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Congresswoman
Tammy Baldwin
recognized with highest honor
at Fenway Health Women's Gala:
2010 Susan B. Love Award p.3



CoCo Peru:
Drag-comedian drums
up laughs at the Hi-Hat
p.8-13



RICKY MARTIN - OUT!
"... proud to say that I am a
fortunate homosexual man"
p.15



All About Betsy:
RI Congressional hopeful
offers fresh perspective
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Welcome to the Official Noho Pride 2010 Guide

We have been working hard to create a Year-round resource guide for LGBT/Allied businesses and organizations in the Pioneer Valley and throughout New England. The guide is divided into sections for ease of use; Health & Wellness, Wedding Resources, Travel, Shop & Dine, and Communications & Media, with a center spread detailing performance information for this year's Pride event.

Please patronize the supporters of our community who appear throughout this guide. If you would like to place an advertisement, list your organization in our Resource Section, or submit an article for consideration to be included in future editions of this publication, please send all submissions to info@nohopride.org or visit us online at www.NohoPride.org.



NOHO PRIDE

*And the magicians
behind the curtain are ...*

THE NOHO PRIDE 2010 PLANNING COMMITTEE!

Operations and Director:

Bear White

Vendor Coordinator:

Karen Howery

Rally Entertainment:

J.C. Ortiz Calcaño and Lorelei Erisis

Volunteer Coordinator:

Ashley Fryer

Parade Co-Coordinators:

Pat Haber and Aydin Brannon

Marketing and Web Guru:

Cid White

Communications and Media:

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Pride Guide Design & Production:

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A message from Bear & Cid White

It has been an extraordinary year for Noho Pride. Last year, our Director Melinda Shaw, stepped down after eleven long years. She will be missed. She did a wonderful job and we hope we can fill her shoes successfully. We have developed a Board of Directors, a great group of committed volunteers and students to help us make Noho Pride 2010 a wonderful day.

Noho Pride is a 501(c)(3) (pending) entirely volunteer-managed, tax-exempt, non-profit organization working for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and all other people who support the struggle for equality in Western New England. Noho Pride is a member of the International Association of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Pride Coordinators (Interpride), a not-for-profit organization that provides support to Pride events around the globe.

Over the years, Noho Pride has grown to become one of the biggest Pride events in Western New England. We would like to thank the community for keeping the Noho March and Rally going strong for 29 years. Our commitment to the struggle for inclusion and acceptance has been heard and we will always know that we were the first state in the nation to

acknowledge and sign into law equal marriage rights. Noho Pride serves the purpose of gathering us together, for one glorious day, to celebrate our amazing diversity.

In this tough economic time, I would like to thank all of our sponsors and advertisers. They have shown that even though times are hard, they value our community. I urge you to choose these businesses and organizations when you need a product or service, and show them how much we value them in return. Tell them you saw their ad in the Pride Guide.

Artists and craft people have come to Pride from all over the United States and Canada. We are proud to be able to offer so many wonderful, and of course, diverse products. Make sure you visit them all, even if you can't buy during Pride. Take their card and remember them! Try all the great food and gather information from our non-profit organizations under the big white tent.

The future for Noho Pride is exciting. We have developed relationships with area businesses and organizations to help with fundraising and to keep our community "prideful" all year

long. We plan to create scholarships to encourage young and old to come to our beautiful diverse community in Western New England. A *Family Pride Day* is in the planning stages and LGBT and allied entertainers will be encouraged to perform in our great area venues.

Cid and I love this area, are proud of our commu-



Left to right: Co-Chairs, Cid and Bear White share their thoughts on Noho Pride 2010 and its future.

2011 is our 30TH ANNIVERSARY YEAR!!!!

We are planning to have a spectacular anniversary party that will last the whole weekend of May 6th, 7th & 8th.

Come and volunteer to be part of this upcoming gala! Work behind the scenes, see how Pride is coordinated and run. Bring your fresh ideas and energy to the event you enjoy every year. For more information please visit <http://www.site.nohopride.org/> or call 413-586-5602.



nity and are honored to be serving as co-chairs of Noho Pride. I am also committed, as Director, to be available to all and will continue to personally reach out and talk with people.

In Pride,

Bear and Cid White
Co-Chairs, Noho Pride

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Proclamation



**CITY OF NORTHAMPTON
COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER
RECOGNITION DAY
MAY 2010**

WHEREAS, *The City of Northampton is committed to uphold the provisions of the Massachusetts Civil Rights Act; and*

WHEREAS, *The City wishes to recognize the many positive contributions of its citizens, volunteers, and businesspeople who are lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender; and*

WHEREAS, *The City has set aside May 1, 2010 for the Lesbian/Gay Bisexual/Transgender Pride March; and*

WHEREAS, *this year marks the 29th Anniversary of the Pride March in Northampton; and*

WHEREAS, *the protection of the Massachusetts Civil Rights Act and the pride demonstrated through this March should be extended throughout these United States and the world,*

NOW,

THEREFORE, *I, Mary Clare Higgins, Mayor of the City of Northampton, do hereby proclaim May 1, 2010 a day of recognition and pride for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender persons in our communities, and urge support by all Northampton citizens for the civil rights of all.*



In Witness Whereof, I have set my hand and affixed the seal of the City of Northampton.

Mary Clare Higgins, Mayor



LogoTV is a Proud Sponsor of Noho Pride

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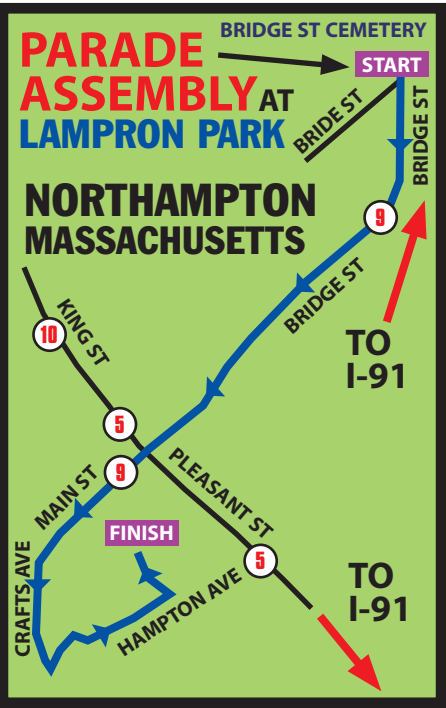
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2010 NOHO PRIDE SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

• Please Note: Rally Events are Rated PG-13 •

- 12:00-12:45pm .. Pride Parade - begins at Lampron Park
- 12:45-12:55pm .. Welcome by M.C. Trio of Latin Heat, Lorelei Erisis, & Tammy Two-Tone
- 12:55-1:00pm .. Pride Proclamation by Mayor Higgins
- 1:00-1:05pm .. Rev. Tinker Donnelly
- 1:05-1:20pm .. Georgia Star Michaels
- 1:20-1:40pm .. Kristen Gass
- 1:40-2:00pm .. LezleeAnne
- 2:00-2:05pm .. Guest Speaker
- 2:05-2:25pm... Stewart Lewis
- 2:25-3:05pm .. Kelly King
- 3:05-3:15pm .. Guest Speaker
- 3:15-3:55pm .. Jason Antone
- 3:55-4:15pm .. Ayisha Knight-Shaw
- 4:15-4:35pm .. Noho Pride Dance & "Queerioke" Contest
- 4:35-5:00pm .. King 'N' His Naughty Bunnies



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“Queerly U: LGBT Life at UMass”

By: **Genny Beemyn***

In 1985, Mikhail Gorbachev assumed leadership of the Soviet Union, compact discs were introduced in the United States, a relatively unknown corporation named Microsoft launched Windows 1, and Madonna undertook her first national concert tour. It was also the year that the Stonewall Center opened at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst.

At the time, the Stonewall Center, then known as the Program for Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual Concerns, was just the third campus LGBT center in the country and the first in New England. Begun and led for twenty years by Felice Yeskel, Stonewall helped establish the model for providing support services to LGBT students and educating campus communities about the lives of LGBT people. Today, the center conducts LGBT ally trainings throughout the region and offers a Speakers Bureau of individuals who discuss their experiences being LGBT and or an ally with area colleges, high schools, and community groups. The center also sponsors speakers, performers, films, and social events that are free and open to the public. With this Fall marking its 25th anniversary, Stonewall will be holding weekly events to consider the experiences of LGBT people over the last two and a half decades in conjunction with other LGBT and LGBT-supportive campus groups. Among these organizations are UPride (the LGBT faculty and staff group), the UMass Pride Alliance (the LGBT student group), the Everywoman's Center, the Office of Jewish Affairs, and the Women of Color Leadership Network.

In addition to its groundbreaking LGBT center, UMass was also a pioneer in providing LGBT support services by establishing the 2 in 20 Floor, the nation's first LGBT and ally living-learning program, in 1992. Taking its name from the often repeated statistic that 1 in 10 people is lesbian, gay, or bisexual, the residence hall floor provides a safe, supportive community for individuals who are in the process of coming out and helps educate other residence hall students about the lives of LGBT people through sponsoring “Guess the Straight Person” panels. “It is a space where they can learn about LGBTQ history and culture, become LGBTQ activists, and live among other people who live and love as they do,” explains Eboni Rafus, an Assistant Resident Director at UMass and the coordinator of the floor.

Given its long history of advocacy for LGBT students, it is fitting that UMass possesses a growing LGBT archives. Central to its holdings is the Barbara Gittings-Kay Lahusen Gay Book Collection—nearly 1,000 books donated by two of the country's early gay rights activists. The UMass Library is also the repository for the records of Mass Equality, the Freedom to Marry Coalition, and the Valley Women's History Collaborative.



PHOTO COURTESY OF UMASS FAC

Left to right: Jenna Cripps, Adam Sola, Sarah Meunier, Genny Beemyn, Jo Oleet, and Olivia Lynn

Today, UMass is a national leader in providing support to transgender students by prohibiting discrimination based on gender identity/expression, offering gender-neutral housing, creating gender-neutral bathrooms, and enabling students to use a preferred name on records and documents.

For its efforts to assist LGBT students, UMass is ranked as one of the top 20 LGBT-supportive schools in the United States by *The Advocate College Guide* and is one of the highest rated colleges in the LGBT-Friendly Campus Climate Index (<http://www.campusclimateindex.org>). “UMass is a great place to be queer,” states Jenna Leigh Cripps, an out lesbian student and a Stonewall Center staff member. “There are always things to do and people to do them with.”

*Genny Beemyn is Director of the UMass at Amherst's Stonewall Center.



Best wishes from members of the **FABULOUS** River Valley Market Precision Grocery Cart Drill Team. Don't miss our public debut in the 2010 Northampton Pride Parade...you've never seen shoppers with moves like these!

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Northampton's solid Gay male scene & lifestyle

The men of Northampton and adjacent towns stay connected via Monoho. Monoho is basically a website maintained by Northampton gay men, whose purpose is to assist gay men to find gay-related activities, events, gatherings, or chats available in the area. Out of Northampton, MA, Monoho pronounced "muh-NO-ho" with an emphasis on the second syllable, keeps the gay male community updated and connected with the latest happenings. And, a tight knit it is!

From its website, <http://www.monoho.com/index.html>, you can find out more about the site itself and all it has to offer. Monoho members communicate through the Yahoo! Group, while this site provides an easy-to-browse guide to the area. According to the group's website, the Yahoo Group acts like a big gay bulletin board. Whenever a gay man posts a message to the Yahoo Group, the post goes to over 400+ members.

Although many of the Monoho events are centered in Northampton, the written welcome in its website is for ALL GAY MEN in western Mass, upper CT, lower VT, and even upstate NY or NH. And, best of all, you can get Monoho on your iPhone!

For general questions, membership questions, or any more information, please contact: askmonoho@gmail.com. For a list of updated calendar of events, visit: <http://www.monoho.com/calendar.html>

Regularly Scheduled Gay Mens Sporting Activities:

(from Monoho.com)

MEN'S BOWLING

Tuesdays nights • 6:30-8:30PM-ish

Two seasons: Sept-Dec and Jan-April seasons

\$14/week (+2 shoe rentals)

Spare Time Northampton

525 Pleasant Street, Northampton, MA

FMI: [gutterboys Yahoo group](mailto:gutterboys@yahoo.com) or mapreppy@gmail.com

MEN'S DODGEBALL

Monday nights, on & off during year

Allsport Arena in Northampton

Usually played in 4-week "spurts" on Monday nights.

FMI: <http://www.monoho.com/index.html#area-activities>

MEN'S VOLLEYBALL

Tuesdays in the summer • 6:15PM

Maines Field in Northampton

FMI: <http://www.monoho.com/index.html#area-activities>

GLBT BASKETBALL

Thursday nights in Springfield, MA • 6-9PM

FMI: <http://www.monoho.com/index.html#area-activities>

MEN'S SOCCER

Sunday afternoons in spring, summer, maybe fall.

This is a friendly pickup game of soccer with some local guys. Not a formal league.

FMI: <http://www.monoho.com/index.html#area-activities>

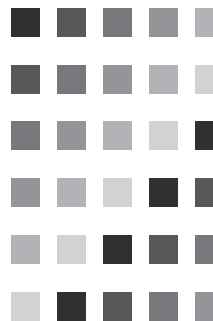
SOUTHERN NEW ENGLAND FRIENDSHIP SOFTBALL LEAGUE

April to July

(two games are played every Sunday)

Various locations

FMI: <http://www.snefl-softball.org>



monoho
men of northampton

Gay Men Social Events

NOHO MEN'S SOCIAL EVENTS

An opportunity to meet other men.

Around the 3rd Friday of the month • 6-8:30PM

Free hors d'oeuvres, no cover, cash bar

Hotel Northampton

36 King Street, Northampton, MA

FMI: [Doug Fountain, 413-535-1890](mailto:Doug.Fountain@413-535-1890)

HARTFORD H4 SOCIALS

An opportunity to meet other men.

Each Friday of the month • 5:30-8:30PM

Various locations in and near Hartford.

No RSVP is needed. FREE, but cash bar.

Dress runs the gamut from suit & tie to casual.

Must be 21+ to attend.

FMI or to be added: DaveatCTDave@aol.com and include your first and last name with your request.

SPRINGFIELD MARTINI NIGHTS

2nd & 4th Wednesday of each month, except Holidays • 5:30 to 7:30PM

Meets at various locations

and also 6:00 - 8:00 pm

Mostly in down-town Springfield.

No cover, cash bar

FMI: bobmccarroll@juno.com

ROCKIT QUEER

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See Gay Men's Activities page 9

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Might you Noho know that ...?

Northampton is also located in the heart of a lively college community that includes Smith College, the University of Massachusetts, Amherst College, Hampshire College, and Mount Holyoke College.

19th century Northampton drew visitors like Timothy Dwight, the Marquis de Lafayette, Henry James, Ralph Waldo Emerson and Jenny Lind who proclaimed it to be the "paradise of America." Indeed, artists like Thomas Cole thought the environs of Northampton to be the epitome of the "picturesque" - the ideal middle landscape between the sordid city and wild nature. (Taken from <http://www.historic-northampton.org>)

Northampton possesses two fine 19th century residential neighborhoods, Pomeroy Terrace (1850-1885) and Elm Street (1860-1920), where Gothic Revival, Italianate, Second Empire, Queen Anne and Colonial Revival Styles contribute to the City's diverse architectural heritage.

Northampton is also home to a vibrant music scene. This is the result of music venues such as

the Calvin Theater, Pines Theater, Pearl Street, Iron Horse Music Hall, The Elevens, and The Academy of Music. Musicians and bands that refer to the Northampton area as "home" include Sonic Youth, Mobius Band, The Alchemystics, The Primate Fiasco, Erin McKeown, The Thungs, The Amity Front, The Nields, The Young@Heart Chorus, Ella Longpre, The Trials and Tribulations, Cordelia's Dad, Thrillpillow, Rusty Belle, The Novels, Los Hijos Unicos, Spanish for Hitchhiking, The Skeptics, Fountains of Wayne, Roger Salloom and the Winterpills. (wikipedia.com)

The Northampton Independent Film Festival (NIFF, <http://www.niff.org/>) is held each fall. Founded as the Northampton Film Festival in 1995 by Howard Polonsky and Dee DeGeiso, it has continued to grow under a variety of directors. It is one of the largest in New England.

