

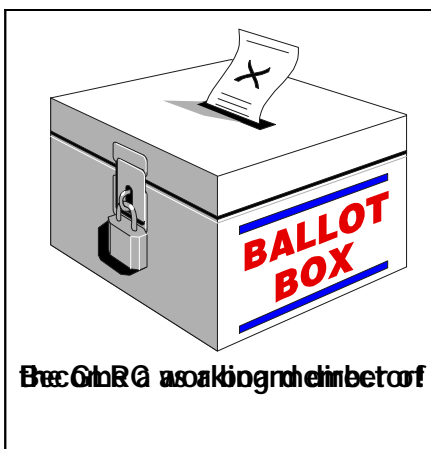
The Resource Line

A NEWSLETTER FOR THE GLBT COMMUNITY

Board Elections Slated for the October General Meeting

Do you want to be a part of the most exciting thing happening in Cedar Rapids? Do you want to be a part of the governing body of the only glbt organization of its kind in Eastern Iowa? Do you have ideas you'd like to see implemented by the GLRC? Most importantly, do you want to be a team player in making life better for the glbta community of Eastern Iowa?

If your answer is yes, please consider running for a board position on the GLRC Board of Directors for the new millennium. If your answer is yes, start coming by the GLRC on Monday night Open Houses and let your desires be known. If your



answer is yes, then be at the General Meeting on October 11th, because that is when elections for the Board will take place.

The bylaws state that the board will consist of at least six and not more than ten individuals. If you are serious about being a vital part of the GLRC, then a board position could be yours.

You will be required to attend a monthly General meeting, a monthly Board meeting and participate in GLRC events. The question is, "Do you want to be a part of the problem or a part of the answer?"

An open letter to the gay community:

"The news that you've been telling me is really kind of sad. The problem with the grapevine is that most of the grapes are bad..."

I first heard those words in the early 80s while listening to music by Scott Wesley Brown. I've spent the last few weeks hearing those words over and over again in my head as I listen to gossip, innuendoes, half-truths and flat-out lies about the GLRC and its current board of directors. The song quoted above goes on to say, "...the tiny spark is now a fire, because of what you said." The fire that is starting to burn in the community isn't a nice rosy campfire. It's a raging brushfire bent on destroying everything in its path. The GLRC could very well be one of the things destroyed if the fire is allowed to continue burning.

time-consuming, thankless job. As the old saying goes, you're "damned if you do and damned if you don't." Sometimes it seems that no matter what you do, someone will complain about it. Unfortunately, most people don't have the courage to complain directly to the board. Instead, they prefer to spread the word behind the backs of the very people they elected. They twist the truth around and the net result is division in the community. Abraham Lincoln once said, "A house divided against itself cannot stand." Truer words have never been spoken. The gossip that is currently circulating in the community is dividing the community against itself.

I know from personal experience that serving on the board of the GLRC is a

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An Open Letter to the Gay Community (Continued from Page 1)

Unfortunately, this makes us no better than the fundamentalist Christians who spread half-truths and lies about homosexuality. If we can't stop the spread of gossip we won't have to worry about the fundamentalist destroying us. We'll do a fine job of it on ourselves.

I don't want to imply that anyone in the community (either on the board or not) is a candidate for sainthood. We all have days when our thinking is less than perfect. But I admire anyone who has the courage to step forward and make the commitment to serve the community. Those people who have been elected to the board willingly took on the positions and the headaches that go along with them. They have served without pay and mostly without thanks in order to make our community a better, safer place. Had the board not supported efforts to pass a civil rights ordinance in Cedar Rapids, would it have passed? Probably not. If someone had not stepped forward and made an effort to start a dialogue with area teenagers, would those teenagers

have gone through the same pain of growing up gay that we did? Most decidedly. If the bills didn't get paid in a timely manner, would we have a library filled with gay literature? A phone line for doling out information? A building where we can meet in safety? A community? No. Instead, we would all be struggling alone to find our place in the world.

I believe that there are problems in our community. I believe those problems need to be addressed in open dialogue – not in furtive whispers that only serve to drive us further apart. I am willing to ask the questions I need answered in order to help this community survive. I am willing to take the steps I need to take in order to be a more integral part of the community. I am willing to do what it takes to ensure the success of the GLRC and any person elected to the board. I know that if I am not part of the solution, I am part of the problem. Do you?

