

# Grand River Rainbow Historical Project

[www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/](http://www.grandriver-rainbowhistory.ca/)

*celebrating the lives and times of rainbow folk in Grand River country*

## *Pride Pages*

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# PridePages

Serving the greater LGBT communities of Kitchener, Waterloo and Cambridge

April 2006

Kitchener, Ontario

[www.tri-pride.ca](http://www.tri-pride.ca)

[info@tri-pride.ca](mailto:info@tri-pride.ca)

## Guelph Pride Picnic cancelled

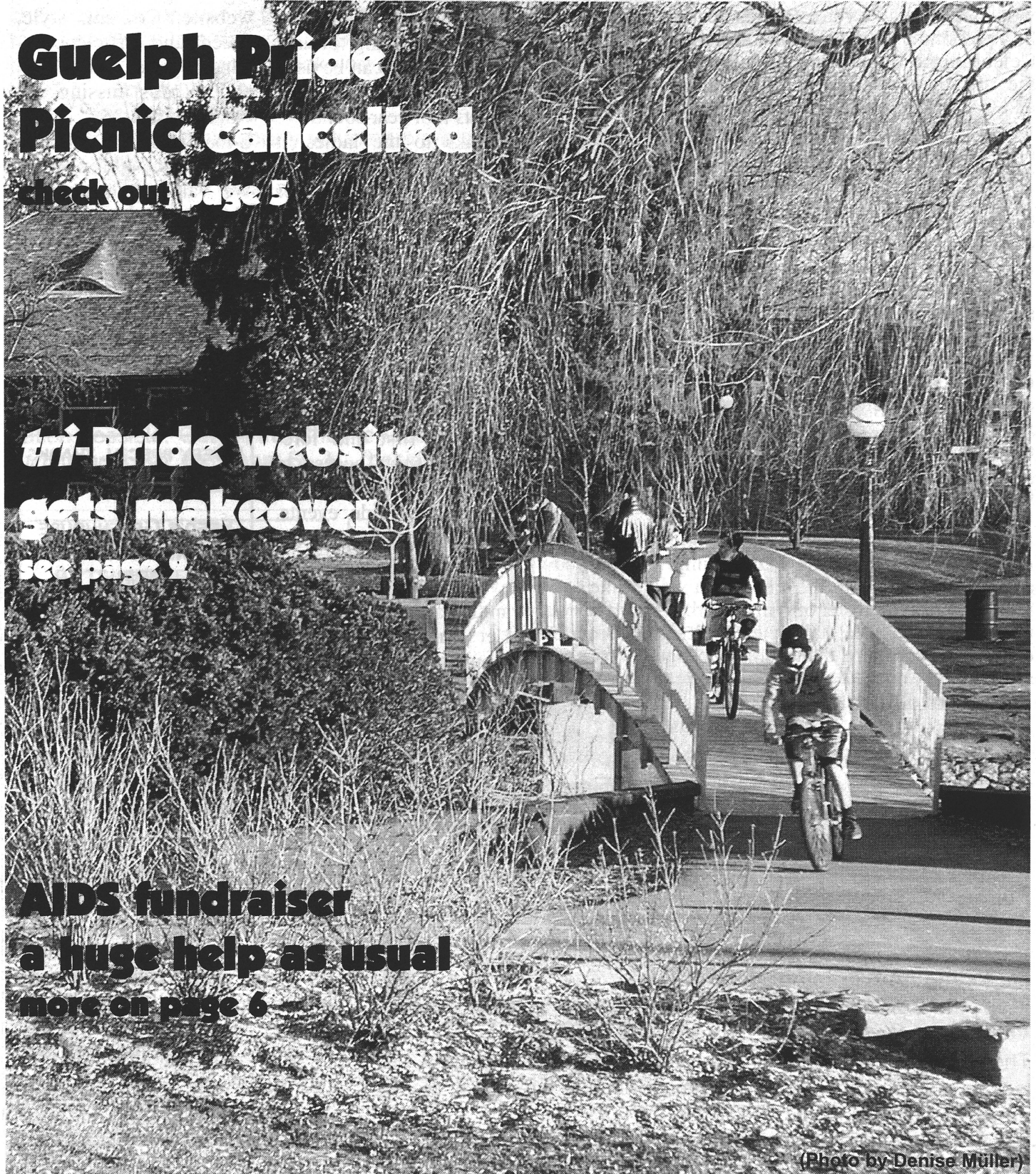
check out page 5

## tri-Pride website gets makeover

see page 9

## AIDS fundraiser a huge help as usual

more on page 6



(Photo by Denise Müller)



