

Pride 2001  
IMAGINE:  
Be A  
DREAMER

# PRIDE GUIDE

Your guide for what's happening Pride Weekend  
June 8, 9, 10, 2001  
in Waterloo-Wellington Region

A Publication of Waterloo-Wellington Regional Pride



MESSAGE FROM WWRP CHAIRPERSON, MS. A.J. MAHARI

*"You may say I'm a dreamer  
But i'm not the only one"*

Welcome to Waterloo-Wellington Regional Pride's seventh annual Pride Day, Pride 2001, **"Imagine: Be a Dreamer!"** We invite you to read the lyrics to John Lennon's inspirational song, *"Imagine"* (page 2), and to apply the philosophy of those words to this day and to your own life.

This year we are very pleased to have, for the first time ever, vendors to compliment our information tables. We hope that you will take the time to visit them and to see what products and services they offer.

Dare to be a dreamer. Know that you are not the only one. It is from the basis of our dreams that we can build the kind of community that is truly welcoming and that honours the vast sameness that exists underneath our diverse differences.

All that we can imagine really can come true when we care enough and we are willing to work hard enough to ensure a thriving and healthy environment within which we can apply those dreams.

Imagine a world without homophobia. Imagine a world where lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people and our relationships are given the same inherent worth and esteem as the relationships of those who are heterosexual. Imagine there's no shame.

Imagine our own local LGBT communities working in peace across all gender, age, ethnic, class and educational barriers. Imagine us working together to understand the very diversity that we are here to celebrate today.

I would like to give a very heart-felt thank you to all who worked so hard on our committee all year long and who gave tirelessly of themselves, and their

time and talents to make this day possible. I would also like to thank all of our Directory advertisers, sponsors, supporters, those who donated funds, gifts, raffle prizes or silent auction items and those who have volunteered their time to the many tasks that need to be done today alone.

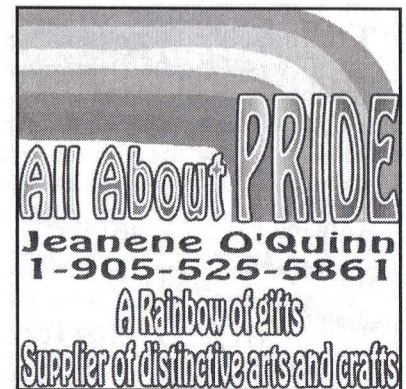
We sincerely hope that you will enjoy the today's entertainment: "Removable Red", Nancy Rancourt and Drag Queens Chris Edwards, Drew and Candace.

Please be sure to visit our WWRP table and see our "Door of Dreams." We invite you to share your dreams and to read the dreams that others will share.

Imagine there's no judgment, it's easy if you try. Imagine there's no isolation, it's easy if you try. "You may say I'm a dreamer, but I'm not the only one..." Join me, won't you and Imagine: Be a Dreamer!

Imagine: it's easy if you try. There is such Pride in all that you can imagine for yourself, your community and your world.

**Don't just celebrate Pride, live it!**



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## Imagine by John Lennon


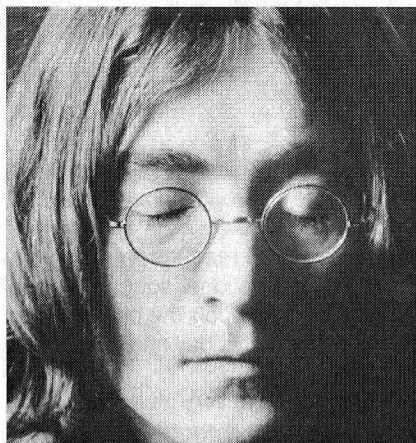
*"Imagine there's no heaven,  
It's easy if you try,  
No hell below us,  
Above us only sky.  
Imagine all the people  
Living for today.*

*Imagine there's no countries,  
It isn't hard to do,  
Nothing to kill or die for,  
And no religion too.  
Imagine all the people  
Living life in peace.*

*You may say I'm a dreamer  
But I'm not the only one,  
I hope someday you'll join us  
and the world will be as one.  
Imagine no possessions,*

*I wonder if you can,  
No need for greed or hunger,  
A brotherhood of man,  
Imagine all the people  
Sharing all the world.*

*You may say I'm a Dreamer  
But I'm not the only one,  
I hope someday you'll join us  
and the world will live as one"*



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## What is the "Hate-Free Zone"?

By Rev. Anne Treadwell and Lyn McGinnis

Back in 1992, Rev. Marilyn Sewell, a Unitarian minister in Portland, Oregon, was trying to think of creative ways to fight an amendment to State law that would remove certain civil rights from gays and lesbians and would declare them perverse. Someone suggested they call a press conference and tie a ribbon around the entire block the church was in, declaring it a hate-free zone. As the whole block was Unitarian property, it could be done!