*Sincerely,
Marcia W.*

Cedar Rapids GLRC Business Office Hours

Following the resignation of the current Office Manager, the Board of Directors voted to temporarily change the GLRC Office hours to the following schedule:

Effective October 1, 1999, the office will be open from 6 – 8 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday evenings and from noon – 3 p.m. on Saturdays.

These hours will be in effect until further notice.

NOTE: The office will also be open during all regular scheduled events.

Statement of Publication

The Resource Line is the monthly publication of the GLRC of Cedar Rapids, IA, a non profit organization under IRS code 5011. Articles and advertisements are welcome from anyone. They must be submitted by the date published in the prior month's issue and are subject to editing as needed.

Opinions and positions expressed in The Resource Line are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the opinions or positions of the GLRC. Identification of any person in The Resource Line by name or reference shall not be considered as an indication of the affectional or sexual orientation of that person.

Articles, letters and notices for publication may be submitted by mailing or emailing them to the attention of the Editorial Manager of the Resource Line. All materials submitted for publication must be accompanied by the author's name, address and home or work telephone number (or email address). The Editorial Board reserves the right to verify the authenticity of any materials submitted, to reject for publication any material submitted and to edit any material submitted for clarity, length, spelling, grammar and without permission of the author.

The Resource Line is free to all, but a \$20.00 (or \$30 if you need it mailed in a plain envelope) donation per year is requested to help defray expenses. The mailing address, for all purposes, is GLRC, PO Box 1643, Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-1643 and the email address is: crglrc@crglrc.org.

All material submitted for publication, whether or not published, will become the property of the Cedar Rapids GLRC.

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GLRC General Meeting

September 13, 1999

The meeting was called to order at 7 p.m. by Dick S. with 15 members present. Minutes from the August meeting were accepted into the record. Financial reports and office reports were not available due to Carol's absence for the past two weeks. Carol announced that the GLRC's back account remains at Mercantile Bank. The GLRC Alliance has an account at F & M Bank. Carol also announced her resignation from the positions of GLRC Board member and treasurer, volunteer office manager, and newsletter editor. Various members expressed appreciation for the hard work and commitment that Carol has given to the GLRC and her role in making the GLRC visible and effective in the community. Carol will continue as director of Youth Pride Alliance while the group makes decisions for its future.

Old Business

Jim reported that over 50 people attended **Dinner Under the Stars** with net income of \$717. Most of the people attending were from outside the GLRC membership.

No report yet on the **First Annual Coming Out Dance**, but a newsletter article will be submitted later this week.

The **Fund Raising Workshop** is tentatively scheduled for Monday September 20, based on Carol's availability.

Winter Carnival: The deposit has been sent for Squaw Creek Park.

New Business

The resignation of Board member Chuck Sitter was regretfully accepted by the Board. Because the Board election for 2000 will be held in October, current openings will not be filled until the election. The bylaws allow for a Board of 6-10 members. Dan suggested that the Board include at least one member from the Youth Alliance. Members were encouraged to solicit good candidates for leadership, and an announcement of the Board election will be included in the October newsletter.

Barb inquired about the topic of **membership fees** which has been brought up in recent meetings—whether household memberships would be available, and what other privileges might be included in a membership. The Board has made no decision regarding memberships, but the issue will be considered in future discussion on ways to provide some financial stability for the GLRC.

Office computer use policy: The Youth Pride Alliance computer was purchased by the group for their own programs, and is not available for general GLRC use. The older computer in the library is still available for GLRC business.

Barb proposed that the center be open on **Thursday nights** and volunteered to open the center each Thursday. The Board will work on a schedule for open hours and volunteers to open the center at Wednesday's board meeting.

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Profit And Loss Statement For The GLRC

August 10 through September 13, 1999

Income			
Advertising	\$63.00	Office Supplies	42.39
Dinner Under the Stars	45.00	Phone	38.69
Donations/Other	20.00	Rent	<u>425.00</u>
Donations Newsletter	20.00	Winter Carnival	<u>240.00</u>
Men's Discussion Group	180.00	Total Expense	<u>\$1,231.06</u>
Pop Income	39.86		
Total Income	\$522.86	Net Income	<u>\$-708.20</u>
Expenses		NOTE:	
Bulk Mail Deposit	100.00	\$100.00 of the money in other donations is because someone put \$100.00 on bulk mail account at the post office, so I showed it as income and an expense because it is not money sitting in the bank..	
Electric	63.00		
Gas	39.00		
Water	13.36		
Newsletter printing	282.98		

General Membership Meeting Minutes (Continued from Page 3)

Other Business

Barb asked whether library donations are limited to GLBT topics. Because of limited space and proximity of other libraries in the community, the GLRC library houses only GLBT-related materials. Sandy inquired about presenting the bylaws to the membership. This has already been done, and copies for new Board members and updates will be distributed at the Board meeting on September 15.

