

"WISCONSIN" FROM SEVENTH PAGE

who may not realize that marriage is already heterosexually defined. To say that this is a gay marriage amendment is grossly erroneous. In fact, this proposed amendment seeks to make it permanently impossible for us to ever seek civil unions or gay marriage. The proposed ban takes away rights—rights we do not even have. If our opposition succeeds, this will be the first time that discrimination has gone into our state constitution.

But our opposition will not succeed. I have been volunteering and working on this campaign for three years not because I have an altruistic nature, but because I hold the stubborn conviction that fairness can prevail through successfully combating ignorance. If I had thought defeating this hate legislation was impossible, there is no way I would have kept coming back. But I am grateful that I have kept coming back because now I can be a part of history. On November 7, turn a queer eye towards Wisconsin and watch the tables turn on the conservative movement. We may be the first state to defeat an amendment like this, but I'll be damned if we'll be the last. •



State of Disunion

YEAR OF
AMERICA'S FIRST
DEATH SENTENCE
for sodomy:
1625

YEAR THAT
AMERICA'S FIRST
SODOMY LAW
was enacted:
1636

YEAR THE US
SUPREME COURT
ruled sodomy laws
unconstitutional:
2003

NUMBER OF
PEOPLE THAT
ATTENDED
the 2006 Denver gay
PRIDE parade:
135,000

NUMBER OF
SQUAD CARS
burned by gay/lesbian
protestors at the White
Night Riots in San
Francisco 5/21/79:
12

PERCENT OF
OPENLY
GAY/LESBIAN
STUDENTS
that are forced to drop
out:
28

NUMBER OF
REPORTED HATE
CRIMES
in 2004 based on
sexual orientation:
1201

DATE THAT JERRY
FALWELL BLAMED
9/11 on
homosexuals, pagans,
and the ACLU:
9/13/01

NUMBER OF
STATES
that explicitly ban gay
marriage:
39

ESTIMATED
NUMBER OF GAYS
AND LESBIANS
in America:
27,000,000

CALL TO ACTION

The Red Pill is looking for volunteers: graphic designers, writers, poets, cartoonists, artists, and photographers are needed. Get your work published now. Help distribute The Red Pill in your community, church, and school: contact us at gjredpill@hotmail.com. You can also do your part to keep us in print by donating time, paper, film, copies, and of course money (it doesn't print itself).



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IF YOU WANT TO KNOW THE TRUTH TAKE

GRAND JUNCTION,
COLORADO

The Red Pill



EQUAL

RIGHTS

OCTOBER 2006

VOL. 4 NO. 17

THE
PINK
ISSUE!



A PINK



EDITORIAL

America is at another crossroads in its development. Once again the people of this country are faced with another civil rights test. The citizens are again being asked to make a decision to give a group of people the same freedoms and rights that everyone else enjoys. This time it's not about skin color, age, biological sex, or ethnic group. It's an issue that reaches across every traditional boarder that humans have developed to identify each other. It's deeper than that. It's about who you should be able to fall in love with.

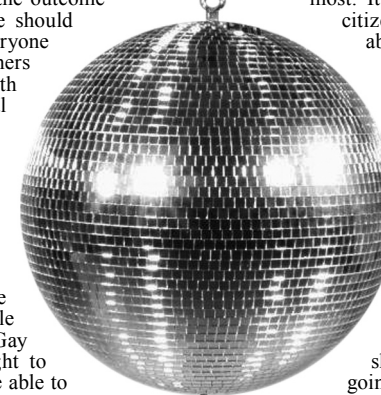
American citizens that identify as 'homosexual' are fighting for the rights that this country claims to give everyone. A debate over same sex marriage is being deliberated in many schools, offices, streets, homes, and courtrooms across this land. For some the outcome is a no brainer, gay people should have the same rights everyone else takes for granted. Others wish to oppress everyone with their religious and personal beliefs.

All too often in this society we forget that everyone has the right to live life under his or her own terms. We all have a right to pursue happiness, and that is no exception for gay people. Because people want to pursue this lifestyle we should let them. Gay people should have the right to get married. They should be able to buy a house together, and start a family if they chose to. They should be able to be there for their partners in times of need, like at the hospitals. They should be able to do this regardless of sexual preference.

