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Greater Cincinnati GLBT News

Serving the Cincinnati LGBT Community since 1996

Jim Edgy dies

By Ken Lyon

Editor Grace Notes

Memorial Evensong in memory of Jim Edgy was recently held at the Episcopal Christ Church Cathedral

Bishop Tom Breidenthal presided.

Edgy will be missed by his partner of 35 years, Robert Lee, and his sister, Jane Edgy and many others who knew and loved him.

Jim Edgy served Grace Church (*College Hill*) more than ten years as organist-choirmaster and

for part of that time as parish administrator, when his dedicated service contributed in great part to Grace Church's survival during a difficult time.

Diagnosed with ALS last year, Jim ended his service at Grace and returned to his home church, Christ Church Cathedral.

Jim's open approach to his dying made his last year an important ministry to those around him. In a message to Grace earlier this year, he said, in part, "... I am very fortunate that I have had a great life both personally and profession-

ally and lived an active, and I hope, productive life until last October when I left Grace. But my emphasis has always been on quality, not quantity, so during whatever time I have left I will do the best I can to make it meaningful. ..."

One friend said of Jim,



Jim Edgy

"We can't really think of Jim first as an organist, although each time I see him, part of the conversation always turns to organ, which he does love. But that picture of him up on the scaffold says volumes, doesn't it—do whatever needs to be

done.

Jim's life and his process of leaving it are all about appreciation. How much joy there is in that! He was at church on Sunday morning, and was worn out just sitting there, yet afterwards he spent a couple precious minutes talking, introducing me to someone to make sure that she and I had the beginnings of appreciating each other."

In previous years, Jim worked in arts administration. He served as the executive director of both the Kentucky Arts Commission and the Ohio Arts

Council. He was deputy chairman of the National Endowment of the Arts and served as the executive director of the Cincinnati Ballet, president and CEO of the Pennsylvania Ballet and assistant director of the Cincinnati Art Museum.

Donations may be made to Hospice of Cincinnati, Christ Church Cathedral Friends of Music, any arts organization he has worked for, or the ALS Association of Cincinnati.

If you wish, you may make your gift in Jim's honor through Grace Church specifying where you want the gift to go.

Transgender Day of Remembrance

Representatives of the Cincinnati Transgender Community and its allies came together in November at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion (*HUC*) to commemorate Transgender Day of Remembrance.

Transgender Day of Remembrance is a global event held in honor of self-identified Transgender

individuals who lost their lives because of hatred, intolerance, indifference.

The event was co-sponsored by the Cincinnati chapter of Human Rights Campaign (*HRC*), a non-profit organization that advocates for equal rights for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender individuals, Crossport, the local Transgender organization and the Cincinnati Association that seeks to make Cincin-



Qualls

nati a more tolerant, welcoming community.

This was by far the largest attendance to date for this annual event. The evening's program included music performed by HRC Volunteer Co-Chair Rob Reichhardt, opening comments from Rabbi Kenneth E. Ehrlich, Steering Committee Co-Chair and Board of Governor Ron Hirth, representatives from Commitment Cincinnati, Crossport Board president

Vicky Blum and reflections from Diversity sub-Committee member Michael Hollenbeck.

Paula Ison introduced Vice Mayor Roxanne Qualls, the keynote speaker for the evening, who also brought messages of support from the office of Mayor Mark Mallory.

The Litany of Remembrance was conducted by Robyn Repasky, Jan Bair and other Crossport members.

New printer, reduced size

We revised our Rate information the first of September.

Meanwhile our printer was purchased by a new publishing company.

We were then notified that they were decreasing their newsprint size.

GLBT News had just been switched from a magazine format back to tabloid format.

Our new Rate Card and specs are available by request—MAP@ella.net.

**PRIDE is us,
all of us**

By **Worley Rodehaver**
Editor

During the years, many people have held the annual PRIDE event in trust for all of us.

PRIDE is a community-wide celebration of GLBT PRIDE.

This year there were three celebrations instead of the one traditional PRIDE Event held for several years during Gay PRIDE Month in June.

