

# The Rainbow Times

The Freshest Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Newspaper in New England

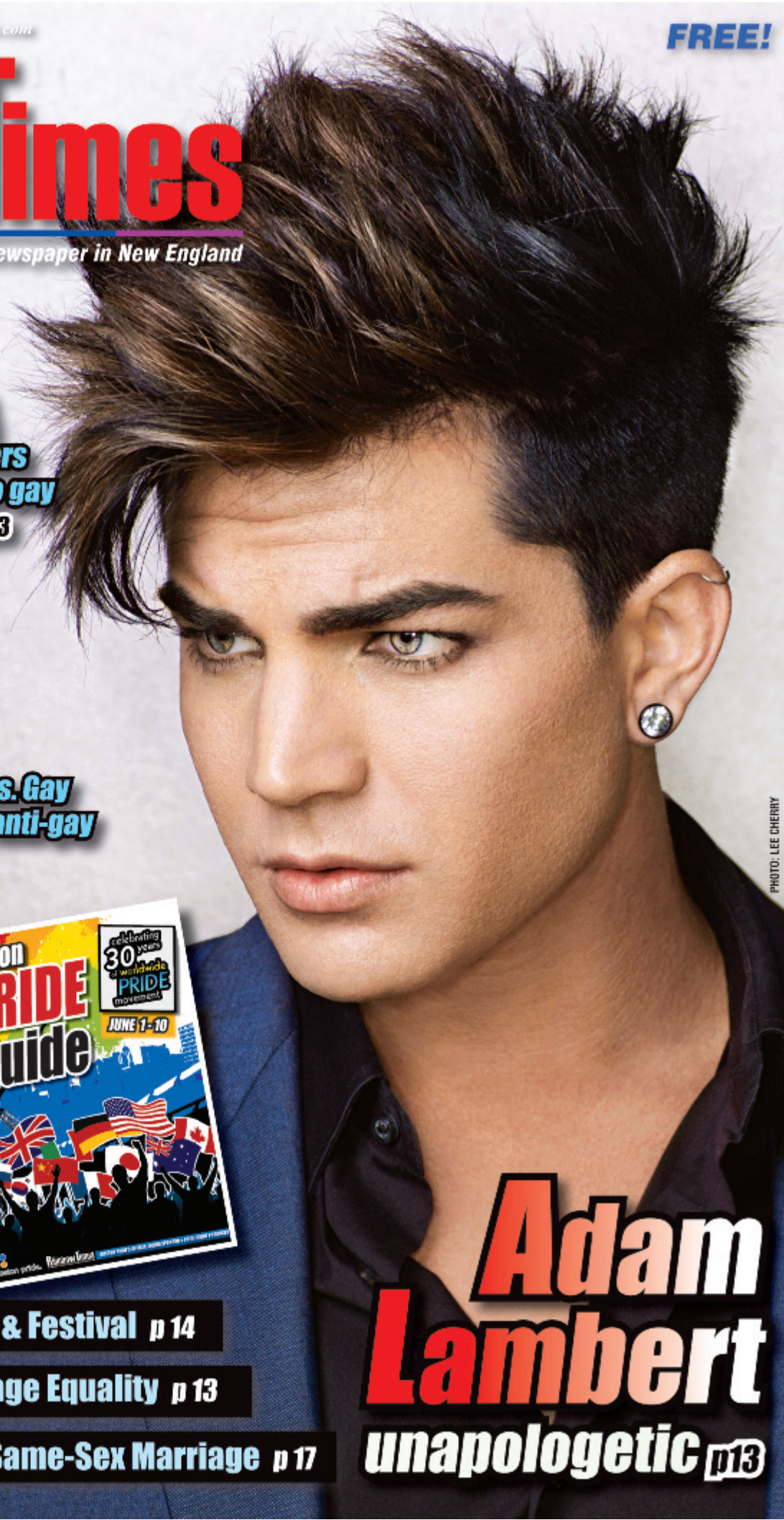


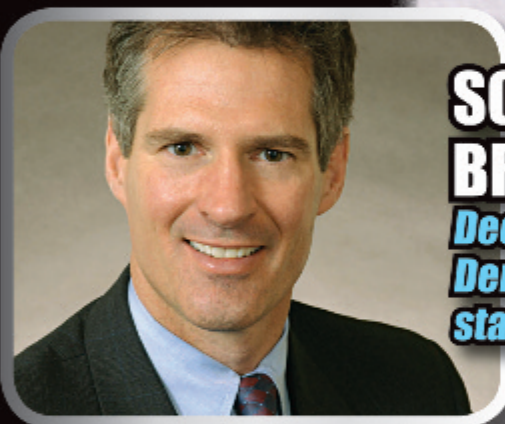
PHOTO: LEE CHERRY

PHOTO: GLENN KOETZNER



**PRES. OBAMA**  
NAACP, others say "I do" to gay marriage p3

PHOTO: SCOTT BROWN, SENATE.GOV



**SCOTT BROWN**  
Decried by Mass. Gay Democrats for anti-gay stances p21

PHOTO: PROVIDED BY BOSTON PRIDE



**ALEXIS JORDAN**  
in the Official Boston Pride Guide Inside



**NOHO PRIDE: Approx. 8K Attend March & Festival p 14**

**MASSACHUSETTS: 8 years After Marriage Equality p 13**

**RI GOV: Signs Mandate to Recognize Same-Sex Marriage p 17**

**Adam Lambert**  
unapologetic p13

## Boston Pride Guide 2012: Its Official Guide for you!

By: Gricel M. Ocasio\*/TRT Publisher

Happy Boston Pride 2012 everyone! In this edition of *The Rainbow Times* you will find the Official Boston Pride Guide—the Guide proudly produced by *The Rainbow Times* and the only one that gives back to the organization. Please support the official events listed throughout the paper and guide depicted through advertisements and editorial content. These companies and organizations placed ads in the *Official Boston Pride Guide*, in support of Boston Pride 2012.

We also wanted to thank Boston Pride for having selected *The Rainbow Times* as their Official media partner again this year. It has been a pleasure working with the Board, employees, committee members and volunteers. These are the hard-working individuals who produce Boston Pride and we should all commend them for the work that they do to honor our community. They are the voices of our youth, our mainstream and non-mainstream LGBT communities, they care about civil rights and they do it for altruistic reasons. They have worked very hard to bring you Pride week from June 1-10, so that you can celebrate pride and continue to assist with the struggles that still lie ahead of us. Please, when you attend Boston Pride this year, give back to them. It is as simple as placing your contribution in the designated buckets along the parade route.

## You, like the sunflowers, are one of God's great creations

By: Paul P. Jesep\*/TRT Columnist

It's that time of year. In my home, seedlings have been growing in small cups since March. They need to be potted for the deck garden. There is something very mystical in observing seeds sprout and grow. Tiny shells break open, push up from the dark earth, and grow into strong, extraordinary things. Life in all its forms is a miracle. Sometimes we take a great deal for granted and forget to find joy in the simplest things.

One of my loves is sunflowers. In my opinion, giant or miniature ones are the monarchs of all flowers. They have resilience and an understated majesty all their own. They exude confidence, but not arrogance. They show wisdom without vanity. They feel the earth's heartbeat. They listen thoughtfully without judgment. In the face of storms they stand strong and courageous, comparable only to a mighty tree.

At the end of the season they give of themselves selflessly, letting birds, deer, and other creatures, including us, be nourished from their seeds. They bring together a community of nature. They instruct about wholeness. They show how to let go and be humble.

Their beautiful brown faces turn to the sun, the light, to the hope that each day brings. In their deep brown purity you can see the call of Holy Wisdom. It is in such simple things that spiritual sustenance can be drawn. It can enable someone to rise above the temptation to demand an eye for an eye. It can teach someone to be generous in praise and guarded and selective in criticism. The sunflower keeps me grounded.

You may think it odd that so much can be learned from the sunflower. Yet all around us plants, flowers, and animals offer lessons. Their

In speaking about strides and struggles, we also have reason to celebrate. Last month, President Obama declared his support of marriage equality. This unprecedented commitment to our community cannot go unnoticed. I have to say it was unexpected to me, for I didn't think the day would come — and I'd still be here — when this historic declaration would happen. It is the realization for lesbian and gay Americans that they could possibly marry (and attain more than the 1,100 legal rights) their loving partners and receive these well-deserved privileges.

**In this edition you will find the Official Boston Pride Guide—the Guide produced by The Rainbow Times and the only one that gives back to Pride.**

As the President who has done more for LGBT civil rights than any other in the history of the country, we must also be vigilant in remembering who our allies are in and out of Washington. Likewise, we thank the NAACP for their support of marriage equality. Their sanction of marriage equality was monumental and destroys some of the myths that other anti-gay organizations are using to place a stereotype against African Americans. Lastly, we must not forget to continue to thank and work with our allies and all of the organizations, companies, and individuals that with their monetary or verbal support have stood by us. We are grateful and humbled by their actions.

*\*Gricel Martínez Ocasio has been in the journalism field for over 20 years. She holds an MBA from Marylhurst University and a Bachelor's in Journalism from Temple University. Reach her at: publisher@therainbowtimes-news.com.*

voices are softer than a whisper. Find quiet and stillness to hear them. The wisdom will not be given. You must journey into the lessons. It takes work. Finding quiet and stillness is part of the effort. These miracles of nature teach perspective.

No matter what kind of day or week you think you're having, it's a good day. Find joy in it. If a boss or colleague has been difficult, buy yourself some flowers. Take the time to appreciate the colors and smells. If you've had an argument with a loved one, share a box of chocolates. If someone cuts you off in traffic today, wish them well. It's not worth the time or energy to be angry. If you spilled coffee on yourself on the way to work, get over it. You won't melt and they're only clothes.

Approach the broader issues of life the same way. The nation is in a period of great social transition. Sadly, there are bigoted, hateful messages that will continue to circulate. This year will be another watershed year for civil and human rights. Even the most grounded person can get dejected by the bombardment of negative opinions about the very nature of one's personhood. In the end, however, no one can make you feel bad. It's your choice.

Life is about keeping things in perspective to transcend and transform. Personally, as long as there are sunflowers, all is right in the world. Like you, they're one of God's beautiful creations. Remember to identify with something bigger than yourself and feel connected to the greater universe. This world would be incomplete without you.

*\*Paul is an author, attorney, and a seminary trained, ordained priest in greater Albany, N.Y. E-mail questions to Dilovod@aol.com.*

## HIV/AIDS-prevention and treatment funding is getting cut in Massachusetts. That's a bad idea.

By: Jason Lydon\*/TRT Columnist

The Obama Administration has heralded itself as striving to bring forth an "AIDS-free generation." In February, many AIDS Service Organizations (ASOs) were celebrating the president's budget proposal that increased HIV/AIDS funding by \$800 million. However, this increase in funding is significantly misleading, a reality we know well here in Massachusetts. On Monday, May 14, the *Boston Globe* reported that the Massachusetts county jails would be losing over \$1 million in funding for HIV/AIDS testing and education. This loss is part of the \$4.3 million cut in federal HIV/AIDS funding for Massachusetts.

### Boston has declared a state of emergency in black communities because of the rates of HIV/AIDS. Cutting services and programs amounts to racist policy making.

Morrigan Phillips, a Boston-based social worker focused on HIV/AIDS services, expressed her anger about the cuts: "I think it's important for community-based HIV/AIDS prevention and support organizations to look critically at these cuts in the long and short term of their impacts."

She continued, saying, "On the short term, the cuts are making valuable community-based programming vulnerable, despite being a large part

of preventing HIV and keeping people who are living with HIV in supportive programs that improve their quality of life. In the long-term, the cuts are part of a bigger shift away from community based HIV/AIDS work to a biomedical model." This biomedical model has been exemplified in the National HIV/AIDS strategy. Phillips explained, "While it is great for the U.S. to finally have a national strategy, it is troubling that this strategy emphasizes the biomedical model over community prevention and treatment models. One can't work without the other. A doctor is not going to get someone to be adherent to their medications or get them to their appointments or help them to process grief and trauma; community groups are going to do that. Yet we are the ones losing funding."

On a statewide level, the fight to restore some of the funding cuts through the state budget is under way. Representative Carl Sciortino was able to get some funding restored in the House budget. Senator Sonia Chang-Diaz is working on a similar amendment for the Senate budget. The senator's amendment would increase the budget \$1.25 million for HIV/AIDS and viral hepatitis for fiscal year 2013. However, this is only a slight beginning to restore funding cuts.

To read the rest of this story visit:  
<http://bit.ly/KToncQ>

### The Rainbow Times

The Freshest LGBT Newspaper  
in New England

[www.therainbowtimesmass.com](http://www.therainbowtimesmass.com)

[editor@therainbowtimesmass.com](mailto:editor@therainbowtimesmass.com)  
[sales@therainbowtimesmass.com](mailto:sales@therainbowtimesmass.com)

Phone: 617.444.9618 / 413.282.8881  
Fax: 888-442-2421

Publisher <b>Gricel M. Ocasio</b> Editor-In-Chief <b>Nicole Lashomb</b> Assistant Editor <b>Brianna Snyder</b> Sales Associates <b>Chris Gilmore</b> <b>Liz Johnson</b> Lead Photographer <b>Glenn Koetzner</b> Webmaster <b>Jarred Johnson</b> Design <b>Prizm Designs</b>	Columnists <b>Lorelei Erisis</b> <b>Deja N. Greenlaw</b> <b>Paul P. Jesep</b> <b>Jason Lydon</b> <b>Tynan Power</b> <b>Jenn Tracz</b> <b>John Verlinden</b> Reporters <b>Chuck Colbert</b> <b>Clara Lefton</b> <b>Christine Nicco</b> <b>Tynan Power</b> <b>Casey Rocheteau</b> <b>Emily Scagel</b>
---	---

*The Rainbow Times is published monthly by The Rainbow Times, LLC. TRT is affiliated with the National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, CABO - The Connecticut Alliance for Business Opportunity, and QSyndicate. The articles written by the writers, columnists, and correspondents express their opinion, and do not represent the endorsement or opinion of The Rainbow Times, LLC or its owners. To write letters to the editor, please send your letters, with your name, address and phone number to: The Rainbow Times (address shown above), or e-mail any comment/s to the editor at: [editor@therainbowtimes-news.com](mailto:editor@therainbowtimes-news.com). All submissions will be edited according to space constraints. The Rainbow Times, LLC reserves the right not to print any or all content, or advertisements for any reason at all. TRT is not responsible for advertising content. To receive The Rainbow Times at your home via regular mail, or through electronic delivery, please visit its website. The whole content and graphics (photos, etc.) are the sole property of The Rainbow Times, LLC and they cannot be reproduced at all without TRT's consent.*

### Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I will say that I represent the silent White minority. The article written by your Publisher, Ms. Ocasio, was—in light of the current events—very beneficial to read. It kept me in check about the injustices that are not often seen by members of my own Caucasian race. I would be insulted if suddenly someone who's been in the news so often, as Zimmerman has, is now referred to as Hispanic, even if he is a Hispanic man. I've noticed too that the rage and divide from the Caucasian community that I am often offended to be a part of, and media coverage has subsided now that this incident is one of and about minority groups. It is not the right America. Not even for me, a White man from New Haven. My partner is African American and I could relate to his contention about this topic. It enraged me as well. Now, suddenly Trayvon Martin is not as relevant, nor is his death. It's a matter to be solved in the court of law that your Publisher refers to, the one where she's been unfairly assigned three victim points. Can

See Letters on Page 10

# NAACP's Historic Move: Organization sanctions Marriage Equality

By: Lisa Keen/Keen News Service

IN THE LIMELIGHT

Saying that the NAACP has “always stood against laws that demean, dehumanize, and discriminate against people,” NAACP Board Chairman Roslyn Brock formally announced Monday (May 21) the board’s vote in favor of a resolution supporting marriage equality.

