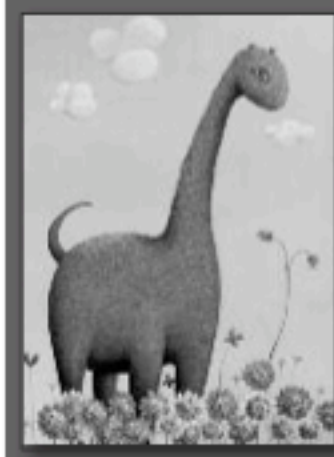


COMMUNITY CORNER



ARTIST CRAIG CARLISLE SUPPORTS CATF WITH ONLINE SALE

In his continued commitment to CATF, artist and friend of CATF, Craig Carlisle, has graciously offered to donate 40% of select sales to CATF. Craig's famous "heads", in addition to his expanded work, have become recognizable worldwide. The select pieces can be viewed and purchased by visiting this site...<http://www.craigcarlisle.com/paintingspecial.html>. Here's your chance to grab one of his amazing pieces of art and support CATF! Craig originally offered a 15% discount, but then changed his mind and increased the amount. "After giving it some thought I have decided to raise the amount I am donating to CATF from 15% to 40%," said Craig. "The generosity from Outlook, my deep heart felt connection to CATF, and my desire to say thank you to Sally for all her hard work over the years makes it easy to make this change."

"Though we have all lost friends and those closer to AIDS, I am sure it is what helps weave the need in the heart to give of ourselves. I lost a very dear friend Larry to AIDS in 1989, and from that moment I made a commitment to never forget him and what that last year was like for him. My creativity was a gift given to me and I feel the need to continue to give as much back as I can. Since I have never really been in a position to just write a check I have found it easy to donate by using my art as the vehicle."

Craig Carlisle was born in Oklahoma and moved to Ohio where he studied at the Columbus College of Art and Design, where he received his BFA in 1988. Carlisle worked as an artist in New York City before making his home in California. Carlisle creates a "still-moment" in his narrative art by juxtaposing recognizable elements while at the same time using minimal, sometimes flat color, for the background. A complexity is built around the emotional and psychological context of the work. The figures he paints are inanimate, sometimes single heads or double heads sprouting from the same set of shoulders. The artist explains, "my work is about communication, about communicating something optimistic, almost healing."



NEW CREATION MCC ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR/GET TO KNOW THE NEIGHBORHOOD

New Creation Metropolitan Community Church is having its second Holiday Bazaar after the success of last year's bazaar on Saturday December 1st, from 9a-4p at New Creation MCC (116 E. Williams Rd., Columbus, Ohio 43209).

Local artists that have contributed art so far are AbstractAnnie with mixed media glass (www.abstractannie.com) and many blown glass holiday ornaments from the artists from Glass Axis, thanks to Heidi Rozell (www.glassaxis.org). There is also a glass piece in the works that is collaboration with AbstractAnnie and Master Stained glass artist Gary James of "CatsPaw" stained glass (www.catspaw-stainedglass.com). Gary James does the lost art of glass painting and Annie does abstract work, they are hoping to have the pieces ready by the bazaar.

Along with all the fine art, unique gift items including hand-tied fleece blankets, soaps, candies, fashion items for your four legged friends and New Creation's own cookbooks will be available at the bazaar. New Creation's cookbook is filled with recipes enjoyed for generations in families across the nation. Gathered from local members and friends, clergy, and MCC Elders, the cookbook includes recipes from our denomination's founder, Rev. Elder Troy Perry, and our International Moderator, Rev. Elder Nancy Wilson. Cookies and candies featured in the cookbook will be available for purchase — and to taste test! "You can come and do all your last minute holiday shopping here! Prices will cover a wide range," says Pastor Margaret Hawk, "and you'll find everything from stocking stuffers to the truly fine art."

New Creation MCC is known as the church that was "founded in, but reaches beyond," the GLBT community. Two special features of the Bazaar highlight this commitment to be good neighbors. The first includes a number of hand tied fleece blankets, made by members and friends of the congregation. Proceeds from these sales will be used to buy materials for an ongoing outreach program through Project Linus, (www.projectlinus.org) an organization that provides "comfort blankets" for children who are critically ill or have experienced trauma. Blankets in November were given to children displaced by the fires in California and the blankets this December will be double fleeced for those who are homeless. Proceeds from all other sales are shared by New Creation MCC.

"Secondly, while we hope folks will come and find wonderful goodies to give their friends and loved ones, we also hope they'll give generously to worthy cause," says Rev. Hawk. "This bazaar is a way for

us to help support Project Linus while reminding people that although we recently moved German Village to 116 E. Williams Rd, we're very much alive and well as a church." New Creation is a member congregation of the Metropolitan Community Churches, which has some 43,000 adherents in 300 congregations in 22 countries around the world, making it one of the largest predominantly GLBT organizations with an international reach. More information about the church can be found at www.newcreationmcc.org.

