

Covering the Space and Treasure Coasts

# OUT ON THE COAST

magazine

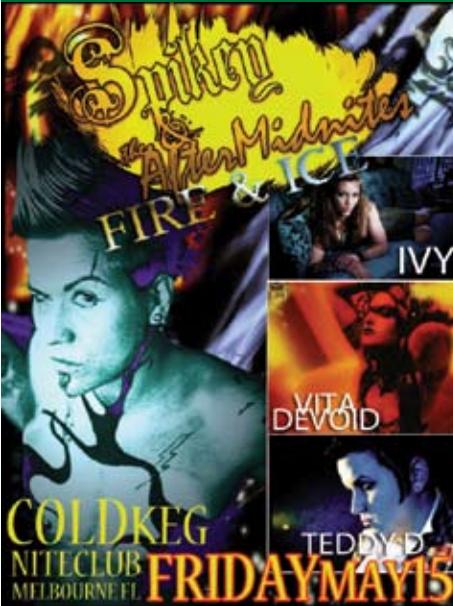
Issue #078, May 2009



Christiana Sinclair Taylor  
Miss Treasure Coast 09

**May 1 & 29**  
**ALL REQUEST FRIDAYS**  
**If we have it, we'll play it!**  
**No Show — No Cover**  
**75¢ Domestic Draft**  
**\$2 Mojitos ~ \$4 Long Islands**

**May 8:**  
**Alexi Leigh & Roz Russell**



**SATURDAY**  
**GROOVE:**  
**Showtime Midnight**

**May 2<sup>nd</sup>:** Crystal Chambers  
with Ivy & Eli  
**May 9<sup>th</sup>:** Lady Pearl  
with Jackie & CJ  
**May 16<sup>th</sup>:** Faith Taylor  
with Jezebel & Valo  
**May 23<sup>rd</sup>:** PRIDE PARTY  
**May 30<sup>th</sup>:** Shelita Cox  
with Vita & Billy



4060 W. New Haven ,Melbourne  
 (321) 724-1510  
 www.coldkegnightclub.com  
 www.myspace.com/coldkegnightclub

**PRIDE WEEKEND**

**FRIDAY, MAY 22: ROZ RUSSELL**  
**& ROSEANNE DESHANARO**

**SATURDAY, MAY 23:**  
**PRIDE PARTY**

**RECORDING ARTIST TORI HOLDEN**  
**WITH FRANKI**  
**AND ELI**

**WEAR PRIDE COLORS AND PAY NO COVER**  
**ABSOLUTE PRIDE DRINK SPECIALS**  
**PRIDE BEADS & PRIDE GIVEAWAYS**  
**ALL WEEKEND LONG!**

**SUNDAY, MAY 24:**  
**SPACE COAST PRIDE AFTER PARTY**  
**NO COVER SHOWTIME 9PM WITH**  
**KELLI & VELVET**

**DANCE TILL YOU DROP BECAUSE MONDAY'S A HOLIDAY!**

Out on the Coast magazine  
 published by OOTC Publishing, Inc.  
 PO Box 155, Roseland, FL 32957  
 772.913.3008  
 Sales@OOTCmag.com

**publisher/editor**  
 Lee A. Newell II  
 LeeN@ootcmag.com  
**contributing writers**  
 Rev. Dr. Jerry L. Seay  
 Rev. Gregory L. Denton  
 Rev. Susan Kliebenstein  
 Miss T

**photographers**  
 Richard Cases  
 Phillip Winton



**account executives**  
 Dan Hall 772-626-1682  
 DanH@ootcmag.com  
 Phillip Winton 321-213-4097  
 PhilW@ootcmag.com  
 Shane Combs 321-557-2193  
 ShaneC@ootcmag.com

**national advertising representative**  
 Rivendell Media Company  
 1248 Rt. 22 West  
 Mountainside, NJ 0709  
 908-232-2021

Publication of the name or photograph of any person or organization in articles in *OUT on the COAST MAGAZINE* is not to be construed as an indication of the sexual orientation of such person or organization. All copy text, display photos and illustrations in advertising are published with the understanding that the advertisers are fully authorized, have secured proper consents (written, verbal, etc.) for the use of names, pictures or testimonials of any living person(s) and *OUT on the COAST MAGAZINE* may lawfully publish and cause such publication to be made and advertiser automatically agrees to by submitting said ad to indemnify and save blameless the publisher from any and all liability, loss and expense of any nature of such publication. Unless otherwise indicated, all material in this publication is copyright 2007 by OOTC Publishing, Inc. and may not be reprinted either wholly or in part without express permission of the publisher.

**I N S I D E**

Horoscope.....6  
 Jacqueline  
 Tea Time.....10  
 Miss T  
 Spiritually Speaking.....12  
 Rev. Susan Kleibenstein  
 Maps.....16 - 17  
 In the News.....20  
 Directory.....28 - 29

**Subscription information:** \$24 for 12 issues.  
 Subscribe on-line at: OOTCmag.com or send your check or money order to: Out on the Coast magazine, PO Box 155, Roseland, FL 32957-0155  
 Issues mailed First Class in plain envelope.



Models: The Living Room of Brevard, Inc.  
 Board of Directors & Partners  
 Photo: LANE

Issue #078  
 April 23, 2009  
 Got Broadband? News, links, forums & more  
 at:  
**www.ootcmag.com**

# REBAR

photos: Lee



8283 S. Hwy US1 - Port St. Lucie (772) 340-7777 MySpace.com/RebarPSL

# SATURDAY NIGHT DIVAS

ONLY AT

# REBAR

SHOWTIME 11:30PM

May 2nd: Dominique Taylor,  
Faith Taylor & Crystle Chambers

May 9th: Tiffany McCray,  
Temptation & Shelita Cox

May 16th: Kelly Randell,  
Sheena Divine & Leigh Shannon

May 23rd: Velvet LeNore,  
Kennedy Davenport & Latrice Royale

May 30th: Nikki Addams,  
Melissa St. John & Rianna LeNore

**HOT MALE & FEMALE DANCERS WEEKLY!**

GRAPHICS CREATED BY WWW.VELOCITYXTREME.COM

# HOROSCOPE by Jacqueline

The month starts off with Mercury going retrograde in Aries. Which means this is not the time to make any hasty decisions or sign any contracts until after the 30<sup>th</sup>, when Mercury goes direct. The full moon in Scorpio on the 9<sup>th</sup> allows all of us to transform and change emotionally to the world changes that have been transpiring. On the 16<sup>th</sup>, Saturn finally goes direct which lets us not worry as much about the details and will start the process of balancing out our work environment. Finally the new moon on the 24<sup>th</sup> in Gemini opens the door for travel and communication. If it sounds like it's going to be an up and down month then you've gotten the picture. The best advice is just to go with the flow and don't push anything this month.

**Aries** March 23 - April 22 Although Mercury begins its retrograde in your sign on the 7<sup>th</sup>, your inherent decision making skills are at its best! However, remember the prayer of serenity, "... change the things you can,... accept those you cannot..." Make the best of this time you have, enjoy being the life of the party and let the universe act upon those projects that you've set aside.

**Taurus** April 23 - May 22 Happy solar Return! As true to your earth sign, you are normally grounded and steadfast in your beliefs however, a desire for spiritual fulfillment outside of your norm could make you question your own spirituality. Be open to new points of view and learn to ask more questions. Spend time with your fire sign friends this month, they'll provide you with great opportunities and insights.

**Gemini** May 23 - June 22 Your

communicative skills may be lacking this month so take the time to explain everything in detail. Slow down; organize your thoughts before you speak as misunderstandings may occur. Seek means outside your norm to reach your goals. You'll find things get done easily and with more efficiency when you try a different approach.

