

# The Rainbow Times

Year 1, Vol. 5 • April 1-15 2007

www.therainbowtimesmass.com

Your LGBT News Connection in Western Mass., parts of Connecticut and Vermont



**TRT Queer Justice's** Atty. Jennifer Dexter discusses and M-to-F's question about changing her name and the legalities behind it.

See Page 5

**here! TV's Lesbian Sex and Sexuality:** "Lesbian Sex and Sexuality" will take you on an uncharted journey of lesbian sexuality and desire.

See Page 9



**Southern Comfort:** A transcendental love story that portrays a love between a trans man & his girlfriend in the South—and the tragedy that took a man's life in an ironic twist of ignorance and hatred.

See Page 8

**Don't miss any shows, any LGBT events, or even meetings of your favorite groups.** Submit your free listings to be published online and in print.

See Page 10



**Deepfish, new Web browser for smart phones:** A new Web browser for mobile devices that will make browsing full-sized Web pages faster and easier on small smart-phone screens.

See Page 6

Youth Day of Silence, stop LGBTQ Violence! Page 12

TRT Inauguration Party: A success!

Page 6

## Gay and lesbian teens face more bullying

In the broadest study of bullying and sexual orientation to date, lesbian/gay adolescents were three to four times more likely to report having been bullied than heterosexuals while bisexuals and those identifying as "mostly heterosexual" were twice as likely, after adjustment for age and other factors.

"It's clear that sexual minority youth are a population vulnerable to bullying," says researcher Elise Berlan, MD, in the Children's Hospital Boston Division of Adolescent Medicine. "This needs to be addressed, particularly in

schools."

The study, led by Berlan and Bryn Austin, ScD, also of Children's, analyzed data from more than 7,500 adolescents aged 14 to 22 participating in the Growing Up Today Study, a large national study of American youth. Overall, about 90 percent of participants described themselves as heterosexual, 8 percent as mostly heterosexual, 1 percent as bisexual and 1 percent as lesbian or gay. Nearly half of the lesbian and gay youth in the study had been bullied in the past year.

Berlan and Austin hope to conduct a more detailed

follow-up study to better understand how bullying affects health outcomes. "We know that, in general, sexual minorities are more likely to smoke, drink, use drugs and have eating disorders and depression," says Austin. "We suspect that social isolation, harassment, bullying and sometimes frank violence against these adolescents may be an explanation."

Bullying and harassment of children who behave or appear outside expected gender norms begins in elementary school. According to the Gay, Lesbian & Straight Education Network, a

national advocacy group, students who are gay, lesbian, bisexual or transgendered are five times more likely to skip school than the general population, and do worse academically.

Ten states and the District of Columbia now have a safe schools initiative to prevent harassment based on sexual orientation, and a bill in the U.S. House of Representatives (H.R. 284) proposes amending the Safe and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act to include bullying and harassment prevention programs.

## Episcopal Church: No marriages for one year

By: NICOLE LASHOMB  
TRT Editor-in-Chief

An Amherst Episcopal Church vowed to a year long 'holy fast' from all weddings to walk in solidarity and communion with gay and lesbian fellow followers of Christ, according to the church Rector.

"Gays and lesbians are part of Christ's body, the church," said Rev. A. Robert Hirschfeld, Rector, Grace Church, Amherst, at Mass in his March 11th sermon. "They are the church, as much, if not more, as I am as a straight

white man. But this sacrament [marriage], and the grace it is meant to convey, is not available to them. So, the voice in my soul says: 'What mysterious unity is this holy matrimony a sign of at this time in our history, this portion of our journey in Christ?'"

Earlier this year, the presiding Episcopal Church Bishop, Katharine Jefferts Schori, suggested that the Episcopal Church refrained, or fast from controversial subjects sparred within the church; same-sex blessings and gay ordinations, in order



A "Holy Fast" calling to stop all marriages is the calling that the Grace Episcopal Church is following until 2008.

to preserve unity. However, Reverend

See Marriage Page 3

## Do you support an August 2008 troop withdrawal from Iraq as proposed by the House?

"I don't know if I support a full withdrawal, but at least a partial withdrawal and some sort of exit plan that makes sense. I feel we've been there way too long, and we should have had an exit strategy years ago."

Lauren Holway, Northampton



"Yes, Hundreds of thousands have lives have been lost: Iraqi's, Europeans, and US soldiers. We're not doing what we should for the soldiers who come home. I've always been an advocate of peace. I think killing is wrong no matter what the cause is."

Carrie Hemenway, Northampton



"I don't know enough about the situation over there to make a decision one way or another, but it seems that if all the troops leave next August, that could really make things even a bigger mess than they already are."

Salem Salloom, Santa Monica, CA



# EDITORIALS

## One hand washes the other

By: NICOLE LASHOMB  
TRT Editor-in-Chief

Since the launching of The Rainbow Times, we have been fortunate enough to have had a great deal of support and encouragement from the community as a whole. For that we thank you.

The journey of starting a new publication from scratch is not an easy task. It is, however, a very delightful one, especially when you see more support and demand for the product that you work so diligently on. Free publi-

cations are works of art in the sense that you have to sell the product's quality, for you do not place an actual dollar value on the publication itself. What we do is that we place worth in what we give you—our content.

As you know, The Rainbow Times is a free publication that circulates throughout Western Massachusetts, Southern Vermont, and Northern Connecticut. In only two months we have received phone calls from these areas' businesses and organizations requesting its presence there. For

having only published five editions, we are certainly growing and taking big strides. For this success, we are eternally grateful to you, our full readership in all of these states.

In addition to our readership success, we must recognize our advertisers, who have entrusted The Rainbow Times for their advertising needs and have given loyalty to us—the LGBT market. We encourage you to patron the advertisers that you see listed in TRT, for if it was not for these advertisers,

See Hand on Page 3

## Letter to the Editor: Michael Savage off the airwaves!

Dear Editor,

I recently became aware of the March 20 broadcast of "The Savage Nation" radio program in which Michael Savage was quoted as referring to a recent transgendered murder victim in San Francisco as a "psychopath" and a "freak." I was so infuriated that The Human Rights Campaign (HRC) had failed to take any action in response to this hate-filled commentary that I was compelled to write to them and in turn to you. Some of the text of this program is available at <http://media-matters.org/items/200703210018>. The following is the text of my letter to the HRC:

"Dear HRC, As a post-op transsexual woman I was outraged to read about Michael Savage and his infuriating commentary on his March 20th broadcast regarding the murder of a transsexual woman in San Francisco recently. In case you are unaware, he referred to the victim as a "psychopath" and a "freak" among other outrageous comments. What I want to know is: Where is the outrage on the part of HRC?

When Ann Coulter called John Edwards a faggot you guys were all over it! Screaming, loud and clear to every paper in the country to drop her column and I joined your fight. But, once again unfortunately, when issues concerning transgendered people are thrown in your face, you drop the ball. When someone, who in some circles is considered the #1 talk radio host in the country, starts spewing crap and hatred aimed at the transgender com-

**"How about a campaign to get this filth spewing maggot off the airwaves?"**

munity where the heck is your outrage? I have been a regular supporter of HRC and its mission, and I appreciate your efforts with TG employment issues, but I am regularly disappointed with your efforts on behalf of the TG community on other fronts. I refer you to an article on the TRN-Talk Radio Network concerning Savages' demographics, "Michael Savage Skyrocketing in Spring Book," that absolutely scares the hell out of me. This creature, (how appropriate is his surname here?), is grabbing listeners all over the country

and influencing huge audiences everywhere with his hate-filled diatribes. I understand the outcry against Ann Coulter but this person (and I use that term loosely) is much more of a danger with his syndicated radio talk show. Maybe if the murder in San Francisco had been of a "faggot psychopath" you folks at HRC would have paid more attention. How about a campaign to get this filth spewing maggot off the airwaves?"

Michael Savage is reported to reach more than 8 million listeners each week!! The only radio programs listened to more than his are Rush Limbaugh and Sean Hannity. For me this is a sickening thought. That this stomach-turning filth is what our nation listens to these days is an extremely frightening thought. If HRC won't do it, maybe we here in New England can mount a campaign to get this hate monger off our nations' airwaves.

Brianna Harris,  
Jacksonville, VT

## Love, rights and to heck with it!

By: J.M. THE JP\*  
TRT Columnist

In anticipation of Easter, the holiest day of the year, His Holiness the Pope has issued a statement regarding his dismal record on human rights and his commitment to serve the world with a kindness and humility unprecedented from the Vatican office.

"The hierarchy of the Vatican is so outdated. We have been more responsible for the spread of disease (refusal to support sex education and condom use in countries most in need of it), the destruction of cultures around the world (in the name of progress), the perpetuation of bigotry (you're either one of us or you're against us), and the myth that women are unworthy of spiritual equality—than any other institution in the



J.M. the JP

history of the world. Infallibility, schmalibility. We are now ready to join in the creation of world peace and harmony and to embrace an empowerment model to replace the "power-over" paradigm."

Whilst this was welcomed by people around the world with a huge sigh of relief and gratitude, not everyone was happy. The public relations office of His Holiness the Dali Lama issued the following statement: "He thinks he can slide right into My territory just like that. My world tour will match His action toe to toe any day. You're on, Pope."

Angelina Jolie was just getting used to constant press coverage for her

quest to out-Mia Mia Farrow. "See if I care. I'll start showing more flesh in the photos. Does anyone want to see His Holiness' mid-riff?"

