

# The GayZette



Published by the Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Community Center

## Miss Max 24 Crowned

Miss Holly Day, aka Michael Lyons is no stranger to the art of female impersonation. Although he served as a male performer and title holder for many years, he also judged many of the local and state titles in Nebraska. After dating Miss MAX 14, Alexandra Stone, Michael got the itch to try the art of female impersonation.



Michael's first competition was when he ran as Miss Nebraska in the Not So Gay States Pageant, which is a benefit for ICON. All though his award winning baton throwing didn't win him the title, Michael never gave up.

It was not until The Miss Merry Christmas Pageant, when 'Holly Day' was actually born, Miss Day walked away as the first title holder of the pageant. Now Michael puts on the pageant every year with the monies benefiting the Ribbon Foundation.

In 2005, Michael tried his luck again, capturing the title of Miss Gay Omaha 17. The following year, Michael took a year off and let his partner of almost 8 years, Macy Riley, have the limelight. During that time, Holly spent time performing both in and out of drag.

In the summer of 2007, Holly had higher aspirations. She decided it was time to run for the prestigious title of Miss Max. With her creative costuming, stunning looks, and flare for talent, Holly captured the title of Miss Max 24. With all of Holly Day's experience on and off the stage, she will show the community, that everyone always has the ability to learn new and better ways to become a better performer and thrill the audience each and every time.

Holly looks forward to a year filled with fun and excitement, and keeping the tradition of previous Miss Max's with Holly Day's unique style, boundless grace, limitless talent, and *the* definition of excellence!!

## Lesbians Sue Colorado for Marriage Rights

A lesbian couple who wanted to marry in Colorado is suing the state to overturn a voter-approved ballot measure that amended the state constitution to ban same-sex marriage. Kate Burns and Sheila Schroeder, of Englewood, Colo., filed the suit in the Denver County court on Monday asking that the amendment be declared unconstitutional, according to the Rocky Mountain News.

"The right to marriage is fundamental," Mari Newman, the couple's attorney, said to the News. "The government can't be telling us who we can and cannot marry."

More than half of voters approved Amendment 43 in 2006, which Schroeder and Burns argue is unconstitutional, in part because it was presented in a religiously motivated manner and has the effect of "establishing religion."

State representative Kevin Lundberg, a Republican who supported the amendment, countered that the women's argument could be applied to any law, since most laws are based on some moral perspective, which he says are derived from religious foundations.

Schroeder and Burns are slated to appear in the Denver County court this week on trespassing charges after attempting to obtain a marriage license in the Denver clerk's office. They were arrested September 24, 2007, for refusing to leave when they were denied the certificate. (The Advocate)

## Arizona Conservatives Mull Gay Marriage Ban Anew

Republican lawmakers on Monday proposed asking voters in November to amend the Arizona constitution to ban same-sex marriage in the state, which was the first to turn down such a measure.

The proposal was backed by 16 of 30 state senators, and an

(Continued on page 5)

February 15, 2008 - February 29, 2008

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*(Arizona Pushes for Gay Marriage Ban, Continued from page 1)*

identical proposal was introduced in the house. Both chambers would have to approve the measure in a vote for it to be included on the ballot.

Under the amendment, "only a union of one man and one woman shall be valid or recognized as a marriage in this state." The proposal comes after Arizona voters narrowly rejected a similar measure in November 2006.

The previous measure included the same definition but also contained wording that was interpreted as prohibiting government recognition of civil unions or domestic partnerships. Seven other states approved amendments that day.

Opponents of the 2006 measure in Arizona focused much of their campaign on the additional wording's reach. A leading backer of both measures said the new one should be considered a "consensus measure" because it is intended solely to bar recognition of same-sex marriage.

"This amendment is about bringing Arizonans together on an issue enjoying widespread agreement -- that marriage is a union of one man and one woman," said Cathi Herrod, president of the Center for Arizona Policy, an advocacy group for social conservatives.

Arizona already has a state law that defines marriage as a union between a man and a woman. That law withstood a 2003 court challenge, but supporters of an amendment said changing the constitution would provide a strong legal shield.

State representative Kyrsten Sinema, a Phoenix Democrat who led the opposition campaign to the 2006 measure, said she opposes the new proposal.

"I don't think it's needed. I don't think it's necessary," she said. "We've already had this fight a couple of times."

The ballot measure proposal comes as a state commission prepares to review rule changes proposed by the administration of Democratic governor Janet Napolitano that would provide health care and other employee benefits to the domestic partners of state government employees and retirees, no matter their gender. (Paul Davenport, AP)

## Cheers is Here!

By Michael Pryor

The bar isn't actually called Cheers, nor is it really "here" in Omaha. Broadway Joe's bar at 3400 W. Broadway in Council Bluffs, Iowa is close to downtown and does have a feel and vibe very much like the TV show Cheers. It's a laid back place

*(Continued on page 7)*

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## Reflections With Pastor Tom

### Being Troubled & Upset

Any life worth living is a life of seeking, of becoming the man or woman God is calling us to be. We seek so we might find more of what we already have. That is, we already know something about Love, something about God, but we seek more that our lives will be fuller, more real, overflowing with meaning and purpose.



Seeking God (like falling in love) has a way of causing us to become deeply honest with ourselves. Real honesty is usually accompanied with a cleansing discomfort, but true happiness is lost without it. Seeking and finding the Good Life leads us into the tension, the raw material of transformation.

