

HerlandVoice

volume twenty-four number seven

July • 2006

1000 watt march to confront focus on the family

This summer, dozens of families from across the country will come together with Soulforce to confront the homophobic rhetoric of James Dobson and Focus on the Family in an event called: **The 1000 Watt March, Vigil, and Concert: Shedding the Powerful Light of Truth on the Anti-Gay Dishonesty of Focus on the Family.**

On July 17, same-gender couples, families with children, lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) individuals and straight friends will undertake a week-long justice march which will commence from the steps of the Colorado State Capitol building. A diverse selection of families from across America will participate in the 65-mile "relay" style march; each group of families taking turns walking a 4-mile segment during the week until they reach the headquarters of Focus on the Family.

The purpose of the march is to help America connect the dots between the defamatory rhetoric that Focus on the Family and the erosion of the civil liberties of families.

On July 22, actor Shepard, executive director of the Shepard Foundation, will lead a crowd in a final 2-

mile march from Ramport Park in Colorado Springs to the headquarters of Focus on the Family. The crowd will encircle James Dobson's headquarters, joining hearts and hands in vigil as they peacefully call on him to cease his defamation of the LGBT community. Afterwards, Broadway star Billy Porter will protest in song outside Focus on the Family, with an electrifying jazz concert that celebrates the lives of all people and loving relationships that seek the American dream.

"Among dozens of other harmful lies, James Dobson says that families like mine are destroying the institution of marriage, harming children, and posing a threat to American society," says Jeff Lutes, executive director of Soulforce, an organization that uses nonviolent methods to confront anti-gay religious discrimination. "Because of Dobson's wealth, power, and direct ties to the Bush administration, those lies are being used to justify legislative discrimination and bigotry at the local, state and federal level."

To find out more about the Soulforce 1000 Watt March, Vigil and Concert, please see: www.soulforce.org/1000wattmarch.

"(If same-sex marriage is allowed) barring a miracle, the family as it has been known for more than five millennia will crumble, presaging the fall of Western civilization itself."

— James Dobson

march is to help America connect the dots between the defamatory rhetoric that Focus on the Family and the erosion of the civil liberties of families.

Chad Allen and Judy Maturation, will lead the mile march from Ram-

focus on your own family!

Thanks to the fear mongering of James Dobson and other right wing religious leaders, voters in six states will be voting on constitutional amendments banning both same-sex marriage and legal recognition or benefits of same-sex relationships this November.

Several states are considering legislation to ban gay and lesbian couples from adopting, denying needy children loving homes.

This year, after threats from James Dobson and other religious right figures, Congress reintroduced the Federal Marriage Amendment. Although this amendment has already failed in the Senate, the anti-gay rhetoric supporting it continues to use families headed by same-sex couples as political tools for turning out conservative voters.

pride recap

This year's Pride Week was a great success and participants enjoyed the best Pride weather in years.

On Saturday, over 100 womyn indulged in grilled burgers and dogs at the Herland picnic and were entertained by Peggy, Tara, Lila, Chaz, and Sunshine.

Later that evening, Betsy and the Edge gave us a taste of blues and rock to finish out the activities at the park. From the looks of things, many of those revelers found their way over to the Copa where the wait was over 30 minutes just to get in.

On Sunday, the Herland "float" was decorated with bright streamers and the Herland banner. The slightly gray Herland contingent chanted, "We're old, we're queer, and WE'RE STILL HERE" much to the delight of the crowd.

The Voice is published monthly by Herland Sister Resources, Inc. 2312 NW 39th, Oklahoma City, OK 73112. The Voice is offered as an open forum for community discourse. Articles reflect the opinions of the author and not necessarily those of Herland Sister Resources. Unsolicited articles and letters to the editor are welcomed and must be signed by the writer with full name and address.

