

# **LGBT History Project of the LGBT Center of Central PA**

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**Title:** *Lavender Letter (Harrisburg, PA)*

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**Contact:**

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Archives & Special Collections  
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Dickinson College  
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# LAVENDER LETTER

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

New  
E-MAIL ADDRESS:

lavlet@PANetwork.com

Volume 15 No. 12

A Calendar of Events, for and by Womyn

December, 1997

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 2

9:30pm-12:30am... Crazy Susan in concert at Shane's. Middletown.

## THURSDAY, DECEMBER 4

... Bobbi Carmitchell in concert at 10,000 Villages. Sponsored by AIDS Comm. Alliance of Lancaster. Call (717) 872-4512 for details.

7:30pm... GLSEN of Central PA and Allies at Dickinson College will co-sponsor a Gay/Lesbian Film Series at Dickinson College. Films will also be shown on Feb 5th, March 5th & April 2nd at the Wise Center, Rm 235. A discussion of the film will follow. Call (717) 258-5937.

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 5

... Bobbi Carmitchell in concert at the Dew Drop Inn, Dallastown exit off Rt. 83. Call (717) 872-4512 for details.

## SATURDAY, DECEMBER 6

World AIDS Day Celebration. Noon-5pm, Open viewing of panels of the QUILT. 5pm... Celebration of life, a service of music and speakers celebrating the lives of those who [in this area] have died of AIDS. At the MCC of the Spirit, 2973 Jefferson St. Music by the Hbg Men's Chorus, the Central PA Womyn's Chorus, 3 J's and a C, the MCC Church Choir, Bobbi Carmitchell, and others. This service will show how AIDS has affected our community and how it continues to affect each and every one of us.

8pm... Bobbi Carmitchell & the Modern Icons (Robin Chamber's) in concert at a Coffee House Concert at the Jewish Comm. Center, 2120 Oregon Pike. Lancaster. Smoke Free. Call (717) 872-4512 for details.

10pm-1am... Crazy Susan in concert at Nick's 1014 Cafe, 3rd St. Hbg.

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7

**BOBBI CARMITCHELL'S ANNUAL WOMEN'S CHRISTMAS DINNER PARTY** at the Timbers Dinner Theatre in Mt. Gretna. Smoke Free. \$25 per person. Reservations only. Call (717) 872-4512 for details.

Call for Starting Time... "NOW" Holiday Party (National Organization for Women) in the York Area - For more info. call 848-9142.

FACT, (Fighting AIDS Continuously Together) will be having their 11th annual Snowball Fundraiser at the Allentown Hilton. This is an elegant evening with cocktail reception, dinner, dance & silent auction. \$50/person. Call (610) 820-5519 for reservation.

## SATURDAY & SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6-7

Wendy Waugman, goldsmith/silversmith of WLW Designs will have her entire sterling silver and 14K gold jewelry available at Herstory Women's Bookstore. Mini-rainbow rings, earcuffs, labrys, goddesses, rings, earrings, necklaces, crystals, stones, bracelets, lambda's and much more! And... all at affordable prices. Do all your holiday shopping now. Call (717) 757-4270 for details.

## TUESDAY, DECEMBER 9

8pm... Harrisburg Men's Chorus 10th Anniversary Concert. Featuring soprano Ann Hampton Callaway— Strand Theater, 50 N. George St., York. Tickets are: \$22 - \$18 - \$14 To order tickets - call the Strand at 846-1111.

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 12

7-9pm... In the midst of the busy holiday season, just when you'll need it most, join with other women for a talking circle, presented by Beverly Little Thunder of the Standing Rock Tribe of North Dakota at Her Story Women's Bookstore. A talking circle is a unique opportunity to experience a guided meditation through the use of imagery. Advance registration is required. Call (717) 757-4270.

... Bobbi Carmitchell in concert at Emerson's Pub, 1506 Columbia Ave. Columbia. Call (717) 684-5654 or 872-4512 for details.

6:30pm... Lancaster Ladies Night out. Meet for dinner at a local restaurant. Bring a \$10 gift to exchange if you like. Call Shirley at (717) 397-1915 for reservation.

## SATURDAY DECEMBER 13TH

2- 4 pm... Beverly will teach a beading workshop with *all materials supplied* at Her Story Women's Bookstore. Learn the ancient art of our native American sisters and make your own amulet for the upcoming year! Advance registration is required. Call (717) 757-4270.

... Bobbi Carmitchell in concert at the Wire, New Cumberland. Call (717) 774-0678 or 872-4512 for details. Smoke & alcohol free.

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14

7:30-10:00pm... YAL (York Area Lambda) Second Sunday Gathering New monthly get together for talk and support. Bring a beverage or light snack, 528 W. Market St, York. For more info: call 846-6618.

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

## FRI. & SAT., DECEMBER 19 & 20

Manager's Graduation Open House and Party! Join the celebration! Our managers' graduation has sparked a special discount to all women whose name appears on the Her Story mailing list! Bigger discounts apply if you're on the mailing list and are a NOW member! Kathy is delirious upon receipt of her YCP diploma and looks forward to extending a monetary and heartfelt thanks to our terrific clientele for their love and support over the past 4 years. Her Story: (717) 757-4270

## SUNDAY, DECEMBER 21

1-4pm... Celebrating the season in style? Plan to enjoy flutist Besty Priestner as she serenades Her Story Bookstore patrons by playing the world's most famous classical music on her solo flute. Treat yourself to a romantic musical journey through some of the most sensuous orchestral works featuring works by female composers. All guests will be served wine and cheese to consummate your shopping experience! 5pm... York Women's Potluck and tree-trimming. Call Peg & Delma, (717) 846-2089 or Cindy & Kate, (717) 848-9142, for directions.

## FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26

7pm... Harrisburg Ladies Night Out is back this month & we'll go out for a special Holiday Dinner. Call (717) 691-5577 for reservation by Tues., December 23rd. Bring a \$10 gift to exchange if you like.

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...**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.



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...**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 each month at 7pm.

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

...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.) We would love to see you. 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.

...**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.

...**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.

...**The Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus** rehearses in Harrisburg on Monday nights. If you can sing, join the fun. For information, call Artistic Director Tom Tiehel at 230-9311.

# CENTER PIECE

## Lavender Letter

December, 1997

...COMMON JOURNEY, an organization of Lesbians and Gays in the Healthcare, Human Services and Educational fields, 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.

GLSEN (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Education Network) meets in Carlisle at the YWCA. Mission Statement: *GLSEN 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.*

You're Invited...

## Tenth Anniversary Concert

Featuring



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Tuesday, December 9, 1997, 8 PM

The Strand Theater  
50 N. George Street  
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\$22, \$18, \$14  
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Box Office: (717) 846-1111  
www.strandcapitol.org

This event is not part of the regular Strand-Capitol Season, and is presented by Harrisburg Men's Chorus. All ticket sales are at the discretion of Harrisburg Men's Chorus.



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GLSEN of Central PA will be conducting town meetings at several locations around the area. The subject will be Creating Safe Schools for every Student. Dates and Locations will be announced in the future. For info call (717) 258-5937.

**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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...ART LESSONS. Art classes in various media for adults and children. Painting, Drawing, Ceramics. Call Donna Hartman for information at (717) 569-0993. Sign-up for the special Christmas floral and wreath making class in December.

...Sister pairs needed for study of adult sisters. University professor is looking for volunteers to complete a survey about how the lives of adult sisters are similar or different. To participate, please contact: Ester Rothblum, Box 259, John Dewey Hall, University of Vermont, Burlington, VT 05405, tel. (802) 656-4156 and request either two surveys (one for you and the other for one sister) or else give both address and you and your sister will receive identical surveys.

...The 1997 OPEN Holiday Ornament is now available thru mail order. The 2nd edition is a Dove, and the 1st edition, a wreath, is still available. Send \$11.00 for each ornament to OPEN, Box 1865, 595 Market Street, York, PA 17405-1865.

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## THE LAW AND YOU



**Q:** My partner and I are not wealthy by any means. We both work and have rather average incomes. But we do think it is important to think about our future. In your column, we have learned a lot about wills, a health surrogate, and other important things. But now,

we are starting to think about our financial future. My father keeps reminding me about the importance of investing, and I really don't want to discuss with him all of our personal finances. Would it be of help for my partner and I to see a financial advisor, and perhaps the most important part of my question, is it expensive?

**A:** Your question is one that frequently is presented to attorneys. After a couple has considered the legal aspects of estate planning, health surrogacy, advanced directives, and other important life decisions, it is important to have some sort of financial road map to follow in your lives. While no-one can precisely predict future needs or resources, it is extremely helpful to carefully consider various possibilities. Gay couples are wise to think about their individual and joint financial goals. It is never too early to begin planning and to take at least some "baby steps" towards reaching your goals.

A financial advisor is someone who could be of great assistance to you in defining your goals, then discussing your options and working with you in the implementation of a plan which meets your particular needs. Many stock brokerage firms have financial advisors on their staff who are willing to meet with you, at no charge for the initial conference. Before making an appointment, it is important to clarify that the first meeting is complimentary. At that first meeting, you and your partner should feel free to discuss any and all of your concerns. For example: Are you concerned about planning for a comfortable retirement? Are you concerned about protecting one of you financially if the other should die or become seriously ill? Are you concerned about minimizing taxes? Are you concerned about saving/investing for a child's future educational needs? Are you perhaps confused about the

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pension/retirement plans offered by your employer?

Ideally, a financial advisor would be an individual who understands the nature of your same-sex relationship. How do you find such a person? Well, you may seek a referral from other gay people whose opinions you respect — or you may through the "grapevine" learn of a gay-friendly financial advisor. It is especially important that you feel totally comfortable with a financial advisor. She should not make you feel intimidated or embarrassed in any manner whatsoever. You must feel free to ask questions and she must answer those questions in a manner that is understandable for you. Different people have different levels of understanding about financial matters.

After the initial meeting, you can take your time and decide for yourself if you want to pursue a continuing relationship with a particular financial advisor. You should never feel pressured and you should thoroughly understand any future fee arrangements. There are a plenitude of investment programs available in today's world; and your financial advisor should explain them, along with any fees associated with them. You need to determine for yourself what program best fits your needs. Without professional financial advice, you could make some very common and very costly mistakes.

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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.

Latisha K. Frederick

Attorney and Counselor at Law

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A LESBIAN PARADISE

## Support Groups...

...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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...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.

...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.



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## "Aunt Pat, you're giggling like a sixteen year old"...

This was part of a recent comment made to Pat McNelly, one of our full-time residents, by her favorite nephew.



Pat's bubbling enthusiasm caused him to add, "I've never seen you so happy. That place must really be good for you."

Come see what all the excitement is about. Meet the friendly women. Enjoy the fun activities, savor the beauty, serenity, and seclusion of the park.

We would love to have you enjoy a festive meal  
with us on December 25th.

RSVP to Williamsburg Manor  
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Friday, December 19th

Live Music with COMMONBOND

Saturday, December 20th

Twin Peaks Christmas Celebration

with DJ Heidi Linn

& please remember to join us Sunday,

December 17th for our first

'Babes in Toyland' benefit @ Stabbons

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