Kris Davis, Secretary

Resource Line Managing Editor

The GLRC is seeking an editor. This individual will polish and present the Cedar Rapids GLRC through The Resource Line, our primary means of communication. The managing editor serves a vital function of the GLRC. For many members of the g/l/b/t community, the newsletter is their only contact with a larger community. The content of the newsletter, whether an article or an advertisement, is limited by our status as a non-profit, educational organization.

The duties of the editor include, but are not limited to:

- Being familiar with the guidelines published by the US Post Office.

- Collecting, writing and editing articles and advertisements.
- Encouraging articles from other organizations, etc.
- Working with the layout editor on content and deadlines.
- Reporting to the Board of Directors.

For the interim, Dan Davis, Board Member will fill this function. If this opportunity interests you, please contact one of the GLRC Board Members or call the center and express your interest at 319-366-2055. Your interest and qualifications will be reviewed by the board for final approval.

Carol and Lana Say Goodbye

Well, this chapter in my life is about to close.

Lana and I are moving to Savannah, GA as soon as all the arrangements can be made for her new job, we sell our house and get packed.

We are going to miss all our friends and business connections. My nearly 5-year stay in Cedar Rapids has been a most rewarding one. There is so much that has enriched our lives from the people we've become friends with to our involvement in the glbta community.

I have counted my involvement with the GLRC over this past 4 plus years among my fondest memories. When we first became involved with the GLRC, the organization was still located on 3rd Street. We have seen tremendous growth in the GLRC and the community as a whole.

Additions to the GLRC since my involvement include, but are not limited to, a men's group, women's group, youth group, family day and annual Pride Fest celebrations. Because of my free time, I was able to staff the office three half days a week and from that came connections with Four Oaks, Mercy Medical Center, the YWCA and Foundation II to name a few. We also saw the library used by many more people, not only from the glbt community, but also by professionals, family members and other interested parties.

The GLRC has carried out its mission statement, which reads: "To provide an information and referral center for the mutual support of gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered persons, their families, friends, allies, and the community at large and to be an advocate for civil rights," with more success than ever in the history of the organization.

It has been exciting to see the growth. I loved every minute of working with the community, those new to Cedar Rapids, those just finding out about the GLRC, those who were just beginning to deal with their true selves, professionals and organizations who wanted to better serve the glbt community.....and the list goes on.

It's not all been a piece of cake. Lack of finances has been frustrating, working with difficult people has been a learning experience, trying to fit hours upon hours of work into a 24 hour day has been impossible, trying to balance the work of the GLRC with my personal life has been challenging, getting others to carry some of the load has been disheartening....but all in all I have seen wonderful and exciting things happen for the GLRC and the people the organization serves.

I would like to publicly thank my wife Lana for her patience, which admittedly

and rightly grew thin at times, while I did whatever I could to make the GLRC a positive place for people to come, an organization with a good reputation and an outreach to all aspects of the citizenry of Eastern Iowa. She put up with a lot, with me working at the Center and at home to do what I felt was necessary to accomplish what I set out to do. I love her dearly for allowing me to contribute the time, energy, finances and devotion I felt I needed to give to feel good about the part I played in the history of the GLRC.

I wish to thank all of the wonderful people that I have worked with over the years who have ahold of the same vision that I have, to see Cedar Rapids and Eastern Iowa become a better place for gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered persons to live, work and raise their families. I can truthfully say we had some good teamwork going on!

Lana and I wish the GLRC the best of success in the future and will look forward to receiving our monthly newsletter to keep us posted on all the great things that are happening in Cedar Rapids and the surrounding areas.

