April 6 - 19 2023
50 cents at newsstands Vol. 39, No 19

BAY WINDOWS

Serving New England's LGBTQ Communities

Single Copies Free. Multiple copies may be available, with prior approval, for 50 cents each by contacting the BayWindows business office.

STAY CONNECTED
FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK AND TWITTER
TO GET THE LATEST NEWS AND UPDATES
TWITTER: @BAYWINDOWSNE
FACEBOOK: @BAYWINDOWS
STAY UP TO DATE WITH REAL NEWS IN YOUR COMMUNITY
BAYWINDOWS.COM

30 Years of Love and Progress

by Dana Rudolph | drudolph@mombian.com
contributing writer

My spouse Helen and I recently celebrated our 30th anniversary. While that's not a record-breaking number, we've nevertheless experienced many changes in both our relationship and in society during our three decades together. At a time when the LGBTQ community is being attacked on all sides, this personal milestone also reminded me that despite the many challenges for LGBTQ folks right now, progress can happen and queer joy is real.

see **MOMBIAN,** *page 5*

Transgender Day of Visibility rallies held amid backlash

By Wilson Ring
Associated Press

MONTPELIER, Vt. (AP)—Thousands of people rallied across the country Friday as part of a Transgender Day of Visibility in support of the rights of transgender people and their resilience amid what many denounced as an increasingly hostile environment.

Supporters converged on statehouses nationwide, at the Capitol Reflecting Pool in Washington, D.C., and were planned as far away as Mexico City to mark a day of international unity first proclaimed more than a decade ago.

see **VISIBILITY,** *page 3*

Mac Gordon Frith, 6, left, who is here supporting his sibling, Caleta Frith, 9, right, who is non-binary, uses a hula hoop during a rally on the Transgender Day of Visibility, Friday, March 31, 2023, by the Capitol in Washington. Transgender people and their allies gathered at venues across the country Friday as part of an annual, international recognition of transgender resilience, an observation that this year comes amid what some denounced as an increasingly hostile climate. (AP Photo/Jacquelyn Martin)

Walsh: "You have to support someone's individual right"

Photo via www.bostonpridehockey.org.

Responding to NHL players refusing to wear 'Pride' jerseys

By Bay Windows Staff

Marty Walsh, the former mayor of Boston and new executive director of the NHL Players' Association, has weighed in on the controversy surrounding some NHL players who refused to wear 'Pride' jerseys during a game last week.

Walsh said that while he supports the LGBTQ+ community and believes in equality for all, he also respects the players' right to express their views. 'You have to support someone's individual right,' Walsh said. 'If they don't want to wear a jer-

see **NHL,** *page 5*

OBITUARY

Andrew Gray

December 16, 1978 - March 28, 2023

Andrew Gray, 44, of Beverly, passed away Tuesday, March 28, at home. Born in Portland, Maine, but always a Vermonter at heart, he was the son of Peter and the late Phyllis (Nelson) Gray. Andrew was the loving husband of Ethan Jacobs, with whom he shared 14 years of marriage, and he was the loving fa-

see **GRAY,** *page 7*

GUEST OPINION

RI Must Make Confirmatory Adoption More Accessible

Rhode Island Must Take Another Step to Protect LGBTQ Families by Making Confirmatory

Submitted by GLAD

On March 30th, the Rhode Island Senate Judiciary Committee heard testimony in support of S 0121, a bill that will streamline the process for confirmatory adoption and make it more accessible for LGBTQ+ parents to ensure security for their families through adoption. A companion bill, H 5226, was heard in the House Judi-

see **RI,** *page 2*

PRIDE IS BACK! June 10th – 11th, 2023

We are excited to open applications to performers and invite you
apply to perform on one of our two 2023 Boston Pride For The People Festival stages!
Stage 1: At the Boston Common Festival - Entertainment is for all ages
Stage 2: At the City Hall Plaza Block Party - Entertainment is for a 21+ audience
The entertainment application for the 2023 Pride Festival will close on April 21, 2023 at 11:59pm ET.

Learn more and submit your application:
www.bostonprideforthepeople.org/entertainment

KAUFFMAN
Law & Mediation

Joyce Kauffman

RESIST TYRANNY – EMBRACE DIVERSITY
CELEBRATE OUR FAMILIES

Providing Skilled and Compassionate Legal Services and Mediation to the LGBTQ Community

kauffmanlaw.net
4238 Washington St., Ste. 313
Roslindale, Massachusetts 02142
617.577.1505
joyce@kauffmanlaw.net

ENRICH.
ENGAGE.
TOGETHER.

Goddard House offers residents enriching everyday experiences aimed at promoting independence, inspiring curiosity and encouraging connection with others.

sage CARE
LGBT CULTURAL COMPETENCY TRAINING
2019 PLATINUM

- Spacious studio, one & two bedroom apartments
- Concierge-style services & wellness offerings
- EnrichedLIFE experiences & adventures
- Olmsted Memory Support programs backed by research and designed to treat the symptoms of Alzheimer's disease
- Award-winning brain healthy cuisine
- Expansive dining, fitness, technology & outdoor amenities
- Onsite rehabilitation services
- SAGECare Accreditation for LGBT Cultural Competency
- Unique short-term and trial stay option with "no minimum stay" requirement! Stay as long or as short as you need.

GODDARD HOUSE
ASSISTED LIVING & MEMORY SUPPORT
165 Chestnut Street,
Brookline, MA
617.731.8500
GoddardHouse.org

RI

Continued from page 1

ciary Committee earlier this month.

