



Ready, Set, Marry! California's Big Day Arrives

"We have breaking news! We're gonna get married!"
If you call the Davis, Calif., home of Shelly Bailes, 67, and Ellen Pontac, 66, on Monday morning, that's the voicemail recording you'll hear. But if you wait until evening, you'll get a greeting that includes two words the women have waited more than three decades to say: "My wife."

At 5 p.m. Monday, the California Supreme Court ruling goes into effect, the words "Party A" and "Party B" replace "bride" and "groom" on marriage licenses and wedding bells will start ringing for same-sex couples throughout California. At 5:01, Bailes and Pontac, will be the first same-sex couple to say "I do" in Yolo County.

First marriage minutes

San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom was the first to ask if it might be possible to start marrying couples at the close of Monday's workday rather than waiting until the morning of June 17. When the state gave counties the go-ahead, Yolo County Clerk-Recorder Freddie Oakley was the first clerk outside San Francisco to jump on the idea.

"I thought, why should these couples have to wait any longer," she says. "If they want to get hitched, let's hitch'em up."



Sonoma County Clerk-Recorder-Assessor Janice Atkinson was inspired to move forward after she got a call from a couple who told her that June 16 was their 15-year anniversary. "I felt like

if it's legal and we can start," she says, "then the question wasn't why would I but why wouldn't I."

Atkinson will be marrying that couple, Chris Lechman and Mark Gren, at 5:01 Monday.

(Continued on page 4)



Norway Gay Marriage Bill Passes Final Hurdle

(Oslo) Norway's upper house passed a new equality law Tuesday giving gay couples the same rights as heterosexuals to marry, adopt children and have artificial insemination.

The Norwegian law was passed as gay couples wed in California on the first full day that same-sex marriages were allowed there.

The new Norwegian legislation replaces a 1993 law that gives gays the right to enter civil unions similar to marriage, but did not allow church weddings or adoption. It takes effect Jan. 1.

"We are so overjoyed. We have worked for this for so long," said Jon Reidar Oeyan, leader of the Norwegian National Association of Lesbian and Gay Liberation. "Now we are going to celebrate. I didn't dare until I heard the chairman of the upper house bang the hammer."

Opponents, including the Christian Democrats and the Party of Progress, argued that children need both a mother and a father in a traditional family, opposed assisted pregnancy for lesbians, and said the law was rushed through the legislature.

The law gives individual congregations and clergy the right, but not the legal obligation to perform the ceremony.

About 85 percent of Norway's 4.7 million people are registered as members of the state Lutheran Church of Norway, although far fewer are active.

Since the church is split on gay marriage, it is likely to allow each congregation to decide on whether to conduct gay weddings, as it did last year in allowing parishes to decide whether to accept clergymen living in gay partnerships.

Current legislation requires that the prospective mother be married or in a civil union with a man before they could have artificial insemination.

In 1989, Denmark became the world's first country to allow civil unions for gays, similar to Norway's outgoing law. In 2001, the Netherlands became the first country to offer full marriage rights to gay couples. by The Associated Press

June 20, 2008 - July 4 2008

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(California Gay Marriage, story Continued from page 1)

"She was so gracious and so wonderful," says Lechman. "So I told her I'd love for you to do our ceremony and make history with us."

Late last week, Alameda County Clerk-Recorder Patrick O'Connell said his office, too, would allow same-sex couples to start marrying June 16 at 6:00 p.m. The first ceremonies will be officiated by Oakland Mayor Ronald Dellums at City Hall, with U.S. Rep. Barbara Lee and other elected officials serving as witnesses.



Dean Logan, acting registrar-recorder-clerk in Los Angeles County, said June 12 he would issue the first same-sex marriage license to Robin Tyler and Diane Olson. The couple were plaintiffs in a 2004 lawsuit that was consolidated with the San Francisco lawsuit that led the state Supreme Court ruling. They have been together for 15 years, and will be married by a Jewish rabbi in front of the Beverly Hills courthouse Monday at 5:01 p.m.

Logan issued the early license to Tyler, a longtime gay activist, and her partner, the granddaughter of a former California governor. "in recognition of their unique role in the court's decision."

San Francisco is gearing up for a huge media event when Newsom will officiate at the marriage ceremony of Phyllis Lyon and Del Martin in his office at 5:01. The two women, who are both in their 80s and who have been together for 55 years, are widely recognized as the founding mothers of the lesbian rights movement. They were the first couple to be wed in San Francisco when Newsom decided to challenge the state's law. That ceremony was a private event, later announced to the world. This time, they will have their family members and friends there to celebrate with them.

Tuesday marriage rush

Elsewhere on Monday night, thousands of couples, along with their florists, bakers, tailors and wedding organizers, will be writing vows, hemming dresses and suit jackets and putting the final flourishes on wedding cakes and floral arrangements in preparation for Tuesday's marriage rush.

