

The GayZette



Published by the Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Community Center

Pride Logo Contest

NE Pride is a time for the LGBTIQ community and its allies to step out and celebrate who we are. While there is frequently talk about celebrating diversity, all too often our differences are used to keep ourselves separate. We all face similar struggles and have the desire and right to be respected, yet still we create distinct divisions within our own "Family." Gay, lesbian, Latino/a, African-American, bisexual, transgender, queer... these words help us define our individual identities, but we should not bring the same sense of exclusion many of us experience outside our community into it. Instead of supporting each other we have separated from each other. Pride is not merely a time to be proud of who you are as an individual or a subgroup, but about inviting each and every person of every color, nationality, sex, and orientation to be proud. We need not use our differences to segregate.

We do not need to understand everyone. We do not need to like or be liked by everyone. But, each and every person should be treated with dignity and respect and afforded the same treatment you would ask for yourself.

Gay pride celebrations over the years have given us an opportunity to stand together to show the world who we are. It is important to remember that it's about building each other up, and not about building walls.

Keeping this in mind, the theme for 2008 Nebraska Pride is PRIDE KNOWS NO BORDERS. Let us break down barriers! We want the LGBTIQ community to be seen and accepted for who we are, but if we cannot come together within our own community how can we expect the rest of the world to do so? PRIDE KNOWS NO BORDERS is a call for acceptance and inclusiveness.

So, what does PRIDE KNOWS NO BORDERS look like? Rainbow Celebrations, the host of 2008 NE Pride, would like to officially announce a logo design contest, so you can decide. The logo will be the visible symbol for this year's theme and should incorporate the values most important to us as a whole.

For rules, details and an official entry form, please visit Rainbow Celebration's website at www.rainbowcelebrations.org. The winner of the logo contest will be announced on March 28 at the Grand Marshall Party and a prize of \$100 will be awarded to the designer. Be creative and show your pride.

Iowa Republicans Press For Anti-Gay Marriage Amendment

by 365Gay.com Newscenter Staff

(Des Moines, Iowa) Republicans are demanding that Democrats who control the legislature take up a proposed amendment that would ban same-sex marriage. Wednesday hundreds of conservative Christians bussed in from across the state added leverage to the call.



The protestors held a prayer session at the legislature in support of traditional marriage.

Iowa already has a law limiting marriage to opposite-sex couples but supporters of the amendment say it could be overturned by "renegade" judges.

At least 48 representatives have signed onto a resolution calling for a constitutional amendment to prevent same-sex marriage.

"If we can spend an hour debating propane tank regulation, I think we have one hour that we can debate out of a hundred days to debate the value of traditional marriage," said House Minority Leader Christopher Rants (R) marking the opening session of the legislature.

The issue already is before the state Supreme Court but Democrats say it is premature to take up the proposed amendment.

"We don't see the courts in here trying to subvert the Legislature," said House Speaker Pat Murphy (D). "We shouldn't be trying to subvert the judicial process, either."

To amend the Iowa Constitution simple majorities are needed in both the House and Senate in two consecutive general assemblies and then it must be approved by a simple majority of voters in the following general election.

If a resolution were approved this year and in the 2009 or 2010 session, it could be placed before voters in November 2010.

(Continued on page 5)

January 18, 2008 - February 1, 2008

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Fourth Page 3 ¾W X 4 ¾H \$ 25.00 Business Card \$ 15.00

All ads should be emailed to Gayzette@cox.net. 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, Jan 25, for Publication Feb 1 Friday, Feb 8 for Publication Feb 15th

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LOOK, BRAD... I KNOW WHY YOU DRAGGED ME TO THIS DOG SHOW. YOU WANT ME TO GET A DOG FOR THE B&B.

IT'D BE AWESOME, KYLE. HOW ABOUT ONE OF THESE DALMATIANS?

BRAD... WE CAN'T. YOU KNOW I LOVE DOGS, BUT... .. THERE'S AT LEAST TEN REASONS WHY HAVING ONE AT THE B&B WOULD BE A BAD--

OH MY GOD... SIBERIAN HUSKIES!

THESE ARE MY FAVORITE DOGS! THEY LOOK LIKE WOLVES, DON'T THEY?

LOOK AT THIS ONE... THOSE BLUE EYES. ISN'T HE SWEET?

THAT ONE'S BEEN A REAL DISAPPOINTMENT.

EXCUSE ME?

I HAD HIGH HOPES HE'D BE A TOP STUD, BUT...

... HE WON'T MATE WITH ANY FEMALE DOGS. HE ONLY SEEMS INTERESTED IN OTHER MALES.

YOU MEAN... HE'S GAY?!!

USELESS IS WHAT HE IS. IF I DON'T SELL HIM TODAY... HE'S GETTING SENT TO THE POUND.

THE POUND?! BUT... SURELY SOMEONE WILL WANT TO BUY HIM.

DOUBTFUL. EVERYONE I SELL TO WANTS LITTLE PUPPIES. HE'S ALMOST A YEAR OLD NOW.

I'M AFRAID HIS DAYS ARE NUMBERED.

NO!!!

SHORTLY...

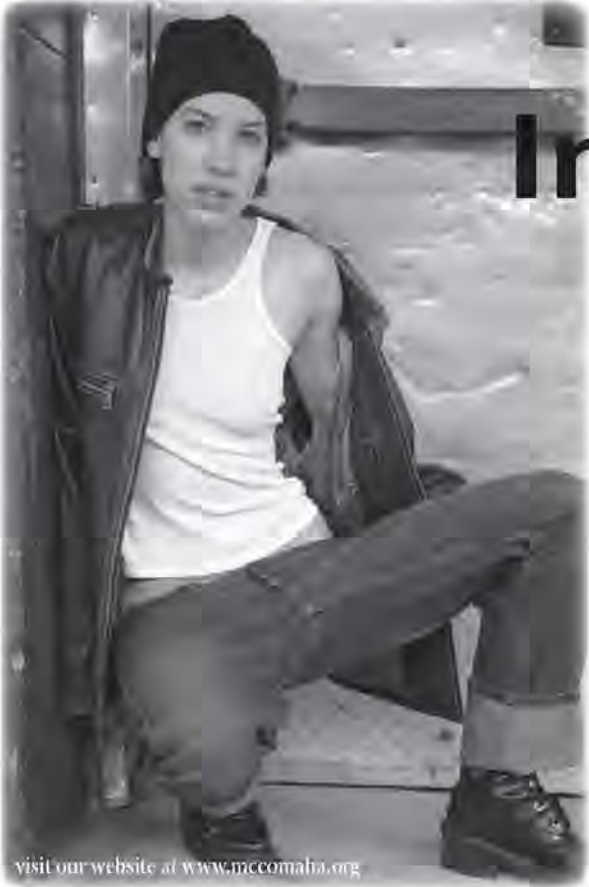
KYLE... I THOUGHT YOU SAID YOU CAN'T HAVE A DOG AT THE B&B?

