



Jim Kolbe, at age 15, was a page for U.S. Sen. Barry Goldwater, R-Ariz.

ILLINOIS

Illinois Voters Slow to Embrace Marriage Amendment Drive

A push to add an anti-gay marriage amendment to the Illinois Constitution is losing steam. The Illinois Family Institute, which is spearheading the effort, has collected only 50,000 of the 280,000 signatures necessary to bring the issue to vote.

ARIZONA

U.S. Rep. Jim Kolbe Plans to Leave Office

U.S. Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-Ariz., will not campaign for re-election next year.

Kolbe, who came out in 1996, is the only openly gay Republican in Congress. Democrats Barney Frank of Massachusetts and Tammy Baldwin of Wisconsin are the only other openly gay members of Congress.

TEXAS

Texas Marriage Ban No Surprise, But Still Disappointing

A Nov. 16 *Houston Chronicle* editorial calls the Lone Star State's passage of a constitutional amendment on marriage "no victory for Texas."

"In their zeal to prevent gay partners from enjoying any government recognition of their union, the drafters of the bill added language that prohibits any legal status similar or identical to marriage. Isn't marriage identical to marriage? What have Proposition 2 supporters wrought?" the editorial states.

ALABAMA

Alabama Beating Gives Rise to Call for Hate Crimes Law

Howard Bayless, chairman of Equality Alabama, a Montgomery-based advocacy group, renewed his call to add sexual orientation to the state's hate crime law as a result of the 2004 beating of a 52-year-old Alabama man that left the victim comatose. The assailant admitted to police that he beat the victim, his employer, with a hammer in response to unwanted sexual advances.

WASHINGTON

Judge to Release Spokane Mayor's Computer Data

Embattled Spokane, Wash., Mayor James West was ordered by a judge Nov. 17 to release the contents of his laptop computer, including a log of his visits to gay-themed Web sites but excluding 3,300 downloaded pictures, of which 111 contained nudity or explicit sexual content.

West's mayoralty is being contested in a Dec. 6 special election called because of charges that he abused the privileges of his office in expectation of sexual favors. He maintains the charges are false.

MASSACHUSETTS

Anti-Marriage Amendment Garners Twice Number of Necessary Signatures

Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders, the organization responsible for same-sex marriage in Massachusetts, is up for a challenge, as opponents announced Nov. 22 that they have gathered double the signatures needed to put an anti-marriage amendment on the ballot.

"This question should never have been certified for signature-gathering by the attorney general, and we will file suit to challenge that certification," said Gary Buseck, GLAD's legal director. "Time has shown that marriage equality has been good for couples, families, communities and the state of Massachusetts. We will continue to work with the large and growing majority of supportive citizens of the commonwealth to protect same-sex couples and their families."

Kris Mineau, president of the Massachusetts Family Institute, added in a statement: "I credit this phenomenal effort to thousands of citizen volunteers and over 1,200 communities of faith—including Catholic, Protestant, Jewish and Muslim—who have worked tirelessly to give every citizen in the commonwealth a voice in how marriage is defined in Massachusetts."

The amendment proposes to undo a November 2003 Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruling that it is unconstitutional to deny marriage licenses to gays and lesbians. Same-sex couples began marrying in Massachusetts on May 17, 2004.

WISCONSIN

Same-Sex Marriage Pros and Cons Sound Off at State Capitol

A public hearing was held Nov. 29 at the Wisconsin State Capitol in Madison to lay out arguments for and against same-sex marriage. According to PlanetOut.com, hundreds of people from each side of the issue came to testify.

The Wisconsin Legislature must vote twice in consecutive sessions for any amendment to be appended to the state constitution. So far, the Republican-controlled body has voted only once, in 2004, in favor of amending the constitution and against the rights of Wisconsin's queer population.

As it stands, the state law defines marriage as a union between a man and wife. The proposed amendment would change the designations to "man" and "woman" and constitute marriage as only a union between these people. The amendment would also prevent Wisconsin lawmakers from recognizing any legal status that is "substantially similar" to marriage, so civil unions would also be effectively banned.

If put to voters, the citizens of Wisconsin would most likely approve a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage. Members of the Wisconsin Coalition for Traditional Marriage attended the hearing and brought legislators a petition signed by nearly 56,000 people in support. 10

Compiled by SARAH DOUGHER



Action Wisconsin, together with Center Advocates, has helped mobilize civil rights activists in Wisconsin.

Current
Doctor
not treating you
like the
Queen
you are?

Bridge City Family
Medical Clinic, PC

Most Insurances
Accepted



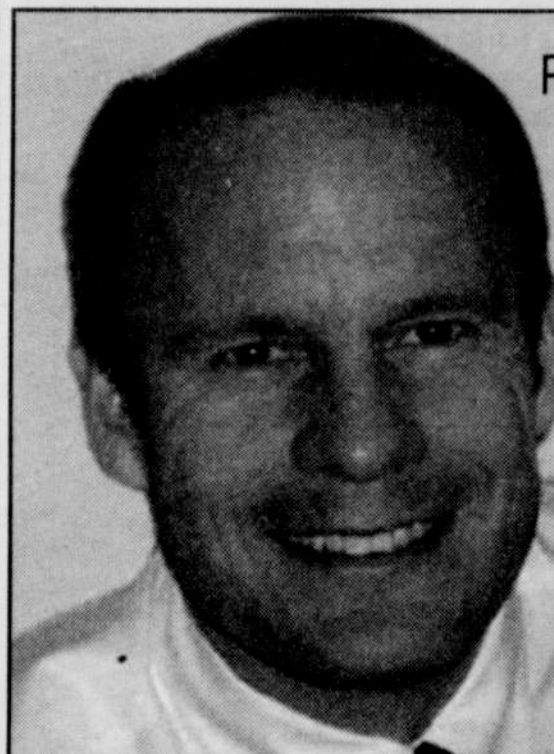
Sexually Transmitted Infections
Pap Smears • Birth Control
Diabetes • High Blood Pressure
Asthma • Physicals • Rashes
Minor Injuries • Ear Infections
Immunizations • Bladder Infections
Colds • Flu • Stomach Problems
By Appointment

Monday - Friday 8:30 - 5:00pm **503.460.0405**

2821 NE 58th Avenue (Cross Street Sandy Boulevard)

Fax: 503-460-0434

Teri Bunker FNP www.bridgecitymedical.com



Portland Metro Real Estate
Steve Buchert
Residential Broker

503.970.3801
Buchert@Hasson.com

THE
HASSON
REALTORS

Willamette Financial Group, LLC

- ♦ Retirement
- ♦ Life Insurance
- ♦ College Planning
- ♦ Long-Term Care
- ♦ Sustainable Investing

Floreid Walker

3529 NE Broadway STE 100
Portland, OR 97232
503-445-9390 ext.101
floreid@wfgadvisors.com



Greg Look

3550 Liberty Rd. S STE 230
Salem, OR 97302
503-566-7266 ext.114
greg@wfgadvisors.com

Call one of us today
for more information!

www.wfgadvisors.com

Injured?
...Call me

Free Consultation
No Fee Unless You Recover

Hala Gores, P.C.
Attorney at Law

503/295-1940

12th Floor, 621 SW Morrison
Portland

Integrity,
Experience
& Results



Proudly serving
our community since 1989
in personal injury claims
including:

- Auto & Motorcycle Accidents
- Bicycle & Pedestrian Accidents
- Medical Malpractice
- Wrongful Death
- Defective Products
- Insurance Claims

You Deserve
Full Compensation
for:

- Pain & Suffering
- Medical Expenses
- Lost Earnings
- Property Damage
- Car Rental