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GLSEN Prom to be May 5th this year

By Nate Wessel
GLSEN Greater Cincinnati Prom 2012 is at the Freedom Center on May 5th this year from 7 p.m. to midnight.

The event is open to people of all ages, Gay, straight, or otherwise. For the last 11 years, Prom has been a chance for young people from all over the region to celebrate

a high school tradition in style. Guests under 21 or still in school get in free while those over 21 pay \$65 in advance and get dinner and two drink tickets.

Separate DJs will work two dance floors and David Dewitt of Guerrilla Queer Bar and others will join in with two photo booths and roving photo-

graphers to capture the perfect date night souvenir. The youth dance floor will feature non-alcoholic drinks and snacks served by GLSEN volunteers and a DJ with much more than just the classics.

Guests are strongly encouraged to RSVP in advance at www.glsenprom.com and advised to plan

transportation ahead. Several streets will be closed downtown because of concurrent events. All proceeds of Prom benefit GLSEN Greater Cincinnati.

GLSEN works to ensure safe and accepting K-12 schools in the Cincinnati area regardless of a student's sexual orientation or gender identity.



Take a stand against the Hate Bus

Wednesday, April 11, 8 p.m. until 11 p.m. take a stand against "THE HATE BUS" AKA: The value bus.

Marriage Equality, sponsor of the event, Ohio has planned

Marriage Equality Rallies all across Ohio... their last event took place on March 24, with more than 3,645 members showing up. They also sponsored events in Cincinnati and Columbus with more than 400 people at both events.

Sponsors of "THE HATE BUS" issued

the following Statements:

Family Research Council

"Champions marriage and family as the foundation of civilization, the seedbed of virtue, and the well-spring of society." Properly understood, "families" are formed only by ties of blood, marriage, or adoption,

and "marriage" is a union of one man and one woman.

Heritage Foundation

"Proponents of religious freedom have firmly established that same-sex marriage threatens religious freedom in a number of ways."

The hate bus has traveled to hundreds of schools and handed

out packets with these statements inside.

Stand up and protect our local teens in our hometown against the hate. Join us for our Candlelight Vigil.

Bring your candles/signs in remembrance of those lives lost to Gay teen suicides!

Remember

Billy Lucas Age: 15
RIP: September 9th,

2010

Seth Walsh Age: 13
RIP: 9/28/2010

Asher Brown Age: 13
RIP: 9/28/2010

Tyler Clementi Age: 18
RIP: 9/30/2010

Raymond Chase
Age: 19
RIP: 10/1/2010

Jamey Rodemeyer
Age: 14
RIP: 2011.

It starts at 8 p.m. so
See *Hate*, Page 7, Col. 1

April, 2012

GLBT News—Page 1

Volunteers needed for Cincinnati PRIDE 2012 Festival and Parade

By David White
The Cincinnati PRIDE Executive Committee is in need of volunteers for Cincinnati's largest and greatest PRIDE celebration ever. To be held on Saturday, June 30th, the Cincinnati PRIDE Parade will kickoff from Eggleston Avenue at 11 a.m. and end at Sawyer Point where the PRIDE Festival will be held from noon to 9 p.m. Volunteering is a great way to show your support for the GLBT community – and we welcome large groups that are interested in



White

ton Avenue at 11 a.m. and end at Sawyer Point where the PRIDE Festival will be held from noon to 9 p.m. Volunteering is a great way to show your support for the GLBT community – and we welcome large groups that are interested in

volunteering together. Many shifts are only two hours each, so you, your family and friends will have time to both volunteer and enjoy the festivities together.

Volunteers are needed for everything from Friday night's Pub Crawl drink booths to the volunteer tent, festival setup, teardown and more.

To sign up, please visit www.cincinnati-pride.org or e.mail Volunteer@CincinnatiPride.org and include your name, e.mail, cell phone and

t-shirt size. Volunteers are required to attend an orientation session two weeks prior to the event and scheduling for specific positions

will begin May 1st. We look forward to a fun and successful year with a longer parade, new festival location and an even

larger crowd! For event updates and more, please LIKE our Facebook page: www.facebook.com/cincinnati-pride.