Northampton also has also been the center for films such as Academy-Award-winning The Cider House Rules, Malice with Nicole Kidman and Alec Baldwin, In Dreams with Annette Bening and Robert Downey Jr., and Sylvia with Gwyneth Paltrow. The Stephen Walker movie Young @ Heart was filmed in Northampton. (wikipedia.com)

Clare Higgins is Northampton's openly lesbian Mayor. Since November of 1999, she has served as the city's Mayor.

Gay Men's Activities from p.8

Other Gay Men's Area Activities worth a look

MEN'S MEDITATION

Thursday nights:

6:45-7PM: Arrive, tea, chit-chat

7PM: Doors close and meditation begins

8:15PM Meditation concludes

No meditation experience needed; people of all faiths and traditions welcome.

(contact below for more info)

FMI: qvbt78@gmail.com

GAY MEN'S CHORUS

Every Wednesday, except holidays • 7-9PM

St. John's Episcopal Church, 48 Elm St, Northampton Free • FMI: 413-441-2160

MEN'S BOOK CLUB

Once a month (3rd Sunday), from Sept.-June

5-6:30PM-ish

Various members' homes

(contact below for more info)

Free • FMI: mvaquith@go.com

13

SPRINGFIELD, MA: While not New York or Boston, Springfield has a growing number of GLBT residents. In fact, Advocate magazine named Springfield the "13th gayest city" in the U.S. in February 2010! We live in all parts of the city but are most visible in Downtown, McKnight, Forest Park, and Ridgewood/Maple Hill area of Six Corners. Find more about the GLBT community at www.GLBTSpringfield.com.

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“THE RIGHTS OF SPRING”

By: Reverend Tinker Donnelly

The NoHo Pride parade and rally is on May 1st this year, a date observed by earth-honoring traditions as Beltane and May Day. This is a time to celebrate the feminine and masculine energies in nature that unite to create new life and fuel its growth. It is an auspicious day for hailing the “Rites of Spring.”

For the LGBTQ community, May Day and the “Rites of Spring” is a perfect backdrop to our own united energies as they fuel the growth of pride and freedom. The demand for human rights equality has always been the centerpiece of PRIDE events so we honor this season of renewal by tending the garden of our eclectic humanity. We gather to birth new life into a collaborative vision of freedom, peace, and social justice—to celebrate, together, these “Rights of Spring!”

“Every blade of grass has its angel that bends over it and whispers ‘Grow, grow!’”

This wisdom from The Talmud speaks a profound truth about every living thing. Within the genetic coding of each individual organism, there is an innate prompting to evolve into the fullness of its being. This is the natural urge of every seed to blossom according to intrinsic promise—to reveal all that it contains. Like seeds of grass, a sacred calling coaxes every human being to “spring” forth into the potential they are designed to fulfill. By our very nature, we are beckoned to become wholly ourselves.

Being completely and authentically who we are intended to be is not just a natural “right,” but also

a responsibility. We exist to share our talents, attributes, and resources with one another in ways that benefit us all. A garden, or a globe, relies upon cooperative synergy for health and happiness. In a garden, diverse life-forms grow together, sharing the same soil and sky. They are exposed alike to the changing seasons. They do not vie for the sun or compete for the rain. In a global community, there is natural and appropriate diversity. Our differences are useful and synergistic. In the interconnected web of Life, each has a certain role and function that is beneficial to the whole.

In the garden of humanity, there is no such thing as a “weed”.

By definition, a “weed” is anything growing where it is not wanted. Many LGBTQ people have been considered weeds ... some have even been “plucked” from the earth before reaching full-bloom.


We live with a dichotomy of values. Dandelions are thought of as worthless weeds, but are prized for making wishes come true. Though long discounted, we have always represented some of the most beautiful, intelligent, and creative people on the planet. In the sacred texts and teaching stories of every religion and faith, there is encouragement to recognize The Divine in all that It has created out of Itself. We cannot wait for others to recognize our goodness; we must believe in it ourselves, and grow with grace where we are planted. To thrive is to live with a sense of genuine PRIDE.



PHOTO: MORGUEFILE.COM


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- May we take PRIDE in growing the gardens of our lives the ways we must.
- May we share PRIDE by bringing our personal perspectives to an ever-expanding view of community and collaboration.
- May we build PRIDE as we mentor our youth.
- May we foster PRIDE as we plan for youth of the future—the generations to come.
- May we demonstrate PRIDE through forgiveness, generosity, and compassion.
- May we discover PRIDE in moments of greatest humility.
- May we cultivate PRIDE by reaching across aisles, fences, borders, and opinions to embrace what matters most.
- May we convey PRIDE with the sincere dignity.
- May we understand PRIDE as we heal and grow.



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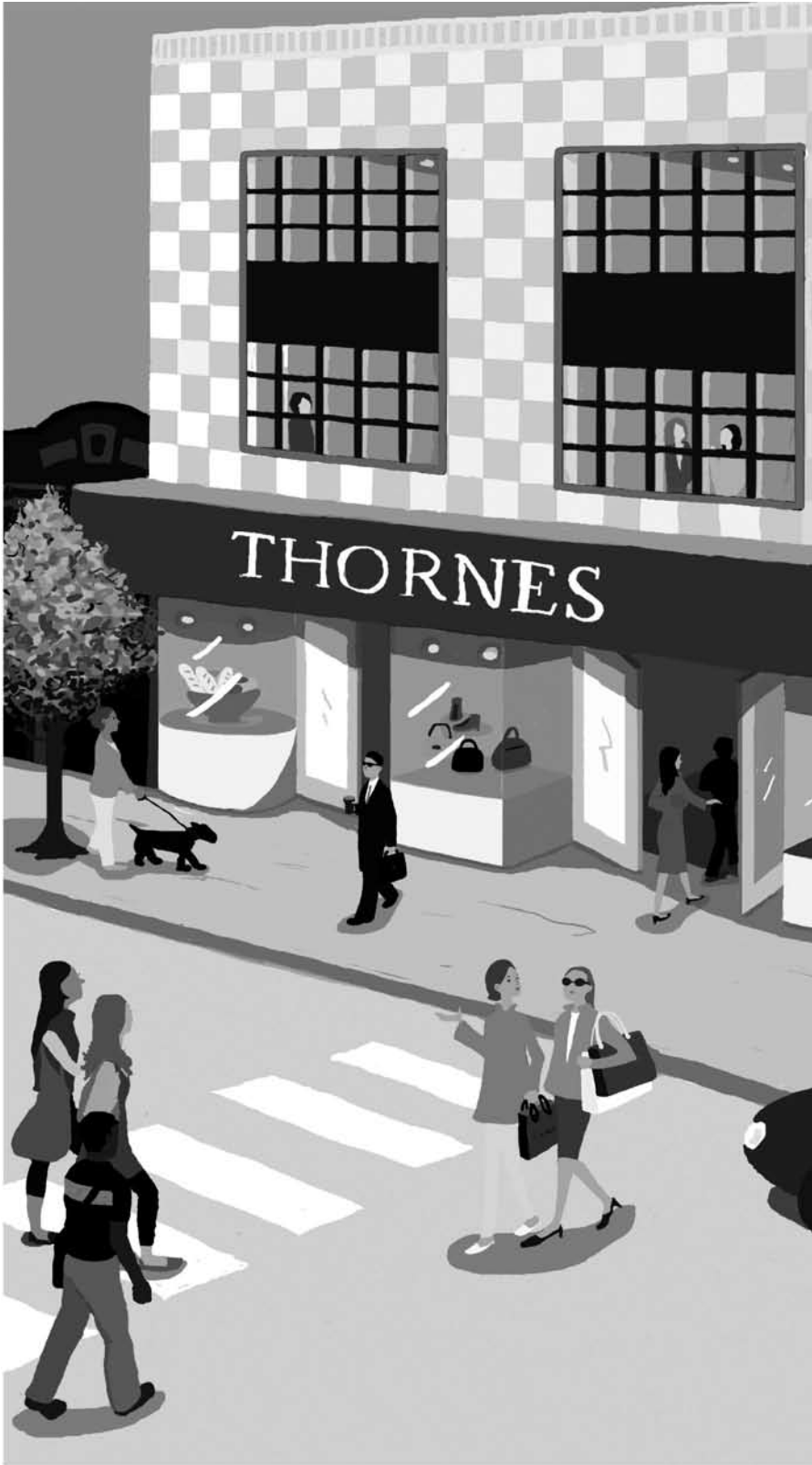


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Noho's very own Rainbow Times: Inside and out, a Q&A you don't want to miss!

By: **Christian L. Nazario**

Over 1,172 days, or three years and 5 months ago The Rainbow Times was born out of two lesbian's sense of community in a place that seemed as a utopia to them. A place they would soon start to regard as home—Northampton, Massachusetts—was these entrepreneurs choice to start a well-known business, the biweekly LGBT newspaper The Rainbow Times.

The wife-and-wife team, who have been together almost eight years and got married at the footsteps of City Hall in downtown Northampton, decided to invest their own funds to create the idea behind The Rainbow Times that we, the readers, are very familiar with today.

I sat down with these two talented, beautiful and enigmatic women this April to ask them questions that no one dare to ask them before and to make them think about why they have become icons to us, many of Northampton's TRT readers and community members. They are visible and by the amount of issues that The Rainbow Times has published, these two women are extremely busy to even have some fun at times. Gricel M. Ocasio and

Nicole C. Lashomb talked to me for several hours. I wanted to break the mystery behind these two proud lesbians. Although outspoken and extroverted, the women share a unique bond and each possesses a strength that brings uniqueness to their team. From the interview, I was able to put together the most memorable moments of it, in what is the only one-on-one in-depth Q&A with the Publisher and Editor-in-Chief of The Rainbow Times.

Q: How did you come up with the idea of starting an LGBT publication, especially after many others failed previously with other newsletters and bulletins?

Gricel M. Ocasio: We visited the area often and although we picked up literature from here and there, we did not see anything concrete about the LGBT community. Somehow it seemed as although together, it lacked cohesion.

Nicole Lashomb: When I looked for information about the members of the LGBT community I realized that we had never seen so many lesbians, gays, trans and bi people in such a small town and yet,



PHOTO: TRT ARCHIVES

Left to right: **Gricel M. Ocasio and Nicole Lashomb**

we did not know how to connect with them. We didn't even know about the Pride March & Rally the first two years that we lived in MA.

See The Rainbow Times on page 14

Serving the 413 with Pride!



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Mark Carmien
413.320.1162
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The Rainbow Times from page 13

Q: Ok, so why did you move to Massachusetts, did you have a particular reason?

GO: We moved to Massachusetts seeking to attain the same civil rights that every other American person has. We lived in the south for a short period of time before deciding to go where our rights would take us. We would not settle for less. Our rights are crucial to us, so much that we moved to Massachusetts; and we proudly got married in Northampton too.

NL: I was not going to live anywhere else because the right to call Gricel my wife was deeply important to me. In Northampton, we were never seen as friends, or biological family, we were a couple from the moment we visited any establishment in the area. That is what is magical about Northampton to the LGBT community and other repressed communities.

Q: From the time that I have personally known you, you seem to keep your personal lives very private. Why is that?

NL: We enjoy having one-on-one alone time with each other. Because we go to events, and are in meetings or managing our team, etc. we tend to value our time together more.

GO: Believe it or not, I'm a very private person (smiles).

Q: What had you heard previously about Northampton?

NL: We had heard that it was the "Lesbian Capital of the World" and wondered what that meant.

GO: I had heard almost the same lines that it was referred to by many as "Lesbianville USA." Upon getting acquainted with Northampton, however, we realized it was more than that. To me it is an

LGBT Mecca where lesbians are more prominent than men, but where gay, trans and bi men—and women—have a voice, place and a history in this town too. It happens to be different to Boston, California or NY in the sense that those areas have a more prominent gay male population, and as well have other prevalent pockets of the LB&T community too. Northampton happens to be more lesbian, but it is very much composed of members of all of our communities—LGBT and our straight allies.

Q: How did The Rainbow Times start?

NL: The Rainbow Times grew out of the need to have a unified LGBTQ media presence first in western Massachusetts. Shortly after, we received requests from other regions to have the paper sent or be delivered to them. That is how we grew almost immediately.

Q: What other products came out of the creation of The Rainbow Times?

GO: There is an online presence via our website, which launched in November, 2006. In addition, there is our biweekly e-blast The Pony Express.

Q: How many people work for you? How many people advertise with you?

GO: We have free-lance reporters and writers throughout the mainland and contractors that deliver the paper to all of our distribution points. We have such great people working from us and our team is composed of LGBT and straight allies.

NL: We have many companies that target and advertise to the community in the quad state region that The Rainbow Times goes to (all of Massachusetts, Rhode Island, north central Connecticut and southern Vermont).

Q: Why NightTimez? Many people have said it goes against your mission?

GO: NightTimez was an idea that grew with us when we hired our Sales Manager, Mr. William Berggren. He is very much in touch with the night life in the gay community and, as such, NightTimez was born in September, 2009. It was a segment of the community that TRT had never tapped into, but that was very much alive, like it is for other segments of our society. They are really two stand-alone publications now, since

Mr. Berggren bought NightTimez.

NL: NightTimez was created for a different audience. TRT has always remained true to its mission, however. Now both publications will remain branded for a while, but ownership, mission and vision are completely separate from each other.

Q: There are rumors that you were allegedly threatened by some residents because of the LGBT publication and that your property was vandalized? Are those rumors true? Were you shocked that this was happening to you in this "utopia?"

NL: Yes, we were astonished to have found discrimination of this type in Northampton. In the same manner, however, we have found more openness, acceptance, support and friendliness in Northampton than in any other place that we have lived in.

GO: Yes, they happened, but they were very much isolated incidents. The Northampton Police Department was pivotal in making us feel safe from the moment those incidents took place. Not everyone will agree with your life, but we can all learn from each other's experiences. We continue to hope that TRT is an educational tool that breaks some of those barriers that still exists, even in "utopia."

Q: What do you do for the communities that you serve? Do you give back to them?

NL: We certainly do! We sponsor events in all of the areas that we cover, we inform our readers of important LGBT news and services in the communities we serve and we try to united them in our struggles.

GO: We also promote non-profit events through our Calendar of Event's website page and donate services to be used for Auctions, etc. We always want to give back, because our community deserves it.

Q: Do you feel everyone, especially business owners, are welcoming and supportive of queer people in Northampton?

NL: In my experience, most companies and organizations are open to work with the LGBT community, some more than others, of course. And, we as a community know our supporters, of course.

GO: We have received comments that are positive and others that are not so positive. I think that the LGBT community and allies give so much to Northampton in so many ways and Northampton does the same for us. We do not live in Paradise, even when we may think we do. All in all, I think that Northampton is a very special place in America and I think that every LGBTQ American should experience what it really means to be out and proud LGBTQ in Northampton. It is a one-of-a-kind experience. I would not change it for the world.

For more information about The Rainbow Times, visit: www.rainbowtimesnews.com.

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Planning already afoot for second annual New England Trans United Pride March

NORTHAMPTON, MA—Organizers of the New England Trans United (NETU) Pride March and Rally are making plans for the 2010 march and rally, which will take place in Northampton, Massachusetts, this fall.

Once again the Rally will assemble at 11:00 a.m. at Lampron Park. Marchers will step off at noon and proceed down Main Street for a rally at 1:00 p.m. at the Armory Street parking lot.

"Last year's event in Northampton drew around 600 people who Marched for Transgender civil rights while braving the rain that fell that day," said Christa Hilfers, (NETU) Director.

"We need to educate the public about our lives and experiences as transgender people."

