

Published by the Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Community Center

## Santorum Florida Campaign Head Thinks Gays Make God Vomit

By Neal Broverman

Rick Santorum has a scary friend leading his Florida primary effort: O'Neal Dozier, an evangelical preacher who hates gays and Muslims.

Dozier runs the Worldwide Christian Center in Pompano Beach, Fla.; Santorum spoke from the Center's pulpit on Sunday. Extreme may be putting it mildly when describing Dozier, who is serving as honorary chairman of Santorum's Florida efforts. He has told his congregants



Rev. O'Neal Dozier of the Worldwide Christian Cen-

that Muslims plan on taking over America, and that homosexuality was "something so nasty and disgusting that it makes God want to vomit." After Santorum spoke at Dozier's church on Sunday, the preacher told a Mother Jones reporter that Mitt Romney was going to hell.

## Tennessee Teen Is State's Second Suicide in Two Months

In Tennessee, where lawmakers are once again considering the "don't say gay" bill aimed at schools, a 14year-old Gordonsville student named Phillip Parker killed himself Friday.

By Lucas Grindley

In Tennessee, where lawmakers are once again considering the "don't say gay" bill aimed at schools, a 14-year-old Gordonsville student killed himself Friday.

Family and friends gathered to remember Phillip Parker Saturday, sharing their stories while holding hands and comforting each other. "That's my son," the boy's father, Phillip Parker, told local news station WSMV. "I love him. I miss him. He shouldn't have had to kill himself to be brought to life."

The parents say their son hadn't told them about the constancy of the bullying he faced at school for being gay. But his friends told local media they witnessed repeated harassment. According to News Channel 5 reports, the



**Phillip Parker** 

note his parents found beside his body said, "Please help me mom."

The Tennessee Equality Project plans a candlelight vigil Thursday at the Cookeville Courthouse Square to remember Parker and to call on lawmakers to stop sending a negative message to students.

The so-called don't say gay bill would bar teachers from discussing homosexuality in public school classes in kindergarten through eighth grade. It managed to pass the state Senate on a 20-10 vote last year. But the House ran out of time to consider it, and now lawmakers are trying again.

"We are reaching out and we continue to call for our General Assembly to turn from discriminatory legislation and toward positive solutions to bullying," the Tennessee Equality Project wrote to its followers on Facebook.

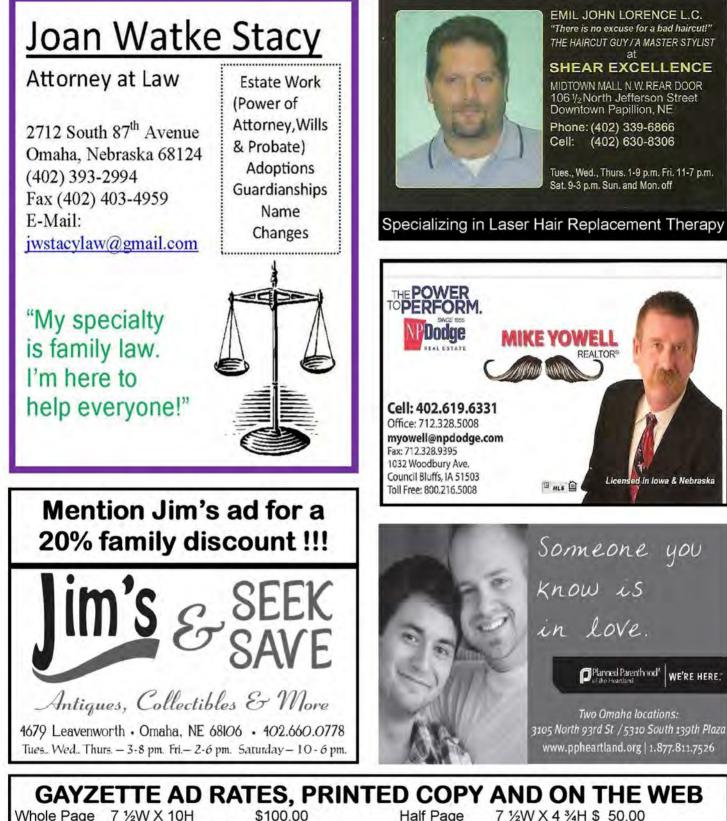
They point out that this is the second suicide in Middle Tennessee in two months, with Cheatham County teenager Jacob Rogers killing himself December 7 after repeated bullying.

Anyone thinking about suicide or in need of support is asked to contact the Trevor Lifeline at (866) 488-7386 for help.

Also see: http://www.thetrevorproject.org And http://www.itgetsbetter.org

#### January 27th, 2012 - February 10th, 2012

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Deadlines: Tuesday, Feb 7th, for Publication Feb 10th Tuesday, Feb 21st for Publication Feb 24th

# FLIXX LOUNGE

FRIDAY, JAN 27<sup>TH</sup> - 11PM WET BOXER CONTEST \$100 CASH PRIZE

SATURDAY, JAN 28<sup>TH</sup> - 10PM 80S PAJAMA PARTY HOSTED BY CUPID

SUNDAY, JAN 29<sup>TH</sup> - 2PM DRAG QUEEN B-I-N-G-O HOSTED BY CASSANDRA EVANS

FRIDAY, FEB 3<sup>RD</sup> - 10PM SEALED WITH A KISS HOSTED BY IRIUS LOVE

SATURDAY, FEB 4<sup>TH</sup> - 10PM HEARTS A FIRE 4 EDUCATION HOSTED BY PHOENIX & CUPID

SUNDAY, FEB 5<sup>TH</sup> - 6:30PM SUPER BOWL XLVI STOP DOWN TO WATCH THE GAME WITH DRINK SPECIALS ALL NIGHT

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## Why This Washington Republican Broke With GOP on Marriage

By Nick Visser

State senator Steve Litzow

Two Republican senators have made waves in Washington State after announcing their support for a marriage equality bill proposed earlier this month by Gov. Christine Gregoire. And one told The Advocate he's not afraid of the retaliation promised by antigay groups.

Washington is poised to become the seventh state in the coun-

try, plus the District of Columbia, to allow same-sex marriage. Introduced last week, the measure is expected to easily pass the House but needs one more vote in the state Senate. As of Thursday, 24 members of the 49strong body have pledged their support, but the bill needs 25 votes to pass. Democrats control both chambers.



