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THE STATEWIDE VOICE OF THE LGBT COMMUNITY

Newswire

Fort Lauderdale■ MiamiBay AreaCentral Florida



'Naked:'
A new exhibit featuring the work of artist Henning von Berg opens at Dennis Dean

Galleries. **PAGE 2**



Time for Whoopis The outspoken and always funny Whoopi Goldberg per-

Miami this weekend. **PAGE 22**

forms in

Courtesy comedians about com



Tampa church takes a stand to prevent LGBT suicides and those affected by it. **PAGE 9**



Drag Race Kick-off season three of 'RuPaul's Drag Race' at the Parliament House with the divas themselves.

PAGE 23

Florida Gov. Rick Scott shuns LGBT community with executive order

Refuses to include sexual orientation as part of diversity

ByJEREMY JONES

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – It only took a few hours into his first day in office for Florida Gov. Rick Scott to shun state LGBT employees. Shortly after being sworn in Jan. 4 as the state's 45th governor, Scott issued an executive order addressing diversity in state government, but refused to include sexual orientation as part of that diversity.

Last month, the Palm Beach County Human Rights Council (PBCHRC) requested Scott include sexual orientation when addressing matters of diversity. The Council, a nonprofit organization founded in 1988, is dedicated to ending discrimination based on sexual orientation, gender identity and gender expression.

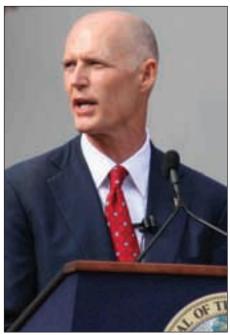
In a Dec. 6 letter to Scott's transition team, PBCHRC President Rand Hoch requested that the incoming governor's first executive order address equal opportunity in state employment. "By doing so on the day you take office, you will assure all Floridians that the State of Florida is committed to providing equal employment opportunity in state government to all qualified individuals regardless of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, genetic information, pregnancy or marital status," Hoch wrote.

While the council's request was for an inclusive order, Scott instead issued Executive Order 11-04, which narrowly limited Florida's non-discrimination policies to only include race, gender, creed, color and national origin.

"Gov. Scott's limited view of diversity is very discouraging," said Hoch. "Gov. Scott did not even include all of the classifications listed in the Florida Civil Rights Act – let alone sexual orientation and gender identity."

The Florida Civil Rights Act prohibits discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, handicap, or marital status. In addition, Florida courts have also determined that pregnancy is a protected classification.

"It is disappointing that Gov. Scott did



Courtesy, bruceritchie.blogspot.com

Florida Gov. **Rick Scott** (above), shuns state LGBT employees.

See GOV. SCOTT on Page 4

Ybor City gears up for first-ever circuit-style party

By BOB KECSKEMETY

El Gancho, a new circuit party weekend to be held in Ybor City, will take place during Tampa's Gasparilla Festival Weekend, Jan. 28 – 30. Famed circuit master DJ Abel will headline the event, which will benefit the nonprofit Metro Wellness and Community Center that recently opened in Ybor City.

The weekend starts on Friday, Jan. 28 when DJ Power Infiniti takes hold of the Whips & Chains Party from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m. at the Castle Ybor.

The El Gancho party itself will be held on Saturday, Jan. 29 from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m.

at the Ritz Ybor Theater. DJ Abel will make this an event something that Tampa has never seen before with heavy tribal beats, diva anthems, spectacular lighting and eclectic performances.

Other events during the weekend include happy hour receptions on both Friday and Saturday afternoons at the Don Vincente Inn and a VIP pre-party Saturday evening right before El Gancho at the Ritz Ybor Theater. DJs Abel and Power Infiniti will hold a meet and greet at the VIP pre-party and there will also be a fashion show, food and music. The

See YBOR CITY on Page 4



Courtesy, Wikimedia.org

El Gancho (above), takes place during Tampa's Gasparilla Festival Weekend, Jan. 28 - 30.



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JANUARY 13, 2010





The Quick Draw Wilton Manors

WILTON MANORS –The Broward Art Guild will be holding their first fundraiser of the year on Sunday, Jan. 16 at Georgie's Alibi in the Shoppes of Wilton Manors. During the Quick Draw Competition, artists will have from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. to create their art then will have one-hour to frame and prepare the art for judging. Judging will be held outside the Alibi from 4 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Immediately following the awards presentation, all art work will be auctioned off inside until 7 p.m.

There will be three categories for awards: Amateur, Competitive and a Children's. Cash awards for the adult categories for first, second and third place will range from \$25 to \$100. Art supply prizes will be awarded in the Children's category. A grand prize for the overall "Best in Show" will be a one-person show at Gallery 101, located in Downtown Fort Lauderdale.

For more information and registration, visit www.BrowardArtGuild.org.★

'Naked' at Dennis Dean Galleries

WILTON MANORS – The work of famed photographer Henning von Berg will be on display at the Dennis Dean Galleries in an exhibit titled, "Naked," beginning Saturday, Jan. 15.

"The exhibition will showcase well-known eye-catchers from 1997-2010," said von Berg. "Some very typical photos for my style."

Von Berg's specialty is "character portraits" and "fine art nudes" photographed in unique locations with natural light. The



Courtesy, Henning von Berg

former architect-turned-photographer likes to photograph his models in beautiful architectural settings, many of which are castles in old-world Europe. He also works with both male and female amateurs of all ages. His oldest model is a 108-year-old woman.

One of his very first photographs was chosen to be featured in the 1999 reference book, "Exposed - A Celebration of the Male Nude From 90 of the World's Greatest Photographers." He appeared with iconic names Eadweard Muybridge, Robert Mapplethorpe, Andy Warhol and Man Ray. Von Berg quickly gained attention by his social political statements with unusual group shoots. In 1999, he organized "Naked Berlin - The Liberal Capital," the world's first and only male nude photo shoot inside a German Parliament building. His favorite subjects are aristocrats and prostitutes, disabled people and athletes, common folks and celebrities.

There will be a "Meet the Artist" reception on Saturday, Jan. 15 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m. The Dennis Dean Gallery is located at 2440-B Wilton Drive (second floor above New Moon Bar) in Wilton Manors. ★

Miami man kills two for alleged 'homosexual tendencies'

By JEREMY JONES

A Miami man has been arrested for the murders of two men he claims made homosexual advances toward him.

Matthew E. Guzman, 21, is the suspect in the Dec. 16 slaying of Paul Barrow, 46, and the Nov. 18 slaying of 64 year old Harry Ray. Barrow, co-owner of Devonaire Service & Tire, was shot in the head at the auto store located at 12253 SW 112th St., in Kendall. According to reports, a customer found Barrow on the floor and called 911. He was airlifted to Jackson Memorial Hospital where he died.

Police say Guzman lied in wait for Barrow in order to ambush and kill him. Guzman told police that the victim had "homosexual tendencies" and that Barrow had looked at him in an "inappropriate manner." That claim, however, is disputed by Audree Barrow, the victim's wife, who is now forced to raise three children on her own.

"Paul was no way in hell anything homosexual. Let's just clarify that right now," Barrow told the media. "It's been extremely difficult. His [Guzman's] family was not at the bond hearing – we were there but his

family was nowhere to be found, so they obviously know he's pretty sick."

Ballistic testing from the auto shop led police to the home of the first victim, Ray, a neighbor of Guzman's, who lives in the 12300 block of 110th S. Canal Street Road.

According to police reports, Guzman entered Ray's house to use the restroom and then shot the 64 year old with a 9mm semi-automatic hand gun several times in the head and upper torso. Guzman tried to clean fingerprints from the crime scene and remove bullet casings. He told police that he killed Ray because he was a "racist" and that he "made homosexual advances toward him, leaving him no choice but to shoot the victim." The gun used in both of the murders was found on Guzman Jan.2 when he was arrested for carrying a concealed weapon and burglary.

He's been charged with two counts of first-degree murder and is being held without bond in the Miami-Dade County Jail. According to court records, Guzman has no prior criminal record. It's not clear whether or not he will be charged with a hate crime.★



> THANK YOU

HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN

PROGRESS FOR THE NATION'S LGBT COMMUNITY IN 2010.



PRESIDENT OBAMA SIGNED LEGISLATION THAT WILL REPEAL "DON'T ASK, DON'T TELL."

FROM LAUNCHING A NATIONAL VETERANS TOUR TO GENERATING MORE THAN 19 MILLION COMMUNICATIONS ABOUT REPEAL, HRC WORKED TO ENSURE THAT THIS UNJUST LAW WILL SOON BE PART OF THE DUSTBIN OF HISTORY, DADT REPEAL JOINS HATE CRIMES PROTECTIONS AS THE SECOND PIECE OF LANDMARK LEGISLATION FOR THE LIGHT COMMUNITY PASSED IN THE LAST TWO YEARS.

SOME OTHER VICTORIES INCLUDE:

- Worked closely with the Obama administration to extend hospital visitation rights for LGBT couples.
- Fought to bring marriage equality across the country. Led the effort to enact marriage equality in Washington, D.C., and organized the key religious voices in support of marriage.
- Launched a campaign to work to pass marriage equality legislation in New York and helped elect three new voices for marriage in the state Senate.
- Launched NOMExposed.org to hold the National Organization for Marriage accountable for the misinformation and hate spread in its effort to thwart equality.
- Developed the Countdown 2010 Grassroots Campaign calling for a fair and inclusive ENDA.
- Deployed 39 staff to 17 states to work for pro-equality candidates and recruited more than 4,500 volunteers to support these candidates.
- HRC's Corporate Equality Index expanded with 337 employers reaching 100 percent scores, the most ever.
- Signed 50 adoption agencies across the country to implement LGBT-inclusive policies and practices.
- HRC is only LGBT national partner organization to join the national non-partisan citizenship and voter registration program Ya Es Hora. HRC mobilized more than 500 volunteers for 40 citizenship workshops in 20 communities.