I'M NOT LETTING HIM GET SENT TO THE EXECUTION BLOCK, BRAD.

BECAUSE OF HIS SEXUAL ORIENTATION, OF ALL THINGS. WE'LL MANAGE.

COOL. WELL, DON'T WORRY. I PROMISE I'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM.

UH-HUH. SAYS THE MAN WHO TRAVELS HALF THE YEAR PLAYING BASEBALL...



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Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha

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(Continued from page 1)

Last August Polk County Judge Robert Hanson struck down Iowa's 1998 Defense of Marriage Act ruling that it violated the constitutional rights of due process and equal protection of six gay couples who had sued.

Later that day he stayed his ruling to allow for an appeal to the Supreme Court, but not before several dozen couples applied for marriage licenses.

The marriage license approval process normally takes three business days, but one couple took advantage of a loophole that allows couples to skip the waiting period if they pay a \$5 fee and get a judge to sign a waiver.

Sean Fritz and Tim McQuillan became the only same-sex couple to be married in Iowa.

New "Flesh-Eating" Staph Seen in Gay Men

A new drug-resistant strain of the "flesh-eating" MSRA bacterium is spreading quickly among gay men in Boston and San Francisco and soon could pose a wider threat, according to an article in The New York Times.

In a study published Monday by the journal *Annals of Internal*

Medicine, researchers wrote that the MSRA (methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus*) bacteria were spread easily through anal intercourse, as well as by skin-to-skin contact and touching contaminated surfaces.

Unless laboratories can identify the strain and doctors prescribe appropriate antibiotics, the infection, researchers wrote, "has the potential for rapid nationwide dissemination" among gay men.

Another part of the study found that gay men in San Francisco were about 13 times more likely than other people to contract the bacteria. Symptoms can include abscesses and infection in the genital and buttock area, skin ulcers, pneumonia, heart damage and necrotizing fasciitis, the infection that gives the bacterium its popular name.

All MSRA bacteria are resistant to methicillin, but the new strain is also resistant to antibiotics used to treat earlier forms -- clindamycin, tetracycline and mupirocin.

Nearly 19,000 people died nationwide from MSRA infection in 2005, according to the federal Centers for Disease Control. (The Advocate)

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Intentions

There is a song I really like by the band Switchfoot. The chorus goes like this: "This is your life are you who you wanna be?" Now there is a question worth asking. It's a question each of us can and should ask and one that we can usually answer immediately.



Are you who you want to be?

The intentions that we hold today lead us into the life we will live tomorrow. Some say that the road to hell is paved with good intentions. I don't like that saying. I have always found that as a way to dismiss eccentric hopes and failed attempts. Perhaps the road to hell is paved with the absence of intentions.

Too many of us live without the intent to contribute to our community and our own growth as social and spiritual beings. The Good Life can never be found in continually checking out with food, liquor, or the television.

So many of us live our lives as if we are killing time. When we live without purpose or meaning we are not killing time, we are killing ourselves.

The Good Life is found in living into the answer to a question: This is your life. Are you who you want to be? Remember, today's intentions will lead you into life you have yet to live. As you look into the months ahead I implore you as I implore myself to identify intentions that are consistent with the human we want to be, then seek and find your way into that.

This week I encourage you to ask yourself if you are the person you want to be. God will Bless you when you do this. God loves you deeply and wants nothing more for you than to live into the greatness intended for you.

May God Bless & Keep You . . . Pastor Tom
pastortom@mccomaha.org

Next Issue: Seeking & Finding

MCC Omaha to Celebrate 34th Anniversary

Pastor Tom and the congregation of MCC-Omaha invite you to join them on Sunday, January 27, as they celebrate 34 years as a chartered church in the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches.

Metropolitan Community Churches were founded in October of 1968 in Los Angeles when the Rev. Troy Perry, a former Assembly of God minister who had been kicked out of his church when they found out he was gay, put an ad in the Advocate announcing a church service for gay and lesbian people. 12 people gathered in his living room to share a time of fellowship, take communion together, and here Troy Perry speak on "Be True to Yourself." Today there are over 300 churches and church entities in over 67 countries around the world.

MCC Omaha was founded in 1973 when the Rev. Bobby Sirocco traveled from Seattle, Washington, in a Winnebago Travel Home, stopping in Denver, Omaha, Kansas City, and other Midwestern towns in order to start gay positive churches. MCC Omaha began meeting in the First Unitarian Church with approximately 75 members under the leadership of Rev. Fred Zydek. By January, 1974 the church organized as "First MCC of

Nebraska." The name was later changed to Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha.

On Sunday, January 27, Pastor Tom Emmett will lead the 11 a.m. worship service, remembering the history of MCC-Omaha and taking a bold step into the future as he marks the place where a new entrance will make MCC Omaha accessible to those with physical limitations. A reception will follow the service.

Pride Players to Hold Benefit

The Pride Players will stage their annual benefit performance at 7 p.m., Friday, Feb. 1, in the upstairs Hitchcock Theater at the Rose Blumkin Performing Arts Center, 20th and Farnam Sts. All proceeds will go to Omaha PFLAG, Omaha GLSEN and Proud Horizons, PFLAG-sponsored youth support group.

The Pride Players are Omaha-area high school students who try out to win coveted places in the improvisational performance group. They will perform short skits and monologues that tell what it means to be a gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender or straight allied teen in Omaha.

The performances are presented by the Omaha Theater Co.'s Teens 'N' Theater and are directed by Brian Guehring, playwright-in-residence and education director of the Omaha Theater Co. Pride Players is winner of a 2006 Human and Civil

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GROUNDHOG PROM

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THIS YEAR YOU ARE SIX TIMES MORE LIKELY TO BECOME DISABLED THAN DIE! This alarming statistic shouldn't surprise you . . . you see it everyday. Unfortunately, the number of people becoming disabled will double in the next decade. Most estate planning was designed to deal with death not disability, but that can be corrected.

