



John Travolta's private gay sex life are exposed in new book. **PAGE 3**

Courtesy, National Enquirer

FLORIDA AGENDA



Philip Walsted, an openly-gay man was killed violently. **PAGE 10**

Courtesy, www.stop hate.us

THE STATEWIDE VOICE OF THE LGBT COMMUNITY

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- Fort Lauderdale ■ Miami
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Courtesy, Royal Palms

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Courtesy, Task Force

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By Mike Rosenfield

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Courtesy, Orlando Gay Chorus

■ **'Fabulous' for a Cause:** Orlando Gay Chorus concert to help Toys for Tots. **PAGE 27**



Courtesy, OrangeCountyFL.net

Linda Stewart, (above) Orange County Board of Commissioners District 4, is the champion for LGBT rights in Central Florida.

Orange County Commissioners pass LGBT protections

Domestic partner benefits on the horizon

By DMITRY RASHNITSOV

Central Florida took a big step forward Nov. 23 in its move to protect the rights of its LGBT citizens. By a 6-1 vote, Orange County, home to Orlando, Disney World and Universal Studios, banned sexual orientation and gender identity-based discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations.

Those that voted in favor of the bill include: Mayor Richard T. Crotty; District 1 Commissioner S. Scott Boyd; District 3 Commissioner Lui Damiani; District 4 Commissioner Linda Stewart; District 5 Commissioner Bill Segal; and District 6 Commissioner Tiffany Moore.

"I think they are going to find that it's very reasonable and it's worth it," said Stewart, the commission's leading advocate of gay rights.

The lone "no" vote was from District 2 Commissioner Fred Brummer. His objection was based on federal housing rules and the potential of fraudulent lawsuits.

"There were so many people that did so

much behind the scenes work to make this happen," said supporter and Orlando resident Randy Ross. "In the past two months this effort went from zero to 60 with great speed. The message was clear: Orange County believes in Equality – bottom line."

Orange County is the largest local government in Central Florida. The passage of the ordinance is the culmination of years of organizing, lobbying and education by Equality Florida and the Orlando Anti-Discrimination Ordinance Committee.

"It's a completely different world than it was 10 years ago," said Patrick Howell, a lawyer and activist who lobbied for the new protections in both Orlando and the county. "A lot of this is about sending the message that Orange County is an inclusive. Everyone's welcome."

The new law exempts religious organizations and small businesses.

The ordinance is modeled off an ordinance already in place in Leon County. With the vote, Orange County joins other municipalities that already have similar LGBT protections in place. They include Broward, Miami-Dade, Pinellas and Palm

See **DOMESTIC PARTNERS** on **Page 8**

SOBAP issues syphilis alert for Miami-Dade and Broward counties

By BOB KECSKEMETY & JEREMY JONES

South Beach AIDS Project (SoBAP) has issued a syphilis alert that affects Miami-Dade and Broward counties. The alert, which was posted to SoBAP's website, singles out South Beach, Liberty City and the Wilton Manors/Fort Lauderdale areas. It comes just days after the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) issued a report stating that syphilis and chlamydia infection rates are on the rise.

The CDC report, "Trends in Sexually

Transmitted Diseases in the United States," states that syphilis cases continue to rise among homosexual men and young African-American men. Overall, syphilis cases continue to spiral upward. There were 5 percent more syphilis cases in the past year and a whopping 39 percent more cases since 2006.

Gonorrhea infections, however, are at their lowest since the CDC started tracking the disease in 1941.

See **SoBAP** on **Page 8**



Courtesy, SoBAP

Charles Martin, (above) chief executive officer of SoBAP, cautions community about syphilis.

TOY'S STORY
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The Beach Ball

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Every dollar supports GLAAD's efforts to build public support for LGBT equality in Florida and across the country by fighting anti-LGBT defamation and ensuring fair, accurate and inclusive representation of LGBT people in the media.

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FLORIDA AGENDA

M★RK'S LIST

Winter Party changes event dates for 2011

MIAMI, Fla. - The National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) has changed the dates of their annual Winter Party event from March 9-13 to March 2-7. Representatives from the NGLTF said the date change became necessary when the dates for next year's Winter Music Conference were announced earlier in November, causing the dates of the two major events to overlap.

The annual Winter Party is the largest fundraiser for the NGLTF. Two-thirds of the net proceeds from the Festival are distributed to the Miami-Dade LGBT community through a granting program administered by the Miami Foundation.★

Pride Center to host LGBT adoption seminar

WILTON MANORS, Fla.- Citing the recent Florida court decisions permitting homosexuals to adopt children, the Pride Center/GLCC, in conjunction with SunServe, will present a seminar on adopting children. The seminar, "Adoption for the LGBT Community: What to Expect and How to Do It," will be held on Saturday, Dec. 11 from 10 a.m. to noon at the Pride Center, 2040 N. Dixie Highway, Wilton Manors.



Courtesy, Silvia Ros Photography

The seminar will be conducted by attorney Elizabeth Schwartz and is open to all people interested in learning about the process to adopt children legally.

For more information, call (954) 549-0263 or e-mail kdrumm@SunServe.org.★

Key West lesbian guest-house opens doors to men

KEY WEST, Fla. - Pearl's Rainbow, the only all-female resort in Key West, opened their doors to gay men, becoming what they describe now as "all-welcoming." The property was originally built as a cigar factory in the late 1800s. When the cigar industry left Key West, it was converted into a dwelling space and became a guesthouse for women in 1989. The property was then

purchased and renamed Pearl's Rainbow in 2000. It is one of the largest guesthouses in Key West. Pearl's is located on Duval Street, two blocks from the Atlantic Ocean. Pearl's owner Heather Carruthers Cited current economic conditions as the reason for the conversion.★

The Depot & Naked Grape wine tasting event

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla. - The Depot Cabana Bar & Grill and the Naked Grape Wine Bar will host a wine tasting event on Monday, Dec. 6, from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. at The Depot's new location on North Federal Highway. This will be the first of many monthly tastings hosted by these two bars. The cost is \$10 per person, which includes four wines and appetizers. The Featured Wine will be Clos La Chance, one of California's premier boutique wineries.

For more information, call (954) 448-5774.★

White Party bids farewell to Vizcaya

MIAMI, Fla. - An estimated 2,000 participants packed the 26th annual White Party at Vizcaya last weekend. The White Party is Care Resource's largest fundraiser and has held the event at Vizcaya since its inception, but announced in August that it would be looking for a new venue for what is billed as the nation's oldest and largest AIDS fundraising circuit party.

According to Care Resource, they were being charged \$50,000 to rent the property, and that the cost has been increasing for the past several years. The base rate for the rental of the property is \$12,500 for the first 125 guests, then an additional \$25 per guest.

Another reason given by Care Resource for the move was limited access to the property prior to the beginning of the party. Bar organizers weren't being permitted to set up their venues more than three hours prior to the beginning of the White Party without paying additional fees.

Miami-Dade County, which has owned and operated the property since 1952, said the raising of the rental fees was necessary for maintenance and to discourage large events from using the property due to the wear and tear done to the property after such events. The county also said the reason for the additional early set-up fees was designed to dissuade organizers from holding large, complicated events that disturb the museum experience for other visitors.

Care Resource has yet to find a new location for the 2011 White Party.★

Pill that treats AIDS may help healthy men prevent infection



Courtesy, Gilead Sciences

FOSTER CITY, Calif. - Scientists believe they have found a pill that can help healthy gay men stay HIV-negative.

A recent study of HIV-negative men who took a daily dose of the HIV medication Truvada, were able to cut their risk of HIV infection by 44 percent when given with condoms, counseling and other prevention services. Men who took their pills most faithfully had even more protection, up to 73 percent. About 20,000 people were involved in the study.

Scientists are worried that those who are prescribed the pill will engage in more risky sexual behavior, because they believe they are better protected against contracting HIV.

The pills cost from \$5,000 to \$14,000 a year in the United States, but only 39 cents a day in some poor countries where they are sold in generic form.

"It's not time for gay and bisexual men to throw out their condoms," said Dr. Kevin Fenton, AIDS prevention chief at the CDC. "The pill should never be seen as a first line of defense against HIV." ★

Gays and lesbians not losing military jobs before the holidays

WASHINGTON D.C. - Thanks to a change in rules on Oct. 21 by United States Defense Secretary Robert Gates, no U.S. military members have lost their jobs under the 'Don't Ask, Don't Tell' policy. Gates said that all service members who were 'outed' would have to be dismissed only by the four service secretaries. Since that rule change, none of the secretaries have dismissed anyone for DADT from the Navy, Marines, Army or Air Force.

A study commissioned by President Barack Obama showed that repealing DADT would have no effect on the readiness of the Armed Services.★

Study: Gays and lesbians more likely to be victims of hate crimes

MONTGOMERY, Ala. - More than 6,604 incidents of hate crimes were reported in 2009, according to a study released by the FBI. A majority of those violent hate crimes are against gays and lesbians, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center.

According to the report, 1,436 crimes were motivated by sexual orientation, which is down from 1,617 in 2008.

The Southern Poverty Law Center said that gay people or those perceived to be gay, are more than twice as likely to be attacked in a violent hate crime than Jews or blacks; more than four times as likely as Muslims; and 14 times as likely as Latinos.

The number of hate crimes reported has dropped by 30 percent since 2008.

Last year, Congress passed the Matthew Shepard and James Byrd Jr. Hate Crimes Act, which expanded federal hate crime laws to include crimes where the victims were targeted on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity, gender and disability. ★

John Travolta to sue Gawker over 'secret sex life' allegations



Courtesy, National Enquirer


HOLLYWOOD, Calif. - While rumors of John Travolta's private gay sex life are exposed in the new book "You'll Never Spa in This Town Again," the website Gawker is now facing the possibility of a lawsuit from Travolta after excerpts of the book ended up on the site.

