



Arnold Schwarzenegger: 'My Dad Hit Me Because He Thought I Was Gay'

by Joe Morgan

His parents were concerned about all posters of half naked male models in his room.

Arnold Schwarzenegger has revealed his father used to hit him with a belt when he was younger because he thought he was gay.

When he was a child, the future Terminator star was obsessed with body-builders and had many posters up on his wall of inspiration for his workouts.



But his parents thought the teen was putting up the posters because he was attracted to men.

'He ran after me with a belt and beat me,' Schwarzenegger said in an interview with Xposure.

"I don't know if mum thought I was gay, or if she just thought there was something off. And thought "let's catch it early".

'She asked the doctor, "Can you help me? I don't know if there's something wrong with my son because his wall is full of naked men.

All of Arnold's friends have pictures of girls above their bed. And Arnold has no girls."

The 65-year-old was exposed for paying tens of thousands of dollars to his mistress, housekeeper Mildred Baena, after he learned he fathered her 15-year-old son Joseph.

Donald Trump Adds Antigay Rick Santorum to Religious Council

BY YEZMIN VILLARREAL

The Republican presidential nominee has added his former rival as an advisor to his campaign.



Donald Trump has hired Rick Santorum, the former U.S. senator from Pennsylvania, as an adviser for his Catholic Advisory Council.

Santorum, who ended his campaign for president in February, is one of 35 people slated for the council. In a press release announcing the council, Trump included a list of "issues of importance to Catholics." The topics on the list include religious liberty, pro-life issues, judicial nominations, education, health care, jobs and taxation, and safety and security.

In June, Santorum signed an antigay "pledge in solidarity to defend marriage," that claims marriage should only exist "between one man and one woman." Santorum has also said he would reinstate the ban on 'don't ask don't tell.' The former senator has also defended "religious liberty" in the past, and it is something that Trump comments on in his list of "issues of importance to Catholics."

(Continued on page 2)

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On the topic of religious liberty, Trump said, "Religious liberty is enshrined in the First Amendment to the Constitution. It is our first liberty and provides the most important protection in that it protects our right of conscience. Activist judges and executive orders issued by Presidents who have no regard for the Constitution have put these protections in jeopardy. If I am elected president and Congress passes the First Amendment Defense Act, I will sign it to protect the deeply held religious beliefs of Catholics and the beliefs of Americans of all faiths. The Little Sisters of the Poor, or any religious order for that matter, will always have their religious liberty protected on my watch and will not have to face bullying from the government because of their religious beliefs."

In June, Trump announced the launch of his Evangelical Executive Advisory Board. Michele Bachmann, one of the most outspoken opponents of marriage equality, is on the evangelical advisory board.

Friday, Trump announced an updated list of his Supreme Court nominee picks. Several of Trump's choices on the list have an anti-LGBT track record.

RuPaul Just Made History With His First Emmy Win

JamesMichael Nichols
Queer Voices Deputy Editor, The Huffington Post

Watch out Hollywood ? RuPaul just permanently cemented his legacy with a groundbreaking Emmy win for Outstanding Host for a Reality or Reality-Competition Program.

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The win is historic for a number of reasons ? the least of which being that "RuPaul's Drag Race" is a reality competition for drag queens. "Drag Race" airs on Logo TV ? an LGBT television network not included in the traditional cable package ? and to have a queer television show and network take home an Emmy win like this is a major victory for queer visibility on a mainstream level.



"I think about all the kids who watch this show all over the world who finally have an emotional navigation system," RuPauls told Entertainment Tonight in the above clip. "This show and the 100s of girls who have come through our show have told their stories so graciously and have really helped young people around the world navigate their lives."

We're so proud of you, RuPaul ? and we can't wait to see what else your magic brings to Hollywood!

Chelsea Manning Sentenced to Two Weeks of Solitary Confinement

BY YEZMIN VILLARREAL

The whistleblower's lawyer claims Manning is being punished for trying to take her life.

Chelsea Manning has been given two weeks of solitary confinement, confirms her lawyer, Chase Strangio, of the American Civil Liberties Union.

Manning released a statement declaring that she was "found guilty of the 'Conduct Which Threatens' charge. This charge was for the suicide attempt." Manning said she would be serving 14 days in solitary and seven of those would be "suspended," but if she is to get in trouble again within the next six months, she will have to serve those seven days again.

Manning confirmed that there is not a set date for her solitary

confinement to start, but that when she gets the results from the disciplinary board that charged her with "conduct which threatens," she will have 15 days to appeal.



"I am feeling hurt. I am feeling lonely. I am embarrassed by the decision. I don't know how to explain it," Manning wrote of the news. "I am touched by your warm messages of love and support. This comforts me in my time of need."

On September 13, Manning ended a five-day hunger strike. She was protesting against her treatment at a military prison in Fort Leavenworth, Kan., where she is serving a 35-year sentence for her involvement in sharing classified information with WikiLeaks in 2010.

The U.S. military recently agreed to provide Manning with gender-confirmation surgery. Military officials agreed to provide the service because of the Department of Defense's new policy that provides opportunities for transgender service members to receive necessary medical treatment.

Couple Says They Were Attacked With Pepper Spray At Folsom Street Fair Simply For Being Gay

from SFGate

Two men claim they are the victims of an unprovoked hate crime that occurred over Folsom weekend in San Francisco.

Neil Frias and Jeff White were visiting from New York for the weekend when they say they were pepper sprayed by a gang of assailants simply for no reason other than they are gay.

"I'm trying to make sense of it," Frias told the press on Sun-

(Continued on page 4)

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day. "I would think what happened last night would happen somewhere else, not here."

The alleged attack happened around 9 p.m. last Saturday night outside a McDonald's not far from where the festival was being held. Fraiss says he and White were leaving the restaurant when five guys pulled up in a blue minivan and shouted, "You fags are destroying family values!"

"I said I didn't want any trouble, and one of them got out of the van," Fraiss recalls. "I thought he was going to take a swing at me, but he sprayed me across the face."

A second man then jumped out and sprayed him again, while a third assailant went after White, who dropped to the ground and curled up in a ball to protect his face.

"I was completely vulnerable," Fraiss, who became temporarily blinded, said. "I thought they were going to start beating me."