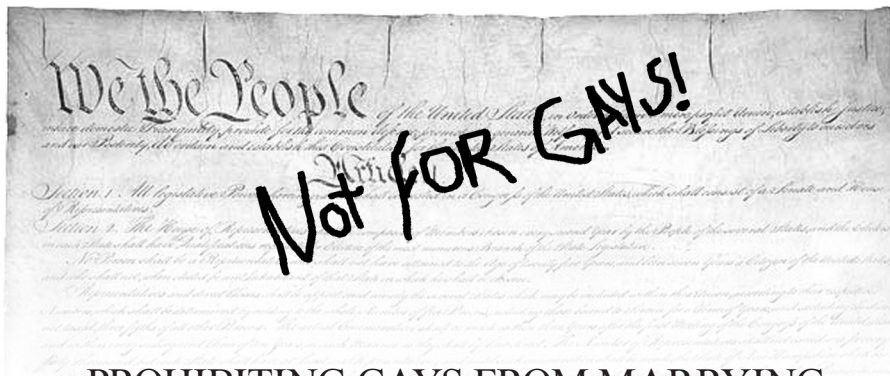
Right now, America is at war with Iraq. One of the many reasons that our Administration has given us to support this war is 'freedom.' They feel we need to bring freedom to the world. They should bring freedom home. This country was formed with the idea that all men are created equal. That includes homosexuals. If we don't give gay people the right to get married then all men are not created equal. The people of the United States should feel embarrassed to even be having this debate in our nation today.

We at The Red Pill know that there are some out there that will not approve of this issue. To that we say, "Good!" We could care less if you don't agree with us. This issue of the Pill is not making our opposition happy. This issue is about being a voice for the people that this debate affects the most. Its goal is to remind our fellow citizens that there are other beliefs about the gay, lesbian, bi-sexual, and/or transgender lifestyles that are not being listened to. These beliefs should not be silenced in this time of political unrest. They should be heard before anyone makes judgments about gays in our society.

So as you read the articles in this issue of The Red Pill you don't have to agree. In fact, you should have your own opinion about this subject. But that is where it should stop. Homosexuals are not going away. We have been around throughout history, and we'll continue to be part of society in the years to come. Our democracy can't work if we don't follow the Constitution and make this land a nation where all men are created equal. Wake-up America! •



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PROHIBITING GAYS FROM MARRYING IS UNCONSTITUTIONAL

Traditionally, amendments to the United States Constitution grant rights to the People. The idea taken by some conservatives to amend the constitution prohibiting gay marriage would be a step in the opposite direction. The assumption that this is an issue where the federal government has any jurisdiction is absurd. Numerous court cases (*Loving v. Virginia*, *Ziblocki v. Wisconsin*) have defended people's right to marry as a "fundamental freedom" and a "fundamental right," where it would be unconstitutional to prevent someone from freely entering into a marriage contract. The majority of states in the U.S. have some sort of ban on same-sex marriage and/or civil unions, whether the ban be through voter enacted constitutional amendments or through legislation.

The international precedent for recognizing same-sex marriage set by countries such as Belgium and the Netherlands, begs the question, in what direction will the U.S. follow? At least four amendments to the U.S. Constitution prevent the federal government from passing a ban, or amending the Constitution, on gay marriage. They are as follows:

AMENDMENT IV

The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

AMENDMENT IX

The enumeration in the Constitution, of certain rights, shall not be construed to deny or disparage others retained by the people.

AMENDMENT X

The powers not delegated to the United States by the Constitution, nor prohibited by it to the states, are reserved to the states respectively, or to the people.

