

The Rainbow Times

Your LGBT News in Western MA, the Capital District of NY, Northcentral CT, & Southern VT

Year 3, Vol. 4 • May 7 - June 3, 2009

www.rainbowtimesnews.com

FREE!

3rd Annual W. Mass
Youth Pride Prom
p. 20

Donate: Benefit for Swazi
HIV/AIDS orphans
p. 15

BACK TO REALITY: GLENN BACK TO BROOKE KNOWS BEST

P. 20

NORTHAMPTON: HOMOGENEOUS HAVEN, OR NOT?

P. 2

PATTI LUPONE INTERVIEW

P. 14

BULLYING A FACTOR IN CARL WALKER-HOOVER'S DEATH

P. 3

BLACK PRIDE PARTIES TO A DIFFERENT BEAT

P. 10

Cover & Photo: Glenn Douglas Packard

Opinions

Homogeneous Haven?

By: J.M. Sorrell

First the "Business Improvement District (BID)" proponents decide to create an extraneous bureaucracy as they work to convince the mayor, city council, and the public that downtown Northampton's business community is in jeopardy unless we clean up the streets.

Today, even on a cold, rainy Saturday after-

noon, this place is hopping. Most business owners said they did well during the holiday season. I suspect this is because I and others supported independent businesses with greater intention than ever in this economy-aware of the need to support and sustain our community.

ing up the streets" (which I believe is a not-so-subtle reference to making sidewalk areas off-limits and unfriendly to homeless people, musicians, and panhandlers), and to it as a misguided business decision when I said, "BIDs are not universally successful. People do not come to Northampton because they want a Stepford experience. The quirkiness and diversity of its people are great strengths."

Apparently, our city politicians had already bought into the idea of having a business gang decide how public areas should look and be, because the BID was easily approved.

Isn't it enough that these businesses profit from the public so that owners and employees can finance their personal lives? How is it that they get to own the sidewalks too?

And yet as Ms. Maddow goes up the celebrity/entertainment food chain of who's hot and who's not, I'm left wondering, what part of herself will she lose as time goes on?

It inevitable, isn't it? All people who make it big find themselves sucked into that vortex known as Hollywood, the Big Apple or (gasp!) Washington, DC, slowly changing into something other than who they started out as. And although Rachel appears to be holding a fairly tight line, some changes have begun to materialize.

And yet as Ms. Maddow goes up the celebrity/entertainment food chain of who's hot and who's not, I'm left wondering, what part of herself will she lose as time goes on?

It inevitable, isn't it? All people who make it big find themselves sucked into that vortex known as Hollywood, the Big Apple or (gasp!) Washington, DC, slowly changing into something other than who they started out as. And although Rachel appears to be holding a fairly tight line, some changes have begun to materialize.

And yet as Ms. Maddow goes up the celebrity/entertainment food chain of who's hot and who's not, I'm left wondering, what part of herself will she lose as time goes on?

It inevitable, isn't it? All people who make it big find themselves sucked into that vortex known as Hollywood, the Big Apple or (gasp!) Washington, DC, slowly changing into something other than who they started out as. And although Rachel appears to be holding a fairly tight line, some changes have begun to materialize.

See Haven on Page 6

noon, this place is hopping. Most business owners said they did well during the holiday season. I suspect this is because I and others supported independent businesses with greater intention than ever in this economy-aware of the need to support and sustain our community.

At the first public hearing (where I as a downtown residence owner spoke out against the BID), I spoke to both the ethics of "clean-

C'mon Out – Just Ask! Advice column

By: Tetty Gorfine*

I have a very difficult problem. I have been married to my wife for 23 years. Communication on intimate issues has always been a problem in our relationship, and this current issue is extra hard to deal with because of it.

Our love live has over the past several years dwindled to being very bipolar. My wife oscillates between being quite gratified by me sexually, and then becomes asexual for a very long period of time, sometimes months, and then slowly goes back up to being gratified, and then back down, over and over again. Sometimes these asexual periods begin within hours (yes, hours) of making love. During these asexual periods she won't even allow herself to be cuddled and caressed by me, and acts repulsed by my body. I am suspecting that she is struggling with her sexual identity inside herself, even if she is not aware of it.

Also, just prior to moving back to Western MA from Washington state to be close to family, a couple of incidents occurred.

First, we got a pair of cell phones and the numbers assigned were one number apart. Shortly after getting these phones, a full-body naked photo of a woman was sent to me with a love note attached to it. In the photo the architecture and decor of the bathroom it was taken in (in the mirror) looked exactly like that in our subdivision. I showed this photo to my wife, and she stated she didn't know who it was. A short time after that she told me that a friend of hers from work lived down the street and that I should get to know her husband. I never got the chance to do that, but, both he and I had jobs that tend keep us away from



TETTY GORFINE

home for very long hours: he a Seattle police officer and I a software engineer at Microsoft.

The second incident is that when a family friend was visiting who happens to be openly bisexual, she and my wife were sitting facing each other, holding hands, and staring deeply into each others eyes with a come hither look on both their faces for quite a length of time, right in front of me. I'm 42 and have been married to her for 23 years, I know that look quite well.

I think my wife is bisexual and denying it to herself, or perhaps more likely is thinking she has to make a choice between lesbian and heterosexual, and not seeing a middle ground choice.

I love my wife very, very deeply. I want to see her happy and blissful, no matter what that means to her or takes. Right now during these asexual periods she seems miserable, and that makes me miserable as well. If she is bisexual I would be willing to find, with her, another lady and if we all fall into deep love together form and have a triad marriage (state law be d**med.) This is not so much a sexuality issue as it is a love, happiness, and family issue.

I am afraid of losing my wife of so many years. I love her more than the sun, moon, and stars and have 5 wonderful children with her. Please, if you can give me some advice as to how to help her come out to me without fear and shame, so she will be happy and fulfilled, I would be in your debt. I am

See C'mon Out on Page 18

The Controversial Couch

Lie back and listen. Then get up and do something

By: Suzan Ambrose*TRT Columnist



Everyone loves Rachel (Raymond, take a back seat!). Rachel Maddow, that is. A name that has achieved one-word celebrity recognition these days, as Rachel goes from local radio talk show host to having her own television show on MSNBC. As an out, attractive, intelligent woman who's speaking the political truth in times of turmoil, what's not to like? A Rhodes Scholar who holds a doctorate of philosophy in political science from Oxford, she began her career as an activist focusing on HIV and AIDS issues affecting prisoners. Ahhh, my hero....

And yet as Ms. Maddow goes up the celebrity/entertainment food chain of who's hot and who's not, I'm left wondering, what part of herself will she lose as time goes on?

It inevitable, isn't it? All people who make it big find themselves sucked into that vortex known as Hollywood, the Big Apple or (gasp!) Washington, DC, slowly changing into something other than who they started out as. And although Rachel appears to be holding a fairly tight line, some changes have begun to materialize.

Since she began doing television, Rachel, a strong lesbian with the girl-next-door face, has begun wearing make-up. *Make-up, for God's sake!*

Now, it's not to say that lesbians can't wear make-up; after all, lipstick lesbians are in right now No, it more than that. And I get it. Some things just come with the territory. It's rumored her girlfriend insisted she wear the dreaded face-cover because she looks deathly on TV without it, but I can't help thinking: what's next? Glue-on nails? Lip plumping? *Just say no to fame, Rachel!*

As Rachel's necklines continue to plummet, her hair begins to lengthen and fan mail from hetero men is on the rise. I just want to know one thing: where's the butch dyke we love? With The L-Word going off the air recently, just who do we have left for our lez role models? (Give me flannel or give me death!)

Seriously though, Rachel has been breaking stereotypes since she hit the big time. Some have even called her a "reluctant sex symbol". Men and women seem captivated by Maddow's intellect, humor and just plain damn good looks, infecting even the most hard-fast conservative men with Rachel stardust. Why, look how she takes on Pat Buchanan!

See Couch on Page 6

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I am a trans man and used to be a lesbian. Most of my friends were lesbians, until they decided not to talk to me any longer. The minute I became a trans man, I said I was "golden," and then I was banned from any group or circle I know. Why are trans people not welcome in the lesbian and gay community? I thank you for covering the stories you do about trans people, but I was upset to read that there won't be a Trans Pride this year. I think the lesbian and gay community don't take much care of the rest of the members of the B and T community. Thank you for your good record on Trans issues.

—L. Molinary, Easthampton, MA

Dear Editor,

Loved your Lady Gaga cover in last month's issue and story! I am in love with that woman and the story really was great.

—J. San McDermoth, Greenfield, MA

Dear Editor,

I was disappointed with the Adamo Ruggiero story. I expected the writer to ask more questions. Just a thought for upcoming stories.

—M. Hearney, Springfield, MA

Dear Editor,

I heard that a new Pride organization is forming and that the old one is not going forward. Why isn't the old organization running with new people? I want to be a part of Pride, and have had

See Letters to the Editor on page 4

The Rainbow Times

351 Pleasant St., #322
Northampton, MA 01060

www.rainbowtimesnews.com

editor@therainbowtimesnews.com

sales@therainbowtimesnews.com

MA: 413.204.8959 • NY: 518.391.2617

Fax: 866-310-8512

Publisher Gricel M. Ocasio	Tetty Gorfine J.M Sorrell
Editor-In-Chief Nicole Lashomb	Sales Associate: Liz Johnson
Distribution Ben Peterson	Reporter: Randa Hatoum
Columnists: Suzan Ambrose Paul P. Jesep Deja N. Greenlaw	Lindsay Wilson Tynan Power Webmaster: Jarred Johnson

The Rainbow Times is published monthly by The Rainbow Times, LLC. TRT is affiliated with AP/Newsfinder, QSyndicate, and the National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce. 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@therainbowtimesnews.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 our 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. The legal/medical information in TRT is intended for educational purposes only and does not represent legal/medical advice.

Community forum considers bullying factor in Carl Walker-Hoover's death

By: Tynan Power

Struggling to come to grips with the April 7th suicide of 11-year-old Carl Joseph Walker-Hoover, a student at New Leadership Charter School in Springfield, a group of about one hundred people gathered at American International College on April 29th for an "Anti-Bullying Community Forum and Vigil." The event brought together speakers with personal and professional perspectives on the impact of GLBT-targeted bullying on young victims regardless of actual identity. The audience included a visible and vocal number of GLBT community members, as well as parents and educators concerned about bullying in schools.

Amaad Rivera, the event organizer and a board member of the Gay, Lesbian, and Straight Educators Network (GLSEN), noted that there have been five bullying-induced suicides of young people around the country so far this year. He recalled that when he was growing up in the area and experiencing bullying, he was told coping with bullying was just part of growing up. He was told that he "had to learn to deal with it."

"We will not accept that any child is not safe," he said. "We will not accept that any student is not safe."

Reverend Irene Monroe, the coordinator of the African American Roundtable of the Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies in Religion and Ministry (CLGS) at the Pacific School of Religion, agreed.

"All of us here understand there should be zero tolerance for bullying," Monroe said. "So I'm not going to tell you children should not bully."

Instead, she turned the responsibility back to the adults.

"There is something wrong when a mother goes repeatedly to a school and says 'My son is not safe in this institution'," she said. "His death is a wrong on our hands."

Monroe also drew parallels between the life of Jesus and Carl Walker-Hoover, who was a Christian. She pointed out that GLBT-targeted bullying often arises when someone's appearance or behavior does not fit the gender norms of their time. Jesus, she noted, was a man in his thirties who was not married at a time when that was highly unusual.

"Something about Jesus just didn't fit the status quo," she said.

She also said there was a similarity in that people may hear all kinds of stories about Jesus and about Walker-Hoover, yet people will never hear the whole story.



Amaad Rivera, Event coordinator, GLSEN.

Photo by: Tynan Power

"We have not heard their voices," she said, referring to Jesus and Walker-Hoover.

Carl Walker-Hoover's mother, Sirdeaner Walker, followed Rev. Monroe on stage, thanking her for her words but noting that Monroe did not know Walker's son. Walker explained that she almost did not attend the event because she has been so exhausted by grief and the media attention her son's suicide has received. She said that she felt it was important to be there, though, and to continue

to tell her son's story so that people would know who he was as an individual.

"He was a beautiful little boy who enjoyed life," she said.

She disagreed with the characterization of her son as effeminate. She placed significant blame for the bullying her son experienced on his charter school. She expressed frustration at the fact that public schools and charter schools are held to different standards because public school officials have no oversight of charter schools. Charter schools are run by their own boards of directors, she explained.

"When Dr. Ingram [superintendent of Springfield Public Schools] called to offer his condolences he said 'My hands are tied because that's a charter school,'" Walker said.

Yet GLBT-targeted bullying is certainly not limited to charter schools. As Jossie Valentin, a Latina lesbian who works as a counselor at Holyoke Community College, told the audience, a 2005 GLSEN study revealed that two of the top three issues that provoke bullying are "actual or perceived sexual orientation" and "gender expression."

The event concluded with a candlelight vigil.

makesmokinghistory.org

BEFORE YOU LIGHT UP, LOOK DOWN.

Children exposed to secondhand smoke are more likely to suffer from ear infections and asthma.

Secondhand smoke hurts.

Massachusetts Department of Public Health

TC2431

In 'The Name of God'

Faith, Family, and God: Sacrament

By Paul P. Jesepe*

The New York State Legislature may debate a bill to legalize same-sex marriage. Perhaps marriage equality opponents will succeed in preventing its passage this year, though it will be a short-lived victory. Opponents will lose the war. The tide shifts.

In addition, there's an important issue overlooked. Clergy can still celebrate the sacrament of marriage for a same-sex couple. They would be married in the eyes of God and in accordance to one's faith tradition, but not under civil law. Hence, economic discrimination would continue.

A priest, rabbi, pastor, or other clergy person serves as someone who solemnizes a marriage and serves as an agent of the state performing a civil function. Sadly, it's a permitted blurring of church-state separation.

Ultimately, no one can stop me, as a priest, from solemnizing a marriage in the eyes of God. Government can't. Other denomina-

tions can't.

"We have come together in the presence of God to witness and celebrate," according to one Marriage Liturgy, "the marriage of Adam and Steve, and to pray God's blessing upon them now and in the years ahead." "Marriage is a way of life to be upheld and honored. No one should enter into it lightly. It involves a serious and life-long commitment to each other's good in a union of strength, sympathy and delight."

"God our Creator, be with us now as we celebrate the marriage of Adam and Steve." The priest then asks the couple to face one another as they hold hands. He then asks one to repeat, "I, Adam, take you, Steve, to be my husband to have and to hold from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer, for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish until we are parted by death. This is my solemn vow." Steve would then make the same vow.

The clergy person would then bless the

rings. "Most holy God, bless these rings, grant that they be a reminder to Adam and Steve to be faithful to each other and continue bound together in love to their lives' end. Amen."

After rings are exchanged the clergy person says, "Adam and Steve have given themselves to each other with solemn vows by joining hands and the giving and receiving of rings; they are now married. Let no one come between those whom God has joined together. The power of God keep you, the love of God be in your life and work together, the grace of God strengthen your love that it may endure forever. Amen."

This may give little comfort to couples seeking economic rights through civil marriage. It probably will give no satisfaction to those who are atheists, agnostics, secularists, or humanists.

Yet it's an issue that merits greater discussion. Clergy reading this column should consider what it means to solemnize a same-sex

relationship. It's a marriage. Call it a marriage. It's not a blessing ceremony. It's a sacred rite of love.

It would be wrong for someone without faith to have a Marriage Liturgy performed. It also would make a mockery of the relationship. There are, however, many reading this column that believe in a higher authority and who would welcome an opportunity to have their marriage of the heart solemnized. Clergy need only publicly say that in solemnizing such relationships and signing a marriage certificate they do so as an agent of faith, not the government. Let the marriages begin!