The Gay Chamber of Commerce hosted a downtown event which included a festival, parade and fancy dress ball.

In Northside, one individual, along with a few

friends, who wanted to keep the PRIDE tradition alive in that "Gayborhood" organized a July event focused on events at neighborhood bars and other venues..

In Northern Kentucky an ad hoc committee of individuals, organizations and businesses hosted that area's first PRIDE event.

Even though the Gay and

Lesbian Community Center headed up planning the last year the city-wide PRIDE event was held in Northside, the Kentucky model was used—a model that invited all organizations and businesses to join in the planning for the event.

While ALL organizations and businesses did not join in, those who did gave it the feel of a community effort.

We would hope the chamber would be open to using this model in 2011.

The organizer for the Northside event has already said he wants a community committee in 2011.

And, Northern Kentucky already uses a community planning model as we said.

Why does it matter?

Because PRIDE should be a community sponsored event. It should not "belong" to one person or one organization. Anybody who wants to be involved, especially the many organizations in the tri-state, should be able to be part of the planning.

With the number of organizations and interested people in the region, there should be no problem.

**Gay Chamber
names president**

George Crawford is the new president of Gay Chamber of Commerce and will serve for three years.

He most recently served as vice president of the Chamber.

Crawford has served on the Chamber board since 2002.

In addition to serving as vice president since 2007. He has been instrumental in leading several key initiatives for the Chamber including the launch of the Equinox Festival in 2009 and the successful

restaging of Greater

Cincinnati's annual PRIDE celebration. The return of the event to downtown was considered a success. This included high demand for event sponsorship and on-site booth space and strong attendance for the parade, street festival and musical presentations on Fountain Square.

Crawford has lived in Cincinnati since 1992. He and his partner Jerry live downtown and owned and operated Metronation which was located in Downtown for 10 years. Crawford has also served on the board of directors for the Over The Rhine Chamber of Com-

See *Chamber*, Page 7, Col. 2

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map@ella.net

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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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Vol. 13, No. 12, December, 2010

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



**Paul
Delph**

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**

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**Gay teens who committed suicide
this fall because of bullying**

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Words

I love the language and the use of words. I like imagery and the illusions they evoke. Maybe that's the reason, I find myself sometimes stuck and yet somehow drawn to writing words on paper.



Mother Says

By Michael Chanak

of storytelling I possess that endears some and upsets others. My personal inspiration comes from the truly great stories fictional or otherwise, not the Bible, but War of the Worlds, The Day the World Stood Still, Time Machine, Twilight Zone, The Rise and Fall of the Third Reich, Star Trek and Dark Victory. All contain powerful clues to our imaginings of a richly complex, yet sometimes dark view of the present and the future. Words and stories took me places. I wrote poetry as a child, did radio in high school along with speech/debate/extemp then college newspaper and a radio internship, even a few years in commerce. See *Mother*, Page 4, Col. 1

End of Year tax breaks

Here are some last-minute ideas to reduce your 2010 taxes:

1. Increase Your Charitable Giving – If you itemize, increasing your charitable contributions can decrease your tax. For instance, if you're in the 25 percent tax bracket, every \$100 you give will save \$25 in taxes.
2. Clean Out Your Closets – Non-cash donations are a great way to save on your taxes if you can itemize. Deduct the fair market value (normally the Thrift Store Value) on your tax return. You need a receipt from the organization PLUS an

