/group/bi-men-west

Fighting for lesbian, gay, bisexual and

Call: (206) 324-2570 Web site: www.equalrightswashington.org

transgender equality.

**Equal Rights Washington** 

**GLSEN Washington State** The Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education

#### E-mail: mail@glsenwa.org Web site: www.glsenwa.org

**Legal Marriage Alliance** 

Network

Working to achieve the right of same-sex couples to marry legally in Washington. Web site: www.lmaw.ora

#### Resources and referrals, groups and events. Monthly newspaper.

**Lesbian Resource Center** 

cacy for people with HIV/AIDS.

Call: (206) 322-3953 **Lifelong AIDS Alliance** Providing support, prevention and advo-

**PositiveVoice Washington** Advocates for programs and services needed by people with HIV. Offers self-ad-

Call: (206) 329-6923

#### vocacy training. Call: (888) 704-0099

Pacific NW Gay Rodeo Association For people who enjoy the country & western

E-mail: treasurer@PacificNWGRA.org Web site: www.pacificnwgra.org

#### **Washington State GSA Network**

The Washington State Gay-Straight Alliance Network is a youth-led organization created to help connect public and private GSAbased clubs and other community groups throughout Washington State.

Call: (206) 330-2099 Web site: www.wagsa.org

#### To have your group listed in this directory, e-mail your organization's information to Stonewall News Northwest at news@stonewallnews.net.

#### <u>OREGON – continued from page 6</u>

"It is discrimination against me and my partner Aimee and thousands of Oregonians in a similar situation," the Portland Democrat

In the 2005 Legislature, the civil unions measure generated most of the controversy. Then-Republican House Speaker Karen Minnis refused to allow a vote on the bill, saying it would thwart the will of Oregon voters who approved a constitutional ban on same-sex marriage in 2004.

This year, however, most of the controversy surrounds the anti-discrimination bill and whether it provides a sufficient exemption for religious institutions.

As written, the bill allows religious groups to discriminate against hiring or housing gays or permitting them to use their facilities. However, the Oregon Family Council,

a Christian group that put the gay marriage ban on the 2004 ballot, and other critics said the bill fails to offer a sufficient exemption to faiths that oppose homosexuality on religious The bill says religious groups can

discriminate for activities connected to the "primary purpose" of the church or institution and not for commercial activities. In other words, a religious school could not be forced to hire a gay teacher, but a church-affiliated hospital could be barred from discrimination in its hiring or who it chooses to serve.

That could leave religious groups vulnerable to lawsuits, with the courts having to decide what constitutes a church's primary purpose, several ministers told the committee

"To provide rights to some, does not mean you have to trample the rights of others. I hope you understand that the wording in this bill severely limits the religious rights of Oregonians," said Rev. Raymond Young, pastor of the East Hill Church in Gresham. Nick Graham, spokesman for the Family

Council, earlier said the organization might

seek to take the anti-discrimination bill to voters if the religious exemption provision isn't changed. However, backers of the anti-

discrimination bill said the religious exemption offers sufficient protection to religious institutions and that substantially broadening it would water down the bill's aim of protecting gays and lesbians from discrimination. In the 2005 session, the Democratic-controlled Senate passed a bill containing

language, but those provisions were stripped from the bill by a House committee which later buried the measure altogether. Gay rights backers hope that with Democrats now running both the House and Senate, this is the year both bills will pass after

both the civil unions and anti-discrimination

legal and political setbacks in recent years.

#### TAXES continued from 7

federal government doesn't consider us a family," said McKay.

"Then we write checks to the IRS for higher social security taxes because we cant file jointly, knowing that when we die our families will not even have access to any of the family safety net benefits provided by our tax dollars in the form of social security survivor benefits, estate tax deferral, and other programs that we help fund with our tax dollars but which only heterosexual married couples and their children will enjoy.

Attempts to file a joint returns could lead to fines or other penalties, the IRS warns.

Two years ago a federal judge dismissed a lawsuit filed by a gay couple in Minnesota claiming they deserved a tax refund because they were legally married and should be granted married taxpayer status.

People who receive health insurance from their state or local government or through their employer for their spouses or domestic partners are additionally hit with taxes.