In preparation for what is expected to be California's highest-ever volume wedding day and week, a number of the state's 58 county clerks have announced extended hours. Some plan to have extra staff and volunteers on hand. Some counties, like San Diego and Orange County, are taking reservations for marriage licenses and ceremonies. Others, like Los Angeles, will operate on a first come-first served basis.

In San Diego County, 177 couples have booked appointments. The clerk's office isn't sure how many are for same-sex couples. However, according to assistant director Sandra Banaga, a typical June day might have 70 ceremonies and the number of appointments already surpasses their highest ever Valentine's Day of 151 marriages.


(Continued on page 6)

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(California Gay Marriage, story Continued from page 4)

To keep up with the demand, San Diego has extended its hours Tuesday. Tom Felkner and Bob Lehman garnered the first time slot -- 7 a.m.

The couple, who celebrated their 15th anniversary May 18, had never considered marrying anywhere other than San Diego.

"We've always felt that we deserved the right to get married in our hometown," says Felkner. "We weren't going to settle for anything else than the same equal rights as our neighbors, so we've been holding out for this day."



Lehman is a former Marine, and the couple asked Tom's brother, who retired from the Marine Corps, to officiate. "It's our version of a military wedding." Family members and close friends will attend the ceremony, and the two men will each read vows they wrote. But Tuesday night the couple will host a very large reception.

"We are opening it up and playing host to any other couples who are getting married," says Lehman. "We wanted this to be a community celebration." In lieu of gifts, the couple are asking for donations to Equality for All's "Vow to Vote No" campaign to fight the November ballot initiative that, if it passes, would bring the wedding rush to an abrupt halt.

"We've been together for so long," says Lehman, "and it means more to us to have people" help us fight marriage equality.

In Contra Costa County, Stephen L. Weir knows that he and his partner, John Hemm, will be the first to marry Tuesday morning. That's because Weir is Contra Costa's clerk-recorder.

"I'm first in line," he jokes, "because I have the key."

He and his partner will marry at 8:30 a.m. Weir, a Scotsman, will wear the family kilt; Hemm will don a tuxedo. His staff will celebrate his wedding and then get back to work, as they will have 14 more same-sex couples to marry that day.

Weir and Hemm, who recently celebrated their 18th anniversary, started acquiring a hope chest.

"We have the rings and the china," says Weir. "We've had the dude figurines for the cake for 10 years."

Now, they've finally got the wedding date. "I had doubts this would ever happen in my work life, or in my life at all," says Weir, 59. "So this is personally very exciting."

Projections and protests

The marriages in California are expected to result in tens of thousands of glowing brides and grooms. They will also be a gold rush of sorts for the ailing California economy.

Using U.S. Census Bureau data, and drawing on past experience in other states, the UCLA Williams Institute on Sexual Orientation Law and Public Policy predicts that about 51,319 same-sex couples living in California will marry over the next three years, be joined by 67,513 couples from other states. These weddings, it reports, will boost the economy of the state by more than \$683 million over the next three years and bring in about \$63.8 million in local and state taxes.

Media throughout the state have reported that along with many court clerks offices, hotels, wedding planners, florists, caterers and others are not only seeing an uptick in business and looking at ways to capture this new market. Meanwhile, Evans Hotels, which owns the five-diamond Lodge at Torrey Pines and two other hotels and resort boats in San Diego, has announced it will donate 5 percent of the proceeds it receives from same-sex couples to an organization fighting the ballot initiative.

(Continued on page 8)

Rainbow Celebrations & Nebraska Pride Present:

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Lewis & Clark Landing in downtown Omaha, NE. Behind Ricks Boat Yard. Friday June 21st 2008 6pm. Featuring out comedian Christine O'Leary and singing sensation Guy B.



Christine O'Leary



www.nebraskapride.com

(California Gay Marriage, story Continued from page 6)

County officials are preparing for anti-gay individuals and groups to protest the same-sex weddings. Ronald Brocke, who drove his anti-same sex marriage "Marriage Mobile" around the San Francisco Civic Center as the state Supreme Court heard the marriage equality case told the Marin Independent Journal that he intends to embark upon a 15-county tour of county clerk offices to protest the same-sex marriages.



Omnipresent anti-gay protester Fred Phelps, who heads the Westboro Baptist Church, has scheduled protests Monday from 4:30 to 6 p.m. at San Francisco City Hall. On Tuesday, the Phelps intend to protest from 7 to 8 a.m. at Weir's office in Martinez and then again at San Francisco's City Hall.

The clerks in Butte and Kern counties made headlines nationwide when they announced they would stop performing all marriages before June 17 rather than start marrying same-sex couples. (Calaveras County also has stopped offering ceremonies.) Each clerk said the decision was due to budgetary reasons.

