

The Rainbow Times

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



PHOTO: UNIVERSAL

**MELISSA
ETHERIDGE**
Talks Ex, getting
remarried &
new album p20



PHOTO: GLENN KOETZNER

**YOUTH
PRIDE**
Boston Pride
welcomes youth
on May 19 p10



PHOTO: CHUCK COLBERT

**MARY
BONAUTO**
GLAD's legal lesbian
icon represents
us again p8

BOSTON PRIDE: 2012 Headliners announced p 22

OUTFILM CT: Gay & Lesbian Film Festival this June p 23

RI PRIDE & GALLERY Q: Upcoming Providence events p24

**Mike Ruiz
opens up p17**

PHOTO: MIKE RUIZ

Simplifying racism, blaming the marginalized is not OK

By: **Gricel M. Ocasio***/TRT Publisher

OPINIONS No one said the world affairs and the people that surround us are remotely aware of differences that should not separate us, but unite us. I am not merely speaking of LGBT rights and the people who shed hatred from the right. That is to be expected and I think we are all aware of it.

LGBT self-hatred

But unfortunately, there is hatred among us too. Even if we try to ignore it, or give it another name, hatred rears its ugly face in business rivalry, in unethical tactics by other LGBT media and organizations, and even in the way we treat one another — differently, as we claim the right wingers do to us. This is hypocritical.

There is that struggle that we, LGBT folks, tend to think that everyone in the community holds and/or understands. It is the notion that we are all at the same molecular level, as all cells of our body are. But, we are not.

Race within the LGBT community; the Washington Blade

Recently, Think Progress ran a story titled *The Consequences of Pitting Race Against Sexual Orientation And Gender Identity*. The author discussed the gay v. race debate used by the National Organization for Marriage's (NOM) anti-gay hatred-filled actions and compared those to the words of Washington Blade's editor Kevin Naff in his "All Aboard the Trayvon Bandwagon" editorial. Think Progress ran another article in which the author denounced Naff's editorial as ignoring the "reality of racial oppression." I must concur, not only on the basis of mere knowledge, but based on my own experiences as a Hispanic lesbian of color.

Needs of LGBT mainstream and LGBT people of color are different

Naff's editorial sounds utterly defensive when it pertains to race, ethnicity and the diverse LGBT community that he, as the Blade's editor, should be fully representing and remembering. His words are damaging to such a community and to the rest of the people of color in the nation. To draw comparisons between LGBT mainstream communities and LGBT color communities is naive. In his tirade, Naff arrogantly writes about others (members of the media, celebrities and well-known leaders of the communities of color) exercising "self-restraint" when it came to drawing conclusions about the Trayvon Martin case. Not fully understanding that self-restraint is something that is hard to attain when you are in a marginalized position is perhaps something that Naff's assertions did not take into consideration. In his privileged position personally and professionally, Naff should exercise more restraint. Not doing so left the non-majority readers of his piece wondering the purpose of his column. Simply stated, he doesn't get it. How can he? He can't relate to the struggles of people of color, for he does not have the experience to speak about something that he has never lived. That is exactly why he should not have written about it the way he did.

The reality is that the world is not as White as it used to be. The Hispanic and African American populations continue to grow, although their misrepresentation in powerful positions continues to exist, just as it happens with women. These groups are underrepresented because they have less access to the privileges that their Cau-

casian counterparts do. If that is not true, then check the high school and college dropout rates of these two communities and therein lies the answer.

Trayvon Martin and the racial divide

I hope Naff's position stems from fear of the unknown and a lack of exposure to what marginalized groups really go through in life. I believe there is bad reporting, as I believe that people make mistakes. Seeing the side of an unarmed African American teenager carrying a bag of Skittles who ended up dead is not only serious, but a grave situation that should not have happened. Had Trayvon Martin been a white unarmed kid, walking alone when a Black

neighborhood watch patroller (who was specifically told by the 911 operator not to follow him) pulled the trigger that killed him; it would have created such mayhem in each corner of the U.S. The actions and reactions would have been very different too. Let's just say that the Black patroller would have probably been in jail and would have been charged for the murder faster than Zimmerman was. It's almost just as

clear as FEMA's response was when Katrina hit the Louisiana coast—in the eyes of the marginalized groups.

Naff "criticized 29 national LGBT groups for speaking out against Trayvon's killing"

But, it does take more than a White man to understand this. Naff speaks from an egotistical position of power and utilizes his voice to minimize Martin's tragic death and how it resonates with the marginalized and allied communities. Think Progress stated "Naff instead criticized 29 national LGBT groups for speaking out against Trayvon's killing. From our perspective, Naff's is a misplaced screed that, more than anything, highlights the tone-deaf nature with which some LGBT leaders approach and understand issues of race." Again, I concur.

To understand race divide, unfairness, unworthiness, neglect, bigotry, and the constant struggle not to become a self-fulfilling prophecy, etc., someone has to be well informed, or has had to experience bigotry and racism him/herself or from a dear one. We have a Caucasian columnist, Rev. Jason Lydon, who very often writes about white and male privilege and how damaging they are for everyone. I am in accord with him. Unfortunately, we need more Lydon's out there and less Naff's. Naff's eyes are blind—blind to racial profiling, to ethnic discrimination, to unfair pay, treatment and lack of opportunities, and to the struggle of LGBT people of color here in the United States, amongst others.

Abruptly, Naff brings up Zimmerman's (alleged) Hispanic ancestry. Is his quest to somehow ameliorate the effects of the tragedy he so poorly refers to in his column? It seems better for Naff to excuse the situation if he thinks of Zimmerman's alleged Hispanic ancestry. Many people in this country, knowingly or not, have a Hispanic or mixed ancestry. Look at Mitt Romney, for instance, he has a Mexican ancestry. I have a Spanish European (more than half), Puerto Rican and minute French ancestry. Why is this important to bring up someone's ancestry during such a horrible act? Those are insensitive words aimed at creating more damage than unification in such times of duress. ...

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

How adults can involve themselves in the thriving youth LGBTQ movement in New England

By: **Jason Lydon***/TRT Columnist

Saturday, May 19, marks the 17th Annual Youth Pride March and rally in Boston.

I will never forget my first youth pride event. It was May 18, 1996 and I was in seventh grade. A good friend of mine from church told me about it and I convinced my mom to take us up to the statehouse. It was the first time I met other out queer youth and saw them hanging out with each other, holding hands, sneaking away to make out, while also cheering for the speakers on the statehouse steps. It was my inspiration to do queer organizing in my school, and remains a pivotal space for young queers today. My role

On May 19, though, you can travel across the state, or even in from another state, to Boston to cheer on and support young people at Youth Pride 2012! who will be marching in the streets.

as a young person was to lead in those spaces; the new lesson for me now is to think about what it means to be an authentic adult ally.

According to The History Project, Massachusetts queer student organizing began to be recognized in 1969, first with the Boston University Homophile Committee. Organizing expanded beyond BU and these combined efforts led to the Student Homophile League that worked to con-

nect statewide student homophile organizing. It's exciting to think of the parallel role LGBT youth organizations, AGLYs (Alliances for Gay and Lesbian Youth), play today.

Knowing our history and the role young people have played in the organizing of the LGBTQ movement gives us greater power as a movement. The responsibility that adult allies then have is to recognize what our responsibilities are. I know how fun it is to talk with young people about the days when I was a teenager and the knowledge I gained over the past decade. For those of you who are older than me, I imagine it's even more fun and you have even better stories to tell. Yet, that's not always what young people are looking for from us. We have the great opportunity to listen to the leadership of young people and learn what it means for organizing efforts to be youth-led, adult-supported.

If you are thinking, as Youth Pride is coming up, about what you can do, the first piece is to show up. I know that many of us have felt that sinking stomach feeling when we hear about bullying in school or young people who have been forced into homelessness. I know that I can feel so powerless in those moments. On May 19, though, you can travel across the state, or even in from another state, to Boston to cheer on ...

See Youth on Page 19

The Rainbow Times

The Freshest LGBT Newspaper in New England

www.therainbowtimesmass.com

editor@therainbowtimesnews.com
sales@therainbowtimesnews.com

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

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

The Rainbow Times is published monthly by The Rainbow Times, LLC. TRT is affiliated with the National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, CABO - The Connecticut Alliance for Business Opportunity, and QSyndicate. The articles written by the writers, columnists, and correspondents express their opinion, and do not represent the endorsement or opinion of The Rainbow Times, LLC or its owners. To write letters to the editor, please send your letters, with your name, address and phone number to: The Rainbow Times (address shown above), or e-mail any comment/s to the editor at: editor@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 its website. The whole content and graphics (photos, etc.) are the sole property of The Rainbow Times, LLC and they cannot be reproduced at all without TRT's consent.

Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

I'm proud to be a Bostonian and have Boston Pride as now a Human Rights organization too. Ohh thanks for supporting Boston Pride Rainbow Times! Anyway, the story about LGBT discrimination by Linda DeMarco and how she spoke about Russia, Iraq and then the F\$^#&d up St. Patrick's Parade in South Boston should make anyone from this country proud of Boston Pride and the stance they are taking. As an Irish-Scottish gay man, I'll never go to that Parade, nor will talk to any friend or family who does. To do so is to deny and disrespect myself.

—Jerry Johaneson, Boston, MA

Dear Editor,

Rev. Lydon's columns are timely with national issues and touch on topics that pertain to so many underserved groups. I don't know this man, but I'm proud of him. I always pick up The Times and I look for his columns because what he says is truly filled with all human rights. Thank you Rev. Lydon!

—Will Guzman, Hartford, CT

Senate vote keeps LGBT protections in domestic abuse bill

By: Lisa Keen*/Keen News Service

IN THE LIMELIGHT

A casual listener to U.S. Senate debate Thursday (April 26) would not have heard the skirmish over protections for LGBT victims of domestic abuse. Despite reports that Republicans were upset over new language in the Violence Against Women Act that would protect LGBT people, Republicans never said so on the floor of the Senate.

But Republicans led an effort to replace the original VAWA reauthorization bill with a substitute bill that would have eliminated all protections for LGBT victims of domestic abuse.

That Republican substitute bill was defeated Thursday on a vote of 37 yes to 63 no.

The Senate then went on to approve the original VAWA reauthorization bill by a vote of 68 yes to 31 no.

HRC said the VAWA passed by the Senate is "a comprehensive, cost-effective strategy for combatting domestic violence" but that version introduced by Republicans in the House on Friday "ignores the priorities of more than 2,000 law enforcement, court, prosecution, legal services, and victim services professionals from across the country."

The votes seemed to usher in a new era of Democratic support for including protections and benefits for LGBT in legislation, as well as a quieter yet more menacing tactic by Republicans to stop such protections by pitting them against children.

Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison (R-Texas), who introduced and co-authored the substitute bill with Senator Charles Grassley (R-Iowa),

couched the Republican substitute as one that kept the "most important" parts of the original legislation while strengthening protections for children against sexual predators.

The Hutchison-Grassley substitute form of the Violence Against Women Act (VAWA) removed the terms "sexual orientation" and "gender identity" from throughout the original VAWA reauthorization bill. Hutchison argued that the substitute still protected same-sex couples by "neutralizing" language referring to victims. She referred to "men who have been gang raped" as an example of such violence.

The original version of this year's VAWA



reauthorization bill, approved only by Democrats on the Judiciary Committee and passed by the Senate Thursday, includes language specifying that VAWA-funded programs not discriminate based on the sexual orientation or gender identity of a victim.

It also includes funding for "underserved" populations "who face

barriers in accessing and using victim services because of geographic location, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, underserved racial and ethnic populations, populations underserved because of special needs (such as language barriers, disabilities, alienage status, or age), and

any other population determined to be underserved by the Attorney General or by the Secretary of Health and Human Services, as appropriate."

And it provides that certain grants under the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act can be used for "developing, enlarging, or strengthening programs and projects to provide services and responses targeting male and female victims of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking, whose ability to access traditional services and responses is affected by their sexual orientation or gender identity."

The Hutchison-Grassley substitute bill's provision concerning non-discrimination included all categories of the original bill except for sexual orientation and gender identity. It defined "underserved populations" the same as the original bill except that it eliminated those who face barriers due to religion, sexual orientation, and gender identity. And it gutted a section concerning grants by deleting language concerning "male and female victims...whose ability to access traditional services and responses is affected by their sexual orientation or gender identity."

Senator Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee, criticized the Republican substitute as undermining the "core principles" of the original bill. He said it "strips out key provisions to protect all victims...including victims in same-sex relationships."

Leahy was one of only a few Democratic senators to talk about specifically about LGBT victims of domestic violence. Many others — in-

See Senate Page 30

SIDNEY BORUM JR.  HEALTH CENTER

ARE YOU A YOUNG PERSON WHO

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

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

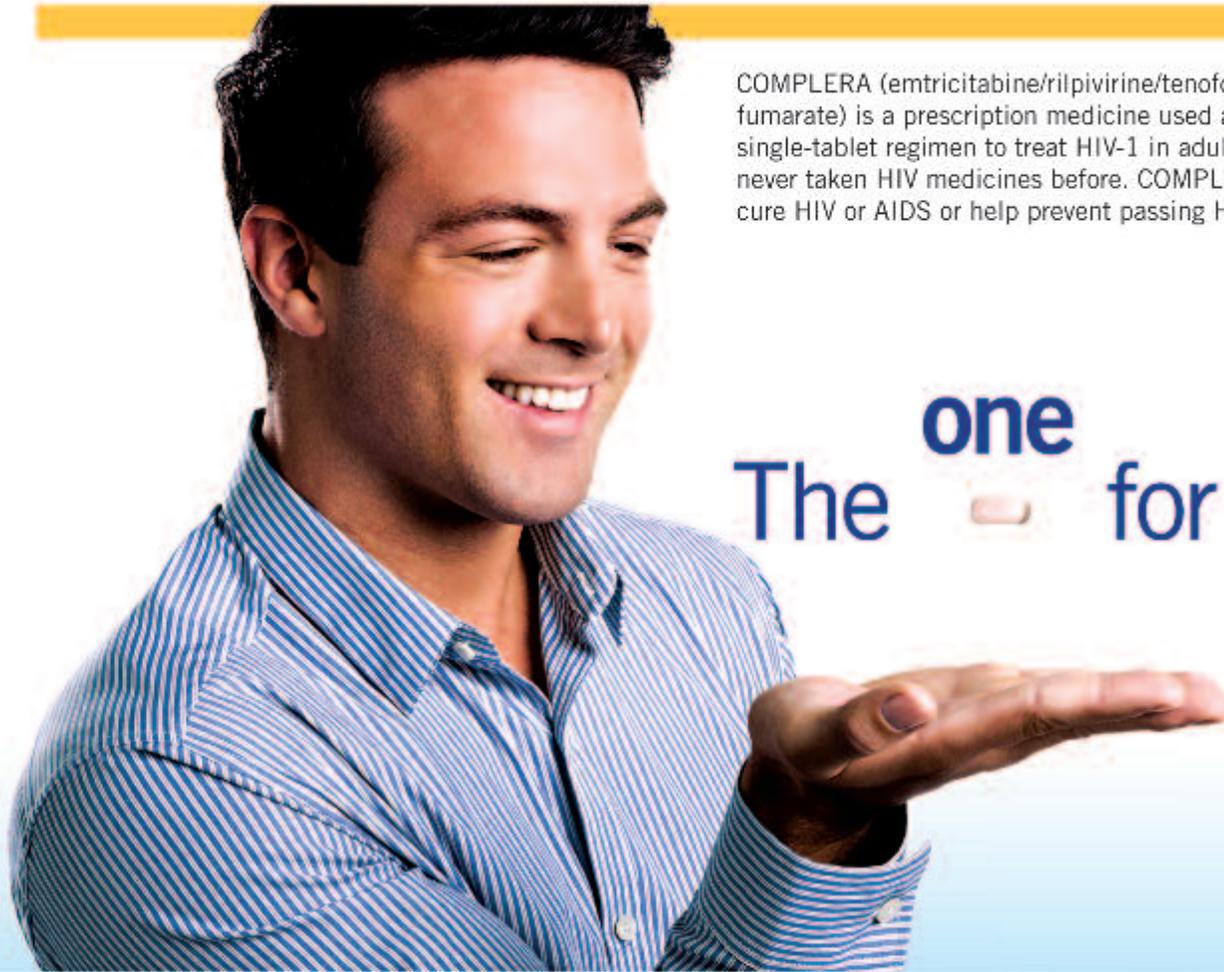
We provide safe, non-judgmental care and support for young people ages 12-29 who may not feel comfortable going anywhere else. Just call us at 617.457.8140 and make an appointment or stop in Monday-Friday after 1 p.m. and we'll see you at the next opening in our schedule. We can help you get health insurance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

130 Boylston Street Boston, MA 02116 www.sidneyborum.org
Monday+Friday 8:45 a.m.—5 p.m. Tuesday-Thursday 8:45 a.m.—7 p.m.



