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Covering Florida's Space and Treasure Coasts



Issue #060, November 2007

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October 25, 2007  
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# REBAR

photos: Lee, Richard & Ashley



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# REBAR

The Treasure Coast's Music Video Bar

November 3:  
Tori Holden with

November 10:  
Melissa Mason  
with



Deja Devonier  
Melissa St. John



Rebecca Glasscock  
Alexis DeLaMer

November 17:  
Kelli Randell with



Spikey Dykey  
Reggie B. Coxsworthy

November 24:  
Velvet Lenore hosts



Faith  
Christina LaBelle



# HOROSCOPE *by Jacqueline*

We start the month with Mercury going direct on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, bringing back the ability to negotiate through the challenges it brought. The New Moon on the 9<sup>th</sup> will give you the ability to get around what has been holding you back. Venus will be going into Libra on the 8<sup>th</sup>, giving all of us a more intimate look at our personal relationships. Mars will go retrograde on the 15<sup>th</sup>, which will cause harsh judgments to be made. It's best during this time to ask questions and wait to come to your conclusions, because when the full moon in Gemini comes on the 24<sup>th</sup>, you'll find the true actions you should take.

**Aries** March 23 - April 22 Even though mercury is going direct on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, there will be conflicts that you'll have to balance and resolve. Use this month to listen to others opinions and start to redirect your plans. This is not the time to take action, but it is a time for reevaluation and reflection. Don't get hung up on the day to day stuff. It'll take care of itself.

**Taurus** April 23 - May 22 With Ceres retrograde, you won't get the nurturing from others that you desire. This month it's nose to the grindstone for you. Use your natural bullish tendencies and be direct in your plans. Your efforts will pay off. This is the halfway point in your year and it opens up an avenue to change your old routine. Make plans that will better your life.

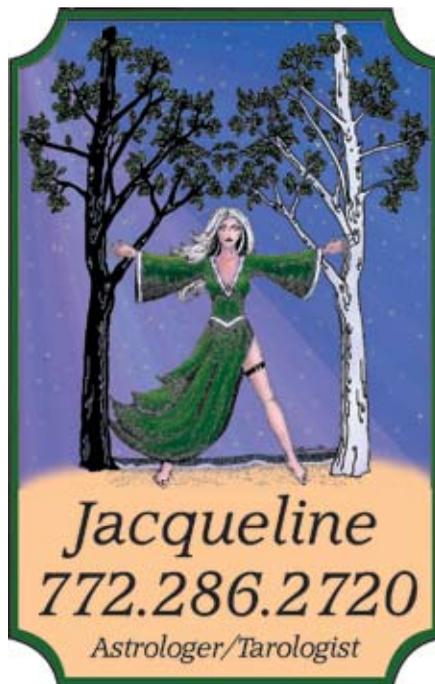
**Gemini** May 23 - June 22 With Mercury going direct on the 2<sup>nd</sup> you'll find that what you thought you wanted before, isn't really what you want at all. Don't get frustrated, you know exactly what you want, use your charm to get there. All will start to fall into place.

**Cancer** June 23 - July 22 This month

the old saying actions speak louder than words will work for you. Don't get into a needless debate; you'll loose. For now, use your actions to plan for what you want in the future and don't worry about what others are saying. You're going in the right direction, especially with your long term financial goals.

**Leo** July 23 - August 22 You'll feel like you're stuck in the mud this month. Relax, have some fun, take a vacation you won't find satisfaction at work. Your friends will seek your advice. They know that you're in a transition, have patience; they have something to teach you from their own experiences.

**Virgo** August 23 - September 22 You'll find this month to bring many opportunities,



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\*Harris, Rothenberg International, LLC, "The John Hancock 2005 Cost of Care Survey."

you may feel overwhelmed. Don't try to over analyze everything. You're being taught how to go with your instincts and to take one thing at a time. Saturn is in your sign now. What that means is that time is irrelevant. It's the journey to get there that's important.

**Libra** September 23 - October 22 With Venus going into your sign, others will be attracted to you. Make sure that you don't over extend yourself. Delays in plans will occur. Relax, it's giving you the chance to fine tune everything. Don't forget to take some time for yourself or you'll find yourself drained by the end of the month.

**Scorpio** October 23 - November 22 Happy Solar Return! This month brings a new respect for those who make something out of nothing. Learn from them. This talent can serve you well both in your personal and professional life. You're in the spotlight; show off your own natural abilities and others will reward you, especially in business. Most of all, look toward the future and don't get lost in the past.

**Sagittarius** November 23 - December 22 High ho hi ho, It's off to work you go. Yes, it's another month to focus on your work. I know you may be feeling frustrated, but it's time for you to make sure you follow through with the details. You're new solar return is next month and all will change for the better. So examine what you're being taught, relax, and don't take it so seriously!

