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Date: November 2002

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LAVENDER LETTER

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Volume 20 No. 11

A Calendar of Events for and by Womyn

November, 2002

ACTIVITIES....

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 4

8 PM...Melissa Etheridge "Live...and Alone" DVD pre-release viewing party at the Pink Lizard, 891 Eisenhower Blvd. Hbg. No cover charge. This DVD will go on sale Nov. 5. Be among the first in Central Pennsylvania to see this new DVD at the pre-release party! See it on the BIG screen TV! This is an M.E.I.N. - sanctioned event. M.E.I.N. is the Melissa Etheridge Information Network.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 5

ELECTION DAY

Make your vote count! This is an important election for all LGBT voters in Pennsylvania. Your vote does make a difference!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9

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.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10

DAR WILLIAMS CONCERT IN HARRISBURG

8 PM...Join Dar Williams in concert with very special guest Keller Williams at the Whitaker Center in Harrisburg! For tickets and info please call (717) 214-ARTS (2787) or visit www.whitakercenter.org.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13

7 PM...Pride General Meeting and Elections. Meeting will be at The Center, 1300 N. 3rd Street, Hbg. The election of board members takes place at this meeting. Get involved in your community! For more information call (717) 234-0328 or www.askGLSH.org.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16

6 PM...The Lesbian Alliance of South-Central PA potluck. Singles and couples are welcome! Bring a dish to share. Please call (717) 751-0255 for directions.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16

7:30 - 9:30 PM...DAE is appearing at Sparky & Clark's in York. For more info please call (717) 699-1197.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 17

4 PM...Lebanon County Lesbians Social Group and Potluck. Singles and couples are welcome! Call Marie at (717) 865-6944 for more information.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 20

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 info: (717) 234-0328, or e-mail Info@askGLSH.org.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 22

7 PM...Harrisburg Ladies Night Out. Join us for good food and a fun night out! Singles and couples are welcome! Call (717) 303-0425, or e-mail info@lavenderletter.com by Wednesday, November 20 for reservations.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

8 PM...The Central Pennsylvania Womyn's Chorus presents Wintersong, a holiday concert like no other, exploring the celebration of season in the world's many traditions and in our own inimitable style, at the Unity Center for Spiritual Growth, 927 Wertzville Rd., Enola. Tickets are \$15 (\$10 for students & seniors) - more if you can, less if you can't. For more info: www.cpwchorus.org, or call: (717) 234-4825.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23

7:30 PM...Valkyrie in concert at Just Jam Coffeehouse at MCC of the Spirit, 2973 Jefferson St. Hbg. Please call (717) 236-7387 for more information, or check their website: www.mccofthespirit.org.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24

1 PM...Central Pennsylvania Gay and Lesbian Parents Group. We will be meeting at The Center, 1300 N. 3rd Street, Hbg. For more information please call (717) 303-0425 or e-mail: info@lavenderletter.com.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 28

THANKSGIVING DAY

A holiday to celebrate with friends and relatives, and of course, all that good food!

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30

MARGARET CHO

8 PM...AIDS Community Alliance presents Margaret Cho at the Zembo Temple in Harrisburg! This is one funny woman! Tickets are \$40. For more information and to order tickets, please call AIDS Community Alliance at 1-800-867-1550, or check their website: www.aca-pa.com

Upcoming Events....

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 8

4 PM...The Lesbian Alliance of South-Central PA potluck. Singles and couples are welcome! Bring a dish to share. Please call (717) 792-6594 for directions.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

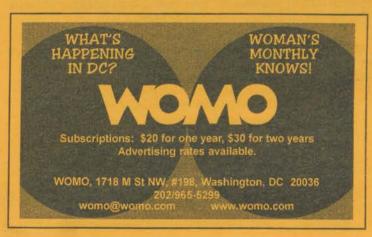
6 PM...Lancaster Ladies Night Out meets for good food with good folks! Singles and couples are welcome! Call Shirley at (717) 560-6817, or e-mail snoac@aol.com for reservations.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21

8:30 - 10:30 PM...DAE will be appearing at the Cornerstone Coffeeshop, 2133 Market St., Camp Hill, PA. Come take a break from Christmas shopping with a hot cup of coffee and some acoustic music.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 15

2 PM...Lanchester Women's Group Holiday Potluck Dinner at the Sadsbury Friends Meetinghouse, Christiana, PA. Join us for a holiday potluck full of holiday games & fun. Entertainment provided by women's a cappella singing group "Marmalade". For further info contact Ann Garrett at (610) 857-2480, or e-mail: dar@chesco.com.