- >> Led the campaign to oust bigoted Arkansas school board member Clint McCance.
- Launched an innovative program to empower transgender job seekers who are unemployed or underemployed by providing essential skills training to make the most of the job market.

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WOULD HAVE
BEEN POSSIBLE
WITHOUT YOUR
SUPPORT AND

- Led the call for Mormon leader Boyd Packer to renounce his discriminatory, homophobic remarks.
- Worked with the Joint Commission, which accredits most hospitals, to establish LGBT-specific accreditation standards to eliminate discriminatory policies in healthcare facilities.
- In response to high profile anti-LGBT bullying and youth suicides, launched a new website to help address bullying in elementary schools.
- Formalized a partnership with National Education Association (NEA) to extend the reach of HRC's Welcoming Schools program.
- Successfully lobbied the Obama administration to issue guidance permitting employees to take federal family and medical leave to care for a same-sex partner's child and extending federal domestic violence protections to include victims in same-sex relationships.

www.hrc.org/thanks

Out & About with the Mad Paparazzi



LARRY GIERER POLITICAL FUNDRAISER HELD AT MARACAS: (L to R) Michael



STONEWALL LIBRARY & ARCHIVES: Artist of the Month Cheryl Turner and her recent piece "Unmentionables"



MACK MIXER AT J. MARKS: Welcome Committee Johann Ali & Jaclyn Namer.



SHELLY NOVAK ROAST AT BURGERS & BEERS: Barbara Peramint & Shelly Novak



NEW INDUCTED BROWARD HOUSE HOPES HEROS AT MOJOS: (L to R) Brett Rose, Jerry Gutierrez, Billy Looper, & Michael Christ.

Gov. Scott shuns state LGBT employees

GOV. SCOTT continued from Page 1

not include LGBT Floridians in his executive order. He campaigned on his promise to create and retain jobs in Florida. Creating jobs and getting our economy going means making Florida competitive and attracting talent to our state," said Nadine Smith, executive director of Equality Florida. "These basic protections already cover more than half of Florida's population through local policies and have the support of nearly 90 percent of the public. It is time to ensure full equality exists statewide."

While the governor's decision to not include sexual orientation in the order is disheartening, Smith said it is too early to make sweeping assessments of how the Scott administration will respond to future matters affecting the LGBT community. She says Equality Florida has allies in Tallahassee on both

sides of the aisle who are helping make the case for equality.

Smith also said that it is important that the community continue to push Gov. Scott and elected officials to build bipartisan support for the Florida Competitive Workforce Act that was recently introduced by Sen. Nan Rich.

Rich filed legislation aimed at bringing jobs to Florida. The Competitive Workforce Act (SB 346) would eliminate discrimination in employment, housing and public accommodations.

Major employers in Florida have adopted comprehensive non-discrimination policies and are working closely with Equality Florida to encourage others to do the same. These companies include: BlueCross BlueShield of Florida; Pepsico, Sweetbay Supermarket; Carlton Fields; jetBlue Airways; Citi and Wells Fargo. Most recently, Leon and Orange counties have adopted similar protections. ★

El Gancho to be held during Gasparilla Weekend

YBOR CITY continued from Page 1

weekend wraps up at a Farewell Party to held at Hamburger Mary's/Ybor City on Sunday, Jan. 30 from 4 p.m. to 9 p.m.

"It's something that's been running around in our heads for a couple of years," said Tony LaColla who, along with Manny Alvarez, are producing the event. "It's something that Ybor City really needs. Ybor City has really come around as a gay and lesbian neighborhood, especially with the GAYbor District." We figured this would be the perfect weekend to do it. It would give people something new to do, attract new people to visit the area and really experience what Tampa has to offer."

LaColla says El Gancho will bring something new to Ybor City and attract people to the area who might not have come otherwise. He expects to draw as many as 1,200 people the first year of the event. Alvarez, a promoter, adds that Tampa and Ybor City will be the place to be during Gasparilla weekend.

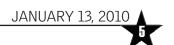
"It's time for Tampa to take its place as a circuit destination and what better time of year to make that happen than during Gasparilla," said Alvarez. "This circuit event will help promote Ybor City nationwide, benefit a local nonprofit vested in Ybor City, and provide a party unlike any other. With D.J. Abel, the best circuit DJ in the country, there is no other place to be than Tampa over Gasparilla weekend."

Founded in 1904 and often thought of as Florida's Mardi Gras, the Gasparilla Pirate Invasion and Festival is an annual celebration held in Tampa and celebrates the legend of José Gaspar, a Spanish pirate captain who operated in Southwest Florida. The theme is an "invasion" by Gasparilla and his men, which begins when the "Krewe" (made up of residents of the city) arrives on a 165-foot long pirate ship in Tampa Bay and lands near downtown Tampa.

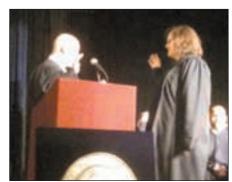
The mayor of Tampa then lends the key of the city to the pirate captain and a parade ensues down Bayshore Boulevard. Much like the New Orleans Mardi Gras, the "pirates" throw beads, coins and other items while shooting blank pistols from floats during the parade. The average attendance for the event is over 500,000 people. ★



DJ Abel spining at White Party.



Nation's first openly transgender trial judge takes oath of office



Victoria Kolakowski

Courtesy, dot429

OAKLAND, Calif. – On Jan. 4, moments before making history at a special en banc session of the Superior Court of California by taking an oath of office to be the first openly transgender trial judge in the country, Victoria Kolakowski (who underwent gender reassignment surgery in 1991) spoke exclusively with dot429 in her dressing room at the Oakland Asian Cultural Center. Kolakowski expressed her excitement and humility.

"It's been very hard as a transgender person. We're a community that's chronically under-and unemployed and I've encountered that sort of discrimination in the past, but we're making so much more progress now. In terms of my career, I think part of it is hard work and perseverance, and part of it is good luck."

Kolakowski's parents and wife Cynthia Laird were her primary guests of honor at the ceremony. California State Sen. Ellen Corbett introduced Victoria as "a friend, a colleague, a trailblazer," saying, "as we celebrate this new decade we mark our own start and our own first ... We all know the tremendous hurdles that [Victoria] and the transgender community have overcome."

Equality California's Geoff Kors' remarks compared Kolakowski's running and winning to Harvey Milk's victory when he ran for the Board of Supervisors in San Francisco. "It's that shattering of the glass ceiling ... I think about Harvey Milk and the things he really stood for – those are qualities that are so evident in Vicky."

The historic ceremony was not without extreme recognition as Kolakowski received three standing ovations.

While Kolakowski's primary purpose is to serve the County of Alameda as a trial judge, she made a point to acknowledge the history she is creating and even expressed that the moment served as her version of "It Get's Better." Underneath her newly acquired judge's robe, Kolakowski wore a butterfly pin that was given to her by Sylvia Guerrero, mother of transgender teen Gwen Araujo, who was murdered in Alameda County eight years ago.

On Nov. 2, Kolakowski beat out prosecutor John Creighton 51 to 48, making her the first openly transgender trial judge in the United States. "I ran a campaign based on my qualifications and experience. The people elected me. It's an extraordinary moment for the transgender and LGBT community." *

Skater Johnny Weir comes out



Johnny Weir

ourtesy, **A Socialite**

NEW YORK – In the least surprising news ever, Olympic figure skater Johnny Weir has come out the closet in his soon to be published book, "Welcome to my World."

"I'm not ashamed to be me," Weir wrote in the novel. "More than anyone else I know, I love my life and accept myself. What's wrong with being unique? I am proud of everything that I am and will become."

Weir is a three-time U.S. skating champion, and one of the most brash and controversial figures in the history of the sport that is typically known more for its performers grace than their personalities.

During the 2010 Olympic games in Vancouver, a French sports broadcaster had questioned Weir's masculinity on air, but at the time Weir refused to answer any questions about his sexuality. He is now saying that he was never in the closet.

"By puberty, I knew that I was gay," he wrote. "But I didn't worry about it much. As a serious skater, I was way too busy."★

New Jersey governor signs anti-bullying bill

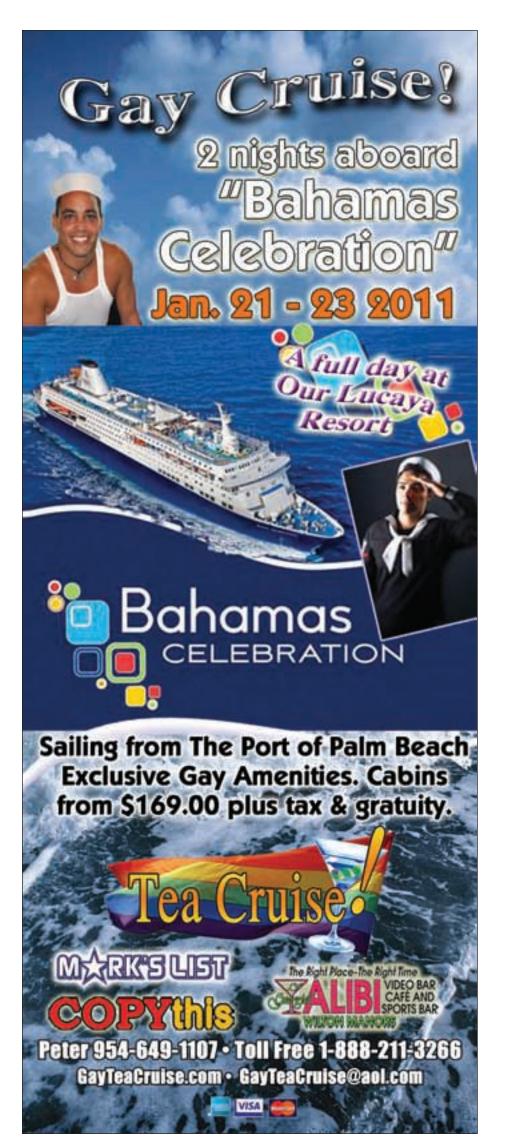
TRENTON, N.J. – New Jersey Gov. Chris Christie knew what it was like to be bullied as a child because of his weight. With that background and the recent suicide of gay Rutgers University student Tyler Clementi, Christie is taking action in his state by signing into law the toughest anti-bullying bill in the country.