According to the book, Robert Rudolph said since 1995 he has seen Travolta in various bathhouses around Hollywood giving and getting blowjobs and performing anal sex with a middle-eastern man. Rudolph also states that he has seen Travolta with men of all different types of ethnicities.

Travolta's lawyers have asked for Rudolph to post a retraction on Gawker.★


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On REYATAZ,



INDICATION: REYATAZ is a prescription medicine used in combination with other medicines to treat people who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). REYATAZ has been studied in a 48-week trial in patients who have taken anti-HIV medicines and a 96-week trial in patients who have never taken anti-HIV medicines.

REYATAZ does not cure HIV or lower your chance of passing HIV to others.

IMPORTANT SAFETY INFORMATION:

Do not take REYATAZ if you are taking the following medicines due to potential for serious, life-threatening side effects or death: Versed® (midazolam) when taken by mouth, Halcion® (triazolam), ergot medicines (dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine, and methylergonovine such as Cafergot®, Migranal®, D.H.E. 45®, ergotrate maleate, Methergine®, and others), Propulsid® (cisapride), or Orap® (pimozide).

Do not take REYATAZ with the following medicines due to potential for serious side effects: Camposar® (irinotecan), Crixivan® (indinavir), Mevacor® (lovastatin), Zocor® (simvastatin), Uroxatral® (alfuzosin), or Revatio® (sildenafil).

Do not take REYATAZ with the following medicines as they may lower the amount of REYATAZ in your blood, which may lead to increased HIV viral load and resistance to REYATAZ or other anti-HIV medicines: rifampin (also known as Rimactane®, Rifadin®, Rifater®, or Rifamate®), St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*)-containing products, or Viramune® (nevirapine).

Serevent Diskus® (salmeterol) and Advair® (salmeterol with fluticasone) are **not recommended with REYATAZ.**

Do not take Vlendi® (voriconazole) if you are taking REYATAZ and Norvir® (ritonavir).

The above lists of medicines are not complete. **Taking REYATAZ with some other medicines may require your therapy to be monitored more closely or may require a change in dose or dose schedule of REYATAZ or the other medicine.** Discuss with your healthcare provider all prescription and non-prescription medicines, vitamin and herbal supplements, or other health preparations you are taking or plan to take.

Tell your healthcare provider if you are **pregnant, breast-feeding,** planning to become pregnant or breast-feed, or if you have **end-stage kidney disease** managed with hemodialysis or **severe liver dysfunction.**

Tell your healthcare provider right away if you have any side effects, symptoms, or conditions, including the following:

- **Mild rash** (redness and itching) without other symptoms sometimes occurs in patients taking REYATAZ, most often in the first few weeks after the medicine is started, and usually goes away within 2 weeks with no change in treatment.
- **Severe rash** has occurred in a small number of patients taking REYATAZ. This type of rash is associated with other symptoms that could be serious and potentially cause death. **If you develop a rash with any of the following symptoms, stop using REYATAZ and call your healthcare provider right away:**
 - Shortness of breath
 - General ill-feeling or "flu-like" symptoms
 - Fever
 - Muscle or joint aches
 - Conjunctivitis (red or inflamed eyes, like "pink-eye")
 - Blisters
 - Mouth sores
 - Swelling of your face
- **Yellowing of the skin and/or eyes** may occur due to increases in bilirubin levels in the blood (bilirubin is made by the liver).
- **A change in the way your heart beats** may occur. You may feel dizzy or lightheaded. These could be symptoms of a heart problem.
- **Diabetes and high blood sugar** may occur in patients taking protease inhibitor medicines like REYATAZ. Some patients may need changes in their diabetes medicine.
- **If you have liver disease,** including hepatitis B or C, it may get worse when you take anti-HIV medicines like REYATAZ.
- **Kidney stones** have been reported in patients taking REYATAZ. Signs or symptoms of kidney stones include pain in your side, blood in your urine, and pain when you urinate.
- **Some patients with hemophilia** have increased bleeding problems with protease inhibitor medicines like REYATAZ.
- **Changes in body fat** have been seen in some patients taking anti-HIV medicines. The cause and long-term effects are not known at this time.
- **Gallbladder disorders** (including gallstones and gallbladder inflammation) have been reported in patients taking REYATAZ.

Other common side effects of REYATAZ taken with other anti-HIV medicines include: nausea; headache; stomach pain; vomiting; diarrhea; depression; fever; dizziness; trouble sleeping; numbness, tingling, or burning of hands or feet; and muscle pain.

You should take REYATAZ once daily with food (a meal or snack). Swallow the capsules whole; do not open the capsules. You should take REYATAZ and your other anti-HIV medicines exactly as instructed by your healthcare provider.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA. Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

REYATAZ®
 (atazanavir sulfate) 200 mg/300 mg capsules
Fight HIV your way.

Please see Important Patient Information about REYATAZ on the adjacent pages.

how you spend your time is up to you.



Individual results may vary.

Once-daily REYATAZ can help fight your HIV.

REYATAZ, a protease inhibitor (PI), in HIV combination therapy:

- ◆ Can help lower your viral load and raise your T-cell (CD4+ cell) count
- ◆ Has a low chance of diarrhea (shown in clinical trials)
 - REYATAZ in combination therapy had a 1%-3% rate of moderate-to-severe diarrhea in adults
- ◆ Is taken once a day with a snack or meal

REYATAZ is one of several treatment options your doctor may consider.

Do not take REYATAZ if you are allergic to REYATAZ or to any of its ingredients.

Ask your healthcare team about REYATAZ www.REYATAZ.com

REYATAZ does not cure HIV and has not been shown to reduce the risk of passing HIV to others.



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Find out if you can save on REYATAZ.
 Call 1-888-281-8981 or visit
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**FDA-Approved Patient Labeling
Patient Information**

Rx ONLY

**REYATAZ® (RAY-ah-taz)
(generic name = atazanavir sulfate)
Capsules**

ALERT: Find out about medicines that should NOT be taken with REYATAZ. Read the section "What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?"

Read the Patient Information that comes with REYATAZ before you start using it and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This leaflet provides a summary about REYATAZ and does not include everything there is to know about your medicine. This information does not take the place of talking with your healthcare provider about your medical condition or treatment.

What is REYATAZ?

REYATAZ is a prescription medicine used with other anti-HIV medicines to treat people who are infected with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV). HIV is the virus that causes acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS). REYATAZ is a type of anti-HIV medicine called a protease inhibitor. HIV infection destroys CD4+ (T) cells, which are important to the immune system. The immune system helps fight infection. After a large number of (T) cells are destroyed, AIDS develops. REYATAZ helps to block HIV protease, an enzyme that is needed for the HIV virus to multiply. REYATAZ may lower the amount of HIV in your blood, help your body keep its supply of CD4+ (T) cells, and reduce the risk of death and illness associated with HIV.

Does REYATAZ cure HIV or AIDS?

REYATAZ does not cure HIV infection or AIDS. At present there is no cure for HIV infection. People taking REYATAZ may still get opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection. Opportunistic infections are infections that develop because the immune system is weak. Some of these conditions are pneumonia, herpes virus infections, and *Mycobacterium avium* complex (MAC) infections. **It is very important that you see your healthcare provider regularly while taking REYATAZ.**

REYATAZ does not lower your chance of passing HIV to other people through sexual contact, sharing needles, or being exposed to your blood. For your health and the health of others, it is important to always practice safer sex by using a latex or polyurethane condom or other barrier to lower the chance of sexual contact with semen, vaginal secretions, or blood. Never use or share dirty needles.

Who should not take REYATAZ?

Do not take REYATAZ if you:

- **are taking certain medicines.** (See "What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?") Serious life-threatening side effects or death may happen. Before you take REYATAZ, tell your healthcare provider about all medicines you are taking or planning to take. These include other prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.
- **are allergic to REYATAZ or to any of its ingredients.** The active ingredient is atazanavir sulfate. See the end of this leaflet for a complete list of ingredients in REYATAZ. Tell your healthcare provider if you think you have had an allergic reaction to any of these ingredients.

What should I tell my healthcare provider before I take REYATAZ?

Tell your healthcare provider:

- **If you are pregnant or planning to become pregnant.** It is not known if REYATAZ can harm your unborn baby. Pregnant women have experienced serious side effects when taking REYATAZ with other HIV medicines called nucleoside analogues. You and your healthcare provider will need to decide if REYATAZ is right for you. If you use REYATAZ while you are pregnant, talk to your healthcare provider about the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry.
- **If you are breast-feeding.** You should not breast-feed if you are HIV-positive because of the chance of passing HIV to your baby. Also, it is not known if REYATAZ can pass into your breast milk and if it can harm your baby. If you are a woman who has or will have a baby, talk with your healthcare provider about the best way to feed your baby.
- **If you have liver problems or are infected with the hepatitis B or C virus.** See "What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?"
- **If you have end stage kidney disease** managed with hemodialysis.
- **If you have diabetes.** See "What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?"
- **If you have hemophilia.** See "What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?"
- **About all the medicines you take** including prescription and nonprescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements. Keep a list of your medicines with you to show your healthcare provider. For more information, see "What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?" and "Who should not take REYATAZ?" Some medicines can cause serious side effects if taken with REYATAZ.

REYATAZ® (atazanavir sulfate)

How should I take REYATAZ?

