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Title: *Lavender Letter (Harrisburg, PA)*

Date: October 1997

Location: LGBT-009 Lavender Letter Collection

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Archives & Special Collections
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LAVENDER LETTER

P.O. BOX 60184, HARRISBURG, PA 17106-0184

OCTOBER 11th

National

Coming Out Day

Bobbi Carmitchell

Says:

"Come Out Come Out
Where Ever You Are!"

Volume 15 No. 10

A Calender of Events, for and by Womyn

October, 1997

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 2

8pm... Jaime Anderson in concert at the Wire 216 4th St., New Cumberland. Back by Popular demand, this dynamic entertainer is always a hit!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3

9-1pm... Bobbi Carmitchell in concert at the Dew Drop Inn.

9:30-12:30 Crazy Susan (Formerly Change of Heart) in concert at Rooster's, 168 S. Main St., Manheim. (717) 665-6211.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4

10-1:30... Crazy Susan on Fire at the Midtown Tavern, N. 2nd St., Hbg.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 5

Bicycling: York County Heritage Rail/Trail in New Freedom, PA. 20 mile trip. Sponsored by the Great Outdoors of Central PA. Call (717) 612-9531

...Hike with GLORA of Reading Area. Call Diane at (610) 868-7183.

FRIDAY & SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10 & 11

9-1... Crazy Susan in concert at The Frog Pond, Rehoboth Beach, DE.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 10

8pm... Lynn Lavner in concert at the Valencia Ballroom, 142 N. George St., York. Tickets \$18 adv., \$20 at the door. Call (717) 236-7387. Sponsored by MCC of the Spirit.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 12

5-9pm... The Central PA Womyn's Chorus and Harrisburg Men's Chorus will jointly sponsor a Spaghetti Dinner at the Paper Moon. Cost \$6.00.

...York Area Singles Reunion Potluck Picnic. Anyone who's ever been a part of the Singles Group is welcome. Hamburgers, Hotdogs, Chicken and Beverages provided. Please bring a dish to share. Call Peg at (717) 225-6042 or (717) 738-2285.

noon... Helen O. Krauss Animal Foundation Annual Pet Walk, City Island.

6pm... Lebanon County Lesbian Social Group meeting. Call Marie at (717) 865-6944 for details.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 13

8am-4pm... Workshop on "Creating a Safe Place for Bisexual, Gay & Lesbian Youth" at HACC Wildwood Conference Center. All educators, psychologists, parents, clergy, case managers, physicians, therapists and anyone concerned with these youths are encouraged to attend. Please register by Oct. 3 by calling (717) 540-1313. \$25 adults, \$15 students.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 17

6:30pm... Lancaster Ladies Night Out. Meet for dinner and great conversation at a local restaurant. Call Shirley at (717) 397-1915.

9-1... Crazy Susan in concert at the Dew Drop Inn (717) 741-1175.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 18

6pm... York Area Women's Potluck. Bring a dish to share, an extra chair, if you can, and any musical instrument you like to play or song books to browse through - We can sing and play the night away at Cindy & Kate's in York, PA. Call (717) 848-9142 for directions.

8-10pm... Bobbi Carmitchell in concert at Lancaster Borders Books. Call (717) 872-4512 for details.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 19

Anne & Bobbi Carmitchell in concert at Vision of Hope MCC, Mountville. Call (717) 872-4512 for details.

...Apple Festival in Biglerville. Anyone who would like to join the York Area Singles may call Peg at (717) 225-6042 to car pool.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 24

9-1... Bobbi & Anne Carmitchell in concert at the Symposium. Corner of Columbia Ave & Centerville Rd., Lanc. Call (717) 872-4512 for details.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 25

...Women's Paintball Adventure in Harrisburg (on Linglestown Rd.) Have

fun, run thru the woods, attack the enemy, or guard your team's flag. 10 or more players & we'll have our own field!!! \$40 incl. lunch & equipment. \$45 get you semi-automatic gun. \$10 deposit due by Oct. 8. Call (717) 236-8458 for details.

...Bobbi Carmitchell in concert at the Attic in Manheim, Live recording for her new Album. Call (717) 872-4512 for details.

...Susan Herick in concert at the Uni'n Univ Church, West Chester, PA. Call (610) 692-5966 for directions and (215) 922-7207 for booking info.

