

## Committee Defeats Bill to Ban Gays from Adopting

By Lucas L. Johnson II  
Associated Press Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP)— A House committee voted down a bill to ban homosexuals from adopting children, during an emotional debate Mar. 16 that included the House speaker calling the bill's sponsor a "master at political divisiveness."

The Children and Family Affairs Committee voted 11-9 to defeat the measure, which had been watered down by a House subcommittee to remove references to homosexuals and to instead give preference to heterosexual, married couples over singles.

But the full committee decided to vote on the original bill and not include the amendment.

During his opening statement, sponsor Chris Clem told committee members he knew the speaker and governor were "leaning" on them to vote against the bill, but he asked for their support.

Chairman John DeBerry, D-Memphis, told Clem his statement was inappropriate and "speaks to the lowest level of political pandering."

"You were totally out of order to call the governor's name, and the governor has not spoken to me at all about this bill," DeBerry said. "And the speaker has not asked me to make any decision other than to conduct this committee with integrity."

Gov. Phil Bredesen said later in the day that Clem's statement concerning him was "simply not true."

"I cannot recall a single conversation that I have had with any member of the Legislature on that

particular bill, either directly or behind the scenes," Bredesen said. "That's just flat wrong."

House Speaker Jimmy Naifeh, who made a surprise visit during the committee meeting and appeared to exercise his right to cast a vote in any committee, denounced Clem's tactics as politics.

"This was a show," said Naifeh, D-Covington. "That's all this was."

Clem, R-Lookout Mountain, had earlier told the committee he was simply appealing for the bipartisan support he knew his bill needed to pass.

"That's the way it's going to be in the House of Representatives when you have the leadership that runs this House," Clem said.

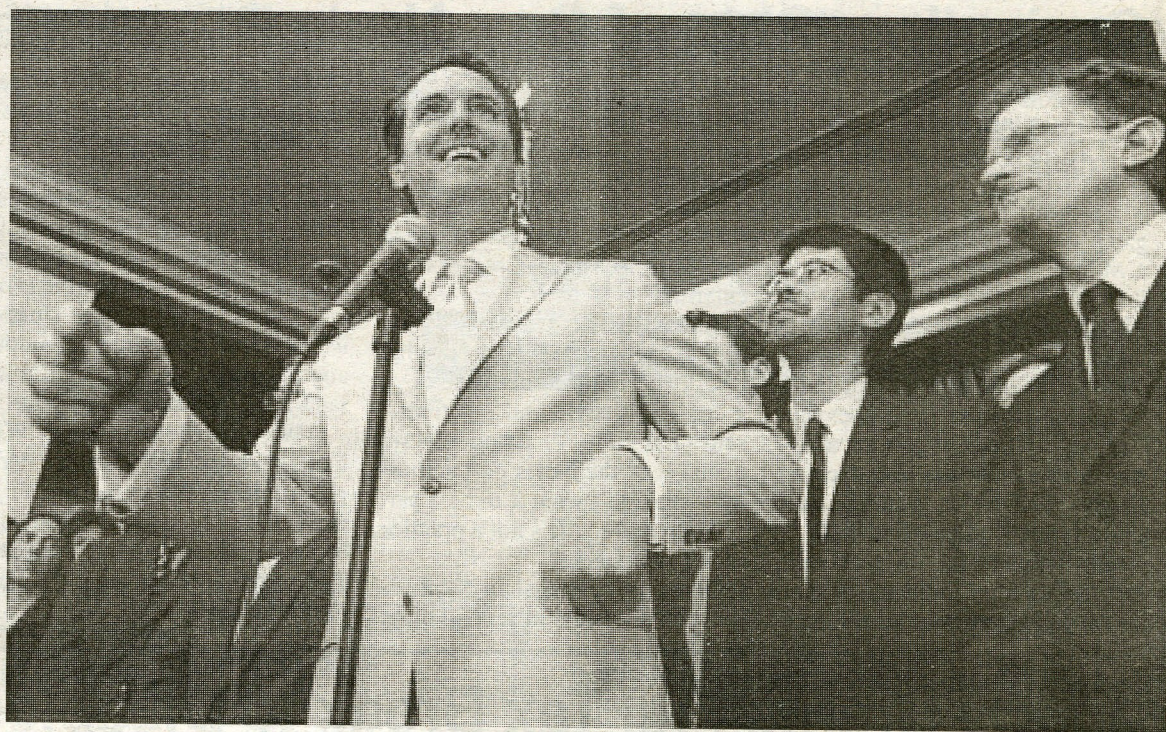
"The bill is dead," he said and credited its survival "this far because of a couple of Democrats that have stood against the leadership."

One of those lawmakers, Rep. Nathan Vaughn of Kingsport and a member of the committee, said he voted in favor of the bill because he believes allowing homosexuals to adopt goes against the nation's "family structure."

"I see no reason at this point in time to change what we have stood for as a nation," Vaughn said. "Children are best suited for a family environment that involves a mother and father."

Teri Sogo, a social worker with Jewish Family Service in Nashville, disagreed with Vaughn, and said she's pleased with the outcome.

"It was the right way to go," she said. "Banning gays and lesbians from adoption is really doing a disservice to the children in state custody and it's also discriminatory."



San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom speaks at a news conference at City Hall in San Francisco Monday, March 14. Judge Richard Kramer of San Francisco County's trial-level Superior Court ruled that California's ban on gay marriage is unconstitutional. Stuart Gaffney, second from right, and John Lewis, right, were among the 12 same-sex Bay Area couple plaintiffs. (Story on page 5) (AP Photo/Jeff Chiu)

## Gay Marriage Amendment on Way to Tennessee Voters

NASHVILLE (AP)— Voters in the 2006 election for governor will also decide whether to imbed a ban on gay marriage in the state constitution.

The state House passed the resolution on a vote of 88-7 on Mar. 17, echoing an earlier two-thirds passage in the Senate. When it goes before the voters, the measure will need more than a simple majority.

Amending the Tennessee Constitution requires passage by a number of votes that equals a majority of ballots cast in the governor's race.

Rep. Bill Dunn, a Knoxville Republican, says he feels he was doing right in sponsoring the bill and says it's proper for government to be involved in defining marriage. Beverly Marrero, of Memphis, says she voted against it because the measure would write discrimination into the state constitution

### Republicans Voting Yes

William Baird, Jacksboro  
Harry Brooks, Knoxville  
Dwayne Bunch, Cleveland  
Stacey Campfield, Knoxville  
Glen Casada, Franklin  
Chris Clem, Lookout Mountain  
Jerome Cochran, Elizabethton  
Chris Crider, Milan  
David Davis, Johnson City  
Tom DuBois, Columbia  
Bill Dunn, Knoxville  
Jimmy A. Eldridge, Jackson  
Steve Godsey, Blountville  
Dolores Greshman, Somerville  
Tre Hargett, Bartlett  
Michael Harrison, Sneedville  
Beth Halteman Harwell, Nashville  
David Hawk, Greeneville  
Joey Hensley, Hohenwald  
Matthew Hill, Jonesborough

Curtis G. Johnson, Clarksville  
Phillip Johnson, Pegram  
Russell Johnson, Loudon  
Brian Kelsey, Germantown  
Susan M. Lynn, Mt. Juliet  
Debra Young Maggart, Hendersonville  
Judd Matheny, Tullahoma  
Joe McCord, Maryville  
Gerald McCormick, Chattanooga  
Steve McDaniel,  
• Parkers Crossroads  
Bob McKee, Athens  
Richard Montgomery, Sevierville  
Jason Mumpower, Bristol  
Chris Newton, Cleveland  
Frank Niceley, Knoxville  
Doug Overbey, Maryville  
W.C. Bubba Pleasant, Arlington  
Dennis E. Roach, Rutledge  
Donna Rowland, Murfreesboro  
Charles Michael Sargent, Franklin  
Jack Sharp, East Ridge  
Paul Stanley, Memphis  
Park M. Strader, Knoxville  
Eric H. Swafford, Pikeville  
Curry Todd, Memphis  
Bo Watson, Hixson

### Republicans Voting No

None

### Democrats Voting Yes

Stratton Bone, Lebanon  
Willie Borchert, Camden  
Frank Buck, Dowellton  
Curt Cobb, Shelbyville  
Kent Coleman, Murfreesboro  
Charles Curtiss, Sparta  
Eugene E. Davidson, Adams  
John J. DeBerry Jr., Memphis  
Lois DeBerry, Memphis  
Joanne Favors, Chattanooga  
Dennis Ferguson, Kingston  
Craig Fitzhugh, Ripley  
Joe Fowlkes, Cornersville  
George W. Fraley, Winchester  
Jim Hackworth, Clinton

Jere Hargrove, Cookeville  
Bill Harmon, Dunlap  
John Hood, Murfreesboro  
Sherry Jones, Nashville  
Ulysses Jones Jr., Memphis  
Mike Kernell, Memphis  
Edith Taylor Langster, Nashville  
John Litz, Morristown  
Mark L. Maddox, Dresden  
Michael Ray McDonald, Portland  
Kim McMillan, Clarksville  
Larry J. Miller, Memphis  
Gary W. Moore Sr., Joelton  
Speaker Jimmy Naifeh, Covington  
Gary Odom, Nashville  
Phillip Pinion, Union City  
Mary Pruitt, Nashville  
Randy Rinks, Savannah  
Johnny Shaw, Bolivar  
David Shepard, Dickson  
John C. Tidwell, New Johnsonville  
Joe Towns Jr., Memphis  
Mike Turner, Old Hickory  
Nathan Vaughn, Kingsport  
Ben West Jr., Hermitage  
Les Winningham, Huntsville  
Eddie Yokley, Greeneville

### Democrats Voting No

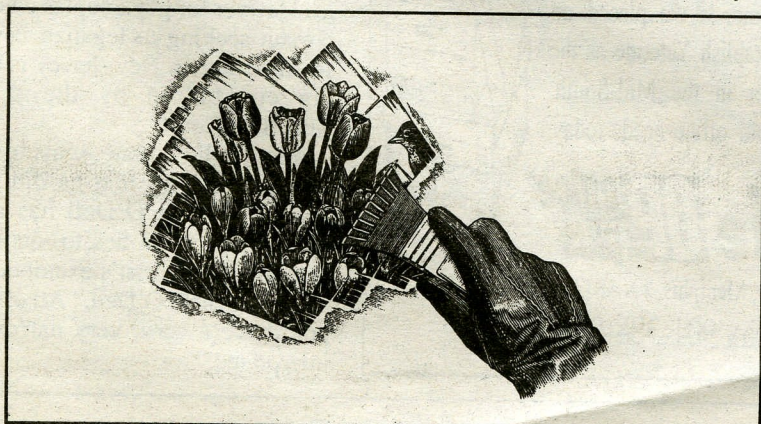
Joe Armstrong, Knoxville  
Rob Briley, Nashville  
Tommie Brown, Chattanooga  
Beverly Marrero, Memphis  
Janis Baird Sontany, Nashville  
Harry J. Tindell, Knoxville  
Larry Turner, Memphis

### Democrats Not Voting

Henri Brooks, Memphis

### Democrats and Republicans Absent

Kathryn Bowers, Memphis  
Barbara Cooper, Memphis  
John Mark Windle, Livingston





# Cruiseline: Ship of Gay, Nude Passengers Barred From Nevis

By Frank Griffiths  
Associated Press Writer

SAN JUAN, Puerto Rico (AP) — Authorities in Nevis barred a gay and nudist cruise organized by a Miami company from entering the tiny Caribbean island Mar. 23, saying it was offensive to local customs.

A police patrol boat stopped a Windjammer Barefoot Cruises ship carrying 110 passengers on a six-day cruise as it was approaching Charlestown, Nevis, the ship's captain Cornelius Plantefaber said.

Plantefaber said three officers boarded the ship and demanded he accompany them to a meeting on-

shore. The meeting lasted about an hour and port authority, police, customs and immigration officials were present, he said.

Port authority officials confirmed that a meeting took place and the cruise ship was barred from entering.

"We do not want to allow people on the island who from what I've heard could be naked and carry a certain lifestyle and practices," said Oral Brandy, acting general manager of the Nevis port authority. "We don't want it to be a part of our culture ... It's not a practice society likes here."

Sodomy is illegal in St. Kitts and Nevis, as it is in several other

Caribbean nations, and it can lead to a jail term, government spokesman Erasmus Williams said.

But Williams said gay cruises have been to the former British colony in the past and there have been no problems. The country has a federal government and the capital is in St. Kitts, but the smaller island of Nevis is semiautonomous and has jurisdiction over local affairs including entry to its ports.

"We welcome all visitors," Williams said, speaking for the federal government. "We've had gay ships in St. Kitts in the past and the visits have gone off without problems. I'm surprised that Nevis officials didn't let them in."

Plantefaber said that the cruise would leave Nevis and head for St. Barthelemy. "I'm disgusted," he told AP in a phone interview from the ship. "I've been sailing for 24 years and have captained gay cruises before and I've never encountered anything like this."

The cruise began its journey in St. Maarten on Mar. 20 and later visited Anguilla before heading to Nevis, said Sharon Kersten, a publicist for Miami-based event production company Source Events, which organized the cruise. There were no problems in St. Maarten or Anguilla, she said.

"The passengers can be nude while the ship is at sea but once

they come to shore they obviously have to be clothed," Kersten said.

She denied Brandy's claim that Nevis officials had intelligence that the passengers would be nude when disembarking from the ship. "It's absolutely not true," Kersten said. "Every one of the passengers has been told to be totally respectful."

The ship, named S.V. Polynesia, is a 248-foot schooner and most of the passengers aboard are Americans, she said. The cruise ended Mar. 26 in St. Maarten, a Dutch Caribbean territory. Windjammer Barefoot Cruises is based in Miami Beach, Fla.

St. Kitts and Nevis has a population of about 40,000.