Finally, the "Effing Pope World Music Tour" may not sell out (as previously predicted). Madonna and Sinéad O'Connor spent countless hours at Kabbalah meditating on how successful their collaboration would be. It may be for the best, as Madonna was concerned about O'Connor's propensity to leap and yelp all over the stage with no real choreography. In turn, Sinéad quipped to the press, "The many years of chutzpah are impressive, but her continued lack of actual talent is abysmal. I may be much better off with David Gray."

*J.M. Sorrell enjoys a bizarre stream of consciousness from her half-Irish, half-Jewish roots. She has too much to say as a result of her unfortunate heritage. See her anytime for unsolicited advice or a cup of café mocha.*

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## COVER STORIES

## The ABC's of Sexual Orientation

## Marriage from Page 1

Hirschfeld believed that a much deeper fast was in order.

"After years of prayer and reflection, study, and discussion about this, I have come to the conclusion that I am now called to a holy fast," said Hirschfeld. "We are called, I believe, to join the fast that our homosexual brothers and sisters in Christ have had to observe all their lives."

In agreement with the Reverend, the church vestry offered its support and approval of the marriage fast.

"The church vestry unanimously supported the wedding fast in order to stand in solidarity with our gay and lesbians brothers and sisters in Christ who have been fasting all their lives from the churches blessing of their relationships with out choice," said Hirschfeld.

Despite the widespread

reaction that the marriage fast has had, Rev. Hirschfeld holds steadfast in his commitment to create unity between members of his church, other churches and society.

"We are called to abstain from any wedding or marriage ceremony, hetero or homosexual, until such time as my bishop, in agreement with the Episcopal Church, allows us to celebrate the holy faithful relationships of all persons," he said.

According to the information posted by the Reverend on the church's website, "this journey in the desert with all brothers and sisters of Christ must be taken so that all members of the church may experience the persecution of lesbian and gay Christians due to the church mandate."

"Like Moses, like Jesus, like Paul, like myriad

By: JENNIFER HOLLADAY

March 2007—Seventy-five percent of gay students report being verbally abused at school, and more than a third say they are physically harassed. This edition of the ABCs examines anti-gay discrimination and offers a 5-part plan to help schools create safe and inclusive environments.

**Karlee Reid:** "I was openly insulted by a group of classmates in one particular class. Terms such as 'dyke' and 'disgusting' came up, and I certainly did my best to ignore them—as did the teacher. On other occasions, when a student was being harassed that same teacher would put a stop to it immediately."

**Lyle Qualls:** "On the day of the talent show ... I got up and walked to the stage when they called my name, and with all of my

Coach called me a 'faggot', my heart began to beat like a drum. ... If a teacher, someone paid to instill tolerance in my life,

schools.

For LGBTQ students, school is rarely a safe space, much less an environment conducive to learning. Research shows, for example, that LGBTQ students are five times more likely to report having skipped school in the last 30 days because of safety concerns than the general population of students.

Next month, on April 18, the 11th annual Day of Silence (TM), tens of thousands of LGBTQ students and their allies will remain silent, refraining from speech in class or with peers. This symbolic act of civil ...

**To read the rest of this article, please visit [www.therainbowtimes-mass.com](http://www.therainbowtimes-mass.com)**

75% of students heard derogatory remarks such as "faggot" or "dyke" frequently or often at school, and nearly nine out of ten (89%) reported hearing "that's so gay" or "you're so gay" -- meaning "stupid" or "worthless" -- frequently or often.

nerve, belted out the song I had practiced so hard. ... [Then] people started yelling names throughout the crowd. 'Queer' and 'fag boy' were the only words I could hear. ... School was once one of the only things I had. Now even it has been taken away."

**James Slusser:** "[After

was going to call me a 'faggot,' then what chance did I have?"

These are the voices of students who are lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender or questioning (LGBTQ) in U.S. schools. Their experiences are not anomalous, but rather representative of the very harsh realities facing millions of gay youths in our nation's

See Marriage on Page 11

Read updated stories  
everyday.  
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## Hand from Page 2

The Rainbow Times would not exist at all.

Please, as you read through this edition of TRT (and the many more to come), take a look at who supports you, who

caters to you, and go out and support them as well. Let them know that you notice their contribution to our community. The fact is that not all businesses support us. According to LGBT statistics and some Harris Poll's surveys, you are brand loyal to those

who cater to you, or who take the time to think about you. So, I say: "Let's recognize those who deserve recognition and continue to work on this successful journey together." I would not have it any other way, would you?

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# LGBT HEALTH

## Inability to urinate, pain, burning are amongst prostate cancer symptoms

By: DR. RENEE LANG, ND\*  
TRT Medical Writer

Dear Dr. Lang,  
My father is 68 years old and refuses to have a prostate exam. Do you have any suggestions that may help to encourage him to get it checked out?

—Frustrated

**M**any men resist getting a prostate exam. In general, men see their doctors less frequently than women. The prostate exam, like getting blood pressure taken, provides your physician with important information about your health, in this case prostate health.

Growth changes to prostate cells occur with increased frequency as

men age. The most common prostatic enlargement is Benign Prostatic Hypertrophy (BPH). BPH, a benign growth of prostate cells, does not equal cancer. BPH occurs rarely in men under the age of 40 and increases with age. About 90% of men in their seventies and eighties experience symptoms of BPH. If you live long enough, you'll likely get BPH.

A discussion of symptoms caused by prostate enlargement requires an explanation about the anatomy of the prostate. The prostate gland sits just below the bladder and surrounds the urethra, the tube through which urine flows. A healthy-sized



Dr. Renee Lang, ND

prostate measures about the size of a walnut. The prostate grows throughout a man's life. Problems don't usually occur until later in life. As the prostate

grows it often causes a squeezing effect on the urethra, making the passing of urine difficult.

Over time, a greater urinary force is required to overcome this squeezing effect. Typical symptoms of prostate enlargement include: inability to urinate, difficulty with starting or stopping urination, uncontrollable starting or stopping, weak stream, pain or burning during urination, erectile difficulty, blood in urine, urinary frequency especially at night, and pain in the lower back,

hips, or upper thighs.

If the squeezing becomes severe, urinary retention can occur and may require catheterization. Most men would agree that catheterization is much less appealing than a simple prostate exam.

The importance of observing and addressing prostate changes stems from the high number of prostate cancer cases each year. Prostate cancer sits just below skin cancer as the number two cancer in men. About 220,000 men will be diagnosed with prostate cancer this year and about 27,000 of them will be fatal at about 1 in 9 diagnoses.

The greatest risk factor

for prostate cancer is age. Most cases of prostate cancer occur in men older than 65. Individual risk increases if a family history of prostate cancer exists. Prostate cancer affects African American men more than white men, including Hispanic white men. Asian and American Indian men have the lowest incidence.

Diet and lifestyle habits contribute ... *The rest of this article can be read at: www.therainbowtimes-mass.com*

\* Please consult your physician when making any changes in your life. This medical column is used for informational purposes. If you have any questions, please contact Dr. Lang at [dr.rlang@thehealingway.net](mailto:dr.rlang@thehealingway.net)

"The greatest risk factor for prostate cancer is age. Most cases of prostate cancer occur in men older than 65. Individual risk increases if a family history of prostate cancer exists."

## St. Patrick's in Holyoke: An opportunity to help same-sex marriage

By: LINDSAY WILSON  
TRT Reporter

During Holyoke's St. Patrick's Day Parade, 29 volunteers gathered before the start of the celebration for a post carding event in support of same-sex marriage.

The event was organized by MassEquality.org, an organization that according to its website, defends equal marriage rights for same-sex couples in Massachusetts.

Currently, same-sex marriage rights are being threatened by a pending amendment to the Massachusetts constitution. According to the

Mass Equality Website, in January two-thirds of Massachusetts legislators voted against this amendment. If approved by 50 legislators at the next constitutional convention, the amendment would appear as a ballot question in November 2008.

Armed with stickers, signs and clipboards, volunteers asked parade spectators to fill out postcards to be sent to their legislators stating that they were against the amendment, and in support of same-sex marriage rights. Last year, Mass Equality collected almost 400 postcards with the help of 10 volunteers.

One of the leaders of the

event was Rebecca Ahuja, a field organizer for the National Gay Lesbian Taskforce. According to Ahuja, the 487 postcards collected this year will be delivered to Massachusetts legislators to demonstrate the support of their constituents.

"It's going to send a very interesting message that these are from the St. Patrick's Day parade right in Holyoke," she said. "I definitely think we're going to get a message across and it's going to be a good one."

Volunteer Dan Hawes said the best part of the day was giving many supporters "their first oppor-



Amaad Riveria of Worcester (Mass Equality), collects South Hadley's Julie Chartier's signature.

Photo by: Lindsay Wilson/TRT

tunity" to take a stand.

"We reached lots of constituents of Western Mass legislators that we would have never met otherwise and we found lots and lots of support today for gay marriage," he said.

Mass Equality volunteer Joe Mccoy of

Easthampton believes "education" is an important part of post carding.

"[It's] just having people meet people and talk about the issue. ...A lot of them understand the concept of equality and not changing the constitution," he said.

Mccoy said he is con-

cerned that if the amendment were to pass, constitution changes would not stop there.