Five members of the Senate remain undecided — two Republicans and

three Democrats - and there is a solid group of 20 "no" voters



#### (including two Democrats).

Steve Litzow was the first Republican in the Senate to endorse Gregoire's proposal and has since been praised for his decision to step outside party lines. The Seattle Times recently published an editorial praising Litzow's support as "outstanding" and "commendable."

"Litzow is a profile in courage, a freshman lawmaker willing to act on conviction," the Times wrote.

The senator is much more modest. He said when the governor first brought up the idea of statewide marriage equality late last year, he knew it was the right thing to do.

"It's really consistent with the fundamental tenets of individual freedom and personal responsibility," he said in an interview with The Advocate. "It's all about people getting to live the life they want to live without the government getting involved. It's a core principle of the type of Republican I am."

Less than a week later, fellow Republican senator Cheryl Pflug joined Litzow. Pflug couldn't be reached for comment due to ongoing power outages across the state brought on by heavy snow and ice storms.

Litzow, up for reelection in November, said reaction so far has been "overwhelmingly positive," and his endorsement wasn't influenced by the end of his term. He shrugged off a recent pledge by the antigay National Organization for Marriage to put up \$250,000 to challenge any Republican Washington senator who supports the bill.

"I am very comfortable with my position in the Senate, and I'm willing to take on any and all competitors," Litzow said. "The games have started, ... I continue to say if they want to [play them], let's go. Game on."

Zach Silk, campaign manager for Washington United for Marriage, said the views of Republicans like Litzow and Pflug are increasingly in line with those of mainstream voters statewide and nationally. The two represent what Silk calls "Evans Republicans" (named after Republican Dan Evans, a former U.S. senator and three-term governor of Washington), who are fiscally conservative but socially moderate — the type of Republicanism that's been prevalent throughout the state for the past century.

Even though it looks as if marriage equality has a good chance of passing. Silk said his organization is preparing to defend the bill at the ballot box. Washington has a fairly low bar regarding the number of signatures needed to put the measure on the ballot — it's slightly over 120,000 for this bill — but Silk is optimistic that even if it heads to the voters, it'll still pass.

An October poll out of the University of Washington found 55% of voters were in favor of marriage equality. Washington also made history in 2009 when voters passed Referendum 71, which upheld a legislative action that made the state the first in the country to extend relationship rights and "everything but marriage" to LGBT couples.

"It's a daunting challenge," he said. "But with the kind of coalition we're building with moderate Republicans. we can battle and win at the ballot box too." Thalia Zepatos. Freedom to Marry's director of public engagement who's based in Portland, Ore., said if the measure passes in Washington, the drive for marriage equality could easily spread south.

"That will be a huge message for Oregon — the states are so linked in that Northwest identity that it could come up and pass very quickly in the next couple of years," she said. "These things don't happen in a vacuum."

Hearings for the bill start today, and Litzow hopes it will come to the Senate floor shortly after — but he does expect the vote will be close.

"I think it will pass by one or two votes," he said. "It'll probably be a 24-25 or a 23-26 vote."

But Litzow said he's firmly on the side of marriage equality and has been for years, no internal debates about it.

"Quite frankly, this has been a very easy decision," he said.

### Governor Christie Nominates Gay Republican to N.J. Supreme Court

By Andrew Harmon

New Jersey governor Chris Christie has nominated a gay Republican mayor to the state Supreme Court.

The Republican governor announced the nomination of Bruce Harris (pictured), mayor of Chatham, N.J., at an 11:30 a.m. press conference.

Steven Goldstein, executive director of the state LGBT rights group Garden State Equality, said of a call from Christie prior to the announcement, "You could have picked me up off the floor."

"[Harris] will become the first openly LGBT person in history, and the third African-American person in history, to serve on the New Jersey Supreme Court," Goldstein said in a statement. "Most importantly, Bruce is eminently qualified to be a Supreme Court justice."

Goldstein told The Advocate that he did not see the nomination as an indication that Christie is supporting a marriage equality bill currently before state legislators, however. Christie has vowed to veto such legislation in the past,



though in recent statements he has appeared increasingly noncommittal about doing so.

But of the nomination, Goldstein said, "It's unbelievable news, an unequivocal [example] of civil rights leadership, and the governor should be warmly congratulated."

## Governor Chris Christie wants Marriage Equality Issue on New Jersey Ballot

#### By Max Pizarro

BRIDGEWATER - Gov. Chris Christie today called for a ballot question this November on same-sex marriage.

"Let's put the question of same sex marriage on the ballot," Christie said.

"I believe in the institution of marriage. I realize this is my personal opinion. ...Rather than have stalemate and deadlock on this issue, let's put it on the ballot.

"It shouldn't be decided by 121 people in Trenton.

"While I know I could stop this by mself, I suggest an alternative," the governor added. "Let's be governed by the will of the people on this. Let's let the people decide. I would urge every Republican in the legislature to put it on the ballot."

Following his town hall at the Jewish Community Center, Christie made a statement then fleshed out his remarks in reporters' questions.

He repeatedly identified same-sex marriage as a "big issue"

"It's an issue that affects everyone in our state," the governor said.

As hearings play out before the Democratic legislature in Trenton by Democrats intent on passing marriage equality, Christie said part of his consideration is to avoid a conflagration with state Senate President Steve Sweeney (D-3).

"How can we not be on a collision course?" Christie said.

He noted the fact that it's a presidential election, a big election this year.

"If all the people who vote in a presidential election vote, it will have much more validity," the governor said. "What would you be afraid of? It's imperative to move now. The biggest election we're going to have is this November."

## Gay Arkansas Couple Denied Engagement Announcement

By Nick Visser

An Arkansas newspaper has refused to run an engagement

#### announcement for a local gay couple.

The paper, the Northwest Arkansas Times, said its refusal to allow Cody Renegar and his partner, Thomas, to place the announcement stems from a longstanding policy to only recognize marriages that are legal in the state, according to a report by local NBC affiliate KNWA. Arkansas does not recognize samesex marriages or domestic partnerships.

"You want to be recognized as a taxpayer, as a human being, as a person in love ... it's not that complicated for them to print a picture of people in love," Renegar said.

