

Ray is an avid gay rights activist, as well as takes a stand on other social and political causes.

Tickets are \$12 advance/\$15 at the door. For tickets and more information, visit catscradle.com.

Fall concert slated

DURHAM — "Turn Your Radio On," the fall concert from Common Woman Chorus, will be held on Nov. 20 at 8 p.m. at Eno River Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 4908 Garrett Rd.

For more information, visit commonwomanchorus.net.

Share your thoughts

RALEIGH — The LGBT Center of Raleigh needs your help. They are hosting a survey to determine the needs assessment for women for the Center and of the community.

Participants who complete the anonymous survey, but provide their contact information will be entered into a drawing to win an \$80 Melting Pot gift card or an LGBT Center T-Shirt.

To join in, visit surveymonkey.com/s/DDNVG89.

Western

Spooft offensive

ASHEVILLE — A postcard parody using the ABC hit "Modern Family" as a basis was sent out from Biltmore Baptist Church, 35 Clayton Rd.

The church's website says that their "Modern Family" program "beating the cycle of craziness," which started on Aug. 22 and extends to Sept. 19 at 9 a.m. and 11 a.m. and also at 6 p.m., explores the challenges and

demands on today's family.

Now it seems that readers and bloggers from across the nation are voicing their disdain over the use of the gay-inclusive sitcom as a basis for the church's marketing strategy.

Mike, a reader of Queerty.com, says that he has sent copies of the card he received to the legal department at ABC in hopes that they might do something to thwart this misuse.

According to WLOS-TV in Asheville, the pastor says "his church is not anti-gay but his church believes homosexuality is a sin."

To see the site listing and the online video, visit biltmorebaptist.org/modernfamily/ and biltmorebaptist.org/modern-family-splash-page-template/.

Regional

Retreat to the mountains

MAGGIE VALLEY — A spiritual retreat for LGBT Christians, The Cross & The Rainbow, will be held Oct. 8-10 at Living Waters Reflection Center, 103 Living Waters Ln.

This annual event provides a warm and welcoming atmosphere in which to make friends; share stories and strengthen one's relationship with God. It is sponsored by The Diocesan Ministry for Gay and Lesbian Catholics which is a initiative for the Diocese of Charlotte.

Group sessions, meals, a mountain hike, a Catholic Mass and quiet reflection time is available for everyone.

The ministry's mission is to facilitate the pastoral care of gay and lesbian people and provide them welcome within the Christian community of its Diocese.

Cost is \$95 for the weekend and includes a semi-private room, six meals and retreat sessions.

To reserve space or for more information, write David Ferguson, P.O. Box 12451, Charlotte, NC 28220, call 704-921-5711 or email devinsleigh@aol.com (with "retreat" in the subject line).

Advocacy

ENC looking for volunteers

STATEWIDE — Equality NC is seeking volunteers to help staff their tables at fall Pride celebrations across the state. Participants will also be asked to gather workplace non-discrimination petition signatures, hand out information and stickers and just generally be a smiling face for festival-goers.

The events are: NC PrideFest, Blue Ridge Pride, Pride Charlotte and Catawba Valley Pride.

To sign up or for more information, visit equalitync.org/news/volunteer.

Champions being sought

RALEIGH — Equality NC Foundation (ENCF) is seeking nominations for its first-ever Equality Champion Awards to be presented to individuals from across the state who are making important contributions to the LGBT equality movement in North Carolina.

Along with the recipient of Equality NC Foundation's 2010 Legislative Leadership Award, ENCF 2010 Equality Champions will be honored at the 2010 Equality Gala to be held the evening of Nov. 13, at the Empire Room in downtown Greensboro. They will be chosen from the following regions: Western; Charlotte; Triad; Triangle; and Eastern.

Nominations are being accepted through Sept. 15 and should be sent to Kay Flaminio at kay@equalitync.org with the following information: nominator's name, email address, and phone number; nominee's name, email address, and phone number; and nominee's region (Western, Charlotte, Triad, Triangle or Eastern).

Tell ENCF in a short essay about the nominee in 250 words or less.

For more information, visit equalitync.org.

Time to volunteer

GREENVILLE — The Pitt County AIDS Service Organization (PICASO) is looking for volunteers to work at Eastern Carolina University (ECU) football games at their concession stand. PICASO will make a percentage of all the sales.

Volunteers are needed for an hour-and-a-half before the game, though the entire game. PICASO will provide entry to the stadium. If the booth is fully staffed, participants will generally get a little time to watch the last quarter of the game.

Dates and times are: Sept. 11, 1 p.m. (ECU vs. University of Memphis); Oct. 16, 12 p.m. (ECU vs. North Carolina State University); Oct. 23, 1 p.m. (ECU vs. Marshall University); Nov. 6, 1 p.m. (ECU vs. Navy); and Nov. 26, 2 p.m. (ECU vs. Southern Methodist University).

To jump on board, to make a contribution or for more information, email Aaron Lucier at luciera@ecu.edu (put "football" in the subject line) or visit picaso.org.

info: Announce your community event in *Carolinas News Notes*.
email: editor@goqnotes.com.

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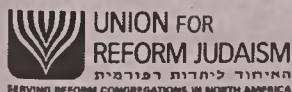
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