

Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

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celebrating the lives and times of rainbow folk in Grand River country

Outlook Magazine

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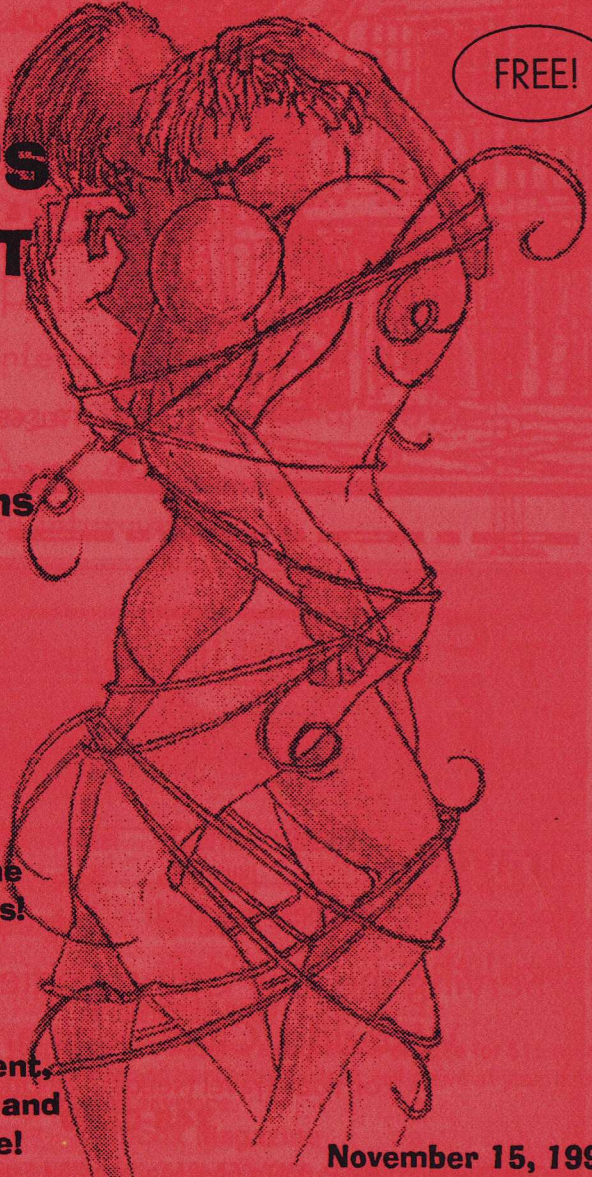
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The Voice of Waterloo Region's Gay and Lesbian Community

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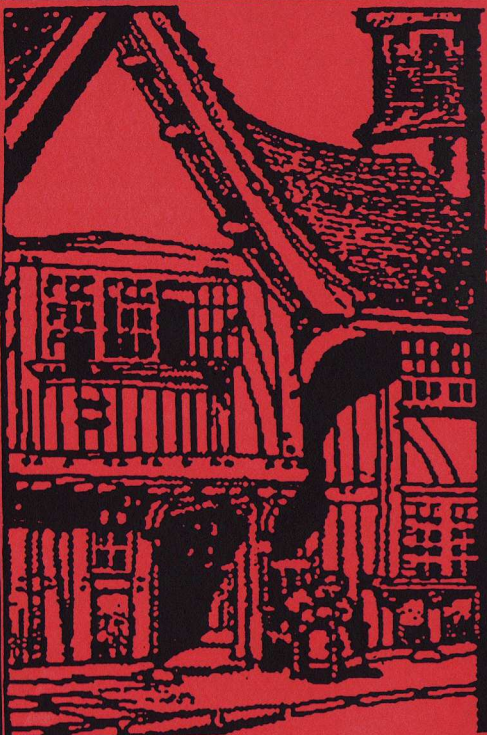
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News, Entertainment,
Community Events and
Much, Much More!

November 15, 1996

Issue 15

ISSN 1206-2960



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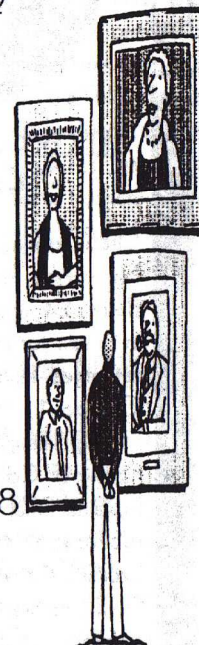
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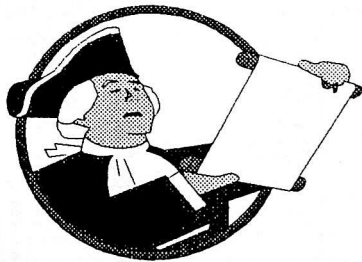
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KILLER OF LESBIAN GETS 30 DAY JAIL SENTENCE

Chattanooga, TN -- The Chattanooga News-Free Press reports Adriana Blair Butler, 24, received a sentence of 30 days in prison for fatally shooting her mother's estranged lesbian lover in the head on October 1, 1994.

In explaining the leniency of the sentence, Criminal Court Judge Doug Meyer explained that Adriana Butler had strong provocation for committing the crime, because the victim, 21-year-old Cathy Smith, ignored Butler's warning to stop coming to the house and to stop "aggressively pursuing" her mother, Donna Blair Evans.

The judge also cited Butler's remorsefulness, her lack of prior criminal history and the unusual circumstances for sentencing. Judge Meyer agreed that the shooting was the result of a lapse in judgement. "I think a taste of the workhouse is necessary in this particular case," Judge Meyer said.

In her defense, Butler testified that her mother tried to break off the relationship but that Smith would not cease her pursuit. Butler said Smith refused to leave her house on the night of the shooting. Butler brandished a pistol. The defendant told the jury Ms. Smith grabbed her from behind, jerked her around, then the gun went off. Ms. Smith was struck in the mouth

and died almost instantly.

The News-Free Press reports prosecutor Lee Davis told Judge Meyer, "We cannot depreciate the seriousness of what happened. Cathy Smith is dead.

(out.com)

GENERAL MOTORS TO EXTEND SAME-SEX BENEFITS TO CANADIAN FORCE

Detroit-- In an apparent first for the auto industry, General Motors Corp. agreed October 22 to extend employee benefits to the same-sex partners of its 26,000 employee members of the Canadian Auto Workers.

The provision was included at the last minute as bargainers in Toronto reached a tentative agreement on a new contract to end a 20-day strike, said Basil "Buzz" Hargrove, the union's president.

Company executives said they were unaware of any comparable policies at other U.S.-based auto companies. In the United States, the practice has generally been limited to the entertainment and technology industries. IBM recently joined the ranks of companies offering such benefits.

Hargrove said the CAW tried to win the same benefit in its recent talks with Chrysler Corp., but that Chrysler's "macho" executives refused. Traditionally, benefits won at one of the Big Three by the CAW or its sister U.S. union, the United Auto Workers, spread to others.

(L.A. Times)

PINK PAPER ARSON MAY NOT HAVE BEEN ANTI-GAY

The September 7 arson fire that gutted the offices of Britain's leading gay newspaper, The Pink Paper, may not have been an anti-gay attack.

Clare Penny, a former editor of Positive Times, a monthly magazine for HIV-positives published in the same office, was arrested in Hackney, East

London, September 18 in connection with the blaze.

Penny worked at Positive Times until April. "It is generally agreed here to have been an internal community job and not a homophobic attack," a London gay leader told this column prior to the announcement of Penny's arrest. "Whoever did it had a set of keys. There was no forced entry."

Other sources had said they suspected one of several fired former staffers committed the crime.

Penny quit voluntarily, however, Pink Paper editor Philip Reay-Smith said in a telephone interview September 28.

Thirty separate fires were set in the building, destroying the editorial and production departments. Damage was estimated at \$350,000.

No deadlines were missed by any of the four titles published by the company because staffers back up their computer data every night and take it home with them, Reay-Smith said.

(Rex Wockner)

ILGA SAYS GAY OFFICES ATTACKED IN ARGENTINA AND CROATIA

New York, NY -- The International Lesbian and Gay Association (ILGA), released a report October 7 saying that gay offices in the capitals of Croatia and Argentina had been attacked and vandalized. ILGA condemned the attacks and appealed to the national leadership in both countries to protect the victims and prevent future outbreaks of anti-gay violence.

ILGA said in August, a Croatian office housing an AIDS organization and general support to the gay and lesbian community was attacked with stones by a neighbourhood crowd. Most of the office's equipment was destroyed in the attack and fires were set in a lot adjacent to the building.

In Buenos Aires, the offices of SIGLA, the Society for the Integration of Gays and Lesbians in Argentina was attacked by vandals on August 18. Three people broke into the building and

vandalized the interior before being chased away by neighbours who had alerted police. ILGA complained that local police were not pursuing the incident.

Argentinean lesbian and gay activists, meanwhile, scored a major victory in persuading the city government of Buenos Aires to pass a measure that essentially repeals the Police Edicts. The Edicts were used to arbitrarily detain and hold young people, transvestites, gay men, lesbians and prostitutes, for being "dangerous" and "socially undesirable." Many were held for years without trial.

(out.com)

M.C.C. BARRED FROM MARCH

Key West, FL -- "We hate homosexuality. It's a sin. It's very clear in the bible," said Randy Weisberg, leader of 15 conservative pastors trying to bar the Metropolitan Community Church from joining the Key West Christmas Parade.

"Suppose one of the sexually oriented businesses wanted to go down the street with their dancers on a flat bed truck as part of our parade?" asked Baptist Reverend Gary Redwine.

Problems arose before last year's parade, when conservative church groups refused to let the MCC participate, despite outrage from the city's large gay community.

Key West planned to issue a parade permit this year only if organizers promised not to exclude anyone.