This year, there is a continuing need to rally for critical gender-rights bills making their way through state legislatures such as H1728/S1687 "An Act Relative To Gender-Based Discrimination and Hate Crimes" bill, along with "Issues including transgender health care, medical insurance, removing gender identity disorder as a psychiatric diagnosis, bullying in schools, and discrimination in the workplace" to name a few.

The organizers of the New England Trans United (NETU) Pride March and Rally (www.newenglandtransunited2010.org) invite community organizations to march for transgender civil rights with us this fall in Northampton, Massachusetts.

"We welcome not only transgender and LGBTI (lesbian, gay, bisexual, and intersex) individuals and

groups, but also encourage schools, businesses, labor unions, religious and civic organizations, and all who support the equal rights of transgender people," said Hilfers. "Last year, the March and Rally drew over 600 people. We're hoping to double or triple that number this year."

The NETU steering committee is seeking volunteers, workers and sponsors for the event. If you are interested in helping in anyway please contact Christa Hilfers at newenglandtransunited-christa@yahoo.com.



PHOTO: GLENN KOETZNER

2009's NETU March attendees cheer as they march to Armory Street.

There are several ways for you to reach out to NETU:

"Live Proud, Transcend Injustice"

—NETU

- <http://www.newenglandtransunited2010.org/>
- MySpace: <http://www.myspace.com/476711638>
- Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/netu.pride>
- Twitter: <http://twitter.com/newenglandtrans>

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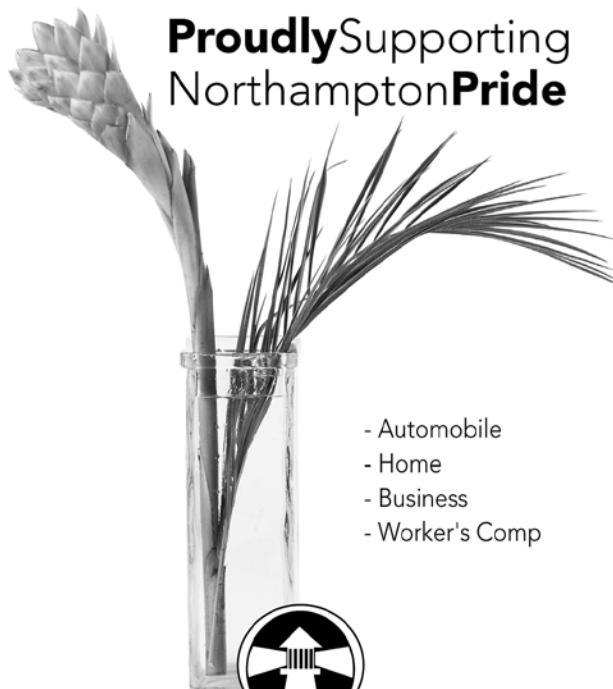
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PHOTO: S.E.CHASE

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NORTHAMPTON PRIDE 2010

★ ENTERTAINMENT LINE-UP PG-13

LORELEI ERISIS MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES

PHOTO: GLENN KOETZNER



The super fabulous **Lorelei Erisis**, Miss Trans Northampton/New England 2009, is a transgender performer, writer, activist, adventurer and Pageant Queen. She received extensive training in improvisation and sketch comedy at the renowned Second City in Chicago and Los Angeles and has performed all across the country including as the M.C. of last year's Northampton Pride Celebration & The Berkshire Women's Muse Fest!

Although she has lived all over the country, Lorelei grew up on Cape Cod and was born right down the street at Cooley Dickinson Hospital! Since returning to the area a year and a half ago, she has kept constantly busy—performing, writing, speaking and working for transgender rights, as well as doing outreach for and educating about queer and alternative lifestyles and working with various non-profit organizations such as the Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition (MTPC) and Transcending Boundaries Incorporated, for which she serves as Vice-President of the Board of Directors.

Additionally, Lorelei serves on the Board of Directors for Noho Pride, is Pride's Liaison to the Transgender Community and also the Entertainment Co-Chair for Noho Pride 2010. This is her second year working with Pride and she is deeply honored to have been allowed the opportunity to work with such wonderful folks! It is her joy to be a part of helping to guide and grow this empowering and historic annual event into the very bright future! Follow her blog on the web at: transprov.wordpress.com & watch out for her monthly column, *Ask a TransWoman*, in The Rainbow Times!

transprov.wordpress.com & www.myspace.com/erisis.

TAMMY TWO-TONE MISTRESS OF CEREMONIES

PHOTO: TAMMY TWO-TONE



Tammy Two-Tone is no stranger to the New England Comedy scene. She is a transgender and comedian who describes herself as "anxious, neurotic, paranoid, and obsessive compulsive (and those are the 'good points')." She has been a contestant for the Miss Trans Northampton (now known as Miss Trans New England) pageant, and is the third member of the Noho Pride 2010 Rally Ménage Pride trio of hosts.

www.myspace.com/tammy2twotone.

JC (aka "Latin Heat") MASTER OF CEREMONIES

PHOTO: DEWAN SUJANE



JC has volunteered and served as Entertainment Chair/Coordinator for Noho Pride, formerly Northampton Pride, for over four years. In that time, he served behind the scenes, putting together some of the most diverse Noho Pride performance lineups, representing various groups within the LGBT community. His alter ego "Latin Heat," originated from a nickname given to him while performing with Bucknell University's Jelani Hip hop, Dance, and Step Team. Known for his "bad boy" image and Latin dance choreography during Jelani performances, the nickname has been with him ever since. He has been active within the LGBT community as an activist and volunteer for organizations such as MassEquality, Tapestry Health, and Noho Pride. For more information about performing at Noho Pride related events, visit www.nohopride.org or contact entertainment@nohopride.org.

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PHOTO: S. E. CHASE



Our ASL Interpreters

Welcome once again to the GLBTQII Deaf Community!! The Interpreter Crew is thrilled to be providing interpreting services for the Noho Pride community for the 12th year running! And this year we are especially thrilled because all stage performances and speeches will be interpreted exclusively by Deaf and/or Native ASL interpreters.

Fun facts about us: All together we have approximately 175 years of interpreting experience among us; we have approximately 10 cats & 6 dogs; we are about 90% queer and 10% straight allies; we are approximately 65% Deaf, 30% hearing and 5% CODA; we are approximately 35% local and 65% imported, with 2 of us from other states; & finally, we are multi-generational - our age range spans approximately 30 years.

Curious about ASL? About interpreting? About Deaf interpreters? About the Deaf Community? About how you can learn more??? Check out HCC's Deaf Studies Program's, MSAD's, MCDHH's and MassRID's booths in the concessions tent area during the Pride Rally!! Enjoy Noho Pride 2010!!

In Pride, your ASL Interpreter Crew:

**Donna Demers • Caity Cross-Hansen • Nathan Fowler
Bryan Horch • Mikey Krajnak • Jim Lipsky • Beth Lucey
Deb McKinney • Dennise Scott • Dianne Shearer
Alberto Sifuentes • Joan Wattman • Molly Wilson
Cat Dvar - Interpreter Crew Coordinator**

PHOTO: S. E. CHASE



NORTHAMPTON PRIDE 2010

★ ENTERTAINMENT LINE-UP PG-13

KELLY KING

PHOTO: ATHAIR & MAC PHOTOGRAPHY



Kelly King defines the new model of the independent music industry, driving her own way to the top with her 5 1/2-octave range, fierce determination and powerhouse live performance. Billboard Magazine praises Kelly by saying, "It is time to crown the next King!" This Atlanta-born / Nashville-raised diva is excited to release her new EP, *The Real Definition: Workin' Girl Remixes*, which includes remixes for the dance clubs along with two bonus tracks, *Alright*, from a forthcoming

full length album and Kelly's Billboard Hit Ballad, *I Don't Wanna Sing That Song* from her debut album, *Live the Dream*. *Live the Dream* garnered praise from national press including Billboard Magazine, Music Connection, E! News, and more. This was an extremely rare accomplishment for any independent artist. It more than secured Kelly's mark on the music industry and proved, in some cases, that the talent prevails. No one can deny the raw and pure talent that is Kelly King.

Since then, Kelly has opened for Kenny "Babyface" Edmonds, Michael Bolton and headlined Pride Festivals this past summer in both the U.S. and Europe. *The Real Definition: Workin' Girl Remixes* marks a new tier for this soulful powerhouse entertainer. Stay tuned for club dates, summer tour and the official release date announcement for the full length album coming in 2010.

www.kellykingweb.com.

STEWART LEWIS

PHOTO: BRADFORD NOBLE



Stewart Lewis has made quite a splash in the LGBT world, being the first artist signed to Here! TV/ Regent Entertainment's record label, Here! Tunes, and features in *Instinct*, *The Advocate*, and *OUT* magazines. In addition to having his songs placed in mainstream U.S. TV shows like *Ghost Whisperer*, *Laguna Beach* and *Biggest Loser*, his "soulful blend of pop and folk" has also been featured in the hit gay films, *Shelter*, *A Four Letter Word*, and the upcoming *Violet*

Tendencies. Stewart's high-energy live show is one of a kind, as he uses a loop station to combine his percussive guitar and vocals, creating a one-man-band effect. He has recently shared the stage with Grammy winners, Shawn Colvin, Sheryl Crow, and Ani DiFranco. He has also toured with gay indie icons—Melissa Ferrick (who he recently played with for two sold out shows at the Iron Horse), Gregory Douglass, Tom Goss, and Jake Walden.

www.myspace.com/stewartlewis.

JASON ANTONE

PHOTO: GERRY GARCIA



For **Jason Antone**, 2010 marks a year of many challenges, obstacles and lessons, yet the overall undertone is one of great hope and positivity. Jason burst onto the scene in 2006 with the official release of self-penned dance single *With You* which started the word of mouth about this young artist and singer-songwriter. In 2007, Jason released *Be Free* (co-written with the incredible Georgie Porgie) followed by the 2008 single *Love's Gonna Lead You Back*, which

instantly hit the iTunes Dance Top 10 List. Both tracks, back to back, made the Top 25 on the Billboard Club Charts, securing a place for Jason on the music industry map. The released singles included remixes by Manny Lehman, Josh Harris, Peter Barona and more. Videos for the singles were showcased on MTV network's, Logo Channel, and were distributed in video lounges & clubs nationwide by Promo Only.

A Chicago native, Jason has been involved in musical since he can remember. He started playing piano at three years old, moved on to the violin, saxophone and then back to the piano. This was part of the territory for Jason since he was raised in a musical family. Jason's grandfather had his own Chicago band. His father also played in the band and instruments always surrounded the entire family. Growing up, Jason wanted to continue his music education so he decided to attend DePaul University for Vocal Studies and Music Management. Cementing that he's got the chops, Jason was invited to be featured on the praiseworthy *Turn It Up America* collection. These experiences started it all and helped to propel Jason into becoming his own artist with his own vision, which cannot be any more evident than in his debut recording *Start To Move*.

www.jasonantone.com & www.myspace.com/jasonantone.

KRISTEN GASS

PHOTO: TIMMY STRAW



Kristen Gass, a Portland transplant and Juilliard School theatre major, was trained in the art of vocal and physical expression before discovering her passion in songwriting. Her debut album, *Band of Silhouettes*, is a collection of unconventional musical interludes, haunting lyricism, and whispered unrelenting vocals coupled with her producer and sopuse, Jose Ayerve, provides the listener with an intimate portrait of time and space. Kristen has toured

throughout the United States (LA, San Francisco, Boulder, Denver, Cincinnati, Columbus, Cedar Rapids, NYC), and has performed locally at Smith College, Flywheel, and the Iron Horse Music Hall. Her performance at the 2007 Northampton Pride Rally left her audience with an experience that was, at times, ethereal and "raw and fleshy" at others. It can be called freak folk, a love affair, hope and trust with eyes that see, or silence between ... uncommon chaos.

www.myspace.com/kristengass.

NORTHAMPTON PRIDE 2010

★ ENTERTAINMENT LINE-UP PG.13

KING 'N' HIS NAUGHTY BUNNIES

PHOTO: GIAN ANDREA DI STEFANO



KING has always been an avid volunteer and supporter in the GLBT community as well as being a Keynote speaker and Entertainer. King's dark childhood and rough teen years have informed and enlightened his songwriting, making his lyrics topical, daring and piercing. King's diverse journey and unique stage shows have granted him the opportunity to speak and perform for Harvey Milk HS Youth, The Gay Men's Health Crisis in NYC and Western Colorado, and

also National/International platforms for GLBT Episcopal Youth. Other King performances included those at NYC and Western Colorado Pride Festivals, My Swagger Tour 2009, South Park Music Tour 2009, XES Lounge, Splash, Club Therapy, The Bitter End, The China Club, CBGB's and many more. King was also a featured Soloist at Carnegie Hall w/ Tia Carrere, Rock Jam 2008 Southern Comfort Tent w/ KID Rock, The Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland and soloist for Tony Award winning composer, Jason Robert Brown. King continues to redefine Rock-n-Roll and Pop thru his Gift of song, Fashion and Passion!

www.myspace.com/manlyagenda &
www.twitter.com/junktownking.

AYISHA KNIGHT-SHAW

PHOTO: ERIN MALGERI



Ayisha Knight-Shaw is an out and proud married lesbian, local Deaf multimedia artist and Reiki Master/Teacher who loves to focus on hands, eyes, facial expressions, and quirky subjects not typically seen in mainstream media. As a poet, she has been seen on HBO's Def Poetry Jam Season 4 as the first Deaf poet, Basic Black, Urban Update, and in her 2004 show at Wheelock Family Theater Hey Sistah, Welcome Home. Recent performances include LaMama in NYC, and at the Rhode

Island School of Design. She is thrilled to share her poems at Noho Pride. The daughter of a White Jewish mother and Black Cherokee father, she was raised by her mother in an ethnically diverse community of poets, painters, sculptors, photographers and storytellers who taught her that creating and sharing art is as much a political act as a thing of beauty.

Past solo and shared photo exhibits have been showcased at Java Joes Café, The Meeting Place, Very Special Arts Boston, Club Passim, Boston Public Library, the Cambridge Center for Adult Education, Salem Access TV, Espresso Royale Café, Two Dogs Working, Galant Gallery, North Shore Career Center, Deaf Expo, Disability Expo, Maine Deaf Expo, and Dorian's in Provincetown, Mass. Her passion for art, storytelling, theater, Reiki and education has been forming a tapestry for many years now. If you would like to see more of her work or would like to know more, you can visit www.ayishaknight.com or contact deafayisha@gmail.com. Her HBO Def Poetry Jam videos can be found on youtube.com.

www.ayishaknight.com.

LEZLEEANNE

PHOTO: GLENN KOETZNER



LezleeAnne is back in action! From 1997–2006, as Les Rios, she played 1150 shows spanning a quarter million miles in 150 cities including Toronto, Halifax, Boston, Burlington, Portland, Springfield, Hartford, Providence, Albany & Key West. In 2007 she paused to come out of the closet, complete her male-to-female transition, & released her 4th CD, Queen of the World. The singer-songwriter recently won 1st Runner-up at the 2009 Miss Trans New England Pageant and played

at the New England Trans United Rally, both in Northampton, doing what she does best—jammin' her guitar & Rockin' the House! Check out her website for videos & MP3s.

www.lezleeanne.com.

GEORGIA STAR MICHAELS

PHOTO: KEN ROONEY



Georgia Star Michaels hails locally from Northampton, MA (via Alabama). This southern Queen is up and coming, and is always trying push the creative envelope and leave her audience guessing. She enjoys working for and supporting causes such as New England Trans United (NETU). Her goal is to educate, entertain, and be one fabulous friend and supporter to everyone in the community. She gives thanks to her drag family for all their love and support, and

wishes everyone a very Happy Pride Celebration!

www.georgiastarmichaels.tk.

