

the GAY &
LESBIAN
SERVICES
ORG.

Lexington, Kentucky

GLSO NEWS

MARCH 1996

A PUBLICATION OF THE LEXINGTON GAY AND LESBIAN SERVICES ORGANIZATION

BUILDING COMMUNITY

contributed by Michael Taylor

I left Kentucky when I was 22 years old and traveled to Hingham, Mass. to join the novitiate class of the Maryknoll Fathers and Brothers. I was idealistic, naive, vulnerable, and inexperienced in the harder lessons of the world. I was in search of identity, hope, love, family, and a way to find my own gifts so I could give them to others.

The next seven years as a seminarian, in what thankfully turned out to be a progressive Catholic missionary order, gave me real experience of brotherhood (old terminology) and community. During my overseas stint in Korea, culture chock knocked me on my ass as I was challenged to learn a new language, eat strange food (spicy!) and experience being a foreigner and minority person for the first time. I thought I would surely go crazy at times but the Korean people took me in, protected me, and taught me. I came back to the States with a deeper sense of self, a different view of the world, and an adventurous and less fearful spirit. (In case you're wondering comrades, while in Korea I fell in love with a classmate from Pennsylvania, had a brief "first time affair" and found a wonderful new energy inside that sustained me the next 2 1/2 years in Asia).

My desire for community today is just as real and important to me here in Lexington as it was in Hingham or Korea. I think often about where we are in building our gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgendered community. I think of how we can become

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LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: REACH OUT AND JUST SAY NO

Kentucky Rep. Danny Ford, a Republican (surprise!) from Mount Vernon has filed a floor amendment to replace the bill with a measure that would overturn a 1992 state Supreme Court decision by giving the legislature the right to re-criminalize sodomy, even between consenting adults of different sexes. "I think an anti-sodomy amendment would be far more acceptable to the people than one aimed at destroying the two-party system in this state," Ford said. The amendment has been offered to be attached to HB 219 (the redistricting bill sponsored by Greg Stumbo). There has been no vote yet on whether to accept this amendment. If it is accepted, it will gut HB 219 and change it from a redistricting bill to one to re-criminalize sodomy

A similar Ford measure in 1994 killed a House amendment that would have allowed legislative committees to cancel certain state contracts between legislative sessions. House Democratic leaders killed the bill to avoid a vote on the sodomy issue, which was being pressed by social conservatives. New House rules make Ford's latest measure clearly out of order, but he said he will make a motion to force a vote on the issue.

According to David Williams, editor of *The Letter*, two more pieces of anti-gay legislation have been introduced in the House. The first is an amendment to SB 68 which would provide that: "If any resident of this state marries in another state, the marriage shall be valid if valid in the state

continued on page 2

GLSO Online:

Peter: pjtay100@ukcc.uky.edu

Elizabeth: bee@mis.net

Tammy: sappho@mis.net

FIGHT THE RIGHT

A few months ago we ran an article listing local businesses who advertise in the right-wing *Kentucky Christian News*. We received a letter from Tim Banks telling us how he has started sending letters to the businesses who were in the *News*.

Dear Owner or Manager:

I was troubled to see your advertisement recently in the *Kentucky Christian News*. A copy was in the public lounge area of Jeff's Car Wash.

After reading the publication, I feel that your advertisement supports a tabloid that attacks the wonderful diversity in our community, promotes intolerance and prejudice, and inflames readers to behave in a non-Christian manner.

The right to express personal opinions and the obligation to promote particular viewpoints is a great treasure. However, advertising your public business in a judgmental and dogmatic

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GLSO Sponsors of the Month
**Tammy & Elizabeth
Gilliam-Strong**



GLSO News

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Peter Taylor

Layout Editor/Co-Editor:

Tammy D. Strong

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Elizabeth A. Gilliam

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Newsletter: \$15

Dues and Newsletter for
Couples: \$20

Views or opinions expressed in the GLSO News are those of the authors and don't necessarily represent those of the GLSO Board of Directors.

Submissions are welcome. All submissions become the property of GLSO and must indicate full name and address of the author. The staff reserves the right to edit submissions and ads to meet publishing requirements, as well as the right to reject any submissions.

Placement of advertising in GLSO News denotes neither a person's sexual orientation nor a business' customer preference.

from the front page

where solemnized, provided however, that in no case shall a marriage between persons of the same gender be recognized as valid."