Becoming real, that is, seeking God, forces us to question the "normal" so-called ordinary world around us. It invites us to meet Jesus the radical who did not hesitate to overturn the social and religious paradigm in favor of a new one where we can experience a personal God of liberation, envision a society of justice and equality and learn that each person (that means you) truly matters.

True healing comes from the wound. We cannot become a new creation without defining events that destabilize us into a new way of seeing ourselves, the world around us and God.

Each of us have been in pain. Each of us will be in pain again.

Some of us are in pain now. I remember being in pain: when I was diagnosed as HIV positive, when a loved one committed suicide, when I deeply hurt the feelings of someone for whom I care. Like it or not, our pain is the raw material by which God, over time, will use to transform us. The healing is truly in the wound. God loves you and me and does not want us to suffer and that is why God takes our pain and slowly (sometimes it feels too slow) turns it into renewal.

*This week I challenge you, if you are able, when you feel pain to ask the question: "Where is God in this mess?" Often we can't answer the question. That's ok. Keep at it. Remember that your name is inscribed on the palms of God's hands and that you are God's beloved creation.*

May God Bless & Keep You . . . Pastor Tom  
[pastortom@mccomaha.org](mailto:pastortom@mccomaha.org)

Next Issue: Inner Peace

\*\*\*\*\*

Pastor Tom Emmett is licensed and credentialed with the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC). MCC was the first church to fully include all people. Tom holds a Masters Degree in European history from the University of Colorado and a Masters of Divinity from the Iliff School of Theology. He is currently learning Spanish and studying the cello. You may contact Pastor Tom by telephone at 345-2563 or electronically at [pastortom@mccomaha.org](mailto:pastortom@mccomaha.org)

(Cheers is Here), Continued from page 5)

where you feel at home and are welcomed with a warm smile.

Broadway Joe's, the former Harmony Bar, began its current incarnation in December of 2006 and recently celebrated its one year anniversary. Joe Clark the proprietor and manager assumed the lease on the bar and building in July of 2006. He closed the bar for several months, gutted it, and completed a full remodel. When the bar re-opened for business Joe stated, "It has new carpets and bathrooms you can actually use now." All of the fixtures, and furnishings were new at the time of opening. The vision for the bar is to "provide a nice, comfortable atmosphere to relax and invite a broad mix of clients." In this the bar is succeeding. Broadway Joe's is unique among metro area bars. It successfully integrates a gay and straight clientele.

Joe's as it is commonly called, or "the after hours bar in Iowa", has a variety of activities besides drinking and socializing. The bar offers a slot machine-type game that dispenses drink tickets instead of cash. And it's not quite gambling as it seems to dispense fairly liberally. It has a satellite jukebox that can have the bar swinging from "booty-bumpin' to 2 stepping", in short order. The bar has a large group of Latino customers that also enjoy Spanish language music on this machine. There is a little something for everyone no matter your age or taste. There are video game machines. To keep the bar nice and clean certain customers are provided a "sippy-cup". This inside joke is for pure fun! If you're unlucky enough to spill your drink or someone else's your next drink is served in a Go Diego Go children's spill-proof "sippy-cup". Broadways Joe's also offers karaoke for the singing crowd Mondays from 7-11pm, and

again on Saturdays at the same time. The karaoke system features 400watt Yamaha speakers, with 2 Stage Pass 300 digital wireless microphones.

The staff at Broadway Joe's provides a friendly welcome, as well as good drinks. Many are familiar fixtures in Omaha as well as the gay community. Joe Clark the owner, started as a bar back and bartending in the South at age 16. He worked at the Max shortly after it opened. He also worked as the food and beverage manager at Harvey's/Harrah's Casino when it first opened in Council Bluffs. JD has been a fixture in gay bars since Gilligan's was first on Leavenworth Street. She's been at Joe's since it re-opened. So for all those that have missed her wit and smile, she usually works behind the bar Thursdays through Sunday nights! Sonny came from Germany in 1971. She and JD worked together at Mister C's steakhouse until it closed. Sonny's humor and laughter are infectious. She's always good for a quip, one-liner or zinger. Scott "Scotty" Flaharty is Broadway Joe's security guard and part-time bar tender. Scotty is full of hugs and genuine concern. He'll let you bend his ear and enjoys a good discussion of anything regarding the Military Channel and history. Joan is the weekend security guard as well. I call her "Zul the Gatekeeper" She frequently is the one at the door insuring the bar is not over capacity.

Joe's plan for the future is to expand back into the spaces that recently housed the John Edwards campaign headquarters. And utilize the whole building. He'd like to add more 70's and 80's music and have retro themed nights and add a dance floor. There is a possibility that a small grill could be added as well.

(Continued next page)



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Joe promises that if they don't currently carry your favorite beverage they will bring it in! Clark describes his goal for the place to be "everyone's bar". The bar is not specifically gay or straight but open, and welcoming to all, though it certainly has a gay clientele after the bars in Omaha close. He commented, "We don't care who you sleep with, as long as you stop by for a drink first". And in reality, this writer has been approached several times at his day job, by those he's met at Joe's. It is genuinely pleasant and surprising the friends one can meet that are social and civil outside the bar scene. It is always a joy to have people remember your name and act friendly towards you no matter their race, gender or orientation!

The capacity for Broadway Joe's is 58. On weekends you can always tell it's full by the line around the corner from 1am to 2am waiting and praying someone will leave so they can get in. Additional parking is in the Metro Liquor parking west of the bar. Do not park in the Mad Hatter lot or behind the Mad Hatter muffler shop or your car will be towed! Treat yourself to a great crowd. Stop in during regular hours, meet new friends and see what Broadway Joe's is all about.