Spousal health benefits are not taxed. But, since the IRS does not recognize gay relationships the benefits are considered income. In some cases the tax outweighs any

A study in 2004 found that gay families pay on average higher taxes and get fewer benefits.

The joint study by the Human Rights Campaign and the Urban Institute also found that when a gay or lesbian parent dies leaving a young child behind, the loss of Social Security survivor benefits to the family can range from \$100,000 to \$250,000, depending on whether state laws permitted both parents to establish a legal relationship to the surviving child.

Last year, the National Sexuality Resource Center released a new study showing widespread psychological and social harm inflicted on same-sex couples because they are denied the right to marry.

The co-authors, Gilbert Herdt, PhD, anthropologist, and director of the National Sexuality Resource Center at San Francisco State University, and Robert Kertzner, MD, practicing psychiatrist, and Adjunct Associate Research Scientist in the Department of Psychiatry at Columbia University, found that on average, married individuals have better mental health, more emotional support, less psychological distress, and lower rates of psychiatric disorder than the unmarried.

In February, financial guru and bestselling author Suze Orman came out, saying that if Orman dies before her partner, Kathy Travis, Travis "is going to lose 50 percent of everything I have to estate taxes."

#### **DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIPS**

"We are overjoyed! This brings us several steps down the path to equality," Carla Brannan of INWE said of the bill. "At Equal Rights Washington's February 7 Vow to Take a Stand Forum, over 50 people from our community heard Senate Majority Leader Lisa Brown, in a previously recorded speech, talk about the upcoming legislative session and her faith and commitment to equality for all." Josh Friedes of Equal Rights Washington was confident that the bill would pass both the State Senate, as it did in a 28-19 vote on March 1, and the

domestic partnership registry provides some immediate protection, and equality and fairness, for same-sex couples." McDermott stated, "Across the state, even in progressive places, couples suffer today without these rights. Such things as hospital visitation should not be a question."

medical decisions for his or her partner who is not cognitively able to care for themselves, it gives dignity to couples faced with life's hardest choices and an ease of mind to those of us who may face these times in our future. The fact that this and other benefits of this bill protect heterosexual couples age 62 and older who are unmarried, is a beautiful bridge that we can build upon."

"The Legislature passed the so-called

### <u>Classifieds</u>

#### 13 - Volunteers

#### **OUTSPOKANE IS LOOKING for community-minded** people to help with the 2007 Pride

Call Christopher at 509/624-9639 for details on meeting.

#### 44 - For Sale - Automobiles

#### 1984 Jaguar XJ6 Vanden Plas Special Edition



148k miles. Gold with tan leather interior. Original V6 engine recently tuned up. PB, PW, AC (compressor needs replaced), Sunroof. Recently invested \$3.7k on rebuilt transmission, new brakes and front end. Still needs front end alignment. Leather seats have cracks, still a very classy ride! 1506 W Mission, 509-570-3750 \$3,490/0B0 www.stonewallnews.net/jag.htm

#### 44 - Travel

#### Montana



Cowboy Up Montana Roadhouse Dinner & Bed

#### Your special GAY Hideaway in the beautiful mountains of western Montana!

Soft beds and gourmet meals! Only 2 hours from Spokane via I-90. Info at www.cowboyupmontana.com

#### Washington



#### **Island Hideaway**

Discover Whidwood On Whidbey Island, just 2 hours northwest of Seattle. Enjoy a hot-tub, library, sun-room and breakfast. Explore island shopping, parks, gardens & beaches. Info at www.whidwood.com

#### 13 - Personal-General Services

#### **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.

#### PRIDE 2007 continued from 2

fect time for individuals to step up and volunteer to help make this year's celebration a big success. OutSpokane has a wide range of volunteer opportunities available. Some require a short-term commitment, like helping at one Pride event. Some are more long-term, like helping to organize an event. Every volunteer hour will help Pride 2007 move forward and be the best and biggest ever!

If you want to help, you can attend any of OutSpokane's weekly meetings held each Tuesday at 7:15 p.m. in the Kress Gallery, 3rd floor of RiverPark Square behind the Food Court You can also e-mail admin@outspokane.org with your contact information.