**Cancer** June 23 - July 22 Now is the time for you to act on your impulses! Take charge, others what you can accomplish when the opportunity presents itself. Take the chance; you've got a safety net. Indulge in your personal desires and don't think about the repercussions or the past. Live in the now and enjoy the ride.

*continued on page 8*

Jacqueline  
772.286.2720  
Astrologer/Tarologist

3233 S. Hwy US1 - Port St. Lucie (772) 340-7777 [MySpace.com/RebarPSL](http://MySpace.com/RebarPSL)

## SHOWBUSINESS FRIDAY'S

ONLY AT

# REBAR

SHOWTIME 11PM

HOSTESS  
SHELITA COX

HOSTESS  
KELLI RANDELL

May 1st: Kelly Randell, Faith Taylor & Mizz Micki

May 8th: Shelita Cox, Rianna's B-Day! & Temptation

May 15th: Kelli Randell, Dominique & Valerie Dior

May 22nd: Shelita Cox, VelocityXtreme & Rianna LeNore

May 29th: Dominique Hosts, Velvet LeNore & Mizz Micki

ALSO DONT MISS  
KARAOKE THURSDAY'S  
WITH JERRY

HOT MALE & FEMALE DANCERS WEEKLY!

GRAPHICS CREATED BY WWW.VELOCITYXTREME.COM

continued from page 6

**Leo July 23 – August 22** Rejoice and revile as your majestic personality attracts new friendships that will give you a greater perspective on life. You'll see a market increase in your social as well as professional life. However, be careful not to get caught up in the past. This is the time to look to the future and allow the past to leave on its own.

**Virgo August 23 – September 22** I know you like doing things your way, the right way, but time is of the essence this month. This is not the time for you to try and keep things in balance. Some things are beyond your control. Others who normally are patient because of your past accomplishments aren't so forgiving at this time. Do your best at all you do and let the imperfections go. They'll love your end result and you must learn to find happiness in the praise and not pick on the flaws.

**Libra September 23 – October 22** Set your sights on tomorrow for today is already past. You may find yourself walking a tight rope this month as decisions both personal and professional have conflicting interest. Research and analysis each situation before you act. As long as you look at the long term effects and make your decisions based upon what you see, your decisions will pay off.

**Scorpio October 23 – November 22** You'll find yourself and emotionally sensitive this month as both Venus and Mars are in Aries. Now is not the time for you to stand out and be heard as other's will not understand. Take this time and find solace in a hobby that you enjoy by yourself. Take this time to balance out your emotions and shy away from the public eye.

**Sagittarius November 23 – December 22** Life is a party, don't take it so seriously. You have the power to live in the now and act spontaneously, use it. What works was meant to, what doesn't proves you need to let it go. Find the comedy and humor in all. This is a good time to take a vacation or enjoy a new environment.

**Capricorn December 23 – January 22** You'll feel pushed by others to speed up your pace. Sometimes you do need a push. Know what you've been putting off must become a priority. I know it's hard for you to change gears, but it's time. There's always another way to get what you want. Find a smoother path and you'll find your success.

**Aquarius January 23 – February 22** Others from your past will return and old activities will prove to be fulfilling this month. Enjoy the experiences with old friends but remember why they left your life in the first place. They will be leaving again. Your luck is in the moment now. You can't plan for it nor know its coming. So keep your eyes open for sudden surprises.

**Pisces February 23 – March 22** Feel like you're a salmon swimming up stream? This month is not the most productive for you. It's a good time to relax or take a vacation. Only do what is required at the moment and let the rest go. Instead use your time listening to music, going to the beach or taking a bubble bath. You'll find your happiness there.

**For those who want to know:** This months chart shows a loose resemblance of the see saw pattern, which is like it sounds, a half the planets on one side of the chart and the other 1/2 opposing them. What this influence does is put things into motion and allows us to find the opportunity to balance out our lives. However, this balance can be challenging to find. The best suggestion to find the balance is to stop moving. Then you can move slowly towards the balance. If you choose not to move slowly, it will keep swinging you from side to side.

**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**

Space Coast Pride 09 Logo by Brian McConven

# SPACE COAST PRIDE

www.SpaceCoastPride.org

**Sunday, May 24**  
**Wickham Pavilion, Melbourne**  
**Noon to 6 PM**

**MC LISA MOLDOVAN FROM WA1A**  
**WITH DENISE & DONNA FROM**  
**MYLESBIANRADIO.COM PLUS**  
**PERFORMANCES BY KELLI RANDELL,**  
**VELVET LENORE, SHELITA COX,**  
**DOMINIQUE TAYLOR, ALEXI LEIGH,**  
**RIANNA LENORE**  
**AND DJs & LIVE MUSIC & COMICS**  
**\$5 IN ADVANCE OR AT DOOR**  
**FOOD, DRINK, VENDORS, FUN!**

**Sponsored by:**



Post Rd

BCC	King Center
-----	-------------

Wickham Rd

PARK HERE

Fire House

WICKHAM PAVILION  
Presented by:  
The Living Room of Brevard, Inc.  
www.TLRbrevard.org

# Tea Time

with Miss T

My! Wow! What a month! The warm up for one Pride Festival, two queen's birthdays, two Pride Festivals and a pageant. The result is such a plethora of pictures that we're afraid space for our sage words is limited. Alas, this prevents us from addressing our admirers' concerns here, but if anyone has questions for us, feel free to write [MissT@ootcmag.com](mailto:MissT@ootcmag.com) and we'll do our best to enlighten you.

For those who read as far as the fourth paragraph last month, **The Living Room's** Gay Bowling was indeed a success financially as well as socially. About \$600 more to the building fund – that's right, you remember, that's what all the fund raising is for, a community center building, right? Now all **The Living Room's** focus is on **Space Coast Pride**. If you want to get involved, volunteers are welcome just drop a line to [info@SpaceCoastPride.org](mailto:info@SpaceCoastPride.org). And remember: if you get involved you get not only a voice in what happens but ownership of a wonderful event for our community, if you don't get involved please don't bitch, it's really not very helpful.



**Ultra Lounge** held a fantastic comedy benefit for **Space Coast Pride**. What an original idea, what fun, what a crowd, what a success! It brought in \$1,176.50 between the door, auctions and the 50/50 raffle. What a conclusion: a marriage proposal! The big auction item was a beautiful, framed pride flag photo by John F. Look for more of his work at **Space Coast Pride** on May 24.

*The penultimate event at the Space Coast Pride benefit was the surprise proposal of marriage by Larry and Tom. The acceptance set the perfect tone for a Pride event.*



*It was a packed house at Ultra Lounge in Cocoa Village for something completely different: a comedy night benefit for Space Coast Pride. There were a variety of comedic styles culminating with the performance of Philadelphia Plowden from America's Got Talent, above.*



Speaking of May and **Ultra Lounge**, they're starting a Sunday Tea Dance on May 3, so there's a great place to stop in for a relaxing Sunday afternoon in Cocoa Village. Chill out after the beach or indulge in a bit of the hair of the dog or just stop by to see who's out and about, it's going to be a fabulous time.



Fabulous is not word enough to describe **Pride of the Treasure Coast**. OMG, as the kiddies txt, it was, well, *faaaabulous!*

*Pride of the Treasure Coast Board of Directors, the people who made the Pride Festival in Port St. Lucie a reality.*

The venue is spectacular, the weather was perfect – perhaps a tad breezy, but the better to make the pride flags fly! Lots of vendors, a gracious speech by Port St. Lucie Councilwoman Linda Bartz, amazing performances, the hunk-o-lishous MC, Rob Lopicola and hotter-than-hot headliner Quentin Elias *ou-la-la!* Plenty of food and beer and margaritas made sure everyone was mellow. Hats off to the board for making it happen again bigger and better – let's hear it for the few who make it happen for the many. We can't wait for next year. Talk about having something to look forward to. And after the show that night at **REBAR** there was another marriage proposal – it's catching on and who knows how soon it will be legal here, too. Sooner than many expect, we suspect.

