



Stonewall News Northwest
turns 15!

Issues available free throughout the
Pacific Northwest and at
www.stonewallnews.net

Next Issue:
Wednesday, February 7th

Ad and Content Deadline:
Wednesday, January 31st

Memorial
Celebration
of John Deen

When:
Sunday, February 11, 2007 2-4pm

Where:
Dempsey's Brass Rail
909 W 1st Ave
Spokane, WA 99201

In keeping with John Deen's wish
for a no-frills nonreligious remem-
brance of him, an informal Celebra-
tion of John Deen will be held at
Dempsey's Brass Rail. Dempsey's
is opening early for the memorial
celebration and is providing food.

In leu of flowers, donations can be
made to Spokane Cancer Care, 601
South Sherman Street, Spokane,
WA 99202.

For updates, please check
Stonewall's website at
www.stonewallnews.net or contact:

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THIS ISSUE

52 Things for Transgender Equality
returns next issue

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Fly your Flags
on Fridays!

STONEWALL
News Northwest

John M. Deen 1934-2007



Former Stonewall News Northwest
publisher dies of lung cancer

By Mike Schultz, Publisher

I walk into the darkness of this loss
at some disadvantage. Scores who remain
in our community and others who have
moved away have known John Deen for
some time. I've known John only since
I acquired this publication from him in
June, 2005.

But from the moment I stepped onto
this stage as Stonewall's current publisher,
I immediately faced a sense of John's his-
tory and relationship with individuals and
organizations in this community where I
have lived and worked, largely under the

GLBT radar, for the last 30 years.

John and I didn't agree on many
points, but we found common ground. I
admire him for the good he brought to the
larger cause of human dignity and equal-
ity. His fervent persistence, tenacity, and
sacrifice carried this publication for a de-
cade and tore down the political barriers
that finally brought us the passage of City
of Spokane's Non-Discrimination Ordinance C32232.

John was his own person with strong
convictions. His words and actions,
weighted by those convictions, carried
gravity of substance and consequence,

both constructive and destructive.

As we remember John Deen, we can
feed the good and the light within our-
selves by appreciating the good and the
light that John sought, in his unique way,
to share with us. Even through poignant
words tightly wrapped in deep-seated
convictions, rest assured, John embodied
a light that sought to shine.

John's death extinguishes his fragile
flame of physical existence. But through
what he accomplished for the commu-
nity, for each of us, his light continues to
shine.

Continuing coverage on page 10

The Merq empties out

Sudden closure again leaves creditors unpaid
and questionable filings with bankruptcy court



While the Merq Café & Liquid Lounge's phone recording states the cafe & bar is closed
for the MLK holiday, interior was already emptied out.

By Mike Schultz

A call to the Merq Café & Liquid
Lounge on Wednesday, January 17, 2007,
was met with the recording "...we will
be closed January 15, 16, and 17 due to
Martin Luther King Holiday... and a
couple extra days to treat ourselves." At
the same time, a "For Rent" sign hung in
the Merq's window; the interior already
emptied out.

The Merq's sudden closing again
leaves creditors unpaid and unanswered
questions about its financial statements
submitted during its Chapter 11
bankruptcy filed May 24, 2005, confirmed
April 20, 2006, and closed November 2,
2006.

While much of the \$23,650 in pre-
petition debts the Merq racked up
were discharged and left unpaid in its
May 2005 bankruptcy filing, the Merq
continued racking up bills while stating to
the bankruptcy court it had none. Those
left unpaid include a local non-profit
organization for which the Merq collected
money in a Pride-related fundraiser in
June 2006 but refused to forward on to
the organization. And questions arise
from its financial statements filed with the
bankruptcy court during its bankruptcy.

Copies of bankruptcy documents and
bank statements obtained by Stonewall

Please see MERQ page 5

Stonewall News Northwest

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Publisher: John Deen 1995-2005

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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

Spokane & Regional

Getting to know our elected marriage equality advocates



WA State Representative
Dave Upthegrove

By Jim Jones
Special to Stonewall News Northwest

State Representative Dave Upthegrove spent some time in Spokane just before Christmas to visit the Odyssey Youth Center and the Gonzaga Young Democrats. Rep. Upthegrove is the only state legislator with his own MySpace account. You can take a look at his online profile at <http://www.myspace.com/upthegrove>.

Rep. Upthegrove is from the 33rd Legislative District, which includes Des Moines, Burien, SeaTac, Normandy Park and Kent areas just south of Seattle. While he is representing his own constituency, he has also visited our area to engage in conversation about the “East Side” views on marriage equality and LGBT youth issues.

I had the great pleasure of meeting Rep. Upthegrove during a fundraiser for Senator Chris Marr, who ousted

LGBT arch nemesis Brad Benson in November. I then got to know him a little better when he visited Spokane last fall. I found him to be witty, intelligent, authentic and with a genuine passion for politics and the struggles of the LGBT community on both sides of the state.

I recently asked Upthegrove what his thoughts were on the marriage initiatives. He said that, “The long-term goal remains marriage equality for gay and lesbian families. However, we recognize that more work remains to be done to educate the public and our legislative colleagues about the need for and importance of marriage equality.”

According to Upthegrove, a key component of the initiative is building healthy communities. He says, “We will continue to make the point that all families, including gay and lesbian families, deserve access to the stability, security and equal benefits of marriage. This is important because strong families are the building blocks of healthy communities.”

Rep. Upthegrove and 24 other Democrats who sponsored HB 1350, which

would repeal the Defense of Marriage Act, do not expect this legislation to advance through the process this year. In addition to HB 1350, in a bipartisan effort, he and his colleagues have introduced HB 1351, which provides a few of the basic rights that married couples are granted by our government.

According to Rep. Upthegrove, “In order to provide some level of immediate protection to gay and lesbian families, and in order to continue to educate our colleagues and the public, we also have introduced House Bill 1351 to provide a limited number of protections for all same-sex domestic partners, and for opposite-sex domestic partners over the age of 62, because they have unique problems relating to pensions and federal benefits. HB 1351 has 55 co-spon-

sors, including 3 Republicans, and we are optimistic that we can pass the bill into law. Early indications have been positive from the Democratic leadership of both the House and the Senate, as well as Governor Gregoire.”

I asked Rep. Upthegrove what we could do to support the efforts in Olympia:

“The best thing supporters can do is to contact their legislators to ask them to support the domestic partnership bill [HB 1351] this year. Continue

Please see UPTHEGROVE page 5

“We will continue to make the point that all families, including gay and lesbian families, deserve access to the stability, security and equal benefits of marriage.”

--Rep. Dave Upthegrove

Stonewall to rerun “Celebration of Anniversaries” in Feb 7th Valentine’s issue

If you and your partner have been together more than five years, we’d love to share it with the community! Tell us your names, location, your anniversary date, how many years together, and in 100 words or less, tell us how you met! Please also send a photo either via mail or email (200dpi or greater please) to mail@stonewallnews.net. Don’t delay! Deadline is January 31st.

Sturchio’s struggle continues

By Joyce Crosby
Special to Stonewall News Northwest

Embattled federal employee Tracy Sturchio reports that she recently received a letter from the federal Office of Information Technology (OIT) in Washington D.C. stating that “the reason that they have not made any decisions” regarding the government’s proposal to terminate Sturchio from her job as a

Telecommunications Officer for OIT and remove her from federal service altogether “is because they need more information” about the post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) Sturchio, a transgender woman, has suffered from for years as a result of working in a hostile environment at the Border Patrol. Sturchio’s PTSD

was compounded by the trauma she experienced after discovering a fax at work that contained vile and intimidating references about her.

Sturchio believes she has proven that she did not send the fax, because an expertly conducted polygraph

examination cleared her of having any prior knowledge of it. During a November 16 disciplinary review board hearing, in response to allegations that Sturchio lied about the

date she found the fax and the formal charges of “improper conduct during an official agency investigation” that followed, Sturchio explained that the contents of the fax were so disturbing and psychologically stressful that they impeded her memory and caused her to become confused as to the day and date she found the fax. Given Sturchio’s prior history of PTSD such a reaction is



Tracy Sturchio at her home north of Spokane

plausible.

The frustration she feels is evident in Sturchio’s words, “It appears that they know I was telling the truth and are now looking for another way to remove me from government service. The questions that they are now asking are more geared to a ‘fitness for duty’ medical exam.” The OIT administrators are asking for details of Sturchio’s PTSD, including duration, treatment, and past clinical findings. They also

Please see STURCHIO page 5



Irv's is located at 415 W Sprague Ave in Spokane

Irv's opens for business

New gay bar opens as the Merq shuts down

By Joyce Crosby
Special to Stonewall News Northwest

Irv's is a new gay bar that opened earlier this month at 415 W Sprague in downtown Spokane. The location has been home to a half dozen other gay bars over the decades. Irv's owner, who asked that only his first name, Stephan, be published, was interested in developing a property in the neighborhood when he was approached in October by former leaseholder Roma Sinn. Stephan, who has known Sinn "for a thousand years," worked out a deal with the building's owner to lease the entire building for a period of fifteen years. With Stephan as the sole leaseholder, Sinn was relieved of responsibility for the property and has retired from a long and successful career in the bar business.

Stephan says that being a gay man himself, he realized there was a great need in the neighborhood, and since the location has historically, for decades, been a gay bar, it seemed good to re-open it as such. "Not only out of sympathy for the gay community," Stephan stated. "It is a good business decision. People want a choice; another place to go." Stephan said he and Dempsey's owner, Larry Brown, are working together to improve life for the GLBTQ community. However, the look at Irv's is nearly the polar opposite from that of Dempsey's. Stephen says he is the creative force behind the bar's design and that he tailored it to fit Spokane's culture. He also named the bar after someone important to it's success: himself. His middle name is Irving. Stephen says he wants people who come in to be comfortable and "feel like it

has been here a long time." Currently, the east half of the 6000 square foot establishment is open. It includes a pool table, a dance floor and several wonderfully plush booths that line the wall opposite the bar. An abundance of nondescript tables framed by tastefully upholstered armchairs are astonishingly comfortable as well. Stephan hopes to open the other half of the bar in February. It will feature pool tables, shuffleboard and another

complete bar. Currently "bar food" is available, as well as a limited selection of entrees. However, referencing Irv's new full service kitchen, Stephen says, "We can do anything we want in the future."

While Irv's does cater to the gay community, it is open to anyone. Irv's is not looking to fill a niche as a men's or women's bar. Stephan wants everyone, gay, straight, female, male or transsexual, to feel comfortable at Irvs.

The current plan is for Tuesdays to be karaoke night and to have line dancing to country music on Thursdays, with the dance floor open on Friday and Saturday nights. There may be a disc jockey in the future if that is what customers want. Stephan reports that so far, people have enjoyed bringing in their own music. Irv's will be having a tea dance on Sundays from 2 to 8 p.m. The lights will be turned down and disco dance music will play like it was a Saturday night. According to Stephan this gives people "the opportunity to have a good time on Sunday, go home early and be productive rest week." The event schedule is still an evolving process and open to change.

