



Two Charged in Trans Woman's Attack

By Michelle Garcia

Two suspects have been arraigned on assault charges after allegedly attacking a transgender woman in Queens, N.Y., on Wednesday.

Nathaniel Mims, 25, and Rasheed Thomas, 22, are charged with attacking Carmella Etienne, 22, in St. Albans, a neighborhood in Queens. According to police, the two hurled bigoted slurs and threatened to slash her throat as they pelted her with rocks and beer bottles.

Etienne said the attackers told her that the police didn't care about her and that they were immune to any force. They were eventually arrested at the scene, according to NY1, where Thomas said he was unaware that he and his friend "could get locked up for calling somebody names."

"I called her a bunch of names," he said, according to the New York Daily News. "I called her a [expletive deleted], but she didn't see me throw anything."

Etienne was treated at a local hospital for a large cut and later released.

The men are being held on \$5,000 bail and are due back in court on July 23. They face up to 15 years in prison for the attack.

Another transgender woman was attacked about a month ago in Jackson Heights, a northwest neighborhood in Queens.



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For those of you who don't know, Trina has been raising money for the G.L.B.T.'s communities hopes and dreams for over 15 years. Among those are the M.C.C.O., N.A.P., I.C.O.N., Camp Kindle, H.G.R.A., Nebraska Pride, the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center and any other organization that has asked for her help! If she could be there to help, she was! Let's help Trina fulfill her hopes and dreams in New York City!

Many thanks go to all those who attend and participate! Oh! I almost forgot! She asked me to let people know she has lots of stuff for sale on craigslist.org, so if you are looking for something special, trust me she will probably have it! Just ask her at: brady-bunch1970@gmail.com



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Texas Officials Strike Again

By Amita Parashar

Weeks after a raid at the Rainbow Lounge gay bar in Fort Worth, Texas, the Texas Alcoholic Beverage Commission paid a visit to the Dallas Eagle, shutting it down for reportedly selling alcohol to a minor... who was actually working as an undercover agent for the TABC.

TABC appeared at the Dallas Eagle's grand reopening around midnight on Friday to question an outdated address on the bar's liquor license. The bar had recently moved 500 feet away from its old location.

Co-owner J.D. Buchert said late Monday that the Eagle takes "full responsibility" for not having its liquor permit in order. "Neither [TABC nor Dallas Police] in any way harassed or threatened us. Their behavior throughout was polite and organized."

The bar was shut down, but will remain open at its old location until the license issue is sorted out. The owners say TABC acted on two tips that were called in by competitors. Bar owners met with the commission earlier Monday to clarify the situation.



At least one TABC official was seen wearing a ski mask during this weekend's incident. Buchert says the masks were worn by officers who were "undercover."

Online TABC records list the bar's license as current but display the old address.

"It would be suggestive of harassment. And if that is the case, all eyes will be on TABC," said Blake Wilkinson, president of Queer LiberAction told NBC Dallas earlier. "It's obvious selective enforcement. I think we're setting a pattern of selective enforcement."

ICON Labor Day Picnic Plans Underway

The Imperial Court of Nebraska is finalizing plans for their annual Labor Day Picnic to be held on Monday, September 7, 2009 at Vennelyst Park. The picnic will run from 1:00PM until 6:00PM. Picnic Chair, Jan Ritterbush, is once again gathering the troupes to insure the event goes off without a hitch.

Members of the Reign XXIX Royal Family will begin selling raffle tickets for the picnic. Proceeds from the ticket sales will be used to help the Meat Packers of Omaha fund the Nebraska AIDS Project Food Pantry.

Prizes for the raffle will include a digital camcorder, Blue-Ray Disc Player and a \$500.00 travel Voucher just to name a few. You need not be present to win the larger prizes.

Shuttle services for the event will be available hourly with pick-up at The Max, 1417 Jackson Street. The final shuttle will return to The Max at 6:00PM.

A \$10.00 donation will get you into the event where you can enjoy volleyball, horseshoes, music and of course hamburgers, boca burgers and hot dogs from the grill with potato salad and cookies. And let's not forget the endless glass of beer and pop.

Gather your friends and join ICON and the newly elected Monarchs and Royal Family of Reign XXIX for one last fling before the summer sun sets.

Dream, Believe, and Achieve

Royal D. Bush - facebook.com/omaharoyal

The story goes that a class of college seniors entered into a room for the final exam. The professor announced that he had divided the questions into three categories and explained that students were to choose only one of the categories. The first category of questions was the most difficult and worth 50 points. The second set was somewhat easier and worth 40 points. The third group, the easiest, was worth 30 points.

When the professor graded the papers, those who chose to answer questions in the hardest category were given As. Students who chose category two were given Bs, and those settling for the easiest were given Cs.

Many of the students were frustrated and upset with the professor's grading. The professor explained: "I wasn't testing your knowledge. I was testing your aim."
That's why it's important to aim high ... to have dreams that inspire you to go beyond your limits. Show me someone who doesn't dream about the future and I'll show you someone who doesn't know where he or she is going.

David McClelland, a Harvard psychologist, has studied high achievers extensively. He has concluded that successful people possess one common characteristic: They fantasize and dream incessantly about how to achieve their goals.

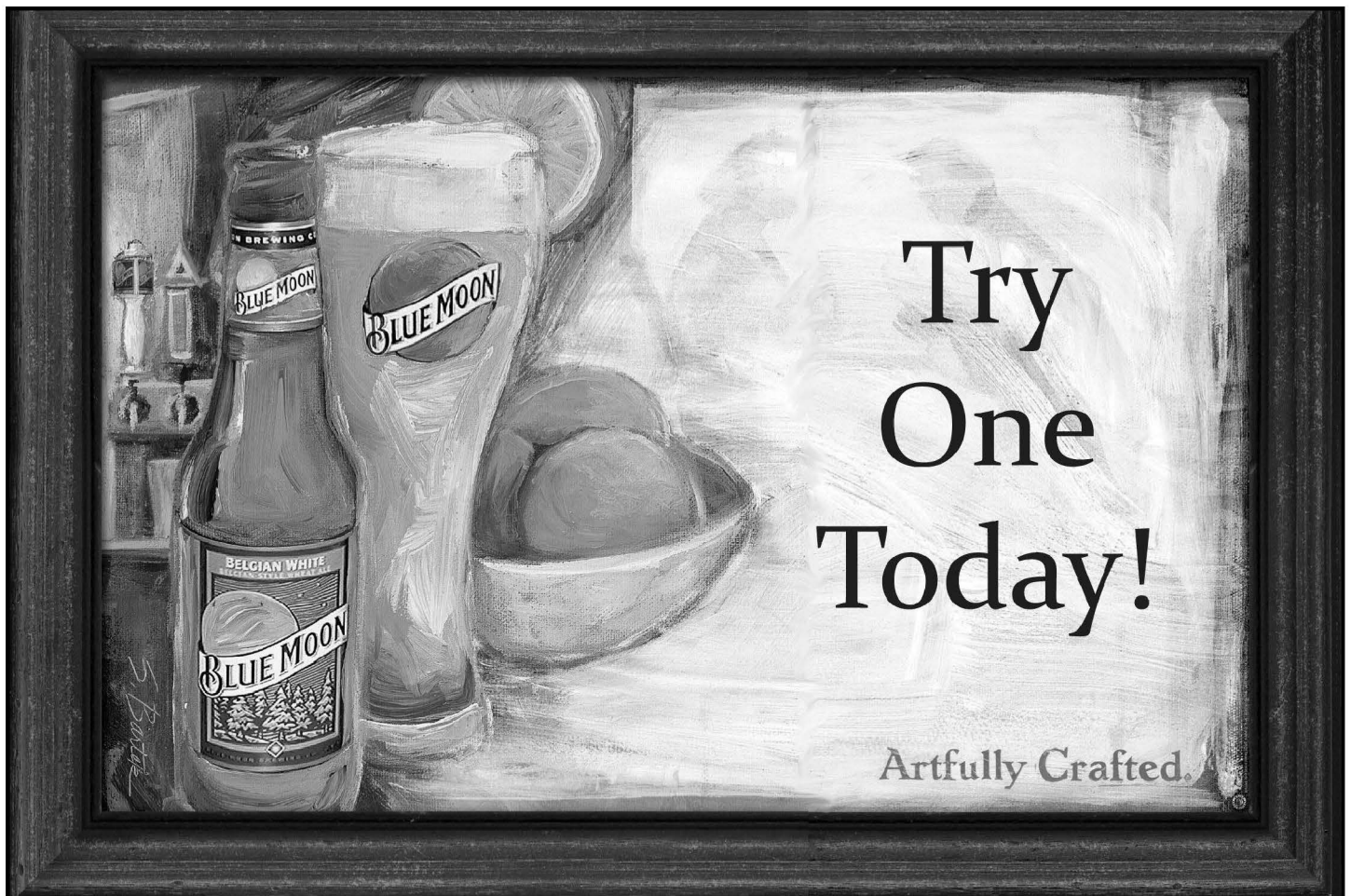
U.S. President Woodrow Wilson once said "We grow great by dreams, all great people are dreamers. They see things in the soft haze of a spring day or in the red fire of a long winter's evening. Some of us let these dreams die, but others nourish and protect them, nurse them through the bad days until they bring them to the sunshine and light that comes always to those who sincerely hope that their dreams will come true."