Upon request, letters or articles may be printed under a pseudonym or anonymously. Herland reserves the right to edit or not publish any article. Subscriptions to The Voice are free upon request although a donation is requested to meet publication and distribution costs.

soulforce equality house

Five Soulforce Equality Riders announced they are starting an Equality House in OKC. The House will operate on the non-violent principles of Gandhi and MLK, Jr. and will house 5-8 youth activists who will each work on a different lgbt project.

Projects will include:

- visits to Oral Roberts University and other religious schools which ban the enrollment of lgbt students
- bringing same-sex couples who are in committed relationships and wish to be married to city halls across Oklahoma
- addressing discrimination in the workplace, housing, and in public schools

The youth will also participate in some larger Soulforce actions such as the military recruitment office sit-ins this summer. Committed to maintaining a positive image for the lgbt community and to uniting lgbt brothers, sisters and allies, they look forward to the community involvement. Please email Pamela at pamela@equalityride.com with any questions or if you wish to make a donation.

the graying of gays

As the generation of gay men and lesbians who came out in the 1960s and '70s reaches retirement age, about a dozen specialized senior developments across the country are either up and running or in the works.

In such senior-heavy locales as California, Arizona and Florida, as well as less traditionally gay-friendly places like North Carolina and Texas, builders have found a market in a segment of the gay population that worries getting old will mean going back in the closet.

Besides personal safety, specialists in gay aging issues offer other reasons why the so-called Stonewall Generation, named for the 1969 New York riots that marked the beginning of the modern gay movement, needs and craves places of its own to retire.

"There is a real sense of disenfranchisement and also a sense of independence, of 'I don't want to be dependent on family, I want to be dependent on community,'" said Judy Dlugacz, founder of the San Francisco-based lesbian travel company Olivia Cruises and Resorts.

Olivia is currently scouting land in the Palm Springs area for what Dlugacz hopes will be the first of several high-end resort communities geared toward mature lesbians who are looking either for a vacation home or a place to retire.

"In a retirement community, you want to be with people of like minds and like interests, whether it's a golf community or a religious community," said Bonnie McGowan, who is spearheading Birds of a Feather, a gay senior complex in New Mexico. "Until I feel safe walking down the street holding a woman's hand ... and not feel like I'm going to offend even one person, there is a need for this."

At Rainbow Vision, a just-completed senior community in Santa Fe, N.M. a private dining room is named after Truman Capote and '60s teen icon Lesley "It's My Party" Gore was scheduled to appear this weekend. Everything about the 146-unit retirement village was designed with the comfort of graying gays and lesbians in mind.

supper club

This month we are going to try the *Topanga Bar and Grill*, the restaurant located in the Hollywood Hotel, 3535 NW 39th, for Supper Club on *Saturday, July 8* at 5:30 pm (meet at Herland at 5:00 if you wish to carpool).

After dinner, at 7 pm, we will venture over to Celebration Station, off of I-40 just east of Meridian, for a round or two of miniature golf. This should be the perfect way to spend a warm Oklahoma summer evening!

video night

Herland presents the *LWord* at 7 pm on *Saturday, July 15* for this month's video night. We'll catch up on the happenings with the gang. When last we saw them Tina explored her feelings for the opposite sex on a business trip to Canada, Dana's treatment put a strain on her and Lara's relationship, Jenny helped Moira in her transformation to Max, Carmen and Shane dedicated parts of their bodies to each other, and Alice reverted back in her obsession over Dana.

Jenny arranged a charity event to support Moira/Max, Helena took the girls to a surprise trip to honor Dana in her recovery, and Carmen was still dealing with the aftermath of Shane's ex, Bette kicked Tina out of the bedroom and tried to find peace in Buddhism.

scrabble day

Don't miss out on a challenge against some of the best Scrabble players around. Join us on *Saturday, July 22*, from 1 to 5 pm for our regular *Scrabble games*. If folks want pizza, we'll order after everyone arrives.

scrapbook days in august

Herland is starting a project to pull together its collection of photos and memorabilia and put them in order in scrapbooks. Join us on the second and fourth Saturdays in August as we try to get some years associated with our photos and secure them in scrapbooks for better preservation.