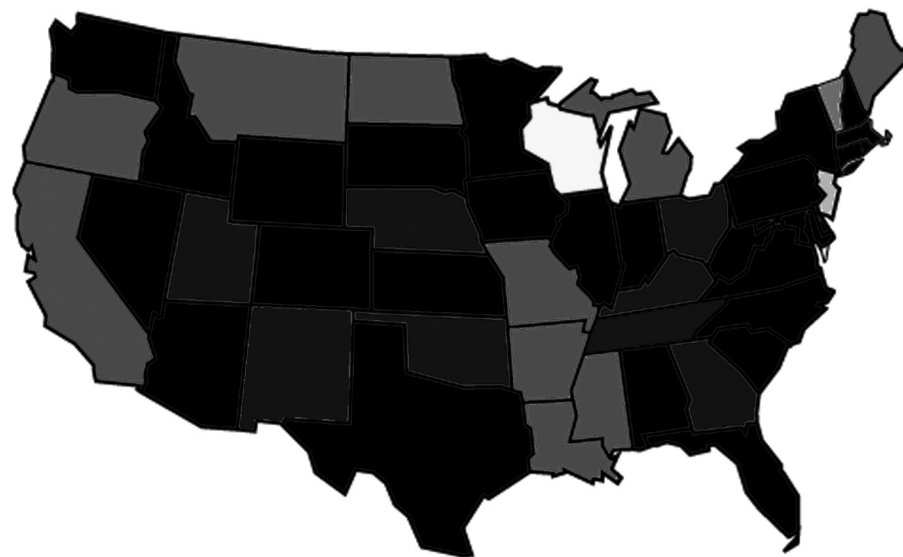
SECTION ONE to AMENDMENT XIV
...No State shall make or enforce any law which shall abridge the privileges or immunities of citizens of the United States; nor shall any State deprive any person of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law; nor deny to any person within its jurisdiction the equal protection of the laws.

Although the fourth amendment doesn't explicitly say 'privacy,' which some anti-gay marriage supporters will quickly point out, "be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches or seizures" seems to cover the issue of privacy pretty succinctly. To prevent the rights afforded to married couples in financial and medical decisions from homosexuals clearly violates constitutional rights, such as those in Section 1 of the Fourteenth Amendment. Amendments 9 and 10 gives the rights not afforded to the federal government to the states and the people. The banning of gay marriage is not within the jurisdiction of the federal government. Underlying this issue is the freedom of peoples' civil rights. At one point, it was illegal for people from different races to marry. The courts found this to be unconstitutional and a violation of rights of people to enter freely into a marriage contract. One of the most prominent arguments made against gay marriage is based in religion, as in God doesn't condone homosexual acts and therefore would not condone gay marriage. To make laws based on this assumption forces beliefs on others that may not necessarily agree with that religion—which would impede on the first amendment rights of those involved.

The bottom line is that, just as the drug war or interracial marriage, the issue of gay marriage is not under the jurisdiction of the Federal Government. The idea that we can amend the Constitution to restrict the rights of people in this 'free country' goes against not only the Constitution, but the ideals this country was founded on—life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness.

•

A FAIRER WISCONSIN



About three years ago, LGBT activists in Wisconsin caught wind of a proposed constitutional amendment that would permanently ban civil unions and gay marriage in Wisconsin, and we started mobilizing. No state has defeated such a proposed ban. But Wisconsin is not like any other state.

The progress we (at the grassroots level, mind you) have made in the past couple of years has been astounding. Given our poll numbers three years ago, the possibility of our defeating this hate legislation would have been laughable. However, recent polls show that we are evenly split. We have raised millions of dollars through donations and fundraising (primarily house parties). In a time when candidates' funding largely comes from national funds, our funds have been locally raised. It feels as if national organizations are fearful of contributing to yet another doomed campaign, not paying attention to the fact that, unlike other states, we have had time on our side and are evenly split in the polls going into Election Day. Unfortunately, in the past month multi-million dollar (Colorado-based) Focus on the Family has come to the aid of our opposition, and we will need to raise at least another \$2 million more to combat their involvement. Prior to Focus on the Family's involvement, our opposition's funds were in the low thousands.

In addition to our citizens' monetary generosity, the work of our volunteers is enough to make any political candidate salivate. We have forged many

invaluable coalitions with other minority groups, and congregational membership in our faith-based coalition exceeds that of our opponent's enlistment. To put a face on our campaign, volunteers go door-to-door and speak with constituents about the effects that this amendment could have on queer and straight people alike. Furthermore, we host action network events where volunteers are taught how to educate their family, friends, co-workers, and acquaintances about the possible ramifications of this amendment.

The success of our campaign depends on education. Time and again we have encountered people who may adamantly proclaim they are anti-gay marriage, and in the same breath declare that queers should have equal rights. However, such people do not realize that the passage of this proposed amendment would prevent queers from being treated as equal citizens. The brilliance of this proposed amendment comes in the far-reaching vagueness of its second sentence. The entire proposed amendment reads:

Only a marriage between one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage in this state. A legal status identical or substantially similar to that of marriage for unmarried individuals shall not be valid or recognized in this state.

