

community compass

Unitarian Universalist (UU) Church at 152 Pearl Street in Burlington. Mr. Vallejo is an internationally known human rights lawyer, professor, journalist, and political scientist from Colombia. Now residing in Burlington, he fled his home country under threat for his life for defending innocent victims of Colombia's civil war. His talk will focus on the civil and human rights violations of the GLBT population in Columbia.

Mr. Vallejo, who came to the United States with the support of the International Institute for Education's Scholars at Risk Program, has exposed a wide variety of human rights abuses that have affected many innocent victims caught in the cross fire between paramilitary forces, drug traffickers, and guerillas fighting to overthrow the government. Of the seven human rights professors he worked with in Colombia, only two remain alive.

Among those who have been persecuted and killed in the Colombian civil war are poor farmers, women, and the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender (GLBT) community. Mr. Vallejo has helped to strengthen laws in Colombia to allow these disenfranchised peoples to defend themselves and gain basic legal rights. He has received extensive assistance from the office of Congressman Bernie Sanders, Amnesty International, and the late civil rights attorney Arthur Kinoy, among many others.

The UU Social Action and Welcoming Congregation committees will sponsor Mr. Vallejo's talk at the UU. For more information contact Betsey Lord (802) 863-5455.

**Winter Is A Drag, So Have a Ball!**

It's winter. It's Vermont. It can be a drag. What are we to do? Well, on Saturday, February 14, you can head to Higher Ground in Winooski and catch the 9th annual Winter Is A Drag Ball. For nine years this mid-winter night filled with entertainment, dancing and fund-raising has brightened and warmed the hearts of thousands of Vermonters. This year, as in the past several years, the beneficiary of the evening's proceeds is Vermont People With AIDS Coalition (<http://www.vtpwac.org/>).

The House of LeMay - Vermont's most outrageous drag performance troupe - returns as

this year's hosts and producer. Some of the acts committed for the night so far include Lucy Belle LeMay, Noel, Amanda Fondell, opera diva Melody Suite, Ruby Red Rapper, Phantasmagoria featuring Biba and Chi-Chi and, of course, Amber and Margaurite - The Sisters LeMay.

The theme for this year is "A Saint Valentine's Day Mascara Ball" and what would a ball be without dancing? Elliott Matos will be returning this year as DJ. A new part of the evening will be Live Art by Dostie. Burlington artist Alex Dostie will be creating art on canvas during the evening which will be raffled off.

And, of course, a Drag King and Drag Queen will be crowned. Tickets are now on sale at Higher Ground in Winooski ([www.highergroundmusic.com](http://www.highergroundmusic.com)) and the cost is \$12 advance and \$15 day of show. This is an all-ages show. Doors open at 8pm, show is at 9pm, dancing begins after the show, and the crowning of the King & Queen takes place after midnight. This event is sponsored in part by Seven Days, Silver Mountain Graphics, Vermont Gay Social Alternatives, Motel 6, RU12? and WNCS - The Point.

For additional information contact Bob Bolyard by calling 865-3734, or the VTPWA Coalition at 1-800-698-8792 or 802-229-5754.

**Dinner with the Saints**

The Cathedral Church of St. Paul announces its first-annual "Dinner With the Saints: St. Valentine's Day Fundraiser at St. Paul's Cathedral," a catered dinner and silent auction to support the Cathedral's mission and ministry. Sponsored by St. Paul's active GLBT Group, the event will take place on Friday, February 13, 2004, at St. Paul's Cathedral, 2 Cherry Street, Burlington, Vermont.

The silent auction will begin at 7:00 pm, accompanied by live music, cash bar and hors d'oeuvres. The dinner, catered by Barbara Bardin of Let's Pretend, will be served at 8:00 pm. Dessert will be served, and auction results announced, at 9:00 pm. The menu for this event includes assorted Hors d'oeuvres, Mesclun Greens with Warmed Goat Cheese and Spiced Pecans, Misty Knoll Statter Chicken Breast with Apple Cider

and Fennel Demi-glace or Vegetable Napoleon, Vanilla Bean Scented Sweet Potatoes, Haricots Verts, Coffee and Valentine Desserts.

