



"Feisty post-punk feminist" Jill Sobule headlines Los Angeles' Queer Music Festival.

Foreman, executive director of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force. "It would do well to permanently consign this immoral and mean-spirited proposal to the legislative dustbin and move on."

In 2004 the Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court ruled that there are no rational reasons for denying marriage to same-sex couples. About 8,000 same-sex couples have since been married under state law.

The initiative petition is the second effort to prohibit same-sex marriage since the court decision. A legislatively proposed amendment was voted on favorably in 2004 but was soundly defeated in the 2005 convention.

"To date, [gay and lesbian couples] have had to endure 16 yes or no votes about the validity of their relationships," said Foreman. "This playing with people's lives to advance narrow political and partisan interests is beyond cruel. We look forward to the day when attempts to overturn this fundamental right are rejected once and for all."

GEORGIA

Legislators Try to "Encourage" Anti-Gay Discrimination

The activist group Scouting for All called for action July 2 in response to a controversy concerning gays and the Boy Scouts in South Georgia, where two Republican legislators say they will introduce legislation aimed at inflicting financial punishment on Bank of America.

State Rep. Earl Ehrhart, R-Powder Springs, and Sen. John Wiles, R-Marietta, said the Bank of America Charitable Foundation sent a letter to the Alapaha Area Council of the Boy Scouts of America denying the organization's request for a charitable contribution. The letter said the foundation was turning down the request because the Boy Scouts violated a "nondiscrimination policy."

Wiles and Ehrhart said they will draft legislation that will bar state government from doing business with companies that cite such "nondiscrimination policies" when dealing with youth organizations.

"Bank of America, like any company, has the right to support whatever causes it chooses," Wiles sniffed. "However, the state of Georgia also has rights—the right to stop doing business with corporations who refuse to support organizations who exercise their right to freedom of association."



Georgia state Sen. John Wiles doesn't care for Bank of America's take on the Boy Scouts.

In a prepared statement, Scouting for All said, "The proposed legislation amounts to extortion and is probably illegal." They encouraged interested parties to contact the legislators—Wiles at 770-425-2490 and Ehrhart at 404-656-0109.

CALIFORNIA

S.F. Lends a Hand to Trans Citizens

Thirteen years after San Francisco outlawed discrimination against transgender employees, the city's proposed budget includes another milestone: funds to improve employment and entrepreneurial opportunities among transgender people in the city.

The budget, presented July 11, includes a historic \$300,000 commitment to turning around high rates of poverty in San Francisco's transgender communities.

Community members hail the vote and the support of elected officials. "It's a great time to be living and working in San Francisco," said Cecilia Chung, deputy director of the Transgender Law Center. "This historic vote reinforces the city's role as a national leader in the transgender equality movement. Just five years after the city began offering health insurance equality for city employees, this initiative will set a new milestone in transgender history by creating full and fair employment and entrepreneurship opportunities for our community."

L.A. Spawns Queer Music Festival

The L.A. Gay & Lesbian Center's Lily Tomlin Jane Wagner Cultural Arts Center is presenting the city's first-ever Queer Music Festival. Featuring a lineup of some of the country's best-known queer rock, pop and hip-hop artists, the two-day event will take place Aug. 19 and 20.

The first day will be headlined by renowned "feisty post-punk feminist" Jill Sobule, who will be joined on the bill by Oakland hip-hopper JenRO. The second day's headliners are experimental indie rocker Rachael Cantu and Latino rockers Tender Box.

"The time is ripe for a major community gathering around a new generation's expression of their queer identity and spirit," says Allison Moon, the center's cultural arts production manager. "The reaction from the bands we've invited has been fantastic, and we hope to make this an annual tradition."


ILLINOIS

Gay Games Go Digital

Worldwide fans of the Gay Games can view video coverage of the 2006 Chicago event on broadband, mobile phones and cable television thanks to Gay Games Global Sponsor PrideNation Network.