The bill mandates anti-bullying programs in all public schools and also makes all public colleges in the state write in a code of conduct to address bullying. The new bill is an update on an already existing law that has been on the book since 2001.

Garden State Equality Chairman Steven Goldstein says the new bill will help gay and lesbian students who feel threatened in school by bullies who use intimidation tactics.

"This is no overstatement. Today is one of the most important civil-rights days in New Jersey history," said Goldstein. "Gov. Christie signed a law that is so different and so much better than anti-bullying laws that exist elsewhere across the country, that it's stunning."

The new bill also includes training for teachers and administrators in schools and discipline for those authority figures that do not report abuse to police or school safety officers.★



Gay student intern helped save U.S. Rep. Giffords' life day," still thin effect on wheth serve in the mil

Arizona congresswomen a supporter of gay rights

By DMITRY RASHNITSOV

In the wake of the shooting of U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Gifford (D-Ariz.) on Jan. 8 at a supermarket in Tucson, Ariz., comes word that the person that is credited with saving her life is a gay college student.

Daniel Hernandez, 20, said he ran toward the gunfire once he realized that 22-year-old Jared Lee Loughner was unloading shots from a semi-automatic pistol with an extended magazine. Loughner shot Giffords in the head and killed six people and wounded 14 others during a spree that officials are still investigating.

The tragic event took place at a Safeway grocery store while Giffords was having an open forum for constituents of Arizona's 8th district.

"My main goal was to try to make sure the congresswoman and everyone was OK," said Hernandez, a University of Arizona junior. "When I saw injured people I tried to tend to them as good as I could, until emergency personnel arrived."

Hernandez had only been an intern for Giffords for five days prior to the shooting.

"I don't think I'm a hero," Hernandez said. "I think doing something one off is not something heroic."

Hernandez said that Giffords responded to him while she lay on the ground waiting for the ambulance to arrive.

"She was able to hold my hand when I asked her if she could hear me," recalled Hernandez. "I wasn't able to get any words from her. She may have been trying, but because of the way that I was having to hold her it was a lot easier to just 'if you can hear me Gabby just grab my hand to let me know that you're okay.""

Doctors at the University Medical Center in Tucson said during a media briefing Monday that Rep. Giffords' condition has "stabilized."

Salon writer Mary Elizabeth Williams wrote in a piece on Monday that it does matter that Hernandez is gay, because it proves to people like Arizona Republican Sen. John McCain that being gay should never have mattered for the "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" debate.

"It matters, because guys like Arizona Sen. John McCain, who described the repeal of "Don't Ask, Don't tell" as "a very sad day," still think that orientation has an effect on whether or not a person can ably serve in the military," Williams wrote.

Giffords was a strong supporter of LGBT rights before the shooting. When elected in 2006, she immediately came out in support of the gay rights movement.

"I have stood up for equality in Arizona, and I am grateful that HRC and the GLBT community stood with our campaign during the primary and the general elections," Gifford told the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) in 2006. "We can accomplish so much for our families when we work together. Fairness is an essential American value, and when we champion fairness, we can win decisive victories in even the most competitive congressional districts."

National LGBT rights organizations are shocked and saddened by the shooting, which left six people dead and dozens others injured.

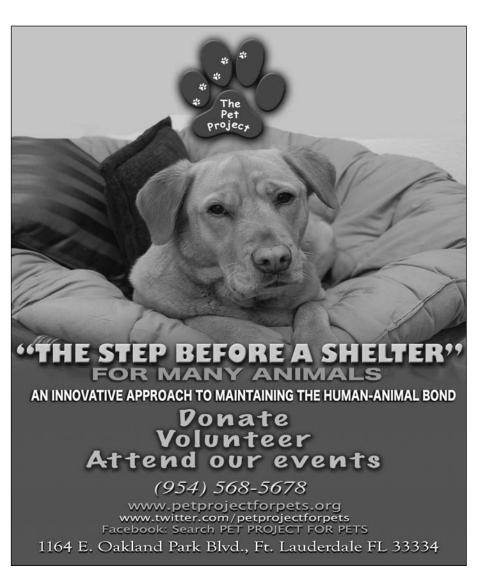
"We are shocked and saddened by the events involving Congresswoman Giffords, and our hearts go out to her and the other victims of this awful tragedy," said HRC President Joe Solmonese. "Gabby Giffords is a champion for LGBT equality and a principled leader for Arizona. We wish her a speedy recovery as our thoughts and prayers are with her family as well as with the families of all of those touched by today's horrific violence."★



U.S. Rep. Gabrielle Gifford (D-Ariz.)

Courtesy, Al





Wilton Manors Mayor Gary Resnick lays out plans for 2011

By BOB KECSKEMETY

While small in size, Wilton Manors, with its 13,000 residents, is large in the minds of the LGBT community, making the city one of the most desirable for the community to work, live and visit. It's estimated that 40 percent of the city's residents are gay and lesbian.

Wilton Manors Mayor Gary Resnick is one of the three gay/lesbian commissioners to sit on the board, putting the LGBT community in the majority. However, Resnick, as well as Tom Green and Julie Carson, has always put the city first for all residents regardless of sexual orientation.

"When I walk around talking to the residents, one of the common threads of our conversation is that they like the communications I was maintaining," said Resnick, who has served on the city commission for more than a decade. "The residents of the city, though they might not come to city commission meetings, really like to know what's going on in their city and most of them are pretty well informed."

Resnick laid out plans for his vision of the future of Wilton Manors.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Resnick, along with the help of city commissioners, to focus on economic development — but not just on Wilton Drive.

"Things are going to start turning around a little bit," said Resnick, "but it's not going to be like it was in the early-2000s for a while. We need to be proactive in attracting businesses to our city."

There are several planning and zoning issues that need to be addressed, like valet parking and clinics that prescribe pain killers to their patients. Some of these plain clinics, Resnick said, are immediately adjacent to residential neighborhoods and he feels the city has to

enact rules as to where they can be located. He also feels there needs to be more separation between some commercial enterprises and residential areas, feeling that there needs to be more of a separation between businesses that would produce a lot of traffic and noise and the neighboring residential areas.

He also plans to streamline the permitting process, allowing people to fill out the forms and pay the fees online and be able to track the progress of the permits through the various departments.

"It's something that we didn't have to focus on very much, because a few years ago we didn't have to do much to attract businesses to our city," said Resnick. "But now we have to make sure we're seen as a very business-friendly and residential-friendly community."

PARKING

Resnick says there are now more parking spaces on Wilton Drive than there were in the past even with the addition of the new City Hall. However, there is a problem with locating additional parking areas since the city does not own enough land to provide additional parking and nothing is readily available at an affordable price as he doesn't want taxpayers footing the bill. There is still a possibility of a public/private parking project on the site of the old City Hall.

Unlike other municipalities, Wilton Manors, he explains, is a nighttime destination. Most cities charge for parking during their peak daytime hours and do not charge for parking at night. In Wilton Manors, it's just the opposite.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Last autumn, Wilton Manors was rocked with a scandal involving their then-Police Chief Richard Perez, who subsequently resigned his position. An interim police chief has been appointed until a permanent replacement is found.

Resnick feels that the city's police department functions very well, though there is need for improvement.

"We need to concentrate on keeping police in the field, crime solving and our detective functions, and we might be able to restructure to eliminate some of the administrative functions and put the resources where it does the best for the community — on the streets," he said.

The city recently received a federal grant to add an additional police officer to its force.

RECREATION

Overall, Resnick is pleased with the city's Leisure Services (parks and recreation) department and the popularity of the city's parks, but he would like to see the services expanded at the city's Island City Park, which has become popular, and Mickel Field, a facility that Renick says is underutilized.

The city's tennis program, which he wants to beef-up, has lost participants to Oakland Park's new facilities and Fort Lauderdale's Holiday Park.

EVENTS AND FESTIVALS

Resnick feels that the city has learned it needs to have a larger role in the festivals and events, large and small, gay and straight. Events like the canoe race and holiday events need to be turned over to a professional promotion company, he said. There is greater concern about the larger events that draw 20,000 to 30,000 people, which he would like to see handled by a company which is financially viable and can produce some revenue for the city.

TWO-LANE INITIATIVE

A new Wilton Drive task force was organized and has already held several meetings. This task force is looking over

Mayor Gary Resnick

ourtesy, **southfloridagaynews.com**

the feasibility of the plans laid out in early 2010 by Wilton Manors Main Street (WMMS). This new task force consists of business owners, residents, a member of WMMS and other city officials.

