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Issue #082, September 2009



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HOROSCOPE by Jacqueline

The full moon on the 4th in Pisces starts the months off with all feeling bewildered. This will be a cause for everyone to question ones spirituality, beliefs and faith not only of themselves but of their fellowman. On the 7th, Mercury will go retrograde until the 29th. This solar event will make communication with others confusing causing you to rely heavily on your faith. Luckily Pluto goes direct on the 11th. What started going awry in April will self correct during this time. Unfortunately, when Mercury goes back into Virgo on the 17th some of the residual of past will cause us to overanalyze personal and professional events especially with love. Use this month to gather information and allow the universe to take care of the rest and you'll find the swings of the pendulum to be less severe.

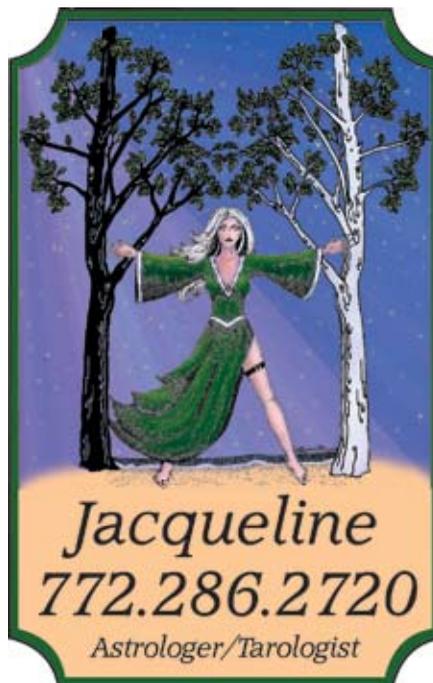
Aries March 23 - April 22 Be prepared to bend like a reed in the wind, flexibility is your strong point this month. During this mercury retrograde from the 7th to the 29th, understand that what worked well in April will not work now and that communication issues will arise. Try not to commit to any thing during this time. The good thing is with Venus in Leo, you'll be able to capitalize on your good sense of humor.

Taurus April 23 - May 22 Although this is uncharacteristic of you, be charitable this month. Remember that the charity you show now will provide dividends later. Mercury is retrograde amplifying communication difficulties so choose your words carefully. Be a listener and not authoritarian as what you say will be used against you in both public and private. Wait until after the 29th to resolve any issues. You'll find a better result.

Gemini May 23 - June 22 Feeling restless about the previous decisions made last month? Try a different approach to the circumstance. Talking out both sides of your mouth will not work now. Get back to your basic needs and desires and take a different direction in acquiring them. There is where you'll find your happiness.

Cancer June 23 - July 22 Your day of rebirth has come. Relinquish what is not serving you. You have serious choices to make between the 10th and 30th. Trust your instincts. Pay attention to the opportunities presented at this time. There is where you'll find the positive changes you need to make in your life.

Leo July 23 - August 22 With Venus in Leo this month, all will be attracted to



you. You're in the spotlight; use it to your advantage. Others can be intimidated by this highlight. Don't take it personally. Most of all have fun and relax now because big changes are coming towards the end of October for you.

Virgo August 23 - September 22 Happy solar return! You'll find harmony with your friendships and personal relationships this month, especially after the new moon in your sign on the 18th. Be doubly aware of your finances during this Mercury retrograde from the 7th to the 29th. Think twice before you purchase anything and double check your accounting or you may have a mess to clean up later.

Libra September 23 - October 22 The pendulum is swinging for you now and not in a direction that you're familiar with. With your balance off, walk slowly in all situations, especially when it comes to technological things. Now is not the time to make any major decisions or new purchases. So, just enjoy the details of the day to day routine and don't worry about what will happen in the future.

Scorpio October 23 - November 22 "What's in it for me" should be your motto for this month. Others will reveal more information than you want to know. Remember, you don't have to solve others problems. You turn inward and may find yourself staying close to home. You'll find great comfort in to organizing the clutter this month.

Sagittarius November 23 - December 22 Others are desiring closeness with you and looking for your loyalty. Listen and share your knowledge, but don't act. Mercury is retrograde and you may find they are giving you mixed signals. With Venus in Leo, your creative juices are flowing. Use this time to do something innovative for yourself.

Capricorn December 23 - January 22 Are you feeling the blockages that are upon you this month? Opportunities the emerged in May are now dissipating. Major shifts are occurring for you. Take

time to look into what you want for your future and look at unusual ways to get there. This is not the time to take action with Mars opposing you.

Aquarius January 23 - February 22 This is a good time to take a vacation! The direction you're going is going to change, and change, and change. This is not the time to make any major decisions. This is a good time to gather information and keep an open mind. You'll find the answers later. So, enjoy the moment and have some fun now.

