Every day should be a Transgender Day of Remembrance

By Tristan Wright

Later this month, people will gather across the globe, including here in Rochester, to commemorate the Transgender Day of Remembrance, an event created in 1999 as an online project to honor the still-unresolved murder of transgender woman Rita Hester. Since its creation, it has become an annual fixture with support from national and international organizations alike.

On November 20, people will come together to grieve the lives of trans* people who were murdered for being who they were, and to mourn the ones who took their own lives after the toll of daily encounters with transphobia and discrimination could no longer be borne. Those gathered will reflect on the innumerable transgender people whose deaths went unreported, the hate crimes that went unsolved, and the justice that remains elusive. (See p. 11 for Rochester events.)

According to data collected and analyzed by the Transgender Violence Tracking Portal, a transgender person is murdered somewhere in the world every 38 hours. Based on their data, in 2013 alone 23 transgender people were killed in the United States; there have been nine killings of trans* people in the US thus far this year. However, these numbers only account for murders that are reported; the deaths of transgender people are far more likely to remain unreported.

Possible hate crime in Genesee raises weakness in state law

By Susan Jordan

Local and national media circulated a story on Oct. 1 about an assault on a transgender SUNY student that occurred on Sept. 26 at around 2 a.m. in Genesee. The Gay Alliance has been working with organizations in Genesee to ensure that the situation is handled appropriately.

Executive Director Scott Feasting said, “The LGBTQ community should know that based on conversations with our contacts on campus and in the area, we currently feel confident that the response and investigation by local law enforcement have been handled in appropriate ways. Further it seems that campus administration and other campus services are also responding appropriately to support the victim, including protecting the student’s desire to remain anonymous.”

Media reports have indicated that the student “was born male and now identifies herself as a woman.” However, the Gay Alliance feels the comments made on Oct. 1 by Livingston County District Attorney Greg McCaffrey are very disturbing. His assertion that the severity of the injuries from the assault were not severe enough to warrant calling the assault a hate crime is unacceptable, Feasting said.

“A line was crossed,” stressed Feasting. “An assault occurred. If the victim was physically assaulted because of their identity, as the reported name-calling indicates, then this was a hate-motivated incident and should be investigated, and potentially charged as such.”

The Gay Alliance feels that this situation emphasizes the need to update NYS Hate Crimes legislation to allow the victim of an incident to name the attack as a hate crime, as is the case in many states, rather than leaving that to the police.

Fearing added, “Such a vital determination should not be in the hands of an authority who may have very limited knowledge of what it means to be targeted for a hate crime. We ask that New York lawmakers follow the lead of other states and allow the victim of a crime to state that they believe the criminal was motivated by personal hatred.”

Grant of $447,000 comes through for abused deaf survivors here

On Oct. 1, U.S. Senators Charles E. Schumer and Kirsten Gillibrand announced a $447,000 grant for the Advocacy Services for Abused Deaf Victims (ASADV) in Monroe County.

The funding was allocated through the Department of Justice’s (DOJ) Office on Violence Against Women and will be used in collaboration with the Gay Alliance of Genesee Valley to create more outreach services and resources for deaf and hard of hearing survivors of domestic and sexual violence, including those in the deaf LGBTQ community.

Additionally, ASADV will provide direct services, such as counseling, advocacy, and support groups, to deaf and hard of hearing survivors of domestic and sexual violence as well as community education workshops and programs.

“This money is absolutely critical to better protect survivors of sexual violence and rape who are deaf and hard of hearing,” said Schenectady. “Survivors of these tragic, life-endangering situations don’t just need a safe place to stay, they need comprehensive services that can help them get back on their feet and move forward with confidence.”

The Gay Alliance feels the comments made on Oct. 1 about an assault on a transgender SUNY student that occurred on Sept. 26 at around 2 a.m. in Genesee.

The Gay Alliance has been working with organizations in Genesee to ensure that the situation is handled appropriately. Executive Director Scott Feasting said, “The LGBTQ community should know that based on conversations with our contacts on campus and in the area, we currently feel confident that the response and investigation by local law enforcement have been handled in appropriate ways. Further it seems that campus administration and other campus services are also responding appropriately to support the victim, including protecting the student’s desire to remain anonymous.”

Media reports have indicated that the student “was born male and now identifies herself as a woman.” However, the Gay Alliance feels the comments made on Oct. 1 by Livingston County District Attorney Greg McCaffrey are very disturbing. His assertion that the severity of the injuries from the assault were not severe enough to warrant calling the assault a hate crime is unacceptable, Feasting said.

“A line was crossed,” stressed Feasting. “An assault occurred. If the victim was physically assaulted because of their identity, as the reported name-calling indicates, then this was a hate-motivated incident and should be investigated, and potentially charged as such.”

The Gay Alliance feels that this situation emphasizes the need to update NYS Hate Crimes legislation to allow the victim of an incident to name the attack as a hate crime, as is the case in many states, rather than leaving that to the police.

Fearing added, “Such a vital determination should not be in the hands of an authority who may have very limited knowledge of what it means to be targeted for a hate crime. We ask that New York lawmakers follow the lead of other states and allow the victim of a crime to state that they believe the criminal was motivated by personal hatred.”

Rush to justice: Marriage equality is now legal in 32 states plus D.C.

By Susan Jordan

The Supreme Court on Oct. 6 decided not to review same-sex marriage victories in Virginia and four other states, meaning legal marriages can take place there.

The court’s decision came without explanation and put off a decision about gay marriage nationally. The court decided not to review decisions that struck down prohibitions on same-sex marriage in Virginia, Utah, Oklahoma, Indiana and Wisconsin. Marriages had been on hold in those places pending the disposition of those cases.

With the Court’s decision not to review the cases, favorable marriage rulings in the 10th Circuit, the 7th Circuit and the 4th Circuit have gone or will soon go into effect. Marriage bans in certain states within those circuits will be invalidated, adding Alaska, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma, Utah, Wyoming, North Carolina, South Carolina, Virginia, West Virginia, Indiana, and Wisconsin to the list of freedom to marry states. As a result of the Court’s decision, an additional 51 million Americans will live in a freedom to marry state.

On Oct. 25, Attorney General Eric Holder announced that the federal government will now recognize same-sex married couples in Alaska, Arizona, Idaho, North Carolina, West Virginia, and Wyoming. The stay on Alaska marriage was lifted on Oct. 17.

The previous week, the Attorney General made a similar announcement with respect to seven other states: Colorado, Indiana, Nevada, Alabama, Utah, Virginia and Wisconsin. Colorado Attorney General John Suthers said on Oct. 6 that all 64 county clerks in that state must begin to issue marriage licenses. The Oct. 25 announcement adds to that list and brings the total number of states where same-sex couples are recognized by the federal government to 32, plus the District of Columbia. The Attorney General’s announcement means couples married in these states will now qualify for a range of federal benefits, including those administered by the Social Security Administration and Department of Veterans Affairs.

Inside

Editorsials: 2
Interviews: Peter Lawrence... 7
Making the Rounds: Health, Trans resources ...16
LGBTQ Living: brunch... 27
Shoulders To Stand On ...31
Columnists
Community
Entertainment: ImageOut... 37
Gay Alliance: Phonewipe Calendar ...34
Classifieds
Comics... 34, 35

The Gay Alliance is publisher of The Empty Closet, New York State’s oldest LGBTQ newspaper.
**Perspectives**

Cilies ARE real! More than 30,000 children. Our family. 124,000 same-sex couples... are lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. 1 in 10 million adults in the U.S. identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender. It's not just seniors who fall prey to bias. We all face dehumanization and discrimination when people think they don't know any gay or trans people – just stereotypes.

Visibility allows our existence to be dismissed. Resorts will market, get-away specials for LGBTQ people, aren't even close when two women show up. Forms will provide only two boxes to define gender. Politicians won't know what GENDA or ENDA would do for their fellow citizens.

Visibility is power. The Gay Alliance is currently running a campaign to encourage people to be out and visible. We are asking LGBTQ people and our allies to be out and visible. As we hear in the campaign is a request for people to take pictures of themselves holding signs that proudly proclaim their identity and to post and share these images. (See page 30.)

The campaign will run through the end of the year, but we are starting it in connection with the United Way's annual ROC Day event. This one-day online fundraising effort is an important day for us and this year we want to ensure that LGBTQ people are visible.

The Gay Alliance has produced identity signs that are on our website to download and print. Feel free to make your own. Photos taken at local landmarks or at locations in your daily life are encouraged as a way to show that our community members are an important part of Rochester.

Go to www.gayalliance.org/proudROC to learn more. Photos that get posted, tweeted or shared should include #ProudROC.

It is up to you to break the invisibility -- to show that we are everywhere. •

**The Empty Closet Editor**

SUSAN JORDAN

**Gay Alliance Executive Director**

SCOTT FEARING

In world news this fall, thousands protested for marriage equality in Taiwan. Estonia, a former Soviet-ruled country, has approved civil unions. In Spain, the Catalan parliament has passed a law to curb homophobia. Violence. Uganda's president has backed down on a ban that “kills the gays” bill – due to trade boycotts.

Money talks.

In non-gay-related but encouraging news, brave feminist Malala Yousefzai, 17, has become the youngest person to win a Nobel Peace Prize. A teenage girl defeated the Taliban killers! She is an icon for young people all over the world.

Also, hundreds of thousands of people, many of them students, rallied for democracy in Hong Kong. The voter ID law in Wisconsin, which was implemented by the Republican Party to keep anyone likely to vote Democratic from the polls, has been overturned. Unfortunately, the Supreme Court has given Texas permission to maintain state's unconstitutional voter photo-ID law.

Signs that many Americans are advocating for the overturning of Citizens United, to protect OUR endangered democracy from the 1% and their financial influence over elections. Maybe elected officials will begin to care what corporates do with their financial contributions as a way to show that our community members are an important part of Rochester.

The Gay Alliance has pro-duced identity signs that are on our website to download and print. Feel free to make your own. Photos taken at local landmarks or at locations in your daily life are encouraged as a way to show that our community members are an important part of Rochester.

Go to www.gayalliance.org/proudROC to learn more. Photos that get posted, tweeted or shared should include #ProudROC.

It is up to you to break the invisibility -- to show that we are everywhere. •

**Gay Alliance Board of Trustees**

David Zona, President, Jessica Muratore, Vice-President, W. Bruce Gorman, Secretary, Peter Mohr, Treasurer, Jason Barnecut, Chris Hilderbrant, Emily Jones, Jeff Lambert, William Schaefer

**Gay Alliance partnerships continued from page 1**
a ney General said. “We are acting for all Americans,” the Attorney General added. “We are acting on marriage rights, by preventing same-sex couples with only one partner from marrying. Based on the Attorney General’s announcement, how - ever, those couples married during that period will now have their marriages recognized by the federal government.

In total, 41 federal and state courts in the past year have ruled in favor of the freedom to marry for same-sex couples with only one partner. In one of those rulings, the Supreme Court brought the matter to the U.S. Supreme Court, and the Attorney General Lawrence F. Wasden’s office confirmed the state’s bars on same-sex marriage are unconstitutional, but subsequent developments created confusion as to the status of those marriages. Based on the Attorney General’s announcement, however, those couples married during that period will now have their marriages recognized by the federal government.

In total, 41 federal and state courts in the past year have ruled in favor of the freedom to marry for same-sex couples with only one partner. On Oct. 8, 2013, the Tenth Circuit brings to 35 the number of states that have ended the ban on same-sex marriages. Based on the Attorney General’s announcement, however, those couples married during that period will now have their marriages recognized by the federal government.

In total, 41 federal and state courts in the past year have ruled in favor of the freedom to marry for same-sex couples with only one partner. On Oct. 8, 2013, the Tenth Circuit brings to 35 the number of states that have ended the ban on same-sex marriages. Based on the Attorney General’s announcement, however, those couples married during that period will now have their marriages recognized by the federal government.

In total, 41 federal and state courts in the past year have ruled in favor of the freedom to marry for same-sex couples with only one partner. On Oct. 8, 2013, the Tenth Circuit brings to 35 the number of states that have ended the ban on same-sex marriages. Based on the Attorney General’s announcement, however, those couples married during that period will now have their marriages recognized by the federal government.

In total, 41 federal and state courts in the past year have ruled in favor of the freedom to marry for same-sex couples with only one partner. On Oct. 8, 2013, the Tenth Circuit brings to 35 the number of states that have ended the ban on same-sex marriages. Based on the Attorney General’s announcement, however, those couples married during that period will now have their marriages recognized by the federal government.

In total, 41 federal and state courts in the past year have ruled in favor of the freedom to marry for same-sex couples with only one partner. On Oct. 8, 2013, the Tenth Circuit brings to 35 the number of states that have ended the ban on same-sex marriages. Based on the Attorney General’s announcement, however, those couples married during that period will now have their marriages recognized by the federal government.

In total, 41 federal and state courts in the past year have ruled in favor of the freedom to marry for same-sex couples with only one partner. On Oct. 8, 2013, the Tenth Circuit brings to 35 the number of states that have ended the ban on same-sex marriages. Based on the Attorney General’s announcement, however, those couples married during that period will now have their marriages recognized by the federal government.

In total, 41 federal and state courts in the past year have ruled in favor of the freedom to marry for same-sex couples with only one partner. On Oct. 8, 2013, the Tenth Circuit brings to 35 the number of states that have ended the ban on same-sex marriages. Based on the Attorney General’s announcement, however, those couples married during that period will now have their marriages recognized by the federal government.

In total, 41 federal and state courts in the past year have ruled in favor of the freedom to marry for same-sex couples with only one partner. On Oct. 8, 2013, the Tenth Circuit brings to 35 the number of states that have ended the ban on same-sex marriages. Based on the Attorney General’s announcement, however, those couples married during that period will now have their marriages recognized by the federal government.

In total, 41 federal and state courts in the past year have ruled in favor of the freedom to marry for same-sex couples with only one partner. On Oct. 8, 2013, the Tenth Circuit brings to 35 the number of states that have ended the ban on same-sex marriages. Based on the Attorney General’s announcement, however, those couples married during that period will now have their marriages recognized by the federal government.

In total, 41 federal and state courts in the past year have ruled in favor of the freedom to marry for same-sex couples with only one partner. On Oct. 8, 2013, the Tenth Circuit brings to 35 the number of states that have ended the ban on same-sex marriages. Based on the Attorney General’s announcement, however, those couples married during that period will now have their marriages recognized by the federal government.

In total, 41 federal and state courts in the past year have ruled in favor of the freedom to marry for same-sex couples with only one partner. On Oct. 8, 2013, the Tenth Circuit brings to 35 the number of states that have ended the ban on same-sex marriages. Based on the Attorney General’s announcement, however, those couples married during that period will now have their marriages recognized by the federal government.

In total, 41 federal and state courts in the past year have ruled in favor of the freedom to marry for same-sex couples with only one partner. On Oct. 8, 2013, the Tenth Circuit brings to 35 the number of states that have ended the ban on same-sex marriages. Based on the Attorney General’s announcement, however, those couples married during that period will now have their marriages recognized by the federal government.

In total, 41 federal and state courts in the past year have ruled in favor of the freedom to marry for same-sex couples with only one partner. On Oct. 8, 2013, the Tenth Circuit brings to 35 the number of states that have ended the ban on same-sex marriages. Based on the Attorney General’s announcement, however, those couples married during that period will now have their marriages recognized by the federal government.
Federal judge gives go-ahead for Alaska marriages on Oct. 10

A federal judge ruled on Oct. 10 that Alaska’s same-sex marriage ban is unconstitutional, Alaska Dispatch News reports. Judge Timothy Burgess wrote in a summary judgment that Alaska’s “refusal to recognize same-sex marriages lawfully entered in other states is unconstitutional as a deprivation of basic due process and equal protection principles under the Fourteenth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution.”

The lawsuit was filed in Anchorage in May. The ruling took effect immediately, and Alaska began accepting applications for same-sex marriage licenses at 8 a.m. Oct. 11.

New studies: up to 9.5 million identify as LGBT

Two new studies, released in late September by the Williams Institute at UCLA School of Law, review findings from four recent large, national, population-based surveys to derive estimates of the size of the LGBT community and same-sex married and unmarried couple families.

Estimates across the surveys analyzed imply that between 5.2 and 9.5 million adults in the U.S. identify as lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender (LGBT). As of 2013, an estimated 124,000 same-sex couples were married and raising more than 30,000 children.

One key finding from the studies is that 614 of these couples will marry on Oct. 10, the first day of same-sex marriage availability in Alaska.

The two studies, titled “LGBT Demographic Comparisons among Population-Based Surveys” and “LGBT Families and Relationships: Analyses of the 2013 National Health Interview Survey,” were authored by Williams Distinguished Scholars Gary J. Gates, PhD, and J.U. Williams.

Key findings from the studies include:

- Estimates of the number of adults who identified as LGBT or LGBT varied across surveys from between 2.2 percent and 4.0 percent, implying that between 5.2 million and 9.5 million individuals aged 18 and older are LGBT. These surveys were more consistent in estimates of the proportion of bisexuals among adults (0.6 percent to 1.6 percent) but there was variation in estimates of the proportion of gays and lesbians among young populations. LGBT populations generally shared higher racial and ethnic similarities among respondents who choose to identify as LGBT.

- LGBT identity was more common among adults (0.6 percent to 1.6 percent) but there was variation in estimates of the proportion of bisexuals among adults (0.6 percent to 1.6 percent) but there was variation in estimates of the proportion of bisexuals among adults (0.6 percent to 1.6 percent).

- LGBT populations generally shared higher racial and ethnic similarities among respondents who choose to identify as LGBT or LGBT.

- Same-sex couples were raising an estimated 200,000 children under age 18, of whom 50,000 are being raised by married same-sex parents. LGBT individuals who are not part of a couple are raising between 1.2 and 2 million children (depending on which estimate is used regarding the proportion of adults who are LGBT or LGBT).

Catalan parliament fights homophobic violence with new law

The parliament of Catalonia, an ancient community in Spain, has passed a law to fight anti-gay violence. Specifically, the law targets attackers of the LGBT community with fines — maximum €14,000 ($17,500).

Pink News points out that, despite the fact that Spain is one of the gay-friendlyest countries in Europe — having same-sex marriage for almost 10 years — this law is a response to a report in July that said the majority of Spain's hate crimes in 2014 was motivated by sexual orientation, with 452 identified cases. (All this is not to mention suspicious, recent bar raids by police.)

Read more: http://www.towleroad.com/4zzx3F1n15pg
Via TeleSUR:

The law, passed on Oct. 2 and backed by 80 percent of the Catalan Chamber, will protect the LGBT community from homophobic attacks.

