

Laser Hair Removal

Any Color Hair or Skin **FREE CONSULTATION**


Discreet
Trans-Friendly
Tan Skin OK!
No Area Restrictions
Registered Nurse On Site
Fast, Comfortable, Affordable

1/2 OFF!
FIRST TREATMENT DISCOUNT
*NOT AVAILABLE

R. Joseph's
www.pma-nw.com
503-223-3369
2128 N.W. Overton in Portland

Auto, Home, Life & Business
"Your Independent Insurance Agency"

EPB&B
Elliott, Powell, Baden & Baker, Inc.



SAFECO Marc Baker • Mary Miller
Downtown Portland
(503) 227-1771
www.epbb.com

Adele Cressy, D.C.
has joined...

The Eliot Center for Integrative Health Care

A Program of Project Quest

Adele welcomes patients needing pain relief, stress reduction and simple solutions to chronic conditions. She provides gentle chiropractic treatments coupled with energy medicine which heals and soothes. Call today for an introductory appointment.



15 N. Morris Street • 503-460-9300

THE ELIOT CENTER
FOR INTEGRATIVE HEALTH CARE

Million Dollar Inventory Reduction

We are forced to liquidate a major part of our fine selection of hand-made rugs.

50% to 75% OFF ORIGINAL PRICES

VERY LIMITED TIME SAVING OPPORTUNITY!

Shop early for the best selection!

**YOU WILL SAVE BIG,
BECAUSE WE MUST RAISE CASH.**

RUGS STARTING AS LOW AS \$25

Choose from a large selection of Decorative, Vegetable Dye, Tea Wash, Persian and Afghani Tribal, Gabeh, Kaskoli, Caucasian design, Traditional, Modern, New & Old rugs.



HAMID'S PERSIAN RUGS

901 SW Washington • Portland, OR 97205

(503) 248-9511

Hours: Mon.-Sat. 10-6, Sunday 12-5

NATIONAL news

MASSACHUSETTS

Seven gay and lesbian couples, who recently were denied marriage licenses at their city or town halls, filed suit April 11 in Suffolk Superior Court seeking the right to marry in Massachusetts.

The plaintiffs are represented by New England's Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders. The defendant is the Department of Public Health, which ultimately is responsible for enforcing all state laws governing marriage and its licensing in municipalities.

"This case presents a historic opportunity for Massachusetts," said Mary Bonauto, who was co-counsel in the landmark Vermont marriage case. "Marriage is a legal relationship and a social status understood everywhere. Our commonwealth now has the chance to recognize that same-sex couples—whose relationships are as loving and as committed as those of heterosexual couples—have an equal right to civil marriage."

The plaintiffs have been in committed relationships between five and 30 years. Four of the couples have young children; others have faced health crises.

All are concerned about providing the security for each other and their families that automatically comes with marriage and is not available to them. Many of the couples want to make a statement to their families and others about the commitment of their relationship.

"The couples in this case...share a great deal in common with other families in Massachusetts," Bonauto said. "Some coach Little League. Others volunteer at their churches or children's schools. Some participate in civic organizations... Yet, none of them can fully protect themselves, their relationship or their children without marriage."