As required by law, both counties will continue to issue marriage licenses. (Conducting ceremonies has always been optional.) But they might not have that many takers.

Butte County's Linda and Vickie Mandy-Heath will be getting married July 5. But they are going to go to a different county to get their license. "Why should we support a county that won't support us?" asks Linda. "I'd rather give another county my money."

Bailes and Pontac, who have been together for 34 years, will be the first of seven couples to marry in Yolo County on Monday night. Tuesday is expected to be a busy day as well. Their wedding ceremony will be attended by a small group of family members and friends.

The couple went to Vermont in 2000 when that state enacted civil unions and made a commitment to one another there July 14. In 2002, they become domestic partners in San Francisco, and two years later they were back in the city as the 45th couple to get married Feb. 12, 2004.

But none of those ceremonies, they say, was as fun and as exciting as this one will be.

"For years, we've walked by the beautiful wedding room at the county recorder's office and would look in," says Bailes. "To know that we can marry there is wonderful."

On June 21, the couple will have a wedding reception. And everyone in Davis is welcome.

"The building holds close to 400 people and we are hoping to fill it," says Pontac. The couple will have several wedding cakes. But they don't want gifts.

(Continued on page 10)



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(California Gay Marriage, story Continued from page 8)

Instead, they will ask friends and family members to celebrate their wedding by donating to their nonprofit organization For Gay Equality (FORGE). That will allow them to spend the summer and fall going around the state talking to other seniors about the ballot initiative and marriage equality.

"We think that if we can speak to other seniors one-on-one they won't vote against us," says Bailes. We want them to understand "that we are just as happy as everyone else and that our love is just the same." (Sue Rochman, The Advocate)

Poll: 63 Percent Call Marriage "Private Matter"

Sixty-three percent of adults say same-sex marriage is "strictly a private decision" between two people, a USA Today/Gallup Poll has found.

Only 33 percent believe the government has the right "to prohibit or allow" such marriages, while 4 percent had no opinion, according to poll results reported Tuesday in USA Today.

The greatest support for no government intervention regarding same-sex marriages was in the East (71 percent), followed by the West (64 percent), Midwest (63 percent), and South (56 percent).

The percentage of participants who believe that same-sex marriage is "strictly a private matter" decreased as the age of the respondents increased: 79 percent of 18- to 29-year-olds agreed with that statement, as did 65 percent of 30- to 49-year-olds, 62 percent of 50- to 64-year-olds, and 44 percent of those 65 and older.

The strongest support for government regulation of same-sex marriage came from people who say they attend religious services weekly (56 percent), are Republicans (56 percent), or are politically conservative (54 percent).

The nationwide poll of 1,012 adults was conducted May 30-June 1, two weeks after the California marriage decision. It had a margin of error of plus or minus three percentage points, pollsters said. (The Advocate)

ONE STEP CLOSER TO ACCESSIBILITY

Submitted by Sharon Van Butsel

Sixteen years ago Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha purchased a graceful old church building at 819 S. 22nd Street in Omaha. The building was originally a Danish Lutheran Church built in 1887 with an entryway and bell tower added in the 1920's--a beautiful building, but with steps everywhere. The congregation made a commitment to make the sanctuary accessible for all people, but that did not become a reality until this year.

On May 21, we placed an order for a stair lift similar to the one pictured. This lift is being custom built for the church and will arrive in mid-July. The lift will allow persons in wheelchairs or with limited mobility to ascend the five steps leading from the front door to the sanctuary. This lift allows the individual to operate it independently and the will fold up against the wall when not in use.

At the same time, a contract was signed for the construction of a concrete ramp leading from the sidewalk to a deck level with the front door of the church. Construction of this ramp and deck will begin in 2 - 4 weeks as weather allows.

The total accessibility plan has 6 distinct phases which will include a handicap accessible restroom on the sanctuary level, easy access to the social hall from the alleyway at the rear of the church, and an enclosed room protecting the accessible deck and entryway of the church. We hope to completed this six phase plan by MCC's 35th Anniversary in January 2009.

Thanks to the generosity of the MCC congregation and the community, MCC has 50% of the total amount needed. Fund-raising is underway to complete the project, and you can help this dream become a reality. Donations may be sent to ACCESSIBILITY, MCC-Omaha, PO Box 3173, Omaha, NE 68103. Please come by the church and see the progress we are making thanks to your generous support!



Because Accessibility Can't Wait!

