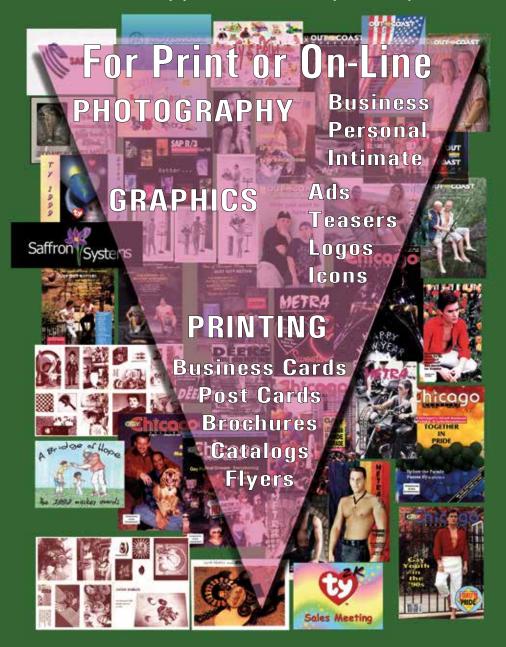




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In My Life Drake Austin

Greetings Readers and I hope your fall is going splendidly. Well, once in a while I will throw in my two cents about books and so much more. This month I was taken kind of late by a phenomenon sweeping the nation, which is known as "Wicked".

Wicked is not just the newest and most renowned Broadway musical, but written in 1995 by now famous writer Gregory Maguire. This book brings us back over the rainbow -- but not as Dorothy had seen it. The book formally is called Wicked: The Life and Times of The Wicked Witch Of The West. As the title indicates it revolved around The Wicked Witch named Elphaba. The story tells how this young girl came into being, her family life as well with her higher education and ways of being wicked.

in Elphaba born was Munchkinland, which is full of bigoted religious farmers that are shocked and afraid of anything different. So green skin is not the best thing to be born with. Her father, who was

a holy man of the region, was always traveling, which led to her mother's promiscuous love life, which in turn brings up the question of Elphaba's and her sisters fathering. Raised by her Grandmother, Elphaba was groomed for her rightful heritage as Eminent Thropp, which is a position of ruling.

A bright student she got into a university where she met her dorm mate, by ill fait being Galinda the good witch (Galinda later changes her name to Glenda). Instantly taken in by science Elphaba started seeing the true governing of The Wizard, who is a fraud as we know by seeing the movie. but also the man is truly evil. In the Land of Oz there Animals which posses human intellect and the ability of speech and animals which are equivalent of regular animals. The Wizard starts taking away the rights of the Animals.

Elphaba is then joined at college by her grandmother and sister, Ness, due to her father's absence. Selected by the headmistress Elphaba. Nessarose and Galinda are

said to be destined to do great things in history and they should see the wizard. So Elphaba and Galinda are sent to the Emerald city during their junior year. Once there, Elphaba plays along until she if in front of the Wizard and tells him what she really thinks of him. In doing so she seals her fate. She sends Galinda back to the university alone, staying in the Emerald city to be an extremist and fight the Wizard.

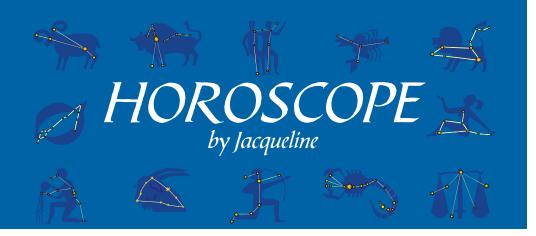
Now my pretties that was a little about the book and I'm not giving away anymore. If you wish you can go to any bookstore and by a copy of this lovely book, of which I have three, and even the Broadway soundtrack to hum along **Bliss** to while reading. So my fair readers, "If you care to find me look to the western sky." Ta.