Pisces February 23 - March 22 With the full moon on the 4th in your sign brings a greater vulnerability to you. Nothing is urgent. Learn to ask more questions before making a decision. You'll find the information you gather now will be quite useful. The good part is your artistic abilities are heightened now. Channel your energy into something creative now.

For those who want to know: I've chosen to explain the locomotive pattern this month, not because this month's chart is similar to it but because we are being strongly influenced by one planet like the engine planet of the locomotive pattern. The definition of the locomotive pattern is

One planet leads the other clockwise around the wheel and the rest are spaced at varying intervals in a line. These people apply drive to problems and possess great pools of energy. The planet leading the group and its house position is what drives the rest of the planets. With Mercury retrograde this month it's driving all of our thoughts and actions. The way to not chase your tail now is to use faith and trust that all will be revealed in its right time and wait until after Mercury goes direct to take action.



Monthly horoscopes by Jacqueline. For more information on Astrology or for a private reading call: 772.286.2720

Ultra Lounge

photos courtesy of Ultra Lounge

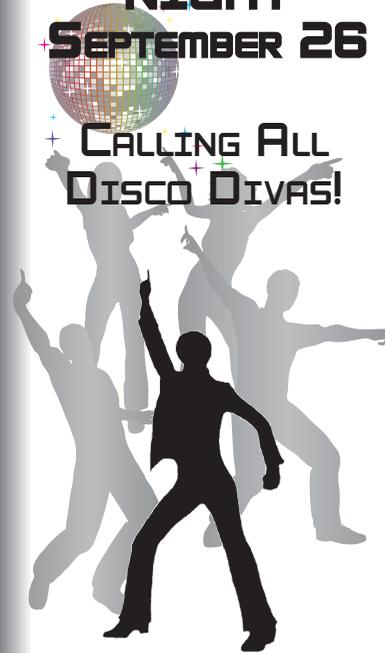


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Tea Time

with Miss T

What was it that famous architect said, "Less is more?" Hmm, must have been thinking about strippers.....Anyway here more or less what's happening up and down the coast.

We're all concerned for Amber Douglas. The long-time performer is seriously ill, in the ICU with respiratory problems at last report. She performed for years on the second Thursday of the month at **Cold Keg's** Trash Night and is well known and well liked all over central Florida. I've been told we should all say a little prayer as there's not much hope for recovery – but as you should all know: NEVER count a drag queen out, or she's liable to get up and do one more number just to spite you! And if you know Amber, you know she a Tiger!



On a personal note we are humbled to be nominated (and consequently accepted) to be part of EBSCO, generally recognized as the leader in the database marketplace. According to an Independent Study conducted by *Library Journal*, "The number one reference source owned by academic (and public) libraries in electronic-only format is EBSCOhost databases." Not only does EBSCO supply its databases to thousands

Can you believe this is REBAR? Metalucious was a big hit -- they're a 80s cover band with quite a stage show and they tore the place up! If you missed it this time make sure you watch for REBAR's next event!

of universities, biomedical institutions, schools, and other libraries in the United States and Canada, but the company is the leading database provider for libraries outside of North America. At present, EBSCO provides nationwide access to its databases in more than 70 countries, including developing nations with emerging economies. As a result, publishers and learned societies participating in EBSCO's databases gain increased exposure for their publications in the world's most prestigious institutions, and in markets where these publications may not currently have strong penetration. EBSCO has told me it will take six to nine months to get **Out on the Coast magazine** in their LGBT Life with Full Text collection but we are nonetheless very proud that this little rag has made it so far. It means that within the year we will have subscribed electronic distribution worldwide. Oh, my!

Kelli Randell has been honored, too: named "Miss Florida Gay Universe Emeritus." We'll skip what emeritus means and just say that she'll be traveling the state of Florida, appearing at lots of preliminary pageants and getting ready for the state pageant! She will also be going to Texas in October to perform at the Texas Gay Universe Pageant, and to Atlanta in August to appear at a preliminary for the Georgia Gay Universe Pageant! Congratulations, **Kelli** it's good to see you recognized for all the good you do.

Up at the **Cold Keg** the new schedule is starting to take shape. There's ladies nite out on the first and third Fridays with shows and contests – Spikey Dikey will be running a contest to find new talent, drag, strippers, performers of any stripe on the first Friday of each month with the finals in December – and the winner gets a cash prize (just in time for Christmas) and a chance to perform with the After Midnights! Guys nite out on the second and fourth Friday with male dancers and no cover – I guess on months with five Fridays the last one will be something else again! **Cold Keg** will have their

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When Spikey and the After Midnights finished at the Keg the other day, they surprised Teddy D with a birthday cake. And if you know Spikey you know she "served" it, but not in a traditional manner!

(the rest of the schedule remains Velvet on the first Thursday, Kelli on the third and Page on the fourth Thursday).

