



The Rainbow Connection is published by the Prairie Pride Coalition (PPC).

Send Correspondence to P.O. Box 5048, Bloomington, IL 61702-5048, or e-mail info@ppc-il.org

PPC Board: Dave Bentlin, Peggy Burton, Gary Gletty, Margo Mendoza, Donna O'Crowly, Elizabeth Anvick, Olemuel Ashford, Tony Thieman-Somora, and Kathleen Burger

Rainbow Connection

JANUARY, 2013

Marriage Equality Documentary at Normal Theater Feb. 13

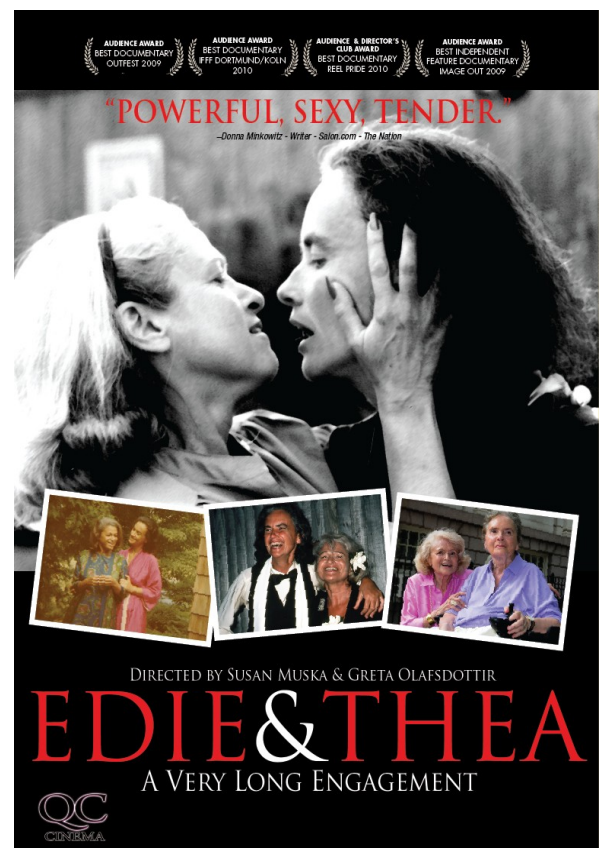
The Prairie Pride Coalition will sponsor a free screening of the documentary *Edie and Thea: A Very Long Engagement* at 7 p.m. at the Normal Theater in Uptown Normal. A panel discussion featuring legal experts and local same-sex couples involved in a statewide marriage equality lawsuit will follow the screening.

The documentary chronicles lifelong lesbian couple Edie Windsor and Thea Spyer, who met in the 1960s and stayed together through the turbulent decades of activism and social change that followed. Looking at pictures from their past, the women marvel at simple triumphs -- buying their first house together -- and reminisce about the constant fear of exposure they once felt.

Edie and Thea became engaged shortly after getting together and were finally married in Canada in May 2007. Two years later, Thea passed away after living for decades with multiple sclerosis, which led to progressive paralysis.

When Thea died, the federal government via the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) refused

**Please see "Documentary,"
continued on page 4**



PPC Elects Board of Directors, Officers



Board of Directors ballots – which had been distributed to the membership via a mass e-mail and the PPC newsletter – were counted at the Prairie Pride Coalition general meeting held Friday, December 7 at the Bistro. The following members were elected to two-year terms on the board:

- Peggy Burton
- Donna O’Crowly
- Olemuel Ashford
- Gary Gletty
- Dave Bentlin
- Elizabeth Anvick

- Kathleen Burger
- Margot Mendoza

Tony Thieman-Somora

At the December 11 board meeting the following officers were elected:

- Dave Bentlin, president
- Peggy Burton, vice president
- Donna O’Crowly, treasurer
- Elizabeth Anvick, secretary

The board meets at 5:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month in the Par-enthood Room at First United Methodist Church, 211 N. School Street in Normal.

Inclusive Jewish Community

by Gene Naden

I witnessed the Jewish Community Mishkan (www.mishkanchicago.org) conduct a transgender Bar Mitzvah service on Saturday, December 15 in Hyde Park. It was a traditional service with Hebrew singing and prayer, and scripture was read from sacred scrolls. The service was for Jay Stanton and

signified Jay taking his place as an adult man in the community. Jay preached on the story of Joseph and his brothers who came to Egypt seeking relief from a famine. Mishkan is an inclusive, egalitarian community, Jay says. One of the community’s taglines is “inspired Judaism in Chicago.”