The protests may force city officials to vote on the parade permit.

(Sydney Star Observer)

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ACTOR BERYL REID DIES

Beryl Reid, the famous actor who played the part of the butch lesbian in the 1968 film, 'The Killing of Sister George' has died of pneumonia, contracted as she recovered from a knee operation. (SSO)

AUTHOR OF LESBIAN CLASSIC DIES

Alma Routsong, author of the lesbian classic, 'Patience and Sarah', died last month after a three-year battle with ovarian cancer.

Writing under the pseudonym of Isabel Miller, Alma Routsong won the first ever American Library Association Gay Book Award (now called the Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Book Award) in 1971. (SSO)

POLL: 6 IN 10 SAY GAY PEOPLE CAN BE GOOD PARENTS

New York (AP) -- Nearly six in 10 Americans think that gay men and lesbians can be just as good at parenting as heterosexuals, but almost half oppose adoption by gay couples, according to a Newsweek poll released October 27.

The poll of 929 adults appeared in the November 4 issue of the magazine.

The majority - 57 percent - said gay people can be equally good parents as heterosexuals. Thirty-one percent believed they can't, and 12 percent said they were uncertain.

When asked whether there should be adoption rights for gay spouses, 47 percent said no and 36 percent were in favour; 17 percent were undecided.

Newsweek said the opposition was down from previous surveys: 65 percent opposed gay adoption rights in 1994, and 52 percent were against it in May.

The most recent survey, conducted by phone October 17-18, had a margin of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

MORE GAY PEOPLE VICTIMIZED BY SPOUSES THAN BIAS CRIME

San Francisco, CA -- Based on a report released by the National Coalition of Anti-Violence Programs, the San Francisco Chronicle reports gay men and lesbians are more likely to be victims of domestic violence than anti-gay violence.

The findings suggest that, as with abused partners in straight relationships, most battered gay men and lesbians never report the abuse, much less press charges against their partners.

To heighten awareness of domestic violence in gay and lesbian relationships, the San Francisco district attorney's office is launching a city-wide public education campaign. Local activists also hope to establish a hotel voucher system to shelter victims of abuse.

The national survey is actually a tabulation of statistics and reports compiled by community activists in six American cities: Chicago, Columbus, Minneapolis, New York City, San Diego and San Francisco. Combined, they document 1,566 incidents of gay or lesbian domestic violence. Four of the cities logged more cases of domestic violence than anti-gay hate violence.

A study released at the Fourth International Family Violence Research Conference found gay men prone to abuse their spouses hold similar psychological traits as abusive straight men: low self-esteem and a problem with sustaining intimate relationships.

Studies of abusive lesbian relationships report that female batterers tend to be overly dependent on their spouses and use violence to hamper their partner's independence. The Chronicle said alcohol and drugs often figure into the level and frequency of the violent outbursts.

Social workers say a big disincentive to reporting incidents of same-sex domestic violence situations is the fear that police will mishandle the situation or ridicule the victim. San Francisco police are among the first in the nation to be trained in

handling gay domestic violence disputes, including a training program to help the officers identify the "primary aggressor."

(out.com)

62 AIDS WALKS RAISE \$2.7 MILLION

More than 69,000 Canadians collected over \$2.7 million September 29 as they walked, ran, cycled or skated in 62 communities from coast to coast as part of the second annual AIDS Walk Canada.

The events fund scores of local groups that provide HIV/AIDS support, care, education and research.

The largest walks were in Montreal (30,000 walkers raised \$582,000) and Toronto (19,000 walkers raised \$750,000).

The smallest walk was in Daniel's Harbour, Newfoundland. High school students Alvina Woodward-Simms, Mandy Pretty and Marylee Biggin raised \$260 walking through high winds and heavy rain north of Gros Morne National Park.

(Rex Wockner)

QUILT DRAWS 1.2 MILLION

Washington -- An estimated 1.2 million people visited the US AIDS Memorial Quilt when it was shown in its entirety in the US capital in mid October. The Quilt occupied an area equal to 24 football fields, weighed more than 50 tons, with 2,500 new panels taking the total to over 40,000 individual memorials.

Over 10,000 volunteers from around the country were needed to make the display happen.

For the first time since it was started nine years ago, a US president and vice-president visited the display.

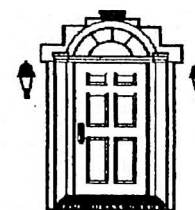
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DEATH PENALTY FOR HOMOSEXUALITY IN CHECHNIA?

According to the Chechen and Russian media, Chechen separatists are proposing a new penal code which includes an anti-sodomy law with punishment from five years in prison to the death penalty. The Triangle Centre, a Moscow-based Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Organization, and member of ILGA (International Lesbian and Gay Association), reports that since coming to power, the Chechen separatists are looking at basing the new penal code on Muslim norms.

Roman Kalinin and Eugenia Debrianskaya, on behalf of Triangle, said October 28, "We know that many European countries and European and Russian democratic organizations supported the Chechnian separatists in their fight against the Russian army. We did it too. Now, it is obvious that the price of peace will be paid by thousands of lives of non-orthodox Chechnian citizens, our brothers and sisters."

(ILGA News)

RIGHT WING ROMANIANS RANT

While the Romanian government retreated from its recent proposal to make homosexuality illegal, the new legislation is still problematic. The new penal code outlaws lesbian and gay associations, as well as the sex which causes "public scandal." Government officials or police could easily use such as unclear prohibition to harass lesbians and gay men. Continued worldwide protest is expected.

In the meantime, comments made during the debate on the penal code were reported on in the October 4 issue of 'Transition' from the Open Media Research Institute (OMRI.) Three deputies from the opposition National Peasant Party Christian Democratic made it clear that Romanian lesbians and gay men have no possibilities to appeal to elected officials for support. The deputies proposed that special

control teams be set up to inspect homes for signs of homosexual behavior. One of the deputies, Emil Popescu, said that "incest is preferable to homosexuality," because it "gives breeding a chance." Another deputy from the same party, Joria Pascu, claimed incorrectly that homosexual relations are unknown in the "animal world" with the exception of ducks, "which are known to be the most stupid among birds."

While no protest so far has been announced by duck-loving organizations, ILGA member, ACCEPT, in Bucharest, are working out their next strategies and statements in the fight for the rights to love for lesbian, gay and bisexual Romanians. (ILGA News)

FIRED GEORGIA LAWYER FACES FULL COURT OF APPEALS

Atlanta, GA -- A federal appeals court heard oral arguments October 30 in a case brought by lawyer Robin Shahar who was fired by Georgia's Attorney General, Michael Bowers, after it was learned she and her lesbian partner participated in a religious commitment ceremony.

The American Civil Liberties Union, which filed the case, argued to the full 11th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals that the firing violated Shahar's First Amendment right of intimate association, which secures an individual's right to establish and maintain personal relationships free of government intrusion.

"This case seeks to affirm that the relationships of gay workers are granted the same respect and constitutional protection as the relationships of all other government employees," said Ruth Harlow, who is representing the plaintiff for the ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project.

The Shahar-ACLU lawsuit led to a landmark decision by a three-judge panel of the 11th Circuit, which ruled last December that Shahar's relationship with her partner is safeguarded by the "fundamental right of intimate association" and entitled to the highest level of judicial protection.

JENNY JONES GIVES TESTIMONY AT SCHMITZ MURDER TRIAL

Detroit, MI -- Reversing an earlier ruling, Circuit Court Judge Francis O'Brien announced October 31 that talk show host Jenny Jones will be called to testify at the murder trial of Jonathan Schmitz.

Schmitz is charged with first degree murder in the shooting death of Scott Armedure three days after the two appeared on a "secret admirer" episode of the talk show "Jenny Jones."

Defence attorneys have gone to great lengths to deflect blame for the murder away from Schmitz. Counsel doesn't deny Schmitz shot Armedure, but they contend that Schmitz was "ambushed" and "publicly humiliated" by the show's producers and the host Jenny Jones.

Schmitz's lawyers have attempted to establish their client suffers from an aggravated thyroid condition known as Graves Disease, which they contend can lead to violent behavior.

The defence called on Steve Kucharski, 25, a self-described "on again, off again" boyfriend of Armedure. Kucharski testified the slain Armedure was a "violent and obsessive companion" who twice assaulted him so severely that he was hospitalized.

Kucharski's testimony is meant to bolster defence claims that Armedure upset Schmitz with an "obsessive pursuit." They also claim Armedure was threatening Schmitz with a chair when Schmitz arrived at Armedure's home with a shotgun.

The show's host, Jenny Jones, took the stand to respond to defense allegations that she misled the public about the topic of the show on gay crushes. While denying there was no intent on her part or on the part of the show's producers to mislead or deceive the public about the gay nature of the secret crushes episode, Jones said "the premise of the show was that it was a surprise."

Schmitz's lawyers believe Jones' testimony will bolster their argument that Schmitz was misled and humiliated. They hope to prove what they term public humiliation coupled with his existing

physical and psychological problems, left Schmitz "unable to form the intent" to kill Armedure. Intent is a requirement in establishing first degree murder. (out.com)

10,000 GAYS AT MUNICH OKTOBERFEST

Gay Day at Munich's Oktoberfest drew 10,000 men to the Braeu Rosl beer tent, according to a first-hand report posted on an Internet mailing list.

According to the colourful report: "Many men who come from Bavaria, Austria, Switzerland or Southern Tiroia (Italy) wear their 'Tracht' (ethnic clothing), which is embroidered leather trousers, either short ones which end at the middle of the thigh, or long ones, which are tied below the knees where they end. In both cases, embroidered leather braces belong to the outfit. The shirt is usually beige linen with creases and embroidery and buttons made out of deer antlers.