## MCC-OMAHA HOSTS SERIES OF LENTEN FISH FRY EVENTS

During Lent, which begins on February 6th, MCC-Omaha will be offering a wonderful Fish Fry Meal on the following Fridays --- February 15, February 22, February 29, March 7 and March 14.

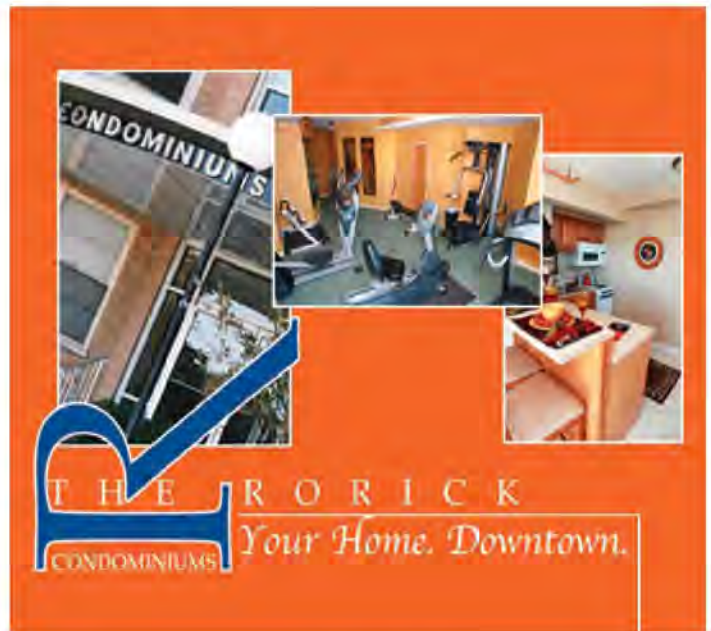
The menu will feature Catfish Nuggets, Cole Slaw, French Fries, Garlic Bread and coffee, tea or soda pop. The meal itself will cost only \$6.00. Desserts will also be available for an extra 50 cents. The meals will be served in the church Social Hall and will run from 5:30 p.m. --- 7:30 p.m.

An added bonus is that Take-Out Orders will be accepted. You may call the church telephone number --- 345-2563 beginning at 5:00 p.m. on any of these Fridays to reserve a take-out order.

The church is located at 819 South 22nd Street, just south of the corner of 22nd and Leavenworth Street. These meals have been organized and will be prepared by the MCC-Omaha Financial Development Committee.

Be sure to mark these Fridays on your calendar and plan to join us each Friday for these delicious meals. We would love to have you -- and your friends! Don't miss out on these delicious meals -- you will be glad you took the time to be with us.

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## Meals On Wheels Available for Council Bluffs GLBT Elders

Meals On Wheels is a program of the Loess Hills Chapter of the American Red Cross, which has an organization-wide diversity policy that specifically includes sexual orientation and gender identity. For more than 35 years Meals on Wheels has provided a hot nutritious noon meal delivered by dedicated volunteers. Over 4,000 meals are delivered a month in Council Bluffs to an average of 190 recipients by about 95 regular volunteers and hundreds of volunteers in organizations and businesses.

Meals are delivered Monday through Friday. An additional delivery is available on Saturday, the regular hot meal and a cold picnic lunch for Sunday, for those with more extreme nutritional needs.

Meals are prepared by Jennie Edmundson Hospital under the supervision of a registered dietician with the highest quality foods and home baked items. Milk is available upon request.

The commitment of the Meals On Wheels program is to provide service to those who want to remain independent in their own homes with the help of a nutritious meal.

To receive Meals on Wheels, the following criteria should be met by recipients who:

- \* Would likely be admitted to a nursing home or assisted living facility if meals were not available, or
- \* Are recovering following discharge from a hospital or nursing home, or
- \* Are ill or handicapped and unable to prepare meals and have

*(Continued on page 10)*

## GAMES DAY AT THE CENTER

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not available assistance with meal preparation, or  
 \* Lack the proper nutritional support from spouse, family or caregivers due to burnout, neglect or abuse.  
 \* Are age 60 or older (some meals are available for those under age 60 through a referral from a health care personnel).

Also a Meals on Wheels recipient should:

- \* be willing to admit meal delivery volunteers into their home.
- \* be able to feed themselves or have arrangements for someone to feed them.
- \* agree to complete a registration form, which a copy will be forwarded onto Southwest 8 Senior Services (our area state office on aging).
- \* be willing to contribute what they are able to afford toward the cost of their meals (the suggested contribution price per hot meal is \$6.15)

If you or you know of an individual who lives within the city limits of Council Bluffs who would benefit from receiving Meals on Wheels, please call 712-388-0452. The Loess Hills Chapter of the American Red Cross is located at 535 West Broadway Suite 204 Council Bluffs IA 51503 and has proudly served Southwest Iowa for 87 years. Visit [loesshills.redcross.org](http://loesshills.redcross.org) to learn about volunteering for Meals on Wheels.

## Rocking the Midwest

By Nicole Higginbotham

"Each time we make love boy we make angels cry." Charles McVey belts out in his new CD, *Modern Living*. This compilation of music offers a tranquil, relaxing energy, and McVey's rough, low voice will offer any listener a break from the chaos of life. Eric Kessinger backs McVey's vocals with his steady drumming, and Max Paley, the bassist, proves that music really does affect one's mood. From the soothing sounds of *My Space* to the romantic lyrics of *Shelter Me*, McVey and his band show true artistic creativity.