The Human Rights Campaign released a Monday statement regarding the discriminatory policy, asking the newspaper to allow all couples to run announcements.

"We see archaic policies like this in newspapers across the country, and it's a reminder of how discrimination against LGBT people can truly impact every aspect of our lives," said HRC President Joe Solmonese.



## Maryland Governor Introduces Marriage Equality Bill

By Julie Bolcer

Maryland governor Martin O'Malley (pictured) introduced marriage equality legislation Monday with clarification on protections for religious institutions and leaders.

A survey commissioned in October by the Human Rights Campaign and conducted by the Garin Hart Yang polling firm showed that 51 percent would support same-sex marriage in Maryland if the issue went to referendum.

Another poll, conducted by Gonzales Research and Marketing Strategies, that surveyed voters about several statewide issues put support for same-sex marriage at 48 percent among Marylanders who vote regularly.

A survey commissioned in October by the Human Rights Campaign and conducted by the Garin Hart Yang polling firm

showed that 51 percent would support same-sex marriage in Maryland if the issue went to referendum.

The Baltimore Sun reports that O'Malley said he hoped the new language would make the religious protections "a little clearer" and help the bill garner "additional support." The bill passed the senate for the first time last year with bipartisan support, but opposition from lawmakers with religious ties, including those connected to influential Afri-





can-American churches in Prince George's County, contributed to the bill's failure to receive a vote on the house floor.

O'Malley spokeswoman Raquel Guillory said the new bill extends legal protections to leaders of religious groups, compared to last year's bill that only protected institutions.

"The bill also makes clear that religious leaders, not the state, control theological doctrine, Guillory said," according to the Sun. "And it further limits any punitive actions — like denying government funds — that the state could take against religious organizations for failing to perform same-sex marriages."

Governor O'Malley, who has made the bill one of his legislative priorities this year, said he was not sure whether the changes would lead to more support.

The state's Roman Catholic bishops have strongly opposed the bill, while the Marylanders for Marriage Equality coalition has been working to build support among the state's significant African-American population with videos featuring celebrities such as actress Mo'Nique and former NAACP chairman Julian Bond.

Opponents of the bill have threatened to challenge it with a referendum this fall. According to The Gazette of Politics and Business, a survey commissioned by the Human Rights Campaign in October found that 51% of respondents would support marriage equality if it went to the ballot in the state.

Meanwhile, a poll from Gonzales Research and Marketing Strategies last week indicated that 48% of Maryland voters support marriage equality. The Washington Post reports that O'Malley is scheduled to host a breakfast Tuesday morning with same-sex couples in Annapolis. He will discuss the marriage equality bill at a news conference afterward with lawmakers, clergy and labor leaders.

The Sun also reports that the bill will have a hearing in the senate judicial proceedings committee on January 31.

## WHAT IS SPIRITUALITY?

Michael Kimmel [beyondtherapy@cox.net]

Have you ever met people who seem to have it all (plenty of money, great jobs, hot partners) who lament (drunkenly, over too many cocktails), "I have it all, why do I feel so empty?" That old t-shirt from the 80's is wrong: He or She who dies with the most toys does NOT win. It's more likely that he or she gets all the toys and wonders, "Is that all there is?"



For many people, the next step in their life is to explore spirituality. But what is "spirituality" anyway? I looked it up in the dictionary, and found, "related to the spirit or sacred matters" and "deeply religious". So I looked up "spirit" and found: "lifegiving force, presence of God, vivacity or enthusiasm". Confusing, isn't it? Some people use the words "religion" and "spirituality" synonymously, yet for many people, religion is not their thing and spirituality is. So, what is a spiritual path and what does it have to offer? I did some research and here's what I came up with:

According to Christina Feldman (author of "How to Find Inner Peace in a Busy World" and "Spiritual Practice in Everyday Life"): "All spiritual paths start with misery and help us gradually find our way to happiness...ignorance or unwise view is considered an attachment to physical things, people, events, and/or jobs to make us happy...something that is inevitably going to change will not be able to bring us happiness. Spirituality is about wisdom or insight that brings happiness, joy, liberation, a profound harmony with all things. Unskillful speech or action is what brings us suffering, struggle, despair, disharmony and disappointment".

Some people see a spiritual path as a vehicle to move from this unwise way of living (and all the struggle it brings) to wisdom and freedom from suffering. Feldman says "most people live in what is secure and familiar, looking there for lasting happiness and are continually disappointed to find that their heroic efforts to be free from struggle lead too often to disappointment". Perhaps people who "have it all" seek a spiritual path because with all their external trappings of success, they're questioning where they can find a (lasting) peace of heart and mind. This kind of internal questioning may lead to a spiritual path.

Most of my clients on a spiritual path have some sort of structure that supports their process of questioning and discovery: they may learn to meditate, pray, go on silent retreats, do yoga, chi gong and spend time in nature. For many of these men and women, events in their lives "startled them into wakefulness and shattered their sense of safety, security and predictability" (Feldman again).

Motivations to seek a spiritual path may include: the pain or the

death of someone we care for (a pain we cannot fix), the loss of something or someone we have relied on, or hurt received from someone we trusted. The inevitable gains and losses, highs and lows, successes and failures that are part of living are great motivators to look deeper than the world of things and people for our peace of mind.

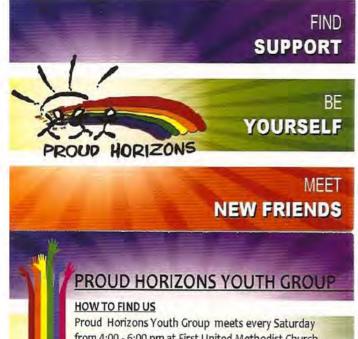
For many of my clients, the heart of their spiritual investigation is a willingness to ask the question: "Who am I really?" An unwillingness to do this makes any kind of growth - spiritual, psychological or otherwise - almost impossible. We need to release the rigid ideas we have of who we are, what Feldman calls, "the mythology of self".

Here is an exercise Feldman suggests to begin a spiritual quest: Write a short autobiography, beginning each sentence with the words "I am ------" (fill in the blank). This will give you a sense of your "mythology of self" and how you may be clinging to outdated ideas of self-identity. Look carefully: you may discover that your sense of security, safety and existence relies upon your self-identity remaining unchallenged. Take your autobiography - your "story of me" - and ask yourself: who am I apart from these descriptions of myself? Who am I if you take away my story?