"During the gay afternoon and evening, people drink quite a few litres of beer and have a wonderful party," the correspondent reported. "You can kiss anybody (well, nearly anybody) you like and people sing and dance on benches and tables along with the music played by Bavarian brass bands."

(Wockner Int'l News)

LESBIAN CHALLENGES WILL LAW

New South Wales, AUST. -- A lesbian has asked the state Supreme Court of New South Wales to make provision to her from the estate of her partner, who died in a car accident last year.

Jan Bell has made the request of the court after her partner's will, which gave her the share of the home, was lost.

If a married person dies, their partner normally receives the entire estate. But because Bell's relationship is not recognized under New South

Wales law, she had to pursue the issue through the courts.

Bell's solicitor, Andrea Wilson, said the woman and her friends were given a "grilling" by the defence in a hearing last month. A decision is expected within the next two weeks.

(Australian GLB News in Brief)

MALE-ON-MALE SEXUAL HARASSMENT WINS FEDERAL APPEAL

Charlotte, NC -- The Charlotte Observer reports a federal appeals panel reinstated a sexual harassment claim by Arthur Wrightson who said he was forced to fend off the advances of a gay supervisor and other gay co-workers.

The 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals overturned a lower court's dismissal of the case. The federal panel said a law designed to protect women against sexual harassment could be applied to the Wrightson case because the underlying principles at issue were the same.

Wrightson claimed the advances of his supervisor and co-workers created a "hostile work environment" at the restaurant where he was employed.

(out.com)

GAY ARTICLE IN SCHOOL NEWSPAPER FUELS CONSERVATIVE IRE

Colorado Springs, CO -- The Boulder Daily Camera reports an article written in a Colorado Springs high school newspaper about problems faced by gay teens has outraged local conservative groups.

Leading the charge against the article's author Mary Margaret Nussbaum is Colorado for Family Values chairman Will Perkins. Perkin's group authored Amendment 2, which was struck down

by the United States Supreme Court in May.

The article entitled "Finding True Love," describes the often harrowing process teenagers endure when trying to come to terms with being lesbian or gay. Nussbaum cited statistics showing gay teens are more likely to commit suicide than straight teens and included a hotline number for a gay youth support group.

School Board President Ken Olivey told the Boulder Daily that he believes student newspapers should reflect the "traditional Judeo-Christian, heterosexual standard of the community and not give credibility to other lifestyles." Olivey declared that the issue was a moral one and should not be decided on free speech principles.

A state law passed in 1990 guarantees high school students the right to publish stories on any subject as long as they are not obscene, libelous, slanderous, false or inflammatory.

(out.com)

BRAZIL: THE ROMAN CATHOLIC CHURCH AND GAY COUPLES

Rio de Janeiro --The Roman Catholic Church in Brazil has softened its opposition to official recognition of gay couples. However, as correspondent George Meek reports from Rio de Janeiro, the church is still opposed to homosexual marriage.

The National Conference of Roman Catholic Bishops says it will work to make a bill under consideration in congress more acceptable, since it appears likely for approval. The legislation would legalize the status of same-sex couples and make it possible for them to share assets and inherit their partner's property.

The Bishop's Conference says the Catholic Church firmly supports the traditional concept of the family with couples made up of men and women. However, since the legislation has strong support, the church is working to incorporate some changes in it.

The Bishop's Conference wants to eliminate any

reference to marriage in the bill, and provide that same-sex unions can only be recognized if both members of the couple are at least 25 or 30 years old. The church would also like to prevent homosexual couples from adopting children.

A theologian who testified at a congressional hearing, Father Leonard Martin, said that the church recognizes that homosexuals have a right to legal protection and need support so they are not isolated or abandoned in old age. He also said the legislation may reduce promiscuity. The church's position is expected to influence the final shape of the law, because 80 percent of Brazil's 150 million people are Roman Catholic.

(Voice of America)

AMERICAN ELECTION RESULTS: RECORD NUMBER OF VICTORY FUND CANDIDATES TRIUMPH

Washington, DC -- Twenty-one of the Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund's 32 openly gay candidates have won their November 5 races. Among the winners, Victory Fund candidate Ed Flanagan has made history as the first openly gay person elected to a statewide office. Consistent with their tradition of fairness and tolerance, the people of Vermont elected Ed by a 10-point margin. "Every gay man and lesbian should feel great pride in what Ed Flanagan has accomplished for us," says Victory Fund Deputy Director Kathleen DeBold. "Thanks to this courageous man, our community has finally broken through the lavender ceiling which has kept qualified openly gay and lesbian candidates from winning statewide office."

This has been a record-breaking year for openly gay candidates. The Victory Fund entered this election with five wins from earlier this year, bringing the 1996 win total to a record-breaking 26 (The previous highest win total was 14 wins in 1994.)

DeBold notes that this unprecedented success rate for openly gay candidates is especially significant in light of the recent rightwing backlash

against the gains our community has made in the past few years. "Each of our candidates won two races on election day," she says, "One against their opponents; the other against the distorted image of gay men and lesbians. These election results send a clear message that the extremist viewpoints that lead to hate campaigns and gaybaiting are out of step with mainstream America. Our openly gay candidates won because their - personal and community values are consistent with those of the average American family - values like hard work, responsibility, and respect for others."

Although this unprecedented number of victories is evidence of the growing clout of the gay and lesbian community in the electoral arena, DeBold notes that electing openly gay and lesbian candidates means much more than just flexing our political muscle.

"We don't live in a democracy, we live in a representative democracy. It matters tremendously who those representatives are - especially to the rights and equality of lesbian and gay youth, adults, seniors, couples, parents, taxpayers, and citizens everywhere. In addition, putting exemplary gay people in the public spotlight is one of the most effective ways of destroying the harmful stereotypes that keep us from achieving true equality."

To sum it all up: 1) We broke through the "Lavender Ceiling" and elected the first openly gay official to statewide office; 2) We added openly gay representatives to the state legislatures in Nevada, Connecticut, Montana, Rhode Island, Washington, and Illinois. Twenty openly gay and lesbian officials now serve in 15 state legislatures; and 3) By winning the U.S. Representative seat in the District of Columbia, Sabrina Sojourner has become the only openly lesbian African-American in elective office.

(Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund)

HORDES OF POLICE GREET 30 GAY DEMONSTRATORS

Two bus loads of military police and dozens of soldiers armed with guns and tear gas protected a monument in Rio de Janeiro from 30 gay and lesbian protestors October 14.

The members of the gay groups Atoba and 'June 28' had planned to picket a statue honouring Duque de Caxias, founder of the Brazilian armed forces, to protest against the military's ban on gay sex.

But threatening phone calls and the show of military might have convinced them to move the demonstration a short distance away.

The protest was spurred by a high-profile case in which a top military officer was demoted after being caught having gay sex in a car.

(Wockner Int'l News)

FIRST PUBLIC GAY WEDDING HELD IN TAIWAN

Renowned openly gay author Hsu You-sheng celebrated Taiwan's first public same-gender wedding ceremony with his U.S. partner Gray Harriman in a downtown Taipei hotel November 10. Mayor Chen Shui-bian, who had said some weeks ago that he would be there, did not attend but did send a letter of congratulations and one of his staff members to read it to the assembly of more than 500 guests.

Several other city officials attended, along with a former chair of national opposition Democratic Progressive Party. One cable TV station gave the wedding live coverage, while one of the state networks is producing a special about it. Response has generally been positive.

The marriage has no legal standing, but the wedding had plenty of tradition, including an exchange of rings, vows, and a Chinese scholar's traditional garb for You-sheng.

(NewsPlanet)

SINGER GEORGE MICHAEL WONT TELL

After six years of refusing interviews, veteran British pop star George Michael broke silence for "Big Issue" magazine, which is produced and distributed by homeless people as a fundraiser. Some of Michael's better-known works include "Faith," "Jesus to a Child," "Fastlove," and "Careless Whisper." Michael said he questioned his own sexual orientation but would never publicly reveal it, for a number of interesting reasons.

One, he's just an ambiguous kind of guy generally and isn't really clear about it himself. Two, it's never concerned him as a moral question, nor does he care about its acceptability to others. Three, nobody should really care, since they're unlikely to be in a position to have a sexual relationship with him anyway. Four, people find him more fascinating as "a big neon question mark" than they would if he were clearly identified. Five, he believes that "if every gay pop star and actor in the world came out, it wouldn't make any difference to the gay community."

The interview has gone on to become a story in itself, as "Big Issue" claims its exclusive interview was stolen and printed by the "Sun," from which it was picked up by news services, before "Big Issue" itself could even hit the streets. The "Sun" claims it acted appropriately in publishing "extracts" of interest to a "wider audience."

(PlanetOut)

FINNISH LAWS TO BE MORE GAY-FRIENDLY

Finland plans to delete its ban on homosexual "encouragement" and set the age of consent for gay and straight sex at 15, report activists with the national gay group SETA.

The "Encouragement Clause" prohibits Finns from urging each other toward homosexual acts or a gay lifestyle.

(Wockner Int'l News)

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Drag and Self in Andy Warhol's Portrait Prints

by Adrian Wagner

Andy Warhol is one of the most important American artists to have worked in the twentieth century. His prolific career spanned painting, sculpture, film, and advertising and he, more than any other artist, is credited with removing the distinction between high and low in the world of art. The advertisements and pulp which surrounded him, and ourselves too in our modern culture, were as viable sources for visual material as the work of the late Abstract Expressionists. Moreover, Andy Warhol exploited the media to create a self that loomed larger than life and now, some years after his death, has become the stuff of legend. Some things are conspicuous by their absence, and it is telling that for all the discussion about his works, the Museum of Modern Art retrospective, and the opening of the Andy Warhol Museum in Pittsburgh, very little has been said about Warhol as a person, or more specifically, as a gay person. While Warhol was self-admittedly gay at a time when it was neither acceptable or fashionable, that experience has

been all but completely ignored in the discussion of his works. Homosexuality is still a taboo subject in much of art historical dialogue; an issue sidestepped with phrases like "bedroom issue" and "personal life." I will argue that Warhol is the product not only of the consumer boom of the fifties and sixties but of gay experience during those eras as well.

