



# RESOURCE LINE

Volume 11, Issue 4  
April 2003

## GLRC Eleventh Anniversary Celebration & Silent Auction

**Monday, April 14, 2003**  
**6:00 PM – 9:00 PM**  
**CSPS, 1103 3rd Street SE**

You're invited to the GLRC's eleventh anniversary celebration! For the fourth year, the GLRC will hold the event at CSPS in Cedar Rapids.

Join the 2003 board of directors for hors d'oeuvres and refreshments. This is a great chance for you to visit with the 2003 board members and let them know what you'd like to see from the GLRC in 2003. This is also a great opportunity to make your yearly contribution to the GLRC.

New to this year's anniversary celebration is a silent auction featuring a nice assortment of items donated by various Eastern Iowa GLBT welcoming businesses and community members.

Get ready for some friendly bidding.

Harpist Extraordinaire Gaylord T. Stauffer returns for a second year to provide delightful musical entertainment. Stauffer's background harp was so appreciated by reception attendees last year that the anniversary committee gladly extended an invitation to Stauffer to join us again.

The Cedar Rapids PrideFest planning committee will also be at the Anniversary Celebration taking orders for PrideFest tee shirts, long sleeve tee shirts, and sweatshirts. If all goes well, we'll display the 2003 PrideFest logo.

Join the GLRC in celebrating its eleventh anniversary Monday, April 14, 2003 at CSPS from 6:00 PM to 9:00 PM. You'll enjoy the refreshments, the entertainment, meeting with community members, and supporting the GLRC.

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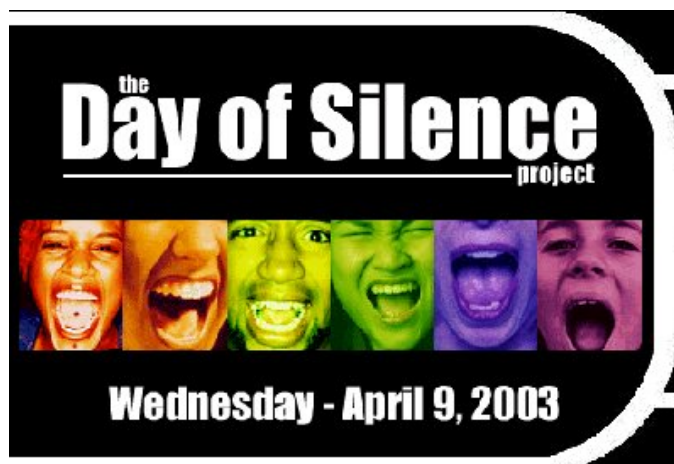
### GLRC Board of Directors

President: Linda Davenport  
Vice President: Gary Van Fleet  
Secretary: Dot Sheldon  
Treasurers: Deb Loftsgard  
Doug Davidson  
Members at Large: Nancy Bernardi  
Trish Hyde, Lorma Lang  
John Sealy, Ryan Wheeler

### GLRC February Resource Line

Scott Alt, Kendy Wazac

The **Resource Line** is a monthly publication of the GLRC of Cedar Rapids, IA, a non-profit organization under IRS code 5011. Articles and advertisements are welcome from anyone, and are subject to editing as needed. Mail or e-mail submissions to the attention of the Editor, GLRC **Resource Line**.



[www.dayofsilence.org](http://www.dayofsilence.org)

## March Board Meeting Minutes

The board meeting was called to order at 2:00 PM. Board Members present were Linda Davenport, Gary Van Fleet, Trish Hyde, Lorma Lang, Jon Sealy, Deb Loftsgard, Doug Davidson, Nancy Bernardi, Ryan Wheeler and Dot Sheldon. Several members of the community were in attendance as well.

**Secretary's Report:** Minutes to February's board meeting were read and accepted after a correction to the date was made (minutes read January instead of February).

### Treasurer's Report:

Beginning Balance:	02/01/03	\$4,503.21
Income:		\$4,382.00
Expenses:		\$1,652.30
Ending Balance:	02/28/03	\$7,232.91

Treasurer Doug Davidson will be using Quick Books for future bookkeeping for the Center. Reports can be exported into Excel when necessary.

Treasurer's report accepted.

Motion passed to keep the bank account for the GLRC as one account and not separate PrideFest monies from that account.

### Old Business

**Rainbow Writes** - Dot provided an update on behalf of the group. The first publication of *Rainbow Writes* will be making its debut at PrideFest this year. The group is hoping to find new members, those interested in supporting the GLBT writers among us, or the writers themselves. More will follow next month.

**PrideFest** - Gary reported that T-shirts are being ordered. The PrideFest Committee has established a press committee to handle all contact with the media and advertising.

**PFLAG Lobby Day report** - Ryan reported that 60 people came to Des Moines and approximately 80 people visited their table. There was training provided on how to lobby. Several mothers spoke at a press conference, on behalf of their children, in support of a Civil Right Bill and against the anti-adoption bill. Thirteen states presently have a Civil Rights Bill. If you want to know how to contact your representatives, go to [www.legis.state.ia.us](http://www.legis.state.ia.us).

**Anniversary Party** - The 11th anniversary of the GLRC will be celebrated at CSPA from 6-9 PM on Monday, April 14th. Items are needed for the silent auction being held at the event as a GLRC fundraiser. There will be a harpist again this year. Volunteers are still needed to bring food items. All food is being coordinated through Scott Alt.

**Pride Picnic** - Will be from 11-4 at Palisades-Kepler State Park, July 26, 2003

**Adopt a Highway** - Application has been sent in for the GLRC for a stretch of 380. PFLAG will apply for an area directly across from the GLRC.

