

national briefs

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

Leaders of lesbian and gay Democratic organizations will participate in a Democratic National Committee pre-election strategy meeting. The meeting will take place Feb. 16-18 in Washington, D.C. Meeting participants will be briefed on the re-election outlook, AIDS funding, voter registration and the religious right. Grass-roots activists will share strategies for energizing gay and lesbian voters.

Democratic National Committee National Chairman Don Fowler issued the invitation to the gay and lesbian party leaders.

Commenting on the Democratic Party's commitment to a more inclusive society that affords equal opportunity regardless of race, gender or sexual orientation, Fowler said, "Together we will fight for our common values: Medicaid funding for people living with AIDS, a clean environment, quality education and an end to discrimination for all Americans."



The Gay and Lesbian Parents Coalition International and Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere have announced that they expect to award at least \$1,000 in scholarships this year.



Awards from the Lee Dubin Memorial Scholarship Fund are given to the children of lesbian, gay and bisexual parents. To be eligible, an applicant must be enrolled full time in an accredited post-secondary institution and have at least one lesbian, gay or bisexual parent. Scholarship recipients will be announced at GLPCI's 17th Annual Conference, to be held in July in Minneapolis.

The deadline to apply for a scholarship is May 15. To receive an application, contact GLPCI, PO Box 50360, Washington, DC 20091; fax (201) 783-6204.

HAWAII

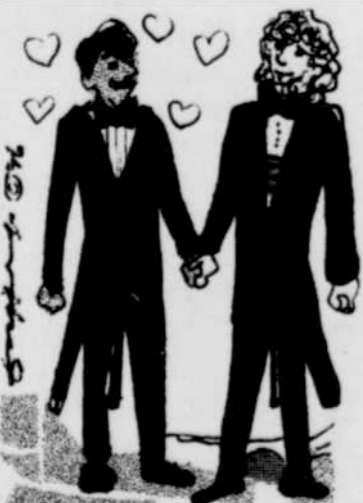
A new grass-roots organization whose goals are to 'stop gambling, legalized prostitution and same-sex marriage,' has sprung up in Hawaii. The group claims to have 1,000 members.

Linda Rosehill, a Democratic Party committeewoman and—until January—the authorized representative of delegate tracking for the Clinton/Gore '96 campaign, has signed on as a lobbyist for the new organization.

MAINE

A bill that would have expressly prohibited same-sex marriages was withdrawn last month by the state senator who introduced it.

Sen. Georgette Berube (D-Lewiston) told the Lewiston (Maine) *Sun-Journal* that she feared the debate would have turned ugly. "We [could not] have assured the tone of the debate would have remained rational," she said.



Maine is still recovering from a bruising campaign over an anti-gay ballot measure that was defeated by voters last November.

Commenting on Berube's decision to withdraw the bill, Karen Geraghty, president of the Maine Lesbian/Gay Political Alliance, said, "We applaud Sen. Berube's move today. We appreciate the fact that she is allowing for a cooling-off period after Question 1."

MARYLAND

Love, intimacy and family are the topics discussed in a new therapy magazine, a quarterly called *In the Family*, that focuses exclusively on issues affecting lesbian, gay and bisexual families.

For information or to subscribe, contact *In the Family*, PO Box 5387, Takoma Park, MD 20913, (301) 270-4771.

MASSACHUSETTS

An AT&T Corporation factory in North Andover is teaching its employees tolerance as part of its quest for market share. Convinced that the benefits of this program exceed the costs,



AT&T offers the workshop "Homophobia in the Workplace" to employees on a volunteer basis. Approximately 2,000 employees have chosen to participate.

The workshop is taught by Brian McNaught, a gay man. It is offered as part of the company's diversity training curriculum.

McNaught believes that the effort closeted gay men and lesbians must exert to hide their private lives from co-workers impairs their job performance. Management at the factory agrees with McNaught, reports the *Wisconsin Light*.

"It's an issue of productivity," said plant personnel chief Robert Pettirosi. "If people are devoting some of their energy to hiding what they are or worrying about what other people are saying, it takes away from the job."

SOUTH DAKOTA

A committee of the South Dakota House of Representatives last month rejected a bill that would have banned same-sex marriages in the state. The State Affairs Committee voted 8-5 to kill the bill, which would have changed the legal definition of marriage to require that the relationship be between a man and a woman, reports the Associated Press.

The bill's main sponsor, Rep. Roger Hunt (R-Brandon) sponsored a similar measure last year. That bill passed the House, but was killed in the Senate.



Claiming that their children were exposed to graphic descriptions of sexual acts as part of an AIDS-awareness class, angry parents appeared en masse in the boardroom of the Spearfish School District last month.