- **Take REYATAZ once every day exactly as instructed by your healthcare provider.** Your healthcare provider will prescribe the amount of REYATAZ that is right for you.
 - For adults who have never taken anti-HIV medicines before, the dose is 300 mg once daily with 100 mg of NORVIR® (ritonavir) once daily taken with food. For adults who are unable to tolerate ritonavir, 400 mg (two 200-mg capsules) once daily (without NORVIR®) taken with food is recommended.
 - For adults who have taken anti-HIV medicines in the past, the usual dose is 300 mg plus 100 mg of NORVIR® (ritonavir) once daily taken with food.
- Your dose will depend on your liver function and on the other anti-HIV medicines that you are taking. REYATAZ is always used with other anti-HIV medicines. If you are taking REYATAZ with SUSTIVA® (efavirenz) or with VIREAD® (tenofovir disoproxil fumarate), you should also be taking NORVIR® (ritonavir).
- **Always take REYATAZ with food** (a meal or snack) to help it work better. Swallow the capsules whole. **Do not open the capsules.** Take REYATAZ at the same time each day.
- **If you are taking antacids or didanosine (VIDEX® or VIDEX® EC),** take REYATAZ 2 hours before or 1 hour after these medicines.
- **If you are taking medicines for indigestion, heartburn, or ulcers such as AXID® (nizatidine), PEPCID AC® (famotidine), TAGAMET® (cimetidine), ZANTAC® (ranitidine), AcipHex® (rabeprazole), NEXIUM® (esomeprazole), PREVACID® (lansoprazole), PRILOSEC® (omeprazole), or PROTONIX® (pantoprazole),** talk to your healthcare provider.
- **Do not change your dose or stop taking REYATAZ without first talking with your healthcare provider.** It is important to stay under a healthcare provider's care while taking REYATAZ.
- **When your supply of REYATAZ starts to run low,** get more from your healthcare provider or pharmacy. It is important not to run out of REYATAZ. The amount of HIV in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short time.
- **If you miss a dose of REYATAZ,** take it as soon as possible and then take your next scheduled dose at its regular time. If, however, it is within 6 hours of your next dose, do not take the missed dose. Wait and take the next dose at the regular time. Do not double the next dose. **It is important that you do not miss any doses of REYATAZ or your other anti-HIV medicines.**
- **If you take more than the prescribed dose of REYATAZ,** call your healthcare provider or poison control center right away.

Can children take REYATAZ?

Dosing recommendations are available for children 6 years of age and older for REYATAZ Capsules. Dosing recommendations are not available for children from 3 months to less than 6 years of age. REYATAZ should not be used in babies under the age of 3 months.

What are the possible side effects of REYATAZ?

The following list of side effects is **not** complete. Report any new or continuing symptoms to your healthcare provider. If you have questions about side effects, ask your healthcare provider. Your healthcare provider may be able to help you manage these side effects.

The following side effects have been reported with REYATAZ:

- **mild rash** (redness and itching) without other symptoms sometimes occurs in patients taking REYATAZ, most often in the first few weeks after the medicine is started. Rashes usually go away within 2 weeks with no change in treatment. Tell your healthcare provider if rash occurs.
- **severe rash:** In a small number of patients, a rash can develop that is associated with other symptoms which could be serious and potentially cause death.

If you develop a rash with any of the following symptoms stop using REYATAZ and call your healthcare provider right away:

- shortness of breath
- general ill feeling or "flu-like" symptoms
- fever
- muscle or joint aches
- conjunctivitis (red or inflamed eyes, like "pink eye")
- blisters
- mouth sores
- swelling of your face
- **yellowing of the skin or eyes.** These effects may be due to increases in bilirubin levels in the blood (bilirubin is made by the liver). Call your healthcare provider if your skin or the white part of your eyes turn yellow. Although these effects may not be damaging to your liver, skin, or eyes, it is important to tell your healthcare provider promptly if they occur.



REYATAZ® (atazanavir sulfate)

- **a change in the way your heart beats (heart rhythm change).** Call your healthcare provider right away if you get dizzy or lightheaded. These could be symptoms of a heart problem.
- **diabetes and high blood sugar (hyperglycemia)** sometimes happen in patients taking protease inhibitor medicines like REYATAZ. Some patients had diabetes before taking protease inhibitors while others did not. Some patients may need changes in their diabetes medicine.
- **if you have liver disease** including hepatitis B or C, your liver disease may get worse when you take anti-HIV medicines like REYATAZ.
- **kidney stones** have been reported in patients taking REYATAZ. If you develop signs or symptoms of kidney stones (pain in your side, blood in your urine, pain when you urinate) tell your healthcare provider promptly.
- **some patients with hemophilia** have increased bleeding problems with protease inhibitors like REYATAZ.
- **changes in body fat.** These changes may include an increased amount of fat in the upper back and neck ("buffalo hump"), breast, and around the trunk. Loss of fat from the legs, arms, and face may also happen. The cause and long-term health effects of these conditions are not known at this time.

Other common side effects of REYATAZ taken with other anti-HIV medicines include nausea; headache; stomach pain; vomiting; diarrhea; depression; fever; dizziness; trouble sleeping; numbness, tingling, or burning of hands or feet; and muscle pain.

Gallbladder disorders (which may include gallstones and gallbladder inflammation) have been reported in patients taking REYATAZ.

What important information should I know about taking REYATAZ with other medicines?

Do not take REYATAZ if you take the following medicines (not all brands may be listed; tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take). REYATAZ may cause serious, life-threatening side effects or death when used with these medicines.

- Ergot medicines: dihydroergotamine, ergonovine, ergotamine, and methylergonovine such as CAFERGOT®, MIGRANAL®, D.H.E. 45®, ergotrate maleate, METHERGINE®, and others (used for migraine headaches).
- ORAP® (pimozide, used for Tourette's disorder).
- PROPULSID® (cisapride, used for certain stomach problems).
- Triazolam, also known as HALCION® (used for insomnia).
- Midazolam, also known as VERSED® (used for sedation), when taken by mouth.

Do not take the following medicines with REYATAZ because of possible serious side effects:

- CAMPTOSAR® (irinotecan, used for cancer).
- CRIVAN® (indinavir, used for HIV infection). Both REYATAZ and CRIVAN sometimes cause increased levels of bilirubin in the blood.
- Cholesterol-lowering medicines MEVACOR® (lovastatin) or ZOCOR® (simvastatin).
- UROXATRAL® (alfuzosin, used to treat benign enlargement of the prostate).
- REVATIO® (sildenafil, used to treat pulmonary arterial hypertension).

Do not take the following medicines with REYATAZ because they may lower the amount of REYATAZ in your blood. This may lead to an increased HIV viral load. Resistance to REYATAZ or cross-resistance to other HIV medicines may develop:

- Rifampin (also known as RIMACTANE®, RIFADIN®, RIFATER®, or RIFAMATE®, used for tuberculosis).
- St. John's wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), an herbal product sold as a dietary supplement, or products containing St. John's wort.
- VIRAMUNE® (nevirapine, used for HIV infection).

The following medicines are not recommended with REYATAZ:

- SEREVENT DISKUS® (salmeterol) and ADVAIR® (salmeterol with fluticasone), used to treat asthma, emphysema/chronic obstructive pulmonary disease also known as COPD.

Do not take the following medicine if you are taking REYATAZ and NORVIR® together:

- VFEND® (voriconazole).

The following medicines may require your healthcare provider to monitor your therapy more closely (for some medicines a change in the dose or dose schedule may be needed):

- CIALIS® (tadalafil), LEVITRA® (vardenafil), or VIAGRA® (sildenafil), used to treat erectile dysfunction. REYATAZ may increase the chances of serious side effects that can happen with CIALIS, LEVITRA, or VIAGRA. Do not use CIALIS, LEVITRA, or VIAGRA while you are taking REYATAZ unless your healthcare provider tells you it is okay.
- ADCIRCA® (tadalafil) or TRACLEER® (bosentan), used to treat pulmonary arterial hypertension.
- LIPITOR® (atorvastatin) or CRESTOR® (rosuvastatin). There is an increased chance of serious side effects if you take REYATAZ with this cholesterol-lowering medicine.

REYATAZ® (atazanavir sulfate)

- Medicines for abnormal heart rhythm: CORDARONE® (amiodarone), lidocaine, quinidine (also known as CARDIOQUIN®, QUINIDEX®, and others).
- MYCOBUTIN® (rifabutin, an antibiotic used to treat tuberculosis).
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- VASCOR® (bepridil, used for chest pain).
- COUMADIN® (warfarin).
- Tricyclic antidepressants such as ELAVIL® (amitriptyline), NORPRAMIN® (desipramine), SINEQUAN® (doxepin), SURMONTIL® (trimipramine), TOFRANIL® (imipramine), or VIVACTIL® (protriptyline).
- Medicines to prevent organ transplant rejection: SANDIMMUNE® or NEORAL® (cyclosporin), RAPAMUNE® (sirolimus), or PROGRAF® (tacrolimus).
- The antidepressant trazodone (DESYREL® and others).
- Fluticasone propionate (FLONASE®, FLOVENT®), given by nose or inhaled to treat allergic symptoms or asthma. Your doctor may choose not to keep you on fluticasone, especially if you are also taking NORVIR®.
- Colchicine (COLCRYS®), used to prevent or treat gout or treat familial Mediterranean fever.

