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Father's Day weekend

THE MYSTIC KREWE OF THE

LORDS OF LEATHER

Beer Bust

Saturday June 14th

9PM until Midnight

and will host their annual

"Who's Your Daddy"

Contest @ 10PM

Onstage Fri & Sat night....

Damien Stone & Ethan Ayers

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the "official" dish ...from 10

housing supportive services were evaluated. The Task Force was cited by both its consumers and funders for insisting that quality is “the #1 priority” and that the agency is “resourceful, resilient and responsive.”

The NO/AIDS Task Force has a 30-plus year history in New Orleans beginning in 1983. The Agency began as a hotline and has grown to more than 30 programs strong. In addition to primary medical care and HIV prevention programs, the Task Force now includes home delivered meals, a food pantry, housing supports, mental health services and peer support programs. More than 2,500 individuals received assistance from a case manager in 2013. In November 2013, the NO/AIDS Task Force was designated as a Federally Qualified Heath Center. The center, scheduled to open in August, will be called CrescentCare.

This accreditation decision represents the highest level of accreditation that can be awarded to an organization and shows the organization’s substantial conformance to the CARF standards. An organization receiving a Three-Year Accreditation has put itself through a rigorous peer review process. It has demonstrated to a team of surveyors during an on-site visit its commitment to offering programs and services that are measurable, accountable, and of the highest quality.

CARF is an independent, nonprofit accrediting body whose mission is to promote the quality, value, and optimal outcomes of services through a consultative accreditation process that centers on enhancing the lives of the persons served. Founded in 1966 as the Commission on Accreditation of Rehabilitation Facilities, and now known as CARF International, the accrediting body establishes consumer-focused standards to help organizations measure and improve the quality of their programs and services. For more information about the accreditation process, please visit the CARF website at www.carf.org.

Houston City Council Passes Equal Rights Ordinance Protecting all Houstonians

The Houston City Council passed the Equal Rights ordinance by a vote of 11-6. The ordinance, which was introduced by Mayor Annise Parker last month and amended by Councilmember Davis to extend critical protections to transgender people that ensure they will be afforded the respectful, safe access to places of public accommodation to which they and all people are entitled, will protect all Houstonians from discrimination in the workplace, housing, and public accommodations. Workers in both the public and private sectors will be protected from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity, as well as on the basis of sex, race, color, ethnicity, national origin, age, familial status, marital status, military status, religion, disability, genetic information, and pregnancy.

Human Rights Campaign (HRC) National Field Director Marty Rouse issued the following statement:

“We thank the members of the Houston City Council for bringing fairness and equality to the nation’s fourth largest city. Under Mayor Parker’s leadership, this commonsense legislation will make life a little easier and fairer for thousands of Houstonians. It is far past time to protect the citizens of Houston from all forms of discrimination, including discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity.

“As the largest city in Texas, Houston is an epicenter for business and culture. Cities thrive when all citizens feel welcome and part of the cultural fabric. Today, members of the city council joined Mayor Parker in telling every Houstonian that they are a valued part of the city’s future. We thank Mayor Parker and Councilmembers Cohen, Laster, Gonzalez and Davis for their leadership and commitment on this ordinance.”

Mayor Annise Parker said, “The Human Rights Campaign was a strong political ally as we worked to pass the Non-Discrimination Ordinance. With their help we were able to craft an ordinance that passed not only with the majority support of City Council but also the

Lords of Leather

WHO'S YOUR DADDY?

1st Place:

\$100

CASH PRIZE

50/50 Raffle

JELLO SHOTS

SATURDAY

JUNE 14, 2014

9:00 pm

Contest at 10:00 pm

Platinum Sponsor:





Contest and Beer Bust

backing of the Houston business community and many others.”

HRC is proud to have played a role in the successful passage of the Equal Rights Ordinance. HRC mobilized its members and supporters in Houston to contact their leaders and express their support of the ordinance. Opponents of equality are expected to attempt to put this ordinance on the ballot. HRC will continue to work alongside Mayor Parker and other city leaders as well as Equality Texas, ACLU-Texas, Houston GLBT Political Caucus, Log Cabin Republicans, Out & Equal, Texas Freedom Network and Texans Together to protect this ordinance and ensure it is implemented as soon as possible.

United States Postal Service Issues Forever Stamp Honoring Harvey Milk

The United States Postal Service (USPS) officially issued a postage stamp in honor of the late LGBT rights leader Harvey Milk. At a first-day-of-issue dedication ceremony, representatives from the White House, USPS and the Harvey Milk Foundation honored the visionary leader who became one of the first openly gay elected officials in the United States, and an icon of the LGBT civil rights movement. Milk’s call to live openly has inspired millions of people around the globe and is widely credited as the driver of LGBT equality efforts in the United States. Nine out of ten Americans now say they know someone who is LGBT.