We're looking forward to a little less next spring, though. Here's hoping Miss Treasure Coast won't be in the same month as Velvet's birthday, Pride of the Palm Beaches and **Pride of the Treasure Coast**. We's just worn out, honey. Running here and there and up and down the coast is stretching this poor old thing a little thin. At least we have a breather before **Space Coast Pride**, just the board meetings, coffees, PFLAG meetings, and normal picture taking to keep us busy.



*Gateway Project's Lori Zeh Photo provided*

Speaking of people working hard, do you know Lori Zeh? She and her group is working hard to make things better. Maybe you've heard of **GATEWAY** or stopped by their table at **Pride of the Treasure Coast**. They are a small group that puts their proverbial money where their mouth is. Their efforts to support the gay community started 2 ½ years ago in St Lucie County and is getting stronger

*continued on page 15*

SUNDAY TEA

Starting May 3<sup>rd</sup>

4pm - 7pm

Drink Specials  
hors d'oeuvres



THE ULTRA LOUNGE

407 Brevard Ave.

Cocoa Village

321-690-0096

www.MySpace.com/UltraLoungeCocoa

# Spiritually Speaking

## Getting Out More?

Living “out” as a gay person is important spiritually. It is important to self, important to community, and important in all of our relationships. One cannot deny their own nature and yet live a life of honesty, integrity and wholeness.

If I am to tell you what God has done for me, I cannot fail to mention His amazing grace that reaches beyond my fears, beyond the narrowness of society’s taboos, and beyond the silence of misunderstanding to assure me of His love. I cannot fail to testify to the warmth of love expressed through the persistent gentleness of a life partner who expresses God’s love to me each day in endless ways.

“Every good and perfect gift is from above,” says James 1:17. What more perfect gift has God given any of us than the intimate friendship and joyful companionship of one who has promised to love us “in sickness and in health,” and through trials and sorrows as well as the comforts and joys of life.

Today it may be much easier growing up gay than it was 50 years ago, but if it is so, then we must commend the openness of those who committed themselves to openness 50 years ago. Those who were willing to give up the comfort and cover that a life in the closet might have provided gained so much more for our community by their willingness to put their lives on the line. They are the ones who

openly challenged stereotypes and prejudices of discriminatory policies in jobs, in housing, and in financial and legal matters.

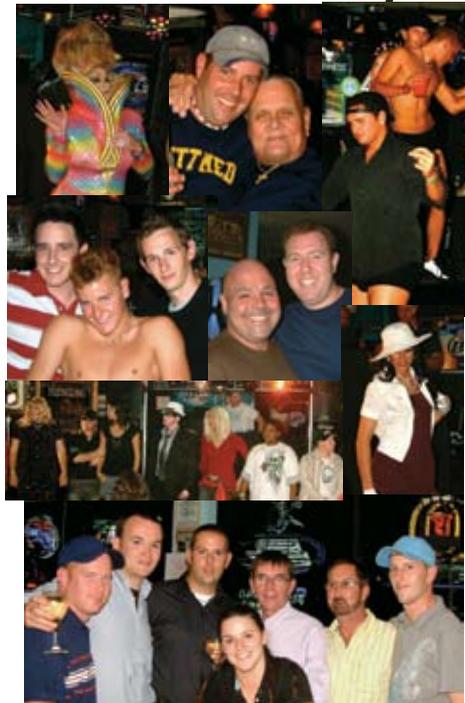
Their willingness to stand as role models of integrity and honesty has brought many of us out of the darkness of despair. This is the work of love which is our proud heritage. We must not fail to recognize and perpetuate their commitment to openness. Giving hope to the oppressed is certainly a work of mercy.

In the meantime, much has been gained in an environment of openness where friends can acknowledge to one another that they are gay or lesbian, bisexual or transgendered with reasonable hope that acceptance will be forthcoming. We have often done such a disservice to our friends and family by remaining “closed” for fear of rejection.

Often our families have only desired to have an opportunity to understand us and our lifestyle, but we have withheld our selves from them and thereby blocked the affectionate interchange that could bless our lives as well as theirs. The need to constantly monitor our conversations in order not to give away our “secret,” or to avoid awkward questions has led to superficiality and distrust. How does that contrast with our calling to “let our light shine?”

The issue is not about being fully open with every person we meet, but rather to take note of how many of our relationships get censored by our

## Cosmic Charley’s



 **Cosmic Charley's**  
**Pride Tuesdays**  
122 South US 1  
Vero Beach  
772-562-7017  
\$5 cover (free Drink)  
8 PM to 1 AM  
Drag Shows      Dancers      Drink Specials  
Amateur Performers Welcome

fears or distrust? 1 John 4:18 says “Perfect love drives out all fear.” None of us is perfect in love, but love is the hallmark of life in Christ (or any spiritual wholeness for that matter). We who are the spiritual seekers of our tribe ought to constantly steer the ship away from fear, in pursuit of love; and move away from silence and distrust in the direction of openness and integrity.

Integrity is just another way of saying, “what you see is who I am.” It is honesty and it is wholeness; it is peace for your heart and for your interactions. Make the honest leap of faith this week and tell someone your story of grace and love! Maybe it will be another gay person who needs to know that God is at work in our community. Maybe it will be a non-gay friend who just needs to know that you trust her enough to get beyond the superficial and let your

God-given self shine through! Be at peace. ▼

*Susan Kliebenstein has been pastor at Family of God Community Church in Cocoa since January, 2009. Born in Iowa, she graduated from Mankato State College in 1972. She and her life partner, Ricci Richards, first moved to Brevard County in 1989. They founded Breaking Silence MCC that year, and pastored here in Brevard until 1999. They moved away for a time but returned in 2005. Ricci passed on last October. Family of God is located at 950 Cocoa Blvd, Cocoa, FL. Services are at 6:30 PM Wednesday and 10:00 AM and 6:00 PM Sunday. Their web site: [www.FamilyOfGodBrevard.org](http://www.FamilyOfGodBrevard.org)*

# Cold Keg

photos: Lee



**Carnival** FUN FOR ALL. ALL FOR FUN™

**EARLY SAVER**  
BOOK EARLY AND  
SAVE UP TO 30%  
PLUS PRICE  
PROTECTION\*

A new class of fun:  
**Carnival Dream**  
Arriving in Port Canaveral  
Dec. '09  
Dare to Dream,  
book it now!

**Gary Robbins 800-819-3902 ext. 85840**  
grobbins2@carnival.com

\*CALL FOR TERMS AND CONDITIONS

continued from page 11

everyday. So far they've trained about 200 professionals in St Lucie County that work with middle and high school age kids to recognize the needs of gay, lesbian, bi, and trans youth. One of their members, Sharon Sisitzky-Smith, a teacher at IRSC, started the first GSA at IRSC Stuart and Fort Pierce campus. Plus, they lent their support to Gay Straight Alliances in high schools and colleges. The group plans to train youth and teachers this summer on starting and running GSA's. They also collaborated to start the first PFLAG in Port St Lucie, which has a big youth group. So, if you are an adult, or youth ages 13-21, and want to join the PFLAG go to [www.gatewayproject.net](http://www.gatewayproject.net) for information. Following on the success of their 1st LGBTQ Youth Expo this past February in Jensen Beach, GATEWAY will be having several fun social activities to help raise

**Coffee in The Village**  
**Coffee Night in Melbourne**

TLR & Space Coast Business Guild

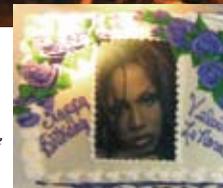
At 7:30 PM on Thursdays at Island Pasta 903 E. New Haven in Downtown Melbourne

invite you to join us every Tuesday at 6:30 PM at THE ULTRA LOUNGE 407 Brevard Ave. Cocoa Village