The 2nd bill (HB 500) provides that "A marriage between members of the same sex which occurs in another jurisdiction shall be void in Kentucky," and further provides that any marriage between members of the same sex performed in or out of Kentucky "shall be void." The Fairness Campaign is asking that people call the above 800 number with a message for their House representative that they "oppose House Bill 500." The sponsors of the two anti-marriage bills introduced today are Kathy Hogancamp (House floor amendment 1 to Senate Bill 68) and Sheldon Baugh (HB 500).

We at the GLSO News urge you to call your representatives, you can call 1 800 372-7181 with a message for your House representative telling them that you oppose the Ford amendment to House Bill 219, House floor amendment 1 to Senate Bill 68, and House Bill 500. People can also fax a message to the legislature at 502 564-6543.

Phone calls against the amendment are coming in and are apparently being heard! Linda says that the calls are working, so keep things up.

It seems to me that, for the time being, the gay and lesbian community can breathe more easily, as it appears there will not be a vote on this matter until sometime late next week at the earliest. This doesn't mean we should let our guard down; continued pressure through phone calls, letters, and email is needed. And this breathing space will definitely give the religious right time to rally their troops and inundate Frankfort with messages supporting Floor Amendment One to House Bill 219. So we need to keep up the fight. On the other hand, I understand that HB 219 is Greg Stumbo's baby and he will do everything to see that it gets passed and is not gutted by such amendment.

Finally, Danny Ford says that he wants to force a vote on the issue anyway. Why? So that the Republicans can get on record just who is "pro-

sodomy" and who isn't. Paul Patton refused to back a sodomy amendment during the gubernatorial election, and so Frank Simon labeled him "pro-sodomy" and worse. Any Democrat or Republican who is seen to vote against Floor Amendment One will be considered "pro-sodomy" and you can bet the Republicans will use this against them in the fall elections.

At print time the legislation was still unresolved. Please stay informed and continue to call your representatives and let's keep up the fight.▼

SUE
Strong,
Ph.D.
licensed psychologist

Actor's Guild Play cancelled

The Actor's Guild play *before it hits home* has been cancelled. *The Complete Works of William Shakespeare* (abridged) has been chosen as the replacement. It is scheduled to run the first three weeks in March.

COMMUNITY NEWS

PRIDE MONTH PLANNING UNDERWAY

On February 12th, 18 women and men of our Community gathered at the new MCC Church space on Short Street and began planning for Pride Month '96. 11 of 23 known community organizations sent representatives to form Pride Committee '96. 6 more groups indicate they will be involved in this planning process. Those who did not show will be contacted again by Pride Committee Chairperson Mike Taylor. Fuller community participation and representation is still needed for Pride Month to be a success in 1996.

At the kickoff planning meeting on the 12th, an auditory and visual stimulation exercise assisted the participants in fleshing out themes of pride and celebration. Achievements in our community for 1995 and 1996 were reviewed as a precursor to knowing what we have to celebrate now and this coming June. Some of these were: GLSO's steps toward financial security for the Newsletter; the resiliency and heart of the Men's Chorus during a challenging time of transition; the start up of a woman's chorus in Lexington; our community's active participation in the recent gubernatorial elections; Fairness' growth in financial support and effective political advocacy and UK Lambda's plan to hold a state wide gay youth conference this year with a recently received grant award.

The nuts and bolts of the planning process to be undertaken by Pride Committee '96 was reviewed. Pride Picnic and Volunteer of the Year Awards committees were formed and will begin meeting in the next few weeks.

The Pride Committee would like to challenge every community organization to send a representative to the next meeting on March 4. **THE PRIDE COMMITTEE WANTS TO PLAN WITH THE COMMUNITY AND NOT FOR THE COMMUNITY!** Please follow developments in GLSO News and/or contact Mike Taylor at 225-1828. See you March 4 at MCC Church at 7:00 pm.▼

FAMILY PHOTOS

A University of Kentucky class in family studies has come up with a project to collect old family photos for an exhibition called "Generations of Families." The Urban County Government is sponsoring this project which will be curated by Twyla Martins of the Lexington Art League. They are asking civic organizations, social services agencies, businesses and other groups to collect interesting family photos from members of their group, exchange stories about them, and select some of the best to send into the city. There will then be exhibits in several locations around Lexington including the April 19 Gallery Hop. They are seeking all types of pictures, multi generational, humorous, ethnically diverse, etc.