Joining Brock at a press conference at the group’s headquarters in Baltimore, NAACP President Ben Jealous noted that this is the first time the organization has taken a position on same-sex marriage generally, and not in the context of opposing a specific law, such as Proposition 8.

LGBT groups were understandably excited to hear the news because the announcement can be considered a major advancement in the general population’s support for marriage equality. Anti-gay activists have tried hard for years to drive a wedge between the black and gay movements for civil rights, and many polls have shown African-Americans generally have shown less support for allowing gay couples to marry.

“We could not be more pleased with the NAACP’s history-making vote today,” said Human Rights Campaign President Joe Solmonese. “It’s time the shameful myth that the African-American community is somehow out of lockstep with the rest of the country on marriage equality is retired, once and for all.”

HRC recently released copies of internal memos it discovered from court documents, il-

lustrating that the anti-gay National Organization for Marriage was deliberately trying to organize African American opposition to same-sex marriage.

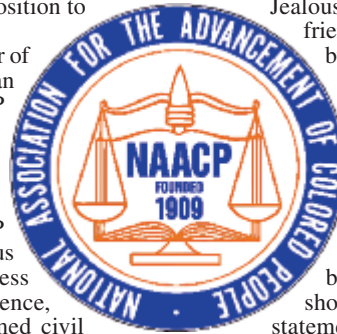
Rea Carey, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, called the NAACP board vote “a truly historic moment,” adding that NGLTF “couldn’t be more thrilled.”

Carey said her group is not surprised by the vote. NAACP National President Ben Jealous had delivered a keynote address to NGLTF’s national conference, reminding attendees that famed civil rights activist Bayard Rustin, who was gay,

neighborhood— stuck together when being discriminated against because they were black. And Jealous also stood together with his friend when his friend was being bullied because he was gay.

**Days after president Obama Affirmed his support for marriage equality (<http://bit.ly/KnGCoW>).**

The NAACP announcement comes just 10 days after President Obama made headlines by affirming that he believes same-sex couples should be allowed to marry—a statement he has been reluctant to make since running for the White House.



## NAACP National President Ben Jealous ... reminding attendees that famed civil rights activist Bayard Rustin, who was gay, helped planned the historic 1963 civil rights march on Washington.

helped planned the historic 1963 civil rights march on Washington.

In his keynote, Jealous told the audience at NGLTF’s annual Creating Change conference, held last in January in Baltimore, of a close friend he had since the age of four. The friend has been like a brother to him. Jealous shared how he and his friend— the only other black child his age in his Carmel, California, neigh-

The board of the 103-year-old civil rights group passed a resolution stating: “The NAACP Constitution affirmatively states our objective to ensure the ‘political, educational, social and economic equality’ of all people. Therefore, the NAACP has opposed and will continue to oppose any national, state, local policy or legislative initiative that seeks to codify discrimination or hatred into the law or to

remove the Constitutional rights of LGBT citizens. We support marriage equality consistent with equal protection under the law provided under the Fourteenth Amendment of the United States Constitution. Further, we strongly affirm the religious freedoms of all people as protected by the First Amendment.”

In releasing the statement, NAACP board Chair Roslyn Brock said that the NAACP’s mission “has always been to ensure the political, social and economic equality of all people.” And she promised the NAACP would “oppose efforts to codify discrimination into law.”

*The New York Times* reported that its sources indicated only two board members failed to support the resolution. The board includes 69 people.

The organization’s press release about the board’s vote explained that its support for marriage equality was “deeply rooted” in the constitutional guarantee of equal protection of the law. At Monday’s press conference, Jealous said the NAACP would “firmly oppose all efforts to restrict marriage equality,” including attempts to amend budgetary bills in Congress with language intended to exclude gay couples.

Asked whether he was concerned there might be a backlash against the NAACP by black churches, Jealous gave an emphatic response. He said some clergy might feel differently than the board, but that the NAACP does this work “because of our faith, not despite it.”

“This will not,” he said, “be used as a wedge issue in our own community.”

© 2012 Keen News Service. All rights reserved.



Here's to diversity. In what we drink, and in life. [mainmeadworks.com](http://mainmeadworks.com).



COMPLERA (emtricitabine/rilpivirine/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate) is a prescription medicine used as a complete single-tablet regimen to treat HIV-1 in adults who have never taken HIV medicines before. COMPLERA does not cure HIV or AIDS or help prevent passing HIV to others.

The **one**  for me

Patient model. Pill shown is not actual size.

## INDICATION

COMPLERA<sup>®</sup> (emtricitabine 200 mg/rilpivirine 25 mg/tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300 mg) is a prescription HIV medicine that contains 3 medicines, EMTRIVA<sup>®</sup> (emtricitabine), EDURANT<sup>™</sup> (rilpivirine), and VIREAD<sup>®</sup> (tenofovir disoproxil fumarate) combined in one pill. COMPLERA is used as a complete single-tablet regimen to treat HIV-1 infection in adults (age 18 and older) who have never taken HIV medicines before.

**COMPLERA does not cure HIV and has not been shown to prevent passing HIV to others.** It is important to always practice safer sex, use latex or polyurethane condoms to lower the chance of sexual contact with any body fluids, and to never re-use or share needles. **Do not stop taking COMPLERA unless directed by your healthcare provider. See your healthcare provider regularly.**

## IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

**Contact your healthcare provider right away if you get the following side effects or conditions while taking COMPLERA:**

- Nausea, vomiting, unusual muscle pain, and/or weakness. These may be signs of a buildup of acid in the blood (lactic acidosis), which is a serious medical condition
- Light-colored stools, dark-colored urine, and/or if your skin or the whites of your eyes turn yellow. These may be signs of serious liver problems (hepatotoxicity), with liver enlargement (hepatomegaly), and fat in the liver (steatosis)
- If you have HIV-1 and hepatitis B virus (HBV), your liver disease may suddenly get worse if you stop taking COMPLERA. Do not stop taking COMPLERA without first talking to your healthcare provider. Your healthcare provider will monitor your condition

**COMPLERA may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how COMPLERA works, and may cause serious side effects.**

### Do not take COMPLERA if you are taking the following medicines:

- other HIV medicines (COMPLERA provides a complete treatment for HIV infection.)
- the anti-seizure medicines carbamazepine (Carbatrol<sup>®</sup>, Equetro<sup>®</sup>, Tegretol<sup>®</sup>, Tegretol-XR<sup>®</sup>, Teril<sup>®</sup>, Epitol<sup>®</sup>), oxcarbazepine (Trileptal<sup>®</sup>), phenobarbital (Luminal<sup>®</sup>), phenytoin (Dilantin<sup>®</sup>, Dilantin-125<sup>®</sup>, Phenytek<sup>®</sup>)
- the anti-tuberculosis medicines rifabutin (Mycobutin), rifampin (Rifater<sup>®</sup>, Rifamate<sup>®</sup>, Rimactane<sup>®</sup>, Rifadin<sup>®</sup>) and rifapentine (Priftin<sup>®</sup>)
- a proton pump inhibitor medicine for certain stomach or intestinal problems, including esomeprazole (Nexium<sup>®</sup>, Vimovo<sup>®</sup>), lansoprazole (Prevacid<sup>®</sup>), omeprazole (Prilosec<sup>®</sup>), pantoprazole sodium (Protonix<sup>®</sup>), rabeprazole (Aciphex<sup>®</sup>)
- more than 1 dose of the steroid medicine dexamethasone or dexamethasone sodium phosphate
- St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)
- other medicines that contain tenofovir (VIREAD<sup>®</sup>, TRUVADA<sup>®</sup>, ATRIPLA<sup>®</sup>)
- other medicines that contain emtricitabine or lamivudine (EMTRIVA<sup>®</sup>, Combivir<sup>®</sup>, Epivir<sup>®</sup> or Epivir-HBV<sup>®</sup>, Epzicom<sup>®</sup>, Trizivir<sup>®</sup>)
- rilpivirine (Edurant<sup>™</sup>)
- adefovir (HEPSERA<sup>®</sup>)

### In addition, also tell your healthcare provider if you take:

- an antacid medicine that contains aluminum, magnesium hydroxide, or calcium carbonate. Take antacids at least 2 hours before or at least 4 hours after you take COMPLERA
- a histamine-2 blocker medicine, including famotidine (Pepcid<sup>®</sup>), cimetidine (Tagamet<sup>®</sup>), nizatidine (Axid<sup>®</sup>), or ranitidine hydrochloride (Zantac<sup>®</sup>). Take these medicines at least 12 hours before or at least 4 hours after you take COMPLERA
- the antibiotic medicines clarithromycin (Biaxin<sup>®</sup>), erythromycin (E-Mycin<sup>®</sup>, Eryc<sup>®</sup>, Ery-Tab<sup>®</sup>, PCE<sup>®</sup>, Pediazole<sup>®</sup>, Ilosone<sup>®</sup>), and troleandomycin (TAO<sup>®</sup>)
- an antifungal medicine by mouth, including fluconazole (Diflucan<sup>®</sup>), itraconazole (Sporanox<sup>®</sup>), ketoconazole (Nizoral<sup>®</sup>), posaconazole (Noxafil<sup>®</sup>), voriconazole (Vfend<sup>®</sup>)
- methadone (Dolophine<sup>®</sup>)

**This list of medicines is not complete. Discuss with your healthcare provider all prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, or herbal supplements you are taking or plan to take.**

Save up to  
**\$200**  
per month

You may be able to save on the co-pay for your COMPLERA prescription with a Gilead HIV Co-pay Assistance Card.

Call 1-877-505-6986 for more information or visit [www.COMPLERA.com](http://www.COMPLERA.com).\*



**COMPLERA.** A complete HIV treatment in only 1 pill a day.

Ask your healthcare provider if it's the **one** for you.

**Before taking COMPLERA, tell your healthcare provider if you:**

- have **liver problems**, including **hepatitis B or C** virus infection
- have **kidney problems**
- have ever had a **mental health problem**
- have **bone problems**
- are **pregnant or plan to become pregnant**. It is not known if COMPLERA can harm your unborn child
- are breastfeeding; **women with HIV should not breast-feed** because they can pass HIV through their milk to the baby

**Contact your healthcare provider right away if you experience any of the following serious or common side effects:**

**Serious side effects associated with COMPLERA:**

- **New or worse kidney problems** can happen in some people who take COMPLERA. If you have had kidney problems in the past or take other medicines that can cause kidney problems, your healthcare provider may need to do blood tests to check your kidneys during your treatment with COMPLERA
- **Depression or mood changes** can happen in some people who take COMPLERA. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the following symptoms: feeling sad or hopeless, feeling anxious or restless, or if you have thoughts of hurting yourself (suicide) or have tried to hurt yourself
- **Bone problems** can happen in some people who take COMPLERA. Bone problems include bone pain, softening or thinning (which may lead to fractures). Your healthcare provider may need to do additional tests to check your bones
- **Changes in body fat** can happen in people taking HIV medicine. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the main part of your body (trunk). Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The cause and long-term health effect of these conditions are not known
- **Changes in your immune system (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome)** can happen when you start taking HIV medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your healthcare provider if you start having new symptoms after starting your HIV medicine

**Common side effects associated with COMPLERA:**

- trouble sleeping (insomnia), abnormal dreams, headache, dizziness, diarrhea, nausea, rash, tiredness, and depression

**Other side effects associated with COMPLERA:**

- vomiting, stomach pain or discomfort, skin discoloration (small spots or freckles), and pain

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away. These are not all the possible side effects of COMPLERA. For more information, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist. Call your healthcare provider for medical advice about side effects.

**You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit [www.fda.gov/medwatch](http://www.fda.gov/medwatch) or call 1-800-FDA-1088.**

**Take COMPLERA exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to take it**

- **Always take COMPLERA with a meal.** Taking COMPLERA with a meal is important to help get the right amount of medicine in your body. A protein drink does not replace a meal
- **Stay under the care of your healthcare provider during treatment with COMPLERA and see your healthcare provider regularly**

**Please see Patient Information for COMPLERA on the following pages.**

\*The co-pay program covers up to \$200 per month for 1 year from card activation or until the card expires, up to \$2400 in a calendar year. The program is subject to change or cancellation at any time.



**COMPLERA<sup>®</sup>**  
emtricitabine 200mg/rilpivirine 25mg/  
tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300mg tablets

Learn more at [www.COMPLERA.com](http://www.COMPLERA.com)

#### FDA-Approved Patient Labeling

#### Patient Information

#### COMPLERA® (kom-PLER-rah)

(emtricitabine, rilpivirine and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate) Tablets

**Important: Ask your doctor or pharmacist about medicines that should not be taken with COMPLERA.** For more information, see the section "What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking COMPLERA?"

Read this Patient Information before you start taking COMPLERA and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This information does not take the place of talking to your healthcare provider about your medical condition or treatment.

#### What is the most important information I should know about COMPLERA?

**COMPLERA can cause serious side effects, including:**

**1. Build-up of an acid in your blood (lactic acidosis).** Lactic acidosis can happen in some people who take COMPLERA or similar (nucleoside analogs) medicines. Lactic acidosis is a serious medical emergency that can lead to death.

Lactic acidosis can be hard to identify early, because the symptoms could seem like symptoms of other health problems. **Call your healthcare provider right away if you get any of the following symptoms which could be signs of lactic acidosis:**

- feeling very weak or tired
- have unusual (not normal) muscle pain
- have trouble breathing
- have stomach pain with
  - nausea (feel sick to your stomach)
  - vomiting
- feel cold, especially in your arms and legs
- feel dizzy or lightheaded
- have a fast or irregular heartbeat

**2. Severe liver problems.** Severe liver problems can happen in people who take COMPLERA or similar medicines. In some cases these liver problems can lead to death. Your liver may become large (hepatomegaly) and you may develop fat in your liver (steatosis) when you take COMPLERA.

**Call your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the following symptoms of liver problems:**

- your skin or the white part of your eyes turns yellow (jaundice).
- dark "tea-colored" urine
- light-colored bowel movements (stools)
- loss of appetite for several days or longer
- nausea
- stomach pain

**You may be more likely to get lactic acidosis or severe liver problems if you are female, very overweight (obese), or have been taking COMPLERA or a similar medicine containing nucleoside analogs for a long time.**

**3. Worsening of Hepatitis B infection.** If you also have hepatitis B virus (HBV) infection and you stop taking COMPLERA, your HBV infection may become worse (flare-up). A "flare-up" is when your HBV infection suddenly returns in a worse way than before. COMPLERA is not approved for the treatment of HBV, so you must discuss your HBV therapy with your healthcare provider.