The following medicines may require a change in the dose or dose schedule of either REYATAZ or the other medicine:

- INVIRASE® (saquinavir).
- NORVIR® (ritonavir).
- SUSTIVA® (efavirenz).
- Antacids or buffered medicines.
- VIDEX® (didanosine).
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- MYCOBUTIN® (rifabutin).
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- BIAXIN® (clarithromycin).
- Medicines for indigestion, heartburn, or ulcers such as AXID® (nizatidine), PEPICID AC® (famotidine), TAGAMET® (cimetidine), or ZANTAC® (ranitidine).

Talk to your healthcare provider about choosing an effective method of contraception. REYATAZ may affect the safety and effectiveness of hormonal contraceptives such as birth control pills or the contraceptive patch. Hormonal contraceptives do not prevent the spread of HIV to others.

Remember:

1. **Know all the medicines you take.**
2. **Tell your healthcare provider about all the medicines you take.**
3. **Do not start a new medicine without talking to your healthcare provider.**

How should I store REYATAZ?

- Store REYATAZ Capsules at room temperature, 59° to 86° F (15° to 30° C). Do **not** store this medicine in a damp place such as a bathroom medicine cabinet or near the kitchen sink.
- Keep your medicine in a tightly closed container.
- Keep all medicines out of the reach of children and pets at all times. Do not keep medicine that is out of date or that you no longer need. Dispose of unused medicines through community take-back disposal programs when available or place REYATAZ in an unrecognizable, closed container in the household trash.

General information about REYATAZ

This medicine was prescribed for your particular condition. Do not use REYATAZ for another condition. Do not give REYATAZ to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them. **Keep REYATAZ and all medicines out of the reach of children and pets.**


This summary does not include everything there is to know about REYATAZ. Medicines are sometimes prescribed for conditions that are not mentioned in patient information leaflets. Remember no written summary can replace careful discussion with your healthcare provider. If you would like more information, talk with your healthcare provider or you can call 1-800-321-1335.

What are the ingredients in REYATAZ?

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Verdugo loses court appeal

Michael Verdugo lost his court appeal in the Broward County Circuit Court on Tuesday. Verdugo was the former openly-gay Hollywood police officer who charged that he was unfairly dismissed from his position with the police department because he was homosexual. According to his attorney, George Castrataro, the court concluded that the "threshold to show bias in arbitration was not met."

Castrataro stated that they will no longer fight the case. "The very purpose behind the fight was to bring to the public attention the burden and impact against gays and lesbians in the workplace," said Castrataro. "But without changes in the law, there is no point in going on. Hopefully in time we will see something like ENDA (Employment Non-Discrimination Act) pass in Congress and the State House. ★

Domestic partner benefits on the horizon

DOMESTIC PARTNERS continued from Page 1

Beach counties.

Supporters wore red shirts and filled the commission chambers for the vote.

No residents spoke against the measure, a far cry from the scene in 2002 when the City of Orlando passed similar protections. That close vote was plagued with opposition from several religious groups and sparked heated debate. The Nov. 23 vote, however, will

not be the only issue affecting Orange County's LGBT and straight community. Mayor-elect Teresa Jacobs, who will take office Jan. 4, has promised to support some type of measure favoring domestic partner benefits.

"It's the next step in the work that we need to do on the county level," said Joe Saunders, Equality Florida's statewide field director. "Right now, same sex couples that work for the county can't share their benefits, and that's just wrong." ★

CDC issues report warning of spike in new infections

SoBAP continued from Page 1

In South Florida, the STD infection rates are alarming. Of those being tested for syphilis, more than 65 percent were co-infected with HIV/AIDS. As of June 2010, there were 141 reported cases of syphilis among gay men, and of those men, 61 percent were co-infected. In Miami-Dade, 251 gay men tested positive for syphilis, and 65 percent of them were co-infected. Additionally, 65 percent of minority gay men in the Miami/South Florida market are co-infected with syphilis and HIV.

"These are pretty daunting statistics for gay men in Miami and Fort Lauderdale," says Charles Martin, chief executive officer of SoBAP. "Minority gay men bare a higher burden of co-infection of syphilis and HIV."

Primary and secondary syphilis cases among young black men aged 15 to 24 continue to increase significantly — indicating a concerning new trend. Between 2005 and 2009, the primary and secondary syphilis rate among young black men aged 15 to 24 tripled (from 19.3 per 100,000 in 2005 to 58.2 in 2009). This trend, the CDC said, may also be contributing to disproportionately high rates of HIV among young black men.

While these numbers are worrisome, Martin says the statistics are actually higher since a lot of people don't know they are infected with syphilis. And that's due to the lack of symptoms, which can take years, if ever, to surface. Miller says that a recent STD report indicates that more than 56 percent of people are unaware they have syphilis.

"There are lot of factors at play here, including lack of protection and the fact that the I-95 corridor makes it easier for people to party between Miami and Fort Lauderdale and spread the infection. We have some of the worst and highest numbers in the country" said Martin.

Syphilis was nearly eliminated in Broward County in 1998 and officials were hopeful for total elimination within two years. However, since that year, syphilis rates have skyrocketed with officials pointing to bareback parties organized online as a major reason for the rise. An official from the Broward County Health Department did not immediately return phone calls seeking comment on the spike in infections.

Since 2000, the largest increase in syphilis cases has been among men who have sex with men. In 2009, MSM accounted for nearly two-thirds of syphilis cases, up from just 4 percent in 2000.

Blue Mannix, the testing initiative manager at the Pride Center/GLCC, said that the center does not test specifically for STDs but is aware that syphilis is on the rise.

"When we do our HIV testing to those with high-risk behaviors," said Mannix, "we tell them they can also be exposed to gonorrhea and syphilis, and so we do recommend getting tested for STDs. Hopefully in the future we will be able to do free STD testing at the center but we do not have the funds right now."

SoBAP, according to Martin, is hoping to offer free syphilis testing beginning early next year. That would be in addition to the free HIV testing it already offers. ★

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Who Knew?

Smile! Your health may depend on it

By SAM KNEW, MSW

Of all the things we do to stay healthy, one of the most overlooked preventatives in keeping the doctor away is right under our nose. How often you smile could have a direct impact on your biological and mental well-being. It may be surprising to you that when you smile, even a fake smile, can release endorphins. Endorphins are the transmitters in the brain that reduce pain and feelings of anger and sadness. This chain reaction in mood has a serious biological benefit: increasing one's immune system, specifically in individuals with compromised immune systems.



One of our best natural defenses are little known lymphocyte (white blood) cells referred to as Natural Killer (NK) Cells. These cells, in short, are the meanest, toughest little guys (or ladies) that can effectively destroy most viruses, including HIV and some types of cancers. Various studies even show that individuals with compromised immune systems and large amounts of NK cells systems have been able to postpone the use of medication treatment. And F.Y.I., your mood makes all the difference in the number of NK cells you have. A Harvard study showed individuals with "good coping skills" and a positive outlook tended to produce three times as many active NK cells than those who were identified in a high-stress group.

One aspect that experts are quick to point out is that an individual who fre-

quently functions in high stress keeps their immune systems working over time. In effect, your body is busy coping with an increased heart rate, slowed adrenaline, digestion issues and loss of blood flow to major muscle groups. This fright or flight response (the body's perception of threat or danger) can have even long term effects, such as hair loss, obesity, diabetes, depression, tooth and gum disease, ulcers and (as it usually comes down to in this column) sexual dysfunction.

Sex and stress are definitely linked. Not only does stress contribute to a low sex drive physiologically, under stress the body releases cortisol (a hormone), which inhibits other hormones such as testosterone – the principal male sex hormone. It is also responsible for healthy body development, such as retention of protein and tissue mass, which are especially vital to individuals with compromised immune systems. The good news is that it seems to work the other way around as well.

Sex can be a great stress reliever. Researchers found a correlation between sex and stimulated cell growth in the hippocampus of the brain. That's the part of the brain primarily associated with long-term memory. In addition, a healthy sex drive can result in decreased blood pressure and an increase of antibodies and endorphins, which can increase those NK cells. Not to mention, if done right, it should put that smile back on your face.

Gay American Heroes: Philip Walsted

Philip Walsted and Dr. Jonathan Hartman are a couple that made history in Arizona because they were openly gay and forever in love.

On June 12, 2002, Walsted, an openly-gay 24-year-old in Tucson, Ariz., was killed in a brutal and violent murder. Walsted was savagely beaten to death with a baseball bat. According to one news report, Walsted suffered injuries to more than 50 places on his body, including signs of numerous blows to his head. Another news report states he was hit in the head with a baseball bat as many as 20 times and was found dead on the street near Fifth and North Hoff Avenue, not far from where he lived.

"An unbelievable numbness takes over," said Amy Walsted of her brother's murder.

Amy Walsted says her brother was fun-loving and had a good spirit. He worked for American Airlines and lived with his partner Dr. Jonathan Hartman. Amy Walsted says her brother was the target of a hate crime because he was gay.

In March 2005, David Higdon was sentenced to life in prison for Walsted's 2002 murder. Investigators describe Higdon, who was 22 at the time of the murder, as having neo-Nazi

beliefs and that he murdered Walsted to impress a white supremacist group. Higdon had a previous felony record and was out on community supervision during the time of the murder. Some of Walsted's personal belongings, including Higdon's own clothes with Walsted's blood on them, were found in the home



Philip Walsted

Courtesy, www.stophate.us

where Higdon was staying.

On Dec. 6 in New York City, Hartman will be among the first to receive the Heart of a Rainbow Award from the Gay American Heroes Foundation for his courage and commitment to Philip over the years. Hartman established the first ever LGBT Memorial in a public park in Arizona in 2005 to honor and remember the love of his life.