I noticed on line that **Emerald City** has another C-n-K Pride shop event coming up, a Wine & Jewels thing on September 12 featuring wine tasting and the fine jewelry Carl and Ken have for sale. It's jewelry of a different kind than offered at their fetish parties. Also on tap is a Nautical Jack's reunion. Now there's a name I haven't heard in a while! What fun! **Emerald City** finishes out September with a drag show and a toga party, so their weekends are full of fun, too.

Ultra Lounge is certainly doing something right – seems like every time they do a theme party someone around the corner copies it, but hey, imitation is the sincerest form of flattery. How nice to be able to bar hop on foot once in a while and of course **Ultra Lounge** is gay all the time.

continued on page 30

Cold Keg

photos: Lee



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Sept 11 & 25
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 Sept 12th: Alexi Leigh
 Kelli Randell
 Sept 19th: Daphne Ferraro
 Velvet LeNore
 Sept 26th: Tasha Scott
 Roseanne DeShanaro

Guys Nite Out
Male Dancers
No Cover

Ladies Nite Out

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Sept 18: Spikey Dykey & the After Midnights
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Spiritually Speaking

The writer of Ecclesiastes wrote that there is a time and place for everything. They went on to create a long of things there is a time for: a time to dance, a time to hug, a time to laugh, a time to cry, a time for just about anything under the sun. But recently I have noticed something that is missing from the list: there is no mention of a time to be so busy that we don't have time for ourselves.

I understand the concept of being busy. I pastor two congregations, work a fulltime job, and am a full-time student working on a doctorate degree in Psychology. And if that isn't enough, I also have a partner of over 18 years and two dogs. They all require time. My yard demands time. My car demands time for maintenance. There is laundry, cooking, cleaning, and finding time to pay the bills. Sometimes I wish I could win a lottery that was giving away time instead of money.

I have to keep reminding myself that being busy is not necessarily a sign of being productive. I have known a lot of people who are super busy. And there are some people who spend all their time telling you how busy they are. It seems that they can never get things done because they spend so much time telling others how busy they are.

Busyness is not a sign of maturity or spirituality. The writer of Ecclesiastes tells us that there is a time to not work, a time to rest. Even God, in the concept of a seven-day week, provides the idea of a day of rest every week.

If one wants, they can become busy in our community. There are AIDS organizations, political organizations, support organizations, business guilds, Marches on Washington to prepare for, and, in my case, articles to write for various publications. Time has become a dreaded four-letter word to many of us. There just doesn't seem to be enough time to get everything done.

Maybe the idea is that we are too busy sometimes. Recently I have had a reminder that I do not have super strength. Two years ago when I was very stressed out and over committed in my time, I experienced a brief, potentially serious medical warning in my life

that told me to slow down. Since then, I have allowed my calendar to become over-booked again. So, once again, this time a little more seriously and stronger than before, my body sent me a message that it is time to eliminate some of the busyness from my life.

So as I begin to listen once again to the writer of Ecclesiastes and remind myself that it is okay to take time for myself to rest and relax, I am reminded that I also need to take time for my spiritual life to rest and relax. Spiritual leaders sometimes are so busy that they fail to take time to renew their own lives. When I study the life of Jesus, I am amazed at how often he slipped away from his followers and friends to just spend time alone, resting, relaxing, and renewing his own energy. He knew the power that the writer of Ecclesiastes knew about taking control of time and not letting time control you.

The Psalmist also knew this concept. In what is probably the most famous of all the Psalms, the Psalmist wrote in the 23rd Psalm, "God makes me to lie down in green pastures." There are times when we need to just stop being so busy and just rest and relax and renew our bodies and spirits.

So here I am, so busy that I sometimes fail to just stop and take care of myself. Life is a challenge to learn how to manage the many gifts God has blessed us with. Time is one of those gifts. I wonder when I will learn to practice what the writer of Ecclesiastes knew – learning to allow time for every important part of my life. ▼

The Rev. Dr. Jerry L. Seay is a former pastor in the Assemblies of God. He became a pastor in the Metropolitan Community Churches in 1989. He and his life-partner of thirteen years, Mike Lufriu, moved to Brevard County to start the East Coast Metropolitan Community Church, which became East Coast Christian Community in 2008. East Coast Christian Community meets in Melbourne at 1603 S Wickham Rd, every Sunday at 5 p.m. for a traditional service and at 6:30 p.m. for a contemporary service. Services in Port St. Lucie/Ft. Pierce are at the Shriner's Club, 4600 Oleander Ave, every Sunday at 10 a.m.

