

Qview

northwest

Spokane Edition

Community newsmagazine
celebrating diversity
and dances of the
human spirit

June
2009

a salute to **Pride**

THOSE FOR WHOM I MARCH

Susan Fabrikant: Marching Onward

LOOK WHO'S TALKING NOW!

An Interview with Jerry Halliday

“Conference for Hope”

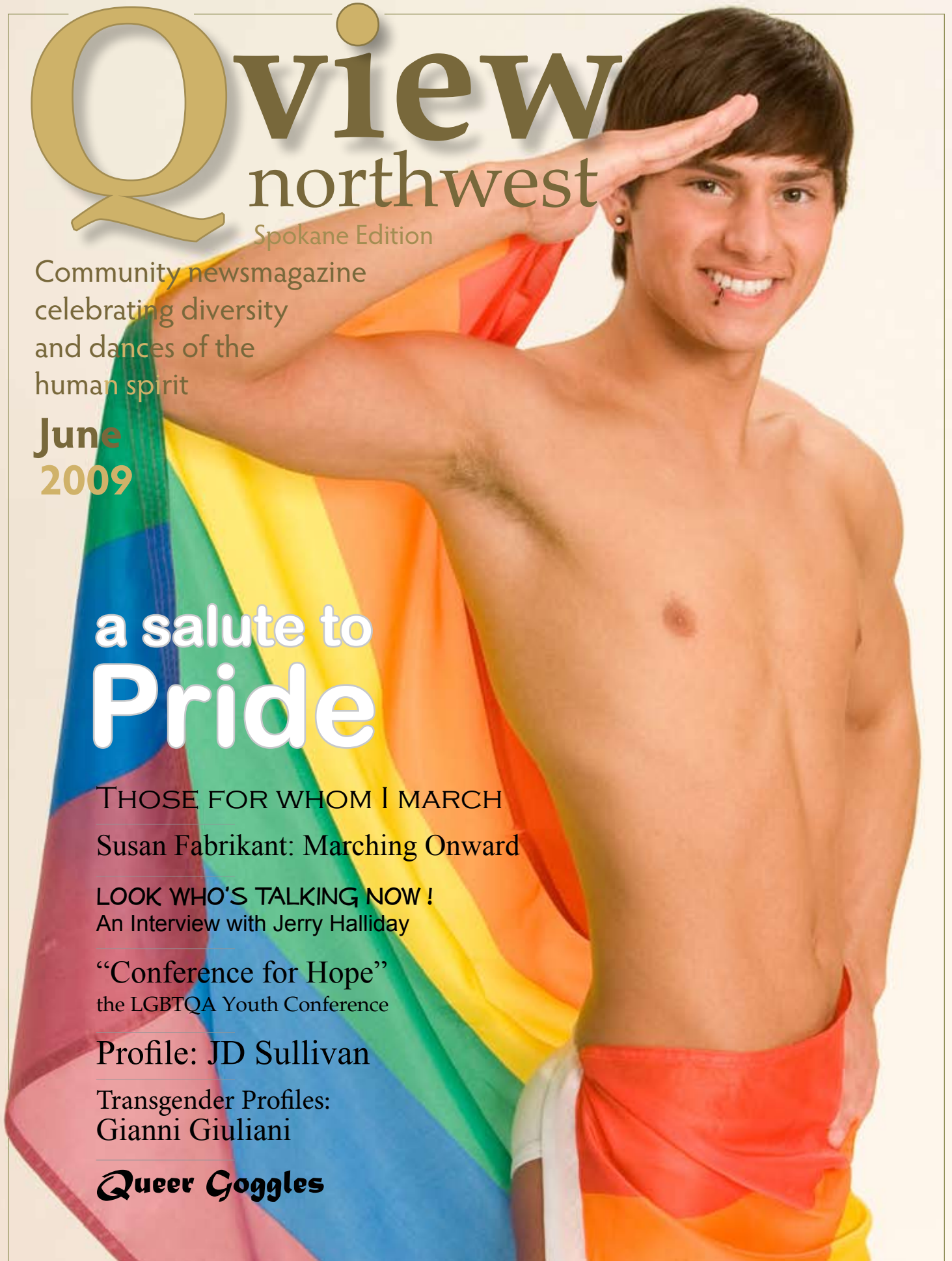
the LGBTQA Youth Conference

Profile: JD Sullivan

Transgender Profiles:

Gianni Giuliani

Queer Goggles



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Spokane Pride 2006
Photo by Pat Devine

welcome to
PRIDE

From New York's
Stonewall riots of 1969
to Spokane's Pride
Parade of 2009, a look
at how it came to be

by **Natalie Wendt**

In 1969, police raids on gay and lesbian bars were common. Though the police entered the establishments claiming to look for liquor license violations, they frequently arrested law-abiding patrons. Those dressed in drag or in a way that didn't conform to their perceived gender were especially targeted. Records of the arrests linked patrons to gay establishments and these records were often made public. Anti-gay harassment was largely unchecked. Employers could and did fire employees for their sexual orientation. Although GLBT rights organizations existed in the U.S. at the time, their membership numbered only in the thousands. Staying in the closet was a fact of life for many. During police raids, patrons usually tried to sneak out the back and draw as little attention to themselves as possible.

All that changed on the night of June 27th, 1969, when New York police raided Stonewall Inn, a gay bar in Greenwich Village. Instead of leaving quietly, the costumers who were not arrested formed a crowd outside of the bar. The crowd swelled to 500 or 600 people, including those from neighboring bars. They shouted "Gay power!" as police loaded the

If you participate in any of this June's GLBT Pride events, you'll be part of living history. Parades promoting GLBTQ visibility and marches for gay rights have taken place every June for the last forty years.

Today, gay pride parades are usually colorful celebrations. The events that sparked the first June Pride events, however, were violent.

PRIDE - Continued Page 8

CONGRATULATIONS!

2009 INLAND NORTHWEST RAINBOW AWARDS RECIPIENTS

The Rainbow Awards have been held annually in Spokane as part of Pride Week since 1996. They honor individuals and organizations whose efforts have had a positive effect on the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community of the Inland Northwest. Pride Foundation has sponsored the Rainbow Awards since 2005. Award categories are: Individual award, Group award, Ally award, Over the Rainbow award. This year's event will include a spaghetti dinner before the awards program, which will begin at 7pm along with complimentary dessert and refreshments. The event is free and open to the public.

INDIVIDUAL RAINBOW AWARD



Gina Marie Young

Gina Marie, a transgendered person who made the transition, continues to be a resource for transgendered people in our community. She has educated her physician as she proceeded on this journey and even refers others to him. Additionally, she has

spoken to various groups and educates health care professionals about how to "care" for transgendered people. She also lobbys in Washington DC regarding Hate Crimes. Gina Marie is a great networker in the community and ensures the inclusion of the transgender community.

GROUP RAINBOW AWARD



Dempsey's Brass Rail

Larry Brown & Leonard Jenkins

For many years, Larry Brown and Leonard Jenkins of Dempsey's Brass Rail have done a lot to

bring the community together. Larry and Leonard provide the community with support through sponsorships, ads, fundraisers and making their facility open for events.

WHAT: Inland Northwest Rainbow Awards
WHEN: June 8, 2009. Doors open at 5:30pm, dinner begins at 6pm. The evening's program begins at 7pm
WHERE: Unitarian Universalist Church, located at 4340 W Fort Wright Drive in Spokane, WA.
COST: Free (\$8 donation appreciated)
MORE INFO: Pride Foundation, www.pridefoundation.org

ALLY RAINBOW AWARD



Kalispel Tribe, Northern Quest Resort & Casino

Northern Quest Resort & Casino and the

Kalispel Tribe have provided significant financial and personal contribution to cultural diversity and community services in the Inland Northwest, including to Spokane AIDS Network, Inland Northwest Business Alliance, OutSpokane, and The Washington Education Association.

OVER THE RAINBOW AWARD



Paul Tiesse

Paul Tiesse is one of those "unsung heroes" who tirelessly gives of himself to the GLBTQ community. Paul has been involved with the Inland Northwest Business Alliance (INBA) for over a decade, serving on its board, and providing support to its activities.

He is currently finishing his 4th year on the board of INBA Outreach, the non-profit scholarship branch of the organization. Paul also serves as president of the Spokane AIDS Network (SAN) board of directors and has been a major force in the Oscar Nite Gala, a SAN fundraiser, giving countless hours. Paul is a consistent, dedicated volunteer whose activities help members of the GLBTQ community in more ways than most of us know. He does his jobs quietly and competently, raising money, and helping to put on events. Paul serves as a great example of an active, out, GLBTQ success story.

LOOK WHO'S TALKING NOW!