TLRbrevard.org MySpace/TLRbrevard 321-505-0077



All hailed Velvet LeNore for an amazing Lion King themed production at REBAR on her birthday. Leave it to Velvet to give us a present on her birthday. Although REBAR did have a cake for her.  
Photos by Richard



funds for the Center they are working towards opening, and they would love to meet you! GATEWAY is a member of OUT Federation in Florida. If you want to volunteer time, make a donation, or just come to an event contact Lori at [www.gatewayproject.net](http://www.gatewayproject.net) or email her at [gatewayproject@bellsouth.net](mailto:gatewayproject@bellsouth.net)

Someone who goes all out to entertain us is Velvet LeNore. For her birthday she did the biggest production we've seen on stage at

continued on page 18

If you're reading this on line, click on a name on the map to go to an advertiser's web site

# Space Coast

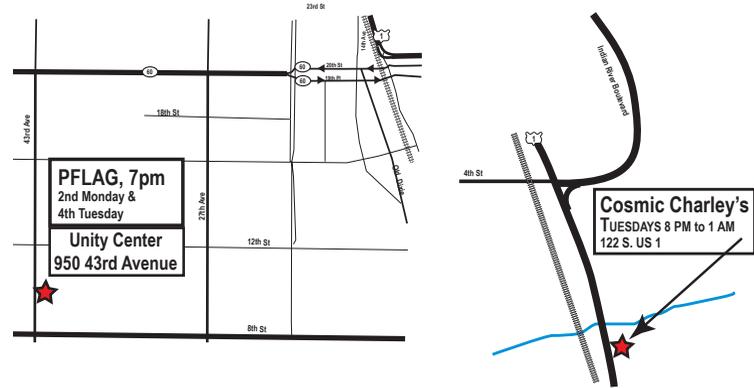
Cocoa



Cape Canaveral

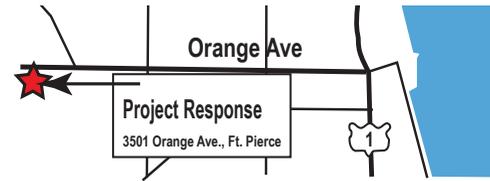
# Treasure Coast

If you're reading this on line, click on a name on the map to go to an advertiser's web site

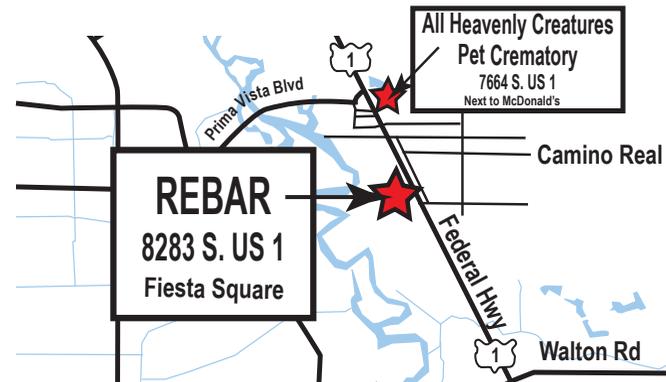


Vero Beach

Palm Bay  
Melbourne



Ft. Pierce



Port St. Lucie

any bar, and we've even seen the legendary Jim Flynt on stage at the Baton in Chicago. And while Velvet wasn't on roller skates twirling a baton, she and her cast were much more entertaining (though not nearly as funny – picture the 70s, a few tokes, a few drinks and a drag queen on roller skates). The crowd loved it at **REBAR** as did the folks the next day at Palm Beach Pride, where they reprised it. Velvet's a true leader to get so many people to work with her, to practice, to show up and perform. It's truly wonderful, and we get to enjoy it. We know there's lots of stress and drama backstage but it doesn't stop the show. Thanks, Velvet and company, you're something special and you're ours!

If you live up Vero way check out **Cosmic Charley's Pride Tuesdays**, for something else again. It's not fancy, it's not pretentious, it is fun, laid back and the perfect way to kick back and be mellow early in the week. Chris will see that you're welcome and you never know when Randy will do one of his hippy rocker numbers. DJ Thomas, many will remember him from Good Times just over the county line a few years ago, keeps the place moving to the tunes. If you're in the area, find the boob tube boring and just want to get out for a fun time, stop by for a beer and a show at **Cosmic Charley's**, you'll be glad you did.

Ever be glad things get all arranged, then forget to double check and later find out that things didn't work out? Well, we had to be in Port St. Lucie at **REBAR** for the return of our very first cover girl, Danielle Starr and thought we had the fetish party at **Cold Keg** covered by another photographer. Alas not only didn't he make it (our fault for not calling to double check) but our efforts to get another person to send us pics didn't work out either. So we have lots of pictures from Resurrection but none of the fetish party. **Cold Keg** will be in full-out party mode Memorial Day weekend with a show Friday, performing artist Tori Holden on Saturday and the after party on Sunday after **Space Coast Pride**. Spikey Dykey and the After Midnights are becoming monthly attractions and will be returning again on May 15.

Down at **REBAR** we understand there is a bunch of promotions coming up, but we are not privy to them so we'll all have to watch for their MySpace bulletins and in-house flyers to see what they are. There have been some changes in who's doing what in the promotions area and it's all happened just as things have gotten very busy so we're sure that we'll get back in the loop soon so we can alert our faithful readers to the specifics of the very special events at **REBAR**. We just show up whenever we can and always have a great time.

Last, but not least, we want to welcome Rev. Susan Kliebenstein our newest columnist. Susan has taken over at Family of God Community Church in Cocoa and will join Rev. Denton and the Rev. Dr. Seay in writing *Spiritually Speaking*. Susan is no stranger to the area, having lived her for many years with her partner Ricci Richards. Susan started an MCC church in Melbourne in 1989. They moved away for a few years and returned in 2005. Ricci passed away last fall and Susan accepted the pastor position at Family of God in January. She looks forward to participating in our growing community and I'm sure you'll find her message solid addition to our inspirational writers.

**Gay Rights Tidbits:** Watermark On Line reported that the Orlando Gay Chorus's concert on April 5, the vocal ensemble surprised its artistic director, Absalon Figueroa, with a spirited performance of "O Canada," the national anthem of Figueroa's native country. Figueroa was forced to leave the United States following the OGC show because his visa is about to expire. Even though he was legally married to his American partner Eric Stephenson in Canada in 2006, same-sex marriage is not recognized here and will thus not permit the couple to remain together in Orlando. For the time being, Stephenson will follow his partner to Canada.

"I'm left with a choice between the person I'm in love with or my country," Stephenson, 35,



# IN THE NEWS

For current headlines see our website: [www.ootcmag.com](http://www.ootcmag.com)

GAINESVILLE—Voters reject Charter Amendment 1 by a vote of 58% to 42%. If passed, Charter Amendment 1 would have repealed existing civil rights protections for Gainesville's gay and transgender community.

For over a year, backers of the amendment have waged a fear-based campaign filled with outright lies and media campaigns that dehumanized gay and transgender people. Specifically, these extremists drew a target on the backs of transgender people with bigoted messages intended to instill fear in the hearts of Gainesville citizens.

Led by Equality Is Gainesville's Business, a coalition of local, state and national organizations worked together to stop discrimination from being legalized in Gainesville.

The sweeping language of the ballot initiative, imported to Florida by a far right conservative group in Michigan, would have also prohibited the City of Gainesville from ever providing nondiscrimination protections beyond those listed in the Florida Civil Rights Act.

"Supporters of Charter Amendment 1 waged a campaign that blatantly lied to voters about the protections Gainesville has provided transgender citizens," said Joe Saunders EQGB campaign manager. "By targeting transgender people, proponents of Charter Amendment 1 have proven the need for inclusive anti-discrimination laws. Voter's embraced Gainesville's anti-discrimination laws tonight when they rejected Amendment 1."