...1997 Cumberland Valley Women's Conference: *Creating Women*, at Shippensburg University. Workshops for Women to express the artist within themselves. Rhythm, basketmaking, watercolor, writing, jewelry, dance, etc. Call (717) 532-1790. \$25 fee (\$10 students) incl. lunch.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 26

11am... Shippensburg Circle Halloween Brunch. Bring something for the table and join us for a howling good time in the Shippensburg Area. Call (717) 530-1743 for details.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY OCTOBER 31-NOV. 2

Murder Mystery Weekend at the Highlands Inn, Bethlehem, NH. (Our 6th annual!) Guests assume the roles of suspects, murderers, even victims and everyone plays detective. Call (603) 869-3978 for details/reservations.

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 31

7:00pm... Harrisburg Area Ladies Night Out. Meet for Dinner & great conversation at a local restaurant. Call (717) 691-5577 for details by Wed.

9:30-1:30... Crazy Susan on fire in concert at the York Valley Inn, 3883 E. Market St., York. (717) 840-0748. Come in costume for our Halloween Party. Cash prize for best costume.

9-1... Bobbi & Anne Carmitchell in concert at Emmerson's in Columbia. Call (717) 872-4512 for details.

Upcoming events...

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 1

... Halloween Party at B-TLS. Eisenhower Blvd, Hbg. Call (717) 939-1123

8pm... Laurie Anderson: *The Speed of Darkness*. America's premiere performance artist returns to the Weis Center, Bucknell University for her first time since her sold out performance in 1991. Stories and songs about the future of art and technology. Call (717) 564-1000 for ticket info.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 8

FAB 97 at the Harrisburg Hilton. This is destined to be the Gay and Lesbian pinnacle social event of the year. Ticket prices are \$100 per person for Pre-FAB and FAB \$50 for FAB. For info. Call (717) 652-9125 or 531-5266.

NOVEMBER 14-16

The Highlands Inn Work Weekend. Annual clearing of the Ski Trails and Wood Stacking. Good, hard work and lots of fun. Lodging and food free for your labor. Bring your own tools. Call (603) 869-3978 for reservation.

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Pastor Eva O'Diam
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Spirituality...

WORSHIP SERVICES

...**DIGNITY OF CENTRAL PA** (Hbg) Services: First Sunday of month, 5pm, Mass followed by Potluck Dinner and Program. Friends Meeting House, 6th & Herr Sts. 1st & 3rd Monday, Dialogue & Discussion Group, 1514 N. 2nd St., (use side door), (717) 652-7683.

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...**INTERWEAVE** is a group supported by the Unitarian Universalist Church, for those people who are concerned with Gay & Lesbian & Straight issues. Meeting is the 1st Sunday of each month, call for times (usually 6:30pm). Hotline: (717) 859-4481.

...**MCC OF THE SPIRIT**, at their new Church 2973 Jefferson St., Hbg. Every Sunday 10:30 am & 7:00 pm. Call 236-7387 for information. We offer Christian educational sessions that nurture the whole person, call for details and special events.

...**UNITARIAN SOCIETY OF YORK**, 49 E. Springettsbury Ave., York. (717) 845-8212. Services: 8:45 & 10:30 a.m. Childcare provided.

...**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF LANC.** Sunday, 9am & 11am. Rev. M. Susan Milnor. 538 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster, PA 17603. (717) 393-1733.

...**UNITY CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH**. 4695 Charles Rd., Mechanicsburg. (Behind Trindle Bowling Alley on Trindle Rd.) Services: Sundays 9am & 11am. (717) 737-8875. Unity is a culturally diverse spiritual community, promoting positive life transformation and recognizing that all people are one in God.

...**VISION OF HOPE MCC**, 130 E. Main St. Mountville, PA 17554. Service on Sunday at 10:30am & 7pm. AM Children's Sunday School. Phone #: (717) 285-9070.

Social Groups...

...Gay & Lesbian Book Discussion Group at Borders Books in Lancaster. Meets the 3rd Thursday of each month at 7pm. Call Borders for info.

... National Organization for Women (**NOW**) meets the 3rd Wed. of the Month at the YWCA. E. Market St., York. Call (717) 757-4270 for details.

...Anyone 60 and Over is invited to join **OLOC, Old Lesbians Organizing for Change**. For membership and 4 issues of the OLOC Reporter, send \$15 to P.O. Box 98042, Houston, TX 77098.