Our Wisconsin constitution already states that marriage can only be between one man and one woman, so including both sentences serves to distract and confuse voters, especially those

"WISCONSIN" ON EIGHTH PAGE

Every Sunday • 6PM

Weekly Vegan Dinner. We'll cook the main dish. Please bring a vegan side dish, dessert, or drink. Dinner starts around 6:30PM. *The Confluence Collective* (1450 Elm).



Every Friday • Noon

A Voice of Reason holds a lunch hour peace vigil to end the war in Iraq and Afghanistan.
At the intersection of 12th and North.

Tuesday, November 7 • ALL DAY

Your chance to kick the republicans out of power.
Election Day.

Remember to vote.

RED PILL LOCATIONS

You can pick up your copy of The Red Pill at the following locations: Planet 9, Heart of the Dragon, Third World Imports, Planet Earth and the 4 Directions Gallery. Download the Red Pill at: <http://colorado.indymedia.org>

Become our friend on myspace.com.

THE 1969 STONEWALL RIOTS

Even if you're gay, there's a good possibility you have not heard of the Stonewall Riots. That's a shame. This pivotal event had positive repercussions for all of us, and it's time we all took a little history lesson.

It's difficult to overstate just how repressive life was for the typical homosexual. Bartenders were regularly arrested for serving drinks to groups of three or more gay men. Holding hands in public brought swift arrest. Kissing in public brought a severe beating in addition to the arrest. Bars and clubs were regularly raided, destroyed, and robbed by the police, with multiple beatings the norm.

One hot summer night in June of 1969 changed all of this. The crowd at the Stonewall Inn in Greenwich Village was already distraught over the recent, sudden death of gay icon, Judy Garland, and was mourning in spades when the cops showed up yet again, this time with sledgehammers to smash the bar.

Some anonymous soul accused the cops of seeking payola. "No! They want Gay-ola!" someone else shouted. Spontaneously, people started hurling coins at the 14 raiding cops, and everyone began shouting "Gay-ola, Gay-ola!" The coin pelting

infuriated the cops who began a melee of beatings, dragging some of the 200 patrons outside, trying to shove them into a paddy wagon.

A cop poked his nightstick into legendary transgendered Sylvia Rivera's anus, and she spun around and smashed a beer glass into the cop's face. At this point, all hell broke loose.

The surly crowd commenced whupping cop ass and the cops grew so frightened that they ended up barricading themselves inside the bar. A large crowd had rapidly appeared and several industrious gay men ripped out a parking meter and an expeditious battering ram was made. After three or four assaults, the hastily reinforced barroom door of the Stonewall Inn burst open. It was at that moment that armored personnel carriers transporting 500 tactical riot police careened around the corner, complicating the shift of power.

The tact squad quickly formed a phalanx with their nightsticks pounding their shields, standing shoulder to shoulder, marching in step. Approximately 100 drag queens, screamed, threw up their hands, and took off running, causing the cops to laugh. But alas, the intrepid queers had merely run around the block and presently reappeared behind the tact squad and attacked from the rear. Thus began a running street battle that raged off and on for three days.

At one point in the standoff, the crowd parted, revealing a line of full-on drag queens, arm in arm, kicking their legs in Radio City Rockette precision chanting:

"We are the Stonewall girls!
We wear our hair in curls!
We wear no underwear!
We show our pubic hair!
We wear our dungarees,
Above our girlie knees!"

The word 'Surreal' can scarcely describe the brief interlude in the violence.

Three days, four severely injured police and 14 arrests later, things settled down. Two days later, the Gay Liberation Front was formed.

For two years, the GLF aligned itself with anti-Vietnam war protesters, Black Panthers, and raised money for striking workers. This morphed into today's Gay Pride Festivals. If you've ever been involved in one of these parades or National Coming Out Day, you owe a great deal of gratitude to the Stonewall Warriors of 36 years ago.

It would be nice to think that everything is all right now, but it isn't. The Republican Party in general and the Right-wing Christian Coalition, in particular, are still pimping hate. Let's not allow things to shoe backwards and lose the ground Stonewall gained.



Wednesday, November 1st • 7:30PM
Grand Junction Alternative Media's
Documentary Series #3 presents,
"Chavez, Veneuela, and the New Latin America"
Sacconanno Lecture Hall, Mesa State College

Monday, November 6 • 6:30PM
Writers of Whit and Whimsy open-mic poetry night
Coffee Muggers 620 Main St.