Please see IRV'S page 5

While Irv's does cater to the gay community, it is open to anyone. Irv's is not looking to fill a niche as a men's or women's bar. Stephan wants everyone, gay, straight, female, male or transsexual, to feel comfortable at Irvs.

Need for GLBTQA-friendly foster care increases

Local social service agency strives to meet need for diversity

by Joyce Crosby
Special to Stonewall News Northwest

Foster family licenser Theresa Thompson is twenty minutes late for our meeting when she bursts through the maroon door at Service Alternatives, Inc., and as she rushes past me like a blast of crisp winter air, her explanation is simple: "the children come first." She had been returning to Spokane from Moses Lake when she got an emergency call; one of her foster families was in trouble. So Theresa turned back. When she arrived in the small town of Sprague, she comforted the child who had been caught in an emotional thunderstorm of his own creation and offered her support and understanding to the foster family who had managed to weather the downpour.

Service Alternatives, Inc., is a private, for-profit social service agency that strives to honor diversity and individuality within all families regardless of sexual orientation, gender, ethnicity, spiritual beliefs, economic status or educational background. There is always a need for foster parents, according to Thompson. Occasionally Thompson has sought gay or lesbian foster parents for a teen who is questioning their sexuality or coming out. Spokane lacks diversity in its foster families. Thompson states, "Diversity is needed to keep all avenues open; to utilize whatever tools we can to help our kids feel safer and more at ease in a family environment."

Thompson is recruiting people from our community to provide homes not only for our GLBTQA youth, but also for younger children who are in need of a safe, nurturing environment. While admittedly some of the children who are placed by Service Alternatives, Inc. are in need of specialized or therapeutic foster care,

Although there was a time in the not too distant past when single people as well as gays and lesbians were shunned by the foster care system, that is no longer the case



Foster family licenser Theresa Thompson

Thompson says that in the past year, she has seen "more referrals for children age six and under and sibling groups than ever before." Although there was a time in the not too distant past when single people as well as gays and lesbians were shunned by the foster care system, that is no longer the case.

Service Alternatives, Inc. operates throughout Washington and in parts of Oregon and Idaho. In Washington, the agency is under contract with the state Department of Child and Family Services to recruit and license suitable foster homes for children in need. Thompson says that Service Alternatives, Inc. is "able to give parents and kids the attention they deserve" and take the time necessary to consider all aspects of a potential placement to make sure it is a good, stable match. Once a child is placed with a foster family, the

Please see FOSTER page 5

"Pride in Sobriety" helps the community

by Joyce Crosby
Special to Stonewall News Northwest

Spokane's "Pride in Sobriety" Alcoholics Anonymous group began meeting three years ago in a room at Bethany Presbetyrian Church with three

or four people attending each week. From these modest beginnings, the group has flourished. It is now a strong gathering of about two-dozen participants each week. While the group is mainly focused on alcohol, it welcomes people with any type of substance abuse issues. "A drug is a drug," quipped Lynne, a recovering addict, who attended "Pride in Sobriety" for the first time on the same night I was invited to observe the group. It is an open group. Anyone who has a desire to stop drinking or using drugs can bring a partner or friend with them for support. The group itself is affirming and welcomes newcomers with open arms.

"If this group didn't exist, there are people who wouldn't feel comfortable" attending a mainstream Alcoholics Anonymous meeting. "You have the dual closets of homosexuality and alcoholism."

--"Deanne"

Former chairperson of Pride in Sobriety, "Chuck" is a self-described "go-getter." He has a successful career, a supportive partner of 10 years, is assertive and has been in treatment for alcohol addiction three times. Chuck says he realized that if he goes back to drinking he

will end up in one of three places: the hospital, an institution, or dead. He was struggling to stay sober and finally understood that he couldn't do it alone, so six months ago he called somebody in A.A. For Chuck, taking that first step was a huge accomplishment. "It really works," Chuck explains. "Alcoholics have Teflon brains. I used to hate the clichés, but after a while, it starts to stick." Through A.A. Chuck has found a spiritual connection, made new friends, and wants to reach out to help other people who are struggling with addiction.

The lengths of time members of Pride
Please see SOBRIETY page 12

Politicklers

First, a nod to goodness, women... then let's back bold new laws

by Catherine D. Willis

No surprise here, I'm sure – I am not especially fond of the current resident of 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue. In fact, I eagerly await the day two years hence when we will welcome a new chief executive to the Oval Office. I almost don't care who wins the 2008 contest.

On second thought, I want us to choose our candidates with far greater care than we have exercised in recent elections. Let us take the time to thoroughly explore our options. Let us imagine the would-be leader in the role dealing with everyday and the most unthinkable of circumstances. Let us select someone who will put our national interests above ideology, the public good over partisanship. We deserve this, as do future generations.

The warm and extended farewell we gave former President Gerald Ford earlier this month reflects our immense national yearning for decency in public affairs. While few would proclaim Mr. Ford a great president, most regarded him as a very good man. Goodness has been much underrated by American voters the past few election cycles. I urge us to embrace it anew; it underscores character.

On the elevation of California Congresswoman Nancy Pelosi to the post of Speaker of the House, one word jumps out at me: Wow! It's heartening to see a grandmother in power. The quickest route to world peace, I've long held, is for us to put grandmas and aunts, sisters and moms in charge. Women are fierce bickerers, to be sure, but we're less inclined to put our young people in harm's way unless and until we have exhausted all verbal argument. No self-respecting woman I know (or have ever known) would launch a pre-emptive war!

Speaker Pelosi's "first 100 hours" agenda includes some long overdue legislation – from ethics reform to raising the minimum wage to allowing Medicare to negotiate with pharmaceutical companies for lower drug prices for seniors. I do wish, however, that she hadn't restricted the opposition's input to expedite passage. More of the same old, same old will not serve long-term goals. I hope the Democrats will lead more generously as the 110th Congress finds its stride.

Here in our Washington, the Legislature is poised for some big changes as well. Funding schools through levy votes will get easier if plans to replace the current 60 percent supermajority requirements with simple majorities (50 percent plus one) prevail. Expanding health care for uninsured children is also on tap. And lawmakers may again consider a comprehensive sex education bill. The Healthy Youth Act would ask public schools to offer medically accurate information about family planning options and HIV/AIDS prevention along with that curriculum darling of the vocal conservatives, abstinence. (Has anyone ever tracked how many in the Greatest Generation wound up in unwanted, love-challenged marriages because "just say no" didn't do it for them and they lacked birth control resources? ... Ah, but this is a topic for a future inquiry.)

Barely a week into the 2007-2008 session, the Statehouse's gay contingency responded to the State



Supreme Court's July 26, 2006, decision to uphold the Defense of Marriage Act, announcing proposals that set the stage for legislative action on equal rights. Though Sen. Ed Murray (D-43rd) and House colleagues Jim Moeller (D-49th), Jamie Pedersen (D-43rd), Joe McDermott (D-34th) and

Dave Upthegrove (D-33rd) desire full marriage equality, the bills in process now fall short of that goal. I'm thrilled they've gone as far as they have. Baby steps will get us where we want to be as surely as giant leaps; as I've written here before, any motion in the right direction constitutes progress.

So we should cheer – and encourage lawmakers to support – HB 1350, which grants civil marriage rights to same-sex couples. This bold measure, co-sponsored by 26 state representatives including Spokane's Timm Ormsby and Alex Wood, faces tough opposition. It has been referred to the Judiciary Committee.

HB 1351, which has a greater chance of passage, has also been sent to the Judiciary Committee. It would create a domestic partners registry and permit certain rights related to insurances, health care decisions, funeral planning and employee benefits. Fifty-six legislators, again including Ormsby and Wood, are backing the bill. The Senate version, SB 5336, is co-sponsored by 20 lawmakers, including Senate Majority Leader Lisa Brown (D-3rd).

A fourth piece of pertinent legislation, SB 5069, would extend retirement benefits to domestic partners. It has been referred to the Ways and Means Committee.

To track the movement of these or any bills this session, go to <http://www.leg.wa.gov/legislature> and click on bill information, or go directly to <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/billinfo/>. You'll need to know the bill number or a few key words to get more information than most folks really want.

Those who like their politics in heaping helpings have a chance to influence local decision-making at a whole new level. A group of Spokane area GLBT activists is exploring the formation of a Political Action Committee (PAC) modeled after SEAMEC (Seattle Metropolitan Elections Committee), the well respected west of the Cascades GLBT PAC. Members of the community are invited to participate. For more information or to get involved in the effort, e-mail PAC2007@comcast.net.

Ready, set ... Election Season 2007 has begun. Mayor Dennis Hession declared his intent to seek a full term of office Jan. 17. City Council seats held by Bob Apple, Rob Crow and Brad Stark will be on the ballot this year as well. Whether incumbents will run is unknown at deadline.

As ever, stay tuned.

Catherine Willis, a freelance writer/editor and community advocate, has been a political junkie for 30 years.

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FOSTER
continued from Page 3

family becomes eligible for “wrap around care” that includes 24/7 crisis response, intensive support, increased funding, 48 hours of respite per month and other support.

There are four prerequisites for becoming a foster parent: You must be 21, be able to pass a DSHS background check, have to have a spare bedroom and everyone in the home 16 and over must be able to pass a criminal background check. As part of the licensing process, foster parents are required to go through a 30-hour training program aptly named PRIDE, where they are taught safe practices, de-escalation techniques, how to administer medicine, and a host of other parenting skills.

UPTHEGROVE
continued from Page 2

to educate your legislators about the importance of full marriage equality. Talk to your friends and neighbors about why marriage equality matters to you. The legislature is a reflection of the people who send us here, so it is important to engage in community and public education. Join civil rights groups, donate money to organizations that are working for marriage equality. Most of all, don't lose hope. We're making progress, and with your continued commitment

IRV'S
continued from Page 3

Irv's provides a relaxing atmosphere, and it is important to the owner “that people prefer to be here with our friendly wait staff than at home watching television.” Stephen wants it to feel like a second home to his customers. He wants it to offer people some place to go. He adds candidly, “Often with gay people, they feel like they have no place to go; that they just don't fit. And often there is no place for them to go for entertainment.” Irv's is all about seeing to it that people have a good time. Since the bar opened the first of the year, the clientele has been growing and the business has consistently exceeded Stephen's expectations. “Nothing better than to

MERQ
continued from Front Page

News Northwest reveal that the Merq declared during the six month period from May 2006 through October 2006 that it had no payables owing. Documents also disclose the Merq stated its income during this six month period was derived solely from credit card payments. According to its documents filed monthly with the bankruptcy court, the café and bar received no cash from its customers; all of the 235 bank deposits made by the Merq over a six month period were attributable to credit card payments. No cash was deposited or accounted for. And while the Merq consistently listed assets of exactly \$31.52 of food and \$81.32 of china, silver, glass and linen every month, its core inventory asset of beer, wine and liquor was no where to be found in six months of financial statements.