617.457.8140

COM 11.063



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

The **one**  for me

Patient model. Pill shown is not actual size.

INDICATION

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

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

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Save up to
\$200
per month

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

Call 1-877-505-6986 for more information or visit www.COMPLERA.com.*



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

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

Before taking COMPLERA, tell your healthcare provider if you:

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

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

Serious side effects associated with COMPLERA:

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

Common side effects associated with COMPLERA:

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

Other side effects associated with COMPLERA:

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

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

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

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

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

Please see Patient Information for COMPLERA on the following pages.

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



COMPLERA®
emtricitabine 200mg/rilpivirine 25mg/
tenofovir disoproxil fumarate 300mg tablets

Learn more at www.COMPLERA.com

FDA-Approved Patient Labeling

Patient Information

COMPLERA® (kom-PLER-rah)

(emtricitabine, rilpivirine and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate) Tablets

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

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

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

COMPLERA can cause serious side effects, including:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

What is COMPLERA?

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

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

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

COMPLERA may help:

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

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

COMPLERA does not cure HIV infections or AIDS.

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

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

Who should not take COMPLERA?

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

What should I tell my healthcare provider before taking COMPLERA?

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

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

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

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

Do not take COMPLERA if you also take these medicines:

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

If you are taking COMPLERA, you should not take:

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

Also tell your healthcare provider if you take:

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

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

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

How should I take COMPLERA?

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

What are the possible side effects of COMPLERA?

COMPLERA may cause the following serious side effects, including:

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

The most common side effects of COMPLERA include:

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

Additional common side effects include:

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

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

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

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

How do I store COMPLERA?

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

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

General information about COMPLERA:

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

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

What are the ingredients of COMPLERA?

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

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

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

Manufactured and distributed by:
Gilead Sciences, Inc.
Foster City, CA 94404

Issued: August 2011

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

© 2012 Gilead Sciences, Inc. All rights reserved.

202123-GS-000 02AUG2011 CON12407 3/12



First Argument Against DOMA at U.S. Court of Appeals First Circuit

By: Lisa Keen & Chuck Colbert/Keen News Service

IN THE LIMELIGHT

BOSTON, Mass.—The seventh-floor courtroom of the U. S. Court of Appeals for the First Circuit in Boston was packed to capacity. An overflow room equipped with closed circuit TV was provided for those not arriving early enough — shortly after 8 a.m. — for seating in the En Banc Hearing Room at the John Joseph Moakley U.S. Courthouse on the Boston waterfront.

The audience, most dressed in the dark business suits one normally associates with attorneys, was there to witness a historic event: The first argument against the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) in a federal appeals court. It was the case everybody knows is heading to the U.S. Supreme Court and, perhaps, for the history books, along with the 2003 Lawrence v. Texas which struck down laws against same-sex sexual relations.

Three of the four attorneys to argue that day were openly gay; and all three were arguing that DOMA should be struck down. The lone straight attorney before the bench would Paul Clement, a Republican legal celebrity, fresh off his high-profile challenge of President Obama's Affordable Care Act before the U.S. Supreme Court the week before.

The gathering had to sit, first, through a one-hour argument in an unrelated case, and when it was done, at 10 a.m., Chief Judge Sandra Lynch announced a brief recess to allow attorneys for the next case to move into place.

Clement, bespectacled and dressed in a gray



GLAD attorney Mary Bonauto

suit, sat on the far left side of the attorneys' table, with one or two other associates.

To Clement's right was openly gay attorney Stuart Delery, recently promoted at the U.S. Department of Justice to Acting Assistant Attorney General for the Civil Division—a step up after two years as senior counselor to Attorney General Eric Holder.

Legal gay icon Mary Bonauto of Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders, the group which championed the historic case that led to same-sex marriages in the United States being legally recognized for the first-time ever, in Massachusetts, sat near the center, in a dark navy business pantsuit. Bonauto sported fashionable reading

glasses.

Bonauto sat next to Paul Smith, the tall, red-headed openly gay attorney who argued and won the landmark 2003 U.S. Supreme Court decision, Lawrence v. Texas. Smith had served as co-operating counsel with GLAD for the plaintiffs in the case. Smith is also working on a similar lawsuit with GLAD in the federal district court of Connecticut.

To Smith's right sat Maura Healey, an assistant attorney general for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Healey, like Bonauto, had argued against DOMA at the district court level, in the same courthouse on different days just 11 months earlier. And Healey had just been promoted, from chief of the Massachusetts Attorney General's Civil Rights Division to chief of the AG's Bureau of Public Protection and Advocacy, which oversees Civil Rights, Health Care, Antitrust, Environmental Protection, Consumer Protection, and Insurance and Financial Services.

To Healey's right was her successor as chief of the state civil rights division, Jonathan Miller, whose wife gave birth to their first child just a few months ago.

On the bench were the First Circuit's three most senior judges: 66-year-old Chief Judge Lynch in the center, 78-year-old Judge Juan Torruella, to the left, and 72-year-old Michael Boudin, to the right.

Reporters were not permitted to bring tape recorders, laptops, cell phones, or any other electronic devices inside the courtroom, and many were kvetching with mock horror that they would have to be relying on pen and paper to take notes for the historic event. Courtroom artist

Jane F. Collins was employing her pastels and paper in a remarkably accurate rendering of the three justices and the backs of Clement and Healey for the New England Cable News channel.

Massachusetts Attorney General Martha Coakley was in the front row of the public section, behind Clement and in an animated discussion with people nearby. She was much in the news that day and the day before for indicting the former state treasurer on misuse of state resources. She would be back in front of microphones after this argument, explaining the state's opposition to DOMA to the public. Also in the public section was former state Supreme Judicial Court Justice Judith Cowin. Cowin, generally seen as a conservative, voted with the majority in 2003, saying the state constitution guarantee same-sex couples the right to marry.

The one-hour argument was divided up: Clement and Delery would each get 20 minutes and Bonauto and Healey would each get 10.

A few minutes into Clement's 20 minutes, a court staffer walked from the back of the courtroom up to the bench and spoke quietly with Chief Judge Lynch while Clement continued responding to a question from Torruella. Boudin leaned in and listened, too. It is quite rare for court staff to interrupt a judge hearing oral arguments. Lynch made no comment about the interruption during the rest of the proceeding, but it was apparently news that the court's audio equipment was malfunctioning. The first 18 minutes of the one-hour argument were not reco-

Read the rest of this story online at TRT's website at: <http://bit.ly/HidF9D>

ALL AGES RAIN OR SHINE

JAMAICA PLAIN LUAAU BLOCK PARTY

Dyke Night™ boston pride.

SUNDAY JUNE 10TH
PERKINS ST, JAMAICA PLAIN
12PM-7PM, ALL AGES (21+ TO DRINK)

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

T JACKSON (ORANGE) HEATH (GREEN, E LINE) PERKINS (39 BUS)

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION: WWW.DYKENIGHT.COM OR WWW.BOSTONPRIDE.ORG

Newly remodeled Red Roof® is a “proud” supporter of Boston Pride

COLUMBUS, Ohio—Red Roof®, a leader in the economy lodging segment is proud to announce their partnership with *The Rainbow Times* (TRT) in welcoming the Lesbian, Gay, Bi, and Transgendered (LGBT) Community and Association members to Boston Pride Week 2012, June 1-10. As a TAG Approved® property location, the Boston-Logan property in Saugus, MA General Manager Mike Ciulla “hopes LGBT travelers take advantage of this opportunity to stay at Red Roof for their Pride week needs.”

Brand new renovation & redesign

Boston Pride Week 2012 comes on the heels of the property’s completion of their NextGen® renovation. The Saugus property renovations are part of the brand-wide \$90 million NextGen redesigned interior and exterior prototype, which debuted in December 2011 at the Miami International Airport. The new NextGen rooms satisfy travelers’ desires, mimicking many traditional comforts of home, including enhanced technology and electronic amenities.

Superior rest beds, contemporary look

This overarching look of the 117-room NextGen property is stylish, contemporary, residential and welcoming. The new interiors, including public spaces and rooms, convey a warm, home-like feel to travelers through the use of neutral tones and materials. New features include updated wood-like flooring, new area carpeting, window treatments, and paint, including a signature red accent wall, as well as updated duvet and bed skirts. The design also features new bathroom vessels and sinks, seating, artwork, 32-inch flat screen Panasonic® televisions in standard rooms and 37-inch flat screen Panasonic® televisions in Superior King rooms, as well as Superior Rest Suite Beds by Serta®.

Centrally located

The hotel is located at 920 Broadway, Saugus, MA 01906. Located 10 miles Northeast of Downtown Boston and 2.5 miles Northwest of Downtown Saugus, Red Roof Inn Boston-Logan is filled with delightful happenings every day. Surrounded by excellent restaurants and attractions, the Red Roof Inn Boston-Logan is close to Fuddrucker’s, Starbucks and Friendly’s, among others.

This hotel participates in RediCard®, Red Roof’s loyalty program. RediCard members are the first to hear about Red Roof’s best deals, travelers may visit www.redroof.com and sign up to become a member. Red Roof’s

RediCard members receive 48 hours advance notice of promotions and exclusive offers available at Red Roof.

For more information or to reserve a room at this Red Roof property, please contact 781.941.1400 or visit www.redroof.com. (You can also take a look at the hotel amenities, photos and more via the ad on this page).

About Red Roof®

Red Roof® is a leader in the economy hotel segment with both franchised and corporate-owned properties, serving millions of guests each year. The company and hotels are known for a warm and welcoming spirit, along with their Smart-by-Design®, value-added amenities that are simple, yet economical, and meet the needs of every guest. With coast-to-coast locations, Red Roof has nearly 350 properties in the U.S. The primary goal at Red Roof is to provide customers a savings without sacrificing comfort, most recently the brand has announced a multi-million dollar investment to renovate and upgrade hotels nationwide with sleek and modern NextGen® redesign elements. Red Roof’s new NextGen hotels will feature updated stylish and home-like interior and exterior designs that demonstrate Red Roof’s dedication to providing customers with an affordable stay in a clean, comfortable, and now, modern room. Red Roof guests consistently see the brand excelling in expectation and quality in both product and price. Nice Place. Nice Price.® is what every consumer can expect when they stay at any one of our hotel locations; and because our company has a single brand in our portfolio, Red Roof also offers franchisees One Brand. One Focus.™ Most recently, Red Roof launched its Nicest Price® advance purchase option, which rewards guests who reserve and pay for their room in advance. The Columbus, Ohio-based company has more than 4,500 employees. For more information or reservations, call 800.RED.ROOF (800.733.7663) or visit redroof.com.

About TRT

The Rainbow Times is a minority owned-half women and half Hispanic, 100% gay-publication. As a New England LGBT newspaper found in 2006 – first based out of Northampton, soon moving to Boston – The Rainbow Times is a liaison that increases awareness of LGBT issues and serves as a vehicle to unify and strengthen the communities throughout the New England region while providing quality news to its diverse readers.



We warmly welcome all LGBT travelers with a clean, comfortable and affordable stay, every day.

Enjoy the perfect location with nearby shopping, dining and sightseeing. We offer more than you’d ever expect from an economy hotel:

- Free Wi-Fi, local calls, long-distance calls in the continental U.S. and up to 10 fax pages in the continental U.S.
- #1 in Customer Satisfaction — online reviews, *Market Metrix*, 2010 & 2011
- All new rooms with contemporary furniture and bathrooms with granite countertops
- Interior corridors and elevator
- In-room coffee, hair dryer and iron/ironing board
- Superior King Rooms with large workstation, in-room coffee, microwave and refrigerator
- In-lobby Business Center
- Free USA Today® newspaper
- Free HBO®, HBO2®, ESPN®, ESPN2®, TNT®, USA®, Fox News®, CNN®, GAC®, Discovery Channel® and more
- In-room safe
- Children 17 and under stay free
- Pets stay free



Red Roof Boston-Logan

920 Broadway • Saugus, MA 01906
phone: 781.941.1400

For reservations visit redroof.com or call 800.RED.ROOF (800.733.7663)

thanks to you,
we've reached 7K...
meet us now on our fan page!
search **“rainbow times”** to join us!

THE ROYAL PAGEANT
 CELEBRATING WORLDWIDE PRIDE!
 MEET **LATRICE ROYALE**
 FROM **RuPUAL'S DRAG RACE**
 HOSTED BY **Lakia MONDALE & Raquel BLAKE**
06.04.2012
VIP ADMISSION 6:30 - 7PM
GENERAL ADMISSION 7PM
\$15 ADMISSION - \$25 VIP
 @ **MACHINE NIGHT CLUB**
 1254 Boylston Street
 Boston, MA 02215
 The Rainbow Times
 boston pride

Boston Pride Celebrates Youth Pride

By: **Linda DeMarco/Boston Pride President**

Boston Pride, now more than ever, encompasses the entire spectrum of the LGBT community from A to Z, from cradle to grave, from young to young-at-heart. This year, Boston Pride is thrilled to bring Youth Pride under our wing as the event has transitioned from "The Friends of GLBT Youth." As an older member of the Pride community, I believe it is our responsibility to help our LGBT youth as they struggle with some of the same issues that we had in coming out, and finding a safe and nurturing community with which to share our experiences.

If the recent news is any indication, there has been a significant uptick in violence and discrimination against LGBT people in general, and in particular, against youth. From the tragic suicide last month of

Iowa teen Kenneth Weishuhn to the recent edict by Saudia Arabia's government to banish gays and "tom boys" from schools and universities to laws in Russia that would limit information about LGBT issues, we daily see why Pride organizations need to have a special focus on youth.

Retracing the history of the state's Youth Pride takes us back to 1992 when then-Governor William F. Weld created the first-in-the-nation Governor's Commission on Gay and Lesbian Youth in response to appalling statistics from a Center for Disease Control Prevention study that showed LGBT youth were much more likely to attempt suicide than their heterosexual peers. At the time, the Governor termed the findings "shocking." After Weld left office, Governor A. Paul Cellucci continued the Commonwealth's commitment by issuing an Executive Order in 1998 to renew the Commission, expand its powers and enhance the executive office's commitment to combat suicide and violence affecting gay and lesbian youth. During the administration of Governor Mitt Romney, funding was cut dramatically and the Commission was ultimately abolished. But the effort continued when a core group of individuals created the "Friends of GLBT Youth," a non-profit organization that has been providing funding for Youth Pride since 2005. Then, in 2006, the state legislature created a new Massachusetts Commission on Gay and Lesbian



Youth.

Boston Pride now has full oversight and responsibility of producing Youth Pride. Youth Pride will continue to be dedicated to eradicating homophobia and transphobia in order to allow all young gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people the opportunity to reach their full potential. Youth Pride works with youth and teens to provide them with knowledge and courage to be who they are in today's society.

Youth Pride is on Saturday, May 19th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the Boston Common. There will be a parade and festival for all to enjoy.