REVEREND TINKER DONNELLY

PHOTO: REVEREND TINKER DONNELLY



The Reverend Tinker Donnelly is an "Omni-faith" minister, honoring the traditions and practices of all religions. She is licensed by the International Centers for Spiritual Living as their premier ministry in Massachusetts, and is the Founder and Director of HeartWorks outreach and QueerSpirit. She has demonstrated a strong and compassionate consciousness. Her outreach work has touched hundreds of hearts, helping people to realize their inner power & potential. For

information contact: revtinker@heartworks.org.

www.heartworks.org.

For more information about performing at Noho Pride related events, please visit www.nohopride.org or contact us at entertainment@nohopride.org.



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 FMI: [visit www.connecticutpride.org](http://www.connecticutpride.org).

BOSTON PRIDE 2010

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 FMI: www.bostonpride.org/multi-calendar.php

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Tentatively on June 19th
 FMI: [visit www.prideri.com](http://www.prideri.com)

SOUTHERN MAINE PRIDE PARADE & FESTIVAL

June 19th
 FMI: <http://www.southernmaine-pride.org>

PRIDE VERMONT 2010

July 24th, 2010.
 FMI: www.pridevt.com.

WORCESTER PRIDE 2010

September 11
 FMI: www.worcesterpride.com

SOME OTHER REGIONAL PRIDE CELEBRATIONS:

NEW YORK CITY PRIDE 2010

June 19 to June 27, 2010
 FMI: www.nycpride.org.

PRIDE TORONTO 2010

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King of Northampton is pleased to announce the return of DJ Drew 'G' Montalvo for its third event, Spring King at Bishop's Lounge

Montalvo is resident DJ at G and HK Lounge, GYM Sportsbar and The Eagle in New York City; Colbalt in Washington, DC and MJ's and Mickey's in Los Angeles. The youngest DJ to ever play the famed Black Party (twice) as well as the legendary Roxy, Drew racks up numerous invitations each year to spin special events around the globe. In the last two years he has been invited to DJ at the Presidential Inaugural Dance for Barack Obama, to bring his music to multiple events at Carnival in Puerto Vallarta, Mexico, to heat up the slopes at Gay & Lesbian Ski Week 2010 in Steamboat Springs, CO as well as

events in Paris and Hong Kong.

Beyond the notoriety he has with those on the dance floor, the industry has taken note of his expansive production skills. Most recently he's been spending his studio time producing Mýa's new album set for release in mid-2010 as well as remixes for the Fame Monster herself, Lady Gaga. Add these names to the list of mega music stars he has already worked with including Ashanti (for whom he crafted two official hit remixes) as well as remixing for the likes of Whitney Houston, David Archuleta, Britney Spears, P!nk, Mario Vasquez, Deborah Cox, Chaka Khan, Mary J. Blige, Good Charlotte and Chris Brown. More information on Drew G is available at <http://www.djdrewg.com/>

The next "King of Northampton" will take place on April 30 for the 'Spring King' with DJ Drew G. The event will be held at Bishop's Lounge, 41 Strong Ave; 17 New South St, Northampton, MA 01060 from 10pm-2am; King of Northampton is a semi-regular night of dancing for men who



PHOTO: MICHAEL KUSEK

DJ Drew "G" Montalvo

like to dance with other men and the people who like to dance with them. The event is presented by Michael Kusek. Door: \$5

For more information on King of Northampton visit: <http://kingofnorthampton.blogspot.com/> or on Facebook at 'King of Northampton.'

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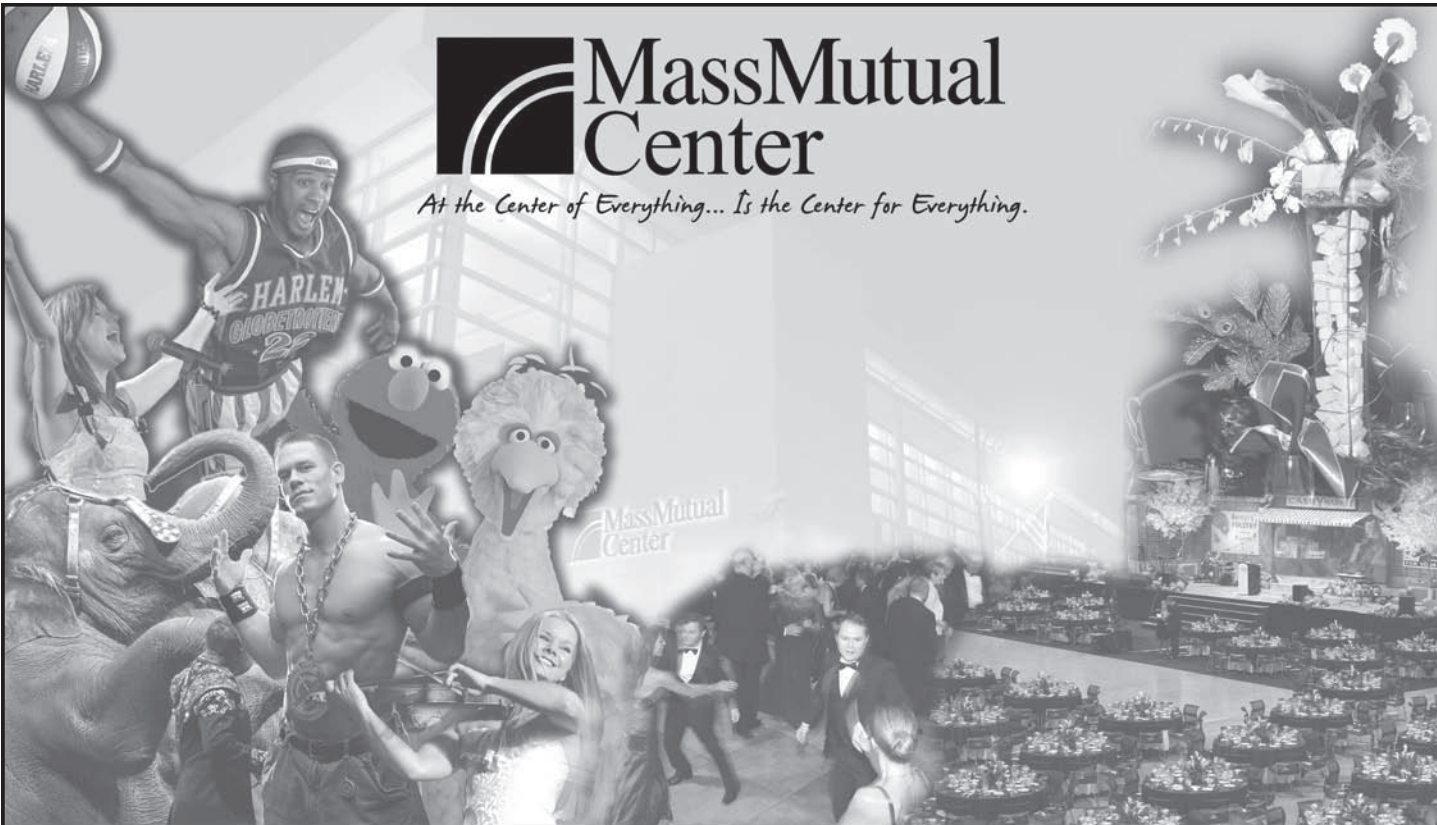
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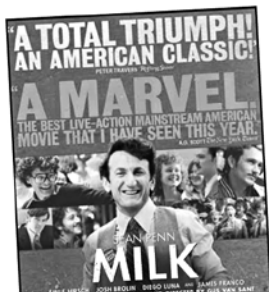
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Lesbian Organizations in New England*

By: *Bet Power*/Compiled for *The Rainbow Times*

Connecticut

Abused Lesbians Support

Hartford: (860) 246-9149
Torrington: (203) 482-7133

Another Octave

Connecticut Women's Chorus.
Contact: women@anotheroctave.org
www.anotheroctave.org

CT's Lesbian Rap

Women's discussion group whose purpose is to provide a free, alternative social setting to bars meets every Tuesday, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m., at the YWCA, 135 Broad St., Hartford, CT.
Contact: (860) 956-4426
www.groups.yahoo.com/group/CTLesbianRap/

Golden Threads

Discreet contact publication for lesbians over 50 and younger.
Contact: goldentred@aol.com
Golden Threads, P.O. Box 65, Richford, CT 05476-0065

Lesbian & Gay Parent-Child Play Group: *We're Everywhere With Our Kids*

Held on the 3rd Saturday of the month, 2:00 p.m., at the Women and Gender Studies Building of Connecticut College, 270 Mohegan Drive, New London, CT.
Contact: (860) 608-3568
wewok1@yahoo.com

Lesbian Coming Out Group for Older Women

Support group for women age 35+ or mid to later life. Call the CLBT Referral Service for details.
Contact: (413) 586-2627

Lesbian Rap – Hartford

Contact: (860) 525-1163 x258

Lesbian Rap – Middletown

Contact: (860) 347-6971

Lesbian Rap – New London

Contact: (860) 447-0366

Lesbian Support Group – Hartford

Meets at the Gay/Lesbian Health Collective, 1841 Broad St., Hartford, CT.
Contact: (860) 278-4163

Senior Lesbians at Play Happily (SLAPHAPS)

Social/support group for older lesbians offers meetings, outings, events.
Contact: Kathy Lewis (203) 929-8113
Linda: elceeroady@comcast.net

Sistahs Helping Sistahs

Lesbian-friendly support group for women of color meets at the Urban League, 1229 Albany Ave, Hartford, CT
Contact: Dawn McKinley
(860) 527-0147 x115

Women Outdoors

The group offers outdoor activities, events, hiking, and socializing for women, and is based in CT.
Contact: (860) 235-6933

Women's Cancer Support Group

Sponsored by the Hartford Gay & Lesbian Health Collective, this group meets on Mondays, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., at the MCC Chapel, 1841 Broad St., Hartford, CT.
Contact: (860) 278-4163

Women's Faith in Action

Support group for HIV-positive women of color meets at the Mecca Center, 2550 Main St., Hartford, CT.
Contact: Dawn McKinley
(860) 527-0147 x115

Massachusetts

Batucada Belles

Women's percussion group meets at the Multicultural Arts Center, Centre St. in Jamaica Plain.
Contact: womendrumming@yahoo.com
http://www.batucadabelles.com

Boston Women's Rainbow Chorus

Boston's chorus for lesbians, bisexual women, and their allies.
Contact: info@boswrc.org • www.boswrc.org
P.O. Box 301002, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Lesbian resources continued on page 28

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*As featured in Newsweek magazine, October 16, 2006.

Cooley Dickinson Hospital

Lesbian resources continued from page 27

Cambridge Women's Center

This amazing resource for lesbians and all women in Central Square includes a library, childcare, discussion and support including groups for lesbian rap, coming out, single Jewish lesbian and bisexual women, lesbian Al-Anon, and more. The Center is located at 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge, MA 02139. Contact: (617) 354-8807

Emerge

Offers classes, counseling, and education for abusive partners to stop domestic violence. Holds classes for lesbian/bi/trans women. Contact: (617) 547-9789
emergedv@aol.com • www.emergedv.com
2464 Massachusetts Ave., Ste. 101, Cambridge, MA 02140

Face the Music

Lesbian/feminist music show on WCUW 91.3 FM radio broadcasts from the Worcester, MA area. Request line: (508) 753-2284

Femme 4 Femme Boston

Social group for feminine lesbians and bisexual women in their 20's and 30's in the Boston area who are attracted to other feminine women. The group gathers over dinner on the 3rd Saturday of each month, 8:00 p.m., in Boston. Contact: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/f4fboston/>

Helping Our Women

A resource center for women with chronic, life threatening and/or disabling illness, this organization serves Provincetown to Eastham, MA. Contact: (508) 487-4357 • www.helpingourwomen.org
P.O. Box 1376, 336 Commercial St., #9, Provincetown, MA 02657

Incourage

Lesbian survival support fund provides money to local working-class and poor lesbians for their survival needs. Contact: (413) 582-4086
P.O. Box 634, Hadley, MA 01035

LBT Women's Alcoholics Anonymous

This AA group for women meets on Mondays at 7:00 p.m., Room 312, Seelye Hall at Smith College in Northampton, MA.

LBT Women's Al-Anon

Al-Anon meeting for lesbians, bisexual women, & trans women meets every Monday, 7:00 to 8:15 p.m. at Smith College, Seelye Hall, Room 314, Northampton, MA.

Lesbian Lawyers and Legal Workers

This group is based in Boston. Contact: (781) 483-3685

Lesbian Rights of Boston NOW

Lesbian rights and advocacy group within the Boston chapter of the National Organization for Women, located at 214 Harvard Ave., Boston, MA. Contact: (617) 782-1056

Lesbian AIDS Project of Massachusetts

LAPM is a grassroots activist group that promotes awareness and sex-positive education around HIV/AIDS and STDs for women who have sex with women, and provides support for HIV-positive LBT women. Meets monthly in Jamaica Plain, MA. Contact: Beth (617) 524-5895
Lapm69@hotmail.com

Lesbian Avengers

This radical political lesbian group known for its politics and fire-eating demonstrations meets weekly at Boston GLASS, 93 Massachusetts Ave., 3rd floor, Boston, MA 02116. Contact: Boston_Avengers@hotmail.com

Lesbian Discussion Group

A support group for lesbians age 40+ meets Wednesdays, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Stonewall Center at UMass Amherst. Contact: JBGreenize@aol.com

Lesbian Empowerment Group

A support, social group and potluck for lesbians age 55+ meets 2nd Monday of the month, 6:00 p.m., at the Northampton Council on Aging, 240 Main St., Northampton, MA. Contact: Jennifer Higgins (413) 587-1228

Mad Femme Pride

Boston femme community is for femme queer, bi, and questioning women seeking friendship, networking, and more. Online message board lists club outings, dress-up parties, concerts, etc. Contact: www.meetup.com/madfemmepride/

MOB New England

This BDSM and kinky social organization for women who play with women meets monthly in the Boston area. Contact: (617) 598-1061 x1209
BostonMob@aol.com • www.mobnewengland.org

Moving Violations

Women's motorcycle club offers runs, events, & safe riding for women, and is based in the Boston area. Contact: (617) 281-1342 • www.movingviolations.com
P.O. Box 382356, Cambridge, MA 02238

Neponset Valley Lesbians

A Coming Out Rap group is held on Tuesday evenings at the Sharon Universalist Church, Rt. 27, Sharon, MA. Contact: (508) 668-9690 • Avalon@us1.channel1.com

The Network/La Red

Provides free, confidential, bilingual, and statewide services for those dealing with partner abuse and relationship violence in the lesbian, transgender, and bisexual women's communities. Office: (617) 695-0877
Bilingual Hotline: (617) 742-4911
TTY: (617) 227-4911
info@thenetworklared.org • www.thenetworklared.org
P.O. Box 6011, Boston, MA 02114

New England Learning Center for Women in Transition (NELCWIT)

Counseling, services, and shelter for victims and survivors of domestic and sexual violence. Offers a battered lesbians support group and hotline at 10 Park Street in Greenfield, MA. Contact: (413) 772-0871

Lesbian resources continued on page 29

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Lesbian resources continued from page 28

Northampton Dyke March

First-ever Dyke March takes place on April 30, 2010 in downtown Northampton, MA with speakers and performers, and a Dyke Dance afterwards.
Contact: (413) 588-1018 • www.lgbtcoalitionwma.org

Older Lesbian Energy (OLE)

Boston-area social group for older lesbians offers gatherings, outings, and newsletter.
Contact: Carol (781) 275-7701
P.O. Box 118, Bedford, MA 01730

Queer Women of Color + Friends

QWOC+Boston promotes diversity by creating and sustaining safe spaces for LGBT people of color in the greater Boston area. The group offers events, socials, community discussions, a newsletter, & more.
Contact: (617) 848-9593
www.qwocboston.org
P.O. Box 323, Somerville, MA 02143

Safe Passage

Provides support to survivors of relationship violence in Hampshire county. Offers a support group for battered lesbians in abusive relationships.
Contact: (413) 586-1125 • www.safepass.org
24-hour Hotline: (413) 586-5066 or 1-888-345-5282
43 Center St., Ste. G, Northampton, MA 01060