Hartman has since marched in parades carrying a poster of Philip and helped in the building of the Rainbow Memorial through his donations of time, experience and resources like many other family and friends of our heroes who become proactive in the fight against hate and those who teach it. We need your help in honoring all the LGBT people who are murdered and taken from us every nine days in America. Today you can help in our fight for freedom by honoring and remembering a Gay American Hero by telling this story to a friend and giving what you can to build the Rainbow Memorial. We fight hate together, or we die alone at the hands of hate. For more information on Walsted and other heroes, visit www.gayamericanheroes.com.



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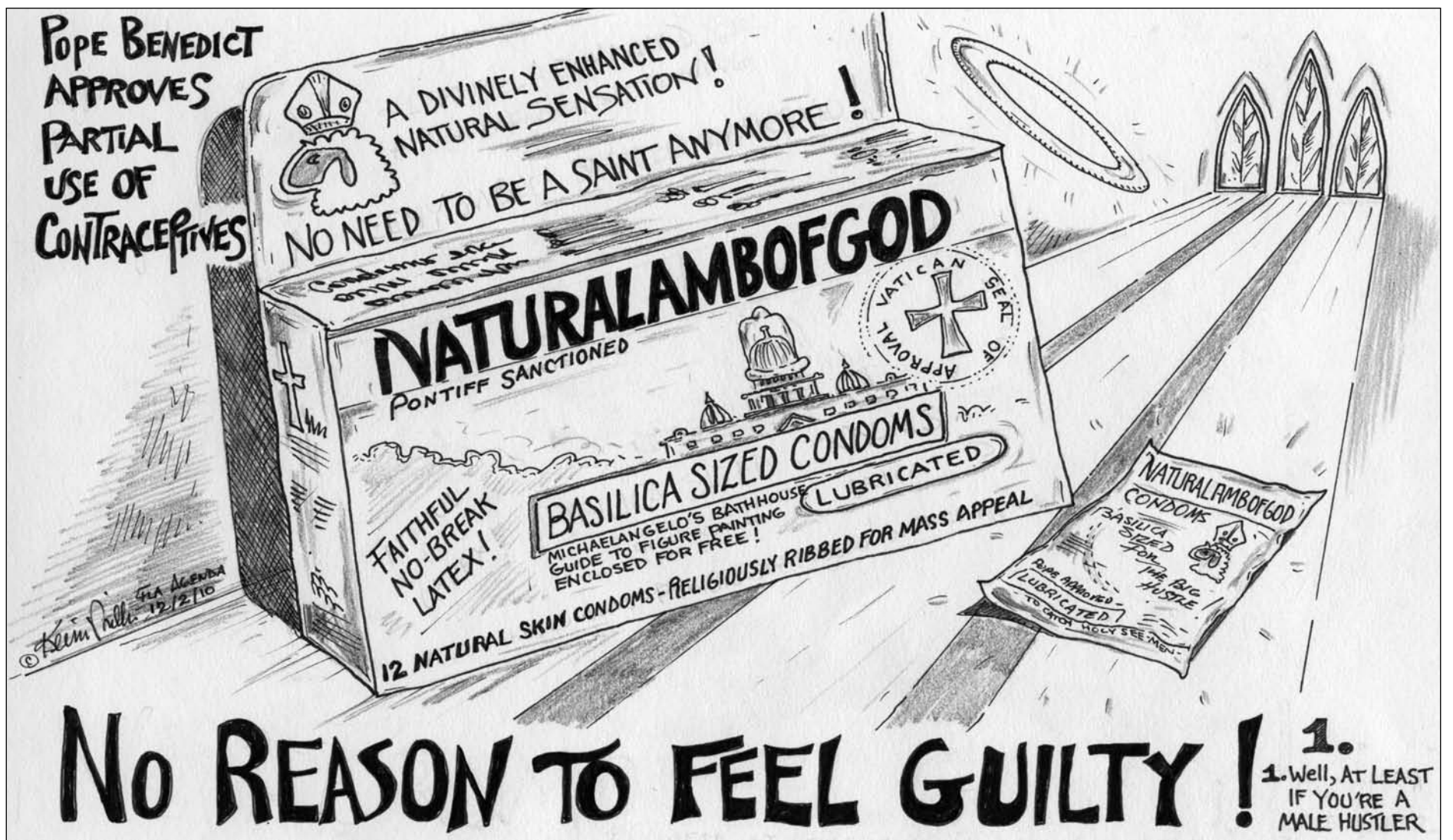
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Be careful!

Your wedding announcement isn't safe from discrimination

By WAYMON HUDSON

Benedictine University doesn't mind you being gay – just as long as you don't tell anyone.

Administrator Laine Tadlock, who was director of the education program at Benedictine, was recently forced from her job at the Catholic university in Springfield, Ill., after a local paper, The State Journal-Register, published her wedding announcement to her partner Kae Helstrom in Iowa. The university knew she was gay and about her out-of-state wedding, but apparently took issue with the announcement mentioning she worked at the university.

In a Sept. 30 letter to Tadlock's attorney, Benedictine President William Carroll wrote, "... By publicizing the marriage ceremony in which she participated in Iowa, she has significantly disregarded and flouted core religious beliefs which, as a Catholic institution,

it is our mission to uphold."

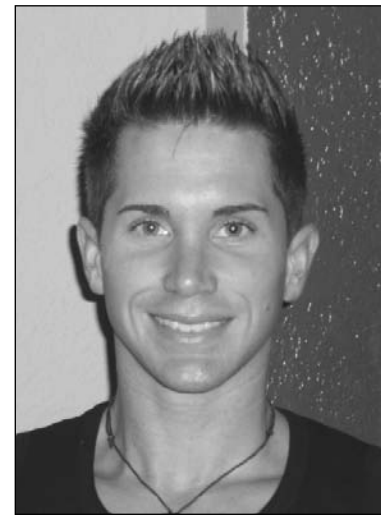
That's right. Marrying her partner "flouted" the Catholic institution so much that she couldn't do her job anymore. I wonder how many other legal weddings of employees disregard the "core religious beliefs" of the church. By this down-the-rabbit-hole logic, there must certainly be no one on staff that is divorced ... or that gasps curses or takes the lord's name in vain in a public forum or on campus. That would flout the mission of the university, right?

This just boils down to plain anti-gay discrimination, even by the school's own admission.

Tadlock met that day with Carroll and Mike Bromberg, Dean of Academic Affairs. Tadlock said Carroll told her he had consulted three Catholic bishops about the situation, including Bishop Thomas Paprocki of the Springfield diocese. At least one person, Catholic activist Steve Brady of

Petersburg, said he complained to Paprocki. He also wrote and sent e-mails to other church officials condemning Tadlock and Benedictine following the announcement's publication.

So all it took was one anti-gay activist with no connection to the university to activate the Catholic Church's long-time bias against LGBT people and force Tadlock from her job, despite the university's own employee handbook statement on discrimination, which reads: "It is the university's policy to provide equal employment opportunity to all persons without discrimination on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, handicap, veteran status, mari-



tal status, sexual orientation or any basis protected by law."

People wonder why we need things like the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA) or need protections to simply live our lives in a way equal to our heterosexual counterparts. All it took was one person complaining to get a longtime educator removed from her job for simply celebrating a special (and legal) occasion in her life like any other person would do.

Discrimination doesn't get more plain than that.

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Tampa's gay scene a world of undiscovered cities, people

By MIKE ROSENFELD

Tampa Bay is a world hidden in plain view. Kindness is the rule here, and it doesn't seem to run out. Tampa and St. Petersburg conceal a busy and unpretentious gay community, and every month advocate groups come together to support worthy gay causes.

They are focused and can be very sophisticated but maintain their innocence. Guys are sweet, friendly and pleasant. Words like "sincerity," "down-to-earth" and "reality" have meaning here, yet the outside world doesn't seem to take notice.

Ybor City and St. Petersburg Nightlife

Every week an anxious crowd gathers in front of the Honey Pot (Friday) and G-Bar (Saturday) waiting for the doors to open. They stand smiling in good cheer, even on the days that odd groups of bigots spew hatred from megaphones across the street. Eyes twirl upon hearing crazy megaphone magnified speeches spreading words of nonsense, yet no one speaks ill-will in return.

The gay nightclubs are all located near each other, close to the main drive of Seventh Avenue. Hundreds of lively nightclubs and restaurants line the bright street for nearly a mile and thou-

sands of people frequent the clubs each week.

On a recent weekend, NOH8, a powerful antidiscrimination organization with a big presence in Ybor City, had a fundraiser at the Honey Pot. During the event, NOH8 tattoos were applied to the donors' cheeks, and duct tape was placed across the lips. It looked like a hostage crisis. Newly created "victims without say" were photographed. It was so crowded that lines backed up for the pictures.

Steve Moss, owner of the Honey Pot and G-Bar (two mega mainstream gay bars), is friendly, fun and sees to everyone's festivities. The staff is top notch, and drinks are \$1 before 11 p.m.

"I like everyone to be included", said Moss of his bars and the community.

Ybor is also home to Streetcar Charlie's, a beautiful bar and restaurant whose manager, Charles Moresci, is as laid back as the scene itself. "You can say anything you want as long as it's nice," said Moresci.

The thing is, there really are



Courtesy, Mike Rosenfeld

The Bay area's gay scene offers great dining and plenty of nightlife action



Courtesy, Mike Rosenfeld

only nice things to say about Streetcar Charlie's. The food is great, and the bartenders really know how to take care of their customers.

The Eagle, Ybor City, is the area's premier leather bar. But, on Thursday nights it hosts a popular event called "Social Cub," which is in essence a college night. The club also features various performers on the weekend.

According to a promoter, The Eagle will have an Indy pop-rock night, and the Cataracts Band has already performed at the club.