"If we do lose the ability to have marriages going forward, I'm concerned that they will not stop and they will come back and try to take the marriages that have existed," he said. "We've had same sex marriage for three years now and nothing bad has happened. Massachusetts has been, throughout history, the beacon of equality. ...It would just be a travesty, of all places, for Massachusetts, to make this terrible mistake and go backwards."

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# QUEER JUSTICE

## Can I change my name to a female name?

By: ATTORNEY JENNIFER L. DEXTER\*  
TRT COLUMNIST

Dear Queer Justice:  
I am a male transitioning to a female (MTF). Can I change my name to a female name and how do I change my name.

—Nameless

Dear Nameless:

Assuming you are over the age of eighteen (18), the easy answer is yes, you can change your name. Theoretically you can change your name to any name you choose and the process is fairly easy. You can find all the paper work you need in the Clerks office at the Probate and Family Court in your county. The clerks can answer all of your questions and explain the procedure to you. There is a process that will take some time. You should be aware that a legal name change does not change your name on your birth certificate. Once the Court issues the Order changing your name you can acquire a new social security card with your new name though.

Laws concerning transgender issues are constantly evolving especially here in Massachusetts. Here are two links to a current transgender non-discrimination bill which is before the Mass. Legislature: [www.massstpc.org/materials/House%20Bill%20172%201-sheet.pdf](http://www.massstpc.org/materials/House%20Bill%20172%201-sheet.pdf), [www.massstpc.org/legisla](http://www.massstpc.org/legisla)



**Attorney Jennifer Dexter**  
[tation/index.shtml](http://tation/index.shtml).

You can also visit the GLAAD's website for more information at: [www.massstpc.org/pubs/Transgender\\_Legal\\_Issues.PDF](http://www.massstpc.org/pubs/Transgender_Legal_Issues.PDF).

Dear Queer Justice:

I have a question that has nothing to do with gay rights. My daughter, who is 14 years old, was recently arrested for disturbing lawful assembly and assault and batter. She was given a summons to appear for an arraignment. What can I expect when we go to court and what is the process after the arraignment?

—Anonymous

Dear Anonymous:

I will answer this question assuming you know nothing about the judicial system. Black's Law Dictionary defines arraignment as the "...initial step in a criminal prosecution whereby the defendant is brought before the court to hear the charges and enter a plea." Your daughter will be brought into the court room, the charges against

your daughter will be read aloud and a plea of not delinquent will be entered on her behalf (in juvenile court children are either delinquent or not delinquent not guilty or innocent). Depending on your financial situation a lawyer will be appointed to represent her and the judge will hear arguments as to bail. Her lawyer will choose a Pre-Trial Conference date. A Pre-Trial conference is another date in which you and your daughter will have to appear in court. Your daughter's attorney will answer your questions. My advice is to take a deep breath and relax, it is not as scary as it appears on TV.

*\*Attorney Jennifer L. Dexter earned a B.A. in Psychology from The University of Central Florida. She moved to Massachusetts to attend law school at The Western New England College of Law in Springfield, Mass. She is a member of the Massachusetts Bar and has a Solo General Practice in the Pioneer Valley Area.*

*The information contained herein is intended for educational purposes only and does not represent legal advice. Should you need legal advice, please contact an attorney.*

*If you have legal questions that are unanswered, or if you would like to know more about a specific topic, then send your questions to: [queerjustice@comcast.net](mailto:queerjustice@comcast.net)*




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# JUST TECH

## Microsoft says attacks on newly disclosed Windows flaw rise

By JESSICA MINTZ

AP Business Writer

SEATTLE (AP)—Hackers stepped up attacks Friday on computers running some versions of Windows, a day after Microsoft disclosed a hole related to the mouse cursor.

Microsoft Corp. sent out a security advisory Thursday warning customers that a vulnerability in “.ani” files—used to change the cursor into an hourglass while a program works, or into a dancing

animal or other animation on specially designed Web sites—was allowing hackers to break into computers and install malicious software.

“Overnight we did see the attacks change from limited and targeted attacks to slightly more, but do still categorize it as a limited attack,” said Mark Miller, director of the software maker’s security response group.

The so-called zero-day attack, a vulnerability that is discovered before



Microsoft has a chance to fix the problem, is aimed at PCs running Windows Vista, the new operating system that the company has touted as its most secure. The hole has also been found on Windows 2000 Service Pack 4, Windows XP Service Pack

2 and some versions of Windows Server 2003.

Once hackers have access to a computer, they can install any number of nasty programs—ones that steal passwords or record keystrokes, which the hackers could then sell to identity thieves.

Microsoft first learned of the vulnerability in December, and has been working on a patch since, Miller said. He did not say whether it would be distributed on its own or as part of a scheduled update.

Earlier last week, security software vendor McAfee Inc. saw a post on a Chinese message board indicating hackers were planning to exploit the hole, which set Microsoft’s

security advisory in motion.

“It is important to note that while we do think Vista is the most secure operating system released, no software is 100 percent secure,” Miller said.

Computer users could end up with a malicious program on their PC after a Web browsing session and not know it, said Craig Schmugar, a virus researcher for McAfee Avert Labs, the research arm of McAfee.

So far, he said, attacks have been limited to Web surfing with Internet Explorer versions 6 or 7. Firefox, the open-source browser from Mozilla, does not yet seem vulnerable. While Microsoft

urged people to be extremely cautious with e-mail, security companies said they have not seen any instances of attacks via e-mail.

While it’s hard to tell what hackers will do once they have access to a computer, a group of Chinese hackers may be plotting to steal login information for the wildly popular multiplayer video game, World of Warcraft. People who buy the stolen login information can profit by selling items inside the game world, said Ken Dunham, director of the rapid response team at iDefense, the research division of VeriSign Inc.

## TRT’s Inauguration Party: A big success!

On Friday, March 23, The Rainbow Times celebrated its Inauguration Party at the Pride & Joy store in Crafts Avenue.

Dozens of supporters attended the event, which was filled with inspirational words from Mark Carmien as he introduced Grisel M. Ocasio, TRT Publisher and Nicole Lashomb, Editor.

“These women told me like 6 months ago that they were going to start a newspaper that they felt was needed in the area,” Carmien told the crowd. “A few months later, they came back to show me the first copy of the paper.”

“It has been a pleasure to have you here, supporting us, believing in us and our product,” said Ocasio. “The Rainbow Times



Photo by Lindsay & Ben Wilson/TRT.

Nicole Lashomb, TRT Editor-in-Chief, presents a Certificate of Excellence to J.M. Sorrell for her outstanding work for TRT.

would not be what it has become without your help and support.”

The attendees enjoyed an evening full of camaraderie with wine, cheese, fruits, veggies and music by Pride & Joy.

Before the evening was over, Lashomb presented four people with Excellence Awards. The awarded were: Lindsay

Wilson (writer), JM Sorrell (writer), Mark Carmien (supporter) and Jane Hamel (writer).

An emotional Lashomb handed the certificates as she thanked the recipients.

“We could not have done it without your help,” Lashomb said. “We cannot do it without your support.”

## Microsoft launches Deepfish: Browser for smart phones

REDMOND, Washington (AP)—

Microsoft Corp. has unveiled an early version of a new Web browser for mobile devices that it said will make browsing full-sized Web pages faster and easier on small smart-phone screens.

Deepfish, as the software from Microsoft’s Live Labs group is called, takes a Web page intended for a desktop Web browser and turns it into a small image that fits on a mobile phone’s screen. Users can zoom in on the part of the page they want to read or

click on.

To date, most Web browsers for mobile phones work best with pared-down versions of existing sites, limiting mobile users’ access to the Internet to a sliver of what’s available to desktop Web surfers.

Microsoft said on the Live Labs Web site that the Deepfish technology is in very early stages, and “still a few releases from beta quality.”

Deepfish’s unveiling recently followed another mobile Web browser devel-



opment from Microsoft. ZenZui, a startup that used technology developed

at Microsoft’s research lab, on Monday showed off a visual way to store and navigate bookmarked Web pages on a mobile phone.

For now, a limited number of users with smart phones or Pocket PCs running Windows Mobile 5.0 or later can download Deepfish from the Live Labs Web site. On the Net: <http://labs.live.com/deepfish>

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# Q ENTERTAINMENT

## NY 18th Annual GLAAD Media Awards

New York, Tuesday, March 27, 2007—Whoopi Goldberg, Julianne Moore, Jennifer Hudson and John Waters were among the dozens of celebrities who joined the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD) as it honored Patti LaBelle, Tom Ford, Kate Clinton and the best in film, television and journalism recently at the 18th Annual GLAAD Media Awards in New York.

The GLAAD Media Awards recognize and honor mainstream media for their fair, accurate and inclusive representations of the lesbian, gay, bisexual

and transgender (LGBT) community and the issues that affect their lives.

At the ceremony, Jennifer Hudson presented the Excellence in Media Award to Patti LaBelle in recognition of LaBelle's strong support of full equality for the LGBT community and her work to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS.

"I am so honored that the gay and lesbian community honors me tonight because I have been with you for 45 years," LaBelle said in her acceptance speech. "I don't know why people discriminate against you. I don't know why people can't see you marrying ... whatever you want to do, it should be accepted by the world."

