

RE/MAX
SIGNATURE
PROPERTIES!



For Rent

2 bedroom Concordia cutie. Hardwood floors, tile kitchen and bath, big fenced backyard w/ patio, fully landscaped, single car garage w/ electric opener. Walk to New Seasons, Kennedy School, Delphinus. Available Oct. 1st. \$850/mo. Call for email pics.

Tina Schafer, GRI, ABR
Associate Broker
Multi-Million Dollar Producer



RE/MAX
Signature Properties
282-4000 x 122
e-mail:
tinas@remax.net



THE POWER THE TANNING

- 16 amps
- Single phase, 110 volt, 20 amp
- Structural and electrical warranties
- 110v surge protector
- Special built-in safety timer
- Canopy and lounge formed to provide maximum tanning area
- Top quality, durable acrylics
- FDA compliant 20 minute tanning
- Multiple cooling fans for a comfortable experience

Home & Castle

POOLS • SPAS • PATIO • STOVES

Tigard 11960 SW Pacific Hwy
99 W at Greenburg Rd (503) 620-4534

NATIONAL news



From left, Amy Hunt, Kathy Casavant, Arline Isaacson and Holly Gunner celebrate after adjournment July 17 in Boston

MASSACHUSETTS

State legislators have derailed a right-wing effort to pass an anti-gay constitutional amendment prohibiting same-sex marriage.

"We are very proud that many organizations, both gay and straight, worked as a coalition to achieve this victory," said Holly Gunner of MassEquality.org, an alliance of groups that came together to fight the measure. "Massachusetts legislators took a strong stand in favor of equal rights for everyone."

A constitutional convention was held July 17 during which a joint session of the House and Senate voted 137-53 to adjourn immediately without taking a vote on the controversial issue. Opposition to the proposal was led by Democratic Senate President Thomas F. Birmingham and Republican Senate Minority Leader Brian Lees.

The constitutional convention was called after right-wing groups collected the 130,000 signatures needed to initiate the process of passing an amendment. To appear on the ballot in November 2004, the voter-initiated question had to be approved by 50 of the 200 elected representatives and senators before this two-year legislative session ended July 31 and again during the 2003-2004 session. If passed, the amendment would make same-sex marriages unconstitutional in Massachusetts and accord marriage benefits only to unions between one man and one woman.

"No one, whether an agent of the government or of the radical religious right, should be in the business of punishing millions of same-sex partners for how they choose to organize their own families," said Lorri L. Jean, National Gay and Lesbian Task Force executive director. "A government 'of the people, by the people and for the people' ought to serve everyone, and that means respecting and valuing our families equally."

NEVADA

Fewer Nevadans are supporting the state's anti-gay Definition of Marriage Act, the *Las Vegas Review Journal* reported July 22. The Mason-Dixon Polling & Research company based its findings on a survey of 625 voters.



Ballot Question 2 would amend the state constitution to define marriage as only between a man and a woman. The issue was voted on in 2000 and was approved by nearly 70 percent of voters.

According to the recent poll, only 55 percent plan to vote for the act, with 38 percent opposed and 7 percent undecided. According to state law, a constitutional amendment must be approved by a majority of voters in two consecutive elections.

"We knew back in 2000 that Nevada was going to provide a unique opportunity to see how views would shift," said Jere Keys, editor of the queer newspaper *Out*

Las Vegas Bugle. "With a two-year campaign of education and a lot of discussion about homosexuality, the voters of Nevada are starting to change their minds about us."

Opposition leaders from the Coalition for the Protection of Marriage claim the polling data do not indicate accurate feelings in the state and cite confusion as the primary reason for the 10-point shift in opinion.

CONNECTICUT

The U.S. District Court for the District of Connecticut ruled July 29 that the exclusion of the Boy Scouts of America from the Connecticut State Employee Charitable Campaign because of its anti-gay policy in no way violates the organization's constitutional rights.

The case arose after the Connecticut Commission for Human Rights and Opportunities determined in May 2000 that including a discriminatory organization in the campaign violates the Connecticut Gay Rights Law. "This ruling makes clear that while the Boy Scouts may be allowed to discriminate, they are not entitled to any special privileges from the state," said Karen Loewy, Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders staff attorney.

The federal court clarified that although the Scouts may be legally permitted to discriminate, there are consequences for them in other areas that do not infringe on their rights. The judges stated: "The BSA asks the court to declare that its lawful and constitutionally protected right to discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation is synonymous with compliance with the non-discrimination laws of the state, specifically the Gay Rights Law. The court finds to the contrary."

NATIONAL

Two Senate appropriations subcommittees have approved additional funding for the care and treatment of those living with HIV/AIDS both at home and abroad. However, the continued lack of support for prevention programs continues to be of great concern to many advocates.

"Increased funding for treatment is a positive and compassionate response to the HIV/AIDS epidemic," said Winnie Stachelberg, Human Rights Campaign political director. "As HIV/AIDS continues to spread, it is important that treatment opportunities also continue to grow for those in need."

Programs like the AIDS Drug Assistance Program are funded through the Ryan White Comprehensive AIDS Resources Emergency Act. The additional money

WENTWORTH CHEVROLET

0% APR* IS BACK!

0% APR for 60 Months

2002 Tahoe



2002 Suburban



2002 CAVALIER • MALIBU • CAMARO • S10 PICKUP • TRACKER
BLAZER • VENTURE VAN • ASTRO VAN • EXPRESS VAN

WENTWORTH CHEVY TOWN

* On approved credit

www.wentworthchevrolet.com



WE'LL BE THERE

107 SE Grand • 4 Blocks South of the Convention Center • 503-232-2000