Contact me at Crayak87@yahoo.com

Drake Austin is a senior at Astronaut High School in Titusville. He founded a Gay Straight Alliance (GSA) there in 2003. Drake shares his thoughts and life experience each month as a proud gay vouth.







If you haven't noticed in the last couple of months Life as we know it is changing for all Floridians. With Uranus going into Pisces (which is the ruler of our state), we are starting a new 7-year cycle. This month brings a new moon in Sagittarius on the 11th. Which opens up the understanding of which direction we should proceed. The full moon in cancer on the 26th will bring a new understanding of what we want in our home. Have a wonderful holiday season!

Aries It's time to be out and about especially in business. This is a good time to sign contracts or make new deals, but make sure you read the fine print before signing. Mercury is retrograde. This month, meet people halfway not only in business but also in your personal life. You will receive an unexpected gift from someone in authority or from far way.

Taurus This is not the month for travel. If you do, take your time and expect delays. Instead of traveling, redecorate or refinance your home. Consider investing in antiques or art. You will find the bargains! In the long term these investments will pay off. The more you work on your home this month, the more satisfaction you will get in your relationships.

Gemini Romance is in the air this month. It's a good time to spend the holidays with that special one. After the 20th, take a vacation with them. You'll find

the lines of communication will be open. Before the 20th, don't let the details of the day interfere, ask friends if you are overreacting before taking action. If you don't have a special someone now, you will soon!

Cancer Many offers for help will come your way this month. Pick and choose wisely. Don't stretch yourself so far that you cannot keep all your commitments. Most of all make sure you spend time on yourself. Make certain you take care of your health. It's a good time to join a health club or make changes in your diet and exercise routines. You will set a new foundation for your health by doing so.

Leo Your creative juices are flowing. New ideas about business should be looked into further. Do not sign any commitments until after the 20th. This month is a good time to use your negotiating ability to get what you want. Romance is in the air for you. Plan a cozy weekend trip for two. However, make sure you don't burn the candle at both ends.

Virgo Plan to entertain in your home this month. You will enjoy the work it will take to plan and decorate for your company. It will also help you to not over analyze your own personal feelings. Without a distraction you will find all of the things you are dissatisfied with in your life right now. Cherish your accomplishments and have fun this month.

Libra Your feelings toward your siblings

are intensified. It's a good time to come to an understanding concerning any disagreements. Your point will be easily heard. This month is an educational one. Be open to the knowledge you will gain. Be careful of people from the past returning. All is not what it appears. You will find an appliance or an electrical equipment will need repair. Don't fret, all is well.

Scorpio Your focus is on your finances now. It's a good time to make an investment in a new home or investment property. You'll find your intuition regarding increasing your income and shopping concerns heightened. Take advantage of it. Open negotiations within your personal life will be successful. Make sure you don't promise more than you can fulfill.

Sagittarius Happy Solar Return! The key word this year for you is balance. (This year meaning birthday to birthday) This means don't get so wrapped up in one part of your life that you neglect the other. When things aren't going your way, stop, look and listen. There is always another avenue to get what you want. Be careful not to be overly extravagant this month.

Capricorn Your life is going through a major change. This month is a good time to finish old projects or old business. Let go of the things that don't serve you and come to terms with the things that have hurt you. By the end of the month you will find new business opportunities coming to light. Take advantage of them. Look toward the future and attaining your goals.

Aquarius Be careful of the extra responsibilities that are placed upon you this month. Know which ones are true and which are out of guilt. Do not act upon the guilt. You will stretch yourself too far. Make plans to socialize this month and you will find not only friends from the past returning, but also new ones arriving. One may even spark a romantic interest.

Pisces You will find those household repairs you have neglected will now have to be taken care of. It's not as overwhelming as you think. You are in the beginning of a major turning point in your life, the first of which is your career. This is a good time to peruse your dreams of what you want. After the 20th, take action. You'll find things will go your way. ▼

For those who want to know: The key word for Sagittarius is Understanding. They are a fire sign so actions are extremely important. They are driven by knowledge. For all of us this means that it is a good time to learn and grow from our experiences. It is a dual sign so it's also a time to enjoy life to it's fullest. Sagittarians are known to be the one at the party with the lampshade on their head.