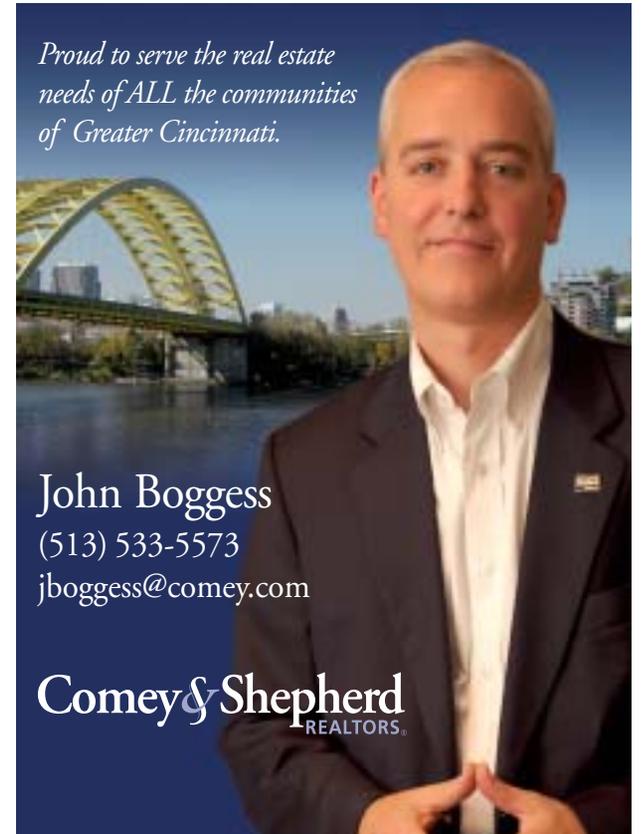


TAX TALK

By Scott Renno
Enrolled Agent, 1 TAX

- itemized list of the items donated. Most organizations provide lists of values of commonly-donated goods. Form 8283 should be completed if your deduction is over \$500.
3. Weather-proof Your Home – You get a 30% tax credit for up to \$5,000 in energy upgrades like insulation, storm windows and doors, and high efficiency heating units. The \$5,000 limitation applies to expenditures made in 2009 and 2010 combined.
 4. Fund your IRA – You can give up to \$5,000 (\$6,000 if you're age 50 or older). If your employer offers a retirement plan you may be limited on the amount you can contribute. You have until April 15, 2011 to make your 2010 IRA contribution.
 5. Fund Your Health Savings See *Tax*, Page 8, Col. 5

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Happy horror days

I see it in my friends and I see it in myself. I've seen it in life for many, many years



Georgia on My Mind

By Georgia W Dahlberg

Rudolph! Is it necessary to have a live Santa on EVERY corner? What is it with the time slip in holiday celebrations? It used to be that Santa would start appearing after the first snow, or at least a decent time after Thanksgiving or at least give a person time to digest the turkey. Now we are in such a commercial rush that we can't even wait till Thanksgiving is over.

Commercialism is understandable in these uncertain days but must it be so blatant, obvious and rushed? Thankfully, Easter Egg hunting is still difficult to do while there is snow on the ground.

Then we hear the stories of the family snubbing. Suddenly Aunt Jack or Uncle Jill are conveniently forgotten in the rush of preparation for the family celebration. We call up expectantly only to be met with the embarrassing pause of silence when the See *Georgia*, Page 4, Col. 4

The days of supposed joy and blissful holiday happiness seem to

escape a lot of us. Good will to men? How about just plain old good will to me? Where is that supposed to come in? Is it in the Block in my plan-o-life marked "...and then a miracle happens!""? These Happy Holidays seem to end in Un-Happy Horror Days.

I feel it starts with societies great holiday expectations and manifests in the ever-present advertisements featuring happy home life. I love Christmas Carols but like most successful things in our society, they are played to death, over and over and over till you could just about strangle poor old

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Mother—from Page 3
cial broadcasting.

After a long break in creativity, 1986 came and I joined *Alternating Currents* on WAIF, for ten years, along

with stints at *Gay Cable* and *OutFront GL TV*. I did the whole queer media thing. Then, 1996 and another break in creativity until some long-term friends urged me in late

2005 to write again. I wondered if I had any words left, words that would mean anything to anyone other than myself?

Five years have passed since asking that question. Thank you to my loyal readers at *GLBT News*, Publisher Worley Rodehaver and you dear readers for allowing me to paint this canvas of my experience in words. For those few who claim the first column they read each month is mine, you honor me, humble me and remind me that my experience is not so different than yours.