It wasn't until a woman nearby told the attackers she was calling the police that the mob got back into the minivan and sped off. Police and paramedics arrived shortly thereafter and the men returned safely to their hotel.

A spokesman for the San Francisco Police Department said they are currently looking for surveillance video that may have captured the incident.

"We take these crimes very seriously," said Officer Carlos Manfredi. "If anybody feels they can attack someone based on their sexual preference, we're going to go after them and hold



them accountable."

As for Fraiss and White, they refused to let the incident prevent them from enjoying the rest of their weekend. By Sunday, they had recovered from the pepper spray and were geared up to hit the fair.

"I'm mad that I didn't get to go out last night," White said. "It's Saturday night in San Francisco Folsom week!"

Happy and Blessed Day to You

I wanted to let you know that that the Ecumenical Catholics of Omaha are going through a transition that we hope will make more sense once completed. For now, this Brother, has changed his Facebook religious page from EcuOmaha to brjasonosf. You can see it in my signature line below. This makes this page solely mine while we work on other pages for different purposes. If you're inclined to consider joining that page but are uncertain about doing so, please look at the site first. It's an open page ready for anyone to view without joining. Joining only allows you to get posts sent to your Facebook page without you having to remember to visit the page.



Fall is upon us and for me this is a time where Mother Earth is turning in her bed and preparing to sleep and perchance to dream. It's a very sacred time for me as a Franciscan because I'm called upon to take more effort to feed and water the fur children of nature. It's also a time to try and rake leaves and make a mulching bin so they become great fertilizer in the spring. It's also just simply a fun time of the year with several holidays we can spend with friends and family and that is the smallest unit of a community we can have; family and then friends. Jesus asks us to be in community with each other so I feel the spirit of the God during these holidays and I pray that you do as well. Be safe, be kind, and love one another as He has loved us.

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Kim Davis' Fight is Officially Over as Judge Dismisses Cases as 'Moot'

By Erin Rook

A U.S. District Court has dismissed three lawsuits against antigay Kentucky clerk Kim Davis, saying that changes in the law since their filing in 2015 — and the continued ability of same-sex couples to obtain marriage licenses — make them essentially irrelevant.

“In light of these proceedings, and in view of the fact that the marriage licenses continue to be issued without incident,” the court wrote, “there no longer remains a case or controversy before the Court.”

When the suits first came before the court in 2015, the plaintiffs were granted a preliminary injunction and Davis was ordered to issue marriage licenses to anyone qualified to marry in the state of Kentucky. While Davis sought to appeal the rulings, by the time arguments were scheduled to begin, the state had passed a law removing clerk’s names from marriage licenses. Davis asked that the appeals be dismissed. The ACLU agreed and the Sixth Circuit said the issues raised were now moot and ordered the court to vacate the injunctions.

The court lays out in its order how life just carried on while Davis held out hope for a reversal:

While these appeals were pending, marriage licenses were issued without incident. Matt Bevin also won the Kentucky gubernatorial election. Upon taking office, Governor Bevin signed an executive order removing the names of County Clerks from marriage licenses. This executive order eventually led to the proposal of Kentucky Senate Bill 216 (“SB 216”), which creates a new marriage license form that does not require the County Clerk’s signature. On April 1, 2016, the Kentucky Senate passed SB 216. Governor Bevin signed it into law less than two weeks later.

Friday, the court finally struck the cases from its docket, effectively washing its hands of Davis.

And yet, the Liberty Counsel, which represented Davis, cast the order as a victory.

“Kim Davis has won! We celebrate this victory for her and for every American,” said Mat Staver, Founder and Chairman of Liberty Counsel in a press release. “County clerks are now able to perform their public service without being forced to compromise their religious liberty. The case is now closed and the door has been shut on the ACLU’s attempt to assess damages against Kim Davis. This victory is not just for Kim Davis. It is a victory for everyone who wants to remain true to their deeply-held religious beliefs regarding marriage while faithfully serving the public.”



But LGBTQ couples are the real winners, because public servants like Davis can no longer stand between same-sex couples and their right to wed.

Tens of Thousands March Against Same-Sex Marriage in Mexico

By MARK STEVENSON

MEXICO CITY (AP) — Tens of thousands of people marched through Mexico City on Saturday in opposition to President Enrique Peña Nieto’s push to legalize same-sex marriage.

Organizers of the National Front for the Family estimated at least 215,000 people participated, and while that number could not be immediately confirmed, it was clearly one of the largest protest marches in Mexico in recent years.



Dressed mainly in white and carrying white balloons, the marchers held banners warning against same-sex marriage and demanding parents’ right to control sex education in schools.

“We are not against anybody’s (sexual) identity,” said Abraham Ledesma, an evangelical pastor who travelled from the border city of Reynosa, across the border from McAllen, Texas, to participate in Saturday’s march. “What we are against is the government imposition ... of trying to impose gender ideology in education. As religious leaders, we don’t want to be forced to marry same-sex couples and call it marriage.”

Others carried signs saying “an adopted child deserves a mother and a father.”

On the other side of a police barricade separating the two sides at Mexico’s Independence Monument, a far smaller crowd of same-sex marriage supporters — perhaps a couple hundred — listened to music and speeches.

“They may be the majority,” said Felipe Quiroz, a gay activist and school teacher. “But just because they are the majority, doesn’t mean they can take rights away from minorities. That would lead us to a dark period, to fundamentalism.”

Many saw the massive march as the Roman Catholic church flexing its political muscle in a country where about 80 percent of people identify as nominally Catholic. In May, Peña Nieto proposed legalizing same-sex marriage nationwide. It is currently legal only in some places such as Mexico City, the northern state of Coahuila and Quintana Roo state on the Caribbean coast.

But in June, Peña Nieto’s party suffered unprecedented losses in midterm governorship elections, and his party has since put

the proposal on the back burner in Congress.

Activists say opposition to same-sex marriage played a role.

Jose Medrano, a university professor, came to Saturday's march from the northern state of Chihuahua, where the ruling party lost the governorship in June to the conservative, pro-Catholic National Action party.

"We may have influenced this, because the proposal (for same-sex marriage) was presented just a few weeks before the elections, and a lot of people were against it," said Medrano.

