

The Rainbow Times

Year 1, Vol. 4 • March 15-31 2007

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



TRT Queer Justice's Atty. Jennifer Dexter discusses DUI effects on a divorced couple and how it can affect children's custody rights.

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3 Needles: One prick can change your life. Don't miss seeing this great film about the HIV epidemic, from acclaimed director Thom Fitzgerald.

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TRT's LGBT Health Doctor Renee Lang talks about mood and substance-abuse disorders ... their causes and consequences on users and why.

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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.

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TRT Calendar Out & About!



A computer that fits in the palm of your hand! **TRT's Just Tech** Column this time focuses on the amazingly Small **Flipstart mini computer**. It weighs less than 2 pounds!

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Holyoke's LGBTQ Youth Alliance News

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Health Disparities in the LGBT community

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First U.S. military member wounded in Iraq war "comes out," speaks for HRC

WASHINGTON—Late in February, the first U.S. military personnel wounded in the Iraq war, retired Marine Staff Sgt. Eric Alva, came out as a gay man. The Human Rights Campaign announced that Alva will serve as a national spokesperson in an effort to repeal the U.S. military's discriminatory "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy.

On March 21, 2003, Alva was in charge of 11 Marines in a supply unit in Iraq when he stepped on a landmine, losing his right leg. Alva spent months of rehabilitation at Walter Reed Army Hospital where he was visited by President Bush, First Lady Laura Bush and former Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld. He was awarded a Purple Heart for his

service and received a medical discharge from the military.

Alva publicly announced, for the first time, that he is gay on February 28 during a Capitol Hill press conference to reintroduce the Military Readiness Enhancement Act, legislation to repeal the ban against openly gay and lesbian Americans serving in the military.

"When Eric Alva lost his leg in Iraq, it didn't matter whether he was gay or straight, only that he was a courageous American serving his country," said Human Rights Campaign President Joe Solmonese. "Eric's voice represents the sacrifice of thousands of gay and lesbian service

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Retired Marine Staff Sgt. Eric Alva, came out as a gay man and is now an advocate and HRC spokesperson working to repeal the ban against openly gay and lesbians serving in the military. Photo: HRC

A celebration of her life: A farewell to Victoria White

By: LINDSAY WILSON
TRT Reporter

On March 10, the friends and family of Victoria Alger White filled the Grace Episcopal Church in Amherst for a celebration of her life. A Northampton resident, Victoria was the

founder of eclecTechs, a technical support company, and Dog Hampton a dog daycare service. She passed away on March 2, after battling metastatic breast cancer.

Two of Victoria's beloved dogs, Cisco, Dog Hampton's "spokesdog"

and Barkley, accompanied friends as they reminisced about Victoria.

Nancy Lowry said her friendship with Victoria grew through their dogs. "People date the time they have known Victoria by the dogs they have known," she said.

Lowry read excerpts from an email that Victoria had written that described the delight Victoria found in everyday moments.

"Happiness can be lying in bed and listening to a dog mutter ... hearing an

See Victoria Page 3

Street Sense: Should Stanton (FL City Manager) be fired due to his sex-change operation decision?

"That's changing the stream halfway down isn't it? They hired a guy and now he wants to be a woman? So I don't agree with that. You know, they hired a person. It would be similar if someone became an alcoholic on the job."

Mike Jablonski, Hadley



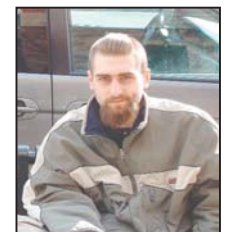
"There shouldn't be any discrimination at all. They should be free to change their sex. Maybe it depends on his [Stanton's] job though. Like does his gender have anything to do with why he had that job? Is he a professional wrestler? ... Because he'd be fired if that were the case."

Jack Reynolds, Northampton



"I don't think personally that they should have thrown him out of office, but since it's an elected position, if they choose to impeach him for whatever reason, that's their [the community's] choice."

Jesse Lashway, Northampton



EDITORIALS

Another "star" in office?

BY: NICOLE LASHOMB
TRT Editor-in-Chief

I am sure that I am not the only person who was shocked when Republican Arnold Schwarzenegger was elected as the 38th Governor of California. After all, what could "the terminator" possibly know about politics?

Since he has been in office, Schwarzenegger has proved to be quite competent in particular political arenas such as fiscal policies, healthcare for children and generating an active plan for a greener environment. These types of improvements, I would argue, are important to most of us. However, certainly all of us remember when Governor Schwarzenegger vetoed

the bill that would have allowed for gay marriage to be legal in California. Instead of supporting that bill, he vowed to stand by domestic partnerships. It is amazing how this one issue is used as a pivotal political tool that will influence people's minds single handedly. It certainly influenced mine. After all, if one does not support basic human rights, what does that say about that particular person? Why is "We the people ..." only for a particular group of people?

Hollywood icon Arnold Schwarzenegger and his political policies cannot begin to compare to the most imminent threat of the "star powers." Fred Thompson, 64, known for his character on *Law and Order* has announced his

intention of stepping into the 2008 presidential race. However, the differences between this "district attorney" and the "terminator" are marked.

Thompson is pro-life and wants the federal courts to overturn *Roe vs. Wade*. Obviously, he also opposes gay marriage and gun control.

Thompson supports the war in Iraq and supports Bush's decision to send more troops there. In addition, he has expressed that he would pardon Libby's conviction of perjury and obstruction of justice.

Could this possibly be another Bush in the making, only this time another Republican who exploits his stardom to gain admittance into the White House and continue the division of this country?

Love, rights and ... the rest of it

BY: J.M. THE JP*
TRT Columnist

According to Webster's Ninth New Collegiate Dictionary, an ally is "one that is associated with another as a helper." The verb form is "to connect or form a relation between." Historically, allies from privilege have worked to influence the social consciousness of their peers and to end injustice in various forms.

There have been a few deeply moving films in recent months, and most of them do not come from the American film industry. Go and see *Children of Men*, *Babel*, *Volver*, and *Pan's Labyrinth*. But the must see movie is *Amazing Grace*.

Amazing Grace tells the story of William Wilberforce, the first member in the House of



J.M. the JP

Commons in England to demand for the end of the slave trade (enacted 60 years before slavery was abolished in the United States). The script, direction and acting are superb. The story is very real and heartbreaking, and there is humor in the pathos. I could say much about it here, but I will stick to the point regarding allies.

The timeless theme of the film demonstrates that an ally in a position of power has a moral responsibility to act on what s/he knows to be atrocities of injustice. So-called "neu-

trality" is perhaps the most dangerous and insidious form of complicity. Clearly, this is the case in today's world-- in regards to economic oppression and disparity, civil rights for all people regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity, and the exploitation of entire countries.

Allies may be movers and shakers or they may be the everyday neighbor, the shopkeeper, and the colleague. They are heroes and yet they do not feel heroic. They are far more concerned with how to love than with fearing the repercussions of rocking the boat.

** J.M. Sorrell is a Justice of the Peace. She believes that people have the potential for profound change and growth, that we require helpers, and that we must insist on justice in all forms as consciously and consistently as possible.*

Transition: The hardest thing you'll ever do

BY: JANE HAMEL
TRT Columnist

Transition, is it the path for all transgendered people? Is it the "trans-mission" for all of us? They sound alike. They can be sluggish and on some occasions just break down completely. Both have many parts which only a specialist can properly put into place. And how many of us really understand them? Ok, lame analogy.

If you're not transgendered, and that would be most of you, transition means going off to college, moving back home when you graduate and can't find a job, changing jobs, moving in with or being thrown out by a loved one; you get the picture. It's a change of lifestyle. I don't mean to suggest that those aren't potentially traumatic events, but to a trans-per-



Jane Hamel

son, transition is being sliced open, revealing every nuance of a self in denial, turning that self inside-out and upside down, being put through hours upon hours (years, actually) of unbearable physical and emotional pain, and losing everything you've worked for and cherished in your miserable "trying-to-be-normal" life, or not.

Once again I'm speaking from my own perspective. That of a "first wave" baby boomer who was force-fed

the puritan ethics of the 50's and who just happened to be a little girl in a little boy's body. So I adapted (this is a questionable "choice" and probably more akin to "instinctive self-preservation") in the only way that seemed acceptable to my parents, which was to put my "self" away in a safe place and act like the tough little boy they wanted me to be. That act went on with constant revisions and refinements (i.e. acting more manly) to ensure the secrecy and safety of "me" for fifty years. This part of my story is not unique. In fact, for trans-folk of my generation, this behavior is quite common. When I read Jenny Boylan's "She's Not There" (a must-read) I thought, "Hey, that's My life!" In her book she talks about getting married as a means of becoming "nor-

mal." It didn't work for me, either. For those transgendered whose lives then hit the wall like a speeding train and they find that they cannot live another minute as the person they've been pretending to be, this is the "It's Not A Choice!" moment.

I was already in bad shape arriving at my "train-wreck." I had stretched the limits of denial into a serious drinking problem. The last thing I wanted to say to my family on top of that was: "and by the way, I can't live as a man anymore." So, I began my transition. I chose therapy in the hopes of saving my marriage, but it didn't take long to realize the futility of that. It was transition or suicide. See, there are choices. My therapist was quite correct when she said

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COVER STORIES

Expo showcases local and regional health professionals in Northampton

BY: LINDSAY WILSON
TRT Reporter

On March 10 and 11, the Whole Health Expo was held at the Clarion Hotel in Northampton. The expo showcased about 80 exhibitors and included lectures and presentations from approximately 60 speakers. The expo is based out of Northampton and was one of Whole Health's nine regional shows. It typically attracts 1000-1500 people over two days.