*Modern Living* was recorded in Lawrence, KS at Alibi 6 Re-

cording Studio and was first released on McVey's label, Impure Records. McVey's band has been featured in publications like *Liberty Press* and the *Washburn Review*. A preview of McVey's music is available at [www.myspace.com/charlesmcvey](http://www.myspace.com/charlesmcvey).

McVey's previous releases include: *Transition EP* (2003), *Swallow* (2003), and *Someplace Better Than This* (1999). Currently, McVey and his band are on a regional tour, and they are planning a U.S. tour in June of 2008. *Modern Living* can be purchased through Paypal or for \$8 at [www.cdbaby.com](http://www.cdbaby.com)

## Israel Grants Full Adoption for Gay Couples

Gay and lesbian couples in Israel will be allowed the same adoption rights as heterosexual couples, the Israeli government announced Tuesday.

Prior to Atty. Gen. Menachem Mazuz's announcement on Sunday, the government had not allowed gays to adopt children through the Welfare and Social Services Ministry's Child Welfare Service. For gay families, the child must have been one of the partners' biological offspring in order for his or her partner to adopt that child.

"I welcome the decision," Welfare Minister Isaac Herzog said in a press release. "There is no reason same-sex couples who meet the criteria for adoption should not be able to join the process of adoption and of parenthood. We must adapt to the spirit of the times and the changes that are afoot."

Mazuz emphasized that he was addressing only the legal constraints of the law. Prospective same-sex couples' requests to adopt would be handled on a case-by-case basis, just as heterosexual couples' are.

Herzog first brought up the possibility of legalized adoption by gay and lesbian couples when he announced his decision to

*(Continued on page 14)*

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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

**\*Closed Most Major Holidays**  
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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.**

**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**  
**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 [aanders@hastings.edu](mailto:aanders@hastings.edu) or Judy Sandeen at [jsandeen@hastings.edu](mailto: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, 2147 South 15<sup>th</sup> 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. 40<sup>th</sup> 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. 40<sup>th</sup> Same day results

**NAP OUTREACH CENTER HIV TESTING** 7 TO 10PM, walk-in, **2202 St. Marv's 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

**OUUT SECOND SUNDAY SCREENING** (gltb 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**

**I bought a new Lexus 330**

but returned to the dealer the next day because I couldn't get the radio to work. The salesman explained that the radio was voice activated. "Nelson," the salesman said to the radio.

The Radio replied, "Ricky or Willie?" "Willie!" he continued and "Why Are You Picking On Me?" came from the speakers. Then he said, "Ray Charles!", and in an instant "Georgia On My Mind" replaced Willie Nelson.

I drove away happy, and for the next few days, every time I'd say, "Beethoven," I'd get beautiful classical music.

If I said, "Beatles," I'd get one of their awesome songs.

Yesterday, a driver ran a red light and nearly creamed my new Lexus, but I swerved in time to avoid him. I yelled, "Ass Hole!"

Immediately Hail-to-the-Chief began playing..... I love this car!

**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](http://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](http://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](http://www.firstcentral.org), GLBT-affirming

**First Lutheran Church**, 542 So. 31st St., 402-345-7506, GLBT Friendly [www.firstlutheranomaha.org](http://www.firstlutheranomaha.org)

**First United Methodist Church**, 7020 Cass St., 402-556-6262, [www.fumcomaha.org](http://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](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](http://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 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, Doubletree Hotel Downtown, [www.icon.impcourt.org](http://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](mailto: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](mailto:mpower@nap.org) website: [www.mpower-nap.org](http://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](mailto:mccomaha@mccomaha.org) Website:[www.mccomaha.org](http://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](http://www.NebraskaGLBTEvents.com)

**Nebraska Zen Center**, Soto Zen Buddhist, 3625 Lafayette Ave., 402-551-9035, [www.prairiewindzen.org](http://www.prairiewindzen.org) GLBT inclusive

**The 'Ohana Group**, (GLBT / Non-traditional Family group), email to: [Theohanagroup@msn.com](mailto: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](mailto:omahanegaypride@cox.net) or [ongp1@cox.net](mailto:ongp1@cox.net)

**Omaha GLBT Professionals**, Contact [omahaglbtprofessionals@cox.net](mailto:omahaglbtprofessionals@cox.net) for more info.

**Omaha Metro GLBT Sports League**, NEW contact info coming soon!

**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](http://www.travel.to/outabout) Email: [NeOutAbout@yahoo.com](mailto:NeOutAbout@yahoo.com)

**OUUT (Omaha Unitarian Universalists for Tolerance)** First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney, 68131, 345-3039, [www.ouut.org](http://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](http://www.pflag-omaha.org), email [info@pflag-omaha.org](mailto:info@pflag-omaha.org) Meet 2<sup>nd</sup> Thurs, 1st United Meth, 7020 Cass

**Proud Horizons Youth Group**, Sat Afternoon, info: (402) 291-6781 or email [proudhorizons@yahoo.com](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.rcmc.org)

**SNAP Productions**, Box 8464, Omaha, NE 68108 [www.snapproductions.com](http://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](http://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](mailto: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 4<sup>th</sup> Tues, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, email to Barbara Kimberly, [jbkiber@hotmail.com](mailto: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 2<sup>nd</sup> 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](mailto:ptetreau@unlnotes.unl.edu)

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

Youth Support Group, (402) 434-9880

## Iowa Based

Council Bluffs Pride, [www.councilbluffspide.org](http://www.councilbluffspide.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](http://www.siouxlandpride.net)

### Community Announcements

#### Floyd Haffke Jr.



HAFFKE-Floyd, Jr., age 57. Preceded in death by father, Floyd, Sr. Survived by wife, Susan; sons, Austin and Cory Floyd Haffke; mother, Elinor, all in Omaha; brothers, William and Robert; sister, Laura Cap; stepchildren, Kevin and Jennifer Stromberg, Albion, NE.