Fascinated by what he refers to as "a world of little people," Halliday set his sights on a career of puppetry and never looked back—despite some general opposition from concerned adults.

"My show is about making people laugh," he says. "I make people laugh their asses off."

by Blair Tellers



When Jerry Halliday was five years old, he went to see an elaborate production of a touring puppet marionette show in New York. Upon it's finale, the young boy marched himself backstage and made acquaintances with all of the puppeteers.

"One of the performers told my mother about a book on how to make puppets. She got it for me, and I started making my own," he recalls.

Fascinated by what he refers to as "a world of little people," Halliday set his sights on a career of puppetry and never looked back—despite some general opposition from concerned adults.

"In the 7th grade we had to write a paper on what we wanted to be when we grew up," says Halliday. "My teacher was so concerned she had my parents and I meet with the guidance counselor, who told me if I said something like that in college I would get laughed off campus."

The counselor was, in some respects, correct. People did laugh. Hordes of them. And they haven't stopped. Today, Halliday

and his troupe of sassy diva puppets (including likenesses of Mae West, Bette Davis, Carol Channing and more) have gabbed their way across the continent. If you thought the world had room for only one Joan Rivers, think again.

Now a major success, the talented puppeteer and his fabulous companions have paved their own legacy worthy of mention alongside the names of icons like Jim Henson (The Muppets) and "Bil" Baird ("The Sound of Music"). And while all of Halliday's puppets are masterfully constructed himself, he's not taking any orders.

"I make puppets as rarely as possible," he quips. "It's tedious, a pain in the ass and it takes forever. Most puppeteers say, 'Oh, don't you just love making puppets?' And I say, "No."

Halliday has visited Spokane before and describes it as a charming city with an "exciting cosmopolitan nightlife." He wants to return, and subsequently contacted the Spokane AIDS Network (SAN) to set up a benefit show for the local organization in

WHAT: "Diva's Gone Wild" A Fundraiser for Spokane AIDS Network by Jerry Halliday
WHEN: July 14, 2009, 6pm
WHERE: Bing Crosby Theater, 901 W Sprague, Spokane, WA
COST: \$15 For ticket information please call Tickets West at 1-800-325-SEAT or visit www.ticketwest.com.

which all the proceeds will benefit SAN. He's hoping for a large turnout.

"My show is about making people laugh," he says. "I make people laugh their asses off."

While Halliday prefers to keep his show focused on healthy one-liners and straight up comedy, he does boast quite the interesting political background. Growing up on the East coast, Halliday participated in the first large gay march in Washington D.C, helped put out the first gay newspaper in Virginia in the early 1970's, went to an all-black college and was on campus when Martin Luther King Jr. was assassinated.

Halliday - Continued Page 12

Direct from Las Vegas

Divas Gone Wild

*Puppetry at its finest
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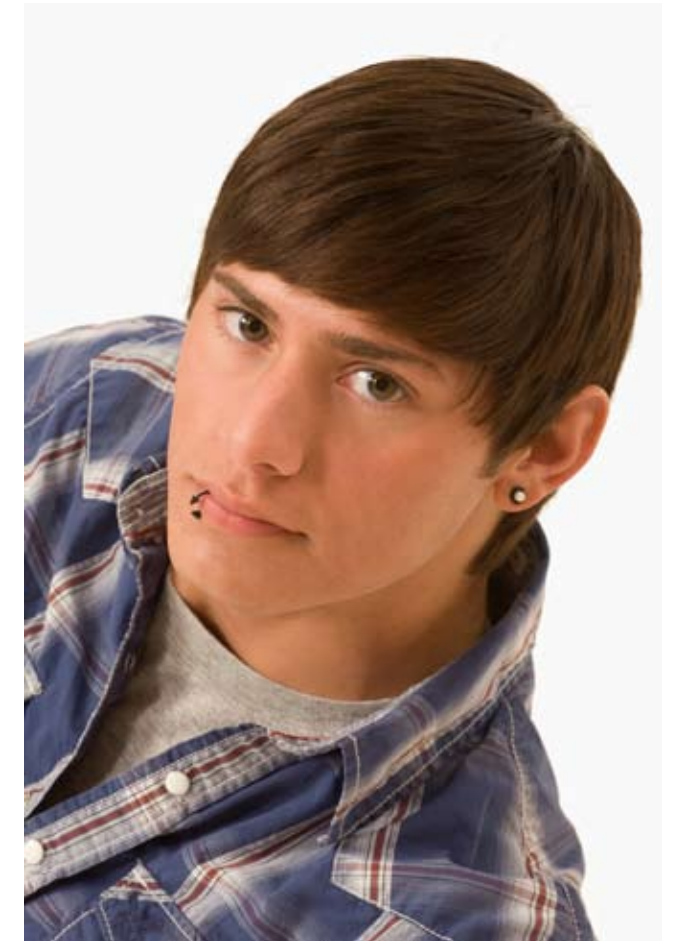


Q View
Northwest cover

JD SULLIVAN

As the son of a Mexican mother and Italian father, JD arrived on the Cheney campus of EWU four years ago and immediately wondered, "Where's the diversity?" He, a self-described science geek, jumped into the biology and chemistry courses designed to prepare students for nursing school, but discovered his interests were much more social.

by **Jill Wagner**
photos by **Steve Rodenbough**



JD Sullivan determined it was time. Time to come out to his mom. Time to stop answering her questions evasively or even outright lying about who he was hanging out with or his plans for the weekend.

So, he made reservations. First with an airline, then with a restaurant near his mom's Tacoma home. JD figured there was no backing down once he had paid for a plane ticket and promised to celebrate Mother's Day with a nice dinner just between Mom and son.

Interestingly, though, JD doesn't present as the kind of person to easily back down. We met for the first time in an EWU student lounge, where he arrived precisely on time, weaving confidently between stuffed couches and end tables when he spotted me from afar.

Dressed in a stylish, knit beanie, a slim-fitting American Eagle hoody, sweatpants and spotless

white sneakers, he was a typical 21-year-old college student, if perhaps slightly more fashionable. His counterparts all around us were more likely to have on baggy sweats and EWU pullovers with clunky tennis shoes, or even rubber-soled slippers. JD curled himself into an oversized lounge chair, pulled his knees to his chest and cheerfully chatted about school, work, growing up on the west side and growing into himself as a gay man.

As the son of a Mexican mother and Italian father, JD arrived on the Cheney campus of EWU four years ago and immediately wondered, "Where's the diversity?" He, a self-described science geek, jumped into the biology and chemistry courses designed to prepare students for nursing school, but discovered his interests were much more social.

"I didn't have the discipline," he admitted, to continue toward the career he had fixated on for many years.

But he did have the drive to join the vibrant campus life and develop his leadership skills. JD served as vice president of his residence hall council as a freshman, then in the paid position of Community Advisor for the dorms as a sophomore. He's been a regular model at the annual spring fashion show, one of the biggest events on campus, worked at restaurants or clothing stores in downtown Spokane and found his home academically in the alcohol and drug studies program.

Engaging and warm, it's easy to understand how JD quickly developed a large group of friends. It was one particular guy, though, that he most enjoyed talking and hanging out with. After months of constant communication, he and JD joked about it feeling like they were dating.

JD - Continued Page 20

wagon with those arrested. The crowd threw bottles at the police wagon.

A female patron was treated roughly by the police officers trying to force her into the wagon and called out to the crowd to do something. It was the last straw. A riot broke out, and the crowd threw trashcans, rocks and bricks. The demonstration was spontaneous and furious. Transgender rights activist Sylvia (Ray) Rivera, a riot participant, later said that the Stonewall Riot "was one of the greatest moments in my life."

The riots lasted for days. News of the rebellion attracted national attention. For one of the first times in modern history, gays had openly resisted government-sponsored persecution. Inspired by the riots, gay activism increased. When the one-year anniversary of the Stonewall Riots rolled around, it was commemorated with gay rights marches in New York, San Francisco and Los Angeles. In New York the march took up fifteen city blocks.

Throughout the 1970s, the gay rights movement was grassroots but growing. Each year, the number of cities participating in the June Gay Pride marches and parades increased. In 1971, Gay Pride marches took place in several American cities and spread to Europe, with parades in France, England, Germany and Sweden. The Pacific Northwest joined the movement when Seattle began holding Gay Pride marches in 1974.

In the 1970s, bisexual activist Brenda Howard developed the idea of a week of celebrations leading up to the actual parade. Howard was also one of the original organizers of first Stonewall anniversary march. These celebrations and activities

later expanded, transforming June into a month of Pride.

In the 1980s, the HIV/AIDS crisis brought a sense of urgency to the gay community. The movement became more organized. The Gay Pride Day Parade became the official name of the June parades, which until then had used various names in different cities. Gay activism dramatically increased throughout the decades following Stonewall. In 1970, the first anniversary march for the Stonewall Riots had 5,000 participants. In 1987, 600,000 people marched in Washington, D.C. for gay equality.