I think this is a city wide project that lesbian citizens should participate in. One of the stated goals of this project is to increase acceptance and appreciation of differences. I would love to send in a collection of photos entitled "Growing up Gay and Lesbian" or "Lesbian Community Family Photos." The deadline is March 17th so if you can have a photo you would like to share, send it to: Mary Crone, 1630 Ashwood Road, Lexington, Ky 40502. Include your name and phone number for my use, not to be passed on. We can make a display for ourselves to be used during Pride Month. We can also send some of the best to the city. Please include a short description of the picture and indicate if you do not wish it to be one of the pictures to be sent to the city.▼

P-FLAG NOTES

P-FLAG will host a program on gay/lesbian marriages on Tuesday March 5th at Chapel Hill Presbyterian Church at 7:00 pm.

Ruth Fiscella will speak at Centre College on March 16th at 8:00 pm at a convocation including homosexuality.▼

GLSO BOARD ELECTIONS

The GLSO Board elections will be held in June at the Pride Picnic. We have a committee that is looking for people interested in being on the board. In the next few weeks we will be formulating an explanation of the joys and responsibilities of being a GLSO board member. If you might be interested, give us a call! We are: Mary (266-5904) and Michael (225-1828).▼

GLOBE SCHOLARSHIPS

GLOBE, Gays and Lesbians Organized for Better Education, is a national non-profit organization dedicated to awarding academic scholarships to gay, lesbian, and bisexual students. They have sent GLSO a number of applications for the 1996-1997 academic year. Completed applications are due by April 1st. If you would like an application, please give Mary a call and she will mail you one (266-5904).▼

LEXINGTON MEN'S CHORUS' FUNDRAISER

contributed by Bill Loggins

We Need Your Support. On Saturday, March 9th at 8pm at the Kentucky Horse Center—note: NOT Horse Park—on Paris Pike, the Lexington Men's Chorus is presenting a night of song and cabaret. Entitled "Steppin Out In Style" the concert will feature selections sung by the chorus as well as solos, duets, and ensemble. A "soiree" will follow with food, music, dancing and a cash bar. ALL of this for just \$25. Tickets can be purchased from any of the chorus members or at the Singletary Center for the Arts. The tickets price may seem steep but this is our main fundraiser for the year. This is also the first concert under the direction of Steve Johnson so it is "rally round the fag I mean flag time!!"▼

NATIONAL NEWS

LESBIAN APPEALS CHILD'S CUSTODY TO CONVICTED MURDERER

TALLAHASSEE — The father is a convicted murderer but the mother is a lesbian, so a judge decided that the couple's 11-year-old girl should live with dad. "This child should be given the opportunity and the option to live in a nonlesbian world," wrote Circuit Judge Joseph Tarbuck of Pensacola in his ruling awarding primary custody to the father and giving the mother, Mary Ward (with whom their daughter has lived since 1992) only standard visitation rights. The judge cited Mary Ward's relationship with a woman, another relationship between two other women around the house and the showing of R-rated movies there. "I don't condemn the mother of this child for living the way she does," Tarbuck said. "But I don't think that this child ought to be led into that relationship before she has a full opportunity to know that she can live another lifestyle if she wants to."

Ms Ward, has asked the 1st District Court of Appeal to reverse Tarbuck's ruling. Lawyers for the 46-year-old Pensacola woman say the case marks Florida's first chance for a ruling on whether sexual orientation can be a deciding factor in child custody cases. "We think this case is very important," Charlene Carres, a Tallahassee lawyer representing Mary Ward, "We feel sexual orientation is not relevant to someone's ability to raise children well."

Supreme courts in eight other states have said a homosexual parent should not automatically be denied custody. Five others have ruled the opposite. The U.S. Supreme Court has never dealt with the question.

The Wards married in 1983 shortly after the husband was released from prison where he served time for murdering his first wife, Judy, in 1974. Ward pleaded guilty to second-degree murder for shooting his first wife in the parking lot of a Pensacola restaurant after they argued over custody of their children. Ward was questioned about the slaying during the custody hearing, "I done my time for it, and it was something that shouldn't have ever happened," he said. "It was stupidity, jealousy and anger."