## Be a part of your *tri*-Pride celebrations for June 2006

The *tri*-Pride Committee would like to invite you to be a part of the 2006 Pride Celebrations supporting the Kitchener-Waterloo and Cambridge area.

We are the only local organization providing a venue for our LGBT and LGBT-friendly community, encouraging the entire community to get involved in generating awareness of LGBT issues. With the support of local businesses, we strive to raise awareness and tolerance in our multicultural cities to ensure that diversity of lifestyles and acceptance are a cornerstone to our growing communities.

Our outdoor festival on Roos Island in Victoria Park, Kitchener, is the climax to a week of Pride activities throughout the region. With a full roster of performers and local talent, we expect more than

8,000 visitors this year. This year's theme, "Wave of Acceptance", brings to mind the increased acceptance we have been experiencing, both locally and nationally. Gay and lesbian rights have been frequently raised points of contention over the past year all around the world. We are being accepted! However, we need to remember that there are many levels of acceptance and that we can practice acceptance in each of our daily lives and in our own communities.

Promotional events are well underway for this year's event. Please contact [info@tri-pride.ca](mailto:info@tri-pride.ca) for vendor table information and 2006 PrideGuide advertising. Let us know how you would like to be involved. Ask for our newly designed sponsorship package! Book now!

## *tri*-Pride website has been transformed

Over the last few months, your *tri*-Pride Committee has been working towards a website that can be used as a community and events tool year-round.

Thanks to the ladies at AntiDiva Studios, Sandra Mitchell and Jennifer Matka, [www.tri-pride.ca](http://www.tri-pride.ca) has been undergoing some upgrades to make it an efficient, user-friendly community portal.

We look forward to hearing your opinions and comments on our newly designed website. The site will first and foremost be your access to Kitchener, Waterloo and Cambridge Pride events. With your help, we can create a website that everyone can use and appreciate all year.

Let us know your thoughts and suggestions

regarding the updated website. Content, style, speed and efficiency – what's good and what's not? What's missing and what's perfect?

E-mail [info@tri-pride.ca](mailto:info@tri-pride.ca) – even if it's just a one-liner. We value your opinion. Please take the time to help our community.

Thanks again to the ladies at AntiDiva Studios for all the work they have put into the website thus far, as well as CCJ Clearline for hosting the [www.tri-pride.ca](http://www.tri-pride.ca) portal.

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The *tri*-Pride Committee is always looking for new members, as well as volunteers for specific events. If you're interested, please email: [info@tri-pride.ca](mailto:info@tri-pride.ca)

## Editor's Note:

Please note the PridePages reserve the right to edit any material submitted for publication. Written material will be edited for content, spelling and grammar. Images may also be edited for sharpness and contrast. The PridePages and/or the *tri*-Pride Committee cannot be held responsible for any errors in fact in submitted pieces. Please contact the editor at [pridepages@tri-pride.ca](mailto:pridepages@tri-pride.ca) if you have any questions, concerns or submissions.

## OUT ON THE SHELF ANNOUNCEMENTS Community Calendar

Are you wondering what is happening locally in the LGBTTTTSIQQ Scene? Is there a LGBTTTTSIQQ-positive event that you would like listed on [www.OutOnTheShelf.ca](http://www.OutOnTheShelf.ca) Community Calendar? Then check out our innovative Local Events - Community Calendar. If your organization would like access to our calendar to enter your LGBTTTTSIQQ events directly, please visit our website and complete a request form for access. Thank you and enjoy these community events!

## Over 900 Catalogued Books

Our Out on the Shelf Library volunteers are back at it again. We have catalogued over 900 books, movies, magazines, zines, CDs and records. Come check out our amazing collection and sign out a resource. This is a great opportunity to come out, get reconnected with your local community, meet a friend and socialize. Our volunteers are exceptionally friendly and will be happy to assist you in finding the right resource.