## First Thursdays Made Possible by The Pride Foundation

May 3rd 7pm ■ my mother likes women

"Winning...With a stellar cast and a conclusion that's unbridled joy!" ~ Time Out New York





### continued from page 1

share a residence and are not married or in a domestic partnership with another person, as well as heterosexual couples where one partner is over 62. The domestic partnership provision for senior citizens was included in HB 5336, because they may risk losing pension or Social Security benefits if they do marry. Domestic partnership applications will be available at all county clerk offices. Both partners must file a signed, notarized declaration of domestic partnership and pay a filing feel before being presented with a certificate. A permanent registry of domestic partnerships will be kept on file with the Office of the Sec-

House of Representatives.

Rep Joe McDermott, D-Seattle, sponsor of the House version of the bill stated, "The

Brannan, "When a person is able to make

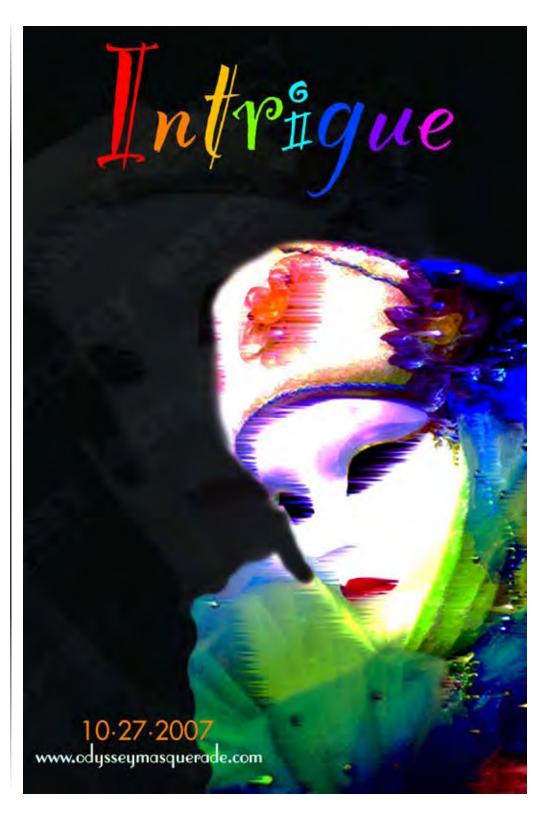
'Defense of Marriage Act in 1998 and codified discrimination against gay and lesbian families," stated Rep. Jamie Pedersen, D-Seattle. "The state Supreme Court upheld discrimination last summer, and now the Legislature is responsible for correcting the injustice." Pedersen explained, "There are over four hundred rights connected with marriage that are not addressed in SB 5336, including the right not to testify against a spouse, the right to health and pension benefits, and hundreds of protections related to children and family

Referring to the Defense of Marriage Act, openly gay Senator Ed Murray, D-Seattle reported, "In effect, the law is telling these couples that they are simply not families. But in reality – the reality where two people care for one another, live together, make household decisions together, form life goals together, grow old together - these couples are families." While the new legislation doesn't confer any rights or protections that samesex couples can't gain with the assistance of an attorney, the process is often complicated and expensive. The passage of HB 5336 makes it easier to protect lesbian and gay families in times of crisis. "This measure will provide many vital protections to same-sex couples in committed relationships. Its passage is an exciting first step toward the ultimate goal of marriage for all couples," ACLU Legislative Director Jennifer Shaw reported.

When Governor Christine Gregoire signs the Domestic Partnership bill into law, Washington will join Vermont, Connecticut, New Jersey, California, Maine and Hawaii in providing legal recognition and protections for same-sex couples and their families. Massachusetts allows same-sex couples to marry.

The bill's primary sponsor in the Senate, Ed Murray issued the following statement: In 1998, this Legislature shamefully blocked the door of equality for gay and lesbian families. With the passage of this legislation, we begin to slowly open that door and provide muchneeded protections for the tens of thousands of gay and lesbian families in Washington. This marks a beginning – not an end – of the work ahead us in achieving full marriage equality.

"This bill includes only a small fraction of the rights and protections associated with marriage," Rep. Jamie Pederson stated at an April 10 press conference. "Each year, we will be back to add more of those rights and protections, until the public understands that it's only fair to allow gay and lesbian people to



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