According to Whole Health Expo Account Executive Scott Brady, the goal of the expo is to bring a community of people who "are of like-minded thought" together on a yearly basis.

"People who are seeking

out alternative therapies or who are thinking of a mixture of traditional and alternative therapies can find their way to the people and make decisions through two days of investigation," said Brady. "I always tell people it's kind of like Brigadoon, except instead of every hundred years, it's once a year."

The event showcased many local as well as regional vendors from New England and New York. Exhibitors offered a variety of services including tarot readings, aura photography, Reiki therapy, clinical thermography and hypnosis. A selection of nutritional supplements, healthy pet food, handmade t-shirts, bath and body products and New Age books were also for

sale at the expo.

Michael Redsky of Redsky Medicine, a 10th generation Cherokee medicine man and visionary, serenaded attendees by playing his flute. Redsky, who promotes "power healing" retreats, sold handmade turquoise jewelry and spoke about "the importance of the feminine energy" on Sunday morning. "We recommend that every woman wear turquoise," he said. "Women have powerful voices and they do not use them. Turquoise helps the voice."

Jennifer Condoulis of Eaton, NH sold all natural bath and body products made from goat's milk.

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Victoria from Page 1

83-year-old rummaging for his own breakfast ... and the knowing that one will never catch up on one's paperwork," she wrote.

Reverend Robert Hirschfeld described Victoria as a renaissance woman. He said that Victoria had earned a degree in Chemistry and taught at an Ivy League school before starting her own business.

"Nothing held her back, not even a diagnosis," he said. "Her love was robust, and it extended beyond our species."

Friend Kathy Fleming

accompanied Victoria and her partner in marriage, Deborah Lohmeyer, on a RV trip to Key West last month. Fleming said that even though Victoria was sick during the trip, she was always smiling. "She was such a trooper," she said. According to Fleming, this good spirit was typical of Victoria.

"She was always interested in what everybody was doing and it was a sincere interest. When she said how are ya? She really wanted to know," she said.

Before their friendship, Fleming was Victoria's physical therapist. They met when Victoria was

diagnosed with lymphedema in 2004. Fleming said that though she had only known Victoria for a few years, she was able to see Victoria's impact on "so many different people's lives on so many different levels. ... A day is long enough to make an impact with Victoria," she said.

Fleming's daughter, Hannah Smith, got into an accident while driving back from college to attend the service. Fleming said the car may be totaled, but Hannah was unharmed. "Victoria is already our guardian angel," she said.

uniform of the U.S. Marine Corps, my mission continues to be protecting the rights and freedoms of all Americans."

"We salute Eric for his bravery on and off the battlefield," continued Solmonese. "The courage and sacrifice of gay and lesbian service members, like Eric Alva, should be heralded, not silenced."

As spokesperson for the Human Rights Campaign, Alva will raise awareness of the harmful effects of the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" policy through public appearances, media interviews and blog postings. Alva will also meet

with key congressional leaders to urge the repeal of this costly, discriminatory policy during the Human Rights Campaign lobby day on Thursday, March 1.

In 2005, the Government Accountability Office estimated that the cost to recruit and train replacements for enlisted service members separated under the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" ban was more than \$190 million from fiscal years 1994 through 2003. For more information on Eric Alva or to download high-resolution photos of Alva, please visit: www.hrc.org/alva

Don't Ask from Page 1

members fighting for the safety and freedom of all Americans. We believe his story should help move this issue forward and educate Congress as to why it's so important to lift the discriminatory ban that compromises our nation's security."

"My proudest moment in the military came when I would confide in one of my friends about my sexual orientation, and they still treated me with the same respect as before," said Alva. "And although I'm no longer wearing the

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LGBT HEALTH

Mood and substance-abuse disorders, there is a solution

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

Depression and mental health rank among the top health concerns for lesbians and gay men. According to a survey done in 2000, lesbians ranked depression and mental health as their number one health concern, while gay men ranked it second to HIV/AIDS. Substance abuse, including alcohol and other recreational drugs, ranked second and third respectively for lesbians and gay men.

Incidence of depression, affecting about 10% of the adult US population, is higher in the gay and lesbian community due to continued discrimination and lack of support. Women experience depression twice as often as men. Wage discrepancies in a two woman household decreases the resources available to lesbians for healthcare.

In our work- and goal-oriented society, depression carries a stigma. This added to the persistent stigma of being gay in our society, increases the difficulty for an individual suffering from depression to access and obtain healthcare. Partially as a result, self-medication with drugs and alcohol frequently occurs.

Symptoms of depression and substance abuse behavior result from a biochemical imbalance. Brain chemicals, called neurotransmitters, regulate mood, appetite, feelings of well-being, and energy levels in the body. If imbalanced, symptoms of depression

including a persistent sad or "empty mood", hopelessness, helplessness, fatigue, difficulty concentrating, decreased motivation, appetite loss or overeating, chronic pain and insomnia, and substance abuse, occur.

Causes of neurotransmitter imbalances include a history of emotional trauma (death, divorce, abuse), poor dietary choices, a digestive disorder, an excessive stress history, poor sleep patterns, and a chronic illness. The cycle of neurotransmitter imbalances and depression, goes round and round, interfering with one's ability to implement the changes needed to correct the problem.

Neurotransmitter imbalances also lead to drug, alcohol, and nicotine addiction. These substances bind at receptor sites in the brain, replace the natural neurotransmitters, and provide an artificial stimulate of the receptors resulting in increased feelings of well-being. However, continued use causes an even greater imbalance in neurotransmitter levels, resulting in an increased need for the drug and a continual cycle of addiction.

Both depression and substance abuse often interfere with the quality of one's sleep. Sleep provides a necessary time of restoration and replenishment for the body. A healthy night's sleep requires seven to eight hours of sound sleep with cycles of both deep/REM and light sleep. Alcohol, recreational drugs, and sleep medications often



Dr. Renee Lang, ND

interfere with the REM state, thereby diminishing the healing qualities of sleep.

The insidious nature of depression makes it difficult for some people to realize their condition. Symptoms creep in and over time an individual forgets what it's like to feel "normal" or good. They gradually acclimate and accept their state of depression and don't realize that they need help. Additionally, the wide use and acceptance of recreational drugs and alcohol in the gay community often masks or downplays addictive behavior.

Assessing one's own addictive behavior requires honesty, self-reflection, and often, external input. Briefly, substance abuse is characterized by the overuse of mood and/or behavior-altering substances that interfere with life's responsibilities and/or cause harm to oneself or others. Additionally, the use of substances to avoid dealing with underlying mental/emotional issues falls into this category.

Neurotransmitter imbalance is treatable. Safe and

effective natural therapies exist. Under the guidance of a naturopath or other trained physician, a healthier, happier, and more energetic state of being can be achieved.

The conventional treatment of depression focuses primarily on using selective serotonin reuptake inhibitors (SSRI's) to treat the presumed decreased serotonin levels. Though sometimes necessary in acute crisis, this approach does not adequately address the complexity of the neurotransmitter imbalances. Multiple neurotransmitter imbalances often exist including serotonin, dopamine, epinephrine (adrenaline), and GABA. Over time, the use of SSRI's causes a decreased production of serotonin and the number of serotonin receptors. This results in an overall reduction of serotonin, greater than existed prior to the use of anti-depressants.

Similarly the traditional approach to treating substance abuse relies on withdrawal, counseling, and often the concomitant use of medications (SSRIs, methadone). This approach may be effective in the short-term. However, it ignores the underlying neurotransmitter imbalances and the accompanying digestive disorders and nutritional deficiencies.

The naturopathic approach focuses on rebalancing the neurotransmitters levels naturally and treating the individual holistically. The implemented natural therapies stimulate

the production of neurotransmitters and their accompanying receptors. Useful therapies include homeopathy, herbal remedies, and nutritional supplements.

Specific amino acid supplements provide the building blocks to many neurotransmitters and when used in appropriate dosages provide symptom relief. Combining amino acids with adrenal supportive and nourishing herbs, including ashwaganda and oatstraw, provides deeper healing. Repairing any underlying digestive disturbance is crucial to treating depression and substance abuse disorders. Whole body health requires proper digestion and absorption.

Successful treatment requires an integrative approach using psychotherapy, nutritional and lifestyle counseling, improved sleep and digestive health, and neurotransmitter rebalancing. Diet is crucial to one's overall health. Nutrients in food provide the basic building blocks for all facets of our body and our health. Essential dietary changes include decreasing or avoiding caffeine, sugar, alcohol, simple carbohydrates and sweets.

Finally, in order to achieve a true healing, the underlying cause must be treated. This cause may be a deep emotional trauma from childhood, a more recent event, and/or the traumas associated with being gay in our society. If not adequately healed, the neurotransmitter levels will

likely become imbalanced again in the future.

* 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

Expo from Page 3

The milk is supplied by Condoulis's 15 goats and some of her products, such as goat's milk soap, take as long as 6 weeks to produce.

Representatives from Goddard College handed out information on their BA, MA, and MFA degree programs.