Interment was held at Evergreen Cemetery with Military Honors by VFW Post 2503. Floyd's sense of humor and boisterous laugh will be sorely missed in the community.

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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](mailto:Gayzette@cox.net) and we'll be happy to publish it here for free.*

*(Israel Grants Adoption to Gays, Continued from page 10)*  
review the increased number of applications by same-sex couples seeking to adopt. (The Advocate)

## Tom Lantos, Congressional Ally to LGBTs, Dies

Rep. Tom Lantos, the only survivor of the Holocaust to serve in Congress and the founder of the Congressional Human Rights Caucus, died Monday in Maryland of cancer of the esophagus. He was 80 years old.

Lantos, a California Democrat, was a congressional ally for LGBT voters, as he voted against a measure that would have amended the U.S. Constitution to ban same-sex marriage and even stumped for marriage equality for gay and lesbian couples. He also campaigned to allow adoption for LGBT couples and supported hate-crimes legislation and antidiscrimination employment protections.

Human Rights Campaign president Joe Solmonese released a statement following the congressman's death at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Md. "Congressman Lantos will be remembered as a tremendous advocate for all people, including the gay, lesbian, bisexual, and transgender community," he said. "As the only survivor of the Holocaust to serve in Congress, he had a deep understanding of the consequences of hatred and discrimination."

U.S. House speaker Nancy Pelosi and Lantos both worked closely, as they represented different districts in San Francisco. "The passing of Tom Lantos is a profound loss for the Congress and for the nation and a terrible loss for me personally," Pelosi said in a statement.

Lantos was the chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee. He was born in Budapest in 1928 and was 16 when the Nazis occupied Hungary. He was sent to a labor camp and escaped twice, eventually going to a safe house run by Swedish diplomat Raoul Wallenberg, according to the San Jose Mercury News. Lantos eventually came to the United States in 1947 on a scholarship to study economics. He taught at San Francisco State University before winning a congressional seat in 1980. (The Advocate)

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

**Go to:**

**[www.rainbowoutreach.org](http://www.rainbowoutreach.org)**

**And click on the Publications link.**

**George W. Bush reads the Gayzette.**

**(Ok, he just looks at the pictures.)**



**OMAHA PFLAG**

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

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

HELPLINE  
(402) 291-67681

## Vermont Schedules Hearing for Same-Sex Marriage

The Vermont Commission on Family Recognition and Protection has scheduled a hearing for Tuesday to listen to voter opinion on same-sex marriage, the Associated Press reports. Based on what it hears, the panel will advise the Vermont legislature on whether the state should allow same-sex marriage in lieu of civil unions, which are already legal in the state.

The hearing will take place in the Williston Central School Auditorium from 5 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. (The Advocate)

## Gay Mormons Seek Meeting With New Leader

A group of gay Mormons is seeking an unprecedented meeting with the new church president and his counselors, hoping to begin a conversation and find ways to address the concerns of its members.

Affirmation, with more than 2,000 gay, lesbian, and transgender members, is not recognized by the church, which at one time labeled homosexuality a problem that required help.

"Although there are many areas of hurt and disagreement that have separated us, there are many more areas on which we can find agreement, and in doing so, become a blessing in the lives of many of the Saints, both straight and gay," the group wrote in its invitation to Thomas S. Monson last week.

Monson assumed leadership of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints last Sunday following the death of its previous president, Gordon B. Hinckley.

Such a meeting with Monson and his counselors -- a triumvirate known as the First Presidency -- would be unprecedented, said David W. Melson, the group's assistant executive director.

"This was something we've talked about for a while," Melson said. "With the death of President Hinckley and the installation of new church leadership, it seemed like the appropriate time."

Church teachings consider homosexuality a sin and hold up traditional marriage as an institution ordained by God.

In the 1990s the church was active politically in fighting same-sex marriage legislation nationwide. A church official signed a 2006 letter from religious groups asking Congress for a marriage amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Some gays were rejected by their families and excommunicated by the church. Some were counseled that marriage or intensive therapy programs would "cure" their homosexuality.

More recently, church leaders have softened their position, drawing a distinction between the feelings or inclinations of same-gender attraction, as they call it, and actions.

Hinckley, who died January 27 at age 97, had called on the church to reach out to gay members with compassion and love.

Melson said a new approach could prevent Mormon parents from kicking their gay children out of their homes and reduce the number of suicides among young gay men.

"I would like for us never again to have gay individuals, particularly our young people, being told that they are not welcome in the church they grew up in," he said, whose group was founded in 1977 by closeted gay students at the church-owned Brigham Young University.

Church spokeswoman Kim Farah could not confirm receipt of the group's letter on Friday.

"Any correspondence with the First Presidency is private," she said. (Jennifer Dobner, AP)

## Cher Agrees to Three Year Deal in Vegas

She has released 25 albums that have sold more than 100 million copies and has enjoyed a career that has included concerts, recordings, Broadway, TV, film acting and directing, and books. Now she's taking her show to Las Vegas.