Write it down

His name was Glenn Himebaugh and the year was 1967. This guy had the task of teaching my freshman/sophomore



Goose
Mother Says
By Michael Chanak

courses in Journalism at Kent State Stark County.

Glenn, who I grew to hate, was tough. You know the kind, long before computers, he dictated a story; we took notes on a pad of paper with a No. 2 pencil and then composed a story on an electric typewriter. Of course, to instill panic, it was a timed exercise. If you finished before the time, you could use proof reading symbols to correct.

Daily he quizzed us on world and national events and there was never an "A" grade. He said there was no such thing as perfection just the striving

towards. Now, 40 plus years later I am grateful. I have written for some months about local history/herstory being lost daily because

either we do not care, or are too lazy or care selectively when "stories" involve youth. It really should be a "duh" moment if you get as many requests as I do, via the GLBT Center, or elsewhere, for someone who can be interviewed about glbtqia history in Cincinnati.

Yet, our bad, the topic has come again, Caracole turns 25 years old this year, New Spirit MCC turns 40 years in April 2013, and the GLBT Center 20 years old in September 2013. Wow! In each case, someone has been assigned to scout out the details and get them written

down. Ask anyone I have worked with to develop the history of the old Coalition, PRIDE, or marshals; it is a lot of work.

Private sector companies generally have an archive/history department. Why? It is a thing called "institutional memory." If you do not know how you got here, how do you avoid duplication, or how do you think differently, how do you do it better? It really is more than just assigning a name to an event as some want to do – and then get it wrong.

There is a long rich history of how the local communities made it to today. We will be celebrating several milestones soon.

I still do not like Glenn Himebaugh, after all these years, but I do have a deep appreciation of the skills he imparted. Write it down!

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"Hatred and bitterness can never cure the disease, only love can do that." Martin Luther King

"Always be yourself," from Billy Elliot

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GLBT News and UPDATE, Worley Rodehaver and Michael X. Chanak are on Facebook

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Paul Delph

This publication is dedicated to those who have or have died from AIDS or Hate Crimes

It is our goal to record the positive contributions GLBT people make to their community and the local community at large. While AIDS and Hate CRIMES are certainly not positive things, we seek to draw the positive from the negative. We hold up Paul Delph and Matthew Shepard and their families as models of how human beings should or could react to each other and how families should support loved ones whose lives are not in the box right wing religious zealots want them in. Delph, a multi-talented Cincinnati, died of AIDS in 1996. His mother shut down her business to care for him. Shepard died in 1998, victim of a hate Crime and his mother worked for years to get passed a national Hate Crimes Bill, which is now law.



Matthew Shepard

Tax extensions penalties and non-filing

We're all horrendously busy; who has time to get all the records together & file taxes on time? Will an extension help you?

Taxing Matters
By Clare J. Fazackerley

Many of us have friends who file extensions every year, then get their tax returns filed in the summer or fall. Some of us don't receive critical information until the last minute and can't get it done. IRS has a form for that! The 4868 grants an extension to October 15th to file a 1040, which would be due this year by April 17th. If you have a partnership or Subchapter S corporation, you file a Form 7004 to get an extension to September 15th. Note that the SubS return was due March 15th, though.

What are the penalties if you extend, or if you don't? What if you don't have the money to pay?

First, if you have a refund coming, there will be no penalty.

IRS even pays interest. However, you only have three years from the date the tax is considered paid (*April 17th, 2012*) to file a refund claim for 2011, so don't procrastinate



too long, or you'll lose it! If you're going to owe tax,

you must pay the expected balance due (*or at least 90 percent of the total tax*) by the due date to avoid penalties. Failure to pay and failure to file penalties are steep; they each run up to 25 percent of the tax due – and don't forget the interest.

Because of the penalties, it's better to file the tax return on time – even if you don't have the money to pay. IRS will send a notice in a few weeks. If you can pay then, or in a few months' time, they'll grant you a

short-term informal extension. If you need more time, you can enter into an installment payment agreement by phone, online, or with the assistance of a professional.

With the new "Fresh Start" initiative, IRS may even waive some penalties if you're unemployed. But the worst thing you can do is ignore them.