Tarbuck made his ruling in August in an order modifying the final divorce judgment, giving the father primary custody and the mother standard visitation rights. He did not comment on the killing when he ruled on the custody question but said Ward would give his daughter "decent living accommodations" and that nothing derogatory had been said about his new wife, Rita.▼

GINGRICH SHOWS SHOCKING IGNORANCE ON HIV MILITARY POLICY

House Speaker Newt Gingrich, at a recent appearance in Georgia commenting on a letter that he received from "Magic Johnson" last week stated that Johnson doesn't understand "the nature of being in the military, the danger of being in combat and what happens in a field hospital if you have people bleeding, people wounded and you don't have any idea who has HIV. He went on to call the President "totally irresponsible" for his stance on the amendment.

Johnson wrote to ask Gingrich and Senate Majority Leader Bob Dole to help pass legislation to repeal the measure to discharge all service members with the virus that causes AIDS. The measure was part of the defense authorization bill signed into law by President Clinton last week. Clinton himself has

said that in his estimation the measure is unconstitutional and has directed the Justice Department not to defend it in court. The amendment was attached by California Republican Representative and very vocal homophobe, Bob Dornan.

"The speaker is making a big mistake if he thinks he can go one on one with Magic Johnson on this issue," said Daniel Zingale, the Human Rights Coalition's political director. "Clearly, it is Speaker Gingrich who does not understand the realities of the U.S. military. Service members who test positive for the AIDS virus are not engaging in warfare or spending time in military field hospitals — contrary to Gingrich's statements."

Service members with the virus that causes AIDS currently are allowed to serve their country as long as they can perform their duties, but they are not deployed overseas. The same policy is applied to service members who have other chronic medical conditions such as diabetes, asthma, heart disease or cancer.

The Pentagon has said that about half the HIV-positive service members are married, and on average, have served for a decade. Nearly 20 percent of them are officers. The Pentagon said Thursday it hopes to reverse the provision. Department spokesman Ken Bacon said the Pentagon has "several lines of defense" on the matter, the most desirable being legislative action by Congress. Bacon said Sens. Sam Nunn, D-Georgia, Barbara Boxer, D-California, and Ted Kennedy, D-Massachusetts, have all suggested they may take action in Congress to overturn the provision. A repeal bill was introduced in the House on Feb. 1 by Reps. Peter Torkildsen, R-Mass., Jane Hamman, D-Calif., Connie Morella, R-Md., and Ron Dellums, D-Calif. It is expected to be introduced in the Senate by Sens. William Cohen, R-Maine and Edward Kennedy, D-Mass. Currently, the bill has 90 co-sponsors in the House and 36 in the Senate.▼

continued on page 12

the
DELICIOUS DUO
present

The GLSO News for March, 1996.

We have nothing to sell, but we would like to use this space to try and guilt all of our friends into supporting the GLSO Newsletter. It's cheap. It's easy. (Unlike us - but we did it anyway).

If you can't afford to buy an entire month, you can get a subscription - if you don't have one - or send one to a friend.

We would also like to prevail upon the community to keep informed about what the Kentucky legislature is doing, via the Lexington Fairness. This session, we're being attacked in new and improved ways, and only as a united front do we have a chance to stay out of the dark ages.

Get involved. Stay informed. Support your local community. And our single friends (no names mentioned, J.S.!) want us to say that they're beautiful, in need, and hanging out at Joe's and Club 141 every weekend.