ICHR of Linn County to Hold "Y2Gay" Voter Forum Oct. 17

Event celebrates "new millenium" for gays, lesbians, bisexuals, transgendered and their allies

CEDAR RAPIDS, IA - September 16, 1999 — The Iowa Coalition for Human Rights of Linn County is sponsoring a voter forum in Cedar Rapids for the GLBTA community at 2:00 p.m. on Sunday, October 17. The event will be held at CSPS, located at 1103 Third Street S.E. in Cedar Rapids.

With plenty of food, door prizes, opportunities for socializing, and valuable information, the forum will give voters an opportunity to visit with local candidates in a relaxed setting and hear their views on issues important to the GLBT community. The Iowa Coalition for Human Rights will be inviting all candidates on the ballot for Cedar Rapids' upcoming mayoral and city council elections, and the State House special election.

"Informed voting is the one of the most important things a GLBT or allied person can do to assure civil rights and equality for our community," said Janelle Rettig, chair of the ICHR board of directors. "Elected officials and other people from all over the state are watching with great interest the Cedar Rapids elections coming up this fall."

ICHR board member Chris Taylor of Cedar Rapids is one of the event's organizers: "I invite anyone who cares about the lives of GLBT people to attend. Not only will it be educational, but you will have a great time!"

Admission to the Y2Gay forum is free and open to the public.

ICHR is a statewide organization working for civil rights and equality for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people. For more information on ICHR or the Y2Gay forum, e-mail or call (319) 339-1661. You may also visit the ICHR web site at <http://www.ichriowa.org>.

Why Did The Chicken Cross The Road?

Jerry Falwell:

Because the chicken was homosexual! Isn't it obvious? Can't you people see the plain truth in front of your face? The chicken was going to the "other side." That's what "they" call it the "other side." Yes, my friends, that chicken is homosexual. And, if you eat that chicken, you will become homosexual too. I say we boycott all chickens until we sort out this abomination that the liberal media whitewashes with seemingly harmless phrases like "the other side." That chicken should not be free to cross the road. It's as plain and simple as that.

The Quire *presents ...*

Death by Chocolate

fund-raiser for GALA 2000

- Sumptuous Desserts
- Cabaret
- Silent Auction

featuring Dali lithograph

When: Wednesday, October 27, 1999
7:30 - 9:30 p.m.

Where: Old Brick
Clinton & Market Streets, Iowa City

Cost: \$10 to \$25 per person

Last Day to Reserve: Saturday, October 23, 1999

For more information telephone 319-354-4602

Send this Death by Chocolate reservation form with payment to:
The Quire, P.O. Box 1101, Iowa City, IA 52244-1101

Name _____ Number of Persons _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

For confirmation, please include phone number _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Coming Out Dance Set for Oct. 15

Sooner or later, every lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered person confronts the challenge of coming out. Each of us meets that challenge in our own individual fashion. For many, the process is ongoing, and lasts a lifetime.

National Coming Out Day, which takes place every October 11, is an opportunity to educate America by letting those around us know a little more about who we are. It also offers a change to celebrate coming out as act of courage, and to support those engaged in it.

This year, for the first time, Cedar Rapids will celebrate with a community-wide dance. The all-ages event is scheduled for Friday, October 15, beginning at 8 p.m., at CSPA, a contemporary arts center at 1103 Third Street SE.

The semi-formal dance is designed for all lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgendered people, of all ages, their friends and families. Non-alcoholic refreshments will be available. Admission is free, though donations will be accepted and appreciated.

Sponsors of the event include the Coe Alliance, Gay and Lesbian Resource Center, Youth Pride Alliance, Clare House, Legion Arts/CSPA and P-FLAG. Volunteers are needed to help plan the dance.

For more information, call the GLRC at 366-2055 or CSPA at 364-1580



A One-Day Retreat for Gay and Bisexual Men

Saturday, October 9, 1999

10:00 a.m. - 6 p.m.

Woodpecker Lodge, Pinicon Ridge Park
Central City (north of Cedar Rapids)

This Men's Retreat is designed to attract gay and bisexual men of all ages and backgrounds.

This event will offer networking opportunities in a relaxed informal setting, and introduce participants to a variety of social, cultural and political resources.

Guest speakers and workshop presenters featured at the retreat: Tim Miller, performance artist and writer from Los Angeles who provides workshops for gay and bisexual men; Sean O. Strub, native of Iowa City and is the founder and publisher of POZ magazine; Peter Cannice, Des Moines writer and HIV/AIDS educator; Robe Porterfield, Cedar Rapids businessman and longtime volunteer in gay rights and HIV organizations; Brian Wilkes, counselor and therapist who works with gay and lesbian clients in Cedar Rapids and Iowa City.