## LGBTTTTSIQQ Magazines

Did you know that Out on the Shelf is your one-stop location to get any of the following Canadian queer magazines FREE of charge? Our present monthly magazines are: Toronto Xtra, Capital Xtra, West Xtra, Wayves, Fab, Outlook and PridePages. Come out to pick up your monthly magazine and keep in touch with what is going on across Canada.

Out on the Shelf would like to thank all of its volunteers for their commitment to making the organization possible. Out on the Shelf is Guelph's Queer Library and Resource Centre, located on the third floor at 147 Wyndham St., N., (beside the Diana Restaurant). You can call us at (519) 821-1789, or visit our website at [www.outontheshelf.ca](http://www.outontheshelf.ca)

## STORY TIME AND ACTIVITIES FOR KIDS

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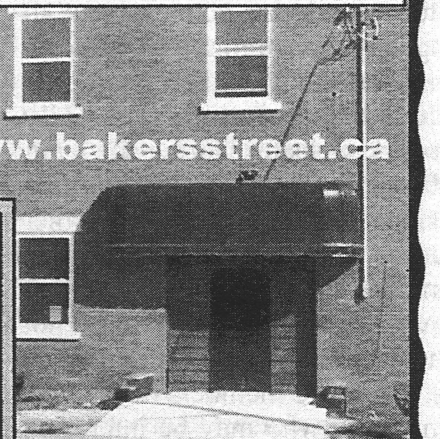
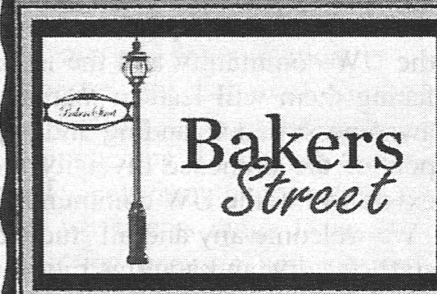
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# Fighting for the right

GLOW Ally Network is pleased to announce that as of March 6, in conjunction with our 35th anniversary, Gays and Lesbians of Waterloo (GLOW) will begin hosting a visibility and awareness program on campus called the GLOW Ally Network. We would like to offer you an open invitation to participate in this exciting initiative.

The Ally Network is a group of University of Waterloo (UW) students, staff and faculty from a wide variety of backgrounds who are focused on working towards supporting, embracing and celebrating sexual diversity, as well as engendering equality at the university. Becoming a member of the GLOW Ally Network is a simple process, consisting of two steps:

1. Attending the GLOW Ally Network introductory session (approximately one hour), and
2. Signing the GLOW Ally Network Code of Conduct.

All registered Ally Network members receive an identifier (e.g. a button or similar item, subject to budgetary constraints) to indicate their status, and their name is included on the GLOW Ally Network website. During the year, additional Ally Network training sessions will be offered to further educate and empower network members.

Attending the sessions does not obligate you to become a registered ally. There are members of the UW community who may be interested in the GLOW Ally Network and/or learning more about the UW LGBTQQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgendered, queer and questioning) community, but may not be comfortable committing to taking a

training session or becoming a member. Further, it should never be assumed that persons who are not network members have negative views about sexual minorities. Resources will be provided on the website for any and all members of the UW community who wish to show their support but do not, for any reason, wish to join the network.

Given UW's clear policies regarding respect for equality and individual differences, one may question a need for such a program. While policy provides a clear framework for addressing any concerns that arise, it does not, in and of itself, provide the means for UW faculty, staff and students to ensure a safe and supportive environment for LGBTQQ members of the UW community.

The GLOW Ally Network is an essential first step in ensuring a supportive environment for LGBTQQ members of the UW community. This initiative is created with the hope of providing a safe space for LGBTQQ on campus, as well as comprehensive resources for both participants in the network and the UW community as a whole. It is sincerely hoped that greater visibility of LGBTQQ members of the UW community and the issues facing them will lead to increased awareness, understanding and support of the immense diversity that exists within the UW community.

