BAY WINDOWS

May 28 - June 10, 2026
50 cents at newsstands Vol. 40, No 49

Serving Our LGBTQ+ Communities For Over 40 Years

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BOSTON PRIDE FOR THE PEOPLE

Festival & Parade

IS EARLIER THAN USUAL THIS YEAR

Saturday, June 6
11 AM – 8 PM

SEE FULL LISTING BELOW

3 New Memoirs of Queer Parenthood and Beyond

by Dana Rudolph | drudolph@mombian.com
contributing writer

Three new memoirs each offer different looks at queer parenthood while giving us nuanced explorations of selves, society, family, and what we pass on to the next generation. Add them to your summer reading list.

"Gay Mormon Dad," by Chad Anderson, illustrated by Remy Burke (Graphic Mundi) is a graphic memoir that chronicles his journey from a childhood of physical and emotional abuse and strict religious practice to coming out at 32 years old and living as a proud gay dad. The narrative moves back and forth between his childhood, when he learned what is expected of a "good" Mormon, to his later life after coming out, when he is making his way

see **MOMBIAN,** *page 8*

Three Lives, Lasting Impact

The LGBTQ+ community remembers a trailblazing jurist, a sports pioneer, and a political force

Photo via deefuneralhome.com.

Barbara A. Lenk

Barbara A. Lenk, the first openly gay justice to serve on the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court, has died, the state's highest court said. She was 75. Lenk died May 19, surrounded by her family; the court's statement did not give a cause of death.

Lenk served 27 years on the bench. Republican Governor Bill Weld ap-

see **LENK,** *page 11*

AP photo by Mary Schwalm.

Jason Collins

Jason Collins, the first openly gay active player in NBA history, who went on to become a pioneer for inclusion and an ambassador for the league, has died after an eight-month battle with glioblastoma, his family announced through the NBA. He was 47.

Collins spent 13 seasons in the league across six franchises, including

see **COLLINS,** *page 11*

Barney Frank memorial set for Faneuil Hall on June 8

AP Photo by Pablo Martinez Monsivais.

Family and friends will gather to celebrate the life of former Congressman Barney Frank at 10 a.m. on Monday, June 8, at Faneuil Hall in Boston. Frank's longtime friend Jim Segel confirmed the plans Thursday.

The setting carries its own history.

see **FRANK,** *page 11*

The Official Guide to NEW ENGLAND LGBTQ+ pride

PART 1

THIS ISSUE OF BAY WINDOWS HAS THE MOST COMPREHENSIVE LISTINGS FOR NEW ENGLAND'S LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL & TRANSGENDER PRIDE CELEBRATIONS

SEE ALL OF THE LISTINGS ON BAYWINDOWS.COM

BOSTON

FRIDAY MAY 29

CITY CINDERELLA: A BRIDGERTON BALL
The Huntington | Maso Studio, Huntington Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston
A royal ball meets fierce drag show with Boston drag icons Chanel Thee Angel, Candace Persuasian, and Destiny. Audience members compete for Diamond of the Season, with dancing and photo ops after. 7:30 p.m. Tickets from $27.50.
huntingtontheatre.org/whats-on/city-cinderella/

MONDAY JUNE 1

LGBTQIA2S+ PRIDE KICKOFF AND FLAG RAISING
Time TBD | City of Boston | City Hall Plaza, Boston
Municipal Pride Month flag raising and kickoff event.
boston.gov

WEDNESDAY JUNE 3

PRIDE EUCHARIST
Trinity Church | 206 Clarendon St., Boston
A service of Holy Eucharist in the Sanctuary opening Trinity's Pride celebration, with readings, prayers, and hymns chosen to highlight the diversity and goodness of all God's creation. A festive gathering hosted by the OUT@Trinity ministry follows. 6–7 p.m.
trinitychurchboston.org/event/pride-eucharist/

THURSDAY–SATURDAY JUNE 4–6

BROAD STROKES WITH CAT COHEN
The Huntington | Calderwood Pavilion, 527 Tremont St., Boston
Comedian Cat Cohen brings her most personal show — directed by Alex Timbers and one of the best-reviewed, highest-selling shows at the 2025 Edinburgh Fringe — to Boston ahead of its Off-Broadway run this summer. Tickets from $35.
huntingtontheatre.org/whats-on/broad-strokes-with-cat-cohen/

THURSDAY JUNE 4

GLEE TRIVIA
The Huntington with Trident Booksellers & Café | Maso Studio, Huntington Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave., Boston
Trident Booksellers & Café's popular Glee Trivia, revamped for Pride month — seven rounds of show-stopping trivia for self-proclaimed theater kids and Glee fans. 7 p.m. Tickets from $16.50.
huntingtontheatre.org/whats-on/glee-trivia/

FRIDAY JUNE 5

MFA FIRST FRIDAYS: PRIDE
6–9 PM | Museum of Fine Arts Boston | 465 Bar and Restaurant, MFA, 465 Huntington Ave., Boston
Pride-themed First Fridays evening with art making, Spotlight Talks, a drag performance by Coleslaw, and music by DJ Dayglow. 21+. Members free, nonmembers $27.
mfa.org | instagram.com/mfaboston | facebook.com/mfaboston

PRIDE NIGHT — BOSTON POPS FEATURING ALEX NEWELL
7:30 PM | Boston Symphony Orchestra / Boston Gay Men's Chorus | Symphony Hall, 301 Massachusetts Ave., Boston
Alex Newell joins the Boston Gay Men's Chorus for the Pops' third annual Pride Night celebration.
bso.org

BOSTON DYKE MARCH
6:30 PM | Boston Dyke March | Parkman Bandstand, Boston Common, Boston
Annual grassroots, non-commercial Dyke March. Mask required. ASL interpreted, wheelchair and stroller accessible.
bostondykemarch.com

LESBIANNIGHTLIFE ROOFTOP PRIDE PARTY
7–11 PM | LesbianNightLife | Rooftop @ Revere Hotel, 200 Stuart St., Boston
Boston's premier LGBTQ+ women's Pride rooftop party. Three DJs, silent disco, cocktails, and skyline views.
lesbiannightlife.com | instagram.com/lesbiannightlife

SATURDAY JUNE 6

RAINBOW REVOLUTIONARIES TOUR
Saturdays & Sundays in June | 10:45 AM | Freedom Trail Foundation | Departs Robert Gould Shaw and Massachusetts 54th Regiment Memorial, Boston Common
Boston's official Freedom Trail LGBTQ+ history tour, led by guides in 18th-century costume. Stops include the State House, Park Street Church, and George Middleton House, with stories of Elaine Noble, Charlotte Cushman, Baron von Steuben, and others. $17 adults, $15 seniors, $8 kids.
thefreedomtrail.org/tours/rainbow-revolutionaries