- Do not let your COMPLERA run out. Refill your prescription or talk to your healthcare provider before your COMPLERA is all gone.
- Do not stop taking COMPLERA without first talking to your healthcare provider.
- If you stop taking COMPLERA, your healthcare provider will need to check your health often and do regular blood tests to check your HBV infection. Tell your healthcare provider about any new or unusual symptoms you may have after you stop taking COMPLERA.

#### What is COMPLERA?

COMPLERA is a prescription HIV (Human Immunodeficiency Virus) medicine that:

- is used to treat HIV-1 in adults who have **never** taken HIV medicines before. HIV is the virus that causes AIDS (Acquired Immunodeficiency Syndrome).
- contains 3 medicines, (rilpivirine, emtricitabine, tenofovir disoproxil fumarate) combined in one tablet. EMTRIVA and VIREAD are HIV-1 (human immunodeficiency virus) nucleoside analog reverse transcriptase inhibitors (NRTIs) and EDURANT is an HIV-1 non-nucleoside analog reverse transcriptase inhibitor (NNRTI).

It is not known if COMPLERA is safe and effective in children under the age of 18 years.

#### COMPLERA may help:

- Reduce the amount of HIV in your blood. This is called your "viral load".
- Increase the number of white blood cells called CD4+ (T) cells that help fight off other infections.

Reducing the amount of HIV and increasing the CD4+ (T) cell count may improve your immune system. This may reduce your risk of death or infections that can happen when your immune system is weak (opportunistic infections).

#### COMPLERA does not cure HIV infections or AIDS.

- Always practice safer sex.
- Use latex or polyurethane condoms to lower the chance of sexual contact with any body fluids such as semen, vaginal secretions, or blood.
- Never re-use or share needles.

Ask your healthcare provider if you have any questions about how to prevent passing HIV to other people.

#### Who should not take COMPLERA?

- Do not take COMPLERA if your HIV infection has been previously treated with HIV medicines.
- Do not take COMPLERA if you are taking certain other medicines. For more information about medicines that must not be taken with COMPLERA, see "What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking COMPLERA?"

#### What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking COMPLERA?

**Before you take COMPLERA, tell your healthcare provider if you:**

- have liver problems, including hepatitis B or C virus infection
- have kidney problems
- have ever had a mental health problem
- have bone problems
- are pregnant or plan to become pregnant. It is not known if COMPLERA can harm your unborn child
- **Pregnancy Registry.** There is a pregnancy registry for women who take antiviral medicines during pregnancy. Its purpose is to collect information about the health of you and your baby. Talk to your healthcare provider about how you can take part in this registry.
- are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recommends that mothers with HIV not breastfeed because they can pass the HIV through their milk to the baby. It is not known if COMPLERA can pass through your breast milk and harm your baby. Talk to your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.

**Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take,** including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

**COMPLERA may affect the way other medicines work, and other medicines may affect how COMPLERA works, and may cause serious side effects.** If you take certain medicines with COMPLERA, the amount of COMPLERA in your body may be too low and it may not work to help control your HIV infection. The HIV virus in your body may become resistant to COMPLERA or other HIV medicines that are like it.

#### Do not take COMPLERA if you also take these medicines:

- COMPLERA provides a complete treatment for HIV infection. Do not take other HIV medicines with COMPLERA.
- the anti-seizure medicines carbamazepine (CARBATROL®, EQUETRO®, TEGRETOL®, TEGRETOL-XR®, TERIL®, EPITOL®), oxcarbazepine (TRILEPTAL®), phenobarbital (LUMINAL®), phenytoin (DILANTIN®, DILANTIN-125®, PHENYTEK®)
- the anti-tuberculosis medicines rifabutin (MYCOBUTIN®), rifampin (RIFATER®, RIFAMATE®, RIMACTANE®, RIFADIN®) and rifapentine (PRIFTIN®)
- a proton pump inhibitor medicine for certain stomach or intestinal problems, including esomeprazole (NEXIUM®, VIMOVO®), lansoprazole (PREVACID®), omeprazole (PRILOSEC®), pantoprazole sodium (PROTONIX®), rabeprazole (ACIPHEX®)
- more than 1 dose of the steroid medicine dexamethasone or dexamethasone sodium phosphate
- St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)

#### If you are taking COMPLERA, you should not take:

- other medicines that contain tenofovir (VIREAD®, TRUVADA®, ATRIPLA®)
- other medicines that contain emtricitabine or lamivudine (EMTRIVA®, COMBIVIR®, EPIVIR® or EPIVIR-HBV®, EPZICOM®, TRIZIVIR®)
- rilpivirine (EDURANT™)
- adefovir (HEPSERA®)

**Also tell your healthcare provider if you take:**

- an antacid medicine that contains aluminum, magnesium hydroxide, or calcium carbonate. Take antacids at least 2 hours before or at least 4 hours after you take COMPLERA.
- a histamine-2 blocker medicine, including famotidine (PEPCID<sup>®</sup>), cimetidine (TAGAMET<sup>®</sup>), nizatidine (AXID<sup>®</sup>), or ranitidine hydrochloride (ZANTAC<sup>®</sup>). Take these medicines at least 12 hours before or at least 4 hours after you take COMPLERA.
- the antibiotic medicines clarithromycin (BIAXIN<sup>®</sup>), erythromycin (E-MYCIN<sup>®</sup>, ERYC<sup>®</sup>, ERY-TAB<sup>®</sup>, PCE<sup>®</sup>, PEDIAZOLE<sup>®</sup>, ILOSONE<sup>®</sup>), and troleandomycin (TAO<sup>®</sup>)
- an antifungal medicine by mouth, including fluconazole (DIFLUCAN<sup>®</sup>), itraconazole (SPORANOX<sup>®</sup>), ketoconazole (NIZORAL<sup>®</sup>), posaconazole (NOXAFIL<sup>®</sup>), voriconazole (VFEND<sup>®</sup>)
- methadone (DOLOPHINE<sup>®</sup>)

**Ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist if you are not sure if your medicine is one that is listed above.**

**Know the medicines you take. Keep a list of your medicines and show it to your healthcare provider and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.** Your healthcare provider and your pharmacist can tell you if you can take these medicines with COMPLERA. Do not start any new medicines while you are taking COMPLERA without first talking with your healthcare provider or pharmacist. You can ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for a list of medicines that can interact with COMPLERA.

**How should I take COMPLERA?**

- **Stay under the care of your healthcare provider during treatment with COMPLERA.**
- **Take COMPLERA exactly as your healthcare provider tells you to take it.**
- **Always take COMPLERA with a meal.** Taking COMPLERA with a meal is important to help get the right amount of medicine in your body. A protein drink does not replace a meal.
- Do not change your dose or stop taking COMPLERA without first talking with your healthcare provider. See your healthcare provider regularly while taking COMPLERA.
- If you miss a dose of COMPLERA within 12 hours of the time you usually take it, take your dose of COMPLERA with a meal as soon as possible. Then, take your next dose of COMPLERA at the regularly scheduled time. If you miss a dose of COMPLERA by more than 12 hours of the time you usually take it, wait and then take the next dose of COMPLERA at the regularly scheduled time.
- Do not take more than your prescribed dose to make up for a missed dose.
- **When your COMPLERA supply starts to run low, get more from your healthcare provider or pharmacy.** It is very important not to run out of COMPLERA. The amount of virus in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time.
- If you take too much COMPLERA, contact your local poison control center or go to the nearest hospital emergency room right away.

**What are the possible side effects of COMPLERA?**

COMPLERA may cause the following serious side effects, including:

- See **"What is the most important information I should know about COMPLERA?"**
- **New or worse kidney problems** can happen in some people who take COMPLERA. If you have had kidney problems in the past or take other medicines that can cause kidney problems, your healthcare provider may need to do blood tests to check your kidneys during your treatment with COMPLERA.
- **Depression or mood changes. Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any of the following symptoms:**
  - feeling sad or hopeless
  - feeling anxious or restless
  - have thoughts of hurting yourself (suicide) or have tried to hurt yourself
- **Bone problems** can happen in some people who take COMPLERA. Bone problems include bone pain, softening or thinning (which may lead to fractures). Your healthcare provider may need to do additional tests to check your bones.
- **Changes in body fat** can happen in people taking HIV medicine. These changes may include increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the main part of your body (trunk). Loss of fat from the legs, arms and face may also happen. The cause and long term health effect of these conditions are not known.
- **Changes in your immune system (Immune Reconstitution Syndrome)** can happen when you start taking HIV medicines. Your immune system may get stronger and begin to fight infections that have been hidden in your body for a long time. Tell your healthcare provider if you start having new symptoms after starting your HIV medicine.

The most common side effects of COMPLERA include:

- trouble sleeping (insomnia)
- abnormal dreams
- headache
- dizziness
- diarrhea
- nausea
- rash
- tiredness
- depression

Additional common side effects include:

- vomiting
- stomach pain or discomfort
- skin discoloration (small spots or freckles)
- pain

Tell your healthcare provider if you have any side effect that bothers you or that does not go away.

These are not all the possible side effects of COMPLERA. For more information, ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist.

Call your doctor for medical advice about side effects. You may report side effects to FDA at 1-800-FDA-1088 (1-800-332-1088).

**How do I store COMPLERA?**

- Store COMPLERA at room temperature 77 °F (25 °C).
- Keep COMPLERA in its original container and keep the container tightly closed.
- Do not use COMPLERA if the seal over the bottle opening is broken or missing.

**Keep COMPLERA and all other medicines out of reach of children.**

**General information about COMPLERA:**

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for purposes other than those listed in a Patient Information leaflet. Do not use COMPLERA for a condition for which it was not prescribed. Do not give COMPLERA to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them.

This leaflet summarizes the most important information about COMPLERA. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider. You can ask your healthcare provider or pharmacist for information about COMPLERA that is written for health professionals. For more information, call (1-800-445-3235) or go to [www.COMPLERA.com](http://www.COMPLERA.com).

**What are the ingredients of COMPLERA?**

**Active ingredients:** emtricitabine, rilpivirine hydrochloride, and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate

**Inactive ingredients:** pregelatinized starch, lactose monohydrate, microcrystalline cellulose, croscarmellose sodium, magnesium stearate, povidone, polysorbate 20. The tablet film coating contains polyethylene glycol, hypromellose, lactose monohydrate, triacetin, titanium dioxide, iron oxide red, FD&C Blue #2 aluminum lake, FD&C Yellow #6 aluminum lake.

This Patient Information has been approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration  
Manufactured and distributed by:

Gilead Sciences, Inc.  
Foster City, CA 94404

Issued: August 2011

COMPLERA, the COMPLERA Logo, EMTRIVA, HEPSERA, TRUVADA, WIREAD, GILEAD, and the GILEAD Logo are trademarks of Gilead Sciences, Inc. or its related companies. ATRIPLA is a trademark of Bristol-Myers Squibb & Gilead Sciences, LLC. All other trademarks referenced herein are the property of their respective owners.

© 2012 Gilead Sciences, Inc. All rights reserved.

202123-GS-000 02AUG2011 CON12407 3/12



# GOP proposals aim to upend "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" repeal

By: Chuck Colbert/TRT Reporter

IN THE LIMELIGHT

Two anti-gay measures have been introduced in the House Armed Services Committee in an apparent attempt to undermine the successful implementation of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" repeal, a move advocates and defenders of openly gay military service say is unnecessary and unprecedented.

One proposal seeks to amend the 2013 National Defense Authorization Act by providing religious liberty protections to military chaplains and service members who disapprove of homosexuality on the basis of morality and religion.

Introduced by Representative Todd Akin (R-Missouri), the amendment states, "The armed forces shall accommodate the conscience and sincerely held moral principles and religious beliefs" of service members "concerning the appropriate and inappropriate expression of human sexuality and may not use such conscience, principles, or beliefs as the basis of any adverse personnel action, discrimination, or denial of promotion, schooling, training, or assignment."

The other amendment, offered by Representative Steve Palazzo (R-Mississippi), would ban the use of Department of Defense military properties to "officiate, solemnize, or perform a marriage or marriage-like ceremony involving anything other than the union of one man

and one woman."

The two congressmen offered their amendments within hours of President Barack Obama's full embrace of equal marriage rights for same-sex couples on May 9.

"At the end of the day, Mr. Akin is talking

or chaplain to be able to express his opposition publicly to [military] policy as long as he wraps the expression of that policy [objection] to a moral principle or sincerely held religious belief," Sarvis added.

"That would be a very dangerous precedent

allowed to force members of our military to give up their religious beliefs. That is simply unacceptable and unconstitutional."

But Sarvis countered: Akin's "alleged cases have not been documented and have not been investigated."

Individual service members are "entitled to their personal, private beliefs and are perfectly free to hold them," said Sarvis. "But they are not entitled to express publicly an objection or lobby against a policy" that has been "articulated" either by "Congress or the president or secretary of defense or company commander or first sergeant."

Altogether, "Implementation [of DADT repeal] is working well, including on the religious front with chaplains," Sarvis added.

Akin's proposed amendment also addresses specifically the issue of a chaplain being forced "to perform any duty, rite, ritual, ceremony, service or function that is contrary" to his or her "conscience, moral principles, or religious beliefs, or contrary to the moral principles and religious beliefs of the endorsing faith group of the chaplain."

That provision is unnecessary, said Sarvis.

"No chaplain is being required to perform any ceremony anywhere on or off base that he or she does not believe in or is inconsistent with the principles or teaching of his or her sponsoring agency," Sarvis said. "It's simply not happening."

Read the rest of this story online at TRT's website at: <http://bit.ly/KEu0iE>

## One proposal seeks to amend the 2013 National Defense Authorization Act by providing religious liberty protections to military chaplains and service members who disapprove of homosexuality on the basis of morality and religion.

about a problem that does not exist," said Army veteran Aubrey Sarvis, executive director of the Servicemembers Legal Defense Network, during a telephone press availability, Thursday, May 10.

"What is new here and unprecedented is that he's seeking an exemption for individual service members and chaplains who may have a problem with gay men and lesbians serving openly in the military," said Sarvis.

"[Akin] wants an exemption, or in his words protections, for that individual service member

to set" insofar as "any number of policies or directives" with which a service member "might disagree" would be open to criticism, explained Sarvis.

For example, he said, "A service member might say, 'It's against my moral beliefs or principles to be serving with people of color.'"

For his part, Akin said in a statement, "We have heard stories of military chaplains facing censorship for their opposition to the liberal agenda. Liberals may have successfully ended 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell,' but they should not be

**JACOB'S PILLOW DANCE**  
80<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL



June 20-August 26  
"the dance center of the nation"  
—The New York Times  
Tickets start at \$22!

