

PFLAG ORLANDO

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons, their families and friends.

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Sept 06

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays

promotes the health and well-being of gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgendered persons, their families and friends. This is done through: support, to cope with an adverse society; education, to enlighten an ill-informed public; and advocacy, to end discrimination and to secure equal civil rights.

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays provides opportunity for dialogue about sexual orientation and gender identity and acts to create a society that is healthy and respectful of human diversity.

Support meetings are held on the third Wednesday of the Month at the First United Methodist Church of Downtown Orlando 142 East Jackson Street, Orlando, FL, Wesley Building, Room 205 at the start at 7:30pm

HRC | National Coming Out Day NCOD 2006 Theme: "Talk About It"

"Talk About It" will be the theme of this year's National Coming Out Day to be celebrated on **October 11, 2006**. The Human Rights Campaign Foundation's Coming Out Project is an on-going campaign to empower gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and allied Americans to live openly and honestly about their lives. hrc.org

Wednesday, October 11 - National Coming Out Day Lake Eola Pride Walk, details to be announced soon.

Orlando's Come Out With Pride Parade - October 15

Come and experience what it is like to get the most applause of any group in the parade. Many of the GLBT community do not have any connections with parents or family and this is one time they really let us know how much they appreciate PFLAG.

The parade/march staging area at the corner of Robinson Street and Summerlin Avenue and the parade/march kicks off at 3:00pm. PFLAG will be gathering at 2:00

<http://www.comeoutwithpridecfl.org/>

Come Out With Pride is an annual event in downtown Orlando that recognizes National Coming Out Day (October 11), Gay & Lesbian History Month (October), and celebrates the achievements of the Central Florida GLBT community. This year's events begins with gathering at Lake Eola on October 11 followed by *The Orlando Weekly* "Out and Loud" Cocktail Party on October 12 at the Veranda Bed & Breakfast. The main event, "Come Out With Pride" will be held on October 15 and will include the Pride Parade, national speakers, all day entertainment, an exhibitor area, the Walt Disney World "KidZone", and a display of our ever-growing "History Project" depicting GLBT life in Central Florida through the years. Events will be held at Heritage Square Park and the Orange County Regional History Center in downtown Orlando.

Gallagher's Antigay Campaign Fails to Win Support Across State Candidate's Dramatic Loss Signals New Era for Florida Politics

(St. Petersburg) Voters rejected anti-gay extremism at the polls Tuesday in a Primary Election that should serve as a caution to those seeking office in November.

Today, Equality Florida noted the lopsided Primary Election loss of Tom Gallagher, the far-right endorsed candidate for Governor. With millions of dollars spent on an extremely anti-gay campaign and the strong endorsement of fundamentalists across the state, Gallagher garnered only 33% of the Republican vote, losing by an even wider margin than polling had suggested. eqfl.org

Ghana offended by gay sex and bestiality The Advocate

The government of Ghana has banned a planned conference for gay men and lesbians, the BBC reported. The conference was reportedly scheduled to take place Monday at the Accra International Conference Centre and at a venue in the city of Koforidua. uk.gay.com

Utility to offer benefits to partners Progress Energy extends coverage

Progress Energy, one of the Triangle's biggest private employers, will start offering medical and life insurance benefits to unmarried partners of its workers next year. The policy shift comes after three years of internal review and at a time when many of this area's large employers and more than half the nation's Fortune 500 companies offer "domestic partner" benefits.

newsobserver.com

State won't appeal order on gay foster parents ban

(2006-09-07) The head of a state panel that had approved a policy banning homosexuals from serving as foster parents says it is unlikely Arkansas will appeal court decisions rejecting the ban. The Child Welfare Agency Licensing Review Board, meeting at the Mount Magazine State Park, intends a formal vote today.

A Pulaski County judge and the state Supreme Court each ruled that the board did not have the authority to impose the ban. A state Health and Human Services department lawyer said the state has until September 29th to file papers with the U-S Supreme Court that it intends to keep fighting.

The board had instituted the ban in March 1999, saying children should be in traditional two-parent homes because they are more likely to thrive in that environment.

publicbroadcasting.net

Same Sex Partners Benefit From New 401(k) Law by Last Night in Little Rock

Yesterday, President Bush signed into law a 907 page pension law that has a little known proviso: Anyone can inherit a 401(k) without paying taxes on it. Before, only spouses could do so

talkleft.com

National Gay & Lesbian Chamber of Commerce Announces Wal-Mart Stores Inc. Membership

Contact: Kate Karasmeighan for National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce, 202-419-0440 or kkarasmeighan@nglcc.org

WASHINGTON, Aug. 21 /U.S. Newswire/ -- The National Gay and Lesbian Chamber of Commerce (NGLCC) announced today a partnership with Wal-Mart Stores Inc. as part of the company's ongoing commitment to advancing diversity among all of its associate, supplier and customer bases. This partnership will include executive representation on the NGLCC's Corporate Advisory Council (CAC) and sponsorship of the organization's 2006 events and initiatives.

releases.usnewswire.com

Nazis persecuted gays, too A lecture and exhibit at the Florida Holocaust Museum examines another facet of the Aryan ideology.