MOST POWERS OF ATTORNEY ARE OUTDATED WHEN PRESENTED (MANY ARE NOT EVEN AVAILABLE). Your Power of Attorney is used to allow someone to make financial or health care decisions on your behalf when you are unable to. Unfortunately, these documents keep becoming outdated. Assuming your document is current, will it be available in an emergency? Hospitals report in 3 out of 4 cases the Patient's Health Care Power of Attorney is not available when needed (they will always ask if you have one before you are admitted, regardless of your age). Our new program makes this document accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week via the telephone.

WITHOUT A LIVING WILL YOU MAY BE KEPT ALIVE ON LIFE SUPPORT AGAINST YOUR WISHES IN CERTAIN INSTANCES. Remember Terri Schiavo? She was only 26 years old when she collapsed in her home due to respiratory and cardiac arrest. She spent the next 15 years of her life in a persistent vegetative state, kept alive on feeding tubes, until she died at age 41. We will never know whether those were her wishes since she did not have a Living Will. Don't let this happen to you. Make sure your wishes are known.

Don't wait until you actually have a problem before you deal with it. By waiting until the problem happens you typically can only minimize the damage, rather than prevent it. Let's prevent it! We have developed a solution for every problem.

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WITHOUT PROPER ESTATE PLANNING YOU ARE LEAVING YOUR FUTURE IN THE HANDS OF THE LEGAL SYSTEM WHICH WILL FOLLOW THE LAWS OF THE STATE YOU LIVE IN. TO MAKE MATTERS EVEN WORSE, THE INTESTACY LAWS OF NEBRASKA HAVE NO DEFAULT PROVISIONS TO ADDRESS SOME OF THE UNIQUE ESTATE PLANNING ISSUES FACING THE GLBT COMMUNITY. THERE IS A SOLUTION BUT YOU MUST HAVE THE PROPER PLANNING IN PLACE BEFORE THE NEED ARISES.

Rights Award for Youth Advocacy from the National Education Association.

To receive a ticket-order coupon, please email: info@pflag-omaha.org

The benefit is one of four Pride Players performances in this year's run. The others will be Jan. 31 and Feb 2 and 3.

Bob Dorr, Omaha PFLAG
bobcdorr@cox.net
333-7064

Heartland Gay Rodeo Association Brings in the New Year

Mr. HGRA and Ms. HGRA had a good time bringing in the New Year at DC's Saloon by holding a 50-50 raffle. We are actually changing it to a 50-30-20 raffle, this way we have two winners. The rodeo still gets 50% of the money we collect but now the first winner we call gets 30% and the second winner we call gets 20%. Thanks to Bob at Printing Plus (the first winner) for donating his winnings back to the rodeo for a total of \$92 raised by Pete and Tracey that night.

If you know Miss Trina Tabloid, you know she is our Miss HGRA 2008. And you also know that her birthday is this month, but we won't disclose her age. Well, come join all of us at the rodeo in wishing her a happy birthday at DC's Saloon on Sunday January 20th at 9pm. She has invited some guest entertainers from Sioux City, IA and we have also invited some guest entertainers from Wichita, KS. In addition ICON's own Empress 27, Mr. Gay Pride 2007 and many other will join us.

Watch for lots of fun events this year, including some cookouts on the Max patio, some out of town trips, a few wine and cheese tasting, even an Indoor Rodeo held in a nice big POOL this summer!!

Scotland To Pass Gay Hate Crime Law


by 365Gay.com Newscenter Staff

(Edinburgh) The Scottish government has announced it will back a Green Party private member's bill to increase sentences for those convicted of hate crimes against members of the LGBT community and the disabled.

The measure already has the support of the Liberal Democrats and is expected to pass with little difficulty. Once enacted it will bring Scotland in line with laws already in effect in the rest of the United Kingdom.

"Living in safe and strong communities is an essential part of our positive vision for Scotland. For too many people that vision is blurred by the fear of crime and intolerance," said Scottish Justice Secretary Kenny MacAskill.

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The Keeper Guy

To find the perfect guy may not be that hard, but to know whether you have found him should be real easy. Why isn't always that way though? Many times it's because we have a real strong desire just to be with anybody. We crave love and the attention of others to the point that the first person who will be with us is who we date. This makes it easy to get into a relationship, but these relationships are in most cases a bad relationship. Myself I personally have been in hundreds of relationships and have been hurt hundreds of times (yes, that is a slight exaggeration). The problem might be that I'm a "nice guy" and I desire love from someone badly. I have issues. No doubt all of us do, but what separates a "good guy" versus the "loser guy" is the desire, willingness, and ability to face those issues when ever they arise, and they will pop up every now and then. Watch to see how the one you are dating acts whenever his issues pop up. This is an indicator of whether he is worth staying with. If he runs from his issues I would suggest running from him. If he faces them in a mature way making the issues unnoticeable, learns from it, or at least reaches out for help to face it then he probably is a worth while guy. Make sure that he doesn't inflict his issues on you or allows you to have issues because of his own problems. Preferably he faces his issues with your help or at least allows you to encourage him through the process in which he deals with them. I personally started facing mine years ago, but even more seriously just a few years ago. I noticed how my issues made me undateable. Since that time I call myself the "celibate whore". I'm open about my issues and yes I was very promiscuous in the past. Did I grow up? Not really I'm still a dork. It's just I wanted something better for my life and for those who were around me to respect me and to not fear my antics when I was out. I thrived on drama and craziness even to the point people didn't want to be around me. I will be honest though I have never been in a great relationship and they have never lasted long, but a few things all of us should look for follows. It is a list of the "keeper guy" and I use the term "issues" a lot simply because whenever we meet someone there is always someone who will say "stay away from him he has issues". Remember



these are things that make the person dateable. We all have a certain set of qualities that make the person the one we want to date. It could be humor, a common like in arts and movies, sports, or whatever it is that simply "floats your boat". These guidelines are simply what makes one dateable.

So how do we know we're in a good relationship? It's not just that we love someone, but that someone loves us too. Remember love is our highest priority. Whatever we love the most is what is our top priority and to whom those priorities belong is who we love the most, and those priorities more often than not are the others needs rather than their wants. This works both ways too. You should be his top priority too.

1. A good guy when in a relationship shares responsibility and decision making. He'll respect all the people in the relationship including your family and even your friends. I can't say this enough but our friends and family give us a great deal of input to indicate whether the guy is a "good guy". If you avoid friends and family because of the guy you are dating start avoiding the guy!
2. A good guy is non-threatening. He'll talk and act so that you feel safe and comfortable when doing and saying things. In other words he will allow you to be yourself and feel good about it.
3. A good guy respects you. He'll listen to you non-judgmentally with understanding and be affirming. He'll value your opinions.
4. A good guy supports and trust you. He'll support your goals and respect your right to your own thoughts, feelings, friends, and what you do.
5. A good guy is honest and accountable accepting responsibility for himself. He will acknowledge his past whether he was violent or abusive, changing himself and his behavior. He will admit when he is wrong when it is appropriate and be apologetic. He communicates openly and truthfully, acknowledging past abuse, seeking help for bad relationship patterns and for past issues.

