## SOUTH CAROLINA

## **South Carolina News Notes**

Compiled by Q-Notes staff

## Radical Christians to stay in S.C.

ANDERSON — The Anderson Independent Mail reported Jan. 4 that rumors an anti-gay, radically traditional and secessionist Christian group would be leaving South Carolina are untrue. Speaking with Cory Burnell, leader of Christian Exodus, the Independent Mail reported the organization is expanding into Iowa but will remain in Anderson. So far, 15 Christian Exodus families have moved into the area. The organization's goal is to move thousands of Christian families into Anderson, take control of the **S Notes** local and county governments and eventually work to gain a majority of seats in the South

Carolina legislature.

The organization's plan of action reads, "ChristianExodus.org will continue this process until we've made enough of an impact statewide to put the General Assembly of the State in the hands of Christians who obey the federal and state constitutions regardless of court orders to the contrary."

If successful in South Carolina and unable to persuade the federal government to return to its Constitution, Christian Exodus would seek to secede the State of South Carolina from the Union.



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### Center to open all day Thursdays

COLUMBIA — Ryan Wilson, the vice president of the South Carolina Gay and Lesbian Pride Movement (SCGLPM) and a *Q-Notes* contributing writer, has announced he will be working as SCGLPM's development intern spring 2008. As a part of his duties, he will work at the Harriet Hancock Center at 1108 Woodrow St. one day per week. Starting Jan. 17, the center will be open on Thursdays from 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

"My duties will include operating the Center, fund raising, Pride sponsorships, updating statewide resource listings and other projects which help promote SCGLPM and raise funds for the Center," Wilson said.

For more information email Wilson at prideinsc@yahoo.com. The Harriet Hancock Center can be reached at 803-771-7713.

#### Director still sought

COLUMBIA — Since August 2007, OutSmart in the Midlands has been searching for a new executive director. OutSmart is a non-profit organization that provides social, educational and support services to LGBTQ youth living in the Midlands. The director of OutSmart must be knowledgeable of the needs and interests of LGBTQ youth and have the energy, passion and experience to make an all volunteer organization work. This is a volunteer position. Individuals interested should contact Dr. Lisa Lindley at info@outsmart.org or 803-777-7029.

#### **AFFA** to host **GLSEN**'s Jennings

CHARLESTON — The Alliance for Full Acceptance will co-host a special guest appearance by Winston-Salem, N.C. native Kevin Jennings (pictured), the founder and executive director of the Gay, Lesbian and Straight Education Network (GLSEN). Jennings, author of "Mama's Boy, Preacher's Son: A Memoir of Growing Up, Coming Out and Changing America's Schools," will read excerpts from his memoir during the appearance. He will also discuss his activism and work with GLSEN.

Jennings has spent much of his adult life fighting for LGBT school age youth and LGBT teachers. As he writes in his book, "I loved learning. School, on the other hand, was a problem." Jennings will speak Feb. 16, 7 p.m. at the

speak Feb. 16, 7 p.m. at the Spoleto Center at 14 George St.

## 14 George St. Upcoming meetings

COLUMBIA — Two organizations have upcoming meetings. The South Carolina Equality Coalition will hold a statewide delegates meeting on Jan. 19, 2-4 p.m. SCGLPM will have a board meeting on Jan. 20, at 2 p.m. Community members are invited to attend and learn more about what SCGLPM is working on for 2008. Both organizations' meetings will be held at the Harriet Hancock Community center at 1108 Woodrow St.

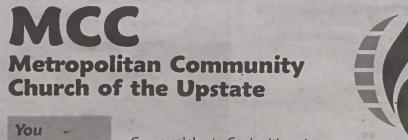
#### **Domestic violence support group**

N. CHARLESTON — Domestic violence crosses all barriers, even those of sexuality. A 2002 study by the National Institutes of Health showed that domestic violence between samesex partners occurs in one-out-of-four couples. This is the same rate for abuse in heterosexual relationships.

Because of this, My Sister's House, Inc. is assessing the need for a local support group for women and another possibly for men who are in abusive same-sex relationships. Free and confidential once-a-week meetings would be held in a secure location with a trained facilitator to offer information and referrals.

If the support group is of interest to you or someone you know, call Suzanne Pope or Joya Cleveland at 843-744-3242. If you are a trained facilitator, social worker or licensed therapist with experience working with the LGBTQ community, your assistance in planning meetings and/or your time as a volunteer facilitator are needed. Call Sarah Baird at 843-576-0063 to get involved. ●

info: Announce your community event in SC News Notes. email: editor@q-notes.com or fax 704-531-1361.



Me Us God ... Miraculous! Come celebrate God with us in a loving, kind, affirming and accepting place where worship is our most important priority. Diversity is our strength. All are welcome in God's house, regardless of gender, color, creed or religious background. ALWAYS!