The usual thing for a minister to do is consult with a whole bunch of people before doing something that hasn't been done before. But Marilyn Sewell didn't go to her Board of Trustees for permission. She didn't go to her congregation. As she tells it, "I mean, what could anyone possibly say in opposition - [would they say] 'I'm for hate?!'"

She just went ahead and did it. The press conference took place soon afterwards. A bunch of teenagers from a shelter for queer kids whose parents had kicked them out climbed on ladders and wrapped the whole city block with waterproof, construction-quality ribbon. They also put signs up at various anchor points along the ribbon proclaiming, "Hate Free Zone" and "Hate Is Not A Family Value."

The media began to arrive, and a small crowd gathered. By chance, the Women's Alliance of the church was having a luncheon meeting, and when they heard what was going on they all trooped out and joined in. This group,

Rev. Sewell says, was composed mostly of elderly, 'proper-looking' women. Some of them were interviewed and their comments broadcast — think of the viewers wondering, "Can a respectable grandmother be wrong on an issue like this?"

This story was told two years ago by Rev. Anne Treadwell, of the First Unitarian Congregation of Waterloo. It was in way of a greeting to celebrants at the first Pride Day held on Roos Island in

Victoria Park in Kitchener. (Our 5th Annual Annual Pride Day locally) Rev. Treadwell ended her story by saying:

"I'd like to think that today Roos Island has become, even if only for one day, a Hate Free Zone. As a quite respectable grandmother myself, I want to proclaim loudly that we can all be proud of who we are, whatever

our age, race, religion, gender or sexual orientation. I want to echo the words of Marilyn Sewell's speech that day in Portland, and help make them true in Kitchener-Waterloo, Guelph and all the surrounding area: "Here you are welcome, whether you are Jewish or Christian, Buddhist or Humanist, Atheist or Agnostic. Here you are welcome, whether you are Gay or Lesbian or Straight [or Bisexual or Transgender]. Here you will be treated with the full measure of respect and human dignity that every human being deserves."

Last year, along with repeating this story, members of this congregation decided to re-enact this symbolic event.



## "Hate-Free Zone"

Continued from page 3

We unrolled similar caution tape and creating a huge circle that everyone held onto as we declared Roos Island a "Hate-Free Zone." This year members of First Unitarian Congregation of Waterloo are joined by members of the Guelph Unitarian Fellowship in creating a new dimension to this tradition. We have asked many organizations in our community to contribute decorated sections to be added to one large circle. We will create our circle to the song "Imagine," by John Lennon. This is also the theme of this year's Pride Day, "Imagine: Be a Dreamer!" We will say, (or sing) this song together as we pass the circle around so everyone can see all the contributed sections. Take a close look at all the contributed sections to our circle. They represent facets of your community, here to celebrate with you! We will then raise the circle up and declare Roos Island a Hate-Free Zone!

Next year, along with these and more organizational contributions, we hope many of you will simply turn up with your own decorations to add to this creation. It is our long-term plan to continue to build on this creative and affirming tradition by adding new elements for every Pride Day. We will welcome other innovations next year, including drumming and other musical accompaniment as we make this tradition more and more our own. If you have any suggestions for how this event can be improved, please contact a member of the Waterloo-Wellington Regional Pride Committee or *The Voice Magazine*.

We would ask everyone to remember any religious references have very painful memories for many of us. Because of this reality, the one thing we will discourage is any explicit religious reference during this event. We want our Hate-Free Zone to be equally affirming

to those with a specific religious orientation and those who are happy, or unhappy, Atheists and Agnostics.

The persons involved from both Unitarian congregations are members of what is known as the Welcoming Congregation Program. This is a denominational initiative of ambitious adult education materials and other resources. It is meant to help a Unitarian congregation work through any residual homophobia and openly declare themselves to the larger community as welcoming to LGBT persons. While LGBT Unitarians are the initiators of this program, many straight friends have joined us to work towards the creation of a diverse, safe, accepting, and courageous place for us to gather and to go out to create a more inclusive and just society. Our congregations are an illustration of multiculturalism and a celebration of diversity. We are proud to be offering Pride Services on Sunday, June 10, in Waterloo and Guelph. Please see details in this Pride Guide.

LGBT and straight Unitarians look on this Hate-Free Zone event on Saturday, June 9, and the services on Sunday, June 10, as our contribution to Pride for all in Waterloo and Wellington Regions.

We hope those able to participate in either or both events will be affirmed in your own inherent worth and dignity and that they will contribute towards justice and compassion between us all.