Ten Time

with Miss T

Now that things are getting back to normal, we can buckle down to a busy holiday season. For me the season starts with my 80-something parents arriving for the winter, followed by dad's birthday (he was 88 last week), then all party lets loose! If Halloween was any indication, everyone's ready to forget the hurricanes with some heavy-duty good times.

Time's up for Brevard Together. RIP. Not willing to let the Brevard non-bar social scene disappear, some of the women are stepping in to fill the gap. They're calling the group "Brevard Team Works," have a Yahoo! Group under that name and they're throwing a Christmas Potluck BYOB party from 4pm - 9pm on Sunday, December 12. It will be at the Satellite Beach Civic Center on Cassia Blvd. in Satellite Beach. Tickets are \$10 in advance, \$15 at the door (if available – sales are limited to 100 so get yours now!!!). Get your tickets, time, directions and details by calling Georgia at 321-727-3915. And while you're at it, talk about other things that you want the group to do. Get involved – you'll feel better about yourself and we'll all benefit.

It would benefit me to be better kept in the loop when a new business opens or goes gay – I hear rumors about Charlotte's Web and something about Rainbow on Merritt Island. Maybe someone (like an owner or manager) will contact me with more.

Nautical Jack's has more people showing up nightly. The crowd is mixed, with lots of younger guys and gals to feast your... eyes on. Tim is planning a bunch of changes for 2005 and if they go over as well as the ones he's made so far, Nautical Jack's will have lots of room for everybody. It was really nice to see Jack, Norma, Tim and the rest sponsoring a contestant and attending the Miss Brevard Newcomer Pageant at the Cold Keg. We all win when everybody gets along. That's one reason Nautical Jack's shows are early, so people can go on over to the Cold Key and catch the midnight show – which leaves more room Jack's for people to play, dance and socialize.

Talk about dancing – you should have seen the talent section of the Miss Brevard County Newcomer Pageant at the Cold Keg! It was quite a show and if you missed it, you really missed something. The decorations were such a hit they were held over for a 60s theme party. Next up in pageants at the Cold Keg is the Miss Brevard County Pageant early next year. But leading up to that Sharon and the staff is making sure you have something special to do turkey day eve (a party to celebrate a day off) and being open on Thanksgiving night, I know there were many a year I'd give thanks for a place to go away from the overstuffed stupor after a family dinner! It's only a couple of weeks later that their Winter Wonderland Christmas party happens. Then you can take a couple of weeks to get ready for New Years Eve at the Cold Keg with the special 4 am close, midnight buffet, show and the \$1000 balloon drop. Plan ahead.

Vero Beach PFLAG has been planning and has a couple of big things happening in December. First up is the World AIDS Day donation on December 1. At a meeting where they were discussing the dissolution of the AIDS Support Group of Indian River County, Sal suggested that PFLAG do something around World AIDS Day to help and raise awareness, and pledged \$1,000 seed money to get that going. Then Kenny spoke up to suggest that we take the money the AIDS Support Group had given PFLAG when they dissolved, combine it with Sal's generosity and give it to local people and families affected by HIV/AIDS. A condition of Sal's donation was that PFLAG would pass the hat at each meeting to add to the fund. It all added up to over \$2,700 which will be turned over, in the form of checks made out to landlords, pharmacies, or other providers which will be given to individuals to pay for rent, medicine or other needs. Bonnie Keeny, past president of IR AIDS support group and all around fabulous woman, will be determining needs based upon her past experience and on-going work at St. Helen's. Too bad this will be ignored by the local media – the Press Journal just refuses to see that anything PFLAG does is in any way newsworthy and Florida Today doesn't cover Vero.