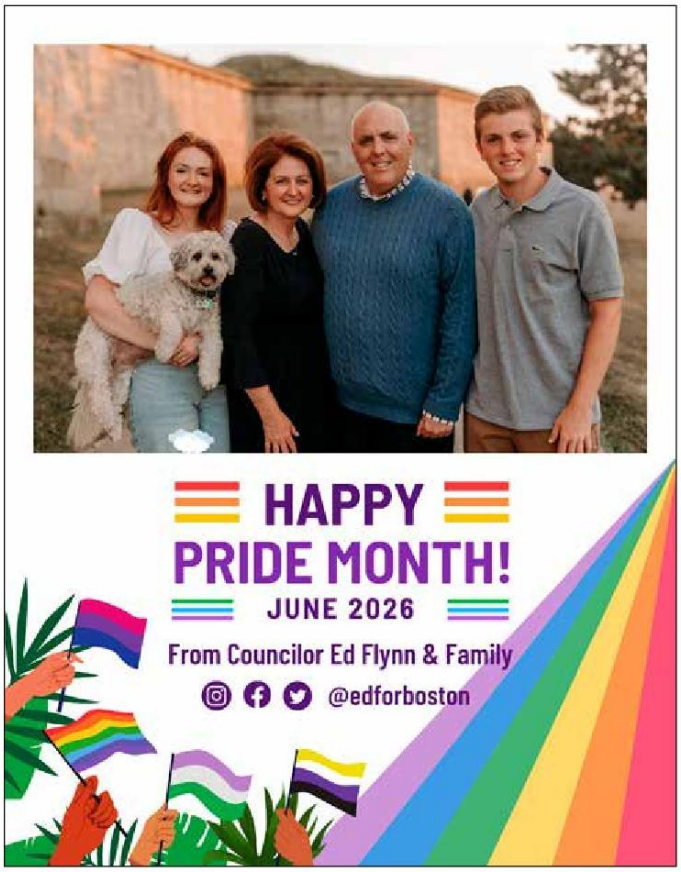
BOSTON PRIDE FOR THE PEOPLE — PARADE, FESTIVAL & BLOCK PARTY
11 AM–8 PM | Boston Pride for the People | Copley Square to Boston Common, Boston
New England's largest Pride event. Parade steps off at 11 AM from Copley Square through the South End and Back Bay to Boston Common. All-ages festival noon–6 PM. Block party 2–8 PM. Free to attend.
bostonprideforthepeople.org | info@bp4tp.org

RISE — BOSTON GAY MEN'S CHORUS PRIDE CONCERT
8 PM | Boston Gay Men's Chorus | Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston
High-energy Pride concert honoring resilience, resistance, and radical joy. Featuring music by Pink, Madonna, Bob Dylan, Cyndi Lauper, and Lady Gaga.
bgmc.org

ROAD OF RAINBOWS PRIDE 5K (6TH ANNUAL)
Time TBD | Boston Theater Company | Brewer Fountain, Boston Common, Boston
Inclusive LGBTQ+ 5K run/walk on Boston Common with post-race performances. Pay-what-you-can, including free. All genders welcome.
bostontheater.org/ror | assistant@bostontheater.org

CHANDLER STREET BLOCK PARTY
Boston Proud | Chandler Street near Berkeley Street, South End, Boston
One of the longest-running street parties of the South End's Pride season — an outdoor street dance from 2 to 7 p.m. that draws thousands of revelers, capping a day that begins with the morning's Boston Pride for the People Parade through the neighborhood. Chandler Street closes to traffic and no-parking tow zones go into effect along the block. Ticketed.
chandlerstreetblockparty.com

see **PRIDE LISTINGS,** *page 2*



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Pride Listings

Continued from page 1

SATURDAY JUNE 6

LESBIANNIGHTLIFE ESME BLOCK PARTY & PRIDE FEST

LesbianNightLife | New Location TBA, Boston

29th anniversary of the largest LGBTQ+ women, non-binary and trans block party in the country. Bigger and better than ever in a new location for 2026.

lesbiannightlife.com | instagram.com/lesbiannightlife

SUNDAY JUNE 7

RISE — BOSTON GAY MEN'S CHORUS PRIDE CONCERT

3 PM | Boston Gay Men's Chorus | Jordan Hall, New England Conservatory, 30 Gainsborough St., Boston

High-energy Pride concert honoring resilience, resistance, and radical joy. Featuring music by Pink, Madonna, Bob Dylan, Cyndi Lauper, and Lady Gaga.

bgmc.org

LESBIANNIGHTLIFE JP BLOCK PARTY

LesbianNightLife | Jamaica Plain, Boston

LGBTQ+ community celebration with live music, DJ, vendors, and family-friendly activities in JP.

lesbiannightlife.com | instagram.com/lesbiannightlife

NEW ENGLAND BEAR PRIDE BOSTON HARBOR CRUISE

2:30–6 PM | Mass Bears and Cubs / Boston Alliance of Gay Sports | M/V Freedom, Mass Bay Lines, 60 Rowes Wharf, Boston

Three-hour Pride kickoff cruise of Boston Harbor with DJ, complimentary buffet, cash bar, and door prizes. The annual cruise has become a beloved Pride Month tradition.

eventbrite.com (search New England Bear Pride 2026 Harbor Cruise) | facebook.com/MassBearsAndCubs

SUNDAY JUNE 14

RISE — BOSTON GAY MEN'S CHORUS PRIDE CONCERT

2 PM | Groton Hill Music Center, Groton, MA.

High-energy Pride concert honoring resilience, resistance, and radical joy. Featuring music by Pink, Madonna, Bob Dylan, Cyndi Lauper, and Lady Gaga.

bgmc.org

TUESDAY JUNE 16

PRIDE NIGHT AT FENWAY PARK — RED SOX VS. BLUE JAYS

7:10 PM | Boston Red Sox / Fenway Health | Fenway Park, 4 Jersey St., Boston

Annual LGBTQ+ Pride Night at Fenway.

mlb.com/redsox

SATURDAY JUNE 20

PRIDE SCULPT & FLOW (4TH ANNUAL)

Down Under School of Yoga with Lyndsay Allyn Cox | 1112 Boylston Street, Back Bay, Boston

A joyful, high-energy class blending movement, sweat, music, and celebration, led by Lyndsay Allyn Cox. 1:30–2:30 p.m. All levels welcome; proceeds support BAGLY (Boston Alliance of LGBTQ+ Youth).

downunderyoga.com/upcoming-events/pride-sculpt-flow-4th-annual

FRIDAY JUNE 26

IT'S RAINING QUEENS

Do-Kwa Productions | Regent Theatre, 7 Medford St, Arlington

Legendary vocalist Martha Wash and acclaimed comedian and actress Marsha Warfield co-headline a dual-headline show blending iconic music with razor-sharp comedy and cultural commentary. A 75–90 minute seated, theater-style production.