Metropolitan Community Church of the Spirit

2973 Jefferson Street Harrisburg, PA 17110

Services: Sunday:

8:30 a.m. 10:30 a.m. & 7:00 p.m.

E-mail: mccofthespirit@es.com

Pastor Eva O'Diam

(717) 236-7387

Spirituality....

WORSHIP SERVICES

...MCC of the Spirit, 2973 Jefferson St. Hbg. Every Sunday 10:30 am & 7 pm. Call (717)236-7387 for information. We offer Christian educational sessions that nurture the whole person, call for details and special events. Website: www.mccofthespirit.org.

... Unitarian Universalists of the Cumberland Valley, Sundays, 10:30 am at the Meeting House, 2 Forge Rd. in Boiling Springs, PA 17007. Children's program runs concurrently. Fully accessible. Rev. Judy Welles & Rev. Duane Finkeisen, ministers. For info call (717) 249-8944, or write: PO Box 207, Boiling Springs, PA 17007. Web site: www.uucv.org.

... Unitarian Universalist Church of Lancaster, Sundays, 9 am & 11 am. Rev. M. Susan Milnor. 538 W. Chestnut St., Lancaster. (717) 393-1733. E-mail: UUCL@epix.net. Website: http://members.tripod.com/ ~uulancpa/index.htm.

... Unitarian Universalist Congregation of York, 925 South George St. York, 17403. (717) 845-8212. Services Sunday 10 am. Rev. Robert Renjilian, Childcare & religious education for youth provided. Welcoming Congregation.

... Unity Center For Spiritual Growth, 927 Wertzville Rd., Enola, PA 17025 Services: Sundays 10 am. (717) 732-9773. Unity is a culturally diverse spiritual community, promoting positive life transformation & recognizing God. people are www.unitychurchharrisburg.com.

.Vision Of Hope MCC, 130 E. Main St. Mountville, PA. 17554. Services: Sunday at 10:30 am & 7 pm. 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. (717) 564-4761. We are a liberally religious "Welcoming Congregation". Our Interweave Committee promotes acceptance & affirmation of GLBT concerns. Please join us. E-mail: uch@paonline.com. Website: http://www.paonline.com/uchuua/.

...Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Of Pottstown, Sunday services 10 am. 1565 South Keim Street, Pottstown, PA 19465. (610) 327-2662. Website: http://members.aol.com/uupottstown.

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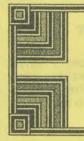
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CÉNTÉR PÍÉCÉ

LAVENDER LETTER

November, 2002



Support Groups...

...PFLAG YORK meets at 750 Kelly Dr. (the former Lutheran Home building) at 7 pm on the first Tuesday of the month. Call Don & Pat (717) 843-3793, or Charles & 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 & 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 & support... to learn how other women celebrate being Catholic & lesbian... to express what's on your mind & in your heart to others who have shared your experience & understand...please join us at catholiclesbians.org. For other information from a member in the Harrisburg area, you can e-mail: cathlesRU12@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 & 4th Friday evening of the month. We start at 7 pm at the Unity Center for Spiritual Growth at 927 Wertzville Rd. Enola. This is a spiritual as well as a social group. Interested folks can contact the church at (717) 732-9773, or Sandy at sansmagic@aol.com.

...Common Roads, formerly known as BiGLYAH, is a support group for teens & young adults in the Central Pennsylvania 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 & is led by multiple facilitors. We meet every Friday to talk about our problems, our good times, and to simply have fun! For more information visit our website: 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.

Activism....

...NOW, York Chapter, meets on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Call Peg or Delma at (717) 846-2089, or Linda at (717) 852-7586 for info/directions.

...HRC (Human Rights Campaign), is the largest national lesbian and gay political organization, with members throughout the country. We effectively lobby Congress, fight anti-gay initiatives, and educate the public to ensure that lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) Americans can be open, honest, and safe at home, at work, and in the community. Please visit us at; www.hrc.org.

...Lambda Legal is a national organization committed to achieving full recognition of the civil rights of lesbians, gay men, bisexuals, the transgendered, and people with HIV or AIDS through impact litigation, education, and public policy work. Please visit us at: www.lambdalegal.org.

...National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) is the national progressive organization working for the civil rights of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered people, with the vision and committment to building a powerful political movement. Please visit us at: www.ngltf.org.

Social Groups...