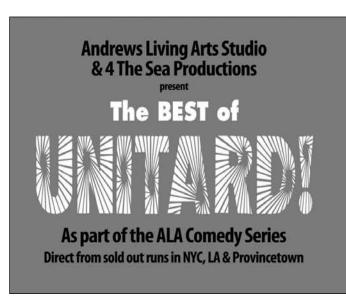
Resnick said that the task force is looking at issues such as public safety, parking, traffic flow, cost and feasibility.

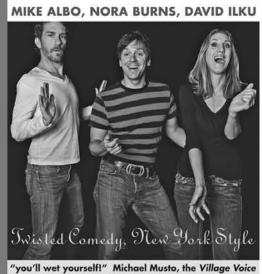
ECONOMY

Resnick says that the economy will remain a challenging issue for the city and it will need to cut expenses and try to avoid cutting jobs or laying off city employees.

Resnick wants to increase tourism to the city as it is already a major LGBT destination. The International Gay and Lesbian Travel Association is planning a large convention in Fort Lauderdale this year and he is looking forward to creating events for the conventioneers to bring attention to Wilton Manors. He also feels that Wilton Manors needs a hotel located within the city limits.

He feels the city needs to be more aggressive in negotiating contracts because residents have made it clear that they can not afford to pay higher taxes or fees. He says that if there's another sharp decline in property values, the city will have to make corresponding cuts in services and expenses. "It's going to be very challenging in the next couple of years," he said. Resnick is adamant about not raising taxes. *









FOUR SHOWS ONLY!!!!

Thursday, January 20th @ 8pm Friday, January 21st @ 8pm Saturday, January 22nd @ 8pm Sunday, January 23rd @ 8pm

Tickets Are \$25.00 (Plus \$2.50 tax & handling charge)

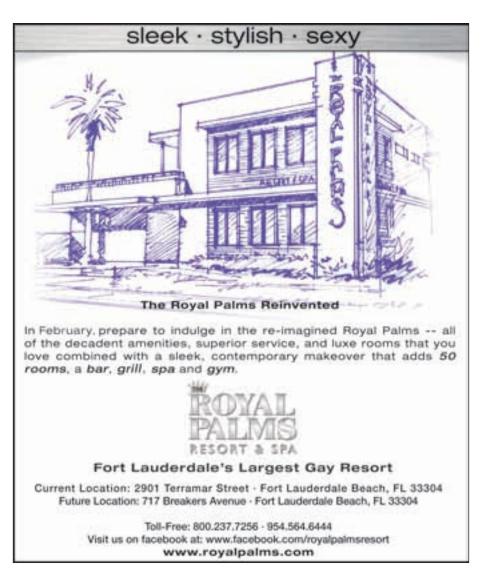
Limited seats available Tickets expected to sell out quickly

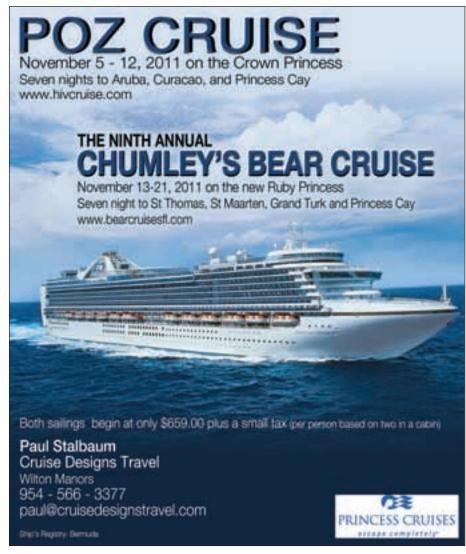
Use your credit card to reserve tickets today at 954-647-2409

www.AndrewsLivingArts.com

23 NW 5th Street, Downtown Fort Lauderdale (5 blocks North of Broward Boulevard, just off Andrews Avenue)

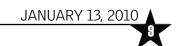












New report focuses on LGBT teen and adult suicides

Tampa church steps up to address issue

By DMITRY RASHNITSOV

An expert panel of 26 leading researchers, clinicians, educators and policy experts has released a comprehensive report on the prevalence and underlying causes of suicidal behavior in lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) adolescents and adults. The report appears in the Journal of Homosexuality.

Titled "Suicide and Suicide Risk in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Populations: Review and Recommendations," the report makes sweeping recommendations for closing knowledge gaps in what is known and

not known about LGBT suicide behaviors and calls for making LGBT suicide prevention a national priority. This is especially timely in light of multiple suicide deaths among LGBT youth over the past year.

"With this report and recommendations, we hope to move LGBT suicide prevention squarely onto the national agenda and provide a frameworkactions aimed at reducing suicidal behavior in these populations," said Dr. Ann Haas, lead author and director of prevention

projects for the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP). "It's time for the federal government, suicide prevention agencies, mental health professionals, policy makers and LGBT organizations to join together to bring this problem out of the closet and work toward effective solutions."

Rev. Dr. Carlan Helgelson

Despite four decades of research pointing to elevated rates of suicide attempts among LGBT people, national suicide prevention initiatives, including the 2001 U.S. National Strategy for Suicide Prevention, have given scant attention to suicide risk in sexual minority persons.

According to the AFSP, Florida had 2,587 people commit suicide in 2006.

Some of the key findings and recommendations of the report include strong research evidence of significantly elevated rates of lifetime reported suicide attempts among LGBT adolescents and adults, compared to comparably aged heterosexual persons. However, the authors found limited empirical evidence of higher rates of

suicide deaths in LGBT people, mostly because sexual orientation and gender identity are not indicated on death records in the U.S. and most other countries.

Although multiple studies point to elevated rates of depression, anxiety and substance abuse among sexual minority people, the panel found that these problems, by themselves, do not account for the higher rates of suicide attempts that have been reported by LGBT people.

The consensus report identified stigma and discrimination as playing a key role, especially acts such as rejection or abuse by family members or peers, bullying and harassment, denunciation from religious

communities and individual discrimination. The report also highlighted evidence that discriminatory laws and public policies have a profound

negative impact on the mental health of gay adults.

In a series of recommendations, the consensus panel called on LGBT organizations to lead efforts to encourage early identification of depression, anxiety, substance abuse and other mental disorders among LGBT people.

The panel called for revision of diagnoses pertaining to transgender people in the fifth edition of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual (due

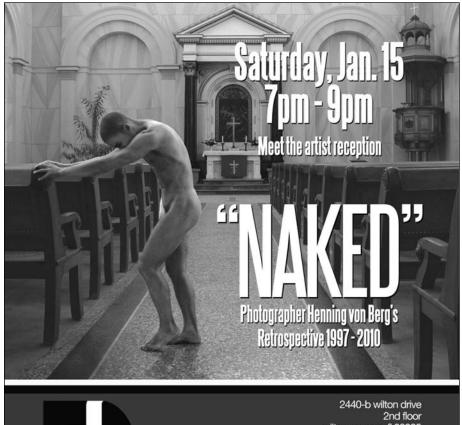
Statistical Manual (due out in 2013) to affirm that gender identity, expression and behavior that differ from birth sex is not indicative of a mental disorder

Courtesy, Spring Hill Church

Other recommendations focus on improving information about LGBT people by measuring sexual orientation and gender identity in all national health surveys in which respondents' privacy can be adequately protected.

Organizations all over Florida are doing their part to try and help curb the gay teen suicide problem. In Tampa, Spring Hill United Church of Christ has launched a Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays chapter to help students in the area who feel they have nowhere else to turn to.

"We knew there was no PFLAG chapter in the county, but there are gay and lesbian kids (in Hernando)," said the Rev. Dr. Carlan Helgelson, the church's pastor. "There has been no place for them to go and find support."★









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Generational change in the new GOP?

By MATTHEW TSIEN, BROWARD REPUBLICAN EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President Obama created a stir last month when he reiterated that, while he doesn't support gay marriage, he still struggles with the issue. He said his views are "constantly evolving."

In the Republican Party, the fracture over issues concerning homosexual individuals revealed itself more clearly in the vote for repeal of the 17 year old "Don't ask, Don't tell" policy that prevented gays from serving openly in the military.

Of the eight Republican senators who voted for repeal, five are among the youngest in the upper chamber - and they're not all moderates. They are rather right-wing and the type of Republicans that the gay press and their activist class reflexively demonized as ultra-homophobic nut-jobs.

Sens. Lisa Murkowski of Ala., John Ensign of Mormon, Nev., and Richard Burr of Dixie N. C., -- yes, that's Jesse Helm's North Carolina – maintain relatively conservative voting records. They are 53, 52 and 55, respectively.

Their colleagues, Mark Kirk and Scott Brown, have been lumped into the more moderate wing of the party, but they, too, are some of the youngest GOP senators. Both are 51. Yet, as far as "gay issues" go, the GOP might be more generational in their views.

Nearly all young service members supported the repeal of DADT because it sim-

ply doesn't matter to them what anyone's sexual orientation is – as long as you can live within the military Code of Conduct – and many happen to know and are friends with gay people.

In terms of the recent Senate vote, as we know, most U.S. senators are old and many of the Republicans are from a generation that are clinging to old-school thoughts of a time long ago. However, Republicans under the age of 60 tend to be more inclusive, even if they are rightfully labeled "conservative" in their voting records on other non-gay issues.