Tickets cost \$45.00 if ordered by February 1, or \$50.00 if ordered February 2-6. To order tickets or for more information, contact St. Paul's Cathedral: 802-864-0471 or [twallace@stpaulscathedralvt.org](mailto:twallace@stpaulscathedralvt.org).

To donate items and services, contact Becky Roberts, 425-2280 or [brinbliss@msn.com](mailto:brinbliss@msn.com). To donate artwork, contact Ernie Hathaway, 893-3802 or [eghglassware@aol.com](mailto:eghglassware@aol.com).

**Sing Out with the VT Gay Men's Chorus**

The Vermont Gay Men's Chorus will start rehearsals on February 1, 2004 in Montpelier, VT at the home of Bill Pelton. Bill lives at the top of Witt Place (on the right next to the Capital). We plan to rehearse and go over our Spring/Summer Concerts starting at 4:00 pm.

If you have the time and would like to join this Gaggle of Gay Guys, please consider joining us! For more information and directions reply to [robnyves@hotmail.com](mailto:robnyves@hotmail.com).

**Black History Films at UVM**

As part of the celebration of Black History Month, LGBTQA Services and the Center For Cultural Pluralism are co-sponsoring a film series to celebrate the life and work of Marlon Riggs. We will be showing the four films you see listed below. If you would like fliers to hand out in your class let us know by emailing [eli.clare@uvm.edu](mailto:eli.clare@uvm.edu) and we'll mail them to. I will send along more information about Marlon Riggs and his ground breaking work involving race and sexual orientation from his perspective as a black, gay man.

Here is the schedule:

- 2/2 "I Shall Not Be Removed" a film about Riggs' life and filmmaking.
- 2/12 "Ethnic Notions"
- 2/19 "Black Is, Black Ain't"
- 2/23 "Tongues Untied"

All of the films will be shown between 4:30 and 6:30 in Memorial Lounge in Waterman. ▼

COMING SOON: CHINESE HERBAL CERTIFICATION SERIES

one center, many solutions

Acupuncture and Holistic Healing

**WINTER CLASSES**

**Healthy Weight Free Intro Class**  
Tuesday, Jan. 27, 7-8:30pm, FREE

**Couples Massage (Same-Sex)**  
Friday, Feb. 13, 6:30-9pm, \$50/pair  
Learn massage basics to help you and your partner relax and feel harmony using a variety of techniques. An excellent overview for our advanced Couples Massage Classes.

**Couples Massage**  
Friday, Feb. 20, 6:30-9pm, \$50/pair  
See above.

MASSAGE  
ACUPUNCTURE  
CHINESE HERBS  
NATUROPATHIC SERVICES  
BACH FLOWER ESSENCES

**CONDITIONS TREATED**

Flu & Cold Pain Management Allergies Neurological Conditions	Lyme Disease PMS Back Pain Menopause Arthritis	Fibromyalgia Headaches & Many More Medical Conditions
---	--	---

[www.vcch.org](http://www.vcch.org) • TWO CONVENIENT LOCATIONS • 257 Pine Street, Burlington • 864-7778 • Cobblestone Health Commons, St Albans

**Becky Roberts**  
Feng Shui Advisor

802.310.6770  
[www.westernfengshui.net](http://www.westernfengshui.net)

Happy Anniversary OITM!  
Thanks for 18 years of service to the LGBT Community.

**PHOENIX RISING** ★  
spirited jewelry ★ gifts ★ gallery

"be who you are," said the duchess to alice

open 7 days

34 state street ★ montpelier, vt 05602 802.229.0522

**COUNSELING CENTER OF NORTHERN VERMONT**  
PSYCHOTHERAPY FOR INDIVIDUALS, COUPLES, FAMILIES

- Coming Out
- Sexual Identity
- Life Transitions
- Relationship Issues
- Gay/Lesbian Parents
- Spiritual Issues
- Family Issues
- Separations
- Endings/Loss

Lynn Goyette LCMHC  
802.860.6360

Bill McBroom LICSW  
802.229.5220

BURLINGTON • MONTPELIER