

The GayZette



Published by the Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Community Center

New Jersey Gays Make it Legal

Same-sex couples across New Jersey began claiming the same legal rights as married couples early Thursday in ceremonies that formalized their relationships as civil unions. The state law establishing civil unions for same-sex couples took effect Monday. But because there is a 72-hour waiting period after applying for a license, most couples had to wait until Thursday to hold ceremonies.



New Jersey is the third state in the nation to offer civil unions, which offer the protections and benefits of marriage but not the title. Vermont and Connecticut also offer civil unions, and California offers domestic partnerships with similar benefits. Massachusetts is the only state to allow same-sex marriages.

In Asbury Park, a shore community being revitalized largely by a growing gay population, two couples were joined in ceremonies after midnight at a party sponsored by Garden State Equality, a gay rights advocacy group. The event was part ceremony, part political rally. Two couples were read two sets of vows. The Rev. Bob Krieset asked the couples -- Thomas Mannix and Kevin Pilla, and Degen Schubert and Mark Rado -- to vow to continue fighting for the right to marry. Then Mayor Kevin Sanders led the exchange of civil union vows.

For Schubert and Rado, such ceremonies are becoming old hat. They have had seven so far, including domestic partnerships and a marriage ceremony, both in San Francisco. The state of California ordered that marriage annulled, however.

The couple wore matching suits for Thursday's vows. Rado said the New Jersey recognition was the most important because it comes with the most protections and benefits.

"I just feel lucky that we live in New Jersey," he said.

In Lambertville, an arts community 20 miles north of Trenton, Beth Asaro and Joanne Schailey, who have been together for 20 years, also entered into a civil union shortly after midnight. "It was something we never dreamt could happen," Asaro said of their new benefits.

A couple also exchanged vows in the New York City suburb of South Orange. Three days earlier, Marty Finkle and Michael Plake were surrounded by two dozen friends when they submitted their civil union application.

In October, the state Supreme Court ordered New Jersey legislators to offer gay couples all the benefits of marriage, but left it up to the lawmakers what to call it. They opted for "civil unions" in part because of opposition from legislators who objected on religious grounds to calling it "marriage."

The civil unions law grants same-sex couples hundreds of benefits, including the right to file state taxes jointly and inheritance and child-custody rights. Also, people in civil unions cannot be forced to testify against their partners in criminal court.

The benefits, however, are not recognized by the federal government or in most other states.

Gay rights activists say they'll continue to push for the right to marry in New Jersey.

Opponents want to amend the state constitution to specifically ban same-sex marriage. Forty-five other states have either laws or amendments with such bans. (Kevin Mulvihill, AP)



Grand Marshal Voting - Now Open

Four Nominees who have all dedicated a large portion of their time to the GLBT Community of Nebraska! Read about and vote your choice for the 2007 Grand Marshal honor for the 22nd annual GLBT Pride Parade this June. Online Voting is available from February 3rd until 11:59 pm on March 24th. [www.GrandMarshalVOTE.com]

PLEASE NOTE:
Due to a glitch in our online voting process we ask that **if you voted online before Feb 21st to please vote again.** We think we have all your votes, but we want to be sure. You **can** vote again and we'll make sure your one vote is counted. Sorry for the annoyance.

March 2, 2007 - March 16, 2007

P.O. Box 8583, Omaha, Nebraska 68108 (402) 341-0330
Web Site: www.rainbowoutreach.org email the GAYZETTE: news@rainbowoutreach.org

GAMES DAY AT THE CENTER

Enjoy socializing at Games Day on Sundays 2-4pm at the GLBT Center with hosts James & Jeremy.

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Drop-in to Games Day!



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Tues., Wed., Thurs. - 3-8 pm. Fri. - 2-6 pm. Saturday - 10-6 pm.

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Whole Page 7 1/2W X 10H \$100.00

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All ads should be emailed to news@rainbowoutreach.org. Checks should be made payable to Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center. 10% Discount for on-going ads of any size. Payment and ads may also be delivered to the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center, P.O. Box 8583, Omaha NE 68102 on or before the deadline or you may pay with credit card on our web site at www.RainbowOutreach.org and email the ad. We reserve the right to refuse any ad which we deem to be inappropriate.

Ad Deadlines: Friday, Mar 9, for Publication Mar 16th Friday, Mar 23 for Publication Mar 30th

FLIXX VIDEO BAR



As Always...
NO COVER!

WET BOXER CONTEST

Friday, March 9th

w/SALZA & WENDY!!!

\$100 Cash Prize 11pm-Close

ST. Patrick's Day!

Saturday, March 17TH

\$1.50 GREEN BEERS

\$2.50 Guinness Drafts

Check out our...

AMAZING NIGHTLY DRINK SPECIALS!