A Very Ironic Thing Happened To A Man Who Blames Gay People For Disasters

Curtis M. Wong

Queer Voices Senior Editor, The Huffington Post

Tony Perkins' home was nearly destroyed in Baton Rouge floods.

"This is a flood of, I would have to say, near-biblical proportions," Tony Perkins, who owns a home in Louisiana, said.

In 2015, the Family Research Council's Tony Perkins interviewed extreme Messianic Jewish pastor Jonathan Cahn, who suggested that Hurricane Joaquin, which devastated the Bahamas, was a "sign of God's wrath" against abortion and the Supreme Court's historic ruling on same-sex marriage. Perkins agreed, saying that while "those on the left like to mock these things," American leaders have historically viewed hurricanes as signs that "God is trying to send us a message."

A year later, however, it's a much different story. On Tuesday, Perkins said he and his family had to escape their Louisiana home in a canoe over the weekend because of the state's devastating and record-breaking floods.

"This is a flood of, I would have to say, near-biblical proportions," Perkins told listeners on his "Washington Watch" radio show, as heard in the audio snippet below. "This is unlike anything we've seen before... It's a matter of picking up the pieces."

He and his family will now live in a trailer for six months while their home is under repair, he said.

This time around, Perkins didn't tie the recent flooding to divine intervention, though. Instead, he said that the floods had been sent as an "incredible, encouraging spiritual exercise to take you to the next level in your walk with an almighty and gracious God who does all things well."

Perkins shared images of his partially-submerged home on Fa-

cebook that same day.

Perkins is no stranger to making controversial remarks about the LGBT community. He has previously said that LGBT teens resort to extreme measures such as suicide attempts because they battle with the internal understanding that homosexuality is, in fact, "abnormal." In a 2014 "Washington Watch" broadcast, he compared a Colorado court's anti-gay discrimination ruling to the Holocaust.

Natural disasters don't discriminate based on sexual orientation or religious beliefs, and no one deserves the type of tragedy Perkins once attributed to God's dissatisfaction. We hope one day he feels the same.

Together 30 Years, Gay Couple Weds in VA Hospital

By Jeff Taylor

Theirs is a love story for the ages. It began at first sight and has lasted throughout the decades. It has now grown stronger, despite illness and distance.

"The second I saw Takashi I knew he and I would be together forever," a teary-eyed Dale Green, an 85-year-old Korean War veteran told The Pride L.A.

"There wasn't even a slight chance that we would not be. It was love at first sight and it was profound and mutual. We both knew that, then and there...and still," he said.

Green and Takashi Nakaya, 53, met in Lima, Peru while working at a textile factory. The country was a hostile place at the time, engaged in a hostile conflict with rebels. It was also a less than welcoming environment for gay people. Green and Nakaya decided to move to Japan, after Nakaya was unable to get a visa to the United States.

The couple built a life together in Japan and from there traveled the world. Green was required to leave the country every few months in order to maintain his tourist visa. Japan does not offer much in the way of legal standing for same-sex relationships.

When Green suffered from what appeared to be a stroke, he was taken to a Japanese hospital, where he stayed for three weeks, without getting a thorough diagnosis. There were other issues as well.

"Japan has an incredibly complex medical system. With Dale, the complications quickly became extreme," Nakaya said. "He could not overstay his visa. Veterans benefits, Social Security, and Medicare are essentially useless abroad. Even though there is a VA Hospital in Japan, Dale did not qualify for treatment there because he is not an active service-member. Foreigners are not allowed to stay in Japanese hospitals without private insurance for more than one month. Dale was in the hospital on a cash basis. We were looking at going broke within days."

They left to return to the U.S. to seek care for Green at a Veterans Administration Hospital. He learned that he had stage 4





melanoma and that the prognosis for recovery was poor.

They had previously discussed taking a trip to the U.S. together to get married, but since as they understood it it would offer little benefit to them while living in Japan, they did not give it much thought. Besides, they already felt “married.” Family and friends knew of them as a committed couple.

Green was not aware that same-sex marriage had become law throughout the U.S.

“I never dreamed of such a thing,” he said when told. “The Supreme Court ruled that way? Well, that’s just astonishing. That’s something I’d want to do for Takashi,” he said. Green is a lifelong Republican, and when told that Trump and the Republicans have promised to rescind marriage equality if they win in November, he said, “Neither is going to happen.”

The couple learned that there were indeed benefits to them getting married, such as surviving spousal benefits and legal protections that would be recognized by the U.S. even if their country of residency did not recognize them.

The pair were married in the hospital, which is perhaps the first time a same-sex marriage has occurred in a VA Hospital.

Dozens of staff members, including doctors, nurses, orderlies, secretaries, and social workers, were on hand to witness the union, performed by a notary.

When asked if he would take Nakaya to be his husband, Green said, “Yes, forever. Always.” When asked, “Do you promise to hold him from this day forward, for better, for worse, for richer for poorer, in sickness and in health, to love and to cherish, until you are parted by death?” Dale, gazing into Nakaya’s eyes, said, “I do. I do. I do. I love him. I do.”

“I love this man with my whole self, my soul. I do. I do. Yes, I do,” Nakaya said.

When they were pronounced married the room erupted with cheers.

“For people to be accepting of us is one thing,” Takashi said with tears rolling down his face, “but to celebrate our love with us—total strangers—is something incredible.”

Nakaya had to return to Japan to tend to their home and his job, and Green was moved into the Intensive Care Unit and informed him that he was no longer able to tolerate cancer treatment. He asked that the “Do Not Resuscitate Order” he requested previously be removed so that he could be reunited with

Nakaya.

They communicated daily via Skype until Nakaya was able to return to the U.S. to be reunited with Green.

After their story was featured, people from around the world offered their support and love. One person offered to procure a private jet to fly Green home if he was able to make the trip, while another offered them a home in Los Angeles. The VA Hospital offered Dale their “Wish” program and Nakaya a place to stay nearby.

“All I can say is wow! There are still good people in this world,” Nakaya said. “We are more than blessed and so very touched.”