Also at the event, Julianne Moore presented

### List of GLAAD Media Awards recipients Announced in NY

- **Excellence in Media Award:** Patti LaBelle (presented by Jennifer Hudson)
- **Vito Russo Award:** Tom Ford (presented by Julianne Moore)
- **Pioneer Award:** Kate Clinton (presented by Cynthia Nixon)
- **Outstanding Film – Limited Release:** Quinceañera (Sony Pictures Classics)
- **Outstanding Documentary:** All Aboard! Rosie's Family Cruise (HBO)
- **Outstanding Reality Program:** Project Runway (Bravo)
- **Outstanding Magazine Overall Coverage:** Details
- **Outstanding Spanish-Language Variety Program Segment:** "Maria Belén Correa" Mapiando (Azteca América)

the Vito Russo Award to fashion designer Tom

Ford. The Vito Russo Award is presented to an openly lesbian, gay, bisexual or transgender media professional who has made a significant difference in promoting equal rights for the LGBT community.

"Just the simple fact that an award such as this exists confirms the need for all of us to stand up and be proud of who we are," Ford said accepting his award. "And I am indeed proud to be honored by an organization that fights prejudice and intolerance in our society."

Cynthia Nixon presented the Pioneer Award to comedian Kate Clinton. In 2006, Clinton celebrated her twenty-fifth year as an openly lesbian humorist and social commentator ...

More at: [therainbowtimesmass.com](http://therainbowtimesmass.com)

## Ricky Martin defends Mexican singer who came out of closet

MEXICO CITY (AP)—Puerto Rico's all-time top-selling artist Ricky Martin defended the right of gay pop stars to come out of the closet as he toured Mexico and geared up for his "Black and White" tour across the United States.

In an interview with the Associated Press, Martin said he felt solidarity with Mexican Christian Chavez, a singer of the group RBD who recently publicly said he was gay.

"Life is too short to live closed up, guarding what you say," Martin said. Chavez "has to be free in many aspects. I wish him much strength."

Martin said his foundation People for Children, which helps exploited children worldwide,

inspires him in his song writing.

"When you start to work with social problems, it gets the attention of the media and people think it's a farce," he said. "It's a spiritual search. The philanthropic work helps me write music and the music helps me in the philanthropic work."

The singer, named Person of the Year in 2006 by the Latin Recording Academy, said it was great that more and more celebrities were working with charities.

"If this is a fashion then I hope a lot more fashions like this come along," he said.

Martin will tour in the United States from April and May.



### Lesbian Best Sellers\*

1. Loving Annabelle
2. She Likes Girls
3. Big Dreams in Little Hope
4. The Investigator
5. In Her Line Of Fire
6. Cynara
7. The L Word: Season 3
8. Outlaugh
9. The L Word: Season 1
10. Desert Hearts 2-Disc Collector Edition

\* By wolfevideo.com

BY: VIVIANA VALIENTE  
TRT Special Report

According to producer Kate Davis, over the last ten years she has been making films about misunderstood people on the margins of society. Her 2001 documentary "Southern Comfort" is about ordinary men that happen to be transsexual.

The documentary draws its title from the "Southern Comfort" transgender convention in Georgia, which is now in its 17th year. SoCo, as most of its fervent attendees call it, is the final destination of the documentary's main characters.

SoCo is simply a temporary utopia where the transgender community is treated with dignity, love

and respect. To the documentary characters it is an oasis in the middle of a Georgia desert. This is a film about trans-to-trans love and intimacy, about a making family, and about a health system that denies treatment to the transsexual community.

The story revolves around the lives of Robert Eads, a female to male transsexual, and his cho-

sen family of friends and life-partners. Robert lives in a small rural town in Georgia, which becomes his nemesis when after being diagnosed with terminal ovarian cancer he can't find a doctor willing to treat him. Robert's transgender family made up of Max, Cass, Lola, and their respective partners live simple working class lives.

In this documentary you won't see any of the Hollywood glamour widely associated with the transgender community. What you will see are trans families dealing with the ...

The rest of this story can be read at: [therainbowtimesmass.com](http://therainbowtimesmass.com)



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# TRT LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT SCENE

## TV Shows not to Miss and the Networks that bring them to you!

**All My Children, ABC** (1 hr); Bianca is Erica Kane's lesbian daughter. Zoe is a transgender woman who's fallen for Bianca.

**As the World Turns, CBS** (1 hr); Lily and Holden's son, Luke, is gay.

**The Ellen DeGeneres Show, NBC** (1 hr); Ellen DeGeneres hosts a wildly popular syndicated talk show.

**In The Life, American Public Television** (1 hr); Gay and lesbian news-magazine with guest hosts discussing youth and education, health and AIDS, arts and culture, workplace, relationships and

family, and global issues.

**Passions, NBC** (1 hr); Simone is daytime's first African American lesbian.

**The View, ABC** (1 hr); Rosie O'Donnell is one of four hosts in this morning talk show.

**Queer Eye, Bravo** (1 hr); A make-over show where five gay men, all experts in style and culture, take a straight guy from frumpy to fabulous.

**The Wire, BET** (1 hr); Set in Baltimore, this gritty HBO drama features two gay series regular characters: lesbian police detective Kima Greggs and gay criminal Omar Little.

**Bad Girls, LOGO** (1hr); This gritty, award-win-

ning hit British series explores the never-ending drama that occurs between inmates, correctional officers, and prison administrators. From the manipulative and maniacal Shell to the outspoken and compassionate lesbian Nikki, these women take drama, love, and betrayal to thrilling new heights.

**Click List, LOGO** (1/2 hr); The Click List is the only place where you can find the Top 10 LGBT music videos each week. The Click List is where the best Pop, R&B and Dance videos each week. Visit: [www.LOGOonline.com](http://www.LOGOonline.com) to watch them online.

## Hungry for more 'The L Word'?

It seems like *ourchart.com* has a few of the answers that many viewers were left with at the end of Season 4.

Ourchart.com has an interesting Q&A Podcast Interview with Ilene Chaiken and Jennifer Beals. The writer and actress ask readers' questions about their roles written. Questions such as the writing of "Dana's death" were amongst the ones discussed in this Podcast interview.

To read the rest of this article, please go to: [therainbowtimesmass.com](http://therainbowtimesmass.com)



## here! TV's Lesbian Sex and Sexuality

Think you know everything about women? Think again! "Lesbian Sex and Sexuality" will take you on an uncharted journey of lesbian sexuality and desire. Award winning filmmaker Katherine Linton, offers an unblinking look inside the world

of lesbian culture in this provocative new docu-series, completely uncensored!

In a nation where sexuality in general is taboo, lesbian sex, lust and sexual ...

For more information visit: [therainbowtimes-mass.com](http://therainbowtimes-mass.com)

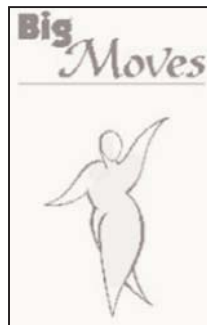
## The Big Moves is coming to Northampton, Mass.

*The Big Easy: a jazzed-up, kicked-back, down-'n'-dirty revue from Boston's "Best Dance Company", Big Moves*

BOSTON, MA— Sit down, hon', and strap your seatbelt on: Big Moves is comin' in fast and low with its new spring dance and performance revue, The Big Easy, featuring plus-sized dancers and performers at their fierce, loose-limbed best. The Big Easy swings into Northampton for one night only, on Saturday, April 21, at The Elevens Nightclub (140 Pleasant

Street, Northampton). General admission is \$12/advance (available only online at [www.big-moves.org](http://www.big-moves.org)), or \$15 at the door.

In the Big Easy, Big Moves' big-boned babes flip their hats and flip some fringe to a certain time and place—'20s through '40s, New Orleans, and most of all, JAZZ. The Big Easy is a feast for eyes, ears, and toes, and Amazonian



emcee Alicia Greene knows how to dish it out, starting off with a smoky set from our hip hop queens, the Phat Fly Girls.

Filling the Stage is back with two sizzling new Broadway jazz numbers, one straight-up and the other rewritten to be as fat as you can handle ...

To read more about this story visit: [therainbowtimesmass.com](http://therainbowtimesmass.com)

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5. Available Men
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7. Shortbus
8. Lost Language of Cranes
9. Open Cam
10. 50 Ways of Saying Fabulous

\* By [wolfevideo.com](http://wolfevideo.com)

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# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## northamptonpride

### Volunteer Application

Join an energetic group of volunteers who organize Northampton's Annual Pride Parade and Rally to celebrate the diversity and vitality of the area's gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community. There are a variety of different volunteer opportunities which encompass as little or as much as you have time to offer. Please fill out the information below as accurately as possible so that we may place you in the most appropriate volunteer capacity. We hope that your experience with Northampton Pride will be enjoyable and fulfilling! Thank you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (H): \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone (w): \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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☐ Editing  
☐ Selling Ads  
☐ Proofing  
☐ Web Design  
☐ Graphic Design

#### General

☐ Set-up/Clean up  
☐ Peace Keeping/Parade Coordinator  
☐ Soliciting Donations/Fundraising  
☐ Staffing Beverage Area  
☐ Selling Merchandise  
☐ Posting Flyers  
☐ Stuffing Mailers  
☐ Photography/Videography  
☐ Public Relations  
☐ Event Planning

#### Time available:

☐ As Needed  
☐ One time  
☐ Ongoing

#### Please Circle:

Best Days: S Su M T W Th F

#### Times:

Other skills that I have or tasks I would be willing to do: \_\_\_\_\_  
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**THANK YOU FOR CONTINUOUS SUPPORT OF PRIDE!**

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## Patrick's Web site draws all comments

By Steve LeBlanc/AP

BOSTON (AP)—It was envisioned as a freewheeling Internet-age experiment in political networking and a week into its rebirth, Gov. Deval Patrick's political Web site is proving a popular online destination.