The late Erma Bombeck, beloved author and columnist, said: "A devotion to excellence, detail, and quality can create a legend to make dreams come true. There are people who put their dreams in a little box and say, 'Yes, I've got dreams, of course, I've got dreams.'

"Then they put the box away and bring it out once in a while to look at it, and yep, they're still there. These are great dreams, but they never even get out of the box. It takes an uncommon amount of guts to put your dreams on the line, to hold them up and say, 'How good or how bad am I?' That's where courage comes in."

Erma Bombeck certainly fulfilled her dreams. As a housewife, her dream was to write about her experiences of raising three children in Dayton, Ohio. Her problem was convincing the overwhelmingly male power structure that ran the Dayton Journal Herald that what she had to say might be of interest to their readers. She researched where the paper's editors lived and discovered it was a suburban community with a small weekly paper. So she took a job writing a column for that paper. Soon the Journal Herald editors' wives became big fans of her work and persuaded their high-powered husbands to run her column in that newspaper. Within two years, Erma Bombeck was in syndication across the country.

I ask of you, what are your dreams? What do you want to achieve? What do you believe? What do you have your sights set on? I challenge each person who reads this to take a few moments and start putting on paper your dreams, goals and desires. You will soon see that it may become a bit of a map for you, as you journey to those new heights!



The "D" Word

Michael Kimmel
[beyondtherapy@cox.net]



Is it a weakness to feel depressed? What is depression anyway? Does it show up differently for men than for women? These are questions I hear a lot of in my private practice. So many of my male clients talk about depression without really knowing what it is. In the past couple of years, psychological research is discovering that depression in men often looks really different than it does in women. This is pretty surprising news. If it's true, what does this mean for all you gay, bi and trans men out there? Let's talk about the "D" word.

According to Los Angeles Times writer Melissa Healy, "for men, depression is melancholy on steroids...fast driving, heavy drinking, lots of recreational drug use - for all too many men - are symptoms of depression." What happens if these symptoms are ignored and not addressed? In researching her article, Healy found that, for almost 25,000 men a year, the end result of unrecognized depression is suicide. For many depressed men - regardless of sexual orientation - there is often no cry for help:

no river of tears, not even much sadness, just a quiet, tragic ending of a man's life. According to Healy, in the United States, a depressed man is four times more likely than a woman to commit suicide, yet he is only half as likely to be diagnosed with depression. It's the "D" word indeed: Don't ask for help, Don't tell anyone how lousy you feel, and Don't get better.

As gay, bi and trans (GBT) men, is this true for us? According to most of the research I've read, depression is more prevalent among GBT men than in heterosexual men. Historically, oppressed communities (e.g., non-white, non-middle class, non-heterosexual, non-male) have higher rates of depression than straight, white, middle class men. If so many of us are likely to be depressed, what exactly is depression anyway?

Depression in GBT men often looks different than the stereotypical cluster of sadness, guilt and withdrawal that many of us think of when we imagine a depressed person. Some depressed GBT men suffer symptoms of depression - such as impotence and loss of sexual interest, but others may become wildly promiscuous, complain of sleep troubles, fatigue, headaches or stomach problems - without ever considering that there may be a psychological source to all or some of their symptoms. Statistically, depressed GBT men are more likely to behave recklessly (e.g., unsafe sex), self-medicate with alcohol and/or drugs, drive too fast and/or seek out emotional confrontation. All those feelings of depression have to go somewhere! We turn the unhappiness on ourselves and have internal symptoms or we aim it at other people and fuck with our relationships big-time.

What causes depression? No one knows for sure. For all the



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research that shows that there are genetic markers that run in families, there is equal research that shows it is more environmentally-based. In my experience, it's likely a combination of the two. The success of anti-depressants acknowledges that there is a biological component of depression, yet anti-depressants don't make you "happy", they just keep you from feeling super shitty. They don't solve your problems and they don't make life great. They can take away that totally hopeless feeling that makes you feel like crawling into bed and never coming out...but once you crawl out of bed, then what? This is where pills don't help much. Facing the CAUSE of our depression usually means walking through fire. Ironically, this is something that we GBT men have been trained to do. But we're told we should do it ON OUR OWN. Is this why we're so bad at asking for help? Would John Wayne, James Bond or any of the X-MEN be able to turn to their best friend and say, "Dude, I think I'm depressed"?

Historically, there's the machismo thing: depression has long been equated with "weakness", being a "sissy" and "shame". Where I grew up, in rural Ohio, you were supposed to just "grin and bear it" or "pull yourself up by your bootstraps" as my grandpa (the local butcher) told me when I was little. We may be living in 2009, but the psychological remnants of "boys don't cry" are still with us. So instead of admitting we feel like shit, many of us react in the exact OPPOSITE way: we hide our feelings of depression by acting tough, cool, like we have it all together. We smile in the clubs, drink way too much and go home with someone cute because we don't want to wake up alone. Sound familiar?

How can you tell if you're "clinically depressed" or just "a little depressed"? Easy: does it go away on its own and you feel good about life again? If so, you're what I call "normally depressed" by the usual crap that life throws us all. When you can bounce up in a week or two, you're not clinically depressed. But when you feel like shit for three, four, five weeks or more, then you may be "clinically depressed". You can't

just "snap out of it", as Cher told Nicholas Cage in "Moonstruck".

GBT Latino, African American and Asian Pacific men may suffer the most from cultural taboos against depression. For example: a recent survey found that 63% of African Americans considered depression "a personal weakness". In his book "Lay My Burden Down", Harvard Medical School psychiatrist Dr. Alvin Poussaint writes that an epidemic of suicide among young black males is only part of the hopelessness and self-hate among African American men. These kinds of heavy cultural messages don't easily go away, and all men suffer - silently - as a result. So what can we do?

As GBT men, once again, it is up to us to lead our straight brothers out of ignorance and into a new way of being a man. Many of us, although raised in the same world as our hetero brothers, found that as GBT men, we had to make our own way in the world. The traditional rules of the world didn't work for us; we were forced to be pioneers and create our own paths. Once again, we need to be pioneers and create a new path to mental health. When we find that we feel shitty for weeks at a time, we need to be man enough to get help. Depression is debilitating; most of us can't beat it alone. This is where our friends, our chosen families, our homeboys come in: we need to be honest with each other, ask for help and notice when someone we love needs help but may be too embarrassed to ask. We need to be man enough to admit, "Hell yes, I'm depressed."