Law office of
Allison & Mosby-Scott

Jon D. McLaughlin

Attorney at Law

Caring help when you need it most

Phone: (309) 662-5084 · Cell: (309) 319-6206 · Fax: (309) 662-2994
Jon@allisonmosby-scott.com · www.allisonmosby-scott.com



Law office of
Allison & Mosby-Scott

Michelle Mosby-Scott

Attorney at Law

Caring help when you need it most

Phone: (309) 662-5084 · Cell: (309) 310-1154 · Fax: (309) 662-2994
Michelle@allisonmosby-scott.com · www.allisonmosby-scott.com

Lancaster's Celebrates 15 Years, Now Open for Lunch



Lancaster's Restaurant, located at 513 N. Main Street in downtown Bloomington, recently celebrated 15 years in business, no easy feat when you consider that the restaurant business is a cut-throat industry that often favors big-name, chain franchises.

Jan and Rob have not only provided 15 years of restaurant excel-

lence...they have actively supported the LGBT community and operate a business that provides a welcoming atmosphere for our community.

Recently, the restaurant expanded its hours to offer lunchtime service from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. weekdays. The lunch menu includes soups, salads, sandwiches, seafood selections, and vegetarian options that are a cut above the usual lunch fare available to those looking for a quick but satisfying meal. For those in a hurry Lancaster's offers takeout – just call 309-827-3333 to place an order for pickup. Lunch and dinner menus, as well as information on upcoming events at Lancaster's, can be found at www.lancastersrestaurant.com.

“Hedwig” Comes to Peoria

The Cornstock Theatre in Peoria will stage a production of the gay cult fave “Hedwig and the Angry Inch” on Feb. 8, 9, 10, 15 and 16 at the theater, 1700 N. Park Road in Peoria.

“Hedwig” is the story of a transgender punk rock girl from East Berlin who tours the US with her rock band as she tells her life story and follows the ex-boyfriend/bandmate who stole her songs.

The original Off-Broadway production debuted on Valentine's Day 1998 and went on to win Obie and Outer Critics Circle awards for best Off-Broadway musical. A film version of the musical was released in 2000 and earned the Best Director award at the Sundance Festival for director/writer John Cameron Mitchell.

For more information on the Cornstock Theatre production visit the theater's website at www.cornstocktheatre.com.

Gretchen Shelly
Owner

309-661-1726 • 309-661-1729

merry maids.

1702 W. College Ave
Suite A-3

Normal, IL 61761
mmofbn@yahoo.com

A **ServicEMASTER**
BRAND

TREY POLESKY, LCSW
Individual, Couples, & Family Therapy

2416 E. Washington St.
Suite A2
Bloomington, IL 61704

www.treypolesky.com
treypolesky@gmail.com
phone (773) 819-5428
fax (678) 716-1539

Calendar

- **Friday, January 4, First Fridays** – join the fun at the **Bistro, 316 N. Main Street, Bloomington**, for appetizers and drink specials. Hosted this month by new sponsors **MCC Peoria and Heartland MCC Spirituality Group of Bloomington-Normal**.
- **Monday, January 14– PFLAG, the Parents, Friends and Family of Lesbians and Gays**, meets on the second Monday of each month at the **Unitarian Church – 1613 E. Emerson**, from 5:30 – 7:30.
- **Saturday, January 12– Transgender support group** meets on the second Saturday of each month. Contact tginbnil@hotmail.com for more information.
- **Friday, January 11—Hotspot** hosted by Sharon Share a Like on the second Friday of each month at the **Bistro**.
- **Friday, January 18—Talent Night** at the **Bistro**
- **Every Wednesday and Thursday – Karaoke** at the **Bistro**, starting at 9 p.m., **Bingo** on Thursdays.
- **Wednesday, February 13—Screening of *Edie and Thea: A Very Long Engagement*** at 7 p.m. at the **Normal Theater**.

Documentary

Continued from page 1

to recognize their marriage and taxed Edie's inheritance from Thea as though they were strangers. In response, Edie and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) filed a lawsuit seeking to overturn DOMA.

On December 7, 2012, the Supreme Court agreed to hear Windsor v United States, Edie Windsor's challenge to DOMA. The court will hear oral arguments in the case in March and possibly hand down a decision in June.

Edie and Thea's story is one of love, commitment, and determination. This screening is a perfect and fitting way to champion and learn more about the cause of marriage equality. We invite you to join us for this very special evening.

The screening of "Edie and Thea" coincides with National Freedom to Marry Week Feb. 11-17.

Jeanette L. Roberts

Licensed Clinical Social Worker

Psychotherapy for Individuals, Couples, and Groups

200 West Monroe, Suite 305
Bloomington, Illinois 61701

(309) 820-8162



New Covenant Community

An Open and Affirming/More Light congregation which welcomes all persons into full participation in the life of our community, regardless of race, gender, age or sexual orientation.

Worship Sundays, 10 a.m.

Sunday School and childcare provided during worship

Chapel of the Campus Religious Center
210 W. Mulberry St., Normal, IL 61761 | (309) 454-7362
www.nccnormal.org