We are the Singles Group of Lancaster, York and Harrisburg. We know there are a lot of single women out there! (or a couple who need a night out for dinner and fun.) We would love to see you. We have a great picnic coming up Oct. 12 which we would like anyone who has been a part of the singles club in the past to attend. So lets go singles, where ever you are, call Peg and start enjoying a great nite out with other singles of all ages!!! (717) 225-6042 or (717) 738-2285.



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...**Shippensburg Circle Group** meets in the Shippensburg, Carlisle and Chambersburg Areas for networking & social events. Brunch get togethers in Shippensburg. Call (717) 530-1743 to get on the list.

...Third Thursday of each month, 7 p.m., join a **Gay/Lesbian Book Discussion Club at M.C.C. of the Spirit**, 2973 Jefferson Street. (717) 236-7387 (Formerly at Encore Books.)

...**Book Discussion Group**. If you like to read, we want you... to join our book club. We meet the 2nd Sunday of the month at 7pm. Call Kellie (717) 236-2876 for this month's book and the location of the meeting.

...**Come join Our Circle - Dances of Universal Peace**. The Dances of Universal Peace are an opportunity to experience the Divine embodied through song, movement and fellowship. We gather the 2nd Saturday of the Month at 7:30pm at the Friends Meeting House, 6th & Herr Sts., Hbg. For more info call Kellie - (717) 236-2876 or Yasmin (717) 774-7218.

...**The Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus** rehearses in Harrisburg on Monday nights. If you can sing, join the fun as we prepare for our fall concert: Wild Women Don't Get the Blues! For information, call Artistic Director Tom Tiehel at 230-9311.

...**YAL (York Area Lambda)** Educational, Political & Social Group of Lesbian/Gay & Bi people in the York area. Newsletter included with paid dues. For more info write P.O. Box 2425, York, PA 17405 or call (717) 848-9142.

...**The Women's Resource Center at Bucknell University** sponsors various events throughout the month. Poetry readings, self defense classes, art exhibits, discussion groups, etc. Call (717) 524-1375 for their monthly calendar.

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THE LAW AND YOU



Q: I just broke off a three-year relationship. We were living together, but I was the primary person bringing money into the household. My ex left me with a ton of bills that I cannot handle by myself and I am not even sure where to locate her. The bills are in

my name and my credit is slowly being destroyed because of this financial mess. Should I file for bankruptcy?

A: There is no simple YES or NO to this question. Before directly addressing your question, it must be acknowledged that you are not the first person (nor will you be the last) to find yourself in this predicament. Financial considerations are usually the last thought when two people are in love and join their lives. Now, of course, you realize how foolish you were to have taken the steps that led you into "this financial mess." To the readers of this column, let the warning exist. Think about this consequence in the beginning; beware of unequal living arrangements; and try to put emotions aside and carefully avoid situations that could possibly cause you problems in the future.

Now, for your dilemma that occurred because you failed to heed such a warning. When an individual's debts far exceed her ability to repay those debts, the laws of this country do provide a method by which relief can be requested. This request is presented via a Petition with the United States Bankruptcy Court in the area where you reside. There are various types of bankruptcy petitions; and they are commonly referred to as a Chapter 7, Chapter 11, Chapter 13, etc. In some cases, filing for relief in a Bankruptcy Court is an option for a debtor to consider. However, the bankruptcy laws are rather complicated; and there can be serious consequences to filing for bankruptcy.

Some of the important questions for you to consider are: Exactly how much is your debt in ratio to your income? What will be the cost to file a bankruptcy petition, including the attorney fees and the court costs? Are there any other options available to you, such as debt reorganization, negotiated settlements with your creditors, increasing your income to help pay the debt, liquidating (selling) some of your assets? Do you own any valuable assets, such as a home, car, stocks, bonds, jewelry, furniture—if so, will the type of bankruptcy you file place those items in any jeopardy?

It is important for you to remember that under certain circumstances, you may be required to turn over your assets to the bankruptcy trustee who is appointed by the Bankruptcy Court to handle your finances. Also, you must remember that filing a bankruptcy is a negative event which will appear on your credit history for a designated period of time. For example, you may find a new (more financially stable) love interest before the turn of the century; and the two of you may decide to buy a house together. Your filing of a bankruptcy petition might later result in you being denied a mortgage.

Declaring personal bankruptcy should be considered a serious step to resolve your current problems. Before making such a serious decision, it would be wise for you to consult with an attorney or a professional debt counselor who can obtain detailed information about your finances and who can inform you of all the pro's and con's in your particular situation. Only then will you know the answer to your question.