SPOTLIGHT: THE ELECTRIC CHAPEL

The Huntington | Maso Studio, Huntington Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave.,

Boston A drag night dedicated to Lady Gaga, hosted by local drag icons Lulu Levity and Silva and featuring RuPaul's Drag Race season 15 contestant Luxx Noir London alongside a roster of drag performers. 7:30 p.m. Tickets from $27.50.

huntingtontheatre.org/whats-on/spotlight-the-electric-chapel/

SATURDAY–SUNDAY JUNE 27–28

HONEY HONEY MOON MOON

The Huntington | Maso Studio, Huntington Theatre, 264 Huntington Ave.,

Boston Comedy band and married couple Couplet bring their award-winning Edinburgh Fringe hit to Boston — an hour-long musical comedy, directed by Chris Grace and Eric Michaud, about the queer Jewish wedding that almost didn't happen. Sat at 7:30 p.m., Sun at 2 p.m. Tickets from $40.

huntingtontheatre.org/whats-on/honey-honey-moon/

MASSACHUSETTS

THURSDAY–SUNDAY MAY 28–31

CAPE ANN PRIDE WEEKEND

Various times | Cape Ann Pride Coalition | Various venues, Gloucester, Rockport, Essex, Manchester-by-the-Sea

Multi-day celebration with flag raisings, live music, and community events across the Cape Ann region.

capeannpride.org

BELMONT PRIDE MARCH

12:45 PM | Belmont LGBTQ+ Alliance | Town Green adjacent to 404 Concord Ave., Belmont

Annual Pride march through Belmont Center.

belmontlgbtq.com

BRAINTREE PRIDE

10 AM | Braintree Pride | Watson Park Baseball Complex, Gordon Rd., Braintree

Annual community Pride celebration on the South Shore.

facebook.com/BraintreePride

WEDNESDAY JUNE 3

NANTUCKET PRIDE / WICKED QUEER FILM EVENT

Time TBD | Nantucket Gay Pride / Nantucket Dreamland | Nantucket Dreamland, Nantucket

Confirmed Pride-month programming; full Nantucket Pride parade/Jetties Beach date still needs confirmation.

nantucketdreamland.org

THURSDAY JUNE 4

PRIDE ON THE HILL: 9TH ANNUAL FLAG RAISING

Pilgrim Monument | 1 High Pole Hill Road, Provincetown

The 9th annual Pride flag raising on the grounds of the historic Pilgrim Monument, with music, dancing, and speakers — a cornerstone of Provincetown's Pride weekend. 7 p.m. Free.

ptown.org | ptowntourism.com | instagram.com/visitptown

FRIDAY–SUNDAY JUNE 5–7

PROVINCETOWN PRIDE (9TH ANNUAL)

Various times | Provincetown Business Guild / Provincetown Pride Center | Town Hall & Commercial Street, Provincetown

Three-day celebration including Pride Market, Pride Rally, "Sashay to Tea" parade down Commercial Street, Queer Comedy Showcase, Tea Dances at the Boatslip, and Feet Over Front Street 5K. Friday night Pride Ferry from Boston available via Bay State Cruise Co.

ptown.org | ptowntourism.com | instagram.com/visitptown

SATURDAY JUNE 6

HULL PRIDE

3 PM | Hull Pride | Hull Yacht Club, 5 Fitzpatrick Way, Hull

Annual waterfront Pride celebration running until 10 PM. Booty Vortex, Boston's funk and disco band, returns as entertainment. Note: same date as Boston Pride Parade.

hullpride.net

NEW BEDFORD — SOUTH COAST PRIDE

Noon–5 PM | South Coast LGBTQ+ Network | Buttonwood Park, New Bedford

Annual South Coast Pride festival with live entertainment, drag performances, music, food vendors, local artisans, games, and community organizations.

sclgbtqnetwork.org

NEWBURYPORT PRIDE PARADE & FESTIVAL

Arrive 11 AM, Parade noon | Newburyport Pride | Bartlet Mall to downtown, Newburyport

Parade departs Bartlet Mall at noon; festival follows in downtown Newburyport.

newburyportpride.com

SPRINGFIELD PRIDE | SAT, JUNE 6 |

Noon | Springfield Pride Parade Organization | Springfield

Annual Western Massachusetts Pride parade and celebration.

springfieldprideparade.org | facebook.com/SpringfieldPrideParadeOrganization

WATERTOWN PRIDE

Parade 10 AM, Festival 11:30 AM–4 PM | City of Watertown / Watertown Pride Advisory Committee | Moxley Field to Saltonstall Park, 149 Main St., Watertown

Parade gathers at Moxley Field at 10 AM and marches to Saltonstall Park. Festival features inspirational speakers, music with Carrie Ferguson Band and the Femmes, drag king Jean Sequins, Good Trouble Honk Band, circus aerial show, community tables, and food vendors.

watertownpride.com | instagram.com/watertownpride

SUNDAY JUNE 7

FALL RIVER PRIDE FESTIVAL

Noon–6 PM | Fall River Pride Committee / Church of the Holy Spirit | Gates of the City, Ponta Delgada Blvd., Fall River

Drag performances, live music, games and prizes, community resources, food trucks, and vendors.

fallriverpride.org | facebook.com/FallRiverPrideco | instagram.com/fallriverprideco

FRIDAY–SUNDAY JUNE 12–14

MARTHA'S VINEYARD / OAK BLUFFS PRIDE

Times vary | Queer Hub MV / OBA MV | Oak Bluffs, Martha's Vineyard

Annual island Pride weekend; main parade listed for Sat, June 13.

mvacay.com

SATURDAY JUNE 13

GREENFIELD — FRANKLIN COUNTY PRIDE

Parade 12 PM | Franklin County Pride | Greenfield Middle School to Energy Park, festival on Miles Street, Greenfield

9th annual parade and festival serving Franklin County and the Pioneer Valley. Parade kicks off at the middle school at noon and ends at Energy Park, where the festival continues on Miles Street with vendors and performances.

franklincountypride.org | facebook.com/franklincountypride | instagram.com/franklincountypride

LEE PRIDE

Berkshire Pride | Downtown Lee — Lee Farmers Market, First Congregational Church, Lee Library, Devonfield Inn, and Starving Artist Café

Second annual Lee Pride, part of Berkshire Pride's 10th Anniversary "Every Day is Pride" season. Day includes an Interfaith Pride Prayer Breakfast, Pride Market at the Lee Farmers Market, a library exhibit, live afternoon concert at the Devonfield Inn, family-friendly Drag Bingo, and an adults-only drag show and dance party at the Starving Artist Café. Additional 2026 Berkshire Pride events: 5K/Walk, Sun, May 31; inaugural Lenox Pride, Sat, June 6; North Adams Pride Night, Fri, June 12; Pride on the Common Parade and Festival (Pittsfield, 10th anniversary flagship), Sat, June 20, stepping off at Park Square to Pittsfield Common Park.