The second **Vero Beach PFLAG** event will be their Christmas dinner/meeting that will be held at St. Helens $continued\ on\ page\ 20$



Presents:

Lunch with Friends

Noon, Sunday, January 16th, 2005



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Donation \$20.00 per person

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Last day to buy tickets January 9th

MENU

Caesar Salad: Crisp Romaine Lettuce in Carmel's Caesar Dressing with Toasted Crustini

Chicken Breast Florentine: Roulade of Chicken Breast stuffed with Spinach with a Mushroom Demi-glace

Herb Roasted Red Bliss Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetable Dessert: A Plate of Fresh Baked Assorted Cookies

Vegetarian entree available upon request.

Spiritually Rev. Mark Osdras Speaking

A few years ago I was privileged to make a visit to the land of Israel. After hearing stories all my life about people who lived in ancient times, I was very interested in visiting the places where these stories occurred.

One of the most amazing discoveries for me was when I visited the Jordan River. For years I had heard about the mighty Jordan River. So there I was, expecting a river at least as wide as the Mississippi River. I was shocked to realize that the Jordan River was about the size of a medium size creek here in the United States. In fact, it wasn't much wider than many of the canals found here in Florida.

At one end of the Jordan River, one finds the Sea of Galilee. Once again, we wouldn't call it a sea here in the United States. We would call it a large lake. Crossing the Sea of Galilee in a slow boat was a short trip. The Sea of Galilee is where most of the stories found in the New Testament took place. The Sea of Galilee is a vibrant, living body of water. Fish thrive in

the water of the Sea of Galilee. The mountains and hills around the Sea of Galilee are lush with vibrant plant life.

At the south end of the Jordan River is another body of water, or large lake. It is known as the Dead Sea. Where the Sea of Galilee thrives, the Dead Sea is very stagnant. They are fed from the same water source. One thrives, the other dies. What is it that makes the difference?

The Sea of Galilee is created from the north by the beginning of the Jordan River in the mountains. As the water flows south, it is continually moving. As it enters the Sea of Galilee, it doesn't stop. It flows south into the desert.

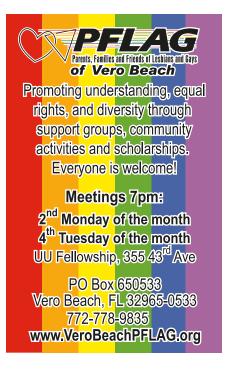
As one travels through the desert area east of Jerusalem, there is a strip of green land. All around is lifeless sand and rocks. But through the middle of the desert, a living river flows, full of fish and life. South of Jericho, the Jordan River enters the area we call the Dead Sea.

The Dead Sea has no outlet. It keeps everything that flows into it. It is a very selfish place. The Dead Sea is full of rich nutrients that flow into it from the north. But nothing flows out.

The same is true with people. We have received much in life. Do we allow our talents and gifts to flow out to give life and encouragement and help to others? Or do we keep everything for ourselves, not sharing with anyone.

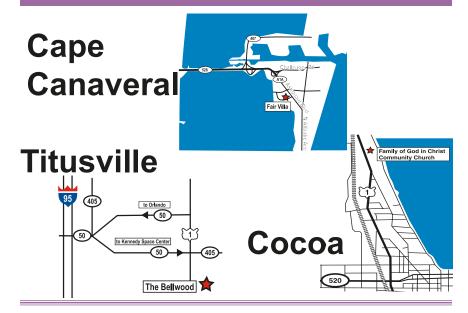
As we give thanks this Thanksgiving, do more than just say words. Give thanks by giving away some of the many talents and gifts that we like to keep bottled up inside ourselves. \blacktriangledown

The Rev. Dr. Jerry L. Seay is a former pastor in the Assemblies of God. He has been a pastor in the Metropolitan Community Churches since 1989. He and his life-partner of twelve years, Mike Lufriu, moved to Brevard County to start the East Coast Metropolitan Community Church. East Coast MCC meets in Melbourne at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship. 2185 Meadowlane Avenue, on the 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month at 6 p.m. Services in Vero Beach are at the Unitarian Universalist Fellowship, 355 43rd Avenue, on the 2nd and 4th Sundays of each month at 6 p.m. Services in Port St. Lucies are at the Unity Church in Lake's Plaza, 8438 US 1, on the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 5 p.m