There will be an event to celebrate Youth Pride on Saturday, May 19th from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on the Boston Common. There will be a parade and festival for all to enjoy. So if you are in the neighborhood, whether you're an LGBT youth or an adult ally, please stop by and support Youth Pride. We are pleased to be working with LGBT youth in the community, who continue to be the driving force behind the parade and festival and in helping us understand the needs of young people in our community.

Now, for more on Boston Pride 2012 Festival and Parade ... We have a great lineup of entertainers for the Festival on June 9 featuring Alexis Jordan, Rye Rye and Kerli. We are thrilled to be bringing these great musical acts to City Hall Plaza after the Parade. On Friday, June 1st, the week kicks off with a Flag Raising ceremony at City Hall Plaza, followed by the family-friendly Pride Day @ Faneuil Hall on Saturday, June 2. Throughout the week, we'll have events that will appeal to everyone from the Pride Pageant to Pride Idol, Boston Youth Pride Dance and to end the week, the famous Block Parties on Sunday, June 10th. This year, the Back Bay block party has been moved to St. James Avenue from Stuart Street, but it will still have the same great vibe. And our JP Block party, being co-produced with Dyke Night this year, is going to be better than ever!

For the latest updates on Boston Pride 2012 events and programs. Please visit our website: www.bostonpride.org. See you in Boston!

it could be partner abuse

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

617.742.4911 (v) 617.227.4911 (tty)

- bilingual hotline
- emergency shelter
- support group

- línea de crisis bilingüe
- refugio de emergencia
- grupo de apoyo

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

**puede ser el
abuso de
pareja íntima**



World class care in action.

Baystate Medical Center has a national reputation for quality care. We are a Magnet® Hospital for nursing excellence and we've helped Baystate Health become one of the Top 15 Health Systems in the United States (Thomson Reuters).

Just a few years ago, we envisioned a world class facility that would help us make the best care even better. Now open, our expansion, featuring the Davis Family Heart & Vascular Center, is a symbol of what's possible when a community comes together.

Our magnificent hospital expansion brings you privacy, comfort, and the latest technology configured in a way that breaks new ground for heart and vascular care. Patients benefit from special surgical suites where caregivers deliver a full range of therapies—from imaging to surgery—in one place, saving precious time.

This is just a part of the world class medicine available today at Baystate Medical Center, where the best care keeps getting better.

*Take a virtual tour of the new Baystate Medical Center at
baystatehealth.org/expansion.*



Davis Family
Heart & Vascular Center
at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, MA

DIVERSITYSM
Includes Everyone

Ask your physician for a referral to a Baystate cardiovascular specialist.

Pride in Your Gayborhood

NOHO PRIDE

May 12, 2012
www.site.nohopride.org

BOSTON YOUTH PRIDE

May 19
www.bostonpride.org/youth-pride/

CAPITAL PRIDE (NY)

May 30-June 10
www.capitalpride.org/

BOSTON PRIDE

June 1-10
www.bostonpride.org

CT PRIDE

TBA,
www.connecticutpride.org/

LONG ISLAND PRIDE

June 9
http://lipride.org/

RHODE ISLAND PRIDE

June 15-17
www.prideri.com/

SOUTH MAINE PRIDE

June 16
www.southernmainepride.org/

NEW HAMPSHIRE PRIDE

June 16
http://bit.ly/HyZh0V

NYC PRIDE

June 16-24
www.nycpride.org/

TORONTO PRIDE

June 22-July 1
www.pridetoronto.com/

VERMONT PRIDE

Sept. 22
www.pridevt.com/

LATINO PRIDE (SEPT.)

LGBT Coalition of WMA wins voters "Best Of Local Activist Organization" award from local paper

By: Christine Nicco/TRT Reporter

NORTHAMPTON, Mass.—For seventeen years the Valley Advocate has worked on that special section, now widely recognized in western Massachusetts — the "Best Of Awards." A select number of area businesses and organizations are inducted into this "recognition" for their work. This year, a very young organization received the "Best Local Activist Honor" for a local activist organization. Such an organization is the LGBT Coalition of Western Massachusetts.

"We are honored and humbled to have been bestowed such a great recognition from our community. It's great that our hard work and dedication has been recognized!" said Suzanne Seymour, Executive Director. "The more people know we exist, the greater the possibilities are of what we can accomplish, so with that said, we are very happy!"

Holding LGBT youth and adult events in Northampton, Florence, Springfield and Holyoke, the LGBT Coalition has had what appears to be a very busy schedule since the organization came to fruition. Such work seems to have paid off, as the "Best Of" demonstrates.

"The Coalition has been working very hard, since our establishment in 2009, to bring change to our community, and apparently, someone has noticed," said Seymour.

Second place for the Best "Local Activist Or-

ganization" went to National Priorities Project, from Northampton, a financial organization. Third place went to Citizens for the Revitalization and Urban Success of Holyoke (C.R.U.S.H.).

Although Seymour did not know the organizations vying for the award, she was aware of the process of "casting votes" of the preferred organizations.

Since the Coalition won third place in the 2011 Best of the Valley poll, Seymour was hoping that they would move up this

year. "First place is such an absolute joy to have received."

The LGBT Coalition's work in 2011 and 2012 seem to be what the voters saw when they selected them as the winners for this award. The organization's commitment to advocacy work for the LGBT community is apparent especially in youth areas and others with special needs.

"Last year we surveyed Western Mass Gay-Straight Alliances to determine what their needs were. We asked, they spoke, we listened!" explained Seymour. "We started off the year celebrating the first-ever National GSA Day in Springfield, with over 100 young people present, from six different Springfield area high schools and two colleges. We are part of the Stop the Hate and Homophobia group which has actively brought attention to local anti-gay minister, Scott Lively. We were also a part of the vigil and march through Springfield



See The Best Of on page 21

celebrating 30 years of worldwide PRIDE movement

PRIDE WEEK

BOSTON, MA | JUNE 1-10, 2012

FRI.	SAT.					
1 FLAG RAISING	2 PRIDE DAY AT FANEUIL HALL					
PRIDE @ NIGHT: VENUS IN RETROGRADE						
SUN.	MON.	TUES.	WED.	THURS.	FRI.	SAT.
3 LGBT SENIOR TEA DANCE	4 ROYAL PAGEANT	5 PRIDE @ NIGHT: CAMBRIDGE EDITION @ PARADISE	6 PRIDE IDOL FINALE	7 PRIDE @ NIGHT: GLAMLIFE @ ESTATE	8 PRIDE @ NIGHT: GUILT @ UNDERBAR	9 PRIDE PARADE & FESTIVAL ESME WOMEN'S BLOCK PARTY BOSTON PRIDE YOUTH DANCE
			PRIDE @ NIGHT: RUMOR PRIDE KICK OFF PARTY			PRIDE @ NIGHT: - EPIC @ HOUSE OF BLUES - 2ND SATURDAYS @ MACHINE - RISE AFTER HOURS
SUN.	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;"> <div style="width: 15%; padding-right: 10px;"> 10 BLOCK PARTIES: - JP EDITION - BACK BAY EDITION PRIDE @ NIGHT: CLOSING PARTY @ ROYALE </div> <div> <h2 style="margin: 0;">SING. DANCE. MARCH. CELEBRATE. GIVE. VOLUNTEER.</h2> <p style="margin: 0;">Boston Pride is proud to offer you a broad range of events and activities for Pride Week. In conjunction with our Community Partners, we aim to bring people together, stir the mind, shake up the dance floor, create safe and healthy spaces and make an impact. This year, we are celebrating 30 years of worldwide pride, and we want all of you to join in the fun and have a great time.</p> </div> </div>					

boston pride

Your attendance at official events helps support Boston Pride.

Come. Stay. Mingle. Play.

Paradise City Arts Festival

“WILD AND WONDERFUL!”

—Boston Globe

**Memorial Day Weekend
May 26, 27 & 28**

Handmade in America

**Furniture • Jewelry • Painting • Ceramics
Wearable Art • Garden Sculpture • and more!**

Meet 260 of the nation's finest artists and master craft designers from 30 states, bringing their newest and best work.

Live on the Soundstage!

Saturday: Samirah Evans and Her Handsome Devils

Sunday: North of Dixieland, New Orleans hot jazz

Memorial Day: Charles Neville Band!

Sensational Cuisine! Get ready for the tastiest Festival ever...

Dine on Cajun gumbo and shrimp po' boys, dim sum and pad thai, fresh lobster rolls, spicy curry and strawberry shortcake, just a sampling of the culinary masterpieces cooked up by your favorite local chefs at Paradise City.

Eastside Grill ■ Paradise City Tavern ■ Amber Waves ■ Great Wall Chinese ■ Spoleto Pizzeria Paradiso ■ India House ■ Bart's Homemade Ice Cream ■ Wine Bar



**Dakin
Humane Society**

Benefit Silent Art Auction!

Support Dakin's animal welfare programs.
Every adoptable animal deserves a home!

NORTHAMPTON, MA

Indoors & Under Tents at the 3 County Fairgrounds

Route 9 • I-91 Exit 19 or 20 • **FREE PARKING!**

Saturday & Sunday 10am-6pm; Monday 10am-4pm • More info: 800-511-9725

\$12 adults, \$10 seniors, \$8 students, 12 and under free, three-day pass \$15.



Frost & Emery - Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, carved and painted wood



Levin - Harp, birch and beads



Hyde - We-see Wolf from "Wild Things"



Samirah Evans



for show information and discount admission coupon:

www.paradisecityarts.com

Come to the #3 Art and Craft Fair in America!



Jane Fonda, Brittany S. Pierce, Harmony Korine, Steel Magnolias

By: Romeo San Vicente*/Special for TRT

DEEP INSIDE HOLLYWOOD



The Butler's conservative icon: Jane Fonda

Jane Fonda has spent her entire life working for liberal causes when she wasn't busy building a career as one of our most acclaimed actresses. And if you're old enough to remember the era when she was disparagingly referred to as "Hanoi Jane," you'll know that she wasn't afraid to court controversy and right-wing scorn in the process. Now, in her eighth decade, she's going to court a little more by playing Nancy Reagan in gay director Lee Daniels' (*Precious*) new film *The Butler*. A biopic of White House butler Eugene Allen, who worked for a string of Presidents from 1952 to 1986, Daniels is currently in talks with Forest Whitaker to take on the title role. And with an African-American filmmaker in charge of a production about a black man in a domestic service position, here's hoping the finished product can avoid the kind of negative press that followed last year's *The Help*. Of course, no matter how the movie turns out, Fox News is going to get a lot of mileage out of it.

Glee's Brittany S. Pierce meets *Kids*' Harmony Korine

Indie filmmaker Harmony Korine is no stranger to the weird. He's built an outsider-cool reputation thanks to his early script for the '90s drama *Kids* and his later increasingly bizarre films *Gummo* (about trailer park Americana), *Mister Lonely* (about a commune populated by celebrity impersonators who live each day as their chosen alter ego) and *Trash Humpers* (about... well, the title explains it). So what's next for the daring director? How about a spring break action-comedy featuring America's favorite teenage lesbian cheerleader? *Glee*'s Heather Morris has joined the cast of Korine's *Spring Breakers*, a head-scratching detour about four college girls who rob a restaurant to fund their spring break vacation, only to fall in with a gang of drug and arms dealers who want them to work full time on the opposite side of the law. And Morris isn't the only stunt-casting move here. Rounding out the cast is James Franco, Vanessa Hudgens, Selena Gomez and *Pretty Little Liars* regular Ashley Benson. Get ready, tweens, Harmony



Dolly Parton

Korine is coming to corrupt you.

Steel Magnolias: the TV movie

If you never saw the original 1989 film version of *Steel Magnolias* with Dolly Parton and Julia Roberts then you've got a little catching up to do on the subjects of Southern idiosyncrasy, female bonding, the trouble with men, the fragility of life and the importance of a good hairstyle (it's all centered around a beauty salon). A huge hit and an enduring touchstone of gay culture, it was, therefore, a no-brainer that Lifetime would want to get behind a small-screen remake. Even smarter? Executive producer Queen Latifah (still not an official lesbian, for the record) has assembled an all-black cast filled with beloved names like Phylicia Rashad, Jill Scott, Latifah herself and newcomers like lesbian indie film *Pariah*'s breakout star Adepero Oduye. Talk about crossing demographic boundaries. This is probably going to call for a girls night in when it finally hits the airwaves.

Let's start the boycott of *Ender's Game* now
Sci-fi author Orson Scott Card hates gays. That's the first thing you should know. Like,

he *really* hates gays. Just Google some of the things he's said about us. It's Santorum-level stuff. He actively fights civil rights laws. He's on the board of the anti-gay group, the National Organization for Marriage. And that's why it's more than a little disconcerting to report that his most famous novel, *Ender's Game*, a modern sci-fi classic, is about to get the big-budget, big screen treatment from *X-Men Origins: Wolverine* director Gavin Hood. It will star *Hugo*'s Asa Butterfield as Ender, Harrison Ford, Viola Davis, Abigail Breslin, Hailee Steinfeld and Sir Ben Kingsley. Expect hardcore sci-fi fans to geek out and look the other way, gay sci-fi fans to feel conflicted, Card apologists to lecture you on how to separate the art from the artist and Hollywood to pretend like they haven't just bankrolled Maggie Gallagher a little more. Coming soon to a multiplex near you.

*Romeo San Vicente likes science fiction best when its creators respect science. He can be reached care of this publication or at DeeplnsideHollywood@qsyndicate.com.

Thinking Out Loud: Why we have to have political power to prove that we don't have political power

By: Abby Dees*/Special for TRT



I've often thought I should write a column called, "Weird Things Lawyers Do," to explain to normal people why attorneys, like me, spend so much time arguing about meaningless points. If you read any of the Prop 8 federal trial transcripts you may have noticed that a lot of that trial was spent arguing about whether LGBT people had political power. It was a classic case of lawyers bringing everything to a standstill to fight like feral cats about something totally off topic.

But that question does, in fact, matter a lot.

The reason why the issue of LGBT political power is so important in any LGBT discrimination case is this: Discrimination lawsuits are usually the remedy of last resort, so the courts want to make sure that there's a very good reason for them to step in. One of the ways they look at this is by asking how much political power the targeted group has to fight for its rights on its own.

When you have a majority of people voting for something like Prop 8 based on their firmly held (if completely delusional) beliefs, the court doesn't want to up-end the voter's will without first finding out if that's really the only way for the targeted group to adequately defend itself. Think back to high school civics and all that stuff about checks and balances. The court is supposed to check the overreach of legislators or even voters, but they can't go overboard and thereby undermine the democratic process. Therefore, to challenge the tyranny of the majority in court, we have to prove we're politically powerless first.

We're in an odd situation now. We've made so much progress that we have HRC schmoozing with the president, gay marriage in maybe 8 states by next year, a gay cable channel and "girlfriend" jeans for men. Can we really say that we have no political power? Isn't that the point of all this awareness work, to increase our clout as a community?

The campaign against Prop 8 generated millions of dollars and we had people like George Clooney and Brad Pitt on our side. On either side, it was perhaps the largest ballot initiative campaign in any state ever. So it makes me cringe a little that we have to act all victim-y in court to fight for our civil rights. And yet we do.

I struggled watching this play out, knowing as an attorney that there were good reasons to claim this powerlessness, but still feeling like some important fact was missing. It didn't make sense to me that as we got closer to equality as a community, the courts would be less inclined to support our equality.

I finally figured it out this month at a conference of LGBT law and policy wonks who came together just to look at this issue. First of all, if you haven't already noticed, the other side really likes to turn the oppression narrative around on us. As I discussed in my last column, they are spending big money to disseminate the idea that we are bullying them into silence. Poor homophobes are suffering no less than full PTSD from retaliation by very mean and powerful gay people. A panelist at the conference I attended read examples of this harassment from witness declarations: Gay people gave Prop 8 supporters dirty looks at the local country club, sons wrote disapproving letters to parents expressing sadness at their support for the measure. Hair-curling stuff.