berkshirepride.org

LOWELL — GREATER LOWELL PRIDE

Flag raising noon; Festival 1–4 PM | Greater Lowell Health Alliance | City Hall & festival location TBD, Lowell

Annual flag raising and full-day festival serving the Greater Lowell region. Moved from June 6 to avoid conflict with Boston Pride.

greaterlowellpride.org

TAUNTON — SOUTH COAST PRIDE

Noon–5 PM | South Coast LGBTQ+ Network | Hopewell Park, Taunton

Annual South Coast Pride festival with live entertainment, drag performances, food vendors, and community organizations.

sclgbtqnetwork.org

SUNDAY JUNE 14

CAMBRIDGE LGBTQ PRIDE WALK AT MOUNT AUBURN CEMETERY

1–2:30 PM | Friends of Mount Auburn with Queer History Boston | Mount Auburn Cemetery, 580 Mt. Auburn St., Cambridge

Docent-led walk by historian Robin Hazard Ray exploring the resting places of Senator Charles Sumner, actress Charlotte Cushman, poet Amy Lowell, painter George Hawley Hallowell, and other LGBTQ+ figures from Boston's past.

mountauburn.org | queerhistoryboston.org

HAMILTON-WENHAM PRIDE PICNIC

Noon–4 PM | HW Human Rights | Patton Homestead, 650 Asbury St., South Hamilton

Annual community Pride picnic.

hwhumanrights.org

WALTHAM PRIDE

Noon–4 PM | Waltham Pride | Waltham Common, 610 Main St., Waltham

Fifth annual festival featuring musical acts, drag performances, speeches, food, and family programming. Note: The City of Waltham's events page lists June 7 — verify at walthampride.org, which lists June 14.

walthampride.org

SATURDAY JUNE 20

HANOVER PRIDE / DON'T HIDE THE PRIDE

Time TBD | Hanover Pride | Forge Pond Park, King St., Hanover

Annual South Shore Pride celebration.

hanover-ma.gov

SUNDAY JUNE 28

THE NETWORK/LA RED PRESENTS: WILD TONGUES - UNTAMED AUTHENTICITY

11am-2pm | The Foundry | 101 Rogers Street, Cambridge, MA 02142

Wrap up Pride month with The Network/La Red at Wild Tongues, where LGBTQ+ survivors of partner abuse share their experiences through art among a community full of support. Please note, this is a free, mask required, substance free event.

RSVP: https://www.eventbrite.com/e/wild-tongues-untamed-authenticity-tickets-1987936717235

REVERE BEACH PRIDE

Sun, June 28 | City of Revere | Waterfront Square (400-500 Ocean Ave), Revere, MA.

A full afternoon of DJ spinning tunes, dancing, drag performances, shop vendors. Strike a pose with our pride photo booth, face painting, and nonstop summer vibes right across from the ocean. Whether you're coming with friends or showing up solo, this is the place to celebrate, connect, and be part of it. RAIN OR SHINE.

revere.org/revere pride

NEW HAMPSHIRE

SATURDAY JUNE 20

NASHUA PRIDE FESTIVAL

Downtown Nashua Association with Pride Empowerment Network | Parade: Main St. at City Hall, 229 Main St.; Festival: Library Plaza, Nashua, NH

Annual Southern NH Pride celebration, the third Saturday in June as is tradition. Time TBD. Organizing has returned to the Downtown Nashua Association this year after previously being city-run.

downtownnashua.org | facebook.com/NashuaPrideFestival

see **PRIDE LISTINGS,** *page 10*

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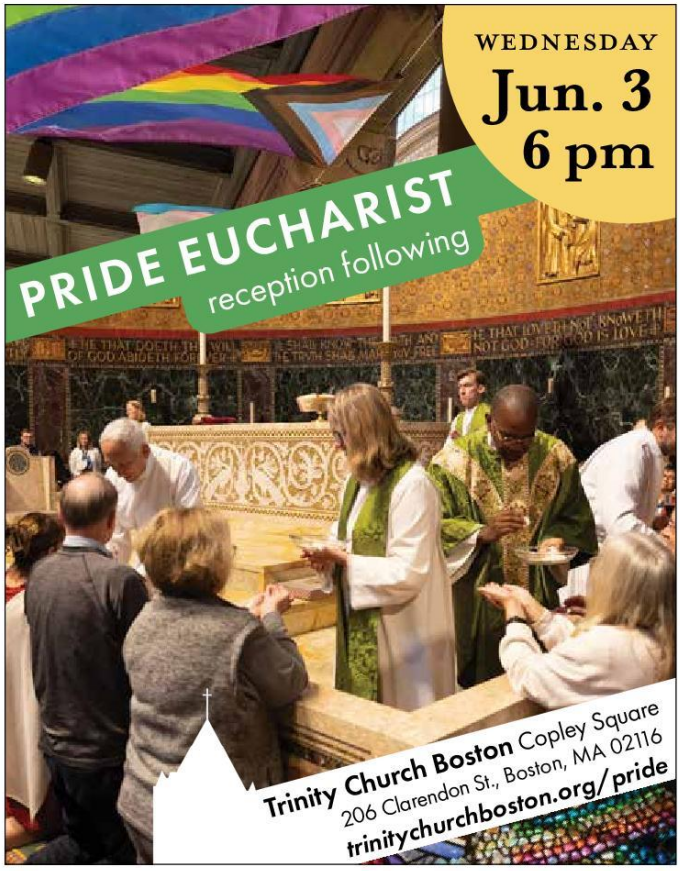

City of Boston, Massachusetts
Office of the Mayor
Michelle Wu

Dear Friends,

I am honored to usher in Pride Month with our LGBTQIA2S+ communities here in Boston and across New England.

This summer marks 250 years since the signing of the Declaration of Independence. But that struggle didn't end with ink on paper. For two-and-a-half centuries, Boston has continued our fight for freedom—unwilling to rest until "liberty and justice for all" are a reality for every one of our residents.

Pride continues that fight through joy: by celebrating the beauty, resilience, and vibrancy of our queer, trans, and nonbinary families, friends, and neighbors, we send a message that Boston will never back down from making our city a home for all. Every day, the City is working to make our community spaces safe, fun, and affirming for the LGBTQIA2S+ community.

This federal administration is trying feverishly to roll back the rights and freedoms that generations of LGBTQIA2S+ leaders fought for. Boston refuses to sit down and stay out of their way. That's never been who we are. We fight hard for our wins, and we refuse to lose ground in the fight for equality. We will never waver from our vision to build a city that includes everyone.