**Capricorn** December 23 - January 22 You're judging things to hard because of the Mercury retrograde. Take a step back and

look at things in a different perspective or you'll find this month to be very challenging. Make the time to nurture yourself and allow others to be responsible for themselves. A slow and steady pace is where you'll find your strength.

**Aquarius** January 23 - February 22 You're intuitive abilities are heightened this month. Listen, use it to make physical changes and follow it to where it leads you. However, when it comes to your personal life, don't depend on others to see your point of view. This is a time to listen to their perspective and fine tune your plan. They'll understand later.

**Pisces** February 23 - March 22 Feeling a little lost? Feeling the need to do something? Try something physical. Start a new routine, learn something new; focus on a project, calm that urge. This will help you to not be so sensitive towards others as well as direct your energies towards your needs. ▼

**For those who want to know:** This month Venus will go into its ruling sign, Libra. Venus is the planet of love and beauty. It rules our one to one relationships. It strives for balance. Venus is giving all of us the opportunity to look at the beauty that is in this world and come to a balance in our lives with what we love.

**Monthly horoscopes by Jacqueline.** She is at B&A Flea Market in Stuart every weekend from 10 to 2. For more information on Astrology or for a private reading call: 772.286.2720

## Greetings

By Tom Dudzick

It's sometimes harder coming home at Christmastime, particularly if your family is Catholic and your fiancé is not. We've all suffered these kinds of holidays, but on this night, the Gorski family hosts a very special guest. Another comic masterpiece by the author of the hilariously touching play, *Over the Tavern*.

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# REBAR

## PRESENTS

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# Josh Zuckerman

## Live in Concert

# 11PM Friday, Nov. 16



You saw him at Treasure Coast Pridefest 07. On September 15<sup>th</sup> "Something Inside" became his third Sirius Radio #1 hit single.  
Hostess: Kelli Randell, Raffles, 50/50

## Cover \$5 ~ a benefit for Treasure Coast Pride 2008

Other upcoming Treasure Coast Pride Events:

- November 11, 2007 Wine Tasting 2pm – 6pm call (772) 344-5803 for info
- Treasure Coast Pride Pageant – watch for details
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## OUT ON THE COAST MAGAZINE

# Tea Time

with Miss T

Blond moments for last month: our cover model was Michell, not Michele; **Jeffrey's** phone number is 321-431-3177. It's so embarrassing when we put the wrong number in an ad! I keep telling the boss that we need to hire a proof reader so we can fire somebody when this stuff happens.

Speaking of **Jeffery** most of you know him as friendly **Cold Keg** bartender. And, again, most of you know his body painting which you've seen him do at numerous **Cold Keg** parties. But did you know he's also a fine artist, (yes, he's good but fine artist means he creates art suitable for framing and putting on your wall) as well as being a muralist (check your Funk and Wagnalls if you don't know what that means). So check out **Jeffrey's** ad with the correct phone number on the inside back cover and give him a call for to paint a scene on your wall, a picture for your wall or you!

And while you're on the inside back cover see how many new advertisers you can spot: did you see **Wahoo Coffee Company**? They're in Cocoa Beach and their ad is worth a couple of bucks off a pound of coffee. The Space Coast Business Guild held their October meeting there and it was great! They laid out quite a spread and with plenty of fresh-roasted coffee it was fit for a queen (or a room-full to be exact). So when you're over beach side and need a caffeine fix check out **Wahoo Coffee Company**.

**All Heavenly Creatures** pet crematory is another new advertiser – Tammy and Fran are great and are there to help you through when you need them. From emergency pick up through whatever kind of arrangements you want to make Tammy and her crew will make you feel safe in the arms of family. Tammy also provides space for Old Catholic Church services and is a huge believer in supporting our community, it was a real treat meeting her!

**Gerry Mendes** at **Stuart Volkswagen** is our other new advertiser. We're really proud to have a mainstream advertiser (and yes, he got the ok from his boss for the ad). So when you're in need of a new ride, or thinking about it, or just want to check out some cars, grab your honey and go see **Gerry**. He'll do his best to get you into new set of wheels that fit you to a T. Hell, just stop in and say hello! Show his bosses that a little ad can generate traffic – make the other salesmen jealous and make **Gerry** look good. Do it for the family, it make us all look good!

Speaking of friends and family, did you see the Port St. Lucie councilwoman at **REBAR** the



(from left) co-owner Jerry with Port St. Lucie councilwoman Linda Bartz, Dan and co-owner Jim at **REBAR**.

other night? She was on her way home from a show with Dan and stopped in to catch the drag show. Now that's a first for our area: a local politician not scared to be seen in a gay bar! It bodes well for the future in PSL – what a difference a couple of miles makes: Stuart is throwing up every roadblock they can to prevent a gay bar/restaurant opening about six miles south of **REBAR**.