Emerald City

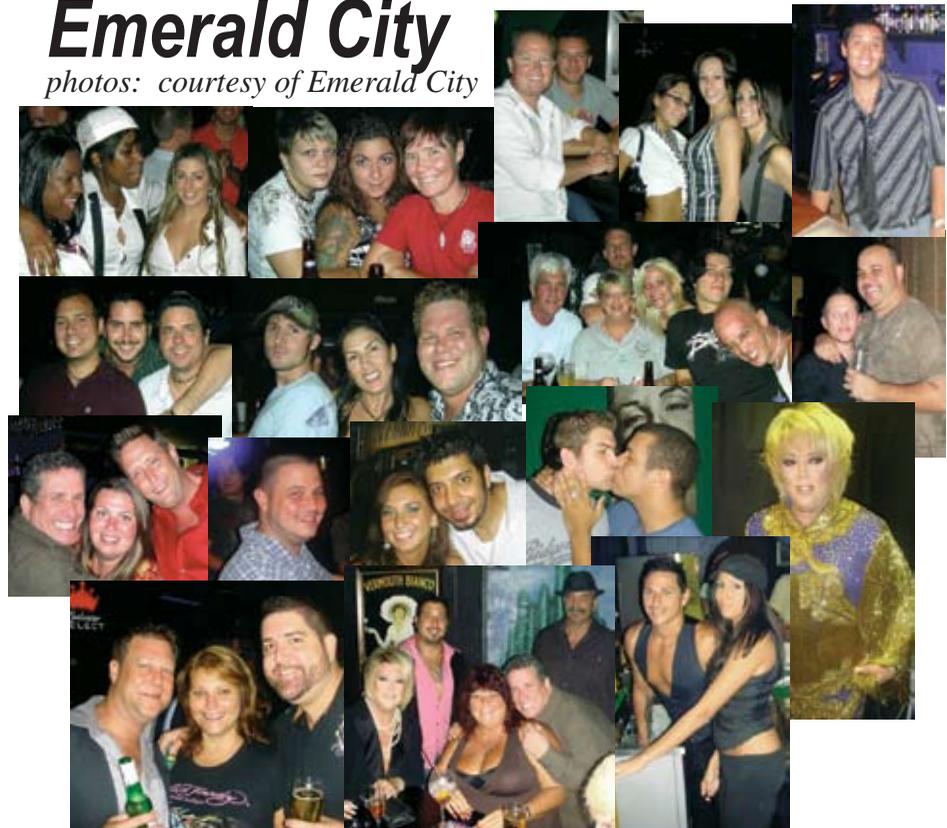
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Emerald City

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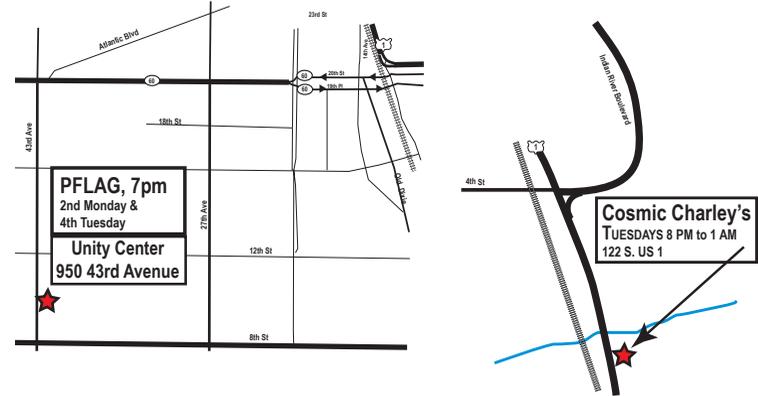
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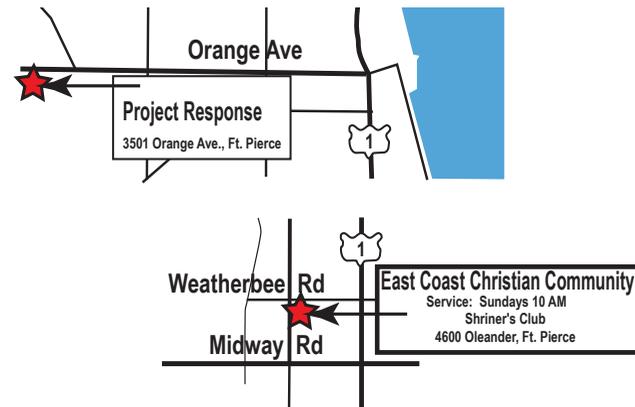


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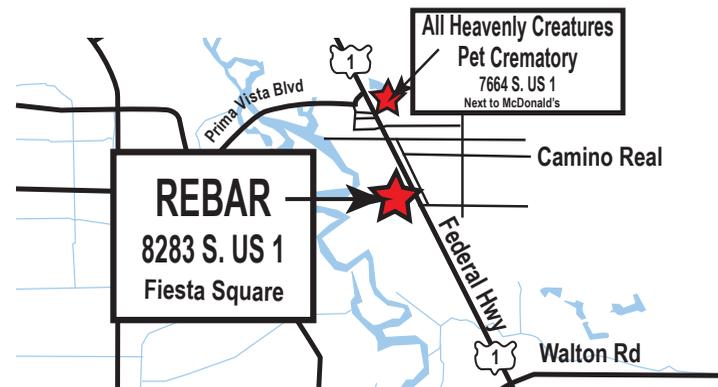
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In My Words

a personal viewpoint

A Season of Lies

My friend Carl asks me; "How can you tell when a Republican is lying?" I don't quite know what to answer, so he tells me; "When his lips are moving."