Today, Gay Pride parades and other events span the globe, reaching India, South Korea, and Brazil. Millions take part in the festivities every year. In June 2000, President Bill Clinton declared June to officially be "Gay and Lesbian Pride Month."

Gay Pride parades came to Spokane in 1991. At the time, Spokane's GLBT community had very few organizations to represent it. But as Pride grew, so did the number of groups serving the gay community. Odyssey Youth Center began in 1992 as a program of Spokane Regional Health District and became an independent nonprofit nine years later. The Inland Northwest Business Alliance (INBA) formed in 1994 with twenty-five members. Today, this nonprofit assisting GLBTQ and Allied businesses has over one hundred members. The Inland Northwest LGBT Center formed in 1996 (then known as Rainbow Regional Community Center) and runs programs as well as serving as a virtual community center.

Increased GLBTQ voice has brought about legal and social change in the Inland Northwest. In 1999, a Human Rights Ordinance passed in Spokane, making it illegal to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation

in housing, employment and public services. In 2005, Spokane City Council granted benefits to domestic partners of employees. A survey conducted during Pride in 2004 showed that 87% of respondents felt comfortable or somewhat comfortable being a GLBTQ person in Spokane.

In 2008, Spokane Pride had 2,500 attendees. While Spokane's Pride parade is the largest gay and lesbian event in the Inland Northwest, Spokane isn't the only city in the region with Pride. In Montana, Billings and Kalispell celebrate Pride. Washington's Tri-Cities began holding Gay Pride events in 2007. Moscow, Idaho's Palouse Pride is a tradition close to this writer's heart—the first Pride parade I ever attended was in Moscow while I was still a teenager.

Pride in Spokane is organized by OutSpokane with the help of more than a dozen sponsors and many tireless volunteers. This year, Pride events span a solid month. There's something for everyone, including youth events, award ceremonies, films, concerts, performances, and benefits. From pageants to potlucks, June Pride in Spokane will keep you busy. The Pride Parade and Rainbow Festival will be June 13th, starting at noon. A full schedule of Pride events can be found at OutSpokane's website www.outspokane.com and on the Q View Northwest Calendar at www.qviewnorthwest.com.



Natalie Wendt grew up in Idaho and graduated from College of Santa Fe in 2005. She is a substitute teacher and lives in Spokane.

THOSE FOR WHOM I MARCH

As I march my introverted self down the street, besides alternately holding my wife's hand, helping to carry our church's banner, and practicing my best "Miss America" wave, I steady my nerves by reminding myself of those for whom I march.

by David R Weiss

"Before we begin this Festival Mass that will open our new school year, we invite you to turn to the person next to you to introduce yourself and greet them," said the worship leader.

I was at the back of the church sanctuary, standing in the aisle, in my black master's academic gown, with my red velvet hood, denoting my degree in theology. It was the start of a new school year at the Catholic college where I (a Lutheran) work in campus ministry. My job was to signal the start of a very festive procession down the aisle, making sure that each person was paced appropriately.

I turned to the young woman standing next to me in the aisle, our Student Senate president. Claire, attired in her own black gown, was first in the procession,



carrying a college banner. I knew her name from the program only; we'd never met. "Hi," I said, "My name is David, I work in campus ministry."

Claire smiled brightly and said, "I'm Claire, and I know who you are. This past summer I was at the Twin Cities Pride Parade with some of my friends. As we were watching the parade you walked by with your church, and I recognized you as being from our college. One of the friends with me had you for a class and told me who you were. David, it brought tears to my eyes to know there was a straight man from my college marching in our Pride Parade!" And her eyes welled up again with gratitude.

Then the music started, I watched for my signal from the choir director, and I sent Claire marching down the aisle, both of

us – the straight Lutheran man and the lesbian Senate President – finding our most powerful moment of grace in the eyes of each other before the Catholic Mass had even started.

I learned a powerful lesson that day.

I've marched with my Lutheran church (part of a larger contingent of about 24 Lutheran churches that are represented at Twin Cities Pride) for several years now. Mind you, like many writers, I have a pretty close relationship with my introversion. Marching for a mile and a half down a gauntlet of crowded sidewalk (we have 125,000 people turn out for our parade!) – even if the crowds are cheering those of us who march, it's not exactly my cup of tea.

March - Continued Page 20

“Conference for Hope”

the LGBTQA Youth Conference

For the first time in its history, Spokane will host a “Conference for Hope” – a gathering of more than 500 GLBTQA youth along with their parents, teachers and other community members



by Virginia De Leon

Organized by Odyssey Youth Center, the event will focus on the theme of relationships and provide participants with an opportunity to network, learn and support each other. According to these teens, an understanding of the nature of relationships and what it takes to develop healthy relationships can prevent problems such as drug abuse, homelessness and violence.

“We are empowering youth to take ownership of their lives,” said Ann Marie Floch, Odyssey’s coordinator of youth programs. “This will truly be an amazing event.”

The conference will take place July 24 to 26 at ITRON in Liberty Lake. The event is expected to draw youth, PFLAG (Parents and Friends of Lesbian and Gays) groups, service providers, community leaders and educators from throughout Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, California, Alaska and Canada. Registration is free.

This is a conference created by youth for youth, said Floch. When the young people at Odyssey were asked to select a name for the event, they chose “hope,” she said, because this is exactly what they wish to

instill among all the participants. After numerous discussions and meetings, Odyssey members decided to offer workshops on a variety of topics – from healthy self-exploration and communication boundaries to spiritual connectedness and stress management. Saturday evening’s events include dinner and a dance.

Youth at Odyssey hope this conference will help everyone – gay and straight youth of all races and all religions – examine relationships in order to find common understanding.

The conference also includes special sessions for parents and teachers.

The Saturday morning workshops for parents will focus on the work of Dr. Caitlin Ryan, an expert in the field of lesbian health, the director of Adolescent Health Initiatives at Cesar Chavez Institute at San Francisco State University and director of the Family Acceptance Project. Ryan also has conducted extensive research on the relationships between parents and their gay children. During the conference, Ryan will talk about suicide. “Suicide attempts and suicide completion have a strong message in the absence or involvement of

“Conference for Hope,” the LGBTQA Youth Conference
WHAT: A series of workshops and gatherings for youth, teachers, leaders, parents, community members, service providers and others in the community.
WHEN: July 24 to 26, 2009
WHERE: ITRON Inc., 2111 N. Molter Road in Liberty Lake
COST: Free registration
 To register or for more information, check out www.odysseyyouth.org or call (509) 325-3637.

the parent-child relationship,” explained Floch.

Some of the afternoon topics for parents include “Religion and Homosexuality” and “Celebrating your LGBTQ Child.”

The teacher workshops will be facilitated by a representative from the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network, a national education organization that focuses on ensuring safe schools for all children. “GLSEN envisions a world in which every child learns to respect and accept all people, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity/ expression,” according to its website. With the recent increase

Hope - Continued Page 12



Susan Fabrikant Marching Onward

“It makes me feel really good to see so many people want to help people who have HIV and AIDS. SAN has a tremendous community behind it. Letting go of some of that is hard, it’s kind of bittersweet.”

Susan Fabrikant is stepping down as Executive Director of Spokane AIDS Network June 30th.

by Erika Prins

After 31 years serving Spokane non-profit organizations, Susan Fabrikant could stand a change of pace.

Fabrikant recently announced she will step down from seven and a half years as executive director at Spokane Aids Network, prior to which she spent 24 years advocating for sexual assault victims at Lutheran Community Services.

Non-profit work is not for the faint of heart, and many who enter the field burn out fast. 31 years of daily service to others is downright impressive. But Fabrikant is ready to take her bow.

“You know when it’s your time and I think it’s good to listen to that,” she says. “This is a good time to move on.”

The Spokane Aids Network (SAN) provides encouragement and resources for people living with HIV/AIDS, and provides prevention education to the public. Fabrikant was new to HIV/AIDS advocacy when she took the job and relished in the chance to explore new territory. “When this opened, it just felt like this was the right spot for me to land,” she says.

SAN board president Paul Tiesse says when Fabrikant was hired, she immediately began building up SAN’s financial backbone. “She came in and really took charge and got it up and going pretty strong,” he says, working long hours to extend the small organization’s donor network and community presence. “She’s leaving our organization as strong as it can be in this economy.”

Fabrikant’s hard work will continue to benefit SAN long after she step down says Barrie Ryan, long-time SAN volunteer and ex-Board president. Ryan was on the hiring committee that selected Fabrikant for the job.