"Our programs are really unique and we have a lot of non-traditional students," said Admissions Counselor Lara Durston. "So we have to think outside the box. We've found that [the expo] attracts an eclectic crowd," she said.

Donna Lynn Postle passed out samples of Goji Juice, a "Himalayan health secret" derived from the Goji berry. According to Postle, Goji is the most nutritionally based fruit on the planet and the only food to have all four polysaccharides.

"It balances the body so that it can heal itself," she said.

The expo is produced by Jonathan Podolsky, and their office is located on 108 Main St. in Northampton. For more information about future expo's visit: www.world-healthexpo.com.

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QUEER JUSTICE

Will my DUI affect my chances of custody?

By: ATTORNEY JENNIFER L. DEXTER*
TRT COLUMNIST

Q. I am in the middle of a divorce. My soon to be ex-wife and I have 2 children. Very recently I was arrested for driving under the influence of alcohol. Will my arrest affect my chances of getting custody of my kids?

—*Dazed and Confused, Springfield, Mass.*

A. Dear Dazed and Confused:

You have a very interesting situation. Normally an arrest for operating under the influence of alcohol will not affect a divorce. But whether or not this remains true depends on further information; 1) is this your first OUI or a subsequent offense? If this is your first offense, you are probably not looking at any jail. You will have to pay some steep fines and go to drug and alcohol treatment, and there is a good chance you will not lose your license (unless you refused the breathalyzer, which creates a whole new situation). But, if this is a second or third offense and you are convicted, you are looking at a mandatory thirty-day stay



Attorney Jennifer Dexter

in the house of corrections, a two-week vacation at an in-patient alcohol treatment facility and high dollar fines. Now, keep in mind that a good attorney can probably negotiate a deal to get you out of doing time in the house of corrections. But, you will also lose your license for at least two years with the possibility of getting a "Cinderella license" after a year and one half.

What does this have to do with your divorce and custody? Well, if you lose your license it will be used against you as a negative factor in your ability to care for your children. As I have stated in past articles, judges decide custody and visitation based on what is in the child's best interest.

Assuming you lose your license, how will you take the children to their activities, school, the hospital, grocery store and anywhere else they need or want to go? The short answer—you can't. You now become a liability and visitation will have to suffice.

On the other hand, if this is your first offense it should be irrelevant as long as the children were not present and therefore should not affect the divorce proceedings.

**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



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Jeffery Healy-Christopher Cook

Jeffery Healy and Christopher Cook were joined in a holy union ceremony at All Saints' Parish in Beverly Hills, Calif. The Rev. Jimmy Barre, former Episcopal rector of the parish, officiated. Two children, 10 and 11, joined the ceremony. Cook is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William F. Cook of Glenville and Santa Barbara, Calif. He graduated from UCLA and is the director of annual giving for the clinic.



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JUST TECH

Apple says updated iTunes still faces Vista-compatibility problems

BY: MAY WONG

AP Technology Writer

SAN JOSE, California (AP)—An update to Apple Inc.'s iTunes music software still has not resolved some of the compatibility problems with Microsoft Corp.'s new operating system.

The iTunes program is key to syncing music on computers with iPod portable players, and the latest version, iTunes 7.1, comes a month after the iPod and Macintosh computer maker warned PC users against installing Windows Vista until Apple

could fix the problems.

Apple removed that outright warning from its Web site on Monday and stated instead that the updated iTunes is recommended for use with most editions of Windows Vista. But Apple also conceded that some glitches, including possible corruption of a user's iPod player upon ejection from a PC, remain.

"Apple is actively working with Microsoft to resolve a few remaining known issues," the posting stated.

Apple representatives declined further comment



and would not say how much longer users would have to wait for iTunes to be completely Vista-friendly.

According to the notice posted on Apple's Web site, the previous glitch that prevented Vista users from playing music or video purchased from the online

iTunes Store is no longer an issue.

But in addition to the iPod-ejection problem, Apple warned that iTunes 7.1 may still exhibit difficulties synchronizing

Windows contacts with an iPod. The text and graphics of iTunes running on a Vista machine also may not be correctly displayed, though resizing the iTunes screen should correct the issue.

Apple also reminded users that iTunes remains unsupported on 64-bit editions of either Windows XP or Windows Vista.

Microsoft has said it is working with a long list of partners, including Apple,

to make sure their software is compatible with Vista. The new operating system launched Jan. 30.

Though Microsoft and Apple are partners in some cases—iTunes works with Windows PCs and Microsoft Office has a version for Macs—the two are also longtime rivals. They compete in computer systems, which Microsoft dominates, and in the digital music arena, which Apple dominates.

FlipStart Labs to ship its 1st super-compact PC in March

SEATTLE (AP)—FlipStart Labs, a technology incubator started by multibillionaire Microsoft Corp. co-founder Paul Allen, said recently that it will ship its first super-compact PC this month.

The FlipStart device weighs less than 2 pounds and is smaller than an average trade paper-

back. It sports a 5.6-inch screen and measures less than 1.5 inches thick when equipped with a slim battery, and it packs a 30 gigabyte hard drive and 512 megabytes of memory.

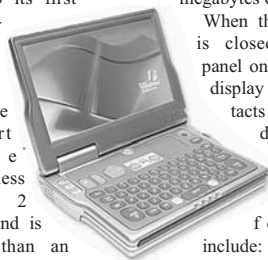
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The company will ship versions that run Microsoft's new operating system, Vista Business, as well as the previous incarnation of Windows, XP Professional.

FlipStart will retail for \$1,999. For more information visit: <http://www.flipstart.com>



Transition from Page 2

"This will be the hardest thing you'll ever do," I was lucky to be in New York at the time, finding Kit Rachlin, a wonderful gender-therapist who held my hand through the scary first steps, and having the support groups of the Gender Identity Project at the "Center," both of which I can't recommend highly enough.

It was at the GIP groups where I met others in various stages of transition. Being young didn't mean it was going to be easier, meeting those trans-men and women who had literally been thrown out onto the street by their parents and families. Rejection hurts just as much whether it's from your wife of twenty years or your parents and siblings. The age at which you start transition may have commonalities as mentioned before, but the differences can be like hiking the same trail in different seasons—flowers and sunshine for some, mud, ice and snow for others. Then there's the physical aspects to transitioning. Once we've accepted that we were born into the wrong body, (accepting is different from knowing; I've always known) how

far do we want to go to change that body into how we see ourselves? I began hormone treatments (Hormone Replacement Therapy, HRT) three years after beginning therapy to begin the feminization process which was like going through puberty and menopause at the same time—sensitive nipples, hot flashes and oh, the crying! The Harry Benjamin "Standards of Care for Gender Identity Disorders" (we'll discuss these in a future column), recommend at least six months of therapy with a second opinion by a psychiatrist before starting HRT, and living full time in the role of your perceived gender for at least one year before undergoing GRS (gender reassignment surgery). I feel the same way now about this as I did then. My transition was so traumatic that I was not going to instigate or rush any changes. I would wait until I had no choice but to make that change, or in other words, I let the transition determine its own timeline. As a rule, or at least as an incredibly strong opinion, I believe this to be the healthiest approach, but like always, that's me. Another very important

fact to be brought up here is that surgery does not define transition. While HRT does affect the emotional side as well as the physical, GRS, and in my case that would be a vaginoplasty, is a cosmetic procedure the same as a nose or boob-job. It's not a magic pill that turns a man into a woman. However, and this is a huge however, this procedure is a medical necessity in regards to the mental health and emotional well-being of a transsexual. The United Kingdom has adopted that as fact in their medical practice citing the HB Standards of Care as basis and designating it the "Harry Benjamin Syndrome." Of course here in the United States where the AMA is run by puritanical privileged White males in bed with the insurance companies, (oops, I'm ranting political), only a handful of private very large companies will provide health insurance to cover GRS. So, that leaves me, fully transitioned, four years of hormone therapy, three years of living as "the real me" still waiting for that medically necessary cosmetic surgery and likely because of that, still suffering from clinical depression.

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Q ENTERTAINMENT

'Out of Sync,' a memoir by former 'N Sync singer Lance Bass, to be released later in '07

NEW YORK (AP)—Mississippi native Lance Bass "tells all about his life, his music and his sexuality" in an upcoming autobiography, the publisher announced Wednesday.

"Out of Sync" is scheduled for publication in October, said Simon Spotlight Entertainment,

an imprint of Simon & Schuster.

The publisher promises a behind-the-scenes look at the 27-year-old singer's days in boy band 'N Sync, as well as his headline-making venture to undergo astronaut training for a Russian space mission, which didn't pan out because he couldn't come

up with the funds for the trip.

Bass announced in July that he is gay. He has said that he didn't reveal this earlier because he didn't want to affect 'N Sync's popularity. The band, known for a string of hits including "Bye Bye Bye" and "It's Gonna Be Me," went on hiatus in 2002.

Shows not to miss & the networks that support us

The L Word: Will Bette and Tina get back together? Is Jody really leaving the show? Don't miss out, for there are only 2 shows left! Showtime! Sundays @ 10 EST.

Southern Comfort: Robert Eads, a transgender man, is dying of ovarian cancer. This documentary follows his struggle with the disease as he reveals traumatic events as well as stories of personal triumph. Highlighted are the often poor medical attention transgender people receive and the love expressed between family members faced with terminal illness.

First Comes Love 2: This series challenges about-to-be-married gay and lesbian couples to fulfill a long-held wish to have the wedding of their dreams. Find out!