Georgia—from Page 3
invitation to join the family celebration ought to be expressed. Perhaps we are faced with the embarrassment of listening to the happy tale of all who are going to “Moms” on Wednesday when we know and they know we have pointedly, not been invited. After all, we wouldn’t want to inconvenience Aunt Whatsername, who hasn’t bothered to visit for 47 years.

What’s odd is that we are the ones who feel embarrassed when subjected to the bad manners of those who should be holding us near and dear. We feel a lot of difficulty expressing our love

for them when they are going out of their way to ignore or avoid us and, maddingly, it seems to be giving them the excuse they need.

And now that I have depressed the heck out of you, dear reader, let’s resolve to end this self fulfilling horror show here and now. No, not a new and novel way of offing oneself! Let’s resolve to be good to each other while being good to ourselves.

Get a gathering of your special friends and maybe not so special friends also, and treat them to the very best of your hospitality. Yes, your tree may be 3 feet tall and plastic like mine, but it is, after all,

your tree! So what! It is truly the thought that counts! Let us resolve to put a twinkle in the eye of each friend who has the good taste to attend our festivities.

We may see our-selves invited to so many gatherings that we just don’t have time for those who would snub us this year. We might even see a hint of jealousy in their eyes, so be magnanimous.

Go ahead, next year you CAN invite them to share in your fun and enjoyment. That is the true meaning of this time of year, even if they have forgotten it.

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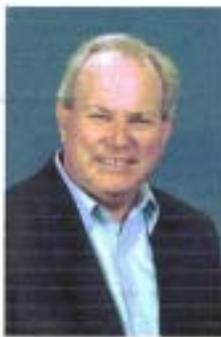
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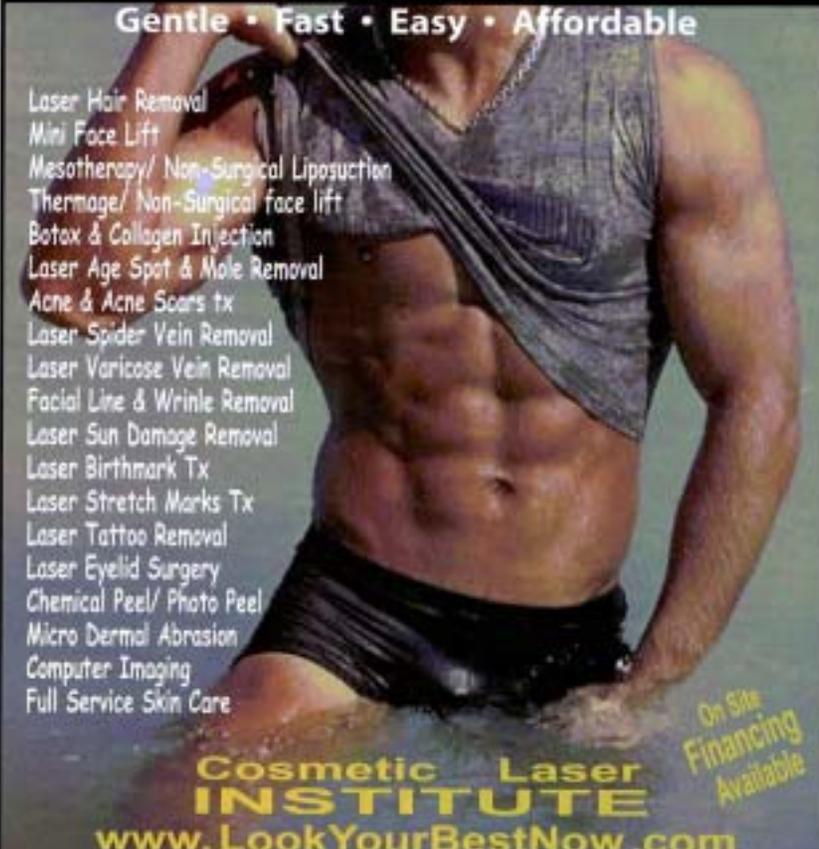
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Catholic Bishops target Gays

Statement of Equally Blessed

Leaders of Equally Blessed, a coalition of Roman Catholics working for justice for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender people (LGBT), have issued a statement expressing deep concern over the outcome of the election of new leaders for the US Catholic Bishops Conference.