* Paul is a practicing attorney in Albany, priest and prelate in the Eastern Orthodox Church, and author of "Crucifying Jesus and Secularizing America - the Republic of Faith without Wisdom." He may be reached at VladykaPaulPeter@aol.com.

Letters to the editor from Page 2

experience working with non-profit organizations in the region, especially LGBT organizations, but I don't understand the move from a well-known and very recognized organization to a brand new organization. Why is there a need for a new organization if we are all used to Northampton Pride and don't want to be known as something else? Is this true, because I found out last month when a friend of mine who knows a Pride member told me about it.

—C. Roberts, Northampton, MA

Dear Editor,

I didn't like the Gay is not the new Black story because it just sounds that the author is trying to divide us more with her comments. For instance, I've often heard the words, "it's a Black thing." And now, I read Rev. Monroe's column and she writes that "Black people are our second class allies." I find it quite offensive. It always comes down to a Black & White thing, or "thang." Why can't we all get along?

—T. O'Reilly, Northampton, MA

Dear Editor,

I think that Rev. Monroe's articles are right on. It nauseates me to even look at people in the Northampton area when I have to go there. It's just a one-race, one little group's niche and it's always run in that same way. The town is just what it is, and it wants to stay that way. I rarely see much variety or diversity, other than sexual diversity. I often have wanted to move to Northampton, but I've decided that I'd rather stay in Hartford where the scene is real, all people are welcome and there is no sense of "we run our town, want your money, but want you out once is convenient." I can tell the paper is not run by "the

norm," and I am glad you do us justice. Go Rainbow Times and you rock Rev. Monroe!
—Janine Castrano, Hartford, CT

Dear Editor,

I went to Northampton Pride and it was awesome. It was so great to see so many people there and I was astonished at how large it has become. It's racially, age, and gender diverse. I loved the Pride Guide and only came over to Northampton because I get the paper from CineStudio. All my friends and I love the town and thank you for letting us know about it.

—M. Towle, Hartford, CT



TranArchu⁶⁹
a social and networking group for Trans people in the rural tri-state area
<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=72783598304>

LAW OFFICES OF
BELLENDEN RAND HUTCHESON

ESTATE PLANNING
ESTATE ADMINISTRATION
RELATED LITIGATION

NORTHAMPTON

SPECIALIZING IN:

- Estate Planning for Lesbian and Gay Couples, Married and Unmarried
- Tax-Leveraged Gifting Techniques
- Estate Planning for Retirement Plan Assets

CONVENIENTLY LOCATED AT:
6 Market Street
Northampton, MA 01060
(413) 584-5600
www.brhutchesonlaw.com

Don't just get adjusted...
FIX the problem!

Body Mind
Spine

Core Chiropractic Clinic

527-2468
Easthampton, MA
www.CoreChiroClinic.com

- Chronic spinal pain, headaches, arm/leg pain, disc disease, jaw pain
- Proudly & Openly Serving the GLBT Community for Eleven Years!
- Accepting Most Insurances

Your Subaru will come with an honest deal AND an honest dealer!

Tribeca

Steve Lewis



Forester

48 Damon Rd., Northampton, MA 413-584-5355
www.stevelewisars.com

By: **Richard Labonte***

Unfriendly Fire: How the Gay Ban Undermines the Military and Weakens America, by Nathaniel Frank. St. Martin's Press, 364 pages, \$25.95 hardcover.

What an infuriating book - in a good way. By recounting dozens of sordid tales of dubious discharges, and with a damning distillation of how military queers now serve openly in the arms of a couple of dozen other countries, Frank eviscerates the absurdity of the current "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy. Interviews with current and former officers and enlisted men and women, who report that they have served or are serving openly without backlash from their peers, buttress this lucid, scholarly assessment that there is "enormous potential for change." If true, Frank's dispassionately factual refutation of old boy prejudice is leading the charge. Among the book's maddening (and stunning) facts: By the end of 2007, more than 12,000 queers had been discharged from the military since "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" was implemented in 1994; the Congressional hearings that backed the policy excluded testimony from former conservative Republican Barry Goldwater, who opposed banning gays; and in 2006, 742 queer troops were "booted out" while the military signed up 733 ex-convicts - granting them, ironically, "moral waivers." Grrr.

Ugly Man, by Dennis Cooper. HarperPerennial, 256 pages, \$13.99 paper.

Cooper's first book after naughtily erotic *The Sluts* (a Lambda Award-winning novel) and allegorically soulful *God Jr.* is a treasure trove of odds and ends, many of them two- or three-page sketches that nonetheless pack the literary punch of a longer short story. This is a Cooper collection, so there are sexually damaged teen boys: "The Guru Artists," "The Hostage Drama," "Ugly Man." There are autobiographical essays: "The Worst (1960-1971)," a horrifyingly matter-of-fact litany of the writer's life-threatening experiences up to age 18, and "Brian aka 'Bear'," about 16-year-old Cooper's Hawaiian summer of love with a sexually promiscuous 15-year-old. There's even a list: "The Fifteen Worst Gay Russian Porn Sites," including spankingforest.com. Among the longer pieces, "The Anal-Retentive Line Editor" is a hilariously cautionary tale about porn-story clichés, and "The Ash Gray Proclamation"—worth the price of admission by itself—is a sarcastic, subversive and sexually edgy piece, previously available in a limited edition, emblematic of the powerful precision of Cooper's controlled, jewel-like prose that shimmers on every page.

My Diva: 65 Gay Men on the Women Who Inspire Them, edited by Michael Montlack. Terrace Books, 320 pages, \$24.95 hardcover.

The stereotype, cemented in fact, is that gay men love them some divas. Could it be that poets, a romantic subset of queers, are the most devout diva-philes? Evidence abounds in

Montlack's inspired anthology of often-poignant mini-portraits. Judging from author bios, 45 of 65 contributors identify as poets - though, counter-intuitively, only two poets are diva-fied: Sappho and Grace Paley (by Mark Doty). Singers from Bessie Smith and Mahalia Jackson to Celine Dion and Mary J. Blige are paid homage, as are actresses from Margaret Dumont and Ava Gardner to Karen Black and Parker Posey. Liza Minnelli makes the grade, though mama Judy doesn't; nor do Barbra or Madonna, though several contributors name-check all three before turning to their true lady loves. Activist therapist Betty Berzon (by Jim Van Buskirk) and chef Julia Child (by Bill Fogle) are among the few non-artists paid tribute.

AWARDS TO WATCH OUT FOR: Transsexual author and activist Leslie Feinberg and novelists Andrew Holleran, Felice Picano and Edmund White—members of the historic 1970s gay writer's group, The Violet Quill - are recipients of the Lambda Literary Foundation's Pioneer Award, to be presented May 28 in New York... THE OTHER NATIONAL queer writers' association, The Publishing Triangle, is bestowing the Bill Whitehead Award for Lifetime Achievement on gay historian and biography Martin Duberman; the ceremony, on May 7 in New York, also includes awards for fiction, nonfiction, and poetry... LESBIANS SUSAN GRIFFIN (*Wrestling with the Angel of Democracy*) and Stacey D'Erasmo (*The Sky*

Below), gay short story writer Chris Adrian (*A Better Angel*) and historian Robert Beachy (the forthcoming *Long Knives: Homosexuality in Nazi Germany*) are among the 34 writing recipients of a 2009 Guggenheim Fellowship, which comes with an average stipend of \$43,000... THE LESBIAN YA graphic novel *Skim*, created by Canadian cousins Mariko and Jillian Tamaki, is nominated for four Eisner Awards for best graphic books, including Best Teen Publication; it was a finalist for a Governor General's Award for Children's Literature in Canada last year... DAVID LEAVITT'S NOVEL *The Indian Clerk*, drawn from the life of a sexually repressed British mathematician, is a finalist for the IMPAC Dublin Award, said - at almost \$150,000 - to be the richest honor in the world for a writer. Gay author Colm Toibin won in 2006 for his novel about Henry James, *The Master*... GREEK-AUSTRALIAN novelist Christos Tsiolkas, whose 1998 book *Loaded* was the basis for the popular gay film *Head On*, is winner of the 2009 Commonwealth Writers Prize for Southeast Asia, for his 2008 novel *The Slap*; one of eight central characters is 12-year-old Richie, clearly destined to grow up gay.

* Richard Labonte has been reading, editing, selling, and writing about queer literature since the mid-'70s. He can be reached at BookMarks@qsyndicate.com.



umass fine arts center

CENTER SERIES 2008-2009



ART FOR A CHANGE
fineartscenter.com



Photo by Andrew Eccles

ALVIN AILEY AMERICAN DANCE THEATER
Wed, May 13 | 7:30 PM | Concert Hall
 Exhilarating and endlessly inspirational, the extraordinary dancers of Alvin Ailey American Dance Theater have dazzled audiences from New York City to China with their thrilling fusion of power, grace, and unparalleled artistry.

Pre-performance talk by Five College Associate Professor of Dance Constance Valis Hill 6:45 - 7:15 PM in Lobby

Global Gourmet
 Prix Fix dinner at the University Club & Restaurant for \$25. Call 545-2511 for menu and tickets.

Sponsored by
THE GAZETTE
QUILTYRENDS.COM

DAVIS GROUP
Financial Services for Individuals and Small Business

85th
ANNIVERSARY
1924-2009
MAY 14-16

939
TOWER
UNIVERSITY CLUB & RESTAURANT

for tickets call **545-2511** or **1-800-999-UMAS** | online at fineartscenter.com

Trans Opinions & More

Transactivism: Pursuing honesty and truth in the Transsexual's life

By: *Deja Nicole Greenlaw/TRT Columnist*

This column this month is written with the Transsexual Transgender in mind, a person who is definitely born in the wrong body. Please forgive me, but I am not referring to Crossdressers, Genderqueer, Questioning or any other faction of my dear brothers and sisters on this vast Transgender umbrella spectrum, which we share. Everyone truly has their own stories and their own issues (and we do all share a number of them!), but today I would like to focus on the Transsexual. I would like to further focus on the Transsexual who has gone through the confusion, shame, guilt etc., and is ready to begin their life anew.

After a Transsexual Transgender person finally realizes who they really are and fully accepts it, then the road to healing begins. The individual comes to the conclusion that the mind and spirit do not fit the body. The next step is to begin changing the body to fit the mind and spirit.

This is a wonderful point in a Transsexual's life when they can begin to plan and live with their true gender in mind. All those years of shame,

guilt, self loathing and inner general misery begin to break down and the new life begins! It's a huge relief and it's most likely the most wonderful thing that happens in their lives. They can finally be who they really are!

Yes, it may very well be the best thing that could ever happen to them. They are feeling so good and now they want to tell the world so that everyone can share their joy.

But ...To most everyone else in the Transsexual's life, well, let's just say that it is not exactly what they were longing to hear.

"Are you sure? You're kidding me. Oh, you are not a Trans, whatever! Why can't you just be a man (woman) like you've always been?" Or, they may simply say "Whaaaaa??" These are some of the things that the non-Trans person might say when they are informed of the



DEJA NICOLE GREENLAW

Haven from Page 2

And NOW we have the "dress code" to eliminate baggy pants, baseball hats, and certain color clothing in Northampton bars so that those Hampden County gangs do not feel welcome here. After all, they cause fights and disruption wherever they go. How the hell do we know about the color of clothing as an aesthetic choice rather than gang membership? Hmm...it must be because *they do not look like us.*

Our police chief wants them to stay where they belong. What will Chief Sienkiewicz do with the redneck White boys who come in from Easthampton and Hadley to start fights? Aren't the wannabe gangsta guys dangerous? Or do they come from "good families?"

Most of us want our streets to be safe. For women, that would mean clearing the streets. Perhaps a curfew of 10 p.m. would work. For once in our lives, we would not be concerned that we may get attacked in one way or another

during nightfall.

The bouncers at bars could send home everyone with a penis at 10 p.m.

But wait, those bar owners want the boys to drink. This is how they make their profit. But the drinking brings out the violence. Hmm...Let's not look at this entire culture of sports, testosterone and drinking. Let's just blame the gangs of color.

I'm much more worried about the BID gang flexing their muscles to run downtown.

Homogenous is defined as "of the same race, family or kind" and "uniform in structure or composition throughout" in the American Heritage dictionary.

Isn't Northampton White enough?

Would those bar owners ban football teams or fraternities (who could be likely to participate in group violence when drinking)? How do they decide who is safe and who is

not? Is one man of color okay? Are they scary only when they travel in packs?

Will the dress code be posted? What about mullet haircuts (aesthetic assaults mostly perpetrated by White males and misguided lesbians)?

Dreadlocks are a huge step up from that, no?

White allies should always be vigilant in addressing our own learned racism. We should never be silent when we are exposed to it. Keep the conversation going. Peace.

** J. Mary Sorrell is a Justice of the Peace, a citizen of Northampton, and someone who believes in equity and social justice. She knows nothing, but is not afraid to speak her truth with the intention of being of service and making a difference.*

How do they decide who is safe and who is

flexing their muscles to run downtown.

Couch from Page 2

That man looks like the type to take the torch through the village in the chase of Frankenstein's monster, but when Maddow spars with him, it's like watching a calf nestle into its mother's breast.

Lesbians have that effect on some men. Not to mention the women in their lives.

I'd like to tell Rachel that she doesn't need to wear the vice principal outfit to fit in or to make the viewers happy. Nope, just put your faded Levi's on, prop your Timberlines onto the coffee table and let's talk about politics, sex or your favorite subject: *both at the same time!* (Teabagging at the most recent conser-

ervative Tea parties come to mind, but that's another story and this is not a soft porn publication.)

Folks love you just the way you are; oh Rachel; that's what has endeared you to the public from the very beginning. But if I may, Ms. Maddow, suggest something? Skip the Cover Girl when ever you can. It's the under-cover girl we find simply irresistible.

** Suzan Ambrose can be spotted taking long bike rides through Vermont or throwing rocks across a river when she's not writing diligently for The Rainbow Times.*

JOANNA FROST, LICSW
GENDER & TRAUMA SPECIALIST

- Compassionate and Confidential Psychotherapy for the GLBTQ Community, their partners and families
- Over 20 Years of experience
- Evaluation for hormones and referrals to medical and supportive resources
- EMDR trained in the treatment of PTSD
- MSW Smith College
- Former Clinical Fellow Boston Institute

700 Main Street, Holyoke, MA • 413 534-3033 • joannafirst@yahoo.com

TRT Catering to the 2nd gayest zip code in Massachusetts, NoHo. Advertise!

LifeCourse Counseling Center
 Proudly serving the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Queer Communities

Excellence and experience since 1980

- Individuals
- Couples
- Telephone Counseling

Northampton, MA
 (413) 585-1655 www.lifecourse.net

Reverend Tinker Donnelly
 "Intra" Faith Minister

Celebrating all Spiritual Orientations
 Ceremony - Workshops - Counseling

www.Heartworks.org
 (562) 900-9222 • (413) 325-8555

Northampton Pride 2009: A success, great turn out, farewell

By: *Christine Nicco*

On May 2, thousands of people filled downtown Northampton, Mass. as the 28th Annual Northampton Pride March and Rally kicked off the nation's Pride season again this year.

"I feel so lucky to be a Northampton resident year round, but especially on this day," said Colleen McCarthy, along with wife Joan and son Justin. "To us, Pride is about embracing who you are, loving yourself, your family, your friends and your community. We have never missed one [Northampton Pride] event since 1995 and we look forward to it each year. The entertainment is wonderful and there is always a little something for everyone."

Emceed by Lorelei Erisis, this year's entertainment headliners included Sister Funk and Jonathan Mendelsohn with other performances by Nedra Johnson, Pioneer Valley Gay Men's Chorus, Tomas, Emily Nyman, Jesse Molina Band, Arjuna Greist, and Girl Gang.

"I loved that they [Pride] had Sister Funk perform!" said Katie Hollingsworth, a Smith College student. "I first saw them a couple of years ago at Hartford Pride and I have sort of been their groupie ever since."

