



Florida is marking the 30th anniversary of Anita Bryant's anti-gay crusade.

a catalyst for the community to organize national-ly and fight back.

The 20-panel exhibition is composed largely of printed materials from Stonewall Library & Archives along with video, audio and other printed artifacts borrowed from other private collections. The centerpiece is a 17-minute video compilation of news clips and interviews during the 1977 campaign drawn from the collection of the Louis Wolfson II Florida Moving Image Archive.

The exhibit panels are available to view online at [www.stonewall-library.org/anita](http://www.stonewall-library.org/anita) and is expected to tour the country through 2008.

**MASSACHUSETTS**  
**Family Pride Expands**

Family Pride, a national nonprofit organization committed to securing equality for queer parents and guardians, announced June 6 that it will be expanding its base of operations and opening an office in Boston.

"As the only organization that is dedicated to advocating for family equality on a national level, we decided to make a strong statement by expanding our base of operations to include a Boston office," said executive director Jennifer Chrisler. "It's in our best interest to provide the friendliest possible environment for all of our staff and their loved ones. Massachusetts is one of the states setting the standard we would like to see all states across the nation meet in terms of rights and protections for LGBT-headed families."

Family Pride's Boston office will open July 2. The organization will continue its work at a national level and will maintain an office in Washington, D.C.

**MICHIGAN**  
**Health Benefits Reversed**

The city of Kalamazoo no longer will provide health insurance benefits to partners of gay workers.

With this decision confirmed June 4 by City Manager Kenneth Collard, Kalamazoo will become



Mitt Romney no longer supports the repeal of the military policy known as "don't ask, don't tell."

Michigan's first public employer to take away such benefits in the wake of the state's 2004 same-sex marriage ban. Effective June 30, four nonunionized employees' partner's benefits will be eliminated.

**NEW HAMPSHIRE**  
**GOP Candidates Support Discrimination**

The New Hampshire debate aired June 5 revealed that none of the Republican candidates for president support repeal of the "don't ask, don't tell" law that prevents gay and lesbian Americans from serving openly in the military.

The position of every single Republican candidate stands in contrast to the unified support of repeal by all Democratic presidential candidates.

"I hope tonight's debate wasn't aired over the Armed Forces Network, because otherwise over 60,000 gay and lesbian troops on active duty just heard a message of dishonor. For these candidates running to be the next commander in chief to dishonor the service of men and women standing on the streets of Baghdad and serving around the globe is shameful," said Eric Alva, national spokesman for the Human Rights Campaign and the first U.S. troop wounded in the Iraq War.

USA Today reported March 12: "Polls indicate growing acceptance of gay troops. A Harris Poll this month found that 55 percent supported allowing gays to serve openly, up from 48 percent in 2000. A Pew Research Center survey last year found that 60 percent favored gays serving openly, up from 52 percent in 1994. Support ran 3-to-1 among those younger than 30."

Former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney actually supported the repeal in 1994 but switched his position.

**NEW YORK**  
**Marriage Equality Pays**

New York City Comptroller William C. Thompson Jr. issued a study June 6 finding that the legalization of marriage for same-sex partners could yield \$142 million in economic benefits to the Big Apple.

The report, *Love Counts: The Economic Benefits of Marriage Equality for New York*, concluded that the \$142 million largely would be generated in the three years immediately following enactment of legislation and would be derived from the spending of residents and visitors on their weddings, along with the spending of their out-of-town guests.

Thompson concluded that enacting marriage equality would entail costs to businesses and in particular those that offer health insurance to employee spouses. However, the report notes that any additional costs would be partly offset by the fact that many firms already provide domestic partner coverage. Among the comptroller's findings:

- The economic impact of legalizing marriage for same-sex couples would add, on a net basis, about \$184 million in spending to the state's economy for the three years after legislative approval.
- The \$142 million benefit to New York City's economy would include spending on weddings by New York state residents who live outside the city but choose to marry there.
- The fiscal benefits would be more than \$117 million for New York state and about \$7 million for New York City.

Compiled by JAYMEE R. CUTI

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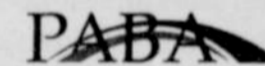


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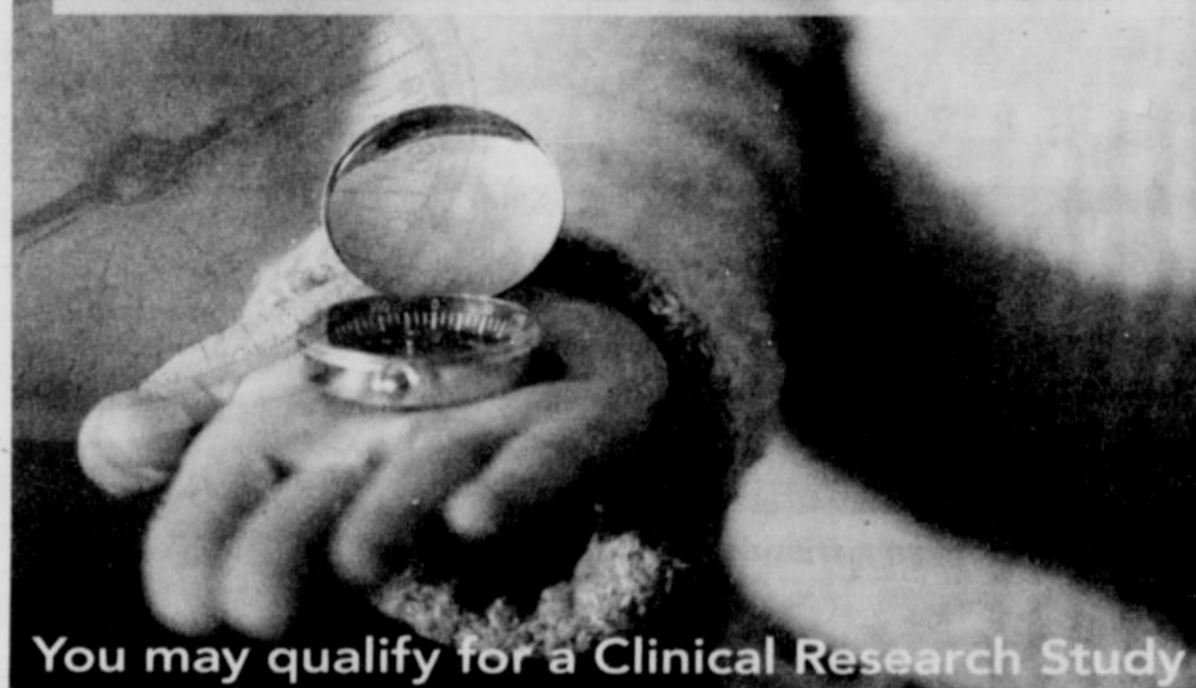
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