### New Business

There will be a demonstration at Cornell College in Mount Vernon on Saturday March 15, 2003. This protest is being led by the Rev. Phelps of Kansas, in opposition to the college's performance of The Matthew Shepard Story. It was stated that the College was organizing a peaceful demonstration of their own. No motion was made, discussion closed.

Dot reported that after responding to a call from a local realtor, a member of the GLRC has been asked to attend a Linn

County Board of Landlords meeting in April that will have a panel discussion on diversity. The board is apparently working to ensure all people are being treated fairly. Dot volunteered to attend the meeting on April 10<sup>th</sup> and will report to the board afterward.

There will be a special meeting of the Board to discuss the by-laws, policies and procedures of the GLRC. The meeting will be on Sunday, March 30<sup>th</sup> at 2 PM. It was asked that just board members attend.


**Other Business** - There was discussion about getting the newsletter out sooner each month. The calendar and some ads have items that are time sensitive. All were reminded that ads and articles must get to the editors quicker so that it will be possible for this to happen. No motions made, discussion ended.

There is a Gill Foundation conference in Chicago. Kate and Trish and Gary Van Fleet will attend. The conference will offer training for fundraising events as well as other information for non-profit organizations like the GLRC.

Motion passed for the GLRC to form a Fundraising Committee. Several members of the board and the community volunteered to be on this committee.

**New Volunteer** - Charles offered to open the center on Wednesday afternoons and would also like to help with the newsletter. Charles has acquainted himself with the center through some open house visits and will be a welcome addition to the volunteer team at the center.

Meeting adjourned 3:46 PM. Next board meeting will be Sunday, April 6 at 2 PM.



**Faith United Methodist Church**  
 1000 30th St NE  
 Cedar Rapids, IA  
 319-363-8454

**Sunday Services: 11:00 am**  
[www.crfaithumc.org](http://www.crfaithumc.org)

*"We proclaim that all persons are individuals  
 of sacred worth in the sight of God."*



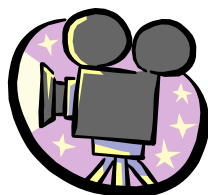
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## Movie Night & Potluck



**April 24, 2003 7:00 PM**

Bring your favorite flick (within reason) to this month's potluck and

the group will pick one movie to watch from the collection!

Join the fun! Bring your favorite dish to share and bring a hearty appetite.

The GLRC will furnish plates, utensils, and napkins. Soda is available for 50 cents a can at the Resource Center.

**Movie night is FREE.** Why not bring a friend? This is an "open event" and

all ages are welcome! The GLRC is located at 305 2nd St. SE, Suite 324 (take elevator to 3rd floor).

### GLRC Mission Statement

Our purpose is to provide an information and referral center for the mutual support of gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgendered persons, their families, friends, and allies, and the community at large.

## Visit from the Center of AIDS Prevention Studies

*By Linda Davenport*

On March 7, 2003, I attended a meeting with Marna Rehage from ICAP and representatives from the Center of AIDS Prevention Studies (CAPS). Dr. Olga Ginstead, PhD, MPH, Director, and Ellen Goldstein, MA, Co-Director, explained CAPS's Technology & Information Exchange Core, known as TIE Core. It uses innovative ways to make HIV prevention science useful to service providers, and the public. The TIE Core also brings knowledge of the practice of HIV prevention from the research conducted by CAPS.

Some activities of the TIE Core include technical assistance to others outside of CAPS via telephone and email, HIV Prevention Fact Sheets on specific populations, policies, tools in HIV prevention; and the CAPS web site ([www.caps.ucsf.edu](http://www.caps.ucsf.edu)). The TIE Core conducts research on the process and methods of collaboration between service providers and scientists.

Representatives from CAPS expressed the importance of conducting formative research and how community agencies can help. They shared information about two manuals that have been developed by CAPS and proven helpful for community agencies. They urged the

attendees to visit the web site and gather information that would be

useful for the community they serve.



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## PrideFest News Page

### Road Rally Crosses the Finish Line

On a beautiful soon-to-be-spring day, the PrideFest Committee fired the starter gun on the First Annual Road Rally! Contestants were given a sheet of ten clues to lead them throughout the city, gathering answers to questions that went along with the clues. Drivers were led through Czech Village, over to Edgewood Road, down First Avenue to Home Depot and over to Target before heading back to the Club Basix parking lot to get their final clue from the Easter Puppy. Everyone gathered at Faith United Methodist Church as the final clue was solved. Time after the Rally was spent socializing and going back over missed clues. Everyone had a great time and is looking forward to next year's Rally. We'll see you....at the finish line!



## PrideFest Pancake Breakfast

**Sunday, April 13, 2003**  
**Faith United Methodist Church**  
**9:00 AM to 1:00 PM**

**Tickets Cost: \$5.00 Per Person**  
**Available @ GLRC, From PrideFest**  
**Board Members or**  
**GLRC Board Members**



**Menu:**  
**All You CAN Eat Pancakes!**  
**Link Sausages**  
**Fresh Fruit**  
**Beverage of your choice!**

## In the Spotlight: *Rainbow Writes* Launches at PrideFest

*Rainbow Writes* is still taking submissions for its first publication. A small group of writing enthusiasts in Cedar Rapids has decided that this year's PrideFest will be the kickoff of what has been needed and wanted for sometime - a forum for writers in our community. The group's mission statement is as follows:

**The purpose of *Rainbow Writes* is to provide an outlet for the creative writings and artistic expressions of the GLBT Community.**

Pick up the pen and send in your creative lines! *Rainbow Writes* will provide an opportunity for all writers to share their blood, sweat, tears and heart. Meetings are at the GLRC on the second Tuesday of each month, at 6 PM. If you have any questions, contact Dot Sheldon via e-mail ([dsheldon@crglrc.org](mailto:dsheldon@crglrc.org)).