Saunders is also the field director for Equality Florida.

"This is a local victory but it's significance reaches across our state and our nation. Those pushing Amendment 1 are part of a national effort to repeal LGBT protection in communities across the country," said

Nadine Smith, executive director for Equality Florida. "This victory sends a strong signal that we will not allow extremists to turn back the progress we have made to secure equality for everyone."

The local team waged a strong grassroots campaign reaching voters and unmasking the real human impact of the proposed amendment.

"Today Gainesville voters showed that they value the rights of all citizens," said EQGB Chair and Gainesville City Commissioner Craig Lowe. "They have rejected the politics of fear and instead chose to retain the values that make our city such a beautiful place. Today, our voters showed their true character by emphasizing that, in Gainesville, every person matters."

A broad array of organizations came out to publicly oppose Charter Amendment 1. These organizations include: the Anti-Defamation League - Florida, the ACLU of Florida, Equality Florida, the Human Rights Campaign, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, the National Center for Transgender Equality, Lambda Legal, National Center for Lesbian Rights, Organizations United Together (O.U.T.), UM (University of Miami) for Equality, Florida Association of Planned Parenthood Affiliates, Florida NOW, Gainesville Area NOW, Judy Levy NOW PAC, Alachua County Democratic Party, Alachua County Green Party, Alachua County/Gainesville League of Women Voters, Alachua County NAACP, Gainesville Area Chamber of Commerce, Gainesville Area AIDS Project (GAAP), Gainesville Commission on the Status of Women, Human Rights Council of North Central Florida, Interweave, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Gainesville, North Central Florida Central Labor Council, Pride Center of North Central Florida, Social Justice Council of the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Gainesville, Trinity Metropolitan Community Church, United Church of

**NEW OWNERS PRIVATE BOOTHS 56 CHANNELS**

**SHOWBOAT PEEPS OPEN 9.AM-2.AM THEATRE**

**MAGAZINES XXX VIDEOS XXX NOVELTIES**

**XXX ACTION ON THE BIG SCREEN IN OUR THEATRE!**

**MUST BE 18 1800 W. King St (SR 520), Cocoa, FL 321-633-5588**

**10% OFF ANY PURCHASE WITH THIS AD**

**CHECK OUT OUR NEW MULTI-BOOTH LOUNGE**

- 6 DVDs PLAYING CONTINUOUSLY
- SEATING AREA
- SINGLE ADMISSION PRICE
- STAY AS LONG AS YOU WANT

MasterCard Visa

Gainesville Social Concerns Committee, University of Florida Students for Change, Students for a Democratic Society @ UF, Wild Iris Books and Wild Words Café, University of Florida Faculty Senate, University of Florida Presidential LGBT Concerns, and University of Florida Student Senate.

Equality Florida is Florida's only statewide human rights organization dedicated to the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender people. Through education and advocacy, the organization is committed to building a state of equal rights for all Floridians, inclusive of all sexual orientations and gender identities. Their website is at [www.EQFL.org](http://www.EQFL.org)

TALLAHASSEE—A record forty Florida legislators are working to enact a statewide law to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression in employment, housing and public accommodations.

At the request of the Palm Beach County Human Rights Council, state senator Ted Deutch (D-Boca Raton) and state representative Kelly Skidmore (D-Boca Raton) have introduced legislation (SB 2012/ HB 397) to expand the protected classes in both the Florida Civil Rights Act and Florida's Fair Housing Act.

The Council is a non-profit organization that has been in the forefront of Florida's gay rights movement since 1988.

"For the first time in history, 25 percent of our state lawmakers are on record supporting legislation to ensure that gay, lesbian and transgender individuals have the same rights as all other Floridians," said Council president Rand Hoch.

Earlier this year, Deutch enlisted seven of his colleagues in the Florida Senate to co-sponsor his bill. He is also working closely with Senate President Jeff Atwater (R-North Palm Beach), to help move the Senate bill forward this session. The bill is assigned to the Commerce Committee, which last year overwhelmingly supported the Deutch bill by a vote of 7-1.

"Hardworking Floridians should not be fired from their jobs just because they are gay," said Deutch.

In the Florida House of Representatives, Skidmore has secured the co-sponsorships of 31 lawmakers for her bill (HB 397).

"All Floridians should have the opportunity to earn a living and provide for their families without fear of being unfairly fired or denied housing for reasons that have nothing to do with their job performance or their ability to maintain their homes," said Skidmore. "The time has come for Florida to join the twenty other states which protect gay and lesbian employees from being unfairly fired."

"Unlike Senator Atwater, Speaker of the House Larry Cretul (R-Ocala) does not yet understand the urgency of this legislation," said Hoch.

Republican Governor Charlie Crist, a strong advocate for civil rights, has not indicated whether he would sign the bill when it gets to his desk.

Since 1990, seven counties and ten cities in Florida have amended their fair employment and housing laws to cover sexual orientation, and/or gender identity or expression. Such laws are in effect in Broward, Leon, Miami-Dade, Monroe, Orange, Palm Beach and

*continued on page 22*

continued from page 21

Pinellas counties, as well as in the cities of Gulfport, Gainesville, Key West, Lake Worth, Miami Beach, Orlando, Sarasota, St. Petersburg, Tampa and West Palm Beach.

“We need a statewide law,” said Hoch. “Well over half of all Floridians who face this type of discrimination have no legal recourse. Where you live and work in Florida should not determine your civil rights.”

Twenty states and the District of Columbia have enacted fair employment and housing laws covering sexual orientation. The most recent thirteen of these states to enact such laws and the District of Columbia also have included gender identity or expression.

As a result of these laws, 52% of the U.S. population now lives in jurisdictions protecting gay men and lesbians from discrimination. Thirty-nine percent of the U.S. population now lives in jurisdictions that also protect individuals based on their gender identity and/or expression.

All seven states whose civil rights laws include only sexual orientation are considering legislation this year to add gender identity or expression.

In addition to Florida, fifteen other state legislatures are considering bills to add both sexual orientation and gender identity and/or expression to their civil rights laws.

Polling data for the past thirty years has consistently shown that Americans believe gays and lesbians should have equal rights in employment, housing, and public accommodations.

In May 2008, a poll was conducted of more than 1,000 voters across the state. When asked whether homosexuals should have the same rights as everyone else to housing, job opportunities and public accommodations, 89% responded “yes.”

Political party identification had little statistical impact on the results. Eighty-seven percent of Republicans, 90% of Democrats and 93% of Independents all support equal rights for gay and lesbian Floridians.

Age and gender also have no impact on support of equal rights. 88% of Florida voters

55 and over support equal rights for gay men and lesbians, as do 90% under age 55. Similarly, 90% of women and 88% of men are supportive.

Floridians’ sense of fairness is mirrored across America. According to nationwide polls conducted annually for the past quarter-century by the Gallup Organization, 89% of all Americans 18 years or older believe that gay men and lesbians should have equal employment rights. This percentage has been constant since 2004.

More than 90% of the Fortune 500 companies have written policies prohibiting workplace discrimination based on sexual orientation and a quarter of them also prohibit discrimination based on gender identity.

CHARLESTON—from LezGetReal.com West Virginia Anti-Gay Marriage Amendment Defeated

The West Virginia House of Delegates has voted against advancing a proposed constitutional amendment on marriage.

The delegates voted 67-30 to reject an attempt by the Family Policy Council of West Virginia to put the issue before voters.

Earlier this month, the resolution stalled in a house committee and the Family Policy Council of West Virginia paid for a telemarketing campaign that some West Virginia Democratic lawmakers said was designed to “intimidate” them. But that effort failed to move the bill, so last week they pressed GOP lawmakers for action and that prompted Republican delegates to move by to force it to the full House.