...The Central Pennsylvania Wornyn's Chorus rehearses at 7 pm on Monday evenings in Mechanicsburg. Find out how much fun Monday nights can be! For directions & more info, leave a message at (717) 234-4825, or see the chorus web site, www.cpwchorus.org, or e-mail: info@cpwchorus.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 e-mail: lkuj125@innernet.net.

...The Lesbian Alliance of South-Central Pennsylvania. Activities include potlucks, bi-monthly newsletter, media liason, & 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 (717) 848-9142.

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

...BAGAL (Business Association of Gays and Lesbians) is a South Central Pennsylvania Association of Lesbian & Gay professional & business people offering networking, social & community service opportunities for its members & friends. BAGAL meets every other month & prospective members are invited to attend their first meeting free of charge. Annual dues are \$25 per year & 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.

...Susquehanna Club, Mid-Atlantic Lesbian & Gay Outdoors Club, was conceived for the lesbian, gay men, bisexual & transgendered community members & their friends. We go hiking and camping throughout the Mid-Atlantic region. We have and continue to provide a "safe space" for LGBT people. Participants are asked to respect fellow participants comfort as to the degree of "being out" both during activities and elsewhere. Membership is \$10 per year for individuals and \$15 per year for couples. Address: 503 General Sutter Ave., Lititz, PA. 17543, or visit us at:www.susq.org.

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Your future in focus.

LGBT Voter's Guide

2002 PA Governor's Race

WHERE THE CANDIDATES STAND

DOMESTIC PARTNERSHIP / SAME-SEX BENEFITS

Mike Fisher:

Mike Fisher has said that laws recognizing same-sex partnerships for the purposes of obtaining insurance and other benefits available to married couples were "attempts to redefine the traditional family and to redefine marriage." In an October 2002 letter to supporters, Fisher commented, "Marriage has been and must be a union of one man and one woman, for life."

Ed Rendell:

In 1996 as Mayor of Philadelphia, Ed Rendell declared by Executive Order: "While all stable families contribute to the economic and psychological well-being of the community, non-traditional families, or domestic partnerships as many have come to be known, lack the support and benefits of traditional families." This order granted city employees in domestic partnership situations equal benefits to those employees in traditional families.

Later that year, Rendell supported and signed into law legislation: granting domestic partner medical benefits to city employees; prohibiting discrimination against domestic partners in housing, public accomodations and employment; and allowing domestic partners, like many other people in the city, to transfer property without paying a transfer tax. During the 2002 campaign, Rendell publicly stated his intent to work to extend domestic partnership benefits to all state workers.

HATE CRIMES LEGISLATION

Mike Fisher:

Fisher has changed his position on including sexual orientation in Hate Crimes legislation several times. In 1994, as a member of the Senate Judiciary Committee he voted against Hate Crimes legislation. In 1996 he voted for a Hate Crimes bill. As Attorney General, Fisher sponsored a conference on hate crimes. During the event, he refused to allow a discussion on including sexual orientation in any legislation to be held. Concluding the conference, Fisher stated his opposition to inclusion of sexual orientation within any legislation. His current position on Hate Crimes legislation remains unclear.

Ed Rendell:

Rendell has stated on several occaisions that as Governor he will sign into law Hate Crimes legislation that includes coverage of sexual orientation.

DISCRIMINATION

Mike Fisher:

During his 1994 campaign to be Governor, Fisher openly called for legislation to ban gays and lesbians from participating in St. Patrick's Day Parades. His radio ads called members of the LGBT Community a "small and biased band of bigots" who planned to "rewrite our religious and culteral history."

Ed Rendell:

In 1982 as Philadelphia's District Attorney, Rendell testified before the City Council in support of legislation prohibiting landlords and employers from discriminating on the basis of sexual orientation. When the bill became law, Rendell publicly congratulated the council. In 1992 when Colorado amended its constitution prohibiting passage or enforcement of any law protecting LGBT civil rights, Mayor Rendell signed an executive order barring the city from conducting business with the state. He later cancelled his attendance at a Mayor's Conference held in Colorado Springs.

In 2001 when asked about the University of Pittsburgh's ban on offering same-sex benefits, as mandated by the state legislature, Rendell commented, "I will try very hard to remove the University of Pittsburgh ban at any state related university or institution."

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Mike Fisher:

After Pennsylvania State Treasurer Barbara Hafer endorsed Ed Rendell for governor in Fall 2002, Fisher made the following statement when asked by a reporter for a reaction: "the issues she supports such as pro-abortion and pro-gay rights, are all going in one corner. This is not my constituency."