Also of question were mounting unpaid payroll liabilities of \$9,532, payroll

“People no matter what age need to know that they are valuable,” Thompson states. Her eyes reveal a profound sadness that comes from encountering too many children who believe they are expendable. Our GLBTQA youths who have been placed in foster care need a safe, affirming environment, here in Spokane, to explore who they are. It creates feelings of rejection when our youth have to be moved out of the area to be placed with foster parents who accept them. And young children who are raised by gay or lesbian parents, foster or biological, grow up to be accepting of diversity. Thompson believes it's time for the local GLBTQA community to come together and become a resource for children who need positive role models.

and hard work the values of equality and fair treatment will prevail.”

Rep. Upthegrove is the youngest member of the Washington State House of Representatives, and a strong advocate for equality and youth involvement in civic affairs and politics. He is one of our elected representatives taking a stand for equality and social justice. Please let him know what you think! You can send Rep. Upthegrove some love for taking a stand on marriage equality via e-mail at: <http://apps.leg.wa.gov/memberemail/MailForm.aspx?Chamber=H&District=33&Position=2>.

meet people through conversation, through dancing, and being part of a community,” Stephen states. “It just makes people's lives stronger, period, when they have options. And I think this will be a very good option for people.” According to Stephen, the GLBT community is excited about Irv's and happy with the way it looks. Jim Jackson is the bar manager and is, according to Stephen, “very important to making this a success.”

Jackson wants everybody to know that Irv's is not just a gay bar; it is an open bar. “Open! Open! Open!” Jackson cajoled with a wave of his free hand for emphasis. Open from 2 p.m. to 2 a.m. weekends and 11a.m. to 2 a.m. weekdays, Irv's is a welcome addition to the community.

expenses disproportionate to the stated number of two part-time employees and unreimbursed employee advances of \$1,330.

The Merq's attorney, Richard George, withdrew his representation of the Merq on December 8, 2006. Phone calls and letters by Stonewall to the Merq's proprietor, Dave Lewis, were not returned.

For purpose of disclosure: Stonewall News Northwest is an unpaid pre-petition creditor of \$1,700 in the Merq's bankruptcy filing of May 24, 2005 and holds an unpaid post-petition Judgment of \$1,301 against the Merq dated Oct 11, 2006.



The Merq Cafe and Liquid Lounge at 706 N Monroe Street in Spokane quietly sits for rent



Practical Spirituality for Daily Life

Go along, to get along... gets you no where

by Bob Schout

Have you ever felt that you betrayed yourself? That you found yourself in a situation, or around a group of people, not being true to yourself?

I am an eternal optimist. I believe that is our calling, and quintessentially our nature, to want good for all people, to see good in all people, and to be goodness in expression. I know that others may doubt that truth. They point readily to examples of people in their communities, on the job, in government and around the world and don't see goodness. It is easy for them to constantly, with eager certainty, say, “You're living in your own world, not seeing reality. People are out for themselves.” They go on to offer example after example of government lies, corporate greed, communities poisoning themselves to discriminate against their own neighbors and family members. I've heard it all.

Looking at the surface of human behavior – our surface reality – we may only see those things mentioned above, which a friend so angrily pointed out to me recently. She wasn't angry at me, but rather all of them...group after group... politicians, religious fanatics, rich people, poor people who won't work. It went on and on at a party that I attended. I sat there and listened, offering half-hearted challenges. I watched as others got riled up and joined in on the bashing festival that was quickly coming together in a friend's living room. And still I sat there, acknowledging some of the views of surface reality, yet silent about what I believed to be the true reality.

Sometimes we never really entertain or explore the reasons for all of it. We settle for trite answers, spewing conspiracy theories, ideological references and spiritual dogma, all of which are our attempts to settle our mind. We try to convince ourselves that we are right and they are wrong. We would prefer to tear others down, blame others and see only the negative – calling for revolution, as my friend does – instead of considering the truth. The truth is that we are all connected and responsible for conditions not only in our lives but in our world. We tend to focus on the negative in ourselves and others, but all negatives are truly manifestations of fear, attempting a covered up. We fear being alone, so we cling and smother others. We fear a loss of control, so we strong arm others. We fear poverty, so we hoard our money and material possessions. We fear differences in others, because it raises the possibility that we may not be perfect or right, so we fight to segregate, destroy, silence and repress others.

I get all of that...really, I do. What I



don't get, what tears me up, is when we get it but don't call others on it. When we hear people – friends, family, peers at school or at work – dwelling only in surface reality, and we don't confront it. When we do this, we betray ourselves. When we partake in discussions that provoke

segregationist thought, stereotyping those who are simply reacting out of fear – doing, in effect, to them what they are doing to us – we betray our brothers and sisters. When we fail to push ourselves to see the light in others and are silent when unenlightened statements about all other people are fearfully and selfishly spread by good people, we deny and betray Truth itself.

Let's face it. It's easier to go along to get along with friends or strangers at a party or at work. It's just easier to silence your voice. But in doing so, we pay a price – a dear one. Our consciousness calls us on it. Something lingers within our thoughts; those notions of “I should have said something...,” “I don't really believe what was said so why didn't I...” Those lingering thoughts come from a conscience of goodness that is the essence of our nature. It is the voice of universal truth that resides at the center of our soul reminding us that truth has not been spoken, and goodness was not defended. We were trying to get along but got lost, and what was lost was a piece of our integrity.

Going along with a conversation that you know to be destructive to hope itself does not solve any problems. You are not a better person because you go along with your friends. Putting the goal of getting along above being true to your self and to the Truth is itself an act of fear, and it gets you no where. Friends and family won't respect you just because you agree with them. They will respect you, even if they disagree with you, when they see the love in you – in your words, actions and integrity. They will learn to love you when they learn lessons of love that may emanate from your voice. They will thank you, eventually, for constantly being that beacon of light in their lives, allowing them to see past their fears and see the true nature of themselves and all people – that being goodness itself. Now excuse me, while I go to a friend's house and reclaim some integrity.

Bob Schout is based in Santa Fe New Mexico. He is a life coach, pastoral counselor, and motivational speaker for business, government, non-profit and faith-based organizations. He can be reached by e-mail at psdevelopment@sbcglobal.net.

STURCHIO
continued from Page 2

want a current assessment of her medical condition, including prognosis, treatment plans, an estimated date and degree of recovery, and an analysis of the effect PTSD has on Sturchio's overall health. According to Sturchio, the OIT has taken a particular interest in learning the “medical basis for any conclusion which indicates the likelihood that the individual is or is not expected to suffer sudden or subtle incapacitation by carrying out, with or without accommodation, the tasks or

duties of a specific position.” Finally, the investigators want a medical report stating whether Sturchio's PTSD is stabilized and the likelihood that she may become incapacitated by it. From the letter Sturchio received, it appears that the OIT is looking for an alternative means of separating Sturchio from her job. “It's funny how they can take all the time they want, refuse to send documentation that will help in one's defense, then ask for information to try and take the matter in a different direction,” Sturchio concedes. “After all these years of service, go figure.”

National

The cost of coming out early

Despite growing numbers of gays, schools still trying to adapt



Brandy Kozloski, 18, openly gay since the 10th grade, sits with her girlfriend at Bellevue State Park. Kozloski is among Delaware's growing number of gay students who are coming out earlier.

By Alison Kepner
The News Journal

The casino theme of Delcastle Technical High School's homecoming dance was "Lucky 7," and senior Brandy Kozloski felt just that as she stepped into the strobe-lit gymnasium on Nov. 4.

At her side was her girlfriend, a sophomore at a Pennsylvania school. Dating since August, this was the first time Kozloski, 18, had brought her to a Delcastle function. She was excited to show off the school to her date and proud to show off the girl to her friends.

Immediately, they stood out. Kozloski's date, dressed in a red button-down shirt, slacks and a tie, drew quizzical stares and indiscreet giggles.

As they moved toward the dance floor, Kozloski tried to ignore the jeers. Open about her sexuality since 10th grade, she has had two years to get used to snide comments in the hallways and solitary lunches. Time doesn't make the exclusion hurt any less, but it has given her the chance to learn coping mechanisms, mainly feigned indifference.

Kozloski is part of a small but increasingly visible minority in Delaware public schools. While a decade ago, few teens were openly gay, today more students are coming out in high school.

The average gay person now does so just before or after graduating high school, according to *The New Gay Teenager*, a 2005 book by Cornell professor Ritch Savin-Williams.

The book, featured in an October 2005 *Time* cover story, cites a Penn State University survey of 350 gay youths that found the mean age gay boys first have sexual contact with other boys is 14; for lesbians, it is 16.

Kozloski estimates 20 students are openly gay or bisexual in her school. A 2005 University of Delaware survey found 1 percent of the 4,985 Delaware 11th-graders surveyed identified themselves as homosexual with 4 percent calling themselves bisexual. Another 2 percent said they were unsure of their sexual orientation.

The theories for why people are coming out earlier vary. Some point to more gay teen characters in the movies or on television -- think "Desperate Housewives" or "As the World Turns" -- that have made it easier. Others say society in general has become more accepting. And some say all young adults, regardless of their orientation, are expressing their sexuality earlier.

Kozloski and a friend came out at school before they revealed their sex-

ual orientation to their parents, wearing small rainbow flag pins on their bookbags. Some of Kozloski's friends -- including her girlfriend -- still aren't out at home. Their parents either don't know or won't acknowledge what they suspect.

Brandywine High School senior Jennane Beaulieu has been out in school for three years but only recently told her mother.

"While I was at school, I felt like I was living a double life," she said.

Singled out

Back in the Delcastle gym, Kozloski and her date stood with four friends, a gay couple and a lesbian couple. Their eyes scanned the room. Girls in dresses falling just below their buttocks pressed against their boyfriends, moving in unison to the gyrating beat. Some threw up a leg or bent so low at times that the short dresses no longer covered them.

"It's like a music video for Nelly," Kozloski said.

The boys were the first to make their way onto the packed dance floor. As they started grinding, they drew a crowd. Other boys, taunting the couple, tried to maneuver between them. But as the couple refused to give up on their fun, the bullies moved away.

So did everyone else. Within 20 minutes, the six friends had their own space on the crowded floor.

By now, teacher chaperones had noticed them. Kozloski remembers her cheeks burning as they pointed and laughed. Though still on the dance floor, her date barely was moving. She clearly felt uncomfortable. So did Kozloski.

Kozloski recalls a teacher bypassing lip-locked heterosexual couples to approach the boys. He told them to separate, trying to stick a notebook between them.

The boys protested, pointing to the heterosexual couples grinding nearby.

Weren't these adults supposed to be setting an example for the students, teaching them tolerance? Kozloski thought. Instead, she said, they seemed to be supporting, even provoking, the negative attention.