We welcome any and all students, staff, faculty, and administration to participate in the program. For more information, or to sign up for an introductory session, visit the GLOW Ally Network website at <http://watserv1.uwaterloo.ca/~glowally>

## CALL FOR CONTENT

IS THERE SOMETHING YOU'D LIKE TO SEE COVERED IN THE PRIDEPAGES? MAYBE YOU'D LIKE TO SUBMIT A WRITTEN PIECE TO THE PRIDEPAGES FOR PUBLICATION.

IF SO, PLEASE E-MAIL PRIDEPAGES@TRI-PRIDE.CA WITH THE **Who, What, Where, When, Why** AND **How**. THE PRIDEPAGES WANT TO FEATURE WHAT IS IMPORTANT TO YOU! PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL SUBMISSIONS MUST BE RECEIVED AT LEAST ONE MONTH BEFORE THEIR EVENT DATE FOR PUBLICATION.

## Water status: protected

By JOHN MILOY

On March 6, I was happy to welcome the Honourable Laurel Broten, Environment Minister, to Waterloo region to meet with local municipal leaders and officials.

The minister emphasized the government's efforts to work in partnership with Ontario's communities to protect Ontario's water sources and keep them clean. Over the past two years, the Grand River Conservation Authority (GRCA) has received over \$1.2 million to help ensure it has the staff and resources to work with communities to develop source protection plans.

With this type of funding, along with the Clean Water Act, currently working through the legislative process, the government has pledged to protect our supply of drinking water.

# Pride no go in Guelph

By JEROME CHANG

Thank you everyone who expressed interest in helping to organize this year's Guelph Pride Picnic. On Sunday, March 5, a meeting was held to discuss the Pride Picnic for this year. Eight people attended the meeting. After careful consideration and a lot of discussion, it was decided that the Guelph Pride Picnic would not be organized this year.

The group felt with the amount of time left to organize the event and not many people wanting to take the lead in organization, it would serve the committee to put off the picnic for one year. During the upcoming year, the committee will be interested in developing a more solidified and sustainable plan to organizing future picnics without burning out the wonderful volunteers who want to get involved.

That said, the people at the meeting were interested in creating an alternative Pride event, still scheduled for the end of May, in place of the picnic this year. This event would serve as a thank you to all the picnic organizers and volunteers while also recruiting a solid volunteer base for the 2007 Pride Picnic.

If you want to get involved, please email Barbara McDowall at [barbara@authenticlives.com](mailto:barbara@authenticlives.com)

There will be another meeting held April 2, in regards to the Pride Picnic. The meeting will take place at 2 p.m., at 143 Kingsmill Ave., (York and Victoria Roads). For more information, please call (519) 767-██████



(Photo by Denise Müller)

Kitchener residents enjoy a sunny day in Victoria Park as Pride Day quickly approaches. With about two months left, the tri-Pride Committee is busy getting things organized for this year's event.

# Local band member pushes limits

By CATHY MACLACHLAN

Is it worth the struggle? We have all asked ourselves this before. Many times we give up, and usually for reasons such as lack of confidence, life distractions, pipe dreams, and so on.

What if there was someone who pushes the limits and continues to follow her desire of expression through music? Suzie Burmester of Brave & Crazy exemplifies such persistence and determination.

Burmester got her start in the music industry as a sound technician, graduating to singing background vocals from the soundboard. Today, her talents range from six-and-12-string acoustic and electric guitars, vocals, studio work and song writing. Suzie is an original member of Brave & Crazy, which, over the past few years has been building a very powerful following.

The energy from this band is super-charged, fun and very contagious.

Burmester has combined her talents with Samantha Pollard (also of Brave & Crazy) to produce a recording of their own. S<sup>2</sup>: Power of Two will be released soon, hitting the internet-radio airwaves in May on [www.bcnifm.com](http://www.bcnifm.com)

Brave & Crazy will also be entertaining at pride events this year. June 3, they will be opening for Carole Pope at Dickson Arena (Cambridge) and June 4, the band will perform at the tri-Pride celebration in Victoria Park (Kitchener). Brave & Crazy will also rock the boat at the end of this year, for a 7-day Carnival Cruise, starting December 2.