Cher announced Thursday she'll be one of the headline acts at Caesars Palace.

"I started in Vegas at Caesars, so I've come full circle," she said. "I'm back, and I plan to give my fans the best experience yet. I think everybody knows I only do things in a big way."

The Oscar-, Emmy-, and Grammy award-winner said in a statement that she will begin a three-year, 200-show engagement May 6.

"Cher's name in one word encapsulates icon, award-winning legend, and captivating performer," said Caesars Palace president Gary Selesner. "Caesars is pleased to welcome Cher back."

"Cher at the Colosseum" is scheduled to include hit songs from her career of more than 40 years, with choreography, costumes,

*(Continued on page 17)*

# Fitness Corner

By Ron Blake  
Certified Personal Trainer



Yesterday was my thirty-ninth birthday. I chose to wake with the roosters and run a five kilometer race to begin my fete of this event. I ruminated on my choice of a celebratory method before, during, and after this competition. I discovered many reasons why I dragged my partner and our little canine companion along with me to this athletic spectacle.

There is not much traffic on an early Saturday morning when you are headed to a physical challenge. I was able to really notice the mountains when I wasn't beset by droves of angry, chafed, rush-hour motorists. I realized that the mountains were even more majestic with their verdant hue given the recent rains here in the desert. The rising sun added its paintbrush to this mountain landscape with its spangling of yellows and oranges. A good reason to get up and run.

We drove past the Phoenix International Raceway on our journey to the starting line. I have lived in the Valley of the Sun for over three years and had never seen this imposing NASCAR edifice. It was quietly assuming its regnant place alongside its panoply of mountains. We also had never been to the location of this gala running affair. It too was nestled next to the mountains and was a magnificent oasis in the ribald desert landscape. I felt a contemporary thrill of a Louis and Clark moment as I gazed upon virgin ground. A good reason to get up and run.

There were other people at the race site when I arrived. These people also had running shoes and were stretching. These people also brought friends, family members, and their little dogs too. These people also ran the course, sweated, and finished completely exhausted. I wasn't the only one early to bed and early to rise. We shared camaraderie and a commonality that morning. A good reason to get up and run.

I received a T-shirt, bananas, a medal, an olio of donated sundries, and some friendly discourse throughout my experience. It did cost me twenty-five dollars to participate but I am not offering any regrets. I could just as easily have spent that money on a well-earned hangover but I already have plenty of those notched in my crawl of fame. I am pleased with my assortment of newly acquired memorabilia. A good reason to get up and run.

There was live music after the race. It was provided by your quintessential three men and a lady cover band. The backdrop was a cupola adorned, ornate clubhouse and a lake begirded with palm trees. I would have settled for anything at that time. I had just felt the intrinsic satisfaction of completing an arduous task and the extrinsic reward of a salvo of cheers for my fait accompli. A very good reason to get up and run.

I am thirty-nine today and I will be forty next year. I have no control over the passage of time. I will continue to enjoy my flight through the ages and I will continue to augment my reasoning for getting up and running...until the flight ends.

This health and fitness column is brought to you by that guy who noticed that sex act is followed by sexagenarian in the dictionary. That connect the dots guy is Ron Blake and he can be vivified at [www.goblakefitness.com](http://www.goblakefitness.com).

## Holiday Tattoo's

A woman goes into a tattoo parlor and tells the tattoo artist that she wants a tattoo of a turkey on her right thigh just below her bikini line. She also wants him to put "Happy Thanksgiving" under the turkey.

So the guy does it and it comes out looking really good. The woman then instructs him to put a Santa tattoo with "Merry Christmas" up on her left thigh.

So the guy does it and it comes out looking good, too. As the woman is getting dressed to leave, the tattoo artist asks, "If you don't mind, could you tell me why you had me put such unusual tattoos on your thighs?"

She says "I'm sick and tired of my husband complaining all the time that there's nothing good to eat between Thanksgiving and Christmas!"

## 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](mailto:Gayzette@cox.net)





## 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.).



I think I am starting to understand why some people are moving out of this area. Iowa has Governor Culver, who after getting Iowa GLBT support, is deciding to hold a special session indicating he wants to ban the Equality of Marriage Act. He has made it clear that he has no reservations doing that. He also lied to the community colleges by cutting and denying their funds to boost new programs and existing programs. If this happens, next will be the repealing of the GLBT community protection of unlawful discrimination of employment, housing, and other rights we have just received. It may be possible that this could happen across the entire U.S. Mayor Fahey made a bold statement that Omaha prides itself on diversity after Brittany Williams was shot and killed in a drive-thru, police saying it was racially motivated. Diversity of what? I guess we got thrown off that bandwagon. Oh wait, we didn't even have one foot on the bandwagon to begin with.

Within our own community and regarding the 2008 GLBT Pride theme, the \$64,000 question emerging is "Pride Knows No Borders?" .....really? It is appearing that it's skirting a few borders but not breaking them. It's like Joslyn when they didn't know who they were getting, but this time Pride wants to know who they get and what groups are going to be down there performing what and WHO that may draw to the festival. Did some people know that Latin@s have their own Pride because, I'm just going to take a wild guess, they were not represented? Now it is great that that group wants to work with Pride this year. New ideas and new ways of doing Pride have been thrown to the side because it cannot raise enough money. But is money really the issue here? I'm thrilled about Pride moving to green space this year after many people have been screaming for it. But there are still some untapped markets in which Pride needs to reach out to. People, we have got to start thinking outside of the box.