For many of us, the first step in healing our depression is to hear, "I think you're depressed" from someone close to us. If you suspect depression in your friend or partner, don't downplay the changes you see or criticize his behavior. Instead, tell him that you're worried about his mood or behavior. Educate

(Continued on page 11)



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Omaha Royals GLBT Night

By Chris Orr

Tuesday August 11th the Omaha Royals will be opening its ball field and minds to the GLBT community. They will be presenting Diversity Night: GLBT Community. This is a first time venture to be inclusive to the GLBT community and Adam Kelly, Ticket Sales Executive & On-Field Promotions Manager, goes into more about this event.

How did the decision come about to have GLBT Community Night at a Royals game? "During a brainstorming session to make a push for the month of August, we were thinking of ways to get communities out to the ballpark that we hadn't pursued in the past. One of those communities was the GLBT community and everyone in our group was in agreement that it was a no-brainer to try and grow our fan base and loyalty through the GLBT Community" as Adam explained."

How long has the decision about having a night like this been in the works? "It seems everywhere I've lived over the past decade, I've had gay friends and I know how loyal they are to what they believe in. That said, I pitched the idea my first year (with the Royals) in 2007 but it didn't really gather steam in the office. However, when our Assistant General Manager Rob Crain brought it up on July 21st, it was met with a resounding yes from our small brainstorming group. A simple phone call to our President Alan Stein and VP and General Manager Martie Cordaro and we had it approved in less than 2 minutes. I give credit to the majority of our forward thinking staff for supporting this and we look forward to a great turnout" Kelly responds. Since it was a brainstorming session, what other groups are you doing a special night for? He shares "some of the other groups that we are attempting to fill Rosenblatt up with are Catholics, the Jewish Community, Parents' Clubs, and Ladies' Night, just to name a few."

Are the Royals & staff looking forward to coming out and entertaining the GLBT community? "From a personal standpoint, I am really looking forward to this evening because I have been advocating this event for a few years now. Our new management, in its second year, is very supportive of the idea, as well. What it comes down to is a simple business decision. We realize that the GLBT community is a very loyal and enthusiastic community when it comes to their beliefs. It only makes sense that the Omaha Royals reach out and attempt to put our entertainment in front of them in an attempt to win new fans. I'm convinced that this will be a fun evening and we'll put on a great show."

Why do you think this will be a successful ball game for the Royals and for the GLBT community? "I think this will be a successful night for the Royals and the GLBT community for the same reason I think all of our games are successful. Omaha Royals Baseball is very affordable and very entertaining. Even if the people in the seats aren't baseball fans, there are plenty of in-game promotions and a family friendly environment to enjoy themselves in. We are very eager to get our product in front of new fans and build our fan base. With the work that we put in and the value that can be taken away from Omaha Royals baseball games, I am confident that we will have a great time on August 11th and we would love as many people to join us as possible."

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Please see the ad in The Gayzette with the cut out ad for the discounted ticket prices. To receive discount (\$2 Gen. Admission or \$5 Reserved Seats) please cut and fill out bottom of advertisement in The Gayzette and drop off at Rosenblatt Ticket Office, mail to Rosenblatt (not e-mail), or call Adam Kelly at (402) - 738 - 5131 by AUGUST 7th for these prices.

You will also see some familiar faces at the ball park that night. Drew King, Rainbow Celebrations Board member & Pride Chair 2010, and her daughter will throw out the ceremonial first pitch of the Game.

Gary Winingham, Nebraska Aids Project Education Manager & POL Coordinator, will be informing attendees with a display table about NAP and its services.

The other faces that will be seen are your friends, family, and other community members that will be sitting in the seats with you to enjoy an Omaha Royals game on its first GLBT night.



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When I arrived at the hospital, I couldn't get any information on Susan's condition. The hospital staff informed me that medical information could only be released to Susan's family. For them, family did not include live-in partners regardless of the length of the relationship. It took six hours for Susan's parents to arrive at the hospital. During that time, I sat in the hospital waiting room and wasn't allowed to see or comfort her.

Only after Susan's parents arrived was I able to see her. Thankfully, they were caring people who accepted our relationship. The doctors predicted that Susan would not make it through the night. She died within the next hour. All that time had been wasted as I sat in that dark waiting room. She had been slowly dying alone, when I should have been holding her hand and couldn't."

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(The "D" Word, Continued from page 7)

him: let him know that depression is common in GBT men and doesn't always feel like sadness. Let him know that that "talk therapy" - with or without anti-depressants - brings relief to four out of five men (according to recent research). Urge your friend/partner to see his doctor and talk with him/her about how he feels. Many doctors have a short "depression quiz" they give clients to see if depression is just beneath the surface of other more physical symptoms. You could also talk to a psychotherapist, trusted older friend or minister/rabbi to get a reality check on if you seem depressed or not.

Above all, don't be afraid to talk about the "D" word: ask for help, tell someone you trust how lousy you feel and know that you can get better. We're all in this together... isn't this what Brotherhood is really about?

National Awards and Recognition Presented

Several national awards were presented during this year's Coronation festivities of the Imperial Court of Nebraska. Queen Mother of All the Americas, Nicole the Great, presented Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha with two national awards and a Congressional Commendation which recognized MCC's 35 years of service to Nebraska and Iowa.

In addition Empress Nicole presented Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha with a Special Achievement Award from the International Court System and a Certificate of Recognition from the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

Recognition was given to 5 individuals who were named to the prestigious Order of the Double Eagle. Those receiving this recognition were: Dr. Michael Lyons, Michele Korman, Jan Ritterbush, Sally Presby, and Chuck Ritterbush.

A Congressional Commendation and a Lifetime Achievement Award from the Imperial Court System were presented to Carla Petersen and Sharon Van Butsel.

Openings On ICON Board

The Imperial Court of Nebraska will be accepting nominations to fill an open board position at the August Board Meeting. The term of the position will be the completion of a two year term held by Robert Presby which will be up for renewal in February, 2010.

The Board of Governors will also be accepting nominations for the position of ICON Parliamentarian. This position is not a voting Board position, however the person in this seat will represent the Imperial Court of Nebraska at all International Court Counsel Parliament meetings held throughout the year. This position will also be the completion of a two year term with renewal in February, 2010 at ICON's Annual Elections.

Any parties interested in filling these position, please submit a letter of intent on or before the regular Board Meeting to be held on Monday, August 17, 2009 beginning at 7:15PM at the

Rainbow Outreach Resource Center.

For more details, please feel free to contact Board President, Chuck Ritterbush, a.k.a. Lana Caine, at ICONEm-pressXXV@aol.com or via phone at 402-960-9387.

MCC RESTROOM RENOVATIONS BEGIN

This week MCC Omaha is beginning renovations of the restrooms on the lower level. Thanks to fundraising activities over the last two years, the present restrooms can be replaced with more spacious, more accessible restrooms. The larger size is made possible by expanding the present restrooms into an adjoining storage area that allows the available space to be nearly doubled.

The congregation will be doing much of the work themselves: gutting the rooms, framing, and painting. Plumbing and electrical work is being contracted out.

Renovations are anticipated to take at least 6 - 8 weeks. Thanks to our earlier accessibility projects which included a handicap accessible restroom on the sanctuary level, there will not be any disruption of services.

MCC TEAMS WITH 1ST PRESBYTERIAN AND 1ST LUTHERAN TO PROVIDE VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha joined with First Presbyterian and First Lutheran Churches to provide Vacation Bible School for children ages 5 through 12. This week long series, Passport to Jesus, brought together approximately 35 children and 30 volunteers as children learned about the five covenants that God has established with humanity.

Each night the children met in a different church. Monday night the children learned about God's Covenant with Noah as the rainbow reminds us that God promised that the world would never again be destroyed by flood.