Republican are overwhelmingly out numbered by Democrats in the West Virginia House and today’s vote followed along party lines.

West Virginia has had marriage law since 2000. But the F P C of W VA says it doesn’t go far enough and could be challenged in court.

MONTPIELIER—In an historic vote, Vermont became the first state in the US to legalize gay marriage through legislative process (rather than by judicial decision). The lawmakers overrode a veto from the governor by a wafer-thin margin, making the

New England state the fourth in the United States where gays can wed.

Nine years ago Vermont became the first state in the United States to adopt a same-sex civil-union law.

Just four days after Iowa’s Supreme Court struck down a ten-year-old law banning gay marriage, Vermont’s House of Representatives passed the bill by a 100-49 vote.

Lawmakers in next-door New Hampshire and Maine are also considering bills to allow gay marriage, putting New England at the heart of a divisive national debate over the issue.

Washington D.C. has extended new rights to gay couples, too, with a unanimous City Council vote to recognize same-sex marriages performed outside the district.

Republican Governor Jim Douglas had vetoed the bill, urging lawmakers to focus on the economy. Supporters needed two-thirds of the votes in each chamber to override his veto. They got that easily in the state Senate, which passed the bill 23-5 earlier.

The group Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders, which helped to legalize gay marriage in Massachusetts and Connecticut, has set a goal of expanding such marriages to all New England states by 2012. Maine and New Hampshire already offer same-sex couples some form of legal recognition.

Forty-three U.S. states have laws explicitly prohibiting gay marriage, including 29 with constitutional amendments restricting marriage to one man and one woman.

WORLD WIDE WEB—EHarmony has launched gay matchmaking service called Compatible Partners as part of the settlement of a discrimination suit.

The adamantly heterosexual dating website, has accepted only male-female couples since its inception in 2000.

www.compatiblepartners.net, their new site is the result of an agreement the company made in November as part of a settlement with the New Jersey attorney general in the wake of a discrimination suit.



Steve Lewis  
Master Stylist

Leary Hair Design  
4301 N. Wickham Rd., Melbourne, FL  
321-258-8258  
Tuesday-Saturday 9 am to 5 pm  
evening hours by appointment



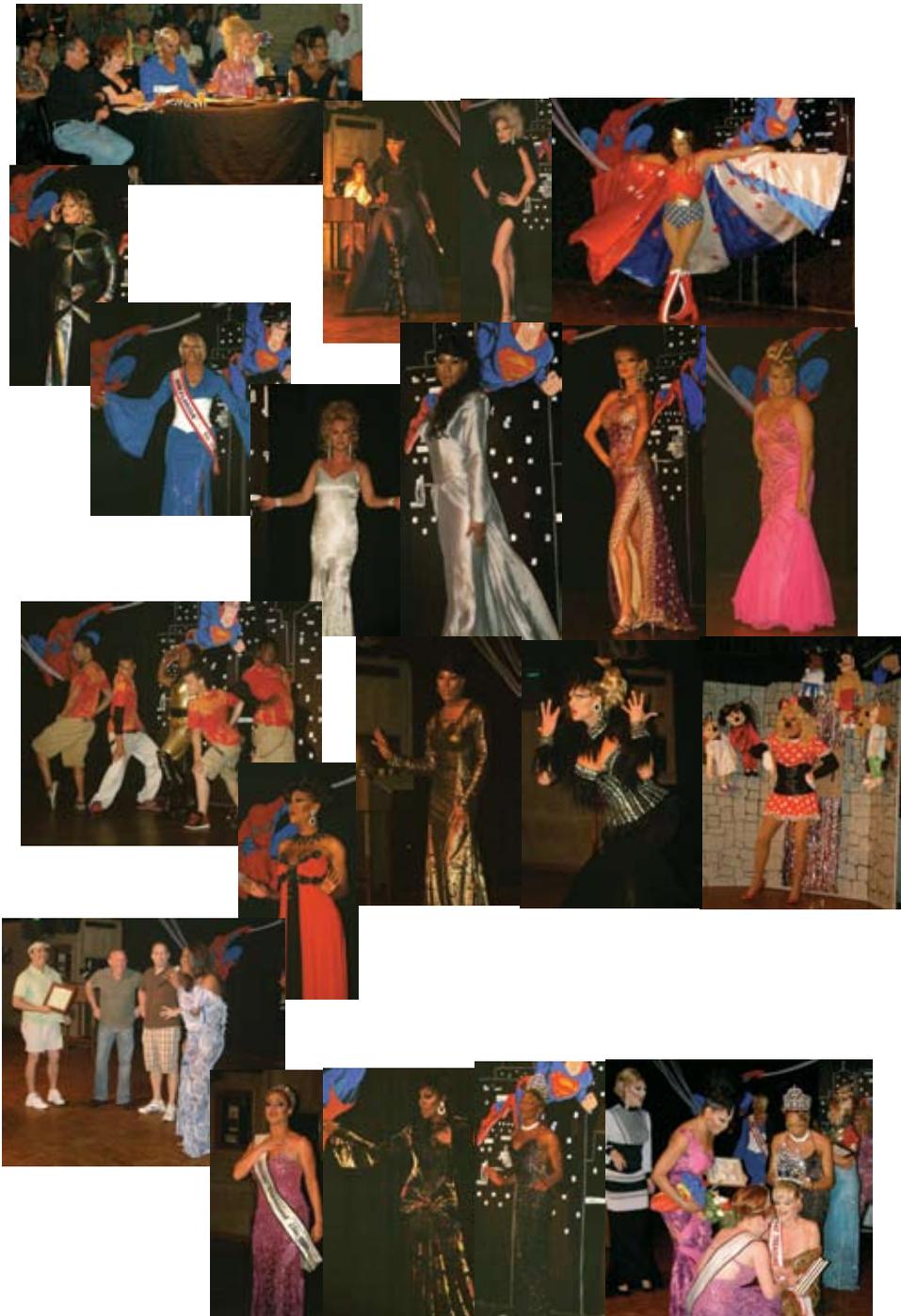
Promoting understanding,  
equal rights and diversity  
through support groups,  
community activities  
and scholarships.  
Everyone is welcome!



Meetings 7pm:  
2<sup>nd</sup> Monday and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday  
every month at  
Unity Center of Vero Beach  
950 43rd Ave.

PO Box 650533  
Vero Beach, FL 32965-0533  
772-778-9835  
www.VeroBeachPFLAG.org

# Miss Treasure Coast Pageant



Results in **HIV Rapid Testing** Walk-in or  
 30 min. *Free, Quick, Confidential* Call for Appt.

8:30-5:00 M-F *Peace of mind for the sexually active.*  
 Open till 7:00 PM Wed. 8:30-5:00 M-F  
 772-464-0420 321-724-1177  
 3501 Orange Ave. PROJECT RESPONSE, INC. 745 S. Apollo Blvd.  
 Ft. Pierce, FL 34947 Melbourne, FL 32901

This ad space donated by Out on the Coast magazine

EHarmony's founder, Neil Clark Warren, based the original service, which requires applicants to fill out lengthy questionnaires, on his own practice as a psychologist – in which he claims to never counseled a gay couple.

That's understandable when you consider that Warren is the former dean of the psychology graduate school at Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena. And much of the early promotion of EHarmony was done by well-known figures in the evangelical community, some of whom preach against gay rights.

As part of the settlement, EHarmony must make a "good-faith commitment" to promoting Compatible Partners.

WASHINGTON, DC—The White House announced April 23rd that President Obama has appointed a well-known lesbian attorney and ordained Episcopal priest, Emily C. Hewitt, as Chief Judge of the U.S. Court of Federal Claims.

The U.S. Court of Federal Claims hears cases involving monetary claims against the federal government and receives a variety of claims against the Government, including breach of contract claims, illegal exaction claims, takings claims under the 5th Amendment, claims involving military pay, and protests regarding contract bidding procedures.