There is a lot of truth in the statement: "All you need are the right questions and the right answers will come." Without asking the right questions, we may be deluding ourselves into thinking that our happiness lies in external events or people. There is suffering in this "mythology of self" because its maintenance relies upon the world supporting it and never changing. Keeping this mythology going requires that we control events, people and circumstances so that our story, opinions and preferences are not challenged. This is a big problem: we cannot make anything stand still for us. Clearly, we are not in control.

Spirituality is more than just the latest trendy thing. If you've ever asked yourself, "What is my purpose in life?" or "Why am I here?" spirituality may be helpful in a way that linear logic is not. Check it out and see if it beckons. You might find some interesting answers to long-puzzling questions. You may discover a new path that takes you in a brand new direction, whether you call it "spirituality", psychology, philosophy or whatever!





Proud Horizons Youth Group meets every Saturday from 4:00 - 6:00 pm at First United Methodist Church 7020 Cass Street - Mead Hall For Youth ages 13-23 HOW TO CONTACT US Phone: (402) 291-6781 E-mail: proudhorizons@yahoo.com

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## Kansas Gov. Comfortable With Antisodomy Law

#### By Neal Broverman

Kansas governor Sam Brownback

Even though the U.S. Supreme Court in 2003 struck down bans on consensual sex between gays, many states still have unenforceable laws against gay sex, including Kansas.

Kansas's conservative Republican governor, Sam Brownback, recently recommended that 51 outdated laws be repealed, but the



"criminal sodomy" statute, which includes oral sex, was not not one of them. LGBT leaders say the laws are kept on books to intimidate and harass gays. Also, local police are sometimes unaware of the Supreme Court decision, Lawrence v. Texas, and still make arrests.

"Keeping these laws on the books can still do a lot of mischief and cause a lot of harm," Susan Sommer, director of constitutional litigation for Lambda Legal, told The New York Times.

There are about a dozen states that still have antisodomy laws on their books.

## Missouri Teen Fights For LGBT Rights

#### By Trudy Ring

A lesbian teenager in a Kansas City suburb is leading a fight against discrimination wherever she finds it — for instance, at a shop that refused to print T-shirts for her school's gay-straight alliance.

The Kansas City Star profiles Bailee Webb (pictured, foreground), 17, president of the GSA at Blue Springs South High School in Blue Springs, Mo. It reports that the GSA members recently agreed on a T-shirt design with the



phrase "Why is it that as a culture, we are more comfortable seeing two men holding guns than holding hands?"

(Continued on page 13)

## GAYZETTE EVENTS

Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Center 1719 Leavenworth, Omaha (mail address: PO Box 8583 Omaha NE 68108)

#### **NEW WALK-IN HOURS**

Saturdays Sundays Thursdays Fridays 4:00PM - 11:00PM 4:00PM - 6:00PM 7:30PM - 9:00PM 6:00PM - 11:00PM

\*Closed Most Major Holidays (402) 341-0330 www.rainbowoutreach.org

The GLBT Center welcomes gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and allied persons; we encourage all to attend GLBT Center events and activities. We celebrate unity and diversity - sexual orientation, gender identity, sex, race, religion, age, ability, ethnic and national origin.

### WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Sunday <u>WORSHIP SERVICES:</u> <u>AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH,</u> ELCA, 3647 LaFayette Ave., Omaha GLBT friendly, www.augustanalutheran.com

**<u>DIETZ METHODIST</u>** 1423 S.10, Coffeehouse casual downstairs at 9am, Traditional Worship at 11am

**EPISCOPAL GLBT FELLOWSHIP**, St. Andrews Church, 84th & Pacific, 6-7PM, email: EpiscopalGLBT@yahoo.com

FIRST CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST, info at: www.firstcentral.org

FIRST UNITED METHODIST 7020 Cass, 8:30 & 10:45am services

FIRST UNITARIAN\_3114 Harney, 9:30 a.m. "eclectic service" and 11:15 a.m. "traditional service"

GAY MEN'S ALCOHOLICS ANONY-MOUS 4pm, Augustana Lutheran Church 3647 Lafayette Ave., Info call Mark 639-3055

HASTINGS COLLEGE GSA 8PM FFI: Judy Sandeen (402) 461-7372

HIV+ SUPPORT GROUP 7-8:30 pm at the NAP office located at 1921 South 17<sup>th</sup> Street in Lincoln, NE.

#### METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY

CHURCH OF OMAHA 819 S. 22nd St., 345-2563 Sunday Worship 9:30am and 11:15am & Wednesday Worship at 7pm

ONE PROMISE GROUP, Narcotics Anonymous, every Sunday at 6PM, MCC-Omaha, 819 South 22nd St., for info contact Tamara B. at 714-8552

**<u>RIVER CITY MIXED BOWLING LEAGUE,</u>** 3pm, Maplewood Lanes, at 402-572-9393

SECOND UNITARIAN, 9:30 & 11:30am Sunday service, Vespers Service 4th Sunday at 5pm, 3012 South 119th St., Omaha NE 402-334-0537

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 3424 N. 90, Omaha, 10:30am service and Wednesday meditation service at 7pm

WIMMIN'S SHOW, KZUM 89.3 12:30pm

Every Monday <u>A A GLBT "RAINBOW GROUP"</u> Meeting Place, 28 & S, Lincoln, 7:30 pm

GAY/BI/STRAIGHT SUPPORT GROUP HIV+ MEN 7pm every Monday, NAP, 2147 S. 15th St., Lincoln NE, contact Nick or Rick at 402 -476-3144

NA RAINBOW GROUP, Narcotics Anonymous, meets Fridays thru Mondays at 10pm, MCC-Omaha Church, 819 South 22nd St

**RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS RE-HEARSALS,** 6:45PM—9:15PM, First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass St.

**Every Tuesday** <u>HASTINGS COLLEGE ALLIANCE</u>, meet Tuesdays at 7PM (when college is in session), Please contact Dr Antje Anderson at <u>aander-</u> <u>son@hastings.edu</u> or Judy Sandeen at jsandeen@hastings.edu for further information.