**WEEKEND OUT**  
August 10-12  
Sponsored by  
The Gay & Lesbian Review

300 events • 50 dance companies • free talks & performances • exhibits • onsite dining  
Tickets: 413.243.0745 • [jacobspillow.org](http://jacobspillow.org)


**JULY 02–JULY 21**  
AT THE COLONIAL THEATRE  
111 SOUTH STREET, PITTSFIELD

*Blantyre* County: *Curtains* *The Bar Ladies*

conceived and originally directed and choreographed by Michael Bennett  
directed by Eric Hill  
choreography by Gerry McIntyre  
musical direction by Steven Freeman  
sponsored by The Robert Halper Foundation

**9 TONY AWARDS**

**A CHORUS LINE**



# WEDNESDAY JUNE 6 BOSTON'S OFFICIAL PRIDE KICK *off* PARTY

*with Special Guest from NYC*

# Lady Bunny

HOT  
*Box Boy Dancers*

DJ  
*Adilson*

## LATIN NITE

100 WARRENTON STREET IN THE THEATRE DISTRICT BENEFIT PRIDE COMMITTEE

# @rumor

SPONSORED BY **MANHUNT**

**42**  
BELOW

**It's JUNE 1-10**  
**Official...**

**SO MANY EVENTS. SO MANY PARTIES.  
SO MANY OPPORTUNITIES TO FIND  
YOUR HAPPY PLACE.**



**As you step out into the magical world of Pride Week, here are a few ways you can support your Pride organization:**

- 1. DROP A FEW BUCKS IN THE BUCKET.**  
You see an orange bucket. You drop in a \$5 or a \$10. It's that simple. Short cash. Tall return. You can also make an online donation at [www.bostonpride.org/donate](http://www.bostonpride.org/donate)
- 2. THANK A VOLUNTEER.**  
Over 200 people sacrifice time with their friends and family, so that you can celebrate and play with yours.
- 3. ATTEND EVENTS PRODUCED BY BOSTON PRIDE.**  
The week boasts a broad range of activities that aim to bring people together, stir the mind, shake up the dance floor, create safe and healthy spaces, and make an impact. Make sure to "see and be seen" at official events that benefit Boston Pride.

**1 FRIDAY**  
**PRIDE KICKOFF EVENT**  
Emerald Lounge  
@ the new Revere Hotel  
200 Stuart St., Boston  
7-10PM, \$10

**4 MONDAY**  
**ROYAL PAGEANT**  
Machine Nightclub, 6:30pm  
Advance: \$10/\$20 VIP  
@ Door: \$15/\$25 VIP

**6 WEDNESDAY**  
**PRIDE IDOL FINALE**  
The Revere Hotel  
200 Stuart St, Boston  
6:30pm, \$10/\$15 VIP

**9 SATURDAY**  
**THE BAR @ CITY HALL PLAZA**  
12-6pm, \$10  
**YOUTH DANCE**  
Quincy Market Rotunda  
2nd Floor  
7-11PM, \$5

**10 SUNDAY**  
**PRIDE BLOCK PARTIES:  
JP & BACK BAY**  
Perkins St & St. James Ave.  
\$10/\$20 (you decide!)

**ADVANCE TICKETS** ↓  
[BostonPride.org/tickets](http://BostonPride.org/tickets)

## Op-Ed: Turn Pride into Action; Making it better now for LGBT students

By: Jason Cianciotto & Sean Cahill\*/Special for TRT



**Jason Cianciotto**  
Credit: LGBT Youth In America's Schools

As parades and celebrations occur across the Bay State, LGBT youth are putting their pride into action this month by testifying at public hearings sponsored by the Massachusetts Commission on GLBT youth. These meetings are an opportunity for legislators, parents, and community leaders to hear directly from LGBT youth about their experiences at school. Stories about the tragic effects of anti-LGBT bullying remain all too common, and youth-led initiatives like these hearings are just one of the many interventions that can make a difference.

Massachusetts is one of the most pro-LGBT states in the country, as evidenced by the fact that the Bay State became the first in the nation to pass a sexual orientation-inclusive student nondiscrimination law in 1993. Many LGBT students are healthy and successful, exhibiting remarkable strength in the face of anti-LGBT bullying. However, we need to diligently ensure that a full range of support is available to LGBT youth not only in Massachusetts, but in schools across the nation.

Dozens of studies confirm that LGBT youth are more likely to experience health disparities related to bullying and rejection at school and in their homes and faith communities, including substance abuse, risky sexual behavior, and suicide. These risks lead to truancy, lower GPAs, and many other threats to their education, as well as their physical and mental health.

We also know that there are a number of resiliency factors that decrease the likelihood of these negative outcomes, including gay-straight alliances at school, openly LGBT role models among teachers or school administrators, LGBT-inclusive curricula, non-discrimination and anti-bullying policies, and family acceptance. Youth with these supports are less likely to have unprotected sex, report depression, become homeless, or abuse drugs, among other factors.

For example, the Massachusetts Safe Schools Project found that LGBT students in schools where staff participated in its training program were twice as likely to report feeling supported by teachers than were students in schools with-

out trained staff. Likewise, the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) recently reported that students in schools with LGBT-inclusive curricula are half as likely to experience high levels of anti-LGBT victimization and less likely to miss school because of feeling unsafe.

These are among the reasons why it is critical for LGBT people and our straight allies to remain active and engaged in the federal, state, and local elections that determine school policy. After several students who were bullied because of their real or perceived sexual orientation or gender identity completed suicide in September

2010, gay activist and author Dan Savage launched the "It Gets Better" campaign. This was a popular effort to highlight anti-LGBT bullying and support for our youth. But we also know how to make it better now, and much of it takes political will.

Even though the Obama Administration recently announced support for the federal Student Non-Discrimination Act and the Safe Schools Improvement Act, which would outlaw anti-LGBT bullying at the federal level and require schools to collect and report data on bullying to the U.S. Department of Education, they have no chance of passing the Republican-controlled U.S. House this Congress.

In addition to federal efforts, most school policy is determined by state legislators, local elected officials, and school board members who are held accountable by voters. You have the power to turn pride into action by urging policy makers in Massachusetts and around the country to listen to the voices of LGBT youth and the children of LGBT parents attending their schools.

There are many common-sense, proven interventions that successfully challenge anti-LGBT bullying and make schools safer and more affirming places where all young people can focus on learning and developing their full potential. Ensuring that these programs are available to more students across the nation at the beginning of the next school year is something we can truly take pride in.

\*Jason Cianciotto and Sean Cahill are authors of "LGBT Youth in America's Schools," recently published by the University of Michigan Press. Cahill is a member of the Massachusetts Commission on GLBT Youth. More information about the public hearings sponsored by the Commission is available at <http://mcglbt.org>.

### Letters from Page 2

some members of my race become human again? People from other backgrounds, races, ethnicities, cultures, and so on are not the enemy! We are, if we continue this non-sense and fear about what we are not exposed to. I admire that your Publisher wrote back to the Stormfront website owners and that she took a stance for others. If no one else cares to comment, I do! Thank you Ms. Ocasio for your words. Don't think no one notices. Some of us, good, enlightened, fair and open Caucasians do. Thank you for taking the heat, but you're no victim Ma'am, you're a leader and a crusader. I've learned from you today.

—James O'Hara, New Haven, CT

Dear Editor,  
Thanks for the pull-put calendar for Noho Pride. At first I thought it was small and not pocket size, but then I realized there was a glossy pocket size version, which I carried all day long with me. It helped me follow the route, since I'm from out of town and was there, my gay self, to just visit Northampton. I had no idea it was on the day it was. Thanks for keeping me informed.

—Justin Allen, Burlington, VT

Dear Editor,  
Sorry, but I hated the Ms. Erisis column this time. It was wordy and seemed to lack organization. I usually like it. Not this time!

—Janet Jacklinson, Boston, MA

# Boston **PRIDE** Parade JUNE 9 • 12PM

celebrating  
**30** years  
of **worldwide**  
**PRIDE**  
movement



**GRAND MARSHALS**  
• Fast Freddy • MTPC  
**HONORARY MARSHAL**  
• Brendan Burke

**BEST PLACES TO WATCH THE PARADE:**  
Copley Square • BCA on Tremont St. • Bridge over MassPike  
on Berkeley St. • Charles St. • State House • Cambridge St.

**CHECK-IN & VOLUNTEER TENT**  
Copley Square at the corner of  
Dartmouth and Boylston.



boston pride

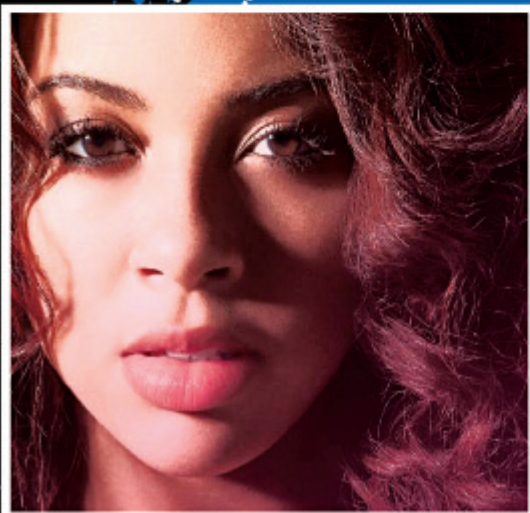
# Boston **PRIDE** Festival

celebrating  
**30** years  
of **worldwide**  
**PRIDE**  
movement

**City Hall Plaza**  
**Saturday, June 9**  
**Noon - 6 pm**

## **FEATURING:**

- **THE BAR @ CITY HALL**  
(Entry fee/cash bar/21+  
w/ID **(NEW!)**)
- **ARTISAN AVENUE (NEW!)**
- **FAMILY FUN ZONE**



**ALEXIS JORDAN**



**RYE RYE**



**KERLI**

## **ADDITIONAL PERFORMANCES**

**AEROCHIX • ARIEL APARICIO • GRYGIEL • JUSTIN UTLEY •  
LAUREN BATEMAN • MOB MUSIC • MOD GUN • SABRINA BLAZE**

# The Trouble with Adam Lambert: Being an unfit role model and his peculiar toy

By: Chris Azzopardi\*/Special for TRT

**ENTERTAINMENT** Remember the fuss Adam Lambert caused when he tongued his keyboardist in front of the world? Of course you do. The controversial kiss drew both homophobic outbursts and so-what shrugs, and it's an American Music Awards moment that won't soon be forgotten. Especially by Lambert himself.

"That was an interesting night," he says, snickering in his charmingly guy-next-door way about that seminal smooch. "That AMAs performance was trespassing, in a way." And, on his latest album, he's not done crossing the line: *Trespassing* is the defiant second to the *American Idol* spawn's 2009 debut.

In this candid interview with Lambert, the pop star opened up about the "redundant" press questions regarding his sexuality, becoming more confident as an out celebrity, and breaking the rules – and going to jail for it.

**Q:** What does the album title, *Trespassing*, mean to you?

**A:** Being who I am in this music environment is trespassing, and that's why Pharrell (Williams) and I wrote it about that. We had a big conversation about the music industry and the business and being an artist, and then on top of it, being somebody that's different, being a gay man and being in an industry where it's not very common, not very present. Kind of feeling like I'm gonna own this, march forward and ignore any kind of sign or person telling me no.

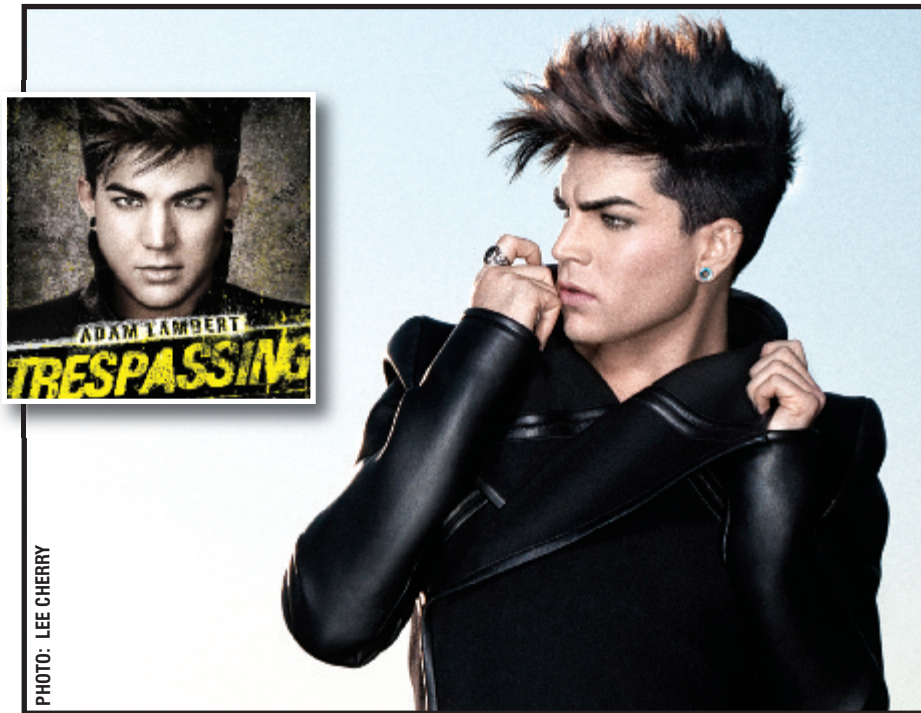


PHOTO: LEE CHERRY

I'm gonna do what I wanna do and not feel sorry for myself.

**Q:** Is anything you do for shock value premeditated?

**A:** No; I don't think, "OK, I want to piss people off now" or "I want to shock people." I kind of, especially after the (AMAs), go with what I want to do musically. That's been more in the

forefront for me in my decision-making. I think just kind of being, and being unapologetic for being, is a risk in and of itself in today's music industry.

**Q:** Was the AMAs kiss good for you?

**A:** I don't even know. I was in such autopilot. It was one of those weird moments that just kind of happened. Some of the choreography earlier

in the number was planned, but that whole moment with him was just, "Oh my god, now we're kissing!"

**Q:** You've spoken with gay publications and mainstream publications. How is it different talking to each?

**A:** I try not to make it any different. That's been one of my big goals, especially with this album. This time around I'm trying to just adopt a post-gay mentality about it, because I'm so proud of who I am and I'm 100 percent positive about it and I celebrate it – but I also think it's a bit dated to harp on it and to lean on it and to constantly be defined by your sexuality. I think that gay men and women who live their lives as gay men and women understand that and understand that it's just another part of who they are. Unfortunately, with some mainstream publications, it's such a novelty for them to be able to talk about it. It's such a hot-button issue that it becomes the focus of a lot of discussion.

**Q:** Does that bother you?

**A:** (Hesitates) It gets a bit redundant. Gets a little old. It's something I've made peace with; I'm trying to just look at it from the other point of view and realize that a lot of the questions are legitimate for someone who doesn't understand. I think the way to progress and confront ignorance is information. You start talking about things and we get past them. So yeah, it gets a bit redundant, but I feel like at this point, it just comes with the territory that I'm trespassing on.

**Q:** What challenges have you run into as not just an artist but a gay artist?

To read the rest of this Q&A with Adam Lambert, his challenges & more visit: <http://bit.ly/L3Ko10>

## Eight Years of Marriage Equality in the Bay State; Leaders Share Their Thoughts

BOSTON, Mass.—The eighth anniversary of same-sex marriage and the rights of couples to wed in the commonwealth was celebrated last month. For such an important occasion, TRT contacted the prominent members of some of the State's key organizations to find out what this meant to them then and now. The following are their quotes:

**The Theater Offensive, Managing Director, Adrian Budhu**

"Simply put, it shows that the people of MA are on our side. And why shouldn't they? We are all equal."