The keeper guy simply put is someone who loves and respects others and himself. He tries to please your wants while helping you with your own needs. He sees your needs and your

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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
Tuesdays	7:00PM - 9:00PM
Thursdays	7:30PM - 9:00PM
Fridays	6:00PM - 11:00PM
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 JANUARY 29th

T-BIRDS FLY FREE, a benefit for Fall Harvest 2008, at The Max, \$3 cover, doors open at 6pm, show starts at 7pm, featuring some of the areas best performers

SATURDAY APRIL 26th

NEBRASKA GLBT SUMMIT, Mahoney State Park, more info later

WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Sunday

WORSHIP SERVICES:

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

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP

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, 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, 11am services

LOWE AVE PRESBYTERIAN, 1023 N 40 10am service

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

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

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 ANONYMOUS 4pm Lowe Avenue Presbyterian, 1023 N. 40 St Info call Mark 639-3055

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

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

WIMMIN'S SHOW, KZUM 89.3 12:30pm

Every Monday

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

AA 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 REHEARSALS, 6:45PM—9:15PM, First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass St.

WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP Confidential, meeting at the MCCO Church, 819 S. 22nd St, call 345-2563 for meeting times, all women are welcome

Every Tuesday

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

UNL LESBIAN/BI/QUESTIONING SUP-

PORT GROUP, 7-8:30PM, Women's Center, Nebraska Union, Lincoln, 472-5644

Every Wednesday

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

WORSHIP SERVICES

MCC OMAHA, Bible Study, 7pm

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

HIV TESTING, 1:30pm to 4 pm walk-in NAP, 139 S. 40 St., results in 20 minutes, call 402-552-9260 for info

HIV TESTING LINCOLN, 4-7 pm, results in 20 minutes, 2147 South 15th 402-476-7000

FRONTRUNNERS RUN/WALK

6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha

LGBT AA 7:30pm, Alcohol Ctrl., 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 walk-in, NAP, 139 S. 40th Same day results,

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, 6PM to 10PM, 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

HIV TESTING 5-7PM walk-in, NAP, 139 S.

40th Same day results

NAP OUTREACH CENTER HIV TESTING
7 TO 10PM, walk-in, 2202 St. Marys Ave.,
Same day results

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

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

GLBT SEXUAL COMPULSIVE ANONYMOUS, (SCA), A program of recovery, 12pm to 1pm, meeting at Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St, (beginning on January 19th, 2008)

OLDER ADULT DROP-IN, 4 TO 6PM, at the GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St., for older adults age 50+, single or partnered, Free

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

MONTHLY EVENTS

1st Tuesday
LINCOLN MIXED CHORUS 6:30pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

1st Thursday
GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S SUPPORT AND DISCUSSION GROUP 7 to 8:30pm, Meeting in Lincoln first and third Thursdays of the month. Call 434-9880 / 476 9668 for location and information.

GLBT PROFESSIONALS, meeting at 6PM. Email at: omahaglbtprofessionals@cox.net

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

1st Saturday OR Sunday
HEARTLAND GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION, Meeting days and times may vary, call 402-505-3331 for info or see www.hgra.net for meeting schedules etc.

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

TRANSGENDER DROP-IN, 2 to 4pm at Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St.

2nd Wednesday
ACTS II WORSHIP SERVICE, 7pm, MCC Omaha, 819 S. 22nd Street

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

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

3rd Monday
PFLAG SOUTH CENTRAL (HASTINGS, NE), Meeting on 3rd Mondays at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 7th and Marian St., 7PM, email jsandeen@inebraska.com or call 402.462.2961 or 402.460.8696

3rd Tuesday
IMPERIAL COURT OF NE, Board of Governors meeting, 7:15pm, meeting at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Community Center, www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org

HIV TESTING AT THE PANIC, Lincoln NE, 7-10PM walk-in, same day results, 200 South 18th Street

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

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

3rd Sunday
TRANSGENDER DROP-IN, 2 to 4pm at Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St.

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.

Email Your Event to:
GAYZETTE@COX.NET

Golfing Humor

Sam stood over his tee shot on the 350 yard 18th hole for what seemed like an eternity. He waggled, looked up, looked down, waggled again, but didn't start his back swing.

Finally his exasperated partner asked, "What in the world is taking so long?"

"My wife is watching me from the clubhouse balcony," Sam explained. "I want to make a perfect shot."

His companion exclaimed, "You don't have a chance in hell of hitting her from here!"

Did you know that you can see the entire *GAYZETTE* on our web site?

Go to:

www.rainbowoutreach.org

**And click on the Publications link.
George W. Bush reads the Gayzette.
(Ok, he just looks at the pictures.)**

GLBT RESOURCE LIST

OMAHA BASED

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

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

Diamond Foundation, GLBT Scholarships, Mentoring and Leadership, call 877-87-DIAMOND or see www.diamond-foundation.org

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

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

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

First 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

Alphabet (ABC) Soup at UNO, http://groups.yahoo.com/group/uno_abcoup, Phone Student Organizations at 554-2711.

Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network - Omaha, Box 641676, Omaha 68164, 712-325-0117 <http://www.glsenomaha.org>

GayLibrary.com, World Wide Resources

Heartland Gay Rodeo Association, see www.hgra.net for information

Ice Bowl Invitational Bowling Tournament (IBIT) P.O. Box 31838, Omaha, 68131 R. Hollendieck (402) 556-5556

Imperial Court of Nebraska, Box 3772, Omaha 68103 556-9907, Board Meets 3rd Monday, Doubletree Hotel Downtown, www.icon.impcourt.org

Learning to Exchange Power, L2EP@aol.com; Social, educational group novices in Leather, S/M, B/D Lifestyle

Leather Engineers of Omaha (LEO) Box 8101, Omaha, 68108-8101 Gay men in leather lifestyle, not currently meeting

LinOma Bares, for more Info email linomabares@yahoo.com or mail to P.O. Box 24547, Omaha NE 68124

Low Avenue Presbyterian Church, 1023 No. 40th St., fully open to GLBT's,

Mpower Program, 139 S. 40, Omaha 68131 email: mpower@nap.org website: www.mpower-nap.org phone: 402.552.9260x20, Holistic Gay Men's Health Program