### Writing Guidelines:

You may submit original material in the following categories: short stories, poems, essays, or editorials. All materials submitted for publication must be accompanied

by the author's name, address, and contact number (or e-mail address). No materials will be returned. At this time all short stories, essays, and editorials are limited to 1500 words. Poetry is limited to 900 words. All material will be published at the discretion of the editors. The editors reserve the right to reject for publication any material submitted, and to edit any material submitted for clarity, length, spelling, grammar, and without permission of the author.

Share your writing spirit with the community. Send submissions to: [RainbowWrites@crglrc.org](mailto:RainbowWrites@crglrc.org). Submit e-mail copies as the body of the message. No attachments will be accepted. Snail mail (postal mail) will also be accepted at:

**GLRC  
Attn: Rainbow Writes  
P.O. BOX 1634  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52401**

If you want to receive the *Rainbow Writes* publication four times a year, please fill out and return the sign-up sheet below to the GLRC address

### Cedar Rapids Pride Festival



*Pride through Unity*  
June 7, 2003  
Green Square Park

above. You must fill this out and return it, respond via e-mail requesting to be a recipient, or call 319-366-2055 leaving your name, address, and request to receive this publication. (This mailing list is separate from the *Resource Line* publication.)

We are looking forward to what "our" community has to say!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State and ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

If you would like to receive the erotica portion  
of this publication, check here

☐

## American Airlines: PFLAG's Official Airline

You can help support PFLAG whenever you travel with our official airline, American Airlines. Provide PFLAG's Business ExtrAA #527590 any time you book airline tickets through AA, either online or over the phone, and you will still receive your own personal AAdvantage miles, but you will also earn points for PFLAG.

By using PFLAG's Business ExtrAA # every time you fly American Airlines, you not only

help PFLAG build a better relationship with American Airlines, but you also get great customer service.

All you have to do is log on to [www.aa.com](http://www.aa.com) or call 1-800-433-1790 and provide PFLAG's Business ExtrAA #527590. Don't forget: it costs you nothing, gets you better service and it helps PFLAG build a better relationship with AA.

You can also pass this number on to friends who want to book reservations, but don't want to hear "please wait ten minutes for the next available agent."

Note: This message comes from PFLAG National. By participating in this program, you will be helping chapters in Iowa as well as across the country provide better services to members and the general community.



## The Office of Affirmative Action

### Diversity Dialogue Film Series

**April 2003**

Wednesday, 4/2/03, 7:00-9:00 PM: **In Honor of National Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. Film: *MY AMERICA (...or honk if you love Buddha)*.** Location: Asian Pacific American Cultural Center, 223 Lucon Drive (just off Melrose Ave). Co-facilitated by Jane Wu, Asian American Coalition.

Friday, 4/25/03, 11:30 AM-1:00 PM: **Film: *Out of the Past: The Struggle for Gay and Lesbian Rights in America*.** Location: Purdue Room, Iowa Memorial Union (341 IMU). Co-facilitated by Cieran Russell, Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual, Transgender and Allies Union.

**For more information, contact the Office of Affirmative Action:  
319-335-0705 (voice), 319-335-0697 (text).**

**Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all University of Iowa events. If you are a person with a disability who requires an accommodation in order to participate in this program, please contact the Office of Affirmative Action at 319-335-0705 (voice) or 319-335-0697 (text).**



# PFLAG Iowa Lobby Day 2003 a Success

By Ryan Wheeler

On February 26, 2003, over 60 people descended on the state capitol to lobby congress for the passage of legislation that would secure some of the most basic human rights for the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community.

Organized and sponsored by PFLAG Iowa, the primary focus of Lobby Day was to lobby our state Senators and Representatives for the passage of Senate File 105/House File 270 and the blocking of Senate Study Bill 1057. The purpose of SF105 is to add sexual orientation to the state's nondiscrimination policy, making it illegal to discriminate in employment, housing, education, public accommodation, and credit practices on the basis of one's sexual orientation. Similar bills have already been passed in thirteen states, including our close neighbors Wisconsin and Minnesota. SSB1057, on the other hand, was a blatantly bigoted bill filed by Republican Senator Veenstra of Orange City that would make it illegal for same-sex couples or individuals identified as gay or lesbian to provide foster care or adopt children.

The day began with a brief

orientation class which covered the basics of both bills and the climate that we should expect with regard to each. Afterward, a succinct session was presented by two supportive professional lobbyists on the subjects of proper lobbying etiquette and the most effective methods to "catch" our Senators and Representatives.

Armed with facts and brimming with enthusiasm, we made way for the state Senate and House chambers and began lobbying. For those who have not done it, lobbying is really quite simple and thoroughly fulfilling. Having acquired your Senator or Representative, there are three possible outcomes.

The first is that representatives are supportive and understanding of our position. By talking to them and sharing why your position means so much to you and Iowa, you can only strengthen their argument and resolve when it comes time for them to discuss and vote.

Next is the case in which they are undecided. This is your opportunity to educate and find a place in their heart so that they become empathetic and aware of the true

implications of the legislation that lies before them.

The final case is where representatives are staunchly unsupportive. While this may at first seem to be an undesirable situation and perhaps not even worth your effort, don't be fooled. However for or against the legislation they might be, your voice and time will make them



see that this is an issue of importance to their constituents – important enough to take the day off of work and drive all the way to Des Moines to speak with them face-to-face.