# Judge Grants Full Tax Break to Disabled Gay Veteran and Partner

By Jeffrey Gold  
Associated Press Writer

NEWARK, N.J. (AP) — A gay, disabled veteran who owns a home with his partner should receive the same tax break that a married veteran would receive, a judge has ruled.

The decision by a Tax Court

judge means the veteran, Louis Paul Henefeld, who served in the Air Force during the Korean and Vietnam wars, will not have to pay property taxes in his hometown of Montclair.

Gay rights advocates on Mar. 16 hailed the ruling by Judge Vito L. Bianco as a victory for their cause.

Steven Goldstein, chair of Gar-

den State Equality, said it was "yet another remarkable milestone on the way to full equality for the state's lesbian and gay community."

Bianco's decision, issued Mar. 15, hinged on New Jersey's new Domestic Partnership Act and overturned a judgment of the Essex County Board of Taxation.

Bianco ruled that Henefeld, 72, and his companion should be 100 percent exempt from property taxes, the same as a 100 percent disabled veteran would get, even if he or she was not the sole owner of the home.

"It's clearly a full victory for my clients," said Fernando M. Pinguelo, the lawyer for the couple.

Montclair attorney Alan G. Trembulak said he doubted the township would appeal because the Legislature is likely to explicitly grant such exemptions to veterans in same-sex relationships.

The case stems from a lawsuit brought by Henefeld and companion Blair William O'Dell, 60, against Montclair in September, two months after the partnership act became law. They contended that Montclair discriminated

against them by continuing to give only a 50 percent tax break. Each has owned half their home since moving to Montclair in 1985.

Since 1953, the state Constitution granted tax exemptions to honorably discharged veterans in proportion to the extent of the disability. For example, a fully disabled veteran would get a 100 percent exemption. The property occupied by a married, fully disabled veteran got the full exemption even if the veteran owned it with a spouse.

The couple, who have been together since 1975, sought a 100 percent exemption in January 2004 from the township, but again received 50 percent off their annual levy of \$17,600. They appealed to the county board.

Montclair argued that the Legislature did not intend the couple to be treated as domestic partners before July, when the act was adopted, and questioned whether it had the authority to grant a full exemption afterward.

Noting that the Domestic Partnership Act bars gay marriage and does not mention the veteran's exemption, the judge observed that it

would be unfortunate if the couple needed to transfer ownership of the entire home to Henefeld to qualify for a full exemption.

"In the court's view, that option clearly defeats the express intent of the DPA to 'support the many adult individuals in this state who share an important personal, emotional and committed relationship with another adult,'" Bianco wrote, quoting Legislative findings.

The judge also noted that the Legislature is now considering extending full exemptions to same-sex domestic partnerships involving a veteran.

O'Dell noted that the judge did not recognize their Canadian marriage and other points. "But it's one step at a time, and I'm very pleased with the outcome," he said. O'Dell said Henefeld, a staff sergeant when he left the service in the late 1960s, was not available for comment.

Henefeld and O'Dell had a civil union in Vermont in 2000 and were married in Canada in 2003.


The judge found that New Jersey does not recognize the Canadian marriage, and does not have to accept aspects of Vermont's civil union that go beyond the Domestic Partnership Act.

A gay rights advocate, David Buckel of Lambda Legal, called the ruling "a great step forward for gay families in New Jersey, especially those who served our country in the armed forces."

However, "This judge would not have had to struggle with this if they had the freedom to marry in New Jersey," said Buckel, who is lead lawyer for gay couples whose lawsuit seeking to legalize same-sex marriage in New Jersey is being considered by the state Appellate Court.

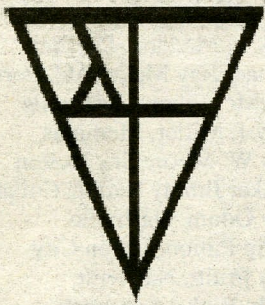
Bianco did outline limits to his ruling, including that he did not decide whether O'Dell has any right, if Henefeld dies, to continue to claim the veteran's exemption.

Commented O'Dell, "All of our points were very, very narrowly interpreted."



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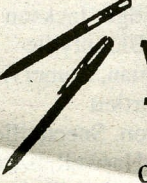
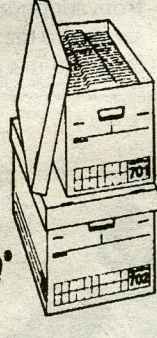




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# San Diego Bishop Apologizes for Denying Funeral Rites Because Man Owned Gay Bar

SAN DIEGO (AP) — A Roman Catholic bishop apologized for denying funeral rites to a man who owned a bar and a dance club popular with gays and said he will preside over a Mass in the man's honor, according to the man's family.

Bishop Robert Brom, who canceled John McCusker's funeral rites after citing a clash between the man's "business activities" and the church's moral teachings, met with the man's family on Mar. 21 and "regretfully ac-

knowledged his hasty decision," said McCusker's mother, Christine.

"I apologize to the family for the anguish this has caused them," Brom said in a written statement he gave to the family.

There was no immediate response to a call seeking comment from diocese officials.

Brom outraged San Diego's gay and lesbian community and many Catholics when he canceled funeral rites for McCusker, who was gay. A funeral service for

McCusker, who died at age 31 of congestive heart failure, was held Mar. 18 at an Episcopal church.

Several gay community leaders met Mar. 21 to discuss filing a formal protest with the diocese to demand an apology from Brom.

Brom's statement was read at that meeting by Christine McCusker. She urged people to accept the bishop's apology, saying it was what "John would have done, as he is a great advocate of reconciliation and forgiveness."

Some conservatives were disappointed with Brom's reversal.

James Hartline, who said he alerted the bishop to McCusker's gay business interests, told *The San Diego Union-Tribune* that he had spoken with Brom several times about the case and the bishop "emphatically stated to me he would not budge one bit."

Dioceses have sometimes denied funeral Masses for mobsters, including John Gotti. But in other cases across the country, some priests accused of sexual abuse have been granted Catholic funeral services, including John Geoghan, the Boston Archdiocese former priest whose sex-abuse case helped spark the nationwide church scandal.

# Anonymous Letters Mailed to HIV-Positive People

WEST PALM BEACH, Fla. (AP) — Palm Beach County's top health official is asking for a criminal investigation into anonymous letters received by HIV-positive people.

The letters have been mailed since a confidential list of about 6,500 HIV carriers was mistakenly e-mailed to about 800 county health workers last month. At least 16 people opened the e-mail. The list did not include addresses.

One letter with no return address said, "Your name appeared on a list of HIV-AIDS patients for Palm Beach County."

Health Department director Jean Malecki said that the letters are not official correspondence, and she wants a criminal investigation, calling the mailings "terrorism."

"We have a creep or creeps out there trying to frighten people following a separate incident with that e-mail," Malecki said. "I believe people are taking advantage of this situation and frightening people who are already living with this horrendous disease."

Florida requires people who carry HIV to register for monitoring purposes. Disclosing the list is

a crime.

The letters carried printed address labels and were mailed in West Palm Beach. They listed the phone number of a medical billing firm in Indiana and asked recipients to call to "become a sponsor and donate your time to help the families" of HIV-positive people in the county.

Scott Herbst, an attorney for the Indiana company, said a number of callers have asked about the letters, but he denied any link between the company and the mailings.

Concerns about the list's security surfaced when a Health Department statistician e-mailed his monthly report on HIV and AIDS cases and mistakenly added the list as an electronic attachment. The department shut down its e-mail system 12 minutes later and removed the data.

"I wish we could say that the stigma attached to HIV-AIDS has faded and disclosing that someone is affected would be the same as any other communicable disease, but that is not the case," said Tony Plakas, executive director of the gay and lesbian advocacy organization Compass.

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# Being a Homosexual No Bar to Becoming a Priest, Scottish Anglicans Say

LONDON (AP) — Being a practicing homosexual is no bar to becoming a priest, the Scottish Episcopal Church says, a stance that puts it at odds with the Anglican Communion in other parts of the world.

In a response to a February meeting of 35 top world Anglican leaders, posted on the church Web site, the College of Bishops of the Scottish Episcopal Church said it had "never regarded the fact that someone was in a close relationship with a member of the same sex as in itself constituting a bar to the exercise of an ordained ministry."

The bishops also said clergy on occasion responded to requests to give a blessing to same-sex couples.

It is believed to be the first time the Scottish church has publicly declared their position on gay clergy and blessings of homosexual couples, which have long been unwritten but commonly held acceptances.

The announcement comes at a delicate time for Anglicans worldwide and is in contrast to the Scottish Episcopal Church's sister body, the Church of England, which will ordain homosexuals only if they are not in a physical relationship.

At February's crisis meeting of Anglican leaders in Northern Ireland, the issue of homosexuality threatened to split the international Anglican Communion.

Anglican leaders, meeting near Belfast, asked the U.S. Episcopal Church and the Anglican Church of Canada to withdraw from the Anglican Consultative Council (ACC) for three years — a move some fear could be the first step toward a permanent split in the communion.

The two churches were also invited to explain to the council in June the theological reasoning behind the consecration of V. Gene Robinson as Bishop of New Hampshire and the decision by one Canadian diocese to authorize the blessing of same sex unions.

The Scottish bishops expressed regret at the decision to request the withdrawal of U.S. and Canadian Churches from the ACC.

"We are conscious that as a church we are much indebted in our life both to a significant presence of persons of homosexual orientation, and also those whose theology and stance would be critical of attitudes to sexuality other than abstinence outside marriage."

"We rejoice in both," the bishops' response said.

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# California Judge Rules Against Ban on Same-sex Marriage

Gay rights groups in California were celebrating victory in the latest round of the protracted struggle over gay marriage after a judge in San Francisco ruled that the state's ban on homosexual marriage was unconstitutional.

"The denial of marriage to same-sex couples appears impermissibly arbitrary," said Richard Kramer, a San Francisco superior court judge. "Simply put, same-sex marriage cannot be prohibited solely because California has always done so."

Gavin Newsome, San Francisco's mayor, said: "This is an important day, but hardly is this effort complete. It is inevitable there will be an appeal."

The ruling follows Newsome's decision last year to instruct city officials to license gay marriages in defiance of state law.

His action led to the issuing of more than 4,000 gay marriage licences in the city.

The four-week marriage spree, which attracted gay couples from across the US, including celebrities such as Rosie O'Donnell, was halted when the California supreme court, backed by Bill Lockyer, the state's attorney general, ruled that the mayor had exceeded his authority.

But the state supreme court asked a lower court to rule on the broader issue.

That court's decision places San Fran-

cisco once more at the heart of the US debate over gay marriage.

In his ruling, Judge Kramer said creating benefits for same-sex couples, such as pension rights, was not sufficient.

"The idea that marriage-like rights without marriage is adequate smacks of a concept long rejected by the courts: separate but equal," he wrote.

Opponents of gay marriage, and the main presidential candidates in last year's election, said they favored giving gay couples equal rights, while insisting marriage should be between heterosexuals.

"It appears that no rational purpose exists for limiting marriage in this state to opposite-sex partners," Judge Kramer wrote.

"The state's protracted denial of equal protection cannot be justified simply because such constitutional violation has become traditional."

Ultimately, the matter is likely to be decided by the state's supreme court and by the state legislature. Two bills currently before the legislature would place a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriages before the voters in a November ballot.

In 2000 California voters approved a proposition defining marriage as the union of a man and a woman.

# Ohio Judge: Gay Marriage Ban Prohibits Domestic Violence Charges Against Single People

By Connie Mabin  
Associated Press Writer

CLEVELAND (AP) — A judge has ruled that Ohio's new constitutional ban on gay marriage prohibits filing domestic violence charges against unmarried people, a decision that prompted an immediate appeal by prosecutors.

Judges and others across the country have been waiting for a ruling on how the gay marriage ban, among the nation's broadest, would affect Ohio's 25-year-old domestic violence law, which previously wasn't limited to married people.

The Mar. 23 ruling by Cuyahoga County Common Pleas Judge Stuart Friedman changed a felony domestic violence charge against Frederick Burk to a misdemeanor assault charge.

Burk, 42, is accused of slapping and pushing his live-in girlfriend during a January argument over a pack of cigarettes.

His public defender, David Magee, had asked the judge to throw out the charge because of the new wording in Ohio's constitution that prohibits any state or local law that would "create or recognize a legal status for relationships of unmarried individuals."

Before the amendment, courts applied

the domestic violence law by defining a family as including an unmarried couple living together as would a husband and wife, the judge said. The gay marriage amendment no longer allows that.

John Martin, who supervises appeals in the public defender's office, said the office was pleased with the ruling but would not comment further because of the appeal.

Because Burk had a prior domestic violence conviction, the latest charge was a felony that could have resulted in an 18-month jail term; a misdemeanor assault carries a maximum sentence of six months.

"This case is a good example of why we need a domestic violence law. A misdemeanor assault doesn't carry with it a significant enough penalty for repeat domestic violence abusers," prosecutor Matt Meyer said.

Some opponents of the amendment have said they hope the conflict over the domestic violence law would result in the gay marriage ban being repealed.

Seventeen states have constitutional language defining marriage as between a man and a woman. Ohio's is regarded as the broadest marriage amendment of those passed by 11 states Nov. 2 because it bans civil unions and legal status to all unmarried couples and gay marriages.

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# Witnesses Tell Maine Committee Their Stories of Bias

By Glenn Adams  
Associated Press Writer

AUGUSTA, Maine (AP) — Witnesses lined up to tell their stories of discrimination and harassment as an overflow crowd turned out for a legislative hearing on Gov. John Baldacci's bill to make Maine the last New England state to bar discrimination against gays and lesbians.

"The long and short of why I am here is this: I am a hard worker and enjoy having a job. But it's been very hard for me to keep a job since I came out nine years ago," Martin Ripley of Augusta told the Judiciary Committee.

Ripley said he was subjected to death threats while working at Bath Iron Works and decided to quit af-

ter he was struck in the back with a bolt. He said his sexual orientation caused him to be fired from subsequent jobs, although he now has a decent occupation.