While Rhode Island has clear paths for LGBTQ+ parents to establish legal parentage under the Uniform Parentage Act, passed in 2020, confirmatory adoption is important for LGBTQ+ families and other families who want to confirm their parentage through an adoption decree. An adoption decree is a court judgment that ensures recognition of parentage in all states.

Threats to marriage equality raised in last June's U.S. Supreme Court Dobbs ruling combined with escalating anti-LGBTQ+ bills and state court rulings around the country have increased the urgency of updating Rhode Island's confirmatory adoption process to ensure LGBTQ+ families have access to all options for securing their child-parent relationships.

"Language in the Dobbs ruling inviting efforts to overturn marriage equality sparked fear for LGBTQ+ families last June. Since then, we have seen nearly 500 anti-LGBTQ+ bills introduced in states across the country. S 0121 is an opportunity for Rhode Island to show we are an inclusive state that cares about equality and security for our LGBTQ+ community and families," said Senate lead sponsor Senator Dawn Euer. "Passing this bill will make it accessible for more Rhode Island parents to secure a confirmatory adoption. It is more important than ever for LGBTQ+ families to have access to the legal protections they want and need for their families."

For parents seeking an adoption to confirm, rather than to establish, their parentage, S 0121 eliminates unnecessary requirements that aren't appropriate for people who are already parents to their children and provides a streamlined path for such parents to petition a court for an adoption decree. Under current law, LGBTQ+ parents who wish to confirm parentage through adoption are forced to go through burdensome and unnecessary steps to adopt their own children, which can include an invasive home study or investigation, a minimum period of residency in the home, an in-person court hearing, and more. This leaves children and families vulnerable because these additional steps can delay the adoption process or make such an adoption entirely out-of-reach for some families because of cost.

Language in the Supreme Court Dobbs ruling last June suggesting that the Court should reconsider the Obergefell marriage equality ruling in the future has created real fear for LGBTQ+ people that their marriages and families could be at risk. Recent court rulings in states including Oklahoma, Michigan, Texas, and Pennsylvania have in fact separated children from non-birth parents using justifications including outdated, gendered laws, or a lack of application of the marital presumption. An adoption decree provides security for children.

"Rhode Island has been a leader on transgender, gay, lesbian, and bisexual equality for decades and led on protections for LGBTQ+ families with the 2020 Uniform Parentage Act. Now, with escalating extremist attacks on LGBTQ+ people happening across the country, the state can lead again, said Polly Crozier, Director of Family Advocacy at GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders. "Parents are more worried than ever about the safety of their children. S 0121 is one urgent and important way for Rhode Island to signal support for LGBTQ+ people, by removing barriers to adoption for LGBTQ+ people who seek to confirm their parentage and secure their children through an adoption decree wherever they travel or move outside Rhode Island."

"I'm so proud of the work we did in 2020 to pass the Rhode Island Uniform Parentage Act which created paths for LGBTQ+ parents to secure their legal ties to their children under Rhode Island law," said lead sponsor of the House bill, Representative Rebecca Kislak. "I'm hearing from terrified Rhode Island parents who are looking at what is happening around the country with anti-LGBTQ+ legislation targeting young people and court rulings ripping children away from parents who planned for, raised, and love them. Now we need to take this next step to make sure every parent and child can have the security of adoption so they can feel secure if they happen to move or even just visit family in states like Florida or Oklahoma that don't have the protections we have here."

S 0121 was introduced by Senators Euer, Murray, Mack, Pearson, Kallman, LaMountain, Lauria, McKenney, Acosta, and Miller.

H 5226 was introduced by Representatives Kislak, Shekarchi, McEntee, Kazarian, Edwards, Craven, Caldwell, Vella-Wilkinson, Batista, and Ajello.

A fact sheet with further information on the bill is available at www.glad.org.

Wills, Trusts, Health Care Proxies, Probate, Prenuptuals

Create Protection for you and your loved ones

One of the only Estate Planning firms focused on the unique needs of LGBT couples, individuals and families

KLO
Kraft Law Offices
60 State Street, Suite 700
Boston, MA 02109
(617) 573-0010

rick@kraftlawboston.com

Visibility

Continued from page 1

Chanting, "We're here, we're queer, get used to it!" many at the statehouse in Montpelier, Vermont, draped themselves in pride flags or carried posters with messages like "yay gay" or "protect trans kids."

Transgender youth stood in front of the Vermont crowd and spoke movingly of the lack of support for their gender identity and sexuality.

Charlie Draughn, a 17-year-old high school senior from Chisago City, Minnesota, who attends a boarding school in Vermont, said he was angry that groups are trying to control his life and turn him into a political pawn.

"My life is not your debate," Draughn said. "It is not a political issue. I am not hurting anyone and I am certainly not hurting myself."

The rallies came as Republican lawmakers nationwide have pursued hundreds of proposals this year to push back on LGBTQ+ rights, particularly those of transgender residents, including banning transgender girls from girls' sports, keeping transgender people from using restrooms in line with their gender identities and requiring schools to deadname transgender students—mandating they be identified by names they were given at birth.

"We're not a new idea. We're not a new group," said Penelope Torres, who traveled from Chicago to Washington, D.C., where more than 1,000 people marched from Union Station to the reflecting pool. "We have always been here, we've always been part of the communities and it's time to start recognizing that and to give us equal protections."

At least 11 states have enacted laws restricting or banning gender-affirming care for minors: Alabama, Arkansas, Arizona, Georgia, Iowa, Kentucky, Mississippi, Tennessee, Utah, South Dakota and West Virginia. Federal judges have blocked enforcement of laws in Alabama and Arkansas, and nearly two dozen states are considering bills this year to restrict or ban care.