Tuesday was God's Covenant with Abraham that Abraham's descendents would be as numerous as the sands of the desert. Wednesday the children went up Mount Sinai with Moses as God gave the 10 Commandments. Thursday night Pastor Tom Emmett taught the children about God's covenant with David that David's line would last forever. On that night 30 children came to MCC Omaha for music, a lesson, crafts, and games. As Pastor Tom taught the children about how Samuel anointed David and proclaimed that he would be king, the children were able to touch the oil and be anointed. They then gathered around Pastor Tom and each one anointed him. The night ended with a lively original song written by MCC's Karla Oliver, "Rock on David!"

The final night was a review and celebration of God's final covenant with humanity - the covenant given by Jesus through the celebration of the communion meal.

(Continued on page 14)

Flower of Hope Social and Support Group

A group providing peer support, friendship and understanding for cross dressers, transgenderists, transsexuals, and other gender variant individuals, including both male to female and female to male transgender persons, cross dressers, their allies and significant others.

We do not discriminate against anyone! Persons of all races, religions, gender identities and sexual orientations are welcome.

Come as you are or however you would like to. Share ideas and information with no pressure to be something you're not.

Refreshments and snacks served at meetings. Come join us for information, fun and making new friends!

Meeting on the 3rd Saturday of each month at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St., Omaha NE. from 6PM to 9:30PM

We are looking to assemble our first Board of Directors. Interested parties should email to the address below.

For more info email flowerofhopeofomaha@yahoo.com



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

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

HELPLINE
(402) 291-67681

FRIDAY YOUTH NIGHT

DROP-IN 6PM-11PM
AGES 13-23 YOUTH ORGANIZED

.....
AT THE RAINBOW OUTREACH GLBT CENTER
1719 LEAVENWORTH, OMAHA
.....
EVERY FRIDAY EXCLUDING MAJOR HOLIDAYS
(402) 341-0330 WWW.RAINBOWOUTREACH.ORG

Cross the "Bridge to Equality" and move to the west coast...



...of Iowa

councilbluffscommunityalliance.org

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printingplusinc@aol.com

Serving Our Community for 21 Years

You can volunteer!



Rainbow Outreach Center Volunteer hours:

Every other Friday evening
Anytime Saturday
Sundays before 4 P.M.
or after 6 P.M.

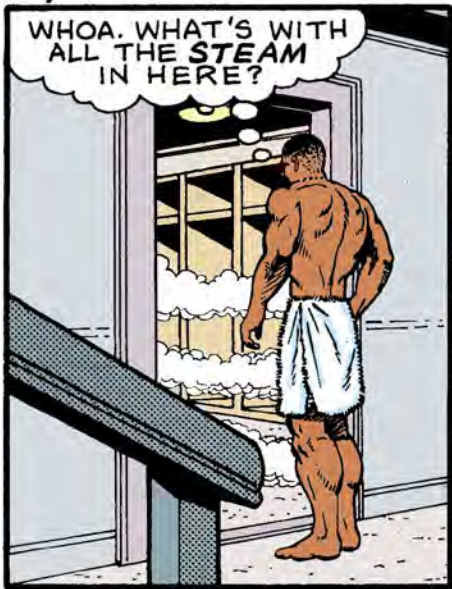
This is a great way to meet others in the community as well as helping the community at the same time!



Volunteer forms available
at Rainbow Outreach Center
1719 Leavenworth Street.

Call 341 - 0330 for walk in hours!

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox



WHOA. WHAT'S WITH ALL THE STEAM IN HERE?



NJORD?! WHAT THE--?
WHAT HAPPENED?! DID YOU SLIP ON THE TILES?
NO, I--
DON'T MOVE!!!



I'M A TRAINED EMT. I NEED TO ASSESS THE SITUATION.
BUT I--
HUSH!
YOU DON'T MOVE OR TALK UNLESS I TELL YOU TO!



CAN YOU WIGGLE YOUR TOES?
I BELIEVE SO.
GOOD. NOW YOUR FINGERS?
JA.



EXCELLENT. ANY NUMBNESS OR TINGLING AROUND YOUR SHOULDERS?
THERE ISS TINGLING. BUT NOT AROUND MY SHOULDERS.

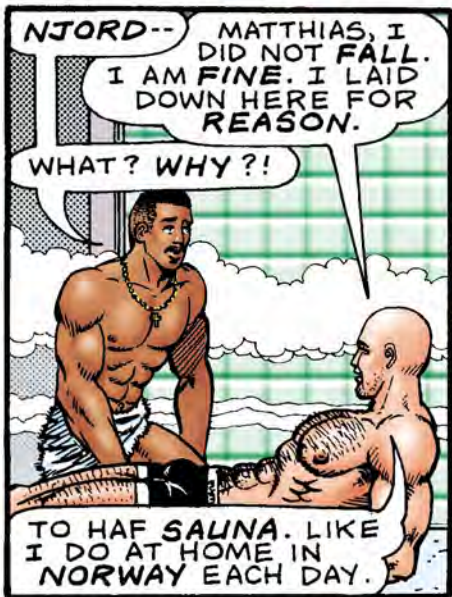


WHERE IS IT?
LOWER.
PERHAPS IF YOU REMOVE YOUR TOWEL IT WILL INCREASE.

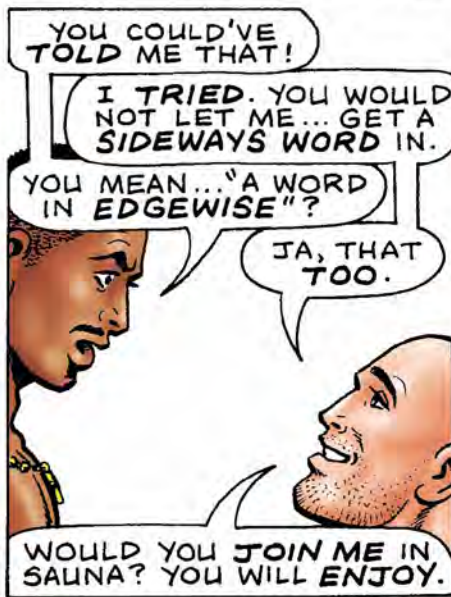


NJORD! BE SERIOUS! WE MAY NEED TO GET YOU A NECK BRACE BEFORE WE CAN MOVE YOU.
WOULD YOU HAF ONE IN LIGHT BLUE? IT WILL MATCH MY EYES.

GregFox © 2009



NJORD-- MATTHIAS, I DID NOT FALL. I AM FINE. I LAID DOWN HERE FOR REASON.
WHAT? WHY?!



YOU COULD'VE TOLD ME THAT!
I TRIED. YOU WOULD NOT LET ME... GET A SIDEWAYS WORD IN.
YOU MEAN... "A WORD IN EDGEWISE"?
JA, THAT TOO.
WOULD YOU JOIN ME IN SAUNA? YOU WILL ENJOY.



I'M NOT TAKING MY TOWEL OFF. I DON'T GET NAKED WITH A GUY ON THE FIRST DATE.
NOT ANYMORE, ANYWAY.
AH. THIS ISS "DATE", THEN?
I DIDN'T SAY THAT.
JA, YOU DID...

(Vacation Bible School Continued from page 11)

This joint vacation bible school experience marked the first time that mainline churches have partnered with MCC Omaha to teach children about God.



Massachusetts Sues Federal Government Over Marriage Law



(CNN) -- Massachusetts sued the U.S. government on Wednesday, challenging the constitutionality of a federal law that defines marriage as the union of a man and a woman.

"We're taking this action today because, first, we believe that [the Defense of Marriage Act] directly interferes with Massachusetts' long-standing sovereign authority to define and regulate the marital status of its residents," Attorney General Martha Coakley said Wednesday afternoon.

"Massachusetts has a single category of married persons, and we view all married persons equally and identically," she said.

"DOMA divides that category into two distinct and unequal classes of marriage."

The lawsuit argues that the act, which became law in 1996, denies same-sex couples essential rights and protections, including federal income tax credits, employment and retirement benefits, health insurance coverage and Social Security payments.