PARTICIPATE IN THE HOLIDAY ADOPT-A-FAMILY PROGRAM

Want to do something nice this holiday season? How about adopting a needy person/family affected by HIV? Here's how CATF's Holiday Adopt a Family program works:

CATF works with community groups/churches/organizations and/or individuals, who would like to "adopt" their clients for the Holidays. They have both single clients in need, as well as families.

CATF will collect "wish list" items from the clients and their family members. We will then pass on the wish list to the individual/group who can then shop for the items and do the gift wrapping.

CATF is asking for all the gifts to be delivered to our office the week of 12/10. CATF staff will then distribute the gifts to the client and/or families.

When people drop off the gifts, CATF asks them to fill out an in-kind donation form, which can then be used as a tax deduction should they wish to do so.

Those interested individuals or groups/church/organization, can contact Meredith White at 614.340.6692 or via email at meredithwhite@catf.net.

30 CITIES ACROSS NORTHEAST OHIO ISSUE WORLD AIDS DAY PROCLAMATIONS

With over 70 million accumulated cases of HIV/AIDS globally, and 1.1 million living cases in the U.S., AIDS is no longer someone else's challenge. It's everyone's.

And in northeast Ohio, cities across the region have once again responded to the call of this year's World AIDS Day - "Leadership" - by declaring Saturday, December 1 World AIDS Day in large cities, rural areas, and small towns.

"Last year we were inspired by the fact that 20 cities in Northeast Ohio made World AIDS Day proclamations, said Earl Pike, executive director of the AIDS Taskforce of Greater Cleveland. "This year, ten more have joined the call, and more are coming

in. "It affirms the reality that AIDS is not merely a challenge to a few, but to all of us, and all of us need to collectively respond - to step up, as the theme of World AIDS Day this year suggests, and take leadership."

In all 30 cities have issued or plan to issue formal World AIDS Day declarations. Last year the cities of Brunswick, Cleveland, Cleveland Heights, Eastlake, Euclid, Garfield Heights, Highland Hills, Maple Heights, Lakewood, Mentor-on-the-Lake, North Royalton, Oberlin, Orange, Parma, Pepper Pike, South Euclid, Vermillion, Westlake, Wickliffe, and Willoughby - among others - issued proclamations. This year they are joined, to date, by Avon, Beachwood, Brook Park, Brecksville, Chardon, Brooklyn, East Cleveland, Claridon, Fairlawn, Glen Willow, Lyndhurst, Medina, Painseville, and University Heights.

The proclamations call upon cities and townships to "reaffirm our commitment to support a compassionate community response to HIV/AIDS," and asks citizens to "talk openly about HIV/AIDS in their homes, in workplaces, in schools, and in faith community settings so that together, we can take on the challenge of personal and community "Leadership" and build a world free of HIV/AIDS."

TV CARES HONORS IN THE LIFE WITH THE RIBBON OF HOPE AWARD FOR OUTSTANDING COVERAGE OF HIV/AIDS

In The Life will be recognized for its outstanding work in documenting the many faces and stories of the AIDS pandemic by receiving The Academy of Television Arts & Science's Ribbon of Hope Award.

Presented by TV CARES, the AIDS Awareness Committee of the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences, the Ribbon of Hope Awards will take place on World AIDS Day, December 1, at the Academy's Leonard H. Goldenson Theater in Los Angeles at 7:30p. In *The Life* Media Executive Director Michelle Kristel will be there to receive the award with friends-of-*In The Life* celebrity guests.

"This is a welcomed recognition by TV CARES of *In The Life's* early work in drawing attention to the greatest public health crisis in history, AIDS," said Michelle Kristel, Executive Director of *In The Life* Media, Inc. "With this prestigious award, the Academy is not only recognizing *In The Life's* history of illuminating people to the issues shaping the LGBT experience, but our commitment to presenting them in a way that raises public awareness among all communities."

TV CARES was founded in 1996 by the Academy of Television Arts & Sciences to bring light to outstanding programming in the area of AIDS aware-

ness. There are no paid employees at TV CARES and every volunteer is dedicated to the primary mission of promoting and encouraging responsible programming in the area of AIDS awareness and education. Previous winners of the Ribbon of Hope Award include: Dick Clark, Sharon Stone, Jeffrey Katzenberg, MTV Networks, 20/20, The AIDS Memorial Quilt, Lezza Gibbons, Showtime and ER.