In fact, looking beyond the rigidly leftwing gay world, many people, including centrist and GOP Gays, would argue that conservatives and Republicans in general aren't any different than anyone else in America.

Republicans, over the past number of years, have seen more and more gay people feeling free to come out and to live their lives openly and honestly, within the very ranks of Republican culture, such as traditional families, churches, Fortune 500 companies, Republican think-tanks and other Republican Party activities.

For that reason the younger generations of Republicans are becoming increasingly familiar with issues affecting homosexual Americans. Generally, older generations don't have that same experience of having as many contemporaries who are openly gay.

Yet the solidly right-wing Republican North Carolina Sen. Richard Burr rationalized inspirationally his decision to support the repeal of DADT in generational terms:

"Given the generational transition that has taken place in our nation, I feel that this policy is outdated and repeal is inevitable," he said.

Post-vote, there is more evidence that gay issues may continue to show fractures and changes within the GOP: several prominent conservative groups have announced that they will boycott the largest annual gathering of conservatives in the country, the Conservative Political Action Committee Convention, in Washington this February, due to gay Republicans hosting their own hospitality reception suite and a membership sign-up booth for gays leaning decidedly to the right.

It will be inspiring and exciting to see if some of the potential GOP presidential contenders who will speak at this famous right-wing conclave might express more inclusion toward gays in their activist Army. After all, several of the big names being thrown about as the next Republican president are under the age of 60. And that includes right-wing divas Sarah Palin, and Michelle Bachmann, the queens of the Tea Party movement; and also irreverent, but fiscally conservative, Republicans like the Govs. Mitch Daniels of Indiana, Chris Christie of New Jersey, and Tim Pawlenty of Minnesota.

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The Amazon Trail: Queen of the road

By LEE LYNCH

Mrs. Bundt is our outdated, refurbished, very basic 3.5" Garmin Nuvi GPS. We named her after a heart-shaped bundt pan, which was our first purchase as a couple. I can only say, by way of explanation, that the GPS voice sounds like a Mrs. Bundt.

One day, my sweetheart was imagining Mrs. Bundt's potential in more weighty endeavors than her role as navigator. She told me, "The first time Mrs. Bundt yelled, 'Turn right! Turn right!' – that confused me. Then I realized she was talking about your house and not criticizing my political leanings." I laughed with her, but I've heard Mrs. Bundt's voice drip with disapproval as she announced, "Arrival at destination – On Left."

"Our country needs direction," my sweetheart said. "Wouldn't it be great if the politicians had a Mrs. Bundt to tell them which way to turn?"

What a fine idea. When the politicians do something heartless and illogical like extend tax credits for the rich or undo a necessary health plan, Mrs. Bundt would cry, "Recalculating! Recalculating!" When the electorate chooses to install wacked out crazies in office, Mrs. Bundt would screech, "Turn left! Turn left!" or, depending on the extremists' direction, "Turn right! Turn right!"

Ah, The Bunster, our little bunster, all grown up and ready to run the government.

I hope she's less abused as a policy wonk. I know I've uttered a passel of bad words trying to get Mrs. Bundt to talk to me sooner, or more, or less, or at all. She gets so overwrought.

Sometimes I think it's because we're gay. Not that we've come out to Mrs. Bundt, but, well, the kisses at traffic lights, the affectionate hands, the hot little murmurs; she took us to our wedding, after all.

So call me paranoid, but does she get this snippy with everyone, or is it just us? Her insistence that we call her Mrs. – is that a hetero-chauvinist statement?

We would never call her the Bunster to her face – ah – to her screen. She's humorless and, I hate to say it, cold.

I've shared with Mrs. Bundt my feelings about big roads. But will she acknowledge alternatives to super highways? No, not the Bunster. If it's got a federal or state highway sign on it, that's the road she wants. Never mind that we're in Florida and the highways are in continual rush hour condition. Never mind that there's been a 43 car pileup or a bridge has collapsed.

"Turn in point three miles." Her diction is perfect, her sentences clipped and to the point. She'll pause, then say, more insistently, "Turn in point. Two. Miles." Another pause, heavy with impatient

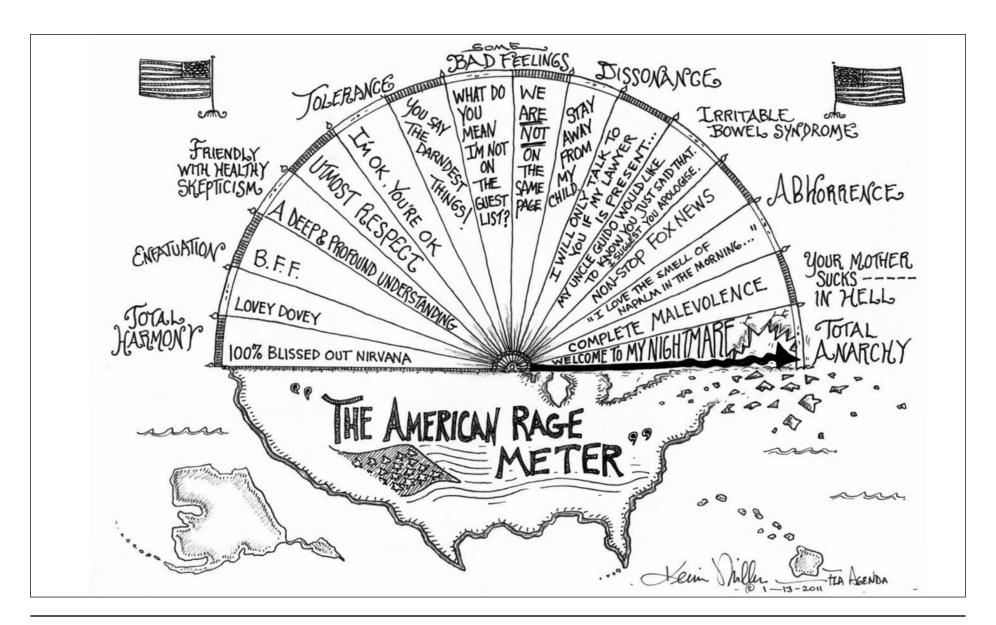
patience, and she commands, "Turn in point one mile." More quickly now, not caring if she sounds like a manipulative femme, "Turn in 500 feet." Her voice is shrill with restrained panic. She shoots her white arrow around a corner, showing us the turnpike ramp. "100 feet!" she cries in desperation. "Turn right! Turn right!"

In the long pause that follows, I imagine her closing her eyes in exasperation, reminding herself not to take it personally, trying to think of us as errant kids because, given the chance, she'd say, "Effing dykes! Stuck on this dinky road behind a thresher going two mph. Why didn't you listen to me?"

Fortunately, the Bunster has no hair to pull out or there'd be continual mess on the dash. She gets control of herself eventually. Through obviously gritted teeth, she announces that she is, in her vast wisdom and with her generous forgiving spirit, will recalculate our route: "Recalculating!"

I can hear the vindictive smile in her voice as Mrs. Bundt directs us to turn right and the screen shows some complex maneuvers that are the equivalent of a U-turn.

Queen of the road is our Mrs. Bundt. My sweetheart will give me a conniving look. I'll silence the sputtering queen. But before I can, Mrs. Bunt, as if by her efforts alone, crows with triumphant finality, "Arriving at destination!" *



Alternative to divorce: The 'marriage' sabbatical

By ARLEN KEITH LEIGHT, PH.D.

Just as individuals go through predictable stages of adult development, so do relationships. These stages precipitate conflicts as

well as clashes of needs. Mature relationships often bring on a sense of boredom or a feeling that the individuals have "grown apart." While commitment may be strong, communication may have deteriorated as a result of anticipated hurt and/or rejection. Often one or both partners feel trapped in the connection with strong ambivalence about staying together.

Many couples end up resigning themselves to

an unhappy or unsatisfactory "marriage;" others simply split up seeing no way forward. A little talked about option is the socalled "marriage sabbatical" in which the individuals take some needed time and space to help balance needs for intimacy and autonomy.

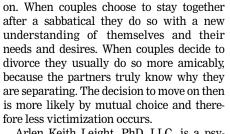
The sabbatical may take many different forms depending on the needs and desires of the specific couple. There may be a reorganization of household space, taking separate bedrooms, planning for separate time or separate vacations or even living separately for

a while to assess one's own path and his/her partner's role in his/her life. There may be agreements regarding how and how often to communicate, how and how often to see one another, whether to have sexual relations together or even whether it is OK to experience sexual exploration outside of the relationship.

The parameters for a marriage sabbatical are best negotiated and contracted with a well trained couples therapist who understands the sab-

batical process as an exploration and not a separation.

These sorts of alternatives to divorce may help couples who are "stuck" in dysfunctional relationships and need time for personal growth and development before making a recommitment to the marriage or moving



Arlen Keith Leight, PhD, LLC, is a psychotherapist in private practice in Wilton Manors. For more information, visit www.DoctorLeight.com. ★







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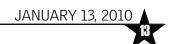
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jean's kitchen

Pilau

By JEAN DOHERTY/LE PATIO

Pilau became standard fare in the Middle East over the years with variations and innovation by the Arabs, Turks and Armenians. It was introduced to Israel by Bukharian and Persian Jews.

In Italian cuisine, pilaf is a rice precooking style that allows chefs in busy restaurants to cut down time in risotto preparation. Usually, a large tray of rice will be boiled in water for seven minutes with a large onion and a carrot. Once cooled it will be kept in the refrigerator and used ad hoc to prepare risotti in a shorter time: seven to 10 minutes depending on the al dente texture that the chef wants to achieve, rather than the usual 16 to 20 minutes.