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NOTE: This column is written by a retired attorney and judge. She answers questions of a general nature and she is not giving specific legal advice. Laws in different jurisdictions may vary. For specific legal problems you are best advised to consult a practicing attorney in your area. Ruth Joseph welcomes questions from her readers. Please mail your legal question to Ruth Joseph Legal Enterprises at P.O. Box 185 Paradise, PA 17562-0185. Only one question will be selected for each column -- and no personal replies can be provided.

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Linn



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**September 12th Twin Peaks welcomes in
concert Red Letter Day!**

8:30 PM - 10:30 PM DJ 10:30 PM - 2 AM

Early bird special not valid for special events in which returning to the club continues after 9 pm.

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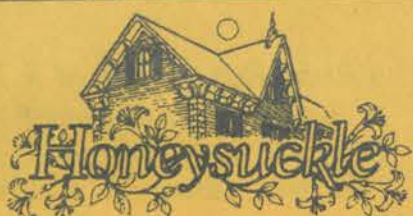


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...Volunteers needed... Whether you can spare 2 hrs a week or 2 hrs a month, Helen O. Krause Animal Foundation, Inc. could use your help. Please call (717) 697-3377.

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...**Triangle Interests**... A not-for-profit, Lesbian membership association offering financial and business networking opportunities, educational seminars and social activities. Forming a Lesbian Credit Union... Retirement Communities... (+much more). For more info call: (215) 487-3736.

...**The Center for Women Students at Penn State**, Univ. Park sponsors many film series/discussion groups on women & Lesbian concerns. For more info/brochure call (814) 863-2027 or write: Ctr for Women Students, 102 Boucke Building, P SU, University Park, PA 16802.

...**GLORA** (Gay & Lesbian Organization of Reading & Allentown) is a group that gathers at least 2x/month to do fun activities and make new friends. We sponsor a broad range of events. Call Diane for more info. (610) 868-7183.

...**PFLAG**, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays Meet at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Lancaster 538 West Chestnut St. every 4th Sunday of the month at 2:30pm. Hotline: (717) 397-1095.

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A LESBIAN PARADISE

Support Groups...

...**COMMON JOURNEY**, an organization of Lesbians and Gays in the Healthcare, Human Services and Educational field, meets at the Vision of Hope MCC Church in Mountville. For more info call Edwin Yates at (717) 285-9070 or e-mail at yatesmcc@redrose.net.

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GLSTN (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Teachers Network) meets in Carlisle at the YWCA. Mission Statement: *GLSTN strives to assure that each member of every school community is valued and respected, regardless of sexual orientation. We welcome as members individuals, regardless of sexual orientation or occupation, who share this philosophy.*

HEALINGS... Helping Every Adolescent In Need Group Support, for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth. Meetings are the 2nd & 4th Friday of each month at 7pm in the Gettysburg Area. For more info/location call (717) 630-5292 or (717) 338-1694.

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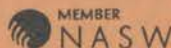


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Don't Get the Blues!*



The Third Annual Fall Concert of
The Central Pennsylvania
Womyn's Chorus

Featuring the world premiere of
Song of the Dying Amazon

by Kay Gardner

a piece specially commissioned
by the chorus

and conducted by the composer

November 22, 1997

8:00 PM • Harrisburg Unitarian Church

1280 Clover Lane

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Tickets \$12 (\$15 at the door — but don't wait,
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The chorus is the musical voice of central Pennsylvania's feminist, lesbian & gay communities. Please support us by: • making a financial contribution • buying an ad in our program book • serving as a volunteer, and • attending our concerts. New members are admitted periodically throughout the year. For more information, call Artistic Director Tom



Tiehel at 717-232-2169, ext 24.

Yes! I want to support our chorus!

- Enclosed is \$_____ for _____ tickets (\$12 each) to the concert, *and a SASE to mail them to me.*
- Enclosed is my contribution (October 17 deadline to be listed in program booklet):
 - \$500 or more ("benefactor")
 - \$100+ ("donor")
 - \$50+ ("contributor") \$25+ ("supporter")
 - <\$25 ("friend") Other: \$_____

Write name(s) below as you want it to appear in program (otherwise, we will take it from your check), or

- check here if you prefer not to be listed in the program
- Enclosed is my camera-ready ad (October 17 deadline — call 717-749-3730 for more info)

I would like to help with:

- Selling tickets Fund-raising activities
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- Put me on the mailing list and keep me posted on concerts and other activities.

PLEASE PRINT LEGIBLY:

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