The Closet Is Still Killing Us

BY MICHAEL ROHRBAUGH

Filmmaker Michael Rohrbaugh explains why his searing new short about internalized homophobia, *American Male*, is needed now more than ever. (The trailer for this film is intense.... Gayzette editor)



I first heard about MTV’s Look Different Creator Competition through a friend who works at Logo. The competition is part of the network’s larger campaign exploring issues of privilege and discrimination. Immediately, I thought that this was a perfect opportunity to depict the closet and the havoc it wreaks.

Many straight people aren’t aware of internalized homophobia as a concept, nor how deep it runs. My goal was to create a cautionary tale that explores this trauma. See what our main character is putting himself through? This is the trickle-down effect when words like “faggot” are so casually tossed around. This is what happens when young people harbor such intense shame.

My short film *American Male* explores the stubbornly persistent lie that gay is wrong, gay is weak, gay is less than. Sure, a lot has changed in the past five to 10 years. “Gay” has reached the mainstream, and that’s fantastic. But large swaths of our country remain convinced of this toxic lie. As a result, many LGBT youth grow up in a world that teaches them to be ashamed of who they are and how they love, leading to depression, anxiety, and rates of suicide that far exceed the national average.

As a gay man coming of age in the ’90s, I bought these lies hook, line, and sinker. I was convinced that there was something wrong with me, that I wasn’t normal, that I needed to be fixed. I wanted to be at the head of the class, get the gold star, and make my parents proud. But my sexuality seemed directly in conflict with these goals.

(Continued on next page)

I constructed an identity that would never raise suspicion, mimicking the behavior I saw being rewarded and minimizing that which was condemned. Of course, gay or straight, we all engage in this process. Hello, it's called the game of life. But individuals forced into the closet dance this dance at the next level, policing their behavior in a way that's both unhealthy and unsustainable.

Eventually, in my mid-20s, I came to realize I had been lied to, and grew angry at myself for being such a sap. I was angry at those around me for perpetuating the lie and angry at the world for letting an innocent little boy feel like a monster. Queer psychologists refer to this anger as the "velvet rage." As I approached my 30s, my thinking started to change. After all, why get angry when you can get even?

Some people who have seen the film wonder aloud whether homophobia is still an issue that needs to be addressed, which makes me worry that perhaps a film like this is no longer relevant. Perhaps things have changed, and I'm just living in the past. But then I'm reminded that we continue to live in two very different Americas: one that accepts LGBT people and

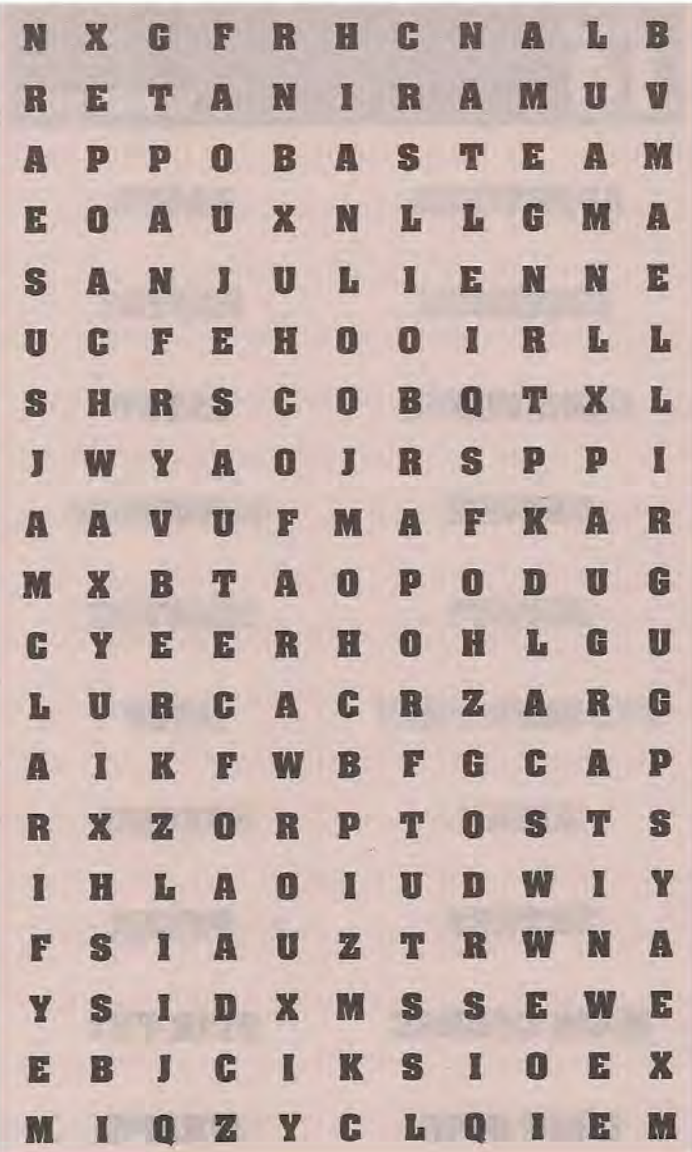
one that continues to reject us.

This film is for older generations of LGBT Americans who came of age in a completely different climate and for younger Americans still struggling in less accepting regions of the country. It's for anyone who's driven through a small town, stopped for gas, and felt on the defensive. Last but not least, it's for the person I once was: a young man who lived in fear and policed his every move.

With the absurd rise of Donald Trump, our culture, perhaps now more than ever, is awash in lies and falsehoods. Thank God for the arts, which are a powerful tool for exposing, dissecting, and debunking. I hope American Male plays a role in deconstructing these myths.

MICHAEL ROHRBAUGH is the filmmaker of American Male, a winner of MTV's Look Different Creator Competition, which invited emerging filmmakers to create groundbreaking films on the topic of privilege. His upcoming projects include a network documentary exploring LGBT issues in American sports and a feature script, American Grunt, a military drama set during the final days of "don't ask, don't tell." Learn more at www.michaelrohrbaugh.com.

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PARBOIL	STIR FRY



Can you find all of the words?

Answer key on Page 15

Life Beyond Therapy

By Michael Kimmel

Visit Michael's website:
www.lifebeyonddtherapy.com



Dear Michael:

I am a happily-married woman with a young child, a great job and loving friends. There's only one problem, I think I'm bisexual, and I don't know what to do about it.

What do I do with my feelings for other women? I acted on them (a little) when I was in college, but not since.

