

# Triangle Journal

VOLUME: 1 ISSUE: 7

AUGUST 2006



MEMPHIS  
GAY AND LESBIAN  
COMMUNITY CENTER

"WITHOUT A JOURNAL, A NEWSPAPER OF SOME KIND, YOU CANNOT UNITE A COMMUNITY."  
- M. K. GANDHI -

## Fraternity Massacre at Hell Island Knocks Them Dead

by Len Piechowski

Gay Memphian Mark Jones has done it again! His second and latest film, *Fraternity Massacre at Hell Island*, opened to sell out crowds at Malco's Studio on the Square on Tuesday, June 29, 2006.

Jones is the already successful writer/producer of *Eli Parker is Getting Married?* His new film, billed as "a comedy with bloodshed," contains all the clever wit and genteel terror one would expect from someone whose goal was to create a top-notch "B horror film." He released the mildly-morbid, creatively-impressive film experience on two very pleased audiences.

The film abounds with an assortment of psychos. Within the first few minutes of the film we meet four patriotic performers placed under a gypsy's curse, a slasher in an asylum for the criminally insane, a sci-fi obsessed gay sociopath, a college roommate who proves that hell hath no fury like the wrath of a freshman scorned, a paranoid histrionic who fears losing her man to the unyielding demands of the Felix University Zeta Alpha Rho fraternity,

and a Dean of Students who is being blackmailed for his trysts with the college cheerleaders.

When a disguised killer clown begins a murder spree, we are led to wonder just which one of these "wack-jobs" is doing all the, well "wack-jobs." The victims are some adorable straight and some even-more-adorable not-so-straight Zeta pledges undergoing their hell night initiation into the Zeta fraternity.

There is also a subtle political commentary threading its way through the blood and gore. We witness the demise of four unthinking patriots who blindly follow their leaders' directives without question and without a demand of accountability from them. Forever locked in an Orwellian world of 1984 they bewail "we should have asked more questions."

Movie buffs will love some unexpected allusions to Hitchcock's *Psycho*, the *Lord of the Rings* films, the *Star Wars* trilogy, and *Brokeback Mountain*.

Jones said, "I was a lot more relaxed on *Massacre* opening night than I was five years ago for *Eli Parker's* opening. We finished

*Fraternity Massacre* three full weeks before setting the engagement for the opening. With *Eli Parker*, we were still finishing up the final version 20 minutes before the opening!" He added, "About the only thing I was really worried about this time was if the audience would get all the jokes. As it turned out, they caught every one!"

The film features numerous performers familiar to many Memphians. Openly gay Tyler Farrell plays Jack, the hero of the thriller. Other leading characters include John and Tommy, two of Jack's fraternity brothers, played by straight allies Billie Worley and Kaleo Quenzer respectively, and the damsel-in-distress, Sarah, played by Corie Ventura.

Other openly gay actors in the feature film include Michael Gavois, Jonathan Lewis, Sandy Kozik, Tony Flessas, Monty Shane and Jon Devin.

Jones himself puts in a powerful cameo performance as a police detective. His acting is every bit as strong as his direction.

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## Residents Canvass Midtown for "Vote No On 1" Campaign

by Jordan Linley

Eager and bushy-tailed members of the Memphis community met early at the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center (MGLCC) on Sat., July 15.

The 12 individuals arrived to receive a thirty-minute training session on canvassing while sipping on coffee and munching on donuts provided by organizers. They then knocked on 94 houses in precinct 30, the area located north of MGLCC, in order to persuade registered voters to vote "no" on the marriage amendment that will be placed on the Nov. 7 ballot.

Amendment one, which will not provide safety or opportunities to the GLBT community, but instead deny them of already non-existent rights, has been highly contested by the Memphis rainbow community and the Tennessee Equality Project's Vote No On 1 campaign.

The Federal Marriage Amendment failed to pass in the House of Representatives on July 18. The Senate rejected the amendment in

June and both houses of Congress rejected it in 2004.

Jonathan Cole, one of the organizers for the canvassing campaign, stated that the most fulfilling aspect of the experience was "finding that there are many people in the community that support us."

While some registered voters remained undecided, canvassers "always left them with a flyer containing information they could use to make an informed decision," Cole continued.

Both Cole and co-chair of MGLCC's Initiative: Fairness (I:F), Thomas Simmons, agree that the canvassing efforts are both necessary and effective.

"Putting a face to those discriminated by this ballot measure cannot be undervalued. The pivotal step in convincing those undecided, uninformed or unmotivated is a face-to-face discussion of the measure," Simmons explained.

Results of the door-to-door campaign proved positive and successful with 80% of the contacted

registered voters stating that they oppose the amendment.

With Nov. 7 quickly approaching, I:F and other community members are dedicated to spreading the message to vote "no" on one by canvassing progressive precincts in Memphis twice more in the month of Aug.

Simmons urges Memphians to volunteer their time and efforts in order to ensure that the amendment is not passed.

"If Memphians step forward to stop discrimination and fight for fairness for all, then we can cover many areas of Shelby County."

The next canvassing effort

will take place on Sat., Aug. 5 at 9:30 a.m. Participants will meet at MGLCC to receive canvassing training and wake themselves up with donuts and coffee.

Contact Jonathan Cole at [jonthantn@juno.com](mailto:jonthantn@juno.com) for more information on becoming involved with the canvassing effort.

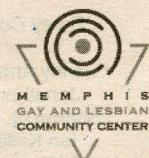


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## Triangle Journal

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# Editor's Notes

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## Learning Life Lessons from Legislators

Just from looking at my picture and reading editorials, it's safe and correct to assume that I'm much younger than 30. And maybe it's just a generational thing, but sometimes I forget how archaic people are.

Earlier this year a group of Memphians, myself included, traveled to Nashville in order to participate in the Tennessee Equality Project's Equality Day on the Hill. There, we were able to meet with various representatives from the Memphis area in order to lobby for their support for the rainbow community.

While not all representatives were completely receptive to the idea, all legislators we were able to meet were at least courteous, respectful, and understanding of our concerns.

As our group of Memphians reviewed the list of legislators, we felt it imperative to visit Dist. 92 State Representative Henri E. Brooks, who is the representative for the area in which the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center (MGLCC) is located, as well as my own district representative.

After waiting fifteen minutes to meet with Brooks, five of us filed into the colorful and ethnocentric office of Rep. Brooks.

We explained to her our concerns regarding the upcoming marriage amendment and our hopes of having the civil rights that all human beings should be endowed, regardless of sexual orientation.

And believe it or not, but after that, we lost her in a discussion, sparked by Brooks of course, about race.

She briskly and coldly informed us that GLBT rights were not civil rights. That although she's in a position of power and is a state legislator, she's "still a slave on a plantation."

She continued by telling us that her constituency only consisted of poor, church-going, African-Americans, and that she did not feel compelled or obligated to represent our needs because we were not of the majority within her district.

I left the room with my peers and walked away crying. I had just been told, face-to-face, by a woman elected by my peers, a woman who had held her seat for 14 years, that not only was she racist, but she

was also unsympathetic, albeit rude, about the concerns of her constituents.

Needless to say, I walked away from the experience with willingness and drive to research the individuals who deemed themselves worthy of representing my needs and shared my experience with Brooks with various friends and politicians.

A few weeks ago I spoke with one of the gentlemen who was at the same meeting with Brooks. He informed me that he ran into her at an event and they discussed the occurrence that took place in early Feb.

While he said she didn't sound apologetic, she remained firm in her belief that representing the black community was of great importance to her. She was trying, in some demeaned way, to justify herself.

Shortly after talking with the gentleman, I received an email that Brooks would be holding a town hall meeting in Orange Mound.

At first, I didn't want to go.

I certainly wasn't going to be voting for her, so why give her the mere pleasure of thinking I a supporter?

But I remembered my conversation with my fellow lobbyist and thought the better of myself: I would attend, stand my ground, and refuse to be made to feel like I was less than human for being a lesbian. Unfortunately, being young can sometimes be synonymous with naivety.

Instead of attending her meeting and being demeaned for my sexuality, I was instead ridiculed for lack of a darker pigmentation.

Comments like, "they're keeping our folk in jail," or that in order to see good schools and neighborhoods "we" have to drive out east.

Throughout Brooks' entire platform, she referred to fellow legislators as "the good 'ol boys," a term commonly used to refer to white, upper class, heterosexual men in a negative or derogatory way.

Although I sat through nearly an hour of Brooks' subtle racist comments, it wasn't until she attacked my partner for being young that I truly seethed with rage.

All my partner, who is just as new to Memphis as I am, wanted to know was how Brooks, who continued to



refer to herself as a representative of Orange Mound, was going to represent her needs as a resident of midtown.

Brooks' tone immediately changed from annoyed to insulting.

"Well 14 years ago when I was first elected, and you probably weren't *there* then..."

If someone knows, please tell me when it became a representative and legislator's job to make a young adult interested in politics to feel belittled?

When did it become a state representative's job to perpetuate racial divides, fueling the fire in low-income neighborhoods that all white people have money and want young black adults in jail?

When did it become necessary for a legislator to refer to her race as "we" and the rest of the community as "they" in order to unify her diverse constituents?

Since when did a person of power whose duty is to help citizens feel safe and protected decide that instead, her job description consisted of belittling any person whose skin color was not her own?

Just because I watched the movie *Crash* and read the book *Black Like Me* doesn't mean I think I know everything about race and its relation to politics.

But I certainly know racism when I see it, whether it's black, white, pink, blue, or purple.

If Brooks is still having personal problems with race, she's going to get lost in the times.

And if she continues to represent Dist. 92, we have a lot more work ahead of "us" than "we" thought.

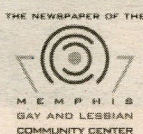
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## Editorial Policy of Triangle Journal

The editorial goal of *Triangle Journal*, the Newspaper of the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center, is to display proudly the contributions of the rainbow community in Memphis and the Mid-south. We are committed to providing information on issues of interest to our community on both the local and national levels.

## Triangle Journal

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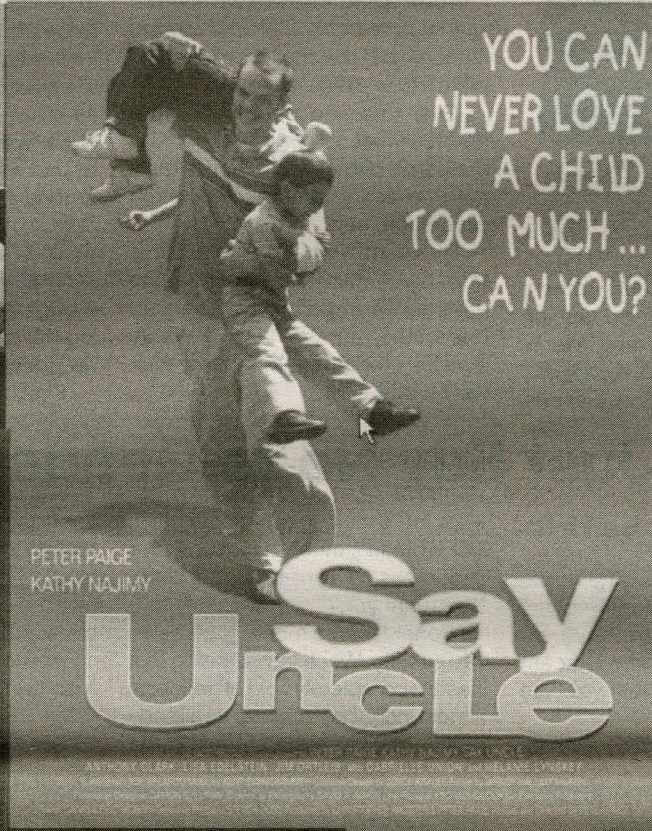
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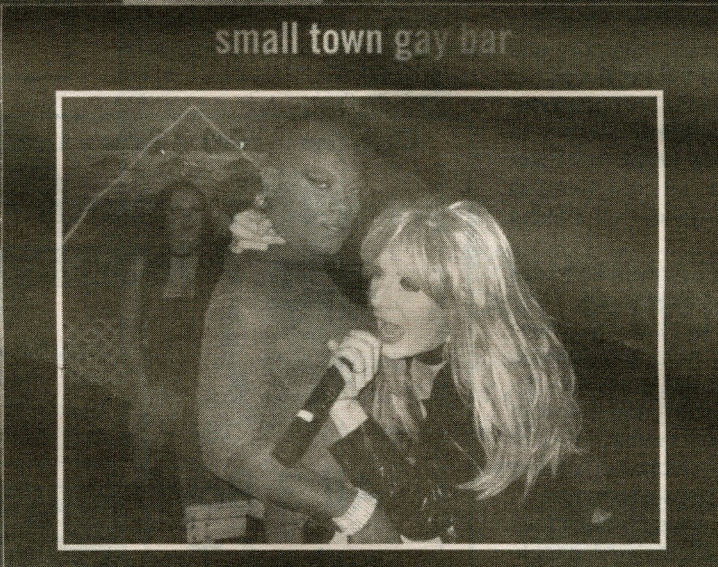
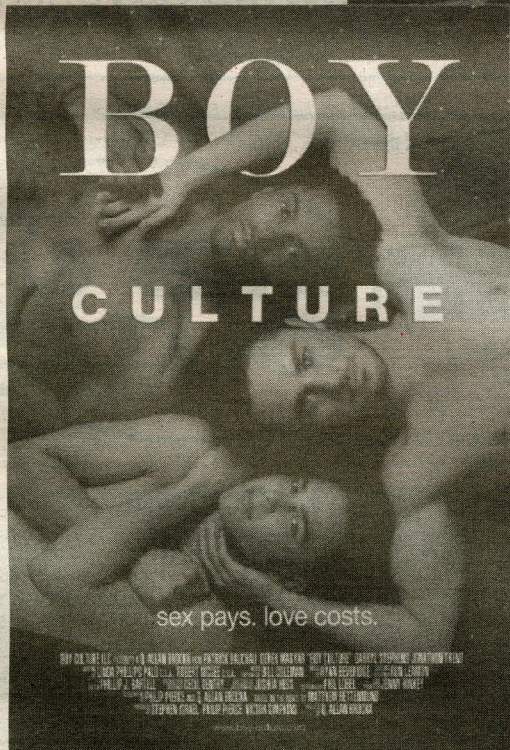
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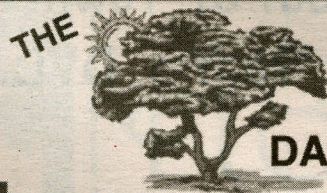
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# Opinions

## Aren't We All Just Queer?



Editorial by Jeff Curbo

In the vast community that is commonly referred to as the GLBT community, we frequently offend people by labeling them something different from their preferred identifier. For instance, GLBT technically refers to only gay, lesbian, bisexual

and transgender individuals. What about same-gender loving individuals or people questioning their sexual orientation? Many attempts have been made to popularize an all-inclusive term.

Currently, the term "queer" is emerging as the forerunner in this marathon.

You may wonder why we need an all-inclusive term. There are several reasons, but the one that resonates the most with me is simple.

Everyone who is not part of the heterosexual community is fighting the same battles—battles for marriage equality, anti-discrimination protection, etc.

By identifying an all-inclusive term, we effectively unify these groups into one large army, fighting one battle, rather than numerous smaller groups each fighting their own battle.

This is essentially the same technique that labor unions employ to get employers to listen to the demands of employees.

Is queer really the best word for an all-inclusive term?

Many would argue that it is not. Some members among the non-heterosexual community, especially older members, find the word queer to be offensive.

I initially had negative feelings towards the use of the term queer as an all-inclusive word. I thought queer was a term used by children to make fun of others on the playground in elementary school, not a word that should be used in a positive sense.

The more I thought about it though, the more I started questioning my feelings about the word. A few ideas prompted this change.

First, I do not find the words gay,

homo or really even fag to be overly offensive, so why should queer?

Secondly, the literal meaning of queer is to deviate from the norm. Since roughly 90% of our society identifies themselves as heterosexual, then queer would encompass anything not strictly heterosexual. This could include S&M, asexualism, etc.