Human Rights Campaign President, Chad Griffin issued the following statement celebrating the release of the stamp:

“Harvey Milk today joins the pantheon of American greats memorialized on a United States postage stamp. It’s a fitting tribute for a brave man who contributed immeasurably to strengthening our democracy. His unparalleled leadership inspired a movement and has had a profound effect on millions of LGBT people the world over.”

Prices soar in May 17-18 Estates Auction at \$2.3 Million at New Orleans Auction Galleries

On May 17-18 New Orleans Auction Galleries realized \$2.3 million in a successful two-day estates auction featuring over 1,100 lots of antique to contemporary fine and decorative art, furniture, silver, jewelry, lighting, Asian arts and more. The sale featured property from several important estates, including New Orleans socialite Mickey Easterling.

Saturday began with a bidding frenzy over a collection of 18th and 19th century Chinese export porcelain that was previously on loan to the New Orleans Museum of Art from the estate of Lillian Pulitzer Smith of New Orleans. Among the top lots was a pair of Chinese export armorial ice cream/fruit coolers with mandarin decoration that soared

to \$22,140 from an estimate of \$1,200 to \$1,800 and an 18th century Famille Rose soup tureen and underplate that sold for \$3,936. Also from the estate of Lillian Pulitzer Smith was a fine 266-piece cased French first standard silver flatware set by Henri Soufflot, Paris that reached \$19,680 over an \$8,000 to \$12,000 estimate.

An American Gothic rosewood and marble-top center table garnered tremendous interest from several serious bidders, ultimately selling to a private collector in Georgia for \$93,480 against an estimate of \$30,000 to \$50,000. The center table was likely executed by the cabinet shop of Alexander Roux and modeled after a dramatic design by New York architect Alexander Jackson Davis. Descended in the Clarke family of Alabama, the table retains its original finish and hexagonal white marble top.

The sale also featured an important selection of works from the estate of Korean artist Wook-Kyung Choi. The works by Choi offered in this sale spanned from the late 1960s to early 1980s and represented a range of mediums, including paintings on canvas, wood and paper to sketches in charcoal and graphite. The ten pieces offered collectively realized \$117,218 and attracted bidders from around the world on the Internet, phones and in the room. -

An important collection of Southern regional art from the estate of Patricia O'Brien Strigel and Mogens Holmer Strigel of Houston, Texas attracted significant local interest. The collection included works by Helen Maria Turner, Clarence Millet, Andres Molinary and Robert Rucker. A relatively small but charming oil on canvas by Helen Maria Turner titled “In the Vegetable Garden” achieved \$29,520.

Other sale highlights included “Promenade au Bois de Boulogne,” an oil on canvas painting by Jean Dufy, that sold for \$54,120, several works by George Rodrigue that collectively achieved \$137,145, an 18th century Regence kingwood and marble-top commode that realized \$24,600 and a bronze sculpture by Glenna Goodacre titled “The Bather” that reached \$29,520.

New Orleans Auction Galleries will

[continued on 14]





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Sat, June 7th

Garage Sale
10:00 am

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2:00 pm

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Diva's R Us
10:00 pm

\$14
Southern Decadence FUND

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Sun, June 15th
2pm-5pm



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a community within communities

by The Rev. Bill Terry, Rector St. Anna's Episcopal Church, New Orleans
Email: fr.bill@stannanola.org

PRIDE and Father's Day

Tëvo diena, Ziua Tatălui, Canton Ticino, Festa del Papà, Dia do Pai, Día del Padre by any other name Father's Day. Albanian, Romani, Swiss, Italy, Portugal, Spain or American the day is set aside to honor paternal bonds.

This holiday is said to have started in Spokane Washington just after the turn of the 20th century. It was not until 1972 that it was officially recognized by Congress. Why the delay you ask? It was delayed on several occasions and by several administrations for fear of "commercialization." IMAGINE THAT! NO NOT IN AMERICA.

Commercialization aside (Have you bought your card yet?) Father's Day IS a day worth celebrating. In the same way that we might understand the divine feminine in Mother's Day we also might understand the divine masculine in Father's Day. Certainly Jesus understood a Father figure as he often spoke of "The Father" and his divine oneness with "The Father." One of the earliest gleanings of faith is The Lord's Prayer also known as "The Our Father." Many or most of these biblical references have, with profound regret, resulted in yet another perversion of scripture and loving relationship. That perversion is found in the Patriarchy of the faith. Starting very early on in Christianity the maleness of Christ and The Father were strongly asserted as something of profound spiritual necessity. One

can go on about why that is but the fact is that until recently most major religions asserted Patriarchy and misogynistic theologies. By way of apologetics however I do want to note that until recently there were no female Rabbi, currently I am unaware of a female Imam, female Buddhist priest/monk, or female Mormon pastor. Maleness is not the exclusive purview of Christianity. Perhaps we are just a bit more showy about it as many priests drip with lace and lamé vestments. Priests have for centuries been cross dressing! All kidding aside paternal love and chastity are lost in the mix and that is very very sad indeed.

