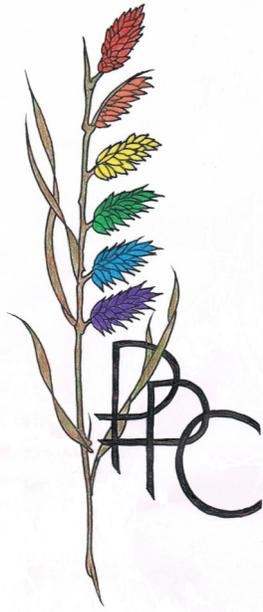


Rainbow Connection

APRIL, 2014



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

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Conversion Therapy Ban Bill Needs YOUR Support

A bill on its way to the floor of the Illinois House of Representatives would bar medical professionals in Illinois from practicing or prescribing "conversion therapy" efforts on youth under the age of 18.

HB5569, sponsored by openly-gay legislator Kelly Cassidy, would ensure that the most vulnerable individuals, those already struggling in the



face of homophobia and transphobia, are not targeted and subjected to a practice that medical practitioners deem harmful and inappropriate.

The bill reads that "no mental health provider shall engage in sexual orientation change efforts with a person under the age of 18. Further provides that any sexual orientation change effort attempted on a person under the age of 18 by a mental health provider shall be considered unprofessional conduct and that a mental health provider found to have engaged in a sexual orientation change effort shall be disciplined by the licensing entity or disciplinary review board with competent jurisdiction."

Please contact our area legislators and urge them to support HB5569. Bloomington/Normal is represented by Dan Brady (dan@rep-danbrady.com or 217-782-1118) and Keith Sommer (www.keithsommer.org/contact or 217-782-0221).

This bill could be voted on at any time...so please contact your legislator today!

PPC, WGLT Collaborate on LGBTQ Programming



Recently the Prairie Pride Coalition and WGLT-FM began a collaboration to bring additional LGBTQ stories to the station's news magazine SOUND IDEAS.

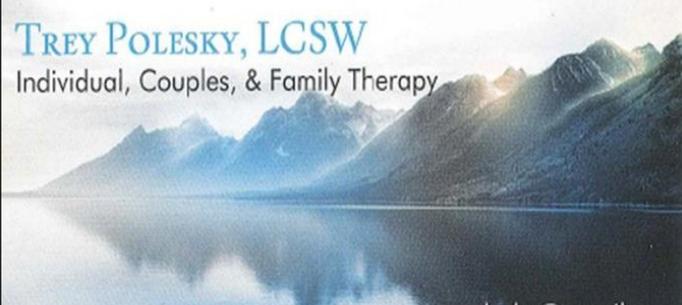
The segment can be found at http://wgl.org/wireready/news/2014/03/09266_03-26Lambda_113523.shtml.

Look for future reports on a variety of LGBTQ topics of interest to our local community.

SOUND IDEAS airs at 11 a.m. weekdays on WGLT-FM 89.1 and www.wgl.org.

We thank Program Director Mike McCurdy and the management at WGLT for providing us with the opportunity to collaborate, and especially thank them for their commitment to our community!

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LGBTQ Wedding Guide is Growing

PPC continues to collect information for our local gay and lesbian wedding guide. If you know of businesses or individuals who are LGBTQ-friendly please encourage them to complete our online survey to be included in the guide. The survey can be found at <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/9HRCTFT> and will be available until April 20.

In the meantime, we can share with you that 29 local businesses and individuals have already signed up to be included in the guide; they are:

Churchill's Formal Wear
Another Word For...*

Rev. Jackie Clement, Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington/Normal
Medici

Rachael Schirano Photography*

Nancy Nickerson, Officiant

Hail the Hair King Salon*

Rt. 54 Photography

Epiphany Farms Hospitality Group (Station Two Twenty)

ISU Campus Dining Services

ISU Bone Student Center

Lancaster's Restaurant/Event Planning*

Christopher & Company Jewelry

Fuad's Creative Hair Design (Michael Steen)

Silver Leaf Catering Company

Scout and Pixel Photography (Liz Guzaldo and Mandy Jo Huber)*

Bloomington/Normal Marriott (Mallori Browning)

The Copy Shop

KC's DJ Service*

Beyond the Well Photography

Photography by Howard's End*

Country Inn & Suites (Cristo Ortiz-Palafox)

IWU Evelyn Chapel

Destihl Restaurant & Brew Works

Jack Lewis Jewelers (John Carter)

Timothy Kent Gallery & Framing*

Maggie Steele Custom Invitations & Stationery

Knight Light Photography (Kimberly Knight)

* denotes LGBT-owned business

Watch for the complete guide in our May issue of the Rainbow Connection and at select retail outlets in the Twin Cities!

Calendar

- **Monday, April 7**—Equality Illinois is sponsoring a **Central Illinois Community Meeting** from 3-6 p.m. at the **Unitarian Universalist Church**, located at **1613 East Emerson** in **Bloomington**.
- **Monday, April 14**—the **Bloomington-Normal PFLAG** chapter meets at 5:30 p.m. on the **2nd Monday** of each month at the **Unitarian-Universalist Church**, located at **1613 East Emerson** in **Bloomington**.
- **Saturday, March 29**— **Open House** at the **ISU LGBT/Queer Studies and Services Institute**, located at **205 S. Main Street** from **10 a.m. to noon**.
- **Saturday, March 29**—the **16th annual ISU Pride Charity Drag Show**, **7 p.m.** at **Braden Auditorium**. Tickets available at the **Braden Box Office**.

Equality Illinois Community Meeting: Get Involved!

Equality Illinois is sponsoring a central Illinois "community meeting" from 3 to 6 p.m. on Monday, April 7 at the Unitarian Universalist Church of Bloomington-Normal, 1613 E. Emerson St. in Bloomington.

The meeting is to bring together faith, business, and community leaders in the central Illinois region to discuss how to collaborate on issues that are important to us all, protect legislative gains, and determine our next strategic goals; the intersection between societal issues and all of our roles in the community; and ways to build our movement for the long-run.



Healing Touch Bloomington

Energy Therapy reduces pain, supports healing from surgery or chemo, promotes relaxation.

For information, contact
**Chris Kaufman, R.N., Certified
Healing Touch Practitioner**
305 E. Front St., Bloomington
(309) 826-5546
Wellsprings1@gmail.com



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