On Friday, President Joe Biden issued a statement supporting Transgender Day of Visibility and reaffirming that transgender Americans deserve to be safe and supported in every community. He denounced what he called hundreds of hateful and extreme state laws that target transgender kids and their families.

"Let me be clear: These attacks are un-American and must end," Biden said. "The bullying, discrimination, and political attacks that trans kids face have exacerbated our national mental health crisis."

Draped in pride flags and carrying signs outside the Alabama capital of Montgomery, about 100 mostly young people marched around the statehouse where lawmakers last year approved the nation's first law making it a felony to provide gender-affirming drugs to transgender minors, as well as legislation governing what school bathrooms and sports teams transgender kids can access.

Rhydian Gonzalez, an 18-year-old high school student at the Magic City Acceptance Academy, founded as a school that welcomes LGBTQ students, said anti- transgender bills don't help anyone.

'"Transitioning saved my life and so many others and I think it's so important that people understand that," said Gonzalez, who began socially transitioning at 14 and began testosterone treatment at 16.

"Without it I don't think I would be here," Gonzalez said.

In Connecticut, Democratic Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz, state lawmakers, transgender advocates and others clapped and cheered as the Transgender Pride flag was raised over the state Capitol in Hartford for the first time.

State Rep. Dominique Johnson of Norwalk, who identifies as gender nonconforming, likened the day to the 1969 Stonewall riots in New York City.

"We stand on the shoulders of our elders, and we want the next generation to stand on our shoulders," Johnson said. "I might be the first legislator to use singular they pronouns in this dome, but I will not be the last."

In Montana, supporters gathered in the rotunda of the state Capitol in Helena in support of the transgender, nonbinary and Two Spirit community, two days after Montana's Legislature gave final passage to a bill that would ban gender- affirming medical care for transgender minors. The governor has not said if he will sign the bill.

Remi Still Smoking, 17, said that bill and another that would define sex in state law as only male or female are "degrading." Transgenderism is not a fad, or something new, said Still Smoking, who is Native American.

"I don't want to go back to the closet," Still Smoking said. "I am happy how I am and I want people to understand that. I'm not hurting my body. I'm normal."

Outside the South Carolina State House in Columbia, bubbles filled the spring air as Greg Green, the executive director of Transgender Awareness Alliance, hugged people as they arrived.

For Green, the day was about showing people who don't feel safe coming out that their identity is still valid.

"I'm visible to show those who aren't that it's OK to be yourself right where you are," said Green, a former police officer whose organization trained voluntary marshals to help monitor safety at the celebration.

"This year it's a bit scarier because there's such an intense effort to erase trans folks and our community," Green said.

International Transgender Day of Visibility was created in 2010 by an advocate who decried that most media coverage focused on anti-transgender violence rather than the positive contributions to society made by transgender people, according to advocacy group GLAAD. Advocates say it's important to improve transgender visibility because many voters and policymakers take actions that impact transgender people's lives without knowing a transgender person.

Aspen Overy, 19, of Burlington, Vermont, who came out as transgender a couple of years ago, said they attended the Montpelier rally to show support for other trans people.

"I think there's this myth of Vermont as like this lovely, perfect little state, " Overy said. "But as many of the trans kids said today ... those kids still frequently face so much hatred and discrimination for being, for living their lives and that's not okay."

Mike Pesoli contributed from Washington, D.C. as did Hannah Schoenbaum from Raleigh, North Carolina; Kim Chandler Montgomery, Alabama; Amy Hanson, Helena, Montana; Susan Haigh in Hartford, Connecticut; James Pollard, Columbia, South Carolina.

Copyright 2023 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed without permission.

ANDOVER
PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Massachusetts

ANDOVER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
invites applications for the following positions:

FOOD SERVICE WORKERS

Responsibilities: Prepares and assists in serving food to students according to standards related to sanitary conditions.

Qualifications: A knowledge of quantity cooking is desirable, as is a knowledge of how cafeteria records are kept for the kitchen on a day-to-day basis.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS

Responsibilities: Responsible for instructing students and carrying out lesson plans provided by the teacher in order to ensure the continuity of instruction.

Qualifications: Minimum two years of college or equivalent experience working with children. Evidence of strong interpersonal skills.

INSTRUCTIONAL ASSISTANTS

Responsibilities: Under the direct supervision of a teacher, supports instructional programming by helping students understand lessons being taught by the teacher. Assists teachers with various clerical tasks and supervises students during activities outside of the classroom.

Qualifications: Minimum two years of college or equivalent experience working with children. Ability to understand student curriculum and to implement multiple teacher directed activities.

CUSTODIANS

Responsibilities: Clean and maintain assigned schools, offices, cafeterias, and lavatories. Perform basic repair and maintenance functions, as well as shoveling snow.

Qualifications: Knowledge of materials, methods, and techniques of the trade. Ability to follow written and oral instructions.

BUILDING AND LUNCH MONITORS

Responsibilities: Ensure the safety and well-being of the student population and assist the administration and faculty in maintaining a positive school environment.

Qualifications: Able to follow instructions and complete tasks efficiently. An ability to work with and understand adolescents and to de-escalate potential confrontations.

For a more complete list of employment opportunities and job descriptions, and to apply for any of the above positions, applicants should visit:

www.governmentjobs.com/careers/andoverma

Andover Public Schools seeks candidates who embody our ethos, which includes valuing the identities of all students, high expectations for all students, teaching excellence, collaboration, innovation, respect, and responsibility. APS is committed to hiring and supporting a racially and ethnically diverse faculty and staff. Racially and ethnically diverse teachers produce a myriad of positive outcomes for all students, especially the most historically marginalized students. EOE.