Ed Rendell:

Rendell was the first candidate to campaign in Philadelphia's LGBT community in the late 1970s and 1980s. He is a frequent attendee at Philadelphia's Pride and Out Festivals, and in the last year has attended Pride Festivals in Allentown, Pittsburgh and Harrisburg.

He commented on his community involvement when he served as the keynote speaker at Central PA's formal LGBT black tie gala, the Fall Achievement Benefit (FAB) in November 2001: "My biggest role would be to go to events and help this community get recognition. They work, pay taxes, vote, are involved in their communities, don't commit much crime. They are great citizens and we need to recognize that."

This LGBT Voter's Guide is accurate and shows the candidate's differences on these issues. If you would like to see more information on where these candidates stand on other issues, go to www.rendellforgovernor.com and www.mikefisher.com.

FYI....

....Gay and Lesbian Switchboard of Harrisburg is moving to new quarters at The Center, 1300 N. 3rd Street, Hbg. this month. The Center will also be home to Common Roads, the youth group, and SPARC. The Switchboard will have an office and a conference room, SPARC has an office, and Common Roads has a conference room, lounge, small kitchen, and an office for their needs. An Open House will be held in the near future, stay tuned!

....The Switchboard and Pride will be having elections for officers at their general meetings this month. This is a call for those who are genuinely interested in becoming actively involved in their community. We need YOU! If you are interested, please attend these meetings. Get involved!

NOVEMBER at the Pink Lizard

9PM OLDIES D-GEM REUNION ... DJ NANCY Fri-Nov 1

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Mon-Nov 4 8PM ... MELISSA ETHERIDGE PRE-RELEASE

DVD VIEWING PARTY...One of 11 places in the USA with a veiwing!

10PM INGENUE DRAG SHOW Fri-Nov 8

Fri-Nov 22 8-11PM KATE & CJ ... back again!

Wed-Nov27 1950's PRE THANKSGIVING PARTY!



Fri-Nov 29

9PM DJ NANCY starts the evening off with oldies-DJ JUICE takes over at midnight. Best 50's costume \$75 2nd place costume \$25... HUGE LIQUOR PROMO!

Thu-Nov 28 Closed - Happy Thanksgiving! (

9-10PM CHERYL VENDETTI Sheeee's back!

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Sunday & Tuesday Monday Friday & Saturday

CLOSED 7PM - ? (FOOTBALL) Wednesday & Thursday 7PM - ? (Thu-TRIVIA 8PM)

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7PM-2AM (DJ at 9PM) 891 Eisenhower Blvd, Harrisburg, PA phone: 717-939-1123 pinklizard891@aol.com

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Special Recognition:

This year's Fall Achievement Benefit (FAB) was held on National Coming Out Day, October 11. As always, 2 people from the community were recognized for their achievements within our community. The following people were honored:

Eva O'Diam - pastor of MCC of the Spirit in Harrisburg. Since her arrival in Harrisburg ten years ago, Eva has set a standard for community service to the GLBT and the general community. Her service has been selfless, productive and unique. She has successfully built bridges and alliances both within the GLBT community and the entire community of the Harrisburg area.

Eva has supported gay and lesbian parents in adoptions, couples in Holy Unions, families whose partners and children died from AIDS, transsexuals and many people struggling with families that were non-accepting. Her support and counseling to literally hundreds of individuals and families reaches deep into the GLBT and straight communities and is not limited by the bounds of the congregation.

Glen Wagner - also known as Glenda of Glenda & Friends Productions. Glenda has raised over \$200,000 for a variety of local charities and worthy causes over the years. Glenda is what most people would call a drag queen. He prefers the terms female impersonator or female illusionist. Money is raised through spontaneous pick-up shows in the bars as well as through planned events and pageants. Audience members tip and make donations to performers like Glen because they appreciate what it takes to put on a show. He has raised money for different AIDS charity groups, The Bethesda Mission, the Gay and Lesbian Switchboard, breast cancer, and to buy Christmas gifts for children in hospitals.

Glen (Glenda) is also a multiple titleholder, having won numerous pageants and also being honored by organizations for his fund raising. He won Entertainer of the Year 1997, winner of the "You Go Girl!" Award, Pride Fest 1999 Award for Fund Raising, Miss Gay Lancaster American 1999, Miss Gay Harrisburg America 2000, Miss Rainbow Inn 2002, and many others.

Congratulations to Eva and Glen! Thank you for all your hard work and dedication that benefits us all in the community.

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Events & News....FREE

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

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