The retreat looks to be full of great speakers, but there will also be as lot of fun



**Tim Miller (One of the
Workshop Presenters)**

activities that are planned throughout the day. This is a time for men to get together and discuss issues that affect them.

Free time will be available for individuals to enjoy the park. There are over 12 miles of trails meandering throughout the park. There is also a tower observation platform 65 feet above the ground and 1,021 feet above sea level, making it the highest point in Linn County. There is a 50 cent per person fee to enter the tower. Two quarters are required.

Come Join the Fun!

Advance registration required. Registrations due October 1st. The registration fee is \$10 which covers all materials, lunch and refreshments. Make checks payable to Rapids AIDS Project. Scholarships are available. Contact the Rapids AIDS Project (RAP) office at (319) 393-9579 or rap@crossnet.org

Directions: Pinicon Ridge Park is located 12 miles north of the Cedar Rapids / Marion area on Highway 13 near Central City. Turn off Highway 13 just south of Central City and enter at park entrance. Follow the road (and signs) to Woodpecker Lodge.

Lives Worth Living Men's Retreat is sponsored by: Lives Worth Living Steering Committee, Rapids AIDS Project (RAP), a program of the American Red Cross, Legion Arts / CSPA, Cedar Rapids Gay and Lesbian Resource Center (GLRC), and the Linn County Health Department.

Funded in part by a grant from the Iowa Department of Public Health.

Dinner Under the Stars

On September 11, over fifty guests enjoyed a delicious candlelit dinner on the lawn of Christ Episcopal Church, while raising funds for the GLRC. Many new faces demonstrated growing support for the GLRC's mission. Thanks to the cooks, servers, and to Christ Episcopal Church for use of their beautiful facility.

Letters to the Editor

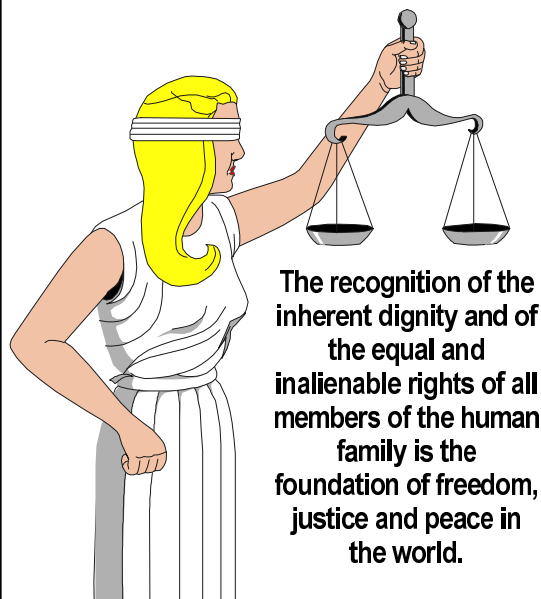
I received an email from a lady who wanted to help her daughter, who thought she might be bisexual. I forwarded her some articles on bisexuality and invited her daughter to attend Youth Pride Alliance meetings. This is the note I received back. What a wonderful mom! What we do at the GLRC is far reaching and we don't even have an idea of the many lives we touch.

"The articles have all been very helpful and informative. 'E' is still not telling others outright of this. I haven't told her that I have contacted your organization either. I would like to tell her but I am unsure how I should tell her. I think it may be helpful for her to come to one of the teen groups. If, after all is said and done, she is not bisexual then the way I look at it-she is a great girl who is friendly and open-minded, so she has just made some more friends. I keep thinking that this is what it is all about-accepting people for who they are-not who you want them to be. I hope that I will always remember these words and really live them. She has a tough road ahead of her and no matter what, I will love her and support her. I want her to always know this, by my words but more importantly, my actions.

Thanks again Carol. Good luck to you. If you see more articles, please send them my way as well. I will appreciate them and you!!!

A.S.

Preamble to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights



Open Letter To The Community

To all persons that have wondered if Christ will send them to hell when they die because they are gay:

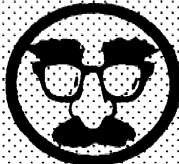
This will not happen. Sexual preference does not make you a sinner. How do I know this? On September 25th of last year Christ appeared to me along with my deceased brother who died of a heart attack 2 ½ years ago. He was gay, as am I.