During the course of his lifetime, he witnessed the enormous changes within the gay community which occurred between those years, most especially the formation of what historians now call the "gay identity." The gay men of Warhol's generation were the first to see homosexual orientation as a delineation of commonality and homophobia as the oppressing factors in their lives. This realization over the course of the thirties, forties, and fifties precipitated an exodus of gay men and lesbians from rural areas to urban centers such as New York, San Francisco and New Orleans. With the anonymity of the city came the opportunity for a subculture to form which was both self-sustaining and self-defined. Warhol himself participated in this flight to the urban centers when he moved to New York in the summer of 1949 from Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. He was a member of New York's gay drag

subculture at time of the Stonewall riots in 1969; in which his friend Candy Darling participated. He saw the blossoming of the gay community in New York in the 1970's and the beginning of the AIDS crisis in the 1980's. The assumption that the experience of having lived during these formative years would have no effect on or place in his work seems naive.

In considering Warhol's experience we must recognize that his cultivation of a public persona and emotional distance, the desire to assume another identity, as well as his dislike of his own body and a desire to change it were common to other gay men of his generation.

Psychologists who have studied gay psychological development point to the formation of a hatred of self in young gay subjects known as "body shame", the hatred of one's own body. They link this to the subconscious realization that one's body is one's primary means for experiencing pleasure and, if one is taught by society that one's desire for same-sex pleasure is unacceptable, this translates into the belief that one's body is unacceptable. Photo's from Warhol's private collection from the early to mid-fifties show him with his profile altered to show a smaller, turned-up nose and fuller hair. Warhol later underwent facial surgery to reconstruct his nose, an operation which he was ultimately not pleased with. In his introduction to the Warhol Retrospective catalogue, Kynaston McShine notes that two of Warhol's first works, *Advertisement* and *Before and After* draw on newspaper material

which is concerned with self-improvement. "Promoting devices and products promising improved posture and silhouette, fuller hair, broader shoulders, and bigger arms, these ads touch the core of Warhol's physical insecurities."

While it may be true that Warhol admired Rauschenberg for his ability to transcend poverty to rise to the pinnacle of stardom, I am compelled to add that it is likely that Warhol admired him as well for the triumph of having overcome the stigma of being gay. Warhol was certainly aware of Rauschenberg's homosexuality and both had had the experience of growing up gay as well as poor. Given the knowledge that Rauschenberg possessed many of the things which Warhol wanted, notably fame, wealth, and beauty, it is tempting to ask if there might not be a certain amount of erotic fascination suffused within the work.

Warhol also actively cultivated a large and grand public persona, the legacy of which is still with us. On one level this can be read, as McShine does as "Warhol wanting most of all what he lacked by birth: beauty, wealth, or any other obvious avenue to fame." There is something odd about the type of fame which he sought, though. While many men of the fifties may have desired the wealth and fame of stars such as Rock Hudson, James Dean, and Marlon Brando; emulating to the best of their abilities those actors' bodies, speech patterns, and dress, Warhol's desire for glamour is decidedly feminine. We see this most clearly in his personal photos from the fifties where he echoes the poses of the actresses

Greta Garbo, and Bette Davis. Later in his career we find him in drag himself in several personal photos on display at the Warhol Museum and in the photo *Andy Warhol, Altered Image of 1981* by Christopher Makos. Tied to Warhol's pursuit of feminine glamour, is a repeated desire to assume an alternate identity, to transcend himself. Two of Warhol's first five paintings exhibited as backdrops in the Bonwit Teller speak to this end. Of the three using comic book imagery, two feature comic characters who change dramatically: Superman,



who is the double of Clark Kent, and Popeye, his power fortified in times of distress by his spinach. Moreover, these are both characters who change from regular men into ultra-men; one by changing his clothes, the other by consuming a packaged product. Within the gay subculture of the time, the desire to become another person was relatively common. Psychologists connect this to the bi-cultural nature of gay experience caused by the difficulties in leading a double life; both "passing" as straight and being gay. The desire to change identity is the extension of a desire to escape oppressively homophobic climate. It is interesting to add that drag is itself an alternate form of identity - an outlet for the creation of the fantasy-self.

The prints which first thrust Andy Warhol into the artistic limelight in the early sixties were his Marilyn, Liz, and Elvis series. By re-examining the prints in the light of contemporary gay and lesbian theory on the

phenomenon of drag, one can construct an argument for the presence of a drag subtext in them. It should be noted that the themes of drag in his work appear both subtly, such as in the *Marilyns*, and overtly as in the *Ladies and Gentlemen* series. Though his portraits of African-

American and Latino drag queens followed his *Marilyns* by 12 years, they deserve examination first as the more straightforward. In his *Ladies and Gentlemen* series, Warhol took photographs of African-American and Latino men

in drag and overprinted them on vibrantly coloured backgrounds. The double-entendre title alerts the viewer to the gender play going on in the work. The images are coarse, and the men are inadequately concealed in their attire. In this case, that we are looking at men disguised as women need only be hinted at before we make the connection.

By definition, the term "drag" refers to the putting on of apparel and make-up to transform oneself into something one is not. Drag is not limited to merely trans-gender transformation, but occurs any time one uses surface to change perceptions about oneself. Carole-Ann Tyler would argue that the process of clothing oneself, particularly with the implied connection between fashion and status, is an act of drag which most of us engage in every day, however unconsciously. It is also important to realize that Warhol's social circle at *The Factory* in the early sixties included drag

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queens. He even featured them in several of his films in feminine roles, notably Candy Darling in *Women Revolt* of 1972 and Ondine in *Chelsea Girls* of 1966.

In considering the Marilyn series, we must first ask ourselves the question "Who was Marilyn?" She was Norma Jean Baker, discovered by Hollywood during the making of a wartime PR film at the aircraft assembly plant where she worked. By the application of hair dye, make-up and the trappings of a starlet, she became the persona Marilyn Monroe.



She is by definition the very embodiment of drag. She was a factory worker who by altering her surface became the fantasy sexpot starlet. While Hollywood perhaps asked the public to believe in this new persona, one needed only pick up any one of perhaps hundreds of tabloid accounts of her life to realize the transformation which had taken place. Additionally, her "drag" was that of the ultra-woman, more woman than the work-a-day world permitted. She was heralded as the quintessential sexpot - the modern extension of the odalisque/kept woman who did nothing but luxuriate and provide sexual release. Again we must ask ourselves, "How far was this fantasy removed from her reality as the factory worker?"

In the first image Warhol creates, *Gold Marilyn Monroe*, the image of the starlet appears diminished within its gold frame. The compositions harkens back to the treatment of religious icons and relics, often far

outweighed by their precious frames. He is portraying her as an icon of American culture. It is important to notice how the image evolves until 1967; the registration becomes less precise and the colours more unreal. In the *Turquoise Marilyn* the play of colours

is almost grotesque. Her lips and eye shadow are misaligned to her face. Her hair appears wig-like and too blonde. Even the background, a garish turquoise too intense to be an interior colour, creates a sense of

perverse or unreal space. Given the knowledge that Warhol is a printmaker with the skill to create Brillo, Heinz, and Del Monte boxes indistinguishable from the originals, what do the misalignments suggest? One should realize that part of the effect of drag is the shock involved when the audience is first made aware of the true sex/nature of the performer/subject. At the end of a drag show the performer frequently removes his wig, or lifts his dress, to drive home the point that what you see is not what you get - heightening the audience's awe at the illusion. Additionally, Tyler has advanced the point that one of the characteristics of traditional drag, part of its "camp" humour, has to do with impersonation of "un-naturally" bad taste - like that of the working class, ethnic or racially "other" woman. It is this conception of other which has a critical knowledge of what counts as "natural" femininity: namely white, Anglo, and bourgeois. Carole-Anne

Tyler says of drag: "It is only from a middleclass point of view that Dolly Parton looks like a female impersonator; from the working class point of view she could be the epitome of genuine womanliness." Camp humour seems to exaggerate the womanly characteristics of the subject:

the bushy blonde hair, the large breasts, the painted lips, the thick eye shadow. Warhol's later Marylins exhibits all of these characteristics, prompting the question "Are these to be taken as the true image of Marilyn or a camp exaggeration of her



features and image?" It is also of interest to note here that starlets, such as Marilyn and Liz, along with Mamie VanDoren, Doris Day and Bette Davis, were frequent subjects for female impersonators. There is a historic precedent within the gay community for the drag representation of Marilyn which connected her image of ultra-woman rather than the heterosexual male erotic desire for her.

In the print *Marilyn Diptych* of 1962 we are confronted with 50 representations of Marilyn, all of them slightly different from each other and none of them convincing us that this is the true image of the starlet; the lips are too red, the hair too blonde. One is struck in this case by the similarities between this image and the effect of multiple drag images of the same subject. Not infrequently competitions are and were sponsored by the drag community to see who can/could do the best impersonation of a given star or stars. To the audience, each of the

performers appears different enough from the others to be recognized as such, though none of them is the performer herself. The effect, particularly if the contestants are skilled, is quite disturbing, a quality shared in Warhol's composition.

In *Marilyn Monroe's Lips* of 1962

Warhol presents a composition similar to that of the Marilyn Diptych. In this case though, he has disembodied her lips, making veiled reference to female labia and teeth which might be argued heighten a sense of castration anxiety. Given

the equation that power is phallic, advanced by Freud, the castration is the quintessential loss of masculine power. Within the social climate of the time, same-sex contact was grounds for the loss of masculine status and power, a symbolic castration. Freud theorized that homosexuals desired the penis of another to compensate for their psychological castration; the masculine version of feminine penis envy. In this model the drag-queen invert becomes consummate castrating woman.