I thought that having a good sex life with my husband had replaced all these feelings, but now, after several years of marriage, I find myself fantasizing about sex with other women and feeling attracted to other women at work, church, etc. Please help.

Possibly bisexual in Mission Hills

Dear Possibly:

Congratulations! You may be on the edge of a great discovery. Just what that discovery reveals remains to be seen. You are learning about a new part of yourself. Stay calm. Don't panic. Your awareness of who you are and who you are attracted to is expanding. I recommend that you avoid jumping to any quick conclusions or putting yourself into any kind of box, be it "bisexual", "straight but confused", "lesbian in denial", etc.

Sexuality is – for many people – a fluid process. It isn't easily boxed up into neat and tidy categories. People's sexual preferences often expand and shift over a lifetime. Not everyone falls into this category, but many of us grow, evolve and change.

An example of this sexual "fluidity" appeared several years ago, when local writer/publisher Louise Hay spoke about what she observed as a shift in sexuality for many retirement-aged women. Ms. Hay saw a trend: "elder women" (her term) who chose other women as partners after long-term heterosexual marriages. She said that some elder women found other women more accepting of elder women's changing bodies and more interested in intimacy that wasn't necessarily orgasm-focused.

Whether Ms. Hay is right or not isn't the point. The point is that many people grow and expand their consciousness in a lot of different ways: sexual experience, openness to new attractions/relationships and awareness of self are but a few.

In my counseling work, many of my bisexual clients felt that they had to make drastic changes when they "came out" as bi-

sexual. This puts a lot of pressure on the emerging bisexual person. Rather than feel you have to "change" who you are, why not see it as expanding your identity: you may be a woman who is attracted not only to men, but also to women.

Now then...what about your husband? How to decide what – if anything – to tell him. This is something to think long and hard on (pardon the pun, oh well...) If you do decide to talk with him about your attractions to other women, imagine what it may be like from his point of view. Will this come as a total shock to him, or not? Will this disrupt your relationship and your marriage?

Some of my married bisexual clients wait until THEY are clear on who they are and what they want BEFORE sharing this new awareness with a husband or wife. If you're confused and upset about your attraction to other women, this may not be the best time to talk with your husband about it. If you're upset and he's upset too, what will happen then? If you're calm and clear, you may be in a better place to help him deal with his fear, upset, insecurities, etc.

In the past, some clients have asked me if they should tell their children that they are bisexual. In your case, if your child is young, this may be a moot point. Young children just want to know that their life is secure and that mommy and daddy love them and will continue to love, comfort and provide for them. They are rarely interested in what mommy and daddy do in bed, or with whom.

Coming out as bisexual is, in my observation, trickier than coming out as gay or lesbian. Some people (queer or straight) may even assume you're really a lesbian who just hasn't come out yet. Other people may be adamant that you can't be attracted to both men and women. Some of my bisexual clients report that they've even been asked questions like, "So, what percentage of you likes men and what percentage likes women?" (you know, those really profound kinds of questions). Unfortunately, you can't always count on the support of your gay, lesbian or transgendered brothers and sisters.

Bisexuality is a button-pushing topic in many parts of the queer community, so get support from other bisexual women and men. Here in San Diego, there are bisexual support/discussion groups that meet on a regular basis. You can contact the Center at 619-692-2077 for days and times of their meetings. There are also Internet bisexual discussion groups, bulletin boards and web sites: check them out and make some connections with others in similar situations.

In summary, it would help if you can look at your emerging attraction to other women as something new and wonderful to explore and be curious about, rather than as a "problem" to solve, e.g., "Well, am I or am I not bisexual?" For many of us in the queer community, sexuality is not so easily contained or categorized. It unfolds and unveils itself in its own time.

If this is your time, why not enjoy the exploration rather than panic in the newness of your feelings for other women? Get support from the bisexual community and discover who you really are...then, when you feel it's time, you can consider if, when and how to share this with your husband. Good luck!

GAYZETTE EVENTS

The Gayzette

(mail address: PO Box 8583 Omaha NE 68108)
(email to: Gayzette@cox.net)

Published every two weeks and distributed in paper copy and online on the web.

To subscribe to the free online edition, go to:

www.rainbowoutreach.org

Click on the Gayzette tab and click on the Subscribe link. It's free and we won't give out your email address or send you a bunch of junk email.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Sunday

WORSHIP SERVICES:

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

DIETZ METHODIST 1423 S.10, Coffee-house 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 ANONYMOUS 4pm, Augustana Lutheran Church 3647 Lafayette Ave., Info call Mark 639-3055 **HASTINGS COLLEGE GSA 8PM** FFI: Judy Sandeen (402)461-7372

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA 819 S. 22nd St., 345-2563 Sunday Worship 9:30am and 11:15am

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

RIVER CITY MIXED BOWLING LEAGUE, 3pm, Maplewood Lanes, at 402-572-9393

SECOND UNITARIAN, Sunday morning

services, 3012 S 119th St., Omaha, info@2uomaha.org, 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

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

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

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA 819 S. 22nd St., 345-2563—Bible Study at 7pm

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

FRONTRUNNERS RUN/WALK 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha barbqbill@aol.com

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

Metro Omaha Prime Timers, 4:00-6:00pm Coffee with the Boys at No More Empty Cups, 1502 So. 10th St., In the Community Room. Meet up for coffee and conversation. Many of the guys go out for dinner afterwards. Everyone welcome to attend.

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

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

Every Saturday

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

Metro Omaha Prime Timers, 9am—11am Coffee with the Boys at Paradise Café, Regency Court. Meet up for coffee and conversation. Good food and good coffee too. Everyone welcome to attend.

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

MONTHLY EVENTS

1st Thursday

GLBT PROFESSIONALS, meeting at 5:30pm in various locations. See www.GOglbt.org for info

1st Friday

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

1st Sunday

Soka Gakkai International (SGI-USA), Lay Buddhist organization based on Nichiren Buddhism, World Peace Prayer the First Sunday of each month, 10am-11:30am, LGBTQIA Friendly, 1021 N 46th Street, Omaha, NE 68132, call 402-558-6148

SPIRITUAL FRIENDS OF LINCOLN

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

2nd Thursday

HEARTLAND PRIDE, Board Meeting- at D Dale Clark Library, 215 S. 15th St. 6:30pm-8pm, Email: info@heartlandpride.org, or find us on Facebook

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

2nd Sunday

Metro Omaha Prime Timers, Monthly Meeting, Abrahams Library, 5111 North 90th St, Stop by our monthly get-together to hear about the great upcoming events, and spend time with good friends. 3pm to 4:30pm. Snacks and beverages provided. Everyone Welcome !!