In St. Petersburg, Georgie's Alibi is as popular as it is in Ft. Lauderdale. The difference is that parking is never an issue. Huge lots surround the club. Thursday, as usual, is popular Long Island Iced Tea night. Its patrons are friendly, and you'll find an absence of attitude here.

On Dec. 2, the Alibi will host Morgan McMichaels – a RuPaul sensational drag show, and on Dec. 17 the venue will host Pandoras Box drag show.

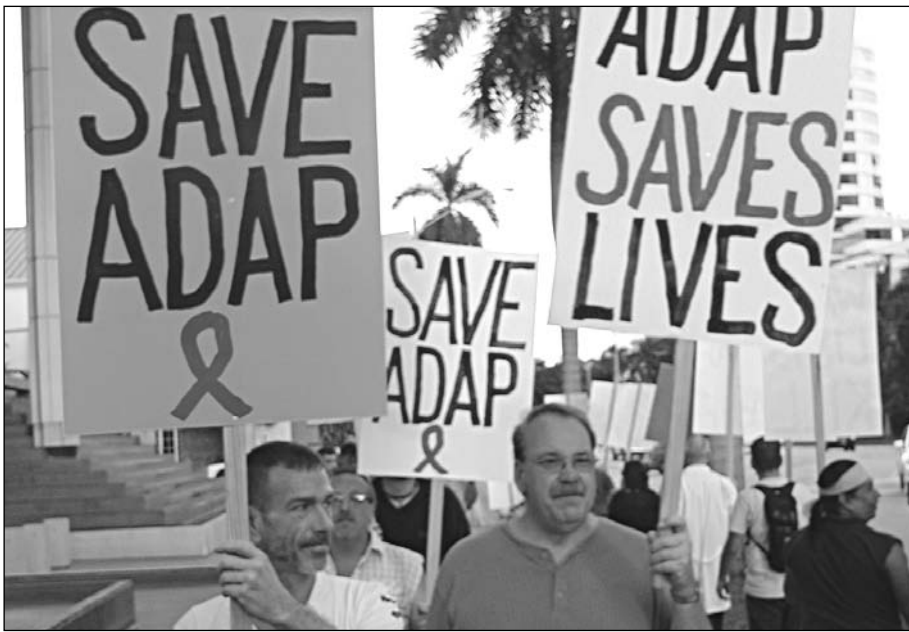
Additionally, don't forget to mark Jan. 28-30 on your calendar, which is El Gancho Party weekend. It is one of Ybor's biggest circuit parties, held at the Castle on Friday night and at the Ritz Ybor Theatre on Saturday night.

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Community rallies for ADAP



By Bob Keckemety

Nearly 50 people gathered Nov. 30 for a rally in downtown Ft. Lauderdale in support of the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP). Recent state and federal budget shortfalls have forced states like Florida to place hundreds of AIDS patients on a waiting list. The ADAP rally was organized by the AIDS Healthcare Foundation (AHF).

"We're here to demand funding for the AIDS drug assistance Program and

we're specifically addressing it to Secretary of Health and Human Services, Kathleen Sebelius," said Robert Butler, a physician's assistant at AHF's Northpoint Medical Center at Imperial Point Hospital. "We have had similar demonstrations in the past to try to increase funding, because there is a waiting list for drug assistance programs throughout the entire United States." ★

jean's kitchen

Garlic Butter

By JEAN DOHERTY/LE PATIO

In Burgundy they eat their snails swimming in delicious, garlicky parsley butter, spearing them from their shells with cute two-pronged forks made just for that purpose. But beurre d'escargots is not just for snails. It can be spread on warm crusty bread, a knob can be set to melt on a freshly seared steak, and we will then have "beurre Matire D'Hotel." It can be spread on cod to be baked in papillote, melted over potatoes and lots more. It keeps for weeks, if you don't find uses for it all at once, and it also freezes very well.

Ingredients:

- 1 kilo of butter
- 20 grams coarse sea salt
- 1 gram of ground black pepper
- 50 grams crushed garlic (don't forget to take out the germ in the center, that's what gives bad breath)
- 40 grams finely chopped shallots
- 100 grams finely chopped parsley


Directions:

Leave your butter at room temperature until soft (that's an easy thing to do here in South Florida). You can use an electric chopper to get the garlic, shallots and parsley chopped finely. Then, in a salad bowl, mix all your ingredients well until you obtain a homogeneous paste.

I'd advise you to transfer it to a zip lock bag and flatten it out and keep it in the freezer, this way you can break off pieces as needed. It should keep for a few months. Then you will be able to use it little by little, not only to cook "escargots," but for a lot of other preparations such as sautéed potatoes, garlic mushrooms, tomatoes, etc. You are the chef!



Courtesy, smellslikefoodinhere.blogspot.com



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INDICATIONS

ISENTRESS is an anti-HIV medicine used for the treatment of HIV. ISENTRESS must be used with other anti-HIV medicines, which may increase the likelihood of response to treatment.

The safety and effectiveness of ISENTRESS in children has not been studied.

It is important that you remain under your doctor's care.

ISENTRESS will NOT cure HIV infection or reduce your chance of passing HIV to others through sexual contact, sharing needles, or being exposed to your blood.

IMPORTANT RISK INFORMATION

A condition called Immune Reconstitution Syndrome can happen in some patients with advanced HIV infection (AIDS) when anti-HIV treatment is started. Signs and symptoms of inflammation from opportunistic infections may occur as the medicines work to treat the HIV infection and strengthen the immune system. Call your doctor right away if you notice any signs or symptoms of an infection after starting ISENTRESS.

Contact your doctor immediately if you experience unexplained muscle pain, tenderness, or weakness while taking ISENTRESS. This is because on rare occasions muscle problems can be serious and can lead to kidney damage.

When ISENTRESS has been given with other anti-HIV drugs, side effects included nausea, headache, tiredness, weakness, trouble sleeping, stomach pain, dizziness, depression, and suicidal thoughts and actions.

Rash occurred more often in patients taking ISENTRESS and darunavir together than with either drug separately, but was generally mild.

I am a go-getter. I am romantic. I am a world traveler. I am HIV positive.

You are special, unique, and different from anyone else. And so is your path to managing HIV. When you're ready to start HIV therapy, talk to your doctor about a medication that may fit your needs and lifestyle.

In clinical studies lasting 96 weeks, patients being treated with HIV medication for the first time who took ISENTRESS plus *Truvada*:

- ◆ Had a low rate of side effects
 - The most common side effect of moderate to severe intensity (that interfered with or kept patients from performing daily activities) was trouble sleeping
 - This side effect occurred more often in patients taking ISENTRESS plus *Truvada* (4%) versus *Sustiva* plus *Truvada* (3%)
- ◆ Experienced less effect on LDL cholesterol ("bad" cholesterol)
 - Cholesterol increased an average of 7 mg/dL with ISENTRESS plus *Truvada* versus 21 mg/dL with *Sustiva* plus *Truvada*

Ask your doctor about ISENTRESS.

Not sure where to start? Visit isentress.com/questions

People taking ISENTRESS may still develop infections, including opportunistic infections or other conditions that occur with HIV infection.

Tell your doctor about all of your medical conditions, including if you have any allergies, are pregnant or plan to become pregnant, or are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed. ISENTRESS is not recommended for use during pregnancy. Women with HIV should not breast-feed because their babies could be infected with HIV through their breast milk.

Tell your doctor about all the medicines you take, including prescription medicines like rifampin (a medicine used to treat infections such as tuberculosis), non-prescription medicines, vitamins, and herbal supplements.

You are encouraged to report negative side effects of prescription drugs to the FDA.

Visit www.fda.gov/medwatch, or call 1-800-FDA-1088.

For more information about ISENTRESS, please read the Patient Information on the following page.

Need help paying for ISENTRESS? Call 1-866-350-9232

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ISENTRESS
raltegravir tablets

Patient Information
ISENTRESS® (eye sen tris)
(raltegravir) Tablets



Read the patient information that comes with ISENTRESS¹ before you start taking it and each time you get a refill. There may be new information. This leaflet is a summary of the information for patients. Your doctor or pharmacist can give you additional information. This leaflet does not take the place of talking with your doctor about your medical condition or your treatment.

What is ISENTRESS?

- ISENTRESS is an anti-HIV (antiretroviral) medicine used for the treatment of HIV. The term HIV stands for Human Immunodeficiency Virus. It is the virus that causes AIDS (Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome). ISENTRESS is used along with other anti-HIV medicines. ISENTRESS will NOT cure HIV infection.
- People taking ISENTRESS may still develop infections, including opportunistic infections or other conditions that happen with HIV infection.
- Stay under the care of your doctor during treatment with ISENTRESS.
- The safety and effectiveness of ISENTRESS in children has not been studied.

ISENTRESS must be used with other anti-HIV medicines.

How does ISENTRESS work?

- ISENTRESS blocks an enzyme which the virus (HIV) needs in order to make more virus. The enzyme that ISENTRESS blocks is called HIV integrase.
- When used with other anti-HIV medicines, ISENTRESS may do two things:
 1. Reduce the amount of HIV in your blood. This is called your "viral load".
 2. Increase the number of white blood cells called CD4 (T) cells.
- ISENTRESS may not have these effects in all patients.

Does ISENTRESS lower the chance of passing HIV to other people?

No. ISENTRESS does not reduce the chance of passing HIV to others through sexual contact, sharing needles, or being exposed to your blood.

- Continue to practice safer sex.
- Use latex or polyurethane condoms or other barrier methods to lower the chance of sexual contact with any body fluids. This includes semen from a man, vaginal secretions from a woman, or blood.
- Never re-use or share needles.