SUN	\$3 Domestic Beer Pitchers
MON	\$1 Domestic Longnecks
TUE	\$3 Long Island Iced Teas
WED	\$2 Coronas & Cuervo shots
THU	\$2 Flavored Bacardi drinks
FRI	\$3 Frozen Drinks
SAT	\$2 Sailor Jerry Drinks

COMING SOON...

THE NEW FLIXX LOUNGE

Sundays
6:00-6:30pm Fellowship
6:30-8:00pm Worship and Study
At Rainbow Outreach GLBT Community
Center, 1719 Leavenworth St.
Everyone is Welcome!



New HPV Vaccine Hoped to Benefit Men

The vaccine for the human papillomavirus could help prevent not only cervical cancer, but also anal cancer, the New York Times reported. Both cancers are caused by the same strains of HPV.

Anal cancer is most common in men who have histories of receptive anal intercourse; however, it can affect anyone. There is an annual rate of about 35 cases per 100,000, but that figure nearly doubles in people living with HIV.

"The cervix is similar biologically to the anus, so there's plenty of hope that it will work there also," Dr. Joel Palefsky, a professor of medicine at the University of California San Francisco, told the Times.

The vaccine became available last summer after the U.S. Food and Drug Administration approved it for girls and women from ages 9 to 26. Studies showed that the vaccine is highly effective against four of the dozens of HPV strains, including the ones responsible for most cases of genital and anal warts and cervical and anal cancer.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, HPV is the most common STD in the United States, infecting 6.2 million people every year.

The rate of anal cancer for gay men is similar to rates of cervical cancer before the use of Pap smears, a test used to detect precancerous cells. Many gay men are unaware that they have an increased risk of anal cancer.

Pharmaceutical giant Merck has made a vaccine called Gardasil that has been approved by regulators in Australia and the European Union for boys ages 9 to 15. Data shows it caused an immune response in boys, but its ability to prevent infection in sexually active men has not been demonstrated. (The Advocate)

Breakthrough Year Seen for Gay Rights Bills

Anti-gay bias has flared up in Hollywood and professional basketball recently, and soon the topic will be thrown into a new forum -- a reshaped Congress likely to pass the first major federal gay rights bills.

Wary conservative leaders, as well as gay rights advocates, share a belief that at least two measures will win approval this year: a hate-crimes bill that would cover offenses motivated by anti-gay bias, and a measure that would outlaw workplace discrimination based on sexual orientation.

Also on the table -- although with more doubtful prospects -- will be a measure to be introduced Wednesday seeking repeal of the "don't ask, don't tell" policy that bans openly gay and lesbian Americans from serving in the military.

All three measures surfaced in previous sessions of Congress, at times winning significant bipartisan backing but always falling short of final passage. This year, with Democrats now in control and many Republicans likely to join in support, the hate-crimes and workplace bills are widely expected to prevail.

"With liberals in control, there's a good possibility they'll both pass," said Matt Barber, a policy director with the conservative group Concerned Women for America. "They're both dangerous to freedom of conscience, to religious liberties, to free speech."

If approved by Congress, the bills would head to the White House. Activists on both the left and right are unsure whether President George W. Bush would sign or veto them.

For gay-rights leaders -- whose efforts to legalize same-sex marriage have been rebuffed by many states -- the congressional votes are keenly anticipated after years of lobbying.

"This is a major step in our struggle," said Joe Solmonese, president of the Human Rights Campaign. "I know there's a lot of

(Continued on page 7)

Teaching our Children

By Annette van de Kamp-Wright

Last summer, two dear friends got married back home, and my husband and I flew out to be with them. "Back home" is the Netherlands, at least for me. My husband was born and raised in Nebraska, but I was born in the land of tulips, wooden shoes, and gay rights. When my daughter, 4 at the time, inquired about the possible bride and what fabulous dress she was going to wear, I broke the news to her. No bride, two grooms. She decided that that made sense, because she has known the grooms in question her whole life. She later went to her father and explained, in detail, who was getting married and why it was okay that they are both men. So far, so good. We chuckled about it, and didn't give it much more thought.

Until recently, when I read a small item in the Omaha Gayzette about VP Cheney refusing to answer any questions about his daughter and the fact that she is apparently having a baby. Why? Why is it so difficult, even for parents of gay children, to discuss the issue? Why are we acting as if the whole damn world is coming to an end if we allow gays to marry? What do we expect will happen if we allow gays to adopt, divorce, whatever? And when are we going to break the cycle of silence: don't talk about it, pretend it doesn't exist and it will go away?

