

**Holiday event raises funds**

CHARLOTTE — The 4th Annual Evening of Hope & Inspiration fundraising concert held on Nov. 23 raised \$7,500 to benefit the Jeanne White-Ginder Food Pantry at Different Roads Home, 15905 Brookway Dr., Suite 4203.



Pictured left to right: singer/songwriter Christy Sutherland, Different Roads Home President/Founder Dale J. Pierce, Jason Crabb, Different Roads Home Treasurer Edward Harrell, Jeanne White-Ginder.

Photo Credit: June Wessinger/BlueSun Photography

The funds will enable the organization to assist up to 300 individuals in need.

Additionally, awards were given to three advocates for their service to the community. They were Rodney Tucker, executive director of Time Out Youth; Shane Windmeyer, executive director and founder of Campus Pride; and Tommy Feldman, publisher of *Charlotte Pocket Rocket*.  
info: differentroadshome.org.

—L.M.

**TOY seeks interns**

CHARLOTTE — Time Out Youth has announced that it is seeking interns who wish to obtain experience working with young people. Volunteers help represent the organization during drop-in hours from 3-6:30 p.m. They answer phone, provide tours and present a friendly face to visitors. Interns are also asked to staff the lobby area at least two times per month.

To volunteer, email Sarah Alwran at [salwran@timeoutyouth.org](mailto:salwran@timeoutyouth.org).

Additionally, Time Out Youth has expanded its youth services by providing quiet space in

its Career Center on Mondays from 3-6:30 p.m. Youth can use this time to look for jobs, work on school projects and assignments or attend counseling sessions. No video games, television or group room activities will be available during this time.

For more information, email O'Neale Atkinson, MSW, at [oatkinson@timeoutyouth.org](mailto:oatkinson@timeoutyouth.org).

For more information on Time Out Youth, see page 4 for additional detail about its new facility.

info: [timeoutyouth.org](http://timeoutyouth.org).

—L.M.

see News Notes on 9

**National / Global News**

**Teenage British Olympic diver comes out**



Diver Tom Daley at the 2012 London Olympic and Paralympic Games.

Photo Credit: Jim Thurston, via Flickr. Licensed CC.

LONDON — British Olympic diver Tom Daley came out about his relationship with a man on Dec. 2.

Daley, 19, shared the news of his relationship via a YouTube video. In it, Daley said he met his partner in the spring.

"Come spring this year, my life changed massively when I met someone and they made me feel so happy, so safe and everything just feels great — and well that someone is a guy," Daley said. "And, it did take me by surprise a little bit. It was always in the back of my head that something like that could happen, but it wasn't until the spring of this year that it clicked. It felt right. My whole world just changed right there and then."

Daley did not use the label "gay" or "bisexual" to describe himself or his relationship, though he said he was still interested in women.

"I still fancy girls, but I'm dating a guy and I couldn't be happier. It just really does feel right," Daley said.

Despite eschewing labels both mainstream and LGBT media alike began using "gay" or "bisexual" to describe Daley.

Daley won two gold medals for England at the 2010 Commonwealth Games. He's also a bronze Olympic medalist, which he won competing for Great Britain at the 2012 Summer Olympic Games in London.

—M.C.

**QUICK HITS**

Students at Virginia Commonwealth University are taking a unique approach to awareness and education. The group created 1,000 coffee sleeves and distributed them to local coffee shops in Richmond. The sleeves depict members of the local LGBT community and have check boxes with various identities, along with the label, "Human." Each sleeve also contained a quote.  
more: [bit.ly/1bdmr6C](http://bit.ly/1bdmr6C)

Two legislators in Virginia have introduced a bill that would repeal the state's constitutional ban on same-sex marriage. Observers say the repeal is unlikely to pass Virginia's legislature, where Republicans control the House and where Republicans and Democrats have an even split in the Senate.  
more: [bit.ly/186cXQ6](http://bit.ly/186cXQ6)

A Colorado school board member who said transgender students should be "castrated" before being allowed to use restrooms match-

ing their gender identity is standing by and defending her remarks.  
more: [bit.ly/1AwuM9](http://bit.ly/1AwuM9)

A federal court has ordered U.S. immigration officials to review a decision they made not to grant asylum to a gay Russian man. The man says he was attacked for his sexual orientation in 2002 and 2003 and fears returning to his native nation, where recent anti-gay legislation has encouraged more violence against LGBT people.  
more: [bit.ly/1dLv5Bg](http://bit.ly/1dLv5Bg)

A man in Cameroon, a nation on the Atlantic coast of Africa, has been sentenced to nine years in prison for breaking that nation's laws against homosexuality. The 35-year-old man had been accused of molesting a 14-year-old boy, but court proceedings later uncovered the youth was actually 19 years old and that the relationship was consensual.  
more: [bit.ly/18VVaru](http://bit.ly/18VVaru)

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