NATIONAL

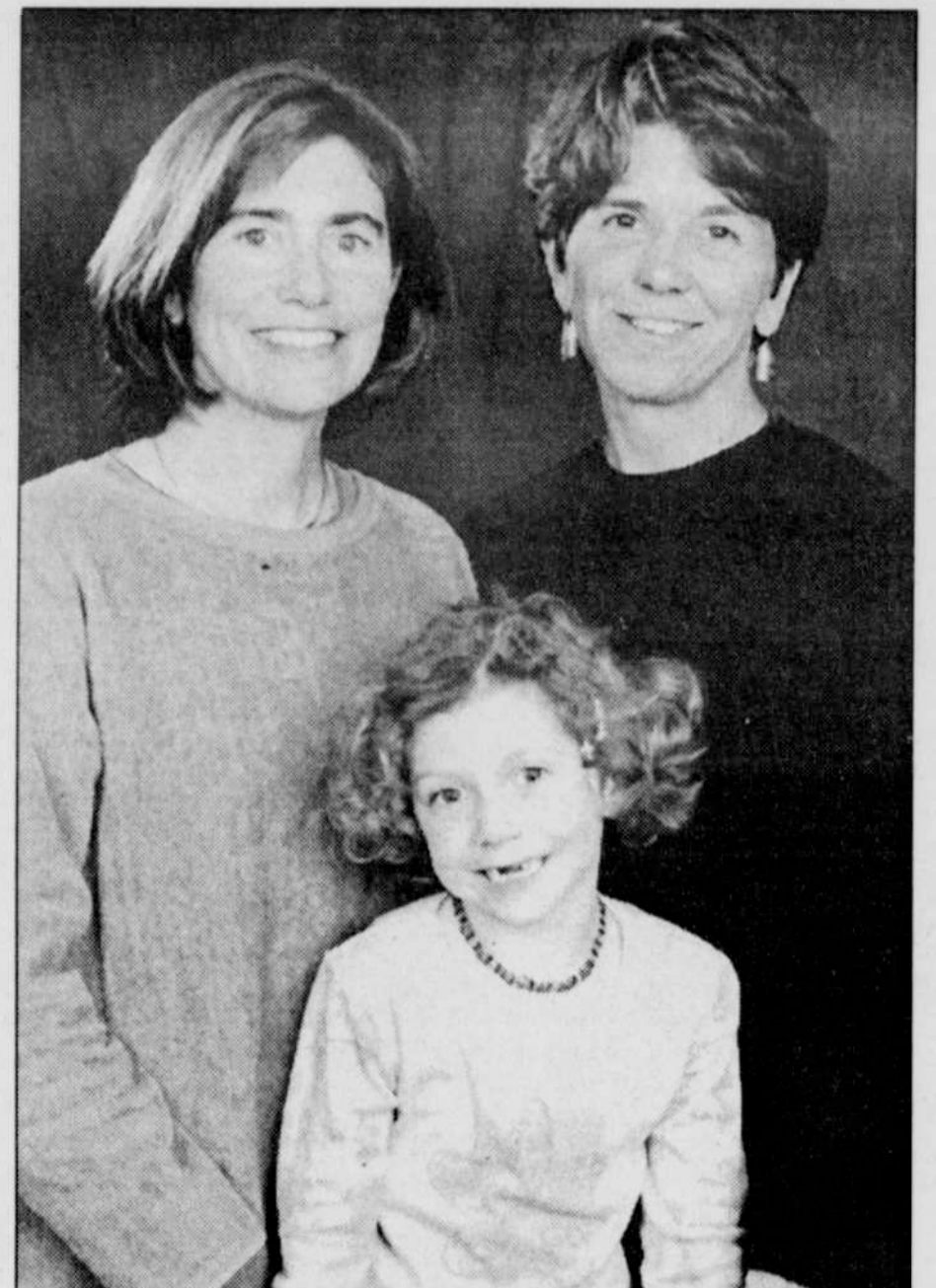
President Bush named Scott H. Evertz as Office of National AIDS Policy director April 9. The appointment marks the first time any Republican White House has named an openly gay or lesbian person to a position.

Evertz is president of the Wisconsin chapter of the Log Cabin Republicans, the nation's largest queer GOP group. He was one of a dozen openly gay supporters to meet with Bush in Austin, Texas, during the 2000 campaign.

"We applaud President Bush for this appointment," said Winnie Stachelberg, Human Rights Campaign political director. "It is our sincere hope that this signals the new administration's commitment to providing active leadership in the national and international fight against HIV and AIDS."

However, critics are concerned that the administration's proposed budget fails to fund crucial care and prevention programs adequately. For example, the allocation for the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act remains the same as for the current year—in effect, a decrease, given cost-of-living increases and inflationary expenses such as the increased price of prescription drugs.

"How will Mr. Evertz, with no additional funds in the president's budget for HIV, be able to reach out to people in minority communities who are experiencing the greatest increase in



Julie and Hillary Goodridge of Boston (pictured with their 5-year-old daughter, Annie) are among the Massachusetts plaintiffs

HIV infection?" said Maureen S. O'Leary, Gay and Lesbian Medical Association executive director. "How will he, with flat funding, be able to more effectively educate youth against the risks of transmission? How, with such limited funds, can we fast-track research on vaccines against HIV/AIDS?"

Just in time for its annual meeting next month, ExxonMobil is being pressured to rewrite its equal employment opportunity policy to bar discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

For the third consecutive year, a coalition of investment fund managers and human rights advocates has filed a shareholder resolution asking for such an amendment. The 2000 effort garnered 8.2 percent of the vote.

"Our decision to co-sponsor the resolution this year is an expression of our frustration," said H. Carl McCall, New York state comptroller and sole trustee of the \$120 billion New York State Common Retirement Fund, which includes more than 10 million shares of ExxonMobil common stock. "If passed, this resolution will provide ExxonMobil with a competitive edge—reflecting a commitment to equality and respect—and will enhance the value of our investment."

Mobil Corp. offered discrimination protection and domestic partner benefits to its lesbian and gay employees; however, upon its 1999 merger with Exxon, these policies were revoked. Two dozen members of Congress wrote to ExxonMobil chairman and CEO Lee R. Raymond to protest the reversals.

In January 2000, stockholders and activists protested at a company facility in Houston, causing it to close for the day. At last year's annual meeting, Raymond brushed aside discussion on changing the policy, stating that interested parties should "go pass a federal law instead."

On the heels of success in Maryland, two other states are advancing bills to prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation.

The Illinois House approved March 27 a measure to add sexual orientation to a state law ban-



Scott H. Evertz