Whatever case you encounter, you walk away satisfied. You realize that your effort carries many times more weight than casting a ballot. You begin to understand that our state's legislation is more within your control than you ever before imagined. More than anything, you feel a fluid contentment that your efforts are working to make our state a better

*PFLAG Lobby - (Continued on page 8)*

The Gay and Lesbian Resource Center of Cedar Rapids is a 501(c3) non-profit organization. As a sponsor of the GLRC, you can help us to continue providing information, referral, and support services to Cedar Rapids and surrounding communities. Become a part of the GLRC by sending your tax-deductible sponsorship donation today. In return, you will receive the GLRC's community newsletter, the *Resource Line*, delivered to your home or office each month to keep you informed of the latest community news.

Please make checks payable to: **GLRC of Cedar Rapids**

You may send your completed form and sponsorship donation (check or money order) to:

**GLRC of Cedar Rapids**  
P.O. Box 1643  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-1643

## Sponsorship Levels:

Less than \$50	Red Swirl	\$200 to \$349	Green Swirl
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## CSPS Calendar of Events ~ April 2003

1103 Third Street SE ~ Cedar Rapids, IA 52401-2305 ~ 319-364-1580

All events at CSPS unless otherwise noted.

<b>Wednesday, Apr 2</b>	In concert, edgy San Francisco ensemble <i>Tin Hat Trio</i> , 8 PM
<b>Thursday, Apr 3</b>	Opening of exhibit <i>Face to Face: Self Portraits from Linn County</i> , reception 5 to 7 PM
<b>Friday, Apr 4</b>	In concert, Canadian folk ensemble <i>Tanglefoot</i> , 8 PM
<b>Saturday, Apr 5</b>	In concert, benefit for Iowa Women's Music Festival, <i>Wishing Chair</i> , <i>Jamie Anderson</i> and <i>BeJae Fleming</i> , 8 PM
<b>Sunday, Apr 6</b>	In concert, <i>Karen Savoca</i> with <i>Pete Heitzman</i> , 7 PM
<b>Tuesday, Apr 8</b>	Legion Arts Board of Directors meets, 5:30-7 PM
<b>Sunday, Apr 13</b>	In concert, rapidly-rising country bluesman <i>Otis Taylor</i> , 7 PM
<b>Monday, Apr 14</b>	Anniversary reception for the Gay & Lesbian Resource Center of Cedar Rapids, 6-9 PM
<b>Saturday, Apr 19</b>	In concert, singer-songwriters <i>Brian Webb</i> and <i>Beth Amsel</i> , 8 PM
<b>Thursday, Apr 24</b>	In concert, singer-songwriters <i>Peter Mulvey</i> and <i>Jeffrey Foucault</i> , 8 PM
<b>Saturday, Apr 26</b>	In concert, singer-songwriter <i>Kate Campbell</i> , 8 PM
<b>Sunday, Apr 27</b>	In concert, singer-songwriter <i>Dan Bern</i> , 7 PM



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*PFLAG Lobby - (Continued from page 7)*  
place for all Iowans, and Iowa a shining example of justice, fairness, and equality for all states.

The Grand Finale of the day was a press conference held by The Moms – seven strong, brave, and well-spoken mothers from various PFLAG Iowa chapters. Each shared her personal story and explained the impact that this legislation has on each of their families and all of ours. Each speech touched on a different emotion and some touched on them all, such as when Carolyn Jones, her chin quivering with purpose said,

“And don’t talk to me about Family Values!” Then making a sweeping gesture to everyone in the conference room (which was standing room only) she said, “*These are Family Values.*”

Since PFLAG Iowa Lobby Day 2003, the anti-gay SSB1057 has died in subcommittee and will not see a vote on the Senate floor. With a Republican controlled House and Senate, the fate of SF105 and HF270 is yet undecided.

PFLAG is a supportive organization for the GLBTA community and acts to acquire and further the rights for

people of all sexual orientations until equality is attained. The Cedar Rapids chapter of PFLAG holds meetings on the fourth Tuesday of every month at Faith United Methodist Church on the corner of 30th Street and Eastern Avenue in Cedar Rapids and can be reached at 319-399-2543. The Iowa City PFLAG chapter holds meetings on the second Tuesday of every month, meets at 10 South Gilbert Street, and can be reached at 319-338-8487. Both chapter meetings start at 7 PM. Please join us to see how you can become involved.



## “The Laramie Project” at Riverside Theatre

### “The Laramie Project”

**Directed by Jody Hovland**

**By Moises Kaufman & the members of Tectonic Theatre Project**

**Co-produced with Cornell College**

**Now showing at the Riverside Theatre in Iowa City**

“The Laramie Project” is a profoundly original piece of contemporary theater sparked by a 1998 hate crime, the murder of Matthew Shepard, a University of Wyoming student who was gay. An ensemble

of actors portrays dozens of Laramie residents, as well as the New York writers and actors who conducted the interviews with these ordinary -- and extraordinary -- people. As with his previous play “Gross Indecency: The Tears of Oscar Wilde,” Kaufman displays his talent for creating unforgettable theater out of what he calls “moments in history when a particular event brings ideologies and beliefs into sharp focus.”

For more information, please

call the Riverside Theatre at 319-338-7672 or send e-mail to [info@riversidetheatre.org](mailto:info@riversidetheatre.org).



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### GLBT & Friends A.A. Support Group

Here is an A.A. group that meets the special needs of our community.

#### Where:

**305 2nd Street SE, Suite 324  
Cedar Rapids - 319-366-2055**

#### When:

**Every Friday, 7:30 PM - 9:00 PM**

**Let's Stay Sober Together**

### Meeting Outline:

1. Meeting begins at 7:30 PM.
2. Moment of silence.
3. Announcements.
4. A.A. Preamble read.
5. Read from the A.A. "Big Book."
6. Smoke break at 8:15 PM.
7. Open discussion (no crosstalk).
8. Inspirational reading or A.A. twelve steps and traditions.
9. Group ends at 9:00 PM.
10. Serenity Prayer.

