



Call for Pride Day Volunteers

Greetings from Pride Vermont, the dedicated group of volunteers that produces the Gay Pride Parade and Festival each summer.

We're currently hard at work wrapping up preparations for this summer's celebration, coming to Burlington on Saturday, July 8.

The events of Pride weekend require the work of many people. There are several ways to help out!

Be a parade marshal! Guarantee yourself a front row spot at the parade! You'll need to stand in a designated area, and be responsible for directing the flow of foot traffic (essentially, keeping people out of the way of the parade as it makes its way down the street). This is a super easy job, and the best part is the bright orange vest we give you to wear!

Help us clean up Battery Park! All those tables, chairs, and flagpoles need to go somewhere when the celebration is over, and we could use your help packing it all up! And stick around for some free food after!

Sign up for one of both of these jobs by e-mailing tracerann@yahoo.com

Thank you for doing your part in making the 24th annual pride celebration a success!

3rd Vermont Drag Idol

The 3rd Vermont Drag Idol wants YOU to compete! Be part of this Pride night competition where Vermonters get to decide who is the top drag performer in all of Vermont.

This year there are two categories: 17 and under and 18 and above. These two age

ranges will compete for the title of "Drag Idol" this year as part of the larger Pride Beach Ball Party at Higher Ground. Sign up to compete by calling the office to register: 802-865-9677. All other details can be found on our website at: www.outrightvt.org. Tickets are on sale now at the venue & online at: www.highergroundmusic.com. The event starts at 7 pm & is an all ages event.

Outright Has Moved!

Come visit us at our new space at 214 North Winooski Ave. in the Multigenerational Center (right next to Dairy Queen).

All of our programming for the summer will be at this new location, so check out our website www.outrightvt.org for a cool map to help you find us in Burlington's Old North End. We will also have a grand opening extravaganza event sometime this summer, so check our website for details.

"Walking Spiritual Lives in LGBTQ Shoes" - A Discussion Series

What comes up when LGBTQ folks talk about spirituality in their lives? Religion? Gay marriage? Reincarnation? Or, could more far-reaching topics be raised such as: sex, death, evil, and fate? How about explorations of the unique connections and divisions spiritually among the sexes? What about our special obstacles and pathways to spirituality, given our present mainstream society and its attitudes to LGBTQ people?

Bennington Pride Coalition will be sponsoring this discussion

series, facilitated by Elvis Lacoste, starting July 22nd, 6pm in downtown Bennington. The first session will feature guest speaker, Robert Patton, a practicing Shaman, spiritual leader associated with Spirit Hollow of Shaftsbury, Vermont. Patton poses the queries: "If anything, it would seem that gays need to think about developing their own model for religion, starting with "Who is God and how do we relate to the Divine?" and then secondly, "How does my faith ask me to act toward my fellow human beings?"

The goal of these discussions held here in Bennington is for LGBTQ individuals to share their unique views and experiences with the divine. There is no affiliation with any particular spiritual group or denomination. Diversity is especially welcomed and respectful discourse is highly valued to create a safe and rich environment for sharing.

For location, directions and other information contact bennpride@gmail.com or call (802) 733-8592.

"U.S. of ANT" Series on Logo

Find out what LGBT culture is like in America's heartland starting with the June premiere of "U.S. of ANT" on Logo, the nation's leading source of entertainment for the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) audience.

The weekly half-hour series hosted by the irreverent writer/comedian ANT kicks off with a visit to Montana where he finds tolerance in the most unlikely places. ANT first checks out the working class town of Butte and finds a group of young men and women who are exploring what LGBT life is like in a small town. In Bozeman he befriends a lesbian couple who have opened

a local, trendy café and finally ANT moseys on to the Lazy E-L Ranch where he meets an inspiring gay family.

Tune-in each week as ANT travels across the United States seeking the pulse of LGBT culture. Without a "gay phone book" in hand, ANT will go to extreme depths to find out where the small town LGBT community thrives.

Freedom to Marry Fights for Gender Equality

It is difficult to celebrate Pride without thinking of the Stonewall Riots, the 1969 Greenwich Village riots that arguably triggered the gay-rights movement for fair and equal treatment. Those who experienced the constant police raids on gay bars, speak of officers beating effeminate men and butch women with their nightsticks as if it were sport. Sometimes police would record the names of individuals at the bar to publish them in the newspaper the next day. It was clearly a time of great oppression for GLBT people.