This year, Noho Pride also presented its

first Annual Drag King and Queen Pageant.

"I would love to see the pageant become part of the Pride staple," said Nicole Lashomb, Drag Pageant Sub-committee member and Editor of *The Rainbow Times*. "I think whenever you are introducing something new; you never know what the outcome will be. I am hopeful that this will be an ongoing Pride event and will garner more contestants for next year."

After 11 year's of service and serving as Chair of the organization, Melinda Shaw celebrated her last Pride event as she prepares to step down from the position.

"I think that it's important that any organization is re-energized by new personalities every so often, and my time has come. I have accomplished everything I've wanted to do, and I feel very positive about Pride into the future!" said Shaw.

Northampton LGBT Pride March kicked off at noon from Lampron Park and concluded at the Armory Street parking lot where hundreds of vendors offered their goods and services until 5 p.m. to thousands of attendees.

"I think that this year's event went out

CALENDAR OF EVENTS?
Check out our LGBTQ events online.

with a big bang! The weather was certainly a factor, and I know that I wouldn't be saying this if it had rained," said Shaw. "Everyone who spoke to me about it was enthusiastic and said it was the biggest and best Pride ever. I've got to believe that, since they are the ones we're putting this on for! If the crowd is happy, I'm happy!"

A local Springfield resident echoed Shaw's enthusiasm.

"I am having a wonderful time, we all

are," said Joshua Williams. "There is such great energy here. I only wish it was longer! And the weather is just perfect. I think it couldn't have been better."

The Northampton Pride Committee begins to meet each year in September. To become a part of the committee, to volunteer or to learn more about Northampton Pride, please visit www.northamptonpride.org. To view photos of this year's Pride event, visit www.TheRainbowTimesNews.com.

PRIDE MARCHES CLOSE TO OUR GAYBORHOODS

- Latino Pride of New England (Boston): May 10-17, 2009
- Black & Latino Pride, Albany, NY: June 5-7, 2009
- Boston Pride Week: June 5-14th 2009
- Capital Pride: June 5-14, 2009
- Hartford Pride: June 6, 2009
- New Jersey Pride: June 7, 2009
- Southern Maine Pride: June 14-21, 2009
- Toronto Pride: June 19-28, 2009
- NYC Pride: June 20-28, 2009
- Pride Vermont: July, 25, 2009
- Mocha Black Pride: Aug. 6-9, 2009
- Worcester Pride: Sept. 10-13, 2009



**Inclusive...
And so much more.**

Spend your retirement years living well at Sweetwood Continuing Care Retirement Community in Williamstown, Massachusetts. Here, you can enjoy world-class arts and culture; gorgeous views; luxury apartments just waiting for your personal touch; and the freedom to be who you are.

- Worry-free independent living
- Stunning Berkshires setting
- Minutes from world-renowned institutions, including the Clark Art, Institute, MASS MoCA, Williams College, Williamstown Theatre Festival, Tanglewood, Jacob's Pillow, and so much more
- Opportunities to golf, garden, hike, and enjoy the things you love most
- Welcoming to all residents and families, regardless of sexual orientation

SWEETWOOD
CONTINUING CARE RETIREMENT COMMUNITY
1611 Cold Spring Road • Williamstown, MA 01267 • 413.458.8371

NBH
www.nbhealth.org

ATTENTION: Homeowners

If You Have a Roofing Problem, DON'T PANIC

**How To Get A 'Top Talent' Roofer To Show Up On Time
So You Don't Waste Time**

You have a busy schedule. You value your time, and you don't want to waste a day waiting for a roofer to show up. Most roofing companies won't give you a real appointment. They say "We'll be there between 10 and 4." Now there is a new way to get your roofing problem fixed, save money, and more importantly, get a precise Appointment Window so you don't have to waste time waiting.

**For your FREE Appointment Window
call Adam Quenneville Roofing, Inc.**

ADAM
QUENNEVILLE ROOFING INC.
Roofing • Windows • Siding
1.800.NEW.ROOF
413.536.5955

www.1800newroof.net

Ask about our Royal Privilege™ Financing Program



JR1105

©2005 RSI All Rights Reserved

Paradise City Arts Festival!

Memorial Day Weekend • May 23, 24 & 25

“Eye-popping visual splendor! Paintings and sculpture rub shoulders with jewelry, furniture, wearable art, ceramics and quirky experimental pieces.”

– Boston Globe

Cool Jazz

Saturday: *Jeff Dostal Quartet*

Sunday: **NEW!** *Jeff Holmes Big Band*

Memorial Day: *Charles Neville + 4*



PaintBox Theatre



Charles Neville + 4



Tim Scull



Rudra • Ceramics

Schlerman • Furniture

Comedy! Drama!

short comic plays by *New Century Theatre*
PaintBox Theatre for the kids

Live craft demonstrations!

Fabulous Food

Paradise City Tavern ■ *Mama Iguana* ■ *Pizzeria Paradiso* ■ *Amber Waves*
Eastside Grill ■ *Spoletto* ■ *Great Wall Chinese* ■ *India House*
Bart's Ice Cream ■ *Wine & Beer*

Northampton, Massachusetts

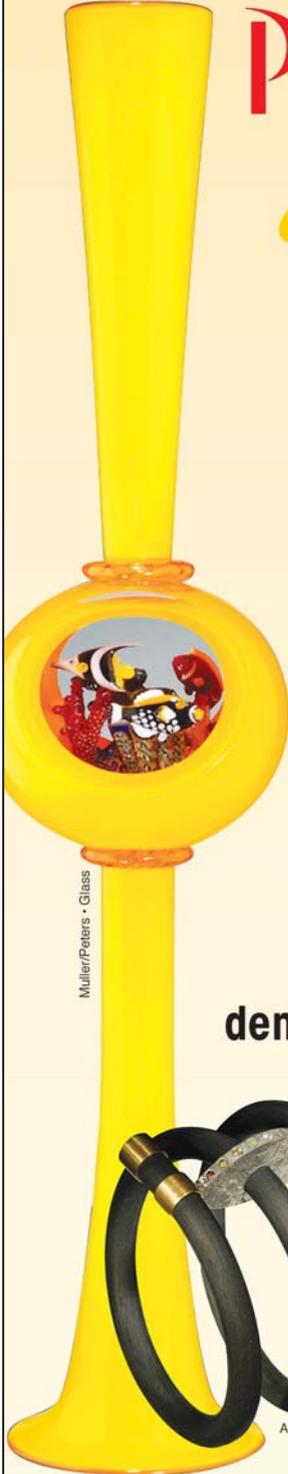
Indoors and Under Tents at the 3 County Fairgrounds • I-91 at Exit 19 • 800-511-9725

Saturday & Sunday 10am-6pm; Monday 10am-5pm

\$12 Adults, \$10 seniors, \$8 students, 12 and under free, three-day pass \$15. FREE PARKING!

www.paradisecityarts.com

for complete show information and discount admission coupons



Muller/Peters • Glass



Albee • Jewelry

Queertations: Say what?!

By: Rex Wockner

"Now that she (Carrie Prejean) is officially becoming a crusader for traditional marriage, I think it's time for her to put down her Miss California (USA) crown, give up that title, and give up her position as Miss USA first runner-up. It's time for her to put on the sash of traditional marriage and really just work on that, if that's where her passion is."

—Perez Hilton on his blog, April 30.

"I'd be happy to go and deny it, because I'm not (gay). But by denying it, I'm saying there is something shameful about it, and there isn't anything shameful. The questions about sexuality I find more here in America than anywhere else, because it's a big hang-up and defines what people think about themselves and others. It's not a big issue in Australia."

—Actor Hugh Jackman to Parade magazine, April 26.

"Love is love! People should be able to do whatever makes them happy. I have lots of gay and lesbian friends and I want to see them get married. ... I'll do whatever it takes to make their dreams come true. Discrimination has no place in America."

—Singer Britney Spears tweeting April 23.

"My feeling about gay people is that we have a responsibility not only to make gay marriage acceptable and to make gays feel accepted as much as heterosexuals (but) that we have to hold gay people above all others. ... Gay people are downtrodden. They are beaten. They are abused for their sexuality, and it goes across race. In the white community and the black community, gay people are the bastards of the world. And in order for things to change -- because any one of you could have gay children or gay relatives or gay friends ... we have a responsibility to make this acceptable, to get all this bullshit so that some gay kid going to high school isn't getting the shit beaten out of him just because he's gay. Listen, I'm as hetero as they come. I don't even understand gay. I don't understand how you look at another guy and want to fuck him in the ass (but) what is this hang-up with the gay marriage? Who cares? Get on with your life!"

—Howard Stern on his radio show, April 29.

"I was asked earlier if I was gay. ... Well, I can answer this way: I'm very gay and happy. I'm very happy to be here for my gay friends. I've never been with a woman, so I guess I'm straight, OK? But I'm straight enough to know the difference between right and wrong. I am straight enough to know that if you want to marry whoever you want to marry you should be able to."

—Singer Patti LaBelle at the first Miami Beach Gay Pride, April 18. She served as grand marshal.

Lesbian Best Sellers*

1. The L Word: Season 6
2. Girl + Girl: Classic...
3. Drifting Flowers
4. Itty Bitty Titty Committee
5. The Secrets
6. The L Word: Season 5
7. Butch Jamie
8. She Likes Girls 3
9. I Wish You Would-Explicit
10. Loving Annabelle

* By wolfevideo.com

Gay Best Sellers*

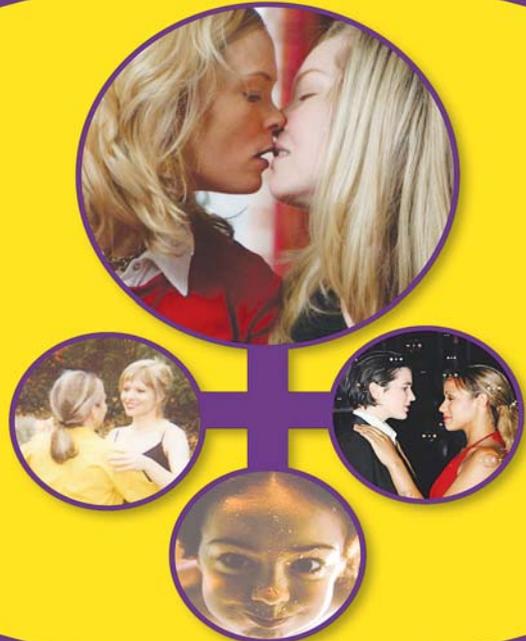
1. Were the World Mine
2. Mulligans
3. Ready? OK!
4. Milk
5. Whirlwind
6. Pedro
7. The Ultimate Boy Box
8. He Likes Guys
9. Another Gay Sequel: Gays...
10. Lilies

* By wolfevideo.com

OUT! FOR REEL FILM SERIES

ONE NIGHT Lesbian Film Festival

Saturday, May 16th 7:30 PM
Academy of Music Theatre, Northampton



4 Award-Winning Films:

The Baby Formula (FEATURE)
+ Little Black Boot, No Bikini & Buttery Top

TICKETS: \$10 Advance / \$12 at Door / \$8 Students w/ID

OUTLETS: Pride & Joy, Northampton / Food For Thought Books, Amherst
World Eye Bookshop, Greenfield / Odyssey Bookshop, S. Hadley

more info + tickets online: OutForReel.org



Lesbian Voices

Black Pride parties to a different beat



By: Rev. Irene Monroe*

What started out in Washington, D.C., as the only Black Gay Pride event in the country in 1990 has grown to more than 35 gatherings nationwide.

Starting in April and going through October of each year, more than 300,000 LGBTQ people of African descent rev up for a weekend of social and cultural events. Just last year, more than 350,000 attended Black Gay Pride events throughout the U.S., with the largest events held in Washington, D.C., Los Angeles and Atlanta, and smaller Black Pride events like the one in Boston providing an equally important sense of identity and cultural heritage.

Sunday gospel brunches, Saturday night poetry slams, Friday fashion shows, bid whist tournaments, house parties, soul food, Caribbean cuisine and beautiful displays of African art and clothing are just some of the cultural markers that make Black Pride distinct.

But cultural exclusion was just one of a few things gay revelers of African descent experienced in Pride events. Racism is the other. And so, after decades of Pride events where many gays of African descent tried to be included and were rejected, Black Gay Pride was born.

"We are not seeing ourselves culturally represented at Pride. We want to show not only ourselves, but the larger LGBT community we are out here and taking control of our lives. Black Gay Pride New England speaks to who we are, and it represents the substance that pertains to our lives," Philip Robinson, a teacher and community activist told me in June 2001.

Seven years later that sentiment remains. And subsequently as we all rev up each year for Pride so, too, unfortunately, do the fault lines of race and class.

The growing gulf between Whites and

Blacks, rich and poor can be seen in the HIV/AIDS epidemic that was once an entire LGBTQ community problem and is now predominantly a black one.

Another example of our division can be seen in the white gay ghettos that have devel-

oped and thrived safely in neighborhoods throughout the country. However, with homophobia in black communities, where most of us reside, we cannot carve out a black queer ghetto within our existing neighborhoods and expect to realistically be safe.

work at Governors State University, just outside of Chicago, said, "Had those patrons been White the cops would have harassed them, but there would not have been a riot."

Because of the bleaching of the Stonewall Riots, the beginnings of LGBTQ movement

The Bible is replete with examples of oppressed groups parading in the streets while struggling for their freedom. For example, "the Song of Mariam," in Exodus 15:19-21 celebrates the Israelites crossing the Red Sea while they still journeyed in the wilderness toward the Promised Land.

The Promised Land for all LGBTQ citizens is full acceptance into society and Black Pride plays an important role in fulfilling that promise.

Black Pride contributes to the multicultural aspect of joy and celebration that symbolizes not only our uniqueness as individuals and communities, but also affirms our varied expressions of LGBTQ life in America.

Happy Pride!

* Rev. Irene Monroe is the Coordinator of the African American Roundtable of the Center for Lesbian and Gay Studies in Religion and Ministry (CLGS) at the Pacific School of Religion, and a religion columnist. A native of Brooklyn, Rev. Irene Monroe is a graduate from Wellesley College and Union Theological Seminary at Columbia University, and served as a pastor at an African-American church before coming to Harvard Divinity School for her doctorate as Ford Fellow. As a syndicated queer religion columnist, Monroe columns appear across the country on the Huffington Post, in the Boston Globe, the Boston Herald, the Bay State Banner, Cambridge Chronicle, and Metro News.

Her award-winning essay, "Louis Farrakhan's Ministry of Misogyny and Homophobia," was greeted with critical acclaim. Monroe has been profiled in O, Oprah Magazine, and CNN's Paula Zahn Now, and "CNN Headline News." She was also profiled in the Gay Pride Episode of "In the Life" TV where the segment on her was nominated for an educational Emmy. She has received the Harvard University Certificate of Distinction in Teaching several times while being the head teaching fellow of the Rev. Peter Gomes, the Pusey Minister in the Memorial Church at Harvard who is the author of the best seller, THE GOOD BOOK.

She is in the film, "For the bible Tells me so," an exploration of the intersection between religion and homosexuality in the U.S. and how the religious right has used its interpretation of the Bible to stigmatize the gay community, and her coming out story is profiled in "CRISIS: 40 Stories Revealing the Personal, Social, and Religious Pain and Trauma of Growing up Gay in America" that was just released in September 2008. Monroe sits on the advisory board of several national LGBTQ organizations. Monroe lives in Cambridge and can be reached at revimonroe@earthlink.net (no hyphens).

The **Stonewall Riot** of June 27-29, 1969 in Greenwich Village, New York City, **started on the backs of working-class African-American and Latino queers** who patronized that bar. Those **brown and black LGBTQ people** are not only **absent** from the photos of that night, but they are also **bleached** from its written history.