3rd Monday

IMPERIAL COURT OF NE, Board of Governors meeting, 6:30pm, meeting at the MCC-Omaha, www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org

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 – see website for more information at www.councilbluffscommunityalliance.org

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

**Email Your Event to:
GAYZETTE@COX.NET**

**Look at all of this
WASTED
SPACE
Your Event could be listed
HERE !!**

HIV Testing Info

NAP is located at 250 S. 77th St

The Omaha NAP office offers the following hours for HIV and STI testing:

Monday: 9:30-11:30; 1:00-3:30 appointment testing - 5:00-8:00-walk-in testing

Tuesday: 9:30-11:30; 1:00-3:30 appointment testing - 5:00-8:00-walk-in testing

Wednesday: 1:00-3:30 appointment testing - 5:00-8:00-walk-in testing

Thursday: 9:30-11:30; 1:00-3:30 appointment testing

Lincoln NAP offers HIV and STI testing by appointment. To schedule call (402) 476-7000. Also the new Lincoln address is 1120 K. St.

For more information call:
Dara Pagano, PLCSW (She/Her/Hers)
Prevention & Support Services Manager
Nebraska AIDS Project
(402) 552-9260 ext. 105

Or see www.NAP.org for information.

FRIENDS

A group of guys, all aged about 40, discussed where they should meet for lunch.

Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the waitresses there were pretty.

Ten years later, at age 50, the friends once again discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the food was good and the wine selection was excellent.

Ten years later, at age 60, the friends again discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant because they could dine in peace and quiet and the restaurant had a beautiful view of the ocean.

Ten years later, at age 70, the friends discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant because the restaurant was wheelchair accessible and had an elevator.

Ten years later, at age 80, the friends discussed where they should meet for lunch. Finally it was agreed that they would meet at the Ocean View restaurant because they had never been there before.

Obsessions

A psychiatrist was conducting a group therapy session with four young mothers and their small children.

"You all have obsessions," he observed. To the first mother, Mary, he said, "You are obsessed with eating. You've even named your daughter Candy."

He turned to the second Mom, Ann: "Your obsession is with money. Again, it manifests itself in your child's name, Penny."

He turned to the third Mom, Joyce: "Your obsession is alcohol. This too shows itself in your child's name, Brandy."

At this point, the fourth mother, Kathy, quietly got up, took her little boy by the hand, and whispered, "Come on, Dick, this guy has no idea what he's talking about. Let's pick up Peter and Willy from school and go get dinner."

More Bad Medical Advice

For those of you who watch what you eat, here's the final word on nutrition and health. It's a relief to know the truth after all those conflicting nutritional studies.

1. The Japanese eat very little fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.

2 The Mexicans eat a lot of fat and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.

3. The Chinese drink very little red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.

4 The Italians drink a lot of red wine and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.

5. The Germans drink a lot of beers and eat lots of sausages and fats and suffer fewer heart attacks than Americans.

CONCLUSION

Eat and drink what you like. Apparently, speaking English is what kills you.

The Drunk

A drunken man walks into a biker bar, sits down at the bar and orders a drink.

Looking around, he sees three men sitting at a corner table. He gets up, staggers to the table, leans over, looks the biggest, meanest, biker in the face and says: 'I went by your grandma's house today and I saw her in the hallway buck naked.

Man, she is one fine looking woman!' The biker looks at him and doesn't say a word. His buddies are confused, because he is one bad biker and would fight at the drop of a hat.

The drunk leans on the table again and says: 'I got it on with your grandma and she is good, the best I Ever had!'

The biker's buddies are starting to get really mad but the biker still says nothing.

The drunk leans on the table one more time and says, 'I'll tell you something else, boy, your grandma Liked it!'

At this point the biker stands up, takes the drunk by the shoulders looks him square in the eyes and Says..... 'Grandpa,..... Go home, you're drunk!'

"Remember in elementary school, you were told that in case of fire you have to line up quietly in a single file line from smallest to tallest. What is the logic in that?

What, do tall people burn slower?"

GLBT RESOURCE LIST

OMAHA BASED

Beth El Synagogue, 14506 California St. A GLBT inclusive synagogue, same-sex marriages performed by their rabbis, provided both persons are Jewish. Call 402-292-8550 for more info.

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

Citizens for Equal Protection 1105 Howard St. Suite 2, Omaha NE 68102, 398-3027 www.cfep-ne.org, email to: Michael@cfep-ne.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.firstuomaha.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 barbqbill@aol.com

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. See www.GOglbt.org for info

Greater Omaha LGBT Democrats <http://omahalgbltdemocrats.wordpress.com> - contact Ken @ 402-686-6389 See also <http://ProgressiveOasis.com>

Heartland Pride www.heartlandpride.org, email: info@heartlandpride.org; meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 6:30pm to 8pm. @ D. Dale Clark Library

Ice Bowl Invitational Bowling Tournament (IBIT) P.O. Box 31838, Omaha, 68131

Imperial Court of Nebraska, Box 3772, Omaha 68103, 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.