Liberty: 3 Stories About Life and Death - A touching exploration of death that reminds us that life is not only worth living, but celebrating. Three women in different stages of life whose stories will correct misconceptions about age and sexual orientation. Part of Logo Documentary series. March 17 @ 8 a.m.

LOGO's Be Real: Stories from Queer America - This documentary takes a close look at the real lives of the LGBT community around the country. Addressing a wide range of issues including religion, race, sexual violence, and illness, these people dispel stereotypes and live their lives unapologetically and with authenticity. 3/21 @ 8 p.m.

LOGO's The Click List is the only place where you can find

the Top 10 LGBT music videos each week. From Christina Aguilera's latest hit to new Madonna videos, The Click List is where the best Pop, R&B and Dance videos live each week, seen from the unique perspective of the LGBT community.

Open Bar: (Reruns) Join Tyler Robuck, fresh out of the closet, as he struggles to connect with the LGBT community by opening a gay bar in West Hollywood. Ignoring his family's words of caution, Tyler dives head first into the project but quickly realizes that he may just be in over his head. LOGO 3/30 from 4-6:30 p.m.

Paradise Falls: Intrigue, lust, suspense and a bit of magic pepper in the stories of the eclectic characters in this quaint hamlet. Paradise Falls is like a gay Northern Exposure with a bit of Desperate Housewives thrown in for a twist. Exclusively on here!

Stay tuned to TRT for more TV shows not to miss & Check out our site for more news!

'Vagina Monologues' author at NY school where girls performing play were suspended

CROSS RIVER, N.Y. (AP)—The author of a well-known feminist play has agreed to speak at a school district where three girls were suspended after they used the word "vagina" while reciting the play.

Eve Ensler, who wrote "The Vagina Monologues," has accepted an invitation to speak Tuesday at a school theater, just before a meeting of the board of education, and will appear with the girls, said school board member Peter Breslin on Friday's "Today" show.

Breslin appeared with 16-year-old juniors



Hannah Levinson, Megan Reback and Elan Stahl.

The girls were suspended for a day each after they included the word "vagina" in an excerpt from the play that they read aloud at a school event last week. John Jay High School Principal Richard Leprine said they had agreed not to use the word.

News of the suspen-

sions prompted charges of censorship, and Ensler said they were "a throw-back to the Dark Ages." District Superintendent Bob Lichtenfeld then postponed the suspensions for further study.

Susan Celia Swan, Ensler's assistant, confirmed that the writer would appear at the school.

One prick can change your life ... 3 Needles

SAN JOSE, CA —The DVD premiere of Thom Fitzgerald's 3 Needles, his acclaimed portrait of the global AIDS crisis, starring Lucy Liu, Chloë Sevigny, Shawn Ashmore, Stockard Channing, Sandra Oh, and Olympia Dukakis. 3 Needles presents stories from the AIDS pandemic in China, Africa, and Canada, and hits the streets on April 3, 2007 with a Suggested Retail Price of \$24.95.

Thom Fitzgerald created 3 Needles to present a portrait of people all over the world who struggle to sustain their spirits in the face of the deadly AIDS crisis. This luminous film visits rural China, a plantation in South Africa, and Montreal's porn industry, to tell three separate yet universal stories from the pandemic.



In China, Ping (Lucy Liu) is a pregnant young woman running a black market blood collection scam that creates a mini-epidemic in a rural village. In Montreal, Denys (Shawn Ashmore) is a porn actor hiding his positive HIV status in order to continue working and supporting his mother (Stockard

Channing), who herself goes to extreme lengths to provide for the family's future. And, in Africa, Sister Clara (Chloë Sevigny) is a young novice nun driven to convert the rapidly dying Africans to Catholicism and makes a desperate bargain with a corrupt plantation owner to help prevent the spread of HIV in the region. Sandra Oh and Olympia Dukakis portray nuns in the same order who accompany her on the journey.

Find this and other titles at Northampton's Pride & Joy, via TRT's website, or directly from Wolfe Video at: wolfevideo.com.

Gay Best Sellers

1. Sun Kissed
2. Dantes Cove Season 2
3. 3 Needles
4. Outlaugh
5. Available Men
6. C.R.A.Z.Y.
7. Dantes Cove
8. A Love To Hide
9. Open Cam
10. Another Gay Movie



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TRT LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT SCENE

Rufus Reid to headline 10th Annual HCC Jazz Festival March 30-31

HOLYOKE—The public is invited to Holyoke Community College March 30-31 for the 10th Annual Jazz Festival.

The two-day festival will kick-off in the Leslie Phillips Forum on Friday night March 30 with a concert by New Jersey recording artist Rufus Reid, accompanied by the Amherst Jazz Orchestra. The concert begins at 8 p.m., and tickets will be available at the door. General admission is \$10, (\$8 for students and seniors.) Members of the HCC community will receive free admission.

Reid will return to the Forum on Saturday, March



Rufus Reid

31, 4-6 p.m. where he will perform with select high

school jazz musicians in a free concert that is also open to the public.

Also on Saturday, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., Reid and other music educators will lead a series of jazz workshops, which the public is invited to observe. Jazz musicians from Hampshire Regional, Holyoke, Amherst Regional, Cathedral, Ellington, Enfield high schools will participate in these workshops, which will be critiqued by a panel of music educators. Students tapped to receive honorable mentions by that panel will be announced at the 4 p.m. concert.

For more information on

any aspect of the HCC Jazz Festival, please call Deb Golas at (413) 552-2485.

A native of Atlanta, Reid has received numerous awards and recognition for his work, including the 2005 Mellon Jazz Living Legacy Award, the 2006

New Jersey State Council on the Arts fellowship, and the Charlie Parker Jazz Composition Award. A noted jazz educator, Reid's book "The Evolving Bassist" is widely recognized as having set the industry standard for the

bass method. It was recently released on DVD.

This two-day event is sponsored by the HCC Music Department, the HCC Music Club, and Gerry's Music Shop in South Hadley.

Most visited lesbian and gay places

According to a recently released research study by Community Marketing, Inc. (CMI), New York City continues to rank as the No. 1 destination for US gay men, followed by Las Vegas, San Francisco and Los Angeles. In the study, New York City came out on top in all three categories: leisure/vacation, business and personal (visits to family/friends) travel.

However despite the New York's overall popularity among gay men, the CMI study found that gay and lesbian travel preferences vary greatly by gender and age.

In fact, while the Big Apple was ranked No. 1 by gay men, it ranked No. 3 among lesbian respondents, who ranked Las Vegas No. 1, followed by San Francisco, New York



The big Apple ranks at #1 amongst gay men. NY City came out on top in all categories researched.

Photo by: Grisel M. Ocasio

and Provincetown.

It is also significant to note that 71% of lesbians and gay men have a valid passport, and that 68% of the gay men and 57% of the lesbians surveyed used their passport to travel internationally in the last

year. Canada, Mexico, the United Kingdom, France, and Italy (in that order) are the most visited countries gays and lesbians with gay men more showing a clear preference for Europe and lesbians favoring Mexico.

Artists picked to put Harvey Milk in City Hall

SAN FRANCISCO (AP)— More than 28 years after he was assassinated, the first openly gay man to hold a prominent elected position in the United States is getting a place in City Hall.

Harvey Milk was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors in 1977 and shot to death a year later along with Mayor George Moscone by fellow supervisor Dan White.

A panel of local judges picked the Berkeley-based Daub, Firmin, Hendrickson Sculpture

Group to create a bust of Milk. The winning design was selected from more than 40 entries and three finalists in a privately funded competition.

The bronze sculpture of Milk will sit atop a stone base inscribed with a quote from one of his most famous speeches, the so-called Hope Speech he gave in 1978.

"The only thing they have to look forward to is hope. And you have to give them hope. Hope for a better world, hope for a better tomorrow, hope for

a better place to come to if the pressures at home are too great. Hope that all will be right," the inscription will read.

The Harvey Milk City Hall Memorial Committee, which spent the last six years raising money for the project, said it hopes to install the sculpture on May, 22, 2008, which would have been Milk's 78th birthday.

In the years since his death, Milk has become the most recognizable martyr of the gay rights movement.



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Rainbow Revolution in the little city that could: Holyoke, Massachusetts

BY: VIVIANA VALIENTE*
TRT Special

Back in 2005 an unlikely and powerful partnership was born between a Holyoke High 10th grader named Alex and myself. All of this happened while working as an academic adviser for Upward Bound, a federally funded program for 1st generation/low income students at Holyoke High School.

I became aware of the lack of a support system for LGBTQ students. As an academic adviser, and because of my personal experiences as a Puerto Rican lesbian in today's society, I engaged my students in conversations about human rights and social justice. These conversations are vital when advising students who come from historical oppressed socio-economic backgrounds. They are a part of their educational foundation and the backbone of their strength as college-bound students. As part of an informal survey of their school social climate, I asked Alex and other students to notice and record the language used around them that related to issues of race, gender and class. One of the students took the assignment at heart and what he recorded was an eye-opening experience for everyone.

