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

**Date:** November 2001

**Location:** LGBT-009 Lavender Letter Collection

**Contact:**

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Archives & Special Collections  
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17055

# LAVENDER LETTER

PHONE:  
(717) 766-0602

E-MAIL  
Lavlet4womyn@aol.com

Volume 19 No. 11

A Calendar of Events, for and by Womyn

November, 2001

## ACTIVITIES . . . .

**TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 6**

**ELECTION DAY!  
GET OUT AND VOTE!**

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11**

**VETERAN'S DAY**

**NOVEMBER 8 -12**

RadLesFes

The Fall 2001 Radical-Feminist Lesbian Festival will take place near Philadelphia, PA. The theme is "Reasserting the Woman-Identified Woman." There will be lots of talking, readings, singing, eating, performing, creativity, and fun! For more information e-mail: radlesfes@yahoo.com.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 9**

7 pm... Lancaster Ladies Night Out meets for good food with good folks. Singles and couples welcome. Call Shirley at (717) 560-6817 or e-mail snoac@aol.com for reservations.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 11**

11 am...Join us for Sunday Brunch! Harrisburg location. Call (717) 766-0602 or e-mail Lavlet4womyn@aol.com for details! Please bring a canned good with you, we will be donating to the Food Bank!

**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15**

10:30 pm...Melissa Ferrick in concert at Fletchers, at 701 S. Bond St., Baltimore. Admission is \$15. Call (202) 265-0930 for more information.

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17**

8 pm to 10 pm...DAE, an acoustic trio, is appearing at Sparky and Clark's 20 N. Market Square, Hbg. Come for the coffee...stay for the music!

**SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17**

**FAB**

The 6th Annual Fall Achievement Benefit 2001 (FAB 2001) will be held at the Marriott Harrisburg/Hershey Hotel. This year's event features John Paul Shaeffer as the emcee, Ed Rendell is the keynote speaker, and the ever-popular comic Mark Davis will be joining us. Highlighting the fun-filled evening, the FAB 2001 Community Service Award will be presented to a devoted leader of the gay and lesbian community. For more information, please call 1-800-406-3321.

**SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18**

4 pm...Lebanon County Lesbians Social Group and Potluck, call Marie at (717) 865-6944 for more information.

**WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 21**

7 pm. . . Gay and Lesbian Switchboard of Harrisburg Monthly Meeting. If you are interested in working with GLSH in it's continuing stand for the community, I encourage you to get involved. For more information call 717-234-0328 or e-mail gish@harrisburgpride.org.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23**

8 pm...A mid-state favorite! Jane Olivor returns to the Whitaker Center, beginning a new holiday tradition! For ticket information call (717) 214-ARTS, or visit: www.whitakercenter.org.

**FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30**

7 pm...Harrisburg Ladies Night Out. Join us for good food and a fun night out! Call (717) 766-0602 or e-mail Lavlet4womyn@aol.com by Wednesday, November 28 for reservations. Please bring a canned good with you, we will be donating to the Food Bank!

## Upcoming Events . . . .

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1**

8 pm...Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus Fall Concert - "Wild Women Just Get Better", at the Unitarian Church in Harrisburg. For details visit their website: www.cpwchorus.org.

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 8**

The Harrisburg Men's Chorus, the resident male chorus of the Whitaker Center for Arts and Science, presents their "Christmas Memories" performance.

**SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16**

6 pm...Lancaster Ladies Night Out Christmas Dinner. For details please call Shirley at (717) 560-6817 or e-mail : snoac@aol.com.

### A NOTE FROM BOBBI CARMITCHELL

Hi everyone! Bobbi here. I'm out on the road with Lucie Blue. By now we've been to Provincetown for Women's Week, Detroit, Montreal, Colorado Springs, Denver, Missoula Montana, Victoria British Columbia, and Seattle Washington. We have picked up the RV in Sacramento CA and are well on our way to seeing the West Coast. This tour is an incredible opportunity for me and even though it has taken me to the farthest reaches of the country, I still miss Pennsylvania and all my friends in the community.