From creating the City's first Office of LGBTQIA2S+ Advancement and helping establish New England's first LGBTQIA2S+ senior housing community to providing small business support for Boston's newest lesbian bar and updating our marriage licenses to be gender-inclusive, we continue to look for every possible way to make Boston a prouder, more joyful place for our LGBTQIA2S+ neighbors.

However you choose to celebrate Pride this year, know that the City of Boston stands with you and all of our queer, trans, and nonbinary communities.

In solidarity,

Michelle Wu

Mayor of Boston

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Happy Pride, Boston!

To LGBTQIA2S+ communities across our city, Boston is your home and we will always stand together.

Thank you to Bay Windows for sharing LGBTQIA2S+ Bostonians' stories year-round.

Michelle Wu
MAYOR OF BOSTON

PAID FOR BY THE WU COMMITTEE

billy masters

"He's my life partner. He's my work partner. He's my gay ex-husband. He's my best friend and he's always around. But we try and make sure that he's not too much of a cockblock."

- Fran Drescher describes her relationship with her ex, the lovely and talented Peter Marc Jacobson. Given how much the gays love the fantastic Fran, I'd be much more concerned that she could be cockblocking Petey!

Photo by Gage Skidmore, via Wikimedia Commons.

Last week saw the final episodes of "The Late Show with Stephen Colbert" and "Sherri". But another show got yanked — right in our own backyard. Hunters Nightclub in Fort Lauderdale had two shows scheduled of "Naked Guy Crocheting". You'd be forgiven for not hearing of this "franchise" (as it is termed). You'd even be forgiven for thinking it might be hosted by Olympic diver **Tom Daley**, the most famous devotee of the art of crocheting either straight or gay, clothed or not. The show in question is hosted by **Peter Bisuito**, who is described as a "local artist, comedian, and producer". Apparently he has done several of these shows in gay venues which raise money for dog rescue — and who could have an issue with that (with the possible exception of **Kristi Noem**). But this particular installment of his show was going to feature someone who is no stranger to controversy — the legendary and iconic **Lady Bunny** (who would presumably be crocheting and hopefully not naked).

For those of you not in the know, Bunny is an outspoken critic of virtually everyone and everything. I believe even I have been the target of her rapier wit — and who could have an issue with moi? I seem to recall that during the last presidential election, she took issue with **Kamala Harris**...for not being liberal enough! Well, we live in a free society, and I will defend everyone's right to voice an opinion. However, this current controversy is in Florida, and that's far from a free society these days. Apparently a member of the Broward County Jewish Federation took issue with Bunny's criticism of Israel's actions toward Palestine. Personally, I wouldn't wade into those waters even if I were Moses fleeing Pharaoh. But Bunny did — and apparently that's why she's canceled. And since at least a handful of people could have come out to protest a giant drag queen and a gay man crocheting on stage, I can't really blame Hunters for cancelling. But here's what I can say — either we're for free speech or we're not.

Speaking of cancellations, the Long Beach Pride Festival was called off only hours before it was supposed to begin. The day before the festival, the City of Long Beach had lawyers send out a cease-and-desist letter claiming the organizers "failed to timely submit the required application materials and supporting documentation necessary for permit review." Aren't permits reviewed more than hours before an event? Like, months? Anyway, this statement was hastily posted: "The Long Beach Pride Festival will not be able to take place this year as sufficient information to safely permit the event has not been made available by the event organizers." I'm not pointing fingers, but I hasten to add that such hiccups didn't happen the two years when yours truly hosted Long Beach Pride.

A stalwart on the Pride circuit is **Kylie Minogue**. In her recently released Netflix documentary, she revealed that she went through a second battle with cancer. "My second cancer diagnosis was in early 2021. I was able to keep that to myself...not like the first time. Thankfully, I got through it. Again. And all is well. Hey, who knows what's around the corner." She also issued the following statement: "There will be someone out there who will benefit from a gentle reminder to do their checkups. Early detection was very helpful and I am so grateful to be able to say that I am doing well today."

Ricky Martin was kicking off the European leg of his tour in Montenegro last week when someone in the audience allegedly sprayed tear gas in the crowd. Of course, such things probably happen frequently in Montenegro. Martin was immediately whisked off of the stage and officials came in to assess the situation. After being given the all-clear, management wanted to cancel the show. Ricky refused and returned to the stage saying, "Nothing is going to stop this show. Nothing!" Plus, I'm sure plenty of people cry during a Ricky Martin concert.

The Cannes Film Festival wrapped last week, but not before the 32nd annual amfAR Gala. The event took place at the luxurious Hotel Du Cap-Eden-Roc and raised $20 million for the Foundation for AIDS Research. Congrats!

Also raising money for the fight against AIDS are members of the original Broadway cast of "Rent". The upcoming 30th anniversary will be celebrated with a one-night-only concert on October 26th at the Richard Rodgers Theatre on Broadway. The night will be directed by the show's original director, **Michael Greif**, who said, "Jonathan [Larsen] wrote 'Rent' in honor of the people he knew who were living and struggling with HIV and in honor of the many friends and contemporaries he lost to AIDS. I know he'd be proud and honored to join forces with Broadway Cares/Equity Fights AIDS to celebrate the 30th anniversary of his milestone musical." Greif adds that the show will include "a bevy of special guests."

Good News/Bad News. The production of "Evita" starring **Rachel Zegler** in London's West End is coming to Broadway next spring. "But Billy," I can hear you wondering, "is that the good news or the bad news?" That depends on your opinion of Miss Zegler, who is one of those performers who polarizes people, not unlike another actress who has never received a Tony nomination. What is undeniable is that this transfer will be lacking what has made it such a sensation in London — a balcony. In London, she sings "Don't Cry For Me Argentina" from the outdoor balcony of the Palladium, much to the delight of people out on the street (and, surely, much to the dismay of paying patrons, who get to watch it on a video screen). Director **Jamie Lloyd** says, "I am really excited to explore a new idea, made especially for Broadway."

Speaking of Tony snubs, the much-maligned musical of "Beaches" is skulking out of town after playing 38 shows (and 28 previews), most recently, to roughly half-full houses. Some are blaming this premature shutter on the lack of Tonys. Having not seen it, I'd think at least some of the blame should fall on the musical's creators.

With Memorial Day in our rearview mirror, it's time to look forward to the summer in Provincetown. This week, we take a gander at what is coming to the venerable Post Office Caf and Cabaret. Of course, their crowd-pleasing Drag Brunch will keep you laughing and liquored up during the daylight hours. As to the nighttime headliners, it wouldn't be summer without the uproarious **Judy Gold**. **Miss Richfield 1981** joins the roster with a new show called "You Can't Have Ice Cream When You're Dead!". **Paige Turner** asks the musical question, "Drag Me To The Movies". The multi-talented **Jamie Morris** returns with four parody shows in repertory! **Nina West** does her take on a Broadway phenomenon with "Oh, Scary!" (get it?). The ever-popular "Diva!" and "Illusions — Las Vegas Review" shows return. And so much more. Check out full details on PostOfficeCafe.net.