Tammy and Elizabeth Gilliam-Strong



March 1996

Happy St. Patrick's Day



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 7:30 PM Gay/Lesbian AA 8:30 PM Louisville Youth Group (Fairness Ofc)	2 9:00 AM Frontrunners
					8:00 PM "Before It Hits Home" (Actors Guild)	
3 11:30 AM Metropolitan Community Church 2:00 PM "Before It Hits Home" (Actors Guild) 4:00 PM TSKRA Mtg. (Fairnet) 7:00 PM Dignity 7:00 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	4 Rainbow Wind Mtg. 7:00 PM GUESS (EKU) 7:30 PM Pride Ctr. Taskforce	5 Full Moon 12:00 PM GLAA 7:30 PM Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon 8:45 PM Rainbow Bowling (Joyland Lanes)	6 AIDS/HIV Sppt. Grp. 6:00 PM Frontrunners (Woodland Park) 7:00 PM Ebony Made Mtg. 7:00 PM Morehead St. Student Grp. 7:00 PM MCC 8:00 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	7 7:00 PM Lex. Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 PM UK Lambda (Rm. 231 Student Ctr.) 8:00 PM HIV/AIDS Sppt. Grp.	8 7:30 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	9 Louisville Gender Society Mtg. 9:00 AM Frontrunners 8:00 PM Lex. Men's Chorus Concert (KY Home Ctr.)
					8:00 PM "Before It Hits Home" (Actors Guild)	
10 Imperial Ct. (RISC) Mtg. 11:30 AM Metropolitan Community Church 12:30 PM Intertwined Dinner 2:00 PM "Before It Hits Home" (Actors Guild) 7:00 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	11 7:00 PM GUESS (EKU)	12 Last Quarter 12:00 PM GLAA 7:30 PM Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon 7:30 PM P-FLAG (Chapel Hill Presby.) 8:45 PM Rainbow Bowling (Joyland Lanes)	13 AIDS/HIV Sppt. Grp. 6:00 PM Frontrunners (Woodland Park) 7:00 PM MCC 8:00 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	14 7:00 PM Lex. Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 PM UK Lambda (Rm. 231 Student Ctr.) 8:00 PM HIV/AIDS Sppt. Grp.	15 Integrity (St. Augustine's) 7:30 PM Gay/Lesbian AA 8:30 PM Louisville Youth Group (Fairness Ofc)	16 9:00 AM Frontrunners 10:00 AM Men's Network
					8:00 PM "Before It Hits Home" (Actors Guild)	
17 St. Patrick's Day GLSO News Leadtime 11:30 AM Metropolitan Community Church 2:00 PM Lesbian Puback 7:00 PM Dignity 7:00 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	18 Rainbow Wind Mtg. 7:00 PM GUESS (EKU) 7:30 PM Fairness Meeting (Alfalfa's)	19 New Moon 12:00 PM GLAA 7:30 PM Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon 8:45 PM Rainbow Bowling (Joyland Lanes)	20 Spring begins AIDS/HIV Sppt. Grp. 6:00 PM Frontrunners (Woodland Park) 7:00 PM Morehead St. Student Grp. 7:00 PM MCC 8:00 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	21 7:00 PM Bluegrass NOW (at Planned Parenthood) 7:00 PM Lex. Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 PM UK Lambda (Rm. 231 Student Ctr.) 8:00 PM HIV/AIDS Sppt. Grp.	22 7:30 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	23 9:00 AM Frontrunners
24 Imperial Ct. (RISC) Mtg. 11:30 AM Metropolitan Community Church 7:00 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	25 7:00 PM GUESS (EKU)	26 1st Quarter 12:00 PM GLAA 7:30 PM Gay/Lesbian Al-Anon 8:45 PM Rainbow Bowling (Joyland Lanes)	27 AIDS/HIV Sppt. Grp. 6:00 PM Frontrunners (Woodland Park) 7:00 PM MCC 8:00 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	28 7:00 PM Lex. Men's Chorus Rehearsal 7:30 PM UK Lambda (Rm. 231 Student Ctr.) 8:00 PM HIV/AIDS Sppt. Grp. 9:00 PM COLTS Mtg.	29 7:30 PM Gay/Lesbian AA	30 9:00 AM Frontrunners
31 Palm Sunday 11:30 AM Metropolitan Community Church 2:00 PM GLSO News Folding 7:00 PM Gay/Lesbian AA						

February

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April

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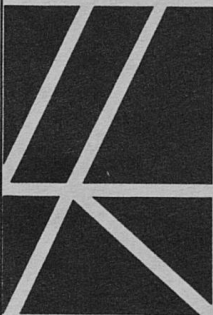
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THE '96 SPONSORS

The GLSO Board decided that in order to achieve true financial stability, it would seek a sponsor for the costs of the newsletter for one month, and use its other advertising income for a number of other ongoing projects.

For more information, please call Mary at 266-5904.