“I am not someone who appears to deny or play down the discrimination that we gays have suffered or run the risk of suffering,” said Catalan Socialist Miquel Iceta, one of the first politicians to come out as gay. “They speak derisively of a gay lobby. But look at this room! This is not a group of people working under cover to achieve illegitimate goals. This is a group of people working to defend the rights of everyone,” he added.

However, the new bill has come under fire from various factions of the parliament of Catalonia that states that the person who is accused of homophobic acts must prove their innocence. The parliament of Catalonia expressed their concern that the anti-homophobia law could violate the presumption of innocence and “complicate the liberty of communication in the teachings of Catholic morals.”

More from Gay Star News:

Calling it the “world’s most pioneering laws against homophobia,” the state-run Catalan News Agency (ACN) reports that it includes fines for homophobic behavior at the workplace and positive recognition to married same-sex couples, suggest that the figure may be as many as 130,000 married same-sex couples.

In the last three years, the number of married same-sex couples in the US has increased by an estimated 50 percent.

Married same-sex couples lived in every region of the country. More than 1 in 10 (12 percent) lived in the South. Nearly 4 in 10 married same-sex couples (39 percent) live in the Northeast.

Same-sex couples were raising an estimated 200,000 children under age 18, of whom 50,000 are being raised by married same-sex parents. LGBT individuals who are not part of a couple are raising between 1.2 and 2 million children (depending on which estimate is used regarding the proportion of adults who are LGBT or LGBT).

Property leasing & management

General remodeling, kitchens, baths, decks, painting

Repairs to full replacement. 1, 2 & 3 bedroom apartments.

Call 585-288-0032 for estimates & availability.

Visit www.rdfsolutions.com for up to date listings.
Estonia lawmakers pass civil unions in close vote

Estonia on Oct. 8 became the first former Soviet republic to approve a civil unions bill. The vote was very close.

Via the Associated Press:

In a 40-38 vote, lawmakers voted Oct. 8 in favor of a civil partnership act that recognizes the civil unions of all couples regardless of gender. Twenty-three law¬makers were absent or abstained in the third and final reading of the bill. The new law comes into force in 2016.

Estonia, like Baltic neighbors Latvia and Lithuania was occupied by the Soviet Union for almost five decades, is determined to change history.

The Estonian Human Rights Center hailed the law as “historic,” saying it would send a strong message to neighboring Russia, which passed what it called “a draconian anti-gay law” last year.

More from Estonia Public Broadcasting:

If signed by President Toomas Hendrik Ilves, the Cohabitation Act would enter force in 2016 and allow cohabitating couples, irrespective of the gender of either partner, the right to register their relationship at a notary and enjoy the rights of marriage costs gay and lesbian families because of anti-LGBT laws at the national, state and local levels.

According to the report, these laws contribute to significantly higher rates of poverty among LGBT Americans and create unfair financial penalties in the form of higher taxes, reduced wages and Social Security income, increased healthcare costs, and more.

The momentum of recent court rulings overturning marriage bans across the country has created the impression that LGBT Americans are on the cusp of achieving full equality from coast-to-coast. But the new report, Paying an Unfair Price: The Financial Penalty for Being LGBT in America, documents how inequitable laws harm the economic well-being of LGBT people in states with low levels of equality are more likely to be poor, both compared to their non-LGBT neighbors, and compared to their LGBT counterparts in states with high levels of equality. For example, the denial of marriage rights and the associated losses to gay and lesbian families; and by creating barriers to safe housing development.
As the Court recognized, these families are part of Idaho's community, and our Constitution requires that they be given the same legal protections and respect as other families.

Said National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR) Legal Director Shannon Minter, "Over the past year, after court—now including federal appellate courts in every region of the country—that have recognized that the Constitution protects the equal dignity and full citizenship of same-sex couples, today's decision renews that fundamental principle that resident of much of the Western U.S., which very soon will bring the total number of states that must respect same-sex couples' freedom to marry to 35.

A gay couple used a county clerk in Oklahoma for failing to issue them a marriage license shortly after state voters approved a ban on same-sex marriage in 2004, the Associated Press reports. A federal judge overturned the ban last December. The Oklahoma couple wed Oct. 6 in Tulsa, according to the Associated Press. The Cleveland County Court office was waiting for the district attorney to give them approval to issue same-sex couples marriage licenses, said Larry Bierman, a deputy at the office. While marriage license applications had previously designated gender, Bierman said marriage licenses at the Cleveland County Court office and throughout Oklahoma is as of about a month ago—designate only two applicants, regardless of gender. This means the office will not have to change their marriage licenses and can begin issuing them to same-sex couples as soon as they're given approval by the district attorney.

Williams Institute research suggests there were 690,000 same-sex couples in the U.S. will now live in a state where they can marry. In Arizona, there are nearly 16,000 same-sex couples, of which an estimated 23 percent are raising more than 500 children in their homes. In Arizona, there are nearly 16,000 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 16 percent are raising more than 5,000 children in their homes. In Idaho, there are more than 2,040 same-sex couples, of which an estimated 22 percent are raising nearly 1,140 children in their homes. In Montana, there are nearly 1,350 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 27 percent are raising nearly 1,140 children in their homes. In Montana, there are nearly 1,350 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 22 percent are raising nearly 600 children in their homes. In Montana, there are more than 2,040 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 22 percent are raising nearly 600 children in their homes. In Montana, there are nearly 1,350 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 27 percent are raising nearly 1,140 children in their homes.

The Cleveland County Court office in Oklahoma for failing to issue them a marriage license shortly after state voters approved a ban on same-sex marriage in 2004, the Associated Press reports. A federal judge overturned the ban last December. The Oklahoma couple wed Oct. 6 in Tulsa, according to the Associated Press. The Cleveland County Court office was waiting for the district attorney to give them approval to issue same-sex couples marriage licenses, said Larry Bierman, a deputy at the office. While marriage license applications had previously designated gender, Bierman said marriage licenses at the Cleveland County Court office and throughout Oklahoma is as of about a month ago—designate only two applicants, regardless of gender. This means the office will not have to change their marriage licenses and can begin issuing them to same-sex couples as soon as they're given approval by the district attorney.

Williams Institute research suggests there were 690,000 same-sex couples in the U.S. will now live in a state where they can marry. In Arizona, there are nearly 16,000 same-sex couples, of which an estimated 23 percent are raising more than 500 children in their homes. In Arizona, there are nearly 16,000 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 16 percent are raising more than 5,000 children in their homes. In Idaho, there are more than 2,040 same-sex couples, of which an estimated 22 percent are raising nearly 1,140 children in their homes. In Montana, there are nearly 1,350 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 27 percent are raising nearly 1,140 children in their homes. In Montana, there are nearly 1,350 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 22 percent are raising nearly 600 children in their homes. In Montana, there are more than 2,040 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 22 percent are raising nearly 600 children in their homes. In Montana, there are nearly 1,350 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 27 percent are raising nearly 1,140 children in their homes.

The Cleveland County Court office in Oklahoma for failing to issue them a marriage license shortly after state voters approved a ban on same-sex marriage in 2004, the Associated Press reports. A federal judge overturned the ban last December. The Oklahoma couple wed Oct. 6 in Tulsa, according to the Associated Press. The Cleveland County Court office was waiting for the district attorney to give them approval to issue same-sex couples marriage licenses, said Larry Bierman, a deputy at the office. While marriage license applications had previously designated gender, Bierman said marriage licenses at the Cleveland County Court office and throughout Oklahoma is as of about a month ago—designate only two applicants, regardless of gender. This means the office will not have to change their marriage licenses and can begin issuing them to same-sex couples as soon as they're given approval by the district attorney.

Williams Institute research suggests there were 690,000 same-sex couples in the U.S. will now live in a state where they can marry. In Arizona, there are nearly 16,000 same-sex couples, of which an estimated 23 percent are raising more than 500 children in their homes. In Arizona, there are nearly 16,000 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 16 percent are raising more than 5,000 children in their homes. In Idaho, there are more than 2,040 same-sex couples, of which an estimated 22 percent are raising nearly 1,140 children in their homes. In Montana, there are nearly 1,350 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 27 percent are raising nearly 1,140 children in their homes. In Montana, there are nearly 1,350 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 22 percent are raising nearly 600 children in their homes. In Montana, there are more than 2,040 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 22 percent are raising nearly 600 children in their homes. In Montana, there are nearly 1,350 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 27 percent are raising nearly 1,140 children in their homes.

The Cleveland County Court office in Oklahoma for failing to issue them a marriage license shortly after state voters approved a ban on same-sex marriage in 2004, the Associated Press reports. A federal judge overturned the ban last December. The Oklahoma couple wed Oct. 6 in Tulsa, according to the Associated Press. The Cleveland County Court office was waiting for the district attorney to give them approval to issue same-sex couples marriage licenses, said Larry Bierman, a deputy at the office. While marriage license applications had previously designated gender, Bierman said marriage licenses at the Cleveland County Court office and throughout Oklahoma is as of about a month ago—designate only two applicants, regardless of gender. This means the office will not have to change their marriage licenses and can begin issuing them to same-sex couples as soon as they're given approval by the district attorney.

Williams Institute research suggests there were 690,000 same-sex couples in the U.S. will now live in a state where they can marry. In Arizona, there are nearly 16,000 same-sex couples, of which an estimated 23 percent are raising more than 500 children in their homes. In Arizona, there are nearly 16,000 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 16 percent are raising more than 5,000 children in their homes. In Idaho, there are more than 2,040 same-sex couples, of which an estimated 22 percent are raising nearly 1,140 children in their homes. In Montana, there are nearly 1,350 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 27 percent are raising nearly 1,140 children in their homes. In Montana, there are nearly 1,350 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 22 percent are raising nearly 600 children in their homes. In Montana, there are more than 2,040 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 22 percent are raising nearly 600 children in their homes. In Montana, there are nearly 1,350 cohabiting, same-sex couples, of which an estimated 27 percent are raising nearly 1,140 children in their homes.

The Cleveland County Court office in Oklahoma for failing to issue them a marriage license shortly after state voters approved a ban on same-sex marriage in 2004, the Associated Press reports. A federal judge overturned the ban last December. The Oklahoma couple wed Oct. 6 in Tulsa, according to the Associated Press. The Cleveland County Court office was waiting for the district attorney to give them approval to issue same-sex couples marriage licenses, said Larry Bierman, a deputy at the office. While marriage license applications had previously designated gender, Bierman said marriage licenses at the Cleveland County Court office and throughout Oklahoma is as of about a month ago—designate only two applicants, regardless of gender. This means the office will not have to change their marriage licenses and can begin issuing them to same-sex couples as soon as they're given approval by the district attorney.
Transgender people are four times more likely to experience homelessness at some point in their lives. While lesbian and gay Americans have experienced work-place harassment or discrimination; white transgender people are twice as likely to experience physical violence at the hands of law enforcement.

Although at this writing 32 US states now legally recognize same-sex marriage, only 18 have protections against discrimination; white transgender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

A report released by the National Center for Transgender Equality found that nine in ten transgender and non-binary people have experienced workplace discrimination; while unemployment rates for transgender people of color are four times the national rate.

Transgender people are four times more likely to live in severe poverty, as well as being considerably more likely than straight or LGB people to experience physical violence at the hands of law enforcement.

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

The Women’s Equality Bill, which failed to pass in the Senate in 2014, includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges the national law that women have a right to choose abortion. When asked if he would vote for passage of the Women’s Equality Act, he said, “I support nine points out of 10.”

He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

When asked why he decided to go into politics and run for an Assembly seat, he said, “When I retired in 2009 from my position with the Marshal Service, I was 59 and thought I was ready for retirement, but I wasn’t. It was a need for feeling at work. I did some consulting but felt I wanted to be involved with the community again. I used to be a volunteer wrestling coach at SUNY Brockport. And I do a golf tournament every year for ALS – Lou Gehrig’s Disease. We’ve raised $1.75 million over the past 13 years, all of which went to the University of Rochester Medical Center for their ALS clinic. Running for office is another way I can continue being involved with the community.”

When asked if elected, would he vote for passage of GENDA, the trans civil rights bill passed for seven years in the Assembly and blocked by Senate Republicans, Peter Lawrence replied, “I know nothing about GENDA. I probably would support it. I’d have to see how the bill is written. How would the trans and locker rooms work? If someone is uncomfortable when a person of a different gender walks into the restroom, you have to consider their feelings too. I don’t agree that transgender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

Asking about his thoughts on marriage equality, he said, “I do believe that marriage is between a man and a woman.”

The Equal Rights Amendment, which failed to pass in the Senate in 2014, includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges the national law that women have a right to choose abortion. When asked if he would vote for passage of the Women’s Equality Act, he said, “I support nine points out of 10.”

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

When asked if elected, would he vote for passage of the Women’s Equality Act, he said, “I support nine points out of 10.”

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.

Mr. Lawrence said that he might debate his opponent Gary Pudup, a supporter of LGBTQ and women’s rights. “That’s yet to be determined,” he said. He said that he has signed the League of Women Voters pledge, which includes 10 points, one of which acknowledges that gender people don’t have equal civil rights. If someone feels they have been unjustly fired, they can go to court.
Arts Center
NAZARETH COLLEGE

LUCKY DIAZ AND THE FAMILY JAM BAND

Sunday, November 9, 2 p.m.
Pre-performance activity
(make your own musical instrument: 1 p.m.*)
Suggested for children of all ages and their families;
60 minutes with no intermission
Clever lyrics combine with irresistibly fresh pop beats to create a
catchy indie-music sound and songs that explore the joy of childhood.
Sponsored by Barbara and John Lovenheim
*Pre-registration required, please call 585-389-2170.

NATIONAL ACRABATS OF THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA:
CIRQUE PEKING

Sunday, November 16, 7 p.m.
Pre-performance lecture 6 p.m.
One of China’s most acclaimed acrobatic troupes, the company
is known worldwide for spectacular stunts that seem to defy
anatomy, physics, and gravity!
Sponsored by Josephine M. Perini

Tickets: 585-389-2170 or artscenter.naz.edu

Regular Box Office Hours: Monday-Friday, 11 a.m.–5 p.m.;
11 a.m. until curtain time on performance days.

Series sponsor:

M&T Bank

what is PrEP and is it for me?

You’ve got questions.
Let’s talk about PrEP and see if a new way of preventing HIV is right for you.
PrEP is a preventive medication that helps reduce the risk of becoming infected with HIV.

Let’s talk about it. Contact us, today.
GLASS SLIPPERS ARE SO BACK.

RODGE RS + HAMMERSTEIN’S CINDERELLA

DECEMBER 9-14 • AUDITORIUM THEATRE

ON SALE NOW ticketmaster.com • 800-745-3000
Auditorium Box Office • rbtl.org

Part of the 2014-2015 M&T Bank Broadway Season presented by RBTL and Albert Nocciolino

BEYOND OPEN & AFFIRMING...
BEYOND WELCOMING...
A PLACE FOR ALL...

EXPERIENCE THE UNCONDITIONAL LOVE OF GOD SUNDAYS AT
10:30AM & 5:30PM

Open Arms
Metropolitan Community Church
of Western New York

707 East Main Street
Rochester, NY 14605
openarmsmcc.org
Gabrielle Hermosa is a trans woman, raised in Brockport and now living in Greece with her partner of 19 years and their shih tzu/poodle Lucas. She is an information-processing professional but her real passion is being a motivational speaker and mentor. “I’m passionate about working with people,” she said. “I love humanity and believe by working together, we can change the world.”

Gabrielle’s favorite Rochester organizations are Genesee Valley Gender Variants, TAGR (Trans Alliance of Greater Rochester) and the Gay Alliance. She said, “I love the Gay Alliance – they have empowered me. I took Speak Out last November, and met Jeannie Gainsburg and Scott Fearing. I love working with Scott and I love Jeannie so much and am so grateful because the GAGV has helped me achieve some of my goals.”

Her favorite places are Equal Grounds, 140 Alex and Tilt. “I don’t go out a lot because I’m very busy,” she said. “I exercise a lot, but not at the gym – in my basement. I have a treadmill and exercise bike and I do two to three hours a day. I started 10 years ago when I had hypertension. So I lost weight and got into shape. Physical fitness is very important to me. My motto is ‘Live forever or die trying.’”

Gabrielle’s favorite local event is Pride. She said, “I went to my first Pride last summer – I was surrounded with love for three days. People were so friendly and non-judgmental. I can’t wait until society is like that – a big Pride Festival!”

When out of town guests arrive, Gabrielle said, “We usually end up at Equal Grounds. I can come here by myself and make friends with strangers. I like 140 Alex and Tilt, and that’s where I’d take people for fun.”

On an ideal Saturday night, Gabrielle said, “I’d be with a bunch of friends and kick back and enjoy life in one of those places where you can meet people.”

She commented, “I used to feel Rochester was a very closed-minded place, and I felt I needed to get away. But after meeting people and getting involved in the community, I’m starting to see how open-minded Rochester really is. I love this town because I know I look different, but more often than not I can meet people and strike up a conversation. I see Rochester as generally open-minded, and even people who are on the fence are willing to learn. I see a lot of beauty and potential here.”
continue to struggle daily to meet even the most rudimentary human needs like food and shelter. Perhaps unsurprisingly, 2013 research from the Williams Insti-
tute found that 41 percent of transgender Americans have attempted suicide - twice the attempted suicide rate of gay and les-
bian Americans and almost forty times the rate of straight, cisgender Americans.

On the 20th, in community centers, churches, parks, and homes, people will come together to honor individuals whose lives should never have been lost, and to remember people who should never have been forgotten. They will be calling out a harsh reality that is too often obscured by other successes of the LGBTQ move-
ment nationwide, successes that failed to benefit the transgender lives that will be remembered that day. Those gathered will be asking all of us to make every day a transgender day of remembrance, to make the rights of transgender people a national priority; they will be reminding us that for too many in our community the struggle for recognition, respect, and safety continues to be, quite literally, a life-or-death issue. http://www.empirejustice.org/policy-advocacy/memos/gend-a-rmemo.html?print=t#.VDsE0vldXQR
http://www.avp.org/storage/docu-
ments/2013_ncavp_hvreport_final.pdf
http://www.transviolencetracker.org/
http://tdor.info/about-2/
http://www.glaad.org/
tdor?gclid=CM27v_aXqMECFcRZM-
goddAUAKw

Rochester to mark Trans Day of Re-
membrance with events, march
On Nov. 16 at 2 p.m., a Transgender Day of Remembrance service will take place at Open Arms Metropolitan Com-

munity Church, 707 E. Main St. Dr. Karen Boyer, a transgender minis-
ter, will be guest speaker. A reception will follow immediately afterwards.