Voters of all stripes—from cranks to good government types—have been flocking to the site to vent on their favorite topics, from gay marriage and renewable energy to Sept. 11 conspiracy theories and opening up the state's parks to off-road vehicles.

There's even at least one Web site visitor calling for

Massachusetts to follow the lead of Holland and Switzerland and create special highway lanes for bicycles, scooters and Vespas.

In the six days since the Web site went live, nearly 2,400 visitors have signed up to post messages on more than 360 different issues.

The raucous nature of the debate—like the visitors calling for the impeachment of President Bush or the legalization of marijuana—is part of the point, according to the site's organizers.

But users seem convinced that the site is their best

portal into the inner sanctum of the governor's office—and they're not shy about speaking their minds. Not surprisingly, some of Beacon Hill's most contentious issues top the Web site's lists—beginning with the question of same sex marriage.

As of the end of the work day on Friday, 459 users had voted for "Equal Marriage Rights" while 354 urges lawmakers to "Vote on Marriage." The question of whether the state should change its constitution to ban same-sex marriage is set to come up again before lawmakers this session.

## Cooley Dickinson Blood Drives announced

NORTHAMPTON—To help boost blood supplies, Cooley Dickinson Hospital invites donors to visit the CDH blood mobile or stop by the CDH Blood Bank to donate blood.

Over the next few weeks, the CDH blood mobile will visit the following businesses and organizations. Blood drives are held from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. unless otherwise noted; no appointment is needed.

- April 3 Kinetics, 317 Russell Street, Hadley
- April 4 Smith College Physical Plant, 126 West Street, Northampton

- April 5 Potpourri Mall, 241 King Street, Northampton
- April 10 Big E's Supermarket, 11 Union Street, Easthampton

- April 11 Cahillane Auto Body, 32 Damon Road, Northampton
- April 12 Applewood, 1 Spencer Drive, Amherst

- Blood donation at Cooley Dickinson Hospital or on the hospital's blood mobile involves three easy steps. At either place, donors can expect the process to take about thirty minutes.

Anyone who is healthy, is at least 17 years old and weighs 110 pounds or

more can donate blood. Following the procedure, snacks are available for all donors.

To schedule an appointment to donate blood at the CDH Blood Bank, call 582-2162. Walk-ins are also welcome.

Blood Bank donor hours are Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. and Tuesday, 1:00 to 8:00 p.m. To schedule the Cooley blood mobile at your organization call Pam Weston at 582-2634 or send an e-mail to: [Pamela\\_Weston@cooley-dickinson.org](mailto:Pamela_Weston@cooley-dickinson.org).

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# PRIDE ENVIRONMENT: EARTH TALK

## Can charcoal briquettes release carcinogens when burned?

*Dear EarthTalk: I saw warnings on bags of charcoal that said carcinogens are released when the briquettes are burned. Is it safe to breathe in the smell of a charcoal grill?*

—Joe Sliwa, via e-mail

**B**arbecue grills can be problematic for two reasons. First, both charcoal and wood burn “dirty,” producing not only hydrocarbons but also tiny soot particles that pollute the air and can aggravate heart and lung problems. Secondly, the grilling of meat can form two kinds of potentially carcinogenic compounds: polycyclic aromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs) and heterocyclic amines (HCAs).

According to the American Cancer Society, PAHs form when fat from meat drips onto the charcoal. They then rise with the smoke and can get

deposited on the food. They can also form directly on the food as it is charred. The hotter the temperature and the longer the meat cooks, the more HCAs are formed.

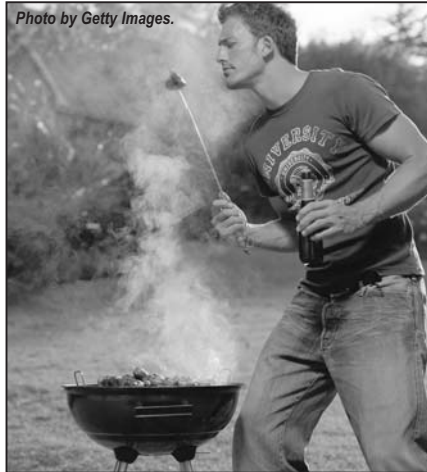
HCAs can also form on broiled and pan-fried beef, pork, fowl and fish, not just on grilled meats. In fact, National Cancer Institute researchers have identified 17 different HCAs that result from cooking “muscle meats” and that may pose human cancer risks. Studies have also shown increased risk of colorectal, pancreatic and breast cancers associated with high intakes of well done, fried or barbecued meats.

According to the Texas Commission on Environmental Air Quality, Texans who like to say that they “live and breathe barbecue” may be doing just that to the detriment of

their health. A 2003 study by scientists from Rice University found that microscopic bits of polynuclear aromatic hydrocarbons released into the atmosphere from cooking meat on backyard barbecues were helping to pollute the air in Houston. The city at times registers air quality levels that rank it one of the more polluted U.S. urban areas, though emissions from barbecues are certainly dwarfed by those generated by motor vehicles and industry.

Both briquettes and lump charcoal create air pollution. Lump charcoal, made from charred wood to add flavor, also contributes to deforestation and adds to the greenhouse gases in the atmosphere. Charcoal briquettes do have the benefit of being made partly from sawdust (a good use of waste wood), but popular

Photo by Getty Images.



brands may also contain coal dust, starch, sodium nitrate, limestone and borax.

In Canada, charcoal is now a restricted product under the Hazardous

Products Act. According to the Canadian Department of Justice, charcoal briquettes in bags that are advertised, imported or sold in Canada must display a label warning of the potential hazards of the product. No such requirements presently exist in the United States.

Consumers can avoid

exposure to these potentially harmful additives by sticking with so-called natural charcoal brands. Noram de Mexico's Sierra Madre 100 percent oak hardwood charcoal contains no coal, oil, limestone, starch, sawdust or petroleum products and, to boot, is certified by the Rainforest Alliance's SmartWood program as sustainably harvested. The product is available at select Sam's Clubs across the U.S. Other manufacturers of all natural charcoal include Greenlink and Lazzari, both of which can be found at natural food outlets across North America.

Got an environmental question? Send it to: EarthTalk, c/o E/The Environmental Magazine, P.O. Box 5098, Westport, CT 06881; e-mail: [earth-talk@emagazine.com](mailto:earth-talk@emagazine.com). Read past columns at: [www.emagazine.com/earth-talk/archives.php](http://www.emagazine.com/earth-talk/archives.php).

### Marriage from Page 3

saints of ages past and yet to come, we are summoned to journey in the wilderness, in the desert,” said Hirschfeld. “We are called to experience the pain, the longing, and the joy of fellowship with our brothers and sisters, saints of God, who have been waiting, traveling barefoot though a rocky and uneven wilderness. I invite us to join in solidarity—no, a better phrase would be—in communion, with those

persons who have been fasting and walking in the desert their whole lives, not by choice, but because the Church has forced them to.”

Since its beginning, the fast has already made an impact on participants and community members as well, including Rev. Hirschfeld.

“Now we have begun to experience all this agony, self-doubt, and pain, which gays and lesbians do face,” said Hirschfeld.

The church vestry agrees.

“Already we know more deeply, though certainly not completely, what it is to walk in the shoes of gay and lesbian Christians who have been ridiculed, persecuted, defamed, and even demonized by both church and society.”

The marriage fast will continue through Lent of 2008, until the Eastertide.

Some, however, view the move by the Amherst Episcopal Church as a “mistake” and a “sin.”

“Marriage is the union between a man and a woman,” said an Hadley

resident who opted to remain anonymous. “It is against nature and not something I would ever support. What is going to be next?”

The Grace Episcopal Church located at 14 Boltwood Ave., Amherst, Mass., holds Sunday services at 8 a.m., 10:30 a.m. and 6 p.m. For more information, call (413) 256-6754 or e-mail [grace@gracechurchamherst.org](mailto:grace@gracechurchamherst.org).

## Florida Court Upholds Alimony Obligation for Transgender Ex-Spouse: Lambda Legal Says ‘Good News, Bad News’

Clearwater, FL, March, 2007—In response to a ruling by the Sixth Circuit Court for Pinellas County that rejected an attempt to terminate previously agreed to and ordered alimony for an ex-spouse because he is transgender, Lambda Legal issued this statement from Greg Nevins, Senior Staff

Attorney in Lambda Legal's Southern Regional Office in Atlanta and Cole Thaler, Transgender Rights Attorney at Lambda Legal:

“Today's ruling is a good news, bad news decision. While the end result of the court ruling is good for our client, part of how we got there is bad for the trans-

gender community as a whole in Florida. This is the precise example of why it is damaging to chain people to the gender on their birth certificate. It's wrong to call our client a woman when Julio is a man.”