I'd like to call bulls*&t on this silly rhetoric and remind people, again, what kind of damage homophobia still does to our community, especially our young members, despite any political gains we've made.

Second, as law professor Kenji Yashino explained, this whole "political power" thing is a catch-22. Courts won't give you the time of day if you're truly politically powerless. Of the top of my head, I would guess that homeless people haven't exactly hit pay dirt in court, for example. In other words, to win, you have to have enough political power to hire the people and the consultants to demonstrate that you don't have enough political power to do that. Yep, lawyers are weird.

THE THEATER OFFENSIVE & HIBERNIAN HALL present

THE SECRET HISTORY OF LOVE

Featuring stories from Diego Sánchez, Marilyn Monteiro, Laura Godtfredsen & Frank Lapiana

AWARD WINNING TRANSGENDER CHOREOGRAPHER SEAN DORSEY DANCE

May 17-19
Hibernian Hall
184 Dudley St, Roxbury

BUY YOUR TICKETS TODAY WWW.THETHEATROFFENSIVE.ORG

THANK YOU TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS

DANCE • MUSIC • THEATER • VISUAL ARTS



Exposing all Generations to the Wonders of the *Arts*

Fine Arts Center
UMass Amherst
www.fineartscenter.com
1-800-999-UMAS

Successful Counseling for Adults, Children, and Families



Flexible appointment times • Evening hours available
Most insurance plans accepted

Amherst 549.0095	Northampton 584.6855	Holyoke 533.5201	Greenfield 772.2935
---------------------	-------------------------	---------------------	------------------------

www.servicenet.org  Innovative mental health and human services

The Highlands Inn
A Lesbian Paradise



Bethlehem, NH • 1 603 869-3978
http://www.highlandsinn-nh.com

A little New England.
A little New Orleans.



EASTSIDE
GRILL

19 Strong Ave • Downtown Northampton
413.586.3347 • eastsidegrill.com

GRILLED STEAKS • SEAFOOD • CAJUN FOOD

NORTHAMPTON PRIDE WEEK



2012

Rainbow Times

This Pride Map is brought to you in its entirety by The Rainbow Times.

NOHO PRIDE FESTIVAL

PRIDE FESTIVAL
The 2012 Pride Festival will take place at the **TRI-COUNTY FAIR-GROUNDS**, the last stop on the Parade route! There you'll find live entertainment, vendors, food, and a kid's area.

NEW PARADE ROUTE!



NOHO PRIDE PARADE 2012

START 12PM: HAMPTON AVE.

19 STRONG AVE. EASTSIDE

CONTINGENCY STAGING AREA

THE NORTHAMPTON PRIDE MAP IS PRODUCED IN ITS ENTIRETY BY THE RAINBOW TIMES, THE FRESHEST LGBT NEWSPAPER IN NEW ENGLAND.

The Rainbow Times

I Take Pride in NORTHAMPTON!




Jones Group Realtors
5 Franklin Street, Northampton, MA
OFFICE: 413-585-0400, Ext. 6932
DIRECT: 413-387-6932 • CELL: 413-320-1284
EMAIL: smeade@JonesRealtors.com
FAX: 413-586-5550 • EFAX: 413-387-6933

Sherri Meade
Realtor® - ABR

PRIDE WEEKEND PARTIES

Friday 5/11
DYKE DANCE
WWII Club/The Deuce
8pm-midnight
To benefit **InterPride**

Sat. 5/12
PRIDE BY THE POOLSIDE
Clarion Pavillion
4pm-10pm

FMI: LGBTCoalitionwma.org **LGBT COALITION**

JACOB'S PILLOW DANCE
80TH ANNIVERSARY FESTIVAL



June 20-August 26
Tickets start at \$22!

300 events • 50 dance companies • free talks & shows • exhibits • onsite dining
Tickets: 413.243.0745 • jacobspillow.org

SAVE THE DATE!

OUT IN THE PARK

GO BIG. GO PROUD.
Sunday, September 21-22, 2012

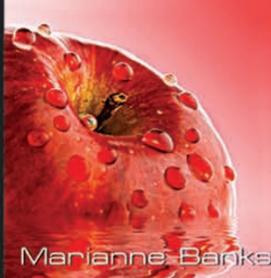


- ✓ Private Party Friday Night Includes FREE ticket for Saturday!
- ✓ JUJUBEE - Back by Popular Demand!
- ✓ Plus MORE to be announced!

For more information visit OUTINTHEPARK.INFO



GROWING UP DELICIOUS



A hilarious debut novel by Marianne Banks
www.growingupdelicious.com

Marianne Banks

CELEBRATING OUR DIFFERENCES BRINGS US TOGETHER.



Citizens Bank
GOOD BANKING IS GOOD CITIZENSHIP™

Member FDIC. Citizens Bank is RBS Citizens, N.A. 113048

DRS. MACKLER, SIUREK AND ASSOCIATES
GENERAL DENTISTRY FOR CHILDREN & ADULTS
 Frederic S. Mackler, D.M.D.
 Eugene L. Siurek, D.D.S.
PERIODONTICS & DENTAL IMPLANTS
 Christopher T. Traylor, D.M.D.
46 DAGGETT DR., WEST SPRINGFIELD, MA 01089
PHONE (413) 747-9224 • FAX (413) 747-0117
www.healthy-mouth.com

"SPRING AWAKENING"
 Live Rock Musical
 Books & Lyrics by Steven Satar
 Music by Duncan Sheik
May 4-5 & 11-12, 2012
 Academy of Music Theatre
 274 Main St. Northampton, MA
www.academyofmusictheatre.com
 TIX: (413)584-9032 x105
 Sponsors: The Valley Advocate
 The Hampshire Gazette
 The Rainbow Times
 Greene Room Productions of Monson

CONNECTING WITH OUR COMMUNITIES
 NEWS • ADVERTISING • COMMUNITY SUPPORT

225
 DAILY HAMPSHIRE GAZETTE
GAZETTENE1.COM
 TO SUBSCRIBE IN PRINT OR ONLINE, CALL 413-586-1925.

Northampton based ... New England Read ...

Check out our NEW site for PRIDE details!
Official Boston Pride Guide Producer & Media Partner
The Rainbow Times
www.TheRainbowTimesMass.com

Lisa van Gordon d'Errico
Attorney-at-law
Bankruptcy Law

Post Office Box 25, Northampton, Massachusetts 01061
 Telephone (413) 585-9449 Fax (413) 586-1154

The Montessori School of Northampton
Your family will feel at home here!
 For ages 2 through 12 years
 Susan Swift, Head of School
 51 Bates St., Northampton, MA 01060
 413-586-4538
www.northamptonmontessori.com

OUT AND ABOUT WITH PRIDE

FRIDAY, MAY 4
SPRING AWAKENING, winner of 8 Tony Awards including best musical. Academy of Music Theatre, 275 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060. Show time is at 8:00pm More dates & times: www.greeneroomproductions.com

Grace Nations, Angelica Nations & Samantha Chanel; \$5 cover all night long; Kitchen Open to keep your dancing going all night long. FMI: 458 Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford; 860-525-3243. www.clubchez.com/

and welcoming space for participants of all sexualities, genders, races, ages, ethnicities, sizes, economic backgrounds, and physical abilities.

about Dunham and Sexsmith, visit at: kellidunham.com and mrsexsmith.com. House concerts are free to guests. FMI: www.highlandsinn-nh.com

HOTTEST FRIDAY DANCE PARTY AT CHEZ EST; Hottest Friday Dance Party; 9pm; Absolut Friday with the best DJs; All Drinks \$5; Guest DJs & Fierce Hosts; Full Kitchen Open For All Night Fun and Food to keep you dancing all night long; 458 Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford; 860-525-3243. For other events visit: www.clubchez.com/

TUESDAY, MAY 8
DUNE BOYS VOLLEYBALL; 6:15-8pm; Maines Field, Florence. Starting on May 8 and going through September. All levels of player welcome. All games are pick-up: you don't need to join a league or a team. After lots of sweaty fun, it's off to the Northampton Brewery for food, brews, and fun up on the roof deck the warm summer night air.

The 2012 Pioneer Dyke Award, to be presented at the dance, is awarded to a dyke in Western Mass who has exemplified leadership and courage in her lifetime. Now accepting nominations at info@lgbtcoalitionwma.org. FMI: lgbtcoalitionwma.org

SATURDAY, MAY 12
AFTERNOON POOLSIDE DANCE PARTY; Clarion Hotel Pavilion, Rain or Shine; 4-10pm. Enjoy the day by the poolside, and if it's hot enough, take a refreshing dip! Hot music! Cash bar! 18+. FMI: lgbtcoalitionwma.org

SATURDAY, MAY 5
SPRING AWAKENING, winner of 8 Tony Awards including best musical. Academy of Music Theatre, 275 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060 Show time is at 3:00pm & 8:00pm www.greeneroomproductions.com.

FRIDAY, MAY 11
DYKE DANCE: For Dykes and the People Who Love Them, 8pm - Midnight, WWII Club, The Deuce - 50 Conz St., \$10 Door charge. Calling all dykes! Dyke celebrations traditionally take place in cities across the United States and internationally, occurring the day or night before that city's Gay Pride celebrations. The Dyke Dance will provide a dynamic

NOHO PRIDE'S OPEN MIC NIGHT
 3 County Fairgrounds, Northampton, MA Performers should arrive no later than 7 p.m. Beer and wine barn will be open. Open Mic stage 7:30-10:30pm; Free entry/Free Parking, FMI: nohopride.org

NOHO PRIDE PARADE AND PRIDE EVENT, 12pm-5pm, Rain or Shine, Tri County Fairgrounds, Northampton, MA.
BITCHIN' SATURDAYS DRAG SHOW!, Oz NightClub; 9pm-1am; Hosted by Cuntessa Yolanda Velvet. \$5 cover, free before 10p. Show starts at midnight! 397 Dwight St, Springfield. Info at: www.facebook.com/springfielddoz/info

SPRING AWAKENING, winner of 8 Tony Awards including best musical. Academy of Music Theatre, 275 Main Street, Northampton; Show time is at 8:00pm; For more dates & times: www.greeneroomproductions.com.

STEAM SATURDAY AFTER PRIDE LATIN LADIES NIGHT; 9pm-1am; Hosted by Grace & Angelica Nations & Samantha Chanel; \$5 cover all night; Kitchen Open; www.clubchez.com/

KELLI DUNHAM & SINCLAIR SEXSMITH perform at the Highlands Inn, May 11-13; Amazing concerts; FMI

It's your space. Keep it simple or make it SPARKLE. Anything is possible with our **custom design services**. See for yourself. Stop in to our retail showroom to experience our **classic** to **contemporary** collections.

Welcome Home



KEITH WOODRUFF, Proprietor
 82 1/2 Cottage Street Easthampton, MA
 413.527.5936
www.kwhome.net
 * AN ADVOCATE BEST

KW HOME

PRIDE 2012
 [brattleboro].vermont
SATURDAY JUNE 30
 6:15PM or 8:15PM
 cineSLAM film festival
 @ the hooker-dunham &
 dance at the american legion hall
 REGISTER ONLINE @ CINESLAM.COM

JUNE 1-10
New England's LARGEST PRIDE
boston pride
 Youth Pride: May 19 • Latino Pride: September • Interpride: October 1-7
FOR MORE INFO: BOSTONPRIDE.ORG

EQUALITY. NO MORE. NO LESS.

ACLU
 FOUNDATION
 AMERICAN CIVIL LIBERTIES UNION of MASSACHUSETTS

HAPPY PRIDE 2012 • www.ACLUm.org

Serving the 413 with Pride!




Cathy Hunter
 413.584.4868
cathy@cathy-hunter.com

Mark Carmien
 413.320.1162
marke@gogginsrealestate.com

GOGGINS real estate

Melissa Etheridge Opens Up: Talks Ex, getting remarried and upcoming album

By: Chris Azzopardi*/Special for TRT

ENTERTAINMENT

Come to her window, but Melissa Etheridge won't be around. Why? Because she's everywhere else — on tour through the summer and in the studio laying down tracks for her first album since 2010's *Fearless Love*.

And, in the midst of a heated custody battle with her ex, she dished on both during our recent interview: what to expect from the new music (songs about her split, of course), tentatively due in September; how, despite her breakup, "it's not as heartbroken" as past albums; and, of course, getting underwear-bombed onstage.

Chris Azzopardi: How's life treating you these days?

Melissa Etheridge: It's pretty incredible. Very full and very fun. There's always a new adventure around the corner. I have four kids and I'm very

happy.

Q: What's it like raising teens?

A: My kids are 13 and 15, and I have two 5-year-olds; surprisingly, it's very similar. (Laughs) They require all of your attention and they don't remember anything you've told them.

Q: What's inspiring this upcoming album?

A: Life has always inspired whatever I'm singing about, so events in my life in the last couple of years: new love, saying goodbye to an old love, and my kids and my hopes and my dealings of life are all there.

Q: So *Lucky* meets *Skin*?



A: (Laughs) That's funny, but no actually. Better than that. I was pretty down and out during *Skin* — that was hard! I'm in a much better place and I feel much better, so I think it's more up. It's hard for me to tell when I'm just starting, when I'm just making it, but I feel like it's not as heartbroken as *Skin* was. We're never going back there.

Q: But some fans miss sad Melissa.

A: I know! Some people say *Skin* is their favorite and I'm like, "Aww, I'm sorry." (Laughs)

Q: On your last album, *Fearless Love*, you started writing from other people's perspective. Will there be more of that on the upcoming album?

A: I found that I'm writing from another point

of view as if it were my own. They're memories, like, "What if I was still there, what would this be like?" I've written a couple of those.

Q: It's been a couple of years since you and Tammy Lynn Michaels split, though it's still making headlines. What's been the hardest part about going through a public breakup?

A: That it was public. (Laughs) Some private pains and anger and heartache gets out there and no one understands, nobody except who is in the relationship knows what's going on, and there's always two sides to everything. I don't ever like to do anything public; whereas she might take things public, I keep very quiet about it, so that's hard. You can't win that, ever.

Q: People naturally make assumptions and start rumors. Is it better not to say anything or clear the air?

A: You know, I wish it was possible to just go on and say, "Hey, this is my truth, this is it," but it never stops. When you engage in that then you're in it and it gets all mucky and you can't win. You can't change what people think. Some people are just out there assuming away and I can't change that. So I accept it. It'll all be in the past soon.

Q: Except you'll be reliving it on this album.

A: (Laughs) Yes, that's the thing. And that I can control. I can control my art, and I can control what I say and how I say it.

Q: Do songs that you're performing from decades ago bring you back in time? Like, how do you feel when you're performing "Bring Me Some Water" now?

To read the rest of this Q&A, her take on life after cancer, her opinion on marriage equality, & more, visit: <http://bit.ly/ICQcRB>

THE FENWAY INSTITUTE

1

Research empowERING women in the fight against HIV.

Fenway Health Ansin Building
1340 Boylston Street, Boston, MA 02215

Fenway Health is studying the possibility of preventing HIV using a medicated vaginal ring. We need HIV-negative women 18-40 to help.

Stand up for LOVE

2

FACT: 63% of all HIV/AIDS cases in the US are in gay and bisexual men and infection rates are rising among men who have sex with men.

Fenway Health is seeking HIV-negative men who have sex with men to participate in a vaccine trial to determine the safety and effectiveness of an investigational HIV vaccine.

We are seeking volunteers: HIV-negative men, ages 18-50, who have been a top or bottom in the past 6 months. Volunteers receive compensation for their time and travel expenses, as well as confidential HIV counseling and testing.

You cannot get HIV from this investigational HIV vaccine.