“Her management style is to give the controls over to her leaders,” says Ryan. “She has brought on a very competent and strong staff and strong directors,” says Ryan. Because she has built a solid leadership team, the organization will continue to flourish after she leaves, he says.

Fabrikant’s work at SAN extended beyond business savvy to building a bond of common purpose between clients, volunteers, employees and donors. “She has the ability to manage [controversy] effectively,” says Ryan. “She is able to really focus on what’s important.”

Fostering such a complex set of relationships is a daunting task, say Fabrikant. She advises her successor to listen well to those around her. Tiesse praised Fabrikant for bravely engaging

difficult issues unfamiliar to her. “People that know her know that she’s extremely passionate about SAN and would do anything for it. She has compassion for the clients that it serves,” says Tiesse. “She can really put herself in their shoes.”

Fabrikant will miss the camaraderie of toiling side-by-side with staff and volunteers. Staff water gun fights on hot summer days lightened the mood of often somber work, she says, describing the SAN house’s atmosphere as warm and comfortable. She rattles off a list of neighboring businesses and dedicated supporters whose generosity has surprised her.

She was moved by the care and ingenuity with which volunteers decorated for SAN’s annual Oscar Night Gala fundraiser. “It makes me feel really good to see so many people want to help people who have HIV and AIDS. SAN has a tremendous community behind it,” she says. “Letting go of some of that is hard, you know, it’s kind of bittersweet.”

Now Fabrikant plans to work at her husband’s Couer d’Alene psychotherapy practice. She hopes to carve out a slow-paced role, low-pressure for herself to decompress from her 31 years of tough work with non-profit organizations.

She says her time at SAN has been a great journey. “I’ve made a lot of new friends,” she says. “I’ve learned a lot.”


Halliday - From Page 5

"I also met Andy Warhol," says Halliday. "It was kind of disappointing. He asked me what I wanted him to sign for an autograph, and I said, 'To a hunky stud,' and he said, 'How do you spell stud?' I thought he'd be all cool and hip, but there was something very dark and unsavory about him."

Halliday was also tear gassed by riot police during a Vietnam protest in front of the D.C. Justice Department while working at an anti-war coffeehouse that assisted soldiers with G.I. rights.

"So I guess you might guess I'm not a Republican," he says.

Having closely witnessed the gay community evolve and progress for over four decades, Halliday remembers how, back in a '60s Virginia, a man could get "busted" just for possessing a tube of lipstick.

"But in my lifetime alone I remember when my entire elementary school had no black students," says Halliday. "That's just in my lifetime. So to see the progress that has happened with gay rights and minority rights is quite a leap—although we have a lot farther to go." 




Blair Tellers is a recent graduate of Whitworth University with a BA in English Writing and Journalism. She embarks on a mission to prove that not all writers are starving. She hails from Cambria, CA, and enjoys surfing, hanging out with her guinea pig, reading poetry and learning as much as she can from everyone she meets.

Hope - From Page 10

of abuse, harassment and assault of LGBTQ youth, the organization is seeking to create school climates where everyone values diversity.

According to GLSEN's 2007 National School Climate Survey, nine out of 10 LGBT students experienced harassment at school in the past year. However, about 84 percent of these youths reported that teachers or staff do not intervene at all or only some of the time when they hear homophobic remarks at school.

During the conference, educators will get the opportunity to learn more about their gay students. They'll also explore strategies to ensure their safety and inclusion as well as examine school-related law and policy regarding LGBTQ youth. Teachers may be able to receive credit for attending these workshops. 

Transgender profiles: Gianni Giuliani

by Erika Prins

Because Spokane's community of openly transgender people is small, says Dawson, transitioning is riskier socially, professionally, and in terms of physical safety. "I think pretty much, if you're 'out,' you get 'outed,'" says Giuliani. As a result, many people keep their gender identity to themselves and difficult even for other transgender people to discover.



photo by Steve Rodenbough

Gianni Giuliani is walking a little taller these days. He no longer slumps to conceal the breasts that, until recently, made him feel alien to his own body.

"I feel so free and confident," says Giuliani, now recovering from the top surgery he underwent in March as the final step in his female-to-male gender transition. "It feels like there's nothing there that doesn't belong."

Top surgery—a double mastectomy and bilateral nipple reconstruction—is not cheap. Health insurance seldom covers sex reassignment surgery of any

kind, so Giuliani and his fiancé, Dina Dawson, are financially strained after covering the \$8,000 medical bill.

Few surgeons are willing to perform the operation, says Giuliani, so he and many others already struggling to pay for sex reassignment surgery must come up with money for traveling to see a doctor who is. He says even willing medical professionals in the Spokane area have little demand for gender reassignment procedures, and therefore may lack adequate expertise. He found a specialist in San Francisco who exclusively performs sex reassignment surgery.

Although she had planned to come along, Dawson stayed in Spokane to avoid extra travel and child-care expenses. Instead, Giuliani received post-operation help from a transgender man he met online who has also been through the procedure.

Giuliani and Dawson began dating as a lesbian couple long before Giuliani knew enough about being transgender to be considering making the change. The couple had a period of uncertainty after Giuliani announced his plan to transition—Dawson was resistant to the idea

Giuliani - Continued Page 21

 415/419
W. Sprague

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IrV's respects and encourages diversity. As such, and in accordance with applicable federal and state laws, we do not discriminate on the basis of age, race, color, national origin, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability.

Wednesday June 10th
Special Show in celebration of PRIDE

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Saturday June 13th
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Pacific Inland Northwest
Calendar
June 1 - 30 2009

We're pleased to share non-profit events on this calendar of interest to the GLBTQA community. Additional calendar events and updated listings can be found online on the Q View Northwest calendar at www.qviewnorthwest.com.

RECURRING EVENTS
WEEKLY

Wed
Alcoholics Anonymous-LGBT 6:30pm - 8:30pm At Bethany Presbyterian Church, 310 S Freya St, Spokane, WA

Thur
Eagle Pride 3:30pm (Added Dec 2008)
A group for LGBT men and women and their allies at Eastern Washington University. Women's and Gender Studies Lounge, 207 Monroe Hall Call: (509)359-6429

QueerSounds 6pm - 8pm
KYRS FM 92.3 or 89.9 Online at www.live365.com, search for KYRS Inland NW's only radio show dedicated to playing music by and for LGBTQ people.

Sun
Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane
4340 W Fort Wright Drive, Spokane, WA Call: (509)325-6383
Worship services at 9:15am 11:00am. Please call for summer worship service times. We welcome faith diversity.

Westminster Congregational UCC
8:30am - 9:30am Early Worship
10:30am - 11:30am Traditional Worship
No matter who you are or where you are in your faith journey, all are welcome.

EMCC Worship 5:00pm Worship 301 S Freya (509) 838-0085 www.emccspokane.org

BI-WEEKLY

Every Other Wed
Bi-Social in Spokane (Added May 2009)
at Coffee Social, 113 W Indiana Ave
6pm - 8pm Bi-Social in Spokane is mixed gender, social, support and discussion group. We foster a visible community for bisexual, bi-affectual, bi-questioning people (including transgender bi folks) and their families in the Greater Spokane area. More info: Joe Reilly, gettingbi@gmail.com, 509-536-7518

MONTHLY

First Sat
Potluck - LGBTQ Family and Friends
6pm - 8pm Westminster Congregational UCC, 411 S Washington, Spokane, WA. Family-friendly non-alcoholic potluck to celebrate being

with LGBTQA community. All are welcome. For more info: Westminster Congregational UCC 624-1366 or Inland Northwest LGBT Center 489-1914 www.thelgbtcenter.org

First Sun
Bowling! LGBT & Friends
10:30am - 12:30pm
North Bowl, 125 W. Sinto Ave. LGBT & Friends \$10.00 covers 3 games, shoes and ball. No RSVP required but lanes are limited! Contact: www.inwglb.org or Mark at 509 879-8747

ISCS Board Meeting (Added Dec 2008)
At Dempseys Brass Rail. 5:30pm Board Meeting, 6:30pm General Membership Meeting, 7:30pm By-Law Meeting

Third Tue
OutSpokane Meeting (Updated Dec 2008)
7:15pm - 9:00pm Robert H Cooke Building, 503 East 2nd Avenue. Open meeting for planning and coordinating Pride and Fall into Pride events.