The GLSO News is proud to announce our supporters so far for 1996:

- Sue Strong, Ph.D., Licensed Psychologist255-4964
Scorsone and Ransdell, Attorneys at Law255-5766
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seeking a diverse congregation: Sunday worship 10:45
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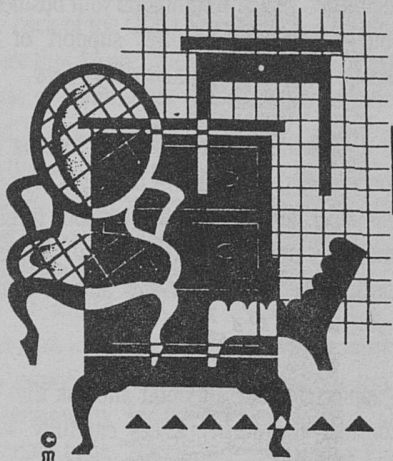
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Denise Peskar, MR, AC	606.233.3462	Karen Stormbringer.....	606.252.5009
(Certified Trainer)		Lee Stormbringer	606.277.9365

Take Pride in Our Community

**Preliminary proposals are due March 4th to the
Pride Committee if your organization is thinking
of putting on an event this year. Call Mike at
225-1828 if you need a form or if you may miss
this deadline.**

See Community News

NATIONAL NEWS

from page 4

SAME-SEX MARRIAGE BAN OK'D

OLYMPIA — Saying there is “a compelling state interest” in recognizing that marriage is intended between men and women, for procreation and for development of children, the Washington state House voted on Saturday to prohibit same-sex marriages. Several lawmakers said the language sounded much like Catholic Church doctrine known as the “Baltimore Catechism” — the primary instruction given by the church to all Catholics. The intensely emotional debate left some Democrats sobbing quietly in the back of the House chamber after the 60-36 vote for House Bill 2262, which could be presented to all state voters this fall. The bill contains a clause sending it to a public vote.

“Does love between a man and a man hurt us more than hate against a man and a man?” said Rep. Mary Lou Dickerson, D-Seattle. “This vote is a vote between love and hate ... between courage and fear.”

State law currently does not recognize same-sex marriages, prompting House Minority Leader Marlin Appelwick to say, “This is addressing a problem that doesn't exist. It's a fight we should not be picking.” ▼

GLAAD CRITICAL OF NEWSPAPER'S DISCRIMINATION AGAINST GAY EDITOR

According to The Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation (GLAAD), Todd Camp, the openly gay graphics editor of the Fort Worth Star-Telegram's children's section, who also worked for a gay community newspaper, The Texas Triangle, was removed from his original post after the paper's Executive Editor, received a letter from from the Fort Worth chapter of the American Family Association (AFA).

“This is a shocking example of discrimination,” said William Waybourn, GLAAD's

Managing Director, “Camp's work for The Texas Triangle has no bearing on his competency. Job performance should be based solely on job related criteria. This transfer shows the crucial need for workplace protections for lesbians and gay men, especially since Texas is one of those states where lesbians and gay men can be fired without recourse.”

This evidently part of AFA's campaign to drive the Texas Triangle out of business. In December, they threatened advertisers of the weekly paper with dissemination of their names to local preachers and broadcasting their names on a local radio station advocating a boycott. The Star-Telegram has actually been praised by local gay organizations in the past for offering domestic partnership benefits to same gender employees and for being one of the leading papers in Texas to support gay rights. “It saddens us to hear that a paper, like the Star-Telegram, which has had a good track record with the gay community, has buckled to the pressure of the Radical Right,” said Chuck Donaldson, Interim Chair of the GLAAD's Dallas chapter, “By caving in to the AFA, the Fort Worth Star-Telegram has opened a Pandora's Box to future transfers and/or firings. If you don't think this will affect the rights of reporters to cover stories on the AFA and other extreme right organizations, then think again.” ▼

SCHOOL CENSORS GAY POLICY LETTERS

MERRIMACK, N.H. — High school principal Timothy Mayes has censored two letters to the school newspaper, citing concerns that they violate the district's policy restricting discussion of homosexuality.

The letters are critical of the policy, which bans anything that has the “purpose or effect of encouraging or supporting homosexuality as a positive lifestyle alternative.” A group of local, concerned parents have filed a suit to overturn the policy which has led to drastic curriculum modifications, including censoring Shakespeare's *The Twelfth Night*. ▼

from front page

publication alienates a portion of present and potential customers. I'm certainly less inclined to visit or recommend your business if your advertising signifies support of the skewed rhetoric in *The Kentucky News*

As a Christian, I have a vested interest and concern in the damaging messages found in this paper. Jesus Christ saved my soul, forgives, and offers unconditional love to all people on Earth. *The Kentucky News* and its agenda saddens me.