"At times, I've slept in my car for weeks at a time or camped out in a tent because I could not afford any rent," said Ripley. "I am a hard worker. I have moved on because I have had no choice."

Others told stories of being denied credit, made to feel unwelcome at a hotel and knowing others who have considered suicide after being harassed because of their sexual orientation.

"I'm ashamed that our current law condones discrimination," said state Attorney General Steven Rowe. "It troubles me to my core."

The bill would amend the Maine

Human Rights Act by outlawing discrimination in employment, housing, credit, public accommodations and education based on sexual orientation or gender identity. The law now prohibits discrimination based on race, color, sex, disability, religion, ancestry and national origin.

Republican Sen. Karl Turner of Cumberland, sponsor of the Democratic governor's bill, said the measure would not extend special rights to any class of people, as opponents claim.

Turner acknowledged another point raised by opponents: that Maine voters have twice rejected gay rights laws. But Turner defended his bill, saying "it is a legislative prerogative" and responsibility to pass such laws.

A 1997 law extending gay rights was repealed by a "people's veto" the following year. Another legislatively enacted bill that included a referendum provision was defeated by voters in 2000. The bill

before the Legislature now has no referendum provision.

Rep. Brian Duprey, R-Hampden, questioned the testimony of those who said they were fired simply because they are gay. As an owner of a business that employs 40 people, Duprey said it would put him at a competitive disadvantage to fire a productive employee who is gay.

Duprey suggested other factors must have been at play in the workers' dismissals, adding, "I would insist the committee ask to see this person's personnel file."

John Linnehan, an unsuccessful state Senate candidate last year who represented the Hancock County Republican Committee at the hearing, said the bill would "open the door to homosexual marriage (or) homosexual civil unions."

Rep. James Hamper, R-Oxford, told the committee that another public vote is warranted: "If you do pass it, let's go to referendum

on this."

A separate, similar bill, sponsored by Senate Majority Leader Michael Brennan, would exempt religious organizations that do not receive public funds from its anti-bias provisions.

Brennan told the committee he submitted his bill before Baldacci's surfaced. But Brennan said he now supports the governor's bill and would not object if the committee killed his own proposal.

Earlier in the day, the House of Representatives rejected a measure sponsored by Duprey, who said he wanted to make sure taxpayer funds can't pay for sex change operations for state employees if a gay rights bill passes.

In opposing Duprey's order, Democratic House Majority leader Glenn Cummings of Portland said involving the Legislature in what goes into state employee contracts would set a bad precedent.

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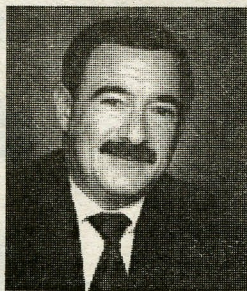
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## Friends Say Slaying of Iowa Gay Resembles Shepard Case In Wyoming

By Todd Dvorak  
Associated Press Writer

WATERLOO, Iowa (AP) — People who knew Jason Gage say he had a rare ability to energize any room, made friends easily and would do anything for someone in need, like the time he gave a drunk stranger \$46 for a taxi ride home.

The 29-year-old waiter, who dreamed of one day styling hair in a big city salon, was also openly gay and, friends say, a persistent and flamboyant flirt.

Gage was found dead two weeks ago in his downtown apartment, bludgeoned with a beer bottle and stabbed in the neck with a shard of glass. Within hours, police had arrested 23-year-old Joseph Lawrence and charged him with first-degree murder.

Reports that Gage may have made sexual advances toward his alleged attacker and the outpouring of grief has many here drawing parallels to the brutal 1998 murder of Matthew Shepard, a gay college student who was lashed to a Wyoming fence, beaten and left in the cold to die.

"Parts of the equation are different, but the end result is the same," said Chris Thompson, one of Gage's friends. "There seems no doubt to me that he died because of his lifestyle ... that this was a crime of hate."

According to a police affidavit, Lawrence, who had moved from Arizona a month earlier, acknowledged to striking Gage twice with bottle in the head and stabbing him with a piece of glass.

Lawrence's fiancée, Elizabeth Hostetler, said he told her Gage had

made sexual advances.

"Something physical would have had to have happened for Joey to react that way," Hostetler, who is six months pregnant, told The Associated Press. "But I also know it was not a hate crime ... that it was not premeditated. I know he did not mean for any of this to happen."

One of Matthew Shepard's attackers had claimed he snapped in a drunken rage when Shepard made a sexual advance.

Unlike other states, Iowa does not have a hate crime classification for murder. If convicted, Lawrence faces life in prison without parole.

"Murder in the first degree is murder ... there is nothing in the state higher than that," said Linda Myers, assistant Black Hawk County attorney, who declined to comment on details of the ongoing investigation.

He lived downtown, waiting tables at an Italian restaurant on the ground floor of his apartment building and was a regular at nearby bars and clubs. His classes at the College of Hair Design, where he enrolled in 2003, were just a short trek across the Cedar River.

"Jason had grand plans," said Deb McFarland, financial aid officer at the school. "He really had a knack with customers ... people would come in and say they wanted their hair done a certain way. Jason wasn't afraid to say 'no way' and do things his own way."

News of his death sent ripples of grief through the community.

Police blocked off a downtown street so friends could hold a candlelight vigil outside his apartment building. A day later, his family and classmates held a late-night

memorial outside the beauty school.

Hundreds attended his wake in Oelwein, and his funeral drew a crowd too big for the small funeral home.

Among his vast network of friends, efforts are under way to raise money for a scholarship fund in his name. Hundreds of T-shirts with his image and handcrafted pins have been sold. Three city churches passed collection plates for Gage at recent services. And a benefit has been scheduled next month at the city's convention center.

"It's a celebration for him, for who he was and to raise awareness about what happened and how things like this can be avoided in the future," said Les Akers, owner of The Times bar, where Gage often showed up at closing time just to help wipe down tables and clean up.

Hostetler, the suspect's fiancée, said Lawrence and Gage met for the first time several days before the slaying at a local bar.

Witnesses say Lawrence and Gage were together the night Gage was killed, bouncing from bar to bar, including the local gay club, "Kings and Queens" before heading to an after-hours party.

Friends who had not heard from Gage had police check on him several days later. They found his body, sprawled on the floor.

Hostetler says her boyfriend has homosexual friends and she insists there is more to the incident than has been reported so far.

"My friends who knew Jason have told me that when he was drinking, he would hit on you if he wanted, that he didn't care if a person was straight or gay," she said.



# It's Home Buying Season - Are you Ready?

The desire to buy a home together comes with the natural progression of any committed relationship. It not only signifies a couple's commitment, but it also strengthens it. However, for gay and lesbian couples, a single most important question immediately presents itself.

## Can my partner and I buy a home together?

Wonder no more ... the answer is yes. Gay couples can indeed purchase a home together. And, there is absolutely no reason why gay couples should not opt for joint home ownership. It sends a resounding message of your commitment to each other as well as offers an abundance of pleasures associated with owning your own home.

While the rights of home ownership are not exclusive to heterosexual couples, buying a home does pose a different set of questions for the GLBT community. Even Massachusetts (as of the date of this article the only state in the U.S. recognizing gay marriages) has a residential requirement clause in its law. This fact alone substantiates the valid questions that gay couples face when they consider buying a home together.

If the truth were known — and thankfully it is becoming more known each day — gay couples have been successfully purchasing homes together for years. Certainly, with much more discretion historically speaking, but through ingenuity and with the where there's a will, there's a way perspective, gay couples have at long last earned the deserved respect due them from the powers-that-be, which in this case includes real es-

tate agents and lenders. After all, many gay couples do hold a lucrative percentage advantage when it comes to disposable income.

Now that you know that you and your partner can buy a house together, its time to answer the next set of questions. More questions? Yes, and these are serious. If you think this takes all the fun out of buying a home together, then you can't imagine how much less fun you'll have purchasing a house if you do not answer these questions early on.

## How much house can you afford?

A quick easy answer is 36 percent of your combined gross income, minus all of your monthly bills.

If your monthly gross is \$4350 and you have a car payment (\$320), student loans (\$118) and credit cards (\$108) Here is a quick calculation ( $\$4350 \times .36 = \$1566$  minus the three bills above ( $320 + 118 + 108 = 546$ ) = \$1020

Now we've determined you have \$1020 max to contribute. Make the same calculations for your boyfriend and find the grand total.

Calculators are available at [www.gaymortgageloans.com](http://www.gaymortgageloans.com) where you can put in your desired "payment" and find out what price home you should be looking for. Click on your state for a lender that can answer specific questions. Remember, down payment, interest rates and a variety of factors need to be determined.

When you are estimating your budget for a house, make sure to calculate expenses for property taxes, homeowners insurance, nor-

mal maintenance and upkeep of the house itself, lawn care costs and any utility such as water, sewer and heat that you may not currently be paying separately.

Another important element to consider when looking at your budget is expected life changes. Is either of you planning a career change or considering taking a break from your job altogether to work on your Ph.D.? Are you talking about adopting a child together? While a lender will not ask these questions, you need to be very open with each other about any such anticipated changes that will have a significant impact on your joint finances.

## Whose income will the lender use to qualify us for a loan?

In a perfect world, this would not even be a question. However, since it is not perfect yet, gay couples face the issue of qualifying for a mortgage as a non-married or non-related couple. This means that the credit application will be either approved or denied based upon the creditworthiness of the strongest borrower.

There are also various types of loans available for your consideration. Fixed rate mortgages and adjustable rate mortgages are the two most common types of home

loans. As the term fixed implies, the interest rate does not change during the term of the loan. With an adjustable rate mortgage, the interest rate fluctuates based on various published market indexes.

Although the typical mortgage term is 30 years, options for mortgage terms of 15 or 20 years are also available. A 30-year mortgage generally has lower payments than those shorter terms, but the advantage of shorter terms is that you pay off your debt in fewer years.

## How do we find the home of our dreams?

If you've ever purchased a home before, you know that finding the perfect house is often easier said than done, particularly if you are trying to find it on your own. For instance, you love the house, but hate the neighborhood or vice versa. Perhaps you love both the house and the neighborhood, but your partner hates both or any combination of scenarios.

A word of wisdom here. You may think you have found the perfect home, but you may be in for the nightmare of a lifetime if you are contemplating the purchase of a FSBO. In case you are not familiar with the term, it means for sale by owner. Translated further, a FSBO is a house that is owned by

someone who is attempting to market and sell their home without the professional help of a Realtor®. It simply is not practical to think that you will really get a deal from a private seller.

When you work with a licensed real estate agent or broker, you have a substantial advantage over other buyers. Why spend your free time driving around trying to find potential houses to buy? An agent or broker knows the market in your area as well as the qualities and amenities of local neighborhoods. He/she already knows the pluses and minuses of the properties they offer.

Gay couples can tap into a literal online gold mine of real estate expertise at [www.gayrealestate.com](http://www.gayrealestate.com), whose mission is ensuring that members of the GLBT community have a resource for guiding them to quality agents who will represent them with understanding and insight, and without bias.

Now that you know the answers to these pressing questions, why wait? Turn your dreams of owning a home together in the future into sweet reality of the present. You and your partner will wonder why you ever waited so long.

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Living Word Christian Church - 452-6272

Neshoba Unitarian Universalist Church - 266-2626

St. John's United Methodist Church - 726-4104

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## Memphis Area Gay Youth

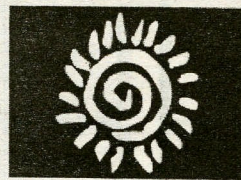
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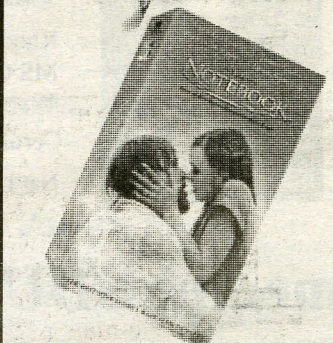
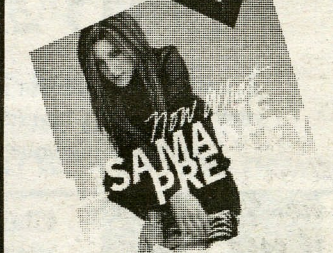
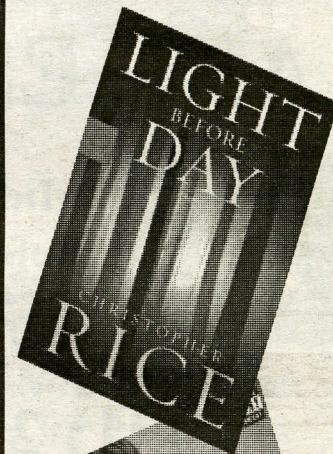


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## WHAT ABOUT IT?



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# More Than 50 Missouri Ministers Sign Letter Opposing Ban on Gay Marriage

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (AP) — Dozens of Kansas ministers want to make it clear that not all clergy in the state support a constitutional amendment to ban gay marriage.

A letter to the public signed by more than 50 ministers says the amendment violates basic principles of all faiths, which is to treat people equally, with love and respect. They said if the amendment passes on Apr. 5, it would make the lives of thousands of Kansans more difficult.

"For me, as a Christian, if I am taking the faith seriously, there's only one way I could vote and that's no," said the Rev. Robert Meneilly, a retired Prairie Village pastor who was among those who signed the letter. "If we are all made by the same God in the same image, we should all have the same rights."

Bruce Ney, president of the group Kansans for Fairness, said the letter was put together by clergy members who "are somewhat taken

aback by the idea that every Christian religion in the state of Kansas backs this amendment when, in fact, that is not true. This was their attempt to make that clear and get the word out."

The letter is posted on the Web site of Kansans for Fairness, a group that supports human rights.

In the letter, the ministers say that "it is not the state government's role to codify one religious interpretation of the Bible, or one religion over another

in the Kansas Constitution. To the contrary, the great contribution of our constitution is to protect the rights of all faiths."