Moving on to the Liz series, we see similar characteristics to those of the Marylins, notably the garish coloration and the mis-registered printing process. Along the same lines as the Marylins it could be argued that this is a representation of the "Liz-drag." It is particularly interesting to note that in the *Blue Liz as Cleopatra*, Elizabeth Taylor is herself pictured repeatedly in drag, namely that of the queen of the Nile, Cleopatra. Again there is the

disturbing quality of the images in which each is different from the other and none is the true Liz. In this case there is a double separation from subject which is quite interesting: the first is that Elizabeth Taylor is not Cleopatra and the second that Cleopatra was almost certainly not a white, Anglo-Saxon woman. In this case the image of Liz as

Cleopatra transgresses the boundaries of our suspension of disbelief, and we are left with the image of Elizabeth Taylor in African drag (remember Tyler's

point about the camp-humour of exaggerating the "otherness" of ethnic women).

In Warhol's *Triple Elvis* and *Elvis I and II*, we are presented with an image of the rock and roll star as cowboy. The initial point that Elvis is a musician not a cowboy, and therefore we are seeing an image of Elvis in cowboy drag, is given further homoerotic content by the cheese-cakey stance of the subject which suggests pin-up art. In this case Elvis is shown with a gun pointed at the viewer, an extension of his phallus. He is ready to penetrate, a conclusion furthered by his aggressive stance, tight pants, and the proximity of the gun to his genitals. Just as the feminine qualities of a subject were exaggerated to the end of camp humour, so too were the butch/masculine qualities. These images read to a gay audience as parody of butch/masculine sexuality, the result of the play between the



image of Elvis as "ultra-masculine" and the fact that he is portrayed in cheese-cakey drag.

As a gay man living in both pre- and post-Stonewall America, Andy Warhol undoubtedly was forced to "pass" as a heterosexual frequently. Considering that passing is itself a form of drag, I am interested in tying his self portraits into my consideration surface and the self that lies behind.

In the first *Self Portrait* of 1964 we see a double image of Warhol with different backgrounds for identical images. In this case the metaphor might well be that there are two

Warhols, and what we see depends on the context in which we see the artist. I would argue that this is an illusion of phenomenon of passing, a common experience to gay men and lesbians. The process of concealing one's homosexuality and representing oneself as heterosexual is the response to a need for self preservation in an environment hostile to gays. While undoubtedly a denial of self, with its own psychological pitfalls, it was normal for men of Warhol's generation to live double lives: a public life passing as a heterosexual and a private one where one engages other members of the gay community both socially and sexually. I would read the differing backgrounds with identical figures in the foreground as referent to the heterosexual and homosexual spheres.

In the *Double Self-Portrait* of 1967 Warhol has repeated his twice with

differing combinations of colours but identical colour blocking. The pose is very different from the first; in it he appears much more reserved, with his hand over his lips, the gesture of the removed observer. By contrast the first appears much more like a mug shot. Even more important than the pose, though, is the use of colour, which makes the work appear very flat, very much concerned with surface. Additionally, half of Warhol's face is hidden in shadow, suggesting a hidden part of self. These are also not realistic images of the



artist, given the garish coloration, and seem to borrow from the Marilyns and Lizes in their suggestion of the drag persona, in this case the drag of heterosexual man, rather than the real self.

Warhol's other self-portraits of the same year are flatter still, with less contrast between the shaded and unshaded halves of his face. The registration is less sharp than in previous versions, and the very flatness of the composition evokes the idea of an abstract composition rather than a realistic portrait of self. In this case Warhol appears to have made his portrait even more concerned with surface than before, and less referential to the actual man represented.

In his *Self-Portrait* of 1978 he has used both the double composition of his self-portrait of 1964, as well as a negative image and multiple images of his face within that image to create

even more play with the idea of surface and the man beneath. The solarized quality of the print, which reads almost as an x-ray, suggests that this is a negative, the reverse of what the reality is, while the floating profile to the right of his face reads as a type of mask. I would argue that

this is an even more direct play with the issues of concealment and passing, perhaps made more poignant by the difficulties encountered by gay men who achieve celebrity status. Even if the public is aware that Warhol is a

homosexual, it is still very likely that he would have to curb his effeminacy, given the general discomfort with men who embody cross-gender difference.

In the *Myths Series* of 1981, Warhol includes himself in the lower, right hand box. This is not his image exactly though, as is evidenced by the detail, but rather the image of his profile which carries the visual information. Again his actual face is cropped more or less in half, suggesting the hidden self. Moreover the profile, created by the silhouette is in itself a type of negative image. It is formed by the absence of the light blocked by Warhol's face, which is again a play on the idea of surface and concealment. Perhaps more importantly what is the significance of a gay artist, now having reached the level of icon status, including himself in a series of images concerned with American myths? Are we to interpret this as the assertion that what we

know of him is myth, that is, if we believe in the drag he produces in the same way we believe in Santa Claus or the Wicked Witch?

In Warhol's *Camouflage Self* of 1986 the artist has obscured himself in the overprinted image of jungle camouflage. I think this image is very poignant because it appears as the most direct engagement of homosexual passing in his self portraits. What is the significance of a gay artist representing himself in camouflage? It seems obvious that the process of concealment of homosexual self is a process of camouflage; and moreover, just as soldiers camouflage themselves for purposes of survival, so do gay men.

In addition, gay men have been able to directly engage the place of gender with culture and its pastiche re-interpretation through drag. Warhol's portrait prints are a similar engagement of those same themes. We must re-examine the gaze which we use to interpret Warhol's works and include the gay eye within those interpretations.

"It's hard to work to look like the complete opposite of what nature made you and then to be an imitation...of what was only a fantasy...in the first place."

-Andy Warhol from "The Philosophy of Andy Warhol"

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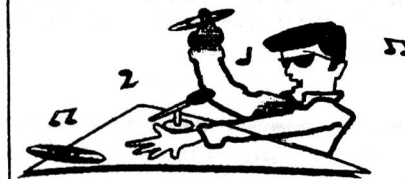
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GAY, LESBIAN AND BISEXUAL YOUTH GROUP

A discussion group for gay, lesbian and bisexual youth (16-25) is currently running. If you are interested please give Rob a call at 570-3687.

COMING OUT DISCUSSION GROUPS

Guelph
 Guelph Queer Equality Coming Out Discussion Group has the following meetings upcoming:
 November 19 - Gay Families and Adoptions
 November 26 - Safe Sex and the Fear of AIDS
 December 3 - Open Meeting for General Discussion

GQE Coming Out Discussion Groups are held at University Centre, Room 536 (OTAS Lounge) University of Guelph. 7 - 8:30 p.m.

Waterloo
 GLOW Coming Out Discussion Group has the following meetings upcoming:
 November 20 - Issues of Race, Colour, and Cultural Background
 November 27 - Gaydar: Does It Exist?
 December 4 - Gender Roles
 December 11 - 1996 in Review...Looking Ahead

All meetins are held in Hagey Hall (Humanities Bldg.) Room 378 at the University of Waterloo from 7:30 - 9:00 p.m. For more info. call ██████████

KW FRONTRUNNERS

KW Frontrunners is a running and walking group for the lesbian, bisexual, transgender and gay community. People of all ages and abilities are welcome. We meet every Sunday morning at 9:00 a.m. at our new location at the Waterloo Recreation Complex on Father David Bauer Drive. There are usually three groups; walkers, short distance runners (5k / 25 minutes) and longer distance runners (10k / 50 minutes). A few of us even go swimming! Afterwards, we pop over to William's (a local coffee pub) to chat and eat muffins. Hope to see lots of you there. For more information please call Todd, Mark or Lindsay at (519) ██████████

Cate Friesen & Rainbow Chorus

Hi Everyone! Looking for fun stuff to do in SouthWestern Ontario/land? Waterloo Wellington Chorus of Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals and Friends presents **An Evening With Cate Friesen and Rainbow Chorus.**

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 Where- Westwood United Church
 577 Willow Road, Guelph
 (west of Hanlon)

Tickets \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door...children under 12 are \$5. A reception will follow the concert in the social hall. For advanced tickets please call (519) ██████████

GUELPH DANCE

Last month's GQE Dance was the last to be held at the Schoolhouse. However, we will be holding a dance in conjunction with CFRU, the campus radio station on November 28 at a location yet to be announced. Interested parties should call Guelph Queer Equality at (519) 824-4120 extension ██████████ or email us at gqe@uoguelph.ca

GAYLINE NOW KNOWN AS OUTLINE

The Guelph area Gayline has changed its name to Outline. Outline is a gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender information line. Their telephone number remains the same. You can reach them at ██████████

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There has been a lot of attention in the media lately about Hepatitis B vaccination programs in Ontario high schools. But did you know that the vaccine has been available free for several years now to people at risk? Here are some answers to some commonly asked questions:

What is Hepatitis B? Hepatitis B is a disease that damages the liver. It is caused by the Hepatitis B virus (HBV).

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How is it spread? Hep B is transmitted the same way as HIV. It is spread by contact with an infected person's blood, semen and vaginal fluid. Unlike HIV, Hep B is transmitted in saliva. However, kissing is not generally a high risk. The main way to come into contact with these bodily fluids is during sex, by sharing razors, tattooing equipment or needles.

How can I tell who has it? Most people who are infected don't have any symptoms or show any signs. Many don't even know that they have it. Some people have extreme tiredness, weakness, nausea, fever, loss of appetite and yellowing of the skin and eyes (called jaundice).