By RITA FARLOW Published August 30, 2006

ST. PETERSBURG - They are a smaller, often overlooked group of Holocaust victims. Compared to the more than 5-million Jews, or the hundreds of thousands of Gypsies and mentally disabled people killed during the Nazi regime, the 5,000 to 15,000 homosexuals sent to concentration camps may seem less significant.

sptimes.com

Mookey's Story -- Transgender Youths Find Support, But Challenges Remain by New American Media (reposted) Thursday Aug 17th, 2006 8:29 AM

A new generation of transgender youths is finding more societal acceptance and support than ever before. But hardships remain, particularly for young people from immigrant backgrounds. Carolyn Goossen, a writer for New America Media, spends times with Mookey, a 24-year-old Chinese-American college student just beginning treatment with sex hormones. Daffodil Altan is an editor at New America Media, Min Lee is an editor at YO! Youth Outlook Multimedia.

indybay.org

Judge: Transgender people covered under human rights law | News | Advocate.com 08/19/06-08/21/06

A cook who claims he was fired from a fancy Westchester, N.Y., restaurant when coworkers discovered he is a biological woman is protected by the state's human rights law, a judge has ruled. State supreme court justice Joan Lefkowitz held that although discrimination against a transgender person is not specifically listed in the law—which does mention racial, religious, and sexual discrimination—it is covered nonetheless

advocate.com

Court to rule on same-sex intestate succession Johannesburg, South Africa

23 August 2006 02:49

On Thursday the Constitutional Court will hear an application on whether life partners in a same-sex relationship may inherit intestate estates as though they were spouses.

The court's senior registrar, Martie Stander, said on Wednesday that the case of Mark Gory versus Daniel Gerhardus Kolver and others was due to be heard on Thursday.

"Earlier this year the Pretoria High Court declared section 1(1) of the Intestate Succession Act ... to be unconstitutional in so far as it does not provide for a permanent same-sex life partner to inherit automatically, as a spouse would, when the other partner dies without a will," said Stander. mg.co.za

Bangkok big for gender reassignment surgery By MARGIE MASON

Originally printed 8-24-2006 (Issue 1434 - Between The Lines News)

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) - With its large, open transgender population, Bangkok is a haven for foreigners in search of acceptance and gender reassignment surgery at a cheap price.

pridesource.com

Seattle Gay News Memorial to honor Gay couple dedicated in Olympia '

Now there is a memorial that permanently recognizes Gary and Hal's loving relationship,' said State Rep. Joe McDermott.

A unique and precedent setting memorial bench was dedicated on July 1st at Mills & Mills Memorial Park in Tumwater (Olympia), WA, recognizing the relationship of a Gay couple. Gary Perkins died on June 11, 2005, and his partner, Hal Stockbridge created a black granite bench to honor his beloved partner. It is rare to find monuments or grave markers that give recognition to Gay and Lesbian partners. sgn.org

The Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley - Michigan Festival seeks to continue anti-trans policy

Written by Michigan Womyn's Music Festival Wednesday, 23 August 2006

Hart, Michigan - Seeking to correct what they label as misinformation distributed by "Camp Trans" organizers, Michigan Womyn's Music Festival founder and producer Lisa Vogel released the following clarification: "Since 1976, the Michigan Womyn's Music Festival has been created by and for womyn-born womyn, that is, womyn who were born as and have lived their entire life experience as womyn. Despite claims to the contrary by Camp Trans organizers, the Festival remains a rare and precious space intended for womyn-born womyn." gayalliance.org

Abuja(AND) Nigeria's anti-gay marriage bill currently under debate in the National Assembly has brought concern to international rights activists, saying it is against modern trends.

The executive members of government presented the bill to the house of representatives on 30 March and asked for its approval.

The bill is titled "Same Sex Marriage Prohibition Act 2006".

The bill provides for five years of imprisonment to anybody who "goes through the ceremony of marriage with a person of the same sex" or who "performs, witnesses, aids or abets" such ceremonies. westafrica.andnetwork.com

The Gay Alliance of the Genesee Valley - Kodak updates health benefits for transgender employees in transition
Written by Susan Jordan Friday, 25 August 2006

Kodak Worldwide Benefits has updated health plan coverage to include procedures, services, and supplies for sex transformation (gender reassignment).