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, 819 S. 22 St., Omaha 68108 345-2563, mccomaha@mccomaha.org Website:www.mccomaha.org Sunday

Worship 11am, Wed Evening Bible Study at 7pm

NA Rainbow Group, Narcotics Anonymous, meets every Sunday at 6pm, MCC -Omaha Church, 819 South 22nd St

Nebraska AIDS Project, 552-9260 Watanabe Wellness Ctr, 139 S. 40, Omaha 68131, Testing Wed from 1:30-4PM by appointment only, Thurs 7PM-9PM results in a week, Fri 5PM-10PM with 20 minute results Call 402-552-9255 info

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

Nebraska GLBT Events, Community Events Calendar web site, see www.NebraskaGLBTEvents.com

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

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

Omaha Bi Married Men Yahoo Group <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/OmahaBiMarriedMen>

Omaha NE Gay Pride WebPage <http://ONGP.com>; email to: omahanegaypride@cox.net or ongp1@cox.net

Omaha GLBT Professionals, Contact omahaglbtprofessionals@cox.net for more info.

Omaha Metro GLBT Sports League, See www.omahaglbtsports.net for info

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

Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays (PFLAG) Omaha Chapter Box 390064, Omaha, 68139-0064 291-6781 Website:www.pflag-omaha.org, email info@pflag-omaha.org Meet 2nd Thurs, 1st United Meth, 7020 Cass

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

Prairie Bares, nudist group, no further info available, ask Dino A. or David F.

Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Ctr, 1719 Leavenworth, Omaha, 341-0330

Rainbow Bible Study, Fridays, 6-7:30pm, Lowe Ave Presbyterian, 1023 N. 40 St.

Rainbow Celebrations, PO Box 8488, Omaha, 68108, 402-212-6302 locally, 866-NE-PRIDE toll free, sponsors of annual Gay Pride & National Coming Out Day, for complete information see www.rainbowcelebrations.org

River City Gender Alliance, P.O. Box 4083

Omaha, NE 68104, or Email: info@rivercitygenderalliance.org

River City Mixed Bowling II 3pm, Sundays, Maplewood Lanes, Omaha Norma Harrison (402) 731-5706

River City Mixed Chorus, Box 3267, Omaha, NE 68103, 402-341-SING Website: www.rcmc.org

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

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

Unity Church of Omaha 3424 N. 90, Omaha, Sunday worship: 10:30am Wednesday meditation service 7pm; 571-1344; www.unityomaha.org

WomenSpace, no current info is available

LINCOLN BASED

GLBT and Ally Programs and Services at UNL, Pat Tetreault, Ph.D. Sexuality Education Coordinator University Health Center Health ED Dept. 402.472.7447 for info see <http://www.unl.edu/health/sexuality>

Gay/Lesbian/Bi/Straight Alliance 2229 J St., Lincoln 68510 (402) 436-1301 ext. 232 Ruth Kupfer

Gay & Bi Men's Discussion & Support Group, Tim, P.O. Box 6341, Lincoln 68506-0341 483-6183

Lesbian, Bisexual and Questioning Women's Discussion Group, University of Nebraska, Lincoln Women's Center (sponsor), Room 340, Nebraska Union, Lincoln 68588-0446. 402/472-5644.

Nebraska AIDS Project, 2147 S. 15th St. Lincoln, NE 68502. (402) 476-7000

Mixed Chorus, Rehearse 1st & 3rd Fridays, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, No auditions, Just a desire to sing, info contact Scott at sdorchid@neb.rr.com

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

Parents, Friends of Lesbians & Gays, Cornhusker Chapter; Box 30128, Lincoln 68508, Meet 4th Tues, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, email to Barbara Kimberly, jbkiber@hotmail.com. Website: <http://pflag.ineb.org/>

Plainsmen, Support FtM's (Female to Male) Drag Kings TV Butches, 402-820-1267

SAGE, Box 22043, Lincoln 68542 Coffee House 2nd Sat, 6 - 9pm, Lesbian Videos 7:15pm, 3319 S. 46

Straight Spouse Support Grp 402-429-6094

Trevor-24-hour National Suicide Hotline for GLBT and Questioning Youth 1-800-850-8078 or email: <http://www.thetrevorproject.org/helpline.html>

TriCity GLBT, serving Central Nebraska, web site at <http://www.tri-city-glbtc.com/>

UNL Committee on GLBT Concerns, Contact Pat Tetreault, c/o University Health Center, 15th & U Streets, Rm. 12h Lincoln, NE 68588-0618, (402) 472-7447 or email: ptetreau@unlnotes.unl.edu

Women In Trades/YWCA, 1432 N St., Lincoln 68508; 434-3494,

Iowa Based

Council Bluffs Pride, www.councilbluffspride.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

Community Announcements

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If you have a life event, birth, death, adoption, anniversary, wedding, graduation, memorial or other special announcement that you would like to see in the Gayzette, send it to Gayzette@cox.net and we'll be happy to publish it here for free.



**Did you know that you can see the entire *GAYZETTE* on our web site?
Go to:
www.rainbowoutreach.org
And click on the Publications link.
George W. Bush reads the Gayzette.
(Ok, he just looks at the pictures.)**

(The Keeper Guy, Continued from page 10)

goals and strengthens you so that you may achieve greatness in your life. He shares himself with you while you share yourself with him. All the while you both feel comfortable with each other. He would never hurt you, but rather he would rather be hurt than allow you to be hurt. I could go on and on about the good things of a keeper guy but I think you get my point. Don't sell yourself short nor settle for the first person to come along. The funny thing about a keeper guy is that he'll treat you the way you want to be treated and you'll treat him the same. You'll both be in the relationship together whether the relationship be 50/50 or 70/30 it will work. Once I asked someone who has been in his relationship for 40-something years how they did it. He simply replied it was easy. I guess when two people really love each other it's not that hard to stay in healthy and good relationship. The problem is do we really know what love is? See when you love someone you don't hurt them. When you love someone you can be honest, truthful, and yourself. You would never hurt the other person and if you know what bothers the other you would not want to do those things. You don't change the other person, but see yourself changing because of the closeness you share, and the funny thing is he'll change too because of this closeness. It's not a forced change but a willing change that happens whether you try or not. It simply happens. It's called growing up together or maturing in the relationship with each other.

(Scotland Story, Continued from page 8)

"No one in Scotland should be targeted or victimized because of their sexual orientation, transgender identity or disability. Our clear aim is to prevent and deter crimes. But where crime does happen it will not be tolerated."