SEEING RED & WHITE FOR HOME OWNERSHIP CENTER

Local performers will come together to help raise funds for the Franklinton Development Association's Home Ownership Center on Friday, Dec 7, at Skully's Music and Diner.

Motion Productions producer Jacob Wooten has gathered a diverse lineup including Brundlety, Bum Wealthy, the Max Power Trio, The Saturday Giant, and Noka Davers and friends for a benefit show. Proceeds will be used to help construct the Home Ownership Center on West Broad Street.

"The Center is intended to be a catalyst for engaging Franklinton residents," said Jim Sweeney, Executive Director of the FDA. "We will concentrate on home ownership and personal finance education for low- to moderate-income residents."

"It's difficult to find qualified buyers," Sweeney continued. "Our mission is to help people to become successful homeowners, and to train buyers by engaging them in financial literacy training and home ownership education. The Center will market all of these things, and will be a symbolic rally point for the revitalization of Columbus' most historic neighborhood."

Constructed in a former check-cashing business, the Center will reside in a 100+-year-old commercial space. "What we're doing is precisely the opposite of check cashing," Sweeney said. "We're in full fundraising mode, on our way to the \$15,000 that will be necessary to renovate and open the space." The Center will help residents break the cycle of the check-cashing mentality, giving them the opportunity to take control of their financial situations and become invested, committed homeowners.

The Red & White Winter Kickoff will begin at 9p at Skully's (1151 N High St). Admission is \$6. The event is produced by Wooten's Motion Productions and sponsored by Skully's, the Dolls of Evolved, Haircolorxperts, Hand Fed Graphics, Evolved, and Outlook Weekly.

For more information on the Franklinton Development Association, visit www.franklinton.org. For more information on the Red & White party, see the ad on page 17.

**ABOUT TOWN**

by Michael Daniels

I'm Ready For My Close-Up

Featuring over 100 framed photographs of Ohio's most famous — and infamous — female illusionists, local photographer Neal Raffensberger's exhibit *I'm Ready For My Close-Up* will be on display from Dec 7-29 at Q Bar (205 N 5th St).

Dating as far back as 1984, Raffensberger's collection of framed photographs will debut on Dec 7, with a show and event to benefit Pater Noster House. The evening will begin with happy hour. At 9p, a \$5 cover charge begins, and the show really kicks into high gear with high heels galore as many of Raffensberger's portrait subjects take the stage for a dragstravaganza not to be missed.

"When I started this process," Raffensberger said, "I had no idea just how many photographs and portraits I actually had. This is going to be an amazing show."

Scheduled performers include, but certainly will not be limited to, Georgia



Jackson, Samantha Rollins, Maria Garrison, Missy Marlow, CoCo, VIVI Yelour, Valerie Luster, Paige Passion, Amber Marie, Sonya Ross, Fancy Punasti, Virginia West, Nina West, Sable Coate, Maria Lopez, and Martini.

"We're only doing a two-hour show," Raffensberger laughed. "That's going to be difficult. With the number of performers who are lining up to participate and give back to this event, it's going to be a full evening of non-stop entertainment" that will honor and showcase the art of female illusion as perfected by the Ohio drag community.

The event will also showcase old drag videos on Q Bar's monitors, and a collection of Raffensberger's personal photo albums will be on display.

A special showing of *Queens of Columbus*, a short documentary film made in the early 1990s, will occur at 8:30 and 10:30p. The film, which was featured on PBS, features many well-known female illusionists of the time, including Cher Andrea, Jennifer Hart,



Even Allen, Chessa Ray Cats, and Tracy Allen.

All proceeds from the event, including the cover charge, any donations made by attendees, and all tips from all performers, will be donated to Pater Noster House, Columbus' own HIV/AIDS hospice center.

The event is sponsored by Raffensberger Photography and Framing (900 S High St), Q Bar, and *Outlook Weekly*.

For more information on the event, contact Raffensberger at 614.444.1700 or visit www.raffensbergerc.net. For more information on Pater Noster House, visit www.paternosterhouse.org.

www.craigcarlisle.com

80% of each painting sold donated to CATT.



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BRAVO'S WINTER GALLERY

BRAVO's Winter Gallery features painter MJ VANSICKLE. Her abstract oils are vibrantly colored works created with bold brush strokes and an energetic sense of line and movement. VanSickle, a retired attorney, dabbled in realistic painting decades ago. Last year she picked up her brushes again and began studying with Yoshiaki Yoshinari. Take a detour from the Gallery HOP and join the opening festivities on Saturday, Dec 1 from 6p - 9p. Share a glass of holiday cheer and a nosh as you warm up from your brisk walk around the short north. The show will be on view during regular business hours until Friday, Feb 22, 2008. BRAVO is located at 870 N. Pearl St. Please call BRAVO at 614. 294.7867 for further information.



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