Lastly, I realized that it was my personal belief that the word queer was derogatory that empowered the word. When I embraced the word as my own, I affectively stripped it from being derogatory.

While queer might not be the best choice for an all-inclusive term, it is gaining popularity, especially on the East and West coasts of this country. By identifying as part of one larger community, we can help each other fight for equality.

I say, let's use it!

Have an idea for an editorial piece?

Share it with us!

Send articles to:  
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The views and opinions expressed by authors in this publication do not necessarily reflect MGLCC, this paper, or anyone else but the authors themselves.

## Just Say No to Gender!

Editorial by Alix Hewlett

One in four sheep is gay. Three-fourths of aquatic creatures are either homosexual or have no gender preference. Three percent of the children born every year are hermaphrodites.

Take a few seconds in which to soak those facts. Now consider a world without the ever-present, all-encompassing, obligatory concept of sex and its connection to sexuality.

Yellow, reds, and greens would replace pinks and blues. Newborn merchandise proclaiming merely the gender of ones child would be replaced with the sheer joy of having a baby. Why is the first thing out of our mouths always, "It's a boy/girl!"?

Because from that very moment, no matter how much we want to deny it, that undeveloped and minimally-functioning baby is taught its first lesson in life: the social game of gender.

How many parents would feel comfortable when their four-year-old son waltzed into the livingroom wearing a tutu and point shoes while twirling around like a ballerina? With a few exceptions, the immediate response would be that ballerinas are girls and soldiers are boys.

Pre-designated social roles prior to birth? How lovely!

The social gender-benders and awkwardness that hermaphrodites and transgender members of the community face are not because it's normal—it's because our society only sees two boxes. Male. Female. Checking two boxes or checking one box while looking like the other is too confusing, too meddlesome, and too unconventional about which to learn.

Of course, there are a million questions to be answered. Probably

a lot of shocking moments, too. But wouldn't those questions and eagerness to learn be better than, "What are you?"

Consider for a moment present-day society. While transitioning to a lifestyle completely void of gender is almost inconceivable, we've already begun making huge strides in the gay and lesbian community.

For starters, social gender-benders are central and primary to some of society's refusal in accepting us. Not only do we physically and emotionally love the same sex, but some of us actually change sexes. While some perform surgery in order to choose which sex best fits their gender, others choose to mock sex and gender by looking androgynous.

And the connection between sex and sexuality? Procreation.

It's a proven fact that males have an innate need, drive, and desire to "spread their seed" to as many females as possible in order to ensure that their lineage survives the test of time. Male apes, elephants, whales, cats, and dogs are all prone to having multiple partners for the above stated reasons. And some people might even argue that heterosexual men act characteristically as well.

In eliminating sex and gender, however, procreation is no longer an issue. Parents of hermaphroditic children would no longer feel socially obliged to make a child's decision about his/her gender identity upon birth. Instead, social ease would exist about the issue, allowing the child to perform and play naturally. Little Alix could play with Barbies and G.I. Joes without being scolded for violating unwritten and imaginary social gender rules.

Our whole way of living would change. People would see people, not a sex. Certain colors would lose their sexist roles. And most

importantly, people would begin to realize that it's not about who you love, whom you lie beside at night, and the sex of your newborn child. It's about being humanistic.

And loving just that—another human living a life full of happiness.

*Alix Hewlett lives in midtown and attempts to live life gender-free while silently scolding those who either mock the transgender community, or refuse to accept them. Hewlett has requested that no photographs be printed.*

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# Terminology Aside, We're All Part of a Community



## Editorial by Heidi Cranford Williams

**Gay:** homosexual; of, relating to, or characterized by a tendency to direct sexual desire toward another of the same sex

**Lesbian:** female homosexual

**Bisexual:** person who engages in both homosexual and heterosexual sex

**Transgender:** transgender has been explained to me as an umbrella term to include cross-dressers, transsexuals and pretty much anyone who has a gender identity

or sexual orientation not covered by gay, lesbian, bisexual, male, or female.

Has the acronym GLBT proven itself to be too limited a moniker to represent the community that it has for so long? I argue that it has not; but that does not mean I am opposed to a different term. Does this mean that we should adopt a new more succinct all-inclusive term? I am not pushing that agenda either. Many points should be considered in this debate before any conclusions are made.

It has been asserted that GLBT only refers to gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered persons. Only? Let's take a look at who is covered in this umbrella:

**Gay:** "tendency to direct sexual desire toward another of the same sex." This covers men attracted to men, women attracted to woman, X attracted to X (with X representing any gender identity one happens to be). This group includes same gender-loving persons and any other term that means one is attracted to his/her own sex.

**Lesbian:** This is covered in the

above term and therefore is redundant. (Although I am certainly not suggesting we remove it).

**Bisexual:** This takes into consideration persons who are not exclusively gay or straight in their romantic relationships.

**Transgender:** transsexuals, butch, femme, fluid sexuality, fluid gender identity, asexuals, androgynous, queers, drag queens, questioning, dykes, fags and infinitely more identities.

It seems that the only people we have left out are the heterosexuals that identify as strictly male or female and dress according to society's norms regarding aforementioned genders.

Personally, I have no problem using the word queer to describe my community or myself. However, I have no problem with the acronym GLBT either. It has been asserted that GLBT leaves people out.

I do not share this interpretation.

I think that there is a vast difference in having a name, identifier, title, or classification that you prefer and being left out. I am proud of

how inclusive our community attempts to be. As there is always room for improvement, I welcome this debate regarding how we refer to ourselves. Positive conversations between strong-minded individuals possessing different ideas can lead to growth and diversity.

The problems with choosing the word "queer" are many.

One, many people do find the word offensive.

Two, just as "GLBT" is not the title that many people want, neither is "queer."

Three, what about other all-inclusive terms?

At the MGLCC annual meeting I heard, for the first time, the term "rainbow community." I loved it immediately; however, I am sure that there would be those who have an adverse reaction to that as well.

I do not feel that all persons in our community are facing the same hurdles in life. An attractive feminine lesbian might face different obstacles than a straight transsexual male. An effeminate queer man most likely encounters different types of discriminatory actions than a fluid

gendered asexual.

Does this mean we do not all lend a hand fighting battles for all in our community? I certainly hope not.

It is my sincere desire to fight for just and equitable treatment for all who walk this planet. This includes all GLBT people, all queers, and everyone else for that matter.

So many groups are hard to be a part of.

MENSA has those pesky IQ tests to join their group and Country Clubs have exorbitant fees. To run the Boston Marathon you have to be fast, and in order to join a fraternity, well, who really knows what you have to do to be picked.

My favorite part about being in our community is that the only requirement for being a part of it is feeling that you belong to it. I think that's special.

Hey, you know what? I just thought of an all-inclusive term that just might work. How about "community"? Let's get our community together and take a vote.

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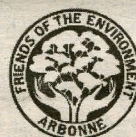


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# Politics

## Stonewall Democrats Release Endorsements for Aug. 3 Election

by Jim Maynard

Aug. 3 will be an important election, including the Shelby County general election and the State and Federal primary elections.

Memphis Stonewall Democrats is committed to working through the Democratic Party to advance the rights of LGBT people. We are proud to support Democrats who have stood up for equality in our state, particularly State Sen. Steve Cohen, who is running for the U.S. House Dist. 9 seat currently held by Harold Ford Jr.

State Rep. Beverly Robison Marero is also running in the Democratic Primary for House, Dist. 89 and was one of only a few state representatives to oppose the Tennessee anti-gay marriage amendment; she even signed on to a court challenge to block the amendment from being on the November ballot.

Steve Mulroy is another great candidate running for County Commission Dist. 5, a very important seat in the county commission.

Not all Democrats have been supportive of equality however. We cannot endorse Harold Ford Jr. for U.S. Senate since he voted twice to support the Republican anti-gay "Federal Marriage Amendment" and has made opposition to gay marriage a centerpiece of his campaign. As a write-in protest against Ford, Memphis Stonewall Democrat President Jim Maynard will be running for the position.

Stonewall Democrats are not able to endorse Henri Brooks for County Commission Dist. 2 Position 2 since she has been indifferent, if not hostile, to LGBT civil rights. (She told gay lobbyists in Nashville that the gay community was not significant for her district and she was elected to represent

black churches.) We therefore have endorsed her Republican opponent, Novella Smith Arnold for the county commission because she supports equal civil rights for LGBT people. (Rep. Henri Brooks is also running for reelection in the TN House Dist. 92 and is not endorsed for that position either.)

Judge Paula Skahan is running for re-election for Criminal Court-Division 1. Paula is an open lesbian who has represented our community well, and her opponents are using her "lifestyle" as a campaign issue. Memphis Stonewall Democrats support Paula.

Several other judicial candidates took the time to come to the June meeting and are being endorsed for criminal court by Stonewall Democrats. They include: Dewun Settle (Div. 9), Mark Ward (Div. 9), Curtis Johnson (Circuit Court Div. 2), and Steve Haley (Dist. 29).

## A Lesson in Canvassing

by Heidi Cranford Williams

I once went on a 15 day camping and canoe trip with Outward Bound. This trek through the boundary waters of Minnesota and Canada ended with a ropes course. For those of you unfamiliar, a ropes course is an obstacle course in the sky. Seventy feet off the ground you navigate ropes and ladders between trees by crawling, climbing, walking, and hanging on for dear life! The obstacle course was always my favorite field day event and I was really looking forward to the ropes course. However, much to my dismay, the moment I began my ascent up the first tree I was overcome by a fear so profound I was moved to tears. I cried the entire time.

This experience was recently brought to the forefront of my memory because of my experience canvassing on Saturday, July 15 against Amendment 1. Canvassing involves walking door to door in a neighborhood and speaking to people about an issue. Amendment 1 is the amendment that will be voted on in Tennessee in November that, if approved, will place a ban on gay marriage in the Tennessee constitution.

I pride myself on being an activist. It is certainly a way of life for me. I have no fear of public speaking and am generally not considered a shy individual. I eagerly volunteered to canvass against this hateful amendment and looked forward to the event. I showed up at MGLCC on time and received my "how to canvass" training.

Then, I found myself in front of the first house.

My mom, Jan Spindler, was my partner-in-crime and she read off the name of the registered voter at the Cowden residence we were about to approach. I was petrified, uncomfortable, and thought that if Dr. Castle drove by at that precise moment and informed me that I needed to rush to his office for a root canal, it would be a more pleasant experience than what was about to happen.

Where was this anxiety coming from?

I started to think about how I feel

when I see a stranger at my door. (Which, is usually, "what!?!") But, it was more than that.

I was coming face-to-face with strangers to ask them if they thought I was worthy of marriage. I was very scared of their answers.

Why? Because discrimination hurts.

My deepest fear was realized when the first woman came barreling out of her house to sign a petition against gay marriage.

She initially misunderstood which side of the fence we were on and the look of disgust as she closed the door on us was enough to disarm me of much needed courage.

With my mother's support, I was able to continue.

We did get some hateful responses and many people eagerly shared their beliefs that they wholeheartedly support Amendment 1 and that gays should not be able to get married. But in contrast, we were told by quite a few that they would definitely vote against Amendment 1.

Comments such as "my daughter's godmother is a lesbian" and "I respect your courage and appreciate your efforts" fueled the resolve to knock on yet another stranger's door to face the unknown.

I hope that a couple of things happen as a result of my experience. 1) I hope that many people realize that sometimes, it's a good thing to do things that aren't fun but prove to be beneficial. 2) I hope that many more people will rock the vote in November and Vote **NO** on Amendment 1!

## Top Ten Things You Can Do To Promote Marriage Equality in the GLBT Community

by Jonathan Cole

10. Come out to everyone! It's harder to discriminate against someone you know.
9. Have a wedding ceremony and invite everyone you know!
8. Let everyone know you're married! Put up wedding pictures in your office. Use words like *husband*, *wife* and *spouse*.
7. Join an organization that promotes marriage equality (like Tennessee Equality Project or MGLCC's Initiative: Fairness).
6. Donate generously. Help out the organizations fighting for marriage equality.
5. Throw a house party to raise funds for Tennessee Equality Project or Initiative Fairness.
4. Write letters to the editor.
3. Write your elected officials and ask them to publicly support marriage equality or oppose the marriage amendment.
2. Ask your clergy or pastor to oppose the marriage amendment by signing the faith leader opposition statement found elsewhere in this newspaper (see [www.mglcc.org/if](http://www.mglcc.org/if)).
1. Volunteer to canvas voters in your community and ask them to vote "No" on Amendment 1!

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[voteNOon1.org](http://voteNOon1.org)  
to get involved!



*A law denying marriage rights to same-sex couples already exists in Tennessee. A Tennessee "Marriage" Amendment is not necessary.*

*A Tennessee "Marriage" Amendment would write discrimination into the Tennessee Constitution.*

*Remember: Voting "No" will not make gay marriage legal in Tennessee, but it will keep discrimination out of the Tennessee Constitution.*

# Midtown Resident Not Pleased with Representative Brooks

by Rebekah Hart

On the evening of July 25, State Representative for District 92 of Memphis, Henri E. Brooks, held a town hall meeting in Orange Mound at approximately 6 p.m.

While the meeting was intended to begin at 6 p.m., it was not until 6:45 that Brooks addressed the crowd of 12 people of her intentions to begin. After shuffling some papers and muttering under her breath into the microphone (much in the same fashion as President Bush's latest flub), Brooks announced various candidates for several positions. Of the candidates who spoke to the crowd, one was Dewun Settle, candidate for Judge of Criminal Court Div. 5.

Settle, whom the Memphis chapter of Stonewall Democrats is endorsing, spoke highly of the Memphis community and its constituents.

Following each candidate's platform, Brooks asked each person a question and then introduced the new speaker.

Following the 6 candidates, Brooks walked to the podium and began her address to the now 18 members of the audience that "The only thing that the *Commerical Appeal* has gotten right about me is that I represent the interest of the poor,

African-American black church folk. And that's what I'll continue to do—is to represent you, Orange Mound."

After three members of the audience had their questions respectfully answered, one of the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center's newly elected board members, Andrea Espinoza, stood in order to ask Brooks a question.

She was immediately asked by Brooks to "identify" herself.

Espinoza stated her name and queried, "How do you feel that you can represent your entire district, which exceeds Orange Mound and includes the Cooper-Young district and various other parts of midtown, and the people in those areas who aren't black? How can you represent me?"

Before finishing her question, however, Espinoza was asked by Brooks, "Do you want me to answer or do you just want to keep on talking?"

Espinoza sat down and listened to Brooks' response.

"Well 14 years ago when I was first elected, and you probably weren't *there* then, but there were a lot of break-ins and burglaries. I worked to implement a better police watch and station in the Cooper-Young area that you people love to go to so much."

Following her succinct and brief answer, Brooks continued her meeting by discussing issues that she is faced with at the capitol and referred to her fellow peers "the good 'ol boys."

Brooks tackled the issue of crime by stating that the prison system in Memphis creates criminals at a young age because once entered into the juvenile court system, the minor becomes convinced that all

he will amount to is a criminal.

"It's a revolving door and they're keeping our folk in jail," Brooks stated. (The author would clarify the use of pronouns but is unaware as to whom Brooks was referring.)

Midtown resident Espinoza was not pleased with the platform that Brooks presented to her audience and is even more convinced that Brooks is no longer the ideal candidate to represent Dist. 92 of Mem-

phis or for the position of County Commissioner Dist. 2 Position 2.

"I was disgusted that the representative of my district would speak in such a manner. It made me wonder what century I'm in and if I still had my head," stated Espinoza while shaking her head.

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# Health

## Q & A with Dr. Castle, DDS

**Q: What kind of dental procedures should I avoid as an HIV positive man?**

A: None. In fact, you should stay on top of your dental health even more vigilantly. Early on in the epidemic, it was believed that invasive procedures such as root canals should not be performed on persons with HIV, or that dental treatment should be avoided altogether once one's cell count dropped below 200 cells. These beliefs were so strong that in some places they persist. The fact is, to avoid providing dental care to a person with HIV is against the Americans with Disabilities Act.