I don't want my children to be a part of the silence. I want them to grow up knowing that there is no good reason to discriminate against gays. However, I don't want them to simply take my opinions for granted. They shouldn't repeat what I tell them just because they don't know any better. They need to see for themselves, and they need to feel tolerance within themselves. How do we teach them that? Is it enough to simply teach by example, and point out the difference between ignorance and acceptance every chance we get? For I believe that we can't arrive at a better society unless we teach our children the difference between right and wrong. If that means we need to scrutinize what they read and watch, fine. If it means we need to screen our teachers at school for possible homophobia, and take a closer look at who our kids hang out with, so be it.

I also think this is not a fight the GLBT community needs to be in alone. It is a fight for all of us, and it needs to be discussed. The discussion needs to be loud and out in the open. We may – as a society – have made a little room for gays to come out. However, the real issue, the fact that the good old USA is treating large segments of its population as second-class citizens, is still firmly closeted. It is only when we teach our children to move over and make room for everybody that this country will truly be great.

HGRA CHILI FEED MARCH 10 DC'S SALOON

Come on out and join members of HGRA from 5:00 – 7:30 for some home cooked chili and cornbread. \$5.00 will get you 2 bowls of chili and cornbread and if you become a member, enjoy complementary chili and one of Leona's fabulous jell-o

shots. Speaking of jell-o shots, Leona will be serving them all night long. So saddle up and come on down, we would love to see you.

HGRA CELEBRATES ST PATTY'S DAY MARCH 17 CONNECTIONS

You don't have to be Irish to celebrate but wear some green. The cowboys and cowgirls of HGRA will be serving up corn beef and cabbage and Irish stew on March 17 at Connections from 2-8pm. For only \$5.00 you can get your choice of your favorite Irish dish and a free jell-o shot. If you become a member, the meal is on us! You can also try your Irish luck at a 50/50 raffle. We hope to see you on the 17th.



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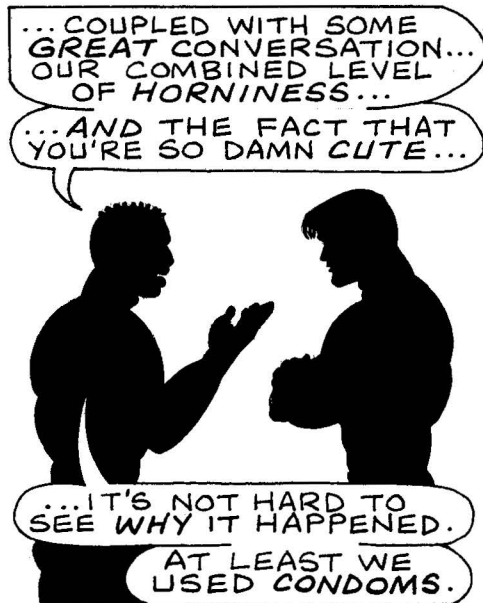
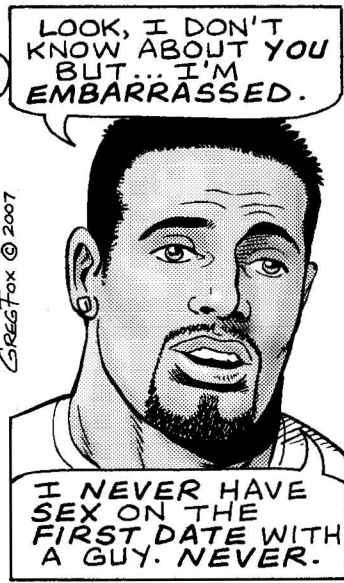
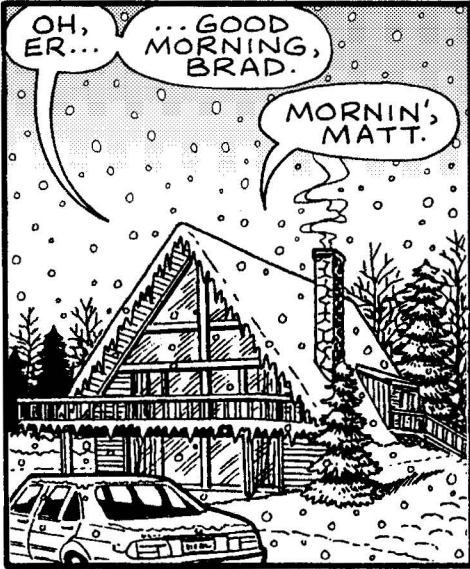
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—Free Report Shows Omaha Gay and Lesbian Community How To Save Thousands Of Dollars On Unnecessary Interest Payments.

Homeowners with substantial credit card debts are missing important savings opportunities by failing to act immediately. Unknown to most financial planners and CPA's, this free consumer report reveals how to save thousands in unnecessary interest payments and finance charges.

“Unbelievable”, said one homeowner. “I can't believe how this simple little trick is able to save me thousands of dollars a year.” Banks and credit card companies hope you never read this report because they want to keep charging you interest on a balance that will take more than 30 years to pay off. Consumers have been fooled by offers of low teaser rates to induce them to transfer balances, only to see their rate double or triple a few months later. This report explains how to avoid being tricked by the tactics of these large banks and credit card companies and how to turn the table so you get the interest, not them.