South Asian Women for Action (SAWA)

A Boston-based, progressive collective of women of South Asian descent, SAWA members speak out and strategize against all kinds of discrimination, and articulate their experiences living as South Asian women in the U.S. Meetings are held the second Tuesday evening of every month.
Contact: sawa@way.net

Thunderbolts Women's Soccer

Women's soccer league based in Boston.
Contact: (617) 497-7405

Voices Rising

Women's chorus founded upon feminist principles of community, inclusiveness, activism, and education. They celebrate the diverse lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and women's communities in and around Boston. Rehearsals are on Tuesdays, 7:00 to 10:00 p.m., at Temple Israel in Brookline, MA.
Contact: (617) 959-5377
info@voicesrising.org • www.voicesrising.org

W2W Datebook

An online calendar of events for lesbians in the Northampton and Springfield, MA areas.
Contact: <http://w2wdatebook.com>

The Women's Dinner Party

Annual women's fundraiser includes a night out in downtown Boston with several hundred fabulous women. Sponsored by Fenway Community Health Center.
Contact: www.womensdinnerparty.org

The Women's 5 Provincetown

Five fun annual events for lesbians & all women include:

Single Women's Weekend

May 21-23, 2010
www.singlewomensweekend.com

Memorial Day Weekend

May 28-31, 2010
www.Provincetownforwomen.com

Women of Color and Friends Weekend

June 3-6, 2010
www.womenofcolorweekend.com

Girl Splash: The Women's Summer Party

July 21-25, 2010
www.girl-splash.com
Women's Week
October 8-17, 2010
www.womeninnkeepers.com

Rhode Island

Fall River Rainbow Girls

Private, moderated welcoming group for women in the Fall River area.
Contact: www.Groups.yahoo.com/group/Fall_River_Rainbow_Grrls

Feminist Voices

Women's chorus in Rhode Island.
Contact: www.feministvoices.com

Kathy's Group

Free support group for lesbians affected by cancer.
Contact: 1-888-5-KATHYS

Kickboxing or Boxing for Women

Meets on Tuesday and Thursday evenings in Rhode Island.
Contact: Christina (401) 996-5425
www.rondeauskickboxing.com

Lesbian Moms of Southern New England

Discussion, support and activities list for lesbian mothers.
Contact: ForADancer63@aol.com
www.topica.com/lists/LMOSNE

Lesbian resources continued on page 36



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One-of-a-kind children in one-of-a-kind-families

LGBTQ foster parents share stories of the unique families they have created

By: Tynan Power/TRT Reporter • Special for Noho Pride Guide

Gary Gosselin and Matt Heyer, an East Longmeadow couple that has been together for seven years and married for four, always knew they wanted to have children—their only disagreement was about how many to have. Now, they have been foster parents for three years. They have three children: Alivia, a four-year-old daughter they fostered before adopting her, and a sibling pair they've fostered for nearly a year.

"Being gay did not play any part in our decision to foster and adopt—aside from the realization that as gay men, we weren't going to be making babies on our own," Gosselin says. "We were still exploring our options when Alivia first came into our lives. We had talked about private adoption, and were considering surrogacy. To be honest, we hadn't given much thought to fostering."

Their journey into foster care started in an unusual way.

"A friend of a friend knew of Alivia and her biological parents," Gosselin explains. "Social Services was in the process of removing Alivia from their care when we first learned of her. After meeting with the biological parents and learning of their interest in having Alivia be adopted, we jumped at the chance."

Becoming "child-specific" foster parents is a different process from what most people go through to become foster parents, according to Gosselin. He and his partner have now experienced both routes to foster parenting.

"After many ups and downs with trying to adopt Alivia, when it was all coming together, we decided that fostering, and adopting through the department of children and families was a wonderful way to grow our family and help children in need," Gosselin says. "The process of becoming foster parents was not as difficult as we thought it was going to

be. Sure, there were a lot of forms to fill out, and a lot of people wanted to come over to inspect our house, but overall it was not that difficult."

Many people in their DCF foster care class were concerned about the home-study—including Gosselin and his partner.

"But there was really nothing to be worried about," Gosselin explains. "Again, there are a lot of questions, but nothing scary. They are basically just trying to write the story of your life, the life of you and your spouse together, and the story you want to write as a foster parent/parent."

In addition to support from DCF and other foster parents in the Fostering Our Future network, Gosselin says he and Heyer have had support from family and employers. Heyer's employer has allowed him to switch to part-time schedule in order to spend more time at home with their young children.

Parenting has its challenges, Gosselin admits. Yet those challenges come with great rewards.

"Watching a child grow, and strive, and be healthy and happy is a wonderfully rewarding experience," Gosselin says. "You really know that you are making a difference, regardless if they get to be with us forever. And you are giving them a stable, loving and secure environment that is so important to a child."

Ultimately, Gosselin and Heyer hope to adopt the two children they are currently fostering, but even if that doesn't happen, they know they have made a difference.

"When our foster daughter first came to our home, she was terrified of new people," Gosselin says. "It was quite clear that at 15 months she had seen and experienced more in her little life than anyone at any age should. But over time, with love, and affection, and providing a secure stable home, she has



PHOTO: TYNAN POWER

Maura and Tasha Geary with three of their four children

thrived. She is a chatty, outgoing, happy little girl, and I feel that we can take some credit for that. Even if she isn't with us forever, we know that we had a hand in her development."

Maura and Tasha Geary, who recently moved to Easthampton, echo Gosselin's sentiments when they talk about a heart-rending year during in which one of their foster children was returned to his birth parents.

"We knew that even if we never got him back, we had had a permanent effect on him," Maura Geary says. She describes a baby who "never really woke up" transformed into a healthy, happy baby who was always laughing.

Although it was difficult, they knew that a child's reunification with his or her birth family can be the best option.

"If possible and safe, we definitely feel that the best place for kids is with their birth parents," Tasha Geary says.

In their child's case, the reunification lasted for a year. When the child entered foster care again, he was returned to their home. They are working with the birth family, now, to set up an open adoption. The hope is that the child can stay with the Gearys but remain in contact with his birth parents.

The Gearys have three other children in their home. The oldest, José, had been in a group home for boys in the foster care system.

Tasha Geary had worked with José at the group home and was convinced he would thrive in a stable family home. She also knew that few families were open to older children, and at 12 he was unlikely to find a family. She and Maura had recently begun the process of training as foster parents with the hope of adopting an infant.

"I just felt: how could we go through the whole process but not be open to him?" Maura Geary says.

Foster parenting continued on page 32

"Watching a child grow, and strive, and be healthy and happy is a wonderfully rewarding experience, ..."

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Gay Male Organizations in New England*

By: *Bet Power/Compiled for The Rainbow Times*

Connecticut

Connecticut Gay Men's Chorus

Now in its 24th season, CGMC presents two fully staged and costumed sets of concert events each season in locations throughout CT.
Contact: (203) 777-2923 • 1-800-644-CGMC
info@ctgmc.org • www.ctgmc.org
P.O. Box 8824, New Haven, CT 06532

Connecticut Prime Timers

A group of gay senior men and their admirers that offers an opportunity to participate in an active and dynamic social environment. Meets monthly for brunch and dinner at the Marco Polo Restaurant in East Hartford, CT.
Contact: www.ctprimetimers.org
P.O. Box 5004, Manchester, CT 06040

East Coast Wrestling Club

A New England gay men's wrestling club.
Contact: (401) 467-6737 • ecwc@juno.com

Gay Men's HIV Positive Support Group

Meets in New London, CT.
Contact: (860) 447-0884

Long Yang Club Connecticut

A social and support group for gay Asian men and their friends.
Contact: Rich and Brian: pott2302@aol.com
Isaac: LYCCT@netscape.net
Hung: pham@bestweb.net

Men of All Colors Together

The CT chapter of national MACT, a multiracial, multicultural organization of gay and bisexual men committed to addressing and combating racism and discrimination in the lesbian and gay community, and to providing a supportive environment for non-oppressive multiracial relating among gay men.
Contact: (203) 772-2832

Metro Store

Mainly gay male magazines, videos, toys, cards, Pride jewelry, bumper stickers, posters, etc. for sale at 493 Farmington Ave., Hartford, CT 06105.
Contact: (860) 231-8845

MPOWER CT

Social events and discussions for young gay and bi men ages 18 - 29. Meets at the Hartford Gay & Lesbian Health Collective, 1841 Broad St., Hartford, CT.
Contact: (860) 278-4164
info@hglhc.org

Twilight Club

A gay men's leather/bear/fetish organization based in Fairfield and Westchester counties. Holds socials the 1st Saturday of each month at the Cedar Brook Café, Westport, CT.
Contact: mail@twilightclub.org
P.O. Box 428, New Canaan, CT 06840

Urban League of Greater Hartford

A support group for gay and bisexual men of African descent who are HIV positive meets at the Urban League of Greater Hartford, 140 Woodland St., Hartford, CT 06105.
Contact: (860) 527-0147 x156 • (860) 242-5028

Massachusetts

Beantown Softball League (Men's)

This is an amateur softball league with an emphasis on participation by gay men in the greater Boston area.
Contact: (617) 937-5858
bsi-membership-director@beantownsoftball.com
www.beantownsoftball.com
P.O. Box 230734, Boston, MA 02123

Boston Gay Basketball League (Men's Division)

BGBL is a well-organized basketball league in the greater Boston area with special emphasis on the participation of the gay community. Games are played on Saturdays, 10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., at the South End Fitness Center in the Boston Medical Center. There is a Women's Division, too.
Contact: (617) 426-4669
Kevin St. Gelais, Commissioner
commissioner@bgbl.com • www.bgbl.com

Boston Gay and Bisexual Married Men's Support Group

A discussion group for gay and/or bisexual married men, including many who are working to preserve the marriage and some in the process of separation or divorce. Meets at 29 Stanhope St., Boston, MA.
Contact: (781) 316-1985 • (781) 545-2516

Boston Gay Men's Chorus

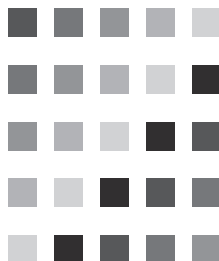
Now in its 28th season, BGMC is one of New England's largest and most successful community-based choruses. The 175-voice ensemble tours internationally.
Contact: (617) 542-SING (7464)
info@bgmc.org • www.bgmc.org
P.O. Box 1390, Boston, MA 02117

Boston Ironsides Rugby Football Club

A diverse and committed group of men who play rugby hold their practices at the Madison Park Technical Vocational High School, 75 Malcolm X Blvd., Boston, MA 02120.
Contact: into@bostonironsidesrffc.org
www.bostonironsidesrffc.org

Boston Prime Timers

This organization is a brotherhood of mature gay and bisexual men and their friends; meets monthly in Boston and offers social events and Prologue newsletter.
Contact: (617) 447-2344
bostonprimetimers@uses.org
www.bostonprimetimers.org
566 Columbus Ave.,
Boston, MA 02118-1181



Cape Ann Men (CAMEN)

Social group for gay and bi men meets every Monday, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., at 67 Middle St., Gloucester, MA.

Central Mass Bears

Meets monthly for potlucks on the 4th Sunday of each month, 5:00 p.m., at Gardner Visiting Nurses Association Community Services Center, 35 Main St., Fitchburg, MA 01420.
Contact: Freeman Clark (978) 249-8040

The Gay and Bi Men's Health Program (GBMHP)

An organization funded by the MA Department of Public Health, GBMHP provides info and support for HIV and STD prevention, safer sex, and other issues regarding sexual health. It facilitates social and discussion groups for men on the North Shore of Boston and in the Merrimack Valley. Has drop-in hours at Prism LGBT Community Health Services offices in Beverly, MA.
Contact: (978) 927-45-6 • Brian x219 • Kirsten x221
156 Cabot St., Beverly, MA 01915

Gay Fathers of Greater Boston (GFGB)

This network of gay men who have children, living either with or apart from them meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Faith Parish Church, 50 Church St., Waltham, MA. Meetings center around speakers and the issues of gay fatherhood, and the group also hosts social events.
Contact: (781) 333-8429
outreach@gayfathersboston.org
www.gayfathersboston.org
P.O. Box 550030, Waltham, MA 02455-0030

Gay Men's Domestic Violence Project (GMDVP)

Boston-based GMDVP is a nationally recognized, grassroots organization providing critical crisis intervention services, shelter, legal advocacy, and support for gay male victims of domestic violence.
Contact: (617) 354-6056
Hotline: 1-800-832-1901
support@gmdvp.org • www.gmdvp.org
955 Massachusetts Ave., PMB 131, Cambridge, MA

Gay Male resources continued on page 32



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Gay Male resources continued from page 31

Men of All Colors Together, Boston

MACTB, founded in 1980, is the Boston chapter of the National Association of Black and White Men Together, a social and political organization dealing with fighting racism, sexism, homophobia, and HIV/AIDS discrimination in the community. Contact: (617) 547-2449 • www.nabwmt.com

Men of Color Against AIDS (MOCAA)

A unique program in the Boston area, MOCAA offers programming for Black men who have sex with men. The MOCAA@MAC (Multicultural AIDS Coalition) provides an array of HIV and other health services to gay and bi men of color. Contact: (617) 423-6622 (617) 442-1622 voice mail mocca@msn.com Multicultural AIDS Coalition, 31 Heath St., Ste. 12, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Men of Northampton (MONOHO)

Informal social group and Yahoo group that helps connect gay men in western MA and surrounding areas in upper CT, lower VT, NH, and upstate NY. Check website for events. Contact: askmonoho@gmail.com www.monoho.com

Men's Health Project

Rapid HIV, Hepatitis, and STD testing and counseling, prevention and educational materials, anonymous needle exchange, health-care referrals. All services are free at AIDS Support Group of Cape Cod, 336 Commercial St., Provincetown, MA. No appointment necessary. Contact: (508) 487-8311 • 1-866-NoToHIV ask@asgcc.org • www.asgcc.org

New England Bears

Social group for bear-identified gay men meets and socializes in the Boston area. Contact: (508) 660-1199 P.O. Box 400873, Cambridge, MA

North Shore Men (NSM)

This group for gay and bi men living on the North Shore of Boston offers social outings, potlucks, hikes, and other events. Contact: Marty Horowitz martymd@aol.com • www.northshoremen.org P.O. Box 4444, Peabody, MA 01961

Pioneer Valley Gay Men's Chorus

25-voice chorus open to gay and gay-friendly men rehearses on Wednesdays, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., at the Northampton Community Music School, 139 South St., Northampton, MA 01060. Contact: Michael-Thomas Gilman, Director Asbestos103@yahoo.com http://bhsinging.info/cdata/pvngmc.html

Riders Motorcycle Club of Boston

Since 1984, Riders is a social fraternal organization for gay men who enjoy motorcycle riding. Contact: Greg (617) 266-1772 greg@ridersmc.com/about.htm

Triangle (Worcester) Men's Group

Support group for gay men living in the Worcester, MA area. Contact: (508) 792-0775

Rhode Island

AIDS Project Rhode Island

The Project provides leadership in HIV prevention, education, support services, and advocacy. It is located at 404 Wickenden St., Providence, RI. Contact: (401) 831-5522 Stephen Hourahan, Executive Director Stephen@aidspjctri.org www.aidspjctri.org P.O. Box 6688, Providence, RI 02940-6688

Rhode Island Prime Timers

A brotherhood of mature gay and bisexual men and their friends meets 2nd Sunday of each month, 4:00 p.m., at Hose Company No. 6, 636 Central Ave., Pawtucket, RI. Contact: (401) 722-7220 riprimetimer@cox.net • www.riprimetimers.org

Senior Action in a Gay Environment (SAGE)

Support and services for gay elders. Contact: (401) 751-1487 134 George M. Cohen Blvd., Providence, RI

Vermont

AIDS Project of Southern Vermont

This grassroots, community-based organization provides direct services to people living with HIV/AIDS and prevention services to those most at risk in Windham, Bennington, and southern Windsor counties. Contact: (802) 254-4444 www.aidspjctri.org P.O. Box 1486, Brattleboro, VT 05302

Faerie Camp Destiny

A sanctuary founded by Radical Faeries for nature-loving queer people located in southern VT on 170 acres of woodland. They hold regular gatherings, circles, workshops, camping, and hiking open to all. Contact: www.faeriecampdestiny.org P.O. Box 517, Chester, VT 05143-0517

Gay Leisurely Activities for Men (GLAM)

GLAM is a community-building group for young gay and bi men in Vermont. They plan fun events big and small and meet at 34 Ekmwood Ave., Burlington, VT 05402. Contact: Chase (802) 860-7812 • glam@ru12.org www.ru12.org/mpowerment.html P.O. Box 5883, Burlington, VT 05402

The Men's Group

Support, social, and educational group for gay, bisexual, and transgender men in the tri-state and Bennington, VT areas. Contact: Charlie (802) 447-8007 cfmartin@sover.net

The Men's Program

Social events and workshops for gay and bi men in and around Windham county. The group meets at 67 Main St., Brattleboro, VT 05302. Contact: Alex or Howie (802) 254-8263 • (802) 254-4444 men@sover.net • www.mensprogram.org P.O. Box 1486, Brattleboro, VT 05302

Vermont Gay Men's Chorus

"A vocal minority." Rehearses and performs in Montpelier, VT and the surrounding area. Contact: robnyves@hotmail.com robnyves@together.net P.O. Box 123, McIndoe Fall, VT 05050

Vermont Gay Social Alternatives

Social gatherings, events, and outings for gay men and their friends. Meets 1st Mondays of each month, 7:00 p.m., at the RU12? Queer Community Center, 34 Elmwood Ave., Burlington, VT. Contact: info@vgasa.com • www.vgasa.com P.O. Box 237, Burlington, VT 05402

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Foster parenting continued from page 30

The Gearys experience with José drove home the truth that children are much more complex than they seem on paper. José's file was full of negative comments, but said nothing about his strengths.