This week's "Ask Billy" question is also Broadway related. Peter in New York writes, *"I recently went to see **Jeremy Jordan** in 'Just In Time' and was surprised to not see him show off his body in the 'Splish Splash' number. He always looks so hot. So what's up with that?"*

I know everybody thinks I have my finger on every male actor's anatomy — a reputation that is well founded. So, naturally, I was able to find an answer. First, some backstory. When the character of **Bobby Darin** sings "Splish Splash" in the musical, he is in a bathtub. Both **Jonathan Groff and Matthew Morrison** were featured in a tiny swimsuit and no shirt, which not only made some sense, but I'm sure was very much appreciated by the audience. **Jeremy Jordan** asked to switch things up. "Listen, I'm 41, I'm not as cut as I used to be, so I'm a little bit self-conscious about that, and I just didn't want to add that element into it. My pitch was like, instead of getting sexy and doing a thirst trap on stage in a bathtub, what if I just went comedy? And so, we built one of those old-timey swimsuits. It's like a tank top into swim trunks." Normally, this is where I'd tell you to check it out on BillyMasters.com. But, unlike Jeremy, I know my audience. If you wanna see Matt Morrison or Jonathan Groff in their swimmers, you know where to look.

When Jeremy Jordan is self-conscious about his body, it's time for me to end yet another column. See? Straight guys get it, too. Well, time marches on. And you know what I just realized? Summer is right around the corner. And I know that because last week Boston hit 95 degrees one day, and then plummeted to 45 the next. Because in Boston, we no longer have spring. Thank God for BillyMasters.com — the site that always keeps things steamy. If you have a question, send it along to Billy@BillyMasters.com and I promise to get back to you before Lady Bunny is booked to crochet in Montenegro! Until next time, remember, one man's filth is another man's bible.

Photo via kamalaharris.com

Kamala Harris

Photo via rickymartinmusic.com

Ricky Martin

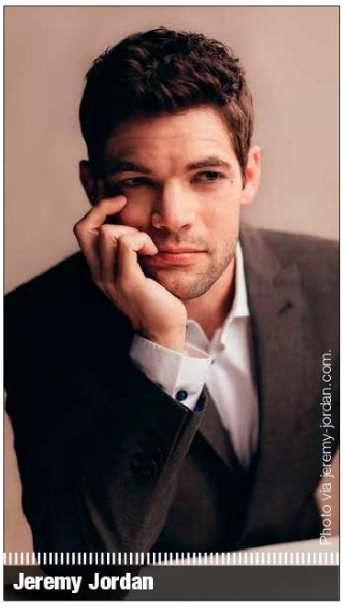

Photo via jeremy-jordan.com

Jeremy Jordan

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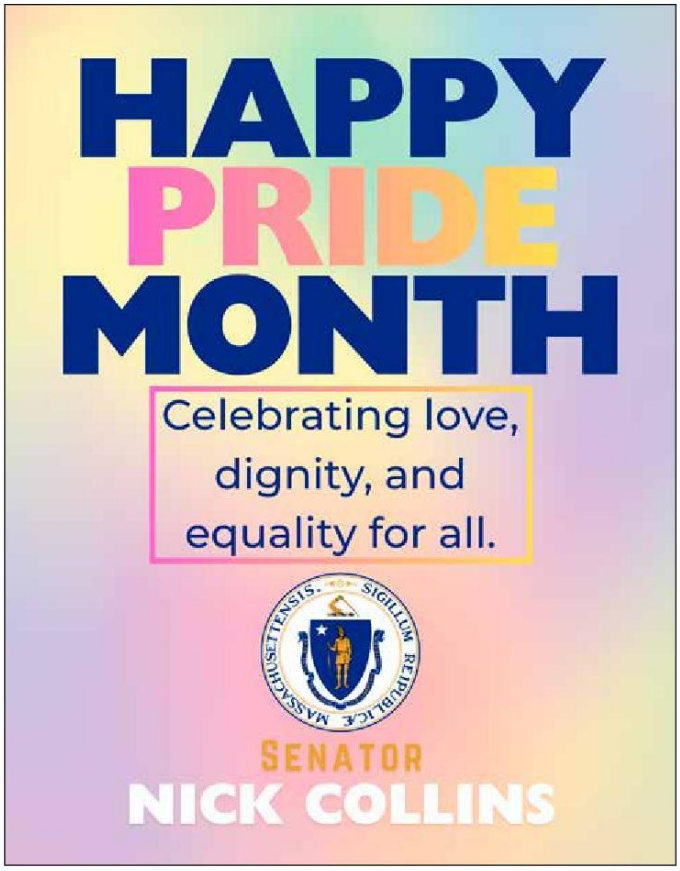

Mombian

Continued from page 1

as the divorced father of two young children.

This is not an emotionally easy story. Anderson suffered physical abuse from his stepfather (as did his mother) and sexual abuse from his older brother. He was told that his thoughts of liking other boys were sinful, and he feared for his family's eternal happiness if he didn't suppress those feelings. He grew up thinking he was broken, and at one point, contemplated suicide.

At the same time, however, this is a story of hope, with the alternating chronology letting us know from the start that Anderson has found self-worth and happiness. The narrative tension is not in what the outcome will be, but in how Anderson got there, and how he moved through his own trauma to become the father his sons needed. "I'd once been afraid of hurting my children by coming out," he notes. "Over time, I realized I was instead creating a world in which they'd get two happy parents."

Remy Burke's bold illustrations with heavy black lines complement and enhance the text, offering visual cues to guide the reader across the chronology, with cold blues representing the earlier years and warm reds the later ones. Text and images combine into a powerful memoir of transformation and healing.

"Ugly: A Letter to My Daughter," by Stephanie Fairyington (Pantheon): is part memoir, part cultural history, and part social commentary. "Ugly," Fairyington writes, is "a word with fangs that can kill a woman's self-esteem in one bite." In these pages, she shares the story of how she came to see herself as ugly, offering reflections and thoughtful analysis to help her daughter (and, presumably, readers and their daughters) override similar toxic messages.

Fairyington explores differences in what constitutes beauty across cultures and eras, and the impact of various influences including racial and ethnic stereotypes, disability, gender, queerness, and biological connection. But while ugliness and beauty form the throughlines here, in both literal and more figurative senses, Fairyington also looks more broadly at ideas of difference and belonging. Her examination is underpinned not only by her childhood experiences and her growing sense of self as a lesbian with gender dysphoria, but also by how she and her now-wife Sabrina formed their own family, how her own self-image played into that process, and how motherhood—specifically, her own nongestational motherhood—has sharpened her desire to unpack and challenge many of society's messages about beauty, biology, and family.