Principal Joseph Jones, who also was in the gymnasium that night, said no teachers made fun of the gay students, adding chaperones worked all night separating couples dancing too closely, regardless of their sexuality.

"Our teachers are extremely tolerant. They are dedicated to students overall," Jones said.

Kozloski insists her group was targeted.

"It was so embarrassing. It was horrible. I just wanted to cry," she said. "They just stood there and laughed at us."

Daily struggles

Harassment and bullying remain problems for gay students across the country.

In April, the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network, or

GLSEN, released its 2005 National School Climate Survey of 1,732 lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) students from all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

More than three-quarters of the students reported hearing derogatory remarks such as "faggot" or "dyke" frequently in school. Even more -- 89 percent -- said they hear "that's so gay" or "you're so gay" meaning stupid or worthless.

So do the Delaware students. Kozloski also hears classmates say how disgusting and unnatural homosexuality is.

"They'll be like, 'It's your fault you're gay,'" she said.

They say being gay is her choice.

"I definitely would choose for it to be easier at school," Kozloski said.

During her freshman year, before she came out at school, Kozloski had a lot of friends. She never ate lunch alone. She didn't worry about changing in the locker room for gym class. Now she leaves campus or eats in a teacher's room at lunch. She changes into her gym clothes in the bathroom to avoid any problems in the locker room.

"I know some cocky girl is going to say, 'She's looking at me,'" Kozloski said.

She tries to laugh off the name calling and put on a good face at school but admits the words and exclusion hurt.

"I'm not that strong," she said.

For many gay students, the bullying goes beyond name-calling. Almost 38 percent of the students surveyed by GLSEN said they experienced physical harassment at school on the basis of sexual orientation, with 26 percent saying they were harassed because of their gender expression -- the way they communicate their gender, which may differ from their sex. About 18 percent of students said they were assaulted at school because of their sexual orientation, with 12 percent saying they were assaulted because of their gender expression.

The harassment affects the students in and out of the classroom. According to GLSEN:

- LGBT students were five times more likely than mainstream students to report skipping school in the last month because of safety concerns.
- LGBT students were twice as likely to say they didn't plan to pursue post-secondary education.
- The average grade-point average for LGBT students who frequently were physically harassed was half a grade lower than that of LGBT students experiencing less harassment.

Gay Straight Alliance

But there is some good news in the survey results. GLSEN found school

climates were better in buildings with Gay Straight Alliance clubs and with supportive faculty.

Kozloski and her friends think the homecoming dance shows why Delcastle needs a GSA. Such student groups exist at more than 3,000 U.S. high schools -- that is nearly 1 in 10 campuses. A half-dozen Delaware schools have registered clubs, though *The News Journal* was not able to verify they are active.

The *Time* article chronicled the increasing prominence of the groups, noting that in 1997 only about 100 U.S. high schools had registered clubs. In the 2004-05 academic year, students established GSAs at U.S. schools at the rate of three per day.

The clubs aim to give gay and gay-friendly students a safe haven, a support group to talk about issues and a means to promote tolerance at school.

Kozloski thinks such a group could change the atmosphere at her school. It's working at Brandywine High School, where students founded their GSA in 1999. About 20 students meet weekly in adviser Edd Chango's classroom.

"They don't have to say whether they are gay or not. It's a place we just try to make stress-free. It's a place where they can come and be comfortable with who they are without feeling the pressures," Chango said.

He didn't have such a group when he was a teenager in Pennsylvania.

"I was not out in high school," Chango said. "I was worried all the time. I was harassed quite often. I'm happy to see things have changed so much."

Some members, such as sophomore Kasia Zinkello, are straight. They want to support their gay classmates and promote tolerance in the hallways.

"It's not about being gay. It's that I accept people. We are proud of our friends who are gay," Zinkello said.

Across the nation, some public school boards or community groups have tried to block GSAs from forming, but courts repeatedly have ruled in favor of the clubs, saying schools that receive federal funds can't discriminate.

Although Kozloski and her friends said Delcastle's administration has resisted their attempts to form a club, Jones said he will support it.

He was an assistant principal at Howard High School, also in the New Castle Vo-Tech District, when it started a GSA a few years ago.

"The students should have an avenue to discuss certain things they are going through," Jones said. "It helped those students involved with the community and how they perceived people perceiving them."

Kozloski wants other gay students to know they have support, perhaps making their high school years easier than her own have been. Maybe her final months will be better, too.

"I just don't want to be called a dyke when I walk down the hallway," she said.

ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

Christopher Lawrence, A & E Editor

Return of Pride & Joy Movie Night!

Pride & Joy Movie Night is being brought back through a Pride Grant. The regular night will be every First Thursday, starting on Feb. 1 at 7 pm with **Yes Nurse, No Nurse** (See review on next page). The doors open at 7 p.m. The movie begins at 7:30 p.m. in the second floor theater. **The movie is free!**

Spaghetti dinner with beverage and dessert will be served for \$9, or participants can choose anything off the menu from Ella's at a 20% discount. Attendees receive 50% off all beverages.

DINNER THEATRE RETURNS!

The Road to Diddlyquat is a brand new play written by Emmy Award winner Reed McColm, who co-stars with Tim Behrens in this story about George. He can't remember names, addresses, what he had for breakfast or... diddlyquat. When he does remember – it's something terrible he did a long time ago. See it at CenterStage – Jan. 18-20, 25, 26.

Dan Cummins, comedian, is featured on Sat., Jan. 27 at 7:30 and 10 p.m.

Charlotte Carruthers, Her Brothers & Others in Concert perform on Sat., Feb. 10 at Ella's. Great Jazz always at Ella's. Tickets are available by calling 74-STAGE.

Savor the Sweet Sounds

Maestro Eckart Preu explores the music this and next month with several offerings. **Flights of Fantasy** at the INB Performing Arts Center on Friday, Jan. 26, promises us kaleidoscopic orchestral colors and wide-ranging emotions.

Listeners can expect an unforgettable sonic journey. Argentine composer Osvaldo Golijov's **Night of the Flying Horses** opens the program.

By George! – the Music of George Gershwin will be presented on Friday, Feb. 3 at 8 p.m. Gershwin's great American music spanning three decades will include popular classics from **Porgy and Bess** to his **Tin Pan Alley** tunes including "Embraceable You" and "I Got Rhythm" remind us of his genius. And who could possibly forget "Rhapsody in Blue" and "American in Paris?"

Johnny Mathis Gold: a 50th Anniversary Celebration will feature the legendary crooner on Sunday, Feb. 11 at 8 p.m. Mathis, an icon of American pop music,



Eckart Preu, Music Director

has been called the Velvet Voice and "the best ballad singer in the world." He has thrilled audiences with his romantic ballads, jazz and pop standards, and songs from Broadway musicals for 50 years.

During that time, he has never publicly discussed his orientation, but most of us in the GLBTQ community consider him 'family.' His sensitive renditions make many of us feel at home.

He has performed for more heads of state than any other performer. I look forward to seeing his handsome face and hearing those golden tones again.

Idaho Sex Scandal Film To Screen in Lilac City

The Spokane International Film Festival will be here for two weekends, Jan 25 through 28 and Feb. 2, 3. The festival has chosen a small, selective, invitation-only festival of world-class films picked from the best features, documentaries and shorts that have been made around the world during the past two years but have not yet been commercially released for wide distribution.

Out of the many offerings, at least one has particular interest to the GLBTQA community: Yes, the new documentary about the so-called "boys of Boise" scandal is coming to Spokane. **The Fall of '55**, directed by Seth Randal, a former Spokane resident, is a documentary about a 1950s-era anti-gay witch hunt that still affects the nearby GLBTQ community of Boise. It will be shown at the historic Bing Crosby Theatre at 11 a.m. on Sun., Feb. 4.

In 1955, allegations of a teenage "sex ring" ignited a hysterical, widespread investigation of suspected homosexuals in Boise, Idaho. Sixteen men were prosecuted, and thousands more became targets of suspicion, rumor and innuendo.

The **Fall of '55** reveals numerous stories– never told before – of lives and families changed forever by the scandal. The interviews in the film include one of the men sent to prison and a young boy



whose entire family fled to Mexico to avoid imminent prosecution.

Fact sheets and crew biographies can be viewed online at www.FALLof55.com. You can also learn more at www.myspace.com/fallof55.

GLBT Book Group

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

The upcoming review session is **Blue Place** by Nicola Griffith on Feb. 7.

Barefoot in the Park De-ices Civic

Barefoot in the Park packed Spokane Civic Theatre's Main room despite record freezing temperatures on the second night of its all-too-short run. Word of mouth from opening night stimulated lots of last minute reservations for the sharply directed production..

The audience was warmly rewarded for their trek through the snow by an excellent cast, colorful sets and Neil Simon's witty chomp into the mysteries of coupling. Typical of his comedies, this one is laced with well-meaning intentions that are often poorly accepted.

The cast was very much in sync throughout the evening. The telephone repairman (Brian Lambert) has perfect timing and beautifully measured reactions to the zany chatter that ceaselessly flowed from the energetic and uber-perky newlywed bride played by Danae M. Lowman.

Newlywed Paul (Paul Villabril) is the perfect mix as the earnest, frustrated and confused husband. Villabril has the chance here to display his real talent and showed us some amazing power and focused energy in the second act.

Upstairs neighbor Victor (Robert Wamsley) is the wild card often featured in Simon's plays. Playing it right to the edge without going too far, he presents a rounded character, even with all his ethnic idiosyncracies.



Top l-r: Robert Wamsley, Paul Villabril, Jean Hardie and Danae M. Lowman.



Left: Paul Villabril and Danae M. Lowman

Jean Hardie is at her best in the role of Corie's mother, Ethyl Banks. Hilarious and perfect timing enhances her ability to really understand and speak Simon's words. She shows remarkable stage presence, of course, and delivers every awkward bit of physical comedy like the best of professionals.

These bedroom comedies require quick, delicate timing, and some of the pacing in the first act seems slightly forced and hurried, but by the second act the rhythm is excellent. Director Yvonne A. K. Johnson has delivered another winning hit for Civic Theatre.

Barefoot closes Feb 3. Don't miss it!

Agnes of God: The Battle for Good

Art's artistic director, Michael Weaver, wrote: This play "examines questions that will remain relevant as long as mankind retains critical thinking: Faith and Reason, Religion and Doubt, Truth and Lies, Miracles and Skepticism. A play that addresses the very existence of God will always be profound and compelling. And a play this well written will always be entertaining, complex and moving."

I use Michael's thoughtful words because these same words and thoughts are spinning in my head after viewing his fine production of *Agnes of God*.

Three extremely capable actors carry this play that includes an incredible amount of dialogue and a limited physical space. They deliver not only their own characters but clearly show us the larger symbolic story.

Mother Miriam Ruth played by Jane Fellows, Dr. Martha Livingston played by Kate Vita and Sister Agnes played by Caryn Hoaglund are remarkable in nearly every moment.