## Saturday Morning Athletic and Recreation Team

Tired? Bored? Sick of the winter blues?

Want to shed that spare tire you gained over the holidays? Well, get up, get out, and get SMART! The Saturday Morning Athletic and Recreational Team (SMART) is an association dedicated to the health and well being of Eastern Iowan Gays and Lesbians.

This informal group met in Cedar Rapids in March, and meets in Iowa City in April. Depending on feedback from

participants, we could expand/alter day and time to include Sunday mornings or week nights.

This month's meeting will be April 5, 2003 at 9:00 AM at the boathouse just south of Hancher Auditorium in Iowa City. Participants are encouraged to use the park and nearby trails to run, walk, bike, rollerblade, or engage in any sport they enjoy. The group is open to all ages and all levels of athleticism. So, if you want to

run 10 miles or walk 10 blocks - stop by, have fun, and make some new friends.

For questions or more information, contact Marty in Iowa City at 319-321-1219, or Matthew in Cedar Rapids at 319-551-3565. You can also e-mail them at SMART\_CRIC@yahoo.com.

*Editor's Note: This event is not a GLRC Sponsored Event!*

## "Families Like Ours" Response to GLBT Adoptive Families

Contact: David Wing-Kovarik  
425-793-7911  
support@familieslikeours.org  
<http://www.familieslikeours.org>

Seattle – The recently updated census report helps further the nonprofit work of Families Like Ours, which has been providing resources and support to gay and lesbian pre-adoptive and adoptive families since 2000.

In the past decade there has been a significant increase in the amount of children being raised in open gay and lesbian families. The new updated census numbers indicated that as much as 34 percent of lesbian households and 22 percent of gay male households are raising children under the age of 18. This new breed of family is forming through adoption, foster care, artificial insemination, co-parenting, and surrogacy.

"We are very excited about the new numbers in the census, they only help to reaffirm that our families are not some underground sect of the American population. We are a fast growing, politically aware consumer taking our rightful place at the American family table," said David Wing-Kovarik, Executive Director of Families Like Ours.

In a small member survey Families Like

Ours conducted, we found that 17 percent were just starting to think about adoption, 27 percent wanted to adopt but were not sure where to start, another 17 percent said they were waiting for placement, and 39 percent indicated they had already adopted. We also found that 72 percent of the families that come to us are two parent households, 56 percent are between the ages of 30 – 40 with 39 percent planning on adopting through the foster care system. For those that already had children, 13 percent of those families had plans on adopting again.

"This is where Families Like Ours is unique; the families we generally work with are those that are wishing to have children, most of which do not currently have children under 18 living with them. We have not been able to keep up with the demand," continues Wing-Kovarik.

While the organization works nationally, it is in their home state of Washington they are receiving the honor of being the Seattle PRIDE 03 Grand Marshall's.

"We were so excited to find out about being Grand Marshall for this year's Seattle PRIDE. We see this as a great opportunity to be in front of 100,000 people displaying our family pride."

Families Like Ours developed out of the need the founders had as they

navigated through their own adoption. In October 2000 the nonprofit agency was formed with the mission of providing adoption resources, tools and support to non-traditional pre-adoptive, and post adoptive families. Their programs are designed to stimulate adoption awareness, and help reduce the number of children in foster-care by providing a centralized resource for support, information and training to adoptive families and professionals with a focus on GLBT families.

At the beginning of their adoption process, David and Conrad Wing-Kovarik found there were few, if any, resources readily available that pertained specifically to "non-traditional family" adoption and foster adoption. After several years of gathering information and networking on their own they found themselves becoming a unique resource for non-traditional families like themselves.

By spring of 2000, after being approached to work on a project with an adoption agency, Families Like Ours started to become a reality. October of that year Families Like Ours, Inc. incorporated as a nonprofit, soon after obtaining its IRS 501c3 status.

Come Celebrate  
**GLRC'S**  
**11th Anniversary**

*Join us for hors d'oeuvres and refreshments*

*A Silent Auction & Live Music*

***Monday April 14, 2003***

***6:00 PM – 9:00 PM***

***CSPS***

***1103 3<sup>rd</sup> Street SE***

The GLRC was created in 1992 by a small group of committed individuals meeting in homes and discussing the needs of the community. Within a few months, the GLRC had its name, a mission statement and officers. Bylaws, IRS non-profit status, office space, and a monthly newsletter soon followed. The GLRC grew to include support groups, an informational phone line and resource library, and a state-of-the-art Web page.



# Attorneys' Reactions to the Kantaras Decision, Legal Transsexual Marriage

The National Transgender Advocacy Coalition (NTAC)  
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Relying on expert medical testimony and careful review of Florida statutory requirements, Circuit Court Judge Gerard O'Brien has ruled that Michael Kantaras, a post-transition female to male transsexual, is legally male and that his marriage to Linda Kantaras was legal.

Shannon Minter, Legal Director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights (NCLR) is certain that more state courts will rule favorably in transsexual marriage cases in the next few years, "if we pursue cases with truly compelling facts, and if we do a good job of educating the judges in these cases by presenting expert testimony, as was done in Kantaras." Minter and NCLR staff attorney Karen Doering comprised part of Michael Kantaras' legal team, along with local attorney Collin Vause.

Florida law states that, "Marriages between persons of the same sex ... are not recognized for any purpose in this state. For purposes of interpreting any state statute or rule, the term 'marriage' means only a legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife, and the term 'spouse' applies only to a member of such a union."