"In enacting DOMA, Congress overstepped its authority, undermined states' efforts to recognize marriages between same-sex couples, and codified an animus towards gay and lesbian people," the state wrote in the lawsuit, which was filed Wednesday in federal court.

Massachusetts, the first state to legalize gay marriage, said that about 16,000 same-sex couples have been married there since 2004, when it began issuing marriage licenses. Since that time, the lawsuit said, "the security and stability of families has been strengthened in important ways throughout the state."

The state is challenging Section 3 of the law, which defines

marriage as "a legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife" and a spouse as "a person of the opposite sex who is a husband or a wife."

Before the act, the lawsuit argues, defining marital status was the prerogative of the states.

The law "eviscerated more than 200 years of federal government deference to the states with respect to defining marriage," it said.

The lawsuit also argues that the law forces Massachusetts to treat same-sex married couples differently from heterosexual married couples, particularly through determining who qualifies for the state's Medicaid program, known as MassHealth, and whether a same-sex spouse of a veteran can be buried in a veteran cemetery.

"But for DOMA, married individuals in same-sex relationships in the commonwealth would receive the same status, obligations, responsibilities, rights, and protections as married individuals in different-sex relationships under local, state, and federal laws," the lawsuit said.

The defendants named in the lawsuit include the Department of Health and Human Services, Secretary of Health and Human Services Kathleen Sebelius, the Department of Veterans Affairs, Veterans Affairs Secretary Eric Shinseki and the United States itself.

Charles Miller, a spokesman for the Department of Justice, said the department will review the case but noted that President Obama supports the legislative repeal of the Defense of Marriage Act.

In March, Gay & Lesbian Advocates & Defenders -- the same Boston-based group that successfully argued in 2003 for same-sex marriage rights in Massachusetts -- also sued the federal government over Section 3 of the Defense of Marriage Act.

Besides Massachusetts, three other states recognize same-sex marriages: Connecticut, Maine, and Iowa. Vermont and New Hampshire will join their company when same-sex marriages become legal later this year and early next year.

And The Nominees Are

Nominations for the Third Annual Best of Gay Omaha Awards Show are in and LC Entertainment, Inc is honored to announce the following:

Best New Comer:
Armani, Mic Syzzl, Nicolette NuVogue and Nicki West

Best Talent Performance:
Faleasha Savage – USofA, Stella Dallas – Diamond Princess, Madame X – Miss Gay Omaha and Wendy Dey – PRIDE

Best Live Vocals:
Ryan Nickell, Eric Gosnel, Chad Williams & Jeremy Young and Josiah Lewis

(Continued on page 17)

GAYZETTE COMING EVENTS

Rainbow Outreach
Metro Omaha GLBT Center
1719 Leavenworth, Omaha
 (mail address: PO Box 8583 Omaha NE 68108)

WALK-IN HOURS

Sundays	4:00PM - 6:00PM
Tuesdays	closed temporarily
Thursdays	7:30PM - 9:00PM
Fridays	6:00PM - 11:00PM

***Closed Most Major Holidays**
(402) 341-0330
www.rainbowoutreach.org

The GLBT Center welcomes gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender, and allied persons; we encourage all to attend GLBT Center events and activities. We celebrate unity and diversity - sexual orientation, gender identity, sex, race, religion, age, ability, ethnic and national origin.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Sunday

WORSHIP SERVICES:

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

BEER BUST, FREE POOL AND WII,
 8pm, Connections Bar

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

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

HIV+ SUPPORT GROUP 7-8:30 pm at the NAP office located at 1921 South 17th Street in Lincoln, NE.

LOWE AVE PRESBYTERIAN, 1023 N 40
 10am service

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

RIVER CITY II MIXED BOWLING, 3pm, Maplewood Lanes, starting again after Labor Day

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

WIMMIN'S SHOW, KZUM 89.3 12:30pm

Every Monday

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

NA RAINBOW GROUP, Narcotics Anonymous, meets Fridays thru Mondays at 10pm, MCC-Omaha Church, 819 South 22nd St

RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS REHEARSALS, 6:45PM—9:15PM, First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass St.

Every Tuesday

BEER BUST, FREE POOL AND WII 8:00 pm, at Connections

HASTINGS COLLEGE ALLIANCE, meet Tuesdays at 7PM (when college is in session), Please contact Dr Antje Anderson at aanders@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

FRONTRUNNERS RUN/WALK 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha

GUYZ NITE 8:00 pm to 1pm, at Connections, \$2.50 domestics and \$2.50 wells

HIV TESTING LINCOLN, 4-7 pm, results in 20 minutes, 1921 So. 17th St. 402-476-7000

KARAOKE W/ STACY 9:00 pm, at DC's Saloon

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

NAP HIV TESTING, 1:30pm to 4 pm by appt. ONLY, 139 S. 40 St., same day results, call 402-552-9260 for info

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

WORSHIP SERVICES

MCC OMAHA, Bible Study, 7pm

Every Thursday

NAP HIV TESTING 5pm- 9pm walk-in, 139 S. 40th Same day results,

THIRSTY THURSDAYS 10:00 pm to midnight, at Connections, Reverse Happy Hour and FREE Jukebox

Every Friday

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

CAN WE TALK SUPPORT GROUP

Open to everyone, every Friday 6:30pm to 8pm, MCCO, 819 South 22nd St., Omaha

DANCE LESSONS WITH GORDON

7-9pm, DC's Saloon

DJ & LIVE ENTERTAINMENT at Connections Bar, theme nights and shows

GLBT CENTER YOUTH NIGHT, 6PM to 11PM, for ages 13 to 23. Youth sponsored and organized activities, under adult supervision. Every Friday, excluding holidays. 1719 Leavenworth Street, snacks, soda's provided

NAP HIV TESTING 5pm-9PM walk-in, NAP, 139 S. 40th Same day results

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

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

DJ MUSIC AND DANCING 10PM, Connections Bar

GET YOUR GROOVE ON WITH DJ VON, 9pm, Connections

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

GLBT PROFESSIONALS, meeting at
5:30pm in various locations. Email at: GOglbt@cfep-ne.org
or see www.GOglbt.org for
info

1st Friday

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

1st Saturday

**HEARTLAND GAY RODEO ASSOCIA-
TION**, Meeting days and times may vary,
call 402-505-3331 for info or see www.hgra.net
for meeting schedules etc.

RIVER CITY GENDER LLIANCE, at 7:00
pm . See www.rivercitygenderalliance.org

1st Sunday

GAY GUYS SPAGHETTI NIGHT, at a Lin-
coln 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 Leaven-
worth St.

2nd Thursday

PFLAG- OMAHA, 7pm, First United Meth-
odist 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 discus-
sion) First Unitarian, 3114 Harney

3rd Monday

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

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

3rd Thursday

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

3rd Saturday

FLOWER OF HOPE Transgender Group,
Meeting on the 3rd Saturday of each month at
the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, 1719
Leavenworth St., Omaha NE. from 6PM to

9:30PM

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.

Last Saturday of the Month

NAP HIV TESTING, 11AM-3PM,
WALK-IN, 139 SOUTH 40TH ST.

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

**See, I have open space
here for your
Event! Send it to me!**

Olives

McGuinness walked into a bar and
ordered martini after martini, each
time removing the olives and placing
them in a jar.

When the jar was filled with olives
and all the drinks consumed, the
Irishman started to leave.

"S'cuse me", said a customer, who
was puzzled over what McQuillan
had done, "what was that all about?"

"Nothin', said the Irishman, "my wife
just sent me out for a jar of olives!"

Fifty Dollars

Morris and his wife Esther went to the
state fair every year, and every year Mor-
ris would say, 'Esther, I'd like to ride in
that there helicopter.'

Esther always replied, 'I know Morris, but
that helicopter ride is fifty dollars, and
fifty dollars is fifty dollars'

One year Esther and Morris went to the
fair, and Morris said, 'Esther, I'm 85 years
old. If I don't ride that helicopter, I might
never get another chance.'