But many LGBTQ people of African decent and Latinos argue that the gulf between Whites and them is also dominant queer community rewrite and continues to control the history of Stonewall. The Stonewall Riot of June 27-29, 1969 in Greenwich Village, New York City, started on the backs of working-class African-American and Latino queers who patronized that bar. Those brown and black LGBTQ people are not only absent from the photos of that night, but they are also bleached from its written history.

Because racial prejudice was a dominant oppression all black people faced-straight or queer-during the troubling black civil rights era of the 1960's, Dr. Gerri Outlaw, an openly lesbian African-American professor of social

post-Stonewall is an appropriation of black and brown queer liberation narrative absent of black and brown people. And it is the visible absence of these black, brown and yellow LGBTQ people that makes it harder for White queers to confront their racism.

Our themes for Black Pride events are different from the larger Pride events. Black Pride focuses on issues not solely pertaining to gays, but rather on social, economic and health issues impacting the entire black community. For example, where the primary focus and themes in White Prides have been on marriage equality, gay people of African descent have used Pride events to focus on HIV/AIDS, other health issues, gang violence and youth homelessness, to name only a few.

By 1999, Black Pride events had grown into the International Federation of Black Prides, Inc. (IFBP). The IFBP is a coalition of 29 Black Pride organizations across the country. It formed to promote an African multicultural and multinational network of LGBTQ/Same Gender Loving Pride events and community-based organizations dedicated to building solidarity, health and wellness and promoting unity throughout our communities.

In recognizing the need to network and build coalitions beyond its immediate communities, IFBP announced in April the formation of the Black/Brown Coalition.

"The purpose of the National Black and Brown Summit is to identify areas for potential collaboration between African-American and Latino LGBT communities, leaders, organizations and grassroots movements," said Earl Fowlkes, president of the IFBP.

BLACK PRIDE IS an invitation for the community to connect its political activism with its celebratory acts of song and dance in the fight for LGBTQ justice.



65 State St. • Northampton, MA • seriosmarket.com
413-584-2633 • Fax: 413-585-9756



WE DELIVER!

Family Owned & Operated since 1950!

Groceries • Deli • Fresh Fruits & Vegetables
DAILY SPECIALS TO GO
Quality Meats Old Fashioned Service since 1950!

"Where customers are friends & friends are customers!"

Store Hours:

Mon. - Fri.: 8am-8pm
Sat.: 8am-7pm
Sun.: 8am-1pm






Deep Inside Hollywood: Broadway + Liberace, no wrong?

By: **Romeo San Vicente***
Lucy Lawless to
 imprison **Spartacus**



A perfect storm of gay TV is on the horizon, thanks to ancient Rome and Xena. The upcoming *Starz* series *Spartacus: Blood and Sand* was already set to feature a 300-style interpretation of the Spartacus legend, meaning that lots of muscular, barely-dressed men would be training or battling non-stop on your basic-cable system. We've also been promised queer characters. But now that the cast is fixed, lesbian audiences have a reason to tune in: Lucy Lawless. Yes, yes, it's a cliché, but it would appear that all lesbians everywhere on earth still love Lucy. Recently seen online interrogating former *L Word* cast members about the murder of Jenny, Lawless will star on *Spartacus* as the owner of the gladiator prison holding the rebel slave. That means she'll probably be somewhat wicked. And who doesn't like that? So while the warriors may be men, the princess returns to weekly TV in January of 2010. That gives you about eight months to plan the viewing party.

Steve Buscemi is not Handsome Harry
 The new indie drama *Handsome*

Harry stars veteran character actor Jamey Sheridan (*Law & Order: Criminal Intent*) in the title role of a man on a mysterious road trip to uncover the truth about a long-ago event involving several men in the Navy. And if that brings to mind The Village People then, well, that's not exactly the movie's fault. Yet *Handsome Harry* is about a disruption in the ranks of traditional masculinity and stars Steve Buscemi as a dying man out to make amends for that breach of the brotherhood. Joining him are Campbell Scott, Aiden Quinn and John Savage as participants in the wrongdoing and keys to the puzzle. From Bette Gordon (director of 1983's acclaimed feminist drama *Variety*), this serious exploration of gay denial is already making the film festival rounds and wants a distributor, so catch it while you can.

Almodovar on the Verge of a Fox TV Series

If you were brainstorming about unlikely pairings in the entertainment world, and even if you were brainstorming really hard, then Fox TV Studios and Pedro Almodovar's breakthrough hit 1988 film *Women on the Verge of a Nervous Breakdown* still might not ever cross paths in your mind. But Almodovar himself is in the process of developing his crowd-pleaser for an international



LUCY LAWLESS

English-speaking TV audience with the production company right now. The one-hour, so-far-untitled pilot will focus on a suburban group of women (cue *Desperate Housewives* comparisons, even though that series studied at the feet of Almodovar) who are confronting middle age and all the comedic scenarios that come along with it. Unknown is if, like in the film, one of the women on the verge will be a voice-over actress who gets abandoned by her lover and proceeds to drug houseguests with

sedative-laced gazpacho. But it could happen. **Broadway + Liberace: What could go wrong?**

Romeo's already reported on a Liberace biopic in the works, but are modern theater audiences clamoring for a recreation of one of his Las Vegas concerts, starring an accomplished Liberace impersonator? Even if they aren't, it looks like they'll be getting one if *Liberace: the Man, the Music and the Memories* opens this fall season as planned. Starring Wayland Pickard as the be-sequinued one, it appears that this channeling of one of the late pianist's showroom revues is going to be, pardon the pun, done with as straight a face as possible. Pickard's already been performing a version of the show, most recently at the Welk (as in Lawrence) Resorts Theater in Escondido, Calif., which tells you something about its audience and what's most likely *not* in the show itself, aka any kind of commentary on the man's life. But then that would be fitting, as Liberace himself vehemently denied his homosexuality even as he died from AIDS in the 1980s. Still though, doesn't this all seem a little bit weird?

* **Romeo San Vicente is never straight-faced. He can be reached care of this publication or at DeepInsideHollywood@qsyndicate.com.**

Need Summer Classes?

Register Now!

Online: www.stcc.edu

Walk-in: Registrar's Office, Garvey Hall South/Bldg. 15

Phone: (413) 755-4321

Session I June 1 - July 2

Session II July 6 - August 6

Online June 1 - August 6

Springfield Technical
 Community College

Exceptional Education. Proven Results.



LGBT U.S. News by R. Wockner

Gay couples begin marrying in Iowa

Nearly 400 same-sex couples got marriage licenses across Iowa April 27 when a state Supreme Court ruling legalizing gay marriage took effect, and dozens married after receiving waivers of the three-day waiting period between obtaining a license and tying the knot.

The Des Moines Register said gay couples bought licenses in at least 47 of the state's 99 counties.

Couples also arrived from Illinois, Minnesota, Nebraska and Wisconsin to get hitched.

Opponents hope to amend the state constitution to re-ban same-sex marriage, but the process for doing that could not be completed until 2012 at the earliest.

Same-sex marriage also is legal in Connecticut and Massachusetts, and becomes legal in Vermont in September. It was legal in California for five months in 2008, until voters amended the state constitution to put a stop to it. Gay-rights lawyers sued over the amendment, and the California Supreme Court must issue a decision by June 3.

Gay couples also can marry in Belgium, Canada, the Netherlands, Norway, South Africa, Spain and Sweden.

N.H. Legislature passes same-sex marriage bill

New Hampshire's House and Senate have passed a bill legalizing same-sex marriage but the House has to vote on it again because the Senate amended it.

The April 29 vote in the Senate was 13-11. The March vote in the House was 186-179.

The Senate amendments prohibit polygamy and incestuous marriage, allow clergy to refuse to marry gay couples, and leave the words "bride" and "groom" on marriage licenses while adding the word "spouse" as an option.

"Just one month ago, there were only two states where same-sex couples could marry. Now, with this vote in New Hampshire, we are on the verge of having five states that recognize marriage equality for same-sex couples," noted Joe Solmonese, president of the Human Rights Campaign. "It's been quite a month."

Gov. John Lynch, a Democrat, hasn't taken

a position on the bill, though he has said in the past (but not lately) that he opposes same-sex marriage.

Same-sex marriage is legal in Connecticut, Iowa and Massachusetts, and becomes legal in Vermont in September. It was legal in California for five months in 2008, until voters amended the state constitution to put a stop to it. Gay-rights lawyers sued over the amendment, and the California Supreme Court must issue a decision by June 3.

Gay couples also can marry in Belgium, Canada, the Netherlands, Norway, South Africa, Spain and Sweden.

U.S. House passes gay-inclusive hate-crimes bill

The U.S. House of Representatives passed a gay- and trans-inclusive hate-crimes bill April 29 by a vote of 249-175. The measure moves to the Senate.

The Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act, the Senate version of which is named after Matthew Shepard, gives the Justice Department the power to investigate and prosecute bias-motivated violence where the perpetrator selected the victim because of actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability.

The department can assist state and local jurisdictions or take the lead if necessary. The act also makes grants available to state and local jurisdictions to combat violent crime committed by juveniles, train law enforcement officers, and assist in investigating and prosecuting bias-motivated crime.

A similar bill died in Congress in 2007 after George W. Bush threatened to veto it. There is no longer any concern of a presidential veto.

Miss California story keeps on truckin'

The tale of Carrie Prejean, the Miss USA contestant from California who took second place at the pageant after telling the judges that gay couples shouldn't be allowed to marry, continues to unfold.

Among the latest twists, one of the directors of the Miss California USA pageant, Keith Lewis, said Prejean needs to get back to doing her job as Miss California.

"Given the fact that Carrie Prejean's first act upon returning to California was to headline

five services at a church that promotes homosexuality as both unnatural and abnormal, we stand by our concern for her individual image and look forward to a time in the near future when she can put down her personal agenda and assume the responsibilities associated with being Miss California USA, including promoting our official platform, 'The Beauty of California,' which sole purpose (sic) is to embrace diversity," Lewis said.

That seems unlikely. On April 30, Prejean starred in a new TV ad for the anti-gay National Organization for Marriage—a follow-up to the group's widely disparaged "Gathering Storm" spot.

The new ad also features video snippets of Human Rights Campaign President Joe Solmonese and pageant judge and gay blogger Perez Hilton (calling Prejean "a dumb bitch" on his blog). Hilton promptly filed a Digital Millennium Copyright Act violation notice and got the ad deleted from YouTube, though NOM's use of his video-blog material probably falls within the parameters of "fair use" law.

NOM itself had filed numerous identical DMCA notices after the audition tapes for "Gathering Storm" were leaked to, and posted on YouTube by, HRC.

Following Prejean's appearance in the ad, the Miss California USA pageant released a statement saying that "in the entire history of Miss USA, no reigning title holder has so readily committed her face and voice to a more divisive or polarizing issue."

And Hilton posted a video blog saying Prejean should hand over her tiara.

"Now that she is officially becoming a crusader for traditional marriage, I think it's time for her to put down her Miss California crown, give up that title, and give up her position as Miss USA first runner-up," he said. "It's time for her to put on the sash of traditional marriage and really just work on that, if that's where her passion is."

Over at MSNBC, meanwhile, we learned that California pageant officials paid for Prejean to have breast implants weeks before the Miss USA competition. That tidbit came from Shanna Moakler, executive director of Miss California USA.

"It was an option and she wanted it. And we supported that decision," Moakler said.

Moakler also said Prejean had been avoiding Miss California USA officials and "keeps referring us to her mother and her PR person."

Finally, Prejean inflamed the gay blogosphere April 26 when she told this news column that being gay isn't innate.

"No, I don't think so," she said in an interview at the Rock Church in San Diego. "I think it's a behavior that develops over time."

Asked why someone would "choose" to be gay given that gay people experience discrimination, Prejean said, "I'm not sure what the motivation would be."

At that point, Rock Church officials ended the 5 1/2-minute interview, noting that another reporter was waiting to talk to her. (Interview and audio: tinyurl.com/rex-carrie.)

Earlier in the interview, Prejean said her comments at the pageant—"Marriage should be between a man and a woman" -- wouldn't have become such a big deal if Hilton hadn't

later called her "a dumb bitch."

"Perez Hilton had, obviously, a hidden agenda, because of the reaction immediately after the pageant," she said. "He didn't agree with what I said, therefore he wanted to go out there and bash me and say things that were very hurtful. So, I think that this wouldn't be happening right now had he not have done that. So, it would have just been me saying my own opinions ... and I think it would have been over with. But the fact that he went out there and attacked me, you know, verbally, that's why this is all happening right now."

Prejean said that if she could do it all over again, she wouldn't say anything different, and she pointed out that President Barack Obama agrees with her position on marriage.

"I have a lot of friends that are gay," she said. "This is not a verbal attack on gay people. It's just a matter of opinion, and the way that I was raised, the way that I was brought up, that was not an option. I knew I was going to marry a man growing up. And so, for me, it's a biblical thing, it's something that I was raised believing, um, that a marriage, you know, is between a man and a woman. Barack Obama even supports that. The majority of the people in our nation support that. The secretary of state supports that. So, I don't see anything wrong with it."

She added that she likes Obama. She asked this reporter, "Because Barack Obama doesn't agree with you, does that make him a bad president?"

The reporter replied, "No. I kind of like Barack Obama as a president, actually."

"I do, too," Prejean said.

Creep of the Week: Maggie Gallagher

By: D'Anne Witkowski*

was talking to a friend of mine who was bemoaning the lack of cogent arguments against issues like marriage equality and second-parent adoption. She's an Ivy League law school graduate who currently represents a rather liberal district in Michigan, a state with plenty of conservative sinkholes.

She's exactly the kind of person you want in government: educated, principled, committed to public service. And while she's proudly progressive, she's willing to look at issues from all sides. The problem, of course, is that when it comes to gay issues, the opposition can't make logical, rational, well supported arguments. They have to rely on religion, fear and giant "what ifs" that aren't based in the world of logic.

This is precisely why it's so hard to argue with them. You can't debate hysteria, and yet when it comes to two women or two men marrying each other, hysteria rules the day.

For example, take Maggie Gallagher, the president of the National Organization for Marriage. For years, she's been an outspoken opponent of gay marriage (sometimes at the secretly paid behest of the Bush Administration). She's anti-gay for a living—even she has to resort to scare tactics to make her case.

Read Gallagher on Page 18

WITH THE MOST ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY,
WE'RE CHANGING THE IMAGE
OF MAMMOGRAPHY

Digital Mammography in Amherst (253-8062)
and Northampton (582-2101).

Call today.*

*The American Cancer Society recommends yearly screening mammograms for women ages 40 and older or as recommended by your healthcare provider.



COOLEY DICKINSON HOSPITAL
www.cooley-dickinson.org

Economic crisis hits charitable organizations

By: *George Shapiro*

"If times are hard for you, imagine how hard times are for children who are sick and poor," says Rod Castle, co-founder of The Osito Foundation, an organization that provides children impacted by HIV/AIDS with teddy bears. "Many of our children live in single parent homes with less than \$10,000 a year income. When the programs they depend on for their livelihood start getting cut it becomes more than dire, it's life threatening."

It did not take long for the world financial crisis to affect the world's charitable organizations.

"We're definitely feeling the crisis," continues Mr. Castle. "Donors are afraid for their own livelihood. It's our job to remind them that in difficult times, it's crucial that we band together and help one another. By giving to those in need, you open yourself up to receive."

"We've had to re-think our marketing strategies," admits Oscar Velasquez, Mr. Castle's life partner and co-founder of The Osito Foundation. "Where we used to depend more on internet marketing, we are now hitting the streets to get our word out to the masses. We have found that educating donors is key."

The sobering facts are that over two million children in the United States are impacted by HIV/AIDS. Approximately 10,000 children have the disease themselves; contracted through their mother at birth. Others have parents with HIV/AIDS, or have become orphans because of the epidemic. All of impacted children suffer from stigma and discrimination, due to their association with the disease.