As an educator, I feel confident and prepared to challenge oppressive work environments. I am an openly gay teacher and youth worker, and, as such, I seek environments in which I feel safe and respected. I have experienced situations where I have found my co-workers making discriminatory comments such as "if those kids would just adapt to our

culture," or "they just have to learn to be Americans." My response is usually to offer historical reasons for children's resistance to assimilation. There's always a lingering feeling of alienation due to the fact that I have to—once again—explain what I think should have been learned in high school or least college—to appreciate and celebrate differences. I have a language I can use to reassert my rights as an individual and a member of a particular culture. However, when oppressive language is used such as the "f" and "n" words, phrases such as "that's so gay, that's so retarded," etc., (can be offensive, perhaps you can insinuate the words without writing them)," and many others are used in classrooms, halls and cafeterias by students without a teacher's interference. Then, we as adults are helping to perpetuate hate and ignorance.

Some Upward Bound programs require students to perform 36 hours of community service a year in order to prepare them to be well-rounded citizens. I suggested to my 10th grade students that we work towards the creation of a school organization that would address discrimination based on gender orientation, race, ability level and class. We concluded that forming an LGBTQ club would be beneficial since the rights of that specific school community were still being denied with the everyday use of oppressive language on the part of some students and faculty.

We thought a Gay/Straight Alliance would be the most effective vehicle to bring people of

diverse backgrounds together. Allies are very important in the struggle for justice. Allies are the young people and adults at the high school and community who have come to appreciate and understand the importance of reasserting every individual's human rights. Allies have the advantage of being the insiders in a social system that creates privilege for those who conform to the dominant discourse. They are the bridge between the hearts and minds of people of different persuasions. And so, an unlikely partnership was born between a young White man, and a Puerto Rican teacher.

The connection made between this young man and I, based on mutual respect and commitment to social justice, led to the formation of the Holyoke High School Gay/Straight Alliance. Any organization with a real social impact has a philosophical/moral influence behind it. In our case, we worked with what I call a Gandhian Model of Social Justice. I've always admired the way that Gandhi liberated India from British colonialism using non-violence, defying unfair laws and policies and using those that advance his cause.

Gandhi was a trained lawyer and he knew that the law was the backbone of both colonial oppression and liberation. He studied British law and then used his knowledge to the advantage of his nation. This is the premise of our movement towards equality at the High School and city level. We researched the law and found what would be the base of our

See Holyoke GSA Page 14

PRIDE ENVIRONMENT: EARTH TALK

How can I dispose of my old phonebooks?

Dear EarthTalk: My local recycler won't take my old phonebooks. What should I do with them?

—Jake, Westport, CT

Many recyclers won't accept telephone books because the fibers used to make the books' lightweight pages are too short to be reformulated into new paper. In fact, mixing old phonebooks in with other waste paper can even contaminate the batch, hindering the recyclability of the other paper fibers.

Nonetheless, phonebook papers are 100 percent recyclable and are used primarily to—you guessed it—make new phonebooks! In fact, most phonebooks distributed today are made from re-fabricated old phonebook pages mixed with some scrap wood to strengthen the fibers for re-use. Old phonebooks are also sometimes recycled into insulation materials, ceiling tiles and roofing surfaces, as well as paper towels, grocery bags, cereal boxes and office papers. In fact, in a gesture both symbolic and practical, Pacific Bell/SBC now includes payment envelopes in its bills created from old Smart Yellow Pages phonebooks.

According to Los Gatos, California's Green Valley Recycling, if all Americans recycled their phonebooks for a year, we would save 650,000 tons of paper and free up two million cubic yards of landfill space. Modesto, California's Parks, Recreation & Neighborhoods Department, which lets city residents include phonebooks with their regular curbside pickup, says that for each 500 books recycled, we save 7,000 gallons of water, 3.3 cubic yards of landfill space, 17 to 31 trees and 4,100 kilowatts of electricity, enough to power an average home for six months.

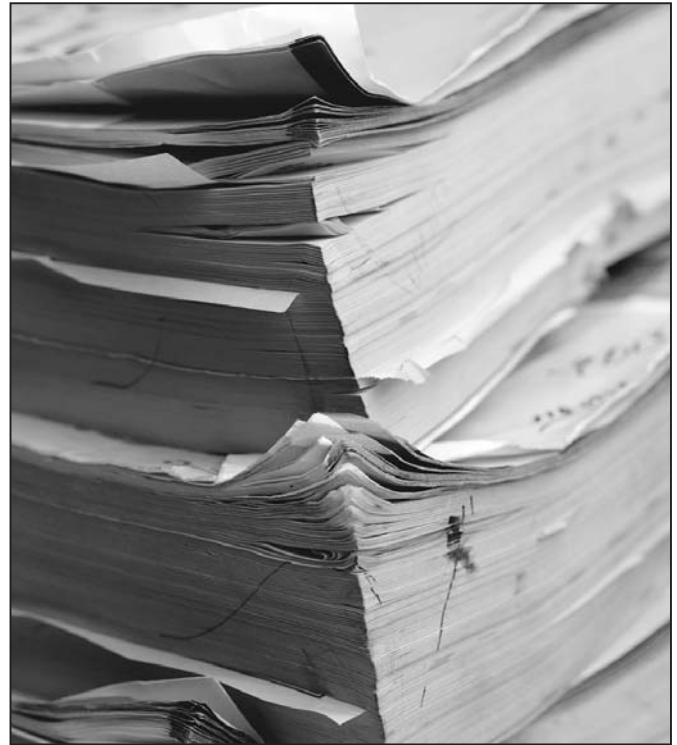
Consumers trying to do the right thing should find out when and how their town or phone company will accept phonebooks for recycling. Some will only take phonebooks back at certain times of year, often when new books are being distributed. Some schools, echoing the "newspaper drives" of bygone days, run contests in which students bring old phonebooks to school where

they are then collected and sent off to recyclers.

But those whose towns won't accept phonebooks at all and who can't find anywhere else to drop them need not fret. Old phonebooks have many practical uses. Their pages make excellent fire starters in a wood-burning fireplace or outdoor fire pit. Balled up or shredded phonebook pages also make nice packaging filler in place of problematic polystyrene "peanuts."

Phonebook pages can also be shredded and used as mulch to keep weeds down in your garden. The paper is biodegradable and will eventually return back to the soil. Those with an artistic bent can use old phonebooks to make flipbook style animated drawings, as described by animator Robert Truscio on his "Drawings That Move" instructional website.

There are also a number of telephone book collectors; some who make money selling their stock to those with a historical interest or who are researching family genealogies. Lifelong col-



If all Americans recycled their phonebooks for a year, we would save 650,000 tons of paper and free up two million cubic yards of landfill space.

lector Gwillim Law sells old phonebooks from all 50 U.S. states as well as from most Canadian and Australian provinces.

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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

Free HIV Rapid Testing: March 14 & 15, 9-3 p.m.; UMass Campus Center; Call Bob at 413-747-5144.

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

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

LGBTI HEALTH SUMMIT: March 14-18, 2007; Philadelphia, PA, www.healthsummit2007.org

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

GLBTQ HOLYOKE TASKFORCE MEETING: Thursday, March 29th at the Girls, Inc. Teen Center (6 Open Square Way). Info: 413-537-3005.

VOLUNTEER AT THE HOLYOKE ST. PATRICK'S DAY PARADE: Help pass out stickers and signs as well as collect signatures in support of gay marriage. This is a great opportunity to work with a team of volunteers at the second largest St. Patrick's Day celebration in the country. Sun, Mar 18 10:00 am - 6:00 p.m.; North Hampden St.; Holyoke; Information: <http://www.massequality.org/events/>

THE RAINBOW TIMES INAUGURATION PARTY: Friday, March 23 @ 8 p.m. at 20 Crafts Ave. (Pride & Joy Store); Come and join us with some wine, cheese, grapes and some other goodies. Meet the staff of The Rainbow Times and have a good time meeting others! All invited! Information: 413-204-8959.

A LOVE TO HIDE: Thursday, March 15, March 21, March 23; It is 1942, Paris. The Nazis are persecuting the "third sex" by rounding up homosexuals and deporting them to concentration camps. Against this backdrop, two

young gay lovers choose to risk their lives to hide a childhood Jewish friend. Then, an act of betrayal threatens them all. Thursday, March 15, 7:00 p.m. & Friday, March 23, 10:00 p.m. at the Pleasant Street Theatre; \$8. On Wednesday, March 21, 7:00 p.m., at the Basketball Hall of Fame; \$8. Screened as part of the Pioneer Valley Jewish Film Festival. Information: www.ValleyJewishFilm.com

MARRIAGE EQUALITY VOLUNTEER KICK-OFF: Join the campaign to ensure marriage equality for all! Tue, Mar 27 6:00 pm - 9:00 p.m.; 11 Beacon Street Suite 1125, Boston.

LOVER OTHER: Thursday, March 29; Living in exile from France on the Jersey Isle during World War II, lesbians Claude Cahun and Marcel Moore make art, love and commit imaginative acts of resistance against the Nazi occupation. This unique documentary memorializes their daring heroism by revisiting how the sisters' pursuit of art challenged the politics and gender conventions of the time. Film Talk! w/producer Barbara Hammer. Thursday, March 29, 8:00 pm, Smith College, Stoddard Hall; Free; Screened as part of the Pioneer Valley Jewish Film Festival. Information: www.ValleyJewishFilm.com

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

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.

ANNUAL HCC JAZZ FESTIVAL: Friday, March 30, 8:00 p.m.; 10th Amherst Jazz Orchestra featuring guest artist Rufus Reid, bass. Admission is FREE for HCC students, faculty and staff with valid ID.

BOWLING: Monday, April 2 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!

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, "Bear-ly Connecting" will hopefully be the beginning 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.