I have also made the difficult decision to not hold the annual Women's Christmas Dinner in Mt. Gretna this year. Like a lot of you know, I hate breaking traditions, especially the fun ones. But I have an opportunity to play in a great club in Berkeley, CA along with Santa Cruz and Los Angeles. I hope that we can all make the trek to Mt. Gretna next Christmas. In the meantime, I'll see you in mid-December. (Isn't that a song?) I'll be checking my e-mail from time to time, so drop me a line if you want! Stargazer312@juno.com.

Take care of each other!

Bobbi

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**WORSHIP SERVICES**

...**DIGNITY OF CENTRAL PA** meets the 1st Sun. of every month at 6pm, at the Friends Meeting House (lower level), 6th & Herr Sts. Harrisburg, for a potluck dinner and discussion. Fellowship for gay and lesbian Catholics, and supportive non-Catholics. All are welcome. Call (717) 652-7683.

...**MCC OF THE SPIRIT**, 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. **Website: [www.mccofthespirit.org](http://www.mccofthespirit.org)**.

...**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALISTS OF THE CUMBERLAND VALLEY**, Sundays, 10:30 a.m. at the Meeting House, 2 Forge Road in Boiling Springs, PA 17007. Children's program runs concurrently. Fully accessible. Rev. Judy Welles and Rev. Duane Fickeisen, ministers. For info., call 717/249-8944 or write: P.O. Box 207, Boiling Springs, PA 17007. Web site: [www.uucv.org](http://www.uucv.org)

...**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH OF LANCASTER**. Sunday, 9am & 11am. Rev. M. Susan Milnor. 538 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster. (717) 393-1733. E-mail: [UUCL@epix.net](mailto:UUCL@epix.net). Website: <http://members.tripod.com/~uulancpa/index.htm>.

...**UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF YORK**, 925 South George St. (717) 845-8212. Services Sunday 10AM. Rev. Jennifer Justice, Childcare and religious education for youth provided. Welcoming Congregation.

...**UNITY CENTER FOR SPIRITUAL GROWTH**. 4695 Charles Rd., Mechanicsburg. (Behind Trindle Bowling Alley on Trindle Rd.) Services: Sundays 9am & 11am. (717) 691-0300 or e-mail: [unity@bbimaging.com](mailto:unity@bbimaging.com). Unity is a culturally diverse spiritual community, promoting positive life transformation and recognizing that all people are one in God. Website: [www.unitychurchharrisburg.com](http://www.unitychurchharrisburg.com).

...**VISION OF HOPE MCC**, 130 E. Main St. Mountville, PA 17554. Services: Sunday at 10:30am & 7pm. Morning Children's Sunday School. Call (717) 285-9070. E-mail: [REVDCOGGIN@aol.com](mailto:REVDCOGGIN@aol.com).

... **UNITARIAN CHURCH OF HARRISBURG** Sundays 10:30 am 1280 Clover Lane, Harrisburg, PA 171-564-4761. We are a liberally religious "Welcoming Congregation". Our Interweave Committee promotes acceptance and affirmation of GLBT concerns. Please join us. E-mail: [uch@paonline.com](mailto:uch@paonline.com) Website: <http://www.paonline.com/uchua/>.



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# CENTER PIECE

## LAVENDER LETTER

November, 2001

### Support Groups...

**"DON'T BE A BOOB - GET A BOSOM BUDDY"** Are you concerned about the Procedure? Are you concerned about going alone? A volunteer network of 'BUDDIES' is being organized to accompany women who know the importance of a mammogram yet fear the mammogram procedure whether is the first or the 100th.

We are looking for participants who would like to have a 'BUDDY' and for those who would like to be 'BUDDIES'. Please contact Natalie Damrauer at 540-7725 or email her at [LoonSng@aol.com](mailto:LoonSng@aol.com) for more information, to request a BUDDY or to volunteer to be a BUDDY!

...**NOW**, York Chapter, (National Organization for Women) meets on the 3rd Wed. of odd-numbered months at the YWCA, E. Market St., at 7:30pm. and on the 3rd Saturday of even-numbered months at various locations at 10am. Call Cindy at (717) 848-9142 or Janice at (717) 259-6092 for info/directions & location of the Saturday meeting.