NOTE: The revised version of this report was recently released and the response has been overwhelming. A toll-free 24hr/day recorded message hotline has been set up to handle the expected volume, but you are urged to call right away. Quantities are limited. Call 1-800-475-9610...press option 1...ext 8605, leave your name and address, and the report will be mailed to you.

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Free Report

The preceding is a paid advertisement.

(Continued from page 4)
despair on the other side.”

The workplace bill -- titled the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, or ENDA -- is the subject of behind-the-scenes negotiations. The bill that emerges is expected to expand on earlier versions to cover not only sexual orientation but also gender identity, thus extending protections to transgender employees. Churches and small businesses would be exempt.

For many Americans, ENDA's provisions would be familiar. More than 85 percent of the Fortune 500 companies include sexual orientation in their non-discrimination policies, as do 17 states and many local governments.

And publicly, there is increasingly little tolerance for overt anti-gay bias. The National Basketball Association swiftly repudiated retired All-Star Tim Hardaway after he spoke this month of hating gays, while TV actor Isaiah Washington apologized and sought counseling after using a gay slur in reference to a fellow

(Continued on page 9)

Presbyterians believe God calls us all to serve others.

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HGRA Chili Feed

Saturday, March 10th

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Friday, March 16th

Mr DC's Saloon Contest

Saturday, March 24th

Mama's All-Star Revue

Sunday, March 18th



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(Continued from page 7)
actor on "Grey's Anatomy."

Advocacy groups also say there have been huge strides in regard to protections for transgender people -- with nine states, scores of major corporations and more than 70 colleges and universities now banning discrimination based on gender identity.

California's ban, in effect since 2003, has not triggered a flood of litigation, but it has prompted employers to proactively improve their policies for dealing with transgender employees, said Shannon Minter, legal director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights.

In past years, some congressional supporters of gay rights
(Continued on page 14)



OMSG

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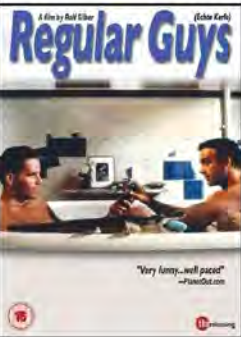
- Are you a man who has sex with other men?
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Center Movie Fan Night



Fans of GLBT cinema come enjoy a great free movie at the GLBT Center! Join us on Tuesday March 6, 2007, at the Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth. The GLBT Center opens at 6:30pm and the movie starts at 7:30pm. Popcorn and beverages will be provided. The movie selection is: Regular Guys (running time approx. 102 minutes).

Christoph, a cop and self-confident macho guy, has trouble with his fiancée.

After a long night he wakes up in the arms of Edgar, a good-looking, gay auto-mechanic. His life gets more and more troublesome after his girlfriend throws him out of their apartment and as last resort he moves to Edgar's place. Working together with a new, good-looking, very self-confident, female colleague, but living with a good-looking gay guy makes him pretty uncertain about his sexuality and his role as a cop. Filled with humor and sensitivity, Regular Guys is a comedic examination of relationships: gay, straight and somewhere in between.

We'll see you at the GLBT Center Tuesday, March 6!

Would you like a FREE Copy of the Advocate?

Stop in at the GLBT Community Center at 1719 Leavenworth and pick up a copy. Free while supplies last. Limit one copy per person while 50 copies of each issue lasts.

THE F WORD IS OFF LIMITS HOW ISIAH WASHINGTON FINALLY MADE THE ANTIGAY SLUR UNSAYABLE



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GAYZETTE COMING EVENTS

Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Center

1719 Leavenworth, Omaha
(mail address PO Box 8583 Omaha NE 68108)

WALK-IN HOURS

Sundays	2:00PM - 8:00PM
Mondays	6:30PM - 9:30PM
Tuesdays	6:30PM - 9:00PM
Thursdays	7:30PM - 9:00PM
Fridays	5:30PM - 10:00PM
Saturdays	4:00PM - 6:00PM

* 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.