The course of the evening reveals that each one of them is tortured by unspoken secrets hidden behind their safe, secure facades.

Dr. Livingston is investigating the death of a baby within the convent. Agnes refuses to remember what happened that fateful night when the baby was discovered. Mother Miriam is intent on protecting the child-like Agnes from prosecution for murder or manslaughter, exposure to the evils of the real world



Kate Vita and Caryn Hoaglund

outside the convent.

A thread of desperation haunts each of them, and the intrigue they pursue discloses the secrets of their pasts.

This mystery unravels into building tension and climaxes with each of them learning more about themselves and the reasons they have for being at odds over faith and science, psychiatry and spiritual belief.

There are a few light moments during the evening, but you

can expect this experience to be intense rather than relaxing.

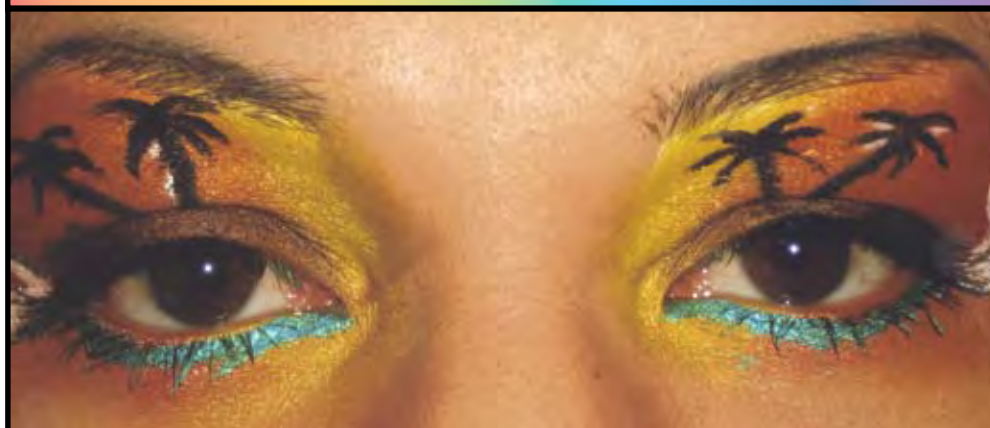
Reflection, however, is a wonderful tool, and ART delivers that with precision.

The sets, as always, are abstract and mood setting. Always on the minimalist side, they seem to hit the mark and support the illusions being spun on the stage of the intimate Spartan Theatre at Spokane Falls Community College.

Unfortunately, **Agnes of God** closes on Jan 27. You will have only three days left to see it when this issue hits the streets.

Call (509) 838-4013 to get tickets.

See what's new at Dempsey's

**FRI**

- \$5 cover charge after 9 PM
- Dance 'til 4 AM with DJ Scotty!
- Dempsey's Divas at 10 PM & Midnight!

**SAT**

- \$5 cover charge after 9 PM
- Dance 'til 4 AM with DJ Scotty!
- Dempsey's Divas at 10 PM & Midnight!

**SUN**

- Women's Night: free pool, darts and appetizers 8 PM—10 PM
- Pitchers of PBR beer only \$3

**MON**

- Karaoke hosted by "Don't Be Shy Karaoke Company" 8 PM—1 AM

**TUE**

- Men's Night: with 360Presents.com and ClubChannel1.com Videos and free appetizers 8 PM—10 PM

**WED**

- Steak & Bake Dinner Night: only \$6.95
- Karaoke hosted by "Don't Be Shy Karaoke Company" 8 PM—1 AM

**THU**

- College Night: Happy Hour all night with college ID
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Doors open ~4:30 pm

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Tickets \$125

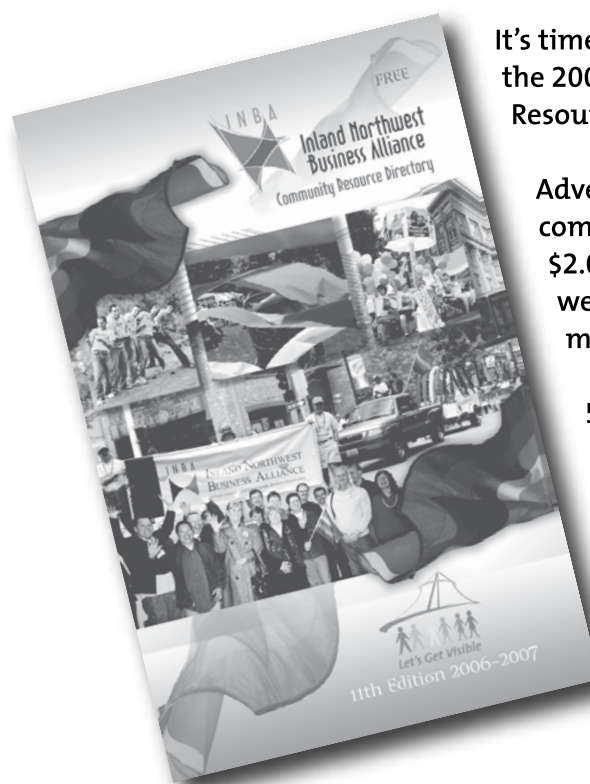
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more information is available at www.SpokaneAIDSNetwork.org.

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REVIEWS & PREVIEWS

PLAYS—MUSIC—VIDEO—BOOKS

Christopher Lawrence & Graham Ames

Driven Crazy by *Miss Daisy*

Driving Miss Daisy is a title that works on several levels. Hoke, the chauffeur (Clarence Forech), physically drives the aging Miss Daisy's car for her. He also drives this opinionated white woman who feels she's losing control of her life to see existence through the eyes of a black man in the Deep South.

Alice Kennedy does a commendable job in the part of Miss Daisy. As the ex-fifth grade teacher, she puts the three "Cs" into it—cantankerous, crotchety and controlling. Seldom lacking a sharp-tongued reaction to the two males in the cast, she maintains a petulant control (as best she can for an elderly woman) from the ages of 72 to her late 90s. Fortunately, her words are written with the tender humor and the insight that the elderly possess because of change. The play encompasses the twenty-five years between 1948 and 1973 as she jousts with, and eventually becomes best friends with, her chauffeur.

Her son, Boolie (Tony Caprile)), is the cause of it all. He hired Hoke against his mother's wishes, and he watches the change thoughtfully as her rigidity softens over the years.

Handsome Caprile is reminiscent of classic stars of the silver screen such as for example Bing Crosby, who might have barely aced him in his "smooth" voice and affect. Caprile could easily do the voice-overs for the Sugar Bear and has a gently commanding sophistication that lends itself well to the part.

Hoke seems to have the most dialogue and has a comfortable and slightly folksy take on the world around him. Forech has a good grip on creating him as a rustic character. The only criticism I would have is his concentration on the



Left— Clarence Forech as Hoke and Tony Caprile as Boolie.



Below— Alice Kennedy as Miss Daisy and Clarence Forech

detailed art of pantomime. Two very young girls in the audience noticed that a few times he stepped in and out of the car without really opening those imaginary doors. (All the scenes are arranged in various areas of the thrust stage and need to be physically minimal.) Some of his motions are vague and undefined. When sets are sparse, it is up to the actor to make what is not physically present seem real to the audience. Other than this obvious, but small flaw, these three actors are well rehearsed and have immersed themselves in their delightful characters.

A word to patrons, sponsors and underwriters: Someone needs to donate or buy a real scrim for interPLAYERS. The colored backdrops and special effects will enhance rather than distract from the hard work they put into their sets.

Maynard Villers, who played his part so authentically in last season's **Bus Stop** has done a fine job of directing. You have until Feb. 3 to get tickets.

Call (509) 455-PLAY.

MUSIC

With Boots

ToToM

<http://www.boototom.info/withboots>

I will be the first to admit the "mash-up" is not an art form for everyone. This now-flourishing practice consists of taking two or more previously unassociated concepts, typically pieces of music, and bringing them together to make something entirely new. Different from a remix or a re-edit, a mashup can sometimes be a frightful mess, or in the case of this brilliant online "album" from French online presence ToToM, a postmodern reconstruction of one of music's current master talents.

Thanks to high-powered home computers and amazing manipulation software, nearly anyone with the genius and fortitude can pull apart and reassemble audio into heretofore unimagined new tracks. ToToM has applied his considerable talents to Nine Inch Nails' **With Teeth** album and, with the help of other "contributing artists" such as Pink Floyd, David Bowie, and even Kool and the Gang, has remade the seminal 2005 album. It is a startling and insightful take



on one of my favorite CDs, and it has left me with a deeper appreciation of the original work, as well as a fascination for the entire mashup art form.

There are moments which made me laugh out loud, as in when "You Know What You Are?" and "Getting Smaller" meet up with Lee Hazelwood's version of "These Boots Are Made For Walking" in "You Know These Boots Are Getting Smaller" at the beginning of the second chorus. No fewer than three NIN songs are layered for the dense track "We're In This Blurred Line Closer Now." But what really made me sit up and take notice was the stunning "bonus track" of "Only Fame," where David Bowie's classic meets the NIN track, becoming a deep commentary on life in the public eye.

All the source material is fully documented in the mp3 tags, so researching the original tracks is easy. Familiarity with the original NIN album may help, but the tracks stand well on their own. Best of all, you can find it as a free download. Get your copy today. It may open your eyes to a whole new world of musical expression. — G.A.

Yes Nurse, No Nurse

Pieter Kramer, director

Regent Entertainment, 104 minutes

Yes Nurse, No Nurse includes a

number of "I Love Lucy" moments in this wacky and nearly impossible to label musical extravaganza. The viewer really must get in the groove to enjoy the antics, but it takes little effort. This production is a hilarious and over produced creative homage to the golden era of the late, great Hollywood studio musical — and a celebration of all its camped up, Technicolor glory.

It took me several minutes to warm up to this odd fantasy musical that recounts the adventures of Nurse Klivia (a combination of Miss Kitty and Lucille Ball) and the residents of her Rest Home.

It feels odd to watch a musical in Dutch with English sub-titles, because part of the charm of a musical is the ease with which we learn the words to the music. But the colorful and campy choreography with nurses in matching white, flouncy short frocks, odd little nursing caps, and red patent tap shoes that were reminiscent of the June Taylor dancers quickly removed all my resistance.

Story line: The closeted and overwrought nasty landlord and next-door neighbor, Mr. Boordevol, is exasperated by their noisy goings-on at the Rest Home and is eager to have them evicted. They welcome a new resident, Gerrit (adorable Waldemar Torenstra), a compulsive burglar who is in love with pretty resident Jet and trying to reform from his illegal ways. A new neighbor, the hairdresser Wouter, who seems to have some connection with Boordevol's past, moves in across the street.

When Boordevol's house is burgled, suspicion immediately falls on Gerrit, affording Boordevol the perfect excuse to have the Rest Home closed down for good. Things look even worse when Gerrit is proved innocent and Nurse Klivia herself becomes the prime suspect.

