

BAY WINDOWS

New England's Largest GLBT Newspaper

SEARCH:

Sat, 08 Mar 2008 12:34:31 EST

Contact Us | Find Print Edition

<<HOME

NEWS

BLOG

ARTS

Arts and Culture
Books
Movies and TV
Music
Theater

SPORTS

Men's Football
Women's Football

COLUMNS

Billy Masters
Editorial
Generation us
Guest Opinion
Holding the center
Keeping the Faith
Letters
Life in the slow lane
Mombian
Political intelligence
Pressing the flesh
Reality check
So they say
The Romney Files
Your 15 Minutes

ADVERTISING

Marketplace
Place an Ad
Classified Ads
National Gay Newspaper Guild

Back to: [Pressing The Flesh](#) » [Columnists](#) » [Home](#)

Columnists :: Pressing The Flesh

[Email](#) [Print](#) [DIGG this](#) [Del.icio.us](#) [T](#) [T](#) [T](#)

Scott Brown goin' down?

by Laura Kiritsy
Editor-in-chief
Thursday Mar 6, 2008



Dr. Sara Orozco, a Needham psychologist and former *Bay Windows* contributor, will challenge Wrentham Republican state Sen. Scott Brown for his Norfolk, Bristol & Middlesex seat this fall. Orozco is an openly gay mother of twins.

Brown won the seat in a 2004 special election after openly gay state Sen. Cheryl Jacques stepped down to take the helm of the Human Rights Campaign. With Jacques gone and the departure of Jarrett Barrios last summer, the Senate has no openly gay legislators. Will Orozco reverse that trend?

As a first-time candidate, Orozco will likely face an uphill climb in uprooting Brown. She'll no doubt receive strong support from marriage equality activists who would love to take out a notoriously anti-gay pol like Brown, who has consistently opposed pro-gay legislation and received financial backing from the likes of the Massachusetts Independent PAC for Working Families (MIPAC), the political action arm of the Massachusetts Family Institute.

However the race turns out, though, the campaign will likely challenge Brown's bounds of civility on LGBT issues. You'll recall that the senator made headlines last year when he read aloud profanity-laced Facebook posts criticizing him for his opposition to marriage equality to a group of students at King Philip Regional High School. Brown justified using potty-mouth with a bunch of teens by saying that he was simply repeating what

Most Popular This Week

1. Heavy hitters go to bat for transgender civil rights bill
2. Advocates, opponents of trans rights bill to have their say on Beacon Hill
3. Attorney General Martha Coakley comes out for civil rights protections for transgender community
4. Contrada warns of trans apocalypse
5. Advocates turn out en masse for transgender civil rights bill
6. Out lesbian candidate challenges anti-equality pol
7. Harvard community tackles race and sexuality
8. It's in his kiss
9. Marriage inequality
10. Obama's gay supporters speak

Upcoming Events

3.9 Hiking

Quick Poll

Soap fans have started a letter writing campaign to *As The*

COMMUNITY
 Bar Guide
 Calendar
 Community Guide

VIEW PRINT EDITION



ABOUT US

History
 Masthead
 Internships
 Press Releases
 Contact Us



the students themselves had written about him and his daughter. Critics characterized him as undignified and a poor role model. And back in 2001, when Brown was a state representative and Jacques still held the Senate seat, he made headlines in the *Boston Globe* and beyond when he responded to the news Jacques and her partner Jenn Chrisler were expecting twins this way: "They're certainly not married," he said. "There's a difference of philosophy there. Are there two mothers there? Are they husband and wife? It's unusual for two women having a baby. It's just not normal, in terms of what's normal in today's society."

This from a guy who in his younger years posed nude for *Cosmopolitan* magazine and rhapsodized in an accompanying profile about women who are "tall, athletic and have longish hair and beautiful legs ... hmm, I'm getting excited!" He also waxed homoerotic about his unabashed nudity: "When you go to the beach you automatically seek out the best bodies, female and male," he said. "Why should it be different in a magazine?" Because it's just not normal, that's why.

Anyway, we digress. Brown's 1982 *Cosmo* spread is seriously old news. We just love any excuse to dredge up 80s-era cheese from an anti-gay pol. Back to Orozco: the candidate will be doing a meet and greet at Seven Arrows Farm on the Seekonk/Attleboro town line at 1:00 p.m. on March 15.

Kvell over Marc Solomon with Keshet - and his mom

Keshet, an organization of LGBT Jews, will honor MassEquality Campaign Director Marc Solomon at the Keshet Cabaret, an evening of music, comedy and theatrical performance at the Jorge Hernandez Cultural Center in Boston's South End on March 13.

The event marks the first time that Solomon will get some institutional kudos for his leadership in the fight to secure equal marriage rights in Massachusetts. In honor of his first big honor, Solomon told us that his mom is traveling from her home in Missouri to escort him to the event. Maybe while she's in town she'll help the man who helped make it possible for thousands of other folks to get married finally find a husband of his own. That'd really be a cause to kvell.