But one of the leaders of an effort to pass the amendment, the Rev. Jerry Johnston, said the letter reflects the views of a "small group" of ministers and is not representative of the majority's feelings on the issue.

"Religious liberty is to set people free by the power of the gospel, and the aim of all the vast

majority who believe in this amendment is to protect marriage," said Johnston, minister at First Family Church in Overland Park.

He said if homosexuals are allowed to marry, there's nothing to stop people who want group marriages from demanding their rights, too.

Besides defining marriage as a union of one man and one woman, the amendment also would bar the state from granting marriage in other relationships.

# Bill to Add Sexual Orientation to Arkansas Anti-bias Law Stalls

By Melissa Nelson  
Associated Press Writer

LITTLE ROCK (AP) — Legislation to add sexual orientation to characteristics protected under Arkansas' 1993 Civil Rights Act stalled in a House committee Mar. 24 after opponents said the move would create a number of problems under the state's labor laws.

The bill's sponsor, Rep. Lindsley Smith, D-Fayetteville, told members of the House Judiciary Committee the legislation was needed to ensure gays and lesbians have basic legal protections enjoyed by other Arkansans.

"Banning discrimination is the right thing to do. Whatever someone's personal views about same-sex marriage or even same-sex relationships, Americans and Arkansans do not believe in dis-

crimination. To deny people jobs or homes because of their sexual orientation is just plain wrong," Smith said.

Smith later withdrew the bill from consideration by the committee, saying she realized she did not have enough votes to move the legislation to the full House. She said she planned to amend the bill and ask the committee to authorize an interim study on the issue before the Legislature convenes in 2007.

Evan Breedlove of Fort Smith, a longtime personnel manager representing Arkansas self-insured businesses, said the change would make his job more difficult.

"I would see an increase in litigation. As an employer, I don't care what two consenting adults do in the privacy of their bedroom even if I don't agree with it. With this I will have to become concerned," he

said.

Breedlove said the change would make gays and lesbians a protected group under the law, and employers would have to take steps to ensure they are not discriminated against.

"I have to keep records on females and on race now and I have to recruit (based on that) now," he said.

A representative of the state Chamber of Commerce also spoke against the bill, saying that it could run afoul of labor laws.

Rep. Bob Adams, D-Sheridan, suggested the law could open the door to affirmative action laws re-

quiring companies to hire gays and lesbians.

Rep. Timothy Hutchinson, R-Lowell, asked whether civil rights laws should be extended to bald and overweight people.

"I fit into both of those categories. Where do we draw the line for purposes of protection?" he said.

But Smith and advocates for the legislation said gays and lesbians need special protections because they are the target of hate crimes.

Rev. Ed Matthews, a retired Methodist minister, urged the committee to endorse the bill.

"Treating all of humankind as

equal is just simply the right thing to do. Everything just works better. To deny people jobs or homes because of sexual orientation just won't ever quite work right," Matthews said. "We hold that folks who pay their rent and keep up their mortgage and are good neighbors ought to have the chance to fit into the neighborhood and not be kicked out because of sexual orientation."

Advocates said 15 states have laws banning employment discrimination based on sexual orientation. They said major Arkansas employers including Axcion, Alltel, Tyson Foods and Wal-Mart also have anti-sexual orientation discrimination policies.

## ARRESTED?

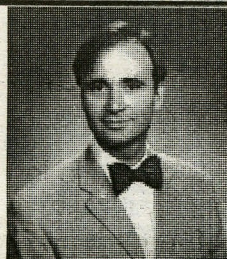


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# AIDS Pioneer Launches Supervirus Campaign 'Safe Sex Suffragettes'

LOS ANGELES—Twenty-one years after he created Los Angeles County's first AIDS awareness campaign followed by the first national AIDS memorial, former media pundit turned writer/producer, Tyler St. Mark, has been coaxed out of "retirement" to launch a grassroots campaign to promote "supersafe sex" in the face of what some medical experts believe may be a super drug-resistant strain of the AIDS virus.

St. Mark, who conceived and directed the landmark "Mother Cares" campaign beginning in 1984, featuring a pint-size, apron-clad maternal spokesperson chiding her "sons at risk" to "Play Safely," organized the debut on Mar. 26-27 of not one but four safe sex spokespersons at one of the largest annual circuit parties in

America.

"Any 'supervirus' demands super-awareness along with super-safety guidelines," declares St. Mark, who also founded a memorial bracelet two decades ago bearing the names of men, women and children struck down by AIDS.

"For this reason, I have recruited an extraordinary group of spokespersons from the 'Ladies Auxiliary for Cultural Awareness' who have become 'Safe Sex Suffragettes,'" says St. Mark, referring to four specially trained professionals authentically costumed and artistically made up to be transformed into four vintage grannies on an unusual mission.

According to St. Mark, "Maude, Pearl, Edna, and Agnes" may appear to be the wackiest grannies in cameos and lace but they have a

solemn purpose beneath their gray wigs and face powder — which is to inform people at risk that "Supervirus = Supersafety."

"LACE will be outreaching one-on-one about this newest deadly HIV/AIDS strain and distributing cameos and condoms while urging party patrons to protect themselves and respect their partners," St. Mark explains. "If they manage to inspire even a small percentage of people at risk to protect themselves — we've all done our job."

St. Mark is quick to point out his campaign is privately funded and not affiliated with any AIDS organization. "That was the condition upon which I agreed to get involved — I'm not interested in AIDS-related politics or scientific agendas," he says, referring to some of the recent controversy sur-

rounding the origin and potential impact of this new resistant virus, which has reportedly appeared in three cities now. Some experts think the threat is overstated, while others believe it may be the start of a super-epidemic.

"I saw this happen before," St. Mark says. "While experts debated the nature and source of HIV/AIDS," people all over the country were becoming infected and infecting others. Millions of young people at risk today weren't even born when AIDS was untreatable and people who were exposed usually died within a few years. They were called 'victims' then-not 'patients' and I don't want to see that happen all over again."

Accordingly, the new campaign's sponsors as well as those underneath the granny makeup

have requested to remain anonymous. "We simply want to get the word out that, if you contract a 'supervirus,' living with it may not be an option," St. Mark declares.

"White Party Next Generation" organizers expected an estimated 15,000 partiers in attendance for the "Safe Sex Suffragettes" first official appearance at the Palm Springs Convention Center riding chair scooters and sporting vintage-style suffragette sashes specially made for the occasion.

"Each LACE 'Suffragette' has her own hilarious personality and sense of humor," St. Mark explains, "but don't let that fool you. They are quite serious about saving lives, which means getting out there and standing up for 'Your Right To Be Responsible!'"

## Hispanic and Latino Couples Have Most at Stake in the Same-Sex Marriage Debate, Census Analysis Shows

A groundbreaking study released by the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Policy Institute shows that same-sex households in Florida in which both partners are Hispanic/Latino earn less, are less likely to own a home, and are 13 times more likely to include a partner who is foreign born and not a U.S. citizen than white non-Hispanic/Latino same-sex households.

The study also shows that Florida Hispanic/Latino same-sex households are raising nonbiological (foster and adopted) children at a rate that is similar to Hispanic/Latino married opposite-sex couples.

For all these reasons, Hispanic/Latino same-sex couples have more to gain from the legal protections of marriage, and more to lose if the state passes the proposed amendment banning same-sex marriage and other forms of partner recognition.

*Hispanic and Latino Same-Sex Households in Florida: a Report from the 2000 Census* is the first study to analyze the demographics captured by the 2000 U.S. Census about Hispanic/Latino same-sex households.

The 2000 Census is the largest random sample dataset available on same-sex couples. The study analyzes Census data on age, immigration status, language, disability, income, employment, home ownership, residential patterns, family structure, military service and educational attainment for Hispanic/Latino same-sex households. It compares Hispanic/Latino same-sex households to white non-Hispanic/Latino same-sex households, Hispanic/Latino married opposite-sex households, Hispanic/Latino inter-ethnic same-sex households, and Hispanic/Latino opposite-sex

cohabiting households.

"This study reveals significant similarities between Hispanic/Latino same-sex couples and Hispanic-Latino married opposite-sex couples in core areas like parenting, residency patterns, and home ownership.

It also reveals new, critical findings about the individuals and couples in Hispanic/Latino same-sex households on issues such as participation in the military, immigration and economic disadvantage," said Luis Lopez, co-author of the study.

Key similarities between Hispanic/Latino same-sex and Hispanic/Latino married opposite-sex households include:

- Hispanic/Latino same-sex couples in Florida are raising nonbiological children at almost the same rate as Hispanic/Latino married opposite-sex couples (3% vs. 4%).

- Hispanic/Latino same-sex couples are almost as likely as Hispanic/Latino married opposite-sex couples to report living in the same residence as five years earlier (38% vs. 46%), a key indicator of relationship stability.

- Hispanic/Latino same-sex couples are nearly as likely as Hispanic/Latino married opposite-sex couples to report owning their home (60% vs. 65%).

Additional, critical findings include:

- Hispanic/Latino same-sex households in which both partners are Hispanic/Latino earn more than \$20,000 less in median annual household income than white non-Hispanic/Latino same-sex households.

- Seventy-six percent of white non-Hispanic/Latino same-sex couples report owning their own homes, compared to 66% of His-

panic/Latino female same-sex couples, and just 54% of Hispanic/Latino male same-sex couples.

- Half of same-sex households in which both partners are Hispanic/Latino report at least one partner who was born outside the United States and is not a U.S. citizen (51%).

- Hispanic/Latina women in same-sex households report veteran status at nearly six times the rate of Hispanic/Latina women married to a man (6% vs. 1%). This finding is significant given that Hispanic/Latina women are discharged under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell" at rates far exceeding their representation among service-members.

"Perhaps one of the most important findings of this study," according to co-author Jason Cianciotto, "is simply that it uses reliable data from the American government to prove that thousands of Hispanic/Latino same-sex couples in Florida exist.

These families — many with children — own homes, work in the public and private sector, and live in both urban and suburban communities throughout the state.

Anti-gay organizations in Florida continually fail to provide a shred of credible evidence that these families somehow threaten the institution of marriage.

Given the findings of this study, political and religious leaders in Florida should support the inclusion of same-sex families in policies designed to promote commitment, stability, and the protection and well-being of children."

"This study demonstrates why Hispanics must be at the forefront of supporting gay marriage," said Hedy Peña, executive director SAVE/Dade.



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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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# ETC Mounts *Die! Mommie! Die!*

Emerald Theatre Company continues its eighth season of residency at Theatreworks with the Mid-South premier of Charles Busch's satirical look at Hollywood's washed up glam gals of the 1960s in *Die! Mommie! Die!*

Angela Andrews, the ever popular singer, is at the end of her career. Her film mogul husband is in deep with the mob and she prefers private

tennis lessons with her boy toy Tony to family gatherings with her spoiled daughter Edith and quirky son Lance.

Desperate for a way out, Angela conspires to begin a new life in New York with Tony, but her clean break isn't so easy as she begins to put her plan into action...an overly dedicated maid, killer suppositories, acid-laced coffee and some really bad drag imper-

sonations get in the way.

This is ETC's third Charles Busch production. The troupe has also produced *Psycho Beach Party* and *Vampire Lesbians of Sodom*.

Directed by Hal Harmon, the cast includes Den-Nickolas Smith, Savannah Bearden, Michael Hoots, Genevieve Imhoff, Corey Taylor and Tom Clifton.

Emerald Theatre Company presents Charles Busch's *Die Mommie Die* at Theatreworks, 2085 Monroe Ave. April 1, 2, 8, 9, at 8 p.m. April 3 and 10 at 2 p.m. Admission is \$10. For reservations, call (901) 722-



Left to right - Savannah Bearden, Genevieve Imhoff, Michael Hoots, Tom Clifton, Den-Nickolas Smith and Corey Taylor

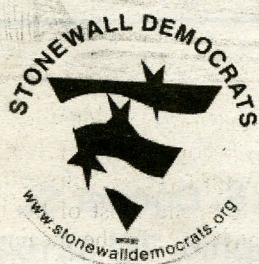
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Visit Emerald Theatre

Company's Website at [www.etcmemphistheater.com](http://www.etcmemphistheater.com)

## MEMPHIS STONEWALL DEMOCRATS

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Visit [www.memphisstonewalldemocrats.org](http://www.memphisstonewalldemocrats.org)  
Or call 327-2677 for more info.

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## New Bears Club Forming

Blue Suede Bears, a new club for hairy men or those who favor hairy men is forming in Memphis. Its first business meeting is being held Sun., Apr. 10, at 3 p.m. at The Jungle, 1474

Madison.

According to Bobby Beene, the club will seek a 501(c)3 status and will be staging fundraisers for charitable organizations.

For further information on Blue Suede Bears, contact Beene at (901) 644-2786 or e-mail the organization at [bluesuedebeers@yahoo.com](mailto:bluesuedebeers@yahoo.com)

## Aphrodite to Hold Benefit Apr. 17

Aphrodite will stage its spring benefit, "I'm Every Woman," Sun., Apr. 17 at Madison Flame.

The benefit will feature per-

formances by members of Aphrodite as well as DeMonica Santangelo who usually performs at Backstreet and Metro Memphis.

Proceeds from the show will benefit the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center. The show starts at 8 p.m.

## Volunteers Sought to Help Market MGLCC

The MGLCC marketing team is looking for volunteers. People with any level of experience are welcome to help out. Specifically, the team is

looking for someone to help with the MGLCC newsletter.

If you are interesting in contributing your time and talents to assist the Center with their

marketing efforts, call Sonnia Garner at 489-2182 or e-mail her at [sgarner349@yahoo.com](mailto:sgarner349@yahoo.com).