Judge O'Brien's ruling is of national importance. Florida joins California and New Jersey, in which state courts have ruled that transsexuals may marry in their new gender, at odds with Texas, Kansas, and Ohio, whose courts have rendered the opposite decision.

Michael Kantaras met and married his wife after he had completed sex reassignment surgery. Although Linda Kantaras was aware of Michael's transgender history, it wasn't an issue until Michael initiated divorce proceedings. Linda argued that, despite

hormones and surgery, Michael remained female and that the marriage was null and void.

Michael's claim to be male was supported by detailed medical testimony of three of the country's leading experts on transsexualism: Drs. Ted Huang and Collier Cole of the University of Texas Medical Branch in Galveston and Dr. Walter Bockting of the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association and Coordinator of Transgender Health Services in the University of Minnesota Program for Human Sexuality. According to Minter, "They were able to provide Judge O'Brien with a comprehensive understanding of the current medical viewpoint on transsexual people and to dispel many stereotypes and misconceptions. I think this is what made the difference in Michael's case."

"Some states may follow Texas and Kansas in denying marriage rights to transsexual people," said Minter, "but I firmly believe that most will follow the lead of Judge O'Brien in Kantaras and the growing trend internationally."

The most important piece of advice Minter offers for any transsexual who becomes embroiled in legal battle is to contact an attorney with experience litigating this issue. "These are incredibly important cases, both for the individuals involved and for the entire community. We cannot afford to lose a single case that might be won through more careful planning or preparation."

"The chances of the Supreme Court stepping in and resolving this issue in the near future are virtually nil," Minter added. "By way of comparison, the Supreme Court did not address laws banning interracial marriage until 1967, long after most states had already abolished such laws."

Attorney Alyson Meiselman agrees that the Kantaras decision is important. Although as a trial level court decision it sets no legal precedent, she notes, its value lies in the detailed medical testimony and legal analysis included. Meiselman thinks it likely that the former Mrs. Kantaras might appeal the

decision, which could lead to a precedent setting appellate decision.

Meiselman, one of the attorneys that appealed the Texas case invalidating Christie Lee Littleton's marriage to the U.S. Supreme Court, recently won an important Maryland Appeals Court ruling in the Matter of R.W. Heilig, which established the right of a citizen to petition for a legal change in gender status, regardless of place of birth. She also referred to in re: Kevin, a recent Australian case affirming the legality of a transsexual man's marriage, and TO in re: Gardiner, a Kansas Supreme Court decision invalidating the marriage of a transsexual woman, J'Noel Gardiner.

"The [legal] analysis was totally missing in Littleton, scant and inaccurate by the Kansas Supreme Court," she said, "as opposed to Heilig, which was detailed; Kevin, which was exhaustive and detailed; and Kantaras, which was at the trial court level extensive, detailed, and exhaustive on Kantaras facts."

"Weighing all three decisions [Kantaras, Heilig, and Kevin] together," Meiselman said, "it would appear that the scourge of Littleton v. Prange (1999) and Gardiner II (2002) may be over. Only time will tell."

Not to be forgotten in the proceedings and the legal decision are the Kantaras children. Michael adopted Linda's son after they married. They later had a daughter conceived by artificial insemination. The children are now 11 and 14 years old and have been in their father's primary custody during most of the past year.

Michael Kantaras is glad that the long wait is over and that he and his children can get on with their lives.

Founded in 1999, NTAC - the National Transgender Advocacy Coalition - is a §501(c)(4) civil rights organization working to establish and maintain the right of all transgendered, intersexed, and gender-variant people to live and work without fear of violence or discrimination.

# Out and About Online: An Internet Public Library

## The Advocate

[www.advocate.com/](http://www.advocate.com/)

"The Advocate is the newsmagazine of record for the gay and lesbian community. Our authoritative national and international coverage of gay and lesbian issues has won the prestigious 'Editorial Excellence' Award in the news/weekly category for four years in a row. In addition to news, issues contain features, columns, interviews, and arts and entertainment coverage to keep you informed."

## Amaranth Womyn Magazine

[www.amaranthwomyn.com/magcontents.html](http://www.amaranthwomyn.com/magcontents.html)

The monthly e-zine of the Amaranth Womyn web-portal and organization. Includes feature articles, fiction, poetry, etc.

## QV Magazine

[www.qvmagazine.com/](http://www.qvmagazine.com/)

"QV Magazine is a print and online publication that both represents and informs gay Latinos about the many different issues that affect them. It's ultimate purpose is to spread UNITY among these individuals by creating an atmosphere of understanding about the variety of lifestyles within this community. QV's commitment is to accomplish this cohesiveness among gay Latinos through provocative and cutting-edge writing, reporting and photography."

## The Affirmation Newsletter

[www.umaffirm.org/](http://www.umaffirm.org/)

"United Methodists for lesbian, gay, and bisexual concerns."

## GayLawNews

[www.gaylawnet.com/](http://www.gaylawnet.com/)

"GayLawNewsTM seeks to provide you with an international digest of reports concerning changes in the law actually decided by a Court or Tribunal or passed by a legislature and selected reports on possible future changes to the law."

## Out & About

[www.outandabout.com/](http://www.outandabout.com/)

"Out & About, the acclaimed gay and lesbian travel newsletter, is now on the World Wide Web, which means you've been handed an E-ticket to the best gay and lesbian travel information available. Surf on, and you'll discover that there is more to the world of gay travel than you ever imagined! From which of the 48 gay B&B's in Provincetown is for you, to which car rental companies won't penalize you for being gay, to where on the Web you can find virtually anything related to gay travel, Out & About contains the kind of evaluative, in-depth reporting you simply won't find anywhere else."