But miracles do happen. Our Mr Boordevol may have a surprising change of heart ...

The really good news is that this is the first film in the newly revived series of **Pride and Joy Movie Night** at CenterStage Theater on Thurs., Feb 1. Be sure to join us for this first offering of the series!

Available Men

Seven Shorts from 2006

Wolfe Video, 105 minutes

Available Men is a clever story about mistaken identities that I reviewed when it was included in the Spokane GLBT Film Festival. Interesting and entertaining.

Straight Boys is a short and heart breaking tale of partially requited love with a best friend. It never pays. Don't do it!

Hello, Thanks is a sort treatise reminding us that writing hundreds of personal ads to find the perfect

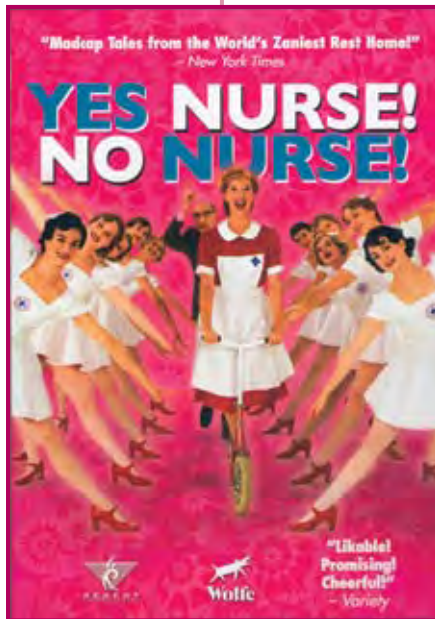
mate probably will not work either.

Tumbleweed Town — Animated clay-mation. Why it won First Prize at Planet OUT? No clue. Lots of detail, but not much substance. It certainly is not **Brokeback Mountain**. Worth a slight yawn.

Underminer— Who needs to be reminded of people who constantly deprecate everyone? Skip it entirely!

Irene Williams: Queen of Lincoln Road — this was a favorite in Spokane and worth the price of the entire DVD!

Sissy Frenchfry — Worth seeing once, maybe, but I did not have the heart to watch it again. Stereotypical attitudes. Old news.



ChaosMen

by Bryan Ockert

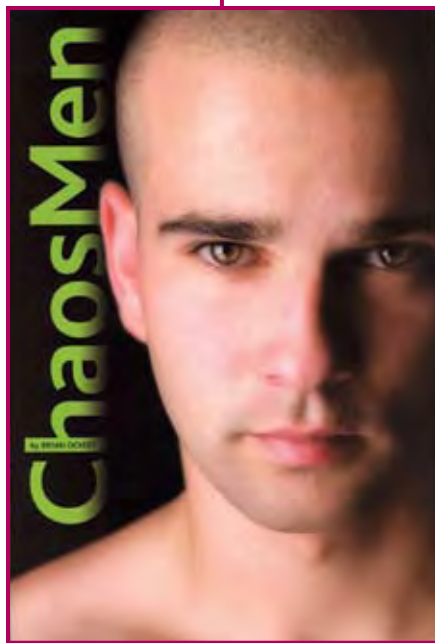
ChaosinAustin.com, Inc., 225 pages

Wow! This is not your average coffee table book for oh-so-many reasons. World renowned photographer Bryan Ockert has selected the creme-de-la-creme of diverse and beautiful men from his various projects over many years to grace the pages of this evocative study of the male form and face.

There is an ample amount of frontal nudity, but putting that aside, it would be hard to describe this artistic offering as anything close to smut or pornography, even though the occasional aroused fellow is featured.

Instead, Ockert has caressingly captured the best of the

male spirit within the eye of his camera. If male beauty can make you ache, you may need aspirin to get through these mood-filled portraits of our brothers and boy friends displaying all their quirky, playful, serious, humorous and steamy attitudes.



the Community remembers John Deen

"I was very saddened upon hearing of John Deen's passing. I wish I would have known that John had Lung cancer as I would have made an effort to visit with him.

John was so supportive of Lawrie and I when we opened Spokane's first openly Gay Pride store, 'Hat Over Heels' in June of 1999. He was there not only to cover and support our opening but made an ongoing effort to stop by and see us to visit and patronize our store as often as he could.

My most memorable memory of John was at an INBA dinner and white elephant gift exchange. I ended up with a risqué sculpture of two men that John desperately tried to hang on to and take home with him. I always told John that there would probably be a time when I would need an 'exchange' and he would have his sculpture back then.

I will personally miss seeing John at Community functions and always remember his wonderful smile and sense of humor. John has been such a significant part of our GLBT community's history and will be greatly missed.

The statue I spoke of has always held a place in the decor of my home but today has been put in a more prominent placement along side my fresh flowers in celebration of John's life.

I must thank the current Stonewall News staff at such a wonderful job of carrying on our paper. You do a wonderful job for us, thanks!

I will attend John's memorial at Dempsey's in February and bring the statue to share.

Good Bye, John
You left your mark!

Very sincerely,
Susie Thompson
Spokane, WA

"John was sometimes described as a bit cantankerous (which he could be), but he was also caring and giving. He had quite the acerbic wit and was no stranger to the significance and usefulness of drama. I deeply appreciate the gifts he gave this community.

I wish you fun and joy in your next life John....."

Deb McCandless
One World Design Architecture
Spokane, WA

"We were very saddened to learn that former Stonewall publisher and long time Spokane gay activist John Deen passed away on Wednesday morning Jan 17, 2007 from lung cancer.

John will be remembered for his 10 years as Stonewall publisher, for his helping to move Spokane forward in its acceptance of the GLBT community and for (as one friend expressed it) his "rather wicked sense of humor."

We at the Spokane GLBT Film Festival will always remember John as being one of our first big supporters. He made sure we had lots of press coverage, arranged donors to cover advertising costs and believed in us from the first. But perhaps best of all, he always had that contagious smile for us whenever we walked in the door of Stonewalls office. We will miss him greatly."

Barb Lee
Spokane GLBT Film Festival
Spokane, WA

"Tributes sometimes seem contrived and hollow, or glorified and overblown. I hope this characterization of my friend John Deen is considered both objective and accurate.

The name John Deen conjures up a wide assortment of memories and emotions from within the GLBT and allied community. He had a unique sense of humor that was characterized by his dry wit and brutal honesty. To some, he was considered brusque and rude, but I loved being able to pitch it right back to him.

John's compass was guided by his unwavering interpretation of right and wrong. He had a very powerful sense of ethics to which he remained true. He was unapologetically opinionated and seldom deferred from "telling it as he saw it." Organizations were always encouraged to submit their own written story for publication, but he was adamant in his belief that as the publisher of Stonewall News Northwest, he shouldn't have to pay to attend LGBT community events that he planned to cover. This led to much ill will as some activities/organizations were not always fully or accurately reported.

Like most if not all newspaper publishers, John used the paper to promote his agenda. His agenda had an unwavering sense of equality as the core theme. Personally, he had a deeply felt sense of right and wrong. He publicly criticized LGBT businesses that did not advertise in the paper or appear to give back to the community. He criticized businesses that didn't pay their advertising bills and the GLBT community for perceived inactivity or self promotion rather than putting the common good first.

The paper was an integral part of his life. He worked himself ragged getting the paper out on deadline, and then crashed to recuperate only to repeat the cycle the next month. He had a core group of friends who helped, but he was too proud to ask for additional help when he needed it.

John was quite generous with his limited personal resources, as well as giving away free promotions and advertising to GLBT causes and organizations.

Above all, I am most thankful for his unabashed promotion of fairness and equality. To me, John Deen is the father of Ordinance C32232, the Non Discrimination ordinance in the City of Spokane. He planted the seeds for the city's Discrimination Ordinance to be changed to Non Discrimination Ordinance and to include sexual orientation.

August 10, 1996, "over 300 people" and 17 candidates or their representatives attended the Privacy Fund, an LGBT Political Action Committee, fund raiser at the home of Larry Stone in Spokane. To applause and cheers, then Mayor Jack Geraghty spoke of equality for all. In February of 1997, John individually met with Mayor Geraghty to discuss equal rights. In March, John again met with the Mayor and presented his original document "Equality for All." This was followed by a letter to the Mayor and City Council in which the Inland Northwest Business Alliance unanimously endorsed the goal of equal rights.

Shortly after, John invited me to lunch to share "Equal Rights for All" and ask for my input. I must confess to thinking and telling him he was overly optimistic pursuing all nine points. He liked to "remind" me my response was "Not in my lifetime" though that wasn't exactly what I said. We strategized the next steps. In order to keep the issue in the forefront, he asked me to put together and facilitate a group to speak to the Spokane City Council. I agreed, and eight individuals poignantly shared their stories on May 5 during the Public Forum at the end of the council meeting. The concerns and experiences of the GLBT community were placed directly before the entire City Council and the greater Spokane community.

John didn't let it end there. While the issue was referred to the Spokane Human Rights Commission for action and recommendation, John kept up the pressure. This story made the front page of every issue of the Stonewall News Northwest until the passage of the ordinance on January 25, 1999 and its effective date of February 24, 1999, 25 consecutive months!

John's original document that started it follows.

"Equal rights for All"

1. End hypocrisy. Extend the City's "Discrimination" Policy to apply to all entities that do business with the City of Spokane.
2. End bigotry. Extend the City's "Discrimination" Policy to all business entities in the City of Spokane.
3. End Hatred. Extend the City's "Discrimination" Policy to apply to all aspects of housing.
4. Demonstrate sensitivity. Include "domestic partners" in the City's employee benefits program.
5. Demonstrate fairness. Extend the City's domestic partners benefits program to apply to all business entities of 20 employees or more in the City of Spokane.
- 6 Stand for equal rights. Endorse the passage of Initiative 677, to guarantee all residents of Washington state the same rights in employment, regardless of sexual orientation.
7. By resolution, request the state Legislature to legalize same-gender marriage in Washington state.
8. Require all City announcements and advertisements for employment to also include the newspaper dedicated to serving the gay community, Stonewall News Northwest.
9. Demonstrate the City's appreciation of diversity and its commitment to non-discrimination by changing the title of the City's "Discrimination" Policy to "Non-Discrimination."

John Deen, Publisher & Editor of Stonewall News Northwest, March 1997

John, in gratitude and friendship I thank you. We owe you much. I miss you!"

Dean Lynch
Spokane, WA

"I was deeply struck and saddened at the announcement of John Deen's death. John Deen had been a mentor, a loyal advocate, and a friend to me for years. His influence reached far beyond Spokane and had influenced a young man in the conservative valley of Wenatchee, WA. I was young and naive and deeply driven to be a booming voice of activism in this conservative sanctuary.

