

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

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# LAVENDER LETTER

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Volume 21 No. 2

A Calendar of Events for and by Womyn

February, 2003

## ACTIVITIES....

### FEBRUARY IS BLACK HISTORY MONTH

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 7

9 PM...It's Bobby Carmitchell in concert at the Pink Lizard! Join us there for a fun evening with Bobby.

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 8

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, FEBRUARY 10

1 PM...Gay Bowling in Harrisburg! Join us for an afternoon of fun at a local bowling center. For details and directions, please call (717) 303-0425, or e-mail: info@lavenderletter.com.

#### TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11

7 PM...Pride Festival of Central Pennsylvania monthly meeting. Pride is currently looking for people to help with planning the 2003 Pride Fest. If you are a team player, serious about your commitment, and want to work for your community, then we want you! Please call (717) 234-0328 or e-mail Info@askGLSH.org.

#### FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 14

##### VALENTINE'S DAY

Ahhhh! It's that special day for lovers! A romantic candlelight dinner, a little wine, soft music, rose petals on the bed.....mmmmm!

#### SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 15

5:30 PM...Harrisburg Ladies Night Out. Join us for some good food and fun! Singles and couples are welcome! Please make your reservations by Wednesday, February 19, by calling (717) 303-0425, or e-mail Info@lavenderletter.com.

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 16

5 PM...The Lesbian Alliance of South Central Pennsylvania will hold a potluck dinner. Please bring a dish to share with others. Call (717) 846-2089 for directions.

#### WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 19

7 PM...Gay and Lesbian Switchboard of Harrisburg monthly meeting. Get involved in your community! We need YOU!! For more info: (717) 234-0328, or e-mail Info@askGLSH.org.

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

11 AM...Shippensburg Circle Monthly Brunch. Bring something to share for the breakfast table. Coffee, tea and eggs will be provided. A good way to make connections and enjoy some old friends. RSVP and for directions call (717) 530-1743.

#### SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 23

1 - 4 PM...Open House for The Center, 1300-A N. Third St., Harrisburg, the new home for Common Roads, Gay & Lesbian Switchboard, and SPARC. Come and see the new space we have, and meet representatives from these groups. Light refreshments will be served.

## Upcoming Events....



#### WEDNESDAY, MARCH 5

##### JANIS IAN CONCERT

It's Janis Ian in concert at Millersville University's Lyte Auditorium, Millersville, PA. For ticket information and directions, please call (717) 871-2059.

#### SATURDAY, MARCH 15

##### SUEDE IN CONCERT

7:30 PM...Suede will be appearing at the Tin Angel Cafe, 20 South Second St. Philadelphia, PA. Please call (215) 928-0978 for ticket information.

#### TUESDAY, MARCH 18

##### ANI DIFRANCO CONCERT

Ani DiFranco in concert at The Forum in Harrisburg, PA. The concert starts at 7:30 PM. Tickets are on sale now by calling (717) 214-ARTS, or online at www.whitakercenter.org.

#### SUNDAY, MARCH 23

11 AM...Shippensburg Circle Monthly Brunch. Bring something to share for the breakfast table. Coffee, tea and eggs will be provided. A good way to make connections and enjoy some old friends. RSVP and for directions call (717) 530-1743.

## FEBRUARY at the Pink Lizard

### WEDNESDAYS ... 8PM-10PM MARTINI MADNESS

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### THURSDAYS ... 8PM-10PM TRIVIA

... lots of fun & giveaways!

### FRIDAYS & SATURDAYS ... 9PM-2AM DJ

Fri-Feb 7 9PM **BOBBY CARMITCHELL**

Fri-Feb 14 10PM **INGENUUE DRAG SHOW** ... Bring



your **VALENTINE** out for that special drink!

Fri-Feb 21 9PM **SINGLES NITE OUT** ... fun things

planned for you to meet other singles.

**EVERYBODY WELCOME!**

Fri-Feb 28 9PM **CRUISE NITE** Information on an



Alternative Cruise...meet the Cruise Divas!

also... **CELEBRATE MARDI GRAS with us!**

### WINTER HOURS

Sunday - Tuesday CLOSED

Wednesday & Thursday 7PM - ?