The rest of this story can be found at: [www.therainbowtimesmass.com](http://www.therainbowtimesmass.com)

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*Atty. Zadworny is an active member of the Massachusetts Bar Association, the Hampshire County Bar Association, and the Massachusetts Women's Bar Association. She is also a member of the Hampshire County Probate Court Committee and the Pioneer Valley Estate Planning Council.*

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# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## TRT Calendar

**SENIOR CITIZEN'S BOWLING LEAGUE;** Mondays at 12:30 p.m. - Canal Lanes, Route 5, Southampton.

### SOCIAL GROUP FOR LESBIANS

We always meet on the first and third Friday's of the month. For information call 413-687-2065

**EMERGENCY CONTRACEPTION (EC)** is NOW available without a prescription at all Tapestry Health Services sites. Call (413) 586-2539.

**CAFE & CONVERSATION;** Every Tuesday at 9:30 a.m.; at the Northampton Council on Aging, NCOA; 240 Main St., Suite 1 Northampton Phone: 587-1228

**Mature Lesbian Support Group;** Group for women 55+ meets monthly at the Northampton Council on Aging at 240 Main St., at 6 p.m., the second Monday of each month. FMI: Jennifer Higgins at 413-587-1226.

**DISCUSSION GROUP FOR LESBIANS 40+** meets every Wednesday from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. at the Stonewall Center at UMass. Topics chosen by group consensus the previous week. This is a warm and welcoming group of intelligent women. Information email to: [JBGreenize@aol.com](mailto:JBGreenize@aol.com)

**Older Lesbian Discussion Groups-Amherst/NoHo Area.** New members accepted on space-available basis. If enough interest, new groups may form. FMI: 413-247-3257 or 413-253-3049.

**BOWLING:** Monday, April 2 at 7 p.m. at Brattleboro Bowl.. We each rent our own shoes, then split the cost of the lanes.

**CORE GROUP:** Thursday, April 12; 6 p.m. at the Menspace. Help guide the Men's Program! 6 p.m. potluck, 6:30 p.m. discussion. All welcome.

**SPIRITUALITY:** Friday, April 13; 7 p.m. at the Menspace. Open discussion of men's spirituality.

**LEATHER POTLUCK:** Saturday, April 14; 6:30 p.m.

at the Menspace. Our ongoing leather/bdsm interest group is holding a potluck starting at 6:30 p.m.

**BOOK CLUB:** Thursday, April 19; 7 p.m.; at the Menspace. The book for April is *The Dave Kopay Story*.

**GAYME NIGHT:** Friday, April 20; 7pm, at Howie's. Bring your favorite board game and join the fun!

**THE HA-HA SISTERHOOD: "HELPING THROUGH LAUGHTER,"** a family-friendly Improv Comedy Show and Silent Auction to help a local family in a time of great need. April 21, 2007 at the First Congregational Church of Hadley (on Middle Street at Rt. 9) at 7-8pm. The Ha-Ha Sisterhood will be joined by guest stars Mosie McNally of Improv Boston and Julie Waggoner of the Villa Idiots! Silent auction bids start at 6:15pm and winners will be announced after the show. Suggested donation admission fee of \$5-20 per person. For more information call Pam at 413-253-1399

**THE BIG EASY:** Sat. April 21. The big-bodied dancers of Big Moves tip their hats and flip some fringe at a certain time and place, with this retro-jazz-themed dance and performance revue. Hip hop, musical theater, burlesque, belly dance, and more. Saturday, April 21, at The Eleventh Nightclub (140 Pleasant St.) in Northampton. Doors at 7:30, curtain at 8. \$12/adv. (general admission), \$15/door. Advance tickets are available only online at [www.bigmoves.org](http://www.bigmoves.org). 617-869-2970.

**BEAR-LY CONNECTING:** Saturday, April 21; 6:30-9:30 p.m. at the Menspace. "Connecting" is a small group for 8 to 10 guys that offers discussion centered on how we meet and connect with other guys and keep it healthy and satisfying when we do. This month's "Connecting" evening will be focused on Bears and their admirers. Besides bringing together bears for this one event, "Bearly Connecting" will hopefully be the begin-

ning of regular get-togethers for the bear community in the greater Brattleboro area.

**CONNECTION'S MAILING NIGHT:** Tuesday, April 24; 6 p.m. at the APSV office. We'll be stuffing the newsletter, and we could definitely use help! Pizza compliments of the The Men's Program.

**MASS EQUALITY; VOLUNTEER AT NORTHAMPTON PRIDE.** Join supporters by working the booth, collecting signatures, and passing out stickers, signs and information. Sat, May 5 10:00 am - 6:00 pm TBA, Northampton

**LAMBDA LEGAL 2007 LIBERTY AWARDS NATIONAL DINNER** May 7, 2007 | 6:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. at the Metropolitan Pavilion, 125 West 18th Street, New York, New York. Join Lambda Legal supporters for our annual Liberty Awards. This year's award will honor Gay Men's Health Crisis for its vital role in both the HIV and LGBT movements for the past 25 years and be accepted by Chief Executive Officer Marjorie Hill, PhD. Please contact Koren Manning at 212-809-8585 ext. 231 for more information. To purchase online tickets go to: <http://ga4.org/lambdalegal/events/libertyawards/details.tcl>

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**UPDATED DAILY CALENDAR**

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**WWW.**

## The Day of Silence

On April 18, 2007, at least 2,000 middle and high schools across the country are expected to be much quieter than normal. Why?

It's the 11th annual National Day of Silence (TM), during which LGBTQ students and their allies maintain complete silence throughout the school day, echoing the silencing effect of anti-gay discrimination. Sponsored by GLSEN and the United States Student Association, the Day of

Silence (TM) is one of the nation's largest student-led, social action events.

Here's how it works: Students take a daylong vow of silence, and,

the Silence" event, during which students speak (finally!) against anti-gay discrimination and demand change in their schools and communities.

The free Day of Silence Organizing Manual (PDF) offers everything students, teachers, counselors and

Students take a daylong vow of silence, and, instead of speaking in class or to peers, they pass out cards with information about anti-gay prejudice and ways for students and others to "end the silence."

instead of speaking in class or to peers, they pass out cards with information about anti-gay prejudice and ways for students and others to "end the silence." The observance typically culminates in a "Breaking

administrators need to know about implementing and learning from the Day.

To register your Day of Silence Event go to: [www.dayofsilence.org/content/getinvolved.html](http://www.dayofsilence.org/content/getinvolved.html)

## More automotive questions and answers

By: STEPHEN M. LEWIS  
*TRT Auto Specialist*

I've received these questions, and I'll gladly answer them here for our automotive friends.

1. Is someone, besides the owner of a car, covered by the owner's insurance policy?

The answer is yes if you have in effect (a currently paid) proper policy, and the driver has a current valid driver's license.

2. Should I use synthetic oil?

Synthetic oil is "more slippery" than normal oil and breaks down much less than normal oil, hence it only needs to be changed about 1/3 as often



Stephen M. Lewis  
President, Steve Lewis Subaru

as other oil. Be aware that synthetic oil is about 3 times as expensive as regular oil. There goes the dollar advantage. My opinion: changed at the proper intervals, along with a new oil filter, normal oil is fine.

3. My car is an 87 Honda Civic. How often should I change the oil?

Again my opinion: Older cars with 100,000 miles or

more should be changed at no more than 5,000 mile intervals. Newer vehicles should be changed at no more than 7,500 miles.

4. When I accelerate to 55 MPH, my steering wheel begins to vibrate. The faster I go the more it vibrates. What could be the problem?

5. Which is "better," standard or automatic? Which is better chocolate or Vanilla?

To read the answers to questions 4 & 5, visit: [www.therainbowtimesmass.com](http://www.therainbowtimesmass.com)

Any further questions feel free to call me at 413-584-5355 or E-Mail me at [SteveLewis@Subarumail.com](mailto:SteveLewis@Subarumail.com). Happy Motoring!

## Proyecto Igualdad ... Spanish Protections to LGBT's?

Lambda Legal's Proyecto Igualdad extends Lambda Legal's resources and information to Spanish speakers and seeks to engage the many Latino/Hispanic communities. They provide bilingual educational materials, host community events and trainings and offer bilingual legal assistance through our Help Desks around the country. If you are an attorney sensitive to LGBT and HIV-related issues, please consider joining our Cooperating Attorney Network.

For more information about **Proyecto Igualdad**, contact Francisco Dueñas, the Proyecto Igualdad Outreach Associate, at Lambda Legal's Western Regional Office.

Submit your non-profit calendar event\* to [calendar@therainbowtimesmass.com](mailto:calendar@therainbowtimesmass.com)

\*Certain restrictions apply. Small for-profit events/groups, 35 words or less, are considered for a small fee. Large/for-profit events are not considered. All submissions appear online.

# "FAMILY" NEWS FROM AROUND

## Patrick seeks reversal of stem cell research

By Glen Johnson/AP Writer

CAMBRIDGE, Massachusetts (AP)—Democratic Gov. Deval Patrick said recently that he will push to reverse stem cell research restrictions in Massachusetts imposed by his predecessor, Republican presidential hopeful Mitt Romney.

The changes last August prompted complaints from researchers who said they could be prohibited from using some embryonic stem cells. They also argued the restrictions undercut a 2005 law that had been approved by the Legislature over Romney's veto.

Patrick told a meeting of the Life Sciences Collaborative that he would ask the Public Health Council, which approved the changes, to revisit the policy. In effect, Patrick will be able to reverse the policy, since he will gain control over the panel next week amid an overhaul linked to the state's new health insurance law.

"I believe that life sciences should be guided by science, not politics," Patrick told the roundtable of biotechnology officials.