Be sure to catch all the upcoming events at [www.bakersstreet.ca](http://www.bakersstreet.ca) or [www.braveandcrazy.com](http://www.braveandcrazy.com)

When you see Burmester's smiling face at Baker's Street, ask her, "Is it worth the struggle?"



# Film crashes into viewers' memories

By DAN DESROSIERS

Bear with me for a moment, as I first need to comment that one of the greatest things about the film *Crash* was its capacity to nearly convince the watcher that it's actually a great film. I thought it was good, but certainly not great. It's a compilation of a number of intertwining stories, and although one or two of them are worthy of the term "great", they don't really make up for the rest.

With one of the most star-studded and diverse casts I have seen in a while, *Crash*'s stories explore the racial aspect of American society post-9/11, encompassing most races and the stereotypes that follow them. *Crash* explores the reasons racial crimes occur without criminalization. These crimes occur, and the perpetrators are not condemned. In some cases, this is done masterfully, but in others, it comes across more like a cheesy lesson.

One difficulty is the film's running time. It's short. With the length of time afforded, it's almost impossible to develop so many characters. Each character is integral to the story and supposed to be woven into the plot to create a complex, interlocking tapestry. *Crash* isn't quite long enough to do that. It allows for the development of some characters, but leaves many feeling nameless and defined only by their actions.

That's not to say *Crash* is a poorly made film, however. Outside of some scripting issues, it does a good job of convincing viewers of its greatness with elements of stellar quality. The acting in particular

is a high point. The all-star cast's performances are as good as the script allows them to be and, in the few really well written pieces, the performances are excellent.

*Crash* is the sort of film that wins awards because of its ability to stay in the viewer's memory. History has shown us if a film is quotable then it does better. *Crash* is absolutely quotable, and its capacity of irritating the viewer makes it more memorable. Sometimes it seems like the writer's purpose for the film was merely to lecture on racism, but then the story pulls you in deeper and truly takes hold of us. And for those stories, *Crash* is worth it.

## Aids4AIDS a success

By DAVE BELL

Held on Thursday, February 23, this event-filled evening was well attended and well enjoyed, especially by several members of your *tri*-Pride Committee who went home with their pockets considerably lighter!

A familiar face in the form of renowned Toronto entertainer, Chris Edwards, was the feature act and provided all of the wit and laughter that we have come to love from this amazing drag queen. The ever-popular Miss Drew & Crew also took the opportunity to strut their stuff for this yearly fundraiser.

The lighting of the AIDS memorial candle started off the evening, and highlights included the head shaving of several Kitchener drag queens, including Miss Victoria, Madison and Robyn Michaels. The Chinese

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**APRIL 14 - DJ MATT RUSSELL**  
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**APRIL 16 - DJ GEORGE ANTHONY, \$8.50 PITCHERS, NO COVER**  
 ALL THAT GLITTERS IS GOLD EVERY THURSDAY, FEATURING SOUTHERN ONTARIO'S FINEST. SHOW @ 11 P.M., FORGET THE COVER - PAY THE CAB.

auction for the Pride Afghan was a fast and furious battle, but Anthony Simon took the prize for another year, along with the 50/50 draw. A big thanks to Miss Drew's mother for creating the afghan. Many lucky people also went home with some great stuff from the silent auction.

In between sets, DJ NSJ rocked the dance floor which filled up quickly.

With donations and tips donated by the bartenders and performers that evening, and with a great show of support from all those attending, Aids4AIDS 2006 raised almost \$1,700 for ACCKWA, the AIDS Committee of Cambridge, Kitchener, Waterloo and area. Congratulations and thanks go to all those who helped organize and perform this year and thanks to all those who attended this great show.

# Musical Secrets 101: Mandy Barnett

By SARAH KELLY

Please allow me to let you in on a musical secret.

Her name is Mandy Barnett. She is a talented 30-year-old power singer living in Nashville, TN. Barnett tops many singers' favourites list including Trisha Yearwood and The Mavericks.

Born in Crossville, TN, Barnett got her first real recognition at the ripe age of 10 when she entered a singing contest at Dollywood theme park in Pigeon Forge, TN. Competing against 2,500 adults and children, she was awarded Best Country Act, and won the opportunity to make a demo tape in Nashville.