The court also may hear congressional reference cases, which are cases referred to the court by either house of Congress. The judge serving as hearing officer renders a report as to the case's merits, which is reviewed by a panel of judges formed for that

purpose. The report is forwarded back to the chamber of Congress requesting it.

Judge Hewitt has served on the U.S. Court of Federal Claims since her confirmation by the Senate in 1998.

At the U.S. Court of Federal Claims, Judge Hewitt has handled cases in all areas of the Court's jurisdiction, chaired the court's Rules and Building and Space Committees and served on its Management Committee.

In 2006, she was appointed by the Chief Justice of the United States to serve on the Financial Disclosure Committee of the United States Judicial Conference. Prior to her appointment to the Court of Claims, Judge Hewitt was appointed general counsel to the General Services Administration during the Clinton Administration.

Hewitt was born May 26, 1944, in Baltimore, and is a graduate of Cornell University (A.B. 1966), Union Theological Seminary (M. Phil 1975) and Harvard Law School (J.D. 1978).

Judge Hewitt is married to Eleanor Dean Acheson who served as Assistant Attorney General for the Office of Policy Development under President Clinton and was a college classmate of Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Before entering government service, Judge Hewitt practiced from 1978 to 1993 with the Boston law firm Hill & Barlow, where she chaired the firm's real estate department from 1987-1993. A leader of the effort to open Episcopal ordination to women, Judge Hewitt was one of the first eleven women ordained to the Episcopal priesthood on July 29, 1974.

DES MOINES — The Iowa Supreme Court

*continued on page 27*

- **Quality Printing**
- **Magazines**
- **Brochures**
- **Newsletters**
- **Directories**
- **Comic Books**
- **Posters**

**772-571-1010**

**GraphX Printing, Inc.**

**16 N. Oleander Street • Fellsmere, FL 32948**

*continued from page 25*

found unconstitutional a state law limiting marriage to a man and a woman.

The unanimous decision moved the heated battle over same-sex marriage beyond the East and West Coasts to the nation's middle. Only Massachusetts and Connecticut now allow same-sex marriages, while California permitted them for about six months before voters approved a ban in November.

"We are firmly convinced the exclusion of gay and lesbian people from the institution of civil marriage does not substantially further any important governmental objective," Justice Mark S. Cady wrote for the seven-member court, adding later, "We have a constitutional duty to ensure equal protection of the law."

Opponents of same-sex marriage pledged to fight the outcome, but acknowledged that there appeared to be no immediate way to undo it. The only avenue would be a constitutional amendment, but under Iowa law that process would take at least two years.

Members of the Iowa Family Policy Center, a group opposed to same-sex marriage, spoke with state lawmakers after the ruling in hopes of jump-starting the amendment process.

But there was no indication that the Legislature, controlled by Democrats, would take up the matter.

"I think there's been a perception that it couldn't happen here," David Twombly, 67, said, moments after he learned that he and his partner could marry. The couple was among six Iowa couples to start the legal fight four years ago that culminated in Friday's decision.

"But yes, it happened, right here in Iowa," Mr. Twombly said. "There's something about that, about it happening in the heartland, that has got to accelerate this process for the whole country."

Same-sex marriages could take place in counties here starting in late April, when the ruling becomes final, lawyers said. There is no requirement that people seeking marriage licenses prove they live in Iowa, so the doors

will be open to same-sex couples from other states.

**NATIONWIDE**— Gay Blog Spot reported on April 02, that on divisive issue of gay clergy, two churches weigh softer stance

Two mainline Protestant denominations, after decades of wrestling over the place of homosexuality in the church, are considering allowing local congregations to select pastors who are in long-term, monogamous, same-gender relationships.

The church council of the largest Lutheran body in the US, the 5-million-member Evangelical Lutheran Church of America (ELCA), decided this week to send such a recommendation to its national assembly. The proposal would take effect if supported by majority vote at the assembly's biennial meeting in August.

The 2.3-million-member Presbyterian Church (USA) approved the idea at its national assembly last summer, but a majority of the church's 173 district bodies, called presbyteries, must vote in favor by June for it to become church policy.

While it's not clear that either denomination will embrace the change, their actions reflect the shifting views on homosexuality in society, as well as an acknowledgement that the old consensus in the churches has broken down and a new one is not likely to arise soon. The churches are seeking to accommodate differing views and avoid a denominational split.

"There is no question that attitudes have shifted in the church in the way in which this issue has been interpreted theologically," says the Rev. Peter Strommen, chairman of the ELCA task force for studies on sexuality, which developed the recommendation.

"People of sincere faith are coming to different, strongly held conclusions" based on different interpretations of scripture and tradition, he said during a Tuesday teleconference with reporters. "It's hard to imagine that as being possible 15 years ago."



## Directory

### Titusville, Cape Canaveral, Cocoa, Cocoa Beach & Merritt Island (Brevard County)

Doc Holiday's Smoke Shop, Tattoos and Piercing.....	321-783-4774
6200 N. Atlantic Ave, Cape Canaveral, FL	
Fairvilla Adult Megastore.....	321-799-9961
500 Thurm Blvd	
<b>Melanie Goff, LCSW, ACSW.....</b>	<b>321-639-0097</b>
<b>Counseling for all lifestyles, located in Cocoa Village</b>	
Family of God in Christ Church.....	321-632-3767
950 Cocoa Blvd (US 1), Ste. 104, Cocoa	
<b>Showboat Adult World.....</b>	<b>321-633-5588</b>
<b>1800 King St, Cocoa</b>	
<b>Ultra Lounge.....</b>	<b>321-690-0096</b>
<b>407 Brevard Ave., Cocoa Village</b>	

### Melbourne & Palm Bay (Brevard County)

AA Lambda AA.....	321-724-2247
Wednesdays & Saturdays, 7:30pm, Unity Church, 1745 Trimble Rd, Melbourne.....	Lambda.AA@earthlink.net
Alternative Connection (piercing & smoking supplies).....	321-728-4802
3105 S. Babcock, Melbourne	
<b>The Cold Keg Nightclub.....</b>	<b>321-724-1510</b>
<b>4060 W. New Haven, Melbourne</b>	
East Coast Christian Community Melbourne:.....	321-759-5588
1603 S Wickham Rd, Melbourne, FL 32904 Services every Sunday at 5 and 6:30 PM	
Mail: PO Box 120748, W. Melbourne, FL 32912-0748	
GiGi's Attic Thrift Boutique.....	321-952-5656
240 S. Wickham Rd, Melbourne, FL	
<b>Hot Flinx.....</b>	<b>321-752-8805</b>
<b>3369 Sarno Rd., Melbourne, FL 32934</b>	
King Center for the Performing Arts.....	321-242-2219
3865 N Wickham Rd, Melbourne, FL 32935	
<b>Steve Lewis/Leary Hair Design.....</b>	<b>321-258-8258</b>
<b>4301 N. Wickham Rd., Melbourne</b>	
<b>The Living Room of Brevard.....</b>	<b>321-505-0077</b>
<b>PO Box 60910, Palm Bay, FL 32906.....</b>	<b>www.TLRbrevard.org</b>
PFLAG Melbourne.....	www.MySpace.com/PFLAGmelbourne
Meets monthly on the fourth Monday at 6:30 p.m. at Riviera United Church of Christ, 451 Riviera Drive NE, Palm Bay, FL 32905	
Project Response.....	321-724-1177
745 S. Apollo, Melbourne	
RockItLandscaping.....	321-327-4367
Shark Pest Control.....	321-872-0214
W. Trent Steele Law Offices.....	888-239-1449
Tan-In Tanning Salon.....	321-768-1212
1158 W. New Haven, W. Melbourne, FL	
David R. Stokes Plumbing, Inc. ....	321-725-5572
1200 Monument Ave. SE, Palm Bay, FL	
Diversified Media Solutions (phone/network/cable wiring/diagnostics/repair).....	321-704-6318
Women's Glass.....	888-676-0376