**MassEquality, Executive Director Kara Suffredini, Esq.:**

"... Just eight years ago, in 2004, when Massachusetts first began honoring the marriages of same-sex couples, the issue of marriage equality was cynically exploited by the national GOP for political gain. Today, seven national polls have found that Americans explicitly support the rights of same-sex couples to marry and the days of maligning the marriages of same-sex couples to scare voters are fast ending.

"... We are extremely proud of the role MassEquality played in winning marriage equality in Massachusetts. We look forward to additional victories for LGBT residents of the state in making schools safer for LGBT students; ending the epidemic of homelessness among LGBT teens and young adults; ensuring that LGBT elders can age with dignity; and collaborating with social justice organizations to lift up all of our vulnerable communities in the Commonwealth."

**Stonewall Center, University of Massachusetts' Director, Genny Beemyn, Ph.D.**

"The legality of same-sex marriage here has had a major effect on our students, most of whom are from Massachusetts. While young people in general are very supportive of same-sex marriage, UMass students are even more supportive than college students nationally—it is the world in which they grew up. Having same-sex marriage has contributed to UMass becoming one of the country's most LGBT-friendly campuses."

**GLAD, Executive Director, Lee Swislow**

"GLAD won the freedom to marry for same-sex couples with the Goodridge case in November of 2003. When loving, committed same-sex couples began marrying in Massachusetts six months later, it was like a curtain lifted on our community. Through the vehicle of marriage, the Commonwealth, and the entire country, was able to relate to gay and lesbian people in ways they had never before – as joyful brides and grooms, devoted spouses, loving parents, and old married couples. That has opened up possibilities for the LGBT community in dimensions no one envisioned. We are more integrated into the fabric of our communities. Our young people can more easily envision fulfilling futures. There is a greater awareness in mainstream America of the inequalities LGBT people continue to face, and, more importantly, a greater willingness to correct those injustices."

Read the rest of their reactions, unedited at: <http://bit.ly/Kx1dc4>

SIDNEY BORUM JR. HEALTH CENTER

## ARE YOU A YOUNG PERSON WHO

MIGHT BE LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL OR TRANSGENDER? IS LIVING ON THE STREETS? WANTS AN HIV TEST OR IS LIVING WITH HIV? IS WORRIED ABOUT STDs? NEEDS HEALTH INSURANCE? WANTS TO SEE A DOCTOR OR MENTAL HEALTH PROVIDER THAT UNDERSTANDS YOU AND YOUR SITUATION?

**The Sidney Borum, Jr. Health Center is here for you.**

We provide safe, non-judgmental care and support for young people ages 12-29 who may not feel comfortable going anywhere else. Just call us at 617.457.8140 and make an appointment or stop in Monday-Friday after 1 p.m. and we'll see you at the next opening in our schedule. We can help you get health insurance and provide you with the care you need.

**617.457.8140**

130 Boylston Street Boston, MA 02116  
 WEB [sidneyborum.org](http://sidneyborum.org)  
 Monday+Friday 8:45 a.m.—5 p.m.  
 Tuesday-Thursday 8:45 a.m.—7 p.m.

COM 11062

# Nice: T.R. Knight, Amber Heard, Wentworth Miller, Margaret Cho

By: Romeo San Vicente\*/Special for TRT

DEEP INSIDE HOLLYWOOD



## The return of T.R. Knight

There was that "f-word" scandal, he quit *Grey's Anatomy* and then ... whatever happened to T.R. Knight? Well, first

he took some time off, appeared on *Law & Order* the way everyone does eventually, and then spent time under the media radar doing theater – the perfect route to ensure that Hollywood will ignore you for as long as you like. But now Knight is back on the screen in *42*, the upcoming Jackie Robinson biopic from Legendary Pictures. In the role of Robinson will be Chadwick Boseman (*The Express*), while Knight will portray Harold Parrott, the Brooklyn Dodgers' traveling secretary. Meanwhile, Harrison Ford will star as Branch Rickey, the man who signed Robinson to the Dodgers in 1947, making him the very first black Major League baseball player and ending segregation in the sport. In other words, baseball fans would do well to bring something to discreetly sniffle into when the film opens in the spring of 2013.

## Amber Heard machetes her way through Hollywood

Hey ladies, Robert Rodriguez has a new movie in the works. Of course, you'll have to look past its most obvious qualities to see what's specifically in store for you, since it's called *Machete Kills* and is, in fact, the sequel to the *Grindhouse* director's crazy, Danny Trejo-starring revenge-sploitation film of last year. And OK, yes, it also stars Mel Gibson, which is clearly a turnoff. But before you go looking for a third strike against it, know that in all things there exists a balance. In this case it's lesbian bombshell Amber Heard, who's taken a role in the violent action movie. Plot: Machete battles an arms dealer who wants to launch weapons into space. She'll be featured alongside Jessica Alba (straight) and Michelle Rodriguez (on the books as straight at the time of this writing), both reprising earlier roles in

## Approximately 8,000 turn out at NoHo Pride 2012

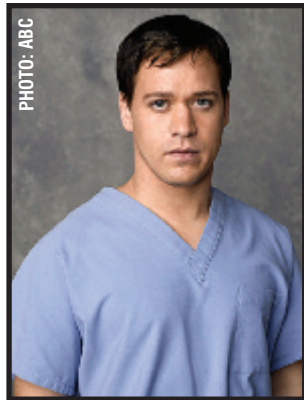
By: Clara Lefton/TRT Reporter

Last month, the 31st annual LGBT Pride Parade was held in downtown Northampton, Mass. This year the parade route began at Hampton Avenue and ended at the Three-County Fairgrounds.

"The march and rally have grown significantly," explained J.M. Sorrell, a 2012 NoHo Pride spokesperson, in an e-mail. "The Three-County Fairgrounds offered much more space, and the price was reasonable. In keeping with the spirit of the LGBT Pride events, we still had a large, visible presence downtown since we started the march there."

Northampton Police Detective Sergeant Anne McMahon was on duty during the event, and estimated that the crowd was between 7,000 and 8,000 people.

"This year, the entire length had people on both sides all the way down to the fairgrounds. Once the parade ended there [were] easily a



T.R. Knight

## Wentworth Miller joins Killer behind the camera

Maybe you were one of the vast throngs of gay guys who thought that Wentworth Miller's talents were limited to looking hot on *Prison Break*. If so, then that just shows how much you know. Are you aware that he also wrote the screenplay for the upcoming film *Stoker*, starring Nicole Kidman and Mia Wasikowska? Or that his latest scripted effort, *The Disappointments Room*, has been picked up by power-lesbian Christine Vachon's Killer Films, which will join forces with Voltage Pictures (*The Hurt Locker*) to produce the project? Well, now you do. The brief plot synopsis for *Disappointments* makes it sound like a typical haunted house/something-bad-happened-here movie – family moves into mysterious old dwelling where dark secrets lie – but the fact that Killer (*Mildred Pierce*, *Boys Don't Cry*) is into it means there's already some sort of secret wrinkle we don't know about. This is a company that puts vision before money, so we'll be happily following the progress of this one.

## Set that DVR: Margaret Cho finally returns to 30 Rock

When Margaret Cho played North Korean dictator Kim Jong Il on *30 Rock* last season, kidnapping Avery (Elizabeth Banks) and setting a bizarre plot line in motion for Jack Donaghy (Alec Baldwin), it was pretty clear she'd be back this season to renew the role. And then

good 1,500 to 2,000 people that went into these grounds," said McMahon, who was surprised by the large following after the march ended.

Marchers began trekking the sunny 1.1-mile route Saturday at noon. The participants represented a variety of organizations, such as the Classy Old Dykes, Expandable Brass Band, PFLAG (Parents, Families, & Friends of Lesbians and Gays), Raging Grannies and many more.

"I really liked seeing all the churches coming together and saying that they support us queers. That was really great," said 19-year-old Nathan Pehl of Lincoln, Mass. "I would love to participate in the parade one day."

The parade took place only three days after President Barack Obama announced his support of marriage equality. The future of LGBT rights was fresh in participants' minds as ...

Read the rest of this story at: <http://bit.ly/KL3m2w>

the first installment of the intentionally pulpy fiction. It comes out sometime in 2013; plenty of time for you to figure out once and for all how Jodie Foster manages to enjoy Gibson's company.

Kim Jong Il died. What to do? And the answer to that long-simmering question is: bring back Margaret Cho as Kim Jong Il, of course. This is a show, after all, that successfully and hilariously tackled Tracy Morgan's real-life offensive anti-gay statements during a stand-up routine, so the death of a real-life character isn't going to slow them down. Just how this will all shake out is under wraps right now, but Cho

will return to the show for the May 10 and May 17 episodes. And as long as she's playing a dead man now, who's to say she won't do it again in the future?

\*Romeo San Vicente would wholeheartedly support a Liz Lemon/Jack Donaghy ticket for 2012. He can be reached via this publication: [DeepInsideHollywood@qsyndicate.com](mailto:DeepInsideHollywood@qsyndicate.com).

## Thinking Out Loud: Facing my cynicism about Obama's gay marriage 'evolution'

By: Abby Dees\*/Special for TRT



You've probably seen this week's cheeky *Newsweek* cover, featuring a rainbow-haloed Obama and the tag line, "America's first gay president." I had no idea it was that easy to be gay. By this logic, my family and all my straight friends are now gay. Absolutely fine by me, but oh, that it were truly so easy.

As you can see, I've struggled with my cynicism about this. I've waited a long time for an unambiguous sign of leadership on LGBT rights from the White House, and given that Obama's brave announcement happened less than 24 hours after the passage of North Carolina's whackadoo Amendment One, it was hard to do a happy dance. And when the lovely straight women I'm bicycling through the heart-

being a workman journalist to one of the most influential characters in our recent cultural history. If you are younger than 40, you may not remember what a momentous event the book *Roots*, and in particular the miniseries adaptation, was. Though sanitized and made safe for prime time, *Roots* nonetheless stopped the country in its tracks for one week (no VCRs back then!), and got us talking openly, as a nation, about the legacy of slavery, in a way we never had never before. It was just one family's story, but it was the right story for the moment.

Alex Haley's personal motto was "Find the good, and praise it." Sounds simple, but think about how hard that is when humans keep doing atrocious things. Or when our leaders could be doing so much more, but they don't. To find the good when you know things could be much better—it's a hell of a lot easier to complain, to be disappointed, to give up on people.

**Whatever your party affiliation, right now Obama is our president. He sets the tone for the country and should, in a perfect universe, speak to the best part of us. When we as a people go astray from our highest ideals, it's his job to get us back on track. This is leadership.**

land with this month cheerily called out, "Aren't you thrilled!?" I just muttered something like, yeah, great, whatever. I probably seemed ungrateful.

This week he said what he's known to be just plain right since the very day he took office. Evolution, my eye. I'll believe it when he tells Congress to repeal DOMA, or else.

And my cynicism only got worse. My uncle sent me an email saying, "I'm not sure his public declaration actually helps your cause, because it will galvanize the anti-gay people." Yeah, yeah, I've heard this argument during every election cycle since San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom started issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples in 2004. People actually blamed gay people for pushing for equality, stirring up the conservative zealots and thus getting George Bush elected to a second term in office.

After President Obama's announcement, my mother took a more pragmatic approach and said, "Well, they're gonna Swift Boat him anyway; might as well get it over with now." I agreed and that was the extent of our discussion.

A few days later, I found myself in the childhood home and of Alex Haley, in Henning, Tennessee, reading about the author's journey from

Those words stayed with me long after I'd peddled my bike away from Haley's home and continued my journey up the Mississippi. They made me step back from my Obama bashing, and from politics entirely for a moment. Instead, I thought about what it means to regular folks (i.e., not politically obsessed geeks like me and my family) when our president says out loud that LGBT people are entitled to equality and dignity. Whatever your party affiliation, right now Obama is our president. He sets the tone for the country and should, in a perfect universe, speak to the best part of us. When we as a people go astray from our highest ideals, it's his job to get us back on track. This is leadership. To any young or isolated LGBT person, to know that the president is on your side, without qualification, is no small thing.

Our leaders frequently avoid taking a firm stance for justice for fear of falling poll numbers. I am, now, thrilled that our president finally stood up for us. I really don't care today that it came three years, or even one day, later than I wanted, or even why he did it. He's here now. Thank you, Mr. President.

\*Abby is a civil rights attorney-turned-author who has been in the LGBT rights trenches for 25+ years. She can be reached through her website: [queerquestionsstraighttalk.com](http://queerquestionsstraighttalk.com).

# PRIDE WEEK

BOSTONPRIDE.ORG | JUNE 1-10 | BOSTON, MA



**1** **FRIDAY**

**12PM: FLAG RAISING**  
City Hall Plaza

**7-10PM: KICKOFF EVENT**  
Emerald Lounge @ The Revere Hotel

**9:30PM: GUERRILLA QUEER BAR PRIDE**  
Cambridge, Venue TBD

**10PM: PRIDE @ NIGHT:**  
Venus in RETROgrade

**2** **SATURDAY**

**10AM-5PM: PRIDE DAY @ FANEUIL HALL**

**3** **SUNDAY**

**LGBT SENIOR DANCE**

**4** **MONDAY**

**6:30PM: ROYAL PAGEANT**  
Machine Nightclub

**5** **TUESDAY**

**HUMAN RIGHTS DISCUSSION**  
7-9PM: Fenway Health Auditorium

**10PM: PRIDE @ NIGHT:**  
Paradise Nightclub, Cambridge

**6** **WEDNESDAY**

**6:30PM: PRIDE IDOL FINALE**  
The Revere Hotel

**10PM: PRIDE @ NIGHT**  
Latin Night @ Rumor

**7** **THURSDAY**

**8PM: BOSTON PRIDE PRESENTS PAM ANN**  
Wilbur Theatre

**10PM: PRIDE @ NIGHT:**  
Glamlife @ Estate

**8** **FRIDAY**

**6PM: DYKE MARCH**  
Boston Common Bandstand

**10PM: PRIDE @ NIGHT:**  
Boston's Queer Friday @ Guilt

**9** **SATURDAY**

**12PM: PARADE & FESTIVAL**  
Copley Sq. to City Hall Plaza

**2PM: ESME WOMEN'S BLOCK PARTY**  
Boylston Alley

**7-11PM: YOUTH DANCE**  
Quincy Market Rotunda

**10** **SUNDAY**

**12PM: PRIDE BLOCK PARTIES**  
JP(Perkins St) & Back Bay (St. James Ave)

**10PM: PRIDE @ NIGHT:**  
Finale @ Royale

**SPONSORS**

Eastern Bank, BUD LIGHT, at&t, macy's, HARRIS PRESENTS, Google, SPIRIT MAGAZINE, REVERE HOTEL | BOSTON COMMON, Microsoft New England Research & Development Center, edge, edgeboston.com

**PRIDE @ NIGHT:**

**EPIC @ HOUSE OF BLUES**  
15 Lansdowne St, Boston

**LUSH @ MACHINE**  
1254 Boylston St., Boston

**RISE AFTER HOURS (1AM)**  
306 Stuart St, Boston

**A portion of all PRIDE @ NIGHT events benefit Boston Pride.**

Boston Pride is proud to offer you a broad range of events and activities for Pride Week. In conjunction with our Community Partners, we aim to bring people together, stir the mind, shake up the dance floor, create safe and healthy spaces and make an impact. This year, we are celebrating 30 years of worldwide pride, and we want all of you to join in the fun and have a great time.