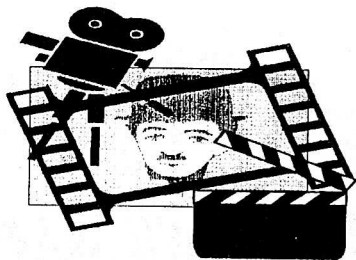
How can I protect myself? Hepatitis B vaccine is available. It is safe and effective in the prevention of Hep B infection. It requires a total of three injections in the arm over a six month period. Using latex condoms every time you have sex will also reduce your risk the same way it does for HIV.

Are gays and lesbians at higher risk? Whether your partner is a man, a woman or both does not affect your risk. Unprotected anal, vaginal and oral sex with multiple partners increases your risk of contact with Hep B.

How much does the vaccine cost? The Waterloo Region Community Health Department provides free vaccine to members of our gay, lesbian and bisexual community who are at risk. But you need to get all three shots in order to be protected.

What if I'm HIV positive? It is recommended that you receive a double dose of vaccine to help your immune system build up it's defences against Hep B.

Where can I get the vaccine? The vaccine is available through your family doctor. The Waterloo Region Health Department is proud to serve our gay, lesbian and bisexual community. For more info call the AIDS/STD Program at 883-2251



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News

Rent

The Broadway musical *Rent* will make its way into Toronto next November with a predominantly Canadian cast.

Announcements were made earlier this month at a press conference. This is the first date outside of the U.S. and The Royal Alexander Theatre will be the setting. A twenty week block of tickets will be available for the show which will debut in November of 1997. After Toronto, *Rent* will move on to Vancouver and promoters say there will probably be other cities on the tour. Stay tuned for ticket information.

Ellen Does It All

Ellen DeGeneres' mission, and she does have one, is to conquer every entertainment medium under the sun. In addition to be the Emmy-nominated star of her eponymous TV show and the author of the bestselling *My Point...and I Do Have One*. The New Orleans native has a CD (*Taste This*) of her stand-

up routines and will soon begin filming Roland Joffe's *Goodbye Lover*.

The star of the feature film *Mr. Wrong*, DeGeneres has hosted the grammys, the Emmys and the VH-1 Honors. She's remembered by Tonight Show fans as the only female comic invited by Johnny Carson to sit on the couch on her first appearance.

(eoline)

Movies

Saturday, November 16, **A Room With A View** will be shown on Showcase, Channel 39. Directed by James Ivory and adapted from E.M. Forster's novel, this film follows the experiences of a young woman during a trip to Florence. Starring Maggie Smith, Helena Bonham Carter, Denholm Elliot and Daniel Day-Lewis. (U.K. 1985) 11p.m.

Directed by Christopher Hampton, **Carrington** is set in the English countryside during World War I. A platonic and complicated relationship develops between painter Dora Carrington (Emma Thompson) and author Lytton Strachey

(Jonathon Pryce) who is homosexual. Also starring Steven Waddington. **Airs Saturday, November 23 at 11p.m. on Showcase, Channel 39. (U.K. 1995)**

Wonderland is the story of two gay men and their journeys around Liverpool which include visiting a transvestite club and witnessing a gang murder. Air time: Monday, November 25 at 11 p.m. on Showcase. (Canada, 1988)

Music

Intimate and Interactive airs Saturday, November 16 on MuchMusic with guest **Amanda Marshall**. This hour-long series includes interview segments and a collection of live tunes. Air time: 9:30 p.m., 1:30 a.m. and 8:30 a.m.

In the Spotlight on Much is **Alanis Morissette** on November 21 and **Everything But The Girl**, November 25. The MuchMusic Spotlight airs daily at 7:30 and 11:30 p.m.

Outlook's Sound Reviews will return next month.

The Arts

"Five Women Painters: Carrington (1995)

A stimulating documentary exploring the life and work of British artist Dora Carrington, best known for her relationship with Lytton Strachey and the Bloomsbury Group. Bravo Television Network, Channel 40, November 25.

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Tanning indoors provides a gentle, controlled way to tan by exposure to lamps with a light spectrum similar to that of the sun. You can neither see or feel ultraviolet (UV) light, but it is the part of the light spectrum that tans you. UVA light waves are longer and UVB light waves are shorter and transport more energy. A combination of both is necessary for optimum tanning results. UVB stimulates the release of melanin. UVA oxidizes this melanin resulting in a tan.

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-Mary, Al & Elaine

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1997 Damron Address Book: A Tradition of Innovation

Since 1964, gay men have trusted the Damron Address Book, the original gay travel guide, to provide them with comprehensive, up-to-date travel information. With the release of the 1997 Damron Address Book, the Damron Company once again raises its own standards of excellence. The ground-breaking 33rd edition contains almost 10,000 listings of gay-owned and gay-friendly accommodations, bars, restaurants, cafes, gyms, bookstores, retail shops, travel agents, publications, men's clubs, erotica shops and Damron's (in)famous cruisy areas throughout the United States, Canada, Mexico and the Caribbean.

At the heart of "the Guide" (as it is affectionately known to its almost 1 million readers) are Damron's signature "codes" that help readers get the essential information about a business at a glance. First-time readers will find the code chart located on the inside cover for easy reference. Whether you're looking for leather in Los Angeles, a piano bar in Providence, or a drag show in Des Moines, you'll find it in the Damron Address Book.

But while the Damron Address Book may be the "little black book of gay travel," it doesn't stop there. Damron recognizes gay men's diversity, so no matter what your size, shape or style, the Damron Address book lists an info line or social group for you. In response to reader's requests, Damron is once again including listings for a wide range of spiritual groups, from Dignity to the Radical Faeries. And with the 1997 edition, readers will find a new "TG" code to designate businesses that welcome transgendered people.

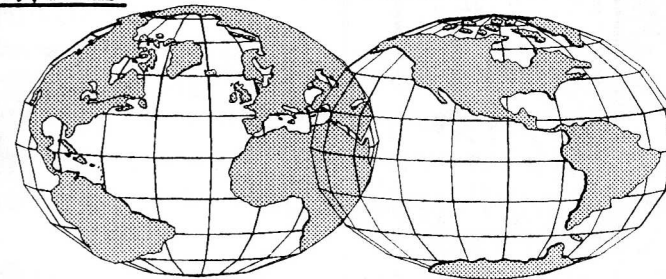
Over the years, The Damron Address Book has been recognized as the leader in gay travel guides by the New York Times, Out, and the Advocate. This year Damron was honoured with Out & About's Editor's Choice Award for gay media "for continuing innovation and raising the graphic quality standard for gay guides."

Damron's high standards show in the design of the 1997 Address Book. Graphic designer Beth Rabena Carr has put together what is surely the most sophisticated design in Damron's history. Readers will enjoy the full colour "Male Order" section as well as the extensive calendar of events, listing parties from here to Fat Tuesday.

Other guides may come and go, but for gay men everywhere, Damron is still the first name and last word in gay travel.



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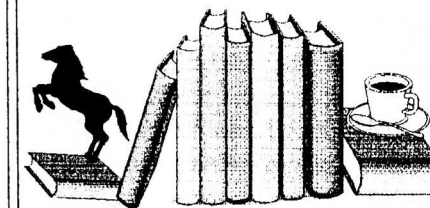


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who answered by speaking
to my heart without a single word."*

Inspired by Spanish Poetry

*Happy Anniversary to my soulmate...
We are united in body, mind and spirit,
forever bound in harmony.*

Love Catherine



Dear Outlook,
I recently moved into the area and found it a little difficult finding things to do and places to go. I was downtown on a little bit of a shopping spree and decided to stop in for a coffee at a local coffee shop. When I went to sit in one of the booths, there was a bunch of daily newspapers on the seat so I moved them to sit down, and you'll never guess what was among the pile. Yes, your little magazine. I think I read it cover to cover while I was having my coffee(s) and lost track of the time. I left that coffee shop with a lot more info than I had when I stopped in, but I also missed my bus! Oh well. Thanks for your community involvement, and because of the Community Info page in the back of your magazine, I am now involved with a couple of gay groups in the area. Thanks so much!

LeslieAnn
Waterloo

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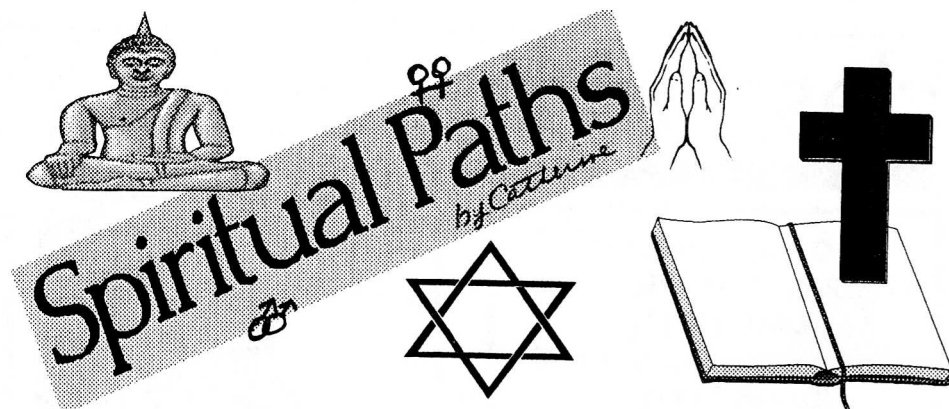
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**Part 2 of 4
Judaism and The Social
Responsibility Faiths**

Judaism

To fully appreciate Judaism, the oldest religion still commonly practiced in the Western world, one must go back to its roots to realize what some four thousand years of Judaism have accomplished.

All religious teachers have had to apply their teachings to the words and concepts already understood by the people of that time. Buddha preached to the Hindus; Christ preached to the Jews and Romans, and so on and so on. The early Jews derived from Mid-Eastern nomadic tribes, often existing close to the survival level.