To this, Esther replied, 'Morris that heli-
copter ride is fifty dollars, and fifty dol-
lars is fifty dollars.'

The pilot overheard the couple and said,

'Folks I'll make you a deal. I'll take the
both of you for a ride. If you can stay
quiet for the entire ride and don't say a
word I won't charge you a penny!

But if you say one word it's fifty dollars.'

Morris and Esther agreed and up they
went.

The pilot did all kinds of fancy maneu-
vers, but not a word was heard.

He did his daredevil tricks over and over
again, but still not a word.

When they landed, the pilot turned to
Morris and said, 'By golly, I did every-
thing I could to get you to yell out, but
you didn't. I'm impressed!'

Morris replied, 'Well, to tell you the truth,
I almost said something when Esther fell
out, but you know, fifty dollars is fifty
dollars!'

Long, Long Ago....

One day, long, long ago, there lived a
woman who did not whine, nag, or bitch.

...But it was a long time ago, and it was
just that one day.

(Massachusetts sued Continued from page 14)

Best Male Performer:

Nic, Yoshi, Paco and Cupid

Best Female Performer:

Misty Stokes, Jenn Stark, Tamara Marks and Susie Brenner

Best Drag Performer:

Macy Riley, Madeline Feinstien, Holly Day and Wendy Dey

Best Pageant/Contest:

Divine Diva, Miss Gay Omaha, Miss Max and Diamond Princess

Best Set/Behind the Scenes:

Troy Fienhold-Haasis, Bob Bucklew, Teagan Thomas and Matt Finken

Best Charitable Organization:

Nebraska AIDS Project, Imperial Court of Nebraska, Rainbow Celebrations and Diamond Foundation of Nebraska

Best Master of Ceremonies:

Derrick Wilhelm, Salza, Thomas and Wendy Dey

Entertainer of the Year:

Macy Riley, Madeline Feinstien, Domonique Divamore and Faleasha Savage

Ballots for public voting will be placed at The MAX, 1417 Jackson Street, for 2 weeks beginning Wednesday, August 5 and ending Wednesday, August 19th.

The winners from the public voting will count as one of five votes being cast for the winner in each category. The remaining four votes will be cast by prominent members of the Omaha GLBTS community chosen by the producers of the 2009 Best of Gay Omaha Awards Show, "Daddies & D'Vas", to be held at The MAX on Sunday, August 23 starting at 9:30PM.

Slated to perform this year are 2008 Entertainer of the Year, Holly Day, 2009 Entertainer of the Year Nominees Madeline Feinstien, Macy Riley, Faleasha Savage and Dominique Divamore, Best Live Vocals Nominees Ryan Nickell, Chad Williams and Jeremy Young, Josiah Lewis and Eric Gosnel and Best Drag Performer Wendy Dey.

For more details regarding this and other LC Entertainment, Inc events, please contact Lana Caine at LCEntertain-
Inc@aol.com.

Episcopal Church to Bless Same-Sex Unions

On Friday, the Episcopal Church reached a compromise on marriage equality by passing a resolution allowing bishops to bless ("provide generous pastoral response") same-sex unions. Although the blessings are considered separate from marriage, which the church still defines as between a man and a woman, the resolution gives clergy, especially in states where marriage equality is recognized, a way to serve gay members of their congregations.

The resolution, passed by almost 3/4 of votes, provides for a church-wide collection and development of resources and litur-

gy for same-sex blessings to be presented at the next convention in 2012.

Earlier in the week, officials at the conference voted to allow ordination of gay and lesbian bishops, reversing an earlier resolution.

Many religious congregations are watching the Episcopalian Church closely to guide them in their own struggles to incorporate marriage equality.

"It's exciting to see faith traditions making progress toward equality," said Carolyn Jenison, executive director of One Iowa.

SNAP! Productions to Mount The Omaha Premiere of Speech and Debate

"Speech & Debate", by Stephen Karam, is a savvy comedy that bristles with vitality, wicked humor, terrific dialogue and a direct pipeline into the zeitgeist of contemporary youth. The story centers around three teenage misfits in Salem, Oregon who discover they are linked by a sex scandal that's rocked their town. When one of them sets out to expose the truth, secrets become currency, the stakes get higher, and the trio's connection grows deeper in this searching, fiercely funny dark comedy with music.

Daena Schweiger will direct this comedy/drama and is very delighted to have assembled a cast that includes Joe Fogarty (Solomon), Colleen O'Doherty (Diwata), Noah Diaz (Howie), and Aisha Lomax (Teacher/Reporter).

SNAP! is also pleased to have staffing this show M.Michele Phillips (Producer), Lindsay Pape (Costumes), Paul Pape (Set Design), Connie Fowler (Properties), Todd Brooks (Light Design), Mark Cramer (Multimedia), Dan Baye (Booth Operator) and Brian Callahan (Stage Manager).

Buy your tickets now for this timely comedy/drama. Speech and Debate will run from August 20- September 13, 2009 at 3225 California Street. Curtain times are 8:00 pm, Thursday, Friday and Saturday; 6:00 pm on Sundays. The Sunday, August 23rd will be sign language interpreted. Also, the Sunday, September 13th show will start at 2:00 pm. The theater opens a half hour before curtain time.

Reservations may be made by calling 402-341-2757 or on the SNAP! Productions website: www.snapproductions.com. Tickets are \$15.00, general admission; \$12.00, students, senior citizens, and TAG members.

Groups of 5 or more need to pay in advance. The performances on August 27, September 3 and 10 will have our New Thursday Special Pricing of only \$10.00.

Marriage Equality Reverend Under Fire

A 50-year-old civil rights organization founded by Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. is seeking to oust the president of its Los Ange-

(Continued on page 19)

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 Howard St. Suite 2, Omaha NE 68102, 398-3027 www.cfep-ne.org, email to: Michael@cfep-ne.org
Council Bluffs Community Alliance www.councilbluffscommunityalliance.org
Diamond Foundation, making a difference through music and education, call 877-87-DIAMOND/www.diamond-foundation.org
Family Foundations Therapy for individuals, couples or families, for info call 558-3856
First Central Congregational Church UCC, 421 South 36th St., 402-345-1533, www.firstcentral.org, GLBT-affirming
First Lutheran Church, 542 So. 31st St., 402-345-7506, GLBT Friendly www.firstlutheranomaha.org
First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass St., 402-556-6262, www.fumcomaha.org, GLBT-affirming
Flat Water Bears, (group disbanded)
Front Runners/Walkers, Wednesdays at 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha
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 5:30PM. Email at: GOglbt@cfep-ne.org or see www.GOglbt.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 9am and 11am, Wed. Worship at 7pm
NA Rainbow Group, Narcotics Anonymous, meets Friday thru Monday at 10pm, MCC-Omaha Church, 819 South 22nd St
Nebraska AIDS Project, 552-9260 Watanabe Wellness Ctr, 139 S. 40, Omaha 68131, Testing Wed from 1:30-4PM by appointment only, Thurs 7PM-9PM results in a week, Fri 5PM-10PM with 20 minute results Call 402-552-9255 info
NebraskaEquality.org, Find out everything about Nebraska and the GLBT Community
Nebraska GLBT Events, Community Events Calendar web site, see www.NebraskaGLBTEvents.com
Nebraska Pride IDOL, PO Box 241733, Omaha NE 68124, 866-4-NE-IDOL, www.NebraskaPrideIDOL.com
Nebraska Zen Center, Soto Zen Buddhist, 3625 Lafayette Ave., 402-551-9035, www.prairiewindzen.org GLBT inclusive
Northside Christian Church 5555Larimore, Sunday worship 9:30am, Contemporary service at 11:00am
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 ongpl@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 Harney, 68131, 345-3039, www.ouut.org
Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays (PFLAG) Omaha Chapter Box 390064, Omaha, 68139-0064 291-6781 Website:www.pflag-omaha.org, email info@pflag-omaha.org Meet 2nd Thurs, 1st United Meth, 7020 Cass
Proud Horizons Youth Group, Sat Afternoon, info: (402) 291-6781 or