The lesson to take home from this is to remember the name Linda Bartz and when you see if VOTE FOR HER, stand up for her, she's our friend and we need to act like her friends and make sure her political career is successful. Linda's success will attract more supporters and then we will see PSL and our community grow and prosper. It seems that first one politician then another and soon the whole city government comes to realize how the success of the gay community helps growth and success of the city. Check out the history of growth in other cities vis-à-vis gay friendly politicians and remember, history does repeat itself!



At the final monthly Gay Skate, with a little help from his friends, one participant roller skated, for the first time.

**The Living Room** was not successful in getting enough people out to keep Gay Skate going on a monthly basis so it won't happen again until next year. Sadly, it remains to be seen that the center itself will remain open. Despite a stunning lack of support by Brevardians **The Living Room** board has stretched itself razor thin making ends meet but resources are quickly coming to an end. In a last ditch effort the board has set up on-line PayPal donations at [www.TLRbrevard.org](http://www.TLRbrevard.org) and is sending out email pleas for funding. There are rumors that some people of means will be stepping forward soon but the question is when (and the board

has heard this one before). They are asking for pledges of \$20 a month and only have 10 commitments (actually it's 6 people because one person is giving \$100 per month).

In the meantime there is a board position open in November as one of the original organizers is finishing his term and moving on. Here's hoping someone will step up and fill the position quickly – the last board position went unfilled for months. Here's a chance for someone to step up and make a difference. I hear about the people trashing **The Living Room** and bad mouthing the board, but when it comes time to put up, they never seem to be there and they won't even come to a board meeting and speak their mind.

It's a good thing **The Living Room** is a concept, not a building, not a room, not a physical thing at all and it will continue on regardless. Planning is underway for the first annual Space Coast Pride Fest to be held in Wickham Park next May. That will happen and events will happen and **The Living Room** will continue to serve the Space Coast in whatever ways the Space Coast is willing to support. Why people refuse to get involved is just beyond me (and it's not for lack of being asked, that's for sure).

Support has been strong for the **Cold Keg** mascot, Kabuki. She's in the top 20 in the cutest puppy contest but the final



Kabuki, the fearless **Cold Keg** mascot holds court in the office while waiting for news about the contest.

continued on page 13

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continued from page 11

results weren't in at press time. We'll let you know if she wins. Monday Beer Pong at **Cold Keg** is a winner, that's for sure. What a riot, it's friendly competition that brings some fun to after work relaxation. If you haven't been, you should stop in and check it out!

*Just some friendly Beer Pong hi-jinks (it's against the rules to give your partner a boost – and yes there are official rules to this game).*



We're always checking out Velvet Lenore's retinue, her entourage, the boys she has in tow – they're talented backup dancers and when she brings them to **Cold Keg** for a Thursday night gig, they often participate in the strip contest which is always good for eye-candy!



*Two of Velvet Lenore's backup dancers show off their skills in the strip contest at Cold Keg's Trash night recently*

And lest we forget, happy birthday DJ Spin. Check out the **Cold Keg** ad in the center of the magazine and see



*So you toss the ball into your opponent's cup and they have to drink. Hmm, so if you "win," your opponents get to drink? I need to check those rules again!*

if you can figure out which Saturday he'll be celebrating on (here's a hint: he won't be the DJ that night).

Kenny, the manager at **REBAR** celebrated his birthday a couple of weeks ago. At the end of the show three boys took the dance floor and I fully expected to see them strip as a special treat for Kenny's birthday. Alas, that was not to be. However Velvet, always one to appreciate a handsome young man, helped get the shirt off one of them but the rest didn't take the hint. We were mightily disappointed (and



*DJ Spin has a birthday coming up real soon so be at Cold Keg to help him celebrate.*

continued on page 30

# Spiritually Speaking

Imagine you had everything: lots of money, designer clothes, fast cars, holidays abroad, friends, and fame—and then suddenly—you found that having all these things did not bring you happiness. If you can imagine this, then you can imagine something about St. Francis of Assisi. Francis had everything but the one thing he did not have was happiness.

Most people know that St. Francis was rich but became poor; that he gave up everything to follow God; and that he loved animals. The question is, how did he change, or more importantly, why? He himself says that the decisive moment came when he met a leper. Now, the lepers of St. Francis' time were treated much the same as the lepers of Jesus' time - everyone hated them, despised them, feared them. They were outcasts, what we would call today "non-people". St. Francis hated them too and could not bear the site or smell of them; they made him sick and he was afraid of catching their disease. There was a leprosarium just outside his hometown of Assisi - and he used to travel three miles around the town in order to avoid passing it.