In Greek cuisine, piláfi is the fluffy and soft, but neither soupy nor sticky, rice that has been boiled in a meat stock or bouillon broth. In Northern Greece it is considered poor form to prepare piláfi on a stovetop. Gamopílafo (wedding pilaf) is the prized pilaf served traditionally in weddings and major celebrations in Crete. Rice is boiled in chicken broth, then finished with lemon juice and melt-

ed stack of butter.

For a more authentic flavor and texture it is best not to use easy-cook rice, though it can be used

INGREDIENTS -

- 1lb basmati rice or long grain rice
- 1 finely chopped onion
- 1 bouquet garni
- 5 oz of butter
- 10 oz of veal stock or "demi glace"
- Salt and white pepper

Heat the oven to 360 degrees. In a small ovenproof saucepan, melt two ounces of butter and gently cook the onions and the bouquet garni, without letting them brown. Add the rice. When the rice becomes transparent, pour in the veal stock, bring everything to a boil and season it.

Cover with some waxed paper and the saucepan lid. Cook in the oven for 17 minutes. Once you have removed the rice from the oven, leave it covered for another 15 minutes.

Remove the bouquet garni and separate the grains of rice using a fork and a good knob of butter.★

A tasty noodle

Eating like a foodie on the cheap

By CAMERON O'CONNOR

Living the life of a jet-setting foodie is a passion that many people pursue. While we all wish we could devour a \$50 steak, we know that's not going to happen. Enter the new restaurant genre known as "fast casual" These new hole-in-the-walls are popping up all over, offering amazing food for incredible deals.

One of these soon-to-be-famous joints is American Noodle Bar, 6730 Biscayne Blvd., in Miami's Upper East Side district.

Founded by Executive Chef and Proprietor Michael Bloise, American Noodle Bar is a hip, quick service restaurant that offers delicious American-Asian inspired noodle dishes and street foods as well as beer and wine. Bloise is the former executive chef at South Beach hotspots Tantra and Wish, and is a local product of the culinary school at Johnson & Wales University.

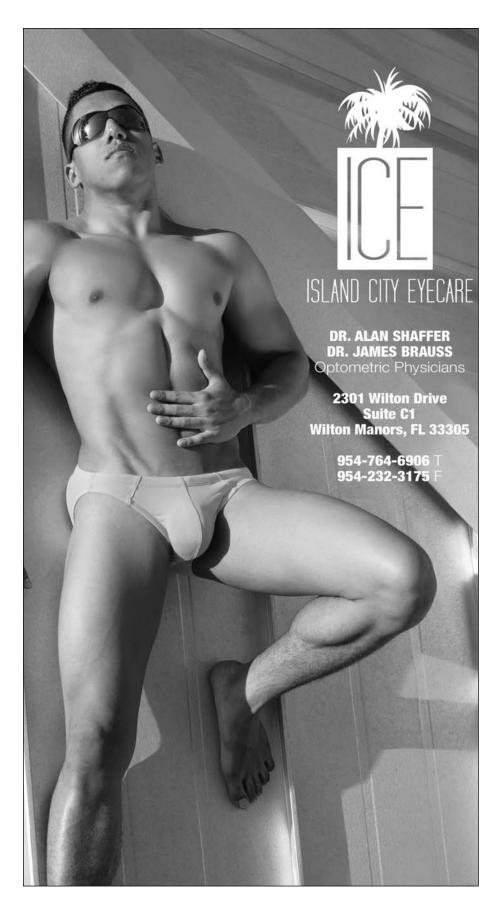
Located adjacent to a somewhat seedy motel, the main feature at American Noodle Bar is the \$7 noodle bowl. Patrons choose the saucy broth the noodles are cooked in (choices include: basil butter; bacon sauce; roasted shallot; smoked lobster sauce; lemongrass; beef broth; vegetable broth; sriracha butter; or brown sugar ginger) and get their pick of one pro-

tein mix (pork shoulder; braised oxtail; shrimp; Chinese sausage; smoked duck; pulled chicken; garlicky pork meatballs; deep fried egg; or BBQ tofu).

Besides the unique flavors and interesting mix-in's offered, American Noodle Bar boasts a staff that is not only knowledgeable about the Asian-fusion dishes, but offer smiling faces and great service with indoor and outdoor seating.

Besides the namesake noodles, American Noodle Bar also offers a unique selection of aperitifs. The fried cheeseburger dumplings (\$5) cannot be found anywhere else in town, while the hush puppies (\$4) have a new flavor inside of them every day. The grilled short ribs (\$9) and chicken wings (\$6) bring out the BBQ side of the orient while Big Mama's pork egg rolls (\$3) seem to be a tribute to the matriarchal figure that first got Bloise into the kitchen as a child.

For something a little bit on the lighter side, check out the miso Caesar salad (\$7); a mixed greens, tomatoes, onions, jalapeño vinaigrette & pork belly croutons salad (\$7) or the BBQ pork roll with zesty slaw (\$6). Beer and wine selections change on a daily basis. For more information visit, www.americannoodlebar.com★





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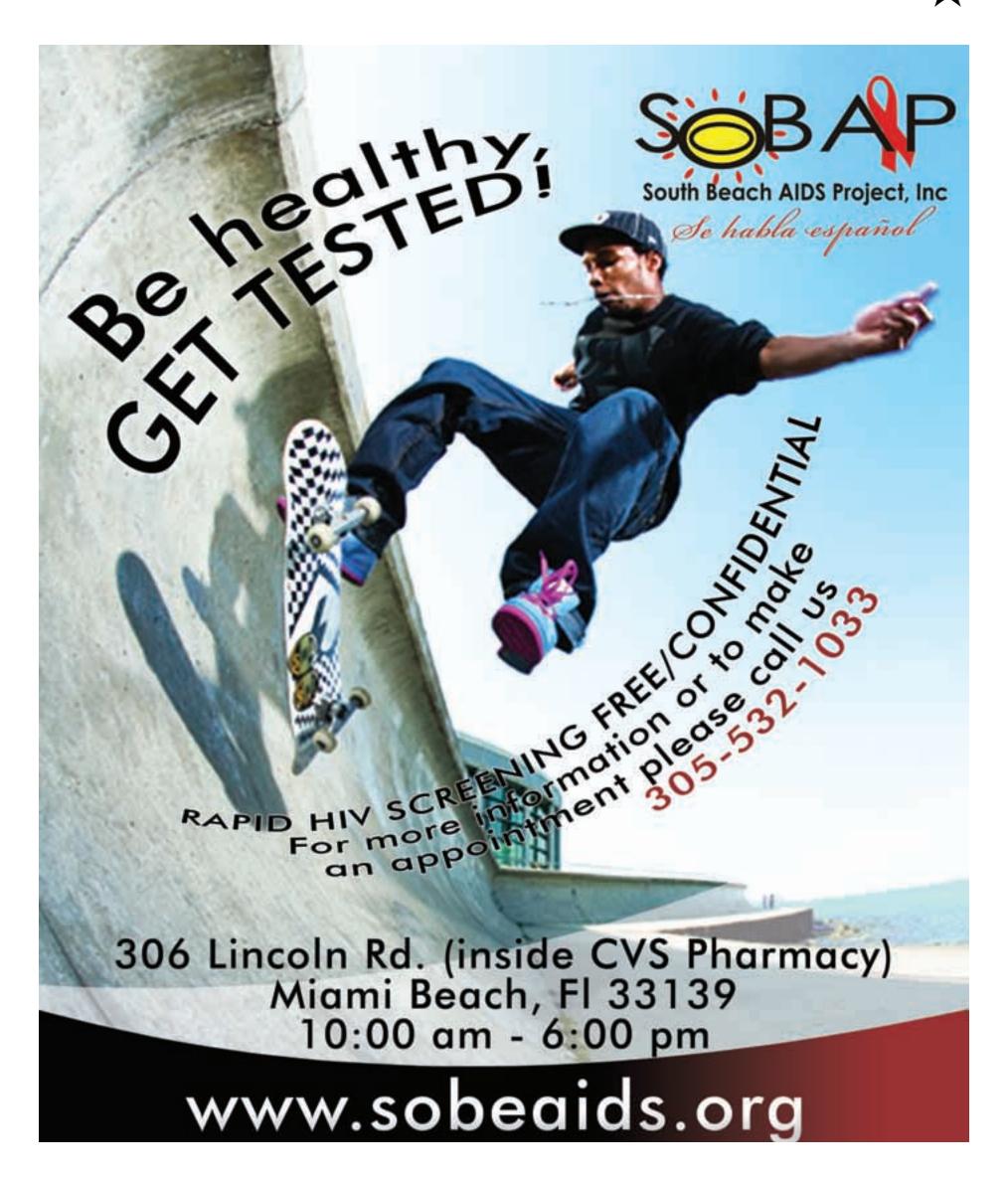
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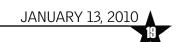
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How can you tell if a relationship will work?

By DR. DALTON A. YAKERTY

Reader's Question:

"Before you get too emotionally involved with someone, before your friends and family get too interwoven, before you move in together and get financially entangled, is there any reliable way to know if the two of you are good candidates for a workable and lasting relationship?"

Dr. Yakerty:

There are no fireproof guarantees in life, there's no one or no method that can ensure you won't get hurt or disappointed. Love is a gamble, but that doesn't mean you can't improve the odds.

Yes, there are a ton of psychological and sociological studies on this question. Most of them go astray by the many intangibles and variables involved in any relationship, but a handful have come up with some reliable guidelines rather than mere gobbledygook.

