

News Notes

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Triad

Foundation to receive holiday donations

GREENSBORO — Fred and Dot Wagoner Christmas Trees, 2609 Battleground Ave., is helping Triad residents get all decked out for the holidays while benefiting The Guilford Green Foundation.

Trees are cut weekly. Also, select from wreaths made daily onsite from Frazer fir, magnolia, boxwood and Leyland cypress. Additionally, buyers can choose from new designer bows, centerpiece arrangements, ivy topiaries and more.

A \$5 donation will be given to Guilford Green with every \$50 purchase. The coupon reprinted here must be provided at the time of purchase.

For more information, call 336-288-4536.
info: ggnc.org.

— L.M.

Study seeks family participants

GREENSBORO — Roger Mills-Koonce, an associate professor at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro in the Human Development and Family Studies department, is seeking participants in a study on LGBT family formation.

Interviews will take place in the spring of 2014, with possible home visits.

Children must be under the age of 11.

The query's home visit includes completion of questionnaires, interviews with parents only, followed by observation of parents and children interacting through play.

Interested parties should email r_millsk@uncg.edu.

— L.M.

Triangle

Post-DOMA workshop slated

DURHAM — Life After DOMA, What You Should Know and Why You Should Care will be presented on Dec. 11, 7:30 p.m., at Imani MCC, 3602-C View St.

The first presentation on Nov. 6 resulted in a standing room only audience at the LGBT Center of Raleigh, 411 Hillsborough St.

Angela Hass, J.D., Carla Daniel, E.A., and Lorraine Johnson, CFA, CFP® will serve as the presenters.

Hass is an attorney, certified mediator and senior partner with Haas & Associates, P.A. Daniel is a principal of Blackman & Sloop, CPAs, P.A. Johnson is an accredited domestic partner advisor and president of Triangle Financial Advisors, LLC.

Some issues and more to be addressed at the program include: What is DOMA and how has it changed? What are some of the ramifications for those who live in N.C.? How is Social Security affected?

The event is open to the community.

info/registration: 919-789-3098.

advisor@trianglefa.com.

— L.M.

Kickball team to host holiday party

RALEIGH — The Stonewall Kickball - Raleigh will host a season wrap and holiday party on Dec. 14, 6 p.m., at Solas, 419 Glenwood Ave.

Proceeds will benefit the LGBT Center of Raleigh, 411 Hillsborough St.

Hors d'oeuvres and desserts from Bida

Manda, 222 S. Blount St., and Bia Restaurant, 419 Glenwood Ave., will be served, along with complimentary champagne punch.

The Team Miss Congeniality Award will be announced at 9 p.m. Online ticket purchases go toward totals for the award.

Tickets are \$5 online and are available through Dec. 15. Door price is \$10. Online purchases entitle the ticket holder to free admission to Legend's Nightclub, 330 W. Hargett St., after the holiday party.

info/tickets: stonewallkickballraleigh.leagueapps.com/events/25688-stonewall-kickball-raleigh-holiday-party-2013.

— L.M.

Western

Chorus sings for the season

ASHEVILLE — Cantaria, the Gay Men's Chorus of Asheville, will hold a holiday concert, International Holidays, on Dec. 19, 7:30 p.m., at The Cathedral of All Souls, 9 Swan St. in Biltmore Village.

Tickets are \$18/advance, \$20/at the door. VIP seating is \$25/single, \$45/couple. Advanced tickets can be purchased at Malaprops, 55 Haywood St., or online.

An open dress rehearsal will be held on Dec. 15, 4 p.m. at the church. A contribution of \$10 at the door is suggested.

info: cantariaasheville.org.

— L.M.

Regional

Museum holds fundraiser

WASHINGTON, D.C. — The National LGBT Museum is holding a holiday fundraising raffle worth \$5,000 toward a shopping spree at Mitchell Gold + Bob Williams.

Other prizes include a commissioned painting by Rose Siersdale (valued at \$2,000) and a yoga session with the city's Marshall Sanders (valued at \$150).