**Q: Why more vigilantly exactly?**

A: If you are on certain anti-viral medications, your salivary flow decreases (a condition known as "dry mouth") and this dryness advances tooth decay. This decay starts at the base of the tooth where the crown meets the gum and can advance into the softer tissue inside the tooth, causing an abscess. Periodontal disease is also a serious consideration, with several conditions specifically known to persons with HIV. If not monitored, periodontal disease can lead to the

loss of a tooth.

**Q: What can be done about dry mouth?**

A: While there are artificial saliva products on the market, the frequency of usage required for these might be unrealistic for most people's schedules. Another option for creating saliva is sugar-free citrus candies, like lemon drops.

**Q: Someone told me that more and more kids are getting cavities now. Why is that?**

A: Bottled water is great in some ways for your overall health, but it won't do much for your teeth. Children need fluoride to strengthen their teeth and to ward off cavities. More kids are drinking bottled water these days.

**Q: But I heard that children shouldn't use fluoride toothpastes.**

A: It's a little more complicated than that. Children under three years of age shouldn't use fluoride toothpaste. After three, depending on the fluoride count of your tap water, you should brush your child's teeth only twice a day with fluoride toothpaste. Brushing should last two minutes and should be supervised until the age of seven to make sure it's being

done properly and the child isn't swallowing the toothpaste.

**Q: I can't brush my child's teeth more than twice a day?**

A: You can brush them as many times as you want--especially after meals. Just make sure that you only use fluoride toothpaste for two of these brushings, and non-fluoride for the rest.



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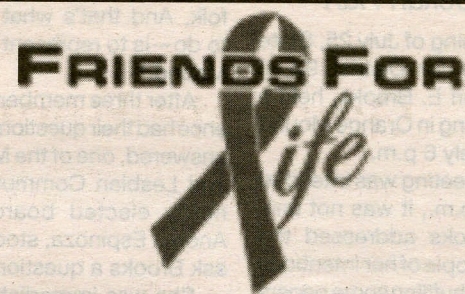
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Memphis, TN 38104

Memphis Gay & Lesbian  
Community Center



## Feast for Friends

Mon., August 7 & 21

6 p.m., Dinner at 6:30 p.m.

St. John's United Methodist Church  
(Peabody & Bellevue)

Feast for Friends is a service of Friends For life for the HIV-infected and affected community including people living with HIV or AIDS, their friends, caregivers, family and friends. While the dinner is free, those who are able are requested to make a donation to offset expenses.

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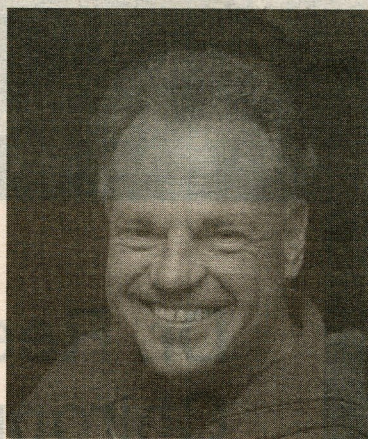
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## En Español

### Zapatero Defiende Matrimonio Gay ante Benedicto XVI

Associated Press

Firme en sus decisiones, el fin de semana pasado, Zapatero defendió la ley de matrimonios entre homosexuales como un derecho civil, mientras Benedicto XVI insistió en definir al matrimonio como la unión "natural" entre un hombre y una mujer.

El encuentro entre el presidente español y el Papa de dio en un ambiente sereno, sin embargo las fuentes Vaticanas aprovecharon el Encuentro Mundial de las Familias para reafirmar su "labor" de proteger a la "familia tradicional" y rechazar en todo momento "otro tipo de uniones", incluyendo las de parejas del mismo sexo.

Con qué autoridad Benedicto XVI da una lección de antropología y derecho natural a un presidente

elegido en la democracia. Los altos jerarcas de la Iglesia Católica deben entender que la relación Iglesia y Estado no debe incidir en la toma de decisiones.

La Iglesia Católica teme que las condiciones de España influyan en los países latinoamericanos y por más que Benedicto XVI manifieste su malestar con las políticas del gobierno español con relación a la familia y la educación nos queda claro que un Estado laico moderno debe ser imparcial y legislar para sus gobernados.

La ley del matrimonio gay responde a un derecho legítimo y una realidad histórica que no podemos negar. Lo reconozca o no el Papa, existen millones de familias que no corresponden al esquema nuclear propuesto por la Iglesia, entre ellas las familias conformadas por

parejas de los mismos sexo.

Por años, en todo el mundo, las lesbianas y los homosexuales han formado familias, pagan impuestos y cumplen con sus obligaciones como ciudadanos, sin embargo se les ha negado legitimar su relación, acceder a los mismos derechos que cualquier matrimonio heterosexual e incluso en muchas partes aún se niega su existencia.

Visto como un sacramento de la religión de Cristo, el matrimonio es una opción para quienes profesan la religión católica. Para la ley se trata de un contrato civil de dos personas que han decidido formar una familia y compartir responsabilidades. Lo quieran o no, los jerarcas católicos deben respetar la decisión de los gobiernos que han decidido legislar en la materia.

### Colectivo Orgullo Gay de Berlín entrega premio 'Z' a Zapatero

Associated Press

El colectivo homosexual de Berlín entregó su premio 'Z' al presidente del Gobierno español, Jose Luis Rodríguez Zapatero, en reconocimiento de su compromiso con los derechos de las minorías.

Un representante del colectivo, Jan Salloch, entregó el trofeo al coraje cívico, una 'Z' de metacrilato en referencia a la 'z' de la palabra 'zivil -cívico en alemán- al embajador español en Alemania, Gabriel Busquets, que agradeció el premio en nombre del presidente.

El galardón se entrega anualmente a personas que han demostrado 'su compromiso con las minorías', con ocasión del desfile del Día del Orgullo Gay.

El Christopher Street Day se celebra mañana en Berlín y se espera que reunirá a unas 450.000

personas, bajo el lema 'Diversidad y Justicia y Libertad', que parafrasea la primera estrofa del himno alemán, 'Unidad y Justicia y Libertad'.

Zapatero asumió el poder en abril de 2004 con la promesa, entre otras, de luchar por la equiparación de los derechos de los

homosexuales.

El colectivo gay recaló al anunciar el premio que Zapatero, 'casado y padre de dos niñas, ha mantenido esa promesa' y 'no se ha dejado intimidar por las presiones' recibidas en un país 'con el sello católico', lo que le convierte en modelo de coraje cívico.



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### Egipto quiere censurar una película por su contenido gay

Associated Press

'El edificio Yaquibian' es la película más exitosa del país pero 112 parlamentarios han pedido que se prohíba

La película más cara y exitosa del cine egipcio es también la más polémica de su historia. Se trata de El edificio Yaquibian.

Un largometraje demasiado liberal para la sociedad egipcia que trata temas hasta ahora tabúes en el país como la tortura, el aborto y la corrupción política. Pero ha sido la homosexualidad de dos personajes de la película - un reputado period-

ista y su novio soldado- la que ha provocado la solicitud de censura por parte de 112 parlamentarios.

Una iniciativa en la que piden que sean suprimidas las escenas más escandalosas de la cinta. Algo que Marwan Hamed, su director, no está dispuesto a hacer. "Si se atreven a cortarla, retiraré la película de las carteleras".

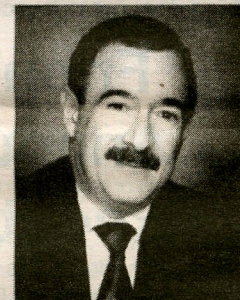
Protagonizada por lo más grande del cine egipcio, la película contó desde el principio con el apoyo del ministro de Cultura, Faruq Hosni, e incluso del organismo oficial de censura. Por eso sorprende tanto la reacción de los parlamentarios.

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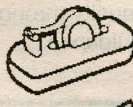
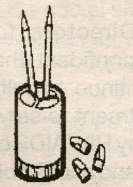
Marriage  
Equality Matters

Vote "NO" on  
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Nov. 7, 2006

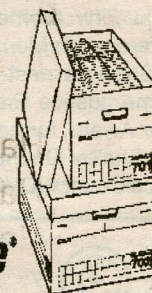
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# MGLCC Holds Membership Meeting and Elects New Board

by Charlie Weatherall

Over three years ago, a vision statement was unveiled for the Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center (MGLCC) during the ribbon cutting ceremony for the current building. At that time, Len Piechowski read the 2003 Vision Statement appropriately titled, *Welcome Home*.

Each year, a community town hall meeting is scheduled to inform the entire community of the progress the MGLCC has made towards this vision statement. The town hall meeting not only provides the forum for the annual state of the center address, but is also the time for elections of the center's board of directors. This year's meeting was held at the center on July 23, 2006.

This vision statement is rather lengthy and details an impressive list of services and functions that the MGLCC will provide. The center has progressed in every aspect of the vision, but a few key points are important.

The MGLCC provides a safe haven for its members and visitors throughout the year. The number of visitors to the center consistently increased month after month, exemplifying the center's accom-

plishments in providing an array of diverse services to our Mid-South community. During the April, May, and June quarter, over 860 visitors signed in at the front door!

Annual activities such as MGLCC's OutFlix Festival and the Memphis Gaymes are growing significantly each year. Both activities have become "mainstream" events not only nourishing the GLBT and same-gender loving communities, but also proudly representing our center and community to the entire city. The reputation and visibility of the MGLCC has never been more positive!

The soon-to-be-introduced counseling services program is a much-needed resource that the center is proud to be launching. The MGLCC is truly becoming an oasis!

Two distinguished members of our community were recognized during the town hall meeting. Herb Zeman recently received the MGLCC Founders Award in recognition of his dedication and constant support of the center and Eric Sirignano was introduced as the MGLCC Volunteer of the Year. Both of these men demonstrate an exemplary level of support for the center and their efforts have been

instrumental in the success of the MGLCC.

Interim treasurer, Will Batts, provided the financial status of the center. Overall, MGLCC is in a strong position with monetary reserves in the bank. Several events throughout the year led to successful fundraising, including the annual Bachelor & Bachelorette Auction (which was held at zero expense this year), and the annual OutFlix Festival (which turned a profit). In addition, Initiative:Fairness (MGLCC's public policy committee) received generous donations.

Any realistic state of the center address must also include challenges, and the MGLCC is no exception. The membership level (members paying monthly dues to the MGLCC) has not reached an amount adequate to cover the monthly mortgage and building expenses. This is a goal of the MGLCC 500 Club, to have 500 people from the Memphis community who are willing to make a monthly financial commitment to the MGLCC, thereby covering the mortgage and building expenses of the center.

Another challenge facing the MGLCC involves the *Triangle Journal*, the newspaper of the MGLCC.

While the content and quality of the *Triangle Journal* improves with each publication, the focus over the upcoming year must be on increasing the newspaper's profitability.

The final agenda item at the town hall meeting was the elections for the MGLCC Board of Directors. The 2006 MGLCC Nominating Committee provided the General Election ballot listing their endorsements. In addition to the endorsed candidates, nominations were called from the floor and write-in space was included on the ballots.

Len Piechowski was reelected as President and Charlie Weatherall was voted as Vice-President, replacing Jeff Curbo. As Secretary, Rohbi Yow will replace Morgan "Tuffy" Keenan, and interim treasurer Will Batts was elected as Treasurer. Members at large for board of directors include Kelly "Cole" Bradley, Jonathan Cole, Rusty Collins, Andrea Espinoza, Autumn Falconer, Jamie Griffin, Don Johnson, Alicia Nelson, Tommy Simmons, Eric Sirignano, and Herb Zeman.

Overall, the picture is good for the Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center. The newly elected board of directors reflects an array of veterans and newcomers, as well



Len Piechowski, shown above carrying a flag during the 2006 Mid-South Pride Parade, was re-elected as President of the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center.

as an exciting mix of backgrounds and expertise. The upcoming year will undoubtedly be met head-on by this optimistic group of leaders!

## Friends for Life Announces New Executive Director

Dr. Ricci A. Hellman has been named as the new Executive Director of Friends For Life Corporation, the oldest and largest comprehensive HIV/AIDS service organization in the Mid-South.

She joined the staff July 17, 2006.

Hellman most recently served as Deputy Director of the Memphis Shelby Crime Commission. In her work at the Crime Commission, Dr. Hellman served as Acting CEO for one year while the Crime Commission's President and CEO went to Iraq to train the Iraqi police force. Dr. Hellman's work at the Crime Commission covered a broad range of public safety initiatives.

Hellman is an honoree for the Memphis Women's Magazine's 2006 Fifty Women Who Make a Difference in Memphis.

She is a past nominee for the Crime Justice Professional of the Year Award, former Board Chair for the Shelby County Domestic Violence Council (DVC), and continues

to serve on that board.

Hellman also serves on the Board of Directors for the Tennessee Coalition Against Domestic and Sexual Violence, the Southeast Memphis Community Development Corporation, and the advisory Board for the LeMoyné-Owen Community Development Corporation.

Hellman earned her doctoral degree (Ed. D) through the Department of Counseling, Educational Psychology & Research at the University of Memphis.

She has a M.S. in Counseling and Student Personnel Services from the University of Memphis and a B.A. in Sociology and Anthropology from Rhodes College.

The Board of Directors for Friends For Life is confident that Dr. Hellman will continue to fulfill the agency's commitment to serve individuals affected by HIV/AIDS by providing innovative and accessible services to the community through her leadership and guidance.

## Au Pairs Suit Needs of GLBT Parents



Local au pairs meet for lunch and gather to snap a quick photo. Au pairs are generally foreign and come to the states to work and study.

by James Williams

Raising a child can be a difficult task, especially in dual-income households. This can be particularly true in families with same-sex parents; however, an au pair can be the solution. According to Kathleen Donnelly, Local Care Coordinator for Cultural Care Au Pair, "An au pair provides a family with flexible, personalized childcare. Having a consistent caregiver familiar with your family situation can eliminate the need to negotiate the 'childcare maze.'"

An au pair, the French term meaning "equal to," is typically a young foreigner who provides childcare and light housework in exchange for room and board. Au pairs come to the United States on student visas, so they cannot work more than forty-five hours per week. An au pair will often have the goal to improve his or her English skills, and he or she will often take classes at a local college or university.

Host families work with au pair agencies to find the right fit for their family situation. An au pair can provide a positive, opposite-sex role model for the children of same-sex parents, which is often a concern in the GLBT community. There can also be a social advantage to choosing the right au pair. Although most are female, about ten percent are male. With the current popularity of Britney Spears' inspired "mannies," or male nannies, hosting an au pair could move the run-of-the-mill gay couple to the top of the social ladder.

Some au pair agencies are now targeting same-sex parents with marketing materials and specials. For example, Cultural Care Au Pair is offering a five hundred dollar discount from the program fee for same-sex parents if an application is submitted before August 15. To learn more about au pairs, visit [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Au\\_pair](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Au_pair) and to learn more about Cultural Care and their programs, visit <http://www.culturalcare.com>.



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# From Russia with Same-Sex Love, Same-Sex Hate

by Sharon G. Horne

A week after the first attempt at a GLBT pride parade was met with violence and arrests, we met in the basement of the Gestalt Center in the outskirts of Moscow. My colleagues and I, Susan Mathews and Sonja Franeta, organized a two-day seminar on working with GLBT issues for Russian therapists and helping professionals. Because of the violence and the upsurge in attacks of GLBT people on the streets, we increased our focus on working with trauma, as well as hate crimes. It was clearly needed, and our participants offered up stories of clients who experienced assaults, lost their jobs, and considered suicide in the face of the homophobic acts directed toward them.