GUEST OPINION

Pressley Unveils Bill to Make Credit Reporting System More Inclusive for Trans, Nonbinary Folks

Submitted by Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley's office

On Transgender Day of Visibility, March 31, Congresswoman Ayanna Pressley (MA-07), a member of the House Financial Services Committee, unveiled the Name Accuracy in Credit Reporting Act, legislation to make our credit reporting system more inclusive and address credit issues and discrimination faced by trans and nonbinary people who legally change their names.

Rep. Pressley discussed the legislation in a floor speech earlier this week in honor of Transgender Day of Visibility. Watch her full remarks here.

"Our broken credit reporting system has perpetuated inequities and pushed our most vulnerable consumers—including the trans and nonbinary community—further to the margins, risking their livelihoods and economic pursuits," said Rep. Pressley. "The Name Accuracy in Credit Reporting Act is a legislative fix that will help prevent the financial discrimination of trans and nonbinary people and improve accuracy in consumer reporting. Passing this bill would be a meaningful step as we work towards long-overdue economic justice for the trans community. I'm proud to introduce this legislation on Transgender Day of Visibility and I'm grateful to our partners in this work."

Transgender and nonbinary people disproportionately face significant hurdles obtaining accurate credit reports and scores after legally changing their names. The Name Accuracy in Credit Reporting Act would help address these adverse effects by prohibiting the nationwide credit reporting agencies from including a consumer's former name on their credit report following a legal name change.

Consumer reports are significant to the ability for American consumers to access credit, housing, and employment.

Fragmented files created by the credit reporting industry lead to inaccuracies on the consumer reports of transgender and gender nonconforming consumers after a legal name change. Inaccurate consumer reports create additional burdens and barriers for these consumers and impair their ability to access credit, housing, and employment.

As of 2017, there were approximately 1.4 million adults who identify as transgender, according to the Williams Institute report, "Age of Individuals Who Identify as Transgender in the United States", and as of 2021, approximately 1.2 million adults identify as nonbinary, according to the Williams Institute report, "Nonbinary LGBTQ Adults in the United States".

As evidence that transgender and gender nonconforming adults are vulnerable to discrimination, harassment, and abuse based on their gender identity and expression, in its 2016 report "Injustice at Every Turn", the National Center for Transgender Equality found that transgender adults experienced unemployment at twice the rate of the general population, and 90 percent reported experiencing harassment, discrimination, or mistreatment in the workplace. The report further found that one in five transgender adults reported having been refused a home or apartment because of their gender identity.

Transgender and gender nonconforming consumers face a myriad of problems in terms of consumer reporting problems after they change their names, including that their credit report fragments into two or more unconnected files upon their name change and that their name change and any credit actions that follow are never reflected in their report at all. Many consumers report that credit reporting problems have a negative impact on their financial and personal lives, including credit score decreases of 100 points or more, which can be a barrier to accessing banking services, mortgages, auto financing, employment, and rental housing.

Transgender consumers face severe adverse effects from having their former name reflected on their credit report. The disclosure of a transgender person's prior name in a consumer report to a creditor, employer, or lessor can expose those consumers to unlawful discrimination on the basis of that consumer's gender identity.

The Name Accuracy in Credit Reporting Act is supported by the following organizations: MassEquality, American Civil Liberties Union, California Employment Lawyers Association, Center for LGBTQ Economic Advancement & Research, CenterLink: The Community of LGBT Centers, CR (formerly Consumer Reports), Equality California, GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders, Human Rights Campaign, Lambda Legal, National Center for Lesbian Rights, National Center for Transgender Equality, National Consumer Law Center, National LGBTQ Task Force, Transgender Law Center, Transgender Legal Defense and Education Fund, and UC Berkeley School of Law, Center for Consumer Law and Economic Justice.

"The transgender community faces many economic hurdles, and we are appreciative that Representative Pressley has taken action in this matter. The inadvertent deadnaming of transgender consumers on a credit file can have grave consequences for those seeking employment and housing which impact financial stability. While we acknowledge that there are many additional and intersectional economic hurdles facing transgender consumers, we are hopeful that this legislation will help to remove some of these barriers," said Tanya Neslusan, Executive Director, MassEquality.

"As a whole, transgender and nonbinary people in the US are significantly more likely to face economic insecurity and financial discrimination versus their cisgender peers. At its core, this bill ensures that legal name changes do not contribute to this insecurity by erasing valuable credit reporting history. Additionally, it provides important guidance that trans and nonbinary people must receive the same level of respect and access as cisgender individuals from financial and credit reporting institutions. We are grateful for Rep. Ayanna Pressley's leadership and continued support in uplifting the humanity and authenticity of trans and nonbinary people in our society," said Tre'Andre Valentine, Executive Director, Massachusetts Transgender Political Coalition.

"The Name Accuracy in Credit Reporting Act is critically important to transgender/nonbinary people who experience a higher risk of discrimination, harassment, and violence, especially transgender women of color. Using a person's former name adds to this risk. Using the correct name and pronouns is not only a matter of politeness or personal preference but also a matter of respecting an individual's safety and basic human rights. We thank Representative Pressley for her leadership on this important legislation," said Nina Selvaggio, Executive Director, Greater Boston PFLAG.