UNL LESBIAN/BI/QUESTIONING SUP-PORT GROUP, 7-8:30PM, Women's Center, Nebraska Union, Lincoln, 472-5644

Every Wednesday AA FOURTH DIMENSION, 7pm, Open to men and women, 219 North 48th Street

**FRONTRUNNERS RUN/WALK** 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha (402-804-8720)

HIV TESTING LINCOLN, 4-7 pm, results in 20 minutes, 1921 So. 17th St. 402-476-7000

KARAOKE W/ STACY 9:00 pm, at DC's Saloon

LGBT A A 7:30pm, Alcohol Ctrl., 2116 W. Faidley, Grand Island. Peggy (308) 226-8286, Center (308) 398-5427

**NAP HIV TESTING**, 250 South 77th St., by appointment only on Wednesdays from 1:30 to 3:30pm, Walkin from 5pm to 8pm

#### UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

#### WORSHIP SERVICES

MCC OMAHA, Bible Study, 7pm

## Every Thursday

**DANCE LESSONS WITH GORDON** 7pm, free, DC's Saloon, Classes run from Sept 9th thru May 20th annually

KARAOKE W/ STACY 9:00 pm, at DC's Saloon

NAP HIV TESTING 250 So. 77th., by appointment from 1:30pm to 3:30pm and Walk-In from 5pm to 8pm

**OMAHA GLBT SPORTS LEAGUE**, playing Softball every Thursday 6-10pm, at Churchich park (50th and C). Games will be played through August 12th

#### Every Friday

**LIVE & LET LIVE AA Meeting.** 8:15pm to 9:15pm, Open to men and women, at Underwood Hills Presbyterian Church, 851 North 74th Street

**LIVE & LET LIVE AL-ANON**, a group focused on support and recovery for the friends and relatives of alcoholics, 7pm to 8pm at the Underwood Hills Presbyterian Church, 851 North 74th Street

**OUT & ABOUT SOCIAL CLUB** 

Open to everyone 21 and over, every Friday 6:30pm (time may vary), for more info email outandaboutsocialclub@gmail.com

**DJ & LIVE ENTERTAINMENT** at Connections Bar, theme nights and shows

**GLBT CENTER YOUTH NIGHT,** 6PM to 11PM, for ages 13 to 23. Youth sponsored and organized activities, under adult supervision. Every Friday, excluding holidays. 1719 Leavenworth Street, snacks, soda's provided

#### **Every Saturday**

AA SATURDAY AFTERNOON, 1:30pm, Open to men and women, 219 North 48th Street, call 402-558-0733 for more info

DJ MUSIC AND DANCING 10PM, Connections Bar (open Thurs., Fri., Sat. nights from 6PM to 2AM)

#### PROUD HORIZON YOUTH GROUP

4–6pm, First United Methodist Church, 291-6781 proudhorizons@yahoo.com

#### **Every Other Friday**

**CBCA SOCIAL GET-TOGETHER at** Barley's, 114 West Broadway in CB) starting at 5:00-7:00pm every other Friday

#### MONTHLY EVENTS 1<sup>st</sup> Monday

**HEARTLAND PRIDE**, meeting 1st Monday of each month at Element Hotel, Omaha. Email: info@heartlandpride.org, or PO Box 8273, Omaha, NE 68106

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday

FREE RAPID HIV TESTING, 8pm to 10pm at Flixx Show Bar, STD testing also available for \$10, call 552-9260 ext. 113 or 142 or visit www.nap.org for more info

#### 1st Thursday

<u>GLBT PROFESSIONALS</u>, meeting at 5:30pm in various locations. Email at: <u>GOg-</u> <u>lbt@cfep-ne.org</u> or see <u>www.GOglbt.org</u> for info

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Friday

#### FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE HOUSE Spm,

Musicians, poets, open mic, First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney, Omaha

#### **1st Saturday**

#### **<u>RIVER CITY GENDER ALLIANCE</u>**, at 7:00

pm . See www.rivercitygenderalliance.org

#### 1st Sunday

#### SPIRITUAL FRIENDS OF LINCOLN

12-1pm Fellowship and 1p-2p worship Meets Lincoln at Bennett Martin Library info@inclusivelife.org and on Facebook

#### 2nd Monday

NAP HIV TESTING

Respect Clinic, walk-in from 5:00pm to 7pm —50th & Ames Ave.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday

PFLAG- OMAHA, 6:30pm to 9pm, Countryside Community Church, 8787 Pacific Street Omaha, Nebraska

#### 2nd Saturday

Ecumenical Catholics of Omaha, 5pm – 6:30pm, A progressive community in the Catholic tradition, Meets in the MCC sanctuary Phone: 402.953.7656 Email: ecuomaha@live.com Web: www.ecuomaha.org

#### 3rd Monday

IMPERIAL COURT OF NE, Board of Governors meeting, 6pm, meeting at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Community Center, www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org

#### PFLAG SOUTH CENTRAL (HASTINGS,

**NE)**, Meeting on 3rd Mondays at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 7th and Marian St., 7PM, email to jsandeen@inebraska.com or call 402.462.2961 or 402.460.8696

3rd Thursday <u>COFFEE HOUSE</u> Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

LINCOLN MIXED CHORUS 6:30pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

#### **3rd Saturday**

Ecumenical Catholics of Omaha, 5pm – 6:30pm, A progressive community in the Catholic tradition, Meets in the MCC sanctuary, Phone: 402.953.7656 Email: <u>ecuomaha@live.com</u> Web: <u>www.ecuomaha.org</u>

### 3rd Sunday

CBCA MEETING 5 PM until about 6:30 PM

is our monthly meeting with potluck. We meet at St Paul's Episcopal Church in Council Bluffs

#### 4th Monday

NAP HIV TESTING Respect Clinic, walk-in from 5:00pm to 7pm—50th & Ames Ave.

#### 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday

PFLAG-CORNHUSKER Unitarian Church, 6300 & A, Lincoln, 7 p.m. YOUTH HIV TEST Lighthouse, 2530 N, Lincoln, ages 13 to 18, FFI: 475-3220, 3-5:30 pm

4th Friday LEO - LEATHER ENGINEERS OF OMAHA, Not currently meeting.

## **British Classified Ads**

FREE YORKSHIRE TERRIER. 8 years old, Hateful little bastard. Bites!