But things do not always work the way we plan. One day while riding, St. Francis got off his horse. Nothing strange about that, except he got off his horse so that he could embrace a leper! Yes, so that he could embrace a leper. So that he could actually take into his arms that thing he despised and hated most. Why would he do this? Sometimes it is hard to tell why we do anything, except to say that he was compelled to do it, he had to do it. He had to do it because his life was changing. There was a slow process of

change beginning in St Francis - and it began with this embrace of the leper.

We are the same, aren't we? We refuse to come out of our comfort zones to spread love and cheerfulness, especially to those so unlike us....Jesus said we are the light of the world—let us "brighten the corner where we are... As a child, I recall my great grandmother, as stern as Queen Victoria and so pro-British, although she was strictly Canadian. She sang an old hymn entitled: "Brighten the Corner Where You Are." That says it all. Wherever we are, we are to shine the light and brighten the darkness around us with God's all-redeeming love. We are the People of divine love.

We must learn to embrace life and be grateful and in return show God's love to those less fortunate. Thanksgiving should not be once a year! It is a way of life! St. Francis discovered that in finding gratefulness and meaning in life's surprises and life's horrors, his life became a thankful and productive channel of God's mercy. We too, can experience the same through the attitude of gratitude and when we do we shall brighten the corner in which we find ourselves—even those unlikely corners of life that we do not realize how our random acts of kindness influence and change people around us.

Oh, I suppose we are all thankful, in our own ways. We are thankful that we have family— spouse, jobs, parents, friends. We are happy for the circumstances in which we find ourselves. Such pleasant living, such good living. We are even thankful that we know Jesus, that we are Christians. I wonder sometimes if we

ever have realized from what we have been cured? Do we realize that God has liberated us from self-centeredness and egotism?

One day, a man went to visit a church. He got there early, parked his car and got out. Another car pulled up said, "I always park there! You took my place!" The visitor went inside for Sunday School, found an empty seat and sat down. A young lady from the church approached him and stated, "That's my seat! You took my place!" The visitor was somewhat distressed by this rude welcome, but said nothing. After Sunday School, the visitor went into the sanctuary and sat down. Another member walked up to him and said, "That's my pew! You took my place!" The visitor was even more troubled by this treatment, but still he said nothing.

Later as the congregation was praying for Christ to dwell among them, the visitor stood up, and suddenly his appearance began to change. Horrible scars became visible on his hands and on his sandaled feet. Someone from the congregation noticed him and called out, "What happened to you?" The visitor replied, as his hat became a crown of thorns, and a tear fell from his eye: "I, took your place."

We will be transformed only as we learn humility, compassion, and servant hood—to be all Jesus was and is...a light in the darkness, unafraid to brighten the corner, no matter what... ▼

*The Reverend Gregory L. Denton is Pastor of New Hope First Community Church, "A church built on love where everyone is welcome," an independent growing congregation that believes in God's all-inclusive love. New Hope, celebrating its 11<sup>th</sup> year in the Palm Beaches, is located at 2929A South Seacrest Blvd. in Boynton Beach, FL. Sunday services are 10:30 am. Discussion Group/Bible Study Thursdays at 7:30 pm. On the web at: [www.newhopefla.org](http://www.newhopefla.org)*



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**OUT ON THE COAST**  
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**SUNDAY TEA DANCE** starts Nov 11, 3 - 7 PM  
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 NOV. 3**

**THURSDAY: Trash Night** Midnight Strip Contest

Hip-Hop by DJ SPIN

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 November 8: Amber Douglas    November 22: Page King  
 November 15: Kelli Randell    November 29: Stephanie Shippae

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November 8: Page King & Amber Douglas  
 November 9: Roz Russell    November 23: Paige King  
 November 16: Melissa Mason    November 30: Roz Russell

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The Hottest Dance Party On The Space Coast

November 3<sup>rd</sup>: DeeRanged with Dancers Ivy & Poseidon + Special Guest DJ Scotty  
 November 10<sup>th</sup>: Leigh Shannon with Dancers Spikey Dykey & Ben  
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# In Our Past

by Celeste DeRoche, Ph.D.

One of the strengths of the LGBT community is the organizations and institutions we create. Wherever we are, LGBT folks find ways to let others know there are friends and allies around. This month *In Our Past* continues the history of organizations that have been central and critical to LGBT communities around the country and the world.

## BOOKSTORES

Do you remember the first time you picked up a book that had a LGBT character/s in it? It was and is a thrilling event. Books by and about LGBT people are an indispensable component of our common culture. Books with LGBT people in them provide us with valuable information as well as providing critical sources for validation and growth as LGBT individuals and as people trying to build communities. LGBT bookstores have been a vital part of that process. In many cases, it was LGBT bookstores that made LGBT books available for the first time. LGBT bookstores often play another essential role, in that, in addition to selling books, they often became de facto community centers, a space where LGBT people could find information about local LGBT events and organizations.