"Being able to have a name that reflects who you are is essential to ensuring one's safety and dignity. The Name Accuracy in Credit Reporting Act of 2023 is critical, common sense legislation that will protect transgender and nonbinary people from being denied a financially secure future just because they've changed their name. We are grateful to Rep. Ayanna Pressley for her leadership on this important legislation," said David Brown, Legal Director, Transgender Legal Defense and Education Fund (TLDEF).

"This bill addresses yet another problem with the credit reporting system - the serious and unique problems faced by transgender and nonbinary consumers after a name change. We commend Representative Pressley for introducing the bill and for her ongoing efforts to dismantle the credit bureau oligopoly," said Chi Chi Wu, Attorney, National Consumer Law Center.

"The Name Accuracy in Credit Reporting will go far to protect transgender and nonbinary people who have gone through all the required steps when they legally changed their name, only to find themselves outed when their former names are reflected in their credit reports. We appreciate Rep. Presley's leadership on this bill which also urges the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau to use its existing statutory authority to direct the credit bureaus to resolve other identity-matching problems commonly encountered by trans and nonbinary consumers," said Valerie Ploumpis, National Policy Director, Equality California.

"We applaud Representative Pressley for re-introducing this much-needed legislation to improve credit reporting accuracy after a name change and remove discriminatory obstacles to jobs, housing, insurance, and credit for trans and nonbinary people. More access to these essentials will empower trans and nonbinary households and enable them to build financial security and a better future for themselves and their communities," said Spencer Watson, Executive Director of the Center for LGBTQ Economic Advancement & Research (CLEAR).

"Transgender people often experience discrimination in areas critical to economic security such as employment and housing. Facing additional financial barriers including in something as essential and commonplace as credit reporting can further compound economic instability. We're grateful to Representative Pressley and other House leaders for working to address harmful obstacles such as loss of credit history and involuntary outing that transgender individuals may experience when dealing with credit agencies following a legal name change," said Michael Johnson, Chief Legal Strategist, GLBTQ Legal Advocates & Defenders (GLAD).

"Updating a person's name on their credit report should be simple, and credit bureaus have already been doing this for decades to accommodate married or divorced consumers. Credit Bureaus are choosing to fail transgender and nonbinary consumers by creating careless and unnecessary hurdles to accessing accurate and complete credit information—which can lead to unfair denial of credit, housing, or employment. We commend Representative Pressley for introducing this legislation and urge the CFPB to direct the credit bureaus to address this critical issue," said Stephanie Landry, Strategic Lead, Digital Finance, Consumer Reports.

Rep. Pressley initially introduced the bill in July 2022, and it was passed by the House Financial Services Committee shortly thereafter.

© 2023 Bay Windows, Inc.

PO BOX E14,
Boston, MA 02127

Publishers:
Jeff Coakley
Sue O'Connell

Editorial:
Editor-in-Chief
Sue O'Connell
sue.baywindows@gmail.com

Contributing Writers:
Judah Leblang
Billy Masters
Richard J. Rosendall
Dana Rudolph
Rev. Irene Monroe
Scott Kearnan

Letters to the Editor:
letters.baywindows@gmail.com

News tips:
news.baywindows@gmail.com

Calendar listings:
news.baywindows@gmail.com

Announcements:
announcements.baywindows@gmail.com

Advertising:
Display Advertising
Jeff Coakley
jcoakley@baywindows.com

Classified Advertising:
classifiedads@baywindows.com

Editorial Design Manager:
Julie Walker Palmer

Fine Print:
Bay Windows is a copyrighted publication. Any stories or photos contained herein may not be reproduced in whole or in part without the express written permission of the publisher. Bay Windows will not assume financial responsibility for typographical errors in advertisements. Questions or complaints regarding advertising must be sent in writing to the billing department within seven days of publication in order for adjustments to be made to the account. We reserve the right to use our discretion in accepting or rejecting advertising copy. Bay Windows is not responsible for damages due to typographical errors, except for the cost of replacing ads that have typographical errors caused by our negligence. Bay Windows is published every Thursday of the year. We offer First Class subscriptions. Single Copies Free. Multiple copies may be available, with prior approval, for 50 cents each by contacting the Bay Windows business office.

Rivendell Media
National Advertising Representative
212.242.6863
rivendellmedia.com

FOUNDING MEMBER
National Gay Media Association
South End SCBA Business Alliance
National Gay Newspaper Guild
VERIFIED AUDIT CIRCULATION

Mombian

Continued from page 1

In 1993, when we started dating, LGBTQ parents were far less visible than today. Helen, who had always wanted to have kids someday, thought she would have to give up that dream when she started dating a woman. For my part, I was a few years younger and the idea of kids wasn't on my radar screen as I focused on the transition from graduate school to gainful employment.

Two things shifted my perspective. The first was when my brother-in-law and his wife became parents and I got an up-close look at what early parenthood could be. The second was 9/11. I had been working on the top floor of the World Financial Center, right next to the World Trade Center, until two business days before that date, when I took a new position in the company's New Jersey office. Instead of being on the commuter train under WTC at 8:46 a.m. when the first plane hit, however, I was driving into a suburban parking lot. I realized suddenly just how short our time in this life could be, and knew I didn't want to miss the opportunity to be a parent.

I suspected Helen and I would be a good parenting team. We agreed on the core values and skills we wanted to teach our child, but we each brought different things to the table. I grew up on the East Coast; she on the West. She's an engineer; I'm a literature and history geek. I'm an athlete who's been competitive in several sports; she prefers to get her exercise gardening or building things. (We're both always up for a good hike in the woods, though.) We figured we could expose our child to a variety of activities and experiences and he would find his own path among (or beyond) them. (Spoiler: He has.)