Ask your doctor if you have any questions about safer sex or how to prevent passing HIV to other people.

What should I tell my doctor before and during treatment with ISENTRESS?

Tell your doctor about all of your medical conditions. Include any of the following that applies to you:

- You have any allergies.
- You are pregnant or plan to become pregnant.
 - ISENTRESS is not recommended for use during pregnancy. ISENTRESS has not been studied in pregnant women. If you take ISENTRESS while you are pregnant, talk to your doctor about how you can be included in the Antiretroviral Pregnancy Registry.
- You are breast-feeding or plan to breast-feed.
 - It is recommended that HIV-infected women should not breast-feed their infants. This is because their babies could be infected with HIV through their breast milk.
 - Talk with your doctor about the best way to feed your baby.

Tell your doctor about all the medicines you take. Include the following:

- prescription medicines, including rifampin (a medicine used to treat some infections such as tuberculosis)
- non-prescription medicines
- vitamins
- herbal supplements

Know the medicines you take.

- Keep a list of your medicines. Show the list to your doctor and pharmacist when you get a new medicine.

How should I take ISENTRESS?

Take ISENTRESS exactly as your doctor has prescribed. The recommended dose is as follows:

- Take only one 400-mg tablet at a time.
- Take it twice a day.
- Take it by mouth.
- Take it with or without food.

Do not change your dose or stop taking ISENTRESS or your other anti-HIV medicines without first talking with your doctor.

IMPORTANT: Take ISENTRESS exactly as your doctor prescribed and at the right times of day because if you don't:

- The amount of virus (HIV) in your blood may increase if the medicine is stopped for even a short period of time.
- The virus may develop resistance to ISENTRESS and become harder to treat.
- Your medicines may stop working to fight HIV.
- The activity of ISENTRESS may be reduced (due to resistance).

If you fail to take ISENTRESS the way you should, here's what to do:

- If you miss a dose, take it as soon as you remember. If you do not remember until it is time for your next dose, skip the missed dose and go back to your regular schedule. Do NOT take two tablets of ISENTRESS at the same time. In other words, do NOT take a double dose.
- If you take too much ISENTRESS, call your doctor or local Poison Control Center.

Be sure to keep a supply of your anti-HIV medicines.

- When your ISENTRESS supply starts to run low, get more from your doctor or pharmacy.
- Do not wait until your medicine runs out to get more.

What are the possible side effects of ISENTRESS?

When ISENTRESS has been given with other anti-HIV drugs, side effects included:

- nausea
- headache
- tiredness
- weakness
- trouble sleeping
- stomach pain
- dizziness
- depression
- suicidal thoughts and actions

Other side effects include rash, severe skin reactions, feeling anxious, paranoia, low blood platelet count.

A condition called Immune Reconstitution Syndrome can happen in some patients with advanced HIV infection (AIDS) when combination antiretroviral treatment is started. Signs and symptoms of inflammation from opportunistic infections that a person has or had may occur as the medicines work to treat the HIV infection and help to strengthen the immune system. Call your doctor right away if you notice any signs or symptoms of an infection after starting ISENTRESS with other anti-HIV medicines.

Contact your doctor promptly if you experience unexplained muscle pain, tenderness, or weakness while taking ISENTRESS. This is because on rare occasions, muscle problems can be serious and can lead to kidney damage.

Rash occurred more often in patients taking ISENTRESS and darunavir together than with either drug separately, but was generally mild.

Tell your doctor if you have any side effects that bother you.

These are not all the side effects of ISENTRESS. For more information, ask your doctor or pharmacist.

How should I store ISENTRESS?

- Store ISENTRESS at room temperature (68 to 77°F).
- **Keep ISENTRESS and all medicines out of the reach of children.**

General information about the use of ISENTRESS

Medicines are sometimes prescribed for conditions that are not mentioned in patient information leaflets.

- Do not use ISENTRESS for a condition for which it was not prescribed.
- Do not give ISENTRESS to other people, even if they have the same symptoms you have. It may harm them.

This leaflet gives you the most important information about ISENTRESS.

- If you would like to know more, talk with your doctor.
- You can ask your doctor or pharmacist for additional information about ISENTRESS that is written for health professionals.
- For more information go to www.ISENTRESS.com or call 1-800-622-4477.

What are the ingredients in ISENTRESS?

Active ingredient: Each film-coated tablet contains 400 mg of raltegravir.

Inactive ingredients: Microcrystalline cellulose, lactose monohydrate, calcium phosphate dibasic anhydrous, hypromellose 2208, poloxamer 407 (contains 0.01% butylated hydroxytoluene as antioxidant), sodium stearyl fumarate, magnesium stearate. In addition, the film coating contains the following inactive ingredients: polyvinyl alcohol, titanium dioxide, polyethylene glycol 3350, talc, red iron oxide and black iron oxide.

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Construction begins on 'new' Royal Palms Resort



The Royal Palms expansion site is scheduled to open next February.

Courtesy, Bob Kecskemeti

By **BOB KECSKEMETY**

Construction has begun on the new Royal Palms Resort on Fort Lauderdale Beach. Richard Gray, proprietor of the original Royal Palms when he purchased the property in 1991, is in the process of adding two more properties to the Royal Palms legacy.

The original Royal Palms is located on the corner of Terramar Street and Birch Road, while the new property spans from Breakers Avenue to Birch Road on Vistamar Street. The two properties are not connected geographically, but are connected in their commitment to quality and living up to the tradition of the Royal Palms.

Gray says the new addition to the Royal Palms will make it the largest luxury gay resort in Fort Lauderdale with 62 rooms, three pools, a jacuzzi, bar, café, spa and gym. "We'll be spoiling everybody here," said Gray.

The two new properties will match and be seamlessly connected, giving the impression that they were built together.

The "front building", the two-story property located on Breakers Drive, will have a pool area that will be an unparalleled experience for guests. Pool boys will be on hand to assist guests with everything from applying suntan lotion to providing them with cold towels with eucalyptus, lavender and chamomile.

The pool area will feature three cabanas and a lounge with furniture described as "very trendy, very streamlined and very sleek." The front building will have 23 king-size bedrooms with the second floor featuring two additional rooms with an ocean view. It will also house a complete gym and full-service spa offering massages, treatments, manicure/pedicure area and more.

The three-story back building will feature an additional 27 king and double queen rooms plus another pool. Both buildings will be white with lushly

landscaped grounds. Guests will also find the Royal Palm's traditional orchids scattered throughout the property.

Gray describes the guest rooms as being "minimalist" with gray tiled floors, gray walls, 42-inch televisions and beds with white leather headboards running from floor to ceiling. Shag carpet around the beds and Dennis Dean images on the walls give the rooms an added flare. The contemporary bathrooms will feature rain showers.

"They will be very sleek, very stylish, very sexy, very minimalist and very different for Fort Lauderdale and the gay market," said Gray. "There's going to be nothing like this in the United States for the gay traveler." Gray also hopes that the new room décor will attract a slightly younger demographic to his properties.

After the new properties are completed, Gray will be remodeling the rooms in the original Terramar location. One of the rooms in the original location is decorated with the new theme as a "model" where Gray has been able to test out his vision for the new rooms.

Gray also will unveil a redesign of the Royal Palms logo, which he described as being sleeker with a stainless steel look, moving away from the current copper logo.

Gay tourism is an integral part of Fort Lauderdale. Approximately 1 million LGBT tourists come to Fort Lauderdale every year, spending approximately \$1 billion. Gray, who also sits on the Greater Fort Lauderdale Visitor and Convention Bureau, says the gay travel market is no longer a niche market but a market in its own right.

"Unquestionably, Fort Lauderdale is known in the U.S.A.," said Gray, "but we want Fort Lauderdale to be equally known in Europe. And I think we're on our way to doing it."

To see a video tour of the construction at the new Royal Palms Resort, visit www.floridaagenda.com.

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Fort Lauderdale

A TOY'S STORY: A NIGHT FOR GIVING

Put a smile on a child's face this holiday season by taking part in this event on Thursday, Dec. 9 at The Manor in Wilton Manors. Tickets are \$10 and all of the proceeds will go to **Broward House Pediatrics**. All new, unwrapped toys will be distributed to **Kids In Distress** and a local **Battered Women's Shelter**. Performing at this event will be the **Fort Lauderdale Gay Men's Chorus**, Local cirque acrobatic acts and The Fabulous **DELFRIDA**. Doors will open at 7:30 p.m. and only 500 tickets will be sold. Tickets are available at **The Manor, Broward House, Source Salon & Spa** and online at www.BrowardHouse.Org. For more information, call **Ken Fritz** at (954) 599 0124 or **Marc Silverstone** at (954) 801 8448. ★

RIBBONS FOR THE CHILDREN

Children's Diagnostic Treatment Center's, presents its **Fifth Annual Ribbons for the Children**, on Friday, Dec. 3 at the **Ft. Lauderdale Museum of Art**, 1 E. Las Olas Blvd., Fort Lauderdale. For more information, call (954) 525-5500. ★


SCREENING OF "THE SILENCE IS DEATH: UNHEARD VOICES"

This documentary focuses on the intersection of homophobia, the Black Church and high rates of HIV among the Black MSM (Gay) population. The screening will take place on Thursday, Dec. 2 at 7 p.m. **Muvico Parisian 20** at **City Place**, 545 Hibiscus Street, West Palm Beach. To RSVP, call (561) 722-8876 or (813) 391-6710. ★

DEC. 10 & 11 A NIGHT WITH ACTRESS LESLIE CARON

The Fort Lauderdale **International Film Festival (FLiFF)** hosts two evenings with **Oscar®** nominated actress **Leslie Caron**. Fans can join Caron on Friday, Dec. 10 for a tribute film and book signing event at **Cinema Paradiso**, 503 SE Sixth St., Fort Lauderdale; and on Dec. 11 for the **Seminole Hard Rock Winterfest Boat Parade**.