It is, of course a joke. We laugh.

We laugh. Then I turn to the news and realize we are truly enmeshed in a tragic web of lies. It is known by anyone who is willing to accept hard evidence that Barak Obama is a United States citizen by birth that he was born in the State of Hawaii. It is known by anyone who is willing to accept the hard evidence provided. His birth document has been supplied by the authorities in his birth-State. Yet even with this evidence, the lie persists. This lie has taken on such a life of its own that those who are dumb enough to believe it and promulgate it are given their own name: they are called "birthers." The birthers are fueled by those talking heads that reside in the nether regions of the Far Right. They promote a certain false patriotism in their listeners as they, at the very same time, speak to the spark of a racial prejudice and attempt to carelessly fan it into flame. They seem to believe that it is important to preserve the polarization that exists between the Right and the Left, even if it means sacrificing the progress that could be made under this very moderate president and his administration. Every politician within the Washington DC beltway

knows that the place of Mr. Obama's birth should not be suspect. What should be suspect, and should be so without a doubt, is the agenda of any politician who questions it. If we give the benefit of the doubt to those who, during the campaign, raised questions, we also need to recognize that the questions have been answered, and there is nothing progressive about disregarding that evidence for no other reason than a poisonous distraction from the work that needs to be completed.

I recall the joke, and I smile.

I am a believer in Universal Health Insurance. I am a believer in the Single Payer Option. I am a believer in Medicare. I am offended by the lies being told to defeat any repair of the mangled group of medical services that is called "health care" in these United States. I have worked as a provider, and have seen it all from the inside. This so-called system produces outcomes that are, to put it mildly, poor. We lag behind too many of the industrialized nations of the world in such areas as longevity and infant mortality. We brag that we administer the best medical care in the world, but the statistics tell us otherwise. The population needs to know this, and they need to ask why. We are still the wealthiest of countries. We have many, many health care practitioners who are capable and compassionate. Why then are so many of our people left to twist in the wind without health care, and without access to the



O'Malley's
photos: courtesy of O'Malley's



doctors and hospitals that we take for granted? When and why have we become so selfish that we don't care to give those who are poorer a hand up? Why do we allow a "system" to flourish that makes affordable health care an oxymoron even when there is an option on the table that will take a giant step toward leveling the field and providing a means for those who are poor to be insured and thereby gain access to the care that, from a moral perspective, should be available to them. Why the lies?

One lie in particular is offensive beyond words. This is the lie designed to put fear into the heart of anyone who is elderly, anyone who loves an elderly person, and anyone who realizes that they too will be elderly someday. This is the lie being promoted by Insurance Companies, Pharmaceutical Houses and Social

Conservatives: Obama's Death Panels. This particular lie is patently ridiculous, and yet it has gained credence. Of all the untruths being told about this attempt to make Health Insurance available to all Americans, this is the most unconscionable since it instills and then preys on the fears of those who might be at a vulnerable point in their lives.

What are these so-called death panels, and what have these liars hooked onto? To answer that, you need to know that for the past thirty or so years those involved in health care have been encouraging those who enter the hospital or otherwise are the recipients of health care, to prepare what are called "Advance Directives." These documents are simple but can be very important to the preparer. They might include such things as the appointment of a

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relative or friend as your Health Care Agent. This agent would be someone who is aware of your wishes and can speak for you in the event that you become incapable of speaking for yourself. The directives could also include a "Living Will." The Living Will would address your wishes as to what measures you would like taken in the event that you become incapacitated due to illness or accident, and there is no hope of recovery. It addresses what the writer chooses: should a respirator be an option? Does the writer of the will wish to be kept alive through the use of machines? Does the writer expect heroic measures, or would "Comfort Measures" be the choice. Comfort Measure can include intravenous hydration, medication for pain, antibiotics should an infection be present and all other interventions designed to keep the person comfortable. Once again, the options contained in any Advance Directive are totally and completely in the hands of the person authoring the documents.

What the current proposed health care legislation allows is for anyone who should want to prepare an Advance Directive but is not sure how to go about it, to have access to a counselor who would answer questions and, if necessary, assist in the preparation

of the documents. This service is not to be obligatory, but if used would be covered by Medicare. So, your so-called "death panel" is merely a step to make the preparation of Advance Directives easier and affordable for all.