Embryonic stem cells have the capacity to become any cell in the body, and scientists are eager to expand their research with them to treat

a variety of diseases, from Alzheimer's to diabetes. Patrick noted that his mother-in-law suffers from both, while his late mother had lupus.

Abortion opponents complain about the destruction of embryos that occurs in harvesting the cells.

Massachusetts' 2005 law banned the creation of embryos for the sole intent of donating them for research. It also clarified that district attorneys could not charge scientists for the type of research they perform.

The new governor also reversed changes Romney had made in immigration policy and some spending cuts.

## President Clinton to speak at Harvard

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. (AP)—Former President Bill Clinton is slated to be Harvard University's Class Day speaker on June 6, following past commencement eve speakers Bono, Will Ferrell and Sacha Baron Cohen.

Microsoft Corp. founder and philanthropist Bill Gates previously was announced as the commencement speaker June 7.

"President Clinton's work on global health is an inspiration to our class as we leave college and seek to lead lives of impact in the world," Harvard senior

Matthew P. Downer said in a statement released by the school.

Since leaving office, the nation's 42nd president has established the William J. Clinton Foundation, whose mission is to address pressing challenges throughout the world.

The Clinton HIV/AIDS Initiative expanded access to needed pharmaceutical drugs for more than 500,000 people in 62 countries. The foundation also has focused on climate change, international economic development and childhood obesity in the United States.



## NH Parents protest sex issue of high school newspaper

HAMPTON, N.H. (AP)—Some parents are protesting the "sex" edition of the student newspaper at Winnacunnet High School.

Several said they were especially offended by a photograph of two women kissing under the headline, "Why men love women who love women," a quiz question about anal sex, and an interview with an unnamed custodian who said he had found a vibrator in the girls' shower.

"Those articles offended me personally as a parent," said Venus Merrill, a school board member. "It's not something you want to read with your 10-year-old

and it's not something that should be going home."

Principal Randy Zito said the Winnachronicle had crossed the line of responsible reporting and that he had dealt with the problem privately. He also said he had pulled copies of the paper that normally would have been sent to middle schools in the cooperative school district.

"The kids wrote the articles and came up with the topic," said adviser Carol Downer.

"They didn't go out to cause controversy, but the Winnachronicle is also not a P.R. piece for the high school. This is a place for students to express their view and talk about issues that are troubling the student body."

The newspaper is not reviewed in advance of publication by administrators. The school board has not discussed the controversy in a public meeting, but parent Paula Wood, of Seabrook, said she wants it on the agenda for the next one.

Zito told her it would have to be discussed in a closed session because it might involve personnel issues, but Wood said she asked the superintendent to hold a public meeting.

The student paper's editor in chief, Katie McCay, and managing editor, Lisa McManus, said they wanted to educate students,

nearly half of whom are already having sexual intercourse, according to a 2005 Youth Risk Behavior Survey at the high school.

## NOW plans to endorse Clinton

By Beth Fouhy/AP Writer

NEW YORK (AP)—The political arm of NOW, the National Organization for Women, will endorse Sen.

Hillary Rodham Clinton's presidential bid recently, according to Democratic officials familiar with the plan.

Clinton will join NOW president Kim Gandy to accept the endorsement, which will take place at Washington's Sewell-Belmont House, the historic home of the National Women's Party.

"The NOW PAC is excited to close out Women's History Month with news that's sure to energize women's rights supporters across the country," Gandy said in an e-mail statement.

Clinton, a New York senator, has made a deliberate pitch to women voters since launching her White House bid in January. Earlier this month, her campaign unveiled "Women for Hillary," an effort to recruit women voters to talk up Clinton's candidacy to other women. A separate, Web-based component targeting younger women, www.icanbepresi-

dent.com, is another part of the outreach effort.

Clinton advisers point to 2004, when about 9 million more women than men voted in the general election.

Founded in 1966 by activist Betty Friedan, NOW is one of the oldest and best-known feminist advocacy groups in the country.

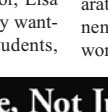
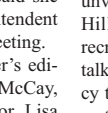
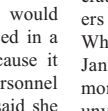
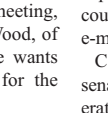
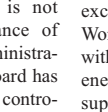
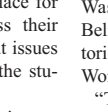
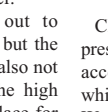
## Commissioners vote to fire transgender city manager

By Mitch Stacy/AP

LARGO, Fla. (AP)—Impassioned speeches from dozens of supporters failed to sway city commissioners as they finalized the firing of the city manager who is seeking a sex change operation.

Following a six-hour hearing, commissioners rubber-stamped the 5-2 vote they made last month to fire Steve Stanton after his announcement that he planned a new life as a woman but wanted to keep his job running this city of 76,000 residents west of Tampa.

Most of the more than 70 speakers—including gay and lesbian activists and other transgender people—spoke passionately in favor of Stanton, urging commissioners to take the opportunity to show that Largo can live up to its slogan, "City of Progress."



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# EDUCATION & LOCAL ANNOUNCEMENTS



## HCC Players to perform "Glengarry Glen Ross"

HOLYOKE—The public is invited to Holyoke Community College April 19-22 to see the HCC Players production of "Glengarry Glen Ross," a Pulitzer prize-winning play by David Mamet. Tickets are \$7 for the general public, \$5 for students, and free for the HCC community.

Tickets may be purchased at the door or reserved by calling (413)

552-2528. The play will be shown in the Leslie Phillips Forum. Curtain times are 8 p.m. Thursday-Saturday, April 19-21, and 2:30 p.m. on Sunday, April 22.

Glengarry Glen Ross follows two Chicago real estate salesmen, Ricky Roma and Shelly Levene, who are pit against one another in a high-risk sales contest. The person who sells the most proper-

ty wins a Cadillac. The second place seller wins a set of steak knives. And the hapless chump who comes in third is fired—along with all of the other less-successful sellers. Egged on by their young colleague, the two men become involved in a frantic battle of betrayal that reveals a lot about the shifting values of American society.

## Life, work and vision of Native American Activist subject of documentary film

On Tuesday evening, April 3rd, as part of its film series on "Culture, Ecology, and Sustainability, the Human Ecology Department at Greenfield Community College will sponsor a public presentation of the documentary Trudell, a film about legendary Native poet and activist John Trudell.

The film will be shown at 7:00 p.m. in the Social Sciences Studio, Room 115, in G.C.C.'s East Building. Following the film, there will be a discussion about the relevance of the film in our own lives and community. Free refreshments will be provided.

In Trudell, filmmaker

Heather Rae presents the engaging life story of Native American poet-prophet-activist John Trudell and his heartfelt message of personal responsibility to the earth, all of its inhabitants and our descendants. At its most basic level, Trudell is an eye-opening documentary that challenges belief systems. At its loftiest, Trudell will inspire you to reawaken your spirit.

In 1979, while protesting the US government's policy on American Indian affairs, John Trudell burned an American Flag on the steps of FBI headquarters in Washington DC. Within a matter of hours his pregnant wife,



three children and mother-in-law were killed in a suspicious fire on a Nevada reservation. This ended his role in the movement, but his voice would not be silenced. From the late 1960's occupation of Alcatraz Island to the current international stage of politics and performance, Heather Rae's provocative and poignant film reveals the essence of a true American original.

TRUDELL is intended to be a film that steps outside of traditional forms, even for Native films, and explores a figure of our contemporary history in a way that fairly represents the evocative nature of his work and significance.

## GCC: Images of women in the Holocaust

GREENFIELD, MA—Helen H. Frink, Professor and Chair of Modern Languages at Keene State College will be the Holocaust Speaker, Wednesday, April 4, at Noon in Stinchfield Lecture Hall on the main campus of Greenfield Community College.

The topic of her presentation is "Images of Women in the Holocaust." She will provide a brief examination of gender as a defining issue in Holocaust Studies, exploring vital questions such as: What common images do we have of women as Holocaust victims? How did women's experiences of the Holocaust differ from those of men? What about mothers and children? How do photographs memorialize the experiences of women



Professor Helen H. Frink

who survived the Holocaust?

Professor Frink teaches courses in German, Women's Studies, Holocaust Literature, and Women and the Holocaust. She is the author of four books, most recently *Women After Communism: The East German Experience*. Her scholarly articles appear in the *World Education Encyclopedia* and *World*

*Press Encyclopedia*. She participated in the Holocaust Educational Foundation's Eastern European Study Seminar in June, 2003 and in the Foundation's Northwestern University Institute in June, 2006. Her recent research focuses on the 3,500 women who served as Nazi concentration camp guards, and on forced prostitution in the camps. Professor Frink was recently in Berlin and visited the Ravensbrück concentration camp.

The Holocaust Speaker is sponsored by the Office of Student Life and by the Diversity Programming Committee at Greenfield Community College. The event is free and open to the public.

## More than \$100,000 in scholarships offered at HCC

HOLYOKE, MA—With just two weeks until the March 28 deadline, the HCC Foundation has yet to receive applications for all of the more than 90 scholarships it is offering to students who plan to either remain or transfer from Holyoke Community College during the 2007-2008 academic year.

Foundation President Erica Broman says each year many students do not apply because they mistakenly assume they would not qualify for assistance. She says this is a common misconception, which the Foundation would like to wipe out.

