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LAVENDER LETTER

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Volume 20 No. 3

A Calendar of Events, for and by Womyn

March, 2002

ACTIVITIES

MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH

FRIDAY, MARCH 1 - 23

Theater of the Seventh Sister in Lancaster presents "A Midsummer Night's Dream". One night of magical mayhem takes place in an enchanted forest peopled by royalty, confused lovers, feuding fairies, and famously funny "rude mechanicals", all of them exemplifying Shakespeare's famous line "Oh what fools these mortals be!" Magical, lyrical, and downright laugh out loud funny, this being Shakespeare's most popular comedy, never fails to delight audiences both young and old. For play times and ticket information, please call (717) 396-7764.

FRIDAY, MARCH 1 - 10

OPEN STAGE of Harrisburg presents WIT. Vivian Bearing is a brilliant scholar and a terminally ill cancer patient who discovers that brains and "wit" are no substitute for love during life's most transcendent moments. Call OPEN STAGE at (717) 232-OPEN for times and ticket information.

TUESDAY, MARCH 5

NATALIE MERCHANT AT THE FORUM

8 pm...Spend an evening with Natalie Merchant at the Forum, located at 5th and Walnut Sts. Harrisburg. Natalie is on tour promoting her latest CD "Motherland". For tickets please call THE BOX (717)214-ARTS, or Ticketmaster (717) 260-2000.

FRIDAY, MARCH 8

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

This day is celebrated each year in honor of the 20,000 women garment workers in New York City who went on strike in 1909 protesting low wages, child labor, and poor conditions. This day is to recognize women's contributions to family and society.

SATURDAY, MARCH 9

KATE CLINTON IS COMING TO HARRISBURG!

8 pm...Central PA, get ready to laugh! Writer, comedian, entertainer and woman Kate Clinton will present a benefit performance at the Shrine Auditorium for AIDS Community Alliance. Call Jen or Mark at (717) 233-7190 or 1-800-867-1550 to make your reservation. Tickets are \$25 general admission, or \$35 with VIP reception after to meet Kate herself.

FRIDAY, MARCH 15

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

SATURDAY, MARCH 16

5 pm...Lesbian Alliance of South Central PA. The potluck for March will be in the Dover area. Call (717) 292-5998 for directions.

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

ST. PATRICK'S DAY

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

1 pm...Lesbian and Gay Parents Group meeting. Calling all parents with children under the age of 18, and those considering adoption! Partners are welcome! Please call (717) 766-0602 for details.

SUNDAY, MARCH 17

2 to 4 pm...Poetry reading by women of color at The Center for Women's Creative Expression, at 1507 N. Third St. Harrisburg. This is a FREE event. Writers interested in sharing their work are invited to contact the Center at (717) 238-6244.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

5 pm...Harrisburg Ladies Night Out. Join us for good food and a fun night out! Singles and couples are welcome! Call (717) 766-0602, or e-mail Lavlet4womyn@aol.com by Wednesday, March 27 for reservations.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

2ND ANNUAL COMEDY JAM

8 pm...Pride presents the 2nd Annual Comedy Jam live at the Whitaker Center. Laugh along with comedians Michele Balan and Jason Stuart! Tickets are \$22.50 and \$27.50. For tickets call THE BOX at (717) 214-ARTS.

SATURDAY, MARCH 30

10 am to 1 pm...Workshop titled "Interpretations and Affirmations: Life Lessons via Didactic Art", at the Center for Women's Creative Expression at 1507 N. Third St. Harrisburg. Led by artist and writer Christine Johnson, this workshop teaches women to create personal affirmations in words and images to accomplish goals and foster self-love and self-awareness, with a focus on cultural appreciation and peace among all people. Cost is \$30, \$25 for CWCE members. Please call (717) 238-6244 for reservations.

Upcoming Events...

SATURDAY, JULY 27

Noon to 7 pm...Pride presents the 12th Annual Pride festival! Mark your calendars now!

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10

Gay Day at Knoebels Park in Elysburg, PA. Mark your calendars now for this fun day at the Park!