HIV/AIDS has hit low income communities especially hard. The vast majority of children impacted by AIDS live below the poverty line. These children require social services



Rod Castle and Oscar Velasquez, THE OSITO FOUNDATION founders. Photo by: Osito Foundation

such as medication, food, clothing, and school supplies—but are also in need of something extra. The teddy bears that The Osito Foundation delivers to children offer them comfort, at a time when they need it most.

"In response to the deepening recession, we've introduced several new levels for giving," explains Mr. Castle. "For as little as \$10.00, donors can send a small teddy Bear to a child with AIDS."

Medium-sized bears are available for \$15 each and a large 15-inch bear can be delivered to a child with a \$20 donation.

The Osito Foundation—Osito is Spanish for "Little Bear"—is a national foundation but donors can choose to donate bears to children in their local city. Donors can even include a special bear gram message of encouragement that will be delivered to the child with the bear.

Castle says 100% of proceeds go directly to the children. "Despite the deepening recession, we're not giving up on our goal to give every child with AIDS a teddy. The kids need us."

For more information, or to donate a teddy bear, visit www.OsitoFoundation.org.

PRIDE PROMOTIONS PRESENTS

at

DIVA'S NIGHTCLUB
492 Pleasant St., Northampton, MA

Queer Idol

KARAOKE, BBQ, AND DANCE PARTY!
Sunday, June 7th 4pm-9pm \$15 at the door, \$10 in advance 21+

Homemade Cookin'
Compliments of the Mistress of Meat!

Vegetarian options available

KARAOKE STARTS AT 7
COOL PRIZES!
"It's Happening Here!"

Tickets available at Pride & Joy or online at
www.nohopridepromos.com
For more information, call 413.588.1512

Be sure to check out our new outdoor deck!

Finding You the RIGHT One, Not Just Anyone



- Personal, Discreet, Respectful
- People are who they say they are ...
- All singles - Straight or Gay - welcome
- An affordable service



Lanie & Bud, Company Founders
"We met through a dating service."

We understand ...

- It's hard to meet the right person.
- You are busy and want matches chosen just for you.
- You might not want to meet someone in a bar or at work.
- You don't want your personal info for all to see on the Internet.



(413) 665-3218

• massmatch.com

• massmatch@comcast.net

TRT

Hartford Pride June, 06

Gay Interviews

Everything's Coming Up Patti

Gay-adored Broadway icon speaks about living up to the 'diva' title, drama off-stage, why she's 'scared shitless' and how camera-snapping fans miff her

By: Chris Azzopardi

People like to call Patti LuPone a diva. She hopes the title refers to her stage command - which earned her a Tony Award for playing Mama Rose in *Gypsy*—and not the demanding, temper-tantrum, entourage-having ways often associated with the term. "I hope it's not because of my attitude," says the actress, who turns 60 this month. One fan might say it is. After LuPone flooded the Web in January for chewing out a *Gypsy* patron mid-song who was snapping photos, the focus will shift back to that whopping voice during her current tour with *Evita* co-star Mandy Patinkin. From a St. Louis hotel, LuPone spoke about that buzzed-about lash-out, getting gay-loved and why, during this interview (where there were no cameras involved), she wasn't feeling like a diva.

Would you consider yourself a diva?

Well, if you saw what I look like right now, then you'd understand that no, I do not think of myself as a diva. (Laughs)

What do you look like now?

I have just a T-shirt on. And I haven't even brushed my teeth yet. I imagine divas to be pampered and made-up and lounging in loungewear and being waited on hand and foot. And that is not who I am. I'm a mother and I'm a wife who happens to be an actress and a singer.

What's your secret to getting the gay love?

You know, I don't know. You'd have to take a poll of the gays. All I do is what I've been doing all my life: I just go out there and sing, or I go out there and act - and I do know that I'm not a typical American. I'm not a blond, blue-eyed, safe actor. I'm an Italian that is raw. When I'm in Italy I make total sense; when I'm here, there's a lot of head scratching. And there always has been. I think now, at my age, and (with) my longevity in the business, people know who I am, but in the beginning there was a lot of head scratching and what-do-we-do-with-this-person?, because I wasn't

American. I don't look American and I don't act in any way like a blond, blue-eyed American. It's never been who I was. Ever.

You and Mandy have known each other for a while, since doing 'Evita' on Broadway in '79. What's your relationship been like over the last 30 years?

It's been loving and friendly. We haven't always seen each other because careers take people in different directions, but it has always been loving, always been supportive and we've always been friends.

How does that translate on stage during this show?

Well, I think you see that. You see a lot of love and a lot of friendship. (Laughs) You just do. You can tell when there's chemistry and you can tell when there's not. And chemistry doesn't necessarily have to mean that these people are friends, but on top of being friends, Mandy and I have always had chemistry on stage, so we kind of relish that connection and play it for all it's worth on stage.

I remember when my family and I would religiously watch *Life Goes On* together. I know you've done several TV shows here and there —*Will & Grace*, *Ugly Betty* and recently *30 Rock*— but what kind of full-time role would get you back on television?

Something like the one I did on *30 Rock*—well, anything would get me back on television, but I'd love it to be—not anything, that's a silly thing to say. What would get me back on TV? I don't know, a hit sitcom—period. (Laughs)

And, those are hard to come by nowadays.

They sure are, tell me about it. But that character I played in *30 Rock* (Frank's mom) was right up my alley, and I don't think I've ever had a character like that on TV. But that was pretty damn funny.

Can I just tell you how much I adore you for bitching out that *Gypsy* patron for taking flash photography?

You know, I don't know what to do about that



PATTI LUPONE

except ... bitch 'em out. (Laughs)

I know it drives you nuts, but it drives people in the audience nuts, too.

That's my main concern. It drives people in the audience nuts. They can't concentrate on the stage if, in their peripheral vision, they're seeing texting, they're seeing cameras, they're listening to phone calls. How can we do our job if the audience is distracted?

I know it's been abuzz on the Internet—there's even a pretty hilarious YouTube video called 'LuPWNed! (The Patti LuPone Audience Freakout Remix)'—and some people are siding with you, while others found it rude. Do you regret chiding this fan?

No. They can think it's rude all they want, I will never stop stopping people from not paying attention. They thought it was rude? Tell these people it is *illegal*. Now talk to me about rudeness.

BOLD I was just reading about it on blogs and such ...

Well, everybody's got something to say. You know what? The interesting thing is I'm not the first one that's done it. At that point I was just pissed off. (Laughs)

Critics raved about your role in *Gypsy*, saying that you didn't just play Mama Rose—you were her. How do you slip so effortlessly into a role like that?

I'm an actor. You do your work in the rehearsal room and then you leave it on the stage.

'Gypsy' closed in January. Were you ready to say goodbye to it?

Yes. Absolutely. Boyd (Gaines) and I were the senior members of the company and we were

exhausted.

You were doing eight shows a week—no wonder.

You know, I went to a nutritionist right before I hit the six-month mark and he saved my ass totally, and I really flew through it toward the end.

The economy has taken a toll on everything—newspapers, businesses, the arts. How have you felt the impact?

I haven't felt it yet; I'm still working. Thank god I can sing. It's scary, scary, scary times. I don't know what to do. I don't know what to say. I don't know what to think. I don't know what to believe. If it was not so conceptual, if they would speak in layman's terms, I would have a better handle on how to react, but right now they've got me scared shitless. First they've got me scared shitless because of terrorism. Now they've got me scared shitless because of the economy. They're giving me an early death. I don't understand what they're talking about. Ever. And who are they? I don't know. What do we go do? Go buy tepees and live in the Montana woods? I don't know.

Is your life as dramatic as it is on stage?

Of course it is (laughs). I mean, I don't like any kind of drama, quite frankly, I like it when it's nice and easy. But I've got an 18-year-old and I have to negotiate marriage, motherhood and a career. And life happens. Shit happens. And I don't react to it calmly because that's not who I am. Not that it happens all the time and I certainly don't overreact—well, no, my husband wouldn't say that, would he? (Laughs)

QScopes

ARIES (March 20 - April 19):

Worrying about money can become a downward spiral. Deal with problems proactively. Friends can offer good advice, but take it with a grain of salt. Even a modest donation to charity will boost your financial karma.

TAURUS (April 20 - May 20): Take advantage of birthday cheer to promote yourself. Your friends are eager to help you, although you and they probably have very different ideas of what kind of help is best. Their surprises really are better than your plans.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 20): You need down time, but can't escape the demands of the world. However you balance your needs and others' will be much observed. Take some quiet time and perform your duties cheerfully.

CANCER (June 21 - July 22): Mixed signals with some friends can lead to confusion about how deep and close those friendships really are. It can be tempting to brush any misunderstanding and embarrassment under the rug, but talking it out really is better.

LEO (July 23 - August 22): As eager as you are to strut your stuff, some things are better kept stuffed away. People trusted with your secrets will blurt things out, even if they mean well. It could work to your favor. Be nice and keep a sense of humor about it.

VIRGO (August 23 - September 22): Wanting to do things your way is likely to cause arguments. Suggestions from others may sound wacky, but at least be polite enough to listen. Outré as they may be, there may be a seed of brilliance to inspire helpful new ideas.

LIBRA (September 23 - October 22): You could lose your balance in an explosion of passion. Stay mindful of previous commitments, especially to your health (and your partner's). Keep proper pro-

phylaxis handy. If you're trying new techniques, be very sure of safety considerations.

SCORPIO (October 23 - November 21): The family that plays together ... Seriously a little fun and games would help to alleviate troubles at home. The shift of mood would at least help everyone see problems in a light more conducive to solutions.

SAGITTARIUS (November 22 - December 20): You have a lot to say to your colleagues, but remember to listen at least as much. Even if they don't seem quite logical, you can learn a lot. Look at work problems as community issues, and keep an open mind.

CAPRICORN (December 21 - January 19): A new look at your investments, whether of money or energy and attention, can raise surprising issues. For better insight, talk it over with a sibling - or someone close enough to feel like one.

AQUARIUS (January 20 - February 18): Money isn't the real problem at home, but may point to a solution. The real problem is your own uncertainty about who you are and how you fit in. Basic values learned in childhood could be either building blocks or stumbling blocks.

PISCES (February 19 - March 19): Meditation should help calm your worries, but it doesn't always work that way. What you really need is to break out of a rut. Go shopping with a "sister" and let him or her pick things out to at least try out a new look.

* Jack Fertig, a professional astrologer since 1977, is available for personal and business consultations in person in San Francisco or online everywhere. He can be reached at 415-864-8302, through his Web site at www.starjack.com and by e-mail at QScopes@qscopindicate.com.

Young Heroes: 'Art for the Orphans,' a benefit for the Swazi HIV/AIDS orphans

By: Nicole C. Lashomb, Editor-in-Chief

Next month, people all over the country will hold house parties celebrating the Day of the African Child to help support the *Young Heroes Foundation*, which cares for over 1,000 AIDS orphans in the Kingdom of Swaziland - the nation with the world's highest rate of HIV/AIDS.

This year, *Young Heroes*, a 501(c)3 non-profit organization headquartered in Northampton, Mass., launches its premiere large-scale celebration "Art for the Orphans," to benefit the Swazi HIV/AIDS orphans of Africa, according to its founder.

"Too often, the Day of the African Child is just another day of empty promises for these children," said Steve Kallaugher, founder and president of Young Heroes Foundation. "We're asking people to help us turn it into a day of action that delivers on those promises."

In Northampton, Mass., where *Young Heroes* is headquartered, "Art for the Orphans" will bring together the contributions of artists from the U.S. and Swaziland for an auction and African dance party featuring a performance by renowned percussionist Tony Vacca on June 12, 2009.

"*Young Heroes*' mission is to keep the AIDS



Photo courtesy of: Steve Kallaugher

Nonhle, one of the orphans supported by *Young Heroes*, care for HIV+ orphans."

The devastation of AIDS is creating a generation of orphans in Swaziland, according to the foundations website. Though it is one of the smallest of all countries, Swaziland has the world's highest rate of HIV/AIDS infection. According to the 2008 Sentinel Survey, 42 percent of adults have HIV.

Because of that, Swaziland now has nearly 70,000 orphans who struggle every day for the bare necessities of life. The number of these young heroes is growing daily. Already, over 15,000 households in the country are headed by children who are trying to raise their little brothers and sisters by themselves.

"The reception we've gotten from people and organizations [that have] offered to help us has been hugely gratifying-Yankee Candle is creating a special candle for us; the Valley Advocate is sponsoring the event; Tony Vacca has offered a rare chance for Valley residents to see him perform live; and dozens of other people have given us contacts, suggestions and support," said Kallaugher. "Now, we hope that everybody will come out for a night of fun that's all directed towards helping kids who have nothing. Over 125,000 children in Swaziland have already lost at least one parent to HIV/AIDS."

After living in a rural Swazi village for a year as a member of the Mamba family, Kallaugher was a first-hand witness to the devastation that HIV/AIDS left behind in Swaziland.

"Every day, I saw children who weren't able to eat daily, who couldn't afford to go to school, and who were dressed in ragged, hand-me-downs. It was the one aspect of the epidemic that I hadn't seen in my, AIDS work here in the States, and the one that broke my heart," he said.

Once approached by the director of NERCHA, Swaziland's national AIDS council, to lead this initiative in the U.S., Kallaugher

knew he had to undertake this task, despite the initial difficulty.

"I was overwhelmed by the size of the task and the small budget I had to work with," he said. "Then, I realized that we just had to do

the best we could for as many kids as we could."

Three years later, *Young Heroes* is supporting over 1,000 children and its system has proven so reliable and transparent, that it has been presented to UNICEF's Global Orphan Alliance as a best practice.

"In a way, it's as simple as this: I saw grief-stricken children starving right in front of me, and I was offered a way to help," Kallaugher added. "There was no way I could refuse, even if I'd wanted to. Even though it's the hardest work I've ever done, it's a privilege to have been given the opportunity."

The *Young Heroes*' "Art for the Orphans" benefit party will take place on June 12, 2009 from 7 p.m. to 12 a.m. at the Clarion Hotel, Grand Ballroom, in Northampton, MA with a special live musical appearance by Tony Vacca. Tickets are \$50.00 (\$25.00 under the age of 14) and are available through CABOTIX at 413.559-7678 or online at <http://www.cabotix.com/index.php>. A \$2.00 service charge per ticket applies.