Friday & Saturday 7PM-2AM

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**Spirituality....**

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...**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](http://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 Finkelsen, ministers. For info call (717) 249-8944, or write: PO Box 207, Boiling Springs, PA 17007. **Web site:** [www.uucv.org](http://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](mailto: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 9 & 11 am. (717) 732-9773. Unity is a culturally diverse spiritual community, promoting positive life transformation & 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 10:30 am & 7 pm. 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. (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](mailto:uch@paonline.com). **Website:** <http://www.paonline.com/uchua/>.

...**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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# CENTER PIECE

## LAVENDER LETTER

February, 2003

### 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](http://catholiclesbians.org). For other information from a member in the Harrisburg area, you can e-mail: [cathlesRU12@aol.com](mailto: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](mailto:sansmagic@aol.com).

...**Common Roads**, 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 facilitators. We meet every Friday at The Center, 1300-A Third St. Harrisburg, to talk about our problems, our good times, and to simply have fun! For more information visit our website: [www.commonroads.org](http://www.commonroads.org), or call (717) 920-9534.

...**PFLAG 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.

### 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](http://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 pub-

...**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 commitment to building a powerful political movement. Please visit us at: [www.nglft.org](http://www.nglft.org).

### Social Groups...

...**The Central Pennsylvania Womyn'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](http://www.cpwchorus.org), or e-mail: [info@cpwchorus.org](mailto: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](mailto:lkuj125@innernet.net).

...**The Lesbian Alliance of South-Central Pennsylvania**. Activities include potlucks, bi-monthly newsletter, media liaison, & 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](http://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](http://www.susq.org).



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## FYI....

...**LGBT President's Day Ski Weekend**, February 14 - 16, 2003, at Friar Tuck Inn & Resort, Catskill, NY. Ski Hunter Mountain and Ski Windham. Tour price per person: Double (2 adults per room) \$279 pp. Triple (3 adults per room) \$269 pp. Quad (4 adults per room) \$249 pp. Please call Kirestone Brooks at (717) 260-9431 for all the details

...**Loaves of Love**, a food bank for people with HIV/AIDS, located at the Harris Street United Methodist Church, 1605 Susquehanna St., Harrisburg, needs food for their pantry. Items they need most, peanut butter, tuna fish, and personal care items. Please call (717) 877-6674 to set up drop-off arrangements.



## Theatre....

### THEATER OF THE SEVENTH SISTER

...Presents **Freedom's Dawn**, a play by Mary Adams-Smith, Thursday, February 20, 2003, at 7:30 PM. This play is based on the real life of poet Phyllis Wheatley, a young African slave who became the first published black poet in America, and who is remembered today as the "Mother of African-American literature". The play is set in colonial Boston, and traces her journey from captured slave to acclaimed poet. Part of the African Grove Project, it is an exciting and uplifting play that will be enjoyed by all ages. The play can be seen at Millerville University's Student Memorial Center, Millersville, PA. General admission is \$12, and you can reserve your tickets online at: [www.seventhsister.com](http://www.seventhsister.com), or by calling (717) 396-7764.

### OPEN STAGE OF HARRISBURG

...Presents **The Old Settler**, January 31 - February 23, 2003. Elizabeth Borry is 50 and unmarried. She is - in the parlance of Harlem - an "old settler." Now Elizabeth is falling for her roomer, a young man with a most prophetic name. Is it a last chance for happiness...or one more trial a strong woman must overcome? Admission is \$22, and you can reserve your tickets online at: [www.openstagehbg.com](http://www.openstagehbg.com), or by calling (717) 232-6736.

## Black History Month....

### A NOTABLE WOMAN OF COLOR

#### RUTH ELLIS

1899 - 2000

For many, many years this woman had been a role model with the Detroit gay community. She was considered a national treasure among the LGBT community. She was known as much for her energy as for her deep commitment to human rights. Noted author Alice Walker called her "a woman of power, audacity, and joy."

She was profiled in an award-winning documentary by Yvonne Welbon titled "Living With Pride: Ruth Ellis @ 100." She was the subject of numerous articles and received many honors during her life. The LGBT center in Detroit was named the Ruth Ellis Center.

Despite being only 4 feet, 8 inches tall, and weighing only 83 pounds, this woman was an enourmouse presence in the lives of those who knew her. She brought together people of all races, ages and sexual orientation. She loved everyone. She was quite an inspiration to younger lesbians in Detroit.