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...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

...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. Website: <http://members.tripod.com/~uulanpa/index.htm>.

...UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CONGREGATION OF YORK, 925 South George St. York, PA 17403. (717) 845-8212. Services Sunday 10AM. Rev. Robert Renjilian, Childcare and religious education for youth provided. Welcoming Congregation.

deborah swanger
photography

debbieswanger@aol.com
(717) 560-1335

...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. Unity is a culturally diverse spiritual community, promoting positive life transformation and recognizing that all people are one in God. Website: 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.

... 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 Website: <http://www.paonline.com/uchua/>.

Spirituality

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.

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LAVENDER LETTER

March, 2002

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 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.

...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. 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.

...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>.

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

...The Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus wants you!!! Join now and you can be in our April concert, Singing For Our Lives! The chorus rehearses at 7 pm every Monday night(except holidays) at St. John's Lutheran Church, 44 W. Main St. in Shiremanstown. For directions and more information about the chorus: call President Lucy at (717) 938-5051, see our website: www.cpwchorus.org, or e-mail info@cpwchorus.org

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.

...Triangle Interests...A national non-profit, 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 1st national credit union formed to benefit Lesbian Womyn. TI also offers financial seminars, business networking, social activities and health insurance. For info call: (215) 487-3736, voice mail #1. E-mail: ti@triangleinterests.org. Website address is: 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@innernet.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.

...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.

...HOWL (Hanging Out With Lesbians), is a diverse group of non-smoking 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://www.homestead.com/howlofpa/index.html>

...BAGAL (Business Association of Gays and Lesbians) is a South Central Pennsylvania Association of Lesbian and Gay professional and business people offering networking, social and community service opportunities for its members and friends. BAGAL meets every other month and prospective members are invited to attend their first meeting free of charge. Annual dues are \$25 per year and payable to "BAGAL". For more information, address questions and/or payments to BAGAL, PO Box 135 Harrisburg, PA 17108-0135, or call (717) 612-8445.



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FYI....

New group forming..... Looking for Jewish lesbians! Are you interested in meeting with other Jewish lesbians informally on a monthly or bimonthly basis? If so, please call Lisa at (717) 213-9989 and leave a message.

Looking for new members... The Central Penn Blades women's ice hockey team seeks players. All ages are welcome, no experience required. Some equipment is available for use. The team meets every Tuesday evening for practice at Regency SportsRink in Lancaster from 7:45 to 9:15 PM. The regular season runs from October thru March. Games are generally played on Saturdays or Sundays and some travel is involved. Practice is ongoing year round. The rink is also forming new Women's Ice Hockey Skills program this spring and summer in conjunction with the Central Penn Blades for those interested in learning more about the sport. Programs will be available for beginner to advanced skaters. For more information, call Mary at (717) 396-0712, or Denise at (717) 964-3363. For rink information and/or directions, call (717) 391-6065. This is a fun group of gay and straight women.

Art...

CENTER FOR WOMEN'S CREATIVE EXPRESSION NEW EXHIBIT

"PATTERNS: WORKS BY WOMEN ARTISTS OF COLOR"

In a joint celebration of Black History Month and Women's History Month, the Center will present the exhibit "Patterns: Works by Women Artists of Color".

"Patterns" is curated by Nataki McNeal, artist in residence at the Center, whose work will be featured in the exhibit. A multimedia artist, McNeal's work is rooted in the African Aesthetic principles of improvisation, symmetry, color contrast, color balance and call and response, embodying the rhythms of a spiritual journey.

Other featured artists are Nancy Mendes and Michelle Green of Harrisburg, and Diane McNeal and Laura Griffin of Atlanta.

Diane McNeal is the mother of Nataki, who states: "The theme of patterns developed from my experience growing up with my mother, who is a weaver. Patterns are an exploration of the cycles and intricacies of life and spirit. Patterns in our hair, patterns in the way we speak and how the griot tells our story, patterns in the things we do. We layer our patterns, integrating a complexity and language rooted in the talking drum and expressed in every aspect of our lives and cultural expression."