## International Journal of Transgenderism

[www.symposion.com/ijt/](http://www.symposion.com/ijt/)

This journal is a "vehicle for the transmission of scholarly work in the area of transgenderism. The IJT will publish articles related to conceptions of transsexualism, transvestism, cross dressing, gender blending, intersex, and others."

## Genre Magazine

[www.genremagazine.com/](http://www.genremagazine.com/)

"Gay magazine that covers a range of topics ranging from fashion to arts/entertainment to fiction."

## The Liberty Press

[www.libertypress.net/](http://www.libertypress.net/)

"The monthly lesbian and gay newsmagazine for the state of Kansas." There is also a separate edition for the Kansas City area. "The Liberty Press and The Liberty Press KC keeps you informed of local, state and national issues, social happenings, theatrical events and much more."

## Oasis

[www.oasismag.com](http://www.oasismag.com)

An "online magazine for and by lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning youth."

*If we were to wake up some morning and find that everyone was the same race, creed and color, we would find some other cause for prejudice by noon.*

*-George Aiken*

# APRIL 2003

## GLRC and Community Events

All calendar events are held at the GLRC unless otherwise specified.  
See the Area Resource List for other location addresses.  
CSPS events are listed on Page 8.

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
You can find the <i>Resource Line</i> on the web at <a href="http://www.crglrc.org">www.crglrc.org</a>		1 <b>PrideFest Planning Meeting</b> 7 PM	2 <b>Women's Group</b> hosted by Lorma Lang 6:30 - 8:30 PM	3 <b>Open House</b> hosted by Alan Fredericksen 7- 9 PM	4 <b>GLBT AA Meeting</b> 7:30 - 9 PM	5 <b>SMART Meeting</b> 9 AM - Iowa City <b>Iowa Women's Music Fest</b> Fundraiser CSPS 8 PM
6 <b>GLRC Board Meeting</b> 2 PM <b>This Way Out</b> AM 910 WSUI 10 PM	7 <b>Youth Drop-In Night</b> hosted by Dot Sheldon 7- 9 PM	8 <b>Rainbow Writes</b> 6 PM	9	10 <b>Open House</b> hosted by Alan Fredericksen 7- 9 PM	11 <b>GLBT AA Meeting</b> 7:30 - 9 PM	12
13 <b>This Way Out</b> AM 910 WSUI 10 PM	14 <b>GLRC Anniversary Party @ CSPS</b> 6-9 PM	15	16	17 <b>Open House</b> hosted by Alan Fredericksen 7- 9 PM	18 <b>GLBT AA Meeting</b> 7:30 - 9 PM	19
20 <b>This Way Out</b> AM 910 WSUI 10 PM	21 <b>Open House</b> hosted by Dot Sheldon 7- 9 PM	22 <b>PFLAG Meeting</b> Faith UMC 7 PM	23 <b>PFLAG Lobby Day</b> Des Moines State Capitol	24 <b>Movie Night</b> and Potluck 7- 9 PM	25 <b>GLBT AA Meeting</b> 7:30 - 9 PM	26
27 <b>This Way Out</b> AM 910 WSUI 10 PM	28 <b>Open House</b> hosted by Dot Sheldon 7- 9 PM	29	30	<b>OWLs Call for info at 319-339-4604</b>  Check the <i>Resource Line</i> for PrideFest news and information!		