Metro Omaha Prime Timers, provides a welcoming and supportive environment to mature gay and bi men and their fans to

encourage participation in fun, cultural, educational or social activities. Email PrimeTimersEvents@gmail.com for more information & schedule. Also on Facebook as Metro Omaha Prime Timers Also see the Events list on page 10

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, 819 S. 22 St., Omaha 68108 345-2563, mccomaha@mccomaha.org Website: www.mccomaha.org Sunday Worship 9:30am and 11:15am

NAMI - Community Mental Health Support for the LGBTIQ community 415 South 25th Ave, Omaha, NE 402-345-8101 or 877-463-6264

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., HIV testing and counseling

NebraskaEquality.org, Find out everything about Nebraska and the GLBT Community 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., Sunday service at 9:30am, see www.NorthSideOmaha.org

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

Omaha Metro GLBT Sports League, See www.oglbtsports.com 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

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

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 4pm to 6pm, for info: email proudhorizons@yahoo.com

River City Gender Alliance, PO Box 284, Boys Town, NE 68010, email president@rcga.co or call 402-541-5792, web site www.rcga.co

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 S 119th St., Omaha, www.2uomaha.org, 402-334-0537, LGBTQ Welcoming Congrega-

tion

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

Temple Israel Synagogue, 13111 Sterling Ridge Drive., 402-556-6536, member of the Union for Reform Judaism, GLBT inclusive

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.) and Y.E.S. Drop-in Center
Offices: 2679 Farnam Street, Suite. 205 Omaha, NE 68131, 402-345-5187, see www.yesomaha.org for information

LINCOLN BASED

GLBT and Allies coffee house, 3rd Fridays, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, 7:30 to 10:30pm

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>

Lincoln Women's Center, Lincoln 402/472-2597.

Nebraska AIDS Project, 1120 K Street Suite 100, Lincoln, NE 68508. (402) 476-7000, Wednesdays 4pm to 7pm. Walk-in ok.

Nebraska Trans* Community
This group is for individuals that identify with a nontraditional masculine or feminine sense of self (MtF, FtM and anywhere in between) and their Partners. Contact info can be found at : NebraskaTransCommunity.com

OUTInc, a nonprofit organization that engages in and fosters the well-being and advancement of the LGBT* community, www.outinc.org, Lincoln NE

PFLAG Cornhusker Chapter, Box 30128, Lincoln 68508, Meet 4th Tues, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, email to Barbara Kimberly, [jkbiber@hotmail.com](mailto:jbkiber@hotmail.com). Website: <http://pflagcornhusker.org/>

Queer Student Alliance, UNL, contact unlqsa@yahoo.com for info

Spiritual Friends of Lincoln. Offering fellowship and worship for those seeking radical hospitality, openness, 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-glb.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 Health Department/Free STD Clinic
 209 Pearl Street, Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503, 712-328-4666 – ask for Rachel, Monday – Friday by appointment, call to inquire about extended hours, **FREE testing for HIV, Syphilis, Gonorrhea and Chlamydia**
Council Bluffs Community Alliance

www.councilbluffscommunityalliance.org

Council Bluffs Pride, www.councilbluffspride.org
First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ. GLBT friendly. 611 First Avenue, Council Bluffs, IA 51501, 712-322-5324 - <http://www.cbfirstcongregational.org/>

Iowa Equality, GLBT –allied against change to the state and federal Constitutions, <http://www.IowaEquality.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>

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The Hungry Homo

Slow Cooked Goulash with Noodles

Ingredients

2 lb. round steaks, cut in 1/2-in. cubes
 1 cup onion; chopped
 1 garlic clove, minced
 2 tbsp. flour
 1 tsp. salt
 1/2 tsp. pepper
 1 1/2 tsp. paprika
 1/4 tsp. thyme, dried and crushed
 1 (14 1/2 oz.) can tomatoes
 1 cup sour cream
 Noodles, cooked

Methods/Steps

Put steak cubes, onion and garlic in crock-pot. Stir in flour and mix to coat steak cubes. Add all remaining ingredients except sour cream. Stir well. Cover and cook on low 8-10 hours. Add sour cream 30 minutes before serving, and stir in thoroughly. Serve over hot buttered noodles.

Ready in 10 hours

Makes 8 servings



Cheesecake

Ingredients

1 3/4 cups graham cracker crumbs
 1/2 cup butter
 1/2 tsp. ground cinnamon
 1 (6 oz.) pkg. sugar-free lemon-flavored gelatin
 1 cup boiling water
 1 (8 oz.) pkg. reduced fat cream cheese
 2 tsp. vanilla extract
 1 cup frozen light whipped topping, thawed

Methods/Steps

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. In a medium bowl, combine graham cracker crumbs, butter and cinnamon. Mix well and press into the bottom of a 9 in. square pan. Bake in preheated oven for 8 to 10 minutes. Remove from oven and allow cooling.

Dissolve lemon gelatin in boiling water. Let cool until thickened, but not set. In a large bowl, beat cream cheese and vanilla until smooth.

Blend in lemon gelatin. Fold in whipped topping. Pour filling into crust. Sprinkle top with graham cracker crumbs. Refrigerate overnight.



Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

Omaha:

Dixie Quick's Restaurant, 157 West Broadway 712-256-4140
 First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney
 Flix , 1015 South 10th Street Omaha 402-408-1020
 Lover Luxuries, 6065 Maple St. 402-932-3377
 The Max, 1417 Jackson St. 402-346-4110
 Metropolitan Community Church, 819 South 22nd Street
 Nebraska AIDS Project, 250 South 77th St 402-552-9260
 Omaha Mining Co., 1715 Leavenworth 402-449-8703
 Rodeo Saloon & BBQ 164 W Broadway 712-256-0510

Would you like to have the Gayzette at your Place of business? Email your request to: Gayzette@cox.net

Let's Talk About Sex (for Trans Men)

BY BUCK ANGEL

Porn star Buck Angel on the complicated nature of pleasure for trans guys.

Here is a simple fact that not a lot of people realize: Many trans men choose not to have what we call “bottom surgery.” That is to say they chose not to have any surgery on the genitals they were born with. This means that the world has a significant number of men with vaginas. I have spoken with a lot of trans men through my life and work, and I would estimate that around 90 percent of trans men around the world — I have interviewed men from Sweden, the U.K., Brazil, Mexico, and other countries — have not opted for bottom surgery.

For some this decision comes for financial reasons, for some a fear of complications, and for some it's more of a “one step at a time” kind of vibe: “Let's see how this first stage (chest surgery, hormones) feels, and I will take it from there.” Regardless of the reason, the newly transitioned trans man's body is a new landscape for him, and perhaps one that isn't very well understood or accommodated, even by the man himself.

When I first transitioned, I was worried that I might not be able to find a partner or even love. I was worried that people would simply be turned off by the idea of a man with a vagina. I've since interviewed and spoken with hundreds of trans guys who echo the same anxieties. Kevin, 30, who lives in Brooklyn, said, “Deciding not to go with bottom surgery was something I went back and forth on for many years. It wasn't until I saw videos online of your work (a docu-series that I make called Sexing the Transman) that I realized I didn't need a penis to become a man. I was worried about sex, but surprisingly, most of my sexual partners have been very open to me and my body, even if it's unfamiliar territory for them.”