Morag Alexander, Scotland's Commissioner for the Commission for Equality and Human Rights, said that gays and transpeople are more likely to have experienced abuse, threats and violence.

The approval in principal of the bill was welcomed by the LGBT Equality Network.

"One in four gay people have been victims of homophobic violence, and two thirds have been threatened or harassed. This bill is a vital tool to help the justice system recognize the scale of the problem and respond accordingly," said spokesperson Tim Hopkins.

The legislation would lengthen prison terms for anyone convicted of crimes motivated by malice or ill will towards victims based on their sexual orientation, transgender identity or disability.

Laws already exist to cover crimes based on racial or religious

discrimination.

Hate crime laws covering LGBTs already exist in most of the EU and in Canada. A bill that would add gays but not transsexuals to existing federal hate crime legislation in the United States is tied up in Congress.

The bill passed the House in May and the White House threatened to veto it. (story) In an effort to get around a veto the Senate version was tied to the 2008 defense authorization bill. It passed in September (story) and then went to conference where it was stripped out.

Sen. Ted Kennedy (D-Mass.) has pledged to reintroduce the bill before the session ends next fall.

First Gala Latina

By Gabriel Gonzalez

Nebraska is known for its high concentration of Latinos who improve many of our industries. An increase in the Latino population in this area also means an increase of Latino gays, lesbians, bisexuals, and transgender. These GLBT Latinos may have come to the Mid-West as adults or are been raised by families that settled in Nebraska and its adjacent states. Independent from the manner in which our Latino population got here, they form a vital part of our community, straight or gay. For many years these members of our community have gone without a true voice amongst the GLBTs round tables. A new movement has begun which aims to provide opportunities for the Latino GLBT point of view to be heard. The name of this movement is LATIN@S.

LATIN@S began its work a year ago when the group represented their cultural perspective to Nebraska PRIDE. Impressive outfits marching to the sound of samba mark the beginning of the organization. At the parade LATIN@S was recognized with two awards; the Best Group Award and the Grand Marshal's Award. Since PRIDE, LATIN@S has been defining its place within the community and is now ready to makes its debut to its community.

The name LATIN@S uses of the "@" to represent the female, male, transgender and gender queer members. LATIN@S acts to strengthen individuals and families within the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, questioning, and allied Latino community in Nebraska, through advocacy, education, and support. The work of LATIN@S is to create a Nebraska where Latinos are not confronted with homophobia; to provide education for Latino families about GLBT issues in the community; to create a strong voice for Latino interests at GLBT discussions in the region; to accept all individuals where they are at and provide the space to nurture strong, self-aware, and independent people; and to promote healthy living within the GLBT Latino community of Nebraska.

Since its inception, LATIN@S has enjoyed the support of its community. This is not different today. Key organizations are responding to the work LATIN@S has committed to. On February 10th the organization's second phase will begin. LAT-

(Continued on page 17)

CONNECTIONS BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND SECOND PERFORMANCE BY:



SHEILA GREENLAND
JAN. 19TH 9 PM - 1AM

\$5 COVER CHARGE
IF YOU MISSED IT THE FIRST TIME YOU
DON'T WANT TO MISS IT THIS TIME!!!

\$2.00 BUSCH LIGHTS

1901 LEAVENWORTH ST. OMAHA, NE. 68102
(402)933-3033

I-Birds Fly Free



PRESENTED BY: RIVER CITY GENDER ALLIANCE

*Featuring: Macy Riley, Mama Barry,
Andrew the 1st, Ashley Simone & Wendy Day*

Saturday, January 26th
Doors Open 6pm
Show 7pm

Benefitting Fall Harvest
\$3 Cover

Fitness Corner

By Ron Blake
Certified Personal Trainer



Exercise can make you bigger, stronger, and faster. These are the obvious results from a fertile regimen of physical activity. There are other benefits from exercise that are sure to have the neighbors stand up and take notice.

Exercise can stimulate new growth of neurons and even help you to keep the neurons that you possess. Neurons are those little things in your body that transport messages throughout your legs, arms, torso, and head. They are good to have around if you yearn to communicate and learn. This comes as good news to those of you who destroyed countless neurons in your previous existence as an irresponsible college student with that degree in undecided. There is hope for you debaucherous mongrels and physical activity is certainly one answer.

Faster reaction times can be attributed to exercise. You will be able to hit baseballs thrown at ninety-five miles per hour. You will be able to dodge bullets from Tony Soprano's goombas. You will be able to more effectively bob and weave through the one-two combination of Oscar DeLaHoya. You might even be able to negotiate better in traffic on the 666 Freeway on your route to work on Mondays. Can I get an "amen" to more effective reaction times due to running, walking, and double-dutching.

Mental challenges become mere child's play in response to the dashing good looks of Mr. Exercise. Yes, exercise has been known to unravel the mysteries of the universe. Even Albert Einstein was spotted riding bicycles and frolicking along the ocean during his sojourn on this planet. These physical exertions were rumored to have led to his great theories on relativity. You might just settle for solving the complexities of a Rubik's cube or that set of instructions on putting your barbecue grill together.

Your memory can behold the effects of a good physical fitness program. There is a site in your brain called the hippocampus that can enlarge in mass and reap the goodness of jumping jacks and other means of physical activities. This enlargement of the hippocampus translates into better memory and possibly the ability to treat Alzheimer's patients. Think of all the time you waste trying to recall where you placed your cell phone, keys, black socks, or W2 form from work. Start using that wasted time on exercise that will jump start that short-term memory compartment.

Your mood can be positively impacted by the release of neurotrophins. These chemicals are released when you decide to participate in an active lifestyle. They rush into your system and make you feel happy and vivacious. Consider reaching for your roller blades instead of that sleeve of Girl Scout mints to turn that frown upside down the next time you are grumpy. Sunshine, lollipops, and rainbows everywhere will be your reward.

If we all reconvene in another five years, it is quite likely that ongoing research will show even more benefits of the brain and exercise combination. Keep sweating to the oldies with Richard

Simmons and know that good things will always follow. A mind is a terrible thing to waste.

This column is brought to you by that guy who prefers to frame a collage of one dollar bills instead of framing that replica of "Starry Night" from Michaels. That guy is Ron Blake and he can be reached www.goblakefitness.com.