SATURDAY MARCH 3RD

DREAM WORKSHOP, learn to analyze your dreams for better awareness and insight into your daily life, led by Jim Poppert, \$10 registration fee, 2PM, at the Reading Grounds, 502-2008, register in advance, class limited to 20, see www.readinggrounds.com,

THURSDAY MARCH 8TH

DISCUSSION OF ALAIN DE BOTTON'S ARCHITECTURE OF HAPPINESS, led by Edith Buis, 7PM, at the Reading Grounds, 502-2008, www.readinggrounds.com, free

FRIDAY MARCH 9TH TO 11TH

DREAMS TO REALITY, Novice introduction to the leather community with workshops, vendors, leather show and play parties, at Howard Johnson's Inn, 3650 S. 72nd St., see www.sdwhost.net/dreams for more info

SATURDAY MARCH 10TH

HGRA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING, at DC's Saloon at 2PM

HGRA CHILE FEED AND JELLO

SHOTS, at DC's Saloon at 5PM to 7:30PM

SATURDAY MARCH 17TH

HGRA CORN BEEF AND CABBAGE-FEED, jello shots and raffles, at Connections Bar From 2PM to 9PM

SUNDAY MARCH 18TH

GLBT CENTER 10TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY, 2PM-4PM, 1719 Leavenworth. Free. Come celebrate a decade of service to the GLBT-allied community!

PRIDE FUNDRAISER AT THE MAX, 9PM, Hosted by Trina Tabloid

SATURDAY MARCH 24TH

MISS CONNECTIONS KING AND QUEEN CONTEST, Connections Bar, time t.b.d.

SATURDAY APRIL 7TH

OMAHA AREA YOUTH LEADERSHIP SUMMIT, AT THE Rainbow Outreach GLBT Community Center, 1719 Leavenworth St., see www.rainbowoutreach.org for more information

SATURDAY MAY 5TH

NEBRASKA GLBT SUMMIT, at Mahoney State Park, Ashland NE, more details to come later, Everyone welcome

FRIDAY JUNE 8TH TO 10TH

NEBRASKA GAY PRIDE, Omaha NE, in Flixx Video Bar's parking lot

WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Sunday

WORSHIP SERVICES:

AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA, 3647 LaFayette Ave., Omaha GLBT friendly, www.augustanalutheran.com

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY FELLOW-

SHIP, Now meeting at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Community Center, 1719 Leavenworth St., Fellowship starts at 6PM, services begin at 6:30PM, Everyone Welcome! Doors open at 6PM.

DIETZ METHODIST 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, 11am services

LOWE AVE PRESBYTERIAN, 1023 N 40 10am service

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA 819 S. 22., 345-2563 Sunday Worship: 11am

NA-RAINBOW GROUP, Narcotics Anonymous, every Sunday at 6PM, MCC-Omaha, 819 South 22nd St., for info contact Kip K. at 612-4648

SECOND UNITARIAN, 10:30am Sunday service, 3012 South 119th St., Omaha NE

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

GAMES DAY AT THE GLBT CENTER, 1719 Leavenworth, 2PM to 4PM

GAY MEN'S ALCOHOLICS ANONY-MOUS 4pm Lowe Avenue Presbyterian, 1023 N. 40 St Info call Mark 639-3055

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

LINCOLN WOMYN'S POTLUCK Cheryl 474-1937 11:30am-4pm

RIVER CITY II MIXED BOWLING, 3pm, Maplewood Lanes,

WIMMIN'S SHOW, KZUM 89.3 12:30pm

Every Monday

A A RAINBOW RECOVERY, an AA group meeting at the MCCO Church at 6pm. Call 612-4648 for more info. Starting April 10th 2006

A A GLBT "RAINBOW GROUP"

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

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

Every Tuesday

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

UNL LESBIAN/BI/QUESTIONING SUPPORT 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

WORSHIP SERVICES

MCC OMAHA, Bible Study, 7pm

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

HIV TESTING, 1:30-4 pm NAP, 139 S. 40 St., results in one week

HIV TESTING LINCOLN, 4-7 pm, using Orasure, results in one week; results in 20 minutes on the last Wednesday of the month. 2147 South 15th #476-7000

FRONTRUNNERS RUN/WALK

6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by soft-

ball field, Omaha

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

KARAOKE W/ STACY 9:00 pm DC's

Every Thursday
DANCE LESSONS WITH GORDON
7-9pm, DC's Saloon

GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S SUPPORT AND DISCUSSION GROUP 7-8:30pm, Meeting in Lincoln first and third Thursdays of the month. Call 434-9880 / 476-9668, held at the Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street, Lincoln

HIV TESTING 7-9pm, NAP, 139 S. 40th
Results available in one week

KARAOKE 9pm, Connections Bar

FREE CONFIDENTIAL ANONYMOUS HIV TEST, UN-L 472-7447, 2:30 to 4:30pm, University Health Center Room 164 (next to Pharmacy on the first floor), Orasure test, no needles, Lincoln NE, results in one week

Every Friday
AA ALTERNATIVE MEETING, 7pm, open to men and women, at Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church in the basement, 1023 North 40th Street

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

GLBT CENTER YOUTH NIGHT, 5PM to 9PM, for ages 13 to 23. Youth sponsored and organized activities, under adult supervision. Every Friday, excluding holidays. 1719 Leavenworth Street