... **PFLAG York** meets at 750 Kelly Dr. (the former Lutheran Home building) at 7pm on the first Tues. of the month. Call Don and Pat (717) 843-3793 or Charles and Judy at (717) 846-7633 for directions or to be placed on the mailing list.

...**ENCOREplus** was established in 1994 to provide free clinical breast exams, Pap test and mammograms to women over the age of 40 who have annual incomes below \$15,448 (add \$5,365 for each additional dependent). Clinical breast exams and Pap test are done at Sadler Clinic, 117 N. Hanover St, Carlisle, by a nurse-practitioner. Mammograms are provided by Carlisle Imaging at their Medical Arts Building location, Wilson St. Carlisle. Interested women should call ENCORE plus at the YWCA of Carlisle, 243-3818 or e-mail, [dlantz@ywcaof.carlisle.org](mailto:dlantz@ywcaof.carlisle.org).

...**NETWORK and FORUM** for lesbians of Catholic heritage. A Web Site of the "Conference for Catholic Lesbians" (CCL) is now up and running. CCL was organized in 1982, published a monthly newspaper, "Images" and held many national conferences in different parts of the country. IF YOU ARE SEEKING...to connect with others on a spiritual journey for strength and support...to learn how other women celebrate being Catholic and lesbian...to express what's on your mind and in your heart to others who have shared your experience and understand...please join us at [catholiclesbians.org](http://catholiclesbians.org). For other information from a member in the Harrisburg area, you can send email to "cathles RU12@aol.com" or leave a message in the CCL "Guestbook".

...**The Unity Center for Spiritual Growth** has an Alternative Lifestyles Support Group that meets every 2nd and 4th Friday evening of the month. We start at 7:00 PM at the Unity Center for Spiritual Growth on Charles Street in Mechanicsburg, PA, which is behind the Trindle Bowling Alley. This is a spiritual as well as a social group. Interested folks can contact the church at (717) 691-0300, or Sandy at [sansmagic@aol.com](mailto:sansmagic@aol.com).

...**Common Roads**, formerly known as BiGLYAH, is a support group for teens & young adults in the Harrisburg, PA area who need a place to fit in, a place where their sexuality will not be held against them. The group consists of many different people from ages 14-24 and is led by multiple facilitators. We meet every Friday to talk about our problems, our good times, and to simply have fun! For more information visit our website: <http://www.commonroads.org>.

...**PLAG Central Pennsylvania** meets monthly. For more information e-mail: [pflagcenpa@yahoo.com](mailto:pflagcenpa@yahoo.com), or call daytime (717) 795-0330. Their 24-hour hotline is: (717) 728-8800.

### Social Groups...

...**Rainbow Riders**-Gay and Lesbian Motorcycle Club forming for the South Central PA area. Scheduled rides and socializing. For more information call (717) 229-2703.

...**Womynspirit** - You are invited to a safe and sacred space where womyn may explore and express their own unique spirituality. Where we may find strength in ourselves and each other. We meet the 4th Friday of every month in Carlisle. For details e-mail Jennifer Polhemus at [jlpolhemus@aol.com](mailto:jlpolhemus@aol.com), or Joanne Kinsey, (717) 486-3259.

...**Triangle Interests**... A national nonprofit, Lesbian membership organization working to build the economic strength, and improve the quality of life, of the Lesbian community. TI is the sponsor of Triangle Interests Federal Credit Union (TIFCU), the first national credit union formed to benefit Lesbian Women. TI also offers financial seminars, business networking, social activities and health insurance. For info call: (215) 487-3736. VM#1; E-mail: [ti@triangleinterests.org](mailto:ti@triangleinterests.org) Website: [www.triangleinterests.org](http://www.triangleinterests.org)

...**Shippensburg Circle**. Women from the Shippensburg, Carlisle, & Chambersburg area get together monthly. Connect through our e-mail list or phone. To get info or put yourself on our list, call (717) 530-1743 or [lkuj125@innet.net](mailto:lkuj125@innet.net).

...**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. To contact GLORA write: P.O. Box 1952, Allentown, PA 18105, or E-mail: [GLORAinPA@aol.com](mailto:GLORAinPA@aol.com).

...**Book Discussion Group**. If you like to read,...join our book club. We meet the 2nd Sunday of the month at 6pm. Call Caroline (717) 545-3164 for this month's book and meeting place.