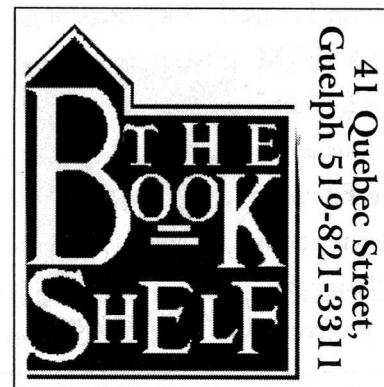
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## Second Annual GLBT Pride Service at Guelph Unitarian Fellowship

Join us for a musical morning that celebrates diversity and affirms the inherent worth and dignity of all people. The music of the Rainbow Chorus will entertain, celebrate and inspire! If you like, light a candle for someone you love, or for an issue that is important to you.

Guelph Unitarian Fellowship welcomes people of all races, genders, sexual orientations and ages. We are a liberal spiritual community, members hold a wide variety of personal religious beliefs.

Our congregation includes Atheists, Agnostics, Buddhists, Christians, Humanists, Jews, Pagans, people who wonder about spiritual things and others.

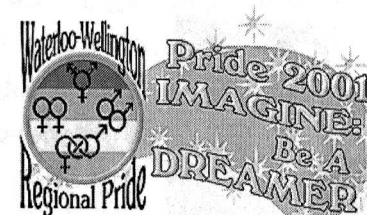
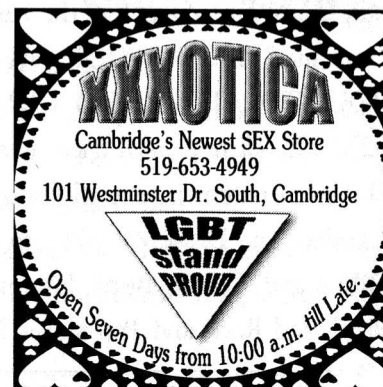
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Guelph 519-821-3311

## First Annual LGBT Pride Service at First Unitarian Congregation of Wloo

While we have helped create the "Hate-Free Zone" on Roos Island for three years, this will be our first Pride Service, open to all members of Waterloo Region's LGBT community, starting at 10:30. Rev. Anne Treadwell's sermon is titled "Whoever You Love," setting the tone of welcoming and celebration for everyone. Anyone seeing Anne's letter of greeting in this year's Annual Rainbow Directory will have a sense of what to expect.

First Unitarian Congregation of Waterloo is a liberal spiritual community, where members hold a wide variety of personal religious beliefs. We welcome people of all ages, ethnic backgrounds and diversities of sexual orientation and gender identification. For more information about us and directions to our building, please visit our web site:

[www.gpcomp.com/waterloounitarian/](http://www.gpcomp.com/waterloounitarian/)

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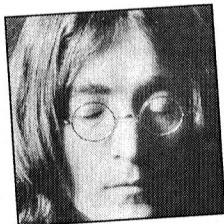


Waterloo-Wellington  
Pride 2001  
IMAGINE:  
Be A  
DREAMER  
Regional Pride

**LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL,  
TRANSGENDER  
PRIDE WEEKEND - JUNE 8, 9, 10  
FRIDAY, JUNE 8**

At Kitchener's Victoria Park Pavilion - Rainbow Chorus Presents "*The Rainbow Diary*" 8:00 - 10:00 p.m., followed by partying at Club Ren. Also, "*BB & GG Night*" at the Bombshelter, Student Life Centre, University of Waterloo, 9:00 p.m. to 1:00 a.m.

**SATURDAY, JUNE 9**



Pride 2001 - 12:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m., on Roos Island in Kitchener's Victoria Park. **\$2.00** cover or **\$1.00** with donation to the food bank. There will be a wide variety of information and vendor tables. Kick-off at **NOON** with the creation of

our "*Hate-Free-Zone*" to the tune of John Lennon's inspiring song, "Imagine." **BRING YOUR OWN PRIDE SYMBOLS TO ATTACH TO OUR "HATE-FREE" CIRCLE.** *There is no religious element to this event.*

This year's entertainment will feature **Chris Edwards**, **Candace** and **Drew**. We will also hear from **Sarah Dillon** and **Connie Buna**, known as "*Removable Red*," and Rock and Pop singer **Nancy Rancourt**.



**Nancy Rancourt**



**Chris Edwards**

*Kool FM* will roll onto Roos Island mid afternoon, bringing lots of fun and some free stuff!

Special guest provincial **Liberal MPP George Smitherman** will be on

hand. Smitherman is the first

openly gay member of the Ontario Legislature. There will be a silent auction at the WWRP table, a business card exchange and a "*Door of Dreams*" where you can write your dreams for your community. Following our Pride-In-The-Park Celebration there is plenty of high-energy fun at Club Ren's

First Annual "*White Ball*."