“The election of New York Archbishop Timothy Dolan and Louisville, Kentucky Archbishop Joseph Kurtz as president and vice-president of the US Conference of Catholic Bishops (USCCB) sends an ominous message to LGBT Catholics and our families,” said Francis DeBernardo, executive director of New Ways Ministry and an

Equally Blessed member. “Both men have made strong statements against Gay and Transgender people. Indeed, for the last two years, Archbishop Kurtz has led the US Bishops’ nationwide campaign against marriage for Gay couples.”

“It is ominous because the bishops broke with tradition and did not elect this last year’s vice-president, Bishop Gerald Kicanas of Tucson, as president, someone known to be more moderate on LGBT issues and signals that the bishops are targeting

families with loved ones who are Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual or Transgender,” said Nicole Sotelo, program and communications director at Call To Action.

Marianne Duddy-Burke of Dignity USA, another Equally Blessed spokesperson added, “The selection of these two men as leaders of the US Bishops’ Conference means it is more important than ever for Catholics

who want our Church and world to be more welcoming and just for LGBT people to speak out and to act for justice. The majority of Catholics in the pews are supportive of LGBT people and issues, so this election is another example of how the hierarchy is out of step with the faith experience and ideas of Catholics.”

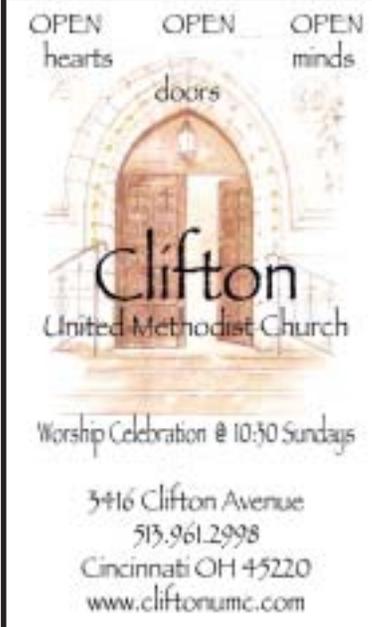
“At a time when Catholics and the See **Bishops**, Page 7, Col. 3



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Center for Spiritual Living of Greater Cincinnati
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The Church of Our Saviour/La Iglesia de Nuestro Salvador
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Christmas Eve 4:30 & 10 p.m.
Christmas Day 10:30 a.m.
Christmas Sunday 7:30 & 10:30 a.m., ZenMass 7 p.m.

Clifton United Methodist Church, 3616 Clifton Ave., will be having a *Christmas Eve Candlelight Service* at 11 p.m. December 24th.

First Unitarian Church 536 Linton at Reading Rd. December 19, *Thinking About Christmas* 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. December 24, *Do You Want*

to Hold the Baby? 4 p.m. December 24, *A Child is Born*, 8 p.m.

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Workplace equality

HRC Greater Cincinnati's Workplace Equality team conducted a successful workshop at Macy's Inc. in November.

There were more than 50 diversity/HR executives present. The interactive program included Corlis Fong, Macy's diversity officer, opening the conference, as well as presentations from Stephanie Klump from Deloitte and a panel including City Council Member Chris Bortz, University of Cincinnati Student Blake Jelley, Chamber officials and other business community leaders.

Procter & Gamble management presented "measurements" of workplace climate and GE Aviation's Karen Morgan presented "why employee resource teams are important."

Corporate participants included representatives from Kroger, Macy's, Towne Properties, P&G, Deloitte, Lexis Nexis, Miami University, Visiting Nurses, Cornerstone Brands, Rumpke, Great American Insurance, City of Cincinnati, US Bank, Cincinnati Children's and the University of Cincinnati.

HRC strives to build stronger relationships with business and community leaders as this outreach sends a broad message to the business community and

demonstrates the impact pro-LGBT practices have on many citizens and workplace quality in the community.

Co-Chair David Leonard and his team demonstrated how HRC's national programs can be applied locally.