email proudhorizons@yahoo.com
Prairie Bares, male 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, Omaha, 68108, 402-212-6302 locally, 866-NE-PRIDE toll free, sponsors of annual Gay Pride & National Coming Out Day, for complete information see www.rainbowcelebrations.org
River City Gender Alliance, for info see www.rivercitygenderalliance.org
River City Mixed Bowling II 3pm, Sundays, Maplewood Lanes, Omaha Norma Harrison (402) 731-5706
River City Mixed Chorus, Box 3267, Omaha, NE 68103, 402-341-SING Website: www.rcmc.org
SNAP Productions, Box 8464, Omaha, NE 68108 www.snapproductions.com
Temple Israel Synagogue, 7023 Cass St., 402-556-6536, member of the Union for Reform Judaism, GLBT inclusive
Unity Church of Omaha 3424 N. 90, Omaha, Sunday worship: 10:30am Wednesday meditation service 7pm; 571-1344; www.unityomaha.org
WomenSpace, no current info is available
Youth Emergency Services, Inc. (Y.E.S.) Offices: 2679 Farnam Street, Suite. 205 Omaha, NE 68131, 402-345-5187, email to info@yesomaha.org
Y.E.S. Drop-in Center, 2057 Harney Street Omaha, NE 68102, 402-505-6922

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 unlqsa@yahoo.com for info
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, Lincoln 68508, Meet 4th Tues, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, email to Barbara Kimberly, jbkiber@hotmail.com. Website: <http://pflag.ineb.org/>
Planned Parenthood, F2M and Questioning 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-glbtc.com/>

UNL Committee on GLBT Concerns, Contact Pat Tetreault, (402) 472-1752 or email: ptetreault1@unl.edu / www.unl.edu/cglbtc

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

Youth Support Group, (402) 434-9880

Iowa Based

Council Bluffs 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>

(SNAP!! Speech & Debate, Continued from page 17)

les chapter over his support of marriage equality in California, reports The New York Times.

The Atlanta-based Southern Christian Leadership Conference has threatened to remove the Reverend Eric Lee, who actively worked to prevent the passage of Proposition 8, the California ballot measure to ban same-sex marriage.

Lee told the Times that his work against Prop. 8 created tension with black clergy, but said he believes that banning same-sex marriage "is a clear violation of civil rights and I have to speak up on that."

In May, Lee received a call and two subsequent letters from the national board of directors of his organization threatening him with suspension or removal. The organization has a publicly neutral stance on the issue.

The local board of directors, who confirmed Lee knowing his stance on marriage equality, stand behind the reverend and his actions.

Lee says he sees failures in the leadership of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference; he told the Times, "Dr. King would be turning over in his grave right now."

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

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Gayzette@cox.net**

Omaha GLBT Sports



By Chris Orr

The Kickball 2009 Tournament was a success that took place on July 18th. There were 7 teams playing that day. Some teams included the Omaha Roller Girls, Boys Town National Research Hospital, Omaha GLBT Sports softball teams, and individuals out to play for the day. The proceeds of the event went to Rainbow Outreach Center. The proceeds from the tournament were \$319. Congratulations to the winners of the tournament, Red Rockets.

The July 23rd softball games were a make-up of the July 16th games that were rained out. This was the final game night of the 2009 season. The first game of the evening was between Swing4it and Ball Blokes 'N' Lassies. Jamie C. from Swing4it had a great run up to catch a pop fly in left field. Ryan N. of Ball Blokes had an awesome catch off of the third baseline that almost hit the ground and would have gone by him. The second game of the night had Broadway Joe's and Connections on the field. Phillip M. from Joe's flattened out on the ground after stopping a ground and still threw it to 2nd base to get the out while he was laying on the ground. Hillary B of Connections, short stop, had a run and reaching catch back behind 3rd base. The last game of the evening and season had Blue Frenzy and Red Rockets (ConAgra sponsor). Jill B. of Frenzy had a zipped grounder to her and she stopped it dead in its tracks and lubbed it over to Rob P. for the out. Red Rockets Pitcher, Ryan A., had a grounder come right to his mound and he swooped it up and under threw it to Jason H. who was defending home plate.

Flag Football 2009 registration has closed and the registration totaled 66 players. There will be 8 teams scheduled to play flag football this season. The teams are pretty well co-ed too where as last season it was more males playing than females. The Flag Football season runs every Thursday August 6th – October 15th at Churchich Park 50th & C street. Games will be played at 7:00 P.M. & 8:00 P.M. There will be free admission for spectators and feel free to bring a chair or blanket to sit on. Pride will be selling concessions/food at the games to help raise funds for its goals. Due to the amount of participants there will be two football fields, games, being played at the same time.

The league would like to thank the following: Pride concession workers – Johnnie Richards. Umpire – Wendy F. Photography – Jim Kueffner Photography. Score Keepers – Cole C., Jeremy G., & Dan W. To all our spectators who come to watch and enjoy the games. To all the players who participated in the 2009 season.



Omaha Metro GLBT & Friendly Business Directory

A/C & Heating

Burton (402) 343 - 0011
www.justcallburton.com

Addiction Counseling & Treatment

Heartland Family Service
Alcohol, Drug, Gambling Addiction
(402) 553 - 3000
HeartlandFamilyService.org

Air Duct Cleaning

Breathe Easy (402) 813 - 3193

Alternative Medicine

Heartland Naturopathic Clinic
Dr. Randall Bradley ND, LMHP, LMNT
7447 Farnam St. (402) - 391 - 6714

Antiques

Jim's Seek & Save
4679 Leavenworth St. (402) 660-0778

Attorneys

Dwornik Law 17445
Arbor St. Suite 310. (402) 578-6480
Frank & Gryva, P.C.
1823 Harney St. Suite 201. 346-0874
Joan Watke Stacy
2712 S. 87th Ave. (402) 393 - 2994
Koenig & Tiritilli P.C., L.L.O.
1266 South 13th St. 346-1132

Bakery

Sweet Magnolias 813 N. 40th St.
(402) - 934 - 6427

Bars

Broadway Joes (712) 256 - 2243
3400 W. Broadway, Council Bluffs
Connections 1901 Leavenworth St.
(402) - 933 - 3033

Bookstores/Comics

Capes Comic Book Lounge
6208 Maple St. 558-0212
Mystery Bookstore
1414 South 13th St. 342-7343

Bowling

Maplewood Lanes
3030 N. 101st St. (402) - 572 - 9393

Candy Shops

Old Market Candy Shop
1007 Howard Street, (402) 344-8846

Catering

Wonderful World Foods
(712) -242-5330

Carpet Cleaning

Breathe Easy (402) 813 - 3193

Casino

Harrah's Casino & Hotel
One Harrahs Blvd. (712) - 329 - 6000
Horseshoe Council Bluffs Casino
2701 23rd Ave. (712) - 323 - 2500

Coffee Shop

Caffeine Dreams
4524 Farnum St. (402) - 932 - 2803

Decks & Patio

Deck Pros 690-2195
www.deckprosinc.com

Disc Jockey

Big Dawg Entertainment
(712) 310 - 6448 Weddings, Pvt.
Parties, Any event.