## Jesus Forum for LGBT Seekers

Every Sunday in April, 4-5:30 pm  
First Congregational Church, 1000 S. Cooper

### TOPICS

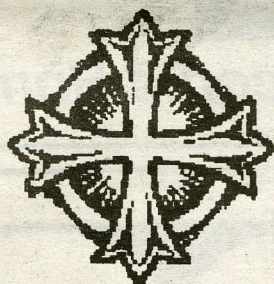
April 3 - Was Jesus Gay?

April 10 - A Jesus for Women?

April 17 - Jesus and Sexual Outsiders

April 24 - Jesus and Non-family Values

For information, call Michael Schiefelbein at 321-3350



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## Wake-Up Call

# Same Sh--, Different Day

Commentary by Jon Devin

Well, I'm back after a two month hiatus, and many thanks to Allen Cook for granting me the breather.

So what exciting news awaits my commentary ad random? Liam Neeson winning Best Actor for his role as a scientist who legitimized sexuality and even homosexuality? Nine states rejecting constitutional amendments defining marriage? Two major Christian denominations ousting parishes who openly persecute gay clergy? Nope. Just more of the same.

Tennessee continues to maintain its historical reputation as solid member of any southern political bandwagon that happens to be popular at the moment. Do you get my meaning here?

Our home state was the last to secede from the Union and the first to rejoin — a total responder to imminent domain politics. Tennessee has never spawned an original political idea — good or bad — but can be predictably relied upon for support by states that do.

You can at least appreciate states like Alabama and Texas whose ideological off-spring have led the entire country down the road to senseless debates over the Ten Commandments and Senate redistricting and any number of other self-serving, partisan plans to destroy civil liberties. That's who they are. Simple.

States like Tennessee, Mississippi and Arkansas are the states where we as citizens and tax payers just sit back and wonder how they manage to keep the lights on in the capital building.

There are no Tom DeLays, Roy Moores, Paul Wolfowitzes, Karl Roves, Strom Thurmonds or anyone remotely capable of having an original, dangerous thought. Bill Frist and Trent Lott, our most notable names in Washington, can't manage a simple declarative sentence without causing themselves undue embarrassment.

No, Tennessee is just another lemming state, happy to pick up a fiery debate after the conversation has turned cliché in so many editorial pages. Like the idea of constitutional amendments at the state level to define marriage as between one man and one woman.

As you've heard by now, Tennessee has joined (right on cue) the list of states putting gay marriage on a state-wide referendum slated for 2006.

How do gay and lesbian Tennesseans weigh in and what chances do we have? First of all, it is noteworthy that though we lost the debate by a landslide, the votes were

not unanimous.

A handful of plucky senators, including Steve Cohen, stood up for us and made bold statements about legislating hatred toward minorities.

With that move, Cohen has wiped his slate clean in my book. I still hadn't forgiven him for abstaining from the vote on the original gay marriage ban. In good political form, he later used his lack of vote to pat himself on the back, claiming to have made a statement by not making a statement. This, of course, after shaking hands at gay bars for weeks. Good for you, Senator Cohen. Welcome back.

Secondly, Governor Bredesen hasn't weighed in on the issue. That could mean that he hopes to let the issue slide passed his desk without comment. Lord knows he's got enough to deal with TennCare at the moment, but hope springs eternal that our good governor will have better sense than to allow Tennessee's constitution to become a political toy.

Finally, hope in grassroots ef-



orts should always continue. Living blue in a red state isn't and shouldn't be considered the curse that it appears to be. The more I think about it, the more I disdain gay and lesbian couples who leave their homes and jobs because their own state has passed anti-gay legislation.

Not that I can't understand it and haven't thought about it myself, but I happen to love my home and my job and my community. I want to see it get better and better. It's time to start writing letters. When all else fails, I resort to the age-old tenet "this too shall pass."

There is no empire on earth that

has lasted forever, and Bush will one day become a fulltime resident of Crawford, Texas (oh wait, he seems to spend most of his time there anyway). In the meantime, maintain your communities, listen to Air America 680 AM, and work on some original, dangerous ideas.

## — MASSAGE — BY

*Tom Pitman*

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If any of these issues are important to you  
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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](mailto:AMULLNS1@MEMPHIS.EDU)

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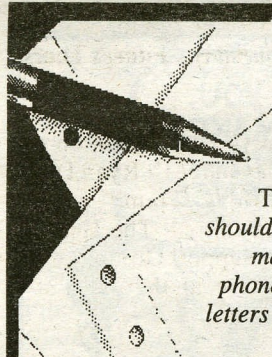
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# LETTERS



The Triangle Journal News welcomes letters from its readers. Letters should be as short as reasonable and typed if possible. Although names may be withheld on request, all letters should be signed and include a phone number for verification. Anonymous letters will not be printed. All letters are subject to editing for spelling, punctuation and grammar. However, every effort will be made to maintain the original intent of the writer. Letters should be mailed to: Triangle Journal News, P.O. Box 11485, Memphis, TN 38111-0485 or emailed to [memphistjn@aol.com](mailto:memphistjn@aol.com)

## Valentine Starts a New Chapter of Life

Now that our 8th annual Fabulous February Concert is over, I have bitter-sweet news to share with you. After 10 years at Friends For Life, I have resigned. My last day to work was Fri., Mar. 4.

I have been most fortunate these past ten years to have a wonderful mission in my life. Friends For Life saved my life.

For 10 years, it has *been* my life. So needless to say, this has not been an easy decision for me. There has been much prayer and angst on my part, but I have been blessed so much in this chapter of my life because I got to meet so many wonderful people like you along the way.

So many of you have deeply touched my life, and I will never, ever forget your kindnesses to me and to Friends For Life.

Many have asked what I will be do-

ing.

Well, leave it to me... I am getting into pre-need funeral sales at Memphis Memorial Park Funeral Home on Poplar and Yates, the prettiest spot in Memphis! I started March 21st.

This is a new career field where I can still help people and that is very important to me. I don't want just a job...I need a mission.

And this career change will continue to fulfill that need. Now I will be able to help those I know to pre-plan how they wish to celebrate their life.

Instead of planning special events for Friends For Life, now I'll be able to help people plan their own "special event."

Let me know if you want to talk with me about your needs. After all, it's easier to talk with a friend about this than it is with strangers.

I will still be involved with FFL as much as I can. Friends For Life has been my world since I started volunteering in

October 1994, and it will always be the beating part of my heart.

I encourage everyone to continue supporting Friends For Life and our important mission. It is important to the agency, it's very important to me, but it's most important to the 1,400 plus people we serve.

This hasn't been an easy decision to make, but this is truly best for me and for the agency.

And my shoulders and heart feel lighter for finally coming to this acceptance. I am truly excited about my new career.

So wish me luck, because I'll need it.

I need to go for now. Just know that my heart is hurting a little bit right now.

I would like to close by saying this: Friends For Life... that's a perfect description of how I feel about this agency and about you.

Butch Valentine

## Attend the Southern Woymn's Festival

I would like to personally encourage all women (womyn, wimin, lesbian, straight, bi, sgl — everyone!) to attend the sixth annual Southern Womyn's Festival in north Georgia, April 28 through May 2.

I attended for the first time last year and was very impressed with the entire production. First, the beautiful retreat

setting was truly a "getaway" from everyday routine. Second, the musicians and entertainers on both day and night stages provided very diverse and dynamic performances. There were lots of choices in accommodations, services and ticket prices. I met interesting women from across the South. The event and grounds were pet-friendly and they even

had a "cutest dog" competition.

If certain readers "went to a womyn's festival years ago and it was too rough," I urge them to check out the resort's Website ([www.enota.com](http://www.enota.com)). If some ladies "aren't into camping," check out how comfortable the accommodations really are. And finally, if anyone is afraid "I won't know anyone," well, I'm going

and would love to enjoy this year's Southern Womyn's Festival with other women of the Mid-South.

For a brochure or more information, phone 904-725-8079, or on the Web, [www.womynsfestival.com](http://www.womynsfestival.com).

Ayla Heartsong  
Holly Springs, Miss.

# INTEGRITY

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## Who We Are



### The Lambda Symbol

The lambda symbol seems to be one of the most controversial of symbols in regards to its meaning.

There are several differing opinions as to why the lambda was chosen as a gay symbol and what it really means. However, most sources agree on a few things: The lambda was first chosen as a gay symbol when it was adopted in 1970 by the New York Gay Activists Alliance. It became the symbol of their growing movement of gay liberation.

In 1974, the lambda was subsequently adopted by the international Gay Rights Congress held in Edinburgh, Scotland. As their symbol for lesbian and gay rights, the lambda became internationally popular.

But where history ends, speculation begins.

No one seems to have a definitive answer why the lambda was originally chosen as a gay symbol. Some suggest that it is simply the Greek lower-case letter l for liberation. Others disagree, citing the use of lambda in physics to denote energy (the energy we have when we work in concert) or wavelength (are gays and lesbians on a different wavelength?).

Lambda may also denote the synergy of the gay movement, the idea that the whole is greater than the sum of its parts.

The lambda also may represent scales and balance, and the constant force that keeps opposing sides from overcoming each other — the hook at the bottom of the right leg signifies the action needed to reach and maintain balance.

The ancient Greek Spartan's regarded the lambda to mean unity, while the Roman's considered it "the light of knowledge shed into the darkness of ignorance."

Whatever the exact meaning and origin, the lambda originally embodied a fairly militant connotation.

Today, the symbol generally denotes lesbian's and gay men's concerns together.

Although the lambda was never intended to be linked to any specific gender or orientation such as other symbols may be, historically this is not so: In the early 1970s the Los Angeles gay community created a flag with a lavender lambda on a simple white background. They hoped the flag would catch on to other cities, but their hopes were not realized because some saw the lambda as a male symbol only.



# MGLCC Corner

By Vincent Astor

MGLCC is continuing its efforts to program large, community-wide events. The dates for this year's Outflux Festival are August 11-14. Details are at the Web site: [www.mglcc.org](http://www.mglcc.org).

Outflux will be back this year showcasing cutting-edge, original GLBT cinema efforts, things you won't see at Sunday Afternoon at the Gaiety or find at Family Flavors, just yet.

This year's Bachelor-Bachelorette Auction raised over \$3,780 for the Center and made a number of lucky bidders very happy.

Many thanks to the volunteers and organizers and to sweet Anthony who showed up for the arduous task of organizing a very hot and messy attic.

Noel Troxell, former secretary, has expatriated to Canada and tendered his resignation. No, no, it wasn't flight from oppression; it was true love (we hope). I would certainly like to hear from a Canadian or two why moving to the US was so attractive for them. I guess some go for the greener grass and some go for the redder maple... *whatever*.

Anyhow, a special election will be held for the office of secretary which will run for the remaining 15 months of a two-year term.

The special election will be held at a Town Hall meeting on Apr. 17, 2005.

The offices of treasurer and vice-president will also come open at the next general election; nominations for these and at-large board positions (one year term) can be submitted by e-mail through the MGLCC Web site.

Lavender University courses for spring term, 2005 continue with:

HIV in the 21st Century co-sponsored by Friends For Life and MGLCC.

Session III. Effects of HIV/AIDS: Wed., Apr. 6, 7p.m.

Session IV. Healthy Living in a World with HIV: Thurs., Apr. 13, 7 p.m.

Healthy Living Through Exercise: Thursdays, Apr. 7 and 14.

Bring your body, sneakers, and positive energy. 6:30 p.m.

The Basics of Gourmet Cooking Wednesday evenings in May

at 7 p.m.

Fitness Thursdays will get you course credit as well.

For details and other course descriptions, go to the website.

The Home-o-Tour has been cancelled, look for a party in May at one fabulous home in its stead. The date for this year's Pride Parade has been announced for Sat., June 11.

The Center will again host live music, food and the awards following the parade at 5 p.m.

## Footnote from the Past

Not very far away from the Center lives one of the true pioneers of GLBT social life in Memphis. She owned the first primarily lesbian bar in Memphis (the Psych-Out) the first leather-friendly bar in Memphis (Sharon's) and currently owns two popular locations, the Jungle and Madison Flame.

Sharon Wray, during her long career, has run a large number of saloons and dance halls which have always been friendly to all groups in the GLBT community.

Her establishments have hosted more combined benefit shows than

any GLBT bar owner in Memphis history and the ole girl is holdin' up real well. Just look for her at the Flame some weekend night and mention an old name, you'll get some fine stories.

Every time I go downtown these days, it seems like somebody's doing Court Square over again. It consists of a few fine old trees surrounded by buildings, a classic fountain, several monuments to people whose names are strange to the 21st century, 10,000 pigeons and a bandstand.

That bandstand really isn't known for the bands that played there, but for the cruising that took place around it.

Court Square was, before the 1960s, the primary outdoor cruising spot for Memphis.

During the Second World War, there were so many troops passing through Memphis that one turn around Adams to Main to Union to Second and back would achieve the desired goal.

The lower level of the Peabody Hotel and the Oasis lounge (where the Radisson is now) were also places where gays were "tolerated" and a lot of covert cruising went on.

Gay-specific bars came a little later, in the area between Union and Crump Stadium (behind Methodist Hospital) and on Madison near McLean. I heard all this from Bill Kendall, so it must be so. She was there, and I mean there.

## The Calendar:

### New Saturday Hours: 1-5 p.m.

Wed. Apr. 6 - Let's Meet & Chill, 7 p.m.

Fri., Apr. 15 - Q-Café: Drumming 7 p.m. — Audience participation - anyone can join in.

Sat., Apr. 16 - Birthday Celebration & Volunteer Appreciation Potluck, 6 p.m.

Sun., Apr. 17 - Special election and Town Hall meeting

Wed., Apr. 20 - Women's Potluck Social, 6:30 p.m.

• Stonewall Democrats meet every 2nd Sunday 3 p.m. *Note:* This

month only Stonewall Democrats will meet on Sun., Apr. 3 at 2 p.m.

• Mid-South G&L Republicans meet every 3rd Sunday, 3 p.m.

• Every Sunday - Afternoon at the Gaiety (films), 3 p.m.