PHOTO ESSAY — 2006 GAY PRIDE PARADE • DENVER PRIDEFEST • JUNE 25, 2006 • COLFAX AVENUE —



Wednesday, October 18 • 6PM
ManREACH Bowling Night-
Free food, beverages, and lanes. Ask for the Man
REACH group at the front Desk.
GJ Scores

Thursday, October 19 • 7:30PM
P.R.I.D.E. will be presenting a free showing of
"The Laramie Project"
with a short panel discussion afterwards
Sacconanno Lecture Hall, MSC

SEXUALITY DEFINITIONS

QUEER

Historically, the word “queer” has been used as a derogatory term against members of the bisexual, gay, lesbian, and/or transgender community. Currently, the word “queer” (although this term is often still used derogatorily), is also used by members of the LGBT community as a way to identify themselves and is seen as an accepted label—one that is more open, fluid, and all-encompassing. It is important to point out here, though, that not all LGBT people feel comfortable or agree with using the word queer to describe themselves or others.

TRANSGENDER

Our culture tends to limit its understanding of gender to only man and woman. Transgender is an umbrella term to describe the following people: crossdressers/transvestites, third gender people, transsexuals, intersexuals and any self-identified transgender people.

GENDER IDENTIFICATION

Transgender is a gender identification—not a sexual orientation. Gender identification expresses how you identify your gender. Sexual orientation refers to whom you are sexually, affectionally, or romantically attracted. A transgender person can be of any sexual orientation.

GENDER v. SEX

People are assigned a biological sex, but define their own gender.
Sex: Male, Female, Intersexual Gender: Man, Woman, Transgender

LANGUAGE

We believe that “transgender” is a noun equivalent to “man” and “woman”, and as such should not be spelled or pronounced with an “-ed” suffix. We believe that just as we would not say a person is “manned” or “womanned”, we should not say a person is “transgendered”. Not all of the transgender community is in agreement about the use of “transgender” and “transgendered.” When adding transgender to the already long list of bisexual, gay and lesbian people, it is important to include transgender at the end, preceded by “and/or”. We do this because it emphasizes that people can be bisexual, gay or lesbian, and transgender, but are not always both.

CROSSDRESSERS (also known as TRANSVESTITES)

People who dress in the clothing, partially or completely, of the societal norm for the “opposite” gender. Most crossdressers are heterosexual men who crossdress for pleasure. Bisexual and gay men who crossdress usually do so for entertainment purposes, making fun of what it means to be a man.

DRAG QUEENS and DRAB KINGS

Dressed As a Girl, and Dressed As a Boy, respectively. Drag Queen and Drab King are historical terms. Currently, “drag” refers to either.

TRANSSEXUALS

People born in the body associated with one gender but believe internally that they are of another gender. Male-to-Female (born in body of male, believe self to be female); Female-to-Male (born in body of female, believe self to be male). Being transsexual may or may not involve sexual reassignment surgery.

INTERSEXUALS (historically called hermaphrodites)

A person born with mixed sexual physiology, with a physical manifestation of genital/genetic/endochronological differentiation which is different from the cultural norm. Intersexuals often are “assigned” a boy/girl gender, and surgery is done soon after birth to “correct” their “problem.” The problem may well be our society’s tightly held view that there are only 2 genders.

POLYAMORY

Polyamory is the practice, state or ability of having more than one lover at the same time. Sometimes known as Responsible Non-Monogamy. Based on the ideals of honesty, communication, and responsibility, this lovestyle can encompass many other identities and lifestyles, such as Gay or Bi, Swinging, Group Marriage, Open Marriage, Friends with Benefits, and more. Polyamorists believe that jealousy is a neurotic anxiety based on fear of losing control over a partner one regards as a possession, and therefore it can be overcome by learning to trust one’s partner/s. Polyamory is NOT CHEATING.

“DEFINITIONS” ON FIFTH PAGE

“DEFINITIONS” FROM FOURTH PAGE

Broken agreements are just as harmful to poly relationships as they are to monogamous ones. Polyfolk believe that serial monogamy (wherein one has only one partner at a time with frequent changes in partners) is often more destructive than polyamory, since relationships do not need to be severed, merely transformed. It is however worth noting that people who enjoy complexity are more likely to find poly enjoyable than those who seek simplicity.