GLBT AA 7PM to 8PM, Lowe Avenue Presbyterian, Call 556-8364, ask for Sanford

GLBT SEXUAL COMPULSIVE ANONYMOUS, (SCA), A program of recovery, 8pm to 9pm, call Kirk at(402) 403-0277

HIV TESTING 5-10pm, NAP, 139 S. 40th
Results available in 20 minutes

FREE CONFIDENTIAL ANONYMOUS HIV TEST, UN-L 472-7447, 2:30 to 4:30pm, University Health Center Room 164 (next to Pharmacy on the first floor), Orasure test, no needles, Lincoln NE, results in one week

READING GROUNDS GAYME NIGHT, Music, laughter & board games. 23yrs. Old & up, 40th & Farnam St., 502-2008

RAINBOW BIBLE STUDY, 6 to 7:30PM, Lowe Ave. Presbyterian, 1023 No. 40th St.

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

PROUD HORIZON YOUTH GROUP 4-6pm, 291-6781 proudhorizons@yahoo.com

MONTHLY EVENTS

1st Tuesday
CENTER MOVIE FAN NIGHT
7:30pm, Free movie at Rainbow Outreach, 1719 Leavenworth St. Popcorn and beverages provided. Everyone is invited.

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

1st Friday
FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE HOUSE
8pm, Musicians, poets, open mic, First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney, Omaha

1st Saturday
RIVER CITY GENDER ALLIANCE
No Current RCGA Information Available

1st Sunday
GAY GUYS SPAGHETTI NIGHT, at a Lincoln restaurant, call 402-483-6183 to reserve a seat up until the day before

2nd Tuesday
CENTER LIBRARY FAIRIES, 8PM. Bookworms become butterflies. Stretch your wings helping the Center library. No experience necessary to volunteer. Drop-in to the GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth.

CENTER WESTERN IOWA COMMITTEE, 7PM at the GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth, Omaha. For details, visit RainbowOutreach.org

2nd Thursday
PFLAG-OMAHA, 7pm, First United Methodist Church

2nd Saturday
LEARNING TO EXCHANGE POWER L2EP@aol.com 2pm; DC's Saloon

2nd Sunday
INTEGRITY 6-7:30pm, St. Marks, Lincoln NE

OUUT SECOND SUNDAY SCREENING (glbt film shown at 7pm followed by discussion) First Unitarian, 3114 Harney

3rd Monday
IMPERIAL COURT OF NEBR
6:30pm, Doubletree Hotel Downtown, www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org
PFLAG SOUTH CENTRAL, Meeting on 3rd Mondays at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 7th and Marian St., Hastings NE, 7PM, email jsandeen@hastings.edu or pat@datacc.net

3rd Tuesday
CENTER MOVIE FAN NIGHT
7:30pm, Free movie at Rainbow Outreach, 1719 Leavenworth St. Popcorn and beverages provided. Everyone is invited.

VOLUNQUEER DROP-IN, at the

GLBT Center. Be a "VolunQueer" and help out. Spend an hour or two volunteering at the Center - 6:30PM or 7:30PM, your choice, whenever it fits your schedule. No special skills or ongoing commitment required. VolunQueers have fun and make a difference.

3rd Thursday
GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S SUPPORT AND DISCUSSION GROUP 7-8:30pm, Meeting in Lincoln first and third Thursdays of the month. Call 434-9880 / 476 9668 for location and information.
LES/BI/GAY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP, Village Inn, 78th & Dodge, 7 PM

3rd Friday
GAY/BI SUPPORT GRP FOR HIV+ MEN
6-8pm NAP, 220 S. 17, Lincoln, 476-7000.

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

4th 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-OMAHA
Not currently meeting.

LAST Wednesday of each month
READING GROUNDS NAKED WORDS OPEN MIC POETRY NIGHT, The Reading Grounds, 40th & Farnam St., 7:00 PM

LAST Sunday of each month
REAL FAMILIES Omaha-area families headed by gay/lesbian parents, Margaux at 561-6738 or email MargauxPolo@aol.com

Email Your Event to:
news@rainbowoutreach.org

Fitness Corner

By Ron Blake



You want to be healthy. Go to bed and sleep on it. Sleep is a great way to maintain your health and it's not that complicated. You just need to sleep. So, why is that everyone seems to get so little of it?

People are always rushing about. There's the nine to five job. There's the one hour commute. There's the grocery shopping. There's always something that seems to eat away at your precious sleeptime. Let me give you some good reasons to make room for the pillow and mattress.

First, you just simply need to make the time for sleep. The average adult needs seven to eight hours of sleep. This is a priority and you need to allocate a period of your day when you can accomplish this. If you can't schedule it then you're doing too much during your daily routine.