Both GLAAD and the National Coali-
tion of Anti Violence Programs report that 72 percent of all LGBTQ homicides are of Transwomen. This day of remem-
brance, which is officially Nov. 20, pro-
vides an opportunity to remember those in the trans community who have been killed in hate crimes. Almost 500 were murdered worldwide last year.

Presentation on Nov. 1
On Nov. 1 at 6 p.m., Shauna O’Toole will be sharing her story, You Can’t Shave in a Minimart Bathroom, at Open Arms Metropolitan Community Church, 707 E. Main St. Besides her own transition story, she will also talk about how various churches have -- and have not -- accepted her and other transgender people.

Nov. 22 march
TAGR (Trans Alliance of Great-
er Rochester) will have a march of vis-
ibility for the November Trans Awareness Month on Saturday, Nov. 22 from 2-3 p.m.
The group will march on the corners of Goodman and Monroe and cross with the lights; that way marchers don’t need permits or permission. Marchers will meet at Open Arms, 707 E. Main St., and then return to Open Arms for hot chocolate and coffee.

Sign painting party on Nov. 20
TAGR will host a sign painting party on Thursday, Nov. 20, yet another way to commemorate the Trans Day of Remembrance. TAGR says, “We think with all the visibility we’ve got-
ten in the last few months and allies we’ve made this past year, this march of visibil-
ity could be even bigger than 2012!”

MORE IMAGEOUT: Michael Gamilla with Renata Hill, Patreese Johnson and Terrain Dandridge at the Little Theater. Photo: Garnetta Ely

Jim Tushinski, director of “I Always Said Yes: The Many Lives of Wakefield Poole”. Photo: Garnetta Ely

Elizabeth Streb from “Born To Fly.” Photo: Garnetta Ely
InQueery workshop addresses trans health issues

By JoAnne Metzler

On Oct. 1 about 25 people came to the Open Arms Community Center for “Being Trans… Being Healthy… Being Aware – know the elevated health & cancer risks of being Trans.” TAGR (Trans Alliance of Greater Rochester) and the Gay Alliance partnered to hold this first event marking the reestablishment of the InQueery program (originally from 2007-2010) that consists of classes, workshops and events on all kinds of subjects and ideas.

First, Dr. Sharon J. Glezen from the University of Rochester gave a presentation about long term hormone use and other Trans health issues. Lori Meath of the Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester discussed the difficulties of registering and absentee voting; making sure that on Nov. 4 voters are not required to present a photo ID in order to vote; All transgender New Yorkers should know their right, know how to go to the polls and make their voice heard!

“There is also a PDF version of the guide, which can also be printed, shared, and even kept in your back pocket as you go to the polls to fill out your ballot!”

Long Island GLBT center receives death, arson threats

Via press release from David Klimnick, PhD – Chief Executive Officer, Long Island GLBT Services Network

This past week, we received our third letter in the mail in the last 16 months that continued to threaten my life and this time also mentioned burning down the LGBT and LGBT friendly senior housing we just announced two days prior.

The first two letters were received in June 2013 and June 2014 threatened to make the LI Pride Parade, which we run, worse than the Boston Marathon bombing. The last two letters (June 2014 and the most current one) indicated they know where I live, that I’m being tracked and watched and it’s only a matter of time before they eliminate me and our locations (meaning our Centers). Over the years we certainly have received our fair share of ‘God forgives you’ and ‘Sinner and we are disgusting’ letters, but these are very different. These are being investigated as Hate Crimes and it has been the most troubling two days.

All of these letters were turned over to police immediately, but this instance was the first time the media got wind of it and it has been two complete days of crisis management, dozens of media interviews, making sure the community knows our Centers are safe and that we have increased security measures, keeping our staff informed and preparing them with how to talk with constituents and community members and much more…

In this link of CBS TV and Radio coverage (http://newyork.cbslocal.com/2014/10/10/gay-advocacy-group-receives-threatening-letters/), you can see...
Supporters of Syracuse trans murder victim rally in Albany for overturn of killer’s release

On Nov. 14, 2008, in Syracuse, a young transgender woman of color was shot and killed by an assailant who shouted anti-lgbtq slurs.

Dwight DeLee was tried for the murder of Latisha Green in 2009. The jury was convinced that DeLee targeted Latisha because she was a transgender woman and he was the second person in the entire country and the first in New York State to be convicted of a hate crime in the killing of a transgender person.

In 2010, a three-judge panel overturned DeLee’s conviction and he was released and remains free today.

Latisha’s family and community are now faced with the knowledge that the system did not find Latisha’s life, like those of so many other transgender women of color, valuable enough to fully protect her.

On Oct. 15, there was a press conference and demonstration in support of Latisha, her family, and the transgender community in front of the Court of Appeals.

Wedge through the Waddle on Thanksgiving; donate to St. Joseph’s

Thanksgiving Waddle, three-mile Walk/Waddle/Run/Skip/Shine because she was a transgender woman and hospitality to residents and visitors alike. I encourage all West Virginians to better understand the needs of potential residents, including high-efficiency fixtures and appliances, but also high (over 20 percent) recycled content, a heating and cooling system.

Modern amenities

The facility has 30 studios and 49 one-bedroom apartments (79 units total). In addition, the building has 4,450 square feet of ground floor commercial space, 20 parking garage spaces, and dedicated parking spaces for bicycles. Amenities include ENERGY STAR appliances, high-speed Internet, and on-site laundry facilities.

Strong financing

The Good Hope Center on Halsted leveraged Low Income Housing Tax Credits, the City of Chicago HOME Investment Partnerships Program, equity from the Illinois Affordable Housing Fund and a Home Energy Improvement Loan Program and a Credit and an Energy Efficiency Grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. The City of Chicago also donated the former police station and land to the project. The Chicago Housing Authority provided 79 project-based vouchers, which enable one to find a unit at the lowest of incomes affordable to live in the building.

The project enjoys generous support from Citi Community Capital, the National Equity Fund, Enterprise Community Partners, the Illinois Department of Human Services, and LISC Chicago.

Heartland Housing, Inc. is a community housing development organization, which facilitates the development of people through the preservation and conversion of affordable housing with a priority in meeting the needs of homeless persons and families, very low-income individuals and persons with chronic disabilities. More at: www.heartlandhousing.org.

A Thanksgiving Waddle, three-mile Walk/Waddle/Run/5k/13

Thanksgiving Waddle at Wedgewaddle.com. You may also register through the mail.

If you can’t come to the waddle in the wedge you can still donate to a community housing development organization, which facilitates the development of people through the preservation and conversion of affordable housing with a priority in meeting the needs of homeless persons and families, very low-income individuals and persons with chronic disabilities. More at: www.heartlandhousing.org.

Thanksgiving Waddle in Albany for overturn of killer’s release

On Nov. 14, 2008, in Syracuse, a young transgender woman of color was shot and killed by an assailant who shouted anti-lgbtq slurs.

Dwight DeLee was tried for the murder of Latisha Green in 2009. The jury was convinced that DeLee targeted Latisha because she was a transgender woman and he was the second person in the entire country and the first in New York State to be convicted of a hate crime in the killing of a transgender person.

In 2010, a three-judge panel overturned DeLee’s conviction and he was released and remains free today.

Latisha’s family and community are now faced with the knowledge that the system did not find Latisha’s life, like those of so many other transgender women of color, valuable enough to fully protect her.

On Oct. 15, there was a press conference and demonstration in support of Latisha, her family, and the transgender community in front of the Court of Appeals.

Wedge through the Waddle on Thanksgiving; donate to St. Joseph’s

Thanksgiving Waddle, three-mile Walk/Waddle/Run/Skip/Shine because she was a transgender woman and hospitality to residents and visitors alike. I encourage all West Virginians to better understand the needs of potential residents, including high-efficiency fixtures and appliances, but also high (over 20 percent) recycled content, a heating and cooling system.

Modern amenities

The facility has 30 studios and 49 one-bedroom apartments (79 units total). In addition, the building has 4,450 square feet of ground floor commercial space, 20 parking garage spaces, and dedicated parking spaces for bicycles. Amenities include ENERGY STAR appliances, high-speed Internet, and on-site laundry facilities.

Strong financing

The Good Hope Center on Halsted leveraged Low Income Housing Tax Credits, the City of Chicago HOME Investment Partnerships Program, equity from the Illinois Affordable Housing Fund and a Home Energy Improvement Loan Program and a Credit and an Energy Efficiency Grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity. The City of Chicago also donated the former police station and land to the project. The Chicago Housing Authority provided 79 project-based vouchers, which enable one to find a unit at the lowest of incomes affordable to live in the building.

The project enjoys generous support from Citi Community Capital, the National Equity Fund, Enterprise Community Partners, the Illinois Department of Human Services, and LISC Chicago.

Heartland Housing, Inc. is a community housing development organization, which facilitates the development of people through the preservation and conversion of affordable housing with a priority in meeting the needs of homeless persons and families, very low-income individuals and persons with chronic disabilities. More at: www.heartlandhousing.org.
Arizona's ban on same-sex couples' marriages is unconstitutional. Arizona's ban on same-sex couples' marriages is unconstitutional, a federal judge ruled on Oct. 17. U.S. District Court Judge John Sedwick struck down the state's ban on the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals' decision striking down Idaho and Nevada's similar bans. Additionally, he refused to grant a stay of his opinion, meaning the decision went into effect immediately.

Freedom To Marry reacts. "The case, Connolly v. Jones, was filed by private counsel on behalf of several same-sex couples. A separate case, Majors v. Horne, has also been working its way through the courts this year, led by Lambda Legal. In the Connolly case, several of the couples, including Terry Pochert and Joe Connolly and Mason Hine and Christopher Devine, married legally in California, while various other families await the day that they can marry in Arizona. The ruling strikes down Arizona's ban on marriage for same-sex couples. It comes just over a week after the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit's decision in the two other cases out of Idaho and Nevada affirming the freedom to marry."

Said ACLU of Arizona Executive Director Alessandra Soler, "Today's ruling brings security to thousands of families in Arizona. It's a moment to be celebrated. Equal protection of the law is one of the fundamental principles that allows our country to thrive and evolve. Dismantling this discriminatory ban brings our state and nation closer to our founding ideals of fairness, justice and liberty. We will continue to fight for equality for all Arizonans and oppose any efforts to unravel today's historic victory."

"Today we celebrate the court's recognition that every individual in Arizona has the freedom to marry the person they love. We hope that Attorney General Tom Horne will honor the court's ruling and allow marriage licenses to be issued immediately."

In Arizona, there are nearly 16,000 same-sex couples, with an estimated 16 percent raising more than 5,060 children in their homes.

Williams Institute research suggests that 7,909 of these couples will marry in the first three years, generating $62 million in spending in Arizona and an additional $3.1 million in sales tax revenue. Spending related to same-sex couples' wedding ceremonies and celebrations is expected to create 172 to 537 jobs in the tourism and recreation sector for the state.

Key nationwide statistics include: Nearly seven in 10 (68 percent) same-sex couples across the country will soon be living in states where they can marry and nearly two-thirds of Americans will soon be living in states that allow marriage for same-sex couples. These are the cases in Arizona and D.C. where same-sex marriage is presently legal, as well as the states where same-sex marriage is currently prohibited but where federal appellate courts have issued binding decisions against same-sex marriage bans.

Williams Institute research suggests that there were 690,000 same-sex couples in the U.S. in 2013 raising an estimated 200,000 children. As many as 30,000 of those children are being raised by married parents.

Recent Williams Institute analyses suggest that the number of married same-sex couples, estimated to be more than 7,000 in 2012, has increased by more than 50 percent over the last three years.

In the Connolly case, Judge Jeran Artery said, "We are overjoyed that marriage for same-sex couples is now legal in Arizona. We congratulate the couples who will now be able to marry now and the many others across the country who will be able to marry in the future."

Judge rules Wyoming marriage ban unconstitutional; marriages began Oct. 23

On Oct. 17, a federal district court in Wyoming ruled that the state's ban on same-sex marriage is likely unconstitutional and issued a preliminary injunction in favor of same-sex couples. Marriages started there Oct. 23.

U.S. District Court Judge Scott W. Skavdahl of the District of Wyoming ruled in favor of the freedom to marry brought by the challenge to the State of Wyoming's ban on same-sex marriage. The court ordered the state to begin issuing marriage licenses immediately.

Skavdahl ruled that Wyoming's refusal to permit same-sex couples to marry is unconstitutional. Judge Skavdahl ordered the state to begin issuing marriage licenses, but placed that order temporarily on hold as he permits Wyoming officials to appeal his ruling.

Marriages began in Wyoming at 5 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 23.

The case was brought by Wyoming Equality and four same-sex couples who requested an immediate order directing state officials to comply with two decisions of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the Tenth Circuit establishing that a state's refusal to allow same-sex couples to marry violates the U.S. Constitution. The Tenth Circuit Court of Appeals on Oct. 6 let these appeals court decisions stand, meaning that all states within the Tenth Circuit, including Wyoming, must comply with these decisions.

The plaintiff couples are Anne Guzzo and Bonnie Robinson of Laramie, Carl Olson and Rob Johnston of Casper, and Ivan Williams and Chuck Kilion of Cheyenne, who previously filed a state-court lawsuit challenging Wyoming's marriage ban. Also joining the lawsuit are Brie Barth and Shelly Montgomery of Carpenter, who attempted to obtain a marriage license in Wyoming after the Supreme Court decision but were denied. Wyoming Equality is the state's largest civil rights organization dedicated to the equality of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people. Its members include same-sex couples throughout the state.

The four couples and Wyoming Equality are represented by Cheyenne attorney Christopher F. Stoll, Arnold & Porter LLP, the law firm of Rathod Mohamedbahi LLC, and the National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR).

Said Wyoming Equality Executive Director Jeran Artery: "We are overjoyed and overjoyed by the swiftness of the court's decision. Today's decision means marriage is a certainty for loving, committed, same-sex couples living in the Equality State, and also a victory for everyone who believes in justice, fairness and freedom. We have received so much support from so many people, and we are looking forward to these same-sex couples receiving marriage licenses very soon."

Said NCLR Senior Staff Attorney Christopher F. Stoll: "Today's ruling means that Wyoming will soon join the majority of states that permit all families to enjoy the security, respect, and protection that marriage provides. Wyoming's same-sex couples and their children will live in a state that treats their families with the security, respect, and protection that marriage provides. We congratulate the couples who will now be able to marry in the Equality State and we applaud the courageous state officials that those marriages will be respected."

In Wyoming, there are more than 650 British trans woman, 81, says “it’s never too late to come out”

By Joe Morgan on gaystarnews.com

A trans woman has claimed she is the oldest person to have genital reassignment surgery at the age of 81.

Ruth Rose, a former RAF navigator, knew she was a woman at the age of nine but thought she was too old to have surgery that would allow her to feel truly happy in the body she is in.

She is now speaking out, saying trans people should be able to live their real lives at any age.

"I’m enjoying the fact that I have made the transition,” she said. "My main thing in life isn’t going around saying I am a lady now. But not a day had gone by since I was nine when I didn’t think I was in the wrong body. I always felt I was a woman."

Rose, a campaigner for Age UK, said it was a hip and knee replacement that made her wonder whether it was time for her to get the surgery. While she was happy having made the transition without it four years ago, she said she wanted to feel more feminine.

“It was my doctor who told me to go ahead. She said, ‘Go to the clinic and get it done,’ she told the Sunday People. “My doctor had said I should have the gender transformation operation but I thought I was too old. I thought I had left it too late. But the surgeons wouldn’t have done it if they didn’t think I could go through with it.

‘I am the oldest person to have it done,’ Rose added. ‘It fills me with joy in so many ways that I notice my womanhood. It just falls into place.’

Two couples and Wyoming Equality are represented by Cheyenne attorney Christopher F. Stoll, Arnold & Porter LLP, the law firm of Rathod Mohamedbahi LLC, and the National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR).
Thousands protest for marriage equality in Taiwan
Via AsiaOne News

More than one hundred non-governmental organizations the first week in October staged a rally outside the Legislative Yuan urging the government to complete the necessary amendments that will pave the way for the legalization of gay marriage.

Dubbed the “rainbow siege,” reports indicate that more than 4,000 members of the public participated in the demonstration at the Legislative Yuan. Demonstrators attached 112 paddocks symbolizing the stanchiogles of homophobic opinions labeled with the names of lawmakers on the gates of the Legislative Yuan facing Qingdao East Road. In response to the appeals of activists, 21 lawmakers accepted the invitation to unlock and remove the paddocks with “keys of equality.” Demonstration organizers stated that among the 21 lawmakers openly expressing their support for equal marriage rights yesterday, four are aligned to the ruling party while 14 are from the opposition party, with two being independent lawmakers.

The leader of Taiwan’s opposition party has announced a public hearing on marriage equality later this month. Same-sex marriage is not presently legal anywhere in Asia, unless you count New Zealand.

RELATED: In December 2013 a massive crowd in the tens of thousands marched against same-sex marriage in Taipei. American anti-gay sites, including NOM, claimed that the crowd numbered as many as 300,000.

Florida recognizes same sex marriage with new death certificate
Via Equality Florida

Florida also made history on Oct. 9 when Arlene Goldberg and her late wife, Carol Goldwasser, officially became the first same-sex couple whose marriage is respected in the state.

US District Court Judge Robert Hinkle ruled on Aug. 21 that Florida’s ban on marriage for same-sex couples was unconstitutional and – despite a stay on his ruling – ordered the State of Florida to issue a new death certificate for Carol Goldwasser, naming her partner of 47 years, Arlene Goldberg, as her wife. Arlene was first added to a plaintiff in a civil rights suit to be heard by the court to immediately stop enforcing laws barring legal respect for marriages between same-sex couples.

On Oct. 9 Arlene received that newly-issued death certificate, making her and her late spouse the first same-sex couple to have their marriage recognized in Florida. “It’s hard to put into words how meaningful this is to me,” said Goldberg. “For 47 years, Carol and I made our lives together, all the while being treated like strangers in the eyes of the law in Florida. It’s bittersweet that Carol can’t be here to share this joy with me, but for the first time in 47 years, our marriage was respected. Our relationship and commitment to each other is finally recognized.”

The ACLU reacts via press release: “Today is a milestone day for all Floridians but especially for Arlene. As Judge Hinkle stated himself, listing Arlene as Carol’s wife on Carol’s death certificate is about ‘simple human dignity.’ The state has no business denying this dignity—or any of the other protections and responsibilities of marriage—to Arlene or anyone else. The time for marriage in Florida is now, and Governor Scott and Attorney General Bondi need to stop fighting the inevitable.”