This is a tale of faithful trip (the third one actually) and it starts from a Midwest port (River City Yacht Club) aboard a not so tiny ship (The River City Star) the mate is a mighty sailin' man and the skipper brave and sure (we hope Pastor Tom renewed his Captains license!) We set sail for a two hour tour on Sunday August 31st for the 3rd Annual MCC River Boat Cruise (6:40PM boarding time)

The crew of the USS MCC has been very busy putting together plans for what will be one heck of a good night for this family friendly event! Entertainment includes some of this regions most talented performers and live singers. In addition we are introducing our "Casino Deck" for those of you who like the feel of those cards. Ginger? The Professor? The Howells? MaryAnn? You can dress up as your favorite Gilligan's Island character to win a prize!

There will be plenty of room to sit down and catch up with those whom you have not seen in a while too! There will be a cash bar and concessions available on the River City Star.

Tickets will soon be available online at www.mccomaha.org and at the church office. We will also have members of the crew selling them out and about soon. \$15 for adults, \$10 for those 65+, \$5 for youth (18 and younger.) We will board the boat at 6:40PM sharp, and set sail for 2 hours.

This Handicap Accessible event is a benefit to make the Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha accessible to all! To volunteer, make a donation or for more information contact Carla at 402-556-9907 SharlaVanPeters@aol.com or Royal at 402-516-2759 omaharoyal@gmail.com

Bid To Repeal Oregon Gay Partner Laws Fails

(Salem, Oregon) Opponents of two Oregon LGBT rights laws are giving up their fight to have a repeal measure placed on November's ballot, but say they may try to have it placed before voters in 2010. Both laws were passed by the legislature in 2007.

One would allow same-sex couples and opposite-sex couples unable to marry to form legally recognized partnerships. The other bars discrimination against gays, lesbians, bisexuals and transgendered people in housing, employment, public accommodation, education and public services statewide.

Socially conservative groups immediately challenged the partnership law in court, alleging it violated Oregon's constitution which bars same-sex marriage.

In February a federal judge ruled the law was not unconstitutional and it went into effect. The anti-discrimination law went into effect in January. The conservative groups then began a petition drive to have both laws placed on the ballot. With only a few weeks left before the July 3 deadline for turning in petitions the groups admit they do not have enough names to qualify.

Even though the repeal effort has failed for 2008, the groups

say they now are looking toward 2010.

They have appealed the February ruling to a three judge panel of the 9th U.S. Circuit. The case will be heard July 8.

Oregon's largest LGBT civil rights organization believes the panel will uphold the February ruling.

Under the partnership law, couples who register would be guaranteed the right to visit partners in hospital and make medical decisions, file joint state tax returns, and have joint health insurance plans or take sick leave to care for their partners. The law was passed after a legal battle for gay marriage failed.

The issue of same-sex marriage in the state arose in March 2004 when Multnomah County began issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples. Soon after, the county was ordered to stop, but not before 3,000 marriage licenses had been granted.

The constitutional amendment, known as Measure 36, was passed that November.

In 2005 the state Supreme Court ruled the amendment legal and efforts to enact the domestic partner registry began. By 365Gay.com

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Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox

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DON'T LIKE THE SOUND OF THAT.

WE CAN'T KEEP DOING THIS, JEFF.

O.K....YOU WANT ME TO BE ON TOP NEXT TIME?

WOULD YOU BE SERIOUS FOR A MINUTE?

I MEAN...THIS WHOLE SECRET RELATIONSHIP.

YOU KNOW I'M NOT CRAZY ABOUT SECRETS MYSELF, BUT...

...WHAT'S THE ALTERNATIVE? YOU WANNA' TELL BRAD ABOUT US?

NO. THAT WOULD KILL HIM.

YOU STILL CARE ABOUT HIS FEELINGS, HUH?

YES. ALTHOUGH...

...I'M NOT SURE WHY.

CONSIDERING THAT HE WAS OBSESSED WITH ANOTHER GUY FOR THE LAST FEW MONTHS OF OUR RELATIONSHIP.

THAT "OTHER GUY" BEING ME.

TRUST ME... THE IRONY OF ALL THIS HASN'T ELUDED ME.

SOMETIMES I WONDER IF WHAT'S GOING ON WITH YOU AND ME IS...

GREG FOX © 2008

WHAT? YOU'RE USING ME FOR REVENGE SEX?

NOT CONSCIOUSLY, BUT... SUBCONSCIOUSLY?

MAYBE. LORD. YOU BEEN SPENDING TOO MUCH TIME AROUND THESE YANKEES.

LOOK, JEFF... I JUST THINK WE NEED TO COOL IT FOR A WHILE.

BRAD'S ONE OF YOUR BEST FRIENDS. DON'T YOU FEEL ANY REMORSE OVER THIS?

SURE I DO. I ALSO FEEL LIKE HE'S A JACKASS FOR THE WAY HE TREATED YOU.

BUT I KNOW HOW MUCH IT'D HURT HIM IF HE FOUND OUT ABOUT US. MAYBE IT'S BEST WE CALL IT QUITS. THIS WAY... HE'LL NEVER KNOW.