Two men in our little church are raising a fine young son. They are securely who they are, yes gay, but none the less male. They are showing all of the compassion and love that any human can show to another human. They are fiercely protective of their little boy, they are also good parents and try to "fetch him up right." Like any good parent they set boundaries on their son, they nurture him and correct him. The masculinity factor is there for sure yet they are gentle in spirit and embracing in love. I am a father to my son. I see him about every two or three weeks and when we meet I embrace him and kiss him and it feels good. Yes, I'm a straight guy and I can tell you I love my son without qualification. He has tried me yes, but none the less I love him dearly and I want to show him that affection. I want to protect him just as my friends in church want to protect their son. Male affection is deep moving and profound. It is not less than its counterpart with women. It may express itself differently or maybe not but it remains true and available and ever present.

We get bound up in gender roles as we have discussed before, we project those roles on to our faith, religion, and culture. I am the first to clearly say there are differences in how we project our care and loving natures - profound differences in gender response between straight, gay, male and female. But none is greater than the other. Only the expression or apparent expression differs. At the core of it all is the need to love and be loved. If we dwell excessively on our gender roles it becomes a great burden and one that will ultimately limit our own ability to

love freely and without restraint, to worship freely and without restraint, to walk hand in hand freely without restraint. There is an old book that talks about how each gender experiences life. It is called *Men are from Mars, Women are from Venus*. This book is said to have been the most popular non-fiction book of the 1990s. So, if Men are from Mars, and Women are from Venus I guess LGBT community are from Earth, smack dab in the middle, pulled by the gravitational force of both!

Father's Day, it is worth celebrating and it is worth enjoying. Cannot one man be a Father to another man or woman? I know a man who has been a father to many young men coming out and not for sexual reasons but because that is who he is, a father to many. He lives across the street from St. Anna's and attends church here. He is a father to many, both men and women. Why? Because he wants very deeply what is right and just and good for them (his spiritual children) and he acts upon it. The joy in being him is that he gets both Mother's Day Cards and Father's Day Cards, both well earned, both emblematic of who he is.

We have become so gender sensitive in many churches that we bend over backwards to correct misogyny by altering scripture to seek a gender neutral language. It comes under the heading of inclusiveness. In doing so, I believe, we miss the historicity of Jesus AND the point of his prayers being relationship and certain typologies that God represented for the young Rabbi. I am equally certain that the typology did not include God's sexual organs. Like the man across the street, like the Gay couple raising a son, even like me I suppose Jesus prayed to a fully integrated being that he called Father not out of maleness but out of intimacy. "Abba" was the word he used often enough and it spoke of endearment, intimacy, and importantly for the people of his age – accessibility. So when we talk in terms of "The Father" consider it an endearment meant to illustrate accessibility, not disenfranchisement or sexual equipment.

I know that in much of the Gay community some older men have helped a younger man to come out and to feel safe in doing so. Not with the expectation of sexual enterprise but with the sole desire to be a companion along the road, to be a present help in danger, to be a rock and stronghold to rely upon in times of confusion, distress, and fear. Those words and actions are all descriptions used in scripture to describe the work of God.

If this is true, then, there is a God-light in those that take up the honor, duty, and sacrifice of fatherhood. Fatherhood need not be biological. It can certainly be relational, "Abba Father." So, for just a moment recall, if you will, who was your Abba? When in your life did a man give you the freedom and purpose to be who you are? I know that just as with mothers there are bad fathers...but as we have seen, that is not who Jesus or perhaps we need dwell upon, but rather acknowledge who is our true "Abba." If they are still in your life, thank them dearly for being what we all need – a constant light in darkness a source of comfort and joy. HAPPY ABBA'S DAY (and I don't mean the band)!

the "official" dish ...from 12

hold its next estates auction on July 26-27, 2014. To view the full sales results from the May 17-18 auction or learn about consigning, visit NewOrleansAuction.com.

New Orleans Auction Galleries is situated in a former 19th century cotton exchange building in the heart of the city's historic Arts District. With over twenty years of experience, it is one of the premier auction houses in the world and has continually set record prices for items offered at their sales. With its well-respected, professional and knowledgeable specialists, New Orleans Auction Galleries places a strong emphasis on integrity and customer service. Offering more than six fully catalogued auctions a year, each sale features items from fine estates, private collections, and institutions.



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