During the Gay Games, PNN is providing smart phone and podcast updates. Gay Games Chicago and Proud TV are using the videotaped footage for post-Gay Games television shows and a Gay Games souvenir DVD. Listeners can tune in online and through mobile phones to hear Gay Games updates provided by PNN Radio.

After the Games, which end July 23, complete coverage will be available via the Akimbo set-top box (Proud TV Channel), online at www.pridenation.com, via Windows Home Media Center (Proud TV Channel) and via Apple iTunes podcast (search for "PrideNation").

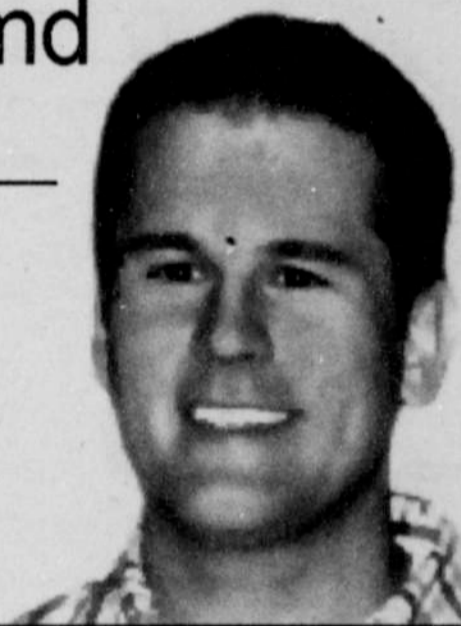
"It's amazing to think of catching Gay Games coverage on iTunes, mobile phones, Internet and on cable," said Brenda Schumacher, broadcast communications director for Gay Games VII. 

Compiled by MARTY SMITH


<p>HOT HOT HOT WAVERLEIGH HTS. This is New on the Market! Charming, unique, lots of alternative spaces, hardwoods, fireplace, two bathrooms, 4 bedrooms, updates, garage, street appeal, will appeal to your eclectic side. \$375,000. 3711 Se 33rd Ave.</p> <p>NEW PRICE Bungalow, four bedrooms, clear fir floors under carpet, tile counters, this is a special home, large fam. room w/fireplace. Formal dining room. Oversized lot. Terrace Park. \$319,500. 241 NE 87th Ave.</p>	<p>STUNNING HOME Trendy North Portland, large spacious rooms, four plus bedrooms, two bathrooms, full front porch, large basement, tile, wood under carpet, all natural woodwork, big kitchen, decking, double car garage. Must see inside. Old Pdx with lots of character. \$355,000. 7817 N. Van Houten.</p> <p>MT. TABOR DUPLEX Awesome, side by side, 2 levels, hardwoods, location location. \$441,200. 7404-08 SE Clay.</p>
<p>TERRI POPEJOY Principal Broker 503-345-9252</p>	<p>CELIA LYON Principal Broker 503-345-9253</p>
<p>BELLA CASA REALTY INC. Office: 503-231-SELL (7355) • 1523 SE Ankeny Portland, OR 97214 </p>	

don valerio, md
board certified internal medicine
general adult healthcare
new patients are always welcome.


fanno creek clinic
2400 sw vermont, portland
503-452-0915



*Call to schedule an annual check-up.
Rapid HIV testing now available.*




Volkswagen
Certified Pre-Owned



Drivers wanted.
Drive it. You'll get it.

Jerilyn Lowery
Cell: (503) 860-0342
jlowery@reyreece.com



Drive with Pride
REY REECE VOLKSWAGEN

122nd & East Burnside
(503) 256-3700
(800) 283-0592

Visit us online at: www.reyreece.com or schedule your appointment.




Artistic, Quiet Multnomah Village

- Beautiful, Quiet Multnomah Village
- Artistic remodel top to bottom
- Meticulous attention to detail
- Private courtyard
- Huge 14,540 sq ft lot
- 1200 sq ft built for energy conservation

Offered at only \$379,500

PARKER REALTY INC. JEFFREY PARKER 503-977-1888
JEFF@PARKERREALTYPORTLAND.COM