HEY, OLSEN... ARE YOU--

WHAT THE...HELL IS THIS?!!

UH... ...APRIL FOOLS?!!

IT'S NOT APRIL, JEFF! YOU GOT ANY BETTER IDEAS?

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
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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.

FRIDAY-SUNDAY JUNE 20th-22nd
NEBRASKA PRIDE 2008 in OMAHA

AUGUST 4TH THRU 10TH
CAMP KINDLE, NE session for kids affected by HIV/AIDS, www.campkindle.org for info

WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Sunday

WORSHIP SERVICES:

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

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP, Meeting at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Community Center, 1719 Leavenworth St., Fellowship starts at 6PM, services begin at 6:30PM, Everyone Welcome!

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.fircentral.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 & Wednesday Worship at 7pm

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

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

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

A A GLBT "RAINBOW GROUP" Meeting Place, 28 & S, Lincoln, 7:30 pm

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

RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS 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 aander-son@hastings.edu or Judy Sandeen at jsandeen@hastings.edu for further information.

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

Every Wednesday

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

WORSHIP SERVICES

MCC OMAHA, Bible Study, 7pm

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

HIV TESTING, 1:30pm 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, 1921 So. 17th St. 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

HIV TESTING 7- 9pm walk-in, NAP, 139 S. 40th Same day results,

KARAOKE 9pm, Connections Bar

FREE CONFIDENTIAL ANONYMOUS

HIV TEST, UNL 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 - will close most of May and reopen May 30th 2008 - call for more info

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

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: glbtprofessionals@cfep-ne.org or see www.omahaglbtprofessionals.org for info

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

OUUT SECOND SUNDAY SCREENING

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

3rd Monday

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

PFLAG SOUTH CENTRAL

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

3rd Tuesday

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 on the third Thursday of the month. Call 434-9880 / 476 9668, held at the Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street, Lincoln NE

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**

Thank you Stella!!

I would like to acknowledge Miss Stella (Steve) Dallas for all she/he has done for Omaha's Gay Community this past year. Not only did Stella go above and beyond fulfilling her obligation as Miss Gay Pride, she extended herself to help other organizations and charities as well. As many of us know, Stella has been entertaining us as one of Omaha's finest female impersonators for some time. Throughout this past year, Stella has put together some fabulous shows and raised much needed money to help the Pride Committee bring us a weekend that we look forward to each year. Many of us have absolutely no idea the amount of work that is involved in preparing, organizing and pulling off one of these events. I personally attended several of Stella's and was always impressed.

There are few that step up to the plate to make things happen and to get things done to better our Gay Community. Stella is definitely proven herself as a true asset to our entire PRIDE community. Nebraska AIDS Project and I personally want to say "THANK YOU" for all you've done and will continue to do. You are an inspiration and excellent role model for others. As you stated in your step down show, "Good luck to the person who tries to fill my shoes." You did an outstanding job and deserve a pat on the back and a great big "THAT-A-BOY (GIRL).

Thank you for a wonderful year as Miss Gay Pride. You are loved Miss Stella Dallas!

Gary Winingham
Health Education, Program and Promotion Manager with Nebraska AIDS Project

GLBT RESOURCE LIST

OMAHA BASED

Alphabet (ABC) Soup at UNO,
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/uno_abcoup,
Phone Student Organizations at 554-2711.
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 How-
ard St. Suite 2, Omaha NE 68102, 398-
3027 www.cfep-ne.org, email to:
Michael@cfep-ne.org
Diamond Foundation, making a difference
through music and education, call 877-87-
DIAMOND or see
www.diamond-foundation.org
Family Foundations Therapy for individu-
als, 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
Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network -
Omaha, Box 641676, Omaha 68164,
712-325-0117 <http://www.glsenomaha.org>
GayLibrary.com, World Wide Resources
GLBT PROFESSIONALS, meeting at 6PM.
Email at: glbtprofessionals@cfep-ne.org or
see www.omahaglbtprofessionals.org for info
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, Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center,
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
Lowe 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. Worship at 7pm
NA Rainbow Group, Narcotics Anony-
mous, 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 mi-
nute results Call 402-552-9255 info
NebraskaEquality.org, Find out every-
thing about Nebraska and the GLBT
Community
Nebraska GLBT Events, Community
Events Calendar web site, see
www.NebraskaGLBTEvents.com
Nebraska Pride IDOL, PO Box 241733,
Omaha NE 68124, 866-4-NE-IDOL,
www.NebraskaPrideIDOL.com
Nebraska Zen Center, Soto Zen Bud-
dhist, 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 Web Page
<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.omahaglbtsportsleague.org for
more information
Onyx Images, Box 31026, 68131-0026
Social/Support Organization for African
American Males age 21 and over
Out and About in Nebraska, website:
www.travel.to/outabout
Email: NeOutAbout@yahoo.com
OUUT (Omaha Unitarian Universalists
for Tolerance) First Unitarian Church,
3114 Hamey, 68131, 345-3039,
www.ouut.org
Parents and Friends of Lesbians And
Gays (PFLAG) Omaha Chapter
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
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, Oma-
ha, 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, for info call 402.813.1842
or Email: info@rivercitygenderalliance.org
River City Mixed Bowling II 3pm, Sun-
days, Maplewood Lanes, Omaha Norma
Harrison (402) 731-5706
River City Mixed Chorus, Box 3267,
Omaha, NE 68103, 402-341-SING Web-
site: 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, Oma-
ha, Sunday worship: 10:30am Wednesday
meditation service 7pm; 571-1344;
www.unityomaha.org
WomenSpace, no current info is available