Tickets for the FLiFF tribute evening are \$30 in advance/\$35 at the door. FLiFF Member price is \$25 in advance/\$30 at the door. Tickets for the **Winterfest Boat Parade** are \$150 for general admission/\$125 for FLiFF members, and must be purchased in advance. ★




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Miami

THE SMALL WORLD OF WILLARD WIGAN

Now through Dec. 6, the enchanting world of **Willard Wigan** makes its debut in Miami for **Art Basel** with 58 pieces - most formed in the eye of a needle, visible only by high-powered microscopes in custom cases. Highly anticipated pieces include **Little Miss Muffet**, **Cameron Diaz**, **Mega Yacht "Hope"** and the first showing of **Cupid** - arguably the smallest piece of art ever created. Also on display will be his homage to the **Miami Heat** and **"The Three Kings."** **LeBron James**, **Dwyane Wade**, and **Chris Bosh** will be playing in the smallest arena yet - the eye of a needle. This event takes place at 3252 NE First Ave., Miami. Call (786) 398-4295. ★

ART MIAMI 2010

Miami's longest running contemporary art fair, **Art Miami**, returns to the City of Miami through Dec. 5 with a compelling array of modern and contemporary artwork from more than 100 international galleries and prominent art institutions. Exhibitions include paintings, drawings, sculpture, photography and prints from Europe, Asia, Latin America, India, the Middle East and the United States. Hours are Wednesday-Saturday from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. At **Art Miami Pavilion**, 3101 NE First Ave., Miami. Call (520) 529-1108. ★

JUMP! SUNDAYS

Edison Farrow, **Omar Gonzalez** and **Tony Ferro** present **JUMP! Sundays**, South Beach's new hot spot on Sunday nights. On Dec. 5, come and see live performances by **Amanda Lepore**, **Noel Leon** and **Sasha Sky**. Doors open at 10 p.m. with free **Svedka vodka** drinks until 11 p.m. Admission is \$10. **JUMP!** takes place at **Lux** (formerly **Liquid Niteclub**), 1439 Washington Ave., Miami Beach. ★

MIAMI GAY MEN'S CHORUS HOLIDAY CONCERT - DEC. 10-11

On Friday, Dec. 10 and Saturday Dec. 11, the **Miami Gay Men's Chorus** will present their annual holiday concert at 8 p.m. with special guest **Sharon Gless**. This year's performance, **"Destination Holiday,"** will be at the **Lincoln Theater**, 541 Lincoln Road, Miami Beach. Come fly with them as they take you through a musical journey of song and dance around the world. Tickets are \$25, \$30 and \$35. For tickets or more information, visit www.miamigaychorus.org. ★

Bay Area

"THE GOD OF ISAAC"

The perfect holiday story of a young man's search for his spiritual identity. A tender and funny tale of how we relate to who we have been told we are and what it means to finally find ourselves. Saturday, Dec. 4 at 8 p.m. at **Stageworks**, 1010 NW C MacInnes Place, Tampa. Features **Logan Harrington, Eileen Koteles, Alison Burns and Dahlia Legault**. For more information, visit www.stageworkstheatre.org.★

"SANTA PARADE AND SNOWFEST"

Every year the wonderful **St. Petersburg Santa Parade** starts off at 10 a.m. traversing Bay Shore Drive from Fifth Avenue NE. Once the parade has come to a halt, the real party begins with the **Snowfest**, held in **Straub Park**. After Santa's annual 10 a.m. trek down the street with the rest of the parade, take a romp in the snow. The **Santa Parade** and **Snowfest** will take place on Saturday Dec. 4 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.★

BLACK & WHITE BALL

The **Black & White Ball**, a benefit for the **MAC AIDS Fund**, will be held on Sunday, Dec. 5 from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. at **The Honey Pot**, 1507 E. Seventh Ave., Tampa. This will be the first in what will become an annual tradition of glam, beauty, music and fun. The **MAC AIDS Fund** was established by **MAC Cosmetics** to support men, women and children affected by HIV/AIDS worldwide. For more information, visit www.macaids-fund.org.★

FLAMINGO TURNABOUT

The first-ever turnabout at the **Flamingo Resort**. All the money raised will go to benefit **A.S.A.P.** Don't miss this event as everyone will be in rare form and it will be the only time you will see most of the staff dressed up and performing. Make your plans now to attend on Thursday, Dec. 9 from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. at the **Flamingo Resort**, 4601 34th St. S., St. Petersburg.★

HOLIDAY HOOPLA!

The **Gulfport Merchants Association** presents **Holiday Hoopla** on Dec. 11 from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. A portion of the proceeds from the event will benefit **Operation Santa, The Gulfport Senior Center Foundation, and Get Rescued**. Admission is free. Brighten your holidays with a visit to Beach Boulevard in Gulfport at the **Holiday Hoopla**. For more information, call (727) 322-5217 or visit www.gulfportma.com.★

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Central Florida

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This **Orlando Gay Chorus** concert will feature many of your favorite songs and some new tunes, too. Once again, OGC will be serving as a collection site for the **U.S. Marine Corps' "Toys for Tots" program** and will mark its 20th year of collecting for "Toys for Tots." Your generous donations of toys have brought joy to thousands of deserving children in Central Florida. Just bring any unwrapped toy to either show for collection. Two performances: Dec. 11 and 12 at **The Plaza Theatre**, 425 North Bumby Ave., Orlando. Tickets start at \$25 and can be purchased at www.orlandogaychorus.org.★

"GOD HELP US, EVERYONE"

Ashton Kutcher, Lucille Ball, Joan Crawford, Miss Piggy and Cher (or at least their impersonators) present "A Glittering Star-Studded Christmas Carol" on Saturdays, Dec. 4, 11 and 18 starting at 7:30 p.m. in the **Footlight Theater** at the **Parliament House**, 410 N. Orange Blossom Trail, Orlando.★

CLAUS FOR PAWS - THE ROAD RALLY ADVENTURE

A four-person auto adventure with stops and fun along the way throughout downtown Orlando. Entry fee \$100 per team. Presented by and a fundraiser for the **Sunshine Invitational Tournament**, and a portion of the proceeds benefit **Paws Care**, which is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping to care for the pets of those affected by HIV/AIDS, cancer and other terminal and devastating illnesses. For more details, visit www.sitorlando.org/fundraising.★

"THE NEARLYWED GAME"

... at **Hamburger Mary's** in Orlando, will be held on Saturday, Dec. 18. This is a fun and new twist of the classic TV game show, "The Newlywed Game." Each month, six couples (same-sex and opposite sex couples) will compete to see who knows, or thinks they know, each other the best. The couple with the most matching answers will win fabulous prizes. No subject is off limits — mature content and not for the faint of heart. The 8 p.m. show this month will be a normal couples' round, and the 9:30 p.m. show will consist of gay men coupled with their best female friends (a.k.a. fag hags). For more information, visit www.hamburgermarys-orlando.com.★

GUESS WHO'S COMING TO TOWN

The hysterical **Leslie Jordan's "Deck Them Halls, Y'all,"** a brand-new show from the Emmy Award-winning performer, on Thursday, Dec. 2 and Friday, Dec. 3 at 7:30 p.m. Reserved seat tickets are \$34 at the **Footlight Theater** at the **Parliament House** in Orlando.★

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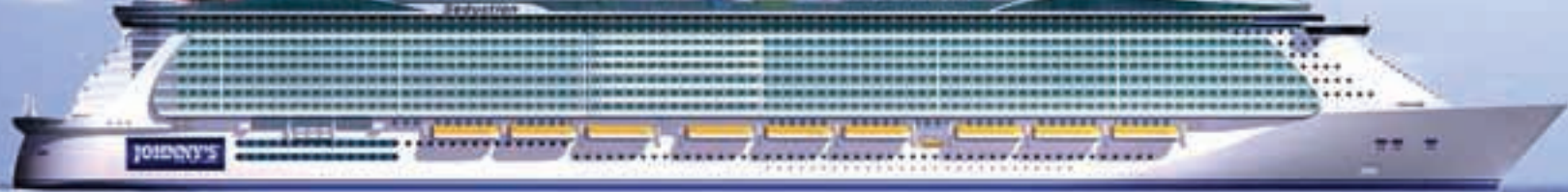
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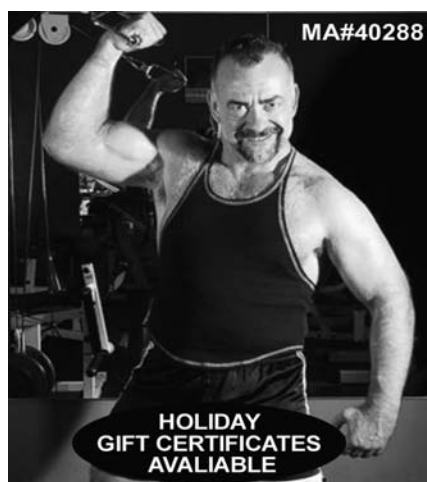
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POSITIVE ISSUES GROUP MEETS THURSDAYS FROM 7-8:30 FOR "HIV+GAY MEN & THE MEN THAT LOVE THEM" Support group. Facilitated by Jerry Hornacki. RSVP: wcsjerry@cs.com Phone: 954-568-0152

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