• Every Sunday - An open AA meeting, 8 p.m.

• Every Tuesday - The Drum Circle, 7 p.m.

• Every Thursday - The Parenting

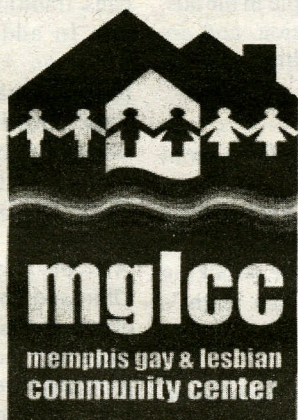
Support Group, 6 p.m.

• Every Thursday - Fitness Thursday, 6:30 p.m.

• Every Friday - Q-Café featuring Skinny White Chick on the 2nd Friday and Li'l Ryan D every 4th Friday, 7 p.m.

• Every Saturday - The Healthy Lifestyle Support Group, 1 p.m.

Details are at the Web site [www.mglcc.org](http://www.mglcc.org).



## TJN Advertising Sales

TJN is in need of an advertising account representative to call on potential and existing local advertisers.

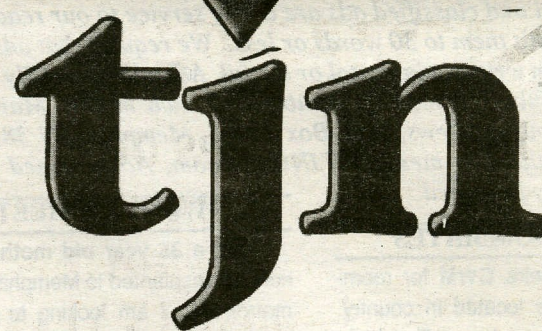
This position is commission-based. Telephone leads for new advertising will be channeled to the account rep for follow-up.

Commission is paid monthly on any advertising sold as well as on existing accounts serviced.

For more information, call 229-5877 and leave message.

*Ask how a non-profit can pool its resources to sell ads and have the commissions paid to the organization.*

## Triangle Journal News



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# Queer Notes

By Jim Maynard

We have good news and bad news this month. The good news is that the anti-gay adoption bill proposed by Republican Chris Clem was killed in committee by a few of our Democratic allies in the Tennessee legislature. The bad news is that the anti-gay marriage amendment passed both the Tennessee House and Senate and will now go to the voters in 2006. Although the amendment passed, we have a few Democrats to thank who had the backbone to vote against it, including Sen. Steve Cohen, Sen. John Ford, and Representative Beverly Marrero.

Rep. Kathryn Bowers, chair of the Shelby County Democratic Party, spoke at the March meeting of the Memphis Stonewall Demo-

crats and pledged to vote against the anti-gay adoption bill. Although she was in a tight campaign to win the special election for the Dist. 33 senate seat on March 24, she made it to the committee vote to help defeat the adoption bill. She did not attend the House vote on the marriage amendment.

I was saddened to see that my state Representative Mike Kernell voted for the anti-gay marriage amendment. While a few Democrats voted against the amendment, most supported it to avoid being attacked by their Republican opponents in the next election. (All Republicans supported the amendment, so we have no allies in the Tennessee GOP.)

**Opinions expressed in bylined columns are those of the authors.**

## Free Classifieds

Personal and classified ads are a free service to our readers — Please limit them to 30 words or less. We request that ads be submitted in writing via postal or e-mail. Ads will generally run one time only, but may be resubmitted each month. Mail to Triangle Journal News, P.O. Box 11485, Memphis, TN 38111 or e-mail them to [memphisTJN@aol.com](mailto:memphisTJN@aol.com). Ads deemed too explicit may be edited.

### ROOMMATES

**GWM seeks GWM** for roommate. House located in country. Straight-acting, please. Room not furnished. Rent \$250 plus 1/2 utilities. Call Bobby at 731-855-4255

**GWM, 39, 5'10", 169 lbs, brown goatee, shaved head, no piercings or tattoos, looking to share my one bedroom home on Kentucky Lake, just outside Paris. I am on Social Security and have a vehicle we can share. Would like someone who is also disabled. No severe disabilities with me. Will help relocate. 731-642-3580.**

**GWC seeks roommate** for their 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath home in Cordova. The house is 3 minutes from I-40, off Appling road. \$450 includes phone and utilities. Garage parking for your car, as well. 765-6823

**GWF, 49, quiet, non-smoker** seeks same to help share 2 BR modern and clean apt.w/balcony next to Overton Square. \$250/mo. + utilities. Pets OK. 901-272-3278\*

### WANT TO MEET

**I am a 35 year old mother** recently transplanted to Memphis from metro-NYC. I am looking to make both male and female friends, any age, to go dancing, eat out, talking, etc. Please contact Marie at [smiriam30@spymac.com](mailto:smiriam30@spymac.com)

**GWM, 48** interested in meeting gay and bi-males for fun, good times and possible friendship. I have brown hair and eyes, weigh 180, drink and smoke sometimes although, I like to keep fit. I also love gay movies and computers. Contact me at [moptopmouse@yahoo.com](mailto:moptopmouse@yahoo.com).

**GWM would like to meet** another GWM from age 37 to 47. I have brown hair and hazel eyes and have a hairy chest. My weight is 250 and I like cooking, movies, enjoy being with someone. I like to go to the clubs. I drink some, dine out. I smoke sometimes. Call Jimmy at (901)-604-6236. I will be waiting.

**Seeking husky, muscular GWMs,** 3-60, furry or otherwise, for friendship and fun times. No mind games or flakes. Only serious need call. Contact Bud at 732-2755 and be discreet.

A former "friend" of George W. Bush released secretly recorded tapes of conversations in which the former governor of Texas claimed to oppose discrimination against gays and thought attacks on gays were bad for the GOP. Of course that didn't stop the former governor of Texas from championing anti-gay legislation to appeal to the Christian Right, as he continues to do as president. The tapes illustrate the two faces of the W.

A gay legislator in Texas once recounted a conversation in which then governor Bush put his arm around him and told him to ignore what he said publicly about gays because it was not a personal attack. Bush seems to want the support of gays and claims to oppose discrimination or intolerance against gays and lesbians, but he continues to support anti-gay policies which do appease the Republican Religious Right.

The Shrub brought his Social Security medicine show to Memphis last month. Bush has been trying to counter growing public skepticism of his scheme to privatize social security with a series of "town hall meetings" in which those opposed to his plan are uninvited and anyone who speaks out against it is hauled away by security. Contrary to Bush's claims, the Government Accounting Office (GAO) has set the record straight that there is no immediate "crisis" in the Social Security system and that creating private accounts

would do nothing to solve the funding problems in the future.

A group supporting the Bush privatization plan called "USA Next" launched ads attacking the AARP (the powerful senior lobby that opposes the plan) as a "liberal" lobby that hates the U.S. military and, get this, promotes gay marriage! Of course, the AARP has done neither. USA Next used a picture of a gay male couple in the ads, without their permission, and are being sued for \$25 million. Queers fight back!

USA Next is actually a front organization funded by the same right-wing nuts who attacked John Kerry with the "Swift Boat Veterans" ads. It seems like attacking gays are the Republican Right's answer to every issue.

The pope called gay marriage an "evil ideology." The Catholic Diocese in San Diego has refused funeral rites to a man who owned a gay club. The Catholic Church will perform funeral rites for pederastic priests who molest altar boys, but they won't dignify the death of gay club owner?

I'm sick of the pope and the Catholic Church. I don't think a religious cult that has a history of persecuting its opponents, opposes birth control and sex education, opposes the right of terminally ill people to die with dignity, opposes the right of a woman to end a preg-

nancy, teaches that a sperm is a living human being, and requires its followers to accept the mumblings of an old man as "infallible" is qualified to judge anyone's morality

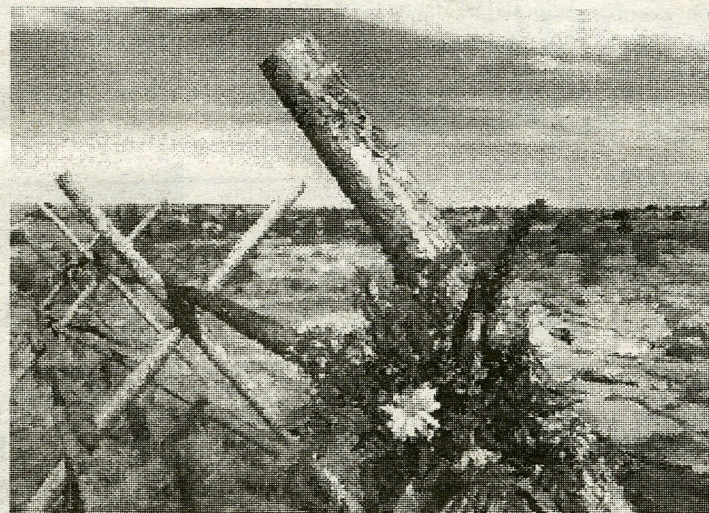
The issue of gay marriage has given the Republicans a perfect wedge issue to win the support not only of Christian fundamentalists, but Catholics and African-Americans, traditionally Democratic voters. In addition to the Federal Marriage Amendment, the GOP has orchestrated state anti-gay marriage constitutional amendments across the country to divide and conquer the base of the Democratic Party. The GOP used gay marriage to win just enough Catholic and African-American votes to take Ohio and win the last presidential election. It seems to be a winning issue for the Republicans, and a growing threat to the Democratic Party fighting for survival in the south and west.

We must prepare for battle in 2006 to oppose the anti-gay amendment to the Tennessee constitution. Our opponents will outnumber and outspend us, but we must put up a fight. The Tennessee Equality Project will lead the charge and needs to raise a lot of money. I urge everyone to join TNEP and send them every dime you can spare (visit its website at [www.tnep.org](http://www.tnep.org) to join and donate).

You may contact Jim Maynard at [www.jimmymaynard.com](http://www.jimmymaynard.com).

## White Station High School presents

# The Laramie Project



**April 6, 7 and 8**

**Curtain time 7:00 p.m.**

**Admission \$5 at the door**

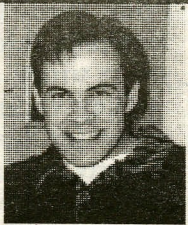
**Proceeds will be donated to Memphis Area Gay Youth (MAGY)**

*Advertising space donated as a public service of the Triangle Journal News*



# WHAT ABOUT IT?

by Shannon Yarbrough

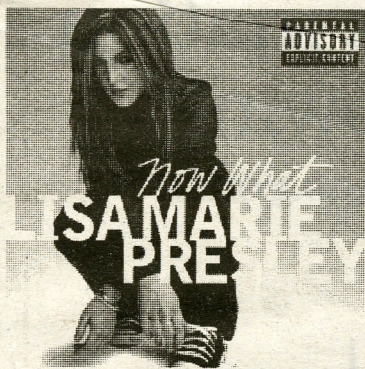


## Now What

Spring is in the air! Despite being the month of my birthday, April is one of my favorite months because it is usually the first month of the year that really feels like warm weather even, though spring "officially" started back in March.

Besides me starting the last year of being in my twenties, in the music world we have something to definitely look forward to. This month Memphian-at-heart Lisa Marie Presley is back with another hit CD that I can't wait to get my hands on. Entitled *Now What*, the title alone definitely portrays Lisa Marie's life in the media. Besides popping up for the Michael Jackson trials, what has she been doing since her last album?

Lisa Marie writes almost all of her songs and even invites Pink on a duet called "Shine." And that it does! The King's daughter also does an awesome cover of Don Henley's "Dirty Laundry." She sums the album up with a song by the same name with the lyrics: "I tried to do everything I was supposed to do, but what do I do now?" Lisa Marie, in our eyes you are doing just fine!



## The Notebook

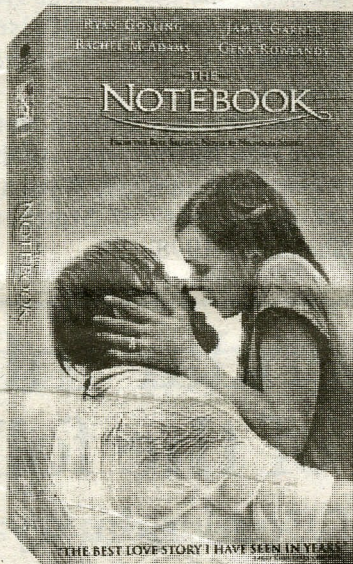
For those of you who are into grabbing the box of tissues with a bowl of popcorn and curling up on the sofa for a good movie like *Fried Green Tomatoes* or *Steel Magnolias*, I highly advise you to run out and buy (yes, I said buy, not rent) a copy of *The Notebook*. Although it lacks the quick-snip one-liners that we are still quoting today from those movies required of all gay men to see, *The Notebook* doesn't lack in southern charm.

The movie is set against a beautiful deep country landscape and stars Ryan Gosling as Noah, who is quite the nice looking landscape himself. Noah falls for a rich girl, Allie, who won't give him the time of day until he finally begs her. They fall madly in love only to have Allie rushed away to school in New York by her parents who don't want her to have anything to

do with "trash."

Noah writes to her everyday for a year, only to have his letters bypassed by Allie's Mom. Allie moves on and plans to marry a rich businessman, but soon comes calling back to Noah when she sees his picture in the paper in front of their dream house which he has been pouring his heart and soul into.

This movie also stars James Garner, who narrates the story of Allie and Noah as he reads it to an elderly woman in a nursing home. It's been a long time since I can remember seeing a feel-good movie like this one that made me want to rush out and buy a copy for Mom. Consider this one as a perfect Mother's Day gift come next month or a perfect gift now for yourself!



## Light Before Day

Christopher Rice, the son of Anne Rice, is back again for his third best-seller called *Light Before Day*. I cherished every word of his first novel, *Density of Souls*, which I previously reviewed here a few years ago after meeting Chris at a book signing in Oxford. However, I couldn't even bring myself to finish his second novel, *The Snow Garden*, which just wasn't holding my attention even after the first 40 pages. This time around, I decided to give Chris another chance despite the early mixed reviews I had already read online.