The stay on Florida’s marriage ban overruns is due to expire in three months.

Why trans people can finally breathe a sigh of relief in Scotland
By Nathana Gal on gaystarnews.com

Same-sex marriage will be legal in Scotland from 16 December, Hognanay, our New Year’s Eve, will take on special significance for many couples this year, as this will be the when the first same-sex weddings take place.

As couples across Scotland plan their big day, trans people who are already married or in a civil partnership can breathe a sigh of relief knowing they can finally have the gender they live as legally recognized without being forced to break up their families.

In 2005, many trans people in the UK won the right to have their gender legally recognized, the culmination of decades of campaigning in the courts and parliament.

But that new right did not apply to all trans people.

In particular, the Gender Recognition Act forces trans people who are married to choose between their marriage and their right to gender recognition. A married trans person can only get gender recognition if they first divorce, and of course many have been married for years in a marriage that continues to be loving and affirming, and which they want to keep.

But that untenable choice is coming to an end. The Scottish Government announced Oct. 14 that from 16 December, trans people who married in Scotland will finally be able to get gender recognition without divorcing. The UK Government is responsible for the rules for trans people who married in England and Wales, and has set the date there at Dec. 10.

So by Christmas, trans people who married in England, Wales and Scotland will finally be able to apply for gender recognition, and get it while continuing their marriage. Unfortunately, people who married in Northern Ireland still won’t have the same right, because the Democratic Unionist Party continue to veto LGBTI rights there.

Those who married in Scotland will then be able to get a new marriage certificate in their new name and showing their new chosen designation “bride,” “bride-groom” or neither. There will be two ways of doing that. Couples can have a full “renewal” marriage ceremony, which can be conducted by a registrar, religious celebrant or belief (humanist) celebrant. Or they can simply re-register the marriage for free.

For people who married in Scotland there is an additional right – to get gender recognition as your own decision, a decision that cannot be blocked by your spouse.

The campaign we led against the so called “spousal veto” persuaded the Scottish Parliament Equal Opportunities Committee to accept an amendment from Linda Fabiani MSP, to remove the veto from the Marriage and Civil Partnership (Scotland) Act 2010.

The effect of that is to enable trans people who do not have their spouse’s consent to apply to the gender recognition panel for an interim gender recognition certificate, and then get that automatically converted to full gender recognition by the sheriff court in Scotland. The only drawback is that a replacement marriage certificate can’t be issued, and unless and until the non-trans spouse agrees to it being issued, but the marriage continues anyway, in full legal effect, uninterrupted.

This is just one aspect of the legislation which makes Scotland’s equal marriage law one of the most progressive in the world and strengthens our place as a leader on LGBTI equality.

Mixed sex civil partnership has not yet been introduced anywhere in the UK, although Scotland’s equal marriage campaign continues to work for it. Therefore, if one person in a civil partnership wants to get gender recognition, they will have to convert to a marriage before submitting their application.

The Scottish Government intends to introduce a streamlined process next year, enabling applicants to obtain gender recognition and have their civil partnership converted to a marriage in one step. If both civil partners want to get gender recognition, they can keep their civil partnership so long as they both apply to the GRP for gender recognition at the same time.

Although these changes will be widely celebrated, for trans and intersex people there is still a way to go before we achieve legal equality. The Scottish Transgender Alliance and Equality Network will address this with the Equal Recognition Campaign to strengthen trans and intersex equality and human rights, on Nov. 1 and 2 in Edinburgh…. The conference will be a first in bringing together trans and intersex activists from across the UK, Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man.

Nathan Gale.

Randi G. Raetz, DDS
General Dentistry for the entire community including bleaching and cosmetics

WE ARE NOW IN OUR NEW OFFICE!!!!

Come check out our new modern office, offering patients the benefits of digital x-rays, intraoral cameras, and flat screen t.v.s in a relaxing and enjoyable environment.

2257 South Clinton Avenue
Westfield Park Medical Center
Rochester, NY 14618

(585)473-1550

New Patients Welcome
Evening & Saturday appts. available

Check us out on the web at www.drandydds.com

Call for an appointment today!!
The National LGBT Cancer Network, located at 136 W. 16th St. #1E in New York City, is seeking applicants and participants for its next round of free, online LGBT support groups for cancer survivors: http://cancer-network.org/support_groups_for_survivors/

These groups take place 24 hours a day, seven days a week on a moderated message board. There is one group for transgender people, one group for gay/bisexual men, and one group for lesbian/bisexual women, all of which are led by social workers and professional moderators.

Topics discussed in previous groups include coming out to providers, sexual health and sexuality after diagnosis and treatment is designed to fill key gaps in clinical swabs, as well as investigating the prevalence of other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in this group. The project will be assessed by comparing the effectiveness of alternative strategies for sexual health prevention, screening, and diagnosis.

The award has been approved pending completion of a business and programmatic review by PCORI staff and issuance of a formal award contract to The Fenway Institute.

“This project will have a national and international impact on sexual health screening for FTMs, an underserved patient population,” said Dr. Reisner, a transgender health researcher at The Fenway Institute and Postdoctoral Research Fellow in the Department of Epidemiology at Harvard School of Public Health. “Most FTMs transgender men retain their male reproductive organs. Our preliminary research suggests that more than one in three of FTMs patients are not up-to-date on cervical cancer screening and may not get routine screening for STIs. We know that it is hard for FTM patients to find health care providers who are knowledgeable about health issues specific to transgender people, and can talk about sexual health in terms of gender and gender-affirming ways. We hope that our research will find new strategies of care that could potentially lead to alternative screening strategies, as well as less invasive STI detection practices. Ultimately, our goal is to find ways to improve the health of FTM patients.”

“This project was selected for PCORI funding not only for its scientific merit and commitment to engaging patients and other stakeholders, but also for its potential to fill an important gap in our health knowledge and give people information to help them weigh the effectiveness of their care options,” said PCORI Executive Director Joe Selby, MD, MPH. “We look forward to following the study’s progress and working with The Fenway Institute to share the results.”

Out for Health publishes N.Y. trans resource

Out for Health, Planned Parenthood of the Southern Finger Lakes’ LGBT Health and Wellness Program, announces the publication of a new free resource for transgender people in New York and providers that work with and for them.

For our Health says, “At our program in Ithaca, we’ve been getting consistent questions about the legal and administrative paperwork processes in New York that many transgender people need to engage with regarding changing their name and gender marker on their driver’s license, passport, social security card, etc. What we wanted to create is one place where all of the information about name and gender marker changes was gathered together for ease of use so we could say, ‘Here, jump in, go to whatever page and process you’d like to do and get the information you need!’ We were especially excited to work with the always amazing Ithaca College Center for LGBT Education, Outreach & Services and our regional Transgender Advisory Committee on this project.

“The project was selected for funding by PCORI because it fills important gaps in our knowledge of screening strategies, as well as less invasive STI detection practices. Ultimately, our goal is to find ways to improve the health of FTM patients.”

Third Presbyterian Church

A community of faith where LGBT persons are welcomed as full partners in ministry.

SUNDAY WORSHIP

8:30am Third Church chapel
10:45am Third Church sanctuary

BORN THIS WAY (LGBT Support)

7:30pm First & Third Mondays Third Church Parlor

Joe Russo, P.D.O., CGP
Licensed Psychologist
Certified Group Psychotherapist
25 Canterbury Road, Suite 308
Rochester, New York 14607
Phone: (585) 506-6096
E-mail: joe.russo@topmail.com

Addiction • Depression • Grief/Loss
Anxiety • Trauma • Relationships

A compassionate care from an informed-consent model for our transgender patients in our Ithaca, New York Health Center. We serve transgender people and people at various places on the spectrum of gender identity and expression. We are committed to improving the way transgender people receive health care in our region and we proudly work together with our transgender community to lead the way in eliminating barriers to care.

The Fenway Institute (PCORI) to study the sexual health and sexuality after diagnosis and treatment for transgender people, one group for gay/bisexual men, and one group for lesbian/bisexual women. The project is designed to fill key gaps in clinical knowledge about sexual health in FTMs by comparing the effectiveness of alternative strategies for sexual health prevention, screening, and diagnosis.

The Fenway Institute at Fenway Health in Boston has been approved for an $853,000 funding award by the Patient-Centered Outcomes Research Institute (PCORI) for ongoing research on the sexual health of female-to-male (FTM) transgender people.

The study is one of 46 proposals PCORI approved for funding on Sept. 30 to advance the field of comparative clinical effectiveness research, and to provide patients, healthcare providers, and other clinical decision makers with information that will help them make better-informed choices.

Sari Reisner, ScD will lead the research project, which will focus on innovations in preventive sexual health screening in sexually-active FTM transgender patients. This will include assessing the acceptability and comparative effectiveness of self-swab HPV testing compared to provider clinical swabs, as well as investigating the prevalence of other sexually transmitted infections (STIs) in this group. The project is designed to fill key gaps in clinical knowledge about sexual health in FTMs by comparing the effectiveness of alternative strategies for sexual health prevention, screening, and diagnosis.

The award has been approved pending completion of a business plan and programmatic review by PCORI staff and issuance of a formal award contract to The Fenway Institute. "Most FTMs transgender men retain their male reproductive organs. Our preliminary research suggests that more than one in three of FTM patients are not up-to-date on cervical cancer screening and may not get routine screening for STIs. We know that it is hard for FTM patients to find health care providers who are knowledgeable about health issues specific to transgender people, and can talk about sexual health in terms of gender and gender-affirming ways. We hope that our research will find new strategies of care that could potentially lead to alternative screening strategies, as well as less invasive STI detection practices. Ultimately, our goal is to find ways to improve the health of FTM patients." This project was selected for PCORI funding not only for its scientific merit and commitment to engaging patients and other stakeholders, but also for its potential to fill an important gap in our health knowledge and give people information to help them weigh the effectiveness of their care options," said PCORI Executive Director Joe Selby, MD, MPH. "We look forward to following the study’s progress and working with The Fenway Institute to share the results."
Brunch
By Susan Jordan

Like Tea Dances, Sunday brunch is an ancient gay male tradition, but come to think of it, a lot of Ls, Bs, Ts and Qs, not to mention Str8s, don’t mind a nice Mimosa and Eggs Benedict on a Sunday morning. Throw in some sassy drag stars and who could ask for more fun?

A very traditional Drag Brunch has taken place at Edibles on University Avenue, in the Neighborhood of the Arts, since 2011. Last month’s brunch featured those three Rochester Queens of Drag Ms. Aggy June, Mrs. Kasha Davis and Miss Darienne Lake. Photographer Jill Frier comments, “They were funny, witty, bawdy, sexy, and completely delightful! They announced that they will be having a drag brunch about once a month, with the next one on Nov. 23.”

The Empty Closet asked Edibles owner Jason Herbert to talk about the concept (or philosophy) of Brunch. Jason said, “I think they’ve always been popular because you can’t drink at breakfast! But brunch gives you the green light to have some champagne with your orange juice. Also, brunch is later in the day.” Those who have been partying until late Saturday night are definitely not ready to face scrambled eggs at 8 a.m. on Sunday morning.

Edibles’ Drag Brunches start at noon. They take place monthly on Sunday (dates vary but it’s always a Sunday) and the cost is $25/person, including buffet and the show. “You need to book a table in advance,” Jason said, “via the website or by calling us at 271-4910.”

A typical Edibles brunch buffet consists of mixed green salad, fruit platter, French toast stuffed with chestnut cream, bacon, sausage, truffled home fries, fresh fruit with yoghurt, bleu cheese and mushroom quiche and Croque Monsieur – egg-battered bread with Swiss cheese, turkey and ham inside, and then the whole sandwich is grilled. “We have fun drinks,” Jason added. You can choose between Kasha Fizz (champagne, melon and Campari), Darienne Peach Bellini (peach nectar, champagne, simple syrup), French 75 (dry gin, champagne, lemon and lime juice), Aggy and the Honey Badger (honey tea bourbon whiskey, ginger ale, lime juice), Bloody Mary, Classic Mimosa and Daylight Drag (vodka, St. Germain, strawberry schnapps and champagne).

Jason said, “The brunch gets very busy and the restaurant gets very full, so we set up communal tables of 12. You sit with strangers and get to meet people. Some have even met their partners at a Drag Brunch!”

There are usually three weeks between shows, and Kasha, Darienne and Aggy are the usual conspirators, but Jason said, “Pandora Boxx came by this year when she was in town.”

Things have changed for the LGBTQ community over the past decade or so – for one thing, bars and clubs on Saturday night are not our only source of social life any more – but an enjoyable gay tradition is alive and well on University Avenue.
Open and Affirming Congregations of The United Church of Christ

Jesus didn’t reject people, neither do we!

Fairport • Perinton • Pittsford • Victor
Mountain Rise United Church of Christ
2 Mountain Rise, Fairport, NY 14450
office@mtriseucc.org
www.mtriseucc.org

Webster • Penfield • Ontario
United Church of Christ, Congregational
570 Klem Road Webster, NY 14580
office@uccwebster.org
www.uccewebster.org

Henrietta
Henrietta United Church of Christ
1400 Lehigh Station Rd, Henrietta, NY 14467
Office@Henriettaucc.org
www.henriettaucc.org

Iroquois
Iroquois United Church of Christ
644 Titus Ave, Rochester, NY 14617
office@irondquoisucc.org
www.irondquoisucc.org

Bloomfield • Mendon • Honeoye Falls
West Bloomfield United Church of Christ
9035 Routes 5 & 20, W Bloomfield, NY 14585
revkeyes@rochester.rr.com
www.wbuccc.org

Lakeville • Avon • Livonia • Genesee
Lakeville United Church of Christ
5687 Big Tree Road, Lakeville, NY 14480
office@lakevilleucc.com
www.lakevilleucc.com

Chili • Gates • Greece
Community Christian Church
2647 Chili Ave., Chili, NY 14624
CCCopentoall@aol.com
www.CCCopentoall.com

Honeoye
Honeoye United Church of Christ
8758 Main Street, Honeoye, NY 14471
ucchone@frontiernet.net
www.ucchoneoye.org

No matter who you are, or where you are on life’s journey — you are welcome here.
They say hair loss doesn’t matter... What do you think?

Family owned and operated with over 30 years experience. Licensed Master Plumber

24 HOUR EMERGENCY SERVICE

Plumbing, Heating & Air Conditioning
Phone: 585-342-9251
www.plumbingplusny.com

Sewer & Drain Cleanings
Backflow device testing
Hot water heaters
Plumbing repairs (i.e.: toilets, faucets, sinks)
Sump pumps
Heating repair
Installation of Heating systems
Air conditioning systems
Air Conditioning repairs
New construction
Residential and Commercial experts

Family owned and operated with over 30 years experience.

$15 off coupon for any service

PUB CRAWL
Thank you to
140 Alex, The Ave Pub, The Bachelor Forum and Lux Lounge for hosting our participants.
A very special thank you to Todd for spearheading the committee and making the event happen.
THE EMPTY CLOSET • THE GAY ALLIANCE • NUMBER 484 • NOVEMBER 2014

**Collector's delight**

These Schonbek lamps display authentic, semi-precious rock crystal and smoky quartz ornaments — rare gemstones unique in the universe. From feet to finials, Schonbek lamps are original designs, worthy of a discerning collector.

And, incidentally, they are highly functional light sources, with built-in dimmer switches. See the collection in our showroom.

**Come to History’s Hometown**

Stay at a charming B&B just 2 blocks from Downtown Auburn

Enjoy theater, music, art, shopping, wine, history and fine dining

**Tuxill House**

5 Tuxill Square, Auburn

315 / 252-0055

www.tuxillhouse.com

www.tourcayuga.com

Only 1 short hour from Rochester

**Legal name change? Birth certificate amendment?**

You’ll need those forms notarized!

**Our Notary can help!**

Schedule a free appointment today!

Call 585-244-8640 or email:
info@gayalliance.org

**Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP**

The art of representing people*

**MARCUS W. KROLL, ESQ.**

Full Service Law Practice for the LGBT Community

Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP - Attorneys

200 Crossroads Building, 2 State Street
Rochester, NY 14614

Phone: 585-387-2947
Email: mkroll@woodsoviatt.com
www.woodsoviatt.com

**PFLAG MEETS**

3RD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

Meetings are at Open Arms Metropolitan Community Church

707 E. Main St., Rochester, NY 14605
from 1 to 3pm.

Questions?
Call: 585-813-5081
RochesterPFLAG@gmail.com
Join us!

**4th ANNUAL HODGE Podge Lodge**

**BLACK FRIDAY**

24-Hour Pajama Party

It begins Thanksgiving Night, Nov. 27 at 11pm
and goes until 10pm Friday, Nov. 28

Wear Your Pajamas • We’ll Have Ours On

571 Stone Road, Greece, NY • Phone: 585-621-5111
Huge Vendor Discounts! • Lots of Food • Live DJ

**HODGE Podge LODGE**

Remember... If We Don’t Have It, You Don’t Need It

**4th ANNUAL HODGE Podge Lodge**

24-Hour Pajama Party

It begins Thanksgiving Night, Nov. 27 at 11pm
and goes until 10pm Friday, Nov. 28

Wear Your Pajamas • We’ll Have Ours On

571 Stone Road, Greece, NY • Phone: 585-621-5111
Huge Vendor Discounts! • Lots of Food • Live DJ

**HODGE Podge LODGE**

Remember... If We Don’t Have It, You Don’t Need It

**Legal name change? Birth certificate amendment?**

You’ll need those forms notarized!

**Our Notary can help!**

Schedule a free appointment today!

Call 585-244-8640 or email:
info@gayalliance.org

**Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP**

The art of representing people*

**MARCUS W. KROLL, ESQ.**

Full Service Law Practice for the LGBT Community

Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP - Attorneys

200 Crossroads Building, 2 State Street
Rochester, NY 14614

Phone: 585-387-2947
Email: mkroll@woodsoviatt.com
www.woodsoviatt.com

**PFLAG MEETS**

3RD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

Meetings are at Open Arms Metropolitan Community Church

707 E. Main St., Rochester, NY 14605
from 1 to 3pm.

Questions?
Call: 585-813-5081
RochesterPFLAG@gmail.com
Join us!

**4th ANNUAL HODGE Podge Lodge**

**BLACK FRIDAY**

24-Hour Pajama Party

It begins Thanksgiving Night, Nov. 27 at 11pm
and goes until 10pm Friday, Nov. 28

Wear Your Pajamas • We’ll Have Ours On

571 Stone Road, Greece, NY • Phone: 585-621-5111
Huge Vendor Discounts! • Lots of Food • Live DJ

**HODGE Podge LODGE**

Remember... If We Don’t Have It, You Don’t Need It

**Legal name change? Birth certificate amendment?**

You’ll need those forms notarized!