Crossport Website

After a number of years of laying fallow, Crossport recently upgraded their website. Crossport is the Cincinnati association for Transgendered individuals. Programs include discussion groups for crossdressers and transsexuals as well as social events for members.

View the new website at www.crossport.org.

Chamber—from Page 2
merce, where he received the President's Award for his service; was active on the Gateway Quarter Merchants Group, as well as various other positions dedicated to advancing the GLBT

Community and Downtown Cincinnati.

Succeeding Crawford as vice president is John Boggess, a board member since 2007. Continuing current terms on the board are Treasurer Cathy Rogers and Secretary Sandra Stratton.

Bishops—from Page 6
larger society have become so painfully aware of how anti-LGBT religious messages and personalities have contributed to youth suicide, we wish the bishops would have elected leaders whose records were not so damaging," said Casey Lopata, co-founder of Fortunate Families. "As father of a Gay son and as Catholics, we choose to tell our youth about Jesus' unconditional love for them."

Equally Blessed is a coalition of faithful Catholics who support full equality for Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender

people both in the church and in civil society. Equally Blessed includes four organizations that have spent a combined 112 years working on behalf of LGBT people and their families: Call to Action, Dignity USA, Fortunate Families, and New Ways Ministry.



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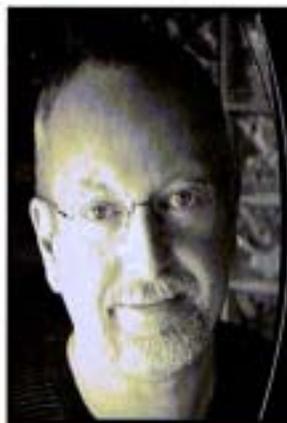
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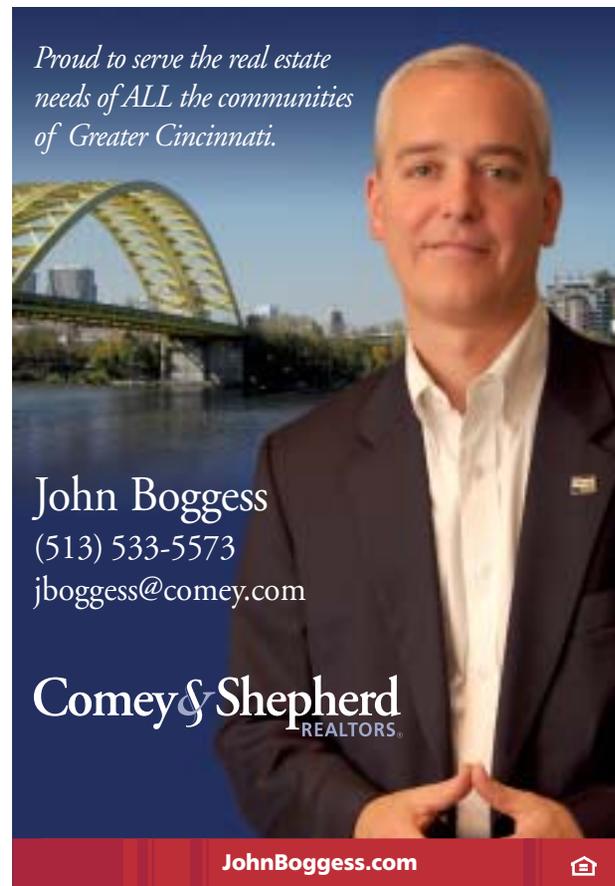
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Ron Clemons on Alternating Currents

Ron Clemons will be the programmer for the third Saturday of the month from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m. on Alternating Currents, WVQC, 95.71 FM. Ron has been an active

member of the LGBT community for more than 32 years. He tried to use his life experiences to assist others in facing their day to day challenges.

He has an undergraduate degree from Miami University, and a Masters Degree from the University of Cincinnati. Both degrees are in Social Work. He

received an associate's degree in photography from Antonelli College in 2004, where he graduated Sum Cum Laude and is listed in the who's who of junior colleges and universities 2004.