# GET YOUR HEART ON

VOLUNTEER FOR AN  
HIV VACCINE STUDY



## VOLUNTEER

We're looking for HIV-negative, 18-50 year old men who ♥ men, and transwomen for an HIV vaccine study. Don't worry...you can't get HIV from the vaccine.

You will be paid for your time.

FENWAY  HEALTH

617-927-6450

[ihaveahearton.org](http://ihaveahearton.org)



# R.I. Governor Lincoln Chafee signs mandate to recognize out-of-state same-sex marriage

By: Casey Rocheteau/TRT Reporter

**RHODE ISLAND**

The fight for marriage equality in Rhode Island got a thrust in the right direction May 14, when Governor Lincoln Chafee issued an executive order mandating that the state would recognize out-of-state same-sex marriages.

The order dictated that "all executive state departments, agencies, and offices shall recognize the lawful marriages of same-sex couples as valid for any purpose arising within the execution of its duties." The executive order is the first of its kind in any state.

While a few other states have passed similar legislation, they have done it through other bureaucratic routes. The action taken by Chafee may serve as an example to other states. The news came around the same time an amendment passed in North Carolina eradicating rights for many non-married couples. While the order was announced a few weeks earlier than anticipated, it had been planned for many months, with groups such as Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders (GLAD) and Marriage Equality Rhode Island (MERI) pushing the administration to take this stance on equal rights. Given the recent prominence of civil rights in the news, with the president declaring his support for same-sex marriage, Chafee made a point to stand in solidarity with the president. Senior state senator Jack Reed acted similarly with pressure from activists and issued a statement in favor of marriage equality within hours of Obama doing the same.

Lt. Governor Elizabeth Roberts issued a favorable statement after Chafee's announcement, writing, "I support full marriage equality for lesbian and gay Rhode Islanders. I applaud the governor's decision to affirm the legal recognition of marriages entered into in other states. It is an issue of basic fairness and equality."

The *Rainbow Times* spoke with Ray Sullivan of MERI to get a better understanding of how the order will translate into people's lives.

"There's a number of things that it covers immediately," he explained. "It applies specifically to R.I. state departments and agencies. MERI and GLAD lobbied the governor to do this to provide much-needed clarity and direction to these agencies who were having issues interpreting the reciprocity statuses that had been on the books since 1904."

Sullivan explained that the various state agencies "were left to their own devices and were interpreting this poorly and differently. There were situations where other couples were married, and both parents couldn't be listed on birth certificates, and death certificates also didn't recognize that people had been married, and people couldn't transfer the title of their car. Our organization has been working on this for months. It particularly covers things like this, so the health department will list both

parents on the birth certificate. This has caused heartache and harm to people who are widowed, especially, to be tied up in all this bureaucratic red tape."

The *Rainbow Times* also asked Sullivan about the possibility of passing an executive order that would ordain marriage equality, as there is a common misconception that those with executive power might be able to grant civil rights with one scribble of a pen. He explained that executive orders have the "full weight and legitimacy of the law," but there are lots of limitations on what can be done. "This order, for instance, still doesn't cover divorces for same-sex couples," Sullivan said. "To get divorced you have to move back to the state where you were married, establish residency and then petition those states. And a lot of people don't have that option. That's something only the general assembly can grant."

When asked about the recent decision made in North Carolina, Sullivan pointed out the more local struggle that happened in New Hampshire along similar lines. "New Hampshire passed marriage equality last year, but then Republicans took over the state government, and immediately launched an initiative to repeal marriage equality. However, in New Hampshire, when they called the vote, it was resoundingly defeated. The N.H. Republicans are very serious about being Republicans, but they're also serious about personal freedoms and rights, so many of them voted against the repeal."

The question for many LGBTQ Rhode Islanders is what this means for the fight for full marriage equality. Sullivan explained that "[Gov.] Patterson did this in New York, and it's generally seen as the precursor to marriage equality. In Maryland, I think they did it through the attorney general's office and the governor stood by it. In 2007, when the Rhode Island attorney general did this, it didn't matter because of who the governor was."

For more information about marriage equality in RI or to find answers to other same-sex marriage related questions in RI, visit [www.marriageequalityri.org](http://www.marriageequalityri.org).

it's tweet of you to follow us... thanks!



[twitter.com/therainbowtimes](http://twitter.com/therainbowtimes)

Nominated AVN Awards  
2012 Best Boutique  
in New England!



**Mister Sister Erotica**

Lingerie • Fetish • Leather  
Gift Certificates

More toys than  
the devil has sinners!

Open Tues.-Thurs. 11am-9pm  
Fri-Sat. 11am-10pm Sun. 11am-5pm  
MONDAY 12-8pm

268 Wickenden St. • Providence RI 02903 • 401.421.6969



## 25th Connecticut Gay & Lesbian Film Festival

June 1-9, 2012  
For more information:  
[www.OutFilmCT.org](http://www.OutFilmCT.org)

**June 9 • 7:30 p.m.**

Feature Presentation at the Connecticut Science Center:  
**GAYBY**

Based on the popular short film, *Gayby* follows a straight woman and a gay man as they try to have a baby... the old-fashioned way.

Feature Presentation at the Wadsworth Atheneum:  
**THE NIGHT WATCH**

Adapted from the number one best-selling novel by Sarah Waters.

**Closing Night Party follows at the Wadsworth Atheneum**

---









# ¡Celebremos nuestro Orgullo LGBT!

Por: Wilfred W. Labiosa\*/Columnista de TRT

LATIN VISION



PHOTO: ERIC HESS

¡El mes de Orgullo ya está aquí! Desde Junio del 2011 hasta ahora han pasado tantas cosas en nuestra comunidad LGBT como en la comunidad LGBT Latina.

Durante este mes de orgullo vamos a celebrar estos acontecimientos y llenarnos de energías para continuar la lucha por nuestra igualdad.

Lo acontecido el mes pasado cuando el Vice-Presidente y Presidente de los Estados Unidos hablaron abiertamente en apoyo por los derechos de matrimonios para las parejas de Lesbianas y Gays tiene que aplaudirse y celebrarse. Esto no dicta que nuestros matrimonios son legales nacionalmente, sino que envía un mensaje de aceptación y de abogacía para que el matrimonio entre parejas del mismo sexo sea considerado como algo de importancia y un asunto de igualdad. En el mes de Noviembre, ¡vamos a votar y a decirle gracias a estas dos personas con nuestro voto!

Recordemos que el partido Demócrata es el que nos apoya abiertamente y vamos hacerlo nosotros/as con nuestros votos!

En Massachusetts se pasó y se firmó una ley por reconocimiento de igualdad de expresión de

género. Nuestra comunidad Transgénero en este estado tiene igualdad en la ley pero ahora hay tenemos que unirnos con nuestra comunidad transgénero para que no siga el abuso en contra de nuestro/as hermano/as transgéneros ya que todavía existe la discriminación por nuestra sociedad. Vamos a apoyar al Comité Político Transgénero (MTPC, sus siglas en inglés) en nuestro estado para que sigan este trabajo tan importante.

Siguen los crímenes de odio y suicidios en nuestras comunidades, en nuestras escuelas y

en nuestras familias. Lady Gaga, Ricky Martin, y tantos/as otro/as en el ámbito político, artístico y comunitario han comenzado campañas intensas para educar sobre la diversidad y aceptación con el objetivo de que los crímenes de odio y suicidios entre personas LGBT dejen de existir. ¡Todos/as valemos! ¡Todos/as



**Celebremos Orgullo Latino LGBT en Septiembre, 2012.** PHOTO: WILFRED LABIOSA

somos importantes! No podemos dejar que nos "pisoteen" por nuestra identidad de género o sexualidad.

Nuestro motivo principal de este mes debería de ser de educar y celebrar nuestra diversidad, y de la importancia de nuestra historia LGBT, de nuestro movimiento presente y de todo lo que nos falta por hacer para poder traer la igualdad que nos merecemos. No estamos pidiendo por derechos diferentes sino por los mismos derechos de todos/as en la sociedad. Nuestra celebración no debería de ser sólo fiestas. Debería incluir charlas, demostraciones

políticas, cine LGBT, exposiciones de arte que nos hagan reflexionar y demás, para así entonces celebrar la diversidad y riqueza de la comunidad LGBT. Este mes debemos recalcarle a

todos/as la importancia de nuestra comunidad LGBT en la sociedad y educarlos/as sobre y en contra de la homofobia y transfobia.

Debemos de darle gracias a las personas que forman parte de las organizaciones que no sólo están abogando por nuestra comunidad LGBT en el gobierno pero también a aquellos/as quienes planifican las actividades durante Orgullo de Boston y la celebración de Orgullo Latino LGBT (en Septiembre). Si nunca has participado de estas celebraciones háglo esta vez. Únete como participante o como organizador(a) pero únete. ¡Ahora es el momento donde todos/as nos tenemos que unir y decir firmemente que SOMOS Latinos LGBT y que tenemos ORGULLO de quien somos!

Vamos a celebrar este mes a la misma vez de educar a otro/as de la diversidad de nuestra comunidad Latina LGBT. Vamos a tomar conciencia de las cosas que debemos apoyar y encaminar en el resto del 2012. Les deseo una feliz época de Orgullo y espero verlo/as en las actividades. Acérquense y díganme que piensan de esta columna o sugieranme topics. Celebren pero con moderación y recuerden tener Orgullo de ser Latino/a LGBT! Felices Fiestas de Orgullo 2012! Para mas informacion de las fiestas de Orgullo Latino y/o Orgullo de Boston, visita [www.bostonpride.org](http://www.bostonpride.org)

\*Escrito por Wilfred W. Labiosa, director ejecutivo de CASPAR Inc y miembro de la mesa directiva de Boston Pride y Unid@s.

# Pregúntale a Lambda Legal – En el trabajo

Por: Kenneth Upton/Abogado Supervisor de Lambda Legal



*P. Acabo de solicitar empleo para un nuevo trabajo, y no estoy seguro si debo esconder mi orientación sexual durante el proceso de la entrevista. No creo que mi estado proteja a los empleados que son discriminados basados en su orientación sexual.*

*¿Puedo "salir del closet" durante mi entrevista o en el trabajo sin riesgo a ser rechazado o ser despedido?*

R. Depende. Actualmente muchos municipios no cuentan con leyes que protejan a empleados lesbianas o gays de ser tratados de forma distinta que a sus colegas por empresas privadas. Y de hecho, las leyes federales no proporcionan tal protección. Sin embargo, la Decimocuarta Enmienda de la Constitución de los Estados Unidos de América contiene la Cláusula sobre la Protección Igualitaria, que prohíbe a empleadores públicos de discriminar en base a orientación sexual, ya sea percibida o verdadera.

Un empleado público es alguien que trabaja para un municipio, condado, estado, o para una agencia federal, universidad, colegio o un hospital del estado.

Lambda Legal actualmente representa a Jacqueline Gill: a ella le fue negado un puesto como profesora en la universidad "Tarrant County College (TCC)" de Texas, porque supuestamente se le consideraba lesbiana. Gill fue contratada en agosto 2009 como profesora temporal en TCC. En ese momento a ella se le informó que era costumbre contratar a profesores de tiempo completo provisionalmente, y que aquellos que completaran exitosamente el contrato original de un año, serían candidatos para los puestos permanentes cuando estos estuvieran disponibles. Gill recibió grandes elogios de sus colegas, supervisores, padres de familia y el personal docente de TCC, razón por

la cual se suponía que finalmente sería contratada como profesora en un puesto permanente.

Desafortunadamente, un estudiante a quien Gill sancionó por deshonra académica, buscó represalias acusándola falsamente de que había coqueteado con otras estudiantes durante la clase. Gill fue entonces sujeta a una fuerte llamada de atención sobre "homosexuales" y sobre cómo "en Tejas y TCC, los homosexuales no son bien vistos" por su jefe Eric Devlin. Meses después, en junio 2010, Gill fue la única maestra provisional que solicitó un puesto permanente y a la cual no se le permitió ni la oportunidad de una entrevista, y por ende, no fue contratada. En septiembre 2011, Lambda Legal presento una demanda a favor de Gill, argumentando que fue una infracción a la cláusula Constitucional Estadounidense sobre la protección igualitaria el no haber permitido que Gill entrevistara para el puesto de profesor permanente basándose en la percepción por la administración de que ella era lesbiana. El caso, *Gill V. Devlin y Howell*, continúa, y puedes leer más acerca del caso aquí: <http://bit.ly/JgkEUA> (en inglés).

Aunque hay un número creciente de protecciones por leyes estatales, no hay actualmente una ley federal que prohíba explícitamente la discriminación

**... no hay actualmente una ley federal que prohíba explícitamente la discriminación basada en la orientación sexual y en la identidad de género en los empleos fuera del ámbito gubernamental.**

basada en la orientación sexual y en la identidad de género en los empleos fuera del ámbito gubernamental. Es crucial que el Congreso apruebe el Acta de No-Discriminación Laboral, (ENDA, por sus siglas en inglés) que proporcionaría un estándar federal claro prohibiendo la discriminación hacia personas LGBT. La discriminación en el trabajo es el tema número uno cuando las personas llaman a nuestra Línea de Ayuda. Si tienes preguntas o has sido discriminado/a a causa de tu orientación sexual o identidad de género, llama a nuestra Línea de Ayuda al 1-866-542-8336, o visita nuestra página en la Internet que se encuentra en: [www.lambdalegal.org/ayuda](http://www.lambdalegal.org/ayuda).

Read This Article in English at: <http://bit.ly/LUjSQJ>



**Pon Tu Anuncio en The Rainbow Times!**

**Patrocinador Oficial del Orgullo de Boston (Boston Pride), otra vez en 2012.**

**617-444-9618**

# Creep of the Week: Charles L. Worley

By: D'Anne Witkowski\*/Special for TRT

**CREEP NEWS**

It should be a surprise to no sentient being that by coming out in favor of marriage equality; President Obama opened the floodgates for the anti-gay crazies. Mind you, this is not his fault, nor is it really a bad thing. I mean, it's not like these people haven't always been out there hating gays. But when the tide starts turning toward equality and justice, those against such a turn are going to fight that tide every inch of the way.

This is, perhaps, especially true in North Carolina since they just passed their whole "gays marrying is horrible" amendment.

Enter Charles L. Worley, pastor at Providence Road Baptist Church in Maiden, North Carolina. I would say that Obama's marriage equality announcement inspired Worley's May 13 sermon, but "inspired" is just not the right word to use for such a hate-filled rant.

"Our president getting up and saying that it was alright for two men to marry or two women to marry. I tell you right now I was disappointed bad," Worley says, "but I'll tell you right there, as sorry as you can get the Bible's against it, God's against it, I'm against it, and if you've got any sense, you're against it."

Got that? The Bible, God, and Worley all agree. Which means you must agree, otherwise you're an idiot. The problem is, of course, that the Bible doesn't say anything about marriage equality, and I have a hunch Worley doesn't have a direct line to God. Because if he did, God would change His number and unfriend Worley on Facebook. Why? Because of what he says next.