LINCOLN BASED

LGBTQ and Ally Programs and Services
Resource Center, Pat Tetreault, LGBTQ
Resource Center Director,
<http://involved.unl.edu/lgbtqa> - 402.472.1752
or 402-472-1652
<http://www.unl.edu/health/sexuality>
Queer Student Alliance, UNL, contact un-
lqsa@yahoo.com for info
Gay & Bi Men's Discussion & Support
Group, Tim, P.O. Box 6341, Lincoln
68506-0341, 483-6183
GLBT and Allies coffee house, 3rd Fridays,
Unitarian Church, 6300 A, 7:30 to 10:30pm
Lincoln Women's Center, Lincoln
402/472-2597.
Nebraska AIDS Project, Lincoln, 1921 S.
17th St. (402) 476-7000
Omaha Women's Riverboat Cruise,
4949 N. 73rd, Lincoln, 68507 467-5737
Parents, Friends of Lesbians & Gays,
Cornhusker Chapter, Box 30128, Lin-
coln 68508, Meet 4th Tues, Unitarian
Church, 6300 A, email to Barbara Kimber-
ly, jbkiber@hotmail.com. Website:
<http://pflag.ineb.org/>
Planned Parenthood, F2M and Question-
ing Support group & Partners of FTM
Support Group, meet monthly at 10am
Saturday, for info call Ryan Sallans at
441-3321 or email sindu.s@gmail.com
SAGE, Box 22043, Lincoln 68542 Coffee
House 2nd Sat, 6 - 9pm, Lesbian Videos
7:15pm, 3319 S. 46
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, Con-
tact 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 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

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>

Little Johnny Does It Again

Little Johnny walks into the kitchen where his mom is preparing a meal and says: "Mom, the last few nights I have woke up to this thumping noise coming out of your bedroom and when I look to see what it is, you're sitting on top of dad and bouncing up and down. Why are you doing that?"
The startled mother recovers quickly and says, "Your dad is a little overweight and I'm trying to get him back to normal size. I bounce on him to get all the air out of him."
Little Johnny just shakes his head and says, "Mom, you're wasting your time."
The mother says, "Why is that, dear?"
Little Johnny says, "Because, once a week, that nice looking guy next door comes over and blows daddy right back up!"

Community Announcements

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.



Gov. Crist Signs Florida Inclusive Bully Law

by 365Gay.com Newscenter Staff
(Tallahassee, Florida) Florida Gov. Charlie Crist (R) has signed legislation that requires school districts to prohibit bullying and harassment.

The Jeffrey Johnston Stand Up For All Students Act is named for a Cape Coral teen who killed himself after enduring more than two years of homophobic bullying.

The legislation mandates that school districts throughout the state must put in place specific policies to deal with bullying that includes methods of investigating and punishments. It also bans cyber bullying.

The districts would have to comply by December 1 or risk losing state funds.

The legislation does not, however, list specific categories of students that are protected. Lawmakers, however, have stated on the record that it will protect LGBT students among other minorities.

During debate Sen. Nan Rich (D) asked, "Does the bill prohibit harassment based on a student's actual or perceived disability, ethnicity, national origin, gender, gender identity, physical appearance, sexual orientation or other distinguishing personal characteristic in the exactly the same way that it prohibits sexual, racial or religious harassment, which are specified in the bill?"

Sen. Carey Baker, the bills sponsor responded, "Yes it does."

"The intent of this legislation is to protect all children from all types of bullying," said Baker.

The bill had the endorsement of most LGBT rights groups in the state who have been fighting for eight years to get the legislation passed.

Equality Florida said that Baker's response on the record makes it clear that the legislative intent requires schools to ensure LGBT protections at the local level.

Advocates of the bill had been trying to secure passage for the past three years. It made it through the House each year but died in Senate committees in 2006 and 2007.

**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.)**

British Soldiers to March in Uniform at Pride

Britain's military says soldiers and airmen will be allowed to wear their uniforms to this year's gay Pride march in London. The military said Saturday it would permit British Army and Royal Air Force personnel to show off their military affiliation in the July 5 parade.