I remember first calling the Stonewall to see if I could get an item in the paper. I remember John chuckling. I like to think it was because he recognized my blind passion as I fumbled in the dark to figure out how this activism worked. Most likely it was because I couldn't shut up for two seconds to let him get a word in. John used to tell me that I was an easy interview because I never stopped talking.

He could be rough around the edges, but his loyalty and support were undeniable. Over the years he was always there for me with advice, to point me to people he thought could help, and to support the endeavors I chose to pursue.

John was a good man who touched many lives. He was fiercely loyal and deeply supportive and cared a great deal for the people around him and this community. He inspires me still to keep moving forward and I will think of him always as I continue my work, our work.

I will remember him with great fondness and even now that he has moved on I know his spirit will continue to shine for us all.

With great respect and love,

Jonathan Shuffield
President, SHINE
Wenatchee, WA

"I am very sad that John Deen has passed away. He was a personal friend of mine. When I was active duty in the Air Force at Fairchild, he encouraged me to write articles about my experiences as a gay man in the armed forces. I wrote some of my experiences by using a pseudonym.

When I was a member of the Spokane Human Rights Commission, we often discussed the human rights ordinance that eventually passed in the city council on February 25, 1999. John wrote an article about the ordinance and there is a picture of several people on the front page celebrating in front of Dempsey's that evening. I was one of the people pictured with him during that momentous occasion. I told John that I was disappointed that our transgender community was left out. He turned to me and said "one battle at a time".

John was truly one of my mentors who inspired me to fight for equal rights behind the scenes as well as the front lines. His smile often made my world easier to live through day by day. He was the first white gay man that I met to actually acknowledge that racism exists among white gay men in Spokane when others believed that my experience as a black gay man was insignificant. He encouraged me to write articles about those experiences in the Stonewall too. He was not afraid to take on controversial issues.

When I moved to San Diego in 2001 he arranged for me to meet his friends in San Diego to make my transition here easier. I love him very much and will miss him terribly."

Lorenzo Herman
San Diego, CA

The following is reprinted from the June 2005 issue of Stonewall News Northwest:

The torch passes

by John M. Deen

With this issue, I step aside as publisher of Stonewall News Northwest. A decade of memories now seem compressed into a handful of days.

I remember the first months answering Stonewall's phone and callers expressing surprise to hear a live voice. I remember the persuasion it took to convince people to allow full use of their name in a story. With special fondness, I remember the diverse group of people I called upon to approach the Spokane City Council and ask they amend the city's "Discrimination" ordinance to include sexual orientation. For their valor and courage, and with particular affection, they are forever

remembered as the Stonewall Patriots.

On news stands and shelves, Stonewall has been the visible face for the gay community for more than 14 years. I would like to think the paper has performed honestly and with integrity.

There have been some unexpected experiences. A particularly poignant moment occurred when I mounted the steps to photograph and talk to individuals who organized a candlelight vigil at Gonzaga University for Mathew Shepard. I heard someone in the crowd comfort her partner with a whisper that sounded like a plea for hope and reassurance: "Stonewall's here."

It's always fun to hear from advertisers and organizations that readers have responded to items in the paper. Feel-good memories come in many forms. Headline writing sometimes can be more fun than it should be, but I've never been able to write an obituary with dry eyes. Nearby hang a faded letter and drawing to Camera Man from

Beth. Her mother sent them, and they are pinned along with numerous notes of thanks from subscribers and announcements from organizations.

To be sure, there have been disappointments along the way. After years of covering various events, when it became Stonewall's turn for recognition, only people affiliated with Emmanuel Metropolitan Community Church, Inland Northwest Pride (now OutSpokane) and the Imperial Sovereign Court of Spokane deigned it significant enough to attend the newspaper's 10th anniversary open house.

The disappointments extend to myself. I had hoped to take Stonewall to a twice-monthly publication. Some personality features and stories of historical interest have gone unwritten, but it's time to turn Stonewall over to fresh minds and fresh enthusiasm.

As I relinquish the banner to the new publisher, Mike Schultz, I wish him well in his endeavors on behalf of Stonewall. I now turn my attention to a rose garden and lawn too long left in the care of Morticia and Gomez.

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Resource Directory

SPOKANE AREA

BiNet Spokane

A social support group for bisexual men and women.

Call: (509) 217-1271

Eastern Washington University SAFE Students’ Alliance for Equality

Weekly meetings for students, faculty and staff.

Call: Kat Olson: (509) 359-4253

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

EMCC – Emmanuel Metropolitan Community Church

Christian church with outreach to the GLBT community.

Call: (509) 838-0085

Web site: www.emmanuelmcc.com

Friends of SAN

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

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

Gay/Lesbian Info Line

Call: (509) 489-2266

Immediate Crisis: (509) 838-4428

GLBT Book Group

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

Call: Julie Smith: (509) 838-0206

Gonzaga University GLBT Resource Center

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

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

SODA (Sexual Orientation Diversity Alliance) law school support group.

Direct line: Bryce: 323-5847

Hospice of Spokane

Physical, emotional and spiritual care for the terminally ill and loved ones; bereavement support and HIV/AIDS counseling services.

Call: (509) 456-0438

ISCS – Imperial Sovereign Court of Spokane

Call: (509) 251-1242.

Web site: www.iscspokane.com

INBA – Inland Northwest Business Alliance

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

Write: PO Box 20163, Spokane, WA 99204

Voice mail: 509-455-3699

E-mail: info@inbaspokane.org

Web site: www.inbaspokane.org

Inland Northwest Equality

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

Call: Krista Benson: 838-7870

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

Integrity

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

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

Lutheran Communtiy Services-SafeT Response Center

Call: (509) 747-8224

Crisis line (509) 624-7273

Lilac City Men’s Project

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

Web site: www.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

Papillon

Social support group for the transgender community.

Call: (509) 292-8852

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

Support group for parents, family, friends and members of the GLBT community.

Call: (509): 624-6671

Web site: www.pflagspokane.org

PJALS – Peace and Justice Action League of Spokane

Independent, membership organization building foundations for a just and nonviolent world.

Call: (509) 838-7870

Planned Parenthood of 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

Quest Youth Group

To “inspire, encourage and support” gay and bisexual guys, 18-25, in the Inland Northwest through free monthly recreational activities, discussions, service projects and movie nights.

Call: Ryan: (509) 290-3519

Web site: www.QuestYouthGroup.org

Ryan White CARE Consortium

HIV care education and planning group.

Call: Tarena Coleman: (509) 444-8200

E-mail: tc Coleman@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

SAN – Spokane AIDS Network

Call: (509) 455-8993 or

1-888-353-2130

Web site: www.spokaneAIDSnetwork.org

Spokane County Domestic Violence Consortium

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

Call: (509) 487-6783

Spokane Falls Community College -The Alliance

GLBT and allies group to provide a safe space; to educate our community.

Call: (509) 533-4507

Spokane Human Rights Commission

Call: Equity Office: (509) 625-6263

Spokane Regional Health District

Providing health services and referrals for the public. HIV testing.

Call: (509) 324-1542 or 1-800-456-3236

Web site: www.spokanecounty.org/health

Stonewall News Northwest

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

Call: (509) 570-3750

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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

Call: 535-3155

Web site: www.vanessabehan.org

Women and Friends

Women-only activities and events in the Spokane area.

Call: (509) 458-4709

IDAHO

Idaho for Basic Rights

Citizen action group to work for civil and legal equality on basis of sexual orientation.

Call: (208) 343-7402

NIAC –

North Idaho AIDS Coalition

HIV/AIDS prevention, education and assistance for people infected with, affected by HIV.

Call: (208) 665-1448

Web site: www.nicon.org/niac

North Idaho College Gay-Straight Alliance

E-mail: BCARDISON@icehouse.net

NIGMA -

North Idaho Gay Men’s Association

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

E-mail: NIGMA@yahoogroups.com

Panhandle Health District

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

• Kootenai County Call: (208) 667-3481

• Boundary County Call: (208) 267-5558

• Shoshone County Call: (208) 786-7474

• Bonner County Call: (208) 263-5159

• Benewah County Call: (208) 245-4556

Web site: www2.stateid.us/phd1

PFLAG - Sandpoint

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

Call: (208) 263-6699

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

AACW –

Alternative Alliance of Central Washington

A social and support group to help bring together people in the GLBT community.

Write: P.O. Box 1282,

Moses Lake, WA 98837

PULLMAN/MOSCOW

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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>

Out There

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

Call Melinda: (509) 335-6428

University of Idaho Gay-Straight Alliance

Promoting a fabulous, positive and inclusive environment for all people on campus and encouraging individual growth and understanding by developing outreach programs, improving visibility and recognition of queer issues and history.

Call: (208) 885-2691

TRI-CITIES

Benton-Franklin District Health Department

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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 support group.

Call: (509) 783-7416

WALLA WALLA

Blue Mountain Heart to Heart

AIDS prevention education, support and services.

Call: (509) 529-4744

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

Spanish: (509) 529-2174

PFLAG – Walla Walla

Support, education and advocacy group for parents, family, friends and members of the 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

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SHINE

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

Call: (509) 860-7354

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 advocacy group.

Call: (406) 442-9322

or, in Montana: (800) 610-9322

PRIDE Celebration

Group in charge of annual Montana June PRIDE celebrations.