The Foundation is prepared to disburse more than \$100,000 in aid, earmarked for a variety of reasons, including specific fields of study, transfer opportunities, and a variety of life circumstances and interests. For a full list of scholarships, or an application, call the HCC Foundation at (413) 552-2182 or visit HCC's website <http://www.hcc.edu>

Some examples:

- Students from Holyoke may be eligible for the Adeline and Jacob Barowsky scholarship, the Holyoke Gas & Electric scholarship, the Franklin Morris O'Connell scholar-

ship, or the Ellen Lynch scholarship, among others.

- Students interested in pursuing a business may be eligible for the Paul Buckwalter scholarship, the Elena & Frank Cataldo scholarships, the LouEllen Dabbs scholarship or the Carol Hardy Business scholarship, among others.
- Students with demonstrated financial need may be eligible for the Israel and Matilda Goldberg scholarship, the Neil and Mary Sheehan scholarship, the Joseph V. Gosselin Memorial scholarship or the Kathryn "Kitty" Broman scholarship, among others.

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



# The Highlands Inn: A Lesbian Paradise

By: NICOLE LASHOMB  
TRT Editor-in-Chief

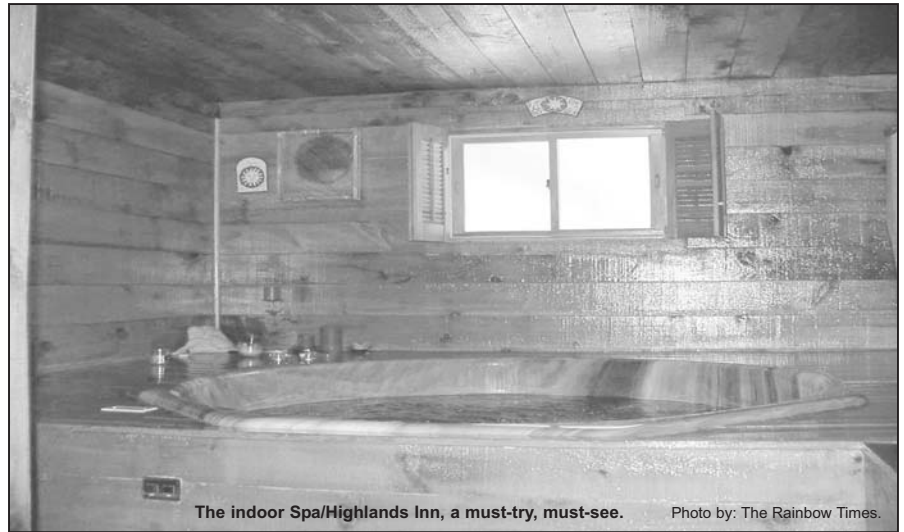
BETHLEHEM, NH—Considered a lesbian paradise by many and nestled within the great White Mountains, lies a utopia that you will not want to pass by. The Highlands Inn in Bethlehem, New Hampshire is a romantic and relaxing getaway for all to enjoy. Our experience there did not fall short of its preceded reputation.

The personalized touches of Grace, the innkeeper, cannot go unnoticed and certainly made our stay a comfortable and enjoyable one. Upon arrival, we, like all guests, were given a tour of the property, escorted to our room and were suggested local restaurants that provided

the way, if you are in the mood for a massage within the privacy of your own room, that can be arranged as well.

In the summer, guests enjoy the 54-foot pool with its large sundeck, adjacent gazebo, and barbecue area. There is also an outdoor spa adjacent to the pool.

The Inn has a total of 19 guest rooms, all with private baths, air conditioning, hair dryers, and TV/VCRs. Several rooms have special amenities, such as a private deck, fireplace, two-person spa, or both a spa and fireplace. And, if your room does not come with a spa, there is an indoor spa for you to enjoy which is reserved on an individual/couple basis to give you that intimate romance that you may be



The indoor Spa/Highlands Inn, a must-try, must-see.

Photo by: The Rainbow Times.

outdoors, a feature unique to The Highlands Inn is their Women's Concert Series. Since its beginning in 2000, the Concert Series has grown from just a few performances to 25 performers for this year. All Concerts are free to guests.

The atmosphere stimulates socialization amongst guests in its public gathering spaces such as the living room and the breakfast area. The loving room is equipped with a 32-inch flat screen satellite TV with an excellent lesbian/gay video collection that you can also take to your room for your per-

sonal enjoyment. The breakfast area, which is where my wife and I meet a young couple who had

staff. The breakfast menu changes everyday.

"This place is really nice and we are having a great

escape the hustle and bustle of city life."

It is no surprise that this cozy and enchanting Inn has won the Out & About Editor's Choice Award every year since 1997. When asked if we will be returning to The Highlands Inn, the unequivocal answer would be yes! Book your stay now, because with the Women's Concert Series, you'll have to book ahead of time. For more information, call Grace at 1-877-537-2466 or 603-869-3978 or visit the Highlands Inn online at <http://www.highlandsinn-nh.com/>.



The bedrooms are beautifully decorated in a Victorian Country style that promotes comfort and enjoyment. Photo by: The Rainbow Times.

fantastic food choices in a laidback, welcoming atmosphere.

While the property offers much to do such as snow shoeing, skiing, hiking, sightseeing, and swimming in the summer, we had a hard time leaving our decadent and elaborate room which was equipped with a 2-person Jacuzzi, a gorgeous bathroom with a transparent glass shower, a sofa, television, and a queen size canopy bed. By

looking for.

"Every budget is taken into consideration at The Highland's Inn and as such, each room has its own unique pricing," said Grace. "All rates are for 1-2 persons, per night. Rates include a full breakfast, afternoon snacks, coffee and tea, use of the indoor and outdoor spas, and depending on the season, use of the swimming pool or snowshoes."

In addition to the great



The 2-person private room jacuzzi.

Photo by: The Rainbow Times

just wed in Canada, is perfect for getting to know other guests, or simply having a romantic breakfast prepared by the Inn's

time," said Jessica & Sharon Terrigan, guests at The Highlands Inn during our stay. "It's really great especially if you want to



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**www.therainbowtimesmass.com**

# SPORTS

## The Mary Vazquez Softball League Teams

The Mary Vazquez Women's Softball League is a women's modified fast-pitch softball league based in Northampton, Massachusetts. The following are the team names and what they stand for:

### Incorrects

For years, the Incorrects were a team of 20- and 30-year olds whose only distraction was players' dogs running onto the field. Today, we range in ages from late 20s to 50s, and while we are still competitive, we are very easily distracted by all of our new babies and children. So if you like to play softball, love kids, and want to have fun this summer with a great group of women, come join us! Info: deal34@comcast.net or 413-584-1826

### Left Sox

This is The Left Sox's third year in the Mary V Softball League. We're coming off a fantastic season playing softball and hanging out after games! We have players of all skill levels and are looking for women who love the game and look forward to playing every game. However, many of us look forward to each post-game hangout almost as much as each game! Info: bstark@wmls.org or 413-552-6414

### No Nukes

"No Nukes of the North" is one of the earliest teams in the league. We are a friendly, supportive group of women ranging in age from 20s to 50s. We like to win but what's most

important is for everyone to improve her softball skills while having fun. We also like to go out for pizza after the games! We are looking for more players. More info at: cee-bee34@netscape.com or 413-863-8239

### Red Scare

Red Scare has a dual philosophy: play our best (which hopefully leads to winning) and any woman — regardless of skill level — who is dedicated to the game gets to play. In our 24th year, we continue our commitment to equality, fairness, and humor on and off the field. Info: mgschmidt@aol.com or 585-0644.

More teams and their requirements are listed at: [therainbowtimes-mass.com](http://therainbowtimes-mass.com)

## Mary Vazquez Women's Softball League Southern New England 2007 Softball Schedule

(First game starts at 1:00 p.m.)

**May 6th:** (Opening Weekend)  
Host New Haven; New Haven vs New London; Springfield vs Hartford

**May 13th:** Off/Mothers Day

**May 20th:** Host New London  
New London vs Springfield  
Hartford vs New Haven

**May 27th:** Off/Memorial Day Weekend

**June 3rd:** Host Springfield;  
Springfield vs Hartford; New Haven vs New London

**June 10th:** Host Hartford; Hartford vs New London; Springfield vs New Haven

**June 17th:** Host New Haven  
New Haven vs Hartford; New London vs Springfield

**June 24th:** Host New London  
New London vs Hartford; New Haven vs Springfield

**July 1st:** Off/Independence Day Celebrations

**July 8th:** Host Springfield  
Springfield vs New London; Hartford vs New Haven

**July 15th:** Host Hartford  
Hartford vs New London; New Haven vs New Springfield

**July 22nd:** Host New Haven  
New Haven vs Springfield New

London vs Hartford

**July 29th:** Host New London  
New London vs New Haven; Springfield vs Hartford

**August 5th:** Host Springfield  
Springfield vs New Haven  
Hartford vs New London

**August 12th:** Host Hartford  
Hartford vs Springfield New London vs New Haven

**August 18th and 19th:** Host Yet to be determined

**Playoffs** Potential of 5 games Times yet to be determined

**August 26th:** Year End Awards Show Host Yet to be determined

The Mary Vazquez Womens Softball League is a women's modified fast-pitch softball league based in Northampton, Massachusetts. Begun in 1976, the league currently has nine teams and plays from late May to early August. We welcome players of all athletic abilities, experience levels, and sexualities.



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...What concerns do you have?

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