**Our Notary can help!**

Schedule a free appointment today!

Call 585-244-8640 or email:
info@gayalliance.org

**Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP**

The art of representing people*

**MARCUS W. KROLL, ESQ.**

Full Service Law Practice for the LGBT Community

Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP - Attorneys

200 Crossroads Building, 2 State Street
Rochester, NY 14614

Phone: 585-387-2947
Email: mkroll@woodsoviatt.com
www.woodsoviatt.com

**PFLAG MEETS**

3RD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

Meetings are at Open Arms Metropolitan Community Church

707 E. Main St., Rochester, NY 14605
from 1 to 3pm.

Questions?
Call: 585-813-5081
RochesterPFLAG@gmail.com
Join us!

**4th ANNUAL HODGE Podge Lodge**

**BLACK FRIDAY**

24-Hour Pajama Party

It begins Thanksgiving Night, Nov. 27 at 11pm
and goes until 10pm Friday, Nov. 28

Wear Your Pajamas • We’ll Have Ours On

571 Stone Road, Greece, NY • Phone: 585-621-5111
Huge Vendor Discounts! • Lots of Food • Live DJ

**HODGE Podge LODGE**

Remember... If We Don’t Have It, You Don’t Need It

**Legal name change? Birth certificate amendment?**

You’ll need those forms notarized!

**Our Notary can help!**

Schedule a free appointment today!

Call 585-244-8640 or email:
info@gayalliance.org

**Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP**

The art of representing people*

**MARCUS W. KROLL, ESQ.**

Full Service Law Practice for the LGBT Community

Woods Oviatt Gilman LLP - Attorneys

200 Crossroads Building, 2 State Street
Rochester, NY 14614

Phone: 585-387-2947
Email: mkroll@woodsoviatt.com
www.woodsoviatt.com

**PFLAG MEETS**

3RD SUNDAY OF EACH MONTH

Meetings are at Open Arms Metropolitan Community Church

707 E. Main St., Rochester, NY 14605
from 1 to 3pm.

Questions?
Call: 585-813-5081
RochesterPFLAG@gmail.com
Join us!
Continuing history of the Transgender community

By Evelyn Bailey

The 1960s saw many firsts, Virginia Prince, a transgender person who began living full-time as a woman in San Francisco in the 1940s, began a second publication in 1962, also called Transvestite, that discussed transgender concerns. In the same year, she founded the Hues and Heels Club for cross-dressers.

In the late 1960s in New York, Mario Martino founded the Labyrinth Foundation Counseling Service, which was the first transgender community-based organization that specifically addressed the needs of female-to-male transsexuals.

In 1965, 150 gender non-conforming people came to Dewey’s Coffee Shop in Philadelphia in the first protest against a coffee shop’s refusal to serve young people in “non-conformist clothing.” Three protesters, along with a black gay activist, were arrested. This led to a picket of a coffee shop in New York City who had undergone sex reassignment surgery and wanted a change of name and sex on their birth certificate. The request on both counts was denied. In 1968 a transgender person again sought a change of name and sex on their birth certificate in the case of Matter of Anonymous, 57 Misc. 2d 3d 813, 293 N.Y.S.2d 834 (1968). The change of sex was granted, but the name change was denied.

The case concerned a transgender person from New York City who had undergone sex reassignment surgery and wanted a change of name and sex on their birth certificate. The request on both counts was denied. In 1968 a transgender person again sought a change of name and sex on their birth certificate in the case of Matter of Anonymous, 57 Misc. 2d 813, 293 N.Y.S.2d 834 (1968). The change of sex was granted, but the name change was denied.

The case concerned a transgender person from New York City who had undergone sex reassignment surgery and wanted a change of name and sex on their birth certificate. The request on both counts was denied. In 1968 a transgender person again sought a change of name and sex on their birth certificate in the case of Matter of Anonymous, 57 Misc. 2d 813, 293 N.Y.S.2d 834 (1968). The change of sex was granted, but the name change was denied.

The case concerned a transgender person from New York City who had undergone sex reassignment surgery and wanted a change of name and sex on their birth certificate. The request on both counts was denied. In 1968 a transgender person again sought a change of name and sex on their birth certificate in the case of Matter of Anonymous, 57 Misc. 2d 813, 293 N.Y.S.2d 834 (1968). The change of sex was granted, but the name change was denied.

The case concerned a transgender person from New York City who had undergone sex reassignment surgery and wanted a change of name and sex on their birth certificate. The request on both counts was denied. In 1968 a transgender person again sought a change of name and sex on their birth certificate in the case of Matter of Anonymous, 57 Misc. 2d 813, 293 N.Y.S.2d 834 (1968). The change of sex was granted, but the name change was denied.

The case concerned a transgender person from New York City who had undergone sex reassignment surgery and wanted a change of name and sex on their birth certificate. The request on both counts was denied. In 1968 a transgender person again sought a change of name and sex on their birth certificate in the case of Matter of Anonymous, 57 Misc. 2d 813, 293 N.Y.S.2d 834 (1968). The change of sex was granted, but the name change was denied.

The case concerned a transgender person from New York City who had undergone sex reassignment surgery and wanted a change of name and sex on their birth certificate. The request on both counts was denied. In 1968 a transgender person again sought a change of name and sex on their birth certificate in the case of Matter of Anonymous, 57 Misc. 2d 813, 293 N.Y.S.2d 834 (1968). The change of sex was granted, but the name change was denied.

The case concerned a transgender person from New York City who had undergone sex reassignment surgery and wanted a change of name and sex on their birth certificate. The request on both counts was denied. In 1968 a transgender person again sought a change of name and sex on their birth certificate in the case of Matter of Anonymous, 57 Misc. 2d 813, 293 N.Y.S.2d 834 (1968). The change of sex was granted, but the name change was denied.

The case concerned a transgender person from New York City who had undergone sex reassignment surgery and wanted a change of name and sex on their birth certificate. The request on both counts was denied. In 1968 a transgender person again sought a change of name and sex on their birth certificate in the case of Matter of Anonymous, 57 Misc. 2d 813, 293 N.Y.S.2d 834 (1968). The change of sex was granted, but the name change was denied.

The case concerned a transgender person from New York City who had undergone sex reassignment surgery and wanted a change of name and sex on their birth certificate. The request on both counts was denied. In 1968 a transgender person again sought a change of name and sex on their birth certificate in the case of Matter of Anonymous, 57 Misc. 2d 813, 293 N.Y.S.2d 834 (1968). The change of sex was granted, but the name change was denied.

The case concerned a transgender person from New York City who had undergone sex reassignment surgery and wanted a change of name and sex on their birth certificate. The request on both counts was denied. In 1968 a transgender person again sought a change of name and sex on their birth certificate in the case of Matter of Anonymous, 57 Misc. 2d 813, 293 N.Y.S.2d 834 (1968). The change of sex was granted, but the name change was denied.

The case concerned a transgender person from New York City who had undergone sex reassignment surgery and wanted a change of name and sex on their birth certificate. The request on both counts was denied. In 1968 a transgender person again sought a change of name and sex on their birth certificate in the case of Matter of Anonymous, 57 Misc. 2d 813, 293 N.Y.S.2d 834 (1968). The change of sex was granted, but the name change was denied.

The case concerned a transgender person from New York City who had undergone sex reassignment surgery and wanted a change of name and sex on their birth certificate. The request on both counts was denied. In 1968 a transgender person again sought a change of name and sex on their birth certificate in the case of Matter of Anonymous, 57 Misc. 2d 813, 293 N.Y.S.2d 834 (1968). The change of sex was granted, but the name change was denied.

The case concerned a transgender person from New York City who had undergone sex reassignment surgery and wanted a change of name and sex on their birth certificate. The request on both counts was denied. In 1968 a transgender person again sought a change of name and sex on their birth certificate in the case of Matter of Anonymous, 57 Misc. 2d 813, 293 N.Y.S.2d 834 (1968). The change of sex was granted, but the name change was denied.

The case concerned a transgender person from New York City who had undergone sex reassignment surgery and wanted a change of name and sex on their birth certificate. The request on both counts was denied. In 1968 a transgender person again sought a change of name and sex on their birth certificate in the case of Matter of Anonymous, 57 Misc. 2d 813, 293 N.Y.S.2d 834 (1968). The change of sex was granted, but the name change was denied.

The case concerned a transgender person from New York City who had undergone sex reassignment surgery and wanted a change of name and sex on their birth certificate. The request on both counts was denied. In 1968 a transgender person again sought a change of name and sex on their birth certificate in the case of Matter of Anonymous, 57 Misc. 2d 813, 293 N.Y.S.2d 834 (1968). The change of sex was granted, but the name change was denied.

The case concerned a transgender person from New York City who had undergone sex reassignment surgery and wanted a change of name and sex on their birth certificate. The request on both counts was denied. In 1968 a transgender person again sought a change of name and sex on their birth certificate in the case of Matter of Anonymous, 57 Misc. 2d 813, 293 N.Y.S.2d 834 (1968). The change of sex was granted, but the name change was denied.
Growing Up SOON ENOUGH

By Eric Bellmann

In New York City I ride buses. You can’t get lost, and it takes up a lot of time. Baby aspirin for the heart, Arthritis meds. Fish oil, only now we learn that only real salmon does the trick. Anti-oxidants, multi-vitamin, stool softeners—you don’t want to hear more about that.

In New York City I ride buses. You can’t get lost, and it takes up a lot of time. Baby aspirin for the heart, Arthritis meds. Fish oil, only now we learn that only real salmon does the trick. Anti-oxidants, multi-vitamin, stool softeners—you don’t want to hear more about that.

E-mail: ericbellmann@gmail.com

Cleaning My Closet LIVE FREE OR DIE

By Meredith Elizabeth Reiniger

There were no moose. I was not surprised. The brochure’s invitation was puzzling: “Join us for moose sightings, Go on a moose search in the comfort of our moose country, 10:30 p.m. in the dark.” I was skeptical.

I was a tad suspicious when I saw garlands of plastic autumn leaves and orange lights draped at ceiling level. I was tickled to see soap bubbles drifting from above as we were seated, but the moose could not be found. So I bitch to the work-out instructors to turn down the volume. Let’s be honest, I was losing their hearing and don’t realize it. It’s a noisy world we live in.

We began our trip.

In person I’m capable of lying upward to that. I have a pair of pliers that does the job. I prefer foreign sub-titled movies. No pleading technical incompetence. For example, I was in a taped-up camera: “Do you want me to rip up your tape?” He needed to be out of the sun and she’s not that tall. She’s not Mathew’s wife.” I had to talk quickly to get Mathew to understand. “He never loved me more than he loves you.” I unbolted My Closet Door. “I am not married.”

I decided, even though I had done it at the time, I could not feel comfortable enough even to stand as a fragment of that particular busload to make my I-am-a lesbain declaration of independence. Instead, I explained that the store sold only children’s sizes. My moan of regret, or notes of retailers’ failure to support post-puberty fashion. This is a classic example of post-Astonishment Anatomy rarely witnessed by de-closeting persons. Unfortu-

tunely there is no news footage.

And no snapshots of wild Alesx Alesx, gauging the deer family’s response. To the point of remuneration-compensation, our guides provided a top-class video about moose we later watched. It’s a moose with her sas, is painted red and yellow. Yes, I’d be happy to name it for my Darling Dukin’ Hornet but that’s because that car had a really low trim that influenced me. No, it was when seat-neck mumbled, “I bet the cloister is Popple.”

I decided, even though I had done it at the time, I could not feel comfortable enough even to stand as a fragment of that particular busload to make my I-am-a lesbain declaration of independence. Instead, I explained that the store sold only children’s sizes. My moan of regret, or notes of retailers’ failure to support post-puberty fashion. This is a classic example of post-Astonishment Anatomy rarely witnessed by de-closeting persons. Unfortu-


tunely there is no news footage.

And no snapshots of wild Alesx Alesx, gauging the deer family’s response. To the point of remuneration-compensation, our guides provided a top-class video about moose we later watched. It’s a moose with her sas, is painted red and yellow. Yes, I’d be happy to name it for my Darling Dukin’ Hornet but that’s because that car had a really low trim that influenced me. No, it was when seat-neck mumbled, “I bet the cloister is Popple.”

I decided, even though I had done it at the time, I could not feel comfortable enough even to stand as a fragment of that particular busload to make my I-am-a lesbain declaration of independence. Instead, I explained that the store sold only children’s sizes. My moan of regret, or notes of retailers’ failure to support post-puberty fashion. This is a classic example of post-Astonishment Anatomy rarely witnessed by de-closeting persons. Unfortu-


tunely there is no news footage.

And no snapshots of wild Alesx Alesx, gauging the deer family’s response. To the point of remuneration-compensation, our guides provided a top-class video about moose we later watched. It’s a moose with her sas, is painted red and yellow. Yes, I’d be happy to name it for my Darling Dukin’ Hornet but that’s because that car had a really low trim that influenced me. No, it was when seat-neck mumbled, “I bet the cloister is Popple.”

I decided, even though I had done it at the time, I could not feel comfortable enough even to stand as a fragment of that particular busload to make my I-am-a lesbain declaration of independence. Instead, I explained that the store sold only children’s sizes. My moan of regret, or notes of retailers’ failure to support post-puberty fashion. This is a classic example of post-Astonishment Anatomy rarely witnessed by de-closeting persons. Unfortu-


tunely there is no news footage.
lives as interlocking oppressions—sexism, racism, ageism, homophobia, and class—as a clanborn call for change and activism.

“As a Black, lesbian, feminist, socialist, poet, mother of two including one boy and member of an intersexual couple, I usually find myself part of some group in which the majority defines me as deviant, difficult, inferior or just plain ‘wrong.’ From my membership in all of these groups I have learned that oppression and the intolerance of difference come in all shapes and sizes and colors and sexualities; and that among those of us who share the goals of liberation and a workable future for our children, there can be no hierarchies of oppression,” Lorde wrote in “Sister Outsider.”

Iman Rashid, Lorde’s giftbook BF, shared with me her insights of when Lorde went to battle against multiple oppressions on her.

“Audre and I were little girls together. We both grew up in the same post World War II era. We both attended the same little Catholic School, St Marks The Evangelical. Audre was a firebrand and still is one in her 80’s. Joseph is Lorde’s surviving partner, and we have been taught that just the same as you have -- you’ve met one of us. Lorde struggled mightily with breast cancer and it was the love and care that helped me through my bouts. Lorde not only leaves us with a body of work to rely on but she leaves us her bravery, courage trying to upload and to implement her vision of radical inclusion and wellness.

In Audre’s own words we were taught that just the same as you have -- you’ve met one of us. We were taught that just the same as you have -- we’re terrified of coming out of because of it. Legal. In many instances it’s legal to deny someone jobs, housing, and emergency medical care -- let that one sink in -- because you don’t like their gender identity or expression.

For some of us the fear of the often-inevitable internal violence against oneself for failing to follow one’s nature overcomes the terror of the culturally legitimized external violence. It’s a hard choice to handle it anymore, rather than harm or kill ourselves, we start being ourselves.

For so many of us can’t overcome the years of being told that what they are is an abomination, an evil disease and it’s not right. So many of us are convinced that we will never be allowed to live free, normal lives.

Coming out humanizes us. Each one of us who comes out is another person that your friends or neighbors or family know who is trans*, another human face that they are less willing to harm by virtue of knowing you. Coming out is powerful, so powerful that for every person you lose by not coming out. The safer it is for everyone else too.

Don’t let them (whether the ‘them’ is cisgender friends and relatives or friends in your head) tell you that it’s not worth it. Don’t just do it for yourself -- do it for every other queer person on the planet as well. The more of us there are, the more of us people see and know, the less we will be feared and reviled and killed. We can do this. You can do this. By doing this, you’ll change someone’s mind about acceptance, probably for the better if they are your friends or relatives. Some people will be jerks to you, but don’t mind. Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who matter will be on your side and the people who don’t matter don’t care. For every person you lose by being yourself, you will gain another who will love you, respect you and be the person when you can have a genuine human relationship. I’ll be there. I promise to do my best to be there for you if you lose people as a result of being honest about yourself and trying to live as the person that your
nature inclines you to, to embody the gen-
der that you know that you are. I will do my best to be there for anyone who comes out, because it's scary, and dangerous, but it's one of the most important things that you can do.

Let people know the truth. Let them know who you are. Let others like you know that they are not alone, that those being honest about themselves and emerg-
ing into the light of day are growing with each passing hour. We can do this. We ARE doing it.

What's Bothering Brandon?
ROYALLY ENSNARED

By Brandon W. Brooks

Walking through Wegmans the other week, I was momentarily shocked at whom I thought I saw. Standing in the whole-wheat pasta section, I noticed a tall redhead man. Suddenly realizing how badly I needed orzo, taking my time walking through Wegmans, evoking the forms of desired response, from some sort of False alarm. But would it really be lovely? We've all heard of gilded cages, but come now, could it be that bad? I'd like to make a distinction between those born into a royal family and those who marry into royal families, from the social level of commoner. The term “commoner” can sometimes be met with host-

ility in America, as we are generally not familiar with titles and styles having (carelessly) discarded them more than two hundred and fifty years ago. It sounds mean, or “classist”, as they say, to many an American ear. A “commoner” is anyone who is without rank or title – there is not explicit value going on here other than what we externally apply to the definition ourselves. Now a commoner marrying into the royal family is not impossible, as we all know, but it is rare. It is rare that most royal families would marry other royal families. These royal-to-royal marriages worked to quell burgeoning wars and family feuds. These royal-to-royal marriages cemented an alliance through marriage, of course, a shrewd politi-
cal strategy, and certainly not the result of modernization to begin with, to do this in the view of luxury. One may be surrounded by priceless objects, gilded furnishings, and imposing architecture, but these are nei-
ther owned nor possessed by this person. No, a royal is merely a custodian of these properties until their death when the heir takes over.

They act a servant to the public, keeping up tradition in a world that is increasingly disinterested in tradition. Their insistent smiling, waving, and talk-
ing to arbitrary children on the roadside is not the full extent of their position. No, there is much more that we could never understand or even describe. And for those two young royals over the pond, I can only imagine how increasingly dif-
ficult this task may be as years pass by. To modernize an institution that resists modernization to begin with, to do this in order to successfully pass on the torch to youth is something for the public under their unrelenting eye. That is a job I would not enjoy. But I suppose it would be more than a job – it would be your identity. There is no other alternative when one is royal. One cannot simply stop being royal, just as much as we cannot simply stop being a part of our own families. One cannot reverse and take up another vocation, find a new career and move on. Indeed, the world saw where this path led with the abdication of King Edward VIII in 1936. Perhaps all the glitz and the glam in the world could not stand up to the honor and heritage of a royal family (just ask that horrible Kardashian family), but maybe our social freedom does. I do sometimes romanticize about the idea of being royal, but that the cost of my own freedoms would not be worth it. It’s more than simply being famous when one’s freedoms are breeched or blunted – tradition, heritage and rank can infringe as well.