"Patterns" will be on view through April 21. Gallery hours are 6 to 8 pm Thursday and Friday, and 2 to 5 pm Saturday and Sunday. For more information call (717) 238-6244, or e-mail womencreate@aol.com.

The Center for Women's Creative Expression has Community Art Classes for Women:

6 to 9 pm Wednesdays, March 20-May 8, 2002

Cost is \$10 per class or \$70 for 8 weeks; \$65 for CWCE members. Scholarship assistance is available.

Education....

...Eash-Potter Scholarship

The Gay and Lesbian Switchboard of Harrisburg is proud to provide financial assistance to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender youth through its annual scholarship. The intention of this scholarship fund is to expand access to post-secondary education to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered youth between the ages of 16 and 24 years of age, who maintain permanent residence in Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Lancaster, Lebanon, Perry or York counties. Recipients will receive \$500 annually. Application forms can be obtained from the Switchboard by calling (717) 234-0328 or e-mail glsh@harrisburgpride.org.

...Ninth Annual Lee Dubin Scholarship Fund

This fund is for daughters and sons of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender parents, and is sponsored by the Family Pride Coalition and COLAGE(Children Of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere). This year they will be awarding at least 5 scholarships, and each scholarship will provide up to \$1,000 of funding for community college and college students who have a demonstrated ability in and commitment to affecting change in the LGBT community. Scholarship applications must be postmarked by April 19, 2002. For more information and to download an application, visit their website: www.colage.org/scholarship.html.

Moving?

If you are moving or have moved recently, please let the Lavender Letter know! Please send a change of address card so we know where to send your Lavender Letter! Thanks!

March at the PINK LIZARD

Fri-Mar 1 9PM Don't wait till the next D-Gem Reunion...

DJ NANCY spins your favorite Disco tunes

Fri-Mar 15 10PM **INGENUE DRAG SHOW**

Starring Coco Vega from Ohio

Sun-Mar 17 **ST. PATRICK'S DAY at the LIZARD!**

4PM-7PM BUFFET & the live music of

KATE & CJ. Green High Heel Race begins

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8 Heads up! **POOL TOURNAMENT** Saturday, April 6
DOUBLES & SINGLES, \$10 REGISTRATION PER PERSON, Register by Sat-Mar 30

SUNDAY-TUESDAY	CLOSED	
WEDNESDAYS	7PM-CLOSE	7PM-9PM HAPPY HOUR
THURSDAYS	7PM-CLOSE	7PM-9PM HAPPY HOUR
FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS	7PM-2AM	DJ FROM 9PM-2AM

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Health Spotlight....

ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION

Are you an organ donor? If not, have you considered being an organ and tissue donor? Slightly more than 5,000 people per year die waiting for an organ transplant simply because there were not enough organs available. As of June 2001, about 77,000 people in the U.S. were on the national waiting list for an organ.

Which organs can be transplanted? Kidneys, hearts, lungs, livers, pancreases, and intestines can be transplanted. There is an organization called The Organ Procurement and Transplantation Network, that matches donated organs with critically ill patients on the national waiting list. Medical urgency, compatibility of blood chemistries, and body size are considerations in making a match.

What tissues can be transplanted? How about blood vessels, bone and bone marrow, connective tissue, corneas, heart valves, middle ears, and skin. These are just some of the tissues that can be used.

Organ donation will not change the appearance of the body for the funeral service, nor will it cost your family any money. All costs for harvesting your organs are paid for by the recipients and their health insurance.

Organ and tissue transplantation saves lives! Did you know that you can help up to 50 people? Think about it! Someday YOU could save someone's life. Say YES to organ and tissue donation when it's time to renew your driver's license. Discuss your decision with your family. Explain to them that this is your wish, to help save lives. You can download a donor card from this website: www.organdonor.gov, or call: 1-888-ASK-HRSA. If you aren't sure about organ donation, please read the information on this website, it'll help you in your decision.

Someday, somewhere, someone will appreciate the time that you spent in filling out an organ donor card, or by checking off the box on your driver's license renewal form. Be a lifesaver!

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