I personally will always remember the exact moment I realized that my genitals were OK — that my vagina was a part of me and that it was OK to be a man without a penis — and it was through masturbation and orgasm. It was one of the first times that I penetrated myself, and I felt a bit guilty that I actually climaxed. It was a weird feeling to enjoy my vagina for the first time — it had always been something that I was not connected to and even hated. But that orgasm changed everything for me. It was really a turning point in my identity and my self-love.

Masturbation became a daily ritual for me, which is true for many other trans men I have spoken with. Because of this we are always looking for new ways to get off. There was nothing in the sex toy world that was designed for our bodies. What makes trans male vaginas and vulvas unusual is that they become enlarged, specifically the clitoris, because of the testosterone usage, and with that our vaginas also become a little bit more sensitive. Guys talk about a newly heightened sexual awareness and desire for sex. When that is combined with a detachment from your body or a lack of information or resources, trans men are at risk of not experiencing their best sex lives.

Because there was nothing made for trans men in the sex toy



(or “pleasure product”) world, I had to be very inventive! I would cut up products made for the cisgender man and women to fit my anatomy, like dildos that had a suction cup backing, rip that out, and use the hole in the end to masturbate with. I would find things like snakebite kits, which are used to suck out the poison from the bite of a snake, or toys like nipple play suction cups, and adapt them to fit me. Some trans guys showed me how they used the ends of water bottles filled with water to create suction. One guy would even use a small hand towel filled with lube to rub on. Its pretty amazing how you can engineer things just to masturbate.

Jim, a 23-year-old trans man from Philadelphia told me, “Masturbation is something I do daily. It was not easy at first for me to find the space to feel comfortable touching myself; it felt weird because I never did it before I transitioned. Though through that I realized that I love sex and that I needed to feel myself and let that be a good thing.”

When I was finally able to love my body and be comfortable with it, I was more comfortable on so many levels that went far beyond sexuality. For this reason I've been on a mission to teach trans guys to love their bodies and through that to love themselves. These conversations are so important to our well-being, and it's why it's been a years-long dream to actually create a toy that is just for us. It's validating; it says, “Your body is real, it deserves to have pleasure, and you are not alone.” I'm really hoping to use the Buck-Off to start conversations outside of the trans male community as well to create larger awareness of trans male bodies and their specific needs. This is important not only for us, but for our potential partners, teachers, health care providers, and legislators.

BUCK ANGEL is an American trans man, human rights activist, inspirational speaker, and sex education filmmaker. Angel has served on the board of directors of the Woodhull Sexual Freedom Alliance since 2010; the foundation works to affirm sexual freedom as a fundamental human right through advocacy and education. BuckAngel.com

'Ex-Gay' Billboards in Texas Getting the Boot

BY NEAL BROVERMAN

Very visible advertising from Parents and Friends of Ex-Gays won't fly — even in Waco.

Following an outcry by activists and LGBT locals, three billboards in Waco, Texas, advertising "ex-gay" therapy — where LGBT people are ostensibly turned straight or cis-gender — are coming down at the end of October.

The billboards from Parents and Friends of Ex-Gays will be removed in a month, when the contract expires. Waco LGBT activist Carmen Saenz spoke to the owner of the billboards, who agreed to not renew PFOX's contract.

"Rather than cause a lot of drama and create an 'us against them' environment, we spoke with the company and all is good," Saenz said, according to reports.



Obviously, local LGBT people are happy with the decision, seeing the billboards as sullyng Waco's reputation. While Waco is no Austin, it is one of the few cities in Texas that offers nondiscrimination protections for LGBT municipal employees.

Several states — not Texas — have outlawed the use of so-called reparative therapy on minors, citing risks that include increased mental health issues, drug and alcohol abuse, homelessness, and suicidal ideation.

Pet Blessing-Save The Date

"Animals are reliable, many full of love, true in their affections, predictable in their actions, grateful and loyal; difficult standards for people to live up to." -Alfred A. Montapert

The Inclusive Life Center is holding a Pet Blessing and Fund-raiser on Sunday, October 9th at the Inclusive Life Center Chapel, 42nd Center (Center Mall) Level 3, North Side.

10:00am begins a free pet blessing. Stuffed Animals and other items are welcomed as well.

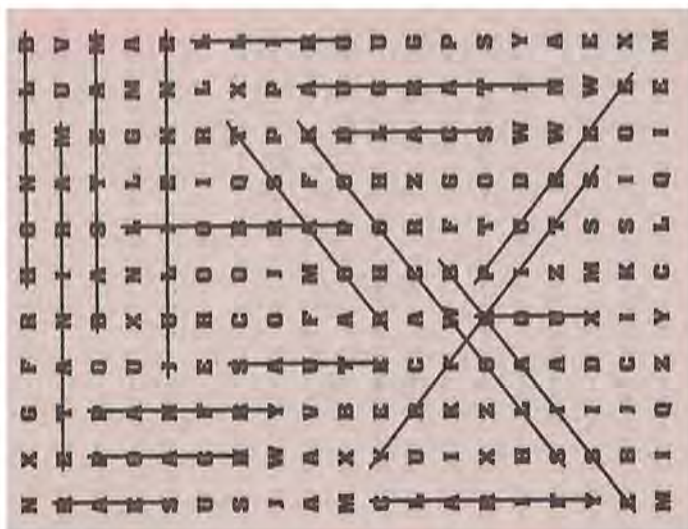
Join us for the following fundraiser:

10:30am 1 Mile Walk
11:00am Pancake Feed

\$25 for up to 2 people
\$45 for 3 or more people

100% of the proceeds will benefit area individuals, couples, and families who are in need of assistance to purchase care, meds, or food for their pets.

Inclusive Life Center
1941 S 42nd ST STE 124
Omaha, NE 68105
402-575-7006
www.inclusivelife.org/pets



250 South 77th Street, Suite A
Omaha, NE 68114

(Located behind McDonald's at 77th & Dodge Street)

www.nap.org

402-552-9260

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