The museum, organized by Tim Gold and supported in part by his husband, North Carolina furniture-maker and philanthropist Mitchell Gold, will be the only one in the nation's capital dedicated to preserving and sharing the history of the LGBT communities. This effort hopes to raise \$15,000 toward funding the space's creation.

The drawing takes place on Dec. 12.

Raffle tickets are available online. Cost is \$50/1; \$75/2; and \$100/4.

info/tickets: nationallgbtmuseum.org. rafflecreator.com/pages/662/holiday-party-affle.

— L.M.

Christian conference approaches

RALEIGH — The Gay Christian Network (GCN) will hold its 10th Annual CGN Conference, "Live It Out," in Chicago, Ill., from Jan. 9-12, 2014.

The theme this year is inspired by 1 John 3:18 that says: "Dear children, let us not love with words or speech but with actions and in truth." It reminds one that living out faith means living out God's love in all that is done, be it loving neighbors, praying for enemies or following Jesus' example.

Practicing this in theory may be easy, but doing so requires that one practice what one preaches.

There will also be a "weconnect" women's retreat prior to the start of the conference. It offers a unique conference experience to any female-identified attendee, with speakers, worship and an all-female praise band.

A full schedule of workshops and activities is available online, as well as speakers' descriptions.

Registration for the conference and retreat is available online at a cost of \$140 per person through Dec. 15, plus \$25 for the retreat.

Volunteers are being sought to assist in all areas of the event. Commemorative T-shirts can be purchased for \$15.

Host hotel is the Westin Chicago River North, 320 N. Dearborn St. Reservations are available online or by calling 888-627-8359. Rate are \$119 per night.

info: gcnconf.com.

— L.M.

Org releases educational resources

JAMAICA PLAIN, Mass. — Keshet, the U.S. organization working for full inclusion of LGBT Jews in Jewish life, has launched 30 new additions to their LGBT Jewish Educational Resources Collection.

This compilation includes materials suitable for a broad range of age groups, from elementary through college and into adulthood.

The free downloads include: 22 lesson plans penned by Jewish educators from across the U.S.; eight lesson plans written by Orthodox Rabbi Steve Greenberg; and guidelines for introducing LGBT content into the Jewish classrooms.

Rebecca Weiner serves as a curator of Keshet's educational resources.

Rabbi Greenberg authored "Wrestling with God and Men," as well as served as a producer with Sandi Dubowski for "Wrestling Before G-d," a documentary featuring Orthodox LGBT Jews from across the world.

Areas of concentration include a plethora of materials and content. Students can gain insight when they study about what it means to be an ally, with activities involving Talmudic teachings about communal responsibility. Rabbi Greenberg explores differences with seventh through 12th graders. Pre-K through first graders begin an exploration and affirmation into different family structures. Students also look at overcoming hate speech and how language can offend others. Rabbi Greenberg also takes a look at an exploration of Sodom with an adult audience.

Online collections surround topics like Torah Queeries, the Marriage Project and Trans Texts.

To learn more about these resources and to contribute comments about them, email National Program Director Catherine Bell at catherine@keshetonline.org. Keshet is also accepting additional lessons for the collection.

In other news, two articles have been released focusing on adults and children.

"For Interfaith Gay Couples, Another Wedding Obstacle," by Samuel Freedman of The New York Times, looks at how rabbis are becoming more willing to perform same-sex wedding with interfaith couples. Read it online at nytimes.com/2013/11/02/us/for-interfaith-gay-couples-another-wedding-obstacle.html?_r=0.

B.J. Epstein with PinkNews wrote "The Best LGBT Picture Books for Children." Read the online feature at pinknews.co.uk/2013/10/29/feature-the-best-lgbt-picture-books-for-children/. This can be purchased online through Keshet.

Welcoming and affirming Jewish congregations in the Carolinas include, but are not limited to: Asheville, Congregation Beth Ha Tephilia, bethhatephilia.org, Congregation Beth Israel, bethisraelinc.org; Charlotte, Havurat Tikvah, havurattikvah.org; Temple Beth El, bethel.com; and Chapel Hill, Kehillah Synagogue, kehillahsynagogue.org.

info: keshetonline.org.

— L.M.

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