This and other things kept happening in my home around me. I finally got the message that Christ wanted me to spread this news to all walks of life. Christ loves all persons, no matter what their sexual preference is. God loves all, even gay persons.

My gay brother was brought in front of me to tell me I was to tell everyone I can that Christ is always with you and when it's your time to go, you will live in God's kingdom. All He asks is that you believe in Him and love Him and you will be with Him after death.

There is so much more to say. I have a PO Box that you can write to, if you wish: PO Box 8964; Cedar Rapids, IA 524-8-8964.

Let us put you

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Homosexuality And The Bible: Considerations For People Of Faith

This October will mark the first anniversary of the death of Matthew Shepard, a student at the University of Wyoming who was brutally murdered in part, at least, because of being gay. Matthew Shepard was a practicing Christian, and his death was mourned by many fellow Christians as a senseless, violent act. However, Shepard's death has been interpreted by some extremists as an event which shows God's judgment on gays. Why is there such a wide division in the Christian community over the issue of homosexuality?

The answer to this question, in part, can be traced to the different ways Christians have interpreted the Bible in relationship to the question of homosexuality. What does the Bible actually say about homosexuality?

In an effort to answer this question, the Justice, Peace and Integrity of Creation

(JPIC) Commission of the Episcopal Diocese of Iowa has helped to sponsor a presentation by Dr. Susan E. Hill, associate professor of Religion at the University of Northern Iowa, dealing with the issue of homosexuality and the Bible. Dr. Hill has entitled her presentation, "Homosexuality and the Bible: Considerations for People of Faith." She will be giving her presentation as an educational forum which is open to the public on Saturday, October 23, 1999, from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. at St. Luke's Episcopal Church, 2014 Melrose Drive, Cedar Falls. Community members, both gay and straight, are encouraged to attend and to participate with their observations and questions.

For further information, please call John Boyd, member of the JPIC Commission, at 319.236.2614.

Quire news

The Quire, Eastern Iowa's GLBT Chorus, is planning a trip to California to participate in GALA 2000, a festival of Gay and Lesbian choirs from all over the USA, Canada, and a few other countries around the world. The festival will be held in San Jose the week of July 22-30, 2000. To help finance the trip, The Quire will hold a fund-raiser entitled "Death by Chocolate" at Old Brick Church, Iowa City, on Wednesday, October 27, 1999, from 7:30 to 9:30 p.m.

The event will consist of a dessert buffet (mostly chocolate) with cabaret-type entertainment by Quire members and friends, and a silent auction. The centerpiece of the auction will be a signed, numbered lithograph by Salvador Dali, donated by an Iowa City friend. Attendance will be limited to 100 people, and the last date to make reservations is Saturday, October 23. Reservation cost is a sliding scale of \$10 to \$25 per person. For more information call 319-354-4602 after 6:00 p.m. or E-mail .

Dubuque Rejects Rights Proposal

Des Moines Register, August 17, 1999

The City Council Monday night rejected an amendment that would have protected residents from discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation.

The ordinance would have made it illegal to deny someone an apartment, a job, a promotion, service at a business, credit, or housing solely on the basis of sexual orientation.

The vote was 5-2 after little discussion.

Council member Dan Nicholson said Iowa's laws against hate crimes already protect homosexuals from discriminatory acts. "I don't think this ordinance is necessary," he said.

Cedar Rapids, Iowa City and Ames have ordinances similar to the one Dubuque was considering.

Editor's Note: It saddens me that so-called intelligent people can be so blinded to the truth. I am so thankful that members of our own City Council were open minded enough to hear discussion from both sides and then make a decision based on what they felt was right, according to the information they received. I applaud their courageous efforts and I hope that other decision-makers will soon wake up and make better decisions for the good of all.

10 Things That Sound Dirty In The Office, But Aren't

10. Mind if I use your laptop?

9. Just stick it in my box.

8. You're getting too soft.

7. If I have to lick one more, I'll gag!

6. I want it on my desk, NOW!!

5. HMMMMMMMM.... I think it's out of fluid

4. My equipment is so old, it takes forever to finish.

3. It's an entry-level position.

2. When do you think you'll be getting off today?

On The Millennium March on Washington

by John Marble

As a grassroots activist, I am very committed to the GLBT Movement on the local level, and spend most of my energy and money there. However, I clearly see the need for a national March on Washington.