- More important than looks, sex, money, or how much fun you may have is whether you share some common interests and a good deal of the same core values. In the long run, nothing can substitute for that.
- Each person in the relationship must have a healthy sense of how hard it can be to live with him or her. The minute one

person begins to think they're easy to live with but the other person is hard, then you start on a downward road from which it's difficult to return.

• Notice at the beginning how they treat service people, for that may reveal more of how they will act after the honeymoon wears off. Pay attention also to what the

but they do have to genuinely like each other. Liking and loving are two different things, and research shows that day-today liking may be more cru-

• And maybe the most crucial thing of all is a beneficial way to work through

Wise teachers also know that a story can be a far better way to make a point than free-floating advice, and indirectly I think the following may offer better guidance to couples than all the empirical studies combined.

There's an old southern folk tale that goes like this: A man died and went to heaven. St. Peter told him that before he passed through the pearly gates he must pay a visit to hell. Once there the man was horrified, for everywhere he saw starving people, and to each of their left arms was fasten a six-foot fork and to

their right a six foot knife. The dinner bell rung and they rushed to tables

filled with food, but no matter how they tried they couldn't get it to their mouths. Then the man was taken to heaven and to his amazement everyone there also had huge utensils attached to their arms, but they looked well fed and happy. And he learned the reason when he saw them at their evening meal, for they turned and fed each other.

"Why," he asked St. Peter, "has that never occurred to the people in hell?" St. Peter replied, "it's because that alternative hasn't occurred to them that they are in hell."

To submit a question, e-mail DrYakerty@aol.com. ★

<u> Advice - versa</u>

A versatile column

ву DR. DALTON A. YAKERTY

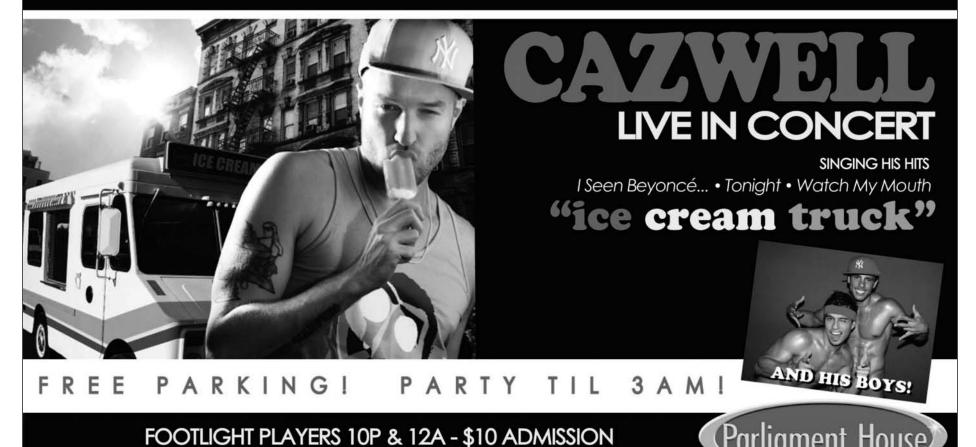
relat i o n ships of
their siblings
are like, for that
may tell you about the
patterns they were
ingrained with at an early age.

• Couples who stick together don't require a heads-over-heels love,

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problems once they occur. For if one person conceals his feelings, or if one refuses to listen to the other's concerns or to deal with them, then you won't be able to grow and learn together.

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Fort Lauderdale

FLAMINGO FEST AT FLAMINGO GARDENS

Flamingo Gardens hosts Flamingo Fest, a celebration of all things Flamingo, Jan. 15-16. The fun starts at 9:30 a.m. and goes until 5 p.m. both days. All the Flamingo art will remain on display in the Gardens and Gallery through Feb. 28. Admission to **Flamingo Gardens** is \$17 ages 12 and up, \$8.50 ages 4-11, and free for children 3 or younger and members of Flamingo Gardens. Admission includes the 60-acre Botanical Gardens, Everglades Wildlife Sanctuary. the Wildlife Encounters shows and tours of the historic Wray **Home**. Narrated Tram Tours through the park are additional. Local artists will exhibit original works of art, sculptures and art installations inspired by the pink birds throughout the **Botanical** Gardens and Gallery. There will be Flamingo art, crafts and merchandise for sale. Flamingo educational programs, kids crafts and food. Performances include music by local Indie-music favorite Alex **Nelson** on Saturday, the **Charlie** Steiner Jazz Trio on Sunday, and the Rainbow Circus' Flamingo Stilt Walkers at noon both days Flamingo Gardens is located at 3750 S. Flamingo Road, Davie. For more information, visit www.flamingoGardens.org or call

EMPIRE STAGE PRESENTS THE WORLD PREMIER OF 'SEX AND VIOLENCE'

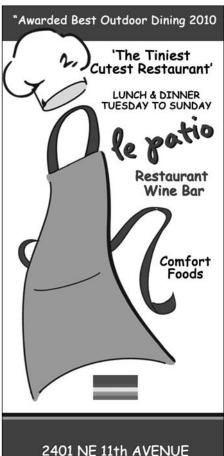
(954) 473-2955.★

"Sex and Violence" will run at Empire Stage Jan. 13 through Feb. 13. Shows are Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 5 p.m. Empire Stage is located at 1140 N. Flagler Drive, Fort Lauderdale. Set in 1979 and present day, the 90-minute play is inspired by the true story of a New York transsexual who kept a corpse in her closet for 15 years. For tickets and information, call (954) 678-1496 or visit www.empirestage.com.★

'KILLING OF SISTER GEORGE'

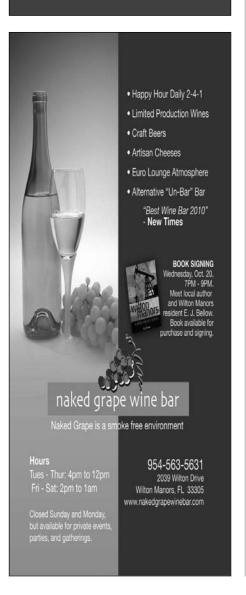
The 1964 play about an abusive lesbian relationship, the Killing of Sister George titillated and amused audiences in the '60s. Move over Baby Jane ... Here comes Sister George. The play runs Jan. 14 – Feb. 11, with performances on Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays at 8 p.m. and Sundays at 7 p.m. It will be performed at Rising Action Theatre, 1480 SW Ninth Ave., Fort Lauderdale. For ticket information, visit www.risingactiontheatre.com or call (800) 595-4849.★





2401 NE 11th AVENUE (near Bona Pizza) Wilton Manors, FL 33305 954 530 4641 www.LePatioWiltonManors.com





Miami

WHOOPI GOLDBERG LIVE

On Saturday, Jan. 15 at 8 p.m. at the **Ziff Ballet Opera House** (**Adrienne Arsht Center**), 1300 Biscayne Blvd., Miami.
One of the very few extraordinary

artists honored with Oscar, Tony,
Grammy, Golden Globe, and
Emmy Awards, Whoopi
Goldberg's comic wit surpasses even
her stunning list of accolades. Her
wise and witty repartee is a daily
treat on ABC's "The View," and her
many stints as host of the Academy
Awards are the stuff of comic legend.

Goldberg's talent as an actress spans the breadth of Broadway hits including "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum and Xanadu;" featured television roles on "Star Trek: The Next Generation," "The Cleaner," "Hollywood Squares;" and unforgettable film performances in the comedies "Sister Act" and "Soapdish." and stirring dramas "The Color Purple" and "Ghost." Goldberg's inimitable style and outstanding body of work have become part of the tapestry of great American artists and entertainers who both inspire and delight. For more information, call (305) 949-6722 or visit www.arshtcenter.org.★

ART DECO WEEKEND

Art Deco Weekend will take place Jan. 14 – 16, and the Ocean Drive Parade will take place on Saturday, Jan. 15 at 11 a.m.. The Grand Marshal for 2011 will be the renowned Miami Beach celebrity Elaine Lancaster. The Art Deco Dog Parade will join along with the main Art Deco Parade. Dog participants and their owners are encouraged to dress in their most glamorous costumes and meet at 10:30 a.m. on Jan.15 at Sixth Street and Ocean Drive just north of the yellow wash house in Lummas Park. For more information, visit www.mdpl.org.★

MIAMI-DADE GAY & LESBIAN CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

Business Builders Luncheon -Upper Eastside – January 20, 2011 – MDGLCC presents its monthly networking program on Jan. 20 at Soykas Restaurant, 5556 NE Fourth Court, Miami. Registration begins at 11:30 a.m. with luncheon/networking from noon to 1 p.m. Cost for MDGLCC members is \$30 per person and \$40 for potential members (\$10 applied to new membership).

Includes seated-style lunch limited to 20 people. Please bring a friend. RSVP by calling (305) 673-4440 or mdglcc@bellsouth.net.★

Bay Area

TRIBUTE TO DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.

A one night only event on Sunday, Jan. 16 at 10:30 p.m. in honor of **Dr. Martin Luther King**, an American clergyman, activist, and prominent leader in the African American civil rights movement. Also the youngest person to receive the **Nobel Peace Prize** for his work to end racial segregation and racial discrimination through civil disobedience and other nonviolent means. At **Club Tropix** behind the Tropical Car Wash, 810 Skagway Ave., Tampa.