When Helen and I began our journey to parenthood via reciprocal in vitro fertilization (my egg, her womb), no state had yet enacted marriage equality. We knew we would need to take steps to secure my legal parentage (something still recommended today even for nongestational or nongenetic parents in married same-sex couples, unfortunately). A lawyer helped us become only the second RIVF couple to get a pre-birth parentage order in the state—the first had gotten theirs just a month before. We were happy to be part of a burgeoning trend.

We were hardly pioneers, though. Out LGBTQ parents had been known since the time of World War II, mostly in the context of cases that denied them child custody after divorce from different-sex spouses. The 1970s saw more two-mom couples and single women, and even some queer dads, starting their families together. And three years before we started dating, a Newsweek article contained what seems like the first documented instance of the term "gayby boom."

By sheer coincidence, our time as parents has paralleled a spike in rights and visibility for queer couples and families. The year our son was born, Massachusetts became the first state in the U.S. to declare that same-sex couples had the right to marry. Initially, only in-state couples could do so, however, and we lived elsewhere.

Then, while I was staying home with our son, Helen got a job in Massachusetts. Her new company no longer offered health insurance for unmarried partners, so we had to marry for me to be covered. We therefore planned for and had our wedding in the span of two weeks—and like to joke about our "shotgun wedding" after 13 years together. By total coincidence, the day we chose was November 18, three years to the day after the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court decision that made it legal. Now, we always have a small celebration in November, too (because it's an excuse for more cake), but our April anniversary is our real one.

Today, too, LGBTQ families and individuals across the LGBTQ spectrum are far more visible in real life, in the media, and in children's books and television. I envy today's families that have such resources, though I know they have new challenges as well.

Helen and I have been together half our lives, through six interstate moves and several career changes for each of us. We've supported each other through the deaths of all four of our parents. We met as graduate students and now have a son in college.

If there's a secret to having a relationship last this long, I'm not sure what it is. I think we started with a good foundation of both common interests and complementary differences. We delight in each other's company but also do things separately. Yes, we argue sometimes, but after this many years, we know that storms will blow over. And I think we've never forgotten that ineffable something that drew us to each other in the first place.

Although LGBTQ rights are under renewed attack right now, I'm heartened by thinking back on all the change we've seen and know is possible. And thinking of the love we have, I know why I want to keep fighting.

Dana Rudolph is the founder and publisher of Mombian (mombian.com), a GLAAD Media Award-winning blog and resource directory, plus a searchable database of 1200+ LGBTQ family books.

NHL

Continued from page 1

sey, they don't have to wear a jersey. I don't agree with them, but I'm not going to force them to do something they don't want to do.'

Last week, San Jose Sharks goalie James Reimer cited religious beliefs and refused to wear a rainbow-colored "Pride" warm-up jersey on Pride night. Florida Panthers' Eric and Marc Staal cited their "Christian beliefs," in not wearing Pride jerseys.

At a press conference on Thursday, Walsh said:

"People have very different reasons why players decided not to wear the jersey...I'm personally supportive of the LGBTQ community. I always will be. And the more I get an opportunity to talk to people about this and learn more about it, I will...I don't think the LGBTQ community should feel that the NHL players are turning their back on their community. The majority of the players wore the jersey...super-majority."

On Feb. 19 the Boston Bruins hosted their "Hockey is for Everyone Night". Some players used rainbow hockey sticks which were signed and auctioned to benefit Boston Pride Hockey.

Serving our community with pride
from the beginning

JJBodner
Insurance Agency of Boston

Auto Home Business Condo Pet Insurance

8 Clarendon St Boston 617-437-9400
jjbodner.com

Angel's Painting, Inc.

Residential / Commercial

"When it comes to painting and carpentry, we're the Angels you've been looking for."

Cell: (781) 640-5590
Office: (508) 270-6841
Tim@angelspainting.net
www.angelspaintinginc.com

billy masters

Last week, I went to Boston's Museum of Science, which is actually located in Cambridge. As a kid in grammar school, we'd take field trips there every year, so I knew every inch of the museum —including the Hall of Human Life. In the past, adorning the entrance of this display was a life-size sculpture of a nude woman crouching on her hind flanks and holding up a newborn baby —ala "The Lion King". Much of the museum has changed, so while the exhibit is still there, the nude woman was nowhere to be found. However, in a virtually uninhabited section was a room dedicated to the museum's past. And there, tucked away in the back of a little alcove, behind Plexiglas, was the nude woman! A friend of mine insists that it is the detail to her nippular area that's caused her to be cloistered. I'd be happy to purchase some tassels or a bikini top if it would help get that poor woman out of the closet.

This story has an eerie connection to one recently in the news. I'm sure you all heard about the principal in Tallahassee, Florida who was fired after showing a photo of **Michelangelo's** David to a class studying Renaissance art. If it was shown in a Sex Ed class, it would surely be to illustrate the difference between a grower and a shower. I hadn't realized how much Davey and I had in common, but that is neither hither nor yon. Or is that yawn?

A Dutch university recently canceled a production of **Samuel Beckett's** play "Waiting for Godot" because only men were cast. It should be noted that all of the characters in the play are male, which wouldn't stop many directors today. This situation is not without precedent. Back in 1988, a professional Dutch theatre company produced the play with a woman in one of the roles. Since Mr. Beckett was still alive at the time, he sued the company —and won!

