

# come get comfortable

with



the blue bungalow  
antiques with attitude

Not just your regular, old household items, but creations that demand attention, provoke reflection and amaze you with the price.

located in historic plaza midwood  
1521 central avenue • 704•347•2442

## Great expectations.

Mercedes-Benz Starmark Pre-owned Vehicles. A great deal of performance. A great deal of luxury. A great deal of style. A great deal.



STAR MARK  
PRE OWNED MERCEDES-BENZ

Rigorous 130+ point inspection • Factory-backed 12-month limited warranty, extendible to 48 months\*  
7 day/500-mile Exchange Privilege\*\* • Roadside Assistance Program

'00 E320 .....\$46,900 #P6749A, White/Tan Leather, 25,000 Miles.	'98 C280 .....\$26,900 #6778A, White/Tan Leather.
'99 SL500 .....\$75,900 #13948, White/Tan Interior, Sport Package, 8,000 Miles.	'00 S500 .....\$77,900 #P3976, White/Ash Leather, 18,000 Miles.
'95 E420 .....\$27,900 #P4098, White/Gray Leather, 47,000 Miles.	'98 ML320 .....\$32,900 #P4084, Ruby/Gray Leather 32,000 Miles.
'99 E320 .....\$42,900 #P4087, Black/Gray Leather, 35,000 Miles.	'99 ML430 .....\$39,900 #7001A1, Black/Gray Leather, 19,000 miles.
'97 C230 .....\$25,900 #P4064, Smoke Silver/Tan Leather, 42,000 miles.	'97 E320 .....\$37,900 #P4051, Smoke Silver/Tan Leather, 44,000 Miles.
'00 CLK430 .....\$52,900 #6470A, Black/Ash Leather, 14,000 Miles.	'96 E320 .....\$34,900 #6356A, Smoke Silver/Charcoal Leather 46,000 Miles.a
'97 C230 .....\$24,900 #P4096, Black/Black Leather.	'98 S320 .....\$47,900 #P4023, Black Opal/Tan Leather, 35,000 Miles.
'99 SL500 .....\$72,900 #P3956, Black/Black Leather, 15,000 Miles.	'99 C280 .....\$29,900 #6831A, Bordeaux/Black Leather.



Visit Beck Imports today to test drive a Pre-Owned Mercedes-Benz. You're sure to be impressed.  
Visit our website for additional details and inventory.  
[www.beckimports.com](http://www.beckimports.com)

5141 EAST INDEPENDENCE BLVD, CHARLOTTE, NC 28212 • 704/535-6400



## Non-discrimination bills okayed by MD legislators, others could follow

by David Elliot  
Special to Q-Notes

ANNAPOLIS — Maryland is poised to become the twelfth state in the US to outlaw sexual orientation discrimination. Similar civil rights bills have cleared the House and Senate and await one more procedural vote before advancing to the desk of Gov. Parris Glendening, who has pledged his support.

Other civil rights bills passed the Illinois House and the Delaware House the last week in March and were headed to each state's Senate. Of these, only the Illinois bill includes gender identity as well as sexual orientation. New York's *Sexual Orientation Non-Discrimination Act* passed a Senate committee and awaits a vote by the Senate.

Connecticut and Rhode Island have held hearings on measures to legalize same-sex marriage, with Rhode Island's hearing also covering a bill to recognize same-sex unions. Civil union bills remain alive in California as well as Rhode Island.

So far this year, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force (NGLTF) has tracked 486 bills relating to the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community and to the HIV/AIDS community in all 50 state legislatures. Of these bills, 275 are favorable and 211 are unfavorable.

"The results of the 2001 state legislation sessions, in total, reflect continuing progress for gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people," said NGLTF Executive Director Elizabeth Toledo. "It is historic that Maryland will become the 12th state to outlaw sexual-orientation discrimination. It is encouraging that three other states — Delaware, Illinois and New York — are considering taking similar steps. And it is invigorating that for the first time, multiple states are beginning to discuss and debate if and when to legalize civil unions and ultimately, same-sex marriage."

In other state legislative activity, so-called "Boy Scout Protection" and "Defense of Scouting" bills that would have prevented local public entities from saying no to discrimination appear stalled or dead. These anti-GLBT bills had been under consideration in Arizona, Georgia and Washington. In Arizona, a Boy Scouts bill died after a vote on the House floor. In Washington, a similar bill is stalled. And in Georgia, the Legislature has adjourned for the year.

Balancing these advances, however, Utah legislators have approved and the governor has signed an anti-GLBT bill relating to health education curriculum and prohibiting instruction in "advocacy of homosexuality." Similar bills are under consideration in Maine and Vermont. ▼

Q-Notes — your source for news, features and more!

Don't Just be in style. Live there.



## SUMMIT

GRANDVIEW

Luxury Urban  
Apartment Homes

- 24 Hour Concierge Service
- Business Center
- Fitness Center
- Massage Therapy Room
- DVD Theatre Room
- Wine Cellar
- Billiards Parlor
- English Garden Courtyard

Now accepting reservations

309 E. Morehead St. • 333-1339

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



EXCEEDING THE STANDARD  
CHANGING THE IMAGE

LARGEST SELECTION  
OF TATTOOS

HOURS

MON-WED-THU 10:00-8:00  
FRI-SAT 10:00-10:00  
SUN 12:00-6:00  
TUE CLOSED

Mastercard  
Visa

704 343-0120

901 N. Tryon St.  
FREE PARKING

GIFT  
CERTIFICATES