"When you look at a kid on paper, it's only the negative stuff. If there's an incident, that gets written down but if he has a great day, that doesn't," says Maura Geary.

The other two children also arrived through the foster care system. The youngest is fifteen months old and has been with them for virtually all of her life. Bea, a bright eight year old, has been with Maura the longest. Maura and her ex-partner, Mary Martone, adopted Bea as an infant when they lived in Washington state. Today, the Gearys and Martone all live in Easthampton and share custody in an arrangement like an extended family.

Siobhan Hinckley has two foster children in addition to her two biological children—and she's passionate about the subject of LGBTQ foster parenting.

She is especially concerned about the dire need for safe homes for LGBTQ teens in the foster care system, but worries about how few families are open to teens of any kind.

Maura Geary is concerned about this, as well, and knows how close José came to never having a stable family life. She also notes that there is a huge shortage of families for newborns.

Both women feel strongly that many of these children could find homes in LGBTQ families. Hinckley believes many LGBTQ people are interested in fostering children, but may have reservations about pursuing it.

"Sometimes I think it is a matter of people knowing that they are not only invited, but they are welcome," Hinckley says. "We can make a difference. We have a responsibility to our communities."

Fostering Our Future is a group of foster parents and allies that aims to support foster parents in their unique role in creating peace for foster children. The group will have sessions on fostering children on April 11th, at 2 p.m. at the office of Lange Chiropractic (300 Pleasant St.) in Northampton. For more information about Fostering Our Future and the information session, contact Tim Henry at (413) 775-5115.

Bisexual Organizations in New England*

By: *Bet Power/Compiled for The Rainbow Times*

Connecticut

Bisexual Married Group

Support group open to bisexual men to make life healthier and to make responsible decisions. Meets twice monthly, Monday evenings, in Hartford, CT. Contact: Bob Belliveau (860) 521-1507
contactus@hartfordgmm.com
www.hartfordgmm.com

Bisexual Rap Group

Discussion group meets at the Hartford LGBT Community Center, 1841 Broad St., Hartford, CT. Contact: (860) 724-5542 • Alice: (860) 956-9299

Conn-Bi-Nation

Connecticut's political, social, and educational organization for bisexuals and allies encourages visibility for bisexuals and cultivates bi community in CT, presents at conferences, participates in Pride marches, and works for bi-inclusion in LGBT organizations. Meets 4th Sunday of each month, 7:00 p.m., at Hartford Gay & Lesbian Health Collective, 1841 Broad St., Hartford, CT. Contact: Mike bicbnguy@yahoo.com
www.conn-bi-nation.org

Massachusetts

Bi Focus

Support and social group for bisexuals in the greater Boston area. Contact: (617) 697-9244

Bi Women's Rap

Discussion and support group meets on the last Friday of each month, 7:30 to 9:00 p.m., at the Women's Center, 46 Pleasant St., Cambridge, MA. Contact: (617) 354-8807 • (617) 354-6394
www.cambridgewomenscenter.org

Bi Youth

This new website offers online support for bi, fluid, and questioning youth. It's a project of the Bisexual Resource Center. Contact: www.biyouth.org

Bisexual and Bi-Curious Men's Group

Free, confidential discussion group for men who are bi-curious, bisexual or think they may be bisexual. Meets the 2nd Tuesday of each month, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston, MA. Contact: (617) 927-6032
bihealth@fenwayhealth.org

Bisexual Resource Center

All bi/bi-friendly community members are welcome to the center, located at Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston, MA, behind Club Café. Home to many local support groups. Contact: (617) 424-9595
brc@biresource.net • www.biresource.net
P.O. Box 170796, Boston, MA 02117

Bisexual Resource Center Archives

Located at Northeastern University, the collection documents the Bisexual Resource Center's daily operations, governance and mission, involvement in local political causes, workshop and conference planning, as well as collected materials from national and international bisexual organizations and events. Open to visitors. Contact: (617) 373-2351 • archives@neu.edu
Finding aid: www.library.neu.edu/archives/collect/findaids/m144findprint.htm
NEU Special Collections
92 Snell Library, 360 Huntington Ave., Boston, MA 02115

Bisexual Social and Support Group (BlISS)

Peer-facilitated discussion group meets on the 1st Wednesday and 3rd Thursday of the month, 7:00 to 8:00 p.m., at the Boston Living Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston, MA. Social time at a nearby restaurant follows. Contact: (617) 424-9595 • brc@biresource.net

Biversity Bi Brunch

Brunch for mixed-gender bi and bi-friendly people happens on the 3rd Saturday of each month, 11:30 a.m., at Johnny D's, Holland St., Davis Square, Somerville, MA. Contact: www.biversity.org

Biversity Boston

Mixed-gender social events network for Boston and the surrounding area operate out of the Bisexual Resource Center, 29 Stanhope St., Boston MA. Contact: (617) 424-9595 • www.biversity.org

Boston Bisexual Women's Network (BBWN)

BBWN is a feminist, collective organization whose purpose is to bring women together for support and validation. Through discussion, support, education, outreach, political action, and social groups related to bisexuality, BBWN works for full acceptance of bisexuals within the gay and lesbian community and within the larger society. BBWN publishes Bi Women newsletter quarterly. Contact: Robyn Ochs (617) 413-2717
robyn@robynochs.com
biwomenboston@gmail.com
www.biwomenboston.org
P.O. Box 301727, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Boundless Program

Free events and conferences promoting holistically healthy bisexual and lesbian women's communities take place twice a year at Fenway Community Health, 7 Haviland St., Boston, MA. Contact: Katie Stetler, Boundless Coordinator (617) 927-6028
boundless@fenwayhealth.org
www.fenwayhealth.org

The Network/La Red

Provides free, confidential, bilingual, and statewide services for those dealing with partner abuse and relationship violence in the bisexual women's, lesbian, and transgender communities. Contact: Office: (617) 695-0877
Bilingual Hotline: (617) 742-4911
TTY: (617) 227-4911
info@thenetworklared.org
www.thenetworklared.org
P.O. Box 6011, Boston, MA 02114

Support for Married Bisexual Women

Support and discussion groups, information. Contact: (617) 424-9595 • www.biresource.org

Vermont

Hearts Not Parts

A group dedicated to creating and expanding a social network for bisexuals, pansexuals, and allies. Meets on Thursdays, 6:00 p.m., at the University of Vermont, in the Allen House, Room 204, 461 Main St., Burlington, VT 05405. Contact: heartsnotpartssvm@gmail.com
http://www.uvm.edu/~lgbtqa/

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PHOTO: S.E. CHASE

30



NOHO PRIDE

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Lesbian community: Fluid, visible and with authentic lesbian feel

By: J.M. Sorrell*

Lesbians in and around Northampton are as diverse as the community at large. In the 1970's and early 1980's, dykes from Smith, Mount Holyoke and other area colleges stayed here after graduation. There have been several lesbian immigration waves over the last 30 years.

The original Lesbian and Gay Pride marches here were 90 percent lesbian, 10 percent gay men, and virtually no heterosexual allies. Today is a different story. Youth are out, and heterosexual marchers are parents, children, friends, and colleagues of LGBT community members.

Six years ago, a few lesbian couples contacted me about officiating at their weddings. At that time, I was simply serving our community in the moment. Many lesbians in our region continued to

honor their partnerships without the convention of marriage. Many surprised themselves as they opted to go for it. Many more could not wait five more minutes.

I cannot imagine how lesbians experience life's difficulties and do it without support, without acknowledgment, with fear of revealing one's authentic self, and with constant duplicity.

In 2004, I would not have imagined that many lesbian couples would call me in ensuing years to get married in time for the birth of a child so both names could be on the birth certificate. Twenty years ago, I would have thought this was science fiction!

I would not have imagined that several lesbian couples I have worked with would include one transgendered (male-to-female) partner. And, I did not know that there were so many lesbians trapped in gay male bodies (you know

who you are).

We are integrated into our communities at large, we are single by choice, we are couples with furry children, we are moms who hang out with parents of all stripes, we are doctors, attorneys, chefs, fire fighters, professors, teachers, social workers, police officers, business owners, carpenters, elected officials, and clergy.

When I see close to 800 of us at once at those films, I am amazed that there are so many lesbians I have recognized for 25 or more years and also

how many lesbians are new faces and who may not feel "new" at all if they have been here for a few years.

This idea of lesbian community is fluid and subjective for each of us. Some women miss the days when there were fewer lesbians and we gathered more regularly. Others move here and expect to find some central lesbian place. I sometimes explain to them that we are everywhere, and that the search is not the thing. It is both invisible and incredibly visible.

We can just live. We can be. We have the privilege and responsibility to create our own circles of intimate friends, acquaintances, and communities.

We share in the ownership of what we have created. It is not a panacea for universal suffering, and yet living in or around Northampton is easier in many ways than living elsewhere. We still experience financial struggles, heartbreaks, health issues, and misunderstandings.

I cannot imagine how lesbians experience life's difficulties *and* do it without support, without acknowledgment, with fear of revealing one's authentic self, and with constant duplicity.

Utopia—no such thing. Northampton—wonderful place. It will continue to be this as we give it energy, accept our diverse needs and evolve.

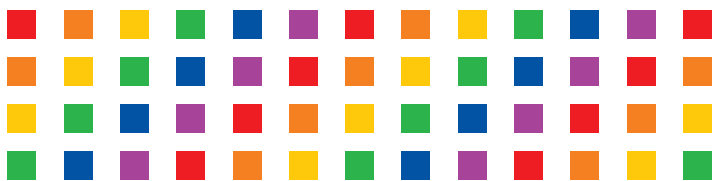
**J.M. Sorrell is a lesbian and a Justice of the Peace. She is grateful every day to live, work and play in Northampton.*



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Open & Affirming Churches in Western MA*

*To add your church to this list, please submit your listing (Name, address, phone and website) to: calendar@therainbowtimesnews.com

Amherst

North Congregational Church, UCC
1193 N Pleasant St, Amherst, MA 01002
(413) 549-0500
<http://www.north-church.org/>

First Congregational Church, UCC
165 Main Street, Amherst, MA 01002-2380
(413) 253-3456
<http://www.firstchurchamherst.org/>

South Congregational Church, UCC
1066 South East Street, Amherst, MA 01002
(413) 253-2977
<http://www.south-church.org/>

Unitarian Universalist Society of Amherst
Post Office Box 502
121 North Pleasant Street, Amherst, MA 01004
(413) 253-2848
<http://www.uusocietyamherst.org/>

Ashfield

First Congregational Church, UCC
429 Main Street, PO Box 519,
Ashfield, MA 01330-0519

Belchertown

Belchertown United Church of Christ
18 Park Street, Belchertown, MA 01007
(413) 323-7442
<http://www.belchertownucc.org/>

Chicopee

Christ's Community Church
103 Springfield Street, Chicopee, MA 01013-2694
(413) 592-6007
<http://www.ccchicopee.org/index.html>

Cummington

Village Congregational Church, UCC
32 Main Street, Cummington, MA 01026
(413) 634-5508
<http://www.cummingtonvillagechurch.org/>

Deerfield

First Church of Deerfield
71 Old Main Street, Deerfield, MA 01342
(413) 773-5323
<http://www.firstchurchofdeerfield.org/>

Feeding Hills

Feeding Hills Congregational Church, UCC
21 North Westfield St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030-1672
(413) 786-5061
<http://mysite.verizon.net/bizod9u8/>

Greenfield

First Congregational Church
43 Silver St., Greenfield, MA 01301
phone: (413) 774-3449
<http://www.firstchurchgreenfield.org/>

Hadley

Wesley United Methodist Church
98 North Maple St., Hadley, MA
413-549-1550
<http://www.wesleyfamily.org/templates/System/default.asp?id=38960>

North Hadley Congregational Church, UCC
243 River Drive, Hadley, MA 01035
413 586-2021
<http://www.uccwebsites.net/northhadleyconghadleyma.html>

Church resources continued on page 40



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413.455.9146

Lesbian resources continued from page 29

Married Lesbian & Bisexual Women's Support Group

Meets weekly in Rhode Island.
Contact:
Group III, P.O. Box 213, Charlestown, RI 02813

Rhode Island Intensity

Women's Pro-tackle football team in Rhode Island.
Contact: www.rhodeislandintensity.com

Rhode Island Lesbian Social Club

Social gatherings for women.
Contact: (401) 272-2962
heydari@yahoo.com

Rhode Island Lesbians Social Group

Lesbians age 30 and up meet each other for coffee, networking, and social activities.
Contact: www.gaypros.meetup.com/225

Rhode Island Women's Association

A lesbian social group for women age 21+ offers dances and events.
Contact: Dorothy (401) 467-0013

Sojourner House

Support, advocacy, and info for women in abusive same-sex relationships. Office is open Mondays though Fridays, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Contact: Jenn (401) 861-6191

Woman Spirit Rising

Feminist chorus in Rhode Island.
Contact: Linda Pietras (401) 421-8222

Women Abused By Women

Free and confidential support, advocacy, and individual peer counseling. 24-hour hotline.
Contact: (401) 765-3232

Womencares

HIV and domestic violence risk reduction provides free, confidential services and support to lesbians and all women. Located in the Sojourner House, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
Contact: Toni (401) 861-6191

Women's Volleyball

Non-competitive, meets in South Kingstown, Rhode Island, Sundays from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m., November through March.
Contact: 4jnichols@cox.net

Vermont

Aid to Women in Abuse and Rape Emergencies (AWARE)

Support and services; 24-hour hotline.
Contact: (802) 472-6463
P.O. Box 307, Hardwick, VT 05843

BLT Health Network for Womyn Loving Womyn

Health-care providers list for Vermont statewide.
Contact: (802) 899-1731

Chrones

This new informal group is a fiction writing circle for women age 40+ that meets in the Burlington, VT area to provide social support, editorial feedback, and career tips for women working on fiction and commercial creative writing projects.
Contact: Vicky lifelong@together.net
143 Rollin Irish Rd., Milton, VT 05468

Huntington Open Women's Land (HOWL)