# Area Resource List

See our Rainbow Pages (<http://www.crglrc.org/rainbow>) for more listings

<p><b>BUSINESS SERVICES</b></p> <p><b>Kathy Hall</b>, Realtor Marian Arens &amp; Associates 319-362-9111 (Business) 319-269-0024 (Home)</p> <p><b>Brian E. Martin</b>, Realtor WHY USA – Advantage Realty 319-393-9070 (Business) 319-364-3777 (Home) WHYUSA1@aol.com</p> <p><b>Hanna B. Weston</b>, Attorney-at-Law 305 2nd St. SE, Suite 420 Cedar Rapids, IA 52401 319-366-7796</p> <p><b>ENTERTAINMENT</b></p> <p><b>Club Basix</b> 3916 1st Ave. NE Cedar Rapids, IA 52402 319-363-3194</p> <p><b>CSPS</b> (Community Arts Center) 1103 3rd St. SE Cedar Rapids, IA 52401 319-364-1580</p> <p><b>One Flite Up</b> 44-48 Main St. Dubuque, IA 52001 563-582-8357</p> <p><b>The Metro</b> GLBT Bar 510 Mulberry (between 4th &amp; Park) Waterloo, IA 50703 319-232-2239</p> <p><b>HEALTH</b></p> <p><b>AIDS Interfaith Network of Eastern IA</b> 1621 East 4th St. Waterloo, IA 50703</p> <p><b>Cedar Rapids Clinic for Women</b> Health care services by women, for women. Serving Cedar Rapids and Eastern Iowa since 1976. Gynecological exams, STD testing and treatment. All services <b>confidential</b>. 4089 21st Ave. SW Suite 211 Cedar Rapids, IA 52404 319-390-4342</p> <p><b>Iowa Center for AIDS Resources &amp; Education (ICARE)</b> 321 East First St. Iowa City, IA 52240 (319) 338-2135 or <a href="mailto:info@icare-ia.org">info@icare-ia.org</a> <a href="http://www.icare-ia.org">www.icare-ia.org</a></p> <p><b>Iowa City Free Medical Clinic</b> Free Confidential HIV Testing 120 North Dubuque St. Iowa City, IA 52245 319-377-4459</p> <p><b>Linn County Health Department</b> Free Confidential HIV Testing 501 13th St. NW Cedar Rapids, IA 52405 319-892-6000</p>	<p><b>HEALTH</b></p> <p><b>Planned Parenthood East Central Iowa</b> Confidential STD Testing &amp; Treatment for Men and Women Full Gynecological Exams for Women 1500 2nd Ave. SE Suite 100 Cedar Rapids, IA 52403 319-363-8572 <a href="http://www.plannedparenthood.org">www.plannedparenthood.org</a></p> <p><b>Rapid AIDS Project</b> <b>Lives Worth Living Program</b> <b>Women's Voices Program</b> 3601 42nd St. NE Cedar Rapids, IA 52402 319-393-9579 or <a href="mailto:rap@crossnet.org">rap@crossnet.org</a> <a href="http://www.redcross.org/ia/cedarrap/rap.html">www.redcross.org/ia/cedarrap/rap.html</a></p> <p><b>PUBLICATIONS</b></p> <p><b>ACCESSLine</b> Iowa's Newspaper for LGBT c/o ACCESS in Northeast Iowa PO Box 1682 Waterloo, IA 50704 319-232-6805 or <a href="mailto:access@forbin.net">access@forbin.net</a></p> <p><b>Resource Line</b> GLRC Monthly Newsletter PO Box 1643 Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-1643 319-366-2055 or <a href="mailto:info@crglrc.org">info@crglrc.org</a></p> <p><b>This Week in Eastern Iowa</b> <a href="http://groups.yahoo.com/group/glbtiissues_easterniowa">http://groups.yahoo.com/group/glbtiissues_easterniowa</a> Edited/Operated by Tony Hansen <a href="mailto:thansen@crglrc.org">thansen@crglrc.org</a></p> <p><b>SOCIAL/SUPPORT</b></p> <p><b>Coe Alliance</b> Weekly Meetings &amp; Events <a href="http://www.public.coe.edu/organizations/alliance">www.public.coe.edu/organizations/alliance</a> 319-399-8594 or <a href="mailto:jchaimov@coe.edu">jchaimov@coe.edu</a></p> <p><b>GLRC of Cedar Rapids</b> Open House Every Mon &amp; Thurs Night 305 2nd St. SE, Suite 324 Cedar Rapids, IA 52401 319-366-2055 or <a href="mailto:info@crglrc.org">info@crglrc.org</a> <a href="http://www.crglrc.org">www.crglrc.org</a></p> <p><b>GraDykes</b> Iowa City, IA For bi/les/queer/dyke identified women in Grad School 319-337-7661</p> <p><b>OWLS</b> Older &amp; Wiser Lesbians Monthly Potluck &amp; Social 319-366-2529</p> <p><b>SpiritHill Women's Retreat</b> Info, counseling, Women's Dance on 1st Saturday of each month 319-643-2613</p> <p><b>UNITY</b> GLBT Club for Students at Kirkwood Community College in CR Julia Haseleu <a href="mailto:Jhaseleu@kirkwood.cc.ia.us">Jhaseleu@kirkwood.cc.ia.us</a></p>	<p><b>SPIRITUAL / WORSHIP</b></p> <p><b>Faith United Methodist Church</b> A Reconciling Congregation Worship Service at 11 AM 1000 30th St. NE Cedar Rapids, IA 52402 319-363-8454 <a href="http://www.crfaithumc.org">www.crfaithumc.org</a></p> <p><b>Pathways of Light Spiritual College</b> Rev. Lorma Lang, O.M.C. Ordained Minister available for Unions &amp; other ceremonies Relationship Counseling for Couples &amp; Individuals, and Study Groups 319-447-5729</p> <p><b>Peoples Church Unitarian Universalist</b> A Welcoming Congregation Forum at 10 AM, Worship Service at 11 AM 600 3rd Ave. SE Cedar Rapids, IA 52403 319-362-9827 <a href="http://www.peoples.cedarrapids.uus.org">www.peoples.cedarrapids.uus.org</a></p> <p><b>Unity Center of Cedar Rapids</b> Rev. Thelma Hembroff Sunday Service 10 AM 3791 Blairs Ferry Road NE Cedar Rapids, IA 52402 319-393-5422 or 319-393-6837 (<i>dial-a-prayer</i>) <a href="http://www.unitycr.org">www.unitycr.org</a></p> <p><b>SUPPORT</b></p> <p><b>Clare House</b> Independent Living for people with HIV/AIDS PO Box 1183 Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-1183 319-364-4101</p> <p><b>GLBT AA Meeting</b> Fridays 7:30 - 9 PM at GLRC 305 2nd St. SE, Suite 324</p> <p><b>Iowa Artistry</b> Transgender Support PO Box 11093 Cedar Rapids, IA 52410 <a href="mailto:IowaArtistry@tgforum.com">IowaArtistry@tgforum.com</a> <a href="http://www.transgender.org/ioar/index.html">www.transgender.org/ioar/index.html</a></p> <p><b>Men's Support Group</b> Call 319-393-9579 for information.</p> <p><b>National AIDS Hotline</b> 1-800-342-2437</p> <p><b>PFLAG</b> Parents &amp; Friends of Lesbians &amp; Gays 4th Tuesday, Faith UMC 1000 30th St. NE Cedar Rapids, IA 52402 319-399-2543 or <a href="mailto:PFlagcr@yahoo.com">PFlagcr@yahoo.com</a> <a href="http://www.geocities.com/pflagcr">www.geocities.com/pflagcr</a></p> <p><b>Women's Chat Support Group</b> 1st Wednesday of every month 6:30 - 8:30 PM at GLRC 305 2nd St. SE, Suite 324 Cedar Rapids, IA 52401 319-366-2055</p>
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**GLRC OF CEDAR RAPIDS**

PO Box 1643  
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-1643  
Phone: 319-366-2055  
E-mail: [info@crglrc.org](mailto:info@crglrc.org)

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