### Vero Beach (Indian River County)

AA The Sober Rainbow.....	772-538-8068
Thursdays, Unity Church, 950 43rd Ave, Vero Beach.....	TheSoberRainbow@aol.com

## Directory

Eclectus.....	772-567-4962
2045 13th Ave, Vero Beach, FL	
Pandahome Pet Care.....	772-453-5875
<b>PFLAG Vero Beach (2nd Mon &amp; 4th Tue, Unity Ctr, 950 43rd Ave).....</b>	<b>772-778-9835</b>
<b>PO Box 650533, Vero Beach, FL 32965-0533</b>	
People Care Center.....	772-978-0044
Riverside Theatre.....	800-445-6754/772-231-6990
3250 Riverside Park Dr., Vero Beach, FL 32963	

### Ft. Pierce & Port St. Lucie (St. Lucie County) & Stuart (Martin County)

All Heavenly Creatures Pet Crematory.....	866-912-8470/772-878-2315
7664 S. US Highway 1, Port St. Lucie, FL 34953	
Benedictine Order of St. John the Beloved, Old Catholic Church.....	772-370-9885
Services Sundays, 6 pm, 7664 S. US Highway 1, Port St. Lucie, FL 34953 (house all the way in the back)	
<b>Carnival Cruise Line/ Gary Robbins.....</b>	<b>800-819-3902 x85840</b>
Crystal Tides.....	772-334-3337
1958 NE Ricou Terrace, Jensen Beach	
East Coast Christian Community.....	321-759-5588
The Shriner's Club, 4600 Oleander, every Sunday at 10 a.m.	
Haber & Associates Insurance.....	772-528-4384
In Da Dog House.....	772-464-7800
936 S. US 1, Ft. Pierce, FL 34950	
<b>Kelli Randell.....</b>	<b>772-215-1002</b>
Nu-2-U Boutique.....	772-380-0551
2741 SE Morningside Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL	
Party Town U.S.A.....	772-465-5255
6829 S. US 1, Port St. Lucie, FL	
Project Response.....	772-464-0420
3501 Orange Ave, Ft. Pierce, FL	
Tracy Price (Doris White Realty).....	772-971-8644
PFLAG PSL/Treasure Coast.....	772-781-4028
Monthly on the first Sunday at 2 PM at St. Julian Old Catholic Church, 7664 S. US 1, PSL	
<b>REBAR.....</b>	<b>772-340-7777</b>
<b>8283 Hwy 1, Fiesta Square, Port St. Lucie, FL 34952</b>	
W. Trent Steele Law Offices.....	888-239-1449
Ultimate Barbers at Tradition.....	772-345-9955
10474B SW Village Center Dr., Port St. Lucie	

### North Palm Beach

<b>Adult Video Warehouse.....</b>	<b>561-863-9997</b>
<b>501 Northlake Blvd, North Palm Beach</b>	

## SOUND OFF

on the forums at [www.ootcmag.com](http://www.ootcmag.com).

Discuss what's important to you on the only webspace devoted to just the Treasure and Space Coasts' GLBT community

told the Orlando Sentinel.

Stephenson is leaving behind his mother, who resides in Vero Beach, and the friends he's made in Central Florida as a 14-year veteran of the local restaurant industry.

"There's always been this understanding I would have to return to Canada," Figueroa, 30, told the Sentinel before leaving for Vancouver, British Columbia. "But this is my home. I have friends here. I have family. I'm married, whether the government acknowledges it or not."

Figueroa and Stephenson are not alone. According to U.S. Census figures dating back to 2000, an estimated 36,000 same-sex couples nationwide are in the same predicament. Immigration Equality, an LGBT immigration advocacy group based in New York, is fighting to ensure that same-sex couples have the same immigration rights as heterosexuals.

"We have people every day who have to make a choice to leave their partner or leave their country," Victoria Neilson, legal director of Immigration Equality, told the Sentinel.

There is hope that the Uniting American Families Act—a measure proposed by U.S. Sen. Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.) and Rep. Jerrold Nadler (D-N.Y.)—will pass Congress, allowing both permanent residents and U.S. citizens to sponsor their same-sex partners for family immigration.

ProudParenting.com reports that The State of Florida could save \$3.4 million dollars in the first year after lifting its gay adoption ban, according to The Williams Institute, at the UCLA School of Law.

A new study, titled Cost of Florida's Ban on Adoption by GLB Individuals and Same-Sex Couples examines the impact on Florida's children and the cost to the State of Florida created by the current ban on adoption by gay individuals and same-sex couples. Researchers used data about the number of children adopted each year as a way to estimate the number of gay people and same-sex couples who would be likely to serve as adoptive parents if the ban were not in place.

Research findings indicate that prohibiting gay people from adopting means that 165 children must remain in foster care or must have alternative adoptive homes recruited for them. As a result, it's estimated that the ban costs the State of Florida over \$2.5 million in per year. This estimate is conservative since some likely additional costs are difficult to quantify.

The study also estimates that if the ban were lifted, both adoption and foster care by gay people and same-sex couples would increase to the average United States level, leading to 219 children being adopted, and saving the State of Florida \$3.4 million dollars in the first year.

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



http://www.EQFL.org

Ad space donated by Out on the Coast magazine

Just because you do not take an interest in politics doesn't mean politics won't take an interest in you.

— Pericles, Greek statesman (430 BC)

# business place

Ad space donated by Out on the Coast magazine

**Monthly meetings:**  
4<sup>th</sup> Monday at 6:30 PM  
Riviera United Church  
of Christ, 451 Riviera  
Drive NE, Palm Bay, FL

**PFLAG**  
Melbourne/  
Space Coast

[www.myspace.com/pflagmelbourne](http://www.myspace.com/pflagmelbourne)

**COLDWELL BANKER**  
DEVONSHIRE REALTY

Brevard County  
Residential  
Commercial

Debby Pitcher Property  
(321) 480-4898 Management

WHEN YOU NEED TO TALK...

Melanie Goff, LCSW, ACSW  
Lic. No. SW4536

PSYCHOTHERAPY FOR INDIVIDUALS AND COUPLES

COCOA VILLAGE, FL SLIDING SCALE FEES  
(321) 639-0097 GLBT OPEN & AFFIRMING  
EVENING & SAT APPOINTMENTS

Female Impersonator / Entertainer

Miss Kelli  
Randell

772 215-1002

lmKelliPSL@aol.com  
Available for Parties



**Do you want additional income?**

**Can you sell?**

**Turn your spare time into cash selling advertising. Outstanding opportunities with commission rates up to 25%! Must be a self-starter, previous sales experience a plus.**

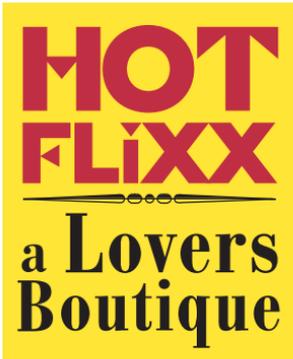
**Account executives need in:**

- Brevard County
- Greater St. Lucie County including Indian River and Martin

Send your qualifications to [sales@ootcmag.com](mailto:sales@ootcmag.com)

**OUT ON THE COAST**  
magazine

*Serving the Community  
with the  
Largest Collection  
of DVDs, Lubes and Love Toys  
... Anywhere*



**Melbourne**  
3369 Sarno Rd.  
½ mile west of dogtrack  
321-752-8805



**North Palm Beach**  
501 Northlake Blvd.  
1 block west of US 1  
561-863-9997

**Open 7 Days • 9 am to 2 am**

**The place to bring your wife, girlfriend, boyfriend, or all three!**