What is too many miles on an engine?

BY: STEPHEN M. LEWIS

TRT Auto Specialist

I'll bet you wouldn't think I'm biased, but I am.

Actually, depending on the service history of a vehicle, if service history is good any engine "should" last at least 100,000 miles. Imports, with the proper maintenance "should" have no problem reaching 200,000 miles.

Here's the Bias: The average ownership of a Subaru is 8 years. That is the high-end in the U.S. Auto



Stephen M. Lewis
President, Steve Lewis Subaru

Industry. It's not uncommon; actually it's common for Steve Lewis Subaru to have 4 or 5 Subarus a week in for normal service with 200,000-300,000 miles on them.

Watch the gauges! They

are extremely important, especially the temperature gauge (should be in the middle), and the check engine light, which by the way does not mean to "check" and see if you have an engine.

Lastly, if your car is using a quart of oil in 1,000 miles or less, you probably have a problem.

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

CDH looks for more volunteers as it grows

NORTHAMPTON— While Cooley Dickinson Hospital prepares to unveil 116,000 square feet of new space next month, Volunteer Services Director Robin Kline anticipates the need for more volunteers.

"We need at least 30 new volunteers to help keep our operations running smoothly," Kline said, noting that in 2006, 294 volunteers contributed more

than 29,000 hours by staffing the coffee and gift shops, transporting mail to hospital departments and greeting visitors. "Our volunteers are truly the backbone of this organization."

Kline is interviewing for the following positions: information desk greeter, unit greeter, delivery person, volunteers for the Gift Shop, Coffee Shop Central Sterile Supply and the Linen and Transportation

departments.

Call Robin Kline at (413) 582-2251 for more information or visit CDH online: www.cooley-dickinson.org and click on the Volunteer Application quick link.

The New Patient Building and Kittredge Surgery Center at Cooley Dickinson Hospital will open in April.



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Coulter uses the word "faggot" to refer to Democratic candidate

According to a recent Human Rights update and CNN report, at least three major companies want their ads pulled from Ann Coulter's Web site, after customer complained about the right-wing commentator referring to Democratic presidential candidate John Edwards as a "faggot."

CNN reported that Verizon, Sallie Mae and Georgia-based NetBank each said they didn't know their ads were on AnnCoulter.com until they received the complaints.

The HRC has reported that so far, more than 40,000 fair-

minded activists have responded to the its call to take action against Ann Coulter after she used the "F word" at a public event. But the media group that syndicates Coulter's column flatly defied these protests. In a special plea, the HRC wants LGBTQ and allies to keep the heat on Coulter by encouraging individual newspapers to not provide platforms to bigots.

To take action go to: http://www.hrcactioncenter.org/actioncenter/notice-description.tcl?newsletter_id=6872445

CDH offers convenient blood pressure clinic

NORTHAMPTON— Cooley's monthly blood pressure clinic will be offered on Thursday, March 15 from 2 to 4 p.m. in the Cardiac Rehabilitation Department at Cooley Dickinson Hospital. Nurses perform the blood pressure checks. This event is free; pre-registration is not required. For easy access to the Cardiac Rehabilitation Department, use the Main Entrance. Free valet parking service is available.

Submit your non-profit calendar event* to 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

Gay couple claims hospital discrimination

BAKERSFIELD, Calif. (AP)—Officials at San Joaquin Community Hospital said they were investigating why a lesbian was kept out of the emergency room while her partner's biological daughter was treated for a fever.

Donna Jones, 40, said she and her partner, Sharolyn Takata, 38, took their daughter to the emergency room Sunday with a 104-degree fever. The pair complained to hospital officials after a security guard made Jones stay in the waiting room but allowed other couples to enter the emergency room.

Jones and Takata are registered domestic partners, giving Jones a role similar to a stepparent to Takata's biological daughter.

"Instead of being there to support her, I wasn't allowed back," said Jones. "How do you explain to your daughter the security guard is anti-gay?"

Hospital officials said the guard kept Jones out because of crowding concerns, but that the incident was under investigation.

Gay veterans call for 'don't ask, don't tell' reversal

BOSTON (AP)—Twelve gay and lesbian veterans who were dismissed under the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy asked a federal appeals court Wednesday to reinstate their lawsuit challenging the policy.

In arguments before the 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, one veteran compared the policy to government-sanctioned discrimination against blacks.

"Systematically in the military today, gays are being harassed, hounded, harmed," former Army Capt. James Pietrangolo II told the court. "This is segregation all over again."

But Gregory Katsas, a

lawyer for the government, said the policy is a way to protect military unit cohesion and reduce sexual tension. He said similar concerns about romantically involved heterosexual couples led the military to create separate housing for men and women.

"Congress' rationale ... is that that kind of coupling creates problems," he said.

The "don't ask, don't tell" policy prohibits the military from asking about the sexual orientation of service members but requires discharge of those who acknowledge being gay or engaging in homosexual activity.

Bill to increase unmarried partner benefits passes

By Mark Niesse/AP Writer HONOLULU (AP)—Same-sex partners and family members who live together could receive similar health benefits as married couples under a bill passed Thursday in the state House.

The bill extends state and county health coverage to couples who aren't legally allowed to marry. The measure passed by a 34-6 vote, with 11 representatives absent. It now advances to the state Senate.

"This will expand rights for everybody," said Rep. Joe Bertram, D-Makena-Kihei.

The measure was proposed as a replacement for legislation that would have allowed gay couples to enter into civil unions. After more than five hours of testimony, that proposal didn't have enough support in a House committee to advance last week.

In previous hearings, gay rights advocates argued against this bill because they said it undermined their push for civil unions.

"No one in the gay community wanted this bill," said Rep. Gene Ward, R-

Kalama Valley-Hawaii Kai, who voted against it. "The gay community has said unequivocally they want same-sex marriage or civil unions, and not this bill."

But opponents to civil unions, especially the Roman Catholic Church, backed the so-called reciprocal benefits bill because it extends rights without basing them on sexual preference.

"The main purpose of reciprocal benefits was to provide benefits to people in need in a way that was not based on sex partner status," said Kelly Rosati, a spokeswoman for the Hawaii Catholic Church and executive director for the Hawaii Family Forum. "Same sex couples may be eligible to receive benefits, but it isn't the reason benefits are provided."

Largo city manager who wants sex change will fight to keep job

By: PHIL DAVIS/AP Writer LARGO, Fla. (AP)—A city manager facing dismissal after going public with plans to get a sex change said he plans to fight to keep his job, because his case represents the struggle "to deal with morality, sexuality and gender."

Steve Stanton said he would try to persuade the Largo City Commission to reverse its 5-2 vote last month to begin the process of firing him. His appeal of that vote means the commission must now hold another public hearing so he can make a final appeal to keep the post he has held for 14 years.

The commission had given Stanton generally good reviews and a hefty raise last year for his management of the city's \$130 million budget and roughly 1,200 employees in the community of 76,000 west of Tampa.

But Commissioner Mary

Gray Black said Stanton's surprise announcement that he was pursuing plans to become Susan Stanton "caused stress, turmoil, distraction and work disruption" in the city. His contract says he can be fired without cause at any time.

Almost 500 people packed in Largo City Hall for a contentious meeting that ended with the vote against Stanton. Many spoke in his favor, but more called for his dismissal.

Mayor Patricia Gerard and Commissioner Rodney Woods voted to let Stanton keep his job. The other commissioners said he'd lost too much credibility.

For his appeal, Stanton said he would bring in activists, business experts and doctors to describe the gender reassignment process and how it has been successful in other workplaces. A hearing date has not been set.

Stanton's attorney, Karen Doering, said Largo reacted too quickly to the sex change news.

"This is essentially giving the heckler's veto to those who are unfamiliar with what they don't understand," said Doering, who is also the senior counsel for the National Center for Lesbian Rights.

Stanton, who built a reputation as a forceful administrator, almost didn't appeal the commission's decision. But he said hundreds of phone calls from Largo res-

idents, transsexuals and activists persuaded him to stand his ground.

"It's almost an obligation now," Stanton said. "This isn't just about Steve Stanton. It's not about Largo. It reflects the nation's struggle to deal with morality, sexuality and gender."

Gay Bishop Says No to Ultimatum

By: RACHEL ZOLL/AP The first openly gay Episcopal bishop, whose consecration has brought the world's Anglicans to the brink of schism, said recently that the Episcopal Church should not give in to demands that it roll back its acceptance of gays.

New Hampshire Bishop V. Gene Robinson said in a statement that Episcopalians should set aside the Anglican Communion's request for now "and get on with the work of the Gospel" even at the risk of losing their place in the Anglican fellowship.

"Doesn't Jesus challenge the greater whole to sacrifice itself for those on the margins?" Robinson said. "Now is the time for ... courage, not fear."

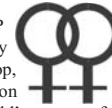
It was Robinson's first public statement on an ultimatum that Anglican leaders issued last week during a meeting in Tanzania. They gave the U.S. denomination until Sept. 30 to unequivocally pledge not to

consecrate another gay bishop or authorize official prayers for same-sex couples. If it doesn't, the church risks a much-reduced role in the Anglican family of churches that trace their roots back to the Church of England.

Jefferts Schori personally supports ordaining gays and voted to confirm Robinson in 2003; but, noting that the season of Lent was beginning, she said Anglican leaders—called primates—were asking for a "fast" by both sides in the debate. Conservative Anglican leaders have been asked to stop crossing into Episcopal territory to take control of breakaway conservative parishes.