First Tue
Gay & Lesbian Book Group
7:30pm Auntie's Bookstore - 402 W Main St, Spokane, WA

Second Wed
INBA Luncheon
11:30am - 1:00pm at Dempseys Brass Rail. Great opportunity to network with other business people in the area. www.inbaspokane.org

Mon 1
6-8pm **Inland NW LGBT Center Board Meeting**
Location: Inner Journeys, 334 S Grant.
More Info: www.thelgbtcenter.org

Fri 5
5-8pm **Showcasing Cloud Nine by Timothy Phillips** Watercolors, oils ~ Engage your senses with the sight of divine imagery, the tastes of fine wine, and the sounds of good music.
Cost: Free music, wine tasting, and art viewing
Location: French Quarter, 111 W Sprague Ave
More Info: DeVerne Augustus 509.624.5350

7pm **One Night Stand for PRIDE: Equality U**
Free refreshments, a community business/art fair and a One Night Stand for PRIDE. **Equality U**, a feature-length documentary following a group of 33 young activists on the Soulforce Equality Ride, a first of its kind, two-month, cross-country tour to confront antigay discrimination policies at 19 conservative religious and military colleges.
Cost: \$5.00.
Time: Doors open 6 p.m., film starts 7 p.m.
Location: Riverpoint EWU Campus Auditorium, Phase I Classroom Building, 668 North Riverpoint Boulevard
Sponsored by: GLBT Film Festival www.spokanefilmfest.org

7pm **Gay Spokane Awards Dinner and In-Town/Out-of-Town Show** (21 and older.)
Cost: Dinner \$13, Show \$10, or \$20 for combo ticket covering both dinner and the show
Time: Awards Dinner 5 p.m., line-up at 6:00pm, show 7 p.m.
Location: Dempsey's Brass Rail, 909 W. 1st Avenue
Sponsored by: The Imperial Sovereign Court of Spokane, www.easternwashingtoncourt.com

Sat 6
6pm **Spokane Gay Pageant: Leather and Lace** (21 and older.) [Please see ad on page 14]
Cost: \$15
Time: Hospitality, Noon - 3 p.m., Protocol Noon to 2 p.m., doors open at 5 p.m., pageant begins at 6 p.m.
Location: Dempsey's Brass Rail, 909 W. 1st Ave, 2nd Level
Sponsored by: The Imperial Sovereign Court of Spokane www.easternwashingtoncourt.com

2-4pm **13th Annual EMCC Pride Cruise**
Music, dancing, drawings and fun! Music By: Dance Jockey DJ Cory Bonnallo
Special Music By: Crystal; Performance By: Nova Kaine. 50/50 Drawing, Friends, & Fun. 18 or older, ID Required/Checked.
Cost: May 18 to June 5—\$18 each, \$20 on day of cruise
Tickets: Available from the following: PayPal at emccspokane.org, Emanuel MCC: 301 S. Freya (Bethany Presbyterian Church, Sundays 4:30-6:30pm), mail: PO Box 4482, Spokane, WA 99220, phone: 509.838.0085. Ginny at way2qt_99@yahoo.com; Email: emccspokane@yahoo.com.
PLEASE NOTE: To be held, all Will Call tickets must be paid for in advance
Time: Boarding begins at 1:30 p.m., Cruise 2

Spokane
June: Pride Events & More

These events are current when going to press but are subject to change. Please check the OutSpokane website for Pride events, www.outspokane.com, or the Q View Northwest Calendar, www.qviewnorthwest.com, for possible updates.

p.m.-4 p.m.
Location: Lake Coeur d'Alene, Idaho; meet above the dock behind the CDA Resort Hotel
More info: Edbera at 509.294.1831
Sponsored by: Emanuel Metropolitan Community Church
www.emccspokane.org
www.myspace.com/emccspokane

6-8pm **Monthly LGBTQA Family and Friends Potluck** (every first Saturday)
Come to this family-friendly alcohol-free potluck to celebrate being with your LGBTQA community in a welcoming and safe setting. All LGBTQA persons, LGBTQA families with children and queer youth are welcome in this non-judgmental space, as well as LGBTQA persons new to the Spokane community. Bringing a dish to share is appreciated but not required for those who may experience hardship by doing so.
Cost: Free. Donations accepted but not required to defer the cost of the welcoming space
Location: Westminster Congregational UCC, 411 S. Washington
More info: The Inland Northwest LGBT Center: 489.1914, info@thelgbtcenter.org or Westminster Congregational UCC: 624.1366
Sponsored by: Sponsored by the Inland Northwest LGBT Center and the Westminster Congregational UCC www.thelgbtcenter.org or www.westminsterucc.org

7:30pm-Midnight **Pride Dance Beach Party**
Wear your best beach board shorts and bikinis. Bring some food and friends to a community dance. Wine and beer Available for purchase NO Outside Alcoholic Beverages. 18 years and older welcome! Performances by Too Many Men and the GADC!
Cost: \$10 per ticket (includes 1 drink ticket) \$8 per ticket (18-20 yr olds)
Time: 7:30 pm to midnight
Location: Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane
4340 W. Ft. George Wright Dr. Spokane, WA 99224
More info: GADCrocks@gmail.com or call 509-328-2065.
Sponsored by: Giant Ass Drum Corp, Too Many Men, a Band with a Hockey Problem.

Sun 7
Noon **Gay Spokane Victory Brunch** (21 and older.)
Cost: \$13
Time: 12 noon
Location: Dempsey's Brass Rail, 909 W. 1st Ave
Contact: Leonard, iscsemporer31@aol.com. for more information
Sponsored by: The Imperial Sovereign Court of Spokane, www.easternwashingtoncourt.com

4pm **Dixie Longate - Your Tupperware Lady**
Dixie Longate, the fast-talking Tupperware Lady, packed up her catalogues, left her children in an Alabama trailer park and took Off-Broadway by storm! Now, join Dixie as she travels the country throwing good ol' fashioned Tupperware Parties filled with outrageously funny tales, heartfelt accounts, FREE giveaways, audience participation and the most fabulous assortment of Tupperware ever sold on a theater stage. Loaded with the most up-to-date products available for purchase, see for yourself how Ms. Longate became the #1 Tupperware seller in the U.S. & Canada as she educates her guests on the many alternative uses she has discovered for her plastic products!
Cost: \$18.
Location: Interplayers Theater, 174 S. Howard Street, Spokane
Sponsored by: OutSpokane
www.dixielongate.com/party.html or www.outspokane.com


Mon 8
6pm **14th Annual Rainbow Awards**
The Rainbow Awards have been held annually in Spokane as part of Pride Week since 1996. They honor individuals and organizations whose efforts have had a positive effect on the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender community of the Inland Northwest. Pride Foundation has sponsored the Rainbow Awards since 2005. Award categories are: Individual award, Group award, Ally award, Over the Rainbow award. This year's event will include a spaghetti dinner before the awards program, which will begin at 7 p.m. along with complimentary dessert and refreshments. The event is free and open to the public.
Cost: \$8 donation for dinner, please
Time: Doors open at 5:30 p.m.; dinner begins at 6 p.m. The evening's program begins at 7 p.m.
Location: Unitarian Universalist Church of Spokane, 4340 W. Fort Wright Dr., Spokane, WA
Sponsored by: Pride Foundation/Inland Northwest, www.pridefoundation.org

Tue 9
7:30pm **Saffire, The Uppity Blues Women: Farewell Tour** (Spokane performance)
It's not often that dreams come true. In the case of the acoustic blues trio, Saffire —The Uppity Blues Women, that's just what happened. Over the course of nine recordings and thousands of gigs, the group has gone from virtual obscurity to one of the most popular, witty, and just plain satisfying acoustic blues groups on the scene today
Cost: \$25 general admission

Calendar - Continued Next Page



Spokane AIDS Network
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Mr. Gay Spokane # 29 Larry Brown Surreal
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"Leather and Lace"
2009-2010 Gay Spokane Pageant
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909 W. First Avenue, Spokane, WA

Tickets: Available at TicketsWest locations, by phone: 800.325.SEAT(7328) or 509.340.6700, online: ticketswest.com, or at the Bing Crosby Theater Box Office, Mon-Fri 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Time: 7:30 pm
Location: The Bing Crosby Theater, 901 W. Sprague, Spokane, WA
 Presented by: Spokane Public Radio KPBX
 www.spokanepublicradio.org

Wed 10

11:30am-1pm **Inland Northwest Business Alliance Luncheon**
 Some of the nation's most influential corporate, political leaders and GLBT Chambers were at the 2009 NGLCC National Business and Leadership Conference: Out for Business in Seattle. The INBA was well represented with 8 members attending meetings focusing on chambers and business topics. For our PRIDE week meeting you'll get an update on the conference and find out what's new in the GLBT business movement.
Cost: \$20 for members and first time guests, \$25 returning guests
Time: 11:30 a.m. - Noon: social, networking, Noon: Lunch, 12:30: speakers
Location: Dempsey's Brass Rail, 909 W. 1st Ave
More Info: 509.455.3699
Sponsored by: Inland Northwest Business Alliance
 www.inbaspokane.org