BOSTON is READY.ORG

I HAVE A ♥ ON

BOSTON GET YOUR HEART ON

VOLUNTEER FOR AN HIV VACCINE STUDY

617.927.6450

GUYS EXPERIENCING LUBE

projectgel

3

ARE YOU:

- 18-30 years old?
- A man who has sex with men?
- Willing to be tested for HIV?

IF YOU ENROLL, YOU WILL:

- Be tested for HIV.
- Complete a physical exam, including an anal exam.
- Be asked questions about your medical and sexual history.

You will receive compensation for your participation in this study.

THE FENWAY INSTITUTE

The Real Mike Ruiz: Opens up without fears

By: Chris Azzopardi*/Special for TRT

A child imagines life outside reality by creating a wild, monster-inhabited world of escapism in *Pan's Labyrinth*, a stylistic fantasy-art film released in 2006 from Guillermo del Toro. That world, or at least a version of it, is very familiar to Mike Ruiz.

As a kid, growing up as one of few ethnic people in Quebec, he envisioned an alternate reality that transcended his drab real life. Little did he know that years later he'd be implementing it into real life: he's famous for his celebrity photographs, capturing the who's-who of Hollywood in another light.

He's also part of another reality – reality TV. Aside from Logo's *The A-List: New York*, which he left last year after two seasons of the tawdry show, he's also been seen on *RuPaul's Drag Race* and *America's Next Top Model*. With *Pretty Masculine*, the first in a series of books released late last year, he's focusing on photography, which includes an upcoming shoot with Martha Wash – and a storm of beefcakes – to celebrate the 30th anniversary of "It's Raining Men."

Ruiz phoned us recently to talk about his break from reality TV (and to defend *A-List*), his new series of books, and how childhood transcendence inspired his photography career.

Q: How are you able to balance a partner, photography, TV and charity work – all the while maintaining the muscles?

A: I think it's just my perception. I chose to perceive things differently, so my life just seems so much more manageable and calmer so far this year than it was in 2011.

Q: Not doing reality TV probably helps?

A: That's probably the main reason. (Laughs) It's not so much that it occupied a lot of time; it occupied a lot of my mental energy.

Q: Wait. Reality TV?

A: (Laughs) Imagine that!

Q: What about it?

A: I don't know. Honestly, I can't put my finger on it. It's just a lot of effort and a lot of work. You have all these hopes and expectations for the outcome, and you're kind of white knuckling it because you have no control over anything, so you just do your best and hope for the best. It's just too taxing for too little pay off.

Q: Why did you do *The A-List: New York* in the first place?



A: I did *A-List* for very specific reasons, and it was not to hang my dirty laundry out. I did it because I wanted to be more visible in the community so I could do positive things in the community. You never know — those guys on *Jersey Shore* probably never thought they'd be making \$7, \$8 million a year; there's always the hope that it's going to become this pop culture phenomenon and you're going to ride the wave and it'll be great, but fundamentally, I just wanted to do something responsible.

If my goal was to become a *Jersey Shore* kind of character, I would've been way more reckless on TV. I feel like I conducted myself in a very responsible way. That was my goal, and I do it in life, as well. It's important for me to put my best foot forward to set a good example, so I'm certainly not going to go on TV and get wasted and puke all over my other cast members. (Laughs)

Q: In general, do you think the show gives gay people a bad name?

A: It shouldn't give anybody a bad name. It's not meant to be a representation of anybody. It's five or six people that they cast very ...

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

Best Of from page 12

to speak out against the false and misleading statements made by Lively regarding LGBT people. As religious belief is often one of the primary reasons cited to justify discrimination against LGBT people, we strongly support and advocate opportunities in which we are able to heal and reclaim our spiritual connection by speaking out against anti-gay rhetoric and addressing discrimination from non-welcoming churches."

The Coalition continues their advocacy work by facing the primary culprit that leads the LGBT youth to run away from home or even commit suicide—ignorance. With a focus on diverse LGBT populations, the organization is partnering with other well-known institutions to understand the needs of the broader community.

"On May 21, we will be hosting a workshop for parents who may be struggling with accepting their LGBT teenagers," said Seymour. "We are also currently partnering with the UMass Amherst Stonewall Center to bring forth LGBT diversity training for local businesses, as well as offering an ongoing film and forum series that tackles unique and thought-provoking subjects."

In the middle of its busiest season, the Coali-

tion also prepares for its biggest annual fundraiser.

"We are gearing up for our annual fall fundraiser, the Rainbow Riverfest, at the Holyoke Canoe Club on September 22, which offers people of all backgrounds an opportunity to see and learn from one another in a safe and welcoming space," explained Seymour. "All this is taking place and we are not even halfway through the year, so keep an eye on our website for upcoming programs and to discover how you can become involved and get ACTIVE!"

In winning, Seymour states that there is much gratitude to the people, companies and organizations that have believed in them, supported and collaborated with them because they believe in their mission to help LGBT youth in the Valley.

"We'd also like to take a moment to thank *Baystate Health*, *UMASS Stonewall Center*, *The Rainbow Times*, as well as our community partners, for helping us along the way," Seymour added. "We couldn't have achieved these early successes without their support!"

For more information about the LGBT Coalition, to make a donation or to get involved: www.lgbtcoalitionwma.org via the Rainbow Riverfest website at: www.rainbowriverfest.org or call (413) 588-1018

Boston Pride Block Party Back Bay Edition



Tracy Young

St. James Ave. Sunday June 10th 12-8pm



boston pride.

FOR MORE INFO VISIT
bostonpride.org

Boston Pride Announces Headline Entertainers for 2012 Festival: Alexis Jordan, Rye Rye, and Kerli

Three musical artists to perform at June 9th Festival on Boston's City Hall Plaza

BOSTON, Mass.—Boston Pride last week announced that musical artists, Alexis Jordan, Rye Rye, and Kerli will be the featured musical entertainment at this year's Pride Festival to be held on Saturday, June 9th from noon to 6 p.m. at Boston's City Hall Plaza.

The Festival is the last stop on the Boston Pride Parade route and will host entertainment, the Family Zone, the Main Stage Lounge, Artisan Avenue and over 100 vendors for people of all ages.

"We are thrilled to have Alexis Jordan, Rye Rye, and Kerli headline our festival this year," said Linda DeMarco, president of Boston Pride. "These young women are all breaking through on the music scene as we speak, and we know that they will put on a great show here in Boston."

About Alexis Jordan

After a highly praised appearance on the first season of America's Got Talent, Alexis Jordan's YouTube videos started accumulating millions of hits. Once Sony Music-affiliated label, StarRoc/Roc Nation – a joint venture between Stargate and Jay-Z's Roc Nation caught wind the viral sensation, they signed Jordan to their label at barely 18 years old. Since then,



Jordan has released her first album, self titled Alexis Jordan, and has recently announced that her second album will be released this year. Jordan promises to inspire and entertain everyone at Boston Pride with her music.

About Rye Rye

Rye Rye, was the first artist to sign with M.I.A.'s record label N.E.E.T., an imprint of Interscope Records. At just 21 years old she is currently working on her debut album Go!

Pop! Bang! which is set for release on May 15th. Rye Rye likes to think of her music as a variety of things, but most importantly it is about fun for everyone and she is thrilled to share it at Boston Pride.

About Kerli

At the age of 18, Estonian recording artist Kerli moved from Elva, Estonia to the United States and just one year later in 2006, she was signed to Island Def Jam Music Group by LA Reid. By 2008, she released her debut album Love is Dead which charted at 125 on the Billboard 200 that July. Kerli is currently working on her second album set to release later this year. Kerli also was a DJ on the program New Now Next show on the LOGOTV network. Kerli believes that "All humans need to have equal rights, straight or gay," and she is excited to celebrate pride by performing for Boston during the festival.

"The Boston Pride Festival is Boston's largest and most popular festival," said DeMarco. "We are proud to share pride with these talented and unique musicians and are excited to have them perform live for Boston at our momentous event."

Boston Pride Week 2012 will be held June

1-10. This year's theme is "30 Years of Worldwide Pride Movement" and Boston Pride will celebrate by hosting special events, parties and Boston's biggest and most popular Parade and Festival. Starting with the annual Flag Raising Ceremony on June 1st at City Hall Plaza, the week also includes Pride Day at Faneuil Hall, Pride Idol, the Royal Pageant, Human Rights Events, block parties and much more.

More information and details for Boston Pride's 2012 Pride Week can be found at www.bostonpride.org.

- Follow Alexis Jordan on Twitter!
- Follow Rye Rye on Twitter!
- Follow Kerli on Twitter!



Boston Pride produces events and activities to achieve inclusivity, equality, respect, and awareness in Greater Boston and beyond. Fostering diversity, unity, visibility and dignity, we educate, communicate and advocate by building and strengthening community connections. Follow Boston Pride on Twitter!

celebrating 30 years of worldwide PRIDE movement

BOSTON PRIDE

PRIDE DAY @ FANEUIL HALL

BRING THE KIDS. BRING YOUR FRIENDS. BRING YOUR RECYCLABLE TOTE.

... to Boston's most historic landmark for a day of entertainment, fun & shopping!

Saturday, June 2
10am - 5pm
Rain or Shine

MEET OUR 2012 PRIDE MARSHALS

Live DJ and Musical & Dance Performances!

For more information:
bostonpride.org/faneuilhall

boston pride.

Soon To Be Boston Based, NE Read: **The Rainbow Times**

Cloudburst opens 25th Connecticut Gay & Lesbian Film Festival, June 1-9

HARTFORD, Conn. — A vivid rainbow of genres, topics, voices and viewpoints will be shared in the 25th season of the Connecticut Gay & Lesbian Film Festival, taking place June 1-9 during LGBT Pride Month. Cinestudio at Trinity College is the site for this milestone season, except for dual closing night screenings at the Connecticut Science Center and Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art.

“The selection committee is pleased by the variety and number of high-quality feature films to be presented,” says Shane Engstrom, Director of Out Film CT, the not-for-profit producer of the Connecticut Gay & Lesbian Film Festival. “While the films are selected for their interest to the LGBT community, they depict a vast array of human experience and concerns that are universal to all audiences.

“These films are celebrations and affirmations of artistry, self-discovery and individuality, commonality and community. They offer opportunities learn about and question history and contemporary social issues. Most of all, the Festival is an entertaining forum that provides interaction with filmmakers and actors. Stay tuned, for early in May we’ll announce very special appearances,” Engstrom concluded.

The Connecticut Gay & Lesbian Film Festival

is the longest-running cinema festival in the state. It has helped Hartford to become a regional movie-lover’s destination while it has galvanized and knit together the LGBT community since 1988.

Unlike many festivals organized by hired curators, this event is programmed by a group of 15 or so devoted volunteers, who have spent over 150 hours viewing 200 short and feature-length submissions since August 2011 until early April of this year.

Film screenings are at Cinestudio on the campus of Trinity College, 300 Summit Street, Hartford, with the exception of closing night. Movies are shown at 7:30 p.m. every evening during the festival, with additional matinee screenings slated for Saturdays and

Sundays at 3:00 p.m.

Tickets to each of the opening and closing gala screenings are \$18, \$15 for students and seniors. Single tickets for other films are \$10, \$7 for students and seniors.

Three-show passes (excluding opening and closing nights) are \$24. Admission to the entire Festival is \$75. Single tickets and festival passes are available online at www.OutFilmCT.org and may be purchased at the door.

For more information about the festival of Cloudburst, visit OutFilmCT.org or check out the organization’s advertisement on page 28 of this issue *The Rainbow Times*.

CREDIT: OUT FILM CONNECTICUT



Cloudburst kicks off OutFilm CT on June 1. The Film Festival will take place from June 1-9th.

How exactly did we get so fat so fast? 5th in a Series: Food & Politics and the 2012 Elections

By: John Verlinden/Special for TRT

¡MUCHO GUSTO!



We’re in the midst of an epidemic in America. Two-thirds of us, 190 million people, are overweight. More than a third of adults are obese, and one in six children is obese. It’s a growing concern.

Obesity

Since 1980, adult obesity has more than doubled, while obesity among children and adolescents has tripled. On average, we now consume over 500 more calories per day than we did just 25 years ago. Where will we be 25 years from now?

This is a complex problem with many contributing factors, including what and how much we eat, how much we exercise and our socioeconomic status and our genes, so finding successful interventions isn’t going to be easy. But this is a problem we need to control; the costs are high.

Obesity results in diseases and death

We know that as weight increases, the risks for coronary heart disease, Type 2 diabetes, cancers, stroke and other chronic illnesses also increase. The financial impact alone is staggering – obesity-related diseases already cost us

nearly \$150 billion in medical expenses annually. But what’s even more troubling is that, unless we find a way to reverse this trend, our children may be the first generation since the Civil War to have a shortened life expectancy.

What will you ask of the politicians seeking your vote when it comes to this national emergency? Just as we don’t want government in our bedrooms, no one wants the “food police” in their kitchen or dining room.

Should the government get involved?

But is there an appropriate role for government when it comes to maintaining our nation’s physical health, especially when it comes to children? We’ve relied on “personal responsibility” alone for many years and that simply hasn’t worked. Should government reevaluate its farm policies and subsidies? Should government increase nutrition education efforts? Should it step up food product labeling requirements? Should it tax junk foods and sugary drinks, and then spend the money on research and treatment? Or is less government with fewer market controls more likely to bring positive change?

Next month we’ll take a look at food-product labeling issues. Share your thoughts, ask a question or suggest a topic for a future article – contact me: john@muchogusto.com or visit www.muchogusto.com and join our food forum.

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

GAY BINGO!

The THIRD Thursday of every month!
Doors open at 6pm
Bingo starts at 7pm SHARP!
The Riviera Bingo Palace
1612 Elmwood Ave., Cranston, RI



Your hostess with the mostess, Miss Kitty Litter!

OVER \$2,000 IN CASH AND PRIZES AWARDED EACH MONTH!



September 13: Golden Girl Gay Bingo!
 October 20: Racy Horror Gay Bingo!
 November 17: Brokeback Mountain Gay Bingo!
 December 15: Martha Stewart Bingo!
 January 13: It's a Barbie Gay Bingo!
 February 16: Cupid is Stupid Gay Bingo!
 March 15: Easter Bonnet Gay Bingo!
 April 19: Toga Gay Bingo!
 May 17: Trailer Park Trash Gay Bingo!
***A Special Gay Pride Bingo will be held on June 21st for RI Pride!**
Wear your Pride colors!

A FUNRAISER for AIDS Care Osceola State and AIDS Project Rhode Island!
Sponsors are ALWAYS needed. Contact Stephen Hartley at 401-525-3800 or e-mail at stephenh@aidscareos.org.

For more information, please visit www.aidscareos.org

The
Rainbow Times



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

GO, GO, GO ... TRT ON THE GO!

facebook



tumblr



twitter



YouTube



The RI Anti-Sexism League fights for women's rights and against rape culture

By: Casey Rocheteau/TRT Reporter

RHODE ISLAND

PROVIDENCE, RI—Last autumn saw the beginnings of a newly emerging movement against the rape-culture epidemic in our society. Many of the events around the country were tied together through the name Slut Walk, which is a controversial and provocative epithet meant to reclaim power from those who would demean sexual-assault victims, particularly women.

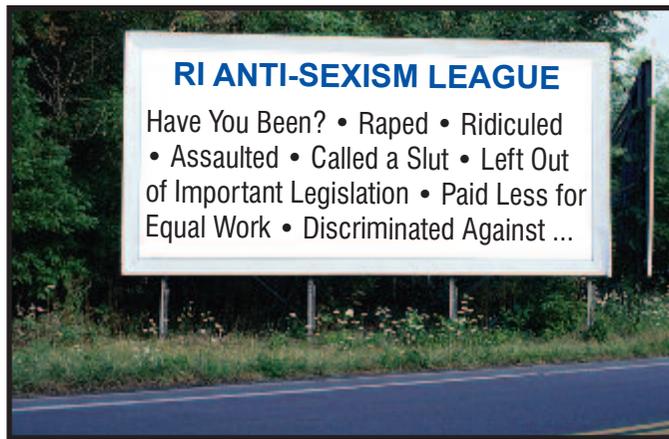
In Rhode Island, what grew from the event was a group called Rhode Island Anti-Sexism League (RIASL), which held an event including a rally, march, speak-out, potluck and workshops last month. The group dubbed the event Occupy Sexism. Bolstered by the strength behind the occupy movement, RIASL set out to address many of the issues around sexism that hadn't been adequately dealt with during the Slut Walk.