For more information about *Young Heroes* and to find out about other ways in which you can help the Swazi orphans, please visit www.youngheroes.org.sz

'Art for the Orphans' Facts

- Artists from all over the Pioneer Valley and around the country are donating works to "Art for the Orphans." Every full-price ticket buyer will be entered in a lottery to win an original piece of art. (Some pieces are worth more than the price of admission!)
- A silent auction will feature works by some of Swaziland's finest artists and artisans.
- A live art auction will offer works of top artists from here and abroad, including Robert Rauschenberg, Susan Rothenberg and George Rodrigue.
- A festive dance party will feature music from all over Africa as well as a special live appearance by renowned world musician Tony Vacca.
- Cash bar and plentiful food – including a sampling of the cuisine of Swaziland.
- Attendees may even choose a child to sponsor right on the spot.

orphans of Swaziland alive, healthy and living together as a family unit on their homesteads and in their communities, where they have the greatest sense of safety and security," said Kallaugher. "We do this by linking them with sponsors who provide monthly stipends for food, clothing and other necessities such as medicine and school fees. We are currently in the process of expanding our services to include education scholarships and medical

Young Heroes

Art for the Orphans of AIDS
Art Lottery • Dance Party • Art Auction • Food & Drink • Live Music

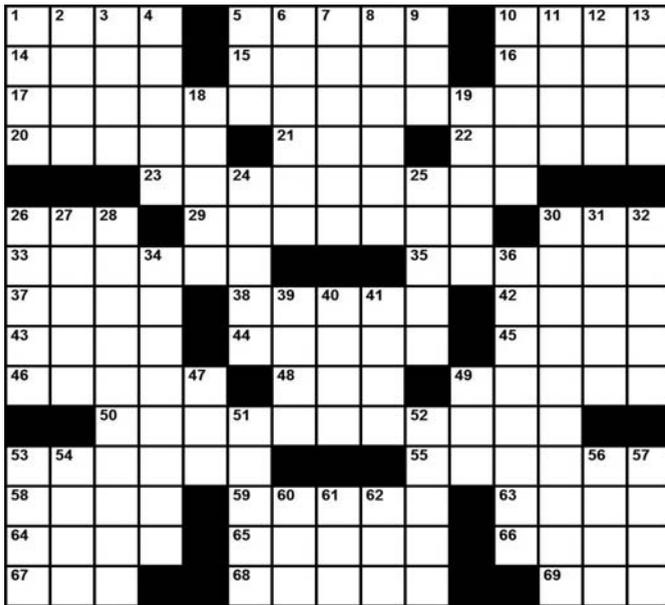
Clarion Hotel Grand Ballroom ~ Northampton, MA
Friday / June 12, 2009
7pm ~ 12am
Special Live Performance: Tony Vacca

Tickets: cabotix.com / 413.559.7678
Information: youngheroes.org.sz/hamphelps.asp

Valley Advocate
VALLEYADVOCATE.COM

Q-Puzzle & MA Health Events

“Straight Women, Gay Roles”



- Across**
- 1 Porter's regretful miss
 - 5 Pulls out one's shooter
 - 10 Star of „Hello, Dalai„?
 - 14 Neighbor of Ida.
 - 15 Jazzman Blake
 - 16 Clay Aiken was almost one
 - 17 2006 Judi Dench film
 - 20 Acquired relative
 - 21 Canadian map abbr.
 - 22 Like barbecue sauce
 - 23 Friend of fag hags?
 - 26 Nile reptile
 - 29 2003 Charlize Theron film
 - 30 Winery container
 - 33 Streisand's „Funny Girl„ costar
 - 35 Relishes
 - 37 Strip in the locker room
 - 38 2002 Salma Hayek film
 - 42 „East of Eden„ director Kazan
 - 43 Think tank output
 - 44 Satisfies fully
 - 45 NY Met or LA Dodger
 - 46 Teen outcasts
 - 48 Suffix that changes Juan's gender
 - 49 Prepares for a nude beach
 - 50 1999 Hilary Swank film
 - 53 Angola's capital
 - 55 Novelist Miller
 - 58 Env. in an env., e.g.
 - 59 Fastener on a femme's pearls
 - 63 Georgia spread on the screen
 - 64 Revoluting
 - 65 2002 Nicole Kidman film, with „The„
 - 66 New Haven collegians
 - 67 Silly goose
 - 68 Full of lip
 - 69 Give the green light

- Down**
- 1 Potent leader
 - 2 Many a Disney character
 - 3 The I in IHOP (abbr.)
 - 4 One way to get to second base
 - 5 Nero's deity
 - 6 Takes to jail
 - 7 Goes down
 - 8 Most prudent
 - 9 Dry, in Versailles
 - 10 Stuff in a closet
 - 11 Computes the bottom line
 - 12 Ditch in some Flynn flicks
 - 13 Bedfellow
 - 18 Hindu master
 - 19 Sculptor Nancy
 - 24 Tips, as a hat
 - 25 Flat tops
 - 26 Husband of a Duke
 - 27 Parasol benefit
 - 28 Ann Bannon output
 - 30 Sport in „The Iron Ladies„
 - 31 Moon of Uranus
 - 32 Old Russian despots
 - 34 Like some memory
 - 36 Regard with awe
 - 39 Police incursion at Stonewall
 - 40 „Tell __ the judge“
 - 41 „Giant„ James
 - 47 Pink Floyd guitarist Barrett
 - 49 Mac alternatives
 - 51 Second name in business
 - 52 Slightly sloshed
 - 53 Future queen of „Star Wars„
 - 54 Dad's bros
 - 56 Lake traveled by Ohio ferries
 - 57 Avoid premature ejaculation
 - 60 Mauna __
 - 61 Neighbor of Switz.
 - 62 MTF operation

Solution on Page 17

Annual skin cancer screening clinic announced

NORTHAMPTON—Cooley Dickinson Hospital's Cancer Care Program will offer a free skin cancer screening clinic that will be held on Tuesday, May 12 from 5 to 9 p.m. at Cooley Dickinson Hospital.

Says Cancer Care Program Director Mary Ellen Walsh, Cooley Dickinson's skin cancer screening clinic is part of a national campaign to encourage early detection and teach prevention of skin cancer, the most common form of cancer in this country. Although malignant melanoma is the most serious form of skin cancer, it can be cured if detected early."

People who are underinsured or who do not have health insurance are encouraged to attend.

The clinic is free. Registration is required; space is limited. To register and to find out the location of the clinic, call (413) 582-2028.

Children in our Hearts walk to benefit the Empty Arms Support Group

NORTHAMPTON—Area families who are grieving pregnancy and infant loss are invited to participate in a fundraising walk that will be held on Saturday, May 9 at Look Park. Interested participants should meet in the Willow Brook Shelter.

All proceeds from this year's walk benefit families who have lost a baby. Books, packets and memory making materials will be purchased and donated to bereaved families to give them the best possible start on the difficult grief journey they will face.

Registration begins at 2:30 p.m. with an introductory program; the walk begins at 3 p.m. A reception with refreshments will follow.

Admission to Look Park is free when you mention the Children in our Hearts walk. Participants may register as a team or individually. A suggested donation is \$10 or \$100 per team. To pre-register for a team contact Jean Monska at 584-8636 or jeanmonska@verizon.net.

The Empty Arms Support Group meets monthly at Cooley Dickinson Hospital. Learn more by visiting: www.emptyarmswesternma.blogspot.com

For more information contact Carol McMurrich at the following email: carolmcmurrich@comcast.net or 529-1610.

Diversity and End-of-Life Care Teleconference

NORTHAMPTON—The VNA & Hospice of Cooley Dickinson and the Cooley Dickinson Cancer Care Program invite area residents to attend the Hospice Foundation of America's Diversity and End-of-Life Care, a teleconference that will be broadcast via satellite and webcast on Wednesday, April 29 from 1:30p-4:00 p.m. at the Dakin Conference Room at Cooley Dickinson Hospital.

The program will focus on ways of understanding diversity and how cultural histories, traditions and beliefs can affect end-of-life-care. The teleconference and a newly published companion book will examine the most current theories and practices in this area, and as always will combine academic research with hands-on tools for use in hospice care, hospitals, counseling programs, funeral homes and other health and social service settings. The program is free of charge. Light refreshments served. CEUs will be offered for a processing fee.

Pre-registration is required. Please RSVP by contacting Michelle Perlman at 582-5317.

cathy hunter

real estate

584 - 4868

www.cathy-hunter.com

TRT

Tell them you saw their ad here!

By: Diane Silver



Political IQ: The Tide isn't turning on marriage

The Real Meaning of Vermont and Iowa
This is a reality check. From a hard, crass, political point of view, our victories in Iowa and Vermont mean very little.

For gay- and lesbian-headed households in Vermont, and for couples like Lee and Tony in outback Iowa, the victories mean almost everything, of course. Starting on April 27 in Iowa and Sept. 1 in Vermont, same-sex couples can marry. They and their children can finally take advantage of the protections their states provide married heterosexuals.

On the positive side of the political ledger, Vermont pioneered a new path. By first passing a marriage bill and then overriding the governor's veto with a two-thirds vote of the House and Senate, the Vermont legislature proved equality can be won in statehouses as well as courthouses.

This victory undercuts the religious right's longstanding claim that only latte-drinking, un-American, activist judges will side with same-sex couples. In Vermont, it was the duly elected representatives of the people who declared our families to be equal.

Iowa was momentous because it was the first victory in middle America. Better yet, the Iowa Supreme Court's unanimous vote was an emphatic stand against discrimination.

Coming within days of each other and doubling the number of states where same-sex couples can marry, Iowa and Vermont set off a flurry of excitement.

"I think we're going to look back at this week

NH State Senate: Yes to same-sex marriage

Washington—*The Human Rights Campaign*, the nation's largest lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) civil rights organization, praised the New Hampshire state Senate's vote late last month in favor of legislation that would permit same-sex couples to marry. The Senate voted 13-11, on second reading, in favor of an amended version of House Bill 436, which would allow same-sex couples to marry under state law. The bill passed the House last month by a 186-179 vote. Since the Senate voted on an amended version, the bill will return to the House after third reading in the Senate.

"Just one month ago, there were only two states where same-sex couples could marry. Now, with this vote in New Hampshire, we are on the verge of having five states that recognize marriage equality for same-sex couples. It's been quite a month, and we look forward to more states joining this group," said Human Rights Campaign President Joe Solmonese. "We congratulate Senate President Sylvia Larsen, Senate Majority Leader Maggie Hassan and Senate Judiciary Committee Chair Deb Reynolds for their leadership in reaching a positive result. We also congratulate GLAD, PFLAG New Hampshire, the New Hampshire Freedom to Marry Coalition, the many activists, including HRC members, who have been working to build support for this legislation, and the majority of New Hampshire voters who support marriage equality."

"The votes in the House and Senate simply recognize that same-sex couples who form committed relationships and loving families deserve the same level of respect and dignity afforded to other couples. The Senate's amendment protects the religious freedom of clergy and religious organizations, while respecting

as a moment when our entire country turned a corner." Lambda Legal's Jennifer C. Pizer told *The Washington Post*.

Something important did happen, but when it comes to marriage, the nation hasn't turned the corner; the tide hasn't changed; the momentum hasn't shifted. Pick whatever metaphor you like, but the politics of the situation remain the same.

Politically speaking, there are two keys to winning this battle: political muscle and the hearts and minds of voters. GLBT political muscle remains flabby in the states and clumsy on the national scene, despite the inauguration of Barack Obama.

The passage of Proposition 8 in California showed us to be a tad out of shape, even in a state known for liberalism. The \$45 million that was pumped into the No-On-8 campaign couldn't even seal a victory.

Among the reasons that campaign stumbled was the lack of grassroots organization (i.e. political muscle). California's well-funded, long-established GLBT groups fell flat, most likely because these community centers, state-house lobbyists and non-profit law firms were never intended to be political campaigns.

Block-by-block outreach and get-out-the-vote efforts are the only ways to win at the ballot box. GLBT Americans don't have that kind of grassroots depth in any state — at least not yet. Given that the opposition comes from socially conservative churches, we also don't have their advantages. GLBT America doesn't

the rights of same-sex couples to protect and care for their families. I hope the House will concur with the amended version by the Senate, and that Gov. Lynch will join the legislature & the majority of NH voters and allow this important legislation to become law," Solmonese said.

A poll released earlier this week by New Hampshire Freedom to Marry showed that 55% of NH voters support marriage for same-sex couples, while 39% are opposed. The poll, conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center, surveyed 491 New Hampshire voters from April 13-22.

This year, HRC has mobilized members to support House Bill 436. In 2006, HRC worked closely with legislators, community groups & local leaders to help elect fair-minded majorities to both the NH House of Representatives & Senate, which voted to pass civil unions legislation in 2007.

have tax exempt organizing centers — otherwise known as congregations — in every county of every state. Until we build that kind of localized muscle, we won't be turning any corners.

Another sign of political weakness is the fact that the federal Defense of Marriage Act is still law. Because of DOMA, gay and lesbian households in Massachusetts, Connecticut and now Iowa and Vermont face legal and financial hardships their heterosexual counterparts never see.

The biggest obstacle we face, though, is the hearts-and-minds factor. Proposition 8 passed because ignorance and prejudice trumped the American inclination toward fairness. Until voters get it in their guts that GLBT people are not the predators portrayed by the religious right, we will not be treated equally.

Winning hearts and minds is hard. It takes appealing ad campaigns, detailed talking points, neighbor-to-neighbor conversations and a mass coming out on a scale that even San Francisco has never seen. We're making progress. Even though polls continue to show support for marriage equality to be far below 50 percent, they also show that number rising an astounding 10 percentage points in just five years.

In politics, the turning of the tide can be difficult to spot. Soon after the Iowa decision, I

thought I saw the signs in the *Spencer Daily Reporter*, circulation 4,000. The northwest Iowa newspaper wrote about Lee and Tony, who have begun planning a 2010 wedding to celebrate their 15th anniversary.

I was thrilled at the honesty of this middle aged gay couple, who live in a small town in Dickinson County (county population: 16,500). Then I realized the couple's last names were never mentioned. Not even their town was revealed.

What happened in Iowa and Vermont will change lives. It is already bringing hope to people in places as unlikely as rural Iowa. The tide will not have truly turned, though, until DOMA is repealed and marriage equality has either arrived or is close to appearing in dozens of states. Most importantly, we will know change has come when people like Lee and Tony no longer fear putting their names in the newspaper.

* Diane Silver is a former newspaper reporter and magazine editor, whose work has appeared in *The Progressive*, *Salon.com*, *Ms.* and other national publications. She can be reached care of this publication or at PoliticalQ@qsyndicate.com.

The Night Owl

Brought to you by: Prizm Designs

The Best LGBTQ Clubs in our Gayborhoods!

W & C Mass.

Blu

105 Water Street
Worcester, MA

Club Car

64 Water Street
Worcester, MA

DIVAS

492 Pleasant St.
Northampton, MA

Hob Knob

234 Chestnut Street
Springfield, MA

The Pub

382 Dwight Street
Springfield, MA

MB

40 Grafton Street
Worcester, MA

Sin City

350 Worthington Street
Springfield, MA

Club OZ

397 Dwight St.
Springfield, MA

Boston

209 at Club Cafe
209 Columbus Ave.
617.350.5555

Alley

14 Pt Alley, 274 Washington Street
617.263.1449

dbar

1236 Dorchester Avenue,
Dorchester
617.257.4490

Estate (Thr., Sun.)

1 Boylston Place
617.257.4490

Eagle

520 Tremont Street
617.542.4494

Fritz

26 Chandler Street
617.482.4428

Jacques Cabaret

79 Broadway Street
617.426.8902

Machine

1256 Boylston Street
617.536.1950

Midway Cafe (gay Tue., lesbian Thr.)

3496 Washington Street,
Jamaica Plain
617.524.9038

Milky Way Lounge (Sun.)

401 Central Street, Jamaica Plain,
617.524.3740

Paradise

180 Mass. Avenue,
Cambridge, 617.868.3000

Ramrod

1254 Boylston Street
617.266.2986

Rise (after hours)

306 Stuart Street
617.423.7473

Roxy (Sat.)

279 Tremont Street
617.338.ROXY

Rumor (Wed.)

100 Warrenton Street
617.338.8061

Shine (Thr., Fri., Sat., Sun.)