More than 120 people were arrested on May 27, the day of the parade. Others were attacked and injured by protesters shouting, "Moscow is not Sodom!" Moscow Mayor Luzhkov came out strongly against the GLBT community, stating that it "may be acceptable for some kind of progressive, in some sense, countries in the West, but it is absolutely unacceptable for Moscow." Other politicians have been even more virulently homophobic, calling for gays to be "sent to the camps." This is a Russian statement that recalls the days of

the vast Soviet gulag when individuals could be sent to the labor camps in Siberia—for petty crime, for being a dissident, or for saying something that a neighbor didn't appreciate—more often than not a death sentence. GLBT activists at the parade described being attacked by religious extremists and skinheads as the several hundred riot police looked away. The parade took place a couple of weeks following other attacks made on gay clubs by skinheads who had found out about the events via the internet. In a matter of weeks after this public attention, Russia became known as a very unsafe place for GLBT individuals, but then it has never been an overtly GLBT welcoming environment.

Gay rights have always lagged behind in Russia, but in some ways, GLBT individuals were protected due to the nature of Soviet and post-Soviet civil society. In general, family members kept things to themselves, and sex was a topic off-limits, even among heterosexuals. During the Soviet Union, the joke was that there was no sex, period. As a result, gay individuals describe growing up in a culture where anti-gay slurs were uncommon, and they were not targeted as adolescents for being GLBT. The past decade has brought many changes. Russia has its own famous faux lesbian duo, Tatu, and

several important musicians and theater directors are now out. Still, there are practically no out GLBT individuals in the workplace, and many marry members of the other sex to receive housing privileges, to please their families, or to have children.

At the same time, there are now many more resources for GLBT-identified individuals. Moscow now has the only GLBT bookstore in the country, Indigo, and it is quite an accomplishment, with clothes, books, videos, and separate sections for gay, lesbian, and transgender interests. It also happens to be right around the corner from city hall, which Lena, one of the community activists and part-time managers, muses has kept the store from experiencing graffiti or break-ins. In addition, there is now an active hotline run by lesbian and gay organizations for GLBT individuals in crisis and both Moscow and St. Petersburg have numerous gay and lesbian bars.

Therefore, the timing seemed right to do a two-day seminar on mental health issues for GLBT individuals. This was the second seminar that I had offered related to GLBT therapy issues, although I have worked in women's issues and gay rights in the former Soviet Union since the early 90s. However, today's Russia is nothing like the



University of Memphis professor Sharon G. Horne smiles during a seminar in Russia.

Soviet Union I first became familiar with as a student in the late 80s. Now a very modern European city, Moscow has just surpassed Tokyo as the world's most expensive city. Its gay community is diverse, and disagrees about the best ways to make change; many leaders in the community were against the pride parade, while others wanted to continue to take very public actions against the government's stance. When Sonja, Susan, and I stopped by the hottest lesbian club, 12 Volt, we felt out of place: too foreign, too political, and a bit professionally-dressed for this very fashion-conscious crowd.

The seminars were successful, and our participants were wonderfully insightful and invested in making their communities and their practices better for GLBT individuals. There was one ambivalent straight woman who even became a rainbow-bearing ally by the end of the two days. Although the training was focused on specific skills for therapists, it was clear that the most benefit was gained from participants being able to share their experiences of being GLBT in a common forum.

I returned after these two days of intense trainings, thankful to be  
*continued on page 12*



Advice from Kent Usry

**My partner flirts with almost everyone when we're in social situations! No matter how many times I've told him that sometimes it hurts my feelings, he continues to do it. He tells me that it's just his "friendly personality" that draws people to him, but I think he initiates it. I'm worried that if I keep aggravating him about it, he'll leave me. What's the best way for me to handle this situation and still keep the man I love in my life? - Flirt Free in E. Memphis**

Your situation is a very common issue among all types of couples, yet I'm sure that does nothing to help you feel any better. There are so many factors which I would want to investigate in regards to your relationship, such as how long you two have been a couple, your ages (for stages of life issues), your past relationships, etc.

But you have already done two very healthy things: telling your partner how his flirtatious behavior hurts you and openly being honest in asking for help through your question to me.

I applaud you for sharing your feelings with him versus accusing him or arguing ("aggravating" him, as you put it). And writing to this column tells me you are ready for help and change. Bravo to you.

Now granted, some people tend to be very gregarious; and many times that out-going nature can be misinterpreted as flirtation. But based upon what you're saying here, there is definitely the need for a few red flags to be waving.

If you have voiced your feelings in this relationship as to how your partner's flirtatious behavior affects you and he has made no real efforts to change, I would then ask, "What are you willing to tolerate in order to 'keep the man' you love?"

Ask yourself these questions.

Do you believe you're a worthy human being who deserves love and a healthy relationship? Don't you think that if your partner is continuing to be flirtatious when the two of you are in social situations, his very behavior is telling you, "I don't love you enough to try and change something I'm doing that is hurting you"?

Are there other behaviors he's doing that are bothersome to you? Did he flirt with you when the two of you were dating and is his current

flirting similar to the way he was (and may still be) with you?

The reason for this last question is that if you answer in the affirmative, that would tell me your partner may have commitment issues which is not necessarily a relationship breaker.

Also in your question I hear some mistrust, meaning that his flirting may cause you to feel you cannot trust him with other men.

Eric Marcus, author of *The Male Couple's Guide Finding a Man, Making a Home, Building a Life* (Revised Edition, ©1992), identifies five features of every successful relationship: (1) **Commitment** to the relationship, (2) **agreement** on fundamental rules of the relationship, (3) willingness to **communicate**, (4) ability to **compromise**, and (5) **acceptance** of shortcomings.

I hear you possibly questioning your partner's commitment to you, along with your trying to communicate your feelings with him.

I don't hear compromise on his part, nor do I surmise the two of you have established a clear agreement on basic rules within the relationship.

You also sound frustrated, possibly at yourself and your partner, over how you seem to have attempted accepting his flirtatious behaviors for a while now. I strongly suggest you get Marcus' book and begin reading it.

There is no way to handle this situation if your primary motivation

is to keep him from leaving you. You can take some actions, which I want to suggest; but you have no control over the outcome.

Do you have a close friend who will keep your confidence when you discuss your current relationship issues? This could be a start for you to gain some perspective from an "outsider" on what you're experiencing.

You definitely need to voice your thoughts and feelings with your partner. Write as much as you need on how your lover's flirting and his apparent disregard of your feelings are affecting you emotionally, mentally, and even how you believe the relationship is being currently influenced. And I suggest you voice these thoughts when the two of you are alone, with the most opportune time being right after you two have left a social situation where he was being flirtatious.

If he continues to respond to you with "that's just how I am" type of talk, then I suggest you step back and re-examine what you want out of this relationship if you're getting those responses.

Also, ask your partner what he wants and is currently receiving from the relationship.

The information you obtain from this dialogue will hopefully motivate both of you to make some decisions related to maintaining this relationship, making some changes, what you are willing to accept, and if you are both open to couples

## Don't Hold Back, Just Ask!

counseling.

Your fear of your partner leaving you is real. I want to validate that, and let you know it is not an unhealthy fear. However, that fear cannot be the motivating factor for you to try and "keep your man."

Your self-discovery and own sense of self-worth should ignite you to take action. It's obvious you value your partner and this relationship and that you're willing to make some sacrifices to contribute to a healthier relationship.

But when a relationship begins to de-value you or you find yourself making compromises you're truly uncomfortable with, then it's time to make some changes for your own serenity and emotional well being.

And seeking counseling only if you're both willing to do this might be a very life-changing decision for the both of you.

Just try not to predict the outcome.

If your partner is not willing to seek professional counseling, of course that will tell you a great deal; but it doesn't mean you can't seek therapy for yourself.

Don't lose yourself in all this. Remain honest to yourself and you will eventually find yourself healthier and maybe even grateful for your current relationship struggles.

*Kent Usry is a Licensed Clinical Social Worker with a Masters of Science in Social Work from U of M. He lives in Midtown. This column does not substitute for therapy, treatment, or a doctor visit.*

## From Russia with Love

continued from pg. 11



Horne and friends stand in front of Indigo, the only GLBT bookstore in the country. The store is located in Moscow and carries clothes, books and videos.

back in Memphis. After all, we do have much to be proud of in our GLBT community. We can march freely, with full police support. We have a community center where we can come together and share our experiences and express our needs in safety. Due to my university's nondiscrimination policy, I am encouraged and supported to be open with my sexual orientation, and I teach one of the only courses for therapists-in-training on GLBT issues in the country. We have GLBT-affirming faith communities and elected officials who support GLBT rights.

The courage of Moscow's GLBT community to fight for their rights in the face of protesters, riot police and widespread animosity and attacks is inspiring. We have the opportunity and the obligation to preserve our

gains and fight to expand our rights in relative safety and comfort right here in Memphis.

Just as I encourage activists in Russia to get involved in GLBT advocacy, I think it is important here. Last week we started canvassing efforts to get voters out to support us and vote NO against amendment one in neighborhoods that are historically progressive or liberal. We could use more help. If you are interested in making a difference in GLBT issues in Shelby County, please contact Initiative:Fairness (I:F) at [if@mgfcc.org](mailto:if@mgfcc.org) or visit the MGLCC website for more information on meetings and events.

## Researchers Conducting Survey on Family Members of GLBT Persons

by Jenny Arm

Researchers in the field of Psychology and other related fields have studied GLBT people, but less is known regarding the lives of GLBT family members, especially in regards to antigay movements and policies. Working with Drs. Heidi Levitt and Sharon Horne from The University of Memphis and with Drs. Riggle and Rostosky at the University of Kentucky on a national study on antigay legislation peaked my interest. While it is known that GLBT people are harmed by antigay legislation, we wondered how other people could possibly be impacted by this legislation.

We are hoping to learn more about family members and their experiences of antigay movements and policies, specifically what it is like having a GLB, same-gender loving, or same-sex partnered family member in the current political climate. The interviews are focused on whether such policies have affected their personal lives, their relationships with their GLB family member and other significant others, and how they feel about their general environment, including home and faith communities.

It is important for family members of GLBT individuals to have a voice, as they are part of the community as well. By learning more about family members' experiences through interviews, we may be able to share

this information with legislators, psychologists, helping professionals, and the GLBT community.

While we are in the preliminary stages of this research, it is possible that the gay community can learn more about those who are supportive of their issues and have a better understanding of the lives of their family members and/or allies. Further, legislators need to hear how the decisions that they are making may be impacting their constituents above and beyond those who are in same-sex relationships or who identify as GLB. Lastly, psychologists, counselors and other helping professionals need to be attentive to the needs and stressors of those impacted by legislation that denies rights to particular groups so that they may work effectively to lessen distress that may result from the current climate.

Before starting this study it was important for us to learn about what other researchers have done in this area. We looked at published research articles pertaining to GLB people, to families with GLB people, and antigay legislation. Through this work we learned that more research is needed to learn about the lives of family members and their experiences of antigay movements and policies.

While this research is in its early stages, we have already learned some important information about family members of GLBT people. It

appears that family members have a range of emotional reactions to antigay movements and policies. Further, the manner in which family members engage with antigay legislation differs and there is some evidence that involvement in countering anti-GLB policies with others who are like-minded may be beneficial to family members. Many people feel a strong need to speak out and get involved in GLB advocacy. What stands out thus far is that participants are impacted by antigay movements and policies.

We hope that we might be able to share our research at local, community, state and national levels. We have benefited from research conducted during the Colorado Amendment measure in 1992 and from the recent experience in Cincinnati that affirmed rights for GLBT individuals.

Because we are the only ones doing research of this kind at the moment, we are hoping that our results will be informative to other regions and cities that are experiencing similar struggles. Although we are gathering our data locally, we believe that much of what we are learning is common to others.

We have also collected information in a national survey so we will be able to create an overall picture of how family members are experiencing these issues. We may be able to demonstrate how many people are influenced by prejudicial policies and movement, which can be powerful information when making decisions on these policies.

We have had a positive response from various groups who are willing to help spread the word about the study. At this time, we are particularly interested in talking with people who are of a multicultural background and are related to a GLBT person. Further, we would also like to hear from people with a lesbian or bisexual family member. Interested people may contact Jenny Arm, at [jarm@memphis.edu](mailto:jarm@memphis.edu) or (901) 355-7514.

## Fraternity Massacre at Hell Island

continued from pg. 1

"Jones' fun and hilarious *Fraternity Massacre* becomes another first-rate addition to Memphis' growing film production community," said Will Batts, Director of MGLCC's Eighth Annual OutFlix Film Festival who was in the audience at opening night. "With Mark Jones and the many other artists working in our area, Memphis is well-suited to become a center for the creation, as well as the display, of some of the finest independent films around."

Fraternity Massacre is next scheduled to play at the Durham Gay and Lesbian Film Festival in North Carolina on August 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. Jones plans to be there for the screenings.

Then, he plans to be shooting again within 18 months. "Waiting five years between my first two films was just way too long," he says.

He has written three new scripts that are ready to shoot and he's currently working on another.

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## Spain's First Gay Military Marriage in September

Associated Press

MADRID, Spain - Two male air force privates will wed this summer, taking Spain's new gay marriage law to the ranks of the military for what is believed to be the first time.

Their union may not be well received in the military but they don't care, said one of the two Seville-based men, both of whom are named Alberto. Their last names were not released.

"We know we are in the armed forces and this is touchy because we are not gardeners but rather soldiers. I know there are superior officers who will make life difficult for me, and they are already doing so," said one of the Albertos, according to the Cadena Ser radio station.

The wedding is scheduled for September in Seville.

The Defense Ministry said it was aware of the wedding plans through news reports but had no comment other than to say it was a personal matter and the men have every right to marry under the gay marriage

law that went into effect in Spain on Jan 1.

The men received permission to wear their military uniforms during the wedding but in the end decided against it to avoid antagonizing the military, said Beatriz Gimeno, president of Spain's main federation of gays, lesbians and transsexuals.

So far 4,500 same-sex couples have wed under the legislation, according to the Justice Ministry.

Besides Spain, the Netherlands, Canada, Belgium have legalized same-sex marriage, while Britain and other European countries have laws that give same-sex couples the right to form legally binding partnerships.

In the United States, only the state of Massachusetts allows gay marriage, while Vermont and Connecticut permit civil unions.

This week, two male couples, one in Madrid and other in Barcelona filed for the first divorces under the Spanish law, Gimeno said.

It was not possible to contact the two military grooms.

## WorldPride in Jerusalem Cancelled

by Troy Espera  
Associated Press

An international 'gay pride' parade scheduled for next month in Jerusalem has been called off due to Israel's war with Hezbollah.

Some rabbis who have urged that the World Pride parade to be cancelled see the war as God's judgment for the Israeli government's tacit support of the homosexual-activist celebration, reports World-NetDaily.com.

"We have not protested enough against this parade of abomination and therefore we have received this warning," warned Rabbi Moshe Sternbuch, the head of the extremist Eda Haredit rabbinic court, in a hand-written message to his followers. "Who knows where things will get to if we do not act further and more stringently against it."

But YnetNews.com reports that Israeli authorities stated they lacked the manpower to guarantee participants' safety in light of Israel's ongoing hostilities with Hezbollah in Lebanon, WorldPride spokeswoman Cathy Renna said.

On Friday afternoon, Israel was massing tanks and troops on the Lebanese border and preparing for a likely ground invasion, the Associated Press reported.

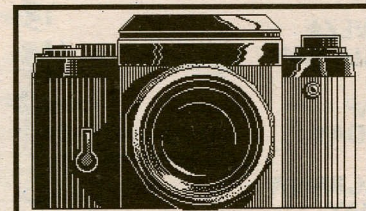
Organizers of WorldPride, while reluctant to declare the parade canceled, were scrambling Friday to program a substitute event. They emphasized that all other

WorldPride meetings and cultural activities will be held as scheduled starting Aug. 6.

The last international gay parade, which took place in Rome in 2000 despite the wrath of the Vatican, attracted about half a million participants, while local organizers expect tens of thousands of revelers for the Jerusalem event this summer.

A public opinion poll released last year found that three-quarters of Jerusalem residents were opposed to holding the international gay event in the city, while only a quarter supported it.

But in light of current events, Hagai El-Ad, director of the event's main organizer Jerusalem Open House said now is "not the time for celebrations."



Send pictures to:

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## UN: Iraq Militants Targeting Gays

Associated Press

New York City - Nearly 6,000 civilians were slain across Iraq in May and June, a spike in deaths that coincided with rising sectarian attacks across the country, the United Nations said Tuesday.