We will work on the scrapbooks on the second and fourth Saturday afternoons in August.

submissions for poetry issue

Herland is still seeking submissions of original poetry for our upcoming poetry issue in November. Please keep in mind our space limitations when choosing your submission(s). You may mail your submissions to Herland, 2312 NW 39th, 73112 or email them to us at Herland@herlandsisters.org. Please tell us how you wish your name to appear in publication.

July 2006 events

Mary & Louise Sunday July 2
at Grape Ranch I-40 east to
SH 27 (Woody Guthrie Blvd.
in Okemah), south 6 miles,
then 1 mile west 2:00 to 5
pm; no cover

Mary & Louise Saturday July 8
Full Circle Bookstore 7-9 pm

Herland *Supper Club* Satur-
day July 8 Topanga 5:30 pm
followed by miniature golf at
Celebration Station at 7 pm

OGLPC Monthly Meeting
Monday July 10 Neighbor-
hood Alliance 1236 NW
36th 7 pm

PFLAG-OKC Tuesday July 11
Church of the Open Arms 7
pm

PFLAG-Norman Thursday July 13
St Stephens Church
McGee & W Brooks 7 pm

Miss Brown to You Friday July 14
UCO Jazz Lab 8-11 pm \$7

Herland *Video Night* Satur-
day July 15 7 pm

*Mary, Louise, Elyse and the
band* Saturday July 15
Woody Guthrie Festival I-40
east to Okemah 3 pm

Herland *Board Meeting* Sun-
day July 16 4 pm

Herland *Scrabble Day* Satur-
day July 22 1 pm-5 pm

batwoman returns as a lesbian

Years after she first emerged from the Batcave, Batwoman is coming out of the closet. DC Comics is resurrecting the classic comic book character as a lesbian, unveiling the new Batwoman in July as part of an ongoing weekly series that began this year.

The 5-foot-10 superhero comes with flowing red hair, knee-high red boots with spiked heels, and a form-fitting black outfit.

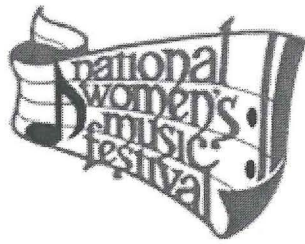
"We decided to give her a different point of view," explained Dan DiDio, vice president at DC. "We wanted to make her a more unique personality than others in the Bat-family."

The original Batwoman was started in 1956 and killed off in 1979. The new character will share the same name as her original alter ego, Kathy Kane. And the new Batwoman arrives with ties to others in the Gotham City world.

"She's a socialite from Gotham high society," DiDio said. "She has some past connection with Bruce Wayne. And she's also had a past love affair with one of our lead characters, Renee Montoya."

website of the
month

www.soulforce.org



SheRocks!

National Women's Music Festival

July 6-9, 2006, at Illinois State University,
Bloomington

An incredible 4-day, jam-packed weekend of workshops, concerts, drama, dances, films, and videos, shopping, access and child care services and much more -- all held indoors!

Featured performers include: Vickie Shaw, Cheryl Wheeler, Deidre McCalla, Margie Adam, Tret Fure, Lisa Koch, Karen Williams, Erika Luckett, Ellis, Alix Olson, Girlyman, Bitch and The Exciting Conclusion, GOD-DES and She.

On campus housing available for very reasonable rates.
For more information, check it out online at
www.wiaonline.org/nwmfreg.html.

reasons gays should not be allowed to marry

Reason: Straight marriage will be less meaningful if civil marriage equality becomes law.

Of course. Straight marriages are always meaningful. Just ask Britney Spears about her 55-hour "just for fun" marriage and its deep meaningfulness, or Rush Limbaugh about his four deeply meaningful marriages.

Reason: Civil marriage equality would change the foundation of society.

That's right. Heterosexual-only marriage has been around for a long time, and we could never adapt to new social norms, just as we haven't adapted to cars, longer lifespans, the abolition of slavery, or women voting.