The parents allege that their children were exposed to a list of graphically explained obscene slang, including a phrase relating to oral sex, and that the sex act was described in detail.

The two guest speakers who gave the presentation to the seventh- and eighth-grade students at Spearfish Middle School say that's not what happened. The speakers, both nurses from Family Planning, say they simply answered the students' questions and that only about 30 seconds was spent discussing oral sex and explicit phrases.

The president of the school board has proposed creating a parent-school committee to investigate the incident and report back to the board.

TEXAS

Shocking Gray was the first national specialty catalog aimed at the gay and lesbian community. Its first catalog came out in the fall of 1991. Last August, its publisher filed for bankruptcy, and the catalog was canceled.

The rights to publish *Shocking Gray* were acquired by SG Marketing, which has announced the resurrection of the popular catalog.

The old mailing list no longer exists. To be added to the new list, call 1-800-344-4729.

Compiled by Kristine Chatwood

PRIVATE PET CREMATION



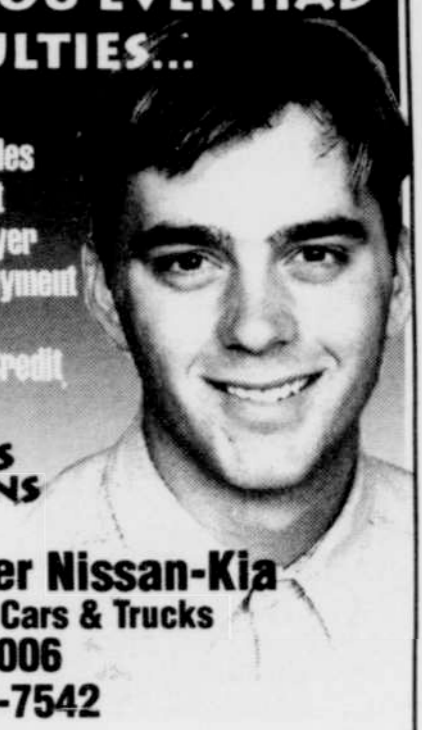
Transportation provided
503.236.7521

HAVE YOU EVER HAD DIFFICULTIES...

- Unfriendly Sales
- Lack of Credit
- First Time Buyer
- Low Down Payment
- Collections
- Derogatory Credit

Call
CHRIS STEVENS

Vancouver Nissan-Kia
New & Used Cars & Trucks
503-226-0006
1-800-527-7542



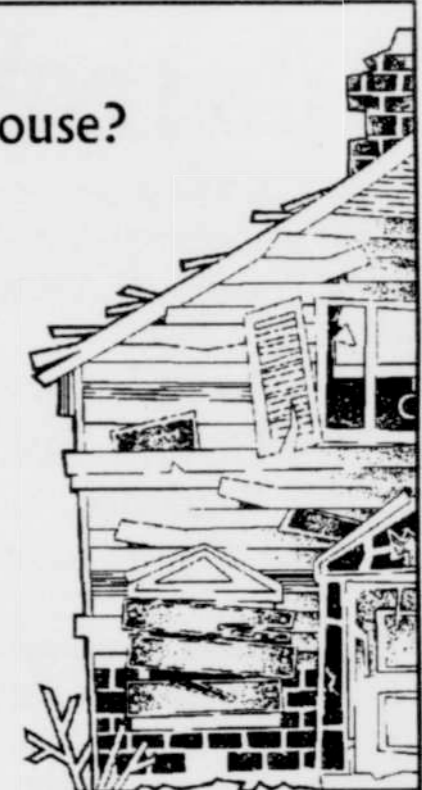
Problems with your dream house?

We can help!

Arts & Crafts Construction
specializing in repair & remodeling of period houses

call Steve at
648 6968 or 1 800 684 9038

licensed/bonded/insured CCB # 107844



Shouldn't Your Money Work Harder Than You Do?

You work hard for your money. Floreid Walker can help your money work hard for you. As a Waddell & Reed account representative, she can offer a broad range of financial programs to meet your needs. Everyone should plan for their financial future, regardless of income. The sooner, the better. Call Floreid today and schedule a free one-hour, no obligation consultation. It will be the best 60 minutes you've ever spent.

FLOREID WALKER
(800) 487-6626
(503) 238-6036



Waddell & Reed
FINANCIAL SERVICES

We appreciate our Just Out supporters!

500 NE MULTNOMAH, SUITE 278
PORTLAND, OR 97232

I'll consider the two of you as a couple, even if the IRS won't.

Lesbian & gay couples face special challenges with their tax returns.

We're not allowed the same advantages reserved for married couples. You need a knowledgeable, experienced tax professional who will take your *whole* story into consideration and look out for your best interest.

Susan A. Nestor
Certified Public Accountant

Call today for an appointment
Telephone: (503) 245-8090