We also need to shake the daylights out of those who vote for politicians who will uphold religion over the constitution. But yeah yeah, we can look at where they live, which are primarily rural areas and plant a couple of GLBT community members in these places and ultimately ruin the American family like how Lewis Black said it - "Two gay guys go up to the house on the hill or cul-de-sac, walk in the door, and \_\_\_\_\_ each other up the \_\_\_\_! Poof there goes another American family."

Is it time for an Omaha Gay Village? ([www.myspace.com/omahagayvillage](http://www.myspace.com/omahagayvillage)) Well ask yourself if we are getting an agenda done as a WHOLE group with the entire community. Can we establish a GLBT Chamber of Commerce? Do we have the human resources and capital to establish these grounds? By this I mean are they going to get involved and help or are they just going to sit on the wayside and see what happens with a selected handful of people doing the work.

So any gripes, comments, or having me check something out? Email me at [orrthumper83@yahoo.com](mailto:orrthumper83@yahoo.com)

*(Cher in Vegas, story from page 15)*

and special effects. It is a partnership with AEG Live.

Cher will alternate performances at the 4,300-seat Colosseum with other headline acts Elton John and Bette Midler.

In December, Céline Dion ended a five-year run at the theater, which opened in 2002 as home of her show, "A New Day..."

John, who began playing at the Colosseum in 2004 when Dion's show was dark, is now booked there to play his show, "The Red Piano," through 2008. Midler's "The Showgirl Must Go On" is set to open February 20 for a two-year run of 100 shows per year.

Cher's 90-minute show will feature choreography from Doriana Sanchez, lighting and special effects, plus costumes by Bob Mackie. Engagements will run four nights a week on Tuesday, Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday. Ticket prices are from \$95 to \$250. (AP)

## California Supreme Court to Hear Marriage Case

California's highest court is now on schedule to hear arguments regarding same-sex marriage. Three hours of arguments are slated for March 4 in San Francisco. According to the Associated Press, the court then has 90 days to make its ruling.

Six consolidated cases being heard together challenge the current voter-approved state law that prohibits marriage for gay and lesbian couples. The supreme court has upheld the policy in preparation of hearing the case.

In April 2005, San Francisco's superior court ruled in favor of same-sex marriage, but the court of appeal overturned the decision in a 2-1 ruling. In December 2006, the California supreme court unanimously granted review.

Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger vetoed Assembly Bill 43, which would have allowed same-sex marriage in California. According to his veto message in October, he preferred to leave the decision up to the supreme court to rule on the current policy. (The Advocate)

# Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox

HEY, Y'ALL! HOW DO YOU LIKE MY NEW THREADS?

JEFF? YOU'RE WEARING HOSPITAL SCRUBS? DOES THAT MEAN...?

I GOT THE JOB, KYLE! I'M GONNA' BE A NURSE IN THE ORTHOPEDICS UNIT AT HUNTINGTON HOSPITAL!

WOW. CONGRATULATIONS!

YEAH, THAT'S GREAT, OLSEN. EXCEPT... UM...  
...MAYBE THIS IS A DUMB QUESTION, BUT...  
...AREN'T YOU GONNA' BE PUTTIN' THE PATIENTS AT RISK? 'CAUSE YOU'RE HIV POSITIVE?

I WON'T BE INVOLVED IN ANY INVASIVE PROCEDURES, BRAD.

AND I'LL BE FOLLOWING ALL THE STRICT PROTOCOLS FOR HIV POSITIVE HEALTH-CARE WORKERS.

O.K.) HEY, MATT WORKS OUTTA' HUNTINGTON HOSPITAL. MAYBE HE CAN SHOW YOU AROUND!

UH...

...I REALLY ONLY DEAL WITH THE E.R., BRAD.

THAT'S ALL RIGHT. I'LL FIND MY WAY.

HEY, LOOK AT THE TIME... I'VE GOT TO RUN. TONIGHT'S COWBOY NIGHT.

"COWBOY NIGHT"?

UH-HUH. TIME FOR ME TO SHOW ALL THE YANKEES HOW TO TWO-STEP.

WANNA' SEE MY OUTFIT?

SURE, MAN!

I'M LOSING HIM, AREN'T I?

MATT, HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT?

I'VE NEVER SEEN BRAD HAPPIER SINCE YOU TWO GOT TOGETHER.

RIGHT. UNTIL NURSE HAIRY PECS SHOWED UP.

BRAD AND JEFF HAVE HISTORY, MATT. BUT THEY'RE JUST FRIENDS.

SO, HOW COME BRAD HASN'T EVEN NOTICED I GOT A HAIRCUT AND CHANGED MY FACIAL HAIR?

OH, THAT'S JUST BRAD. HE NEVER NOTICES THOSE KINDS OF DETAILS.

WELL? WHADDYA' THINK?

DID YOU SEE HOW TIGHT THIS GUY'S WRANGLERS ARE?

OBVIOUSLY, YOU DID.

OUCH.

WOOF.

## Egypt Arrests and Puts on Trial HIV-Positive Men

Recent arrests and trials in Egypt of HIV-positive men endanger human rights, an international watchdog group said Wednesday, calling on authorities in the nation to release those in custody and stop criminalizing AIDS.

The New York-based Human Rights Watch also urged Egypt to overturn the convictions of four men sentenced for "habitual practice of debauchery" -- a term used in the Egyptian legal system for consensual homosexual acts -- and to free four others held pending charges.