The *Rainbow Times* spoke with Sarah Quenon, one of the group's lead organizers about the event and RIASL. She explained that the idea developed after last fall's Slut Walk. She said that she was personally "really frustrated with a lot of aspects of rape culture that weren't confronted. Sexual assault and domestic violence against men, immigrants, the

LGBT community, and homeless persons were barely touched on if even mentioned at all."

Quenon said it seemed that Slut Walk had opened up a geographically far-reaching dialogue that was narrow in its content.

She went on to say that she "was also upset by the lack of discussion and workshops afterward, as well as the absence of a speak-out (that) so many attendees seemed hungry for. I wanted to recreate a similar event based on addressing rape culture, and at the same time expand it to address the multiple, far-reaching, pervasive and systemic sexist and gender-based types of oppression that make it possible



stay and fight in."

When asked if she felt that RIASL adequately represented the community of Providence, she said, "If you are asking if RIASL is as diverse as the population of the city ... then unfortunately no. We have some male members, persons of color, and LGBT members, some parents, teachers, older and younger members, but we are still somewhat lacking in diversity. Though I will say we have only existed as a group since last fall, and only in the

for rape culture to exist. In addition I wanted to provide solutions for people and offer more than what the one-off day event could provide. I wanted to create a space for people to

last month or so have we decided upon a regularly scheduled day, time, and location to meet. I think not having that consistency before was hurting us. It would be like, 'this week we're meeting on Monday at 5 in so and so's living room.' It didn't make us all that accessible."

So far, Quenon says, the group has "protested the R.I. Right to Life Committee at the statehouse, organized two clinic defenses, and now done Occupy Sexism. We have so many ideas for more actions, panels, discussions, and outreach. And we're very open to organizing around things that people in the community want to see us address."

The group hopes to serve as a well-known community group that people can turn to at a time they say is dominated by a rollback on women's rights, prevalence of sexism, and longstanding issues dealing with sexual assault both legally and culturally. Quenon said that anyone who wanted to attend meetings or events could attend meetings held every Sunday at 6 p.m. at Libertalia, unless otherwise noted. There's also another clinic defense coming up on May 19 at the Women's Medical Center of Rhode Island.

RIASL'S meetings and events can also be found at: <http://bit.ly/IjdL3J>

Variety of events planned for Rhode Island Pride and Gallery Q in Providence

By: Casey Rocheteau/TRT Reporter

PROVIDENCE, RI—Pride is coming up, and while that is already cause for celebration, Pride R.I. is bringing culture and history to the

party with Gallery Q (stands for Queer). Since 2008, Gallery Q has run in conjunction with pride as a space for LGBTQ artists to show their work during the month of June. There will be a grand gallery opening at the beginning of the month on the first floor of 480 Harris Ave. in Providence. The building is home to the Truth Box Architects, and will be familiar to residents as the building made up of multicolored storage containers that can be seen from the highway. While details are still being squared away, this year attendees can look forward to events around LGBTQ history and culture.

The *Rainbow Times* spoke with Laura Sebas-



tian and Kate Monteiro, who work together on the event, along with Laura's partner Tibo. "They handle the art aspects of it, and I'm more about the history," Monteiro explained.

R.I. Pride had an art show at Pride for many years, but as Sebastian explained, "I was Ms. Gay R.I. in 2008, and I've been a lifelong artist, and so I started doing Gallery Q in 2008. Pride has always had an art show, but I wanted it

to be more culture and history. They hadn't done a gallery for a few years when I started, and I've been doing it ever since. I wanted to keep the spirit alive, and I think there's not enough queer art around in general." Monteiro added that the event "had been a one-week installation and it was spread into a space beyond the art show and some cultural activities as well

as LGBT national and local history. It's like Brigadoon: it always comes back, but it only exists for a short amount of time, and in a different physical location."

Past events have had a wonderful turnout.

"Michael Brodsky came down last year and did an evening about LGBT history," Monteiro said. There was also an exhibit of R.I. LGBT history from 1640s to present, readings from local writers and poets, GLAD representatives from Boston

to talk about rights and what next steps are in R.I., a night devoted to LGBT-equality political candidates, a comedy night and one night specifically devoted to the transgender community, which, Monteiro said, will be back this year, though the specifics are still in the works. The idea of the pop-up history gallery has even spread, she said. "Now there's a national group doing pop-up queer history installations, but we had the idea first!" This year, there are also plans for an LGBTQ historical-documentary screening and an open mic.

Gallery Q is seeking submissions until May 22, and will highlight 20 to 25 artists for the juried show. Sebastian said that they look for "all types of media. There's usually a good amount of photography. Painting, sculpture, multimedia work, everything. We ask that they stick with Pride-themed, but it's not strict. It's about being able to showcase the work of LGBTQ artists, so whatever your specialty is, it's all welcome. It is juried, but there's about four or five of us that pick the pieces. We look for quality work, obviously, but uniqueness and originality count."

When asked how the gallery is able to operate, Sebastian explained that they "get funding the same way Pride does. We do a Kickstarter, which helps, and fundraisers throughout the year. Events are pay what you can, and we get a portion of sales from the art." The funds are enough to keep the gallery coming back year after year. "It's really about raising awareness," Sebastian explained, "and about educating people and all that good stuff. People think that Pride is just a big party, which is great, I love a good party, but there's a lot more to the history. People forget about Stonewall, and why Pride is always held in June. We did a Stonewall event one year and we like to tell people about what Pride does all year long."

Artists who are looking to submit their work and anyone looking to attend events can go to ripride.com for applications and more information.

TOP 10 BEST SELLER VIDEOS

Courtesy: WolfeVideo.com

LESBIAN TOP 10

1. Tomboy
2. The Dreya Weber Set
3. Pariah
4. And Then Came Lola
5. Albert Nobbs
6. Hannah Free
7. The L Word: The Complete Series
8. Circumstance
9. Elena Undone
10. Joe + Belle

GAY TOP 10

1. Kawa
2. Private Romeo
3. Surf and Turf Double Feature
4. The Seminarian
5. @SuicideRoom
6. Eating Out: The Open Weekend
7. What Happens Next
8. The Green
9. eCupid
10. Judas Kiss

Nominated AVN Awards
2012 Best Boutique
in New England!

Mister Sister Erotica

Lingerie • Fetish • Leather
Gift Certificates

More toys than
the devil has sinners!

Open Tues.-Thurs. 11am-9pm
Fri-Sat. 11am-10pm Sun. 11am-5pm
MONDAY 12-3pm

268 Wickenden St. • Providence RI 02903 • 401.421.6969

The story of a little boy, born in the '50s, who wanted to be a girl, part II

By: Deja Nicole Greenlaw*/TRT Columnist

TRANS NEWS



The little boy knew that he had to keep his mouth shut about wanting to be a girl. He went into his closet and stayed there for a long time.

The little boy, who was fast becoming a big boy, all of a sudden began to grow hair everywhere. He did not like this new hair thing at all but what could he do? Shave his body? If the other boys found out that he shaved his body, especially his legs, he would be a prime target for bullying. Shaving was not an option.

Then came the high-school years and the boy grew hairier and his voice deepened. He was becoming a man and he did not feel comfortable about it. His friends welcomed their new changes to manhood but he wished they would stop.

The boy's friends began talking about girls and some even went on dates with girls. When the boy's friends talked about girls they usually talked about girls' body parts. This made the

boy uneasy.

The boy never dated girls. He was afraid and confused. He felt like he didn't fit in, he felt like he wasn't normal. There was no way he could let someone get close to him.

High school eventually ended and college

dren: one, two, three. He now had to be a father of three as well as a husband. He loved being both but he wished that he could do both as a female. That seemed out of the question back then. He did not stop thinking about it. He just kept his thoughts to himself.

too much for her, way too much. A year later he moved out and in less than another year he was divorced. It was a very sad time for him as he felt like he had lost his family and his life partner of almost 30 years. At the same time he was also ecstatic that he could be a female — except for work and except for when he saw anyone in his family.

It was a crazy time with very high highs and very low lows. There was lots of extreme happiness of finding peace and at the same time lots of crying and terrible feelings of loss.

He learned that there were some people who shared his newfound joy of being female. He also learned that there were some people who wanted nothing to do with him now. Not only did he change his gender, he also had to change all of the people in his life.

He eventually officially became a she and she is now living happily at peace with herself, but she still has regrets about her family not fully accepting her. Sometimes she still cries.

It seems so unfair not to be who you really are and instead have to be who everyone else wants you to be. I'm so sorry, little boy.

*Deja Nicole Greenlaw is a local transwoman who has 3 grown children and works at a local Fortune 500 company. She can be contacted at dejavudeja@sbcglobal.net

The experience was too much not to take seriously. He told his wife, and it was too much for her, way too much.

was in the future. Either college or take the chance that he might get drafted into the U.S. Army and at the time the Vietnam War was still going on. The boy attended school for two years and then stopped. As expected, he was drafted into serving his country. The boy did not want to go. The boy learned that if a male wears women's clothing, then he wouldn't be accepted into military service. This was before "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" and the boy told. He was excused from service.

A girl then came into the boy's life and things changed. There was an immediate connection and they married. Then came the chil-

Time passed. The children grew and he stayed in the closet. Then came Sept. 11, 2001.

It suddenly became a world where no one was safe and at any time you could be killed by a religious extremist. Now the painful thought of going to his grave never even exploring his feminine side seemed like a real possibility. It was that point he knew he had to do something soon.

He dressed as a woman for Halloween at work and it was wonderful! He never felt so free in his life and everyone at work loved him as a woman. The experience was too much not to take seriously. He told his wife, and it was

Ask a Transwoman: When it's time to change, then it's time to change; accept it and move forward with it

By: Lorelei Erisis*/TRT Columnist



Dear Miss Erisis,
I am stuck between two conflicting approaches, schools of thought, with regard to the idea of "passing."

I know that I am currently not happy with the way I am perceived based on the way I look. Even more basically,

I am unhappy just looking at my Homer Simpson dark ring around mouth (no matter how hard I shave) and other parts of my body. If the voice counts, then count that in: it makes me really uneasy to hear the low croaking of me. One part of me, the iron feminist, says: "Screw it. We don't shave our legs because we don't need to pass to anyone else. We don't go by their standards; we go by our own."

The other part of me is telling me that "In order to be really you, and happy with you, there are some changes that could help."

So it's basically "be yourself as you are now, screw what other people think" versus "be yourself and change," as paradoxical as it sounds. — Sincerely, Conflicted T

Ah, dear Connie T. I don't think it's that paradoxical at all really! I have these same conflicts. The way I resolve them, as far as that's even possible, is to simply try to be the best woman I can be. And really, that's all any woman, trans or cis can do anyway.

I try to accept myself as I am and strive to make myself better. I work with what I have and work toward correcting the things that bother me personally. My experience also is that change in itself is inevitable. We all change. And I would sort of join together the statements you made above to be instead: "Be yourself as you want to be, as you are happy being, screw what other people think." Because ultimately it's your life and your journey. So if you're changing anyway, do it for you.

That said; allow me to address one of your more specific difficulties. I fully sympathize

with your "beard blue" problem (black beard shows as blue through skin). I hate, hate, hate that I still have to shave every day. It's painful and it reminds me that I have spent part of my

life being perceived as the wrong gender. I hope one day, rather sooner than later, to be able to afford electrolysis or laser clearance. Until then, though, I cope. Some days, I just say, "Screw it, this is me, and stubble or not, I know I am a woman." And I do the best I can.

I try to accept myself as I am and strive to make myself better. I work with what I have and work toward correcting the things that bother me personally. My experience also is that change in itself is inevitable.

I'm happy to share a simple makeup trick I've learned. Most days I don't wear the stuff, if I'm being honest it's probably more to do with laziness and a busy life than any moral stance. My friend Sky likes to remind me often of my teenage tirades about the importance of wearing makeup. But some days, I do find it useful, like if I'm doing a public appearance or attending something for which I'm also dressing up a bit more, or if I'm just going out and want to feel pretty.

Even then, I don't like to wear too much. My constant makeup mantra is, "keep it sim-

ple, and use less." However, "less" means the beard blue still often shows. What I do is use a combination of colored powders and concealers to counteract it. Inexpensive, easy-to-find

stuff, I might add. Typically, I use a light layer from a green concealer stick of the sort used to cover blemishes, to cover any red razor rash on my face. Blend. Then I use a skin-tone concealer stick (find one that matches your complexion; I'm very Irish with fairly pinkish tones) to cover the whole beard lightly. Blend again. Follow with some red blush powder over the still-showing bluish parts of the beard. And some green powder to blend out the still-red parts, including non-beard reddish parts like my nose and, in summer, my forehead.

I cover all this with a neutral skin-tone loose mineral powder. Then I do my

eyes, lips, etc., as I see fit. It sounds like a lot, but it's a pretty light base that avoids a heavy foundation and it looks pretty natural. Basically, the green neutralizes red and red neutralizes blue. Yay for color theory!

Also, if I have a long day, I find that the slightly waxy concealer tends to keep the beard from growing through or at least hides any stubble pretty effectively until I get home. It lets me worry a little less about turning into a pumpkin at midnight!

And regarding your voice, as someone who speaks professionally, I would say to think of it as an instrument. Practice using it and changing it. There are all sorts of options out there, from videos on YouTube to professional voice coaches.

Try not to worry so much about how deep your voice is. Concentrate on learning how it works, on how to play with it. Listen to women speak. Concentrate on their inflection and tone rather than their pitch. You will find that many women actually have fairly deep voices. Practice singing. It will help you understand how to fine-tune your instrument. Basically, all any of us can do is try to deal with the present and strive toward the future. Slainte!

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

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

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

**Greene Room Productions "Spring Awakening...
...A Rock Musical by Duncan Sheik & Steven Satar
Based on the German play by Frank Wedekind**



Spring Awakening

May 4-5 & 11-12, 2012

Academy of Music Theatre

274 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060

www.academyofmusictheatre.com

Tix: (413)584-9032



Producing Company GRP Contact

www.greeneroomproductions.com (413)668-7284

Good theology must not slide into superstition & persecution

By: Paul P. Jesepe*/TRT Columnist

IN THE NAME OF GOD

Rev. Dr. Patrick S. Cheng (PatrickCheng.net), lawyer, theologian, and seminary professor has a powerful intellectual acumen that brings a new revelation to faith. He is a passionate scholar of LGBTQ Christian theology.

There are many types and categories of theology, both Christian and non-Christian. Although Rev. Cheng writes from a Christian perspective, his approach to theology may be of interest to readers of other faiths.

Theology in the broadest sense means the study of religion. Of course, religion means different things to different people. Religion is based on culture, tradition, and sometimes ethnicity in a quest to be closer to God, whether Hindu or Christian. It is often linked to finding meaning in a cold, complicated world. Religion is a human tool that attempts to take sacred teachings and apply them in life or in ritual through a communal or individual manner. Religion can contain bigotry and prejudice. God and religion are not interchangeable.

Recently a priest-colleague-friend, Fr. Jim, underscored to me this man's talents and his increasing contributions to LGBTQ religious and theological scholarship. Rev. Cheng's important work parallels and contrasts to Catholic and Evangelical theology. Although he is not necessarily responding to anyone, his LGBTQ theology is pure, genuine, and developed out of the empowerment that he believes Christi-

anity offers.