Before there could be LGBT bookstores, there had to be LGBT books. In the 1940s there was a significant proliferation of published works by and about LGBT people. Gay male authors, like, Gore Vidal, James Baldwin, and Truman Capote wrote literary novels with LGBT characters. During the Cold War era that followed World War II, their novels often did not reach a wide audience.

LGBT-themed literary works were

regularly refused shelf space by libraries, bookstores refused to stock them and with the exception of LGBT people in urban areas most LGBT people were unaware such works were written and published. Another problem were the ever-present obscenity laws. These laws allowed for the arrest and prosecution of publishers and sellers of LGBT-themed books.

By the late 1960s a confluence of events cleared the way for the opening of the first LGBT bookstore. By the late 1960s a LGBT readership existed, a body of work with LGBT themes existed, obscenity laws were no longer an obstacle and the sexual revolution was well underway.

Craig Rodwell made the most of this synergy and opened the first LGBT bookstore in the United States. The Oscar Wilde Memorial Bookshop opened in 1967 in New York City. Rodwell identified the shop as a space for LGBT people by placing in the bookstore's window a "Gay is Good" sticker. Underneath the sticker he placed a sign that read "A Bookshop for the Homophile Movement." The bookstore's original location was on Mercer Street while it later moved to Christopher Street in Greenwich Village. It was Craig Rodwell who organized a march in June 1970 to commemorate the first anniversary of the Stonewall Riots. This march gave birth to annual LGBT pride celebrations that continue to the present time in cities and towns across the world.

Thanks to the civil rights movement, which gave rise to the gay liberation, and lesbian feminist movements a broader political, cultural, and social analysis developed in which LGBT bookstores could operate.

Spurred by Rodwell's success with the Oscar Wilde Bookstore, gay men opened bookstores in Philadelphia (Jay's Place, 1969, Giovanni's Room, 1973), Washington, D.C. (Lambda Rising, 1974), Los Angeles (A Different Light, 1979) to name a few. These early bookstores catered largely to gay men, which led to routine complaints by lesbians. Lesbians found their way into the bookselling business through a separate path. Beginning in the 1970s, the second-wave of the women's rights movement gave rise to the development of feminist bookstores, the majority of which were owned and operated by lesbian feminists.

Feminist bookstores have been vital parts of the feminist and lesbian communities in which they are located. The first lesbian feminist bookstore was the Amazon Bookstore Cooperative, opened in Minneapolis, Minnesota, in 1970. It did not take long for other stores to follow. Common Language opened in Ann Arbor, Michigan, in 1972; and New Words in Cambridge, Massachusetts, Antigone in Tucson, Arizona, in 1973; and Charis Books and More in Atlanta, Georgia in 1974.

The large chain bookstores have noticed that there is a market for LGBT books and the prices they can offer often undercut the independent LGBT bookstore. But probably as long as there are LGBT people and LGBT books, there will be LGBT bookstores, places not only for buying a book but connecting with a community. ▼

*Celeste DeRoche received her doctoral degree in United States History from the University of Maine. She currently resides in Vero Beach with her life partner. She loves to read. She would welcome any suggestions for historical topics you might like to learn more about. You can reach her at CelesteD@ootcmag.com*

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# Cold Keg

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# IN THE NEWS

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STUART—According to a story in the Scripps newspapers a last-minute city declaration has temporarily stopped the construction of any nightclub in town has drawn complaints from one building owner.

The “zoning in progress” declaration means that the city won’t allow construction of any restaurant over 3,000 square feet, or nightclub of any size, until officials finish tinkering with development rules to address such establishments.

John Katsock owns a 16,000 square foot building on Dixie Highway north of the Roosevelt Bridge, a former racquetball club, who’s new tenants want to build a Latin-themed gay nightclub and restaurant. Katsock has been talking to Stuart city officials since June about the club, to be called the Rainbow Room.

City Attorney Paul Nicoletti said he put the stop order declaration on the City Commission’s agenda the day of the meeting because he heard about another impending application, for a country line-dancing club, at the former Wal-Mart on U.S. 1 and Indian Street.

City officials want to be able to put tighter regulations on clubs and large restaurants—3,000 square feet is about the size of a fast food restaurant—to reduce future problems with police calls, fire service, and noise, Nicoletti said. Officials want to ensure sites have enough parking, lighting, security and fire access, as well as addressing ways to dampen sound.

“We don’t have appropriate zoning codes for those uses,” he said.

Katsock said the city was discriminating against his clients, who are gay.

“They (city officials) are looking for every way to blow this out so it doesn’t come into town,” he said.