The more personal sections of the book rub shoulders with ones that delve into more academic topics like social constructionism, structuralism, queer theory, and cultural history, but each approach illuminates the other. Although her scope is wide-ranging, Fairyington keeps returning to the goal of offering her daughter a guidebook for her own developing self. "I hope you'll always see beauty where others don't and tend to it in yourself and others in your gentle way because, ultimately, it's all beautiful," she writes. "Even the things that are ugly—ugly words, ugly ideas, ugly beliefs, ugly behaviors—are necessary to the expansion of our humanity and spiritual awakening." More than just a look at beauty standards, this is a richly textured and thought-provoking read.

"Spawning Season: An Experiment in Queer Parenthood," by Joseph Osmundson (Bloomsbury) is a memoir of Lambda Literary Award finalist and microbiologist Osmundson's quest for parenthood and an evocative look at how environmental, economic, social, and biological factors all play a part in forming and sustaining families.

Osmundson had wanted to be a parent since he was a child, and even wanted to be pregnant, he writes. His concerns about climate change, his own economic precariousness, and his own ability as a parent led him to think he would never become one, however—until a lesbian friend from college asked if he would contribute sperm and co-parent the resulting child with her and her partner. But not all plans go the way one expects....

Without giving too much away, I'll note that this is not simply a tale of family creation. It is a reflection on family building, yes, but also a broader look at the interconnected systems of family, gender, race/ethnicity, and the environment; at the role and limits of biology in queer parenthood; and at what it means to nourish, nurture, hope, and grieve. Thoroughly original, thought-provoking, and entertaining, it is a highly recommended look at queer parenthood with a wide—one might say "fish-eye"—lens.

Dana Rudolph is the founder and publisher of Mombian (mombian.com), a two-time GLAAD Media Award-winning blog for LGBTQ+ parents, plus a searchable database of 2,000+ LGBTQ+ family books.

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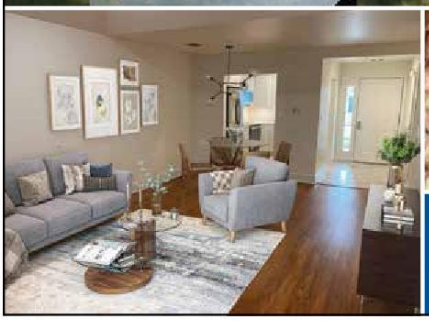

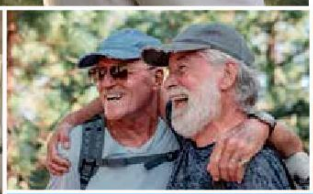

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Pride Listings

Continued from page 3

SATURDAY JUNE 20

PORTSMOUTH PRIDE

Noon | NH Outright / Seacoast Outright | Strawbery Banke Museum, 14 Hancock St. (Puddle Dock grounds), Portsmouth, NH

12th annual Seacoast region Pride celebration, rain or shine. Festival and marketplace with 100+ vendors, live music, and beer tent (21+).

nhoutright.org | strawberybanke.org

RHODE ISLAND

FRIDAY–SUNDAY JUNE 19–21

PROVIDENCE — RHODE ISLAND PRIDEFEST & ILLUMINATED NIGHT PARADE (50TH ANNIVERSARY)

Festival 11:30 AM Sat; Night Parade 7:45 PM Sat | Rhode Island Pride | District Park, 120 Peck St., Providence; Parade: Empire & Washington Sts.

Rhode Island's 50th annual Pride celebration. All-day festival followed by New England's only illuminated night parade. 250+ vendors, Kids Zone noon–3 PM, beer/wine tent (21+). Free to attend.

prideri.org

MAINE

TUESDAY–SATURDAY JUNE 2–6

BAR HARBOR PRIDE

Times vary | Bar Harbor Pride | Bar Harbor, ME

Annual Pride festival on Mount Desert Island.

barharborpride.org

SATURDAY JUNE 6

HALLOWELL PRIDE

Noon–4 PM | Hallowell Pride Alliance | Downtown Hallowell / Granite City Park, Hallowell, ME

Annual downtown Pride festival with community events along the Kennebec River.

facebook.com/hallowellpridealliance

SUNDAY JUNE 7

GREAT FALLS PRIDE — LEWISTON/AUBURN

Time varies by listing | Great Falls Pride | Simard-Payne Park, Lewiston, ME

Annual Pride event serving Central Maine's twin cities.

lewistonmaine.gov

SATURDAY JUNE 13

AROOSTOOK PRIDE — PRESQUE ISLE

3–7 PM | Aroostook Pride | Riverside Park / Farmers Market Pavilion, Presque Isle, ME

Annual Pride celebration serving The County in Northern Maine.

aclumaine.org

SATURDAY JUNE 20

PORTLAND — PRIDE PORTLAND! PARADE & FESTIVAL

Parade ~1 PM | Pride Portland! | Monument Square to Deering Oaks Park, Portland, ME

One of the country's top-rated LGBTQ+ Pride parades, entirely volunteer-run, with a festival following at historic Deering Oaks Park.

prideportland.org | chair@prideportland.org

CONNECTICUT

SATURDAY MAY 30

BETHEL CT PRIDE PARADE & CELEBRATION

Bethel CT Pride | Downtown Bethel, Clifford J. Hurgin Municipal Center, Bethel, CT

Pre-June kickoff to Pride Month featuring a sidewalk parade followed by queer bands, performances from featured Open Mic players, vendors, food trucks, lawn games, kids activities, and free health testing in downtown Bethel.

bethelctpride.com | facebook.com/bethelctpride | instagram.com/bethelctpride

SATURDAY JUNE 6

MIDDLETOWN PRIDE

Time TBD | Middletown Pride | Main Street, downtown Middletown, CT

One of Connecticut's largest Pride events, celebrating local LGBTQIA2S+ communities in downtown Middletown.

middletownpride.org

RIDGEFIELD PRIDE IN THE PARK

Noon–3 PM | Ridgefield CT Pride | Ballard Park, 485 Main St., Ridgefield, CT (rain location: Yanity Gym)

7th annual Pride in the Park celebration. Parade around the park starts at 1 PM. Free, open to the public, family-friendly with activities, crafts, entertainment, and informational tables. The Ridgefield Chorale performs at the gazebo.

ridgefieldpride.org | instagram.com/ridgefieldctpride

PARTY WITH PRIDE AT MYSTIC AQUARIUM

Mystic Aquarium | 55 Coogan Blvd., Mystic, CT

After-hours Pride celebration with a premier drag performance by the Trailer Park Girls, marine life encounters, and more.