Contact: (802) 434-3953

Lesbian Book Group

This group meets monthly in Putney, VT, usually on the 4th Sunday to discuss novels, memoirs, poetry, and non-fiction by women authors.
Contact: Tatiana (802) 387-2781
tatianas@sover.net

Towanda

Outdoor club for women in Vermont, New Hampshire, and New York state.
Contact: Terry or Sally (802) 878-DYKE (3953)
Towanda@together.net
www.together.net/~towanda/

Umbrella Women's Center

Contact: (802) 748-8645
1107 Main St., Ste. 102, Johnsbury, VT 05819

Woman Center

The Center is located at 5 School Ave., Montpelier, VT.
Contact: womanctr@sover.net
www.womancentered.org

Women of Color Alliance

Contact: P.O. Box 1534, Burlington, VT 05402

Women's Crisis Center

Support and services for lesbians & women in crisis.
Contact:
Hotline: (802) 254-6954
P.O. Box 933, Brattleboro, VT

Women's Domestic/Sexual Violence Shelter

Contact: (802) 888-2584
P.O. Box 517, Morrisville, VT 05661

Womensafe

Support and resources for women in domestic abuse situations; 24-hour hotline.
Contact: (802) 388-9180
Hotline: (802) 388-4205
www.womensafe.net
P.O. Box 67, Middlebury, VT

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COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY TRANSGENDER GROUPS

Amherst College Gender Project

http://www3.amherst.edu/~pridealliance/trans.html
ahamano09@amherst.edu

Amherst College Pride Alliance

www.amherst.edu/~pridealliance
pridealliance@amherst.edu

Hampshire College Queer Community Alliance Center

http://www.hampshire.edu/studentlife/1074.htm
erSA@hampshire.edu

Harvard Trans Task Force

http://www.hcs.harvard.edu/queer/ttf

Mount Holyoke True Colors

www.mtholyoke.edu/org/colors

Smith College Spectrum

http://sophia.smith.edu/spectrum
spectrum@smith.edu

Smith College Tangent

http://sophia.smith.edu/tangent

Trans@MIT

http://web.mit.edu/trans

Trinity College TGLB Safe Space

Laura.Lockwood@trincoll.edu

UConn Rainbow Center

http://www.rainbowcenter.uconn.edu
rainbowcenter@uconn.edu

University of Hartford Spectrum

http://uhaweb.hartford.edu/spectrum
spectrum@hartford.edu

UMass Amherst Stonewall Center

http://www.umass.edu/stonewall/transresguide
stonewall@stuaf.umass.edu

Wellesley Spectrum

http://www.wellesley.edu/Activities/homepage/
spectrum

Wesleyan Transgender Group

Dan Digrassian • digrassian@wesleyan.edu

Yale GLBT Cooperative

http://www.yale.edu/lgbt
lgbt@yale.edu

COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY LESBIAN-POSITIVE GROUPS

Amherst College Pride Alliance

www.amherst.edu/~pridealliance
pridealliance@amherst.edu

Center for Women & Gender of Dartmouth College

wrc@dartmouth.edu
www.dartmouth.edu/~cwg/

Hampshire College Queer Community Alliance Center

http://www.hampshire.edu/studentlife/1074.htm
erSA@hampshire.edu

Mount Holyoke True Colors

www.mtholyoke.edu/org/colors

Smith College Spectrum

http://sophia.smith.edu/spectrum
spectrum@smith.edu

Trinity College GLBT Safe Space

Laura.Lockwood@trincoll.edu

UConn Rainbow Center

http://www.rainbowcenter.uconn.edu
rainbowcenter@uconn.edu

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NOHO PRIDE

OUR VISION: To foster events that honor the integrity, history and diversity of our LGBT community and to create unity within the LGBT and allied communities.

Transgender Organizations in New England*

By: *Bet Power/Compiled for The Rainbow Times*

Connecticut

Connecticut Outreach Society (COS)

Hartford-based, COS is a support group for all transgender individuals and cross-dressers and their spouses or significant others. Meets twice monthly. Contact: (860) 604-6343
membership@ctoutreach.org • www.ctoutreach.org
P.O. Box 163, Farmington, CT 06034

Connecticut TransAdvocacy Coalition (CTAC)

CTAC's mission is to improve, through grassroots political and social advocacy, societal policies and the law to achieve equal rights for trans and gender non-conforming individuals and communities. Contact: (860) 983-8139
info@transadvocacy.com • www.transadvocacy.com
P.O. Box 330304, West Hartford, CT 06133-0304

The ConnecticutVView

This social and support group welcomes LGBs as well as Ts and their significant others and friends. Contact: Denise Mason
masond@aol.com • www.transgender.org/ctv
Denise Mason, P.O. Box 2281, Devon, CT 06460

Transact

Transgender support group in Greenwich, CT. Contact: Kaylen (203) 661-2448

Transitioning and Loving Life (T.a.L.L.)

Transsexual support group in southeast CT. Meets every other Friday evening. Contact: thetallgroup@gmail.com
http://thetallgroup.org
P.O. Box 1998, New London, CT 06332

Triangle Transgender Society

This support/social group for transgender persons and their partners meets on the first Tuesday of the month, 7:00 to 10:00 p.m., in Norwalk, CT. Contact: triangetlgs@yahoo.com

True Colors

Sexual and gender minority youth and family services and training organization working with social services agencies, schools, and communities. Organizes the largest TLGB conference in the nation. Contact: (860) 232-0050
truecolors@ourtruecolors.org • http://ourtruecolors.org
576 Farmington Ave., Hartford, CT 06105

Twenty (XX) Club

Transsexual support group of the Gender Identity Clinic of New England. Meets 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month, 2:00-5:00 p.m., at the Project 100 GLBT Community Center, 1841 Broad St., Hartford, CT. Contact: (860) 646-8651 • www.twentyclub.org
P.O. Box 387, Hartford, CT 06141-0387

Massachusetts

Boston Area Transgender Support (BATS)

Support group for young (teens – twenties) trans-identified people hold meetings at MIT in Cambridge, MA. Contact: afran@mit.edu
boston-area-trans-supports@yahoogroups.com
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/boston-area-trans-support

Boston FTM SOFFAs

Support group for significant others, friends, families, and allies of FTM trans people. Contact: BostonFTMSOFFAgroups@yahoogroups.com
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BostonFTMSOFFAgroup/join

Compass FTM Group

Support, info-sharing, and social group for masculine-identified individuals assigned female at birth meets 1st Thursday of the month in Waltham, MA. Contact: IFGE office: (781) 899-2212
compassftm@comcast.net
En Espanol: ftmichael@gmail.com
www.compassftm.org

East Coast Female-to-Male Group (ECFTMG)

Peer FTM trans support group since 1992 for all persons along the trans-masculine spectrum, significant others, friends, family, and allies. Meets 2nd Sunday of every month, 3:00 to 6:00 p.m., in Northampton, MA. Contact: Bet Power (413) 584-7616
betpower@yahoo.com
P.O. Box 60585, Florence, MA 01062

Emerge

Offers classes, counseling, and education for abusive partners to stop domestic violence. Has classes for trans/lesbian/bi women. Contact: (617) 547-9789
emergedv@aol.com
www.emergedv.com
2464 Massachusetts Ave., Ste. 101, Cambridge, MA 02140

Fantasia Fair

Since 1975, a week-long transgender support, educational and social event held every October in Provincetown, MA for cross-dressers, transsexuals, transgender and intersex persons, and their significant others. Contact: info@fantasiafair.org • www.fantasiafair.org
554 Boston Post Rd. #187, Orange, CT 06477

Fenway Community Health Center

Offers support groups for people questioning their gender. Contact: Aaron (617) 927-6202
www.fenwayhealth.org
7 Haviland St., Boston, MA 02115

Fenway Community Health's TransHealth Navigator Program

Navigators consult with trans persons living in or around Boston to find access to medical care, housing, support, resources, and legal referrals. Services are in both English and Spanish. Contact: Alex Solange (617) 927-6449
asolange@fenwayhealth.org
www.fenwayhealth.org

The FTM Center

The voice of the transsexual man in the arts, sciences, literature, and professional arena, the FTM Center offers The Lion Heart Group for masculine spirituality and social events. Contact: Ernie (617) 971-9434
ftmcenter@mailcity.com
P.O. Box 642, Boston, MA 02130

Gender Talk Radio

Radio program advocating for trans rights & dignity hosted by Nancy Nangeroni and Gordene MacKenzie. Over 400 archived programs of progressive, trans-friendly talk recorded in the greater Boston area. Contact: Nancy Nangeroni • www.gendertalk.com

Gender Vision

Educational videos and DVDs discussing gender, masculinity, femininity, transgender, intersex, GLBT, and feminist issues, produced by Nancy Nangeroni and Gordene MacKenzie. Taped at BevCam cable access station in Beverly, MA. Contact: Nancy Nangeroni • www.gendervision.org

Generation Q

This social and support group for trans & queer youth (ages 21 and under) in Northampton & Greenfield, MA meets Tuesdays, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. in Greenfield and Wednesdays, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. in Northampton. Contact: (413) 475-1798
Maplewood Shops, Northampton, MA 01060

Girls Night Out/Sisters of Worcester

Social/support gatherings for trans and cross-dressing women at Club Blu, 105 Water St., Worcester, MA on Wednesdays, 8:30 p.m. to midnight.

GLAD Transgender Project

Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders (GLAD) puts its litigation, legislative, and educational assets to work to establish clear legal protections for the trans community. Contact: Jennifer Levi, Esq., Director
(617) 426-1350 • gladlaw@glad.org
www.glad.org/work/initiatives/c/transgender-rights-project
30 Winter St., Ste. 800, Boston, MA 02108

Innvestments

Support and social group for crossdressing, transgender, and transsexual persons on Cape Cod, the Islands, and southeastern MA meets first Wednesday of each month at Club 477, 477 Yarmouth Rd., Hyannis, MA. Contact: Victoria2007@innvestments.org
www.innvestments.org
P.O. Box 1557, Sagamore Beach, MA 02562

Interfaith Coalition for Transgender Equality (ICTE)

ICTE supports activism and education on transgender issues throughout communities of faith. Contact: Orly Jacobovits
(617) 524-9227 • orly@keshetonline.org
Richard M. Juang
interfaithcoalition@gmail.com
www.interfaithcoalition.org

International Foundation for Gender Education (IFGE)

Non-profit advocacy organization founded in 1987, IFGE promotes acceptance for transgender people. Provides meeting space in Waltham, MA, online and walk-in transgender bookstore, hosts an annual convention, publishes Transgender Tapestry magazine, and more. Contact: (781) 899-2212
info@ifge.org • www.ifge.org
P.O. Box 540229, Waltham, MA 02454

Transgender resources cont. on page 38

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IFGE's Synchronicity Bookstore

Comprehensive online and walk-in transgender bookstore located in the International Foundation for Gender Education, 14 Felton St., 2nd floor, Waltham, MA 02453.
 Contact: (781) 899-2212
 books@ifge.org • www.ifge.org
 P.O. Box 540229, Waltham, MA 02454-0229

Keshet Transgender Working Group

Keshet's mission is to ensure that GLBT Jews are fully included in all parts of the Jewish community. In the greater Boston area, Keshet provides social and cultural events for GLBT Jews. Its Transgender Working Group is a support/social group for transgender Jews and allies.
 Contact: (617) 524-9227 Mycroft Holmes
 MasadArts@gmail.com • www.keshetonline.org
 284 Armory St., Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Lawyers for Transgender Rights

Networking event in Boston to bring together the MA legal community – lawyers, law students, law firms, legal and bar associations, and law schools – to support MTPC's work on behalf of the transgender community.
 Contact: Gunner Scott • gscott@masstpc.org
 www.masstpc.org/lawyers

Mass Equality

Grassroots organization working to achieve full equality for the LGBT community in MA. A key priority is achieving transgender equality through passing statewide legislation adding gender identity/expression to existing non-discrimination laws.
 Contact: (617) 878-2300
 info@massequality.org • www.massequality.org
 262 Washington St., 7th floor, Boston, MA 02108

Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition (MTPC)

Statewide political advocacy organization dedicated to ending discrimination based on gender identity and gender expression through passage of H.B. 1728. MTPC educates the public, lobbies state and local government, encourages political activism, and empowers community members through collective action. Meets 2nd Monday of the month, 7:00 p.m. at BAGLY, 14 Beacon St., 1st floor, Boston, MA. MTPC has chapters in Boston, North Shore, Worcester, and Western MA.
 Contact: Gunner Scott (617) 983-0219
 info@masstpc.org • www.masstpc.org
 P.O. Box 301897, Jamaica Plain, MA 02130

Miss Trans New England Pageant 2010

An annual competition for transsexual women living in New England and NY based on glamour, poise, and talent categories. Event is open to the public and takes place in Northampton, MA in the fall.
 Contact: Christa Hilfers, Producer
 misstransnewengland@gmail.com
 www.misstransnewengland.com

The Network/La Red

Provides free, confidential, bilingual, and statewide services for those dealing with partner abuse and relationship violence in the transgender, bisexual women's, and lesbian communities.
 Contact:
 Office: (617) 695-0877
 Bilingual Hotline: (617) 742-4911
 TTY: (617) 227-4911
 info@thenetworklaared.org
 www.thenetworklaared.org
 P.O. Box 6011, Boston, MA 02114

New England Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, and Transgender Veterans

Boston-based support and services organization for GLBT active duty, reserve, and veteran members of the U.S. Armed Forces. A Transgender Veterans Liaison is available.
 Contact: Janice Josephine Carney, Trans Liaison, Member Transgender American Veterans (TAVA)
 janicejosephinecarney@gmail.com
 http://janicejosephine.com

New England Trans United (NETU) Pride March & Rally

The NETU Pride March and Rally takes place in the fall in Northampton, MA. The event is organized by the trans community to fight for transgender civil rights in New England.
 Contact: (413) 461-6853
 newenglandtransunitedchrista@yahoo.com
 www.newenglandtransunited2010.org
 P.O. Box 611, Northampton, MA 01061

New Horizons Trans Group

Meets every Sunday, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. at AIDS Project Worcester, 85 Green St., Worcester, MA.
 Contact: (508) 755-3773
 glbt@aidsprojectworcester.org

Northeast Transwomen's Alliance (NETA)

NETA is a transwomen's health and support organization in the North Shore, MA/Southern NH area founded by transwomen to increase the health and well-being of the trans community. Support groups with guest speakers meet Wednesdays, 7:00 to 9:00 p.m., 156 Cabot St., Beverly, MA.
 Contact: Lilli or Eva (978) 927-4506 x219
 info@netranswomensalliance.org
 http://netranswomensalliance.org

PFLAG-TNET, Greater Boston

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG) Transgender Network (TNET) offer support groups in the greater Boston area for parents of trans or gender-variant children. Meets on Thursdays (call for times) at The Sidney Borum Jr. Health Center, 130 Boylston St., Boston, MA.
 Contact: Pam (781) 891-5966
 Melissa MacNish (617) 457-8140

PFLAG's Transgender Helpline

Support and resources hotline for families of trans children and trans people.
 Contact: Karen Gross (216) 691-HELP (4357)
 IMATMom@aol.com

PFLAG Worcester

Support and information for parents of trans or gender-variant children.
 Contact: Laura (508) 755-0333
 Jenn (774) 402-8142
 pflagworcester@iname.com
 http://www.pflagworcester.org
 4 Mann St., Worcester, MA

Recovering the Promise Ministries

This radically inclusive worshipping community offers a safe place for all persons to flourish – especially women, same-gender-loving individuals, transgender persons, people in recovery, and others. Services are held the last Saturday of every month, 2:00 p.m., South Congregational Church UCC, 45 Maple St., Springfield, MA.
 Contact: Minister Louis Mitchell
 RecoveringthePromise@yahoo.com
 P.O. Box 3002, Springfield, MA 01101-3002

Sisters of Boston

Social group for trans and cross-dressing women meets every Friday night for social outings.
 Contact: Sonia1427@gmail.com
 http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sisters_of_boston

The Stonewall Center

Information, referral services, educational and cultural programming, speakers bureau, free LGBT lending library, QueerE events listserv, support and advocacy. Located at UMass Amherst with office hours M-F 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
 Contact: Genny Beemyn, Director (413) 545-4824
 brettgenny@stuaf.umass.edu
 stonewall@stuaf.emass.edu
 www.umass.edu/stonewall
 University of Massachusetts, Crampton Hall SW, Amherst, MA 01003

The Sunshine Club

Peer support/social organization for transgender individuals (MTF and FTM) and their significant others, friends, and allies. Meets 4th Saturday of the month, 7:00 p.m., in Hadley, MA.
 Contact: Roberta S. (413) 586-5004
 rsteel@att.net • www.thesunshineclub.org
 P.O. Box 564, Hadley, MA 01035-0564

Sydney Borum Jr. Health Center

Boston-based clinic provides supportive health-related services for trans persons, their families and significant others, including trans-positive therapy and gender counseling.
 Contact: (617) 457-8140
 www.jri.org/theborum/Services-Transgender-Care.php
 130 Boylston St., Boston, MA 02116

Tapestry Health

Since 1973, Tapestry delivers affordable, community-based LGBT health-care services, reproductive health-care, HIV counseling and testing, and needle exchange.
 Contact: (413) 586-2016 or 1-800-696-7752
 www.tapestryhealth.org
 296 Nonotuck St., Florence, MA 01062

TG/TS Group

Monthly support group every 2nd Wednesday at First Parish, Unitarian Universalist Church, Brewster, MA.
 Contact: (508) 362-4435

THEO's Place

Drop-in and resource center for trans people, their families, and allies, at 30 N. Maple St. in Florence, MA.
 Contact: (413) 584-1099
 info@theos-place.org • www.theos-place.org
 P.O. Box 244, Northampton, MA 01060-0244

Tiffany Club of New England (TCNE)

Support and social group for all members of the trans community and friends/family offers meetings and special events.
 Contact: (781) 891-9325 or (781) 899-3230 (answered live Tuesdays, 7:00 to 11:00 p.m.)
 info@tcne.org • www.tcne.org
 P.O. Box 540071 Waltham, MA 02454-0071

Tiffany Club Wives' Support Group

Support and information for wives of trans and cross-dressing women.
 Contact: (781) 891-9325 (answered live Tuesdays, 7:00 to 11:00 p.m.)