"I figured a way to get rid of all the lesbians and queers," Worley says in his sermon, deliv-

ered on Mother's Day for Christ's sake. "But it couldn't get past the congress. Build a great, big, large fence — 150 or 100 mile long — put all the lesbians in there, fly over and drop some food. Do the same thing for the queers and the homosexuals and have that fence electrified so they can't get out. Feed 'em, and you know what, in a few years, they'll die out. Do you know why? They can't reproduce."

Oh, wow. This plan is such a great combination of various human rights abuses. It's hard to know where to even begin, although I suspect that someone's been brushing up on his WWII history and cruising the Minuteman website.

First of all, where would these big fenced areas be built? And would there be two separate areas, one for lesbians and another for queers and homosexuals? I'm assuming yes since you want to stop reproduction. Also, what is the difference between queers and homosexuals for the sake of this argument? You indicate that the areas would be in the neighborhood of 100-150 miles long, but how wide (it seems like a really critical detail. Six feet like a jail cell or a grave maybe)? When you say, "drop some food" do you mean, like, once, or on a continual basis? And, really, why bother with food at all if your intention is to "get rid" of them? Heck, why bother with this plan at all if you want them all dead? There are quicker ways to kill people. But maybe in your mind your plan allows the whole thing to be put in God's hands thus making it all very Christian nice-nice.

A bigger question is that once this plan is completed, what do you propose be done with all of the straight people who keep giving birth to gay people?

*\*D'Anne Witkowski has been gay for pay since 2003. She's a freelance writer and poet (believe it!). When she's not taking on the creeps of the world she reviews rock 'n' roll shows in Detroit with her twin sister.*

# Book Review: Paul on Homosexuality

By: Paul P. Jesep\*/TRT Columnist

Civil and human rights will continue to move forward. Changing hearts and minds, however, even if laws are passed must go on. There remains widespread belief that LGBTQ families and individuals are sinful or mentally ill, even in places like Massachusetts and New York among a substantial minority of people.

How can these hearts and minds be changed? LGBTQ couples who live a positive example and show that they too are families is important. This is one way to change a heart, but what about the mind? Manhattan District At-

torney quipped, "There's no need to bang on the table. The facts will do it."

Cryptographer Michael Wood (michaelwoodcrypto.com), son of an evangelical pastor, has studied scripture by getting into the thick of it and taking a big picture approach. Scripture is often understood absent a greater context. Wood has spent much of his life looking to "converge" and make sense of distinct biblical passages that would otherwise dangle alone and be misused.

*Read the rest of this story online at: <http://bit.ly/Ko6g93>*

# Iowa justices explain why they didn't campaign to retain seats

By: Lisa Keen/Keen News Service

BOSTON, Mass.—Three Iowa state Supreme Court justices ousted by voters in 2010 for ruling that same-sex couples were due the same rights as other couples under the state constitution were honored Monday (May 7) with the prestigious JFK Profiles in Courage Award.

Caroline Kennedy, daughter of the late President John F. Kennedy for whom the award is named, presented the awards to the justices in a ceremony at the JFK Library in Boston. In doing so, she noted, "There are few things in life more important than being able to marry and build a family with the person you love. This fundamental right should be available to all Americans, including gay and lesbian couples."

Ms Kennedy said the three former justices — Chief Justice Marsha Ternus and Justices David Baker and Michael Streit— were selected for the award because "they were aware they might pay a price" for rendering the decision they did, "but they did not waiver."

"They will say they were just doing their job," said Kennedy. But in their case, she said, "just doing their job required a special kind of courage."

The ruling came in 2009 in Varnum v. Brien, a lawsuit filed by Lambda Legal Defense on behalf of six same-sex couples who had been denied marriage licenses.

"The decision," noted the JFK Library, "was the first unanimous high court opinion on marriage for same-sex couples, and it made Iowa the third state to legalize same-sex marriage. The justices were aware that their opinion might not enjoy support from a majority of the public, but the Court stressed in its opinion that its responsibility was 'to protect constitutional rights of individuals from legislative enactments that have denied those rights, even when the rights have not yet been broadly accepted, were at one time unimagined, or challenge a deeply in-

grained practice or law viewed to be impervious to the passage of time."


The decision triggered a fierce political push-back from right-wing conservatives in the state and attracted Republican presidential hopefuls, such as Rick Santorum, to actively campaign for the ouster of the justices when an otherwise routine vote came up for renewal of the tenure on the bench, in November 2010. The result of that vote was the ouster of the three justices and a victory for those opposing equal rights for gays.

In accepting his award, Justice Streit noted that, five days after the court issued the Varnum decision, it received a letter from a former U.S. soldier, a veteran of World War II. The veteran said the decision convinced him that he had fought on the wrong side during World War II. And, in a sentence that provoked a gasp from the audience, the letter said, "Hitler treated homosexuals the way they should have been treated—in the gas chambers."

The letter, said Streit, "satisfied me we were right" in the Varnum decision.

Justice Baker, the first to receive the award, told the audience that elected justices in some other states told him that they believed the court's decision in Varnum was legally correct,

*Read the rest of this story online at TRT's website at: <http://bit.ly/I2ng94>*



**Mathew Brockelman**  
**LMT**

Leominster, MA  
At Home Availability

*Help yourself reduce stress and pain today!*

Massage by Mathew Brockelman, LMT

**Call 978-660-5289**

it could be partner abuse

**The Network/La Red: Ending partner abuse in LGBTQ, polyamorous and SM communities**

617.742.4911 (v)  617.227.4911 (tty)

- bilingual hotline
- emergency shelter
- support group
- línea de crisis bilingüe
- refugio de emergencia
- grupo de apoyo

**The Network/La Red: Acabando con el abuso de parejas en las comunidades LGBTQ, pollamorosas y sadomasoquistas**

puede ser el abuso de pareja íntima



Thanks again for voting us the **#1 Dating Service in the Valley**

*As Affordable as Internet Dating with the Touch of a Matchmaker*

**Over 10 years of professional, private, and very affordable matchmaking**

Connecting both gay & straight singles in Western MA & neighboring communities

ADVOCATE OF THE VALLEY READERS POLL **2012**  
AD **2011**  
THE REAL **2010**

**www.massmatch.com. • Phone: 413.665.3218**



**FRIDAY JUNE 1**

**EMERALD**  
*a wicked jewel.* LOUNGE

**Pride Kickoff Event**

**I'll get you my pretty...**

**7-10 PM \$10 ADMISSION  
TICKETS ON SALE NOW AT [WWW.BOSTONPRIDE.ORG/TICKETS](http://WWW.BOSTONPRIDE.ORG/TICKETS)**

**A PARTY TO BENEFIT BOSTON PRIDE  
OFFICIAL PRE-PARTY OF QUEER FRIDAYS AT GUILT**

**REVERE**  
HOTEL | BOSTON COMMON

**200 STUART STREET, BOSTON MA 02116**



# Gay Democrats, activists decry Sen. Brown's anti-gay track record

By: Chuck Colbert/TRT Reporter

When Scott Brown first ran for election to the US Senate in 2010 he promised not to be "another loud and angry voice." Rather, Brown vowed to be "an independent voice, a problem solver."

Now in a close re-election race with presumptive Democratic Party nominee Elizabeth Warren, Brown is trumpeting in radio and TV ads not only that independent voice, but also an independent voting record.

As proof positive, Brown's campaign points to voting only 54 percent of the time along party lines.

But gay Democrats are calling out Brown for not supporting Massachusetts LGBT residents and issues of concern to them. During a recent telephone conference call, three gay community leaders said Brown is missing in action on gay rights, if not outright anti-gay.

He "claims to be an independent voice, but his anti-equality positions are much more in line with Mitt Romney, Rick Santorum, and the Massachusetts Family Institute," said Democratic state Representative Liz Malia, of the 11th Suffolk district, which includes a gay enclave of Jamaica Plain.

"Massachusetts would not have led the way on marriage equality if Scott Brown had his way," she explained. "He voted against marriage at every turn and still supports DOMA" [the 1996 Defense of Marriage Act].

In fact, as a state lawmaker Brown voted repeatedly in the Legislature to place before voters a referendum that would have banned same-sex

marriage by amending the state Constitution.

Joining Malia on the call (Thurs., May 10) was Kevin Franck, Massachusetts Democratic Party communications director, and Jennifer Chrisler, executive director of the Family Equality Council (FEC), an advocacy organization for LGBT parents and families.

The Bay State U.S. Senate race is one of the closest this year and one of the most widely watched. Recent polling data from Real Clear Politics shows Brown slightly ahead of Warren 42.6 to 42.0 percent

It was President Barack Obama's historic full embrace of same-sex marriage rights earlier this month that prompted the press availability, said Franck.

Besides gay marriage, LGBT community leaders criticized Brown for his silence on bullying.

"Scott Brown calls himself an independent voice," said Wes Ritchie, outreach director for MassEquality, a statewide advocacy organization. But "he has no voice at all."

Ritchie was referring to the non-political "It Gets Better" video campaign in which elected officials, celebrities and other public figures across the county have reached out to LGBT youth with a message of hope.

Every member of the Massachusetts delegation in the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate spoke out and participated in the campaign, said Ritchie, except Brown who "chooses to have no voice at all."

Read the rest of this story at: <http://bit.ly/MDmX6U>

# 25th Connecticut Gay & Lesbian Film Festival Line-Up

This milestone season of the Connecticut Gay & Lesbian Film Festival takes place at Trinity College, except for dual closing night screenings in downtown Hartford. For information visit [www.OutFilmCT.org](http://www.OutFilmCT.org). This year's feature films are:

**Friday, June 1; 7:30pm:** "Cloudburst". Olympia Dukakis is a foul-mouthed butchlesbian who springs her partner of 31 years from a nursing home to get married in Canada. On the way they pick up a hot hitchhiker, encounter a naked psycho and endure a strip-search.

**Saturday, June 2; 3:00pm:** "Jobriath AD". Dubbed "The American Bowie," Jobriath was sabotaged by publicity run amok, shunned by gays, and was an early AIDS casualty. Filmmaker Kieran Turner introduces his documentary.

**7:30pm:** "Christopher and His Kind". Christopher Isherwood's tell-all, late-life memoir of "divinely decadent" 1930s Berlin inspired this bio-pic. **10:30pm:** "Varla Jean and the Mushroomheads". Seeing her audience age before her eyes in New Orleans dives, loose chanteuse Varla Jean Merman tries for a younger crowd - kids!

**Sunday, June 3; 3:00pm:** "Jamie and Jessie Are Not Together". Ever fallen for your best friend or roommate? Musical and dance numbers infuse this evocation of young romance. **7:30pm:** "Wish Me Away". Chely Wright, named Top Female Vocalist at the 1999 Academy of Country Music Awards, came out as a lesbian in May 2010. Her internalized homophobia and the transformational power of living an authentic life are revealed in this documentary.

**Monday, June 4; 7:30pm:** "Time to Spare". Middle-aged Maarten has been both brother and father to his younger sister since their parents died. When Molly opts to live with her

boyfriend, who will Maarten allow into his life? **Tuesday, June 5; 7:30pm:** "Kiss Me". Mia and Frida meet at the engagement party for Mia's father and Frida's mother. Their new relationship has dramatic consequences for everyone in their circle.

**Wednesday, June 6; 7:30pm:** "Melting Away". As the father is dying, the mother hires a detective to track down the son they kicked out for cross-dressing. A woman who earns a living performing at gay cabarets is found instead.

**Thursday, June 7; 7:30pm:** "Vito". A documentary on pioneering activist Vito Russo, author of "The Celluloid Closet," the first critique of Hollywood's portrayal of gays and lesbians, and a passionate advocate with ACT UP.

**Friday, June 8; 7:30pm:** "August": A meet-up for coffee after a long-ago breakup becomes an attempt to revive past passions. But it's not simple, for a third man is in the picture.

**Saturday, June 9; 3:00pm:** "Love Free or Die: How the Bishop of New Hampshire is Changing the World". Gene Robinson's ordination as Episcopal bishop rocked the Anglican Church because he is openly gay. His story and message are powerful arguments for the dignity and value of all God's children. Director Macky Alston introduces his documentary.

**7:30pm, Connecticut Science Center:** "Gayby". Matt and Jenn, best friends from college, now in their thirties, decide to fulfill a longstanding promise to have a child together... the old fashioned way. Director-screenwriter Jonathan Lisecki introduces his comedy.

**7:30pm, Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art:** "The Night Watch". Despite the dangers and chaos of the London Blitz, four young Britons enjoy social and sexual freedoms previously unimaginable, as their lives, and those of family, friends and lovers, change irreversibly.

Sunday June 10th 12-8pm

# Boston Pride Block Party

DJ Tracy Young



Back Bay Edition

St. James Ave

BACK BAY (ORANGE)  
COPLEY ST (GREEN)

[www.bostonpride.org](http://www.bostonpride.org)

# JAMAICA PLAIN

# LUAAU

## BLOCK PARTY

### SUNDAY JUNE 10TH

PERKINS ST, JAMAICA PLAIN  
12PM-7PM, ALL AGES

5 DIS SHELLY CULLEN,  
DOUBLE D, SUPER SQUIRREL,  
MSLADYJ, AND LEAHV

DOG'S & DRAG SHOW | GAMES & ACTIVITES | HAWAIIAN THEME | FUN FOR ALL AGES

[www.dykenight.com](http://www.dykenight.com) OR [www.bostonpride.org](http://www.bostonpride.org)

# If you don't believe in LGBT rights for all U.S. citizens, then you're un-American

By: Deja Nicole Greenlaw\*/TRT Columnist

TRANS NEWS



Congratulations to President Obama, a true American!

President Barack Obama has come out in support of same-sex marriage.

This is wonderful news and it shows that the president is an honest man who did the right thing. Yes, he will lose some support from some of his backers, but he did what he knew was right and I applaud him for it. He will go down in history as the U.S. president who stood up for this long-awaited human right!

I love his comment about people fighting for their rights "from Selma to Stonewall." This is true, as people in both of these historical incidents were standing up for themselves. They just couldn't take it anymore and they demanded change. These were Americans fighting for their rights.

Why did it take so long for a U.S. president to come out and do this? I heard Obama's explanation of "evolving" to finally agree with this right, but why did it take so long? As in earlier history with any Americans fighting for their rights,

there was always religious opposition trying to prevent other Americans from having rights. Why is that?

The religious folk will usually say that it's God's will or God's law. They may quote passages from the Bible and claim that it's God's

I recently saw a quote by former President Jimmy Carter who pointed out LGBT people have been around since the beginning of man, that they were definitely around during the time that Jesus lived. Carter also said that Jesus never said anything bad about LGBT folk. Really! If

folks who strongly believe in these anti-LGBT sentiments.

Why would some people agree with negative things about LGBT people? Maybe they don't like the LGBT community? Maybe they fear them? Maybe they want to control them? Maybe they believe that God says so?

I saw it for myself last year in the Connecticut Legislative Office building when we were fighting for our transgender rights. Who was our opposition? Who else? That's right, the religious element!

In American history, there has always been religious opposition for rights for other Americans. Besides LGBT people, religion has been opposed to non-whites and women having rights. It's rather sad, really, that people who view themselves as good and religious are actually trying to prevent other Americans from having rights. I don't think they realize just how un-American they are.