Pro-equality candidates prevail in special elections

Special elections on March 4 are sending two candidates backed by MassEquality to Beacon Hill. In the 8th Essex contest to succeed former state representative Doug Petersen, who left the legislature last year to join the administration of Gov. Deval Patrick, Democrat Lori Ehrlich prevailed over an anti-equality Republican challenger. In the 23rd Middlesex race, Democrat Sean Garballey won the race to succeed former state representative Jim Marzilli, who won a special election to the state Senate last December.

That's good news for the gays, since both Petersen and Marzilli were stalwart supporters of the LGBT community. Garballey and Ehrlich have likewise pledged strong support for the community.

**Pols show their pride at NERP
 Owing to a last-minute scheduling conflict, Boston Mayor Tom**

World Turns, clamoring for more kissing between Noah and Luke. If the campaign works, what duo should queer TV viewers turn their attention to next?

- Carol and Joan on *Mad Men*
- Patrick and Carmelita on *Dirty Sexy Money*
- Six and Three on *Battlestar Galactica*
- Hiro and Ando on *Heroes*

Vote!

Columnists



MOMBIAN
 by Diana Rudolph

Rainbow List showcases books for LGBT families and youth



HOLDING THE CENTER
 by Richard J. Rosendall

False narratives



LIFE IN THE SLOW LANE
 by Judah LeBlang

My Hair-Raising Journey

209
 an american bistro & bar

Club Cafe
 LOUNGE + VIDEO BAR

209 COLUMBUS AVE.
 Boston, MA 02116
 617.536.0966

Menino had to bow out of a commitment to speak at the Northeast Regional Pride Conference dinner at the Hyatt Regency on Feb. 29. But it was okay, because Menino sent along his LGBT community liaison, Karen Salfity who, with all due respect to Hizzoner and his unwavering commitment to the LGBT community, is a.) better looking and b.) more understandable to out-of-towners unfamiliar with the mayor's, um, thick Massachusetts accent. Salfity read a proclamation from Menino declaring Feb. 29, 2008 Northeast Regional Pride Day in the city of Boston. The conference, which brought Pride organizers from around the country to the city, was hosted by the Boston Pride Committee.

Salfity was followed to the stage by openly gay state Rep. Carl Sciortino, who recalled his first Pride march, in Hartford, Conn., back when he was a 17-year-old high school senior, about two years ago. Oh, just kidding. Sciortino was actually elected to his second term in the legislature two years ago. "I remember pulling up to the capitol in Hartford with my friends and seeing this mass of literally thousands upon thousands upon thousands of people from our community, from all walks of life - everything from civic groups, to HIV groups, to youth groups, church groups, everything - it was just this inspiring scene that will sort of forever remain in my brain."

State Rep. Liz Malia also recalled her earliest involvement with Pride, which she said stretches back to the early 1970s, when she first came out. "I guess it's kind of embarrassing. It was 1973 I think," she said, to laughter from the crowd.

Fenway honors Ted Kennedy

Here's something no one warned the lesbian reporter about before she shipped out to her very first Fenway Men's Event on March 1: It's hard to tell more than a thousand guys apart from one another when they're all wearing tuxes. Nonetheless we managed to discern a few familiar faces in the blur of black and white, for instance, at-large City Councilor Mike Flaherty, who told us he attends the event, a fundraiser for Fenway Community Health Center, every year. "I'm a huge supporter of all of our community health centers, the network of community health centers we have in the city of Boston serving some of our most vulnerable residents," he said. Also in the house were Congresswoman Niki Tsongas, easily recognizable because she was not wearing a tuxedo, Boston Mayor Tom Menino, Providence Mayor David Cicilline, and Boston City Councilors John Connolly and Mike Ross.

The event raised \$525,000 for Fenway, breaking last year's record of just over \$500,000.

Sen. Ted Kennedy accepted the Congressman Gerry Studds Award for his longtime advocacy on LGBT issues. Taking the stage to accept the award in a ballroom at the Copley Marriot, Kennedy paid homage - some would say he plagiarized - to his chosen presidential candidate, Sen. Barack Obama: "I'm fired up and ready to go," he told the crowd. Later he seemed to take a



PRESSING
THE FLESH
by Laura Kirtsy

Scott Brown goin'
down?

lighthearted swipe at Obama's rival for the Democratic nomination. Noting that comedian Kate Clinton was in the house, Kennedy asked, "Is she running for president, too?"

[✉ Email](#) [🖨 Print](#) [👍 DIGG this](#) [📌 Del.icio.us](#) [↑](#) [↑](#) [↑](#)

[Back to: Pressing The Flesh](#) » [Columnists](#) » [Home](#)



Copyright © 2007 Bay Windows Inc.