And in that sense, I should have known immediately that the redhead I saw in Wegmans was not in fact Prince Harry – his pants may have been in the shade of royal blue, but they were most certainly denim. Have you ever heard of gilded cages, but come now, could it be all that bad?

\*\*\*

'THE EMPTY CLOSET • THE GAY ALLIANCE • NUMBER 484 • NOVEMBER 2014

Learn the history of the LGBT community in Rochester...

...from the people who made that history.

The Gay Alliance invites you to celebrate 40 years of LGBT history in Rochester with your very own DVD/BluRay of this powerful film.

Shoulders To Stand On

Evelyn Bailey, Executive Producer

Kevin Indovino, Producer/Director/Writer

Standard DVD $25 / BluRay DVD $30

Order at: www.GayAlliance.org

Wait Until Dark
Thu., September 18, 7:30pm

Good People
Thu., October 30, 7:30pm

Little Shop of Horrors
Thu., January 9, 7:30pm

Women in Jeopardy!
Thu., March 5, 7:30pm

The Mountaintop
Thu., April 9, 7:30pm

Vanya & Sonia & Masha & Spike
Thu., May 14, 7:30pm

ESL 14/15

See all six “Out” at Geva performances from $168

Please mention “Out” at Geva when reserving your tickets.

Single tickets on sale: August 5

The LGBTIQA+ Community’s perfect way to make new or catch up with old friends while enjoying Rochester’s best theatri-

es. Enjoy a private, intimate pre-show reception in the Geva Cafe before the performance.

Geva Theatre Center
GayAlliance

247 Park Avenue
Rochester, New York 14607

585.244.0613 EXT. 5

Dennis J. Foley, Ph. D.
LICENSED PSYCHIATRIST
CLINICAL ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF PSYCHIATRY ROYAL NEW YORK MEDICAL CENTER

INDIVIDUAL & COUPLES THERAPY
MULTICULTURAL/DIVERSITY CONSULTATIONS
LGBTQI CONCERNS
HIV/AIDS AND CHRONIC ILLNESS
TRAUMA AND RELATIONSHIP VIOLENCE
GRIEF AND BEREAVEMENT
RECOVERY ISSUES
DEPRESSION/ANXIETY/Self-CONCEPT

Questions, comments or critique? Please feel free to e-mail the author at: brandonb@gayalliance.org

ShoulUERS TO STAND ON

with the Gay Alliance

‘Out’ at Geva

Published by The Empty Closet

Copyright © 2014 The Empty Closet

Published in Rochester, New York by The Empty Closet

Printed in the United States of America

ISSN 0146-786X

THE EMPTY CLOSET • THE GAY ALLIANCE • NUMBER 484 • NOVEMBER 2014

24
DIGNITY-INTTEGRITY

D-I Rochester meets weekly at 5 p.m. at 720 Alexander St., in Simon’s Church, 7 S. Fitzhugh St., corner of Broad St. We have the following services and activities for the month of November:

1st Sunday: Episcopal Mass/Healing Service, with music
2nd Sunday: Roman Catholic Liturgy of the Word, with music
3rd Sunday: Episcopal Mass, q. 6th Sunday: Evening Prayer, fol- lowed by a Potluck Dinner!
5th Sunday: Catholic Service, quiet reading, with music. The last Sunday in November is “D-I Test Kitchen”. It is almost Thanksgiving and you’re think- ing about trying a new recipe to impress your guests, right? It is probably best to try it on your friends first, so cook it up and bring it along to the potluck.

No time to cook? Don’t worry, there is always plenty to share so invite a friend or two and bring that meal! SAVE THE DATES:

Sunday, December 21 we’re going to have our annual Christmas Hymn Sing with Tim Schramm, 5 p.m. in place of the regular service that evening.

Saturday, December 21, we will have our Annual Cabinet Party (details in the December/January EC).

2015 — our 40th anniversary! No date has been set to celebrate this amaz- ing anniversary, but I’m going to be reminding you every month to watch for details.

There are so many of you folks out there who have been part of the D-I community. This year we are expecting to follow. It would be fantastic to see or have our annual Christmas Hymn Sing with Tim Schramm, 5 p.m. in place of the regular service that evening.

Saturday, December 21, we will have our Annual Cabinet Party (details in the December/January EC).

2015 — our 40th anniversary! No date has been set to celebrate this amaz- ing anniversary, but I’m going to be reminding you every month to watch for details.

There are so many of you folks out there who have been part of the D-I community. This year we are expecting to follow. It would be fantastic to see or

DIGNITY-INTTEGRITY

D-I Rochester meets weekly at 5 p.m. at 720 Alexander St., in Simon’s Church, 7 S. Fitzhugh St., corner of Broad St. We have the following services and activities for the month of November:

1st Sunday: Episcopal Mass/Healing Service, with music
2nd Sunday: Roman Catholic Liturgy of the Word, with music
3rd Sunday: Episcopal Mass, q. 6th Sunday: Evening Prayer, fol- lowed by a Potluck Dinner!
5th Sunday: Catholic Service, quiet reading, with music. The last Sunday in November is “D-I Test Kitchen”. It is almost Thanksgiving and you’re think- ing about trying a new recipe to impress your guests, right? It is probably best to try it on your friends first, so cook it up and bring it along to the potluck.

No time to cook? Don’t worry, there is always plenty to share so invite a friend or two and bring that meal! SAVE THE DATES:

Sunday, December 21 we’re going to have our annual Christmas Hymn Sing with Tim Schramm, 5 p.m. in place of the regular service that evening.

Saturday, December 21, we will have our Annual Cabinet Party (details in the December/January EC).

2015 — our 40th anniversary! No date has been set to celebrate this amaz- ing anniversary, but I’m going to be reminding you every month to watch for details.

There are so many of you folks out there who have been part of the D-I community. This year we are expecting to follow. It would be fantastic to see or have our annual Christmas Hymn Sing with Tim Schramm, 5 p.m. in place of the regular service that evening.

Saturday, December 21, we will have our Annual Cabinet Party (details in the December/January EC).

2015 — our 40th anniversary! No date has been set to celebrate this amaz- ing anniversary, but I’m going to be reminding you every month to watch for details.

There are so many of you folks out there who have been part of the D-I community. This year we are expecting to follow. It would be fantastic to see or
NOW OFFERING
SPECIALIZED CHEMICAL DEPENDENCY
AND HEALTHCARE TREATMENT TO THE
GAY LESBIAN BISEXUAL TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY
SAFE AND CARING ENVIRONMENT
EXCLUSIVE LGBT TREATMENT GROUP
SENSITIVE TO LGBT ISSUES
LGBT EXPERIENCED CLINICIAN
585-325-5100

WWW.HUTHERDOYLE.COM

The Avenue Pub
39 Year Landmark in the Gay Community

Happy Hour Specials Daily 4pm – 8pm

Food Drive Starts November 1st
Let’s give back this holiday season.
Please donate non perishable items to benefit the Calvary St. Andrews Food Cupboard
In Memory of Karl Reich

Turkey A Day Give Away
November 16th – November 22nd
Receive a Raffle ticket with your 1st drink to win
(do not need to be present to win – will be called to pick up)

Turkey Raffle
WIN “LE” Holidays!

Thanksgiving EVE – Wednesday 11/26
Biggest Party of the Year!
$1.00 off Well Drinks 3pm – 2am
Enter to WIN a FREE TV to thank all of our great friends!
(One ticket per person with drink purchase – must be present to WIN)

Thanksgiving Day
Open at 8pm – 3 for 2 Drink Specials All Night!

Comfort Food
Wednesdays
6pm – 10pm
Menu changes weekly

Fabulously
EUN Fridays!
Enter to Win a Pub Gift Certificate!

Sunday
FOOTBALL
Pondays
Open at NOON
Watch your favorite teams
play each week
Great Drink Specials & Kitchen open
1pm – 6pm!

Come out and see your favorite bartenders!
Updates are posted daily with drink specials & events

Visit our Facebook page to have your Marriage Blessing & Celebrated
www.facebook.com/theavenuepubrochester

SPRITUS CHRISTI CHURCH
A CATHOLIC COMMUNITY WHERE ALL ARE WELCOME
121 N. Fitzhugh Street • Rochester, New York 14614 • Phone: 325-1180
Liturgies: Thursday: 7:00 pm, Saturday: 8:00 pm
Sunday: 7:30 am
9:30 am (at Roch, 82 Plymouth Avenue)
By Adam Young

The Ten Year Plan is about two polar-opposite best friends, Myles and Brody (played by Jack Turner and Michael Adam Hamilton), who agree to try a relationship if hopeless romantic Myles is single (yet again) in 10 years. Guest Adam Bucci plays Hunter, a potential love interest for Myles. ImageOut Programming Committee Chair Michael Gamilla moderated the Q&A with questions of his own.

For Bucci, the casting process started about a year and a half ago, when writer/director JC Caliciano was working with him on another project, a web series called Steam Room Stories. Bucci said about 100 actors auditioned for each major role in The Ten Year Plan. While Bucci’s character, Hunter, eventually displayed some deceptive qualities, Bucci said it was fun developing Hunter’s beguiling quality. Although preparation time was slim, Bucci wrote jouparalleled on the go. Hunter that was a fun duality, Bucci said.

The film was shot in only 12 days on a budget of $80,000. Some of the film’s funding was raised on the crowdfunding website, Kickstarter. Bucci said, “It was such a wonderful experience, the support we heard was unprecedented.”

By Susan Jordan

Kevin Clark of Unity Fellowship Church has organized a free series of films by and about LGBT women of color, to run here monthly, from this month (Nov. 8) through April.

Clark says the films will be screened the second Saturday of every month, at The MOCHA Center, 189 N. Water St., from 7:45 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Venues may change in future.

Clark told The Empty Closet, “I got in touch with the Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project in San Francisco. This is the 10th anniversary of their SF film festival. The Project teaches women to make films and then screen them at the festival. They all go over the country with free film screenings. You have to secure funding to bring them to your city and feed and house them while they are here.”

She hopes that by next spring a “dark, twisted love story” called Find What You Love and Let It Kill You. Hunter just moved to New York City, he also just wrapped season two of the web series, Estrildis. For more information about actor Adam Bucci’s current and future projects, visit him on Twitter at https://twitter.com/AdamBucci5. For more information about The Ten Year Plan, visit http://www.10yearplanmovie.com/

Greece native returns in “Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat”

By Susan Jordan

The new 2014 national tour of Joseph And The Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat, directed and choreographed by Tony Award-winner Andy Blankenhuijser, will run Nov. 11-16 at the Audrey Theatre. Tickets are available at Ticketmaster.com and the box office. Prices will range from $32.50-$72.50.

Cast member Mark Roland, a native of Greece, spoke with ImageOut about her journey to the show and her own return to his home country.

Roland said, “I still see my local teachers Judith Ranalehta and Judy Bronden when in town. Mark said, “I’m out of town so she is very busy bringing the film at the time of the anniversary of the drag event, her coronation as Miss Gay Rochester is one of the longest-running continuous pageants in the country,” he said. “Rochester should be proud!”

The doors at Harro East Ballroom will open at 6 p.m., and show time is at 7. Aggy Dunne will serve as hostess, and Mercedes Sulyar, both Miss Gay Rochester and Miss Gay Syracuse, will be honored.

Tracy Lane will be celebrating the 36th anniversary of her coronation as Miss Gay Rochester. The show will also feature special performances by Divinity Miss Gay NYS, and Dee Dee Dubois of Titel Nightclub and Ultra Lounge, as well as appearances by Kasha Davis, Samantha Vega, Poison Waters, Olympio Artigui-La Paige, Keke Velasquez-Lord, Vita St. James and Lady Jane.

The pageant began as a bar event at Jim’s Bar in 1971. Later the event left the bar and became a ballroom event. Wayne said, “It’s something young people can bring their parents and straight friends to.”

Tickets are $15 (advance) and $20 (at the door) and are available at The Bachelor Forum, Thomas Area Pride, Canvas Of Truth A.M.A.N.G.O.S. and With Envy Salon, Tilt Nightclub and Ultra Lounge and the Avenue. For information and table reservations, call Liza at 585-285-0119.

Mark Roland

Bredon, I’ll actually be teaching a master class at her studio when the show is in town. She’s also a friend of my mom’s when I’m out of town so she is very much in my life. I see Judith every once in a while, she is always interested and excited for what I’m doing in my career.

When I was living in Greece I basically danced and did show choir every day after school. So all my memories are with that. My dance studio would travel all over the country performing which is a very fond memory.

I started dancing when I was three years old so I always say I’m a dancer first, but I feel throughout the years I can say I’m pretty efficient in all three things now (acting, dancing and singing).

I went to college as a dance major and a musical theater minor. Towards the end of my time at school I realized I wanted to be involved in theater more, so after a couple years on cruise ships, I moved to NYC and began auditioning. This is my third tour after being in multiple regional theater productions… after Joseph, the dream is Broadway!”

He sees inspiring performers as teachers. “There are so many performers I look up to. Starting way back to Fred Astaire and Tommy Tune. But I look at all performers as teachers. I can take little things about each of their performances and apply it to me and my acting/dancing/singing ability. I believe a performer never stops learning!”

By Adam Young

The following New York State premiere of non-com The Ten Year Plan at the ImageOut Film Festival on Oct. 17, actor Adam Bucci answered questions during an audience Q&A session.

The Ten Year Plan is about two polar-opposite best friends, Myles and Brody (played by Jack Turner and Michael Adam Hamilton), who agree to try a relationship if hopeless romantic Myles is single (yet again) in 10 years. Guest Adam Bucci plays Hunter, a potential love interest for Myles. ImageOut Programming Committee Chair Michael Gamilla moderated the Q&A with questions of his own.

For Bucci, the casting process started about a year and a half ago, when writer/director JC Caliciano was working with him on another project, a web series called Steam Room Stories. Bucci said about 100 actors auditioned for each major role in The Ten Year Plan. While Bucci’s character, Hunter, eventually displayed some deceptive qualities, Bucci said it was fun developing Hunter’s beguiling quality. Although preparation time was slim, Bucci wrote jouparalleled on the go. Hunter that was a fun duality, Bucci said.

The film was shot in only 12 days on a budget of $80,000. Some of the film’s funding was raised on the crowdfunding website, Kickstarter. Bucci said, “It was such a wonderful experience, the support we heard was unprecedented.”

By Susan Jordan

Kevin Clark of Unity Fellowship Church has organized a free series of films by and about LGBT women of color, to run here monthly, from this month (Nov. 8) through April.

Clark says the films will be screened the second Saturday of every month, at The MOCHA Center, 189 N. Water St., from 7:45 p.m. Doors open at 6:30 p.m. Venues may change in future.

Clark told The Empty Closet, “I got in touch with the Queer Women of Color Media Arts Project in San Francisco. This is the 10th anniversary of their SF film festival. The Project teaches women to make films and then screen them at the festival. They all go over the country with free film screenings. You have to secure funding to bring them to your city and feed and house them while they are here.”

She hopes that by next spring a “dark, twisted love story” called Find What You Love and Let It Kill You. Hunter just moved to New York City, he also just wrapped season two of the web series, Estrildis. For more information about actor Adam Bucci’s current and future projects, visit him on Twitter at https://twitter.com/AdamBucci5. For more information about The Ten Year Plan, visit http://www.10yearplanmovie.com/
The dappled reflection of a Two-Spirit artist emerges in *Of Truth a Can- vas.* Witnessing the death of her father ignites the transition and spiritual journey for a transsexual man whose top surgery leaves behind 36A. The Ride channels a man’s struggle for visibility with a new love interest. AIN’T I A WOMAN celebrates the luminous enduring beauty of Black Femmes and Black transgender women. A transgender woman proclaims her true self despite MY INNER TUR- moil. In the heat of desperate times, HELP WANTED! does not apply to a gen- der-queer Asian looking for employment. A genderqueer Asian survives A NIGHT IN THE WOODS with some help.

The Media Arts Project or QWOC- MAP “promotes the creation, exhibition and distribution of new films/videos that address the viral social justice issues that concern queer women of color and our communities, authentically reflect our life stories, and build community through art and activism.”

Their website says, “We actively invest in, develop and nurture the creativity of emerging media artists who are Asian/Pacific Islander, Black/African American, Chicana/Latina, Native American and Mixed-Race lesbians, bisexual, queer and questioning women in the Bay Area. QWOCMAP provides training, screening opportunities and resources free of charge to guarantee full access to our tradition- ally underserved community, particularly low-income and immigrant queer women of color. QWOCMAP began in 2000, and has been training filmmakers and presenting films by queer women of color since then!”

Kelly Clark said that each film night (including from three to six films, some of which are very short) will have a theme. This month the theme will be gen- der-non-conforming people of color (see above). December will feature Children and Lions of other people decided to “go purple” to mark Spirit Day on 16 October, a number of celebrities wore purple and millions of other people decided to “go purple” online in a united stand against bullying and to show their support for LGBT youth.

Emmy nominated actress Laverne Cox took things a step further when she took part in lighting New York City’s famed Empire State Building purple for the night.

The Oranges is The New Black star, who has become one of the most famous transgender people in the US this year, told the crowd at the lighting ceremony about why the effort to stop bullying is so close to her heart.

“The issue of bullying is so deeply per- sonal to me because I spent much of my youth being bullied, being called names, being chased home from school practical- ly every day by groups of kids who wanted to beat me up and far too many LGBTQ youth are enduring the same thing across (the US) and it’s unacceptable.

“1 want LGBTQ youth to know that they are beautiful, that they are divinely made and that their lives matter.”

Other celebrities who wore purple and posted it on social media were singer Demi Lovato, stars of the sitcom Mom Anna Faris and Allison Janney, singer Billy Ray Cyrus, the hosts of CBS’ The Talk, actor Beau Bridges, MSNBC Morn- ing Joe personalities Thomas Roberts and Mike Brezinski and tennis legend Billie Jean King.

* See more at: http://www.gaystarnews.com/article/celebrities-go-purple-make-statement-against-lgbt-bullying170104

Hot tickets: Some openly gay leading men on Broadway right now

Going to NYC and thinking of tak- ing in a show? The Advocate recently list- ed some of the hottest out male stars on Broadway. Here’s an excerpt:

Alan Cumming in Cabaret

The Good Wife star represents his Teeny- winning role as the seductive and flam- boyantly omnisexual Emery of a seedy Weimar-era Berlin nightclub in Round- about Theatre Company’s perfectly mar- velous revival of the Kander and Ebb gem, directed by Sam Mendes. No sur- prise Shia LaBeouf recently called Cum- ming “the sexiest man I’ve ever seen.”