The Jews introduced a theory of ethics and social responsibility totally new to that era. This was a morality of divine source, connected with sacred practice. While Westerners take this for granted, it was a breakthrough for its time. The hundreds of laws developed in the Old Testament and related writings produced the longest lasting ethical

code in history. However, as could be expected, thousands of years of scientific and cultural development have rendered many of the details obsolete.

Depending on who is counting, there are 3-5 Jewish denominations active in North America. They are distinguished basically by how many rules they reinterpret in order to render the religion practicable in contemporary society. Many North American Jews follow little or no practice at all.

Judaism is almost always family-and-community oriented, which can make it tricky for gay men and lesbians to fit in, unless they conform to a straight appearing nuclear family setup. As with Christian churches, the attitudes toward gays in straight synagogues varies. It would be safe to say there are likely to be a good number of gay Jewish people worshipping comfortably in traditional synagogues.

Lesbians and feminists, in general, have often found traditional Judaism unacceptable because of teachings that limit women to a secondary status. However, most Jews admit

that women have played a major role in keeping Jewish culture and tradition alive and functioning. Also, Jewish women today are often educated and expected to work outside the home. In Jewish law, lesbianism is politely ignored.

It has been a Western Jewish tradition to start a new synagogue or a denomination when individuals find existing interpretations too heretical, too fanatical or too limiting for their needs. The founding of gay/lesbian synagogues is therefore not as unprecedented as one might think.

Judaism is legalistic, but legalisms are always subject to reinterpretation. The same book of the Bible (Leviticus) that prohibits male homosexuality also condemns adulterers to death, provides that fabric must not contain fibers from two different sources and designates the proper birds to sacrifice when people come down with various illnesses. Be assured that even in the most orthodox of synagogues, adulterers are discreetly put up with and the local bird population is totally safe.

The Social Responsibility Faiths

North America has a strong tradition of liberal faiths, where individuals seek to look past differences to emphasize the worth of all people and responsibility to humankind. The Unitarian- Universalists, Society of Friends (Quakers) and Ethical Humanists are the best known of these faiths. Over the years, it has been these religions that have been the vanguard in the battle against slavery and capital punishment, and

for peace, sexual equality, civil rights and abortion rights.

The Unitarian-Universalists are the largest of these groups and still maintain some of the vocabulary of traditional Christianity - they have churches and ministers. But Unitarians cover a wide range of theistic beliefs. Some believe in Christ as God, while many see him as a historic teacher and feel little need for a God concept at all.

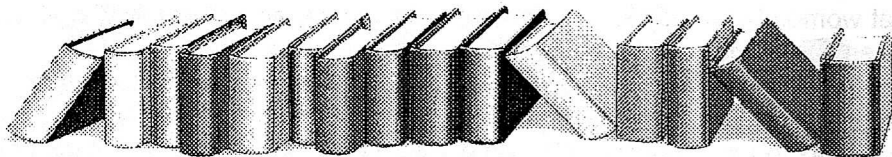
The Quakers are technically a Protestant denomination, but Quakers are taught to look for spiritual guidance from "an inner light". Pacifism, simplicity, human rights and service to humankind are practiced with a relentless passion by many Quakers, even when in direct defiance of prevalent pragmatic values and governmental positions.

Ethical Culture (Ethical Humanism) is a non-theistic outgrowth of Judaism, stressing the primacy of ethics and encouraging social responsibility and individual choices in spiritual outlook.

All three of these groups have taken strong public positions on the rights of homosexuals, and many lesbians and gay men have found welcome arms in their communities. While intellectual acceptance is one thing, reaction that a particular gay person may get depends upon the individuals at a given location; their personal hang-ups and their past experiences with gays.

Next Month:

Part 3, Eastern Religion: Buddhism, Krishna Consciousness & Yoga



UNDER THE RAINBOW

By Arnie Kantrowitz

This honest and moving memoir of life before and after Stonewall is one of the few books that can genuinely be called a gay classic. Kantrowitz, in a simple and compelling manner, tells the story of growing up gay prior to the Stonewall riots and his discovery of self and the gay community in the new gay political and social movement. As relevant as it was nearly 20 years ago, this remains one of the first person accounts of the early days of gay liberation.

So You Want to Be a Lesbian?; A Guide for Amateurs and Professionals

by Liz Tracey and Sydney Pokorny

A humorous look at the lesbian nation in all its many, and often contradictory, aspects. With topics ranging from How to Come Out To Relatives Without Inducing Heart Seizure, Pick-up Lines and How (and When) to Use Them, Sex Tips, Fashion Guides, The Secret Behind Lesbian Hairstyles as well as a resource guide, an idiosyncratic guide to

Lesbian Culture and all the essentials of building a Dyke Lifestyle. Not for the overtly serious or the humour impaired, this is the one book that can improve your social life simply by your being seen carrying it around.

Another Mother

by Ruthann Robson

Angie (Evangelina) Evans - a prominent attorney specializing in lesbian legal issues, partner in a committed relationship - seems to many to have the best of all worlds. Instead, her life is spinning out of control. Structured around the months of a year, Another Mother deftly peels back the layers of history and experience that Angie carries with her as she confronts the issues and fears of every woman's struggle for self-identity.

Beyond Acceptance: Parents of Lesbians and Gays Talk About Their Experiences

by Carolyn Welch Griffin, Marian J. Wirth, Arthur G. Wirth.

This classic book based on extensive discussions with members of PFLAG (Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays), an international advocacy group with over 400

chapters, has been completely revised and updated for the first time since its initial publication 10 years ago. Beyond Acceptance provides parents with the comfort and knowledge needed to accept their gay children and build stronger relationships with them. With extensive testimony from other parents, this book lets mothers and fathers know that they are not alone and helps them through the emotional stages leading to reconciliation with their gay and lesbian children.

Shock to the System: A Donald Strachey Mystery

by Richard Stevenson

Donald Strachey, Albany's best (and only) gay private investigator returns in this much celebrated mystery series. Strachey is approached by a boozy, homophobic matron who is convinced that her gay son, despite his history of substance abuse, did not commit suicide and wants Strachey to prove that his ex-lover murdered him. His ex-lover is equally convinced that his ex's death was murder, but fingers a psychologist who specializes in "curing" homosexuals for the crime and also tries to hire Strachey. The psychologist, despite his dislike of gays, wants Strachey to prove his innocence. Faced with too many clients and too many motives, Strachey must prove that the dead man was murdered and find out which of them, if any, is responsible.

Close Calls: New Lesbian Fiction

edited by Susan Fox Rogers

In the past few years, lesbian writing has achieved a previously unseen level

of prominence - a burst of vitality and originality that marks it as arguably the most interesting new writing on the North American literary scene. In Close Calls, editor Rogers presents a vibrant and compelling collection of 21 new stories, bringing together established writers and unpublished authors in a superb anthology that probes the intellect and touches the heart. Close Calls reflects that depth, breadth, and richness of lesbian fiction today.

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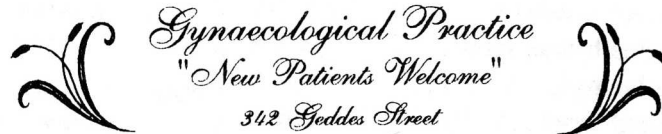
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THE BASHING OF THE COMMUNITY - BY US ! -by Mark Jordan

Throughout time, within the gay and lesbian community, we have had this terrible time with discrimination. It seems that for whatever reason, we feel discriminated against at work, at home and in general. At our work, our co-workers and bosses, at times, feel it is their right or wrong as the case may be to feel that gays and lesbians are less than, way too much than, or not of any consequence to warrant behavior that discriminates ourselves against the rest of the workers or employees that be. It may just be a simple case of people ignoring you, making fun of you, or rude and harmful threats or comments that bring a feeling of shame, discontent, or worthlessness.

Sometimes these feelings cause the affected person to voluntarily quit their position or relocate to another space where they have not been discovered yet. Sometimes they leave feeling like they can never reveal themselves again to those they work with or come in contact with again. Any of these cases are counterproductive to healthy living for gays and their employers. The same can be said for the encounters one has at home, in the elevator, at the shopping mall, church, or any other place where one must be faced with making the decision of whether to hide and pretend to make other people more at ease, or stand and be proud and force others to make their feelings known.

It would seem, with all that one must go through on a daily basis, of all people, gays and lesbians should be some of the most excepting, compassionate, understanding, forgiving and open-minded people on the face of the earth. For some, it would seem that this is definitely the case, however, for many in our gay community, unfortunately it is not.

How many times have you read an ad for companions or other such partner/date type ads and read the words: "Gay white male interested in white male under 40 and over 25, no fats, no femmes, no drugs." Maybe today's ads aren't as blatant as they used to be. What about "Straight-acting, straight looking"? What is this trying to say? What does a "straight-looking male" look like? If that person met someone that turned out to be 41 years old, would he have to be disqualified? What about a mature 23 year old with all the qualities the ad writer wanted? What if, after talking to the 40 year old, interesting, masculine voice on the telephone, that voice turned out to be of Mexican or Indian background? What a shame, that just because he didn't meet your list of qualifications he just wouldn't do.

Talk in bars: "Look at that one; who cut her hair? It looks awful! I heard she was in trouble at some other bar last weekend." Gossip and cheap talk is more believed than actually confronting someone with a concern that affects you. Hearsay rather than face-to-face. Ridiculous! What ever happened to giving someone the benefit of the doubt?