She was born and raised in Springfield, Illinois. She was one of the few African-American women in her community to graduate from high school. Her brother convinced her to move to Detroit where the wages were better. After moving to Detroit in 1937, she met Ceceline (Babe) Franklin, her partner for the next 34 years. They bought a house together and ran a successful print shop in Detroit. Ruth never hid her sexuality, making her a role model for younger people who struggled with self-acceptance.

She loved social gatherings, and regularly attended the Michigan

## RUTH ELLIS CONTINUED...

Womyn's Festival. She never stopped helping others despite her age and declining health. She died in her sleep at the age of 101. A truly remarkable woman!

## MONEYtalk....

### UNDERSTANDING DIVERSIFICATION

(Provided by AIM Mutual Funds & Janney Montgomery Scott, LLC)

Diversification, in the simplest terms, means that you don't put all of your eggs in one basket. Investors who watched their tech-heavy portfolios contract since 2000 discovered the painfully clear wisdom behind diversification. Investing heavily in the latest hot growth area may not be the best strategy.

One of the primary goals of diversification is to reduce the risks that can plague a concentrated portfolio. By investing across different asset classes, such as stocks, bonds and cash (as well as different sectors within those asset classes), a portfolio may be better positioned to withstand a downturn that affects just one area of the investing universe. The reverse is also true: if one area rallies, a diversified portfolio is better positioned to take advantage of the growth. Ideally, you want your portfolio's components to complement each other by offsetting downturns in one area with gains in another. This is known as a low correlation; the desired result is that when one portion of your portfolio zigs, another zags. So when stocks suffer a down year, bonds may outperform. When large-cap stocks plateau, small-cap stocks may rally. Since no one can accurately predict which type of investment will outperform when, a diversified approach makes the most sense.

### Year by Year Results of Four Asset Classes

*Avg. annual total return for 10-yr period 12/31/93-12/31/02  
The shaded results indicate the best performer for the year.*

Year	Large Cap Stocks	Small Cap Stocks	Foreign Stock <sup>1</sup>	U.S. Bonds
1993	10.06	18.88	32.56	9.75
1994	1.31	-1.82	7.78	-2.92
1995	37.53	28.45	11.21	18.47
1996	22.95	16.49	6.05	3.63
1997	33.35	22.36	1.78	9.65
1998	28.60	-2.55	20.00	8.69
1999	21.03	21.26	26.96	-.82
2000	-9.10	-3.02	-14.17	11.63
2001	-11.88	2.49	-21.44	8.44
2002	-22.11	-20.47	-15.65	10.27

The four benchmarks are the unmanaged S&P 500 Index, which is widely regarded to be representative of U.S. large-company stocks; the Russell 2000 Index, representative of small-company stocks; the EAFE Index, representative of foreign stock; and Lehman Brothers Aggregate Bond Index, representative of U.S. government and corporate bonds. Results are based on total returns and include reinvestment of distributions. An investment cannot be made directly in an index. Past performance cannot guarantee comparable future results. <sup>1</sup>International investing presents certain risks not associated with investing solely in the U.S. These include, for instance, risks relating to fluctuations in the value of the U.S. dollar relative to the value of other currencies, the custody arrangements made for the fund's foreign holdings, differences in accounting, political risks, and the lesser degree of public information required to be provided by non-U.S. companies.

Source: Lipper Inc.

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## Health Spotlight....

FEBRUARY IS NATIONAL HEART MONTH

The American Heart Association has a new program called **The Power of Love**. This program wants to raise women's awareness of heart disease. Research has shown that most women do not recognize heart disease as a leading health problem and cause of death of women today. Heart disease claims 500,000 women each year, more than the next seven leading causes of death combined. Astounding isn't it?

The American Heart Association is asking you this Valentine's Day to show the women you love you care. You can send a free electronic greeting and remind them to take care of themselves and their hearts. Just go to their website: [www.americanheart.org](http://www.americanheart.org) and click on the Power of Love. Take the time to look through their website too, it's interesting. You can find out how to live a healthy lifestyle, and how to assess your risk of heart disease.

The Power of Love supporters are donating a portion of their February sales from select products to the American Heart Association. The participating sponsors are listed at the bottom of the Power of Love page. You can help stop a disease that kills someone every 33 seconds.

Remember, the key to better health for all is through education. You'll live a lot longer!



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