Studio 54, through March 29.

Joy Armstrong Johnson in On the Town

Last seen on Broadway in Hands on a Hardbody, Johnson plays sweet and nerdy Chip, one of three sailors looking for luck and love on shore leave in New York City. He brings youthful spark to John Ran- ddo’s shiny and spirited revival of the 1944 musical classic, beautifully choreographed by Smokey Joe’s Bergassi. Lyric Theatre, open-ended.

Nathan Lane in It’s Only a Play

Lane reunites with Producers pal Matthew Broderick in our director Jack O’Brien’s star-studded revival of our play- weight Terrence McNally’s gun-busting comedy about insufferable show folkos gathered at an opening night soirée. He anchors the chaos as a TV actor who,
Travel
Merle's rubber chicken samples Mother Myrick's candy.

Vermont tale from bakery to glass blowing
By Merle Exit
Southern Vermont was the road trip destination with a focus on the area around Manchester that seemed to follow either route 7 or route 7A. A tourism office and a B&B are usually the best contacts for what is local and for places to remember.

I had spoken with Ron Mancini, owner of Mother Myrick's confectionary in Manchester Center. What could be better than checking out a chocolate making venue slate bakery!

We first visited the production building to be introduced to the best butter crunchy candy and how it is made. Needless to say, I had to ask what bulk chocolates are used in creating all the goodies. Let's just say that as a picky choco-aholic, I was quite satisfied to see some of the best! Off to another room where the baked goods were being worked on. For those of you who love lemon bars, one special cake called Lemon Lulu is beyond the most delicious I have ever indulged in for taste, ingredients and without that acidic (but tasty) lemon cream top. The consistency is more like eating a lemon pound cake. Ron also boasted about his much demanded stolen that contains almonds, rum soaked raisins, and apricots topped with butter, sugar and cinnamon. I was tempted to steal a stolen.

The bakery itself would have been the next destination if it weren't for the fiery heating element, cut, blown, etc. The fiery heating element, cut, blown, etc. I would have never thought that it would turn into a gorgeous large glass bowl.

Andrew, who maintains a good set of lungs, told me that he opened his studio in 2000. Looking around the examples of various glass blown products it is clear that he is quite the artist and teacher. If you don't have a whole day to create and blow, you can make your own personalized paper weight. www.manchesterhotglass.com

Our final destination was Mother Myrick's Retail Store at 4369 Main Street. In 2005 his former ice cream parlor and café was exchanged for his production center. I think it had something to do with the demand for his products outside of the Manchester or even Vermont areas. Tasting included a lemon almond brittle, a chocolate almond Brittle and a chocolate sauce. Having just tasted everything, I was tempted to head home.

Deduced to Erica Olsen, the owner and got a tour of the operation. Due to the contents of the biscuits it could cause no harm if a human took a few bites since "human grade foods" are used. www.wagathas.com

Earth Sky Time is a Community Farm located in the Green Mountain National Forest. A group of people living in a big house, creating vegetarian recipes and baking lots of crusty breads and pastr... all to sell. Oliver was preparing a batch of breads in this awesome oven called a Lopi that rotates manually by turning the wheel. www.earthskytimes.com

Food was not the subject of the Manchester Hot Glass Studio and Gallery on Elm Street in what is known as the Depot section. We arrived to find owner/artist Andrew Weill giving lessons. It was quite an experience watching what looked like a lump of glass being blown, transferred to the fiery heating element, cut, blown, etc. I would have never thought that it would turn into a gorgeous large glass bowl.

Andrew, who maintains a good set of lungs, told me that he opened his studio in 2000. Looking around the examples of various glass blown products it is clear that he is quite the artist and teacher. If you don't have a whole day to create and blow, you can make your own personal...
Volunteer of the Month: Jenna Vanas

The Gay Alliance is pleased to feature Jenna Vanas as our Volunteer-of-the-Month for November 2014! Jenna has been a volunteer with the Gay Alliance since 2011, starting with the Pride Festival. She became a regular volunteer in our administrative offices in 2012. Having just celebrated her two-year anniversary as an Office Volunteer, Jenna is one of the senior members of our Office Volunteer team. Jenna is also a 2004 alumna of RIT where she studied Hospitality Service Management, and has been a painter for seven years (JENNAration Artwork Company). Several of her distinctive and beautiful paintings are on display in our Fifth Floor Lounge. When she isn’t painting or helping out at the Gay Alliance, Jenna works at The Inn on the Lake in Canandaigua.

The work of our Office Volunteers isn’t always visible: they answer the phone at the front desk, greet people when they come to the offices, oversee patrons at the David Bohmert Cyber Center, and help out with the countless little tasks that make an office run. Asked about what keeps her going, Jenna says, “Working is very important to me, whether it be hotels or art. I love them both equally. I like earning a living, enjoy volunteering for my community.”

Dedicated, spirited volunteers like Jenna help maintain the ongoing, day-to-day functions of the Gay Alliance, and we are deeply grateful to her for her commitment to the community.

For more information about Jenna and to see her artwork, please visit her website: jennaratiationworkcompany.com.

Understanding the Challenges: LGBTQ Cultural Competence Training for Providers of Services to Older Adults

By Jeanne Gainesburg

Please join us for this fast-paced, dynamic, informational cultural competency training geared towards senior service providers.

We will focus on understanding the unique barriers to care faced by LGBTQ older adults, how to create an environment at senior service agencies that is inclusive and welcoming for all people, and how to ensure that LGBTQ older adults at your agency are able to acknowledge their life experiences and age with dignity and respect.

Understanding the Challenges: LGBTQ Cultural Competence Training for Providers of Services to Older Adults will take place on Friday, Nov. 21, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (check in at 8:30 a.m.) in the Caven Room at the Rochester Red Cross (50 Prince St. Rochester 14607).

The cost is $125 per person, which includes a light breakfast, a full lunch and our LGBTQ Cultural Competence Training Manual. Register three or more individuals from your agency and receive a discounted registration fee of $100 per person. To register, go to www.gayalliance.org and click on the yellow slide.

Registration opens for 2015 SafeZone Train-the-Trainer Certification Programs

The winter and spring sessions of the Gay Alliance SafeZone Train-the-Trainer Certification Program will take place on Friday, Jan. 23, and Friday, March 20, from 9 a.m.-5 p.m. (check in at 8:30 a.m.) at the Rochester Red Cross, 50 Prince St. We can also bring this program to your campus or workplace.

The SafeZone Train-the-Trainer Certification Program is an interactive eight-hour course, which includes activities, small group discussions and opportunities for practicing skills as educators. During this course, participants will be coached in running SafeZone trainings and offered opportunities to ask and answer questions in a supportive environment using the teaching skills that they acquire.

Each participant will receive a SafeZone Training manual that will provide a complete course guide for running SafeZone Trainings, recommended exercises and activities, resources and suggested readings to extend knowledge, handouts to use in future SafeZone Trainings, a Gay Alliance SafeZone sticker and a certificate of course completion. Ongoing support will be available to all participants through the Gay Alliance following the presentation, to offer assistance and suggestions for keeping programs fresh and up-to-date. Our October train-the-trainer session filled six weeks prior to the workshop date, so please register early!

To register go to the Gay Alliance home page at www.gayalliance.org and click on the SAFEZONE slide.

For questions, please contact Jeanne at jeanne@gayalliance.org or 585-244-8640 ext. 14.
Speaking Engagements and Events for September 2014

- SafeZone Train-the-Trainer Certification Program at SUNY Geneseo
- LGBTQ 101 at The Center For Youth
- SafeZone Training at St. John Fisher College
- LGBTQ Substance Abuse Issues at DePaul’s National Council on Alcoholism & Drug Dependence
- LGBTQ 101 at Center for Dispute Settlement
- Resource and Info Table at the Pride Conference of Western NY*
- Advanced Speakers Training at the Gay Alliance
- Resource and Info Table at the Colgate Rochester Crozer Divinity School

Quotes from Sept Presentations:

“Absolutely wonderful and incredibly inspiring. Presenters were clear and concise while being honest and authentic. This workshop truly inspired me.”

“Very welcoming. A space to feel comfortable learning about sensitive issues and especially tips for having those conversations with others. The presenters made sure that everyone (no matter the background) felt accepted and valued. They were great!”

“The experience was renewing in that I had become complacent with many aspects of campus life. Having this opportunity gave me hope again.”

“Very engaging and humorous. Made the time go fast and learning easy. It was fantastic.”

Youth

Our program empowers today’s teens to meet today’s challenges! It provides a safe space to explore their identity, make friends, build community, gain life skills, become a leader and have fun!

Fabulous Fridays: 7-9pm. (Ages 13-20)

Gender Identity Support Group: Tuesdays: 5:30-6:30pm. (Ages 13-18)
For more information: youth@gayalliance.org

The Gay Alliance
875 E. Main St., 5th Floor, Auditorium Center, Rochester, NY 14605 Phone: 585 244-8640 • Web: gayalliance.org

Library & Archives

Hours: Every Monday & Wednesday, 6-8pm
875 E. Main St., 1st Floor
(off Prince St. lobby)
Phone: 585 244-8640

GARD: the online community tool
providing local, state and national resources,
twenty-four, seven
at: www.gayalliance.org

The Gay Alliance is a non-profit agency, dedicated to cultivating a healthy, inclusive environment where Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender and Questioning (LGBTQ) people are safe, thriving, and enjoying equal rights. We are a coalition of individuals and groups working to empower LGBTQ people to affirm their identities and create an atmosphere where the diversity can thrive both collectively and separately. We educate and advocate for civil rights for all and for the eradication of homophobia.

The Gay Alliance, 875 East Main Street, Rochester, New York 14605 • Phone: (585) 244-9030 • Fax: (585) 244-8246
Website: www.gayalliance.org • E-mail: info@gayalliance.org • Hours: Monday-Friday, 9am-5pm • Board President: David Zona
Board Vice President: Jessica Murray • Executive Director: Scott Fearing • Education Director: Jeanne Gainsburg
Database: Kat Wiggall Bookkeeper: Christopher Hennelly • Office Administrator: Tristan Wright
The Empty Closet: Editor: Susan Jordan • E-mail: susanj@gayalliance.org • Phone: (585) 244-9030 • Designer: Jim Anderson
Fax: (585) 244-8248 • Advertising: (585) 244-9030 • Ad Sales: Brandon W. Brooks • E-mail: brandonb@gayalliance.org

GARD Calendar

SAGE members dine at Antonetta’s.

Tuesday 11/4
11:30am-2pm. Let’s do Chili at the center.
We will have Chili, Garden Salad, Bread, Beverages and Dessert.
$3 donation. Please RSVP by 10/30 to 585-857-9428.

Wednesday 11/5
10:30am-12:30pm. SAGE will meet at Friendly’s
2717 Monroe Ave., for Senior Breakfast, $3.
Please RSVP by 11/11 to 585-857-9428.

Thursday 11/6
12noon-2pm, we will be going to Coffee Connection at the
Greenhouse Cafe, 2271 E. Main Street. Host Ginny Dekin.
Menu: soup, wraps, etc. $4. Will leave MCC Church at 11:30.
Please RSVP by 11/11 to 585-857-9428.

Tuesday 11/11
No yoga or program today.
HAPPY THANKSGIVING!

Rainbow Sage, for LBGTQ people 50 and over, meets at Open Arms
Metropolitan Community Center of Western New York, 707 East Main
Street Rochester New York 14605. Yoga is from 10:30-11:30am. $5
per person. Tuesday and Thursday. All programs are subject to change
and Rainbow Sage members are responsible for setting up their own
transportation to and from any program. All programs are open to the
community and the Gay Alliance welcomes all to participate to enhance
the quality of diverse, member-driven programming.
**Resources**

**BISEXUALITY RESOURCES**

AMBL Los Angeles; American Institute of Bisexuality (Journal of Bisexuality); Bay Area Bisexual Network; Biola; Biola Ongoing Project (BOP); Biverse; Boston; Bisexual Women's Network; Brooklyn; Columbus; One; Fenway Health's Bi Health; Los Angeles Bi Task Force; New York Area Bisexual Network; Rochester Bi Worker Initiative; The Bisexual Resource Center (email brosu@rochester."

**CULTURAL**

Rochester Women's Community Church 243-4441. (See ongoing calendar).

Rochester Gay Men's Church www.tierzogmc.org

Open Arms Community Center Available for meetings, receptions, 707 E. Market. Parking and welcoming of all.

217-6478.

**DEAF SERVICES**

Advocacy for Abused Deaf Victims Male and female can contact us at 711; 900 60023. Rochester, 24:00 hour-line, ASL-


Libic Rainbow Alliance for the Deaf (LRAD) Meet Wednesday nights. For location, information: rooster@rochester."

Spectrum LGBTI & Straight Alliance PRIT/NTID student group. <SpectrumComment@ rochester.edu>

**ELDERS**

Gay Alliance Rainbow Manor Many events take place, some at Open Arms MCC 707 E. Main St. 244-8640; SAGE@agelay-

lands.

Open Arms Community Center Open Arms Community Center available for par-

ties, meetings and meetings. 248-2742; Plenty of parking. We are inclusive, actively

connecting of all people. 217-6478 openarmsmc.org

CNY Fertility Network Meetings, support meetings, work-

shops, workshops. Information: clinic@cnfertility."

www.cnyfertility.com


Lesbian and Gay Family Building Project Headquartered in Binghamton and with a pres-

ence throughout Upstate NY, the Project is dedi-

cated to providing lesbian and gay families, as well as similar organizations, with goals of building and sustaining healthy families. Claudia Sandoval, 124 S. Washington St., Binghamton, 607-724-4308; e-mail: LesbianGayFamily.org. Web: www. PrideandJoy.org.

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG)

PFLAG's freebie mission: supporting parents and family members in coming out process: edu-

cating the community: advocating on behalf of LGBT family members. rochesterpflag@gmail.com. 585-812-5894.

Adaptive Parent Support Group Monthly potluck lunches. For information, loca-

tion, call Shawn, 350-2252; P.O. Box 20023, Rochester, NY 14604. Office hours M-F 8:30 am-5 pm. 585-275-0526. PFLAG Rochester/NTID student group. (email pflagroch@gmail.com) 585-753-2322; www.pflagrochester.org.

**FAMILY**

Manhattan Center for Health and Behavioral Training Center 853 W. Main St., Rochester 14611. Collaboration of Monroe County Health Department and U.R. Provides year-round training in prevention and management of STDs, TB and related issues, such as domestic violence and case manage-

ment. (585) 753-5382 x078.

Planned Parenthood of the Rochester/Syracuse Area 114 University Ave., Rochester, 14605; Tol-

free: 1-866-600-6666. Offers confidential

HIV testing and information. When you make your appointment, be sure to ask about our slid-

ing scale fees. No one is turned away for lack of ability to pay.

Rochester Area Task Force on AIDS A collection of agencies providing a multiplicity of resources and services to the Upstate New York community. They have a number of local sites, such as Lake Finger Lakes Health Systems Agency, which also provides limited HIV testing, and health education, as well as demographic and statistical data for use in developing health care services. (585) 461-3520.

The MOCHA Center of Rochester Our mission is to provide health and wellness in communities of color. Youth drop-in center; health information; support with computer lab; referral services; medical fair. 107 Liberty Public Park; corner of Pleasant St. (585) 517-1020.

Monroe County Health Department at 855, S. Main St., offering testing and counseling for HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases. (585) 753-9640. Hours: M-W 8:30-10am; R, 8:30-10 am; F 7:30-9:30.

Strong Memorial Hospital A provides a complete range of HIV medical care, including access to experimental treatment pro-

tocols, and HIV testing. Also provides individual and group psychotherapy. Training of health care professionals also available. Infectious Disease Clinic, 265-5026; Department of Psychia-


Planned Parenthood of Rochester and Geneva Valley Offers testing and information (585) 546 2595.

**HIV/AIDS**

Free testing for HIV exposure is available from New York State Department of Health; call Rochester Area Regional Hotline at (585) 232-3051; 1 West Main St., Suite 600, Rochester, NY 14604; 24/7 rapid HIV testing is available to anyone in the Rochester area by calling 1 800 962-5063. Deaf or

**VOLUNTEER SERVICES**

Volunteers are needed for interpreting and telephone training, as well as other volunteer opportunities. 454-4060.

**TRANSGENDER**

Trans Alliance of Greater Rochester Support individuals for gender variant people and allies. Last Saturday, 3-5:30pm, Open Arms MCC, 707 E. Main St., Empire Justice Center. Julianna S. Amsden, Eau Hanna S. Cohn Equal Justice Fellow, Empire Justice Center. Transgender Project, Telecenter for Justice, 1 West Main Street, Suite 200, Rochester, 14614. (585) 295-2731; Fax: 585-454-5196; jdiestra@empire-justice.org; www.empirejustice.org.

Volunteer Legal Services Project (585) 232-0005; www.vlsp.org/rochester.org. 1 West Main St., Suite 600, Rochester, NY 14604. Free legal services for low-income people seeking a name change. Other legal services for low-

income clients include family law issues, bank-

ruptcy, unemployment insurance hearings, wills and administrative documents for clients with serious illnesses.

Gay Alliance Youth Gender Identity Support Group Tuesdays 5-6:30; Gay Omni Center, 8th floor. Telephone: 585-454-5196; 1-800-962-5063.

Genesee Valley Gender Variants Thurs. 7-9pm, Equal Grounds, 750 South Ave. GayOmniGender@yahoo.com.

**WOMEN**

Highland Hospital Breast Imaging Center 50 Red Creek Drive, Rochester, 14623; 585-

387-3341. Specializing in breast health, diag-

ose, breast imaging, treatment and mammography outreach and education.

Breast Cancer Coalition of Rochester 8093 Main St., 1st floor, Rochester 14623; email: bccr.com. Breast Cancer Coalit-

ion provides support services that include pro-

grams that support women who are coping with a recent breast cancer diagnosis and those coping with long-term effects of breast cancer diagnosis, such as the Advanced Breast Cancer Support Group to meet the needs of our community's breast cancer. Information about breast cancer, lending a library, a monthly educational program. All BCCR programs are free of charge.

Center for Community Health 585-234-3050. Comprehensive breast cancer screening services for uninsured and under-

served women.

Dane Wende Breast Clinic 170 Saugus Park Dr. 442-8422; Dr. Wende Logan-Young and an all-woman staff provide breast cancer care.