If you have multiple unfiled years and fear that you owe a lot of tax – or know that you do – it won't go away. The balance will grow with penalties and interest, and collection will get more aggressive. Call IRS and ask for transcripts, or contact a professional. You have several paths available to sleeping better. Choose one.

As with any complex tax area, do your research (*see the instructions to Form 4868 and/or 7004,*

and IRS publications regarding penalties) or consult a competent, experienced, licensed tax professional.

Clare Fazackerley, CPA, ITaxFinancial, holds memberships in the National Association of Tax Professionals, the National Society of Accountants, and the Association for Financial Counseling, Planning and Education.

Butler County PFLAG meeting on April 29th

Next meeting of the Butler County - PFLAG - LGBTQ group will be Sunday, April 29th, 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m. at The Zen Center, 114 North Main Street, 2nd Floor (2 doors West from the River-bank Cafe) in Hamilton

For more information, contact Beth at lgbtqbc@gmail.com



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Prom Night



Nate

By Nate Wessel

I get to take my boyfriend to prom for

the first time this year.

Not just this boyfriend, but any. I never had a proper prom date in high school. The wastelands (*ok, suburbs*) of Ohio weren't the best place for romance in my

early teen years. I have my shoes picked out already: red hightops I bought in DC two years ago, a place I'm now eager to return from.

I should say: I have BEEN to Prom before. A high school prom I went to with a friend, and the GLSEN Cincinnati prom. I worked the last three years as a volunteer at GLSEN Prom. I started as fruity-nonalcoholic-drink-mixing-person. I stuck in the little umbrellas. I guess I

made good drinks. Now I'm on the board.

I say this is my first legit prom date. I think you'd have to know us to get that. See, he's volunteering too this year. There's no limo or anything. My mom is not around to watch me walk down the stairs in my gown to greet the nervous gentleman, my dad to ask him awkward questions, ensuring my virginal safety. I'll ride there on a bicycle, loaded no doubt with t-shirts, swedish fish and grenadine. He'll arrive an hour too early on his motorcycle, a bowtie the pride of his meticulous ensemble, a large and precarious feather in his hat. We'll meet furtively on the stairs between arranging chairs and taking pictures, perhaps even on the dancefloor, sneaking moments together between industrious merry-making. I couldn't imagine a better date.



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Benefit for family of Randy William Holmes

There will be a benefit for Randy William Holmes on April 22nd to help raise money for his family.

Randy was a beloved member of the GLBT Community and will be greatly missed. He had worked at the Pipeline Bar and The Mil-

lennium Hotel..

Tim Schmidt, Marty Karp, Randy (*from On Broadway*) and Ron (*from Simon's*) are all putting their heads together to make this a successful and memorable event.

Festivities begin at Simons Bar from 2 p.m.

to 5 p.m. Come enjoy your favorite cocktail and be eligible for a very special raffle basket.

Festivities will continue at On Broadway Bar with corn hole, jello shots, optional \$5 dinner and once again exciting

raffle baskets.

Randy Holmes' family wants to thank everyone in advance for their support and help through this very difficult time.

If you haven't been downtown for some time check out these downtown venues

GLBT NEWS



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By Karen Allen

Back in '97 when I was struggling with a Multiple Sclerosis diagnosis, I discovered Psalm 139. That's where David wrote about how completely God had known him even before he was born.

God had known what David's likes and dislikes would be; how David would look, walk and talk at every stage of his life. God knew all the amazing things David would do in his lifetime as well as all the major screw-ups he would make. God knew every thought David had and every word he would speak before it even crossed his lips. And David knew that God loved him anyway. How cool is that?

That Psalm made me realize that God knew before I was born that I would have MS. God knew that I would feel cheated;

that I would whine and shout bad words at the sky. But God also knew I would come to accept



Allen

and deal with my challenges; in fact, God knew the exact moment I would realize that with God's help I was more than strong enough to get through a life that would be different and harder than most.

You probably know where I'm going with this. God knew before I was born that I would be married and serving in a

homophobic church three years later when I would finally have to admit to myself that I was Gay.

Now, God has a sense of humor but this wasn't some sick joke or even a test to see if I could continue to "play it straight" in an effort to please him. God knew the exact moment I would start questioning what I'd been taught, the exact moment I would dig into the Bible for myself to find out what God really said and the exact moment I would realize that with his help I was more than strong enough to get through a life that would be different and harder than most.