When asked about whether city staff were discriminating against the club because

of the sexual orientation of the agents or clientele, Nicoletti said, “No. No. No. I don’t think we really care. The city is not interested in the type of specific customers. We don’t regulate specific uses.”

Katsock, who said his tenants would put close to \$1 million of improvements into his building, said the declaration was “denying us the use of the property.”

BRANDON—On September 20th, Equality Florida, along with a coalition of faith groups, social justice organizations and local community leaders, hosted nearly 100 demonstrators who came out to express the community’s outrage over an anti-gay summit being hosted by at Bell Shoals Baptist Church.

The summit, disguised as a family-friendly conference, was targeted toward teachers, parents, students and school administrators and included seminars such as “Homosexuality and Youth” and the “Homosexual Agenda.”

Many Equality Florida supporters who were unable to attend the midday protest expressed their outrage by contributing a dollar or more for each workshop and presentation given during the anti-LGBT conference.

In just two short days, \$3,450 was raised to support the Florida GSA Network, a project designed to provide additional support and resources to Florida GSA student clubs. It is Florida’s public school students who most often bare the brunt of the poison spewed at these summits.

Last year, Bell Shoals led a failed but disruptive and mean-spirited campaign to shut down the Hillsborough Gay-Straight Alliances (GSAs). They were also strong backers of former County Commissioner Ronda Storms, who infamously led the passage of a policy banning county agencies from recognizing Gay Pride.

TAMPA—The annual Tampa International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival will ring in next year’s festivities with a new name: the Clip Film Festival. The change was announced during the closing night of the 2007 festival as an effort to widen audience appeal, according to a press release from the group.

The new name “took a leap of faith in its simplicity,” said Christopher Constantinou, Friends of the Festival Inc. president. It was settled upon because focus groups overwhelmingly felt that it “reflects a persona of a friend, something [people] wanted around.”

The name change had been under consideration for many years, and the final decision came down to a vote by the board of directors last year. “We realized we needed more than a name -- we needed a brand, something that can represent the qualities of diversity, inclusion, and community,” Constantinou said in the statement.

Although “gay” and “lesbian” have been removed from the title, audiences are assured the festival, which includes a year-round film outreach series, will continue to focus on LGBT issues.

MIAMI—The Miami Herald profiled a young man who found himself in the foster care system when he was about 13-years-old after his mother rejected him because he is gay. He experienced several dozen foster care facilities in which adults couldn’t relate to him and other children could be brutal.

By the time the boy found a gay foster parent in Fort Lauderdale, he was a 17-year-old dropout addicted to drugs. He credits his foster father with turning his life around and taking him to Narcotics Anonymous. Many gay foster teenagers never find a good home.

Recognizing the gap in service, Broward County’s foster care agency, ChildNet, has contracted with the National Youth Advocate Program (NYAP) to recruit and train foster parents to take in GLBT foster children.

Although Florida bans gay adults from adopting, the state does allow them to take in foster children.

During the past five years, gay rights and

child welfare groups have researched the experience of gay foster youth. What they found was horrific.

“Adults would say, ‘If you weren’t gay, you wouldn’t get beat up,’” said Flor Bermudez, an attorney for Lambda Legal in New York. “Or they would be placed in very religious foster homes where foster parents would take away their clothes . . . and have them go to church every Sunday so they would change.”

“Sometimes social workers know a child is gay but don’t tell the foster family,” said Rob Woronoff, a consultant and former GLBT director of the Child Welfare League of America. “A kid comes out, and the foster parents say, ‘Nobody told us this kid was gay,’” he said.

Things are going well for the young man and his foster dad. “For Father’s Day, he sent me a card,” Dad said. “He said it was the first time he had the chance to send a Father’s Day present.”

NEW YORK—J.K. Rowling, author of the mega-selling fantasy series that ended last summer, outed a beloved character Friday night while appearing before a full house at Carnegie Hall. After reading briefly from the final book, “Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows,” she took questions from audience members.

She was asked by one young fan whether Dumbledore finds “true love.”

“Dumbledore is gay,” the author responded to gasps and applause.

She then explained that Dumbledore was smitten with rival Gellert Grindelwald, whom he defeated long ago in a battle between good and bad wizards. “Falling in love can blind us to an extent,” Rowling said of Dumbledore’s feelings, adding that Dumbledore was “horribly, terribly let down.”

Dumbledore’s love, she observed, was his “great tragedy.”

Potter readers on fan sites and elsewhere on the Internet have speculated on the sexuality of Dumbledore, noting that he has no close relationship with women and a mysterious, troubled past. And explicit scenes with Dumbledore already have appeared in fan

*continued on page 24*

continued from page 23  
fiction.

Rowling told the audience that while working on the planned sixth Potter film, "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince," she spotted a reference in the script to a girl who once was of interest to Dumbledore. A note was duly passed to director David Yates, revealing the truth about her character.