...**THE LESBIAN ALLIANCE OF SOUTH-CENTRAL PENNSYLVANIA**. Activities include potlucks, bi-monthly newsletter, media liaison, and any other event that the group is willing to take on. Membership dues are \$10 per household. To get on the mailing list or for more information, call Kate or Cindy at 848-9142.

...**The Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus** rehearses Monday nights at 7:00 pm at St. John's Lutheran Church in Shiremanstown. For more information, e-mail [info@cpwchorus.org](mailto:info@cpwchorus.org), see our web site at: [www.cpwchorus.org](http://www.cpwchorus.org), or call Joanne and Linda at (717) 761-6958.

...**HOWL** (Hanging Out With Lesbians), is a diverse group of womyn with diverse interests. They do just about everything from camping to concerts, frisbee, fireside chats, horseback riding, snow tubing, movie nights, you name it! These womyn know how to have fun! You can visit their website: <http://howlofpa.homestead.com/index.html>.



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...Housemate Wanted, non-smoker preferred, to share 4 br, 1.5 BA house in mid-town area of Harrisburg. Pets and rent negotiable. Call (717) 260-0202.

## FYI . . . .

The Lavender Letter would like to welcome a very talented photographer to Central Pennsylvania! Her name is Deb Swanger, and she and her partner Sharon, recently moved to the area. Her work in photography is strictly based on lesbian/gay lives and issues. Currently you can see her work on Bridges Gallery ([www.bridgesgallery.com](http://www.bridgesgallery.com)), or in the November 2002 issue of Girlfriends magazine, where you will find a 2 page profile of her work. Excellent photography! Welcome Deb and Sharon!

## NOVEMBER at the PINK LIZARD

- Fri-Nov 2** **8PM** the acoustic duo **KATE & CJ** from the Poconos...followed by the classic disco tunes of **DJ NANCY**
- Fri-Nov 9** **10PM** **INGENUA DRAG SHOW**
- Fri-Nov 16** **9PM** **BACKFLIPANNIE** ... acoustic rock duo from West Chester
- Wed-Nov 21** **NIGHT BEFORE THANKSGIVING... HUGE PARTY - HAWAIIAN LUAU ! DJ starts at 9PM.**  
Tons of Hawaiian shirts, leis & sunglasses to give away! Drink specials! \$50 to best Hawaiian costume. **NEW YEAR'S EVE TICKETS GO ON SALE!**
- Fri-Nov 30** **9PM** **GRANDMA'S MEMORIAL GARDEN FUND-RAISER** Variety Show



<b>SUNDAYS</b>	<b>12:30-CLOSE</b>	<b>FOOTBALL ON BIG SCREEN TV</b> Miller Lite Pint \$1, Home-made soup \$2
<b>MONDAYS</b>	<b>7PM-CLOSE</b>	<b>...MORE FOOTBALL</b> 7pm-9pm Happy Hour, Bud Lite Pints \$1 & \$.10 Wings
<b>WEDNESDAYS</b>	<b>7PM-CLOSE</b>	7pm-9pm Happy Hour
<b>THURSDAYS</b>	<b>7PM-CLOSE</b>	<b>SURVIVOR ON BIG SCREEN TV</b> 7pm-9pm Happy Hour, Coors Lite Draft Special
<b>FRIDAYS</b>	<b>7PM-2AM</b>	<b>DJ 9PM-2AM</b> 7pm-9pm Happy Hour
<b>SATURDAYS</b>	<b>7PM-2AM</b>	<b>DJ 9PM-2AM</b>

891 Eisenhower Blvd, Harrisburg, PA 717-939-1123 [pinklizard891@aol.com](mailto:pinklizard891@aol.com)

## ANNOUNCING...

The Center for Women's Creative Expression will present its first solo exhibition premiering a powerful new body of work by award-winning Harrisburg painter and potter Re Desabres.

**Wounds and Wombs - Paintings and Ceramics by Re Desabres** will open on Saturday, November 17, with a reception from 4 to 8 pm., at the Center, located at 1507 N. Third St. in midtown Harrisburg.