FREE PUPPIES 1/2 Cocker Spaniel, 1/2 sneaky neighbor's dog.

FREE PUPPIES. Mother is a Kennel Club registered German Shepherd. Father is a Super Dog, able to leap tall fences in a single bound.

COWS, CALVES: NEVER BRED. Also 1 gay bull for sale.

JOINING NUDIST COLONY! Must sell washer and dryer £100.

WEDDING DRESS FOR SALE . Worn once by mistake. Call Stephanie.

FOR SALE BY OWNER. Complete set of Encyclopedia Britannica, 45 volumes. Excellent condition, £200 or best offer. No longer needed, got married, wife knows everything.

A thought from the Greatest Living Scottish Thinker--Billy Connolly: "If women are so bloody perfect at multitasking, How come they can't have a headache and sex at the same time?"

## **Marriage in Heaven**

On their way to get married, a young Catholic couple was involved in a fatal car accident. The couple found themselves sitting outside the Pearly Gates waiting for St. Peter to process them into heaven. While waiting, they began to wonder, could they possibly get married in heaven?

When St. Peter arrived they asked him if they could get married in heaven.

St. Peter said, "I don't know. This is the first time anyone has asked. Let me go find out," and he left.

The couple sat and waited for an answer... for a couple of months. While they waited, they discussed the pros and cons. If they were allowed to get married in heaven, should they get married, what with the eternal aspect of it all? What if it doesn't work? Are we stuck in heaven together forever?

Another month passed. St. Peter finally returned, looking somewhat bedraggled. "Yes," he informed the couple, "You can get married in heaven."

"Great!" said the couple, "But we were just wondering , what if things don't work out? Could we also get a divorce in heaven?

St. Peter, red-faced with anger, slammed his clipboard on the ground.

"What's wrong?" asked the frightened couple.

"OH, COME ON!!!" St. Peter should. "It took me three months to find a priest up here! Do you have ANY idea how long it'll take to find a lawyer???"

## Then and Now

Johnny takes apart leftover firecrackers from the Fourth of July, puts them in a model airplane paint bottle and blows up a red ant bed.

1960 - Ants die.

2010 - ATF, Homeland Security and the FBI are all called. Johnny is charged with domestic terrorism. The FBI investigates his parents -and all siblings are removed from their home and all computers are confiscated. Johnny's dad is placed on a terror watch list and is never allowed to fly again.

## **GLBT RESOURCE LIST**

## **OMAHA BASED**

BiMenNebraska, Social Support for Bi and BiCurious Men http://groups.yahoo.com/ group/BiMenNebraska and http:// groups.yahoo.com/group/Bi-MEN-MIDWEST

Camp Kindle, Nebraska based summer camp for kids affected by HIV/AIDS, 877,800,CAMP, www.CampKindle.org

877.800.CAMP, www.CampKindle.org Citizens for Equal Protection 1105 Howard St. Suite 2, Omaha NE 68102, 398-3027 www.cfep-ne.org, email to: Michael@cfep-ne.org

Diamond Foundation, making a difference through music and education, call 877-87-DIAMOND/www.diamond-foundation.org

Family Foundations Therapy for individuals, couples or families, for info call 558-3856

First Central Congregational Church UCC, 421 South 36th St., 402-345-1533, www.firstcentral.org, GLBT-affirming

First Lutheran Church, 542 So. 31st St., 402-345-7506, GLBT Friendly www.firstlutheranomaha.org

First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney Street, 402-345-3039,

www.firstuuomaha.org, GLBT Welcoming Congregation

First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass St., 402-556-6262, www.fumcomaha.org, GLBT-affirming

Flat Water Bears, (group disbanded)

- Front Runners/Walkers, Wednesdays at 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha (402-804-8720)
- Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network -Omaha, Box 641676, Omaha 68164, 712-325-0117 http://www.glsenomaha.org

GayLibrary.com, World Wide Resources GOglbt Professionals, meeting at 5:30PM. Email at: GOglbt@cfep-ne.org or see www.GOglbt.org for info

Heartland Pride

PO Box 8273 Omaha, NE 68108, email: info@heartlandpride.org

- Ice Bowl Invitational Bowling Tournament (IBIT) P.O. Box 31838,Omaha, 68131 R. Hollendieck (402) 556-5556
- Imperial Court of Nebraska, Box 3772, Omaha 68103, Board Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center at 6pm, www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org

Inclusive Life

402-575-7006 www.inclusivelife.org Offering religious and non-religious care and services to all without exception. Weddings, Funerals, Coaching and Pastoral Care.

Learning to Exchange Power, no current info available

Leather Engineers of Omaha (LEO) not currently meeting

LinOma Bares, for more Info email

linomabares@yahoo.com or mail to P.O. Box 24547, Omaha NE 68124

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, 819 S. 22 St., Omaha 68108 3452563, mccomaha@mccomaha.org Website: www.mccomaha.org Sunday Worship 9:30am and 11:15am, Wed. Worship at 7pm

NA Rainbow Group, Narcotics Anonymous, meets Friday thru Monday at 10pm, MCC-Omaha Church, 819 South 22nd St

Nebraska AIDS Project, 250 So. 77th St., testing Wed from 1:30-4PM by appointment only, Thurs & Fri 5PM-9PM with 20 minute results Call 402-552-9255 for info

NebraskaEquality.org, Find out everything about Nebraska and the GLBT Community

Nebraska Pride IDOL, PO Box 241733, Omaha NE 68124, 866-4-NE-IDOL, www.NebraskaPrideIDOL.com

Nebraska Zen Center, Soto Zen Buddhist, 3625 Lafayette Ave., 402-551-9035, www.prairiewindzen.org GLBT inclusive

North Side Christian Church 5555 Larimore Ave., Contemporary service Saturday night at 5:30pm

The 'Ohana Group, (GLBT / Nontraditional Family group), email to: Theohanagroup@msn.com

Omaha NE Gay Pride Web Page http://ONGP.com; email to: omahanegaypride@cox.net or ongp1@cox.net

Omaha Metro GLBT Sports League, See www.omahaglbtsportsleague.org for

more information

Onyx Images, Box 31026, 68131-0026 Social/Support Organization for African American Males age 21 and over