Let's face it, if you are against other Americans having rights, then you are un-American.

Once more, I applaud President Obama for doing the right thing in supporting same-sex in the U.S., for he is a true American.

*\*Deja Nicole Greenlaw is a local transwoman who has three grown children and works at a local Fortune 500 company. She can be contacted at dejavudeja@sbcglobal.net.*

**Besides LGBT people, religion has been opposed to non-whites and women having rights. It's rather sad, really, that people who view themselves as good and religious are actually trying to prevent other Americans from having rights.**

word. I'm not so convinced that the Bible is God's word. I look at the Bible and I see entries by the Corinthians, the Romans, and Leviticus, etc., but I have yet to see a single entry written by God.

The reason is that God did not write the Bible. Man did. In reality, the Bible was written by men, not women, but men a couple of thousand years ago, yet many people take these words to be God's words. I guess it's just a matter of what you believe.

you take all of the quotes attributed to Jesus in his preaching you will find that not a single one said anything negative about gays, lesbians, bisexual, nor transgender people. Not a one! Now where did all of this anti-LGBT rhetoric come from? Could it be that these words and thoughts came not from God, but from man himself?

There are a number of religious folks who may say that these anti-LGBT words from the Bible are actually misinterpretations of what was really meant. But we all know that there are religious

## Ask a Transwoman: An LGBTQ-discrimination going-out-of-business sale, have rights but wait to get them

By: Lorelei Erisis\*/TRT Columnist



It's just that time of year. Trees are budding, birds are singing and LGBTQ people are pulling out their best rainbow-colored apparel. By the time you read this, Pride season will be in full swing. I've already marched in one parade myself. If you live in or near the New England area, you will very likely spot this 6'4" fightin' former pageant queen at a Pride near you!

It has been quite a year and there's a lot to be proud of, a lot of victories to celebrate: President Obama's and the NAACP's separate announcements of support for same-sex marriage; the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't Tell," allowing gay and lesbians to serve openly in the military; and the passage here in Massachusetts and in Connecticut of transgender anti-discrimination laws.

That last is of particular pride for me and most relevant to this column. It's also something I've been thinking about an awful lot over the last few weeks. I can't speak to direct experience with the Connecticut version of trans rights, but I have been actively involved as one of a great many people working for the last several years to pass the Transgender Civil Rights Bill here in Massachusetts. It was passed officially last November, signed ceremoniously in January and goes into effect on July 1 of this year.

I've been thinking about that time frame quite a bit lately. It's an odd feeling to be told that you can have rights now, but not just at this very moment. Come July, the words "gender identity" will be added into a number of existing sections of the General Laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. This will include sections relevant to employment discrimination, housing, services and hate crimes.

But not just yet. Until July 1, I suppose it's like a transgender-discrimination going-out-of-business sale. "Get your discrimination in while

you still can! Crazy Eddie is slashing discriminatory acts!! All transfolks must go!"

And don't even get me started on how weird I think it is that so many people had to work so hard for so long just to get a couple of words added into a few paragraphs. Or, that basic human rights can be boiled down to mere word-play.

**There still will be many of us who struggle to live our lives in the face of prejudice, ignorance and, yes, outright discrimination.**

Yes, we have a new law to protect us. But it doesn't cover everything and it won't magically make discrimination against transgender people simply go away. It's simply a start. A fortress of law from which battles against discrimination can be launched.

The new law sends the message that discrimination against people with regard to their gender identity is no longer implicitly approved of by the lack of any reference to it. The new law is a sword, not an atom bomb.

There still will be many of us who struggle to live our lives in the face of prejudice, ignorance and, yes, outright discrimination. Given my well-known activism, I hear a lot of stories. One story I received in my inbox recently particularly got under my skin.

It happened here, recently, in Massachusetts, in the limbo between the passage of our new law, known officially as "An Act Relative To Gender Identity," and the date it is to

officially take effect.

Without sharing any personally identifying details, suffice it to say that this transperson had been a hard worker. A genuinely model employee in their field. They had put up gladly with all kinds of workplace unpleasantness. Long hours, extra duties, misogynistic attitudes, and difficult personalities. All in the name of

being the best team player and company asset they could be. In short, they liked their job, excelled in their position and were well-liked by coworkers and customers alike.

The kind of employee companies pray they will find.

Then one day, word got out that they were trans. And within a very short time, this highly praised employee found themselves ostracized, harassed and then summarily fired on the flimsiest of pretenses.

And you know what? I honestly have no idea if they have any real recourse. Because it takes seven months (and many years before), to add two words to a few paragraphs.

And the new law doesn't even cover everything. Public accom-

modations protections were left out in order to pass the larger bulk of the proposed bill. Politics are about compromise and incremental victories. Rome wasn't built in a day and full civil rights don't happen overnight.

I can now technically not be fired from my job simply on account of my gender identity. But I can still be harassed or even arrested for using the restroom. I can be ejected from a restaurant. Turned off the bus. If a hate crime is committed against me, it can be prosecuted as such in a court of law. But I still have reason to be afraid to call the police.

So when I am marching this summer, in Pride parades around the region, I will be standing tall, proud, and as visible as possible. I will be thanking all of you: transfolks, our families and, most of all, our allies, for all of the hard work you have done to make these victories a reality.

But I will still have my fist raised high. And my voice will ring loud. Because what we have achieved is only a beginning. A foundation, hopefully.

Let us take the opportunity of this Pride season and these many celebrations to knit our communities even stronger together. Because there is much hard work still to be done and we need the strength of every one of us to do it. Slainte!

*\*Lorelei Erisis, former Miss Trans New England, can be contacted via email at TRT: loreleierisis@therainbowtimesmass.com.*

The Highlands Inn  
"One of the most romantic lesbian destinations on the planet."  
-Planet Out  
www.highlandsinn-nh.com  
1-877-LES-B-INN  
Bethlehem, New Hampshire

Unexpectedly Gay  
THE ADVOCATE MAGAZINE TOP 15 GAYEST CITIES  
SPRINGFIELD, MA  
www.GLBTSpringfield.com

# The OutField: Former Division I football player creates the Akil Patterson's project

By: Dan Woog\*/Special for TRT

Q SPORTS



When University of Nebraska assistant football coach Ron Brown made anti-gay comments recently—among other things, he threatened the Omaha city council with eternal damnation if it passed a bill prohibiting businesses from firing workers because they're gay—many people were outraged.

Akil Patterson was too. But he understood better than many others where Brown was coming from. Patterson is a former Division I football player. Like Brown, he's African American.

But Patterson's life path has been very different. A gay man, Patterson is dedicating his life to making sure that young athletes do not get bullied or harassed for any reason. Particularly for being gay.

Patterson began his collegiate football career at the University of Maryland. He "adored" the school. Yet he did not feel the same warmth toward the people he was around—primarily football players and coaches. "It was a dark period," he recalls. "I was always on the defensive."

Deeply closeted—feeling estranged from other gay men and women, and with no black gay role models—he became a binge drinker. He transferred to California University of Pennsylvania, where he continued to party but earned a degree.

He played briefly with the United Indoor Football League's semipro Billings Outlaws in

Montana. He'd already started to come to terms with himself, thanks to an eye-opening trip to Europe. Yet not until he returned to his real love—he'd been a state high school wrestling champion—did he feel confident enough to come out, and truly begin to live.

"I've made a lot of mistakes," Patterson says. "That weighs heavily on your soul. I want to be at peace, be around people who uplift me."

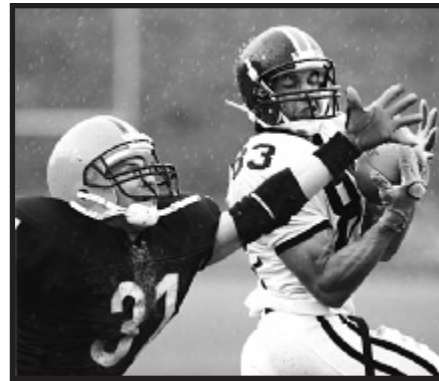
He found that place, surprisingly, back in College Park, Md. Now an assistant wrestling coach there, he's surrounded by people—coaches and athletes—who understand and embrace him. They're like a family to him. Around them, Patterson talks about his life and his relationships. It's an openness he never felt before. That openness has enabled him to reach out to others; through something he calls The Patterson Project.

"It's a mission of love," he says. Through it—by blogging, speaking and serving as a role model—Patterson educates whoever will listen,

**"The Patterson Project offers a different spin on the life of LGBT athletes, because it doesn't just focus on sexuality,"**

from elementary school youth through college students, about the importance of being true to yourself.

"The Patterson Project offers a different spin on the life of LGBT athletes, because it doesn't just focus on sexuality," he says. He emphasizes the mental, physical, social and psychological aspects of living life with integrity. He learned many of those skills while working in youth de-



velopment centers and courts. With his imposing size (he's 6-foot-3-inches) and athletic accomplishments (he's still a highly ranked Greco-Roman grappler), Patterson has vowed to counter the destructive influences of people like

white," he explains. "But that wouldn't achieve equality. If gay people want to be equal, we have to show who we are. We're coaches, teachers, lawyers, doctors. We're people."

In his second stint at Maryland, he says, he's now seen as "a person." In part, that's because 2012 is a different time than just 10 years ago. In part, it's a reflection of the difference between the wrestling and football cultures.

Though wrestling demands mental and physical toughness, Patterson calls it a "humbling" sport. "You're not going to make a million dollars" as a wrestler or coach, he says.

Because they compete individually, Patterson says, wrestlers—like gymnasts and swimmers—must have incredible fortitude to succeed. Wrestling helped give him the confidence and fortitude to come out.

But all gay athletes, whether participating in an individual or team sport, must contend with something others don't: the conflict between their identity as an athlete, and as an LGBT person.

Patterson walks the walk of an athlete. He talks the talk. He's grown up in the black community, and understands the culture that allows Ron Brown to say it would be an "honor" to be fired for his stance.

That's why it's so important for Akil Patterson to speak not about religion or politics, but about humanity, whenever he talks about his life journey as a black gay athlete.

Or simply, his life journey as a human being.

\*Dan Woog is a journalist, educator, soccer coach, gay activist, and author of the "Jocks" series of books on gay male athletes. Visit his website at [www.danwoog.com](http://www.danwoog.com). He can be reached care of this publication or at [OutField@qsyndicate.com](mailto:OutField@qsyndicate.com).

## HAPPY BOSTON PRIDE 2012!

### To Cook is To Love: A Foodies Journal

Always read the fine print—Sixth in a series: Food & politics and the 2012 elections

By: John Verlinden/Special for TRT

¡MUCHO GUSTO!



PHOTO: RACHEL POWER

Could I get a little help here?

I know what I eat matters, and I really want a healthier diet. Now, if I could just figure out what's actually inside the cans, boxes and bags in my grocery cart. Deciphering food product packaging is daunting—what's hype and advertising and what's scientifically valid? What do terms like "organic," "free range" and "humanely raised" really mean and who's checking? Advertising claims like "all natural," "lite," "high in fiber" aren't defined by law—should they be? Should claims like "0 grams Trans Fat," "a cholesterol free food," "made with whole grains" and "contains real fruit" have to be clarified? Is it high in saturated fat? How much is whole grain? And, what percent is real fruit? How should allergy information be displayed? And, should we insist manufacturers disclose if they use genetically modified plants and animals?

Food businesses need to promote their products' good qualities, especially since enhancing nutritional profiles for consumers increases

sales. And, what's reasonable for us to ask of this diverse industry—they can't address every consumer's concern, and are you willing to pay for more clarity?

Is reliable and easy-to-understand nutrition and health information printed in a font you can actually read too much to ask for? The answer is probably yes. Food labeling is a contentious and politically hot issue. And, improvements to the system aren't likely to happen unless voters insist on it. Balancing the interests of consumers, small farmers, agribusiness giants, food manufacturers, health professionals and regulators and then obtaining agreement on an affordable, implementable system will be difficult. That's why it's been over twenty years since the Nutritional Labeling and Education Act and the Organic Foods Production Act were passed, and why we've seen only minor changes since.

What will you ask of politicians seeking your vote? What should our public policy be concerning food labeling, and can we design a system that gives us the information we want at a glance without harming the industry?

Next month we'll take a look at agriculture policy. Share your thoughts, ask a question or suggest a topic for a future article—contact me: [john@muchogusto.com](mailto:john@muchogusto.com) or visit [www.muchogusto.com](http://www.muchogusto.com) and join our food forum.

Until next time—¡Mucho Gusto!, ¡Muchas Gracias! y ¡Buen Provecho!

Ron Brown.

As a big, strong athlete, he knows he does not fit the stereotype of a gay man. He could easily "pass" as a straight jock—he did for years, all through college. But Patterson says that would not serve anyone well. Not him, and not young athletes who need role models.

"It's like years ago, during a previous era, when light-skinned black people could pass as

## NEW YEAR-NEW HOME-NEW JOB-NEW BEGINNING

• Check out this great live-in opportunity in Boston, MA •

Seeking a man (25-40) to be (i) Personal Assistant; (ii) Home manager; (iii) Yard work/snow removal and (iv) Exercise buddy.

**JOB DESCRIPTION:** Professional single male, 50, with active, busy life, lives alone with minor medical problems that need help and attention. Requires help with maintenance of residence (cleaning and laundry), yard, removal of snow. As a Personal Assistant you will help with calendar, grocery shopping, airport pickups, banking, post office, minor errands and other personal needs. Great if you can cook Indian/Pakistani food. If not, will teach if interested in learning. Most important—provide motivation and companionship during exercise with goal to reduce weight, improve strength and increase flexibility.

**QUALIFICATIONS:** Most important is responsibility. Other qualities sought are motivated and goal-oriented, honesty, integrity, trustworthy, punctuality, cleanliness, organizational skills, multitasking, driver's license, communication skills, computer savvy, personable, speak fluent English and Urdu/Hindi (if possible). Must be single (unmarried); divorced ok. Preferable (but not essential): Athlete, sportsman or muscleman. College degree and handyman skills helpful. Must be non-smoker, no alcohol, drugs, no pets, no visitors (except) parents or family. Someone who will treat this home like their own home.

**COMPENSATION:** Large room and bath free. All meals free. Salary negotiable. Health insurance. In addition, if college degree in biology, biochemistry or chemistry, can offer up to 20 hours/week job in office at good hourly rate. Tuition assistance for education/training after 6 months of successful performance.

Please reply if you can satisfactorily perform some of the requirements.

Please send your response to: [specialpersonforuniquejob@gmail.com](mailto:specialpersonforuniquejob@gmail.com) and provide names and addresses of three references.



When

# THE JACK

♦ ♠ *is here, it's* ♥ ♣

## ALWAYS HALF FULL

Sometimes a celebration calls for something a little more than routine. Consider a night at Foxwoods® just that. Rake it in at the slots, throw down at your favorite tables and leave it all on the dance floor. Because here, the party is ready when you are.



**FOXWOODS**  
*Anything But Ordinary™*



GAME



HOTEL



DINE



SHOWS



SHOP



SPA



GOLF



GROUPS

FOXWOODS.COM | 1-800-369-9663