LGBTQ Christian theology is needed because it gives gravitas to why God loves unconditionally children created differently. It is one thing to say, "God loves you," but it's quite another to use scripture and theology to show it, especially when religious messages can be negative.

It is one thing to say that Christian conservatives are wrong about Sodom and Gomorrah, but quite another to critique their scriptural interpretation and offer an alternative. Rev. Cheng brings a Western Christian-oriented mysticism along with logic and common sense to faith.

Although law increasingly provides a guarantee of certain rights, LGBTQ religious scholarship is essential to change hearts and minds. This is why the work of Rev. Cheng is very important. He is not just a fighter for LGBTQ civil and human rights. He is not just a teacher of LGBTQ spirituality. He is a religious prophet showing that the LGBTQ community is a necessary part of the wider Christian experience. In general, no faith experience can be whole without LGBTQ persons of faith (Jew, Muslim, Wiccan, Buddhist, Christian, etc.). Good theology, no matter the faith tradition, must keep religion from sliding into superstition and persecution.

There are times that many people of faith in the LGBTQ community need to look deeper into scripture and scholarly literature to be further affirmed that God loves them. Rev. Cheng offers the scholarship to say "believe in God"

See God on page 28

REGISTER

for summer courses at HCC

- Convenient Summer I, Summer II, and Full Summer Sessions
- Day, evening, and online classes

NOW!

Make your fall course load a little lighter - earn extra credit at HCC this summer.

HOLYOKE
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Futures Inspired



www.hcc.edu

Credit classes start
June 4 & July 9

Call today (413) 552-2000

303 Homestead Avenue, Holyoke, MA 01040

LGBT COALITION

of Western Massachusetts

Acceptance Workshop for Parents and Allies of LGBTQ Youth in Northampton

NORTHAMPTON, Mass. – On Monday, May 21, the LGBT Coalition of Western Massachusetts will be holding a special workshop for those parents and families who may be struggling to accept their LGBTQ youth. This event, entitled “Loving Your Gay Teen,” is provided free of charge, and will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the OutNow Center, 32 Hampden Street in Springfield. Pizza and childcare, as well as a Spanish language interpreter, will be provided courtesy of Baystate Health.

“For many teens, the most difficult process is coming out to their family,” said LGBT Coalition Executive Director Suzanne Seymour. “While they may be ‘out’ at school, it becomes much harder to make that transition at home. Their family may not accept them, and many teens risk losing their home during this time.”

According to the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, 50 percent of LGBT teens experienced a negative reaction from their parents when they came out. Twenty-six percent of these teens were also kicked out of their homes.

“By providing this workshop, we hope to enable a dialogue between children and their parents, even if it means simply leaving the event’s flyer on the table,” said Seymour.

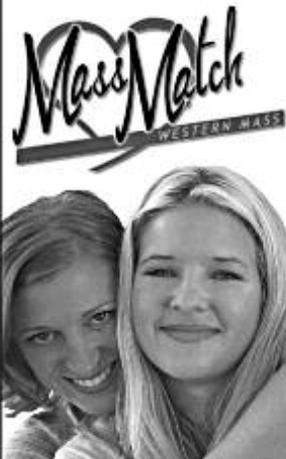
As part of the LGBT Coalition’s youth initiative program, events are held around what the youth has expressed as needing and desiring to see. Springfield area high schools reported that

they wanted an event specifically aimed at speaking to their parents about the unique issues that they face.

The program for the evening will focus on providing a safe and supportive area for parents to voice their concerns, as well as to provide helpful information regarding the health, safety, and physical well-being of LGBTQ youth. LGBT Coalition, OutNow, and PFLAG (Parents, Friends, and Families of Lesbians and Gays) members will share personal stories to show parents that they are not alone—and their children are not either. There will also be a question and answer segment, in which attendees have an opportunity to ask any questions that may be specific to their situation. Take-home resources will also be provided by PFLAG, available in both English and Spanish.

“As this is a personal and sensitive issue, we recognize that initially not all parents may be able to accept their LGBTQ teenager with open and loving arms. However, our workshop is designed to show parents that their teen is still the same person, and that it is imperative to love and support them,” said Emily Scagel, LGBT Coalition Board Member.

This event is sponsored by Baystate Health, OutNow, PFLAG, AIDS Foundation of Western Mass, and The Rainbow Times. For more information, please visit www.lgbtcoalitionwma.org or call (413) 588-1018.



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

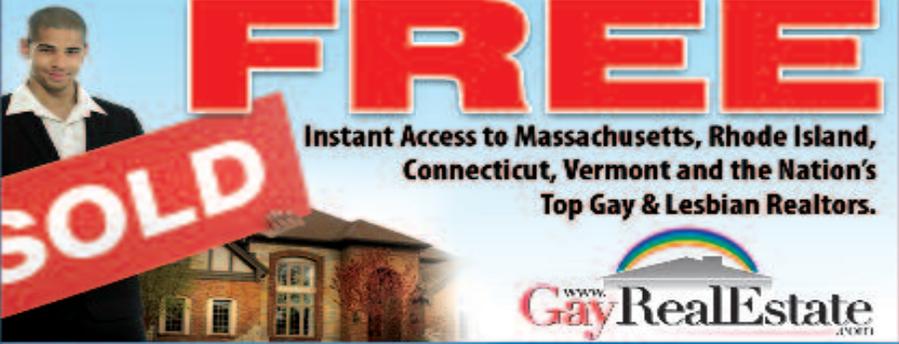
As Affordable as Internet Dating with the Touch of a Matchmaker

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

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

ADVOCATE OF THE VALLEY HEADLINES POLL
★ BEST ★
★ THE REAL 2012
★ THE REAL 2011
★ THE REAL 2010

www.massmatch.com. • Phone: 413.665.3218



FREE

Instant Access to Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Connecticut, Vermont and the Nation's Top Gay & Lesbian Realtors.

www.GayRealEstate.com

Find Your Perfect Agent Online: **www.GayRealEstate.com**

Or Call Toll Free: **1.888.420.MOVE (6683)**

Need Summer Classes?

Registration Begins April 23rd

Online: www.stcc.edu

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

Phone: (413) 755-4321

Session I June 4 - July 6

Session II July 9 - August 9

Online June 4 - August 9

Springfield Technical Community College

Exceptional Education. Proven Results.





25th Connecticut Gay & Lesbian Film Festival

June 1-9, 2012
For more information:
www.OutFilmCT.org

Out Film CT

All screenings at

CINESTUDIO

Trinity College
300 Summit Street
Hartford, CT

Except Closing Night at the Connecticut Science Center
& the Wadsworth Atheneum in downtown Hartford



8th annual *Chocolate & Cheesecake for A Cause* raises money to support LGBTQ youth

By: Emily Scagel/TRT Reporter

True Colors successfully held their 8th annual “Chocolate & Cheesecake for a Cause” benefit gala at Anthony’s Ocean View in New Haven, CT. The event was the organization’s yearly major fundraiser, usually raising around \$20,000. All proceeds support True Colors’ efforts to fulfill their mission statement of ensuring that needs of sexual and gender minority youth are recognized and met.

According to Executive Director Robin McHaelen, “our three primary values at True Colors are respect, safety and inclusion. One of the ways in which we ‘live’ the value of inclusion is to create fundraising events at various price points so that everybody can participate.” McHaelen went on to say, “we make less than other fundraiser events do in the community, but we reach a diverse audience that might not otherwise be able to participate.”

The evening began with a welcome from host and comedienne Christine O’Leary, also a Board Member and longtime volunteer of True Colors, who sold rolls of raffle tickets while bantering with audience members, playing on their generosity while still being silly. “Giving money to True Colors is absolutely the most important thing; it’s more important than a jello shot or a Starbucks coffee,” said O’Leary.

Board President Marlo McGriff said a few words of thanks to those in attendance (around 250), as well as to the many volunteers that contribute their time and energy in supporting True Colors. Last year alone, volunteers donated 13,650 hours of their time, McHaelen announced.

O’Leary concluded the speeches for the evening by thanking everyone for supporting an organization that sticks around for everyone. O’Leary equated this with a story about a child who had said to her, “thank you for saying hello 32 times, because the 33rd time, I knew I was a human being.” True Colors focuses on inclusion, and O’Leary promotes this with her comedic skills. “Coming out is so high risk, you could lose anything and everything. If I can make that easier for anybody, that is what’s most important.”

McHaelen spoke about these inclusive programs that True Colors holds throughout the year that are so important to LGBTQ youth. She stated that even if money raised is to fund something as small as pizza for a youth support group, there are instances when that pizza is the only meal someone will eat that day. In other words, money raised from one raffle item not only provides pizza, but a dinner with people who love and care, something that these children may be missing. O’Leary put it best when she said, “if you support True Colors,



Robin McHaelen, Executive Director of True Colors.

you are supporting an organization that sticks around for the kid you don’t know, when no one else did.”

Money raised from these fundraising dollars, including the night’s auctions and raffles, supports activities that are not funded by grants or fee-based services, said McHaelen, “programs like our new transgender youth support group; the production of our annual resource guide; training for schools and agencies who do not have the budget to pay for it, as well as our clearing house resource center that answers more than 3,000 calls a year from folks looking for support.” Auctions included a \$550 bid for a five course meal prepared and served for six people, complete with cheesecakes by Gourmet Goddess, who also supplied the event’s cheesecakes and truffles.

Entertainment was provided by members of the Imperial Sovereign Court of All Connecticut, which donates proceeds of fundraising events directly to True Colors. The gala concluded with dancing and music provided by Colin “DJ DEEM” Smith.

The evening was sponsored by Yale University and Bank of America.

For more information about True Colors, please visit www.ourtruecolors.org

God from page 26

and know that all will be well and here’s why.”

Rev. Cheng’s linguistic abilities include Greek, Latin, Hebrew, French, Spanish, and Mandarin Chinese. His knowledge of Latin, Greek, and Hebrew especially enables him to study original source material. He earned a Ph.D. from Union Theological Seminary in NYC; a M.Phil from Union Theological; M.A. from Union Theological; J.D. from Harvard Law School (magna cum laude) and a B.A. from Yale College. Hence, his educa-

tional credentials are sterling. If you yearn to look deeper, probe into the scholarship of LGBTQ theology and study, not just read scripture, then Rev. Cheng is an excellent resource. Several of his sermons and speeches are posted online. His books, if they aren’t already being used, will no doubt be required reading at seminaries offering classes in LGBTQ Christian theology.

* Paul is an author, attorney, and a seminary trained, ordained priest in greater Albany, NY. Email questions to Dilovod@aol.com.

Hay que celebrar, la Jornada contra la Homofobia en Cuba, ¡celebra los 5!

Por: Wilfred W. Labiosa* / Columnista de TRT

LATIN VISION



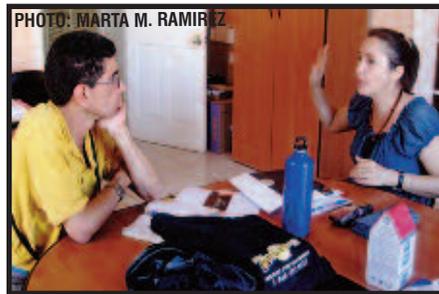
PHOTO: ERIC HESS

Por quinto año consecutivo Cuba celebrará en mayo la Jornada contra la homofobia, para beneficio de muchas personas, e incomodidad de otras que todavía albergan prejuicios en relación con el respeto a la libre orientación sexual e identidad de género y no entienden la necesidad del reconocimiento pleno de todos los derechos humanos de LGBT. Mariela Castro Espín, facilitadora de la Jornada y directora del Centro nacional de Educación Sexual (CENESEX) quien organiza la Jornada, a bordo del significado de este acontecimiento, lo hecho y lo que falta de hacer. Aquí expongo algunas de sus respuestas.

Cuando empezamos no soñábamos que estaríamos en esta etapa, pues ya es un lustro de un trabajo estable, sostenido, que se ha ido perfeccionando de año en año. Comenzamos con una celebración de un solo día, en el 2007, el 17 de Mayo, y a partir del 2008 iniciamos estas Jornadas con apoyo de algunas instituciones en Cuba y de la sociedad civil. Así, comenzamos a esbozar una estrategia, definimos objetivos y un plan de actividades donde dimos importancia al programa académico, por ejemplo, a trabajar en el ámbito de las universidades. Ya este año hemos logrado un acuerdo con el Ministerio de Educación Superior para trabajar en todas las universidades del país, no sólo en relación con las Jornadas contra la Homofobia, sino en todo lo que es educación integral de la sexualidad, promoción de salud sexual. Era un viejo sueño y es la primera vez que tenemos esta reunión tan precisa con el Ministro de Educación Superior. O sea, que en esta 5ta Jornada estaremos celebrando no solamente el Día Internacional contra la Homofobia y la Transfobia, sino todo lo que se ha logrado en el Programa Nacional de Educación Sexual.

No podemos creer que por eliminar la homofobia estaremos resolviendo el problema de la discriminación en la sociedad cubana. Hay que erradicar esa tendencia, ese modelo arcaico de sociedad explotadora que crea parámetros para establecer diferencias y desigualdades, y nosotros no podemos seguir reproduciéndonos.

A cinco años de iniciar esta celebración hemos adquirido experiencia,



Paquito (Izquierda) hablando con Mariela Castro (derecha).

hemos hecho aprendizajes, hemos organizado mejor nuestros trabajos, se han ido enriqueciendo las propuestas de actividades. Así, empezó siendo un día, luego pasó a ser una semana y ahora prácticamente el mes de mayo lo estamos dedicando a la Jornada. El hecho de ir involucrando cada año a una provincia ha sido muy significativo para fortalecer la labor de nuestras redes sociales en esos territorios, y de alguna manera sensibilizar más directamente a la población, involucrar a sus autoridades en esta tarea, también a la prensa que se va preparando para abordar mejor el tema. También se ha fortalecido mucho el componente artístico. Desde el año pasado la Gala contra la Homofobia

ha tomado una organización y un estilo muy peculiar. Ya podemos considerar que estos espectáculos integran al transformismo como un hecho artístico.

Esto es el resultado de un trabajo de muchos años, no solamente en estas galas, sino de los grupos y centros nocturnos que realizan actividades de transformismo, los cuales han podido recibir formación en el CENESEX para lograr que el transformismo sea un hecho artístico, y que además desde sus espectáculos se pueda trabajar la prevención y la promoción de salud sexual. Y no solo reciben capacitación los artistas, también los directores artísticos y de estas instalaciones, de modo que eso amplía la fuente de personas que pueden participar en estas actividades.

El año pasado tuvimos la experiencia en Santiago de Cuba, en el parque Dolores. Se organizaron paneles de discusión en distintos puntos del parque y la población asistió a los debates e intercambió opiniones con especialistas, funcionarios y activistas ya formados en los grupos LGBT de las redes sociales. Fue muy interesante, incluso participó un oficial de la Policía Nacional Revolucionaria y respondió preguntas del público, por primera vez se logró... Nos pareció muy enriquecedor y lo vamos a repetir en La Habana y en Cienfuegos, porque consideramos que fue útil.



Pregúntale a Lambda Legal – Día de Silencio

Por: Hayley Gorenberg/Subdirectora jurídica legal para Lambda Legal



P: Soy un estudiante en la escuela secundaria (preparatoria), y quiero participar en el Día Nacional de Silencio. Mis amigos saben que soy gay pero no estoy seguro que mis maestros estarían de acuerdo – ¿puedo entrar en problemas?

R: Primero, te felicito por 'salir del closet' con tus amigos – ¡es maravilloso que te aceptes y también encuentres a personas que te apoyen! Participar en el Día Nacional de Silencio es una manera enérgica de enfocar la atención de asuntos LGBT en las escuelas, y de ayudar a combatir el acoso. Este año el Día de Silencio fue el 20 de abril y los estudiantes a través del país se comprometieron a guardar alguna forma de silencio durante el día escolar. La Red Educativa Gay, Lésbico y Heterosexual (GLSEN, por sus siglas en inglés) proporcionó materiales a estudiantes que desearon participar en el Día de Silencio,

así como materiales para las escuelas que quisieron apoyar el día de acción.