Rowling, finishing a brief "Open Book Tour" of the United States, her first tour here since 2000, also said that she regarded her Potter books as a "prolonged argument for tolerance" and urged her fans to "question authority."

Not everyone likes her work, Rowling said, likely referring to Christian groups that have alleged the books promote witchcraft. Her news about Dumbledore, she said, will give them one more reason.

WASHINGTON, DC—According to an article in *The Blade*, The Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) cleared a pivotal hurdle in committee after four gay-supportive Republicans joined the Democratic majority to save the bill from defeat.

Four pro-gay Democrats, including presidential candidate Dennis Kucinich (D-Ohio), voted against the bill, saying they did so because a provision protecting transgender persons had been removed.

The bill passed in the House Committee on Education and Labor by a vote of 27 to 21, with 23 Democrats and four Republicans voting for the measure, which calls for banning job discrimination based on sexual orientation, a category that includes gay men, lesbians and bisexuals. Seventeen Republicans and the four Democrats voted against the bill.

The Democrats voting against the bill in committee joined the Democratic majority in voting against four Republican-proposed amendments that Democrats said were aimed at weakening or gutting the bill.

The four Republicans who voted for the bill were Reps. Michael Castle (R-Del.), Judy Biggett (R-Ill.), Todd Platts (R-Penn.) and Randy Kuhl (R-N.Y.).

The decision by Kucinich and his three Democratic colleagues to vote against the

sexual orientation-only version of ENDA in committee comes at a time when a coalition of more than 300 national and state gay and transgender advocacy groups is calling on Congress to oppose any version of the bill that excludes transgender protection.

Speaker of the House Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) and House Democratic leaders decided to advance a sexual orientation-only version of the bill after determining there were not enough votes to pass a trans-inclusive bill. Pelosi said most House Democrats prefer to pass a more limited version of the bill this year.

Rep. Tammy Baldwin (D-Wisc.), the only open lesbian in Congress, has secured permission from Pelosi to introduce an amendment on the House floor to restore transgender protections in ENDA.

It is feared, however, that if a transgender vote loses by a wide margin, it would make it more difficult to pass a trans-inclusive bill in the next few years because those who vote against it would be reluctant to change their votes.

Mara Keisling, executive director of the National Center for Transgender Equality, said the large coalition of groups opposed to a sexual orientation-only bill would continue to lobby for a fully inclusive version of the legislation.

Keisling reiterated her longstanding view that no version of ENDA is going to pass in Congress this year due to an expected veto by President Bush. She said ENDA supporters should hold off a vote on the bill until enough support exists for passing a trans-inclusive bill.

Two of the Republican-proposed amendments introduced in committee called for broadening the bill's religious exemption. Another called for removing a provision in the bill that bans discrimination based on marital status and the fourth called for removing a provision that bans job discrimination based on someone's "perceived" sexual orientation.

WASHINGTON, DC—On September 27th, the US Senate moved the Matthew Shepard Hate Prevention Crimes Act forward, without a single vote to spare. Florida Senator Nelson's "Yes" vote proved critical to moving

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the bill, as the bipartisan support reached 60 votes, the minimum required to accept cloture which ended debate on the bill. The entire Senate then moved to approve the legislation by a voice vote - attaching it as an amendment to the Fiscal Year 2008 Department of Defense Authorization bill.

Over 3,500 Equality Florida supporters contacted Senators Nelson and Martinez to demand support for this critically important legislation.

PENTAGON—According to PinkNews.co.uk the American Armed Forces placed job ads on a gay networking site despite the fact that people who are openly gay, bisexual or lesbian are banned from serving.

A spokesman for the Army National Guard told *USA Today* he was unaware of the adverts running on GLEE.com

The Navy has ordered that 8,000 ads be removed from the site. The Marine Corps claimed that only civilian jobs, not covered by the "Don't Ask Don't Tell" policy were advertised.

"This is the first I've heard about it," Major Michael Baptista, advertising branch chief for the Army National Guard, told USA Today.

"We didn't knowingly advertise on that particular website."

The US Armed Forces are undergoing a recruitment crisis. Figures released by the Pentagon show that they are resorting to accepting thousands of convicted criminals into their ranks.

The Army and others have been forced to lower their standards, while continuing to discharge hundreds of personnel for being gay, lesbian or bisexual.

Last year 8,129 "moral waivers" were granted – a mechanism that allows someone with a criminal record to enlist in the military.

They represent a tenth of new recruits in 2006. The US military has already raised the maximum enlistment age and dropped the basic educational standards required of recruits.

In 1992 President Bill Clinton promised to open the military to openly gay and lesbian people during his successful campaign for President, but caved into pressure from the Army - the compromise was the current policy of Don't Ask Don't Tell.