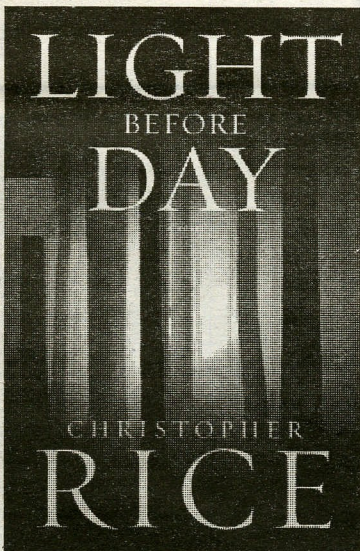
The story follows a 20-something magazine reporter who becomes embroiled in a Hollywood murder mystery. It's a blessing in disguise when Adam Murphy is fired from racy fluff rag *Glitz*, since he'd been chasing a real story involving a closeted Marine helicopter pilot, Daniel Brady, whose association with a pedophilic pimp produced a sordid videotape that

led to Daniel's suicide plane crash.

But Adam's still reeling from the demise of a heated, three-week affair with hunky but secretive Corey, who'd outgrown Adam's blackout-inducing drunkenness. Adam soon becomes the assistant to sharp, sarcastic straight mystery novelist James Wilton, who instructs Adam to continue researching Daniel Brady. One of Rice's most spirited characters, James consistently counteracts Adam's hyperactive enthusiasm with candor and a sensible "working theory," and when Corey disappears, Adam discovers that three other gay men have inexplicably vanished over the past few years, supposed victims of the West Hollywood Slasher.

Armed with a dossier from a trustworthy Hollywood reporter, Adam sets out to solve the crime that swells into blackmail, murder, a child porn ring and a subplot involving a "rogue assassin" who blows up methamphetamine labs. Though this is a step up from the author's previous efforts, Rice has yet to leave behind the sometimes awkward prose and dialogue (which veers between frivolous and woodenly expository just like his Mom) that dampens the narrative tension he cultivates.

*Light Before Day* is also like a social gathering of hundreds of people where you find yourself being introduced to too many characters and failing to keep up. Consider yourself warned! Rice uses too many characters to carry his already overwhelming story. I really hope he gets back to his New Orleans roots, as in his first novel, where he played it safe and told a good story.

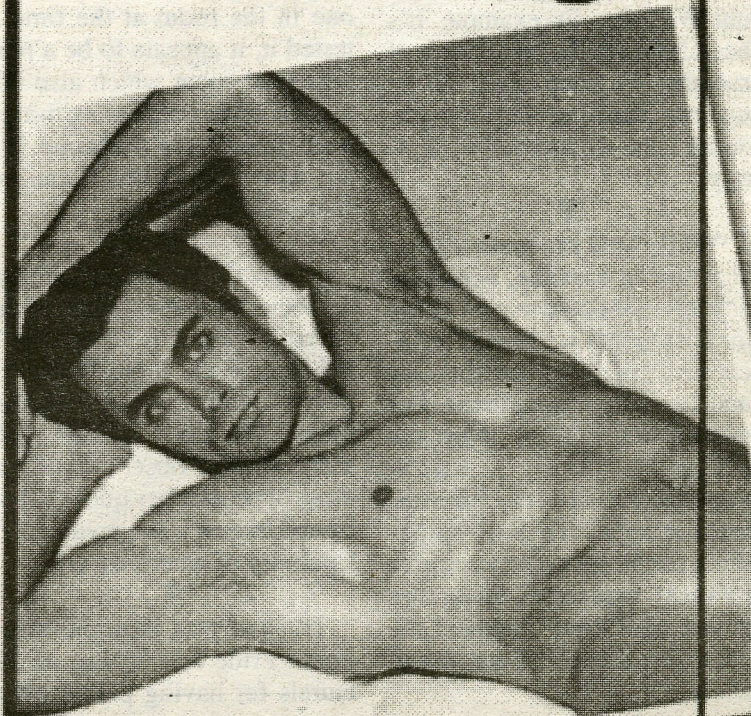


Shannon Yarbrough live in Memphis for six years. He now lives in St. Louis, Missouri and is the author of the book, *The Other Side of What*. Questions or comments? Email Shannon at [MisterYarbs@msn.com](mailto:MisterYarbs@msn.com).

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None of us is perfect... take our Web site, for example. It's been MIA for the last couple of months. We hope to get it back up and running this month. Ahhh... the wonders of technology.

While we try to make *TJN* as accurate as possible, occasionally unintentional errors creep in. Last month we posted an incorrect listing for Memphis Gay and Lesbian Republicans. For general information about the group, use <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/midsouthglr/>. To post something for the group or to receive general messages from the group, add "chat" (without the quotes) to the end of that string. Clear?

Although there wasn't anyone in the room at the time I tested it, it appears to be a real time chat room which also offers the option of posting things to all members of the group. If I am wrong about this, I can be sure to be corrected.

Kudos to *The Memphis Flyer* for their cover story Mar. 23 on "Being Gay in Memphis." While a little superficial, it pretty much covered all the bases. You might quibble with some of their observations (or those of people they quoted), but by and large it was a pretty good summary of where we are.

In case you thought Mid-South Pride was sitting on its laurels for having pulled off a

Pride event last year when Memphis Pride bit the dust, you're wrong.

They've announced their theme for this year's events: "Liberty and Justice for All." In addition, they've announced the parade date, June 11, 4 p.m. It will line up at Higbee as it did last year and go down South Cooper to Walker. A parade awards presentation and reception will take place at the Memphis Gay and Lesbian Community Center.

On Sun., June 12, there will be a Gay Pride Picnic at a location to be announced.

The complete schedule is going to be announced at a fundraiser on Sun., May 1, at Backstreet starting at 8 p.m. The Divas of Divinity will perform. At the fundraiser, MSP will also announce the grand marshalls for the parade as well as their new *multi-year national sponsor...* intriguing.

I am planning to go see *Mama Mia* at the Orpheum on Apr. 3 with a little trepedation. You see, it was the week after John and I saw it last year that he had his stroke.

Speaking of whom... John is doing well although he will probably not regain his speech.

That doesn't mean he can't communicate, of course. I guess after 30 years, we can more or less read each other's minds.

A new bears organization is forming in Memphis... the Blue Suede Bears. For those of you not in the know, a "bear" in gay parlance is a hairy man. You are not required to weigh in at 300 lbs.

The first meeting of the Blue Suede Bears is set for Sun., Apr. 10, at 3 p.m. at The Jungle.

We'll keep you informed about when and where their club nights are going to happen.

High school sure ain't what it used to be. In my day (Oh, my God! Did I just type that?), the class plays were pretty much fluff and nonsense — light fare designed to offend no one.

Times sure have changed. White Station High School, surely one of the jewels in the somewhat tarnished crown of the Memphis City School system, has taken on Moisés Kaufman's *The Laramie Project*.

The play was derived from more than 200 interviews of the residents of Laramie, Wyo. after the murder of Matthew Shepard in 1998.

Performances run Apr. 6-8 at 7 p.m. in the high school auditorium. Proceeds will benefit Memphis Area Gay Youth (MAGY).

If you're looking for a spring fling, may I suggest you take in the Motown Madness shows at Occasions (201 S. Cooper) on Fri., Apr. 8. Who of us can't resist the Motown sound, especially when coupled with a buffet provided by our favorite Midtown eateries and a cash bar.

The event is being sponsored by Occasions, which boasts "three floors, one party," and is being presented by Holy Trinity Community Church.

For those of you anxiously awaiting the fifth and final season of *Queer As Folk*, it's slated to start on Showtime Sun., May 22.

Also a new CD of dance music called *Queer As Folk: Clun Babylon* is scheduled to be released at the end of April.

As for Logo, the new gay and lesbian cable channel now scheduled to launch in June, we still haven't connected with someone at Time-Warner to see if it will be carried on its system.

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# Out & About

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 TJN 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  
**Crossroads\*:** 111 N. Claybrook ☎ 276-1882.  
**J-Wags\*:** 1268 Madison ☎ 725-1909.  
**Lorenz/AfterShock\*:** 1528 Madison ☎ 274-8272.  
**Madison Flame\*:** 1588 Madison ☎ 278-0569  
**Mélange:** 948 South Cooper ☎ 276-0002.  
**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.  
**The Jungle\*:** 1474 Madison ☎ 278-0521

## CARDS & GIFTS

**Inz & Outz\*:** 553 South Cooper ☎ 728-6535.  
**Family Flavors:** 18 N. McLean ☎ 725-0313

## CARPET CARE / CLEANING SERVICES

**BJ's Cleaning Service:** ☎ 726-4211.  
**King's Kleaning Service:** Home or Office ☎ 283-1089  
**King's Dogsitng Service:** ☎ 283-1089  
**Lee's Carpet Care:** Commercial or Residential, 24-hr. service, free estimates ☎ 327-6165.

## COMMUNITY GROUPS

**Alliance:** Leather/lewi club • Box 42174, Memphis 38174.  
**Aloysius Home, Inc.:** (See Friends for Life).  
**American Gay Athelists (AGA) Memphis:** Box 41371, Memphis 38174-1371.  
**Aphrodite:** 3430 Summer Ave, Memphis 38122.  
**BGALA (Students for Bisexual, Gay & Lesbian Awareness):** University of Memphis, c/o BGALA, 2522 Campus Postal Station, Memphis, TN 38152-2521, e-mail: bgala@memphis.cc.edu, website: www.people.memphis.edu/~bgala.  
**Bluff City Sports Association:** Box 41074, Memphis 38174, web site: www.bluffcitysports.net.  
**Brothers & Sisters Bowling League:** ☎ 465-4371 - Richard Andrews.  
**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.  
**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@holymemphis.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.  
**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 Black Same Gender Loving Alliance:** ☎274-0163.  
**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.  
**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 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 Jansen, Box 11052, Memphis, TN 38111-0052.  
**Mystic Krewe of Memphis United:** 41 S. Century, Memphis, 38111. www.geocities.com/mardigrasmemphis  
**Mystic Krewe of Pegasus Memphis:** a social charitable organization. 7626 Shelby Woods Cove, Memphis, TN 38125  
**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 (P-FLAG):** ☎ 761-1444 Website: www.pflagmemphis.org  
**Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays (P-FLAG):** 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.  
**Sunshine Travelers:** Meets every other Tuesday at 7 pm at The Jungle, ☎ 788-4PLA (4752)  
**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.

**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/glbba.

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

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

## COUNSELING SERVICES

**Alive Memphis!** A Holistic Healing Center, www.alivememphis.com, Individual & Couples Therapy, EMDR, Radiant Heart Therapy. ☎ 372-2991, Susan Taranto; 372-2593, Carol Schlicksup.  
**Eric Cassius, L.P.C., C.H.T.:** Hypnotherapy, Individual, 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 ☎ 844-6228.  
**J. Kent Usry, M.Div., MAC, LCSW:** Counseling Individuals, Couples, Children, & Families. Specialties: Trauma, Addictions, Grief & Sexuality. Sliding Fee Scale. ☎ 491-8632.  
**Kathryn T. Vullo, PhD:** Licensed Clinical Psychologist, LLC • 8590 Farmington Blvd., Ste. 3, G'twn, 670 Colonial Rd., Ste. 1, Mphs. ☎ 848-6666, www.inter-personalnet.com.

## 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.  
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**Printers Ink:** Box 11485, 0485 ☎ 454-1411.  
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**See-S:** Portraits & photography ☎ 327-3760.  
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## 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. Gulleddge, Attorney at Law:** 1014 S. Crockett Rd., Senatobia, MS 38668 ☎ (662) 562-5949, (662) 292-0823 or (662) 292-0046..  
**Deborah K. Brooks, Attorney at Law:** 200 Jefferson Ave. ☎ 529-8888.  
**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. Wurzberg, 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 News:** Free monthly newspaper published by Printers Ink • Box 11485, Memphis, 38111-0485 ☎ 454-1411, Fax: 454-1411 51\*, email: memphisTJN@aol.com, website: www.memphistrianglejournal.com.

## 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.diversitybuilder.com  
**Doing Business In Memphis:** A Sales Leads Directory www.memphisbusiness.com.  
**Girls Work:** Includes: *House Doctors, Intimate Occasions, Lunch to Go, BasketGrams & Everyday Services* ☎ 276-1935, email: grlswrk@hotmail.com, http://www.webspawner.com/users/girlswork/index.html.  
**Bob Hughes, EDD:** Yoga, relaxation & meditation classes ☎ 682-0855.  
**Bonnie's Doggie Day Care:** 885 S. Cooper, ☎ 726-1300.  
**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  
**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: vtadmin@vantek.net.  
**www.TheFunStartsNow.com:** Professional magicians, live animals, clowns, balloon artists, face painter, DJs, pony rides & illusionists—fund raisers ☎ 358-7258-Nicholas Toombs.

## REAL ESTATE SERVICES

**Russell Armstrong, Developer, Looney Developments:** 194 Looney Ave. ☎ 525-3044.  
**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.

# Triangle Journal News

## tjn

Box 11485, Memphis, Tennessee 38111-0485  
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E-mail: MemphisTJN@aol.com  
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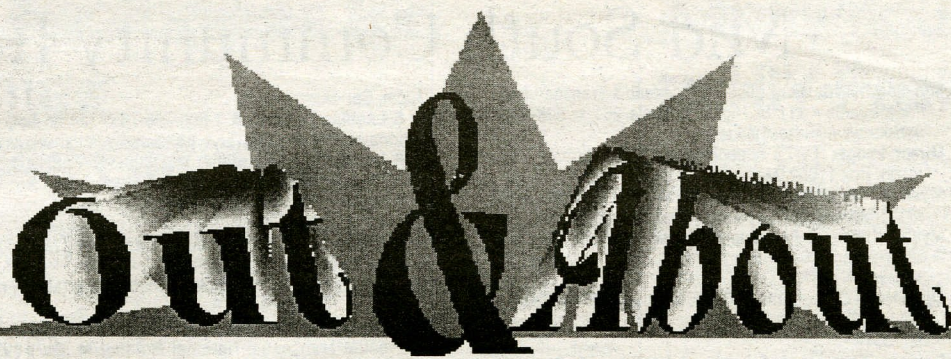
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Calendar Listings in Bold type take place at GLBT venues or are specifically GLBT-related.