*A woman calls her boss one morning and tells him that she is staying home because she is not feeling well.
"What's the matter?" he asks
"I have a case of anal glaucoma," she says in a weak voice.
"What the hell is anal glaucoma?"
"I can't see my ass coming into work today..."*

Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

Omaha:

Connections, 1901 Leavenworth	933-3033
DC's Saloon, 610 South 14th Street	344-3103
Dixie Quick's Restaurant, 1915 Leavenworth	346-3549
Flixx, 1015 South 10th Street Omaha	408-1020
Gnome's Bar, 1951 Saint Marys Ave	991-6470
The Max, 1417 Jackson St.	346-4110
Metropolitan Community Church, 819 South 22nd Street	
Omaha Mining Co., 1715 Leavenworth	449-8703
Mystery Bookstore, 1422 South 13th St	342-7343
Nebraska AIDS Project, 139 South 40th St	552-9260
Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Resource Center, 1719 Leavenworth St. (home of The Gayzette)	341-0330

Lincoln:

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

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

(First Gala Latina Story, Continued from page 15)

IN@S will host a Gala to bring recognitions to key individuals within the Latin@ community and those who have supported its work in the past. The night will be filled with performances from Latin@ artists, Latino food, and music. If you are interested in learning more about LATIN@S or attend the Gala, please contact us at 402-504-6361.

Conference for Inclusive Communities

By Nicole Higginbotham

In an interview with Barb Angellilo, Director of the Conference for Inclusive Communities, I learned how this organization has continued to assist people in the Omaha area and how UNO students can help.

What is the history of the Conference for Inclusive Communities?

Actually, I just realized as I was writing a piece for our newsletter that this is actually our 70th year as an organization in the Omaha metropolitan community. We were established in 1938 as a chapter of the National Conference for Christians and Jews. The National Conference for Christians and Jews was established in 1927 in the east coast and originally called the National Council for Christians and Jews. In 1927, it was established because the Ku Klux Klan had also added Catholics to their hit list. At that time, there was a candidate for president that was Catholic, and the KKK decided to target this particular candidate. As a result of this kind of pressure, the candidate dropped out of the race. Some really known leaders in Washington, D.C. decided that they were no longer going to tolerate this kind of bigotry, so they formed the National Council for Christians and Jews. There were three individuals. They were called the Tolerance Trio. There was a Catholic priest, a rabbi, and a Lutheran minister who toured the country. They were spreading their message at that time, and they called it Brotherhood and Tolerance. Fast forward to 1938, those of us who are old enough to remember or those of us who know the history of what was going on in Europe at that time, know Hitler had a real push for anti-semitism. The rest of the us were beginning to hear about anti-semitism and what was going on in Europe. A local-owned clothing business called Nebraska Clothing, which was owned by Auto Swanson was approached by some of his friends, and they told him about a proposed boycott of Jewish-owned businesses by a local hate group in Omaha. Auto Swanson said that he wasn't going to tolerate this kind of bigotry here in Omaha, so he got together with other business owners here in Omaha. They had heard about the National Council for Christians and Jews, and they decided to become a chapter. That's when the local chapter in Omaha was established.

What is the mission of the CFIC?

Even though it started out as a response towards hatred and bigotry, the mission was much broader. When the local people looked at the organization, they said, "Yes, we're fighting anti-semitism, but we also want to take on a broader mission." They saw how interconnected and interrelated any kind of hate is. The local leadership here embraced the broader mission. I do think there is a strong emphasis on faith-related issues with this organization. We've always had strong leadership to address and support fairness and equity within the faith community. I

also think when you really look deeply into that, you have to look at how other communities are treated or welcomed or respected or included or excluded even from the faith community. I think that it's a complex problem. Once you begin to look at bigotry, you can't just focus on faith, because you are going to find much deeper problems. This organization just happens to be very fortunate to have such a broad mission, which allows us to talk about what it means to be an inclusive community. It means that everyone here whether you believe or agree or disagree needs to be able to live here in respect, dignity, and safety. There's a very good quote by Howard Thurman, and he said, "I just want to be without making it difficult for you to be you." All of us at some point in our lives are going to feel the pain of prejudice whether its in color, disabilities, age, class, or something else. I think it's that human experience that connects us.

What different programs do you have?

We have programming for all levels and all ages. One program that we do is Inclusivity. It used to be called Anytown. It was established in 1955 in LA in the NCCJ region of LA. We had it here in the 70's and it disappeared for a while. We brought it back in 2000. It's now called Inclusivity. There's two parts: Inclusivity I and Inclusivity II. Inclusivity I is a week long human relations, leadership program for high school kids, and we take students from all across Nebraska and into Iowa. We go out to a retreat center. It's residential. We're out there for about six days, and we dialogue on around all issues of difference: class, race, culture, faith, sexual orientation, ability, and age. It's a very intensive look at one's own personal and institutional biases. We also do something very similar in the fall called Inclusivity II. We only invite four high schools at a time. It gives us a good opportunity to really look at the school culture. Also, we bring schools from different parts of the community together. We try to bring down the stereotypes that they have of each other. Students that have been through the Inclusivity I or II program are allowed to apply as interns. We probably have about 12 to 14 interns with us through a whole school year. They learn about fundraising, grant writing, and budget creating. They also work with the individual diversity clubs in high schools.

How can the GLBTQI community get involved?

There's something called Campustown, which can be done over a weekend. That's for college students. We've done four or five of those with Creighton University, and we're hoping to expand that so that other colleges can participate. It's a very similar workshop. We usually do it throughout the school year, and it's really arranged through the college or university. Then we have, CIC, and those are just a group of half-day, full-day, or multi-day workshops that we design for specifically for our clients. Project Core was designed a couple of years ago to meet the needs of our volunteers. We cannot do any of our programming without program volunteers. When we go out in the summer we bring out maybe 10 or 12 volunteers. Those are four adults in the community from all different backgrounds, walks of life, and professions. Then, we'll bring college students, who are the counselors, and we'll invite counselors in training. For more information, contact Spencer Terry at: sterry@cfic.online.org or (402) 391-4460. The website is also available at: <http://www.cficonline.org>.

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Tri-City GLBT
presents
What:
Hearts A Fire

When:
February 23, 2008
8pm - 5am

Where:
Tri-City Cycle a.k.a. Sundowner Reception
Hall
3234 W. Schimmer Dr.
Grand Island, NE 68801

Description:
Fundraiser for Nebraska Pride and
Rainbow Celebrations
Some of central Nebraska's Hottest Female Impersonators will perform and entertain.
There will be music and dancing.
Alcohol served, 21+ to drink, Buy from the bar till
1am. Bring your own after.
All ages welcome to attend
Free food after the performances

www.tri-city-glbtc.com

Florida Anti-Gay Amendment In Trouble

by 365Gay.com Newscenter Staff

(Miami, Florida) Backers of a proposed amendment to bar same-sex marriage in Florida are scrambling to find 20,000 signatures to get the measure on November's ballot after the Secretary of State announced Monday that a counting mistake put them well short of the required 611,000 signatures needed.