The decision brings the forces in line with the Royal Navy, which already allows sailors to participate in uniform.

Britain began allowing gay men and women to serve openly in the military in 2000. While military personnel have been able to participate in the Pride march since then, soldiers and airmen have done so in civilian clothes.

Gay rights groups welcomed the decision. (AP)

NJ Town Ordered To Pay Gay Couple \$2.84 Million

by 365Gay.com Newscenter Staff
(Secaucus, New Jersey) A Secaucus gay couple who endured years of threats and harassment from volunteer firefighters have been awarded \$2.84 million in a civil rights suit against the town.

When Peter de Vries, 55, and Timothy Carter, 45, bought their dream house they knew it was beside a fire hall, but figured they'd get used to the occasional noise from the sirens as the volunteer firefighters raced to a blaze.

What they hadn't counted on was the homophobic attitude at the the North End Firehouse once the crew realized the new neighbors were gay.

In their suit de Vries and Carter alleged harassment, discrimination, retaliation, negligence and violation of state civil rights laws.

It named the fire department, the town, the police department, Fire Chief Frank Walters, Town Administrator Anthony Iacono, Mayor Dennis Elwell and 30 unnamed individuals as defendants.

In one incident firefighters were having a "boisterous" party outside the fire hall. The couple asked them to quiet down and the firefighters retaliated by throwing rocks at their house and issuing death threats to the men, according to the suit.

Complaints to the town went unanswered the suit said, and the couple eventually sold the house and moved out of town.

"It was a mob attack and then the town government gathered around to protect the perpetrators," the couple's attorney, Neil Mullin, told the Star-Ledger.

Mullin told the paper that he will refer the case to the state Attorney General's Office and to the U.S. Attorney's Office for a possible criminal obstruction case.

Attorneys for the town have declined to comment on the jury ruling and there could be an appeal.

Cannibal Cuisine

A cannibal was walking through the jungle and came upon a restaurant operated by a fellow cannibal. Feeling somewhat hungry, he sat down and looked over the menu...

Tourist: \$5.00
Broiled Missionary: \$10.00
Fried Explorer: \$15.00
Baked Democrat or Grilled Republican: \$100.00

The cannibal called the waiter over and asked, 'Why such a price difference for the Politicians?'

The cook replied, 'Have you ever tried to clean one? They're so full of crap, it takes all morning just to do one.'

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**

Fitness Corner

By Ron Blake
Certified Personal Trainer



The difference between health and sickness is a fine line. Your body is constantly trying to maintain a level of homeostasis. This quite simply means that the human body is a dynamic machine that is constantly adjusting to the daily demands of its environment. Some days the demands are too great and the body succumbs to the physiological film noir setting. Your hope and if you've done things right, your likelihood, is that you will be on the good side of this fine line more times than not. I'll entertain you with a few common examples.

You could be basking in the warmth of golden rays of sunshine in the early afternoon only to find yourself wincing away the stings of pain from those skin tones of Crayola lobster red while in the evening shower. You felt that you had a good base and chose to only go with the SPF 2 while working on that Copper-tone tan after arriving at the pool. The problem is you opted for six hours of the sun's tropical touch. The fine line was passed at about hour two of drinking up the sun's rays.

You can probably recall many a time where you had that one alcoholic drink that sent your Titanic sinking into the depths of your toilet at three in the morning. We all seem to know our limits on alcohol but the lure of adding a little more liquid pleasure to our lives can be too much for even the hardest of will powers on a berserk bender. The wrong side of the fine line here can cost you dearly as your body seeks that homeostatic level. You need to learn from your hangovers and get it right the next time.

You are burning the proverbial candle at both ends and it is in the name of your job that you are doing it. Your boss has promised his bosses that his star player, you, will get the job done under budget and ahead of schedule. You don't want to disappoint Mr. Nutcracker so you forego those optional hours in the day called sleep. The project is a smash success but your body wilts under the pressure and you subsequently suffer from a bout with a nasty cold. In your weakened state, your immune system was powerless against the introduction of this notorious virus. A breach in this fine line could have been avoided with a reorganization of your schedule that allowed ample time with your four post bed.

You can dance dangerous jigs on numerous other fine lines that could involve eating, exercising, driving, or sexual encounters. You must decide how much you will push the envelope and thrust your body into an unbalanced state of being.

This health and fitness entrée is brought to you by that guy who likes to read his fortune cookies between the sheets or in his bed. That guy is Ron Blake and he can be unwrapped at www.goblakefitness.com.