He is currently serving on the board of directors of CARACOLE, Inc., The 1809

LGBT Alumni Board of Miami University, and current president of SCORPIUS of Cincinnati, a local leather club in the Cincinnati area. His past board involvements include the Cincinnati Men's Chorus, AVOISE, STOP AIDS (AVOC) and The Council on Alcoholism.

In working with the LGBT community, Ron has taken notice of the lack of attention given to older members of the community who have life issues that are not being addressed.

There is a stigma in our culture for "getting old". Aging is a very natural part of the life process. Ron would like to bring a more affirming and accepting energy to the community for those of us with different physical, mental, emotional and spiritual needs.

He will address issues such as coming out later in life, changing self concepts, affirming self images as older adults.



Larry Johnson
PERSONAL TRAINER

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One-on-one personal training
in my private gym in Clifton

FIND OUT MORE AT:
over40nfit.com



Kiwanis Veterans' Wall

Northside-College Hill Kiwanis "Veterans' Wall will include photos of veterans from WWII to present

It will be displayed at the Memorial Day Service in Northside in 2011 and be available for showing elsewhere afterward
Pictures (with name, branch of service and rank) should be dropped off or mailed to

Don Beimesche
North Side Bank & Trust
4125 Hamilton Avenue, Cincinnati, OH 45223-0128
or any other North Side Bank branch with notation to send to Beimesche
Questions, call him at 513-853-4865

Tax—from Page 3

Account (HSA) – If you have an HSA, contribute the maximum amount (for singles, \$3,050, if you're 55 or older, \$4,050). To compute how much to contribute, add your employer contribution AND your pre-tax HSA deductions. If these are less than the maximum, pay the difference into your HSA account and take a tax deduction (since your employer and pre-tax contributions are excluded from your taxable pay, you can't deduct these amounts). Make sure you pay ALL medical expenses out of your HSA account. You have until April 15, 2011 to make your 2010 HSA payments.

6. Self-Employed Health Insurance – A bonus this year is that your health insurance premiums reduce income AND self-employment tax, so accelerate your health insurance payments if you are able.

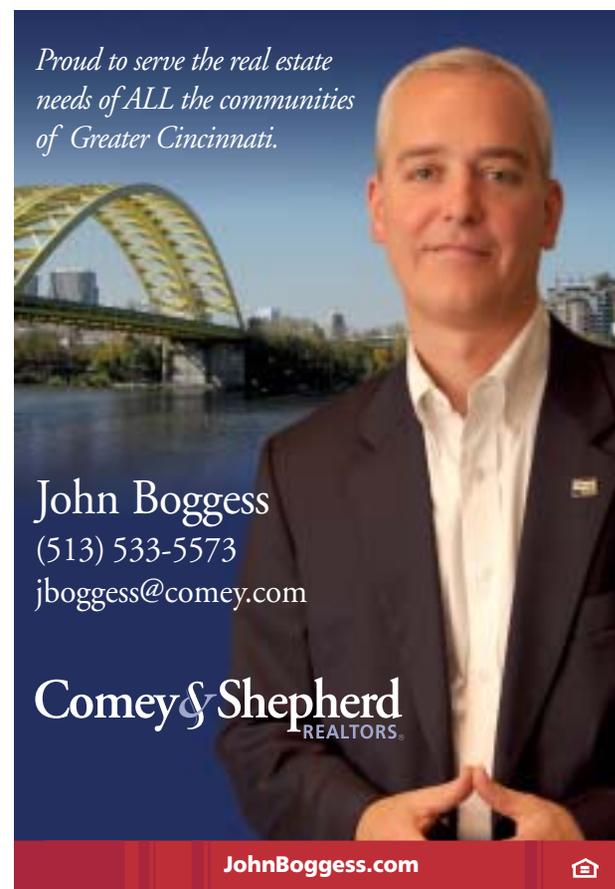
Remember that every situation is unique, and advice from your local tax professional will ensure that you get the most bang for the buck.



MONDAYS KARAOKE
On Broadway

9pm

Only Place To Party On Monday



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