mysticaquarium.org | facebook.com/MysticAquarium | instagram.com/mysticaquarium

SATURDAY JUNE 13

HARTFORD — CAPITAL CITY PRIDE

11 AM–2 AM | Riverfront | Mortensen Riverfront Plaza, 300 Columbus Blvd., Hartford, CT

Formerly Hartford Pride, now rebranded and moved from September to June. Daytime family-friendly Pride on Pratt Street 11 AM–5 PM; PrideFEST and concert 4–9 PM; afterparty 10 PM–2 AM. Free.

riverfront.org/events/pridefest

FAIRFIELD COUNTY PRIDE IN THE PARK (NORWALK)

2 PM | Triangle Community Center | Veterans Memorial Park, Norwalk, CT

Free, family-friendly outdoor festival featuring entertainers and diverse local performers, serving the Fairfield County LGBTQ+ community.

ctpridecenter.org/pride-in-the-park | pride@ctpridecenter.org

VERMONT

WEDNESDAY JUNE 3

BELLOWS FALLS PRIDE FILM FESTIVAL — THE HOURS

Bellows Falls Pride / Susan MacNeil Film Series | Bellows Falls Opera House, 7 The Square, Bellows Falls, VT

LGBTQ+ film screening on the largest screen in the region, in honor of beloved community leader Susan MacNeil. Tickets $6.

bellowsfallspride.com | facebook.com/BFPride | instagram.com/bellowsfallspride

SUNDAY JUNE 14

4TH ANNUAL PRIDE WHISTLESTOP TOUR

Noon–12:30 PM | Bellows Falls Pride | Bellows Falls Amtrak Station, Bellows Falls, VT

Statewide Pride show of support along the Amtrak Vermonter route from St. Albans to Brattleboro. Local communities at ten train stations decorate, wave flags, play music, and cheer as the Vermonter rolls through. Bellows Falls station decorating begins at noon.

bellowsfallspride.com | facebook.com/BFPride | instagram.com/bellowsfallspride

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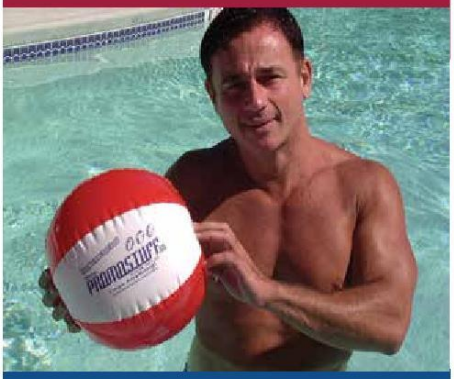

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Lenk

Continued from page 1

pointed her to the Superior Court in 1993 and the Appeals Court in 1995, and Governor Deval Patrick named her to the SJC in 2011 — making her the first openly gay member of the same court that, less than a decade earlier, had ruled that barring same-sex couples from marriage violated the Massachusetts Constitution. After Chief Justice Ralph Gants died in September 2020, Lenk, the senior justice, took up the duties of chief justice until her mandatory retirement that December.

Born in Queens, New York, in 1950 to a bookbinder and a housekeeper, Lenk grew up in a working-class household where Polish was her first language. She earned a bachelor's degree from Fordham and a Ph.D. in political philosophy from Yale, then graduated from Harvard Law School in 1979 and began her career at the Boston firm Brown Rudnick, where she became a partner and built a practice in First Amendment law.

Lenk authored hundreds of opinions, admired for their rigor and for references that ranged from Greek mythology to popular music. She carried a handwritten reminder of the principles that guided her: "Hear courteously; answer wisely; consider soberly; decide impartially." She treasured mentoring young associates and law clerks, many of whom stayed close to her for life. Away from the court, she was happiest outdoors — long walks with her dogs through the Carlisle Cranberry Bog and Estabrook Woods, and annual family trips to Acadia.

"It has been my lifelong goal," she said at her retirement, "to leave the world not less and worse, but greater and more beautiful than when it was given to us."

Lenk is survived by her spouse, Debra Krupp; her daughters, Katie and Julia; her son-in-law, Jake; and her grandchildren, Haleigh, Paxton, and Benson. The family asks that donations be made to Care Dimensions, Feeding America, or Boston's Pine Street Inn.

Collins

Continued from page 1

32 games with the Celtics in 2012-13. He came out publicly in April 2013, in a first-person essay for Sports Illustrated — an announcement that arrived near the end of his playing career, while he was a free agent. The following season, he signed with Brooklyn and became the first openly gay player to appear in an NBA game.

"Jason changed lives in unexpected ways and was an inspiration to all who knew him and to those who admired him from afar," his family said in the statement released through the NBA.

Boston shaped that decision more than most fans realize. At Stanford, Collins's roommate was Joseph P. Kennedy III, who later spent eight years representing Massachusetts in Congress. Collins wrote that watching Kennedy march in Boston's 2012 Pride parade — while Collins himself stayed silent — was the moment he knew he had to raise his hand.

He wore No. 98 for Boston, Washington and Brooklyn, a quiet tribute to 1998, the year Matthew Shepard was murdered in Wyoming.

In June 2013, weeks after the essay, Collins returned to Boston for Pride Week, embraced by a city and a community that claimed him as one of its own. He had said he wanted to keep playing, and he did — 22 more games the following season with Brooklyn, quiet proof that an out player could simply be a player.

His on-court numbers were modest: 3.6 points and 3.7 rebounds a game. But the stat line was never the point. He set picks, protected teammates, and changed the league.

The Human Rights Campaign called him a legend for the LGBTQ+ community. Collins is survived by his husband, Brunson Green, and his twin brother, former NBA player Jarron Collins, who shortly before Jason's death accepted an award on his behalf, calling him "the bravest, strongest man I've ever known."

Frank

Continued from page 1

Long before Washington, Frank was a young chief assistant to Boston Mayor Kevin White — part of the City Hall circle that saw the potential in the derelict Quincy Market buildings. During White's administration, the city worked with developer James Rouse and architect Benjamin Thompson to transform them into Faneuil Hall Marketplace, now one of Boston's best-known destinations.

Frank, a Massachusetts Democrat elected 16 times to represent the state's 4th Congressional District, was 86 when he died Tuesday evening, May 19, at his home in Ogunquit, Maine, where he was in hospice care with congestive heart failure.

In 1987, Frank became the first member of Congress to publicly come out as gay voluntarily, and he spent the following decades as one of the most visible LGBTQ+ leaders in national politics. He went on to coauthor the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act of 2010.

In his final weeks, Frank gave a steady run of interviews urging Democrats toward pragmatism ahead of the 2028 elections. In a May 3 interview with the Boston Globe, he said he hoped Democrats would act on his warnings.

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