Cornell psychology professor James B. Maas provided research that shows that if you get less than eight hours of sleep per night, you are operating impaired; and your alertness, productivity, creativity, and general health are all affected.

The body is able to restore itself during REM sleep. This is when the body can process the emotional moments of the day through dream imagery. This explains why I have such a hard time sleeping after watching movies like *The Grudge*, *White Noise*, or *Gigli*. The brain tries to interpret and process this information so that we can forget and then move on for a new day.

It becomes easier to fall asleep when you get in a routine. Watch the nine o'clock news each night and then head off to the bedroom. Notice I said head off to the bedroom. That would mean that you were watching the news in another room. Very good! The bedroom is just for sleeping and occasionally some carnal indulgences. Keep the television and DVDs out of this sacred slumber sanctuary. The more you associate this part of the house with somnolence, the easier it will be become to fall asleep quickly when your head hits the pillow.

Don't engage in disruptive activities just before being summoned by the sandman. Headbangers ball, a cup of joe, a row with your girlfriend, and a tintinnabulary tango are bad ideas. Soothing music, non-caffeinated drinks, and a rendezvous with your favorite book are great ideas.

Make your bed as comfortable and appealing as possible. There are certain colors that have that hypnotic effect on individuals. Green coos peace and serenity and helps lower the heart rate. It is a great comforter and stress reliever. Blue entices you to fantasize and daydream. Its cerulean effects cause the brain to emit tranquilizing hormones. Purple has the capacity to pacify frayed nerves and slow muscle activity. Pink just has a

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Monthly Meetings: Second Thursday 7:00 P.M.
Location: First United Methodist Church
7020 Cass, Omaha, Nebraska
Web Site: www.pflag-omaha.org

P.O. Box 390064
Omaha, NE 68139-0064

HELPLINE
(402) 291-67681

Where Can You Find The Gazette?

Omaha:

Connections, 1901 Leavenworth	933-3033
The Diamond, 712 South 16th Street (alcohol and smoke free)	
DC's Saloon, 610 South 14th Street	344-3103
Dixie Quick's Restaurant, 20th Leavenworth	
Flix 1019 South 10th Street Omaha	408-1020
The Max, 1417 Jackson	346-4110
The Reading Grounds, 3928 Farnam Street	502-2008
Metropolitan Community Church, 819 South 22nd Street	
Omaha Mining Co., 1715 Leavenworth	449-8703
Mystery Bookstore, 1422 South 13th St	
Nebraska AIDS Project, 139 South 40th St	552-9260
Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Resource Center, 1719 Leavenworth St.	

Lincoln:

Panic Bar, 200 South 18th Street (as available)	435-8764
Q Bar, 226 South 9th Street (as available)	475-2269

Iowa:

Adult Emporium, 1 blk. So. of 32nd & Broadway, Council Bluffs

**Would you like to have the Gazette at your
Place of business? Email your request to:
news@rainbowoutreach.org**

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(Fitness Corner, Continued from page 13)

way with calm, cool, and collective. Try to mix and match these hues with the décor of your boudoir and serenade yourself into a lullaby.

Some people tell me that they need to do as much as possible while they're alive. They tell me that there will be plenty of time to sleep when they're knocking on heaven's door. True but why not try to get as much quality out of your awake time as possible. Proper sleep equates to much more energetic and productive awake time. I opt for quality in lieu of quantity. "Goodnight, you princes of Maine. You Kings of New England."

Ron Blake is a personal fitness trainer and owner of Blake Fitness in Phoenix. He can be reached at 480-241-5651 or blake.fitness@yahoo.com.

(Continued from page 9)

warned that ENDA's prospects would be crippled by including protections for gender identity. This year may be different.

U.S. Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., said the version he is helping draft will indeed cover transgender employees, while offering some allowances to employers so they can enforce dress codes and minimize controversies over bathroom use.

"With the proper amendments, I think we can get it," said Frank, one of two openly gay members of Congress.

Tony Perkins, president of the Family Research Council, contended that gay rights groups exaggerated the extent of anti-gay bias as part of a broader push to achieve their political goals.

"I'm sure there's probably a case here and there," Perkins said. "But I've seen more discrimination of people of religious faith than I've seen of gay people in the work force."

ENDA was first introduced in the 1994, and came within one vote of Senate passage in 1996, while the hate-crimes bill has passed in the House and Senate in separate years only to falter before final passage at the behest of Republican conservatives.

The hate-crimes measure would expand existing federal provisions to include acts of violence against gays and lesbians. Opponents contend it would be an ominous first step toward criminalizing criticism of homosexuality.

According to the FBI, about 14 percent of the 7,163 hate crimes reported in 2005 targeted gay men or lesbians -- a slightly lower percentage than the two prior years. (David Crary, AP)

Dream Workshop Focuses On Understanding

On Saturday, March 3rd, 2pm, Health Counselor Jim Poppert

will offer participants a better understanding of what their dreams are trying to tell them about their conscious life. The two-hour workshop will be held one day only at The Reading Grounds.