Out and About in Nebraska, website: www.travel.to/outabout

Email: NeOutAbout@yahoo.com OUTLinc, group to put together a community center in Lincoln. PO Box 84253,

Lincoln, NE 68501-4253, www.outlinc.org

OUUT (Omaha Unitarian Universalists for Tolerance) First Unitarian Church, 3114 Hamey, 68131, 345-3039, www.ouut.org

Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays (PFLAG) Omaha Chapter, For confidential information or support, call: 402-291-6781, meeting at Countryside Community Church, 8787 Pacific Street Omaha, Nebraska

Proud Horizons Youth Group, Sat Afternoon, info: (402) 291-6781 or email proudhorizons@yahoo.com

Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Ctr, 1719 Leavenworth, Omaha, 341-0330 Rainbow Pride/Rainbow Celebrations PO Box 8273 Omaha, NE 68108, See www.rainbowpride.org for info

River City Gender Alliance, for info see www.rivercitygenderalliance.org

River City Mixed Bowling Sundays, Maplewood Lanes Omaha, at 3PM call 402-572-9393 for details

River City Mixed Chorus, Box 3267.

Omaha, NE 68103, 402-341-SING Website: www.rcmc.org

#### SECOND UNITARIAN CHURCH.

3012 South 119th Street, 402-334-0537, www.secondunitarianomaha.org, GLBT Welcoming Congregation

SNAP Productions, Box 8464, Omaha, NE 68108 www.snapproductions.com

Temple Israel Synagogue, 7023 Cass St., 402-556-6536, member of the Union for Reform Judaism, GLBT inclusive

- TOP, Taking Our Places, meets 2nd Saturdays at 6pm at Rainbow Outreach Center
- Unity Church of Omaha 3424 N, 90, Omaha, Sunday worship: 10:30am Wednesday meditation service 7pm; 571-1344; www.unityomaha.org

Youth Emergency Services, Inc. (Y.E.S.) Offices: 2679 Farnam Street, Suite. 205 Omaha, NE 68131, 402-345-5187, email to info@yesomaha.org

Y.E.S. Drop-in Center, 2057 Harney Street Omaha, NE 68102, 402-505-6922

## LINCOLN BASED

- LGBTQ and Ally Programs and Services Resource Center, Pat Tetreault, LGBTQ Resource Center Director,
- http://involved.unl.edu/lgbtqa 402.472.1752 or 402-472-1652

http://www.unl.edu/health/sexuality

- Queer Student Alliance, UNL, contact unlqsa@yahoo.com for info
- **GLBT** and Allies coffee house, 3rd Fridays, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, 7:30 to 10:30pm Lincoln Women's Center, Lincoln

402/472-2597.

Nebraska AIDS Project, Lincoln, 1921 S. 17th St. (402) 476-7000

Omaha Women's Riverboat Cruise, 4949 N. 73rd, Lincoln, 68507 467-5737

- Parents, Friends of Lesbians & Gays, Cornhusker Chapter, Box 30128, Lincoln 68508, Meet 4<sup>th</sup> Tues, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, email to Barbara Kimberly, jbkiber@hotmail.com. Website: http:// ptlagcornhusker.org/
- Planned Parenthood, F2M and Questioning Support group & Partners of FTM Support Group, meet monthly at 10am Saturday, for info call Ryan Sallans at 441-3321 or email sindu.s@gmail.com
- SAGE, Box 22043, Lincoln 68542 Coffee House 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat, 6 – 9pm, Lesbian Videos 7;15pm, 3319 S. 46

Spiritual Friends of Lincoln Offering fellowship and worship for those seeking radical hospitality, openess, and inclusiveness. Meets the 1st and 3rd Sunday in Lincoln

info@inclusivelife.org and on FaceBook

Straight Spouse Support Grp 402-429-6094 TriCity GLBT, serving Central Nebraska, web site at http://www.tri-city-glbt.com/

UNL Committee on GLBT Concerns, Contact Pat Tetreault, (402) 472-1752 or email: ptetreault1@unl.edu/www.unl.edu/cglbtc Women In Trades/YWCA, 1432 N St., Lincoln 68508; 434-3494, Youth Support Group, (402) 434-9880

## **Iowa Based**

Council Bluffs Community Alliance www.councilbluffscommunityalliance.org Council Bluffs Pride, <u>www.councilbluffspride.org</u> Iowa Equality, GLBT –allied against change to the state and federal

Constitutions, http://www.lowaEquality.org Sioux City, Iowa Resource Web Site: www.siouxlandpride.net

## **Nationally Based**

Trevor-24-hour National Suicide Hotline for GLBT and Questioning Youth 1-800-850-8078 or see web site at http://www.thetrevorproject.org/helpline.html

## Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

#### **Omaha:**

Door 19, 1901 Leavenworth 402-933-3033 402-344-3103 DC's Saloon, 610 South 14th Street Dixie Quick's Restaurant, 157 West Broadway 402- 346-3549 Flixx, 1015 South 10th Street Omaha 402-408-1020 The Max, 1417 Jackson St. 402-346-4110 Metropolitan Community Church, 819 South 22nd Street Mystery Bookstore, 1414 South 13th St. 402-342-7343 Nebraska AIDS Project, 250 South 77th St 402-552-9260 Omaha Mining Co., 1715 Leavenworth 402-449-8703 Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Resource Center, 1719 Leavenworth St. (home of The Gayzette) 402-341-0330

Would you like to have the Gayzette at your Place of business? Email your request to: Gayzette@cox.net After the school's principal approved the design, Webb emailed an order for the shirts to Rod's Sporting Goods in Blue Springs. The owner, Rod Lindemann, emailed her back the next day, saying that because of his religious beliefs, he could not do the job. "I am a man who walks my faith," he told the Star. "God calls me to love all, but he doesn't call me to be comfortable with things that I don't see as God-pleasing."

Webb found another vendor to produce the T-shirts, and she contacted leaders of other clubs at her school and got them to agree to cease patronizing Lindemann's store. She emailed him, "I respect your decision, even if I do not agree with it, and I'm sorry that the Blue Springs South GSA and many other clubs here at South cannot and no longer will be doing business with you."

Webb came out to her mother two years ago and has received unconditional support. Now a senior, she is an honor student who has applied to Harvard University and hopes to become a nuclear or aerospace engineer.