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Trans Education & Empowerment (TREE)

TREE is a social and support group for trans and gender non-conforming youth (ages 21 and under) in Greenfield and Northampton, MA. Meets at Community Action Youth Programs in Greenfield on Tuesdays, 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. and at Generation Q in the Maplewood Shops in Northampton on Wednesdays, 4:30 to 5:30 p.m.
Contact: (413) 475-1799

Transcend

Social/support group for the trans community in the Berkshires. Sponsored by the Berkshire Stonewall Community Coalition, meets one Sunday each month at the South Congregational Church of Pittsfield, 110 South St., Pittsfield, MA
Contact: BSCC Info line: (413) 243-8484
www.berkshirstonewall.org/BSCC_Cal.htm

TransCEND (Transgender Care and Education Needs Diversity)

Community-based HIV prevention and health program by and for transgender women. Support groups and daily open office hours. Community drop-in space at CCA in Cambridge, MA.
Contact: Bliss Tyler (617) 599-0241
www.cca.org/transcend.html
Cambridge Cares About AIDS,
17 Sellers St., Cambridge, MA 02139

Transgender, Sober & Free Alcoholics Anonymous Group

Trans-oriented AA meeting every week at IFGE in Waltham, MA.
Contact: (781) 899-2212

Transgender Emergency Fund (TEF)

Provides critical financial assistance to low-income transgender people throughout MA.
Contact: Jesse Pack (508) 755-3773
jessep@aidspjprojectworcester.org
http://tgemergencyfund.org
c/o AIDS Project Worcester,
85 Green St., Worcester, MA 01604

Free Transgender Legal Clinic

Free monthly legal clinic provided by MA Transgender Legal Advocate for low-income transgender people, 3rd Thursday of each month, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., at TransCEND, a program of Cambridge Cares about AIDS, 17 Sellers St., Cambridge, MA.
Contact: (617) 450-1353
TransgenderLegalAdvocates@gmail.com

Trans FM Radio

Internet broadcasting network streams live The Sodium Pentothal Sunday show dealing with gender issues with a comic twist, Sundays, 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. and streams music 24 hrs.
Contact: Ethan St. Pierre (978) 518-1835
Radicalguy@gmail.com
http://transfm.squarespace.com

UniTy of the Pioneer Valley

Transgender support group for MTFs and FTMs, significant others, friends, family and allies. Meets 2nd Thursday of the month at Blue Moon Coffee Roasters, 715 Sumner Ave., Springfield, MA, and 4th Thursday of the month, 6:30 to 9:00 p.m., at Baystate Medical Center, 759 Chestnut St., Springfield, MA.
Contact: Davida (413) 736-4773 • Keri (413) 782-2581
http://home.attbi.com/~Unity

Rhode Island

Compass Rhode Island

RI branch of the Boston FTM support group. New-comers welcome. Contact c/o IFGE.
Contact: (781) 899-2212
compassftm@cox.net
http://compassftm.org

Laura's Playground

Free support website for transsexuals, transgender persons, cross-dressers, intersex, androgynous, and their significant others and friends. Includes 23 message forums, live moderated transgender chat, and a transgender suicide prevention online chat.
Contact: laura@lauras-playground.com
www.lauras-playground.com

Lifelines Rhode Island

Offers support and community through Borderlands TGI Support Group for trans people, gender-variant, and intersex persons in RI and surrounding region. The TGI Advocates Program helps protect the civil rights of TGI persons in diverse situations.
Contact: (401) 369-9680 Victor
victor@lifelinesri.org
or advocates@lifelinesri.org
info@lifelineri.org
www.lifelinesri.org
69 Governor St., Ste. 273, Providence, RI 02906

Vermont

Burlington Support Group

Vermont transgender support.
Contact: (802) 860-8430
TRANS, P.O. Box 5687, Burlington, VT 05402

Genders R Us

Transgender support in Burlington, VT.
Contact: Yolanda@yolanda.net or
Carolyn@vtcares.org

Outright Vermont

Support for TLGBQ youth (ages 13-22). Drop-in space, groups, social and community events at 241 N. Winooski Ave., Burlington, VT.
Contact:
Youth crisis hotline (24/7): 1-866-488-7386
(802) 865-9677
info@outrightvt.org
http://outrightvt.org
P.O. Box 5235, Burlington, VT 05402

Vermont TransAction at RU12? Community Center

VT TransAction is a coalition of community members and organizations that formed in 2004 to pass legislation in VT to include gender identity/expression in VT's anti-discrimination law. Meets the first Thursday of each month, 6:00 to 8:00 p.m., at RU12?, 34 Elmwood Ave., Burlington, VT.
Contact: (802) 860-7812
thecenter@ru12.org
www.ru12.org/vermont-transaction.html
P.O. Box 5883, Burlington, VT 05402-5883

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University of Hartford Spectrum

http://uhaweb.hartford.edu/spectrum
spectrum@hartford.edu

UMass Amherst Stonewall Center

http://www.umass.edu/stonewall/transresguide
stonewall@stuaf.umass.edu

UMass Amherst Everywoman's Center

Hotline: 1-888-337-0800
Ewcmail@admin.umass.edu
www.umass.edu/ewc

Wellesley Spectrum

http://www.wellesley.edu/Activities/homepage/spectrum

Yale GLBT Cooperative

http://www.yale.edu/lgbt
lgbt@yale.edu

COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY GAY GROUPS

Amherst College Pride Alliance

www.amherst.edu/~pridealliance
pridealliance@amherst.edu

Hampshire College Queer Community Alliance Center

http://www.hampshire.edu/studentlife/1074.htm
erSA@hampshire.edu

Trinity College GLBT Safe Space

Laura.Lockwood@trincoll.edu

UConn Rainbow Center

http://www.rainbowcenter.uconn.edu
rainbowcenter@uconn.edu

University of Hartford Spectrum

http://uhaweb.hartford.edu/spectrum
spectrum@hartford.edu

UMass Amherst Stonewall Center

http://www.umass.edu/stonewall/transresguide
stonewall@stuaf.umass.edu

Yale GLBT Cooperative

http://www.yale.edu/lgbt • lgbt@yale.edu

COLLEGE & UNIVERSITY BISEXUAL-POSITIVE GROUPS

Amherst College Pride Alliance

www.amherst.edu/~pridealliance
pridealliance@amherst.edu

Hampshire College Queer Community Alliance Center

http://www.hampshire.edu/studentlife/1074.htm
erSA@hampshire.edu

Mount Holyoke True Colors

www.mtholyoke.edu/org/colors

Smith College Spectrum

http://sophia.smith.edu/spectrum
spectrum@smith.edu

Trinity College GLBT Safe Space

Laura.Lockwood@trincoll.edu

UConn Rainbow Center

http://www.rainbowcenter.uconn.edu
rainbowcenter@uconn.edu

University of Hartford Spectrum

http://uhaweb.hartford.edu/spectrum
spectrum@hartford.edu

UMass Amherst Stonewall Center

http://www.umass.edu/stonewall/transresguide
stonewall@stuaf.umass.edu

Yale GLBT Cooperative

http://www.yale.edu/lgbt • lgbt@yale.edu



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Noho Pride 2010 Vendors

- ADAM QUENNEVILLE ROOFING
- ADMIRALS INN RESORT
- ANDEAN CREATIONS
- BABY WRAPS
- BAY STATE STONEWALL DEMOCRATS
- BAYSTATE HEALTH
- BEAR SPIRIT DESIGN
- BURTON GALLERIES
- CITIZENS BANK
- COLAGE WESTERN MA
- CONSTRUCT ASSOCIATES, INC.
- COOLEY DICKINSON HOSPITAL
- THE COPPER TURTLE
- D&L CONCESSIONS
- DEBBRA GORCZYCKI, FINANCIAL ADVISOR AT AMERIPRISE
- DITC - DYKES IN THE CITY
- DIVA'S NIGHTCLUB
- ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS
- EXECUTIVE VALET PARKING
- FRIENDS OF WISSATINNEWAG, INC.
- FULL OF GRACE FARMS
- GAY & LESBIAN ADVOCATES AND DEFENDERS
- GLAAD
- HATTAPORN'S THAI KITCHEN
- HEARTWORKS
- HENNA BY HEATHER
- HIGHLAND INN, BETHLEHEM, NH
- HOLYOKE COMMUNITY COLLEGE DEAF STUDIES
- HOT STUFF CREATIONS
- HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN
- JEWELRY BY JANE
- JEWISH COMMUNITY OF AMHERST, INC.
- JUNE'S CRAFTS
- KB DESIGNS
- KING~N~HIS NAUGHTY BUNNIES
- KRISTA'S CUPS / THE PSTYLE
- LAW FIRM OF MARY E. LECKEY
- LAW OFFICE OF JONAS URBA, P.A.
- LEADING THEWAY DOG TRAINING/ DOGGIE DAYCARE
- LGBT COALITION OF WESTERN MA
- LOGO TV
- LYNN BERRY - ARTIST
- M & M LINKS
- MARIPOSA PRESS
- MARY VAZQUEZ WOMEN'S SOFTBALL LEAGUE
- MASS MOCA
- MASS MUTUAL CENTER
- MASS MUTUAL FINANCIAL GROUP

- MASS STATE ASSOC. FOR THE DEAF
- MASSACHUSETTSTRANSGENDERED POLITICAL COALITION
- MASSEQUALITY
- MICHAEL HORVATH STAINED GLASS
- MICKEY'S BASKETS & STAINED GLASS
- MOTHER WOMAN
- THE NETWORK / LA RED
- NEW BEGINNINGS CHIROPRACTIC
- NEW ENGLAND LEATHER ALLIANCE
- NORTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AMHERST
- NORTHAMPTON COUNCIL ON AGING AND SENIOR CENTER
- NORTHAMPTON'S PRIDE AND JOY
- NUTMEG CONCESSIONS
- ONYX FUSION BAR AND RESTAURANT
- OUT NOW, INC
- OUT! FOR REEL
- OUT! WEAR
- OZ CREATIONS
- PAWPOOZ PETS/ NO PET LEFT BEHIND
- PERFORMER'S MERCHANDISE
- PFLAG HAMPSHIRE/FRANKLIN COUNTY
- PLANNED PARENTHOOD
- POPPIES
- PRISM PIXELS
- QUALITY INN & SUITES NORTHAMPTON, MA
- RAINBOW TIMES, THE
- RED BARN CREATIONS
- RIGA BELLO'S FRIED DOUGH
- SAM'S PIZZERIA AND CAFÉ
- SARAH PRALL PHOTOGRAPHY
- SELECT MARKETING
- SETH KAYE PHOTOGRAPHY
- SHARON C. MEHRMAN WOODWORKING
- SPRINGFIELD FALCONS
- STEVE LEWIS SUBARU: HOME OF THE OFFICIAL CAR OF NOHO PRIDE
- STONEWALL CENTER AT UMASS AMHERST
- STUDIO SMC PHOTOGRAPHY
- TAPESTRY HEALTH
- TREEHUG TRADING CO.
- UMASS PSYCHOLOGICAL SERVICES CENTER
- VALLEY MEDIATION
- VAPIDUS DESIGNS
- WESTHAMPTON CONGREGATIONAL, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
- WHALEN INSURANCE AGENCY
- WILLIAMSTOWN THEATRE FESTIVAL

Church resources continued from page 35

Haydenville

The Haydenville Congregational Church, UCC

143 Main Street, Haydenville, MA 01039
(413) 268-9344
<http://www.haydenvillechurch.org/campaign.html>

Leverett

First Congregational Church

4 Montague Rd., Leverett, MA 01054
413-548-9199
<http://www.leverettcongregationalchurch.org/>

Montague

First Congregational Church

4 North Street, Montague, MA 01351
(413) 367-9467
<http://www.montaguechurch.org/>

Northampton

Edwards Church, UCC

297 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060
(413) 584-5500
<http://www.edwardschurchnorthampton.org/>

First Churches, UCC & ABC

129 Main Street, Northampton, MA 01060-3145
(413) 584-9392
<http://firstchurches.org/>

Unitarian Society of Northampton

220 Main St., Northampton, MA 01060
(413) 584-1390
<http://www.uunorthampton.org>

South Hadley

First Congregational Church of South Hadley

1 Church Street, South Hadley, MA 01075-1508
(413) 532-2262
<http://www.centerchurchsouthhadley.org/>

Springfield

Foster Memorial Church, UCC

1234 Parker Street, Springfield, MA 01129
(413) 782-2112
<http://www.fostermemorial.org/>

Unitarian Universalist Society of Greater Springfield

245 Porter Lake Drive, Springfield MA 01106
413-736-2324
<http://www.uspringfield.org/uusgs/home.html>

Sinai Temple

1110 Dickinson Street, Springfield, MA 01108
413-736-3619
<http://www.sinai-temple.org/>

South Congregational Church, UCC

45 Maple Street, Springfield MA 01105
(413) 732-0117
<http://www.sococh.org/>

Westhampton

Westhampton Congregational Church, UCC

1 Tob Hill Road, Westhampton, MA 01027
(413) 527-4204
<http://westhamptonchurchucc.org/>

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LGBT Chamber of Commerce

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Help us strengthen and enhance business opportunities for LGBT and LGBT-friendly organizations throughout Connecticut *and* Massachusetts.

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CABO is the 2009 Rising Star Chamber and an affiliate of the
National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce.



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is proud to partner with the GLBT community to improve the health of the people in our communities every day, with quality and compassion.

At Baystate Health we foster an inclusive, respectful, and welcoming environment for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender patients and families.

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Baystate  Health

Baystate Medical Center

Baystate Franklin Medical Center

Baystate Mary Lane Hospital

baystatehealth.org