Doggy Day Care

Camp Bow Wow
11819 Stonegate Cr. (402) 991 - 7297

Grocery

Whole Foods Market
10020 Regency Cr. (402) - 393 - 1200

Funeral Services

Christopherson Funeral
8806 N. 30th St. 402 - 614 - 9151

Hair Salon

HAIR For You!
7940 Harrison St. (402) 933 - 0123
One Drake Place 12100 West Center
Rd. (402) - 933 - 7253

Home Remodeling

Michael Gordon 402-714-3810
jmg@cox.net Also Handyman

Insurance

American Family Insurance
Wes Mock. 3606 N. 163rd Plaza
(402) - 884 - 1488

Lawn Care

Duff's Lawn & Landscape
(402) - 350 - 1215
Green Pride Lawn Care
1629 Bowie Drive. (402) 301-4564

Massage Therapy

Master of Healing Arts
John Valentine 321-2333

Photography

J. Kueffner Photography
(402) - 214 - 7590
jkueffnerphotography@cox.net
Marcus of Omaha Photography
(402) 333 - 8588
service@marcusofomaha.com
Vida Focus Photography
www.vidafocus.com (402) 968 - 1717

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Burton (402) 343-0011
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Real Estate

CBS Home Real Estate
Charlie Sutton 968-4287
Hearland Properties, Inc
Council Bluffs
Claudia Page (402) - 677 - 3575
Landmark Group
Margaux Towne-Colley
2702 Douglas St. (402) 505 - 1051
NP Dodge Real Estate

Pride Real Estate Group

Tim Reeder 612-3833
Carole Souze 871-9817
Brian Adams 250-5256

Restaurants

Dixie Quicks Magnolia Room
1915 Leavenworth 346-3549
Gerda's Bakery & Restaurant
5180 Leavenworth 553-6774
Louie M's Burger Lust
1718 Vinton St. 402 - 449 - 9112
Mark's Bistro 4916 Underwood Avenue
(402) - 502 - 2203
Taxi's Grill & Bar
1822 North 120th St. (402) 898 - 1882

Tattoo

Grinn & Barrett
5002 Center St. (402) 553 - 7714

Theater - Movie

Film Streams Ruth Sokolof Theater.
1340 Webster St. 402 - 933 - 0259

Theatre - Stage

Blue Barn Theatre 345 - 1576
www.bluebarn.org

Omaha Community Playhouse
6915 Cass St. Box: 553-0800
Admin: 553-4890

Therapy

James Poppert LIMHP, LADC.
8021 Chicago St (402) 502 -1024 x 106
John R. Campbell LCSW, CPG.
8021 Chicago St. (402) 502-1024 x 292
Positive Beginnings Therapy
Cindy Ridgway 680-3346

BE LISTED FOR FREE

Email:

Orrthumper83@yahoo.com

View this guide online:

www.rainbowoutreach.org

www.glbtomaha.com

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Fitness Corner

By Ron Blake



Want to improve your health and fitness? Go to the gym and workout. On the way to the gym, also give these suggestions a whirl! Then sit back and watch your world improve!

Before you leave the house on your journey to the health club, sit down and write a quick letter. It could be to say hello to your high school pal Howie or to wish your Aunt Eileen in Utah a happy birthday. This should take a few minutes and it will certainly brighten Howie's or Aunt Eileen's day. You will reap the rewards from being thoughtful.

Throw your gym bag in the car and then walk down to the community mailbox at the end of the block. This leisurely stroll through Mister Roger's Neighborhood will start the warm-up for your workout. You'll burn a few extra calories and might even have the opportunity to wave at Carol three doors down as she prunes those hibiscus plants.

Before you get in the vehicle after retrieving the mail, stop and look at your house or apartment. Be thankful that you have a roof over your head at night. There are several million people that are homeless in our country alone. Take just a moment to reflect on what else you have and be happy for those things.

Grab your cell phone and adjust it to the silent mode. Then put that mobile monster in the glove compartment, console, or trunk of your car. That should allow you to focus on other matters such as preparing for the excitement of an excellent exercise session. You will feel the liberation from constant connectivity and communication!

While in your car, put on that motivational CD that you borrowed from the library. There should be plenty of great selections adorning the shelves of your local library. Find your favorite and listen to all the ways you can take charge of your life and produce positive results for yourself while en route!

Park in the space that is as far away from the health club as you can find. There shouldn't be difficulty finding a spot out in the boondocks. This gives you the chance to burn a few more calories and allows you to greet people along the way. Seek out people in the parking lot and give them a hearty "Good morning" or "Good afternoon" and then smile at them. Ride this wave of good vibrations into the club and feel free to continue your cheery ways inside.

You have made it to the club and you have done a great job of preparing yourself for a successful workout. Don't ever forget that your psychological state of being affects your physical state of being. Focus on those little things in your life. This can go a long way in helping you achieve that health and fitness that you so desire!

This health and fitness column is brought to you by that guy who was 19 for a whole year once. That guy with his teenage memories is Ron Blake and he can be reached through his site

at www.myblakefitness.com.



Omaha GLBT Sports Flag Football 2009

Come see us play every
Thursday Aug 6th – Oct 15th

Games at Churchich Park 50th & "C" Street.
7 p.m. – 9 p.m. Free admission for spectators.
Concessions put on by Pride. Concessions go
toward Pride and its goals. You may want to
bring a chair or blanket to sit on.

Are you part of an organization or know any other newsy events, stories happening?

Write it up and send
it to us

[gayzette@cox.net!](mailto:gayzette@cox.net)



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I Spy....



Hello there reader. My name is Chris Orr and I am doing an opinion column of just whatever. I'll be expressing views or sometimes 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.)

Watching what others do and waiting to see what happens is a great reminder of anything you can relate to sometimes. I always think of penguins. They just huddle up and teeter each other to the edge until someone is knocked off. Then they just wait around to see if that penguin is eaten. I'm sure you know the rest. Do we do that to each other? Yes we do and we know that I am guilty! Sometimes it's good and other times it's really bad.

The good idea of this is to think of the time you called someone or some group out and call them on their bullshit, did you make headway or did you get eaten alive with cruel words from those around you? The bad idea of this would be when you are completely wrong and convince yourself that you're absolutely right. Did those surrounding you huddle around you for your defense or knock you off to see what would happen? You can think of the trial balloon syndrome as another example. You send that idea past a friend about something that they should change about themselves. Within a few seconds you can just hear that balloon pop in your head and the air deflating as the balloon comes to the ground. The friend then is just mad as all get out with you because an idea took a wrong flight path and became offensive. We should know something about waiting and watching. Some states have full equal rights for all of its

citizens and some don't. One state took the plunge first and actually survived so others began to jump in. People aren't allowed to participate or set foot back in establishments for reasons that may be right or may be wrong to either of the involved party. I know some trial balloons that didn't take off well and some that became very rewarding.

With this watching and waiting, another element comes into play, change. Something changes as those watch and wait. If you're the one who is in the mob teetering and shove someone into the waters, the change occurs when that someone is eaten. You learn that whatever it was that someone was doing, you don't do it and someone is now not only an eaten penguin but a black sheep in the community. If the penguin isn't eaten, then it's something that you should do because the one knocked off was probably a leader of one of the cliques in town and you don't want to lose your social status. How about the trial balloon scenario? If the trial balloon works for the betterment of others, the end result may be rewarding. If the trial balloon fails, others around you will suffocate you with the idea to keep you in check.

With the watching and waiting, think of the leaders and followers we have in the community today. Are the leaders the penguins? No, they are not, they took the plunge all on their own. They sent up the trial balloons and if it had failed, they sent up another one. We are not all marked the same nor act the same. The followers in respect to organizations take the plunge with the leader. All involved put their time and efforts on the line to be easily criticized in the community.

Any gripes, comments, or having something checked out? Email me orrthumper83@yahoo.com

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FRIDAY AUGUST 7TH
MEN'S NIGHT
AMATEUR STRIP 7PM

\$100 CASH PRIZE

UNDERWEAR NIGHT 9PM

SATURDAY AUGUST 8TH
ICON's Investiture
6pm Door - 7pm Show

SUNDAY AUGUST 9TH
NE Pride Benefit 10pm

SUNDAY AUGUST 16TH
NEIA Charitable Benefit Presents
"LIKE TOTALLY TO THE MAX,
A Flashback To The 80's"
Starring Nina Flowers
Runner-up on RuPaul's
"Drag Race"
9pm

THE MAX

PHOTO BY: CHRISTOPHER TUCKER