CIRQUE TUESDAYS

Once again, the Flamingo Resort is bringing a whole new event to St. Petersburg as they proudly present Cirque. Starting Jan. 11 (10 p.m. to 4 a.m.) and continuing every Tuesday to follow, experience a whole new Flamingo for 18 and over. DJ Elix will be spinning the best music. They are putting on a whole new experience that will make the club kids of New York scream with envy. There will be special events and Conun Drum hosting the show. Be ready to experience a night that will leave you craving for more. The Flamingo Resort is located at 4601 34th St. S., St. Pete.★

OF MONTREAL WITH KID SISTER

Of Montreal with Kid Sister will be at The Ritz Ybor, Saturday, Jan. 15 from 8 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. It has been said that an original artist is not a person who emulates no one, but rather is somebody that no one can emulate. Over the last 15 years, Of Montreal has imitated everyone (86 covers and counting) while developing its own inimitable sound — a unique mixture of indie-pop, glamrock, funk and R&B. The performance will be at The Ritz Ybor, 1503 E. Seventh Ave., Ybor City.★

EL GANCHO

The main event of Gancho Tampa Gasparilla Weekend featuring DJ Abel, is the El Gancho Party on Saturday, Jan. 29 from 10 p.m. to 3 a.m. at the historic Ritz Ybor Theater. An amalgam of heavy tribal beats and diva anthems, spectacular lighting and eccentric performances will make this circuit event unlike anything Tampa has ever seen. For tickets and more info about other Gancho Weekend events, visit www.ganchotampa.com. A portion of proceeds will benefit Metro Wellness & Community Centers. Purchase tickets directly from the Ritz Ybor box office by (813) 247-2555 to avoid Ticketmaster fees. VIP floor is \$125 and VIP balcony is \$150, both include bottle service and private seating area.★









Central Florida

CANDY LAND 'KICK OFF PARTY'

Come join the Glitter Gurlz and Club S.N.O.N. at their Candy Land "Kick Off Party" on Tuesday, Jan. 18. Join the new cast: Twila, Summer Holiday, Jem Stone and E. Vayne Viper. Doors open at 9:30 p.m. for and free drinks until 11 p.m., \$5 cover for this event. 18+ to enter, 21 to drink. Come chute your ladders as the Infiniti Dancers; Cali, Skylar and Dash tear up the dance floor with sick beats and breaks. Guest performances by Kitana Infiniti and Kiana Thomsa and Alana Adonis. Glitter Gurlz drag show at 11:30 p.m. Nightly dance contest, sex toy giveaways, drink specials all night. Club S.N.O.N/CoCo's, 11370 S. Orange Blossom Trail, Orlando.*

CAZWELL LIVE AT THE PARLIAMENT HOUSE

See Cazwell live in concert on Saturday, Jan. 15 at 1 a.m. His hits include "Seen Beyonce at Burger King," "Tonight," "Watch My Mouth" and "Ice Cream Truck." A great night, don't miss it.

Parliament House is located at 410 N. Orange Blossom Trail, Orlando.★

K.I.S.S.

Saturday, Jan. 15 from 10 p.m. to 4 a.m. Revolution's own DJ Infinite in the Hydrate Video Bar spinning hip-hop and R&B. DJ Pat Pat from South Beach taking over the dance floor with Top 40, house and dance. Special guest DJ Joey Paranoia from Raxxy's Takeover bringing the hottest House, Electro on the patio. 21+ free before 11 p.m., \$5 after. Shuttle from UCF Arena − \$10 includes admission. Revolution is located at 375 S. Bumby Ave., downtown Orlando.★

BOXERS VS. BRIEFS

Third annual **Boxers vs. Briefs** at **Revolution**, 375 S. Bumby Ave., downtown Orlando, on Thursay, Jan. 20 from 10 p.m. to 3:30 a.m. No cover 'til 11 p.m. for those 21+, no cover 'til midnight with college or theme park employee I.D. Free drinks from 11 p.m. to 11:30 p.m. Showtime at midnight.★

DRAG RACE SEASON 3 KICK OFF PARTY

Orlando's official season 3 Launch Party for RuPaul's Drag Races on Sunday, Jan. 23 from noon to 4 a.m. Meet Alexis Mateo from Florida, Yara Sofia from Puerto Rico and Mariah from Atlanta at the Parliament House, 410 N. Orange Blossom Trail, Orlando. \$1 well and beer until midnight, plus three shows with the world famous Footlight Players.★





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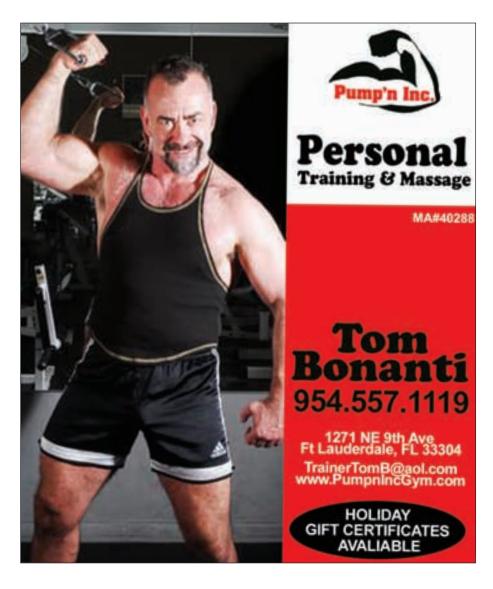
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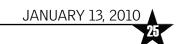
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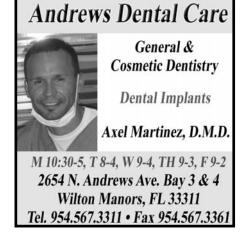
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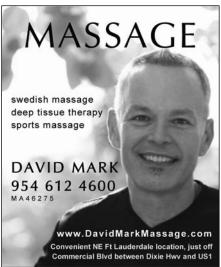
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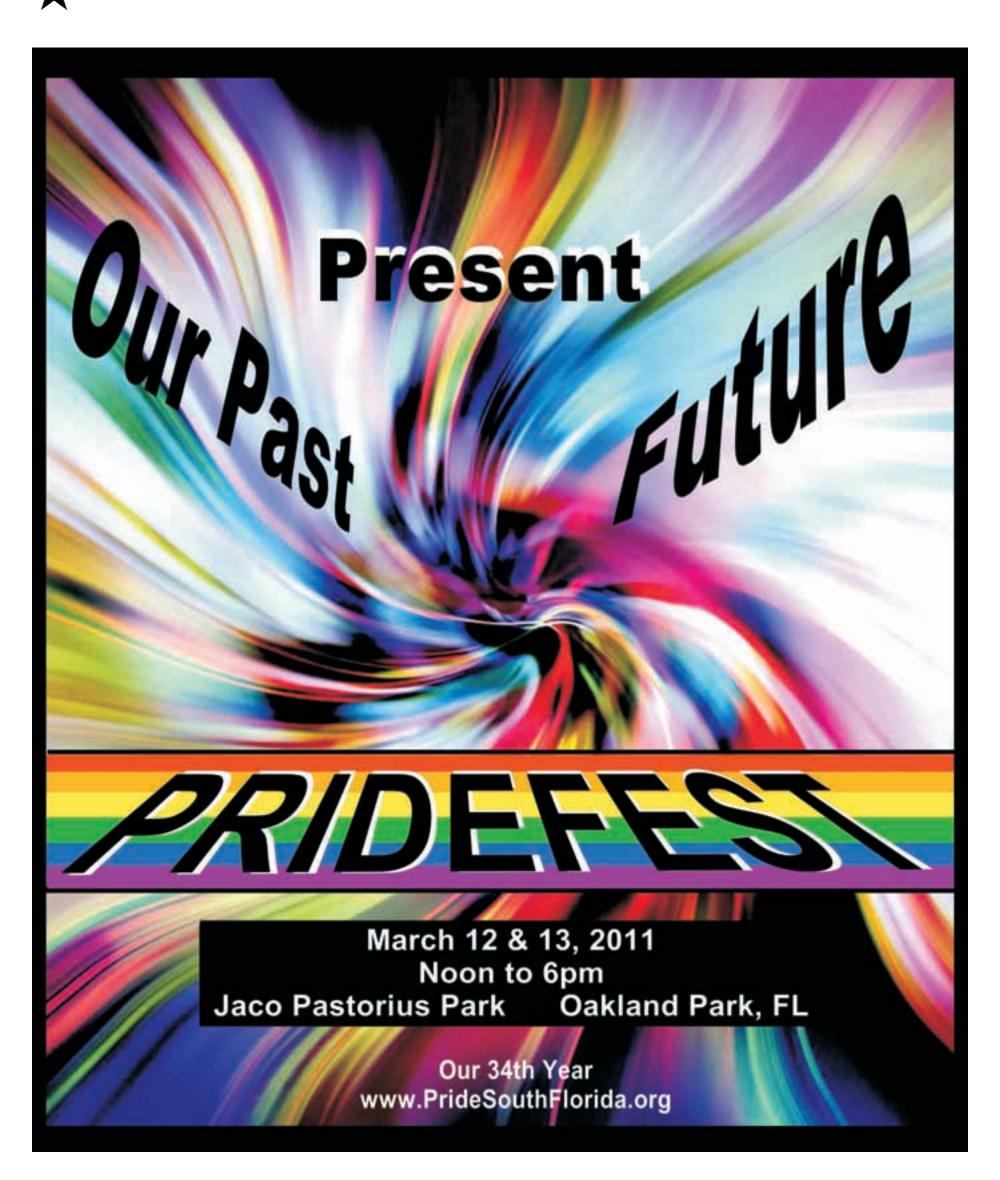
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