A stage version of **Annie Proulx's** best-selling novel "Brokeback Mountain" is headed to the West End. The new adaptation, written by **Ashley Robinson**, will be headlined by two of the hottest men in the business—**Lucas Hedges and Mike Faist**. But, this is not simply a play. Buried in the press release, it says, "original songs will be performed by **Eddi Reader**", who plays "The Balladeer". I suppose I'd be more concerned if I read who the choreographer was. All will be revealed on the opening night of May 18th. It's scheduled to run at SoHo Place through August 12th.

Former President Donald Trump will be arraigned on Tuesday. While most people are calling this unprecedented, a fun fact has been uncovered by our crack team at BillyMasters.com (many of whom have actually been on crack). **President Ulysses S. Grant** was arrested in 1876 for riding too fast...on his horse! While Mr. Trump has had parts of his anatomy compared to a horse, it's never been the part he'd like.

One of the former president's biggest enemies is aiming at a comeback. Comedian **Kathy Griffin** has been having a devil of a time getting work. In fact, she claims to have not had an actual paying gig in over five years. Well, the drought is over. She'll be appearing at the Mirage in Las Vegas on Saturday, June 17th. And here's the best part —the tickets are cheap. Seriously —like $45! I say we all plan a road trip.

I'm all for the separation of church and state. I'm also for the separation of sex and state. What I am not in favor of is stupidity and state. And that leads to the story of the New York City judge who was discovered to have an OnlyFans account. Well, the 33-year-old **Gregory Locke** is pretty hot. Then I read how he described himself on the site. "White collar professional by day...very unprofessional by night, always amateur, always raw, always slutty." I'm told that amongst his oeuvre, you see him nude, having sex, and (I kid you not) drinking from used condoms. I'm not sure who used them, but I ask you —do you really want that guy judging anything more than a wet briefs contest? An irrelevant question because he's been fired —although it wasn't because of the nudity or his non-hygienic actions. It was after he Tweeted to a city councilwoman who came out against drag queens that she should "choke on a dick"! For the record, he's certainly got something chokeable, as you'll see on BillyMasters.com.

This brings to mind the NYC weatherman who was naked on a live webcam, gave out his address, and told people to let themselves into his home and take turns fucking him. That fair-weathered fella was **Erick Adame**, and he's starting a subscription service. For $5 a month, every day he'll give you "the weather" —which is not a euphemism! Someone online asked, "Is he going to do it in a thong?" I say give the people what they want...for $5 a month.

"The Voice" recently featured a contestant who was raised Mormon. **EJ Michels** is 31 years old and from Utah —well, duh! After joining Blake's team, he talked about coming out as gay, and struggling with what that meant within the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. What I learned from his story is that the "church" not only opposes same-sex marriage, but requires gay people to abstain from dating and sex. This is so different from the Catholic Church, which encourages sex —often in the confessional! So, let me get this straight —Mormons aren't supposed to have sex while dating, and the church bans same-sex marriage. You see the dilemma.

A few weeks ago, I wrote about **Cody Fern**—who appeared in **Adam Lambert's** film debut, "Fairyland" and showed up at the Sundance Film Festival opening looking like a **Timothée Chalamet** knockoff. Fern made news again last week when he posted an Instagram Story wearing little more than a smile. Well, he superimposed a rosebud on his nether regions. You still might get a smile when you see it on BillyMasters.com.

Our "Ask Billy" question comes from Greg in Maine: *"Do you watch 'Sex/Life'? Devon recently showed off his penis. Was it real? You always seem to know these things."*

Pigs can sniff out truffles. This pig can sniff out a real dick. Greg is asking about **Jonathan Sadowski**, who plays Devon on the Netflix series. Devon had to get reconstructive surgery "down there" after being in a car accident while receiving oral sex. In a word, OUCH! He brags that the surgery gave him an extra inch —at which point he whips out his dick in the locker room. The results are impressive. Alas, it was indeed a prosthetic. However, the rest of Sadowski's bangin' body is quite real —to say nothing of his locker room friends (who all seem to be refugees from a gay porn shoot). Just for kicks, we'll post every inch on BillyMasters.com.

When some stories leave a bad taste in your mouth, it's definitely time to end yet another column. I'm still thinking about that stage version of "Brokeback Mountain". In addition to songs, maybe they could throw in some of those Julie Taymor puppets as sheep. Or perhaps this could lead to the long-awaited comeback of Lamb Chop! More good ideas can be found on www.BillyMasters.com —the site you can't quit. You can always grab me at Billy@BillyMasters.com and I promise to get back to you before someone puts David in the closet. So, until next time, remember, one man's filth is another man's bible.

Photo via schoolpace Facebook

Mike Faist and Lucas Hedges

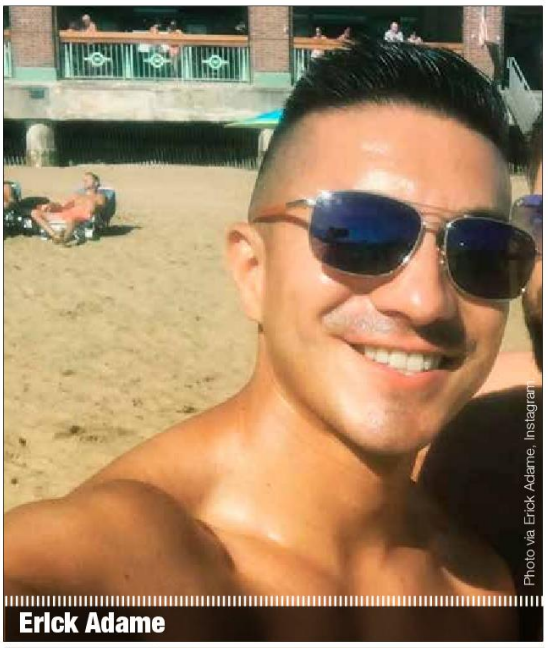

Photo via Erick Adame, Instagram

Erick Adame

Photo via Netflix.