**Drew**

Also in K-W tonight, "*Celebrate Youth*" is having its first official fund raising event. All proceeds go to starting a sexual minority youth drop-in centre, so come and **DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY!!!** (This is a licensed event - photo I.D. required at the door) at **The Phoenix - 70 Belcan Street -**

**Waterloo, 8:00 p.m.**

-1:00 a.m. (off Weber St North). For those of you in Guelph and surrounding area, the **Rainbow Chorus** will be holding a dance at **611 Silvercreek Parkway.**

**WHITE BALL**

**Sunday June 10**

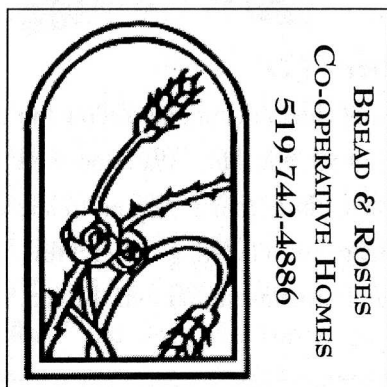
First Unitarian Congregation of Waterloo and Guelph Unitarian Fellowship will hold LGBT-affirming services at 10:30 a.m. for Waterloo and Wellington Regions. "*JAMMIN PRIDE*" will take place from 2:00 p.m. to late at the Wholistic Health Juice Bar & Lounge, at 119 King Street West, Kitchener. Bring your guitar or other musical instrument and join the jam, or just come and listen.



**Removable Red**

**Waterloo-Wellington Regional Pride would like to Thank all the businesses, organizations and individuals for supporting us, especially the following:**

Club Renaissance: Fran Furlong, Drew, Jason Gamble, staff and patrons;  
 The Voice: A.J. Mahari, Lyn McGinnis, Shelley Durocher, staff and patrons;  
 Blue Star Web Design: imaginative talents of staff;  
 City of Kitchener: Mayor Carl Zehr, Counselors and staff;  
 Wholistic Health, Juice Bar & Lounge: Kathy Frey, staff and patrons;  
 Muses Cafe: Dan Des Rosiers, Dave Bell, staff and patrons;  
 PFLAG: Evie and Matthew Hill and all the parents, family and friends;  
 First Unitarian Congregation of Waterloo: Anne Treadwell, Bruce Torrie, D. B. Keller,  
 Guelph Unitarian Fellowship and members;  
 Rainbow Chorus: Robert, Murray, Bob Miller, members and fans;  
 AIDS Committee of Guelph Wellington and Area: Luciano Biscottini, Executive  
 Director, Jan Robertson, Coordinator of Finance & Administration;  
 SEIU Local 220 and their brothers and sisters;  
 Labatt's: Celebrate Youth; and their helping team;  
 GLOW: Jeremy Steffler, Steve L, and all the volunteers;  
 Kitchener Downtown Business Association: Marty Schreiter, Director;  
 KOOL FM; The Record; Xtra!; Rogers TV; CKCO TV; and their staff, listeners,  
 readers and viewers;  
 Hoppy Copy; Canusa; Golden Triangle; and their staffs;  
 Chris Edwards and Candace; Greg Upshaw and friends; Removable Red;  
 Karen Redman, MP, Kitchener Centre and Andrew Telegdi, MP, K-W;  
 Ken Seiling, Regional Chair of Waterloo Region;  
 City of Waterloo and Mayor Lynne Woolstencroft;  
 City of Guelph and Mayor Karen Farbridge;  
 Economical Tax Services: owner Darren Kregar and his staff.  
 and YOU the Party On Proud Crowd!!



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**Continued from page 9**

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*We've done our best to include everyone and we hope we haven't left anyone out and if we did, our apologies and please do know we thank you too!*

This year's edition of our Annual Rainbow Directory is available in PDF format on our on web site, [www.rainbow.on.ca](http://www.rainbow.on.ca), for your convenience. If you'd like to get an ad (or be listed) in next year's directory please let us know. (contact information is on page 11) Deadline for next year's Directory is February 15, 2002.



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Vice Chair, Lyn McGinnis .....[vicechair@rainbow.on.ca](mailto:vicechair@rainbow.on.ca)  
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Joseph Taylor

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Ron Welker  
Kathy Frey

If you'd like to get involved in the WWRP constitutional meetings over the summer or help out in the planning of next year's Pride or work on next year's Annual Rainbow Directory, please get in touch with us (contact information to the right).

Visit our WWRP table to see what else is going on in your community.



**WWRP**  
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