The report from the UN Assistance Mission in Iraq describes a wave of lawlessness and crime, including assassinations, bombings, kidnappings, torture and intimidation.

Hundreds of teachers, judges, religious leaders and doctors have been targeted for death, and thousands of people have fled, the report said. Evidence suggests militants also have begun to target gays, it said.

"While welcoming recent positive steps by the government to promote national reconciliation, the report raises alarm at the growing number of casualties among the civilian population killed or wounded during indiscriminate or targeted attacks by terrorists or insurgents," the UN said in a note accompanying the report.

According to the report, 2,669 civilians were killed in May and 3,149 were killed in June. Those numbers combined two counts: from the Ministry of Health, which records deaths reported by hospitals; and the Medico-Legal Institute in Baghdad, which tallies the unidentified bodies it receives.

The report charts a month-by-month increase in the number of

civilians killed, from 710 in January to 1,129 in April. In the first six months of the year, it said 14,338 people had been killed.

The report's figures were higher than some other counts, but even the UN said many killings go unreported.

According to an Associated Press tally based on its daily reporting, at least 1,511 civilians were killed, in May and June, with at least an additional 289 police and security forces killed.

The AP tally said that from January through June 2006, at least 4,191 civilians were killed. The minimum number of police and security forces casualties in that period was at least 805 killed. The AP figures do not include insurgents.

## Russia Planning to Lift Ban on Blood Donations from Gay Men

Associated Press

Russia is planning to lift its ban on blood donations from gay men, a Moscow-based gay rights is claiming, and France will follow suit, according to *The New York Blade*.

The *Blade* reports that Project Gay Russia, a gay advocacy group, claims the country's Office of the General Prosecutor and Ministry of Health made the decision in response to a request sent last May by two of the group's activists, Nikolai Alekseev and Nikolai Baev.

Russian health officials have not commented publicly on the issue, reports *The Blade*, and the claim by Project Gay Russia could not be independently verified. "The Ministry of Health has informed us that this instruction will be shortly amended, and gays will not be forbidden anymore to give their blood," Baev is quoted as saying in a news release on the gay group's website.

Alekseev said in the release the change was of landmark significance to the country's gay

population.

"A symbolic discrimination will end. This is probably the first positive gain for gay Russians since 1993, which saw the decriminalization of male homosexuality," added Nikolai Alekseev.

France is also moving in the same direction on this issue, according to a report in the French publication *Le Monde*.

Last week, Minister of Health Xavier Bertrand announced that the prohibition on blood donations by gay men would end.

"The current permanent prohibition aimed at 'men having sexual relations with other men' doesn't seem acceptable to me, since it in effect stigmatized a population and not certain practices. So it's going to be eliminated," Minister of Health Xavier Bertrand told *Le Monde*.

Australia's ban on blood donations from gay men is also under scrutiny, *The Blade* reports. The Australian Red Cross Blood Service (ARCBS) currently bans blood donations from gay or bisexual men who

have been sexually active within 12 months.

In the United States, the Food & Drug Administration administered a ban in the early 1980s on blood donations from any men who have had sexual contact with another man since 1977. The ban, intended to protect the blood supply from HIV-infected donations, was reconsidered by the agency in September 2000. But the FDA rejected a proposal then to soften the ban to allow donations by gay and bisexual men who had no sexual contact with another man for the last five years.

Canada, England and Ireland have similar blood donation bans. Italy, on the hand, permits gay men to donate but screens based on risky sexual or drug-related behavior. The Italian health minister recently admonished a hospital in Milan for refusing a blood donation from a man because he is gay.

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## Full Page Newspaper Ads Show Commitment to Equality

GLAAD

NEW YORK - In full-page newspaper advertisements appearing coast to coast on July 25, more than 60 civic, religious, labor and civil rights leaders and organizations declare their commitment to working toward equality for gay and lesbian families. View the ad at [http://www.glaad.org/media/release\\_detail.php?id=3901](http://www.glaad.org/media/release_detail.php?id=3901).

The ads, titled "Marriage Matters," are appearing in 50 publications, including the *New York Times*, the *Fresno Bee* (Calif.), the *Cedar Rapids Gazette* (Iowa), the *Raleigh News & Observer* (N.C.), the *Capital Gazette* (Md.), the *Cook County Daily Herald* (Ill.) and *La Opinion* (Calif.). The ads feature photographs of five same-sex couples who have been together from five to 53 years and read, on behalf of the diverse signatories, "They're committed. So are we."

Two-thirds of the signatories are non-gay allies, including nine prominent labor leaders, heads of six leading civil rights organizations,

11 religious leaders and several mayors, in addition to 14 national lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender organizations.

"We want the nation to know that we are united in fighting to end discrimination against gay and lesbian families, including their exclusion from marriage, with all its protections, responsibilities and human significance," said Alice Huffman, president of the California Conference of the NAACP. "We're also underscoring that not only are we in this for the long haul, but that the gay community has real allies."

Said Seattle Mayor Greg Nickels: "Many of us remember a time when the marriages of interracial couples were not recognized in many states. Fortunately, that has changed. Now it is time that gay and lesbian couples have the same rights as all married couples; things such as refinancing a house or visiting a family member in the hospital. The right of gay and lesbian people to marry is fundamental to our equality and humanity."

The advertisements come at a

moment of widening and deepening support for the legal recognition of same-sex relationships, including the freedom to marry. Polls in Massachusetts, the first state to end gay couples' exclusion from marriage, show a clear majority (59 percent) of residents now support marriage equality (Center for Public Opinion Research at Merrimack College Bay State Poll, March 2006). Nationally, a strong majority (56 percent) of all Americans supports legal protections for same-sex relationships, either through marriage or civil unions and domestic partnerships (ABC News/Washington Post, March 21-24, 2005). Support for marriage equality specifically has continued to rise, reaching majority level in some states, while the number of people who say they strongly oppose marriage equality has dropped from 42 percent in early 2004 to 28 percent this year (Pew Research Center, March 22, 2006).

"Public support for legal recognition of same-sex couples has steadily grown in spite of an enormous and well-funded campaign based

on defamation and fear, including dozens of anti-gay state constitutional amendments battles," said Matt Foreman, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. "Even our opponents understand it is not a question of whether we will win dignity and equality for our families, but when."

The legal landscape, however, has been mixed. Three weeks ago, New York's highest court issued an adverse ruling in a challenge brought by couples who had been denied marriage, shifting the debate to the state Legislature. Also, an anti-gay state constitutional amendment was upheld in Nebraska federal court, while courts in other states issued procedural rulings refusing to block votes on anti-gay measures.

Yet during the same period, there were also advances in state courts and state legislatures. Anti-gay amendments failed to advance in both the Massachusetts and Pennsylvania legislatures. The Arkansas Supreme Court unanimously overturned a ban on foster parenting by gay people, and the

American Academy of Pediatrics again strongly reaffirmed the fitness of gay parents and made clear that ending the denial of the freedom to marry is in the best interests of children.

"As in every other struggle for social justice, there will be advances and setbacks along the way," said Evan Wolfson, executive director of Freedom to Marry. "History is not defined by what happens over a few weeks or months — positive or negative — but by progress over many years — and on that score, we've made incredible progress toward fairness and a fulfillment of America's commitment to equality."

"The marriage equality conversation is happening around millions of kitchen tables coast to coast, and is certainly not confined to large cities," said Neil Giuliano, executive director of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation. "We specifically wanted to reach people well beyond the big urban areas, because gay couples, their kids and their loved ones live there, too."

## Arkansas Episcopal Bishop OKs Gay Partner Blessings

Associated Press

Little Rock - Episcopal churches in Arkansas can offer blessing ceremonies for gay couples, the state's bishop said in a letter to clergy.

"It is my belief that seeking ways of recognizing and blessing faithful, monogamous same-sex relationships falls within the parameters of providing pastoral concern and care for our gay and lesbian members," wrote the Right Rev. Larry Maze, bishop of the 14,000-member Episcopal Diocese of Arkansas.

Maze noted in his letter sent to clergy Wednesday that no other national or state Episcopal leaders have produced or approved official rites for the blessings of same-sex unions.

He said the ceremonies would be local observances in each church, not approved formal rites. Arkansas has banned gay marriage, so same-sex couples will have no legal standing in the state.

Two churches, St. Michael's Episcopal Church in Little Rock and St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Fayetteville, plan to offer the ceremonies.

Maze, who was among the bishops who approved the election of an openly gay bishop, the Right Rev. V.

Gene Robinson of New Hampshire is set to retire later this year.

At its 2003 national convention, church representatives passed a resolution in favor of allowing churches to explore the option of

offering blessing ceremonies for gay couples. But at its convention in Ohio this year, leaders passed a resolution telling dioceses not to elect another gay bishop. The most recent convention did not address blessing gay couples.

Most Anglican archbishops believe gay relationships violate Scripture, and many broke ties with the U.S. church over Robinson's election.

Several Episcopal dioceses that consider gay relationships sinful are distancing themselves from the U.S. church over the election as presiding bishop of Nevada Bishop Katharine Jefferts Schori, who will be installed Nov. 4, because she supports ordaining partnered gays and blessing same-sex couples.

At St. Michael's in Little Rock, the Rev. Ed Wills said a same-sex couple is planning a blessing ceremony that is tentatively set for September.

"God is about community, about belonging, about a relationship," Wills said. Couples are blessed in the church "not just so that they can be special but that they can be a blessing to other people."

The Rev. Lowell Grisham of St. Paul's Episcopal Church in Fayetteville, said no one has requested a blessing yet, but that he expects a ceremony before the Episcopal general convention in 2009.

"My gay friends are very sensitive about the notion that we've been blessing animals for years and find it so difficult to bless their relationships," Grisham said.

## Feds Tell TN to Solve Case in Cross Burning

Associated Press

Athens, TN - The Tennessee Bureau of Investigation has been called in to help solve a cross burning at the home of a gay man three weeks ago.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation briefly checked into the case but left after determining the attack was homophobic. Gays are not protected under hate crime laws.

Meigs County Sheriff Walter Hickman asked the TBI to become involved since hate crimes against gays are included in the Tennessee.

District Attorney General Scott McCluen considers the June 29th attack to be hate crime.

Under the state law if the person or persons involved in the cross burning are convicted a judge could enhance the sentences.

Sheriff Hickman said there are no suspects in the attack that took place earlier this month.

Brandon Waters discovered the flaming cross on the front lawn of the home he shares with his partner and mother.

Waters said that the cross was about 7 feet tall and a hate message bearing homophobic epithets was found nearby.

Hickman called in the FBI shortly after the attack.

Federal investigators interviewed Hickman and examined evidence but said that even if the people responsible are caught they cannot be prosecuted under federal law.

Legislation that would have included crimes against gays and lesbians in federal hate crime laws was dropped in the Senate in May.

A House version of the hate crime bill passed the House earlier this year.

The bill would have allowed the Department of Justice to assist local authorities in investigating and prosecuting cases in which violence occurs.

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## Events

### Miss Gay America Pageant Returns to Memphis

The official Miss Gay America Pageant will be held in Memphis, TN on October 18-22, 2006. This pageant will feature nearly 70 of the finest female impersonators in the world, of which nearly 60 contestants will compete for the coveted title of Miss Gay America 2007.

Contestants will travel from coast to coast to represent the contest, in which they have competed to secure their qualification to this national contest.

Miss Gay America is the oldest and most prestigious pageant system for female impersonation.

Preliminary nights will be October 18-20 in which nearly 60 contestants will compete in the categories of talent, evening gown, solo talent, on-stage interview and male interview in effort to be selected into the top 10 finalist group. Preliminary location will be at the Holiday Inn Select-Airport Memphis-2240 Democrat Rd. Memphis, TN 38132. Attendance for the preliminary competition is estimated to exceed 2,000 persons. General Admission is \$10.00 in advance or \$12.00 at the door.

A former Miss Gay America Revue Show... an evening of Drag and Dancing (featuring former Miss

Gay America titleholders, with special guest Nicole DuBois-Miss Gay America 2006) will be held on October 21, 2006 featuring one show at 9:00 p.m. with the dance floor to open at 11:00 Location will be at the Holiday Inn Select-Airport Memphis-2240 Democrat Rd. Memphis, TN 38132. Attendance for this event is estimated to exceed 2,000 persons. General Admission is \$10.00 in advance or \$12.00 at the door.

Sunday, October 22, 2006 will be the finals in which the top 10 finalist will compete in effort to be chosen as Miss Gay America 2007. Additionally Nicole DuBois-Miss

Gay America 2006 will relinquish her title as the reigning Miss Gay America. Location will be at The Cannon Center Theatre, in downtown Memphis, TN. Attendance is estimated to exceed 1,250 persons. Admission (reserved admission) is \$30.00 and \$25.00.

Crowd estimated are expected to be nearly 5,000 for the five day event.

Winner will receive a cash prize package near \$10,000 plus an appearance stream for the next year estimated to be at or near \$60,000.

First alternate will receive a prize package near \$2,000.

### Food is Fun at Men's Potluck

On the first Wednesday of every month at approximately 6:30, several men throughout the Memphis community join together at the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center for the Monthly Men's Potluck.

Everyone brings their favorite dish to eat dinner together, enjoy

each other's company, discuss activities, and meet new people.

All ages are welcome, so bring your ideas and visit the center—make it your new home!

Email host Allen Millington at ramillington@hotmail.com for more information or directions.

*Provided by Alan Millington*

### Spanish/English Conversation Practice

Would you like to practice your Español?

Adelante, an MGLCC program for gay/lesbian/bisexual/transgender Hispanics, will we having a social gathering where participants can converse in Spanish with native speakers. All are welcome.

¿Te gustaría poner tu inglés en práctica?

Adelante, una organización de

MGLCC para hispanos gay/lesbiana/bisexual/transgénero, tendrá una reunion social donde sea posible conversar en inglés con un hablante nativo de inglés. Todos son invitados.

August 17, 2006, 7 PM

MGLCC

www.mglcc.org/adelante

Tele: 901-570-0876

### Alpha Chi Upsilon Event

Saturday, August 19, the ladies of Alpha Chi Upsilon will be holding a Tiger Paw Book Club Meeting at 7 p.m. The meeting will take place

at the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center and all are invited to attend.

### Beta Phi Epsilon August Schedule

*Saturday, August 12, 2006*

MGLCC 2p-5p

BE Fishy Fry

Members will prepare and sell dinners for \$5 per plate.

*Saturday, August 19, 2006*

Beta's Day at the Beach

Come hang out on the beach with the ladies of the BE Chapter. Contact Natasha at 901-949-6889 for more

details and location information.

*Saturday, August 26, 2006*

MGLCC 2p-5p

Beta Babies Tutoring Program Volunteer Meeting

For those who have expressed interest in or are interested in being a volunteer tutor for this program, please attend this meeting to find out more!



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# Ticket Sales for Annual Fundraiser Under Way

by Mark Hubbard

Tickets are now on sale for "Vintners 2006: An Enchanted Evening." The annual wine tasting is a fundraiser for the Comprehensive Care Center (CCC) and will be held at the Vanderbilt Student Life Center on the evening of Friday, August 11 at 6:00 PM. General admission for the event is \$65 with host committee memberships available at higher levels of support.

In addition to showcasing a wide array of new and exciting wines, the event features live and silent auctions, delicious food, a ballroom dancing exhibition, and announcement of the Neil Diehl & Anne Maier

service awards.

Tickets and information are available at 615-321-9556, extension 259, [ssimmons@compclinic.org](mailto:ssimmons@compclinic.org), and [www.compclinic.org](http://www.compclinic.org).

The Comprehensive Care Center is nationally recognized as a leader in HIV/AIDS treatment and is one of the largest freestanding HIV/AIDS clinics in the nation. The HIV Medical Association named its Chief Medical Officer, Stephen Raffanti, MD, MPH, the 2005 Clinician Educator of the Year. "Time's Up," his personal essay, is the "On Being A Doctor" column in the current issue of the Annals of Internal Medicine. By describing a single patient visit,

the article dramatically portrays the human impact of TennCare disenrollment.