For months many of us have been shouted down by activists who have opposed it. The majority of us who support the March have remained silent in fear of disdain or the appearance of somehow seeming less committed or less radical than our anti-March counterparts.

I've carefully looked at the arguments from both sides and both have some validity. Are you worried about local organizations losing money? Then invest in your local community, and get on the bus and march for the rest of us. Are you worried that focus will be taken away from local laws and initiatives? Then continue to do local work, but get on the bus and march for the rest of us.

I am only 22 years old. Some of my older, activist friends' have said we don't need another national march. I can only say "That's fine for you, but what about the rest of us?"

As a high school student, I was not out in 1993. Where is my March on Washington? Why deny people my age this great

opportunity? Most friends my age with whom I talk want a national March. We need and want an opportunity to let the world know that we, too, exist.

It seems that most of those who oppose the March have been out for a while. While their lives may not be comfortable, they are still surrounded with a GLBT-familiar world composed of supportive friends and organizations. But what about the hundreds of thousands of us who may have just come out or are even now struggling to do so? We know too well that the world is far different from the one that many of us see once our "out" lives have become comfortable. To some, a national March may seem trivial. But for tens of thousands of lonely teenagers watching on television or tuning in via the Internet, the national Millennium March on Washington for Equality can be vital, life-changing, even life-saving.

I have many friends who did attend the previous National GLBT Marches, and they speak of how transforming they were. Thanks to those Marches, some of my friends decided to come out fully; others made the decision to invest time, energy and financial resources in their local communities. Every time I mention the previous Marches, their eyes light up as they begin to preach the gospel of

equality. Sure, they know that the March's main effects were not legislation, but motivation and visibility. But that's also good and powerful. In fact, I know so many straight people who now realize that they have gay friends and family, thanks to the previous Marches.

To say that there will be no more national GLBT Marches is to take the movement away from the people. Please don't dictate your preferences to my generation of activists. You had your chance to gather in DC, to be inspired and motivated, to take your power and energy back to cities and towns across America. If you don't want it now, move over. We will take it now.

One other thought: As much as I am committed to working on legislation in my local community, I will not be satisfied with a patchwork of varying state, country and city laws across our nation. We shouldn't depend alone on the hope that thousands of municipalities and 50 diverse states will all legislate equality on our behalf. We should STILL be fighting nationally. This is a two-front war, national and local. To think otherwise is to miss the powerful benefit of a key organizing strategy.

It's time to re-examine the debate.

If you are committed locally, get involved nationally. If you are working nationally, invest in your local community. And regardless of your opinion, get on the bus and march on our nation's capital on April 30, 2000. Not solely for your ideals, nor for your agenda. But for the rest of us.



Seattle Protects Transgendered Individuals

The Housing, Human Services and Civil Rights Committee of the Seattle City Council voted unanimously on Wednesday, September 1, 1999 to make gender identity a separate protected class of citizens, separating it from the definition of sexual orientation.

This means that, finally, Transgendered individuals' rights will be legally protected just like everyone else.

Flavorable
Reviews



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New Twist On Romance Movies

Author Unknown

The advertising slogan for the new independent film "Trick" is deceptively simple: "A comedy about two guys trying to make it in the big city." "If you get it, fine," says director Jim Fall. "If not, you're in for a surprise."

Indeed. The guys in question are Gabriel and Mark, two young gay men in New York. Gabriel is an aspiring musical-comedy writer. Mark is a hunky "go-go boy" - the male equivalent of a stripper. After the unlikely pair meet, they spend more than half the film trying to "make it" - that's to say, have sex - and are frustrated at every turn.

In spite of a plot that reads like a raunchy sex comedy, "Trick" is in fact a good-natured romance that has appeal beyond the gay audiences Fall had in mind when he made it. And in the end, love and companionship, not sex, are what the story is all about.

The film features spirited performances from Christian Campbell as Gabriel, J.P. Pitoc as Mark and "Beverly Hills, 90210" star Tori Spelling as Katherine, a slightly deluded aspiring actress.

The original screenplay for "Trick" was "much more randy," Fall says with a grin. "Luckily, we had 3-plus years to develop the film."