Talk about a Death Panel are lies. Lies! Sara Palin knows this; Orin Hatch knows this; Rush Limbaugh knows this; Newt Gingrich knows this; Ann Coulter knows this; Michelle Malkin knows this; John McCain knows this; and Alan Keyes knows this. All of them are aware that there is no proposal for death panels, nor are there measures to bring benign neglect to elder care. These charges are made only to engender fear. They are lies. Lies are told for a purpose, so it might be a good thing to ask who gains if the President's Health Care proposal goes down to defeat? The Conservative wing of the Republican Party gains as they attempt to once again gain credibility, even if that credibility must be gained on the backs of the poor and elderly. The Insurance Companies gain and the Insurance lobbyists gain as their pocket books continue to be stuffed with health care premiums. The Pharmaceutical Houses gain as they continue to gouge the public for the medications they need to continue to live. If this Health Care Bill passes,

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it might be that the government can then institute a system whereby mass buying power could eliminate the high prices charged to all of us. (The insured is also hurt when the medication is either not covered, or is one where an insurance functionary decides it must be in a category where the deductible is prohibitive.) All of these groups have a stake in seeing that the Health Care Bill does not become law and all of these groups are behind the lies.

I recall the joke, and I am no longer smiling. Do I believe any single party has a monopoly on the practice of lying? Not so... but the lies being told regarding Universal Health Care are particularly telling and particularly cruel.

David has a blog at <http://thedavidvbf.multiply.com/journal> and has generously allowed us to reprint it here. We will be printing blogs from David on a variety of topics. Please note that the opinions expressed in this column are those of the author. On this particular issue we find the level of discourse about the health care proposal disgusting, what has happened to us? Florida Today newspaper reported that at the AARP forum in Vierra when one audience

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member spoke in favor of a single payer plan saying that something has to be done "because people are dying." Another audience member shouted out, "Let them die!" This is what we've become? I won't hold my breath waiting for our so-called leaders to denounce such sentiment; they're all too busy stuffing their war chests with blood money. Ed.

IN THE NEWS

For current headlines see our website: www.ootcmag.com

MINNEAPOLIS— In a vote of 559-451, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America today adopted a resolution to allow sexually active gays to join the clergy.

The resolution the 4.8 million-member church just passed revokes an earlier ban that allowed gay clergy to lead churches only if they remained celibate.

Earlier in the day, delegates voted 670-344 to defeat an amendment proposed by former Minnesota Gov. Al Quie that would have precluded the “rostering” of homosexuals as ELCA pastors.

This morning’s session was extended half an hour so more people could speak.

MANCHESTER, ENGLAND—A campaign has been launched to win a posthumous apology for computer pioneer Alan Turing over his conviction for homosexuality.

The brilliant mathematician, who spent his key years at Manchester University, is hailed as one of the founders of modern computing.

A conviction for homosexuality effectively ended his career. Troubled Turing went on to commit suicide in 1954, aged just 41.

Now a group of admirers of the scientist – named as one of the 100 most important people of the 20th century by Time Magazine – are lobbying the government to make a posthumous apology.

Turning was one of Britain’s best wartime codebreakers – part of the team at Bletchley Park which unraveled the secret of the Enigma code machines used by German U-boats. Turing was awarded an OBE in 1945 for his wartime services to the Foreign Office and moved to Manchester to help work on the pioneering Mark 1 computer.

He was prosecuted for gross indecency for having sex with a man in 1952, but escaped jail after being offered an alternative of taking an experimental hormone treatment to reduce sex drive.

However, the case effectively ended his career and Turing fell into despair. His body was found by a cleaner at his Wilmslow home in 1954 - next to him was a half-eaten apple laced with cyanide.

More than 500 people have now signed the

petition on the 10 Downing Street website to call for an official apology ‘recognize the tragic consequences of prejudice that ended his life and career’.

John Graham-Cumming, a leading British computer expert who launched the campaign, said: “I think that Alan Turing hasn’t been recognized in Britain for his enormous contribution because he died in his forties and almost certainly because he was gay.

“It is atrocious that we don’t recognize this man and the only way to do so is to apologize to him. This man was a national treasure and we hounded him to his death.

“One of the things for people in the computing world is that he was part of the war effort but we don’t give him recognition in the same way as other heroes. To me, he was a hero in the second world war.”

Since his death, plaques, buildings and statues have been raised in Turing’s honor. The computing world’s equivalent of the Nobel Prize has been called the Turing Award since 1966.

WASHINGTON, DC—President Barack Obama embraced two historic supporters of gay rights on August 12, honoring assassinated San Francisco politician Harvey Milk and tennis star Billie Jean King among 16 recipients of the nation’s highest civilian award, the Presidential Medal of Freedom.

The president, who has been criticized by gay advocacy groups for failing to act on the proposed repeal of the ban on gays in the military and other issues, explicitly praised Milk and King as proponents of same-sex equality, even appropriating Milk’s famous slogan in his remarks in the White House East Room.

“His name was Harvey Milk, and he was here to recruit us – all of us – to join a movement and change a nation,” the president told his audience, including Milk’s nephew, who accepted the award on his uncle’s behalf.