I appreciate your attention and ask that you consider the consequences carefully when advertising in such a negative tabloid.

Sincerely

Tim Banks & Family

Please take some time to write to the businesses and let them know that by advertising in this trash they are losing valuable business from a large part of the community.

WE
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YOU!

AS A VOLUNTEER.
call Mary at 266-5904

from the front page

scattered from each other and how hard it is at times to bring ourselves together.

Looking at the community directory on the back of the GLSO Newsletter, it is inspiring to see that we are developing in all the primary areas of community. We have organizations that help us socialize, pray, stay healthy, and participate in the political process. We have student groups, a community newsletter, and a task force striving to build a home for us all - The Pride Center of the Bluegrass.

I would like to suggest a series of questions we might use to assess the quality of our growth as individual organizations and as a community (adapted from Holland and Henriot's book "Social Analysis: Linking Faith and Justice.")

1. Are all participants growing in self determination and confidence?
2. Are we working with people, not for people, in planning and evaluating our efforts?
3. Are we collaborating with structures that need to be modified or changed, or are we challenging and changing them?
4. Is our work becoming so rigid that it has lost the flexibility it needs to respond to newly emerging needs?
5. Are all participants in the process undergoing an expansion of consciousness about the relationship of our work to other justice issues?
6. Are we making attempts to get to know and network with other Lesbian/gay/trans organizations and persons in the community?
7. Are we having fun?

I hope others will consider submitting ideas to the GLSO Newsletter about community development and growth. Creating a vision of community can help us move forward together.

ANTI-MARRIAGE BILLS SPREADS ACROSS STATES

NATIONAL FREEDOM TO MARRY COALITION FORMED IN RESPONSE

Washington, D.C., Feb. 8, 1996..Aided by an unprecedented national coalition of gay movement groups focused on winning and keeping the freedom to marry, gay, lesbian, bisexual and non-gay activists around the country are fighting a rash of anti-marriage bills. With state legislatures in session for hardly a month, the bills have been introduced by Radical Right lawmakers to block recognition of same-sex couples' marriages in 18 states.

Although gay and lesbian couples cannot legally marry in any state, archconservative legislators are attempting to rush through anti-marriage bills in Alabama, Alaska, California, Colorado, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Iowa, Kentucky, Missouri, New Mexico, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Virginia, and Washington. The measures would declare that a couple's legal marriage from one state would not be recognized when they crossed the border to another state. In addition, an anti-gay ballot measure in Oregon, if passed this year, would prohibit same-gender couples' civil marriages as well as overturn gay-inclusive nondiscrimination laws.

"The goal of these anti-marriage bills is to shut down the public discussion that has begun around the injustice of denying same-sex couples the freedom to marry," said Evan Wolfson, Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund Marriage Project director. "The state attacks offer us an excellent opportunity to push our political and educational work alongside the legal efforts that will us the freedom to marry."

Numerous media reports, editorials and talk show programs have already addressed the unfairness of denying the freedom to marry to gay people. For example, the Economist magazine endorsed equal marriage rights in a cover story, the Des Moines Register opposed a local anti-marriage

bill, and Oprah and Nightline have covered the struggle.

Last year, measures to block recognition of marriages were defeated in Alaska and South Dakota. Unfortunately, Utah passed such a measure, which civil rights groups have vowed to challenge in court. So far this year a measure in Maine was withdrawn by its sponsor after public uproar.

Although each measure is worded slightly different, most of the bills are virtually identical. For example, California's A.B. 1982 states, "A marriage contracted outside this state between individuals of the same gender is not valid in this state." The bill was passed 41-31 by the Assembly last month, with a Senate battle still to come. South Dakota's House Bill 1143 goes a step further, stating, "Marriage is a personal relation, between a man and a woman, arising out of a civil contract to which the consent of parties capable of making it is necessary. Consent alone does not constitute a marriage; it must be followed by a solemnization."

According to Robert Bray, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) media director: "Marriage is a basic human right. And whether I choose to get married or not, that choice should be mine and my partner's to make — not Pat Robertson, Lou Sheldon, Newt Gingrich or homophobic state lawmakers."