Not long after last year's Vintners event, those massive TennCare cuts left many patients struggling to maintain access to medical care and lifesaving medications. The proportion of uninsured patients at the clinic rose from 1% to 26%. The state was forced to trim benefits, leaving gaps in patient care.

Yet the CCC continues to serve over 2,100 individuals, never turning any patient away for lack of insurance or ability to pay. The broad range of medical and supportive services provided includes primary care, infusions, psychiatric services, adherence counseling and support, medical care management and nutritional consultation. The Center operates an obstetrics clinic that provides specialized care for pregnant HIV positive mothers.

With the help of its dedicated professionals, more than 150 HIV positive mothers have delivered

HIV-negative sons and daughters over the past four years.

The Comprehensive Care Center is affiliated with the Vanderbilt-Meharry Center for AIDS Research and is co-housed with the Vanderbilt AIDS Clinical Trials Center.

This relationship benefits both patients and the community by maximizing access to emerging treatment options and creating opportunities to contribute to a wide range of HIV/AIDS research.

The Center also incorporates the Tennessee AIDS Education & Training Center, which provided nearly 1,300 students and profes-

sionals with HIV-specific clinical training over the past 10 months. CCC providers staff rural satellite clinics in Cookeville, Columbia and Springfield.

Research shows that HIV/AIDS patients in ongoing care experience dramatically fewer hospital visits. When they are hospitalized, CCC patients incur only half the costs of those who have not been in care.

By providing outstanding comprehensive services regardless of individuals' ability to pay, the Center protects the community and saves taxpayer dollars.

Learn more about the Comprehensive Care Center at [www.compclinic.org](http://www.compclinic.org).

## Initiative: Fairness to Canvass Memphis

MGLCC's Initiative: Fairness is excited to announce the August canvassing schedule as they go door-to-door and urge Memphians to "Vote NO!" on the Tennessee "Marriage" Amendment.

MGLCC will serve as the base of operations on both Saturday, August 5 and Saturday, August 19. Each day will begin with training at 9:30 a.m. Coffee and donuts will be provided.

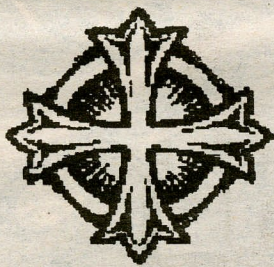
Following the 30-minute training, volunteers will be given a walking list of voter addresses to contact. After canvassing, volunteers will return their walking list to the center.

The canvassing will be very flexible and participants may spend as much time canvassing as they would like, but all lists will need to be returned by 4 p.m. the day of the canvass.

For a safe and pleasant canvassing experience, it is recommended that participants bring some of the following items on the days of the canvass: bottled water, cell phone, sunscreen, umbrella, and insect repellent.

I:F will furnish canvassing materials, clipboards and pens.

Let's be the change we want to see in our community!



As other denominations tell you, "No," we continue to proclaim a joyous "YES!"

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Must present coupon. Valid at these locations only. Not valid with any other offer. Expires 9/15/06

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# Reviews

## Encore and Applause for Restaurant ENCORE

by Echo Bites

I'll begin by admitting that I'm certainly no professional culinary expert. One of my passions, however, is eating out... A LOT! I travel for work, so I have ample opportunities to explore the cuisines of many regions of the US, not to mention several exciting cities throughout the world.

Growing up, my family ate at home every meal. Living in a small rural Mississippi county, there were almost zero options for dining out. My mom literally worked 10 hours a day and then came home to slave at the stove to feed the 5 of us every evening.

They say that you want what you don't have, so eating at home my entire childhood spawned a passion during my adult years for dining out.

I've lived in Memphis for most of my adult life, which is more than I want to admit. Even so, I never

ventured into The Peabody Hotel to taste the food of Jose Gutierrez during his reign as the executive chef at Chez Philippe.

I now have a feeling that I missed something great.

Chef Jose Gutierrez has now opened ENCORE, a restaurant in Peabody Place. I am thankful that I didn't miss this adventure! The appearance of ENCORE is slightly upscale, yet the clientele was mixed. There were plenty of suits and lovely ladies dressed in their out-on-the-town best, but there were also a fair share of sandals and shorts thrown in the mix. Suffice it to say, I'd feel comfortable visiting ENCORE wearing whatever I happened to have on when the mood strikes.

Naturally, my attention focused immediately to the drink list. My companion and I sampled a couple of the martini drinks and nodded our approval as we gulped them down.

One look at the drink list and I

knew exactly which martini I would choose... the DIVA! Mixed with the fruit of the blood orange, it certainly lived up to its name! I just had to have two before the evening was done!

Chef Gutierrez's menu is not overwhelming and it did not take hours to decide what my palette desired. Not being very hungry, and vowing to save room for dessert, I skipped the starters and salads. Although next time, I may opt for a couple of their starters (likely the lump crab and green apples served in a chilled martini glass), skip the entrée and end appropriately with dessert.

This evening, however, I chose the spice rubbed pork tenderloin entrée served with mascarpone-parmesan polenta cakes. The pork was tender, finished with a light and tasty mushroom sauce. The waiter thought I was joking when I ordered an extra bucket of the sauce but, honestly, I would have been thrilled if

he'd come back to the table bearing the bucket!

The polenta cakes were perfect, somehow remaining creamy and delicious inside while slightly crispy on the outside. Preparing polenta can be challenging, but this staff has perfected the art.

My partner ordered the crispy chicken cordon rouge stuffed with sun dried tomato and gruyere cheese. This was served alongside a refreshing bed of cucumber slaw.

The combination of perfectly cooked chicken hiding the tangy sun dried tomato was a fantastic surprise to the tongue while the cucumber slaw somehow cleansed and prepared the taste buds for the next bite.

Choosing a dessert was, as always, difficult. Crème brulee always sounds fabulous but the lemon cheesecake also provided great temptation. In the end, I stayed true to my southern roots and ordered the pecan pie with bourbon vanilla

ice cream.

I was not disappointed. The pecan pie was truly heavenly while the bourbon vanilla ice cream provided just the right sinful touch. This mix of good and evil was inspiring!

Overall, the portions were nice. We certainly weren't left hungry but never approached that over-stuffed, bring-me-a-wheel-barrow feeling.

The waiter started off a bit slow, taking far too long to come and take my DIVA order, but he became much more friendly and attentive as time passed. He even scurried over and suggested we place our order before the large wedding party's order hit the kitchen, a very thoughtful gesture!

As I left ENCORE, I made a silent wish that the restaurant survives the treacherous waters of the Memphis restaurant scene. I know I'll be returning, and not just because of the DIVA!

*Eating at ENCORE? Email TJ and share your opinion!*

## Figuring Out How to Handle Summer Heat? Strip and Drive!

by Casey Williams

It's way too hot outside. The sun is shining, dogs are romping, shirts are sogging, hotties are jogging, and a gentle breeze is blowing. Summer in Memphis would be unbearable if you couldn't strip down to your basic wearables.

But before you get all hot and um, bothered, remove your top, expose your bare upholstery and go for a drive. You don't have a convertible? That's a pity.

Let's see what we can do about that.

Like certain appendages, convertibles come in a variety of sizes, shapes, and prices. One of the most stunning this season is the Saturn Sky Roadster, which has become the star of *Project Runway* and tops *gaywheels.com's* "most researched" list.

For something a little bigger, Mitsubishi brings the future-styled Eclipse Spyder to the barbeque. If when the fun is over you want to forget your transgressions, the Mercedes SLK55 and Pontiac G6 hardtop convertibles transform from breezy fling to buttoned-down-professional with the flip of a switch.

As I found on a recent drive to Indiana, the Saturn Sky attracts paparazzi like Britney riding bareback with her papoose unstrapped. Every time I stopped for gas or scurried into the grocery, people would stare and gasp with their jaws slung downward and it's not hard to understand why.

The Sky is the IT car of this summer. Styled like a baby Corvette with crisp lines, 18" chrome alloy wheels, and hard tonneau cover (under which the flying buttress canvas top is stored), the Sky almost looks like a mid-engined Porsche.

The interior is jazzed up with piano black finish on the center dash and chrome detailing.

Passengers ride comfortably enough with plenty of legroom and supportive two-tone leather seats, but the 2.4-litre 177-HP four-cylinder engine screams like a weed eater-bit banshee when the five-speed automatic transmission steps down. Bilstein shocks squelch rough pavement and give the car incredibly balanced handling. Four-wheel, anti-lock disc brakes snug the car down from speed. Although the trunk barely held two duffle bags and my computer case, the one-piece clamshell hood reveals the little four-banger in all its hellacious glory. I'd choose the Red Line edition and its 260-HP supercharged engine for a real thump in the rump.

Given 19 seconds, the Mitsubishi Eclipse Spyder can change out of its dowdy daily wear and into beachwear with the touch of a button. Our test car's orange metallic paint, chrome wheels, and beige and orange two-tone interior looked pimped. When stowed, the top is completely hidden under the trunklid and when up, it quiets the interior with insulation and a full headliner. All the better to let everyone enjoy the kickin' 650-watt Rockford Fosgate audio system with a six-disc changer, MP3 capability, and an 8 in. subwoofer that not only takes up most of the back seat, but can split atoms with its ferocity.

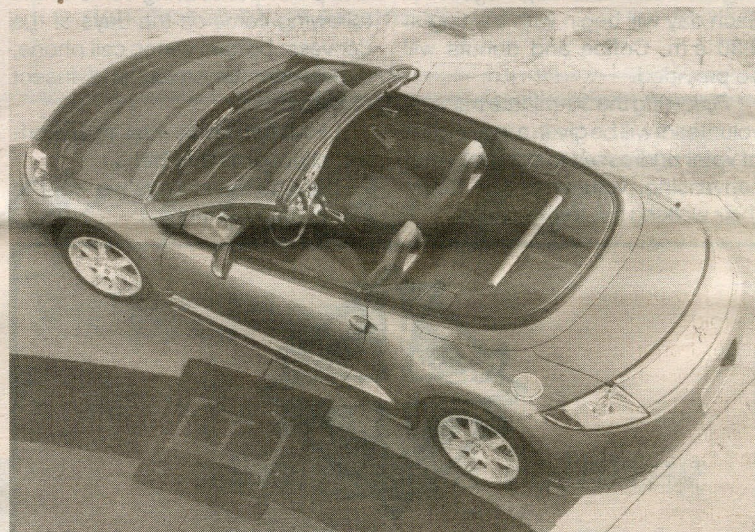
Sweet harmony also comes from the car's 3.8-litre 260-HP V6 engine and six-speed manual transmission. Front tires can be melted into butter while the tuned exhaust system sings like a high-priced German call girl. No Eclipse is a virgin sports car like the Sky, but it is comfortable for long trips, rides relatively calmly,

holds a reasonable amount of luggage, cools with automatic climate control, and looks like a cover model while doing it.

Even if your modeling days are memories, you may still want to look radiant. Pontiac's new G6 is the lowest-priced hardtop convertible and looks sexy as hell with its nubbins covered or revealed. It used to be that hardtop convertibles were only for the jet set, but the G6 brings it to the masses. Engineered by Germany's Karmann, the car's two-piece clamshell-style retractable roof folds into its trunk in 30 seconds. Rear seaters enjoy an obscene amount of legroom. Top up or down, the G6 is smooth and gorgeous.

As beautiful as it is, the G6 is not the kind of party animal that will dance 'till dawn. Powered by a 201-HP 3.5-litre V6 engine and four-speed automatic transmission, it is more of a cruiser than dancer. Quick steering and a four-wheel independent suspension system will play, but they are not up to extended pounding on challenging two-lanes. Then again, that's not what the G6 was trained for.

Mercedes' SLK55, on the other hand, was. If what you really want is the purist sports car experience of a Saturn SKY, but with the performance of a Porsche, the SLK55 is your trick. Muscled up with a 355-HP 5.5-litre V8 engine, 7-speed manual transmission, and beefy suspension system, the SLK55 is the ultimate combination of sprinter, marathoner, weightlifter, and ballet dancer. Adjustable shocks can be tuned for on-highway comfort or full-out track cornering. Take this



*The Mitsubishi Eclipse Spyder looks hot and sexy in the summer heat when stripped down to its bare minimum. The convertible is considered one of the summer's hottest cars.*

hunk home to your mother and she would be both scared and attracted to it.

The first Mercedes SLK stunned everybody with its simple design and folding hardtop. Second-generation models also offer a folding hardtop, but with updated styling to flash more sizzle. As with every Mercedes, the SLK55 is engineered to be driven daily with all of the safety, durability, quality, and performance for which the marque is revered. Apparently, 400,000 people have been attracted to the SLK since its debut in 1996. Well-experienced in convertibles, Mercedes has sold over one million roadsters since the 1950s.

If summer is causing a bad trip and your heart is throbbing for a fine ride with access to the sky, start scanning for one of these hot bodies.

Depending on your type and appetite to spend, the \$27,000 Saturn Sky, \$30,379 Mitsubishi Eclipse Spyder, \$28,490 Pontiac G6 Convertible, or \$62,275 Mercedes SLK55 could be the perfect life partner.

Go ahead, strip down to your unmentionables and have a fling.

Summer won't last forever. Please send questions or comments to Casey at [CRWAUTO@aol.com](mailto:CRWAUTO@aol.com).

# Triangle Journal

NEWS FOR THE INTELLIGENT

# Homosexuals Save Civilization!

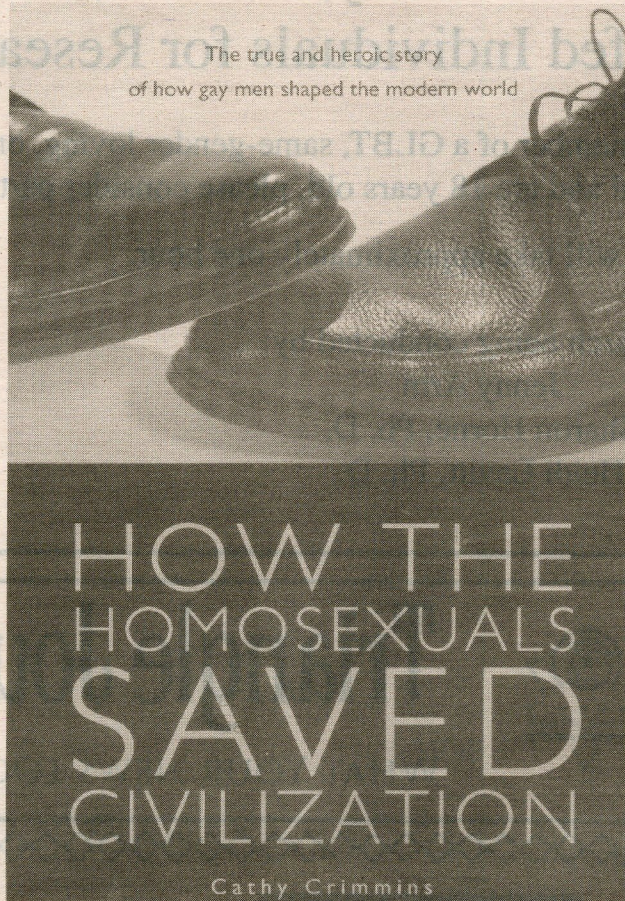
by Ian Keller

With bombs bursting in the Middle-East, missiles being launched from North Korea, and the Bush administration sitting with its thumb... ahem, and the Bush administration looking pretty impotent, perhaps its time to turn to the homosexuals for assistance. Again.

In Cathy Crimmins' partly tongue-in-cheek-yet-always-amazing work *How the Homosexuals Saved Civilization* (New York: Penguin Books, 2004), we take a light look (don't we need something light right about now?) at just what our community has accomplished in recent generations.

Crimmins illustrates that gay folk have been on the cultural leading edge for quite some time now. What we do today repeatedly takes hold in the *rest of society* a year or two later. Witness certain fashion trends, the advent of metrosexuality, the emergence of haute cuisine and the art of entertainment, and the evolution of the "Queen's" English in America from the queer to the straight ("the DL" isn't just sexual any more, is it?)