## Ecuador: Lesbian Activist Appointed to Presidential Cabinet

By Michelle Garcia

A woman who led the charge to shut down clinics in Ecuador that promised to help "cure" homosexuality has been appointed the head of the South American coun-

try's health ministry.

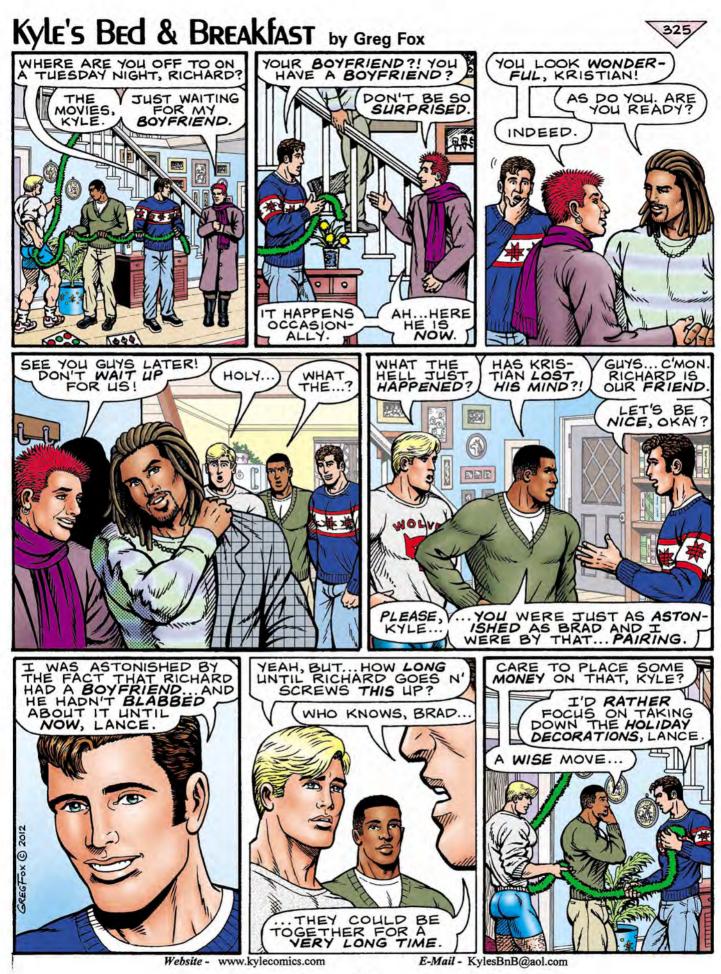
To continue his pro-gay record, President Rafael Correa has announced that Carina Vance Mafla (pictured) would join his cabinet as health minister. According to Blabbeando, the previous health minister stepped down after it was clear that he was unable to solve the problems of the country's troubled national health care system.

Officials with the LGBT organization Equal Rights Now (Igualdad de Derechos Ya!) commended Mafla's appointment and said they hoped she would "pay attention to the distribu-



tion of HIV medications, create guidelines to prevent discrimination against LGBT individuals at hospitals and health centers and take action on shutting down illegal religious "clinics" that promote 'cures' for homosexuality," Blabbeando reports.

A network consisting of nearly 200 illegal so-called reparative therapy clinics was uncovered four years ago. Thirty were shut down by Correa's government in September 2011 after pressure from activists including Mafla and from Change.org and AllOut.org petitions, directed at former health minister David Chiriboga Allnutt.





9 new plays of love, life and laughter Shelterbelt Theatre, 3225 California, Omaha



From Shelterbelt With Love returns with 9 brand new plays! Ranging from tender to tense to hilarious, you will find a lot to love in these plays. Directed by veterans Sonia Keffer and Julia Hinson, and by relative newcomer Liz Mulhern, these plays will touch your heart and tickle your funny bone.

The plays in the show are a result of careful screening and reading of over 100 scripts submitted to the Shelterbelt from around the world, including the work of Omaha playwrights Amy Lane and Liz Mulhern. This year's crop has a heavy dose of humor, sure to be enjoyed by every audience.

From Shelterbelt With Love features the acting talents of Liah Burke, Colleen O'Doherty, Robin Payton, Kate Simmons, Vanessa Strazdas, Devin Tumpkin, Myles Dabbs, Caleb Glazeski, Jesse Hapke, Matt Hemingway, Jay Huse, Michael Lane, John Payton, Demian Ryder, and Mark Vondrasek. The crew includes: Stage manager Crystal Hagerman; Assistant stage manager Caitlin Smith; Set and Lighting designer Matt DeNoncour; Sound designer Dave Podendorf; booth operator Nellie Chenoweth; Reservation/Box/Bar manager Ellen Struve; Producers Craig Bond and Andy Niess.

Directors this year are Sonia Keffer, Julia Hinson, and Liz Mulhern.

Visit www.shelterbelt.org or call 341-2757.

From Shelterbelt With Love runs from Jan 19 to Feb 12 TAG Nite Out preview on Thursday, Jan 19 at 8 pm Showtimes are: 8:00 p.m. Thursday, Friday and Saturday 6:00 p.m. on Sunday January 22 and 29 2:00 p.m. on Sunday February 5 and 12

Tickets and Reservations: \$15 adult, \$12 student/senior/TAG member \$10 opening weekend; \$10 Thursdays and Sundays Special \$7.50 adult, \$6 student/senior/TAG Sunday Feb 5 visit www.shelterbelt.org or call 402-341-2757 Don't miss From Shelterbelt With Love!

And coming in April - Intelligentsia, by Aaron Zavitz; directed by Eric Salonis



Call 402-552-9260 to schedule an appointment or with any questions. www.nap.org SUNDAY, 5TH - 5PM

"Best Commercials of The Year" on Omaha's Biggest Screen

> SUNDAY, 12TH - 10PM "Black Hearts Bash" Presented by Macy Riley

SATURDAY, 18TH - 7PM "Heart Surgery" Presented by Dr. Gay

SUNDAY, 19TH - 10PM "Mix It Up"

TUESDAY, 21ST - 8PM "Mardi Gras Pageant" Presented by Emperor XXXI Todd Pacas

SUNDAY, 26TH - 7PM "Mr. Deedles' Fun House Featuring Mr. Deedles and Friends