Calendar Listings in non-bold type take place at GLBT-friendly venues or are of interest to the GLBT community



## The Triangle Journal Calendar of Events

### 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@holymemphis.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 Worship Services - (901) 452-6272 - 10am and 6pm**

#### WEDNESDAY CHURCH SERVICES

- Taizé - First Congregational Church - (901) 278-6786 - 6pm
- **Holy Trinity Community Church - Fellowship Supper and Bible Study - (901) 320-9376 - office@holymemphis.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

- Softball - Toby Fields (Central and Hollywood) - 1pm
- Sunday Afternoon at the Gaiety (GLBT-themed films), MGLCC - 3pm
- Tea Dance - Metro - 4pm
- **Brothers & Sisters Bowling League - Winchester Bowl - (901) 722-5236 or MemphisGayBowlin@aol.com - 6pm**
- Pool Tournament - Pumping Station - 6pm
- AA Meeting - Community Center - 278-4297 - 8pm
- Sissy Bingo - Crossroads - 8pm
- After Park Set Sundays - Paragon - 9pm
- Queer As Folk - Metro - 9pm
- Lights Out, Everything Goes - J-Wag's - 10pm
- Drag Show - Backstreet - 11pm

#### MONDAYS

- Monday Night at the Movies - Sponsored by Holy Trinity Community Church - Bartlett Cinema 10 - 6:45pm - Details at [www.HolyTrinityMemphis.org](http://www.HolyTrinityMemphis.org)
- Plus Support Group - Community Center - (901) 278-

4297 - 7:30pm

- Pool Tournament - The Jungle - 7:30pm
- Dart Tournaments - One More, Pumping Station - 8pm
- Karaoke Night - Metro - 10pm

#### TUESDAYS

- Women's Rugby Practice - Audubon Park - 6:30pm
- 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

#### WEDNESDAYS

- Frontrunners 3-mile run, Overton Park Pavilion, 6pm
- Dart Tournament - The Jungle - 7:30pm
- Partners Dart Tournament - Crossroads - 8pm
- Lights Out - Come Party in the Dark - Metro

## APRIL 2005 COMMUNITY CALENDAR

						1 See regular Friday events • Cafe Q, MGLCC, 9pm	2 • Alliance Club Night, Pumping Station, 10pm • Healthy Lifestyle Support Group, MGLCC, 1pm
3 • Bowling, Winchester Lanes, 6pm • Women's Action Coalition, First Congregational Church, 6:30pm • Stonewall Democrats, MGLCC, 1:30pm • Open AA Meeting, MGLCC, 3pm	4 • Feast for Friends, St. John's United Methodist Church, 6pm • Plus Support Group, MGLCC, 7:30pm	5 • The Caring Group, HTCC, 7pm • The Drum Circle, MGLCC, 7pm	6 • The Laramie Project, White Station High School, 7pm	7 • GLBT Parenting Group, MGLCC, 6pm • The Laramie Project, White Station High School, 7pm	8 See regular Friday events • Cafe Q, MGLCC, 9pm featuring Skinny White Chick • The Laramie Project, White Station High School, 7pm • Motown Madness, Occasions (201 S. Cooper), 7pm and 9pm	9 • Healthy Lifestyle Support Group, MGLCC, 1pm	
10 • Bowling, Winchester Lanes, 6pm • Open AA Meeting, MGLCC, 3pm	11 • Friends for Life Coffee House, 6-8pm. Call 272-0855 for location • Plus Support Group, MGLCC, 7:30pm	12 • The Caring Group, HTCC, 7pm • The Drum Circle, MGLCC, 7pm	13 • Let's Meet and Chill, MGLCC, 7pm	14 • GLBT Parenting Group, MGLCC, 6pm	15 TJN March Advertising Deadline See regular Friday events • Cafe Q, Drumming, MGLCC, 7pm	16 • Healthy Lifestyle Support Group, MGLCC, 1pm • MGLCC Birthday Potluck, MGLCC, 7pm • Tsarus Club Night, The Pumping Station, 9pm	
17 • Open AA Meeting, MGLCC, 3pm • Gay & Lesbian Republicans, MGLCC, 3pm • Bowling, Winchester Lanes, 6pm • Women's Action Coalition, First Congo, 6:30pm	18 • Feast for Friends, St. John's United Methodist Church, 6pm • Plus Support Group, MGLCC, 7:30pm	19 • Integrity Dinner/Meeting, Calvary Church, 6:30pm • The Caring Group, HTCC, 7pm • The Drum Circle, MGLCC, 7pm	20	21 • GLBT Parenting Group, MGLCC, 6pm	22 March TJN Due Out • See regular Friday events • Cafe Q, MGLCC, 7pm featuring Lil' Ryan	23 • Healthy Lifestyle Support Group, MGLCC, 1pm	
24 • Bowling, Winchester Lanes, 6pm • Open AA Meeting, MGLCC, 3pm	25 • Friends for Life Coffee House, 6-8pm. Call 272-0855 for location • Plus Support Group, MGLCC, 7:30pm	26 • The Drum Circle, MGLCC, 7pm	27	28 • GLBT Parenting Group, MGLCC, 6pm	29 See regular Friday events • Cafe Q, MGLCC, 9pm	30	



- THURSDAYS**
- 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
- Star Karaoke - Crossroads - 10pm

- Amateur Show - Metro - 11:30pm

Larry Timmerman

Bill Johns

## Antique Warehouse Mall

2563 Summer Avenue  
Memphis, TN 38112  
(901)323-0600

AUNTIQMEM@AOL.COM

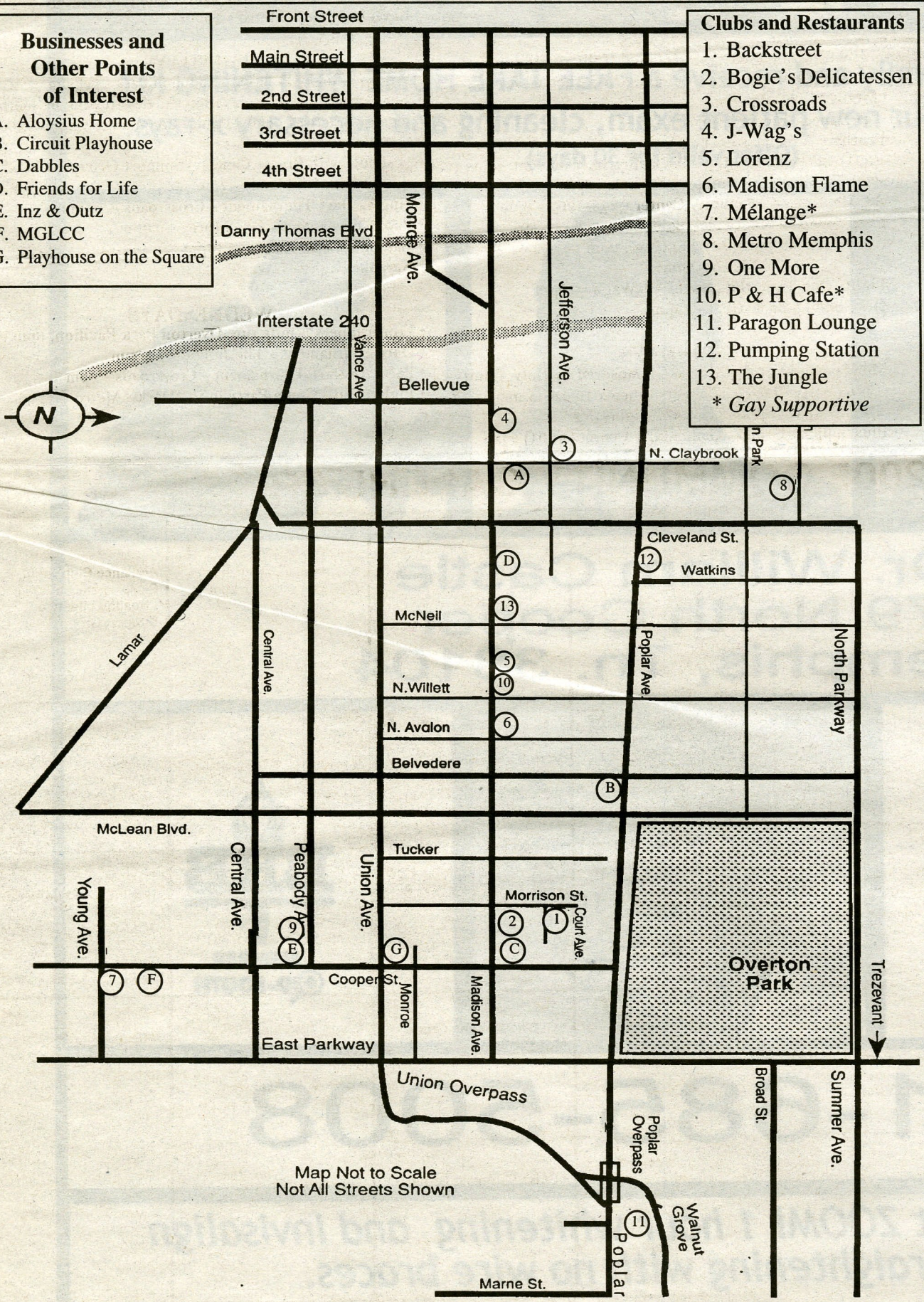
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### Businesses and Other Points of Interest

- A. Aloysius Home
- B. Circuit Playhouse
- C. Dabbles
- D. Friends for Life
- E. Inz & Outz
- F. MGLCC
- G. Playhouse on the Square

### Clubs and Restaurants

1. Backstreet
  2. Bogie's Delicatessen
  3. Crossroads
  4. J-Wag's
  5. Lorenz
  6. Madison Flame
  7. Mélange\*
  8. Metro Memphis
  9. One More
  10. P & H Cafe\*
  11. Paragon Lounge
  12. Pumping Station
  13. The Jungle
- \* Gay Supportive



Map Not to Scale  
Not All Streets Shown

Welcome

685 S. Highland  
Memphis, TN 38111  
Phone: 901-320-9376

Website Address: www.holytrinitymemphis.org  
Email Addresses:  
Church Office: office@holytrinitymemphis.org  
Pastor: Minister@holytrinitymemphis.org

**HOLY TRINITY COMMUNITY CHURCH**

THE REV. TIMOTHY MEADOWS, M.DIV., PASTOR

## Weekly Schedule

- Worship Service  
11:00AM
- Wednesday Night  
Study  
7:00PM
- Thursday Evenings  
Cotton Pickin' Squares

### 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
- Drag Show - Crossroads - Midnight
- Drag Show - J-Wag's - 3am

### 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 - 9pm
- Drag Shows - Crossroads - Midnight, - Allusions Entertainment Center - 10:30pm & 12:15pm

## Stephen Pair

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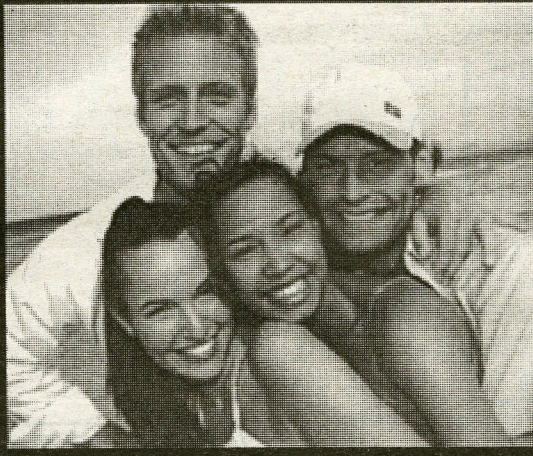
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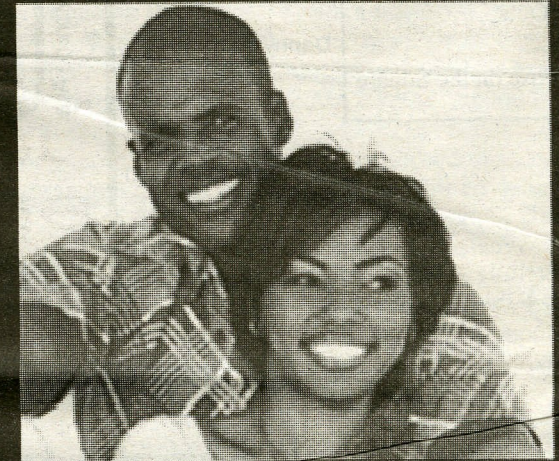




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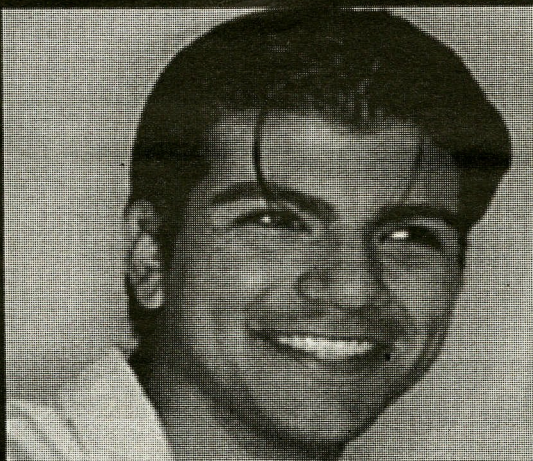
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