Cada año, la Línea de Ayuda de Lambda Legal experimenta un aumento de llamadas y correos electrónicos de estudiantes acerca del Día Nacional de Silencio – algunos preguntan si pueden participar, y a otros se les ha dicho que no pueden participar en su escuela. El año pasado, Lambda Legal trabajó en más de 100 escuelas en el país para apoyar a estudiantes cuya participación en el Día de Silencio había sido negada. La mayoría de las escuelas respondieron favorablemente a nuestra abogacía y le permitieron proceder a los estudiantes. Un estudiante de tercer año en Ohio, Maverick Couch, llamó nuestra Línea de Ayuda después de pedir repetidamente permiso para usar una camiseta a la escuela con un ichthus de arco iris, o sea "el símbolo del pescado," y las palabras en inglés "Jesús No es Un Homofóbico



El año pasado, el llevó la camiseta para participar en el Día de Silencio y el director de la escuela le instruyó que se la quitara; Maverick obedeció. Durante el verano, Maverick investigó sus derechos, y cuando la escuela resumió en el otoño de 2011, le pidió permiso de nuevo al director de la escuela para llevar la camiseta. El director le dijo que lo suspendería si llevaba la camiseta.

Lambda Legal envió una carta a la escuela de Maverick explicando sus derechos a llevar la camisa, pero desafortunadamente, los funcionarios no fueron convencidos. Ellos contendieron que la camisa de Maverick contenía "temática sexual" e "indecente". El 3 de abril de 2012, Lambda Legal presentó una demanda federal contra el distrito de la escuela. El día

La camiseta de Maverick contiene un mensaje de inclusión y aceptación y no es de ninguna manera "sexual" o "indecente".

siguiente, en una conferencia con el juez, la escuela cambió su postura y estuvo dispuesta a permitir a Maverick a llevar la camiseta sólo

en el Día de Silencio. Mientras esa concesión es un paso adelante, obviamente no es suficiente. La camiseta de Maverick contiene un mensaje de inclusión y aceptación y no es de ninguna manera "sexual" o "indecente". Y los Derechos de Libertad de Expresión de la Primera Enmienda no aplican sólo un día del año; aplican cada día, a cada estudiante de las escuelas públicas en todo el país.

"Out, Safe and Respected" es una publicación diseñada para ayudarte a saber cuales son tus derechos en la escuela y para asegurar de que sean respetados. Puedes ordenar una copia gratis o bajarlo en www.lambdalegal.org/out-safe-respected

Si tienes cualquier pregunta, o sientes que has sido discriminado/a debido a tu orientación sexual, llama nuestra línea de ayuda al 1-866-542-8336, o visita <http://lambdalegal.org/help>

Read This Article in English at: <http://bit.ly/Jjuow6>

Pon Tu Anuncio en el Orgullo de Boston 2012 con TRT!

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

617-444-9618

See Latin Vision Page 30

Latin Vision from Page 29

Yo no concibo al socialismo conviviendo con formas de discriminación, y esta es una de ellas, en la que para trabajar, hay que hacer una intervención de cambio cultural profundo, el cual se logra a través de la incidencia educativa, de la política que avala esa estrategia, de los medios de comunicación, de las leyes. Hay varias instituciones en la estructura social que tienen que estar participando en todos estos procesos. No basta con la Jornada, no basta con la labor del CENESEX, no basta con el trabajo del Ministerio de Salud ... y el hecho de que el Partido dé luz verde y conscientemente acoga este objetivo, es fundamental.

No podemos creer que por eliminar la homofobia estaremos resolviendo el problema de la discriminación en la sociedad cubana. Hay que erradicar esa tendencia, ese modelo arcaico de sociedad explotadora que crea parámetros para establecer diferencias y desigualdades, y nosotros no podemos seguir reproduciéndolas. Por eso el trabajo educativo que hacemos se propone una transformación de la conciencia, de nuestra cultura. Aspiro en algún momento a crear una tradición con esa conga contra la homofobia por nuestras principales avenidas. Tal vez fragüe como una tradición histórica, y que cuando ya no haya homofobia, alguien diga "¡se acuerdan cuando en Cuba hacían esto

porque había discriminación, y había que hacer este tipo de conga para llamar la atención contra la homofobia!"...

A las actividades vienen personas que han sufrido de la homofobia y que su vida ha cambiado con estas actividades, que su familia ha cambiado; resaltan, incluso, que la policía ha cambiado, la población ha cambiado ... También se me acercan personas que han sido homofóbicas, para decirme qué importante es esto, que si hubiesen sabido el daño que hacían, no lo hubiesen hecho; agradecen que les demos todos estos elementos para ellos también cambiar como seres humanos y no discriminar a otros. Quisiera grabar todas las cosas lindísimas que la gente me dice en todas estas actividades, es lo que me da energía y satisfacción en esos días de tanto agotamiento y tensión. Han venido muchas personas Cubanas que viven en los Estados Unidos o que radican en otros países, también han participado extranjeros, me han dicho cosas preciosas, porque además ¡se sorprenden! Vamos a Celebrar este 5to aniversario y seguir educando contra la homofobia!

**Entrevista por Francisco "Paquito" Rodríguez y editada por Wilfred W. Labiosa. Para más detalles de la jornada y para la completa entrevista hecha a Mariela Castro-Espín, www.cenesexualidad.sld.cu*

Theater Offensive To Honor Gunner Scott, Don't Miss It!

Who: Transgender activist Gunner Scott

What: The Theater Offensive honors Scott with Out on the Edge award

When: Thursday, May 17 @ 6:30 pm

Where: Hibernian Hall (184 Dudley St, Roxbury)

Open to the Public: Yes (with ticket purchase)

NEW YEAR-NEW HOME-NEW JOB-NEW BEGINNING

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

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

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

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

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

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

Please send your response to: specialpersonforuniquejob@gmail.com and provide names and addresses of three references.

Senate from Page 3

cluding those with large LGBT constituencies—did not.

Senator Charles Schumer (D-NY) complained about the Republican substitute bill for taking out the word "women" and using the word "victim." Doing so, he noted, amounts to abolishing VAWA and starting a whole new program.

"No one here would argue that all violent crimes, all domestic crimes are tragic and serious, but this so-called substitute negates centuries of women's experience that proves that violence against women—especially from spouses, partners and family members—is a uniquely pernicious and entrenched practice."

Senator Amy Klobuchar (D-Minn.) mentioned "sexual orientation" but only in the context of noting that all people can be victims of high-tech stalking, such as placing hidden cameras in hotel rooms.

U.S. Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid described two roadblocks to reauthorization of the VAWA as "non-discrimination protection for all victims, regardless of what they look like or where they're from."

And Senator Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.) criticized Republicans for wanting to "exclude people" from protection, but her three examples of victims did not include an LGBT person.

But Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-Conn.) did speak out strongly in support of language including LGBT victims of domestic abuse.

"Clearly, there's a real need to improve access and availability of services for this vulnerable population," said Blumenthal Thursday, "and I support measures in this act that ensure victims of domestic and sexual violence, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity, can access those services they need."

Senator John McCain (R-Ariz.) said he doesn't believe any of the "points of controversy" on the bill were important enough to vote against reauthorization of the law. He specifically mentioned protection should be available to all victims "regardless of gender."

The Violence Against Women Act (S. 1925) has been a popular piece of legislation since 1994, when it was first passed. But this year, it has become a battleground for the votes of women in the 2012 presidential campaign and a battle over protections for LGBT people, Native Americans, and immigrant women without documentation to be in this country.

Rita Smith, executive director of the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, said the Coalition "cannot support any bill that does not include language to protect vulnerable and under resources populations of victims of domestic violence, sexual assault, and stalking."

"It is imperative that Native women, immigrant women, and the LGBTQ communities all have access to resources and support and S. 1925 in-

cludes critical services for these populations. No other bill or amendment addresses these necessary changes to provide services for all victims."

Democrats see the bill as a means of increasing protections for victims of domestic abuse; Republicans see it as an excuse to funnel federal funds to progressive groups, such as LGBT health clinics. They also claim the new provisions this year were added to make it hard for Republicans to support. Grassley said the tactic was pure politics and meant to deflect attention away from "health care reform, unemployment or high gas prices."

A study by the National Coalition indicated that, in 2010, programs serving LGBT people who were abused by their domestic partners or other intimate partners recorded 5,052 reports of such abuse. Almost 45 percent of these victims reported being turned away by other groups helping domestic violence victims.

The National Coalition includes a large number of groups working to prevent domestic violence and help its victims, including the Community United Against Violence (San Francisco), the Center on Halstead (Chicago), the Resource Center Dallas, the Broward (Florida) LGBT Domestic Violence Coalition, the San Diego LGBT Center, the L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center, the Fenway Community Health Violence Recovery Program (Boston), Wingspan (Arizona), United4Safety (Atlanta), and GLOV (D.C.).

Human Rights Campaign official David Stacy said the Hutchison-Grassley substitute was "not a serious attempt" to find a resolution and would jeopardize important funding to groups that do serve LGBT victims.

Supporters of VAWA had 61 senators going into the debate this week, including both senators from Illinois, California, and Massachusetts, as well as Bill Nelson of Florida, Carl Levin of Michigan, and Bob Casey of Pennsylvania. Neither of Texas' Republican senators co-sponsored the legislation.

A spokeswoman for Republican presidential nominee-apparent Mitt Romney said last week that Romney supports the bill but did not clarify whether he objects to the new language prohibiting discrimination based on sexual orientation or gender identity.

The VAWA in the House (HR 4271) has 52 cosponsors, including openly gay Reps. Barney Frank (D-Mass) and Tammy Baldwin (D-Wisc.) but not openly gay Reps. Jared Polis (D-Colo.) and David Cicilline (D-RIs.). Debate in the House is also expected to be contentious, with House Majority Leader Eric Cantor reportedly pushing for a Republican version of the reauthorization measure there.

R. Clarke Cooper, executive director of Log Cabin Republicans, issued a statement Tuesday, saying, "Nobody should be able to get away with domestic abuse just because their victim is gay, transgender, an immigrant or Native American,

and nobody should be denied help in recovering from abuse. Standing in the way of passing this legislation is unconscionable. Log Cabin Republicans are proud of our allies in the Senate who have cosponsored this bill, including Mike Crapo (R-ID), who introduced the bill, and Senators Ayotte (R-NH), Brown (R-MA), Collins (R-ME), Heller (R-NV), Kirk (R-IL), Murkowski (R-AK) and Snowe (R-ME). Passage of S. 1925 should move forward swiftly, and any effort to water down the Violence Against Women Act should be roundly condemned."

© 2012 by Keen News Service. All rights reserved.



Mathew Brockelman
LMT

Leominster, MA
At Home Availability

Help yourself reduce stress and pain today!

Massage by Mathew Brockelman, LMT

Call 978-660-5289

The OutField: Texas A&M tackles diversity, inclusiveness & even transgender issues

By: Dan Woog*/Special for TRT

Q SPORTS



A school on the list of America's 10 least inclusive colleges for LGBT students would seem an unlikely host for a conference called "Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity in Sport." But that's exactly what took place over two days earlier this month.

Some of the leading academic researchers and activists in the gay sports field traveled to Texas A&M University for panel discussions and meetings. Topics included the experiences of LGBT athletes and coaches; the intersection of LGBT athletes and the media; strategies for inclusiveness, and even transgender issues in sport.

I was one of the panelists. But even though I've spent my professional life in and around gay athletes, I learned plenty. So, I'm sure, did the 13 other invitees, and the students and professors who packed the meeting room.

I learned that Texas A&M is a paradoxical place. It hosted this conference on an important type of diversity, but it is a fairly non-diverse place. I saw very few blacks, Hispanics or Asians. The LGBT presence on campus appeared to be quite small.

Yet our group spent a wonderful afternoon at the ranch of the A&M provost. She and her partner seem to be a well-accepted, much-loved part of the university community. They are proud of their work there.

Much work remains to be done. In her opening remarks, a school administrator admitted there is "not much tolerance" for sexuality differences on campus. But speaking words like that out loud — to an audience of students, some of whom attended solely to gain extra credit in class — is an important step toward achieving that tolerance.

Keynote speaker Pat Griffin — a former coach, emeritus professor of social justice at the University of Massachusetts and director of the "Changing the Game" sports project — described her own self-loathing as a lesbian athlete at the University of Maryland. She noted the gains that have been made since then — including the embrace of straight male allies — but worried about the absence of straight female allies. "You don't need to be a lesbian to feel what it's like to be called one," she said, tying the denigration of one group to that of all others.

The transgender panel offered glimmers of hope. Karen Morrison, who works on diversity issues for the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), noted that the powerful governing organization is doggedly addressing questions like banned substance (testosterone) use. At younger age levels, trans policies are already in place. The Washington State high school federation is very inclusive, and the US Soccer Federation quickly moved to adopt trans-positive policies as soon as the issue was raised.

My own panel — on the experiences of LGBT athletes and coaches — discussed the many ways in which homophobia affects, defines and limits everyone in sports, including straight people. For example, the fear of being called a lesbian prevents some women from



Keynote speaker Pat Griffin — a former coach, emeritus professor of social justice at the University of Massachusetts and director of the "Changing the Game" sports project — described her own self-loathing as a lesbian athlete at the University of Maryland.

playing sports they would love to pursue.

Our panel also featured a controversial presentation. Eric Anderson, a former California high school track coach now conducting gay sports research at the University of Winchester, presented findings on the changing attitudes of teenage males in England. He called the increasing prevalence of cuddling, bed-sharing, even kissing among straight friends a harbinger of things to come in the U.S., adding that young athletes are driving this paradigm shift.

The panel addressing LGBT sports and the media offered further hope. Outsports.com's

Cyd Ziegler said that a tipping point has been reached: The media now treats homophobic athletes and coaches much harsher than gay ones. Athletes and fans, he said, are nowhere near as homophobic as stereotypes would have us believe. In fact, journalists' perception that gay issues are no longer "a story" may be the biggest obstacle to more coverage.

The final session examined inclusiveness. Sue Rankin, an associate professor of education and former softball coach at Penn State University, said that a campus climate — institutional, and within the athletic department and individual teams — goes a long way toward determining the success of each team and every athlete. Climate is determined by many factors, but straight allies play a powerful role, she said.

The last speaker, former NFL player Wade Davis surveyed the room, which had emptied out of students as the day wore on. He cited the reason: Most straight people don't care about LGBT issues — especially hearing about them from people they really don't relate to, like those of us on the panel. The way to get straight people involved, he said, is to reach them through people they know and care about: their gay teammates and gay coaches.

It was a sobering message, but it was one that needed to be delivered. And that it was delivered in College Station, at Texas A&M University, was most impressive of all.

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

BOSTON PRIDE FLAG RAISING
 JOIN MAYOR THOMAS M. MEHINO'S OFFICE
 IN RAISING THE RAINBOW FLAG OVER CITY HALL
 FRIDAY JUNE 1 CITY HALL PLAZA 12 NOON

celebrating 30 years of worldwide PRIDE movement

Kick off Boston Pride Week with the raising of the rainbow flag over City Hall
 Friday, June 1 @ 12 noon/Boston City Hall/Rain or Shine

PRIDE WEEK: JUNE 1-10 / WWW.BOSTONPRIDE.ORG



MORE THAN

♦ ♠ *just another* ♥ ♣

NIGHT OUT

Here, there's no end to the fun you can have. Bring your best game to thousands of slots or hundreds of table games. Then bring it to the dance floor. You'll find whatever you're looking for under one roof.



FOXWOODS[®]
Anything But Ordinary[™]



GAME



HOTEL



DINE



SHOWS



SHOP



SPA



GOLF



GROUPS

FOXWOODS.COM | 1-800-369-9663