"These shocking arrests and trials embody both ignorance and injustice," said Scott Long, head of a gay rights program at Human Rights Watch. "Egypt threatens not just its international reputation but its own population if it responds to the HIV/AIDS epidemic with prison terms instead of prevention and care." Rights groups and the international community have repeatedly condemned Egypt for trying gays.

Homosexuality is not explicitly referred to in the Egyptian legal code, but a wide range of laws covering obscenity, prostitution and debauchery are applied to gays in this conservative country. In the largest case to date in Egypt, state security arrested 52 gay men on a floating restaurant on the Nile River in 2001. Twenty-three were sentenced to two years in prison, one got three and one five years, while the rest were acquitted.

In a report made available to the Associated Press, Human Rights Watch highlighted recent arrests in the Egyptian capital, sparked by one man's admission he was HIV-positive. Authorities have not commented on the cases.

The arrests began last October, Human Rights Watch said, when police stopped two men arguing on a downtown Cairo street. After one of them told the officers he was HIV-positive, police detained both and opened an investigation against them for homosexual conduct. The two later told human rights activists they were beaten after refusing to sign already written confessions, held handcuffed to an iron desk for four days and subjected to forensic examination to "prove" they engaged in homosexual conduct, the organization said.

Police soon arrested two more men whose photographs and telephone numbers were found on the first two detainees. All four remain in custody pending a prosecutor's decision whether to raise charges. All were subjected to HIV tests without their consent, Human Rights Watch said. The first two, reportedly both HIV-positive, are now held in a Cairo hospital, handcuffed to their beds, the group added.

Then, in November, police arrested four more men found living in the apartment of one of the first four detainees. These second four were charged with homosexual conduct and also tested for HIV without the consent, Human Rights Watch said. One of the four reportedly said that the prosecutor, when informing him he had tested HIV positive, told him, "People like you should be burnt alive. You do not deserve to live."

These four were convicted in mid January for "habitual practice of debauchery" and sentenced to one-year prison terms, a sentence upheld Feb. 2 by an appeals court. Their lawyers told Human Rights Watch that the prosecution produced no evidence against the defendants, who pleaded not guilty. One of the four convicted is also held in a Cairo hospital, chained to his bed, the organization said.

The cases reflect that Egyptian police act on a belief that AIDS is a crime that should be punished, Long said, adding that "HIV tests forcibly taken without consent, ill-treatment in detention, trials driven by prejudice, and convictions without evidence all violate international law." (Katarina Kratovac, AP)

## OMAHA GLBT SPORTS

By Chris Orr

This is the closing weeks of volleyball. Regular play is over and now the tournament has begun. It will be a single elimination tournament being held Feb 10<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> at The Volleyball Center (Westroads Club) from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. Photos of tourney play and champions will be posted next issue. The league would like to thank all those involved with officiating, The Volleyball Center for letting us use their facility, and all 60 plus players who signed up to play. See you all next season!

### 1/27/08

Red	11 21 18	vs.	Orange	21 19 21
Purple	21 21 21	vs.	Grey	10 13 8
Brown	21 21 21	vs.	White	16 10 11
Green	0 0 0	vs.	Blue	21 21 21
Black	0 0 0	vs.	Yellow	21 21 21

### 2/3/08

Orange	22 21 21	vs.	White	20 14 12
Purple	21 21 21	vs.	Black	12 14 18
Red	12 19 15	vs.	Blue	21 21 21
Grey	6 17 18	vs.	Brown	21 21 21
Yellow	21 21 21	vs.	Green	0 0 0

The dodgeball fundraiser will be held on Feb 16<sup>th</sup> from 2 p.m. – 5 p.m. at Christie Heights Gym at 37<sup>th</sup> & "Q" St. This has attracted 10 teams. These teams will compete in a single elimination tournament. MPower has entered three teams of the ten along with some other GLBT groups also being represented. It will be a great afternoon with a different type of fundraiser for the community and Omaha GLBT Sports.

ITS HERE! SOFTBALL SIGN-UPS HAVE BEGUN! This will be our 3<sup>rd</sup> season for this sport. For the first time, the league's season will play on a well-maintained field with LIGHTS!! And restrooms. Their home will be where they played their tournament last year, Churchich Park (50<sup>th</sup> & "C" St.) being highly visible north of I-80 between the 42<sup>nd</sup> and 60<sup>th</sup> street exits. April through July will be when softball is held.

Games will be as in the past on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 p.m. – 10 p.m. The cost this season will be \$30 a player and players may sign up as groups or individuals to be combined with other groups and individuals to create a full roster team. New signup information coming soon!

**SATURDAY FEB 16TH**

**Stella Dallas &  
Gary Allinger's  
"BROADWAY CLASSICS"  
6pm Cocktails  
7pm show**

# THE MAX

THEMAXOMAHA.COM

**SUNDAY FEB 17TH**

**DIVINE DIVA PAGEANT  
9PM**

**MON & TUE FEB  
18 & 19TH**

**James Boggess in:  
"JURASSIC QUEEN"  
A One Diva Show  
8pm - \$20  
Reservations 960-9971**

**SUNDAY FEB 24TH**

**Diamond Foundation's  
"HOORAY FOR HOLLYWOOD"  
Oscar Show  
10pm**

**SUNDAY MAR 2ND**

**Mr Max Jeff's  
"A BOY AND HIS DIVA'S"  
10pm**

**FRIDAY MAR 7TH**

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