7:30pm **Saffire, The Uppity Blues Women: Farewell Tour** (Sandpoint performance)
 One of the most popular, witty, and just plain satisfying acoustic blues groups on the scene today
Cost: \$25.00 general admission
Tickets: Available at TicketsWest locations, by phone: 800.325.SEAT(7328) or 509.340.6700, online: ticketswest.com, or Eve's Leaves, 326 N 1st Avenue, Sandpoint, Idaho 208.263.0712
Time: 7:30pm
Location: The Panida Theatre, 300 North 1st Avenue, Sandpoint, ID, 208.263.9191 or 208.255.7801
Presented by: Spokane Public Radio KPBX
 www.spokanepublicradio.org

7:00pm **Interdenominational Pride Worship Service**
 Clergy and lay leaders from several local congregations will participate, celebrating the spiritual journeys and the many gifts of those in our LGBTQ community. Communion will be served for all who will come! ALL are welcome!
Cost: No charge
Time: 7:00 pm
Location: Westminster Congregational United Church of Christ, 411 S. Washington Street
Sponsored by: Westminster UCC
 www.westminsterucc.org

Thu 11

6-8pm **Queer Sounds**, KYRS 92.3 FM or 89.9 FM (every Thursday)
 Join DJ Irey and DJ "bob" on a musical journey for GLBT people who want to listen to good music by GLBT artists, groups and bands as well as queer friendly bands, all genres, all eras.
Time: 6 p.m.-8 p.m.
 www.myspace.com/queersounds

7-9pm **Family Game Night at Westminster**
 Board games, card games or bring your own. Refreshments, cookies, popcorn will be provided. This is an informal gathering - parents, kids, teens, singles, couples, all who want to have some good fun are invited!
Cost: No charge
Time: 7 p.m.-9 p.m.
More Info: 509.624.1366
Location: Social Hall, Westminster Congregational United Church of Christ, 411 S. Washington Street
Sponsored by: Westminster UCC
 www.westminsterucc.org

7:30pm **Night of Illusions**
 Boys will be girls and girls will be boys in this smash hit benefit for the whole community. This year's drag show (both kings and queens) paying tribute to pop music and culture will be directed by Aaron Lee Lewis and Chadd Herrmann. Alliance Club and SFCC Drama Scholarship Benefit.
Cost: \$10 suggested donation
Time: 7:30 p.m.
More Info: 509.533.3592 Bill Marlowe
Location: Spokane Falls Community College, Music Auditorium, Music Building #15, 3410 W. Fort George Wright Drive
Sponsored by: The SFCC's Alliance and the Revelers

Fri 12

4th Annual Heritage Pride Institute
 OutSpokane's Heritage Pride Institute's honoree for 2009 is Marsha Botzer, a transsexual, pioneer and recognized expert in the field of Gender and Gender identity issues.

Founder of Ingersoll Gender Center, a direct service organization that began as an idea in 1977, and incorporated as a not for profit educational corporation in 1984, Marsha is also a founding member of Equal Rights Washington, former national co-chair of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, pioneer Transgender activist, and militant labor union member, Botzer has been a stalwart of progressive politics in Seattle for many years.

3:30-4:45pm **GLBTQ Youth Forum**
Marsha Botzer
Cost: No charge
Location: Odyssey Youth Center, 1121 S. Perry Street

5:30pm **Meet-and-Greet Reception with Marsha Botzer**
 2009 Heritage Pride Institute honoree and Pride Parade Grand Marshal Botzer, will meet and greet a general audience at a catered reception.
Cost: No charge
Location: Northwest Museum of Art and Culture, 2316 W. First Avenue, Browne's Addition

7pm **Presentation and Community Forum with Marsha Botzer**
Cost: No charge
Location: Northwest Museum of Art and Culture, 2316 W. First Avenue
 Sponsored by: OutSpokane

7-11pm **Youth Pre-Pride Party**
 For all GLBTQ youth and their allies, 14 to 21. The activity room at SFCC is loaded with

amusements such as: pool, bowling, ping-pong, foosball, video games, and several others. Graduating seniors will be recognized. Surprises, gifts, give-aways and door prizes. You'll need quarters to play the games. Screened, adult supervision will be provided, as will entertainment and refreshments.
Cost: No charge to get in, but quarters will be needed to play the games
Location: Spokane Falls Community College Activity Center, Building 17, 3410 W. Fort George Wright Drive
Sponsored by: OutSpokane

Sat 13

9-11am **Annual Pride Breakfast**
 Menu: All-you-can-eat waffles, sausage, bacon, scrambled eggs, coffee, and juice. Proceeds benefit Spokane AIDS Network.
Cost: \$8
Location: Dempsey's Brass Rail, 909 W. 1st Ave
Sponsored by: Friends of SAN

Noon-1pm **Pride Parade**
 Gather on the pedestrian walk on Wall Street between Main Avenue and Spokane Falls Blvd. OutSpokane 2009 18th Annual Pride Parade
Cost: No charge
Time: Staging begins at 11 a.m., Parade from 12 Noon-1 p.m.
Location: Downtown Spokane
Produced by: OutSpokane

Noon-5:30pm **Rainbow Festival**
 Master of Ceremony, Christopher Lawrence will be leading the way in the park as we celebrate 18 years of PRIDE in Spokane. This year's theme is "Be Yourself-Change the World". The Rainbow Festival will showcase entertainment, activities, prizes and will have several favorites like the Annual Wedding Ceremony and honoring of graduating seniors, a couple of new features for your enjoyment as well as the very popular Baking Contest and the Flower Design Competition.

The Family Play Area will have educational and fun games, booths, inflatable bounce-around toys and much more.
Cost: No charge
Location: Gondola Meadows, RiverFront Park
Produced by: OutSpokane

2pm **David Sedaris**
 David is coming to Auntie's on Saturday, June 13th at 2 p.m. This will be a ticketed event, with a ticket given upon purchase of the paperback edition of his essay collection - *When You Are Engulfed in Flames*. Tickets to be allotted with prepayment of your book order.
Cost: Ticket given with purchase of *When You Are Engulfed in Flames*
More Info: Contact Auntie's at 838.0206 for further details. Monday-Saturday 9 a.m.-9 p.m.; Sunday 11 a.m.-6 p.m.
Location: Auntie's Bookstore, 402 W. Main Street, Spokane. Corner of Main & Washington in Downtown Spokane
Sponsored by: Auntie's Bookstore

8pm **Planned Parenthood's 2nd Annual Concert Series featuring: An Outspoken Evening with Wanda Sykes**
 Proceeds to benefit Planned Parenthood of the Inland Northwest.
Cost: \$47, \$57, \$127* Premier seating ticket.
 *(includes post show party at Scratch Restau-

rant, Wanda will not be appearing)
Tickets: Available through Martin Woldson Theater at The Fox box office at 624.1200 or from TicketsWest by phone: 800.325.SEAT(7328) or 509.340.6700, online: ticketswest.com, or at the Bing Crosby Theater Box Office, Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Location: Martin Woldson Theater at The Fox, 1001 W. Sprague Ave., Spokane
Sponsored by: Planned Parenthood of the Inland Northwest
 www.ppinw.org and wandasykes.com

Sun 14

6pm **Dangerous Dames: Starring Jerry Halliday** [Please see ad on page 6]
 Puppetry at its finest. Adult entertainment, not for the kids
Cost: \$15
Tickets: Available from TicketsWest by phone: 800.325.SEAT(7328) or 509.340.6700, online: ticketswest.com, or at the Bing Crosby Theater Box Office, Monday- Friday 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Location: Bing Crosby Theater, 901 W. Sprague Avenue
Sponsored by: Friends of Spokane AIDS Network and Dempsey's Brass Rail

2-7pm **Odyssey Family Reunion & Open House**
 Odyssey Youth Center invites former youth, volunteers, staff and community supporters to join us for an Odyssey Family Reunion and Open House. The Open House will take place at Odyssey Youth Center from 2-4pm. The Family Reunion and barbeque will take place at Grant Park (a few blocks from Odyssey) from 4-7pm. Food. Music. Lots of fun.
Cost: Free
Time: 2:00pm-4:00pm Open House, 4:00pm-7:00pm Family Reunion and Barbeque
More Info: Sandy at 509-323-2306 or odyssey@odysseyyouth.org for more information or to help.
Location: Odyssey Youth Center, 1121 S. Perry Street - 12th & Perry and Grant Park, a few blocks from Odyssey
Sponsored by: Odyssey Youth Center
 www.odysseyyouth.org

Fri 19

6pm **5th Annual Stem and Stein**
 [Please see ad on page 14]
 5th Annual Wine and Beer Tasting Fundraiser to benefit the Spokane AIDS Network. There will be cheese pairings, chocolate pairings with Halletts handmade chocolates, a live auction, and a silent auction.
Cost: \$40 in advance, \$45 at the door
Tickets: Tickets may be purchased from The Spokane AIDS Network, 905 S. Monroe St., phone: 509.455.8993 or from TicketsWest: 800.325.SEAT(7328) or 509.340.6700, online: ticketswest.com
Location: Northern Quest Resort and Casino, Pend Oreille Pavilion, 100 N. Hayford Road, Airway Heights, WA 99001
Sponsored by: Spokane AIDS Network
 www.san-nw.org or www.stemandstein.org



Queer Goggles

Old people are fascinating!

by Joan Opyr

Most writers have day jobs. Unless we're lucky enough to have caught a popular wave of some sort -- boy wizards, romantic vampires, or terrifying fathers with psychic sons snowed in for the winter at a Colorado hotel -- we have to think of some way to support our typing habit. It isn't always easy. Some of us do a lot of freelance work. We write humor columns and do interviews. Others go into technical writing, and even more of us do some mixture of freelance and "real world" work. Not long ago, I added CNA to my collection of jobs. When I'm not writing, I'm taking care of the elderly in a nursing home, a job that is more than paying back in the writing department.