“In the brief time in which he spoke – and ran and led – his voice stirred the aspirations of millions of people,” Obama continued. “His message of hope – hope unashamed, hope unafraid – could not ever be silenced.”

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Obama described the sports legend, King, as a role model for women, including his own daughters, saying King had helped “change how women athletes and women everywhere view themselves and to give everyone – regardless of gender or sexual orientation...a chance to compete both on the court and in life.”

All of the honorees were chosen for their accomplishments as “agents of change.”

“They remind us that we each have it within our powers to fulfill dreams, to advance the dreams of others and to remake the world for our children,” Obama said.

COLORADO SPRINGS—According to a report on LezGetReal .com a \$6 million budget shortfall forces Focus on the Family to drop Ex-Gay program.

Citing a “serious budget shortfall” the conservative Christian group, Focus on the Family has been prompted to issue a special fundraising plea, and has also decided to hand over control of its contentious “Love Won Out” Ex-Gay program to another religious organization, a FotF spokesman said.

Focus on the Family is looking at a \$6 million short fall in its \$138 million budget for this fiscal year

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– a budget larger than all national and regional gay-equality organizations combined.

Focus on the Family, was founded by James Dobson with funding from Edgar D. Prince, the father the Blackwater Worldwide president Erik Prince, in 1977. But last winter, Dobson officially announced he was stepping down as chairman of the Board of Directors, but would continue to serve as host of the Focus on the Family broadcasts and write a monthly column.

The Edgar and Elsa Prince Foundation, which Erick Prince serves as vice president, is also a major donor to FotF, but recent legal troubles for Prince and his mercenary company, both here and overseas, have some speculating that source of funding may be drying up.

Last fall, budget problems caused by big spending during the Proposition 8 fight in California, prompted Focus on the Family to eliminate more than 200 positions.

In total, Focus on the Family spent \$727,250 on the campaign to ban gay marriage in California last November.

Focus on the Family also announced it would no longer hold its “Love Won Out” conferences across the country that promised to “help men

continued on page 27

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Tremendous strides toward full equality have been achieved by our communities over the past decade. There's Power in Our Pride. Power to make a difference:

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- Demographic reports also influence marketing investment. Virtually absent until recently, we now see a growing variety of products and services represented in gay media, celebrating our diversity. Ads keep LGBT publications and websites in business, serving their communities with independent news and information.
- Beyond simply advertising, though, these companies support us in many ways, including sponsoring community events and funding community-based charities in order to earn our loyalty.
- Taking an annual pulse on market trends through surveys helps demonstrate the LGBT community's growing power, and influences positive change.

We respect your privacy. All personal survey data is held confidentially by Community Marketing, Inc., (CMI) an independent market research and communications firm based in San Francisco (founded 1992, and proudly 100% gay-owned and -operated) and will not be sold to third parties or used for marketing purposes. CMI is an NGLCC-Certified LGBT-Owned Business Enterprise. Thank you!

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continued from page 23

and women dissatisfied with living homosexually,” and they will now be presented by the Orlando, Fla.-based Exodus International, whose message is “Freedom from homosexuality through the power of Jesus Christ.” The last Love Won Out conference run by Focus on the Family will be held in Birmingham, Ala., in November.

TORONTO—The American Psychological Association, meeting at their annual conference in Toronto, adopted a resolution August 5th calling on mental health professionals to stop telling clients that they can change their sexual orientation through therapy or other treatments. And in a direct challenge to NARTH (National Association for Research and Therapy of Homosexuality) and Exodus International, the resolution further calls on patients, guardians, families and other clients to avoid conversion therapy programs that portray homosexuality as a mental illness or developmental disorder.

The APA advises instead that people who are troubled by their sexual orientation should seek therapy, social support and educational services “that provide accurate information on sexual orientation and sexuality, increase family and school support and reduce rejection of sexual minority youth.”

The resolution, approved by the APA’s governing Council of Representatives, is the result of a comprehensive 130-page study by the APA’s Task Force on Appropriate Therapeutic Responses to Sexual Orientation. That study looked at all peer-reviewed, English language studies published in the professional literature since 1960.

The resolution does not ban conversion therapy outright but given the resolution’s comprehensive conclusions, it’s hard to see how conversion therapy as currently practiced by NARTH and other major ex-gay organizations can continue to be regarded as ethical or acceptable. These points appear to be particularly relevant to change efforts overall:

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the American Psychological Association concludes that there is insufficient evidence to support the use of psychological interventions to change sexual orientation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the American Psychological Association encourages mental health professionals to avoid misrepresenting the efficacy of sexual orientation change efforts by promoting or promising change in sexual orientation when providing assistance to individuals distressed by their own or others’ sexual orientation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the American Psychological Association concludes that the benefits reported by participants in sexual orientation change efforts can be gained through approaches that do not attempt to change sexual orientation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the American Psychological Association opposes the distortion and selective use of scientific data about homosexuality by individuals and organizations seeking to influence public policy and public opinion and will take a leadership role in responding to such distortions;

The resolution also recognizes that:

Those operating from religious/spiritual traditions are encouraged to recognize that it is outside their role and expertise to adjudicate empirical scientific issues in psychology, while also recognizing they can appropriately speak to theological implications of psychological science.