Last month the Secretary of State's office said that Florida4Marriage collected 612,192 names, a thousand more than was required.

Then questions arose about the state's electronic voter system and it was determined the system was miscounting petition signatures. Petition drives must submit signatures to counties which then verify, tabulate and send the totals electronically to Tallahassee.

Secretary of State Kurt Browning ordered counties to retabulate the results and send the results using paper forms to his office. Monday Browning announced there had been a massive error in Dade County.

Browning, said the new count showed that election officials in Miami-Dade had "double-counted" some 27,000 paper petitions.

With two weeks until the deadline for submitting signatures it is unclear if Florida4Marriage will be able to make up the 20,000 name shortfall.

The amendment says, "Inasmuch as marriage is the legal union of only one man and one woman, no other legal union that is treated as marriage or the substantial equivalent thereof shall be valid or recognized."

Florida4Marriage attempted to have the measure placed on the 2006 ballot but fell short of the required number of signatures. Under Florida law Florida4Marriage, was allowed to continue to add names to the petition in a bid to get it on the 2008 ballot.

Last year it was discovered that the state GOP was bankrolling Florida4Marriage. (story)

An investigation by the St. Petersburg Times into funding for the Florida4Marriage has found that of the \$193,000 that had been raised by the group \$150,000 came from a single donor - the Florida Republican Party.

Opponents of the amendment say it could be used to cancel domestic partner benefits throughout the state, for both gay and straight couples.

Joining LGBT rights groups in fighting the proposal is a straight ally, Florida Red & Blue.

The organization boasts both Democrats and Republicans among its members. It amassed more than \$1 million to battle the proposed amendment in its first 60 days.

Florida Red and Blue spokesperson Stephen Gaskill said if passed by voters the amendment would nullify partnership laws in Broward County, Miami Beach, Key West and West Palm Beach that allow both same- and opposite-sex couples to receive hospital visitation rights and health insurance benefits.

Even if Florida4Marriage manages to make up the shortfall in signatures passing a constitutional amendment in Florida has a higher bar than in most states. It must be approved by 60 percent of voters.

Metrosexualism The New Frontier!

Mike McManus

I'll never forget the first crush I had on a guy. Well, okay, the first crush I had on a guy whose name didn't start with Matt and end in Damon. He had the Abercrombie and Fitch style, the perfectly coiffed hair and a face so moisturized that he put any babies bottom to shame.

I'll also never forget the day I saw this same guy sitting in the school cafeteria holding hands with his girlfriend. Oh, the agony! Oh, the defeat! Welcome to the world of metrosexualism.

I'm sure most of us by now have heard of the term "metrosexual," simply meaning a guy who is in touch with his feminine side, but it's a lot more complex than most assume.

Similar to homosexuality, there are many different degrees of metrosexuality. I will sometimes get the reaction "No way, you can't be gay," and certain metrosexuals might get the response "What, you're not gay?"

To fully understand the metrosexual man in all his complex forms, we need to examine his three different degrees. Unfortunately, upon doing some research, I discovered that there were in fact no documented different degrees of the metrosexual man. Hmmm.

But don't fret, fellow reader-I won't leave you hanging! The following is the Mike McManus measurement of a metrosexual man (or the MMMOAM as I like to call it).

The MMMOAM --- Which one are you?

The Macho Metrosexual

Examples: David Beckham and George Clooney

Characteristics: Well groomed, desired by women and men alike, enjoy trendy fashions, play rough, work hard, enjoy the outdoors and are thought to be all-around "perfect" men.

The Mama Metrosexual

Examples: Usher, Matt Damon, Leonardo DiCaprio

Characteristics: Aren't afraid to show emotion, obsessed with their mothers, enjoy nice dinners, fancy drinks, manicures, massages, and hair products.

The "You're not gay?" Metrosexual

Examples: Clay Aiken and Jonathan Antin (Blow Out)

Characteristics: Won't go a day without a shower, find themselves flipping their wrists on occasion, get emotional easily, continue to wait for the right woman, and flat iron their hair.

I guess it's easy to understand why metrosexualism has taken off so quickly. The gay guys always got the girls hanging around them, they dressed nice, took care of their bodies, were sensitive and it was only a matter of time before heterosexual

men caught on.

I think it's obvious that we have something to thank the Queer Eye for the Straight Guy for. Although it does make it harder to distinguish who is "gay" from "straight," I do believe that metrosexualism will be something that will benefit us all. No longer will we have to deal with smelly locker rooms, or unshaven faces. Soon dirty towels will be replaced with lightly scented candles and prickly faces covered in moisturizer and sunscreen.

Laugh if you want at the metrosexuals, laugh at their grooming routines, the facials, the deep scrubs, the waxing, the massages-but while you're laughing, they're walking away with the women. That's right guys, women love men who are well groomed and take care of themselves. Metrosexualism truly is the new frontier!

Send questions and comments to mmcmanus@mail.unomaha.edu

This article was reprinted from The Gateway
Site URL: <http://www.unogateway.com>

Announcing a one time event

Presented by Omaha GLBT Sports

Dodgeball



February 16, 2007

Christie Heights Gym 5105 South 37th Street

2:00pm to 5:00pm

\$5/per player

You can sign up with a team of 4 or you can sign up individually to be lotteried to a team of 4 players.

Registration will be held every Sunday through Feb 3rd at the Volleyball Center 102nd & California 7:00pm to 8:00pm if you are unable to make it please email committee@omahaglbtsports.net for information regarding alternative registration!

[Get your organization involved with other GLBT organizations in the area to make our entire community stronger!](#)

Visit our website today www.omahaglbtsports.net

SUNDAY JAN 20TH

Miss Gay Omaha Fanta Cee's
Victory Show!
10pm

SATURDAY JAN 26TH

"T-BIRDS FLY FREE"
Presented By:
River City Gender Alliance
6pm Doors Open
7pm Show

SUNDAY JAN 27TH

The Miss Max Pageant
9pm

FRIDAY, FEB 1ST

MEN'S NIGHT
AMATEUR STRIP CONTEST
\$100 CASH PRIZE
7PM
UNDERWEAR PARTY
9PM

SATURDAY FEB 2ND

Miss Divine Diva
Marti Gras' Step-down
6pm Doors Open
7pm Show

SUNDAY FEB 3RD

Pride Idol Kick-off
9:30pm



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THEMAXOMAHA.COM