Call: (406) 442-9322

Western Montana Gay & Lesbian Community Center

127 North Higgins, Suite 202

Missoula, MT 59802

(406) 543-2224

E-mail: wmgfcc@gaymontana.org

Web: www.gaymontana.org/wmgfcc

WASHINGTON

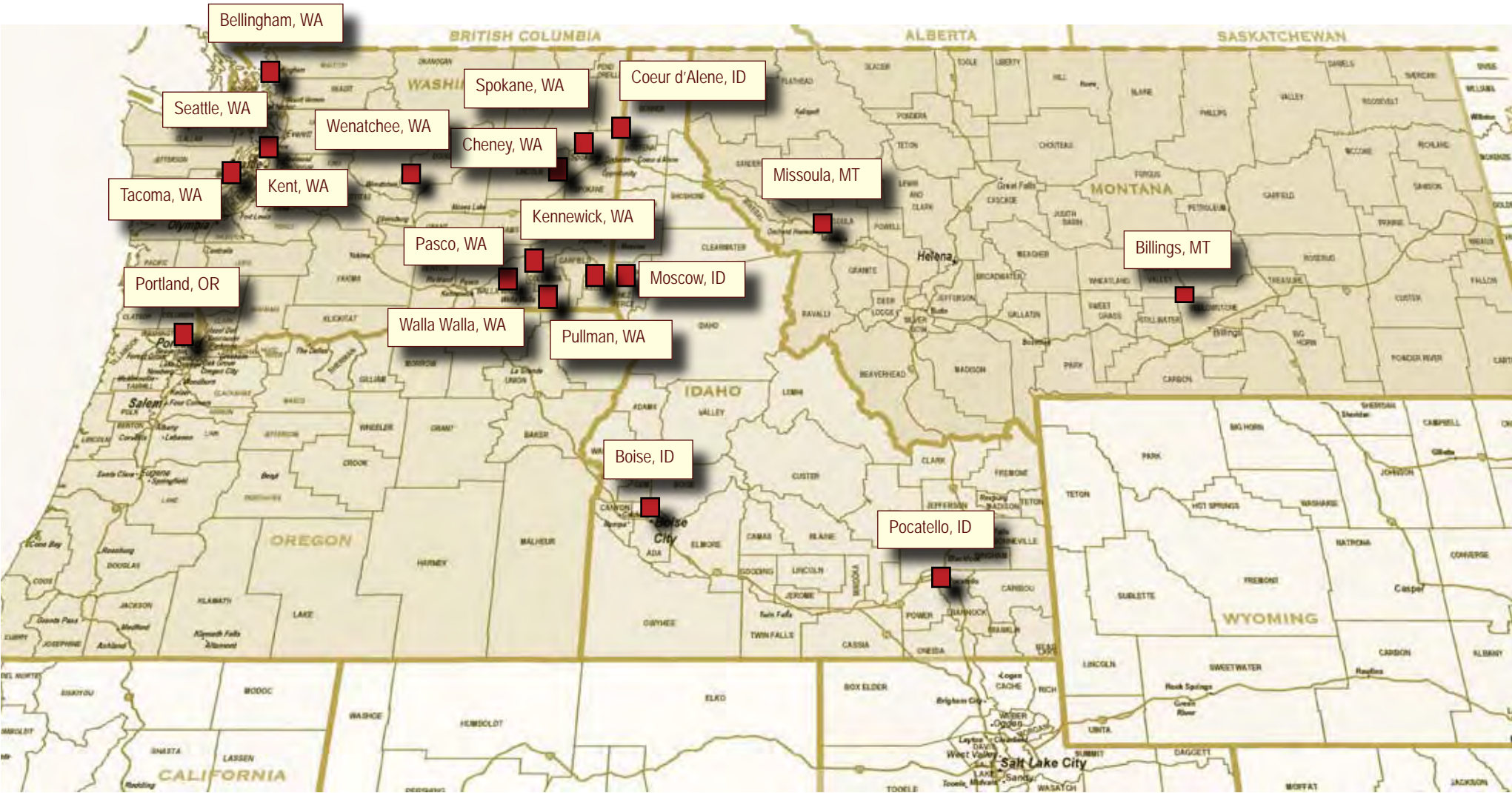
Bi MEN Group

Bi and bi-curious men and gay men who enjoy and support bisexual men.

Web site: <

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JANUARY 24 - FEBRUARY 28, 2007

C A L E N D A R

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

Spokane, WA

Thursday, January 24th

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, January 25th

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

Sunday, January 28th

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm **ISCS Court Meeting**

Tuesday, January 30th

4:00 pm – 6:00 pm **Ryan White CARE Consortium** (at Spokane Regional Health District Rm 320/321) The Spokane County Ryan White CARE Consortium is the Title II HIV care services planning group for Spokane County. Meetings occur every other month. Membership is open to persons living with HIV/AIDS, HIV Providers and affected or interested individuals in the community. Meetings are informal and educational All are welcome to attend Contact: Mark Garrett Email: markg@san-nw.org Phone: 509 455-8993

Thursday, January 31st

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

FEBRUARY

Thursday, February 1st

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) Pride & Joy Movie Night Made Possible by The Pride Foundation Eat.Drink.Mingle.BeEntertained! 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 This week's showng: **Yes Nurse! No Nurse!** Please see A&E Preview on page 9. Contact: Deb Noah Email: deb@spokanecenterstage.com Phone: #747-8243 ext. 114 More Info: www.SpokaneCenterStage.com

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

Sunday, February 4th

12:30 pm – 3:00 pm **Gay/Bi Men's Bowling Group** (at Northbowl) Come hang out with the guys and bowl. Ten bucks gets you three games of bowling and shoes. Space is limited, so reserve your spot early by calling Mark @ 879-8747. Contact: Mark Email: MarkJGarrett@comcast.net Phone: 879-8747 More Info: www.lilaccitymensproject.org

Wednesday, February 7th **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

7:00 pm – 8:30 pm **Vow To Take A Stand** (at Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane) This is an opportunity for our community to: come together, hear about exciting local, state and national plans in our work for equality and to have an chance to have

your voices heard. Sponsors include: Equal Rights Washington, PRIDE Foundation, Inland NW Equality Contact: Carla Brannan Email: inwe@gwest.net Phone: 838-7870

Thursday, February 8th

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

Friday, February 9th

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, February 10th

9:30 am – 10:30 am **PFLAG Moms Group** (at Conley's Restaurant) The MOM'S Group, an informal support group welcomes and supports mothers (and occasionally grandmothers!) of gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered children. It meets monthly, on the second Saturdays at 9:30 a.m. for breakfast at Conely's Restaurant on east Sprague. Call the PFLAG help line 509.624.6671 for more information. Phone: 509-624-6671

Sunday, February 11th

9:30 am – 10:30 am **John Deen Memorial Celebration** (at Dempsey's Brass Rail) In keeping with John Deen's wish for a no-frills nonreligious remembrance of him, an informal Celebration of John Deen will be held at Dempsey's Brass Rail. Dempsey's is opening early for the memorial celebration and is providing food. In leu of flowers, donations can be made to Spokane Cancer Care, 601 South Sherman Street, Spokane, WA 99202. For updates, please check Stonewall's website at www.stonewallnews.net or contact: John Marshall 509-209-0312 or Mike Schultz 509-570-3750 publisher@stonewallnews.net More Info: www.stonewallnews.net

Tuesday, February 13th

7:00 pm – 8:30 pm **RRCC Board Meeting** (at SAN) Board meetings are open to the public, but please contact at least one week in advance with requests to be on the agenda. Meetings will be at SAN until further notice. Contact: RRCC Email: info@spokanerainbowcenter.org Phone: 489-1914

Wednesday, February 14th **Valentine's Day**

11:30 am – 1:00 pm **INBA Luncheon** (at Europa Pizzeria) **Guest speaker: Kim Thornburn, MD, MPH** Contact: INBA Email: info@inbaspokane.org Phone: 509-455-3699 More Info: http://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 and or addiction. Phone: 624-1442

Thursday, February 15th

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

7:15 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 outlets. More Info: http://www.outspokane.com

Saturday, February 17th

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

8:00 pm – 1:00 am **Valentine's Ball!** (at Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane) Giant Ass Drum Corp Presents its Third Annual

Valentine's Ball! Semi-Formal/Formal Affair. A night of dance and romance for everyone in Spokane's GLBTQ & friends community! Solo's encouraged to attend, you never know when Cupid may strike! Special Features: Professional Photographer! 50/50 Drawing! Reserve a table: \$100 includes 8 tickets and a special table reserved for your party. Reserve early, tables are limited. Tickets: \$10.00 each. Bring your own Beer/Wine/Snacks (21+only). Phone 466-1853

Sunday, February 18th

12:30 pm – 3:00 pm **Gay/Bi Men's Bowling Group** (at Northbowl) Come hang out with the guys and bowl. Ten bucks gets you three games of bowling and shoes. Space is limited, so reserve your spot early by calling Mark @ 879-8747. Contact: Mark Email: MarkJGarrett@comcast.net Phone: 879-8747 More Info: www.lilaccitymensproject.org

Monday, February 19th **President's Day**

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 GLBTOA community. Currently working on a local billboard project. Contact: Bonnie Aspen Phone: 509.838.3866

Wednesday, February 21st **Ash Wednesday Stonewall Goes To Press**

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm **Pride in Sobriety Gay AA**

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

Thursday, January 25th

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, January 28th

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

Monday, January 29th

7:30 pm – 8:30 pm [Kennewick, WA] **Rainbow Sobriety AA Meetings** (at ROLMCC) Contact: Edna Mae W. Email: fiddlebanjo@charter.net Phone: 509-546-2626

FEBRUARY

Friday, February 2nd

7:00 pm – 9:00 pm [Yakima, WA] **First Fridays** (at 1st St 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

Sunday, February 4th

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

Monday, February 5th

7:30 pm – 8:30 pm [Kennewick, WA] **Rainbow Sobriety AA Meetings** (at ROLMCC) Contact: Edna Mae W. Email: fiddlebanjo@charter.net Phone: 509-546-2626

Sunday, February 11th

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

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, February 22nd

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

Sunday, February 25th

4:30 pm **SAN 9th Annual Oscar Night Gala!** (at Davenport Hotel) Doors open at 4:30pm, Awards Telecast 5:30pm, Elegant Plated Dinner 6:30pm. Special Honors to Outstanding Advocates: Mark Garrett and Dave Williams. Tickets \$125. Silent Auction. Formal evening attire recommended. Phone: (509) 455-8993 http://www.spokaneaidsnetwork.org/

6:30 pm – 8:00 pm **ISCS Court Meeting**

Wednesday, February 28th

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

Monday, February 12th

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/

7:30 pm – 8:30 pm [Kennewick, WA] **Rainbow Sobriety AA Meetings** (at ROLMCC) Contact: Edna Mae W. Email: fiddlebanjo@charter.net Phone: 509-546-2626

Sunday, February 18th

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

7:00 pm [Yakima, WA] **PFLAG Monthly Meeting** (at First Street Conference Center, 223 N 1st St, Yakima WA)

Monday, February 19th

7:30 pm – 8:30 pm [Kennewick, WA] **Rainbow Sobriety AA Meetings** (at ROLMCC) Contact: Edna Mae W. Email: fiddlebanjo@charter.net Phone: 509-546-2626

Thursday, February 22nd

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, February 25th

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

Monday, February 26h

7:30 pm – 8:30 pm [Kennewick, WA] **Rainbow Sobriety AA Meetings** (at ROLMCC) Contact: Edna Mae W. Email: fiddlebanjo@charter.net Phone: 509-546-2626

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

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

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

LODGING

3 The Fotheringham House B&B
2128 W 2nd Ave (509) 838-1891
www.FotheringhamHouse.com

LIVE THEATRE

7 CenterStage
1017 W 1st Ave (509) 74-STAGE
www.spokanecenterstage.com
15 InterPlayers
174 S Howard St (509) 455-PLAY
www.interplayers.com
16 Spokane Civic Theatre
1020 N Noward St (509) 325-2507
www.spokanecivictheatre.com

BARS & CLUBS

1 Dempsey's Brass Rail
909 W 1st Ave (509) 747-5362
www.dempseysbrassrail.net
2 Irv's Bar
415 W Sprague (509) 624-4450
5 Auntie's Bookstore
402 W Main Ave (509) 838-0206
www.auntiesbooks.com
Hours: Mon-Sat 9am-9pm, Sun 11am-6pm
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11 24 W Main Ave (509) 835-3647
12 157 S Howard St (509) 838-3887

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



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