Through many drafts and several readings, the story began to change and grow in depth and tone. Now, "it's not just a film about two guys trying to have sex," says Fall. "They try to do that at the beginning, but then get caught off guard by their feelings for each other. It's a sweeter story than when I started."

Throughout the '80s and '90s, most gay-themed films have dealt with the subject of AIDS. But Fall avoids the subject here, with the exception of one oblique reference to safe sex. He feels there's now a bias against AIDS-themed

films. He notes that the first script he wrote dealt directly with AIDS, and perhaps that led to his inability to sell it. Fall suggests that it's not so much a taboo against AIDS as it is the fact that there have been so many films on the subject in recent years.

"And in the end, love and companionship, not sex, are what the story is all about."

Fall himself was tired of "relentlessly dark gay films that wore their politics on their sleeves, to the point where the dialogue was just speeches. Aren't there other stories to tell about gay people besides coming-out stories and AIDS stories? How do you be a responsible gay filmmaker, but also do something different?"

Fall's answer is "Trick's" refreshingly light-hearted romantic story. "I think it's great that you're rooting for two gay boys at the end of the movie," he says.



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Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
319-363-3194

CSPS (Community Arts Center)

1103 3rd St SE
Cedar Rapids, IA
319-364-1580

One Flight Up

44-48 Main St
Dubuque, IA
319-582-8357

The Bar

East 7th & Sycamore
Waterloo, IA
319-232-0543

HEALTH

AIDS Interfaith Network of Eastern IA

1621 E 4th St.
Waterloo, IA 50703

Iowa Center for AIDS Resources & Education (ICARE)

c/o Laura Hill, Executive Director
321 E. First St.
Iowa City, IA 52244
(319) 356-338-2135 voice
ICAREIC@aol.com

Linn County Health Dept.

Free Anonymous HIV Testing
501 13th St. NW
319-398-3551

Iowa City Free Medical Clinic

Free Anonymous HIV Testing
120 N. Dubuque
Iowa City, IA
319-377-4459

Rapid AIDS Project

3601 42nd St. NE
Cedar Rapids, IA
319-393-9579

PUBLICATIONS

ACCESSLine

Iowa's Statewide Newspaper for Lesbians & Friends
c/o ACCESS in Northeast Iowa
PO Box 1282
Waterloo, IA 50704
319-232-5805
access@forbin.com

Iowa's Pride

The University of Iowa
20314 Iowa Memorial Union
Iowa City, IA 52242-1317
319-335-3251 voice
319-335-3407 Fax
iowa-pride@uiowa.edu

Resource Line

GLRC Monthly Newsletter
PO Box 1643
Cedar Rapids, IA 52406-1463
319-366-2055
theglrc@geocities.com
www.geocities.com/~theglrc

SOCIAL

OWL's

Older & Wiser Lesbians
Monthly Potluck & Social
319-366-2055

GLBT Social Sunday

Second Sunday of every month
6:00 p.m.
Sanctuary
405 South Gilbert St
Iowa City, IA

SOCIAL/SUPPORT

Coe Alliance

Weekly Meetings & Events
www.coe.edu/organizations/allian
ce
jchaimov@coe.edu
319-399-8594

GLRC of Cedar Rapids

1056 5th Ave SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
319-366-2055
crglrc@crglrc.org
www.crglrc.org

SpiritHill Women's Retreat

Info, counseling, Women's Dance on 1st Sat each month
319-643-2613

Youth Pride Alliance

Info, education
1056 5th Ave SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
319-366-2055

SUPPORT

Clare House Catholic Worker

A Community offering roommate services to people living with HIV/AIDS
514 McKinley St. SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
319-364-4101

PFLAG

Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays
4th Tuesday of every month
Faith United Methodist Church
1000 30th St NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402

Men's Support Group

2nd & 4th Tuesday of every month 6:30-8:30 p.m.
GLRC Resource Center
1056 5th Ave. SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
319-366-2055

Women's Support Group

1st & 3rd Tuesday of every month 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.
GLRC Resource Center
1056 5th Ave. SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
319-366-2055

SPIRITUAL / WORSHIP

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A Reconciling Congregation
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1000 30th St NE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52402
Pastor Tom Mohan
319-363-8454
http://soli.inav.net/~faithumc

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Forum at 9:30 am
Worship Service at 11 am
600 3rd Ave. SE
Cedar Rapids, IA 52403
319-362-9827