It means gay, bisexual or lesbians can serve in the Armed Forces as long as they conceal their orientation.

Recently a former Army general who was chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the US called for a change in attitude towards gay and lesbian soldiers, as did former Defense Secretary William Cohen.

Among those unhappy with the policy is New York congressman Gary Ackerman.

"For some reason, the military seems more afraid of gay people than they are (of) terrorists, but they're very brave with the terrorists," he said.

"If the terrorists ever got hold of this information, they'd get a platoon of lesbians to chase us out of Baghdad."

The US military has discharged over 11,000 personnel for being gay or lesbian since 1993.

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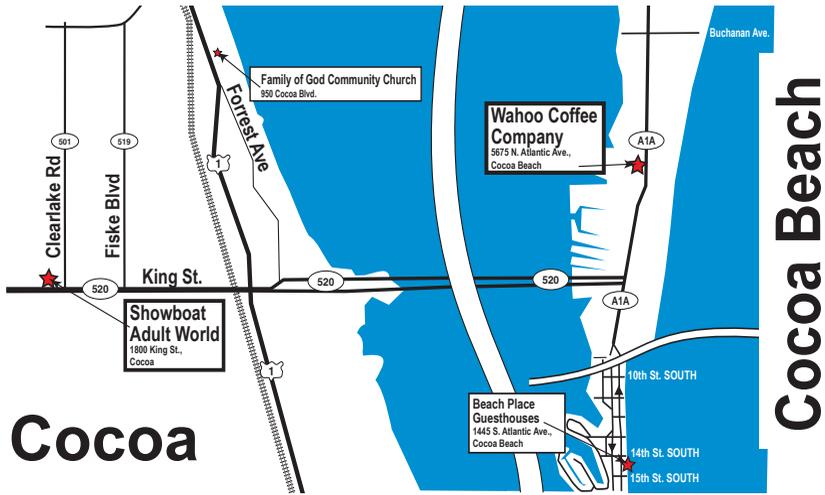
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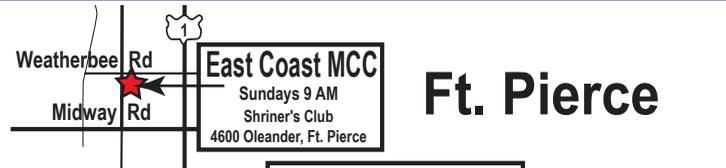
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# Space Coast



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REBAR manager Kenny, third from left, and friends celebrate his birthday.

we hurried to put new batteries in the camera just to be ready, too). It's been too long since we've seen a troupe of strippers in the area, I wonder why that is. There seem to be lots of men in dresses but few in g-strings, how queer!



The boys who danced but didn't strip for Kenny's birthday. I later heard that they are straight - so I guess that explains their confusion.



This month Dan and Randy will have been together 18 years! Yes, it's finally legal, which means they were only, what 12, when it all started?

It's not strange, but true that Randy Kelly and Dan Tobiasz will be celebrating 18 years together on November 23rd. Through ups and downs they've stuck it out longer than most marriages (which, of course, they're not allowed). We have a special regard for **Kelli Randel** as our longest advertiser. **Kelli** came in in our first issue and has been here for 60 issues. Randy has always been a big supporter of our community, this magazine and good causes in general. So here's to another glorious 18 years and then some for

two wonderful people!

**Gay Rights Tidbit:** The Florida Gay-Straight Alliance (GSA) Network is launching the 2007 GSA Club Registration Drive in an effort to connect as many members of Florida GSA clubs to a central hub of resources and support for their current or future GSAs.

The Network, a program of Equality Florida, serves to facilitate communication and peer support among students, as well as provide them with leadership training and resources to build, strengthen and sustain their GSAs. The effort is supported by a grant from the GLBT Community Projects Fund and the Dade Community Foundation.

Anyone wanting to learn more about the Florida GSA Network or how to register their club, should visit: <http://www.eqfl.org/gsa/index.htm> ▼

Don't see your event mentioned? Did you tell me about it? I'm a fairy, not a seer, silly! Send your news, gossip and tidbits to [MissT@ootcmag.com](mailto:MissT@ootcmag.com)



I'm putting this one last picture in because I can! Plus it has everything I like: a man with his shirt off, our longest running advertiser and some poor fool getting in a drag queen's face - any one of those things spells great entertainment and when you put them all together you just know some fun is about to happen!

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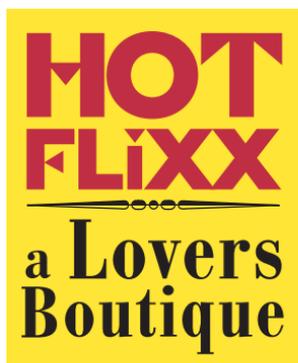
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