For example, I was working with an Alzheimer's patient who was adamant that his car had been stolen. Rather than argue with him, I asked him to describe the make and the model. He thought for a moment, looked at me, and said, "How the hell should I know? I've got Alzheimer's."

I have a tiny little woman who calls me Chauncey. This is so we can run off to Hawaii together. We were planning our escape and lunch one day, and she asked me my last name. When I told her "Opyr," she tried spelling that a couple of times and said, "No, no, that won't do. I can't go anywhere with a name like that." I asked what name she could go with, and she said without missing a beat, "Chauncey."

I have been groped in the nursing home. I was bending over to take an old man's blood pressure when, like lightning, he reached out with his free hand to cop a feel. By this time, I was getting

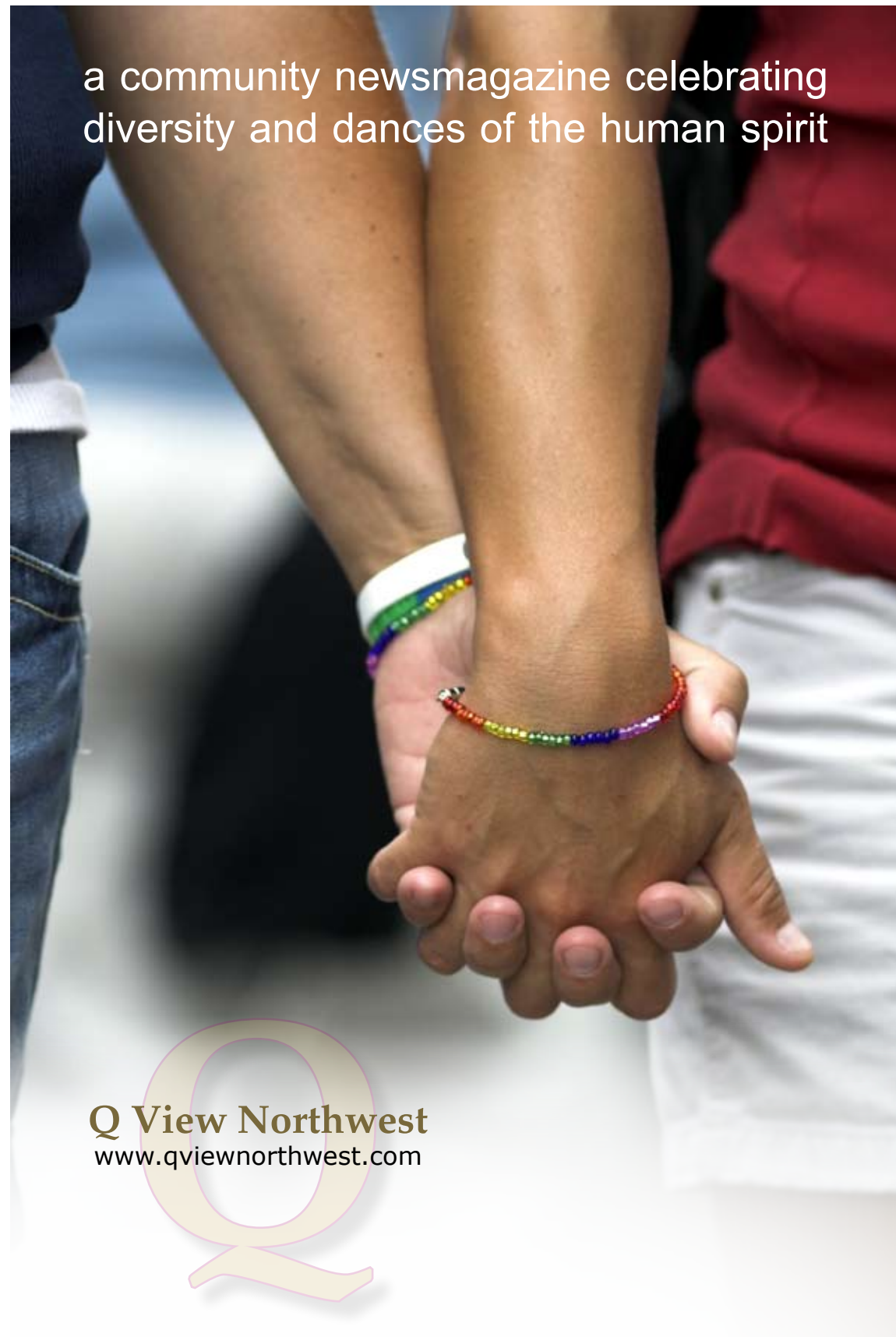
savvy to the joint. I told him, politely, to knock it off. When he refused, I reminded him that this was a nursing home and not a strip club. That's why I don't get tips, and he doesn't get the rectal thermometer.

Quite apart from the intrinsic value of the work, not a day goes by when there is not something worth recording in the nursing home. The elderly are fascinating. They've lived long, full lives, not much shocks or surprises them, but they take great delight in shocking and surprising you. A woman in her mid-80s gave us a disquisition at lunch on gay marriage. The theme? Why should anyone care if gay people marry? Who are they hurting? She thinks the people who are oppressing us are too young to have any perspective. "If they were a bit closer to death, or had Parkinson's or an artificial hip, then they'd really have something to worry about, and they'd leave other people alone."

Old people are fascinating -- a rich vein for the writer to mine. This is the best day job ever. 



Joan Opyr is a gigantic crank. Her life is frequently weird, and she enjoys writing and talking about that. She's a transplanted Southerner who dreams of golden beaches, sweet iced tea, and sunny skies. She believes that Eva Cassidy should be beatified. Oh, and she's also an award-winning novelist.



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What's with the *Rainbows?* The history of the Rainbow Flag


Color has long played an important role in our community's expression of pride. In Victorian England, for example, the color green was associated with homosexuality.



The color purple (or, more accurately, lavender) became popularized as a symbol for pride in the late 1960s - a frequent post-Stonewall catchword for the gay community was "Purple Power". And, of course, there's the pink triangle. Although it was first used in Nazi Germany to identify gay males in concentration camps, the pink triangle only received widespread use as a gay pop icon in the early 1980s. But the most colorful of our symbols is the Rainbow Flag, and its rainbow of colors - red, orange, yellow, green, blue, and purple - represents the diversity of our community.

The first Rainbow Flag was designed in 1978 by Gilbert Baker, a San Francisco artist, who created the flag in response to a local activist's call for the need of a community symbol. (This was before the pink triangle was popularly used as a symbol of pride.) Using the five-striped "Flag of the Race" as his inspiration, Baker designed a flag with eight stripes: pink, red, orange, yellow, green, blue, indigo, and violet. According to Baker, those colors represented, respectively: sexuality, life, healing, sun, nature, art, harmony, and spirit. Baker dyed and sewed the material for the first flag himself - in the true spirit of Betsy Ross.

Baker soon approached San Francisco's Paramount Flag Company about mass producing and selling his "gay flag". Unfortunately, Baker had hand-dyed all the colors, and since the color "hot pink" was not commercially available, mass production of his eight-striped version became impossible. The flag was thus reduced to seven stripes.

In November 1978, San Francisco's gay community was stunned when the city's first openly gay supervisor, Harvey Milk, was assassinated. Wishing to demonstrate the gay community's strength and solidarity in the aftermath of this tragedy, the 1979 Pride Parade Committee decided to use Baker's flag. The committee eliminated the indigo stripe so they could divide the colors evenly along the parade route - three colors on one side of the street and three on the other. Soon the six colors were incorporated into a six-striped version that became popularized and that, today, is recognized by the International Congress of Flag Makers. 

JD - From Page 7

"Then we thought, well, why aren't we?" he explained.