Self Help for Women with Breast or Ovarian Cancer (P.O. Box 7000; Rochester, 14601; Breast: 860-897-2392; Ovarian: 866-537-4273.

Alternatives for Battered Women 585-325-3800; counseling. Lesbians, gay men welcome.

Women's Resource Center of Wayne County (315) 331-1177; (fax) (315) 331-1108.

Mary Magdalene House 585-325-1110; free legal services for HIV positive women and women at risk. 291 5th Ave. Open Mon.-Fri. 8am-5pm.

Planned Parenthood of the Rochester/ Syracuse Region 1 West Main St., Rochester, 14605; Tel: 1-800-660-6886. Planned Parenthood has the way to providing high quality, affordable reproductive health care since 1916. All services are confidential. Accept most insurances; includ-

ing Medicaid. You may qualify for low- to no-cost family planning services. When you make your appointment, ask about our sliding scale fees. No one turned away for lack of ability to pay.

Women's Shelter 175, N. Clinton Ave. 546-5820. 32

THE EMPTY CLOSEST • THE GAY ALLIANCE • NUMBER 484 • NOVEMBER 2014

Check our monthly and ongoing calendar as well as the community section for more groups and events. For further information, call the Gay Alliance at 244-8640 or visit: www.gayalliance.org. Gay Alliance Youth Group info: pages 30-31.
DAILY
Free HIV Testing
9am-7pm, 1155 N. Main St., 259 Monroe Ave. David Bohrnet Cyber Center
Gay Alliance 5th floor lounge, Mon.-Thurs. 11am-3pm, Fri. 11am-7pm, 875 E. Main St. 244-8640; www.gayalliance.org
MONDAYS
L.O.R.A. Coffee Social
LORA Late Bloomers Coming Out Group for Women
Rochester Historical Bowling Society
7pm. Clover Lanes
Gay Alliance Library & Archives,
Every Mon. Night. 6-8pm. David Bohrnet Cyber Center. 5:30-7:30pm, first floor, 875 E. Main St. 244-8640
TUESDAYS
The Social Grind
10am-12pm. Every Tuesday. 7-9pm at Equal-Grounds, 750 South Ave. Email: Diruthe@54750x10.com. More info: www.loragroup.org
Adult Families of Trans Youth (AFTY)
Tuesdays, 5:30-6:30, Open Arts MCC Community Center, 240 N. Main St. 244-8640
LGBTQ Healthy Living
Veterans support. Second, fourth Mondays, 10-11am Canandaigua VA, 300 North St. Library conference room. 585 463-2731, 585 205-5360.
Free youth testing site
Trillium Health, 259 Monroe Ave., 5pm. 442-2220
Women’s Community Column
Rehearse each Tuesday. 6-9pm, Downtown United Pres. Church, 121 N. Fitzhugh Street, 234-4444, www.brefm.org
LORA Knitters Group
1st & 3rd Tuesdays of the Month. 7pm-9pm, Crossroads Coffee House, 752 S. Goodman St. Rochester. Contact Person: Kerry Cather Email: desnichoayy@aol.com. More info: www.loragroup.org. Events: https://www.facebook.com/groups/L.O.R.A.14464/
Gay Alliance Trans* Youth Support Group
5:30-7pm, 1st Wednesday, GAGV office, 5th floor, 875 E. Main St. Ages 13-18. 244-8640
WEDNESDAYS
Identity Group
The Identity Group is for LGBTQ identified individuals who have a developmental disability diagnosis. The group meets Wednesdays 3-4 pm at ARC Health Services (5050 Brighton-Henrietta Townline Rd. 14623). The goal of the group is to provide a safe space to discuss identity issues, share personal experiences and increase self-esteem. The group is facilitated by Delatila Fico. L.G.M.O.W. For more information, please contact Delatila Fico at del@orangemorne.or.org or 585-271-0661 ext. 1552. Gay Alliance Board of Directors Meetings
Meets Third Wednesdays, 8pm, 875 E Main St. 244-8640
New Freedom New Happiness
AA gay meeting, 7pm, Unitarian Church, 220 Winton Rd. Men and women. Open Support Group for Parents who have lost Children First, 3rd Wednesdays, 11am-12:30pm, Third Presbyterian Church, 4 Meigs St. Genesee Region Home Care. Free. 325-1660
COAG Come Out and Play. Wednesday game nights. 8-11 pm. Equal-Grounds, 750 South Ave. 7pm, woudley1641@yahoo.com.
Rochester Rams General Meeting
2nd Wednesdays, 5:30-7:30pm, Bacherot Forum, 670 University Ave. www.rochesterrams.com
HIV+ Mixed Men’s Group
Wednesdays 12pm-1:30pm. Trillium Health, 259 Monroe Ave.
Frontrunners/Frontwalkers
Mondays, 6pm, George Eastman House parking lot. www.rochesterfrontrunners.org.
Steps Beyond Shms
Crash the Couch. Mondays, 7-8pm, 289 Monroe Ave.
FRIDAYS
LGBT Healthy Living Group
Free confidential walk-in HIV testing Monday, 3-5pm; Tuesday, 8-9pm, 1st and 3rd Wednesdays, 5:30-7:30pm, First floor, 875 E. Main St. 244-8640
Empire Bears
Every Wednesday. 6pm dinner at The Wintonaire. www.empirebears.com
THURSDAYS
Presbyterians for Lesbian and Gay Concerns
6:30pm, first Thursday, 271-7649.
Pride at Work & AFL CIO First Thursday, 6:30pm. 1354 Buffalo Road, Rochester 14624, 426-0862.
GLOBAL (Gay & Lesbians of Bausch & Lomb) Meets every third Thursday in Area 67 conference room at the Optic Center. Voice mail: 338-4097 Rochester Gay Men’s Chorus Downtown United Presbyterian Church, 121 N. Fitzhugh St. 6-30pm, 423-0650 Free confidential walk-in HIV testing Mon., Wed., Fr. 9 am - 7pm, 7th Floor, 875 E Main St, 244-8640
Equal & Out Second Thursdays Social business networking, 5:30-7:30pm. Changing venues. Email: fingersnap@broadandequal.com.
Geneva Valley Gender Vendors 7-9pm, Equal-Grounds, 750 South Ave. GV GenderVendors@youughgroup.com
LORA - Buffalo Women’s Coffee Social Weekly on Thursday afternoons. 2pm Coffee, 756 Elmwood, Buffalo. Contact Person: Barb Henderson Email: Mornington5356@yahoo.com More info: www.loragroup.org. Events: https://www.facebook.com/groups/buffalowomenforall/ SUNDAYS
PFLAG (Parents Families & Friends of Lesbians And Gays) 585 813-5091; rochestergaypflag@gmail.com.
Unity Fellowship Church
Sundays, 1:30 pm, Second, 4th Sundays 12:30pm. 5, Wedge Mission, 1125 Caroline St. 520-6185
Dignity-Identity 1st Sunday: 5pm Episcopal Eucharist with music; 2nd Sunday: 5pm Roman Catholic Liturgy of the Word with music; 3rd Sunday: 5pm Episcopal Eucharist (quiet); 4th Sunday: 5pm Prayers to start the week, followed by potluck supper.
Open Arms Metropolitan Community Church 707 E. Main St. Rochester. Services at: 10:30 am and 5:00 pm. 244-2220
ROCHESTER AA/NA MEETINGS
Every week there are four regularly scheduled GLBT AA and two inclusive NA meetings in Rochester.
TUESDAYS
Narcotics Anonymous 6-7:30pm, NYS and Recovery 1124 Cuber Road (Covenant United Methodist Church) This is an NA meeting that is open to all addicts who have a desire to stop using. Although it is not specifically a gay-oriented meeting, it is welcoming to people of all gender identities, as well as to anyone who is affected by HIV and AIDS.
New Freedom/New Happiness Group 7pm. First Unitarian Church, 220 S. Winton Rd. Bus riders who use the last #8 University bus to 12 Corners. Use the stop just past the top of the hill at H闫dike Ave. and before Highland Ave. Or take the #1 Park Ave. to the corner of East and Winton, then walk five minutes south (uphill) on Winton. This is an open discussion meeting. All issues – as they relate to our alcoholism/addiction recovery – are fair game.
FRIDAYS
Gay Men’s 7:30pm. Immaculate Baptist Church, 815 Park Ave. “Closed meeting, restricted to alcoholics and addicts”
“Men’s meeting”
Handicapped accessible
This is a round-robin discussion meeting. If you are shy about meeting people or speaking up in a group, you will find this meeting particularly warm and inviting because everyone gets a chance to speak (or pass). As a result, this meeting often runs long, so plan on more than the usual hour.
SATURDAYS
Gay Men’s Night Special 7pm. First Unitarian Church, 220 S. Winton Rd. Bus riders: the #8 University Ave. bus does not go by the church on weekend evenings. Take the #1 Park Ave. bus to the corner of East and Winton, then walk five minutes south (uphill) on Winton. This is an open discussion meeting. All issues are welcome, including alcoholism/addiction.
“Men’s meeting”
“Handicapped accessible”
“Open meeting, all welcome, “straight-friendly”
“Mixed men and women”
“Handicapped accessible, take elevator to basement”
Men begins a speech, followed by open discussion.
SUNDAYS
Step in the Right Direction 7-9pm, 1275 Temperance Road (Trinity Alli- ance Church) This is an AA meeting that is open to all addicts who have a desire to stop using. Although it is not specifically a gay-oriented meeting, it is welcoming to people of all sexual orientations and gender identities, as well as to anyone who is affected by HIV and AIDS.
“Open meeting, all welcome, “straight-friendly”
“Mixed men and women”
“Handicapped accessible, take elevator to basement”
Men begins a speech, followed by open discussion.
SATURDAY 1
Shanna Marie O’Toole talks about her book, "Sixty Days," in A Mini-Mart Bathrobe, 6 pm, Open Arms MCC, 707 E. Main St.

Central NY LGBTQ Child Welfare Coalition. Foster Families: A Mini-Conference for Building and Celebrating LGBTQ Families and Allies. 8:30 am - pm, Park Central Presbyterian Church, 504 E. Fayette St., Syracuse.

SUNDAY 2
Dignity Integrity. Episcopal Mass/Healing Service, with music, 5 pm, St. Luke’s and St. Simon’s Church, 17 S. Fitzhugh St.

TUESDAY 4
Election Day. Get OUT and vote. Your civil rights may depend on it!

SATURDAY 5
"Trans Lives, Real Lives," First Unity Fellowship Church monthly screening of films and videos by and about LGBTQ women of color. 7-9 pm, MOCHA Center, 118 N. Water St. Free. All welcome.

SUNDAY 9
Dignity Integrity. Roman Catholic Liturgy of the Word, with music, 5 pm, St. Luke’s and St. Simon’s Church, 17 S. Fitzhugh St.


SUNDAY 10
Author Judith Frank at JCC Community Read. Laramie & the Electric Football Team Reception for LGBTQ families, 5:45 pm; general reception 6:30; Read starts 7:30 pm. $11/$8 for lecture; $40-$2000; rfdj.org

SUNDAY 11
Families and Friends of Trans Adults. 6:30 pm, The Meeting Place in Brighton, 610 Elmwood Ave, Reception for LGBTQ families, 5:45 pm; general reception 6:30; Read starts 7:30 pm. $11/$8 for lecture. 585-285-0119.

THURSDAY 13
Out & Equal 2nd and Thursdays. 5:30-7:30pm. For location see Out & Equal Finger Lakes.

FRIDAY 14
Empty Closet deadline for Dec-Jan. issue. 1:44-930; naran@epix.net. Please note: Monday the 17th will be TOO LATE!

SATURDAY 15
Community Thanksgiving Potluck, 5:30pm, Open Arms MCC, 707 E. Main St.

SUNDAY 16
Dignity Integrity. Episcopal Mass, quietly, 5 pm, St. Luke’s and St. Simon’s Church, 17 S. Fitzhugh St.

LICK Events presents Day Party Sunday “Rose’s Throw Back to Women & Friends” at the Bug Jar, 219 Monroe Ave., 5-9pm. DJ Reign, drink specials, $5 at the door includes pizza, munchies. 21+ only. Throwback to the old Rosie’s women’s bar. Information: amber@gealliance.org

Open Arms MCC observance of Trans Day of Remembrance. Service, Dr. Karen Boyer guest speaker. 2 pm, Open Arms MCC, 707 E. Main St.

WEDNESDAY 19
Gay Alliance annual meeting. 6-7 pm, Open Arms MCC, 707 E. Main St.

THURSDAY 20
Trans Day of Remembrance. Sign painting party for Nov. 22 Trans march. Hosted by TAGR, Open Arms MCC, 707 E. Main St.

FRIDAY 21
Understanding the Challenges: LGBTQ Cultural Competence Training for Providers of Services to Older Adults 9 am-5 pm. (check in at 8:30 am) in Can- teen Room at Rochester Red Cross (50 Prince St.). $125 per person includes light breakfast, full lunch, LGBTQ Cultural Competence Training Manual. Register three or more from your agency, receive discounted registration fee of $100 per person. To register: web@gealliance.org and click on the yellow slide.

SATURDAY 22
TAGR March of Visibility for Trans Month of Remembrance. 2-5 pm, start corner of Monroe and Goodman. Meet at Open Arms MCC, 707 E. Main St. and return there for hot chocolate and coffee.

SUNDAY 23

Dignity Integrity. Evening Prayer, fol- lowed by a Potluck Dinner. 5 pm, St. Luke’s and St. Simon’s Church, 17 S. Fitzhugh St.

TUESDAY 25
Families and Friends of Trans Adults. 6:30 pm, The Meeting Place in Brighton, 2600 Elmwood Ave. at 12 Corners.

THURSDAY 27
Thanksgiving Wedge Waddle. Three- mile walk. Start & End: Star Alley next to Lux bar, 666 South Ave. Registration avail- able online at wedgewaddle.com. Register at the event, starting at 9:30 am. Event Start Time: 10 am. FREE. Donate new socks to St. Joseph’s Hospitality House. Drop box at Hedonist Artisan Chocolates, South Ave.

SUNDAY 30
Dignity Integrity. Catholic Service, quiet, 5 pm, St. Luke’s and St. Simon’s Church, 17 S. Fitzhugh St.

MONDAY 1
World AIDS Day. AIDS Quilt panels will be on display at Equal-Grounds.
The Empty Closet is published by the Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley
875 E. Main Street, Suite 500
Rochester, New York 14605
© 2014, All rights reserved.
Editor-in-Chief: Susan Jordan
Staff Reporter: Don Ovington
Graphic Designer: Ove Overmyer
Ad Sales: Brandon Brooks (brandond@gayalliance.org)

Advertising policy: The Empty Closet does not print advertisements that contain nude drawings or photographs, nor does it print advertising that states that the person pictured in the ad is for sale, or that you will “get” that particular person if you patronize the establishment advertised. Advertisements that are explicitly racist, sexist, sexist, ableist or anti-gay will be refused. All political advertisements must contain information about who placed them and a method of contact. Advertising for political candidates or parties, “attack” advertisements, whether they relate to national or local elections or refer to non-elected individuals, are not acceptable. “Attack” advertisements, whether they relate to a product or political candidate will be refused if they have not been produced. A negative advertisement is defined as one that lacks balance, presents a distortion of the truth, attacks a political candidate or party, or in order to point out supposed flaws and to persuade the public not to buy it (or vote for him or her). The Empty Closet maintains, within legal boundaries, neutrality regarding products, political candidates and parties. However, “attack” ads that fail to provide adequate information about who placed them and a method of contact in the ad are true do not further in any way the objectives and policies of the Gay Alliance or the Empty Closet, including the primary tenet that The Empty Closet’s purpose is to inform the Rochester gay community and to provide an impartial forum for ideas.

Submissions: For publication, submit news items, ads, photos, letters, columns, poems, articles, photographs or photographs of you in person to: The Empty Closet office by the 15th of the month. Design services for non-commercial ready ads are available for a fee. 204-9103, susanj@gayalliance.org

Publication Information: The Empty Closet is published 11 times a year (December and January combined by The Empty Closet Press for the Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley, Inc. Author approval, subject to the Editor’s discretion and on a space available basis. Only one letter by the same writer in a six-month period is allowed. The Empty Closet reserves the right to edit for space and clarity. We will print anonymous letters if the name and phone number are provided to the Editor; confidentiality will be respected. Submissions are due by the 15th of the month at: The Empty Closet, 875 E. Main Street, Suite 500, Rochester, NY 14605 e-mail: editor@emptycloset.org. The online edition of EC is available at www.gayalliance.org.

© 2014, All rights reserved.
Rochester, New York
875 E. Main Street, Suite 500
by the Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley
is published
The Empty Closet

The Empty Closet does not print advertisements that contain nude drawings or photographs, nor does it print advertising that states that the person pictured in the ad is for sale, or that you will “get” that particular person if you patronize the establishment advertised. Advertisements that are explicitly racist, sexist, sexist, ableist or anti-gay will be refused. All political advertisements must contain information about who placed them and a method of contact. Advertising for political candidates or parties, “attack” advertisements, whether they relate to national or local elections or refer to non-elected individuals, are not acceptable. “Attack” ads that fail to provide adequate information about who placed them and a method of contact in the ad are true do not further in any way the objectives and policies of the Gay Alliance or the Empty Closet, including the primary tenet that The Empty Closet’s purpose is to inform the Rochester gay community and to provide an impartial forum for ideas.

Submissions: For publication, submit news items, ads, photos, letters, columns, poems, articles, photographs or photographs of you in person to: The Empty Closet office by the 15th of the month. Design services for non-commercial ready ads are available for a fee. 204-9103, susanj@gayalliance.org

Publication Information: The Empty Closet is published 11 times a year (December and January combined by The Empty Closet Press for the Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley, Inc. Author approval, subject to the Editor’s discretion and on a space available basis. Only one letter by the same writer in a six-month period is allowed. The Empty Closet reserves the right to edit for space and clarity. We will print anonymous letters if the name and phone number are provided to the Editor; confidentiality will be respected. Submissions are due by the 15th of the month at: The Empty Closet, 875 E. Main Street, Suite 500, Rochester, NY 14605 e-mail: editor@emptycloset.org. The online edition of EC is available at www.gayalliance.org.

© 2014, All rights reserved.
Rochester, New York
875 E. Main Street, Suite 500
by the Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley
is published
The Empty Closet
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 7 ~ 7 to 11pm
DIPLOMAT BANQUET CENTER

Tickets available November 23: $20 advance, $30 at the door. Purchase online at www.gayalliance.org or at EqualGrounds, OUTlandish (cash only), Parkleigh, Hedonist Artisan Chocolates.