Desabres' intimate, expressionist acrylic paintings and organic ceramic sculptures of sensual female forms embodied in trees along the Susquehanna River symbolize "the endurance and courage of women in the face of ordeals they endure." A native of France, Desabres sees a strong resemblance between women's wounds and scars and those found on trees, whose trunks and branches echo the shapes of women's torsos, arms and legs. In these trees, Desabres finds "stoical, enduring companions" and detects "a certain 'attitude' between women and trees."

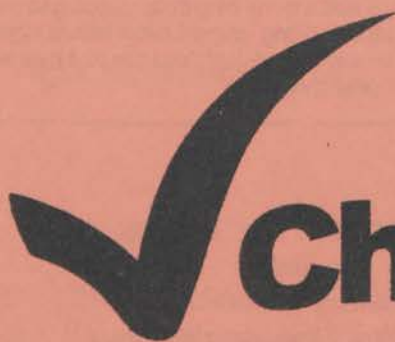
While not "inferring anything specific about woman's predicament," Desabres says, her work "is a personal and realistic observation and is meant as a celebration of the art of survival and the inner beauty women achieve in so doing."

Desabres attended the College of Saint-Amand-Montrond in France and the City University in New York City. In 1972, she fulfilled a long-time wish by becoming a potter. Her ceramics have been exhibited throughout New York State and Central Pennsylvania. In 1980, upon relocating to Pennsylvania, she began painting, studying with Charles "Li" Hidley. Her paintings have received numerous awards in Central Pennsylvania. Desabres also operates the Four Winds Gallery at 1430 N. Second St., Harrisburg, where she shows the work of other area artists, as well as her own paintings and ceramics.

**Wounds and Wombs - Paintings and Ceramics by Re Desabres** will be on exhibit at the Center for Women's Creative Expression through January 28, 2002. Hours are 10 am. to 4 pm. Saturdays and 1 to 3 pm. Sundays, and by appointment. For more information, call (717) 238-6244 or e-mail: [womencreate@aol.com](mailto:womencreate@aol.com).

The Center for Women's creative Expression is a nonprofit organization dedicated to supporting, encouraging and nurturing creativity in adult and teenage women as a means of empowerment, personal well-being and professional livelihood. Programs include exhibitions, workshops and seminars, artist residencies and other innovative offerings representing the diversity of women's life experiences.

.....



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## Health Spotlight....

### NOVEMBER IS AMERICAN DIABETES MONTH

What is Diabetes? Diabetes is a disease in which the body doesn't produce or properly use insulin. What exactly is insulin? Insulin is a hormone that's needed to convert sugar, starches and other food into energy needed for everyday life. The exact cause of diabetes is somewhat of a mystery, but genetics and such factors as obesity and lack of exercise appear to play roles.

There are 2 major types of diabetes:

**Type 1** - This is where the body does not make any insulin, and occurs most often in children and young adults. With type 1, daily injections of insulin are needed to stay alive. This type of diabetes accounts for 5 to 10 percent of diabetes cases.

**Type 2** - This is a metabolic disorder in which the body does not make enough, or properly use insulin. This is the most common form of diabetes. Type 2 accounts for 90 to 95 of diabetes cases. Right now type 2 is nearing epidemic proportions, due to the increase of older Americans, and a greater number of obese and sedentary Americans. In other words, fat couch potatoes!

Diabetes is a silent killer. Many people don't realize they have diabetes until they develop one of its life-threatening complications. These complications are: blindness, kidney disease, nerve disease and amputations, heart disease and stroke.

The people who are most at risk are: African-Americans, Latinos, Native Americans, Asian-Americans, and Pacific Islanders. If there is a history of diabetes in your family, it's wise to have yourself tested once a year for this disease. Are you at risk? The American Diabetes Association has a Diabetes Risk Test on their website: [www.diabetes.org](http://www.diabetes.org). Click on Basic Diabetes Information. On that page on the left you will see Risk Factors listed, click on this and it takes you to the Test. This is a good website, they tell you EVERYTHING about diabetes. It's very interesting and useful information.

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One Year ..... \$ 170.00	One Year ..... \$ 340.00

### Other Services:

Personal Ad (5 lines) ... \$5.00    Insert (1/3 page) .... \$40.00  
Events & News....FREE

**Information must be received by the 20th of each month.**

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