Jonathan Sadowski

Gray

Continued from page 1

ther of Martin (Marty) Jacobs Gray, age 6.

Andrew pursued a lifelong passion for science, earning a PhD in microbiology at Harvard University, completing a post-doctoral fellowship at the University of California-San Francisco, and working as a development scientist at New England Biolabs in Ipswich, MA. In each of these places he was a beloved coworker and a supportive mentor, and his lab-mates became some of his closest friends. They appreciated his genuine kindness, scientific curiosity, endless creativity, and boundless sense of humor.

Andrew also loved board games, and one of his favorite ways to spend an evening was to gather with friends to play strategy games (the nerdier, the better) into the early hours of the morning. He relished the complexity, challenge, and the competition of games, and most importantly he liked the excuse to hang out with the people he loved (and hopefully beat them handily). Wherever life took him, from Boston, to the Bay Area, to the North Shore, or on trips back to Vermont, he made fast friends over board games.

Andrew also loved the outdoors, whether hiking through Vermont as a teenager on his way to earning his Eagle Scout rank or as an adult hiking in Yosemite, Big Sur, or the hiking trails around Beverly. He pushed himself to his limits riding twice in the Pan Mass Challenge to raise money for Dana Farber Cancer Institute in memory of his mother, Phyllis, and as part of Team Haggis, riding for the Zaff Family Fund in honor of his cousin-in-law, Esther Potter.

Andrew was a loving husband. He and Ethan met in Boston in 2004, married in Cape Cod in 2008, and moved across the country to Berkeley and then San Francisco in 2009 for Andrew's post-doc and Ethan's graduate school. In 2016 they moved back east, first to Salem and then to their first house in Beverly. Andrew loved having a home where he could walk to the beach or to pick up tasty burritos downtown, or trek across the water to Salem Willows and play arcade games and eat ice cream.

The most important change in Andrew's life came in 2017, when he and Ethan became parents to Marty. Andrew was a wonderful father, and Andrew's childlike spirit made him and Marty best buddies. He was always game to place basketball, or bounce on the trampoline, or build complex Lego projects, or collaborate on drawings of monster trucks and motorcycles, or strap on rain boots during a downpour and play puddle soccer. Despite having almost no knowledge of soccer, Andrew gladly became one of the assistant coaches for Marty's soccer team and motivated the kids with his giddy enthusiasm and booming voice.

Andrew loved board games, sci-fi movies and TV shows, country music, classical music, RuPaul's drag race, and maple creemees in the summer in Vermont. He memorized the Scrabble 2-letter word list, but he'd let you look up words to make the game a fairer fight. He loved terrible puns and dad jokes and dirty jokes, and he made a mean maple-tini. He was kind, and gentle, and witty, and compassionate, and he created a sense of family and community wherever he went.

Andrew is survived by his husband, son, and father; sister, Kristen Gray Jafflin; nephew, Lucas Jafflin; niece, Lily Jafflin; stepmother, Pamela Blake; and grandfather, Donald Gray.

Contributions may be made in Andrew's memory to the Brain and Behavior Research Foundation.

RICHARD SILVERMAN, M.D.

CYNOSURE SculpSure® 25 minutes, 25% less fat!

- No Incisions
- Minimal Discomfort
- No Downtime
- No Compressionwear

- *FDA-cleared laser treatment for non-invasive fat removal from abdomen and flanks*
- *Treated patients saw up to 25% fat reduction with our treatment*

Visit http://www.cynosure.com/product/sculpsure/

COSMETIC AND RECONSTRUCTIVE SURGERY
OFFICES IN NEWTON AND BOSTON
617-965-9500 • WWW.RICKSILVERMAN.COM
CERTIFIED BY THE AMERICAN BOARD OF PLASTIC SURGERY

LAPOINTE & DAYS LLC

LAPOINTE & DAYS LLC • ATTORNEYS-AT-LAW •

Helping People Find Solutions.

Please call for an appointment: 617-738-1919
www.lapointedays.com

LGBTQ+ Planning • Wills • Trusts • Probate • Real Estate • Medicaid Planning

SERVICE GUIDE

WEDDINGS

lynn graham designs

custom wedding invitations
save - the - dates
programs
menus
escort cards
www.lynngrahamdesigns.com
253 shawmut ave, suite 2a • boston, ma 02118
617.460.2532 • info@lynngrahamdesigns.com

CLEANING

Spring Cleaning
For All Seasons

- Trustworthy cleaning services to meet your needs
- Houses, apartments and commercial
- Schedule that works best for you, weekly, bi-weekly, or monthly
- All routine housework, plus special clean-up jobs
- Owner supervised cleaning crew and ensures quality
- Excellent references and competitive rates

Cleaning by Judy
617-895-7472

ELECTRICAL

D'S ELECTRIC

Providing Quality Electrical Services to the Boston Area

Residential & Commercial
Free Estimates
24 Hour Service

Dedicated to Customer Service since 1971

617.542.2000
www.ds-electric.com

Mass License #14580A

PLACE YOUR AD IN THE SERVICE GUIDE TODAY!!!
email sales@baywindows.com

CMI Community Marketing & Insights
Leaders in LGBTQ Research since 1992

Proudly LGBTQ-Owned and -Operated. A pioneer in LGBTQ research since 1992.
Your information is confidential, used for research purposes only.
You will not be contacted for marketing purposes.