The National Freedom to Marry Coalition, comprised of more than 250 organizations, is helping activists battle the bills, educate communities and brief the media. It has sponsored a Freedom to Marry sign-on resolution, which has gathered hundreds of signatures from individuals and organizations, including religious leaders.

For more information on the National Freedom to Marry Coalition and related efforts, contact Evan Wolfson, Lambda, (212)995-8585. To receive a copy of the "To Have and To Hold" NGLTF marriage organizing kit, call (202)332-6483, ext. 3327. Other contacts include GLAAD, (212)807-1700; and the LA Gay and Lesbian Community Services Center, (213)860-7357.

GLSO DIRECTORY

GLSO

GLSO Board (Mary)	266-5904
GLSO Discrimination Project (Jeff)	276-5383
GLSO: News (Peter)	273-5845
Advertisements (Tammy)	225-3953
(Sue)	255-4864
Calendar (Jeff)	276-5383
Folding (Mary)	266-5904
Layout (Elizabeth)	225-3953
GLSO PRIDE COMMITTEE (Mike)	225-1828
GLSO Speakers Bureau (Mary)	266-5904
GLSO Support Group (Mary)	266-5904

STUDENT GROUPS

ACE League:Berea (Ed) ext. 7472 evenings only	986-9314
AGLF: NKU (Pat)	572-5604
B-GLAD: Centre College (Mykol)	238-5332
GUESS: EKU (Neil)	622-5816
Morehead State (Angela)	783-2950
UK Lambda (Julien) before 10pm	272-7232

ANONYMOUS AIDS TESTING

Jessamine County	885-4149
Lexington-Fayette County	288-2437
Madison County	723-7312
Woodford County	873-4541

AIDS INFO/SERVICES

AIDS HOTLINE	231-7545
AIDS Volunteers of Lexington	278-7494
AVOL Legal Advocacy Program	278-7494
Health Department HIV Support Programs	
(Patty)	288-2377
(Amanda)	288-2374
HIV/AIDS Legal Project	(502) 584-1254
HIV-Education Youth Group	278-7494
Kentucky AIDS HOTLINE	(800) 840-2865
Thursday HIV ⁺ /AIDS Support Group	
(Hospice of the Bluegrass)	276-5344

**For a mailing address update,
contact Peter at 273-5845**

To add or update a directory page listing, please
contact Tammy at 225-3953

COMMUNITY

Bluegrass COLTS (Mark)	233-7266
E-Male (Juno)	252-2353
Fairness of Lexington HOTLINE	275-7812
Fairness of Louisville	(502) 893-0788
Front Runners (Keith)	254-6850
G/L AA (Charlie)	224-4067
G/L Defense Fund	(502) 589-2896
IGBO Mid-Year 1995 (Steve)	276-3058
Kentucky Legislature	
Bill Status Line	(800) 382-2455
Legislator Message Line	(800) 372-7181
Meeting Info Line	(800) 633-9650
Lexington Men's Chorus (Shelby)	231-0090
Louisville Youth Group	(502) 635-1302
Names Project, Lexington (Katie)	272-2588
Newcomers Group (Joe)	278-5032
P-FLAG (Ruth)	272-7075
Pegasus Travel	268-4337
Rainbow Bowling League (Teri)	268-8563
RISC (Mike)	225-5151
(Jack)	272-8354
Tri-State Gay Rodeo Assn. (Terry)	255-5469
(Paul)	278-8023
The Women's Chorus (Connie)	276-2554

RELIGIOUS GROUPS

Dignity [Catholic] (Don)	299-4458
Episcopal Diocese AIDS Ministry (Steve)	233-1782
Honesty [Southern Baptist] (Eddie)	(502) 637-7609
(Dorothy)	(502) 458-5392
Interweave [Unitarian] (Davina)	271-6174
MCC-Elizabethtown (Cathy)	(502) 459-6075
MCC-Lexington (Rex)	271-1407
MCC-Louisville	(502) 775-6636
MCC-Paducah	(502) 441-2307
Pagan Forum (Pat)	268-1640
RainboWind-(Pagan) (Sarah)	252-7673
RainboWind@aol.com	

ITYG LESBIGAY YOUTH HOTLINE
800-347-TEEN
7p-midnight Thurs. & Fri.