Robinson said gays and lesbians were being asked to sacrifice much more than others. He compared Anglicans who oppose full acceptance of gays and lesbians to the Pharisees, and said Jesus would never have been asked to halt his ministries out of sensitivity to them.

"How will we explain this 'forbearance' to all those gay and lesbian Christians who have come to the Episcopal Church because, for the first time ever, they have believed that there is a place for them at God's table, not simply beneath it, hoping for fallen scraps?" he wrote.



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EDUCATION

Consensus Guidelines for public schools on issues of sexual orientation

WASHINGTON, D.C.—The first consensus guidelines created to help educators, students and parents develop local policies and practices to address issues involving sexual orientation in public schools were announced today by the First Amendment Center. "Americans are deeply divided over homosexuality in our society," said Charles Haynes, senior scholar at the First Amendment Center. "But if school officials and community members use the ground rules of the First Amendment, they can reach agreement on how public schools can guard the rights of all students in a safe learning environment."

The nonpartisan guidelines call on school officials to be "fair, honest brokers of a dialogue that involves all stakeholders and seeks the common good." The recommended strategies include:

- Create a "common ground" task force, with representatives with a wide range of community views, to advise school officials on issues such as safety in school, student expression and curricula;
- Agree on protecting everyone's First Amendment rights and reach a shared understanding of current law;
- Avoid "us v. them" political arguments, and permit all sides in the debate to be heard;

• Provide educational opportunities for administrators, teachers, parents and students about basic First Amendment principles of rights, responsibilities and respect.

Primary drafters of the guidelines were Haynes and Wayne Jacobsen of BridgeBuilders, an organization that helps schools and communities find common ground on religious issues. Representatives from the Christian Educators Association International (CEAI) and the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN) also served on the drafting committee and endorsed the process recommended in the guide.

CEAI is a professional association of Christian educators serving in public and private schools. GLSEN is a national education organization focused on ensuring safe schools for all students.

"So often our national discourse focuses on those issues which divide us. These guidelines highlight, however, that respect is our common American value," noted GLSEN founder and Executive Director Kevin Jennings. "I want to personally commend our colleagues from CEAI, the First Amendment Center, and so many educators, religious leaders and influencers who are joining together in this great effort to ensure America's

schools are safe and effective environments for each and every student."

"Our endorsement of the guidelines for Public Schools and Sexual Orientation is in no way a wandering away from, change or compromise of our long established support of traditional family values and Biblical standards," said Finn Laursen, executive director, Christian Educators. "We have all seen a growing hostility in the schooling community centered on this issue. It is evident that emotions escalate when not all stakeholders are included from the onset and the issues surrounding homosexuality come in 'under the radar.'"

"The strength of these guidelines is the focus to include all stakeholders impacted by this issue, which clearly includes the Faith Community. We need to be sensitive to listen and show respect for individuals with opinions on all sides of this issue even if we don't agree with them. In this type of environment, those expressing views based on religious convictions or personal experience can do so without violating their own personal convictions," Laursen said.

Two national educational leadership groups, the American Association of

See Education Page 15

Holyoke GSA from Page 10

equality campaign, M.G.L. Chapter 76, Section 5.

Once we had gathered the information needed to support our effort to form a GSA, we made copies of the law, wrote a mission statement and a petition to start the organization. We gathered signatures from students, faculty and personnel and gave it to the school principal. This part of the process was fairly easy since Gov. Weld had made it a law to protect LGBTQ students in Massachusetts high schools, and had gone even further by making recommendations as to how to make the law work in schools. Gov. Weld also mandated schools across Mass. to "amend existing anti-harassment policies to include: prohibiting violence, harassment, and verbal abuse directed against gay and lesbian students and those perceived to be gay or lesbian." Notice the language used. "Perceived" being a very

important word, since it promotes an environment in which staff and students should assume that LGBTQ students are members of the school community and every classroom, and therefore encourages everyone to behave in a manner that does not violate the rights of any student. Simply said, it is now a crime to violate the human rights of gay and lesbian youth in any school in the commonwealth of Massachusetts. The commission also recommended educating students and faculty about the existence of the law and about the right it guarantees in order to create a more supportive and accepting atmosphere in public schools for all youth.

Knowledge is power. Every time a gay or lesbian youth comes to me for support or encouragement, the first thing I do is give them a copy of The Massachusetts Gay and Lesbian Students' Right Law. I tell them to put it in their pocket, and show it to their friends and teachers

whenever they feel unsafe or threatened. I tell them to record abusive or oppressive language noting the time, date and place where they heard it and to pass it on to their school principal. As adults, we should be held accountable for creating an environment in which youth can thrive free of fear and alienation. This message is one that needs to be reinforced on a daily basis by school faculty and staff.

Teachers are responsible for stopping whatever they are doing to address violent and oppressive language within the classroom, if not out of conviction, then because it is the law. There are many ways to keep this message fresh in schools. Holding diversity assemblies, organizing anti-bullying and safe space campaigns, and by making sure the Massachusetts Gay and Lesbian Students' Rights Law is posted in faculty lounges and examined at the beginning of every school year are some of the ways to do so.

This year there has been

some opposition to the Second Diversity Assembly at Holyoke High sponsored by the GSA. The school principal is thinking about allowing parents to "opt out" their children from the assembly, but this might also be a violation of the law. Alex Morse, who is now a Senior at HHS and president of the GSA, came to me with great news and informed me about a ruling made by Judge Mark Wolf: "On Friday, February 23, 2007, U.S. District Judge Mark Wolf from Boston, threw out a lawsuit filed by parents who wanted to keep their young children from learning about same-sex marriage. Judge Wolf said federal courts have decided in other cases that parents' rights to exercise their religious beliefs are not violated when their children are exposed to contrary ideas in school. Schools are 'entitled to teach anything that is reasonably related to the goals of preparing students to become engaged and productive citizens.'" Both couples claimed Lexington

school officials violated their parental right to teach their own morals to their children. They said they wanted to be notified before gay couples were discussed so they could remove their children from the classrooms. The judge dismissed their arguments.

We all can learn by researching the truth, the laws, and defending what is right. Needless to say, I am very proud of Alex. He knows how to research and use the law to remind school officials about his rights. I asked him if he has seen any positive changes at Holyoke High since the formation of HHS GSA back in 2005 and he said: "The HHS Gay/Straight Alliance has established a sense of appreciation for diversity and LGBTQ students feel more comfortable and confident to face the struggle for equality. They feel part of a community. Students still have to challenge each other and their teachers about derogatory language, but slowly and gradually being homophobic is becoming

uncool. The faculty is more conscious about the rights of LGBTQ students but there is still a lack of intervention. We need more ongoing training for faculty, staff, and students. Teachers need to be held accountable. They need to use inclusive language within the classroom and not assume everybody is straight."

You can help Holyoke High students by calling the school's principal at 413-534-2020 and ask him to support this year's GSA Diversity Assembly for ALL students and faculty. Nobody should opt out of an education.

For more information on how to help youth thrive free of fear and oppression, and to learn more about what Holyoke youth is doing to create a better world, read the next article about Rainbow Youth in the City of Holyoke. Peace out.

*The author is Girls, Inc.'s Mentoring Program Coordinator. Info at: viviannavaliente@yahoo.com

THE POLITICS THAT AFFECT US

Healthy People 2010: Companion Document for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual & Transgender Health

Lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender (LGBT) health is emerging as a national health concern because of a growing body of evidence of health disparities experienced by LGBT people. Some agencies of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services are broadening their focus on populations who experience health disparities to include those defined by sexual orientation and gender identity. For the first time, the ten-year federal plan for improving the nation's health, called Healthy People 2010 (HP2010), includes sexual orientation in 29 health objectives. Concerned with the lack of knowledge about LGBT health among the general population of health care planners and providers, HRSA

(Health Resources and Services Administration) awarded the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA) a contract to gather experts from across the country to write a HP 2010 companion document on LGBT health.

The Healthy People 2010 Companion Document for LGBT Health covers a range of health issues, including: Access to Quality Health Care, Cancer, Mental Health, Tobacco and Substance Use, Public Health Infrastructure, and Violence Prevention. The Companion Document notes research showing that:

- LGBT youth are much more likely to be victimized in school and to attempt suicide than heterosexual youth.



- LGBT people are often reluctant to seek care or to "come out" to health providers, leading to under-screening and intervention likely to result in poor health.

- Gay men and lesbian women are at increased risk for certain cancers (lung, cervical, breast, and anal cancer), due to a higher prevalence of smoking and inadequate risk assessment and screening by providers.

- Elders in same-sex relationships are at high risk of economic devastation due to the fact that legal protections are not afforded to same-sex couples (e.g. Medicaid spend-down protections).
- HIV/AIDS continues to devastate LGBT populations, including men who have sex with men, particularly men of color, transgender women (male to female), and LGBT injection drug users.

In addition, the Companion Document makes specific health-related and broader policy recommendations for Congress and federal agencies that will reduce LGBT health disparities, such as:

- Prohibit discrimination against LGBT persons by organizations that receive federal funding.

- Designate LGBT populations as a "special population" of concern by federal health agencies.

- Increase the number of national surveys which ask questions about LGBT status to enable monitoring of the health of all Americans.

- Increase the number of LGBT people with health insurance.