As our community is still reeling from Gov. Douglas' veto of H.865, the gender identity and expression bill, it is as if we are symbolically, if not literally, coming full circle.

There are many accounts of how the riots began. Most prominent is that Sylvia Rivera, a transgender woman, threw a bottle at a police officer. Another account is that a butch lesbian, whom officers were dragging to a parole car, incited onlookers to rebel. Either way, it's astonishing to think that 37 years later, these two individuals, whose bravery helped launch the powerful movement we boast of today, would not be protected in Vermont from discrimination based on their gender identity and expression.

We still have work to do. As a member of TransAction, Vermont Freedom to Marry Task Force will continue to work for full equality of ALL GLBT Vermonters. We urge you to do the same. Go to www.vtfreetomarry.org to find out more about how you can support equality.

Kentucky GLBT Archives Featured in Newspaper

An article about the Williams-Nichols Archive and Library for Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgender Studies at the University of Louisville appeared in the Features section of the Louisville Courier-Journal on Friday, June 18. For those who don't get the Courier, the article will also be published on its web site, www.courier-journal.com, along with photographs of various items from the collection.

We believe that our collection is among the ten largest such collections in the nation, surpassed only by collections in Los Angeles, Chicago, New York, Ft.

Lauderdale, and a couple of other university collections. Our collection has books and publications from across the nation and worldwide. Our resource files contain information on a local, statewide and three-state basis.

The library and archives is not a lending institution. It is intended for study and research only. You may visit the collection during normal business hours, M-F at the Ekstrom Library, lower level. For more info, contact David Williams at 502/636-0935 or Delinda Buie at 502/852-6762. You may also email me at KyArchives@aol.com.

Tax-deductible donations of GLBT books, magazines, and other materials are always gladly welcomed, as are cash donations. Donations may be dropped off or mailed to David Williams, Williams-Nichols Institute, Inc., 1464 S. Second St., Louisville, KY 40208.

Rainbow Run at the 2006 Gay Games

On the day of the opening ceremonies, there will be a special free Chicago "torch" run. The International Rainbow Memorial Run is a series of events bringing the Rainbow Flag as a symbolic "torch" from San Francisco, the "Athens" of the Gay Games, to Gay Games VII in Chicago.

These events include memorial runs with the Rainbow Flag, displays of memorial Quilts historically linked to the Gay Games, and receptions and rallies focused on remembrance, AIDS and breast cancer prevention, and promotion of Gay Games VII Sports and Cultural Festival being held in Chicago, July 15 - 22.

About Gay Games VII

Gay Games VII Sports and Cultural Festival will take place 15-22 July 2006. Over 12,000 athletes from more than 70 countries will compete in 30 sports ranging from softball to dancesport, swimming to tennis.

The weeklong event will include band, cheerleading and color guard performances, chorus, an ancillary arts festival, and a series of community-organized social events and parties. The opening ceremony is scheduled for 15 July at Soldier Field, the lakefront home stadium of American-style football's Chicago Bears. Closing ceremony will be 22 July at Wrigley Field, the home of Major League Baseball's Chicago Cubs, located in the heart of Chicago's largest LGBT neighborhood. Tickets are available online at tickets.gaygameschicago.org.

Curbside

CLOAK OF NIGHT '04 BY R. KIRBY

THEY SAY NEW YORK IS A CITY THAT NEVER SLEEPS, BUT WHEN CAL AND I GOT TO ATOM'S OLD BUILDING AT LIKE, 3AM, THERE WASN'T A SOUL AROUND. JUST THE WAY WE WANTED IT...



WE JUST STOOD THERE LIKE A COUPLE OF DUMMIES: EVEN IF ABRA-THE-CAT WAS STILL IN THE APARTMENT, HOW WOULD WE GET IN? WE DIDN'T KNOW IF ANYONE HAD SEEN US LEAVING THE NIGHT ATOM WAS SHOT, IF THEY COULD I.D. US, OR EVEN IF THERE WAS SURVEILLANCE GOING ON...



DUDE, THIS IS USELESS... THE COPS PROBABLY FOUND HER AND TOOK HER TO THE POUND OR SOMETHING.



WHEN I FINALLY TURNED AROUND, THERE WERE THE ATOMS... WHAT WAS LEFT OF THEM--STANDING THERE WATCHING US.



THEY HAD ABRA WITH THEM... ABRA! HOLD IT, CAL. WHAT'S UP, GUYS.



WHICH ONE O' YOU TOOK ATOM OUT?