1 Kendall Square,
Cambridge, 617.621.9500

Suite (Mon)

1 Boylston Place
617.257.4490

Tribe at Felt (Thr)

533 Washington Street, 4th Floor.
617.350.5555

Underbar (Thr)

275 Tremont Street
617.292.0080

Venu (Wed., Latin Night)

100 Warrenton St
617.338-8061

Connecticut

Chez Est

458 Wethersfield Ave.
Hartford, CT

Triangles

66 Sugar Hollow Road
Danbury, Connecticut

Polo Club

678 Maple Avenue
Hartford, CT

168 York Street Cafe

168 York Street
New Haven, CT

Bar

2154 Crown Street
New Haven, CT

Gotham Citi Cafe

Church & Crown Streets
New Haven, CT

Partners Cafe

365 Crown Street
New Haven, CT

Plymouth

A-House

6 Masonic Place
508.487.3821

Alibi

291 Commercial Street
508.487.2890

Bayside Betty's-Mixers

177 Commercial Street
508.487.0120

Boatstop

161 Commercial Street
508.487.1669

Crown and Anchor

247 Commercial Street
508.487.1430

Chaser's

293 Commercial Street
508.487.7200

PiedBar

193A Commercial Street
508.487.1527

PorchSide Bar

11 Carver Street
508.487.9793

Post Office Cabaret

303 Commercial Street
508.487.9793

Purgatory

911 Carver Street
508.487.8442

Vixen

336 Commercial Street
508.487.6424

Wet Spot at the Boat Slip

161 Commercial Street
508.487.1669

Plymouth

Q Puzzle Solution from P. 16

O	T	I	S	D	R	A	W	S	L	A	M	A		
M	O	N	T	E	U	B	I	E	I	D	O	L		
N	O	T	E	S	O	N	A	S	C	A	N	D	A	L
I	N	L	A	W	S	T	E	Z	E	S	T	Y		
		L	A	D	I	E	S	M	A	N				
A	S	P	M	O	N	S	T	E	R	V	A	T		
S	H	A	R	I	F	S	A	V	O	R	S			
T	A	P	E	F	R	I	D	A	E	L	I	A		
I	D	E	A	S	A	T	E	S	N	L	E	R		
N	E	R	D	S	I	T	A	P	E	E	L	S		
	B	O	Y	S	D	O	N	T	C	R	Y			
L	U	A	N	D	A	I	S	A	B	E	L			
E	N	C	L	C	L	A	S	P	T	A	R	A		
J	E	K	Y	H	O	U	R	S	E	L	I	S		
A	S	S	A	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	L	E	T

Queer Opinions

C'mon Out from Page 2

determined to help her come out without myself influencing her in the case that I am wrong. I believe that she deserves the dignity of coming out as herself as she wishes to do. I just want to share her love and life with her like in the beginning, however she defines that love and life to be.
Thanks for any help you can render.

Hello:
I think you are correct in believing that she has attractions to women. It is clear how much you love her. You say that intimate communication has always been difficult for you both. This is where my advice begins.

Communication is the basis of any intimate relationship. If you can't talk to your wife about important things, you are both missing out on a great deal. Would you consider sharing this letter/question with her? You both deserve the fruits that are born out of openness and honesty. Can you begin to take a risk and tell her what you have begun to share with me? If you both can open and talk it may very well be an opportunity for you to deepen your relationship. You may even end up closer to each other. People are afraid sometimes to tell their partners exactly what they feel. If you ignore it, the hope is that it will just get better or will magically go away. But the opposite is the case. The more that goes unspoken in any relationship, the more distance is created, the less your partner knows you and things usually get worse. Openness is really the only solution. And I realize that sometimes getting there is the hard part.

Then there is the possibility that she may tell you something that may be hard to hear. As you suspect, she likely has feelings for women and we do

not yet know what this may mean. The risk in being honest is hearing difficult things. However, lack of communication guarantees there will be things between the two of you. This always creates distance. Finding out what is truly happening for her will move this situation along. At the very least you will know where you stand and can take it from there.

If you really do not think you can find a way to talk to her, couples counseling is a good option. It may provide you a safe environment in which to learn to communicate and how to navigate through turbulent waters. First and foremost, please share with her what you've shared here with me.
Good luck to you. Tetty

C'mon Out! Submit your questions to Tetty Gorfine, Director of LifeCourse Counseling Center. Simply go to www.life-course.net and click on "Ask Us A Question." All questions will be answered on the bulletin board. One or two will be printed next month here in The Rainbow Times.

* Tetty also been a psychotherapist since 1980. She has worked extensively with LGBTQ individuals, couples and groups and has supervised both clinicians and therapists in training. Her vision and leadership spirited nearly all of LifeCourse Counseling Center's programs. Tetty has also been on numerous radio talk shows and television programs. She has presented at professional conferences on topics pertinent to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender individuals.



Gallagher from Page 12

"I think civilizations that can't hang onto an idea as basic as to make a marriage you need a husband and a wife aren't going to make it in the long haul," Gallagher told Rod Dreher of the Dallas Morning News earlier this month. "So I'm not worried about the progressive myth that 200 years from now gay marriage will be the new world norm. I'm somewhat more worried about the kind of cultures around the world that might survive."

In other words, gays are going to end up

killing us all. You know, just like gay pterodactyls wrecked it all for the dinosaurs.

Gallagher also complained that because she wants to discriminate against gays and lesbians, she's labeled a bigot. This isn't fair, she said, because the real bigots are gays who won't just accept being oppressed. She claims that "losing marriage" to gays will result in "the redefinition of traditional religious faiths as the moral and legal equivalent of racists. The proposition on the table right now is that our faith itself is a form of bigotry."

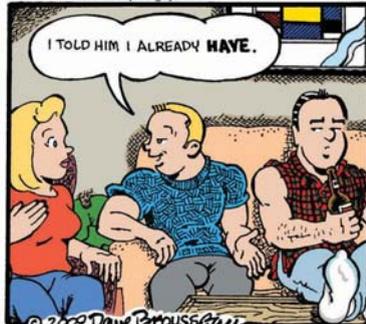
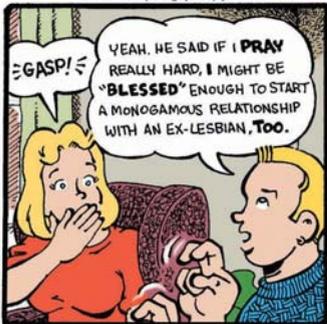
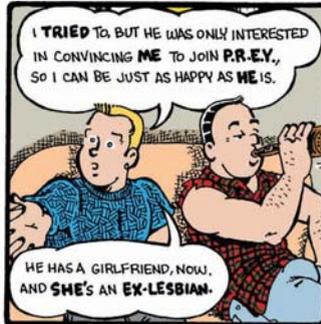
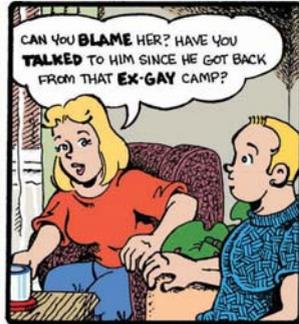
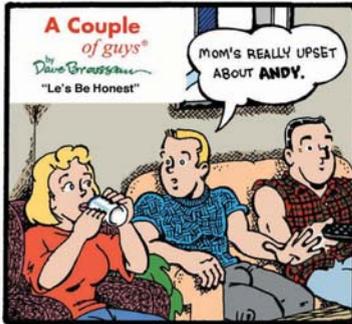
And, as every person of faith knows, the ability to oppress folks you don't like or agree with is a special religious right.

Besides, gay rights advocates are just bullies, pushing around the poor, powerless majority that opposes them. "Public opinion hasn't changed much at all," Gallagher said, citing a March 12 CBS poll that shows the majority of Americans opposing gay marriage. After all, the majority rules. Minority rights are for atheist, liberal elites who would rather gay marry aborted stem cell babies than go to church.

"What's changed is the punishment the gay marriage movement is inflicting on dissenters, which is narrowing the circle of people willing to speak," she continued. "This is a very powerful movement, no question. Nobody understands that better than I do."

Yes, nobody knows the trouble she's seen. Nobody knows her sorrow. It's a favorite tactic of the right to play the part of a powerless group standing up against gay mercenaries fighting to obliterate religious freedoms. Sure, it doesn't match reality. But it sure is scary - and that goes a long way when fear is all you've got.

* 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 and roll shows in Detroit with her twin sister and teaches writing at the University of Michigan.



© 2009 Dave Grossman

Hate crime murder of Matthew Shepard was "A Hoax"

New York—The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation called on the nation's media to scrutinize the statement made by Congresswoman Virginia Foxx (R-N.C.) on the floor of the House of Representatives claiming that the 1998 hate crime murder of Matthew Shepard was "a hoax."

The House of Representatives today debated and passed the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009. This legislation would expand existing federal hate crimes law which currently addresses hate crimes committed against people based on their race, color, religion and national origin—to also protect people based on their actual or perceived gender, sexual orientation, gender identity or disability. A companion bill, the Matthew Shepard Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention

Act, was re-introduced today in the U.S. Senate.

While arguing against the legislation, Foxx said: "The hate crimes bill that's called the Matthew Shepard Bill [sic] is named after a very unfortunate incident that happened where a young man was killed. But we know that that young man was killed in the commitment of a robbery. It wasn't because he was gay. The bill was named for him, the hate crimes bill was named for him, but it's, it's really a hoax, that that continues to be used as an excuse for passing these bills."

"Congresswoman Foxx's comments are repugnant and should be condemned by all fair-minded people in the strongest possible terms," said GLAAD President Neil G. Giuliano. "We urge media to expose Foxx's falsehood and her malicious disregard for the basic facts of this case."

The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against

Defamation (GLAAD) is dedicated to promoting and ensuring fair, accurate and inclusive representation of people and events in the media as a means of eliminating homophobia and discrimination based on gender identity and sexual orientation. For more information, please visit www.glaad.org.



The Highlands Inn
A Lesbian Paradise

"One of the most romantic lesbian destinations on the planet."
-Planet Out

www.highlandsinn-nh.com
1-877-LES-B-INN
Bethlehem, New Hampshire



Smooth Movers

We've got a grip on this business!

- ◆ Fully Insured
- ◆ Local/Long-Distance
- ◆ Packing Services
- ◆ Free Estimates
- ◆ Commercial & Residential
- ◆ Hot Tubs/ Furnaces/Boilers



Piano moving is our Specialty!

www.SmoothMoversNoho.com 413.587.0786

CONNECTICUT PRIDE

SATURDAY, JUNE 6, 2009 * BUSHNELL PARK * HARTFORD, CT * 11AM-5PM

FEATURING 80'S POP ICON TIFFANY

HOSTED BY RACHEL LUTZGER

Queer Reviews

Back to life, Back to reality: Glenn Douglas Packard + Brooke Knows Best Season 2

By: Mikey Knipp

Choreographer Glenn Douglas Packard got what he's always wanted - to become a star - as Brooke Hogan's best friend on the first season of VH1's hit show Brooke Knows Best. But as the novelty of newfound fame wears thin, the self-proclaimed "sarcastic, adventurous, happy, gay best friend" must face reality - both on and off screen.

Packard, 30, who revealed his homosexuality when BKB premiered last year, will return to his roots in season two to confront his past and the people he loves.

"We actually go to my hometown in Clare, Michigan, and tackle what life is like after I have come out to the world, and how my family and small town are dealing with all of it. It's a milestone in my life—that moment when I had all my worlds come together: my family, my personal life and my work," he says.

Prohibited from leaking too many details of season two, Packard is able to reveal the title of that particular episode—"Welcome to Michiglen"—in which reality TV and real life collide. "You see where I came from and my family life - because what a lot of people don't realize is that I had this whole other life



where I was engaged to a woman and was ready to take over my family's farm business."

A departure from his days milking cows, the former farmhand also spends time in season two training for the space program. "There is an episode where we go to Cape Canaveral, and I started a little thing where I would be the next gay guy to get into space. I would definitely give Lance Bass a run for his

money," Packard quips, referring to the former *NSYNC singer's famously failed bid to exit our atmosphere.

Of course, there's more to BKB: Season 2 than facing one's past and starry-eyed space odysseys. There's also a focus on the future and what it holds for Glenn, Brooke and roommate Ashley, both personally and professionally.

In addition to choreographing Brooke's new tour and music video, Packard is developing a comic book with Ashley, called "Teams of Heroes," and he's actively pitching two new reality concepts to studio executives. Perhaps the most exciting news of all, however, is that Packard has found love. A love that he promises will blossom throughout BKB's sophomore run.

"I had just gotten out of a nasty relationship, and I was ready to give up finding my dream man, my soul mate," recalls Packard. "Then in walks Daniel Miagany—just moved to Miami! So you'll get to see all that evolve into a strong, mature gay relationship."

As for the person who put Packard on the map - Brooke Hogan - well, he still knows his role with her. After all, the show is called Brooke Knows Best. Season 2 of Brooke Knows Best premieres this May on VH1.

For more information, please visit GlennDouglasPackard.com

3rd Annual Western Massachusetts Youth Pride!

Prin

To make a donation contact Alex Morse at 413-210-8208 or alex.b.morse@gmail.com

FREE FOOD
LIVE PERFORMERS

HOLYOKE GLBTQ TASK FORCE
P.O. Box 441 Holyoke, MA
CONTACT
Alex Morse: (413) 210-8208 alex.b.morse@gmail.com
Vivianna Vallente: (413) 512-0490 viviannavallente@yahoo.com

COST: FREE
Ages: 20 and UNDER

FRIDAY MAY 29
7pm-midnight

THE HOLIDAY INN
245 Whiting Farms Rd.
HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS

embrace diversity
BOSTON ALLIANCE OF GAY LESBIAN BISEXUAL TRANSGENDER YOUTH
BAGLY

3rd Annual Western Mass Youth Pride Prom Friday May 29th

On May 29, The Holyoke Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Task Force will host its 3rd Annual Western Mass Youth Pride Prom at the Holiday Inn in Holyoke. The Youth Pride Prom provides a safe, fun, and inclusive space for young people free from the discrimination and harassment that comes with being a young GLBT person or ally at a traditional high school prom. This is a momentous event for Holyoke and a testament to the vitality, strength, and diversity of the city and other urban communities.

The Holyoke GLBTQ Task Force was founded in December 2006 to make Holyoke a safe space for all people, regardless of age, race, socioeconomic background, ability, sexual orientation or gender expression. The Task Force is actively committed to combating oppression at every level. It addresses a critical need in the Holyoke community by unit-

ing individuals in community-based organizations and schools, students, and other young adults to be leaders in the Holyoke community for equality and justice.

This year, the Task Force has extended an invitation to over 60 schools in Western Massachusetts and plan to host over 400 young people for the 3rd Annual Youth Pride Prom. There will be live performances, including drag queens and kings, and a dance performance by students from Holyoke Community College. The Task Force is committed to inclusion on all accounts, and therefore the Prom is free to all who attend.

For those individuals or organizations interested in providing a donation, to have a resource table at the Prom, or simply to get involved, contact Alex Morse, the President of the Task Force at (413) 210-8208 or alex.b.morse@gmail.com.

Connections
Psychotherapy Associates

Office: Schenectady, NY 12308
Mail: PO Box 9179, Niskayuna, NY 12309
(518) 506-1261
HawkRStone@aol.com

Moonhawk River Stone, M.S., LMHC

- Specializing in Transgender care
- Phone consultation available
- Provider of Supervision for Psychotherapists

Governor Rell signs same-sex marriage Codification Bill into law

Bill Passed Legislature with strong Bipartisan support & contains reasonable exceptions to ensure religious freedoms

Hartford, CT—Late last month, the Connecticut legislature passed SB 899—the marriage codification bill—with overwhelming bipartisan support: 28-7 in the Senate and 100-44 in the House. Senator Andrew McDonald and Representative Michael Lawlor provided extraordinary leadership in ensuring the passage of the bill. Governor Rell promptly signed the bill today.

"This bipartisan vote is a strong affirmation of the Kerrigan decision and the dignity and respect of same-sex couples and their families," said Anne Stanback, Executive Director of Love Makes a Family. "Today, fairness won out over fear."

Despite furious lobbying and an expensive ad campaign by anti-gay opponents, the expected amendments to retain insulting, anti-gay language and to allow businesses or indi-

viduals to discriminate had little support. The bill does not undermine state anti-discrimination laws, and it does not allow state actors such as Justices of the Peace or individuals such as florists to discriminate.

"The approved bill includes reasonable exceptions to ensure religious freedom for clergy and religious organizations, exceptions that already exist in state law," said Stanback.

SB 899 conforms state statutes to the Supreme Court's ruling in the Kerrigan case, provides recognition, by the state of Connecticut, of marriages, civil unions, and domestic partnerships from other states which provide substantially similar benefits to marriage, and clarifies the status of civil unions, merging them with marriages after October, 2010.