You've been told that God hates you, that you're an abomination. Please understand that anyone who would say such things doesn't know God and they are certainly not a Christian.

God sent his Son because he loves everyone, not just some. Christians are called to share God's love and mercy, not pass judgment on those who are different. God doesn't hate you; on the contrary, God has plans for you!

God loves you and that's something no one can take away from you unless you let them. Don't let them. Instead, know that we've been created strong and tough to handle a life that is different and challenging because God has groomed us to do something so many Christians don't do: Question what is wrong, and then fight for what is right.

(Karen Allen and her partner, Adriana Bustamante, are co-pastors of The Living Water Ministries on Facebook and preach at New Spirit Metropolitan Community Church in Cincinnati.)

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A new way—Lobby Day 2012

Are you ready for something new?

Equality Ohio is taking a whole new approach to Lobby Day this year to allow you to interact with more legislators!

Registration for Lobby Day now open!

This year, you will be part of a regional team representing one of seven distinct regions of the state.

Your region will meet with your elected officials, as well as other legislators in the region. Now, you'll not only be able to lobby your own elected officials (*who may already be supportive or not*), but you'll be able to reach to other legislators in

your region (*in particular, target legislators who will make the difference between bills passing or not*), expanding your reach and creating a larger impact.

Sign up today to join Equality Ohio for Lobby Day May 16.

Wins and Losses

Why is this important? This year, Equality Ohio was able to pass a version of the Comprehensive Safe Schools Act. Unfortunately, it did not include enumeration and thus fell short of expectations. The good news is that there are other chances to further equality. A stand-alone enumerated safe schools bill

is pending in the House Education Committee, and the Equal Housing and Employment Act is working its way through the legislature.

Equality Ohio needs your help to move these pro-equality measures forward. Our legislators need to hear from us and be educated on our issues.

When we tell our stories, we change hearts and minds. We make a difference and change the conversation.

Register for Lobby Day today!

As in past years, Lobby Day concludes with a reception featuring many of our elected officials and

community leaders.

To find and register for a legislative update and regional training near you now, contact

Kim Welter, director of Programs and Outreach, Equality Ohio, 61 Jefferson Ave. Columbus, OH 43215 419-410-0156 cell 614-224-0400 office 614-224-4421 fax www.equalityohio.org.

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Hate—from Page 6
all who work/school have time to attend!
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Reformed Catholic Church: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Reformed-Catholic-Church/193171067395100>

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PFLAG Ohio Conference April 14 in Lima

This year's PFLAG state conference will be held in Lima on Saturday, April 14.

It's a great way to compare notes with PFLAGers from around Ohio, participate in workshops and hear informative speakers.

See the conference schedule and register at <http://www.pflaglima.org/#/ohio-conference>. Registration is \$15 per person and includes breakfast and lunch.

You can register online and then pay via PayPal or mail a check to PFLAG Lima PO Box 5571, Lima, OH 45802.

Michael Ley,

PFLAG Lima Secretary said: "We will have a Friday night event. More of a meet and greet, low key evening. I encourage you all to attend, but need to know if you are specifically attending. All events will be held at the Veteran's Memorial Civic and Convention Center in Lima <<http://www.limaciviccenter.com>>

The Wingate Hotel <http://www.limawingate.com/> is attached to the convention center. Room's can be rented Friday evening and/or Saturday evening for \$79, a discount from the regular rate of \$99.

You must call to schedule your room and mention the PFLAG Lima Conference".

PFLAG Scholarship deadline—April 20

The 2012 PFLAG Cincinnati scholarship application deadline is April 20.

Check PFLAG's website for details and application forms. Scholarship amounts for 2012 have not been decided yet but will be no more than \$2,000.

PFLAG meets at Mt. Auburn Presbyterian Church, 103 Wm. Howard Taft, at 7 p.m

for social with the meeting at 7:30. After introductions, announcements and the program they break into small groups and share stories.

Follow PFLAG on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/PFLAG-Cincinnati/369145034975> or their website <http://pflagcinci.org/>.

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