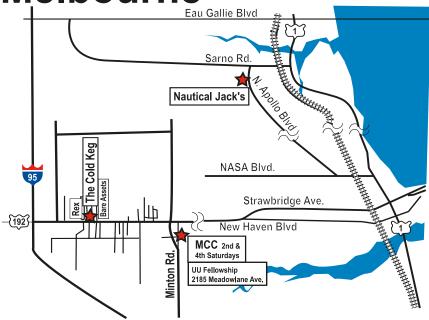




Bars & Meeting Places

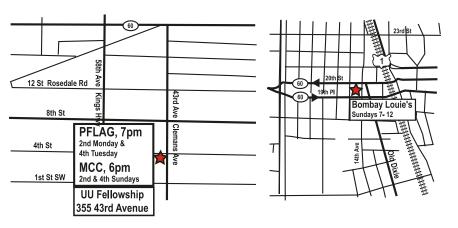


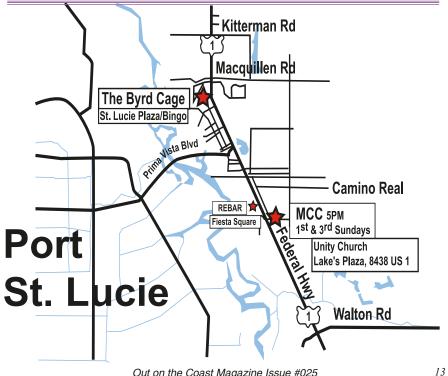
Melbourne



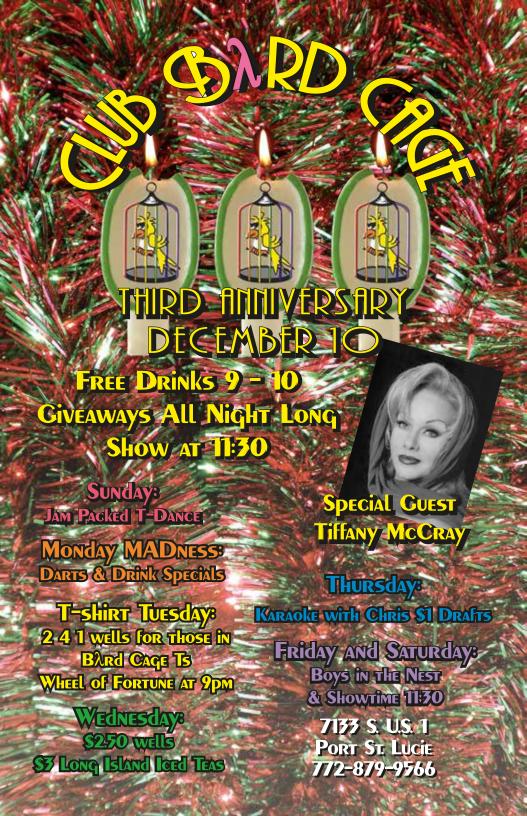
Bars & Meeting Places

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Tue: Ladies Night

> **Drink Specials** Dance, Dance, Fri:

Wed: Karaoke with

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8 pm

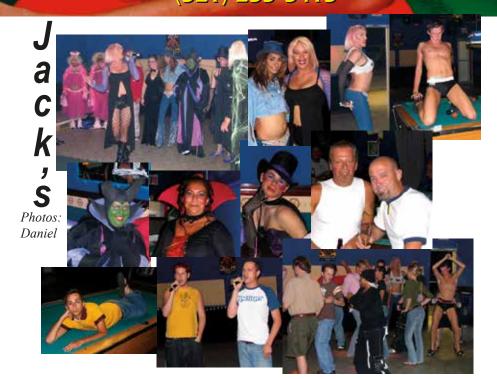
Sat: \$2 cover +

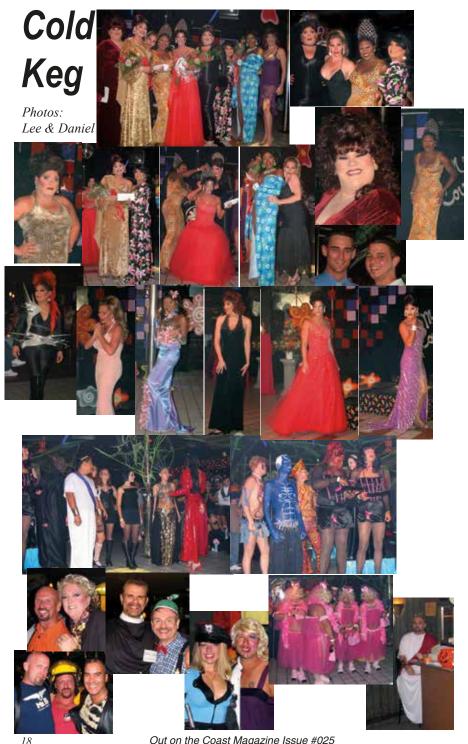
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Thu: Latin Night Sun: Karaoke 8pm

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> 4060 W. New Haven Melbourne, FL (321) 724-1510 www.ColdKegNiteClub.com

Continued from page 8

Center, 2025 20th Avenue (Rt. 60 & 20th Ave), Vero Beach, on December 13. Of course they will be collecting Christmas gifts for the needy, as usual. Since the good group refuses to spend over \$200 for a meeting space, preferring to save the money for good work, they will be holding both second-Monday and fourth-Tuesday meetings at UU, 355 43rd Ave, starting in January (there are no fourth-Tuesday meetings in November and December).

Bliss is starting to plan their special Christmas show for the Sunday after Christmas – an excellent escape for those over-familied in Vero that weekend. Also Devine will be interviewed in a lifestyles segment on WSBR, AM 740 soon – we couldn't get an exact date, just that it would be on a Wednesday or Thursday in the next two weeks. **Bliss** is still going on Sunday nights, so for a good time, stop in to finish your weekend off **Bliss**fully.

Kelli Randell took a blissful vacation for a few days to recharge batteries for the holidays by visiting that renowned capital of relaxation, San Francisco. So she should be well recharged to get Club Βλrd Cage through the holiday events and into the Miss Bλrd Cage Pageant January 24. I memory serves, that means she gets back in time for Employee Turnabout, the Club Bλrd Cage 3rd anniversary on December 10, Christmas and New Years Eve, then the pageant. Knowing Kelli, she's got it all put together already!

With ceilings painted, new lighting up and the floor being worked on, REBAR is getting it together for a grand opening the first weekend in December. In case you don't know, REBAR is opening where VIP's used to be. New owners from Chicago, new décor, new feel, new place to go in PSL. According to Jerry and Jim, the new owners, it will have a "warm industrial" feel: blues, grays, stainless steel and dark wood. Can't wait to experience it! For locals, check it out the week after Thanksgiving as they hope to open for a break in period before the grand opening.

There's more available for activists in Brevard, see the back page of this issue and in PSL John is starting to plan for some sort of center in loving memory of Peter, who passed between hurricanes. Such great news that our communities continue to grow!

Send your news, gossip and tidbits to MissT@ootcmag.com

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Fairvilla, 500 Thurm Blvd.

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Family of God in Christ Church Services 950 Cocoa Blvd, Ste. 104

Melbourne:

The Cold Keg, 4060 W. New Haven Cosmopolitan Salon, 2955 Pineda Causeway

East Coast MCC Services
Nextel, 238 S. Wickham Rd.
Nautical Jack's 786 Apollo Blvd.

Vero Beach:

Chuck's News, 2013 13th Ave East Coast MCC Services PFLAG meetings

Port St. Lucie:

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