As Crimmins reviews the heart,



## The New Gay Teenager – Not So “Awesome, Dude!”

by Len Piechowski

There's something really troubling about this book. And I've been trying to put my finger on it. Truth be told, I'm even wondering which finger I should use. *The New Gay Teenager* (Harvard University Press, 2005) was written by Ritch C. Savin-Williams, a Professor of Clinical and Developmental Psychology at Cornell University.

I first thought that it was the described characteristics of the "new" gay teen that troubled me. As time went on, I realized that there was much more to it than just that.

I must admit to feeling a bit strange while reading Professor Savin-Williams' claims that sexual orientation doesn't seem to matter much to the new gay or "post-gay" teenager's mental health and to their sense of identity. I was also quite surprised to read that today's gay teens are, according to the author, "confident, competent, and upbeat" about their same sex desires, and that they worry more about "their chemistry tests rather than their sexuality."

It was also a bit alienating to read the Professor's insistence that they care little about the distinctions and painful struggles of their older counterparts and are unappreciative of them. He offers chapters of "proof" that the "old" standard image of gay youth as depressed, isolated, drug-dependent, even suicidal is not accurate today.

Really?

Please don't get me wrong. If any or all of those claims are true,



The New Gay Teenager  
RITCH C. SAVIN-WILLIAMS

that's not bad. Actually, finding some truth there would be absolutely wonderful. It could mean that the efforts of my generation and those who have gone before us have paid off to some extent. But I'm not sure we should be all that ready to take credit just yet.

If this guy is right, I've got a lot of paradigm shifting to do, because up until now, the kids in my world have been looking a lot different than the kids in his. During my reading I kept asking myself, just who did he interview for his research anyway?

Certainly not the kids I've met in the last few years that are home schooled because they've been beaten up so badly in high school that their parents fear for their safety.

Certainly not the kids I have

met who have attempted to, and at times even successfully, take their lives because they have been so overwhelmed with non-chemistry related concerns.

And certainly not the kids who, like so many of their elders, self-medicate with alcohol and illegal drugs trying to feel better about themselves.

Now just to be fair to the good Professor, he does indeed spend some time discussing the varying degrees to which his assertions apply across the spectrum. But I think it's the kids at the other end of the spectrum from where he's sitting that deserve more attention. Bald statements such as "they [post-gay teens] are becoming the norm, they are the ordinary ones" really make me wonder.

Sure I see some truth in his work. And I am indeed troubled by a younger generation and an older one who don't seem to be on the same wavelength. But I'm even more troubled about myself.

After reading this book I can't stop wondering, am I really that off base? Or is this guy pontificating from an Academic Ivory Tower quite detached from the real world? And I admit I'm not quite sure yet just which one of us is crazy.

You probably already know, but to find out for myself I've begun to ask around among some friends much younger.

The problem is many of them keep telling me they're just too busy to talk with me about it. And then they mumble something about a chemistry test!

body, and soul of American society in this three part treatment of gay culture, she adeptly proves that we have been about the business of shaping society for a long time.

According to this admiring straight ally, we have been the prime movers in the "queering of America" for over fifty years. She claims we created barbecue and deviled eggs, we were responsible for the raising of Halloween to almost Christmas-status, and that we have kept the country entertained in all things theatre for just about as long as theatre has been around. We have shaped the way straight people talk, think, dress, and act.

She believes, and makes a very convincing case, that we have irrevocably changed the concepts of community, family, sex, fashion, entertainment, and beauty.

It's a fun book. And pretty inspiring too! Although she never discusses it, I couldn't help but ponder what we could accomplish if we ever really developed the

"Homosexual Agenda" the radical right fears so much.

What would really happen if we organized to change and improve American structures, mores, and law?

But then it dawned on me. We've already been working on the norms. These 217 pages seem to support a belief that we've been very successful there! I'm thinking, and hoping, that American structures, mores, and law (all three are simply norms solidified) should start falling in place any time now!

And then they'll probably ask us to take care of foreign affairs as well!

Want to share  
your coming  
out story?

Send it to us!

Send articles to:  
tj@mglcc.org

## Click: A Life Lesson

by Jamie Griffen

Despite the sophomoric humor that is the hallmark of an Adam Sandler comedy, *Click* actually offers something deeper than most of his feature films.

When architectural designer Michael Newman (Sandler) stumbles on a universal remote that can do everything from lowering the volume of a barking dog to fast forwarding through sexual foreplay, he goes from casual user to junkie status overnight.

Newman uses the remote to put the less than exciting parts of his life, like arguing with his wife, and hanging out with his parents, on auto-piloted fast forward so he'll have more time to work. But the remote, similar to a computer with the automatic spell check, assumes control by programming Newman's habits. Suddenly, the remote control is out of control and doesn't wait for Newman's commands.

In the time it takes him to scratch his head and wonder what is going on, Newman has aged ten years and grown distant from his wife and two children. He's a gray-haired man with health issues before he realizes family comes before business.

Although exaggerated, *Click* is not too far off-base with American culture.

Too many people in our society put their careers before their families and before they know it, *click*: the years have passed by them. Unfortunately, it sometimes takes losing one of them for us to understand what our priorities should be.

Sandler is at his comedic best but is quite comfortable with the more dramatic scenes of the movie.

And if Sandler alone doesn't do it for you, his supporting cast includes David Hasselhoff, Henry Winkler, Kate Beckinsale, Christopher Walken, and Rob Schneider.

## Elliott's Still Standing

by Jamie Griffen

If the small lot of land on South Second Street in downtown Memphis properly titled Elliott's Restaurant could speak, it would probably yap to fellow long standing buildings about how they've seen restaurants come and go. It would joke about how businesses like Krispy Kreme Doughnuts only lasted three months in the heat of the "new" downtown competition.

Not that Elliott's is cocky, but after 26 years of survival, it should at least feel proud of its accomplishments. "(Elliott's) was one of the first hamburger eateries in the Downtown area," says store manager Harry Reyna, when explaining why Elliott's remains a rush hour favorite. "We've got history and tradition on our side." Reyna realizes just how fortunate Elliott's has been. "The competition is so stiff," he explained.

But what he won't volunteer is just how good the burgers are and how fast and hot they are served. He doesn't have to. Unlike the building, the food speaks for itself.

At face value, Elliott's is just a step above a hole in the wall establishment. There's nothing memorable about the "atmosphere," except for the long walk required to get to the counter from the door. It's a physically challenged person's nightmare.

The customer service gets a thumb up. The salad bar's offerings are average. And if there's anything else less than perfect, the sandwiches and desserts make up for it.

The hamburger is Elliott's claim to local fame, but their turkey sandwiches are just as impressive.

Somehow, the food is served both hot and quick. Imagine that!

## Seeking Family Members of Gay, Lesbian, and Bisexual or Same-Sex Identified Individuals for Research Study

If you are a family member of a GLBT, same-gender loving, or  
same-sex partnered individual and are 18 years old, please consider participating.

The interview will take approximately one hour.

Call  
901.355.7514  
to participate!

Research being conducted by:  
Jenny Arm  
Sharon Horne, Ph. D.  
Heidi Levitt, Ph. D.

Email  
jarm@memphis.edu  
to participate!



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The Gay Memphis Resources Directory is printed as a public service and its listings are free. Agencies and businesses listed herein have requested to be listed, but have not been charged. All phone numbers are area code 901 unless otherwise noted.

(\* Indicates Triangle Journal distribution points.)

## ADULT BOOKSTORES

**Airport Bookmart:** 2214 Brooks Rd E. 345-0657.  
**Cherokee Adult Book Store:** 2947 Lamar 744-7494.  
**Fantasy Warehouse I\*:** 791-793 North White Station 683-9649  
**Executive South\*** - 1847 E. Brooks Rd. 345-0825  
**Fantasy Warehouse #4\*** - 2532 N. Watkins - 358-8642  
**Getwell Book Mart:** 1275 Getwell 454-7765.  
**Paris Adult Entertainment Center:** 2432 Summer 323-2665.  
**Tammy's # 2:** 2220 East Brooks Rd 396-9050.  
**Tammy's # 3:** 1617 Getwell Rd 744-4513.  
**Tammy's # 4:** 5937 Summer Ave. 373-5760.

## BARS / RESTAURANTS

**Allusions Entertainment Center\*:** 3204 N Thomas St. 357-8383  
**Backstreet\*:** 2018 Court Street 276-5522.  
**Bogie's Delicatessen:** 2098 La Salle Place 272-0022.  
**Buns on the Run\*:** 2150 Elzey Ave. 38104 278-2867  
**Dish:** 948 S. Cooper 276-0002  
**J-Wags\*:** 1268 Madison 725-1909.  
**Lorenz/AfterShock\*:** 1528 Madison 274-8272.  
**Madison Flame\*:** 1588 Madison 278-0569  
**Metro Memphis\*:** 1349 Autumn 274-8010.  
**One More\*:** 2117 Peabody 278-MORE (6673).  
**Overstuffed Deli & Caterers:** 3003 Airways Blvd. #701 396-1969, 3727 South Mendenhall 362-2989, 7716 Poplar Ave., Germantown 757-1212.  
**Paragon Lounge\*:** 2865 Walnut Grove 320-0026  
**P & H Cafe\*:** 1532 Madison Ave. 274-9794.  
**Pumping Station\*:** 1382 Poplar Ave. 272-7600.  
**Sessions\*:** 1278 Jefferson Ave. 276-1882  
**The Jungle\*:** 1474 Madison 278-0521

## CARDS & GIFTS

**Inz & Outz\*:** 553 South Cooper 728-6535.  
**CARPET CARE / CLEANING SERVICES**  
**BJ's Cleaning Service:** 726-4211.  
**King's Kleaning Service:** Home or Office 283-1089  
**King's Dog sitting Service:** 283-1089  
**Lee's Carpet Care:** Commercial or Residential, 24-hr. service, free estimates 327-6165.

## COMMUNITY GROUPS

**Adelante:** support group for GLBT and questioning Hispanic community Contact: adelante@mgccc.org  
**Alliance:** Leather/Levi club • Box 42174, Memphis 38174.  
**American Gay Atheists (AGA) Memphis:** Box 41371, Memphis 38174-1371.  
**Aphrodite:** 3430 Summer Ave, Memphis 38122.  
**Beta Epsilon Chapter of Beta Phi Omega Sorority, Inc.** Community Service Organization catering to Feminine Lesbian, Bisexual, and Heterosexual women Contact: President Natasha Burnett Holmes at 901-949-6889 or betaepsilonchapter@yahoo.com; www.betaphiomega.net  
**Stonewall Tigers:** University of Memphis, c/o Stonewall Tigers, 2522 Campus Postal Station, Memphis, TN 38152-2521, e-mail: stonewalltigers@yahoo.com  
**Bluff City Sports Association:** Box 41074, Memphis 38174, web site: www.bluffcitysports.net.  
**Brothers & Sisters Bowling League:** 465-4371 - Richard Andrews.  
**Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere (COLAGE) Memphis:** email - colagememphis@yahoo.com website - colagememphis@yahoogroups.com  
**Cotton Pickin' Squares:** Gay/Lesbian Square Dance Club Meets Thurs., 7 pm Holy Trinity • 685 S. Highland, Memphis 38104 272-2116.  
**Equality Tennessee:** P.O. Box 330965, Nashville, TN 37203, www.equalitytennessee.org.  
**4F:** Leather/Levi group • 698 Pope Dr., Bartlett 38112.  
**First Congregational Church:** Worship Service: Sun. 9:30 & 10:00 am, Wed. 6 pm • 1000 South Cooper 278-6786.  
**First Presbyterian Church:** Sun. School, 9:30 am; Coffee & fellowship, 10:30 am; Worship, 11 am • 166 Poplar 525-5619.  
**Friends For Life—HIV Resources:** HIV/AIDS Service Organization • 1384 Madison, Memphis 38104 272-0855 or 278-AIDS, www.FriendsForLifeCorp.com.  
**Galloway Church:** www.gallowaychurch.com

**Holy Trinity Community Church\*:** Worship Service: Sun. 9 & 11 am; Bible study: Wed. 7 pm; 685 S. Highland, Memphis 38111 320-9376, e-mail: office@holyltrinitymemphis.org.

**Integrity Memphis:** Meets the 3rd Tues., Healing Service/Eucharist, 6pm; Dinner, 6:30pm; Meeting 7:30pm • c/o Calvary Episcopal Church, 102 N. 2nd 525-6602.

**Initiative:Fairness** (Political Committee of the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center). Contact at IF@mgccc.org. Web site: www.mgccc.org/IF

**Jackson Lambda Support Group:** Memphis Lambda Center 901-427-1500 for information.

**Living Word Christian Church:** Worship Service Sun. 10 am & 6pm, Wed. 7 pm • 2489 Broad Ave 452-6272

**Memphis Area Gay Youth (MAGY):** PO Box 241852, Memphis, TN 38124 335-MAGY. Website: www.magyonline.org

**Memphis Center for Reproductive Health:** 1462 Poplar Ave 274-3550.

**Memphis Gay & Lesbian Atheists & Humanists (GALAH):** www.geocities.com/memphisgalah 327-2677.

**Memphis Gay & Lesbian Community Center (MGLCC):** 892 S Cooper, Memphis 38104 278-4297. Website: www.mgccc.org

**Memphis Lesbian & Gay Coalition for Justice (MLGCJ):** 111 S. Highland, Suite 305, Memphis, TN 38111

262-2702, e-mail: mlgcj@yahoo.com, www.mlgcj.org

**Memphis Stonewall Democrats:**

www.memphisstonewalldemocrats.org, 327-2677

**Mid-South Gay and Lesbian Republicans (MGLR):**

groups.yahoo.com/group/MidsouthGLR/

**Mid-South Lambda Professional Alliance (MLPA):**

Contact at groups.yahoo.com/group/midsouthlpa

**Mid-South Pride:** Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, & Transgendered Pride Events •

111 S. Highland, Suite 261 328-6349, website: www.midsouthpride.org.

**Mirror Image:** TV/TS support group • c/o Barbara Jean Jasen, Box 11052, Memphis, TN 38111-0052.

**Mystic Krewe of Memphis United:** 41 S. Century, Memphis, 38111. www.geocities.com/mardigras-memphis

**Mystic Krewe of Pegasus Memphis:** a social charitable organization. 7626 Shelby Woods Cove, Memphis, TN 38125

**Neshoba Unitarian Universalist Church:** 266-2626

**Open Heart Community of Faith:** North end of First Congregational Church, 1000 South Cooper, Rev. John Gilmore 323-3514.

**Parents, Families & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG):** 761-1444 Website: www.pflagmemphis.org

**Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (PFLAG):** Jackson, TN 38305 1-901-664-6614 for information, e-mail: burtren@aeneas.com

**Pink Pistols:** e-mail: memphis@pinkpistols.org.

**Stonewall Mission Church:** A Progressive Christian Church • Sun. Service 6:30 p.m., meets at the Center, 103 Berry Rd., Nashville, TN 37204 (615) 269-3480.

**Tennessee Leather Tribe:** Gay men's/women's leather org. 1568 Rolling Hills Dr., Memphis, TN 38127-5409 357-1921.

**The Mid-Towners Bowling League:** 323-3111 - Linda Etherton, 342-4630 - James Bailey.

**Tsarus:** Leather-Levi club • Box 41082, Memphis 38174-1082.

**Unity Church of Memphis:** 2570 Kirby Rd. Memphis 38119

**Univ. of Miss. Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual Assoc.:** GLBA, PO Box 3541, Univ., MS 38677 662-915-7049, email: glba@olemiss.edu, website: http://www.olemiss.edu/orgs/glba.

**UT-Martin ALLIES:** Campus and community. Alternate Weds. 5 p.m. Info 131F Humanities Bldg., Martin 38238, neilg@utm.edu 587-7301.

**Woman's Action Coalition:** PO Box 1203, 3566 Walker, Memphis 38111 678-3339.

## COUNSELING SERVICES

**Eric Cassius, L.P.C., C.H.T.:** Hypnotherapy, In-

dividual, Group, Adolescent, Couples & Family Counseling. Sliding scale fee available. 685-5491 for appointment.