BDSM (Bondage, Dominance, and Sadomasochism), S & M, or just SM

SM is the use of psychological dominance and submission, and/or physical bondage, and/or pain, and/or other intense stimuli, in a safe, legal, consensual manner, in order for participants to experience erotic arousal, and/or personal growth. This is different from rape, or abuse, in many of the same ways that a judo match differs from a mugging. SM is planned, or negotiated, and includes limits such as the “safeword” that allows either party to end the session at any time, for any reason. Like most sex, these practices are silly, and are engaged in primarily for fun. Erotic pain is distinctly different from non-erotic pain, in other words, masochists don’t like a smashed toe any better than you do. Persons who practice BDSM (sometimes called kinky, or perverted) are not a large percent of the population, and our culture’s sex-negative orientation makes it extremely difficult for these folks to “come out”. The internet has now made it possible for interested persons to learn about these practices in a safe anonymous setting, causing a huge increase in the availability of good information. People who engage in BDSM are no more likely to be insane or criminal than the general population. Nowadays in many cities there are clubs and conferences devoted to these practices, where one can engage in BDSM in a safe supportive environment. •



BISEXUALITY 101

What attracts me most to the bisexual community is not sexual identity, but my respect for the honesty and openness I find there. More than anywhere else, I encounter people who understand the value of knowing yourself well, realizing why you choose what you do, and of making those choices openly.” —Kevin McCulloch, *Anything That Moves*, Summer 1998 (a Bi magazine/publication)

A BASIC DEFINITION OF BISEXUALITY:

Bisexual persons are sexually and/or affectionally attracted to people without regard to gender. Perhaps, like Kevin McCulloch noted (above), the distinguishing characteristic of bisexual people in general is that they are more overtly open and honest about the fluidity of their sexuality. Bisexual persons recognize that they are attracted not only to persons of a particular gender, but that they are open to the potential for intimate, affectionate, romantic and/or sexual relationships with persons of any gender.

EACH BISEXUAL INDIVIDUAL IS UNIQUE, as is each asexual, autosexual, heterosexual, homosexual or other person. Therefore, it is impossible to make universal statements about the ‘lifestyle’ of bisexuals in general.

BISEXUAL PERSONS CAN HAVE COMMITTED RELATIONSHIPS FOUNDED ON FIDELITY AND TRUST. A person who identifies as homosexual or heterosexual and is in a committed, monogamous relationship may acknowledge that a person with whom

s/he is not partnered is attractive, but does not engage in sexual (or otherwise intimate) behavior with that person. Similarly, bisexual persons may be in committed relationships with persons of any gender and still acknowledge that they could have been in relationship with someone(s) of different gender(s).

BISEXUAL PERSONS DO NOT NECESSARILY HAVE MULTIPLE PARTNERS. Perhaps the foremost myth about bisexuals is the belief that they necessarily have multiple partners—that they ‘require’ sexual relationships with persons of each gender in order to be satisfied. Instead, it is important to recognize the distinction between sexual attraction and sexual activity. A bisexual person may have more than one partner promiscuously, s/he may be in a committed, faithful multiple-partner relationship, or s/he may be monogamous.

BISEXUALITY IS LEGITIMATE. Non-bisexual persons sometimes assume that bisexuals are “really heterosexual” or “really homosexual” and cannot make up their minds, or that bisexual persons are merely curious. Though this phenomenon may be true for some, it is not a necessary or typical characteristic of bisexual people. “Bisexuals have chosen consciously not to box themselves into an external standard, but instead recognize the fluidity of their attractions to other people despite the societal expectation that romantic attraction is based strictly on genitalia.” —Paige Getty.

Saturday and Sunday, October 21 & 22 • ALL DAY

The Confluence Collective Yard Sale.

Fund raiser and moving sale.

1450 Elm Ave.



Wednesday, October 25 • 7:30PM

Grand Junction Alternative Media’s

Documentary Series #3 presents,

“Shocking and Awful”

Saccomanno Lecture Hall, Mesa State College

Thursday, October 26 • 7:30PM

“Journey to a Hate-free Millennium”

Movie and Discussion. Call 242-8949 for more details.

Saccomanno Lecture Hall, MSC

October 26 - 30

ManREACH Retreat

Visit www.manreach.org for more info.

Cal-Wood near Boulder