This was only the beginning. By the age of 13, Barnett had signed a record deal with Universal Records. Nothing ever came out of these early recordings with Universal due to some changes within the label.

In 1994, she won the much-acclaimed role of Patsy Cline in the musical production of *Always ... Patsy Cline*. The original cast recording featuring Barnett is available on CD and was released by MCA Records in 1995.

Barnett's self-titled debut album was released February 1996 on Asylum Records.

Songs swayed from classic country tunes to a sampling of her torch-like singing ability. It's not bad for a first album with catchy tunes of the then-new 90's country flair. This powerhouse vocalist was teasing listeners with this album, which left people wanting and even needing more.

The year 1998 brought a dream musical relationship into Barnett's sights: Music Row founder, Owen Bradley, who is infamous for his work with greats like Brenda Lee, Patsy Cline, and Loretta Lynn. Barnett jumped onboard with Sire records, and was allowed a bit more freedom in her musical endeavours.

Bradley and Barnett started working on her second album, *I've Got A Right to Cry*, a critically acclaimed project that was released in 1999.

Bradley's visions plus Barnett's strong and haunting pipes made for an amazing album of emotion. This record would turn into Bradley's last project due to his untimely death half-way through the process.

*I've Got a Right to Cry* is one of those CDs that will bring dramatic ambiance into any evening. It will wrap around you like a fleece blanket and hold you tight with the lush strings and warm melodies.

Barnett is currently working on her next album, producing it herself.

To find out more about how she can produce your CD, visit [www.mandybarnett.net](http://www.mandybarnett.net) or you can check out Barnett's website at [www.mandybarnett.com](http://www.mandybarnett.com)

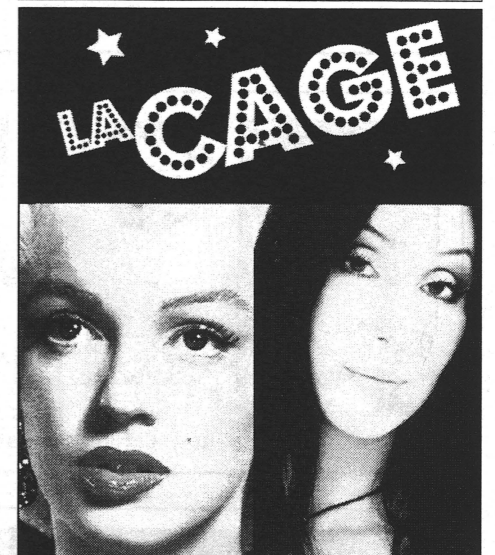
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MEMBERS OF THE RAINBOW COMMUNITY

**WANT A CHANCE TO VOICE YOUR OPINIONS?**  
 THE *TRI*-PRIDE COMMITTEE MEETS EVERY OTHER MONDAY EVENING. IF YOU'RE INTERESTED IN ATTENDING A MEETING, E-MAIL [INFO@TRI-PRIDE.CA](mailto:INFO@TRI-PRIDE.CA) THIS IS A GREAT CHANCE TO MAKE YOUR IDEAS REALITY BY BECOMING INVOLVED IN THIS YEAR'S PRIDE! MEETINGS ARE HELD AT THE CATHOLIC FAMILY COUNSELLING CENTRE, 400 QUEEN ST. S. KITCHENER, MONDAYS AT 7 P.M.




**Friday, April 28th**  
**Walper Terrace Hotel**  
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 Doors at 7 p.m. Starts at 8 p.m.  
 Includes after party at Club Renaissance  
 Advanced purchase locations: on sale April 1st at Walper Terrace Hotel and Club Renaissance

**WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP OUT AT THIS YEAR'S PRIDE EVENTS?**  
 MAYBE YOU'RE INTERESTED IN PERFORMING AT A SHOW OR ON THE PRIDE STAGE. WE WELCOME YOUR INTEREST AND LOOK FORWARD TO HEARING FROM YOU. E-MAIL [EVENTS@TRI-PRIDE.CA](mailto:EVENTS@TRI-PRIDE.CA)



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