**Joel Chapman, PhD:** 1000 S. Cooper 844-4357.

**Kent D. Fisher, LPC, MAC:** Experiential Healing Center, 1713 Lockett Place 372-0710. EMDR, group, individual, couples & family therapy.

**Gary Gardia, M.Ed., LCSW:** Midtown location; grief, loss; Lesbian, Gay & transgender; individuals, couples 527-1098.

**Anne S. Gillis, MS:** Individual, couple & family counseling, rebirthing 761-3435.

**Patricia Goshorn, M.Ed.:** Licensed Psychological Counselor • Simmons, Kelman & Assoc., 3960 Knight Arnold Rd, Ste 316 369-6050.

**Cliff Heegel, PhD:** Licensed Psychologist • Centerpoint, 5180 Park Ave. Ste 150 767-1066.

**Sheridan Lambe, LCSW:** Individual & Couple Counseling, 761-9178.

**Rhonda Manning Hidaji, LCSW:** Individual & Couples. Goal-Oriented Gestalt & Integrative Psychotherapy. Sliding Fee Scale, Germantown/Cordova area 757-7706.

**Joseph Robert Pfeiffer, LCSW:** 578-9107.

**M. Todd Puckett, MS, LPC:** Personal Enhancement Coaching. • 5050 Poplar Ave., Suite 2400 901-517-1737.

**Kathryn T. Vullo, PhD:** Licensed Clinical Psychologist, LLC • 8590 Farmington Blvd., Ste. 3, G'twn, 670 Colonial Rd., Ste. 1, Mphs. 848-6666, www.interpersonalnet.com.

**Kent Usry, LCSW, MAC, M.Div.** Specializing in dual disorders, addictions, grief and loss, and sexuality issues. Sliding scale fee. Call (901)517-1737 for appointment.

**DENTAL SERVICES**  
**William N. Castle, D.D.S.:** Dentist • 79 North Cooper 685-5008.

**FINANCIAL SERVICES**  
**Ronnie Bingham, CPA:** Taxes, accounting, estate planning 753-1413.  
**Donald Morgan Bookkeeping and Tax Service:** 458-0152.

**Karen B. Shea:** Financial Consultant, Smith Barney Inc., 1661 International Dr., Ste. 200 818-4134, 800-227-4146, fax: 818-4233.

**Sarah A. Washington:** Investment Advisor 466-3588, website: www.lpl.com/sarah.washington, e-mail: sarah.washington@lpl.com.

**FLORISTS**  
**Botanica:** 3092 Poplar, 458-1929.  
**Park East Florist:** 6005 Park 761-2980.

**GRAPHICS/PHOTOGRAPHY**  
**ABC/A2Z:** Digital Photography/Videography. By Appointment 377-7701.

**Graffiti Graphics:** 1985 Madison #7 278-5002.  
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**See-S:** Portraits & photography 327-3760.

**HELP & INFORMATION LINES**  
**Affirmation:** (708) 733-9590.  
**Gay & Lesbian Helpline:** 1-888-340-GLBT (Mon.-Fri., 5-10pm, Sat.-Sun., 4-9pm).  
**Gay & Lesbian Hotline:** 1-800-285-7431 (24 hr. help & information for Lesbians, Gays, transvestites & transsexuals).  
**Gay & Lesbian Youth Hotline:** 1-800-347-TEEN (Thu.-Sun., 7pm-11:45pm).  
**Gay & Lesbian Switchboard:** 278-4297 • 24-hrs. LINC: ☎415-2700.

**Memphis Sexual Assault Resource Center:** 272-2020  
**Narcotics Anonymous:** 276-LIVE.  
**Peer Listening:** Youth-staffed GLBT youth hotline (Mon.-Fri., 3-9pm) 1-800-399-PEER.  
**Suicide & Crisis Intervention:** 274-7477.  
**Transvestite-Transsexual National Hotline:** (617) 899-2212 (8-2am, Mon.-Sat.).

**LEGAL SERVICES**  
**Wayne C. Gullede, Attorney at Law:** 1014 S. Crockett Rd., Senatobia, MS 38668 (662) 562-5949, (662) 292-0823 or (662) 292-0046.  
**Susan Mackenzie, Attorney at Law:** 266 So. Front St., Ste. 206 527-7701.  
**Robert Ross, Attorney at Law:** 100 N. Main, Ste 3310 525-0417.  
**Jocelyn D. Wurzburg, Attorney at Law:** 5118 Park, Ste 232, 684-1332.

**LODGING**  
**French Quarter Suites\*:** 2144 Madison 523-8912.  
**Hampton Inn & Suites:** 962 S. Shady Grove, Group Sales-

Events Coordinator: E. Ryan Dougherty 762-0056.  
**MASSAGE SERVICES**

**ABC A Bodywise Company Guesthouse:** Relaxing therapeutic, full-body massage/sports massage. By appointment. 377-7701.

**Mike Warkentin, LMT:** By appt. 218-0669. Inbalance Fitness, 794 S. Cooper

**Stephen Pair:** Sports, therapeutic, relaxing, Swedish massage 277-1705, stephenpair@aol.com

**Tom Pitman:** Swedish/Deep tissue - Hot stone massage 761-7977. e-mail: tompitmanmemphis@yahoo.com

## MEDIA

**Family & Friends:** Free monthly magazine • Box 771948, Memphis 38177-1948, 682-2669, Fax: 685-2234, email: FamilyMag@aol.com,

**Triangle Journal:** Free monthly newspaper published by Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center • 892 S. Cooper St, Memphis 38111-0485 827-7277 email: tj@mgccc.org

**MISCELLANEOUS SERVICES**  
**Antique Warehouse\*:** 2563 Summer 323-0600.  
**Balnea Blue Hair Salon:** 2111 Madison 726-0090.  
**Bereavement Express:** A unique way to express your sympathy to family, friends, co-workers, clients. 578-9107; www.LandscapesPublishing.com

**Christian Funeral Directors:** 2615 Overton Crossing 358-0062

**Dabbles Hair Co.:** 19 N. Cooper 725-0521.

**DJ Services:** breakbeatkid69@hotmail.com.

**DiversityBuilder:** Free Professional Gay Referrals, Box 3614, Brentwood, TN 37024 615-794-5047, email: info@diversitybuilder.com, www.diversity-builder.com

**Doing Business In Memphis:** A Sales Leads Directory www.memphisbusiness.com.

**Full Spectrum Painting:** 901-643-2814

**Girls Work:** Includes: House Doctors, Intimate Occasions, Lunch to Go, Basket Grams & Everyday Services 276-1935, email: girlswork@hotmail.com, http://www.webspawner.com/users/girlswork/index.html

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**Love Song Greeting Cards:** Specializing in greeting cards for lovers only • P.O. Box 676, Horn Lake, MS 38637-2165.

**McPherson Appliance Clinic:** Sales, service & repair, Heating & A/C. • 1447 National, 327-6887, 327-7395.

**Memphis Paranormal Investigation Team:** http://hometown.aol.com/paranormal38111/ghost.html

**Midtown Galleries & Auction, Inc.:** Antiques, Art, Painted & Unusual Furnishings • 2228 Central 725-0049.

**Midtown House Cleaning Service:** 15yr. exp., ref., onsite est., • 274-0281 evenings or weekends.

**Mr. Scruff's Pet Care:** Pet sitting 725-9216.

**Paggios for Hair Salon:** 274-3944.

**Pet Care Unlimited:** Pet sitting and/or house sitting by competent, caring couple 726-6198.

**Professional Pest Management:** 327-8400

**Silva Piano Studio:** Private piano instruction, beginner to highly advanced 278-1384

**TNT Painting:** Tom Rowe & Trent Gatewood 503-8376 or 649-3270.

**Tom Webb Ins.:** Insuring in the Gay and Lesbian Community, 4646 Poplar 682-2170.

**Vantek:** Internet Services • Box 11187, Memphis 38111-0187 ☎ 324-4999, e-mail: vradmin@vantek.net.

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**Brian Clanton, The Carter Group:** 1908 Exeter, Ste. 2, Germantown 753-7222, 458-3852.

**Joanna Johnson, Realtor, Clay Johnson Realty:** 757-B West Poplar Ave. 853-0237.

**Glenn Moore, Broker, Owner, Woodland Realty:** 377-1057.

**Steve Solomon, Broker, Sowell & Company:** 54 S. Cooper 278-4380.

**Randy Wilder, Affiliate Broker, Sowell & Company:** 54 S. Cooper 278-4380.

**TRAVEL**  
**Great American Cruises, Inc.:** Cruise Travel Agency, Sherman Perkins, 52 N. Second 525-5302.

**Travel Customized by Jean Morris:** Member International Gay & Lesbian Travel Association 465-2936.



# Out & About

## REGULAR WEEKLY ACTIVITIES

### SUNDAY CHURCH SERVICES

- Open Heart Community of Faith - Bible Study & Worship Celebration - North End of First Congregational (1000 South Cooper) - (901) 323-3514 - 9am
- Holy Trinity Community Church - Sunday School and Holy Worship Service & Children's Church - (901) 320-9376 - office@holytrinitymemphis.org - 9:45am and 11am
- First Congregational Church - Sunday School, Café Congo, and Worship Service - (901) 278-6786 - 9:30am, 10am, and 10:30am
- Prescott Church - Sunday School & Worship Service - (901) 327-8479 - 9:30am & 10:45am
- Living Word Christian Church - Morning and Evening - (901) 452-6272 - 10am and 6pm

### WEDNESDAY CHURCH SERVICES

- Taizé - First Congregational Church - (901) 278-6786
- Holy Trinity Community Church - Fellowship Supper and Bible Study - (901) 320-9376 - office@holytrinitymemphis.org - 6pm & 7pm
- Living Word Christian Church - Worship Service - (901) 452-6272 - 7pm
- Open Heart Community of Faith - "A Course in Miracles" - Study Group - North End of First Congregational (1000 South Cooper) - (901) 323-3514 - 7:30pm

### SUNDAYS

- Tea Dance - Metro - 4pm
- Brothers & Sisters Bowling League - Winchester Bowl - (901) 722-5236 or MemphisGayBowlin@aol.com - 6pm
- Pool Tournament - Pumping Station - 6pm
- Bingo - Sessions - 8:30 m
- After Park Set Sundays - Paragon - 9pm
- Karaoke Smack Down - J-Wag's - 9pm-2am
- Drag Show - Backstreet - 11pm
- Drag Show - Sessions - Midnight

### MONDAYS

- Monday Night at the Movies - Sponsored by Holy Trinity Community Church - Bartlett Cinema 10 - 6:45pm - Details at www.HolyTrinityMemphis.org
- Pool Tournament - The Jungle - 7:30pm
- Dart Tournaments - One More, Pumping Station - 8pm
- Karaoke Night - Metro - 10pm
- Manic Monday Happy Hour - Sessions 3 - 6pm

### TUESDAYS

- Women's Rugby Practice - Audubon Park - 6:30pm
- Phoenix AA - Open AA group - Grace-St. Luke's Church, 1790 Peabody - 8pm
- The Caring Group - Relaxation and de-stressing by subtle energy practices - Holy Trinity Community Church - (901) 320-9376 - 7pm
- Lesbians with Breast Cancer - Support Group - YWCA (766 South Highland) - 7pm
- Singles Dart Tournament - Crossroads - 7:45pm
- Pool Tournament - One More - 8:30pm
- Karaoke Night - Metro - 10pm
- Karaoke Night - J-Wag's - 11pm
- Brewsky Tuesday with Beer and a Movie @ 7 - Sessions

### WEDNESDAYS

- Frontrunners 3-mile run, Overton Park Pavilion, 6pm
- Dart Tournament - The Jungle - 7:30pm
- Lights Out - Come Party in the Dark - Metro
- Karaoke - Madison Flame 7p.m. - 3am
- Bulls Eye Darts w/Mitch - Sessions 8pm

### THURSDAYS

- Thursday Night at the Gaiety - GLBT Film Series, MGLCC, 7 p.m.
- Movie Night, Sessions, 8 p.m.
- Cotton Pickin' Squares - Holy Trinity Community Church - (901) 438-2427 - 7:30pm
- Dart Tournament - J-Wag's - 8pm
- Karaoke - Paragon - 9pm
- Karaoke Night - Allusions Entertainment Center - 9:30-11:30pm
- Amateur Show - Metro - 11:30pm
- Trivia - Sessions 8pm

### FRIDAYS

- First Congo Films - First Congregational Church - (901) 278-6786 - 7pm & 9pm
- MGLCC Coffeehouse Nights - Community Center - (901) 278-4297 - 7pm
- Seriously Sober - Holy Trinity Community Church - (901) 320-9376 - 8pm
- Karaoke - One More - 8pm
- Pool Tournament - Crossroads - 8pm
- Ladies Night - Allusions Entertainment Center - 10pm
- Late Nite Beer Bust - Pumping Station - 10pm
- Drag Show - Backstreet - Midnight
- Dance with DJ RJ - Madison Flame
- Belles of the Ball - Sessions 10 pm

### SATURDAYS

- Frontrunners 2-mile run, The Pier parking lot (Union and Riverside), 9am
- Women's Rugby Practice, Harbortown Greenbelt Park on Mud Island - 9am
- Live and Let Live on Cooper St. - MGLCC - 278- 4297 - 7 pm
- Pool Tournament - J-Wag's - 10pm
- Karaoke - Sessions 8:30 p.m.
- Drag Show - Allusions Entertainment Center 10:30pm & 12:15pm
- Dance with DJ RJ - Madison Flame
- Belles of the Ball - Sessions 10 pm

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## WOMEN'S ACTION COALITION

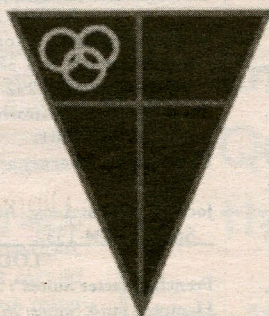
WAC meetings are held every second and fourth Sunday night

at 6:30 PM at First Congregational Church, 1000 S. Cooper, Memphis, TN 38104 (park in the back off Blythe)

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS, E-MAIL AMULLNS1@MEMPHIS.EDU

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Sundays at 11 A.M.

685 S. Highland St.

Memphis, TN 38111

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www.holytrinitymemphis.org

# August 2006

Sun	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thurs	Fri	Sat
* taking place at the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center						
		1	2	3	4	5
			*Men's Potluck 6:30pm		Opening Party for MGLCC's OutFlix Film Festival <i>David Mah Studio &amp; MGLCC</i> 8pm	*I:F Canvassing 9:30am-5pm  OutFlix Film Festival at Muvico
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
OutFlix Film Festival at Muvico 7pm	*BCSA 6pm  OutFlix Film Festival at Muvico 7pm	OutFlix Film Festival at Muvico 7pm	OutFlix Film Festival at Muvico 7pm	OutFlix Film Festival at Brooks Museum of Art 7pm	*MGLCC Games Night at 7:30pm  Vinters 2006: An Enchanted Evening at Vanderbilt 6pm	*Beta Epsilon Chapter Fish Fry 2-5pm
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
*Lambda Professionals 2:30pm	*Gaymes Planning Meeting 6pm  *Perpetual Transition 6:30-7:30 pm	*Memphis Chapter of National Organization of Women 7pm	*Women's Monthly Potluck 6:30pm	*Adelante's Spanish/English Conversation Practice 7pm	*Q-Café Coffee House: Adelante's International Night 7pm	*Lambda Professionals 2:30pm  *I:F Canvassing 9:30-5pm  *Monthly Potluck and Birthday Party 6pm  *Alpha Chi Upsilon Book Meeting 7pm  *Betas at the Beach
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
	*Blue Suede Bears Business meeting 7pm				*Q-Café Coffee House presents <i>Boy and Girl</i> 7pm	*Betas Tutoring Program Volunteer Meeting 2-5pm
27	28	29	30	31		
	*Perpetual Transition 6:30-7:30pm			*Member Appreciation Dinner 6:30pm		

WILLIAM CASTLE, DDS

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