With this resolution, it now appears that NARTH, Exodus International, Courage, Evergreen International, and other groups are now firmly outside the accepted practices of the APA.

Directory

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

Fairvilla Adult Megastore 500 Thurm Blvd	321-799-9961
Melanie Goff, LCSW, ACSW Counseling for all lifestyles, located in Cocoa Village	321-639-0097
Family of God in Christ Church 950 Cocoa Blvd (US 1), Ste. 104, Cocoa	321-632-3767
Showboat Adult World 1800 King St, Cocoa	321-633-5588
Ultra Lounge 407 Brevard Ave., Cocoa Village	321-690-0096

Melbourne & Palm Bay (Brevard County)

AA Lambda AA Wednesdays & Saturdays, 7:30pm, Unity Church, 1745 Trimble Rd, Melbourne	321-724-2247 Lambda.AA@earthlink.net
Alternative Connection 3105 S. Babcock, Melbourne	321-728-4802
The Cold Keg Nightclub 4060 W. New Haven, Melbourne	321-724-1510
East Coast Christian Community Melbourne 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	321-759-5588
Emerald City 421 S. Babcock St, Melbourne	321-652-5960
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PFLAG Melbourne 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	www.MySpace.com/PFLAGmelbourne 321-724-1177
Project Response 745 S. Apollo, Melbourne	321-724-1177
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Vero Beach (Indian River County)

AA The Sober Rainbow	772-538-8068
Thursdays, Unity Church, 950 43rd Ave, Vero Beach	TheSoberRainbow@aol.com
Cosmic Charley's (Tuesday nights only) 122 South US 1, Vero Beach	772-562-7017
Pandahome Pet Care	772-453-5875
PFLAG Vero Beach (2nd Mon & 4th Tue, Unity Ctr, 950 43rd Ave) PO Box 650533, Vero Beach, FL 32965-0533	772-778-9835
People Care Center	772-978-0044
Riverside Theatre 3250 Riverside Park Dr., Vero Beach, FL 32963	800-445-6754/772-231-6990

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SOUND OFF
on the forums at www.ootcmag.com.

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A quick note for the careful readers: **Cosmic Charley's** is missing due to me. I thought I'd be able to keep up all my commitments with the magazine and do a full time job but it has proven not to be so. I lost my Vero contact and just can't be two places at once so **Cosmic Charley's** still going strong but I haven't been able to get there.

And last but not least **REBAR** has Dominique hosting a Drag Race on September 18th. Now you can't imagine Dominique working on cars, so you know this is boys who want to dabble in Drag and have a competitive spirit, too (right, like there's such a thing as a non-competitive drag queen). Contestants will start out as boys and race to get into Heels, dresses, makeup, lashes, wigs, and so on. But only the one who gets to the finish line fast enough will be the winner of the night! So come out to **REBAR** on the 18th and enjoy the hysterical show as Dominique leads the innocents to the mad world of drag racing!

Oh, the survey has been extended till September 15: go to LGBTsurvey.com (and be sure to say you saw it in Out on the Coast magazine) or click the link on our web page.

Gay Rights Tidbits: As you know, or should know by now, the U.S. Senate recently introduced an inclusive Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA).

Once passed, this long overdue ENDA will protect gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender citizens from discrimination in the workplace. Write to Senator Nelson now and insist that he support all members of our community by supporting this bill.

Led by sponsors Sens. Jeff Merkley (D-OR), Susan Collins (R-ME), Edward Kennedy (D-MA) and Olympia Snowe (R-ME), the bill, if passed, would create federal protections against workplace discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

Urge Senator Bill Nelson to co-sponsor and support this important bill. If you don't know how to contact him (and just why aren't all of your senators and representatives, both state and federal in your favorites/bookmarked?) just Google his name and his office will be the first listing.

"The promise of America will never be fulfilled as long as justice is denied to even one among us. The Employment Non-Discrimination Act brings us closer to fulfilling that promise for gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender citizens. I'm proud to join Senators Merkley and Collins in introducing this important legislation."

Senator Ted Kennedy



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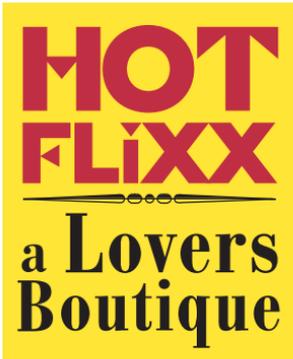
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