"I am a believer in dreams offering awareness and insight into our daily lives," says Poppert. "Much may be gained by looking at our dreams."

Participants are asked to bring with them a dream they've had for interpretation and discussion at the workshop. A registration fee of \$10 will be required either prior to the workshop date or at the door. The book *Inner Work: Using Dreams and Creative Imagination for Personal Growth and Integration* is suggested (but not required) to enhance participants' understanding of topics discussed at the workshop and is available at a 10% discount to workshop attendees at The Reading Grounds.

For more information, call Cindy at The Reading Grounds, 40th & Farnam Sts., 402-502-2008, www.readinggrounds.com.

"I Am My Own Life"

SNAP! Productions presents the Omaha premiere of Doug Wright's "I Am My Own Wife." This gripping and moving drama tells the true story of playwright Doug Wright's encounter with Charlotte von Mahlsdorf, an East German transvestite who survived the two most repressive regimes of the Western world – the Nazis and the Soviet-dominated Communist dictatorship. In this highly theatrical journey, Wright is driven to uncover the secrets of a woman whose very existence seems an impossibility.

Kevin Lawler will direct actor Nick Zadina as he brings to life Wright, von Mahlsdorf, and nearly 40 other characters in this widely-acclaimed story of truth and survival.

Winner of the 2004 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, the 2004 Tony Award for Best Play, and a host of other awards, "I Am My Own Wife" promises a "vibrant, vital, and fascinating" night of theatre (USA Today).

SNAP! Productions is proud to include the complete set of original miniature furniture used in the Broadway production and prior workshops of this play. They were created by Omaha resident, Paul Pape.

"I Am My Own Wife," will run from March 8 - April 1, 2007 at 3225 California Street. Curtain times are 8:00 pm, Thursday, Friday and Saturday; 6:00 pm on Sundays. The April 1st performance will be at 2:00 PM. The theater opens a half hour before curtain time. Reservations may be made by calling 402-341-2757 or on the SNAP! website: www.snapproductions.com. Tickets are \$15.00, general admission; \$12.00, students, senior citizens, and TAG members.

Omaha Metro GLBT Sports League

Omaha Metro GLBT Sports League Volleyball Championship Game Feb 25th

After 15 weeks of volleyball play on the Omaha Metro GLBT Sports League there is now one team that can declare themselves the champions. Congrats to the Sextuplets for their game victory. Their competitors, Mount and Dew'em gave them a run for the money as all games were played ending in a tie breaker game. The league would like to thank Kathy, our ref, Robbi, our scorekeeper, and the 20th & Howard YMCA for letting the league play at their facility.

The next sport for the league will be 6 man flag football. Sign up dates will be March 22nd 7 PM at Max (arena bar) and March 25th 7 PM at DC's. Cost will be \$15 per person for the whole season. You can create a team of up to 8 or sign up individually to be placed onto a team. Games begin April 5th and run every Thursday until June 28th. Game times will be 6:30 PM to 8:30 PM. Softball will be offered this summer on the same days and times July 5th and end on September 27th. Sign up dates for this sport will be announced at a later time.

Feb 18th Game results

1st Place: Sextuplets (blue team): 6 wins, 3 losses - 181 combined points

2nd Place: Mount & Dew 'Em (green team): 6 wins, 3 losses - 177 combined points

ELIMINATED TEAMS:

3rd Place: Ball Handlers (red team): 6 wins, 3 losses - 176 combined points

4th Place: Orange Crush (orange team): 0 wins, 9 losses - 115 combined points

Feb 25th Results

Sextuplets 21 21

Mount and Dew'em 13 19

Sextuplets 13 18

Mount and Dew'em 21 21

Sextuplets 21 16 21

Mount and Dew'em 10 21 18



Congrats to the Sextuplets

FRIDAY MARCH 2ND

MEN'S NIGHT

Amateur Strip 7pm

\$100 Cash Prize

Aunt Mike's Underwear Night 9pm

SUNDAY MARCH 4TH

NE Pride Idol Preliminary
9pm

SATURDAY MARCH 10TH

Diamond Princess Benefit
6pm

SUNDAY MARCH 11TH

Not-So-Gay-States Pageant
9pm

SUNDAY MARCH 18TH

"A Night In The Trailer Park"
Presented by Trina Tabloid &
Rainbow Celebrations
9:30pm

SUNDAY MARCH 25TH

"Talkie Talk"
Presented by:
Miss Lana Caine
9pm

MONDAY MARCH 26TH
& TUESDAY MARCH 27TH

RCMC Benefit
Hosted by Mr Jon Holloway
9pm

THE MAX

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