"She's too butch. He's a real queen. What a leather head." Diversity is a very big part of our community. Diversity makes us strong, as long as we are willing to accept our differences and support each other. We deal with plenty of

discrimination everyday; we certainly don't need it constantly amongst ourselves. I would really like to believe that if we left the bar one night and found a young "queen" getting bashed outside by a redneck, that we wouldn't just stand there and look at it because he didn't quite fit with what we felt our idea of what an acceptable gay male should look or act like... I would like to believe that we would step right in and go to his rescue. If we can answer yes to this situation, then why too, can't we take him for what he is: our brother, our friend in the community.

You might just be surprised if you take the time to talk and visit with someone you never expected to interact with just because they didn't fit your idea of 'gay or lesbian'. Try it sometime; it will only break down more walls and build this beautiful group of men and women into a stronger and more confident community that will get to where they really want to go!

**"Discrimination hinders Coming Out,
but Coming Out hinders discrimination."**

-from the internet, author unknown

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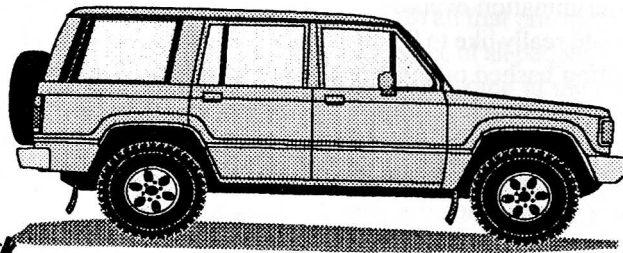
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-by Uncle Mark



What has come over the new and used car market lately? Have they gone completely utility nuts???? Whatever happened to the four door family sedan? Or even the sports car, for heaven's sake, or what about the econo-box that is good for the environment by providing us with excellent fuel economy in these times of the three R's? It would seem that in general, Canada more so than even the mighty U.S., has gone truck crazy. No it doesn't seem to be a passing fad, more like a force to be reckoned with from now on. Truck sales across the country have gone ballistic! You would think that this would drive pricing down, due to increase in demand...ha ha! All trucks, including such favorites as the good old pickup truck, both two wheel & four wheel drive models, supercab, crewcab (4 door), stepside, compact or full size; vans of every description- mini, maxi, extended, sport, all-wheel drive; and of course the most sought after, way-too-popular, and every yuppy concious sport-utility (Explorer, Four-runner, Pathfinder etc.), have gone up in price with no limit in sight! There are mini sport-utes such as the Sidekick or the Sunrunner or the new RAV-4. Where will it end? It won't, as long as you the buying public, keep lining up with your hard earned dollars and are prepared to part with ever escalating amounts to satisfy your truck buying needs and wants....

This recent trend has given the auto manufacturers carte-blanche to raise prices and introduce more models and options and configurations than ever before. The net profit on trucks, in general, has literally gone through the roof for these manufacturers. It would seem that they are all in collusion, however, I don't see how this would be. I believe that the Big Three have benefited the most since they have been in the truck business for oh so long. They not only have gotten truck building down to a science, but also are able to introduce new and improved products a lot more quickly, they just have more truck plants, resources and expertise than the import people. Ford, GM, and Chrysler have always been in the truck business, but now it just pays a lot better. When you consider that for the last many, many years Ford's F150 has been the best selling vehicle of any car, truck, van etc. than any other; period. It makes great sense, and good news to them that more people than ever want to and are willing to pay big bucks for them. What's big bucks? A base pickup truck these days runs you about \$20,000 Canadian. A loaded four-wheel drive, supercab half ton pickup will push you up to about \$40,000 Canadian. And then there's everything inbetween!!!

Used trucks are way up! (in price) Don't forget that the used vehicle market is even more sensitive to supply and demand than the new one is. If you run out of new cars or trucks, you can just order more. With used ones that's not an option. Therefore, if I have the only heavy-duty deisel one ton pickup truck, that's one year old with low

kilometers, then I have the right to ask whatever the market will bear. Is it worth ten thousand, fifteen or twenty? Only you can give me those answers with your dollars. One thing is for sure, you just can't order another one, just like my one! The used vehicle market has also exploded. New vehicle pricing, especially used truck pricing in particular has led to big sales numbers for dealers and increased profits. Some dealers have responded with larger lots, showrooms and advertising, not to mention increased used vehicle inventory. We can only buy what's available for sale. Dealers and for some part manufactures have devised new ways to increase availability of used vehicles. Short term leases with attractive termination programs, quicker rental company turn-over, and high private vehicle buy outs have all led to some sort of increase in the number of used vehicles that are available for your perusal. Still, at some of these closed used truck auctions, dealers fight for vehicles by upping the ante for each and every truck they can get. You can't sell off an empty shelf!!!

Why should you consider a truck for your next vehicle, or possibly a second vehicle? There are many reasons. Let me start with a few of the most common.....Safety. A truck sits higher up on the road which almost always equals safer rides. Durability. A truck almost always has a FULL frame. Intense strength. Translation: it's really hard to break it. When some cars have light collisions and they're written off, trucks can go on and on. The full frame gives them pulling power, towing power, carrying power and accident recovery power. Resale. If this market trend continues there is no telling where truck values will go. Your investment is a lot more secure in a truck. Utility. When's the last time you went to Beaver Lumber or Canadian Tire and you just couldn't fit that lumber or appliance into you Tercel? With a truck...no problem. How about moving. Moving your home with a truck is a godsend. Just don't tell all your friends that you own one or you'll have to change your phone number! And last but certainly not least. Value, yes! Despite recent trends toward more luxurious interiors, with some that include leather, CD players, cell phones and touch 4 wheel drive, these darn things are generally as tuff as nails. If you maintain a truck well, there's no reason you can't get 300,000 to 500,000 kilometers out of it if not more. There are a number of work trucks that have had the crap driven out of them, but got their regular maintainence and have turned 1,000,000 kilometers. Just try doing that with a Cavalier or a Tempo or for that matter even a Cadillac....

No matter how you slice it trucks are HOT! And there are many reasons for it. Try and find some of your own and don't be afraid to explore trucks next time you shop for that next vehicle. If you require some unhurried, no pressure help with information, selection or advice, feel free to call on me at anytime!!!

-Love Uncle Mark XXX

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email: gqe@uoguelph.ca

Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Youth Line
1-800-268-YOUTH

Ontario AIDS Network
Toronto 1-416-364-4555

Outline (formerly Gayline)
LGBT Information Line
[redacted]

PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays)
Acton..... [redacted]
Cambridge..... [redacted]
Guelph..... [redacted]

Project Angel
Waterloo Region AIDS Memorial
250 Dundas Street S. Suite 221
Cambridge, Ontario N1R 8A8

Rainbow Alliance
Are you a deaf gay or lesbian? There is an organization for the deaf called The Toronto Rainbow Alliance of the Deaf. We have meetings once a month at the 519 Church Street Community Centre on the first Saturday of the month from 1-4 pm. You are most welcome to attend!

Sexual Assault Centres
K-W.....741-8633
Cambridge.....658-0551
Guelph.....823-5806

Substance Abuse Prevention
Kitchener 741-3827

Two Spirited People of First Nations
Waterloo Region Alliance for Equal Rights
[redacted]

Women's Centre
U of W
888-4567 extension 3457

WOODS (Women Out Of Doors)
P.O. Box 13, Student Life Centre P.O.
Waterloo, Ontario N2L 3G0

GAY RADIO

Listen Up! Listen In!

Out and About with your hosts Dave and Alan airs alternate Tuesdays from 8-10pm on CKWR 98.7 FM

Womenspin on CKMS 100.3 FM airs Wednesdays from 6-8pm

Nowhere To Hide airs Wednesdays from 8pm to 9pm on CKMS 100.3 FM

Thursdays listen in for Leaping Lesbians on CKMS 100.3 FM from 6-8pm

The Rainbow Radio Network can be heard Thursdays on CHRW 94.7 at 10:15pm.

Women Made Collective Show airs Mondays from 6-7pm on CFRU 93.3

Fingers, Fists and KY is brought to you in part by The Lesbian Avengers and airs Mondays from 10pm-12am on CFRU 93.3 FM

Girls Taste Good with your host Kristyn airs Tuesdays at 2pm on CFRU 93.3 FM

Fag Factory with your host Adam airs Thursdays at 2pm on CFRU 93.3 FM

If you know of a service organization that should be listed here, give us a call.



Community Health
Department
AIDS/STD Program

I'd like an HIV test! What are my options?

The only way you can know for sure if you are infected with HIV is to have a specific blood test. In Waterloo Region, you can be tested for HIV at the following places:

1. You can be tested by your family doctor.

2. **Anonymous Testing:** available only from the Community Health Department

Waterloo 99 Regina St. South

Kitchener 123 Duke St. East

HIV Clinic - 2nd Floor

Duke St Clinic - 

ACCKWA

- ▶ by appointment only
- ▶ ☎ 883-2251

- ▶ walk-in: first come, first served
- ▶ Thursday 4 p.m. - 7 p.m.

3. **Confidential HIV testing:**

Cambridge 150 Main St.

Waterloo 99 Regina St. South

STD Clinic - 2nd Floor

STD Clinic - 2nd Floor

- ▶ walk-in: first come, first served
- ▶ Tuesday 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

- ▶ walk-in: first come, first served
- ▶ Monday & Thursday 3 pm - 6 pm

These clinics offer a service that is positive towards gays, lesbians, straights and bisexuals. "Working" girls and guys are welcome.

for more information: ☎ 883-2251
AIDS/STD Program



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744-1103



The Artstore's Annual Christmas Card Contest

It's time once again for our annual Christmas Card Contest. You are invited to bring your entries into the store by November 30. Voting begins December 1. The winning entry is produced as a Christmas card and offered to corporate clients in Denison Print's card catalogue. The winner receives 250 of these cards and a \$100 gift certificate from the Artstore. Contact the Artstore at 744-1103 or Denison Print at 648-3636 for details. Good Luck!



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