The updated plan coverage applies to expenses for sex transformation procedures, services and supplies (including therapy, sex hormones and transsexual surgery) that are provided on or after July 1, 2006, to any person participating in a self-insured option under Kodak's US medical plans gayalliance.org

Australian Gays Protest Ban On Gay Marriage

by 365Gay.com Newscenter Staff August 13, 2006 - 5:00 pm ET

(Sydney, Australia) Thousands of same-sex couples demonstrated Sunday in towns and cities across Australia demanding the federal government repeal the ban on gay marriage.

Called the National Day of Action commemorated the 2004 passage of the ban by Prime Minister John. Howard's Liberal government. The law defines marriage as between a man and a woman. 365gay.com

COMMUNITY GROUPS DECRY 'HOMOSEXUAL INDOCTRINATION' BILL AIMED AT PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Sacramento, Aug. 23, 2006 (CNA) - The California Assembly passed a bill by a vote of 46-31 on Monday that says public schools may neither teach nor sponsor any activity that "reflects adversely" on anyone because of their sexual orientation, reported CNSNews.com. ewtn.com

APA Discredits 'Ex-Gay' Movement
by 365Gay.com Newscenter Staff (New Orleans, Louisiana)

The American Psychological Association on Friday issued a stinging rebuke of the so-called ex-gay movement following a demonstration by members of several organizations that claim homosexuality is a choice that can be cured. 365gay.com

Queer Lesbian Gay Families -- Gay.com Democrats aim for more gay delegates in 2008
published Monday, August 21, 2006

The Democratic National Committee this weekend adopted new rules that will increase the number of LGBT delegates at the 2008 Democratic National Convention, the National Stonewall Democrats said Monday.

Every four years, the DNC approves a series of rules to guide state parties in drafting delegate selection plans for the national conventions. At the DNC meeting in Chicago, rules were implemented to take action to correct past underrepresentation of gay people among delegates.

gay.com

Gay couples face criticism for civil unions - study 14 August 2006 By SEAN SCANLON

Gay couples entering into civil unions can face criticism from friends for selling out to heterosexual norms, new research says.

Researchers from Manchester University in Britain say while civil unions provide huge positives for gay couples, there are some problems.

New Zealand and Britain have introduced civil unions in the past 18 months.

The problems include facing up to friends who believe a civil union is "selling out" to heterosexual norms, otherwise known as "heteronormativity".

Other problems can also occur in getting friends and family to mix at ceremonies.

stuff.co.nz

Auckland confirmed as NZ's gay capital

It's official - Auckland, the 'Queen's City', has been confirmed as New Zealand's gay capital, according to new research just published in the Social Policy Journal of New Zealand, by researchers from the New Zealand AIDS Foundation. gaynz.com

New Zealand Human Rights Law Protects Transsexuals

August 22, 2006 - 7:00 pm ET

(Wellington) New Zealand has become the latest country to provide protections for the transgendered. Transsexuals are not specifically named in categories covered by New Zealand's Human Rights Act.

365gay.com

ABC News Online S Africa Cabinet approves gay marriage Bill By Africa correspondent Zoe Daniel

South Africa's Cabinet has approved a Bill allowing gay marriage, which is expected to make it the first African country to allow the practice.

abc.net.au

Rights group assails printing of alleged gay men's names

NEW YORK (Reuters) -- A Ugandan newspaper's decision to publish the names of alleged gay men is a chilling development in the African country's vilification of homosexuals, a U.S.-based human rights watchdog said Thursday

edition.cnn.com

ILL. GAY MARRIAGE BALLOT ISSUE REJECTED by: Deanna Bellandi, The Associated Press

CHICAGO (AP) - State elections officials voted Friday to keep a referendum against gay marriage off the November ballot, saying supporters failed to gather enough valid signatures.

outinamerica.com

HRC launches online resource for gay-inclusive clergy

Hoping to encourage gay-inclusive treatment among members of the clergy, the Human Rights Campaign has launched Out in Scripture, a Web site providing assistance with inclusive sermons and Bible study.