- Increase the number of individuals treated for non-life threatening sexually transmitted diseases to decrease the likelihood of HIV transmission.

- Target LGBT populations in the health promotion campaigns of national health agencies, such as smoking prevention and cessation activities.

- Incorporate LGBT cultural competence into the training of all health professionals, and particularly

managed care, Medicaid, Medicare, and State Children's Health Insurance Program providers.

- Develop demonstration projects, which include community coalitions, to address the substance abuse prevention and treatment needs of LGBT communities.

- Support research to identify the patterns of hate crimes, and publish criminal justice findings by state and local jurisdictions.

This report comes to TRT from From the National Coalition of LGBT Health. For a copy of the full Healthy People 2010 Companion Document for LGBT Health please visit: www.lgbthealth.net/downloads/hp2010doc.pdf

Clinton Opens Door to Gay Activists

BY: DEVLIN BARRETT/AP Democrat Hillary Rodham Clinton told the nation's leading gay rights group in an unpublished speech that she wants a partnership with gays if elected president.

Clinton also said she opposes the "don't ask, don't tell" policy regarding gays in the military that was instituted during her husband's presidency.

"I am proud to stand by your side," Clinton said in a keynote speech Friday to the Human Rights Campaign. Neither Clinton's campaign nor her Senate office made any announcement that she would be making the Friday address.

In the speech, Clinton joked that she shares the same initials as the group, and pledged to maintain the same close working relationship that last year

helped defeat the federal amendment which would have banned same-sex marriage.

"I want you to know that this is exactly the kind of partnership we will have when I

am president," Clinton told the group. "I want you to know that just as you always have an open door to my senate office, you will always have an open door to the White House and together we can continue this journey."

Clinton's husband Bill Clinton was president when the Pentagon instituted the "don't ask, don't tell" policy, which says gays may serve in the military only if they keep their sexual orientation private. In 1999, as she prepared to run for the



Sen. Hillary R. Clinton

Senate from New York, Clinton publicly opposed that policy.

Previous to Bill Clinton's administration, gays were flatly forbidden from serving in

the military.

Sen. Clinton said it would be safer for the nation if openly gay soldiers, sailors, Marines, and airmen could wear the uniform.

"This policy doesn't just hurt gays and lesbians, it hurts all our troops and this to me is a matter of national security and we're going to fix it," Clinton said.

Her chief rivals for the Democratic nomination, John Edwards and Barack Obama, also favor repealing the policy.

Priests to purify site after Bush visit

Juan Carlos Llorca/AP

GUATEMALA CITY — Mayan priests will purify a sacred archaeological site to eliminate "bad spirits" after President Bush visits next week, said an official with close ties to the group.

"That a person like (Bush), with the persecution of our migrant brothers in the United States, with the wars he has provoked, is going to walk in our sacred lands, is an offense for the Mayan people and their culture," said Juan Tiney, director of a Mayan nongovernmental organization with close ties to Mayan religious and political leaders.

Bush's seven-day tour of Latin America includes a stopover beginning late Sunday in Guatemala. Bush's trip has already sparked protests elsewhere in Latin America, including protests and clashes with police in Brazil hours before his arrival. In Bogota, Colombia, which

Bush will visit Sunday, 200 masked students battled 300 riot police with rocks and small homemade explosives.

The tour is aimed at challenging a widespread perception that the United

States has neglected the region and at combating the rising influence of Venezuelan leftist President Hugo Chavez, who has called Bush "history's greatest killer" and "the devil."

Education from Page 14

School Administrators and the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development (ASCD) have also endorsed the guidelines.

The new guidelines are the latest in a series of common-ground statements developed and published by the First Amendment Center and endorsed by a broad range of religious and educational groups. In 2000, three of these consensus guides on religious liberty in public schools were sent by the U.S. Department of Education to every public school in the United States. The First Amendment Center works to preserve and protect First

Amendment freedoms through information and education. The center serves as a forum for the study and exploration of free-expression issues, including freedom of speech, of the press and of religion, the right to assemble and petition the government. The First Amendment Center is an operating program of the Freedom Forum and is associated with the Newseum. For a copy of the consensus guidelines visit: www.firstamendment-center.org/about.aspx?id=16611 For more information about the First Amendment Center: Jenny Atkinson, 615-727-1325 or jatkinson@fac.org.

SPORTS

Activists say health care plans contain hidden costs

By: STEVE LeBLANC

Associated Press Writer

BOSTON (AP)—Health care activists say the low-cost health plans unveiled recently by Gov. Deval Patrick—some with monthly premiums as low as \$175—sound too good to be true, but officials say will they put insurance in the reach of thousands.

"It does show that we can use competition and choice to make health care more affordable," said Jon Kingsdale, executive director of the Commonwealth Health Insurance Connector, which gave the state's "seal of approval" to seven lower-cost plans.

Kingsdale said that while the plans vary by price and cost sharing, all offer outpatient medical care, emergency care,

mental health and substance abuse services, rehabilitation services, hospice and vision care.

But critics point to what they say are the hidden costs in the plans, from deductibles as high as \$2,000 to the reliance on "co-insurance" to cover some pricier medical expenses.

"The low premiums mask the real costs," said the Rev. Hurmon Hamilton of the Greater Boston Interfaith Organization. "There are a significant number of folks who still can't afford those products."

Hamilton said he was especially concerned that some plans bring down the cost of monthly premiums by relying on "co-insurance" instead of more traditional, fixed

copayments.

Copayments are a defined dollar amount for a specific service. Co-insurance is a percentage of the bill for services.

Under the lowest cost plan offered by Blue Cross Blue Shield, for example, a 37-year-old uninsured resident would pay \$275 a month for an insurance plan that has no deductible, but requires 35 percent co-insurance for inpatient hospital visits.

That means someone with the plan who ends up in the hospital would have to pay 35 percent of their bill up to a state-mandated maximum of \$5,000 for all out-of-pocket expenses, or \$10,000 for a family.

The lowest cost plan offered by Tufts Health Plan, in contrast, has a

\$2,000 deductible. Instead of co-insurance, hospital stays are included in the deductible, after which the plan would pay the rest.

The inclusion of co-insurance in some plans is part of the balancing act insurers are performing as they try to drive down monthly premiums.

"We're obviously not a big fan of this," said John McDonough, executive director of the group Health Care for All.

McDonough said it's one example of the importance of educating the public about the mind-numbing details of the plans.

Connector officials said the state is mandating important consumer protections in the plans. In addition to the \$5,000 a year individual cap on

out-of-pocket expenses, the plans are barred from denying coverage for pre-existing conditions. Waiting periods also are banned.

The panel also insisted that routine doctors visits—like annual physicals or well-baby check-ups—be included before any deductible kicks in.

Kingsdale said the plans are a bargain compared to anything offered on the market now.

"Would I like to offer health care for \$2? Yes." He said. "I'd also like to buy a Jaguar for \$5."

The lower-cost private health plans are intended for uninsured residents earning too much to qualify for subsidized care—about \$29,400 annually for an individual. An estimated 160,000 to 200,000

people are uninsured and do not qualify for state-subsidized plans.

Perhaps the single biggest cost driver is age. Under the least expensive plans, those aged 56 or older will still be paying far more between \$347 and \$505 in monthly premiums.

In two weeks, the board is scheduled to decide whether insurers can offer even lower cost versions of the plans without mandatory prescription drug coverage.

On May 1 consumers should be able to start signing up for the new plans through the connector. By July 1, all Massachusetts residents must have insurance or face tax penalties.

Massachusetts 3, Maine 2

AMHERST, Mass. (AP)—John Wessbecker scored the game-winning goal, and Jon Quick had 38 saves as Massachusetts edged Maine 3-2 recently to take a 1-0 lead in their best-of-three Hockey East quarterfinal series.

Wessbecker put the Minutemen up 3-1 at

11:12 of the final period. Brent Shephard pulled Maine to 3-2 on a power play just over a minute later.

Sixteen of Quick's saves came in the final period.

Billy Ryan put the Black Bears on the scoreboard on a power play near the end of the open-

ing period. UMass answered with a second-period power play goal from Kevin Jarman, and Alex Berry's goal five minutes into the third. Berry also assisted on Jarman's goal.

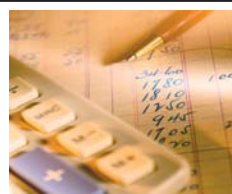
Dave Wilson had 21 saves for Maine.

The teams meet again soon.

Women's Pro Football Team in Western Mass.

The Central Mass Ravens are still holding tryouts for their full contact women's football team. They play by NFL rules and wear the same professional equipment. The season runs from mid-April until June. For more information visit the Central Mass Ravens at www.centralmassravens.com.

www.centralmassravens.com



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The Rainbow Times

Wine & Cheese Inauguration Party

Brought to you by: Pride & Joy

Friday, March 23, 2007 @ 8 p.m.

20 Crafts Ave., Northampton, MA

Come and share with us with some wine, cheese & a few other goodies. Meet some of the featured speakers and the staff of The Rainbow Times!

RSVP by email: party@therainbowtimesmass.com, or CALL:

413-204-8959

Are you a sports writer? Are sports your passion? Or, do you play for a local team?

Have your sports event/s published in The Rainbow Times! Have your sports photos be part of the LGBT publication that will recognize your achievements: The Rainbow Times!

Submit your event & photos to: editor@therainbowtimesmass.com