Sounds beautiful and simple. The two did become a couple, but kept it on the down low within their circle. JD realized immediately that he was self-conscious, worried about what other people would think and didn't want to disappoint his family. Simple is not nearly as easy as it sounds.

Eventually, his closest friends began to clue in and when asked directly if he were gay, JD never denied it. The two broke up in time, and he questioned his sexuality, seemingly with patience and understanding, always coming back to the knowledge that he was attracted to guys. By all appearances, his coming out to his mom last month was a solidification, a celebration even of his arrival into the gay community. By bringing the best of all his friends, his mom, into his

innermost circle, JD could finally be fully himself.

Once settled into their seats, with a glass of wine ordered, JD presented his mom with a necklace he'd recently purchased in Albuquerque. He'd flown south to visit his boyfriend, an architecture student at the University of New Mexico, on a long weekend in which he'd told his mom he was visiting friends in San Francisco.


In one quick breath he confessed he'd been with his boyfriend, then whipped his phone out of his pocket and presented a picture of Tomas to his mom.

"He's a very nice looking young man," JD reported her as saying.

The woman to whom he finally acknowledged he owed the truth, not only because of their friendship, but because of her gentle and kind parenting for 15 years as a single mom, said every

encouraging thing JD could have hoped to hear.

"I tell my mom everything," he said. "Not telling her this part of my life felt like lying."

Even as he talked a mile a minute about the Mother's Day dinner, the sparkle that lit up his face was the best indication of all that he is a young man come into his own. 




Jill Wagner is a freelance writer and columnist. She holds an MFA in creative writing from the Eastern Washington University Inland Northwest Center for Writers.

March - From Page 9

So as I march my introverted self down the street, besides alternately holding my wife's hand, helping to carry our church's banner, and practicing my best "Miss America" wave, I steady my nerves by reminding myself of those for whom I march. It is not a short list. I call to mind the faces of friends, like Dale, who died without ever finding a spiritual home to embrace them. And the faces of others who are still wrestling to find peace with their twin impulses of sexual and spiritual longing. And the children of same-sex couples that I've taught in Sunday School. And the many friends who share the pews with me at church on Sunday mornings. And the college students I've met through my teaching and work in campus ministry. When I march I hold lots of faces in my mind and heart.

But this is what I learned from Claire on that day in September 2007. I also march for persons I don't know. I march to be seen by someone like Claire, whom I'd never met at the time, but whose journey became a little easier and whose day became a little brighter because she saw me.

Marching in our pride parade is hardly the biggest thing I do as an Ally, but for Claire, in June of 2007, it was pretty significant. And this year, when I march again, Claire's shining smile will be one of the faces I have before me. But thanks to her, I will also be a little more comfortable marching my introverted self down that street, because I will remember that maybe this year, too, there will be someone watching that I'm not even thinking of yet, who will be happy to see me there. 



David R. Weiss is a theologian, writer, poet and hymnist committed to doing "public theology" around issues of sexuality, justice, diversity, and peace. His first book is *To the Tune of a Welcoming God: Lyrical reflections on sexuality, spirituality and the wideness of God's welcome* (2008 / www.davidrweiss.com). A lifelong Lutheran, David is a graduate of Wartburg College, Wartburg Seminary, and the University of Notre Dame. He has taught religion and theology at the University of Notre Dame, Luther College, Augsburg College, and Hamline University. Beyond his professional work, David has been active in local peace work and both locally and nationally as an ally for GLBT persons in faith communities. He lives with his wife and children in St. Paul, MN.

Classifieds

Wedding Announcements



Ronnie Rae & Trevor Werttemberger

Following eight years together, Ronnie Rae & Trevor Werttemberger were married

May 23, 2009, in Victoria, British Columbia. The wedding and reception were held at Hatley Castle and attended by family and friends.

Rae, an attorney and graduate of Gonzaga University, is the son of Nancy and Ron Rae of Helena, MT. Werttemberger, a corporate marketing manager and also a graduate of Gonzaga University, is the son of John and Mary Werttemberger and step-father Rick Lint.

The newlyweds honeymooned in Puerto Vallarta before returning to Spokane, WA where they reside.

Jobs/Volunteers

Victim Advocates

The Sexual Assault & Crime Victims Center is seeking individuals who want to make a difference in their community by becoming Victim Advocates. Volunteers provide medical and legal advocacy, crisis intervention, and information referral to victims of sexual assault and other crimes. Commitment of two evening or weekend shifts per month required, stipends available. For more information, please contact Mandy Iverson at 343-5005.

Foster Parents Needed (non-traditional homes welcome)

Lutheran Community Services is currently seeking potential foster parents for children ages 6 and up. Generous compensation and support package provided. Please call Azra at: (509) 343-5035.

CLASSIFIEDS

Announcements: Up to 75 words and photo *FREE*, 20 cents/word thereafter.

Other Categories: 25 cents/word. **Deadline:** Payment and content must be received by the 15th of the month for the following issue. **Contact:** mail@qviewnorthwest.com or 509.570.8768

Giuliani - From Page 13

of her girlfriend being anything but, well, her girlfriend. As a newly-out lesbian, she was not sure she wanted to return to being in a relationship with a man. But Giuliani is the person she is in love with, she says, so she chose to support him as he transforms into a happier, more authentic version of himself.

The pair is now engaged to be married and parent Dawson's two children together. Dawson says being involved with the kids' lives and communicating openly has helped them adjust to Giuliani's physical changes. "They knew ahead of time what was going to be going on," she says, as they have during each step of the process.


Dawson believes her children benefit from being exposed to adults who embrace open-mindedness. "They're both very accepting and don't like for anybody to get picked on," she says, adding that to her knowledge, her children are not teased by their peers for having a non-traditional family.

Spokane is an ideal city in which to raise children, says Dawson, but not yet an easy place to be transgender. Whether because they do not know where to look or because it is nonexistent, the couple has not found a community of families and resources specific to their situation in Spokane. Giuliani's transition process did not begin until he began to search online and discovered others with similar stories.

Because Spokane's community of openly transgender people is small, says Dawson, transitioning is riskier socially, professionally, and in terms of physical safety. "I think pretty much, if you're 'out,' you get 'outed,'" says Giuliani. As a result, many people keep their gender identity to themselves and difficult even for other transgender people to discover.

"Lesbian" no longer feels quite fitting a term for their relationship, says Dawson, and she is not sure how they will now fit into the lesbian community. Together, they have transitioned to being a straight couple, she says, but many straight couples may not be open-minded enough to accept them.

Giuliani and Dawson have decided to join an LGBT-friendly church to find a community where they belong, but they say moving to a larger or more politically progressive city may be the only way they will find themselves among more couples with whom they can relate.

"I think it's just the numbers," says Giuliani. He speculates Spokane simply does not have enough female-to-male transgender people for a strong support network to have formed. 



Erika Prins is a writer, local small business manager and novice marathon runner. She is a recent graduate of Whitworth University, where she tirelessly advocated for chartering a Gay-Straight Alliance club, sometimes instead of doing her homework.

be yourself – change the world!

be a **lightworker** be a *dancer* be a **pleasant thing to see**
 be a *little bit off* be a doctor be a *crossword fanatic* be a bearer of gifts be a **NEW YOU**
 be a **FRIEND** be a heckuva guy be a **singer** be a **warrior**
 be a lover be a **SHOE GAZER** be a **GIRL'S GIRL** be a **gift** be a bad singer be a **parent**
 be a brother be a pharmacist be a crossing guard be a **GARDENER** be a revolution
 be a **birdwatcher** be a dream be a **cosmetologist** be a *collector* be a librarian
 be a *visionary* be a **saint** be a *painter* be a **hot tamale**
 be a **POLICEMAN** be a coat of many colors be a linguist
 be a **biker** be a soldier be a **rock'n'rolla** be a *third dimension* be a meteorologist
 be a *disc jockey* be a **dog-lover** be a protector of the species be a reader of fiction
 be a **SKATEBOARDER** be a **fine howdy-do** be a good hearted person
 be a lover of country be a vintage model be a **MECHANIC** be a **shape-shifter**
 be a **Pandora's box** be a scholar of something be a **terrible speller**
 be a politician be a **Spokaner** be a window shopper be a light unto yourself
 be a carpenter be a *ballerina* be a polite driver be a **whale of a tale** be a serious type
 be a **sweetheart** be a blessing in disguise be a **VANISHING ACT**
 be a *torch song* be a **one trick pony** be a **PAL** be a *lover of life*
 be a *pretty good writer* be a calligrapher be a soul-retriever be a **vigilante**
 be a chameleon be a **SINGER OF SONGS** be a pacifist
 be a jog to the world
 be a **volunteer** be a **Queen** be a **Champion** be a _____



be a **sculptor**



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