Out in Scripture will be a free weekly feature available at www.hrc.org/scripture. The program is part of the HRC's religion and faith program, which seeks to assist religious leaders in speaking out for LGBT equality.

advocate.com**Conservative Jewish leader expects ban on gay rabbis to be lifted**

By Associated Press Thursday, September 7, 2006 - Updated: 03:48 PM EST

NEW YORK - A key Conservative Jewish leader is organizing talks nationwide to tell synagogues that the movement will likely roll back its ban on ordaining openly gay rabbis by year's end.

news.bostonherald.com**Making gay Hispanic history (Gay)****D.C. resident José Gutierrez creates an exhibit focused on city's gay Latinos**

By GREG MARZULLO

Friday, September 08, 2006

The historical Latino presence in the District has been a strong and conflicted one, and in a new exhibit presented at the Center, D.C.'s gay community center, the Latino GLBT History Project hopes to reveal the contributions made by gay Latinos to the city's storied past

washblade.com**NOT ALONE: Camp is a haven for gay teens**

Program touts acceptance, advocacy August 18, 2006 BY GINA DAMRON

The weeklong Camping.OUT program, created by the Triangle Foundation and ending today, is the first-ever state-licensed camp for gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender and allied youth in Michigan. It is one of about six in the country. At this camp -- the location of which is not being named for the safety of the campers -- there is no harassment. This camp is a safe haven, a place where these teens, all but one of them from Michigan, are free to be themselves.

freep.com

AdelaideNow... Red Cross donor policy challenged

A HOMOSEXUAL man has taken the Red Cross Blood Service to the Tasmanian Anti-Discrimination Tribunal today following claims its donor-screening policy discriminates against gay and bisexual men.

Tasmanian man Michael Cain launched a challenge against the policy last year after he was told he could not donate blood because he had male-to-male sex in the previous 12 months.

Mr Cain, 23, from Launceston in the state's north, said the policy should consider whether people had safe sex, rather than their sexual preferences.

news.com.au

Feast of Fools Takes Gay Podcasting to New Heights by Gregg Shapiro, August 22, 2006

Irreverent-yet-relevant, gay performance artist-turned-podcast trendsetter Fausto Fernós wants your attention. The colorful Renaissance man is willing to do whatever it takes to keep you entertained, whether it means breathing fire, dropping trou onstage, spending hours in a makeup chair or simply asking hard-hitting questions while conducting podcast interviews.

He and co-host (and husband) Marc Felion, the first gay couple to podcast, have crafted the unique and wildly popular Feast of Fools, the first comedy podcast to reach 1 million downloads (in April 2006). Feast of Fools is also one of the first podcasts available on iTunes, is the first gay podcast to reach the all-time top 100 on the iTunes Music Stores, and is one of the first podcasts to create a podcasting widget for OSX.

afterelton.com

Study: Gay characters' television presence reduced in upcoming season at 16:12 on August 21, 2006, EST. FRAZIER MOORE

NEW YORK (AP) - Nine homosexual characters are depicted in network-TV series scheduled for the 2006-07 season, a decrease from last year's 10, the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation said Monday. 630ched.com

O'Donnell brings back 'Queen of Nice' in first day on 'The View' By JOANNE WEINTRAUB Journal Sentinel TV critic
Posted: Sept. 5, 2006

In her first appearance on "The View," Rosie O'Donnell chuckled, clowned, impersonated Willie Nelson, introduced her partner, made fun, made nice and generally seemed to be challenging Ellen DeGeneres for the title of TV's most lovable lesbian.

O'Donnell, who has been largely absent from television in the four years since she left her own talk show, joined ABC's weekday chatfest Tuesday. She'll have a regular seat alongside co-hosts Barbara Walters, Joy Behar and Elisabeth Hasselbeck

jsonline.com

Brad Pitt: I'll marry when everyone can
Fri Sep 8, 3:10 PM ET

NEW YORK - Brad Pitt, ever the social activist, says he won't be marrying Angelina Jolie until the restrictions on who can marry whom are dropped.

"Angie and I will consider tying the knot when everyone else in the country who wants to be married is legally able," the 42-year-old actor reveals in Esquire magazine's October issue, on newsstands Sept. 19.

news.yahoo.com

Bi Men: Coming Out Every Which Way Ron Jackson Suresha and Pete Chvany, PhD, Editors. Harrington Park Press, 2005

Since the publication in 1991 of *Bi Any Other Name*, that grandmother of all bi anthologies has spawned numerous books chronicling the bisexual experience. It's an experience much like that of other queer folk, to be sure, with the additional heartache, at times, of ostracism from gay friends and allies as much as from straights. Accusations of being confused, trying to pass, denying their true homosexuality have hounded bi folk probably since Stonewall, and the resulting courage, self-affirmation, and joy in living as they see fit takes on a particular poignancy and hard-won dignity

mountainpridemedias.org

Several news sites move articles behind firewalls. Please go to their site and use the search boxes to find more on articles found here.