CT PRIDE GUIDE: LOOK FOR IT ON TRT'S JUNE 4TH EDITION
Support CT Pride on June 6th!



If you've ever considered being a Foster Parent ...
NOW is the time to do it.

Connecticut's children need you more than ever.

The Professional Parenting Program needs individuals who are willing and able to support our LGBTQ youth in Connecticut. Help us to help them achieve their goals and dreams of belonging to a family.

Connecticut residents only.

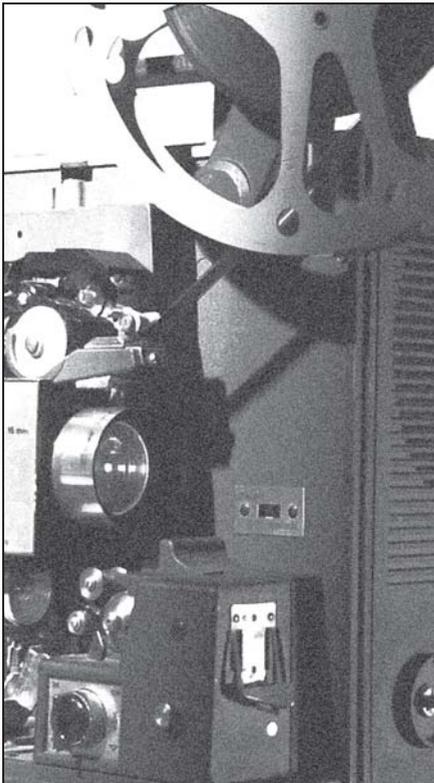
Please call us today (888) 968-4489 x134



THE INSTITUTE OF PROFESSIONAL PRACTICE, INC.
Individual Lives. Individual Solutions.

1764 Litchfield Turnpike • Woodbridge, CT 06525 • www.ippi.org

More CT News on Pages 19, 23 & 24



Twenty-Second Connecticut Gay & Lesbian Film Festival

May 22-30, 2009

CINESTUDIO

Trinity College
 Hartford, Connecticut

Out Film CT

for more information
OutFilmCT.org
 or 860.586.1136

Major Sponsors



We'll help you get there.™



Upcoming Queer Events

Vermont's Pride Film Festival of Shorts

"[CineSlam]reaches back to the radical roots of liberation, to the joyously skewed visions of sex, love, culture and camp that lie outside the conventions of the straight world."—Andrew Kopkind, 1993 (*A Queer Nation*)

CineSlam takes place in early summer in Vermont, (think green)-a two day 'videovapalooza'-of-a-festival-screening rousing shorts in a old barn on a farm in Guilford, Vermont.

The CineSlam Festival: Friday Evening (7 pm, June 26th,) screening in Brattleboro, Vermont, followed by the Pride Dance at 9pm; then to the Organ Barn in Guilford on Saturday June 27th for an afternoon of screening sessions ending with a delicious BBQ and awards ceremony.

Money Prizes include the Chessie Award for Best Short (\$750) with an invitation to present your winning film on the Pride of the Ocean GLBT Film Cruise (expenses paid) leaving Los Angeles Jan 17th 2010 for seven days touring the Mexican Riviera. For more information: www.prideoftheocean.com.

The Retreat: Filmmakers can also apply to be part of the Kopkind Colony's "Filmmakers Retreat." Your short film will have to be sent in first to be accepted for the festival (that deadline is April 30th). Eight filmmakers will be accommodated 3 days before the festival



begins to participate in film slams in the barn and a special seminar with Karen Everett, owner of New Doc Editing™, an award-winning editor. During the past fifteen years, Karen Everett has been teaching at UC Berkeley's Graduate School of Journalism. This information-packed seminar shows you how to adapt screen-writing devices such as the inciting incident, midpoint, backstory, climax and denouement, so your documentary will be as engaging and fun to watch as a narrative film. Retreat dates June 23rd to June 28th (5 nights).

For more information visit: www.cineslam.com and click filmmakers retreat page to find out how to apply for the retreat and click filmmakers submission page to find out how to submit a film! It's very easy to be part of Vermont's CineSlam. Note: Retreat Deadline for films now extended to May 10th. Films if not applying for retreat is now extended to June 5th.

CineSlam is sponsored by: The Kopkind Colony, and underwritten by a grant from the Chessie Foundation.



Cindy and Laurie dance for the first time.

Photo from: "Little Black Boot"

Lesbian Film Festival presents Award-winning films

A not-to-be-missed night of lesbian entertainment is coming soon to Northampton thanks to the *Out! For Reel Film Series*. For one night only, on Saturday, May 16th at 7:30 p.m., a new *Lesbian Film Festival* will fill the huge screen at the Academy of Music Theatre. Four award-winning lesbian films, one feature and three shorts, will be shown to an estimated crowd of eight hundred. "It's only natural to have a Lesbian Film Festival in Northampton," states Jaime Michaels, producer of the *Out! For Reel Film Series*. "Everyone loves the idea and is really excited about it."

"The films in this festival offer an interesting variety of lesbian stories and have lots of creative twists and turns to hold your attention. They are all positive, totally upbeat, and fun in their own unique ways," comments Michaels.

The Festival's feature film, *The Baby Formula*, has become a huge hit with festival audiences around the world. A savvy comedy-drama, the film focuses on a young married couple, Athena and Liith, who want to have each other's baby biologically. Yes, biologically. How you may ask? They secretly undergo an experimental stem cell procedure that creates "female sperm." Based on actual stem cell research with mice, this fictional film cleverly transports science advancements of the future to the realities of present day lesbian life. Both women become pregnant and are on course to making human history by having babies born with two biological mothers and no biological father. Filled with laugh out loud one-liners, lovable characters, and

riveting family dramas, *The Baby Formula* dares to take on science, homophobia, and religion with refreshing wit. In the end, this engaging, uplifting story is about love, acceptance, family, and the heartfelt courage and determination of two unstoppable women in love. The Festival's three short films include: *Little Black Boot*: With a Cinderella twist, a lesbian teen receives her secret wish at her high school prom.

No Bikini: Seven year old Robin discovers the glorious freedom of not wearing her bikini top—even if it means passing as a boy. *Buttery Top*: A comedy about a first date and false assumptions. Tickets prices are \$10 in advance, \$12 in advance, \$8 for college students with current ID. Advance tickets are strongly suggested.

To purchase advance tickets online or to view the film trailer, visit www.OutForReel.org. Tickets may also be purchased at four ticket outlets: *Pride & Joy*, Northampton, *Food For Thought Books*, Amherst, *World Eye Bookshop*, Greenfield, and *The Odyssey Bookshop*, South Hadley. *Out! For Reel Film Series* presents the best in first run Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender films from around the world. Over 3,500 people have attended *Out! For Reel's* six premiere screenings since its launch last September. Committed to building and strengthening LGBT and ally communities, *Out! For Reel* provides film events that offer insightful, entertaining, and positive portrayals of LGBT characters and life experiences. For more information check out the ad on this issue of TRT's found on page 9.

Western Massachusetts

PINK

YOUR LOCAL LGBT YELLOW PAGES

REAL ESTATE • ADOPTION • AUTOMOBILES • THERAPISTS • COMMUNITY GROUPS • DJ'S • CONTRACTORS • BIKES • MUSIC • ART • PLUMBERS • DOCTORS • LAWYERS • FURNITURE • PETS • INSURANCE • GIFTS • SKIN CARE • HEALTH • SECURITY • BANKS • MOVERS • HAIR • RESTAURANTS • ENTERTAINMENT • BANQUETS • COMPUTERS • LODGING • SCHOOLS • STORES • BATHS • DENTISTS • DATING • CARPETS • MORTGAGES • CATERING • BARS • TAXES • VACATIONS • FUNCTION HALLS • JEWELRY • WEBSITES • WINDOWS • FABRIC • PHOTOGRAPHY • ELECTRICIANS • LOCK SMITHS • ETC....

PAGES

GET YOUR COPY OF THE SAVOIR FLAIR

SEE OUT WEBSITE FOR LOCATIONS

THE COMPLETE PINK PAGES IS ON

WWW.LINKPINK.COM

LIST WITH US TOLL FREE 866-943-PINK(7465)

The Outfield: UConn Athletes have class



By: Dan Woog*

Sports fans know the University of Connecticut for its men's and women's basketball teams. It's a fine academic institution too. But one day soon it may be famous for its

CLASS.

That's CLASS as in the Connecticut LGBT Athlete Safe Space.

An online support system and resource network including links, educational information, question-and-answer forums and more, the site is designed to provide information on LGBT issues for students (athletes and non-athletes alike), coaches, administrators and faculty members—regardless of sexual orientation. It is believed to be the only Web site of its kind affiliated with a college athletic program.

Ingrid Hohmann—an academic counselor working with UConn's Counseling Program for Intercollegiate Athletes—came up with the concept. A track and field athlete at the University of Delaware, she did not come out until after graduation in 1990. "I never felt comfortable going to the LGBT Center on campus," she says, recalling her college years. "In fact, I was terrified."

She would have welcomed "any athletic-related resource that I could have just looked at to answer questions," she says. "Like a lot of athletes, I wasn't political. But it would have been nice to have access to help me figure out who I was."

In addition to LGBT athletes, "some allies and potential allies may be interested in ways to support their peers," says Alana Linick,

CPIA academic counselor and tutorial coordinator, describing CLASS's desired audience.

Hohmann, Linick and CPIA director Bruce Cohen thought the anonymous nature of a web page would be attractive to everyone, regardless of their sexual identity. Administrators—including the athletic director—were fully supportive. "They even wanted support groups," Hohmann said. "But we think this is more effective."

Nine CPIA counselors, a learning specialist, four graduate students and an administrative assistant helped develop the Web site. Student-athletes provided feedback before it went live.

The easily navigable site includes resources like "Action Guides" for administrators, coaches and athletes; links to the Gay Games, Gay and Lesbian Athletes Association, It Takes a Team, NCAA Diversity, OutSports.com, Human Rights Campaign, the University of Connecticut Rainbow Center, and LGBT scholarship applications; information on state and national laws and an anonymous message board.

"We wanted something that had lots of resources, but also felt safe to use," Linick says. "If someone feels they need to access this from their dorm room or an apartment, that's fine. It's all about providing information."

"Athletes can talk to me – I'm out," says Hohmann. "But if they want a way to figure things out first, resources like this are great."

As with any site, some usage has been unexpected. A number of students find it to be a valuable resource for classes like psychology and human development. "We didn't see that coming," Linick says. "But we're glad it's there."



Though students are encouraged to ask questions online—and get direct, personal answers that are not viewable by anyone else—"they're not really doing that," Hohmann notes. "We know the site is getting hits, but that part of it hasn't taken off yet."

The "Chalk Talk Feedback" page includes just five questions, but they're good ones. Some of CLASS's responses are adapted from "It Takes a Team" resources.

Someone wrote: "I think one of my teammates is gay. What should I do if they come out to me?" The answer was: Be yourself. The teammate may need someone to talk with. But if he or she does not come out to you, don't take it personally.

Another user wondered how to deal with anti-gay comments without others thinking he or she is gay. CLASS responded that although being an ally is challenging, standing up to inappropriate language sets a powerful example for everyone.

There is also a question about locker room behavior by gays and lesbians. The answer is that the stereotype of gay people as sexual predators is wrong. All athletes, the CLASS

Web site says, focus on the same things: upcoming games, injuries, laughing and talking with teammates. Any inappropriate behavior should be addressed without regard to sexual orientation.

A major challenge for CLASS is to publicize the Web site around campus. Mass e-mails have been sent to athletes, flyers are hung throughout the department and there is a link from the CPIA home page. (However, it simply says "CLASS Web site"; there is no indication that "CLAA" offers LGBT resources.)

"We need to advertise this a bit more than we have," Hohmann admits. "We think it's the only site like it. People are taking advantage of it, but we have to continue to educate student-athletes and allies that it's here and available to everyone."

Visit the CLASS Web site at www.cpia.uconn.edu/class or call 860-486-5515.

* Dan Woog is a journalist, educator, soccer coach, gay activist, and author of the "Jocks" series of books on gay male athletes. Visit his Web site at www.danwoog.com. He can be reached care of this publication or at OutField@qsyndicate.com.

Q Classifieds

SERVICES

OUTDOOR WEDDINGS, events & other celebrations. Corporate/Private. HERON COVE, 111 Farnams Causeway at Ashwillocock Rail Trail/Rte 8, Cheshire: Private lakefront compound, boat ramp, power, stage. heroncovevents@aol.com

Plum Blossom Designs
Professional, artistic designs and building. Wood, Stone, Tile, Renovation and New Construction. Call Steve for your estimate at: 413.330.0440.

PERSONALS

Trans
29yo full time transgendered woman living in upstate NY. I am looking for a long term relationship with someone in the age range of 22-45. www.Debbie-Vine.4t.com
Email: debbie_vine@hotmail.com

"SWEET TRANSVESTITE" MTF, 52, smiling, slim, healthy, balanced, love to shop, garden, cook, kayak, kiss. Looking for a Genetic woman as sweet as me to ride off into the sunset with. Contact "DJ2" at: j.nytop@yahoo.com.

Men 4 Men
Hey, 18 yo looking for a man in Western MA, for romantic relationship... under 20 ONLY. Thanks. Contact: Josh at PrynceShybo@gmail.com

I am open-minded, nice, intelligent, good looking in an

Make your dreams a reality. Create positive change in your life. Hire a Life Coach to help you reach your goals. Visit www.seechangenowcoaching.com and call 508-963-6942 for a free session.

old fashioned way, youthful and historical. Contact: Douglas at Daross51@yahoo.com

BiCurious (next column)
SWBif looking for friendship and possibly more in Springfield/NoHo area. Very new to scene and testing the waters. Great sense of humor and kind heart. College educated and intelligent. Contact Ashley at honour_huston@hotmail.com or call 413.883.0396.

Bi-Man looks for more: Hi looking for some hot times with new people you never know what fun things can happen. Contact: 413-229-3799 or nmf2@AOL.com

Women 4 women

Looking to meet women in the Springfield/Northampton MA area for friendship and fun! Diva's, Oz, dinner/coffee/drinks in NoHo or Springfield. Movies, the beach, you name it let's get together and do it! Contact Kris at dolphinslarnight@yahoo.com

Looking for other women for outdoor activities: biking, hiking, and cross country skiing. I like to cook, especially coming up with healthy tasty recipes. Walks in the woods, sitting by a cozy fire, enjoying all life has to offer. Contact: Treesyster@aol.com.

Web & Graphic Design you CAN Afford!

Prizm Designs was established with the small business owner in mind. We offer professional web and graphic design services at a cost-effective rate. We believe that all business owners have the right to establish a strong internet and graphic presence without it tipping the bank!

We also believe in representing and collaborating with all communities alike. As such, we are proud to serve a diverse clientele and pride ourselves in representing people of all races and ethnicities, sexual orientations and gender identities, age groups and genders. We are proud to have a 100% non-discrimination policy.

Prizm Designs is Lesbian-Owned & Operated and is based in Northampton, MA but is proud to serve all regions.

Call us or visit our website today! Ask about our 5 x 5 Introductory Rates and learn more about our Sponsorship, Discount, and Refer-a-Friend Programs.



www.PrizmDesigns.com • 413.364.1264

Subscribe to The Rainbow Times today! Only \$50/year.
TheRainbowTimes.com

World Renown Puppeteer

Jerry & the Showgirls



**Saturday
May 23rd**
midnight show

&

**Sunday
May 24th**
seven o'clock show

The Hottest Friday Nights



Hands Down!



458 Wethersfield Ave, Hartford

860-525-3243

www.Chezest.com

myspace.com/Cheznightclub

D.J. John Rizzo rocks the house all night long!

Saturday June 6th

OFFICIAL AFTER-PRIDE PARTY

Hosted by Rachel Lutzker



TIFFANY
to perform