Reason: Civil unions provide most of the same benefits as marriage—just with a different name.

Yes, "separate but equal" always works so well. Just think when we had separate schools for African-Americans and separate water fountains for the same – these worked beautifully, and were eminently fair.

Come to a place of...
...Extravagant Grace
...Radical Inclusion
...Relentless Compassion

Sundays 6:00pm
 First Unitarian Church
 600 NW 13th Street

www.cohokc.com

**CATHEDRAL
 OF HOPE**
 OKLAHOMA CITY



Margaret Womack RE
 Services LLC -
 3000 Twin Lake Drive
 Okla. City, OK 73165-7356

Ginny Poindexter - Realtor Assoc.
 Telephone: 405-919-8443
 E-Mail: izallgood4now@yahoo.com

Multiple Listing Service
MLS



L word, season 2 dvd set raffle

As a fundraiser, Herland is raffling off a brand-new box set of the L word, Season 2 DVDs. Raffle tickets will be sold at Herland until August 19. Then, at the last showing of the L word for this season (on August 19), we will draw a ticket and announce the winner. Tickets are \$1 a piece or 6 for \$5.

thank you for your gift!

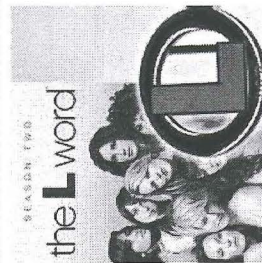
Name

Street

City State Zip

Your contribution is important! Just \$15 a year will help us pay for the \$300+ it costs every month to print and mail the newsletter. Herland is a non-profit 501(c)3 organization and exists solely through contributions and the efforts of our volunteers. Your contribution is deductible to the extent allowed by law.

- Enclosed is a contribution for \$
- Please add me to the mailing list for The Voice.
- Please change my address (new address above).



Season 2
 DVD set



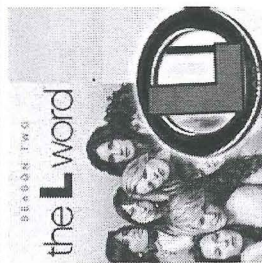
Raffle Ticket

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email (optional): _____

Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5. Please mail or bring to Herland, 2312 NW 39th, OKC, OK 73112. Drawing to be held August 19.



Season 2
 DVD set



Raffle Ticket

Name: _____

Phone: _____

Email (optional): _____

Tickets are \$1 each or six for \$5. Please mail or bring to Herland, 2312 NW 39th, OKC, OK 73112. Drawing to be held August 19.

Herland Sister Resources
2312 NW 39th Street
Oklahoma City, OK 73112

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Oklahoma City, OK
Permit No. 861

Return Service Requested

Dr. Dawn Singleton, Ph.D.



Licensed Professional Counselor
Licensed Marital & Family Therapist

5005 N. Pennsylvania #204 OKC, OK
405-232-3296

FREE HOUR CONSULTATION



Good Neighbor Development
*Single and Multi-Family Leasing
Property Management and Development*

April Stacy
Manager

405.606.5906
www.goodneighbordevelopment.com



PHONE: 943-1467

CITY ANIMAL HOSPITAL
2910 N.W. 23
OKLAHOMA CITY, OKLAHOMA 73107

N. WORLAND DVM

"TOUCH ME. FEEL THE SOFTNESS."

DELICIOUS BATH AND BODY PRODUCTS

<http://www.cbunnyrep.com/8812>

DOROTHY E. HEIM

Attorney at Law
(405) 616-5045
dheim033@yahoo.com

Call me with your legal questions:

estate planning
contract issues

personal injury
small business



Sandy Ingraham, J.D., M.S.W.
Attorney-at-Law
Ingraham & Associates, PLLC

Estate Planning, Wills, Trusts, Probate, Adoption, Contracts

Route 2, Box 369-B
McLoud, OK 74851

Tel. (405) 964-2072
Ingraham@mccloudteleco.com