Omaha GLBT Sports

By Chris Orr

Well at least Mother Nature let the league play a couple nights of the weekly games. The games that were played though were very close in most part. In the games that were played, there were some great plays. Pink team's pitcher had caught some head on hits right at him. Red team had clobbered a few out of the park. Blue team had a few foul fly catches near 3rd base. Green team had kept right up with the other team for all innings. Remember the games are Tuesdays & Thursdays at 7:00 p.m. & 8:30 p.m. at Churchich Park on 50th & "C" Street. You can visit our website at www.omahaglbtsportsleague.org to keep up on the info!



The sports league would like everyone to visit its vendor booth at Pride. There will be shirts, hats, and some freebies at hand. Of course there will be information about the league itself and upcoming events. The sports league will also have a dunk tank with some of the community personalities sitting on the plank for your dunking pleasure. Money from the dunk tank will be split 50/50 with the league (to continue year round sporting activities) and Pride.

June 3rd
Pink 10 VS. Red 13
Blue 21 VS. Green 22



June 5th
Rained Out!

June 10th
Pink 16 VS. Blue 5
Green 22 VS. Red 23



June 12th
Rained Out!

I SPY.....

Hello there reader. My name is Chris Orr and I am doing an opinion column of just whatever. Sometimes I'll be expressing views or giving a heads up on persons, places, or things that need to be mentioned at all or more of. Remember this is an opinion column and does not reflect the opinions of those who are responsible (staff, owners, persons etc.).



The weather can be quite a moody character. You have days of

bright clear sun. Those are the days of being focused and accomplishing tasks and feeling great about what has been done. Partly cloudy skies or a partly sunny day which, depending on how you look at it, could be that one thing that's put off again or accomplishing half of your planned day or half-assing it. Other days there are light, variable, or strong winds of right, wrong, or indifferent facts or opinions being said or heard whichever way the wind blows. Stormy days of frustration or cleansing, this could be a clash of the minds or taking that hard stance and convincing yourself of it to be true or false. An overcast of negativity that just won't go away or dampers and ruins the day, can just slow a person or a group and possibly a city down. But the one thing about weather with the above mentioned, it can be more severe than others depending on the person, group, or city.

It's time for Pride boys and girls! There is a lot going on down at Lewis and Clark Landing where Pride will be held this year. The "Night of Pride" on Friday June 20th with Christine O'Leary and Guy B will be a great kickoff this year. Guy be hot, that's what! Coming back in anticipation Saturday night June 21st is Kristine W. Of course all day Saturday everyone will be enjoying the local entertainment, food and drink, and family. People will also be checking out the local groups and organizations and see what they are up to. Some organizations will be here for the first time and some will be doing different things. A DUNK TANK will be available and for your dunking pleasure will be Monroe, Jewels, Vic Wagner, Mr. Max Josh, and other community personalities (we tried to recruit Dick Cheney, but he said there wasn't enough torture involved) benefiting two great causes, Rainbow Celebrations/Pride and Omaha GLBT Sports. Now everyone, don't forget about the parade! <http://nebraskaprideevents.com> for more. If you would like to take a break during Pride June 21st and cool off for a bit, then the Gender Blender concert is where to do that. River City Mixed Chorus will be presenting us with a gender struck show. Who's the man, who's the woman? This is a show of wittiness, emotion, and comedy. There is an original piece by Mark Kurtz that will be shared with the public for the first time before RCMC's trip to Miami for the GALA Chorus festival. This concert will be on Saturday June 21st at 7:05 p.m. and Sunday June 22nd 4:05 p.m. at UNO's Strauss Per-

forming Arts Center. Tickets and other info [ww.rcmc.org](http://www.rcmc.org) A Sunday after Pride, June 29th, is a great array of entertainers to raise some money to benefit a great collection of community organizations like NAP, Camp Kindle, and All Iowa Aids Benefit. Out of towners and sensations like Asia O'Hara, Miss Gay USofA 2007, and Iris Aspire will be there along with some of the Max, Icon, and Pride Idol family members on the Max stage at 10 p.m. To help raise more funds is a not present to win raffle and a 50/50 raffle, also, don't forget the auction. www.themaxomaha.com

So any gripes, comments, or having me check something out? Email me at orrthumper83@yahoo.com



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FRIDAY JUNE 20TH

**Drag Jell-O Wrestling
Benefit for Michele's Fund
7pm - Patio**

SATURDAY JUNE 21ST

**Pride Patio Party!!!!
12pm-8pm**

SUNDAY JUNE 22ND

**ICON Candidate Show
10pm**

SUNDAY JUNE 29TH

**NEIA AIDS Benefit
Very Special Guest
Miss Gay USofA
Asia O'Hara
10pm**

THURSDAY JULY 3RD

**INDEPENDANCE 08
Hosted by:
DJ Joe Seff
9pm-1am**

FRIDAY JULY 4TH

**4th of July BBQ
Hosted by:
Crystal & Dan
1-6pm**

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