

The GayZette



Published by the Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Community Center

California Court's Decision on Marriage Should Go into Effect on Schedule

SAN FRANCISCO — Attorneys representing same-sex couples, Equality California and Our Family Coalition filed a legal brief today opposing a request to stay the court's ruling and prevent couples from marrying for several months. The request to stay the California Supreme Court's ruling was filed shortly before the Memorial Day weekend by an Arizona-based, right-wing legal group, the Alliance Defense Fund, on behalf of the Proposition 22 Legal Defense & Education Fund.

"Just as we trusted the court would do the right thing when it ruled on whether every Californian should have the opportunity to marry the person they love, we're hopeful the court will ensure that its decision goes into effect on schedule," said Shannon Price Minter, Legal Director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights, who argued the marriage case before the California Supreme Court.

On May 15, the California Supreme Court ruled that the state may no longer exclude same-sex couples from civil marriage.

"Couples like Del Martin and Phyllis Lyon have waited more than 50 years for the chance to marry," Minter continued, referring to one of the couples involved in the landmark marriage case. "The highest court in our state has spoken, and now it is time to let those couples fulfill the dream so many people share — the dream of marrying the person they love."

According to a letter sent to County Clerks' offices today by the California Office of Vital Records, the state will begin granting marriage licenses to lesbian and gay couples on Tuesday, June 17.

As right-wing groups attempt to block the state Supreme Court's decision, a new Field Poll released today indicates that public opinion in California has moved a long way toward support of marriage for lesbian and gay couples. According to the poll, 51 percent of Californians agree that lesbian and gay couples should be allowed to marry, while the percentage opposing marriage for same-sex couples has shrunk to 42 percent. Fifty-four percent oppose changing the state constitution to exclude lesbian and gay couples from marriage, while only 40 percent would favor such a change. Ballot measures that start off with a majority in opposition historically go down in defeat.

(Continued on page 4)

Another Victory for LGBT Students in Florida

Written by Paul Cates, ACLU

A federal judge in Florida has reinstated an ACLU lawsuit on behalf of students at Okeechobee High School who are trying to form a gay-straight alliance (GSA). The case, which started back in November 2006, was dismissed earlier after the only remaining member of the GSA transferred out of the school. At that time, the court dismissed the case even though a new student came forward wanting to participate in the GSA. Although we had argued that the former students should be able to proceed because they were entitled to nominal damages, the court disagreed.

We asked the court to reconsider its decision. The court did something courts don't do that often: it completely changed its mind. The Court reinstated the lawsuit, which is now scheduled for trial in September. And perhaps best of all, the court said it will now allow the former members of the GSA to proceed in the case for nominal damages.

The Okeechobee School Board has been foiled once again in its many attempts to keep students at the High School from meeting. They have argued (so far unsuccessfully) that GSAs are sex-based clubs that lead to premarital sex and cause harm to stu-

(Continued on page 4)

Have Some Fun and Support The Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center and The Gayzette

Attend the All Live Singing show at the Max this Sunday June 8th at 10pm. It's Tracey's benefit show for the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center.

There's also an ICON benefit show for The Center at DC's on Friday June 13th.

So dust off your Stetson and join us for a good time while helping The Center to keep the doors open.

June 6, 2008 - June 20 2008

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Volunteer Recruitment will also be held on

Saturday May 10th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. @ the Rainbow Out Reach Center 1716 Leavenworth Road Omaha, NE
 Saturday May 24th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. @ the Rainbow Out Reach Center 1716 Leavenworth Road Omaha, NE
 Saturday May 31st from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. @ the Rainbow Out Reach Center 1716 Leavenworth Road Omaha, NE

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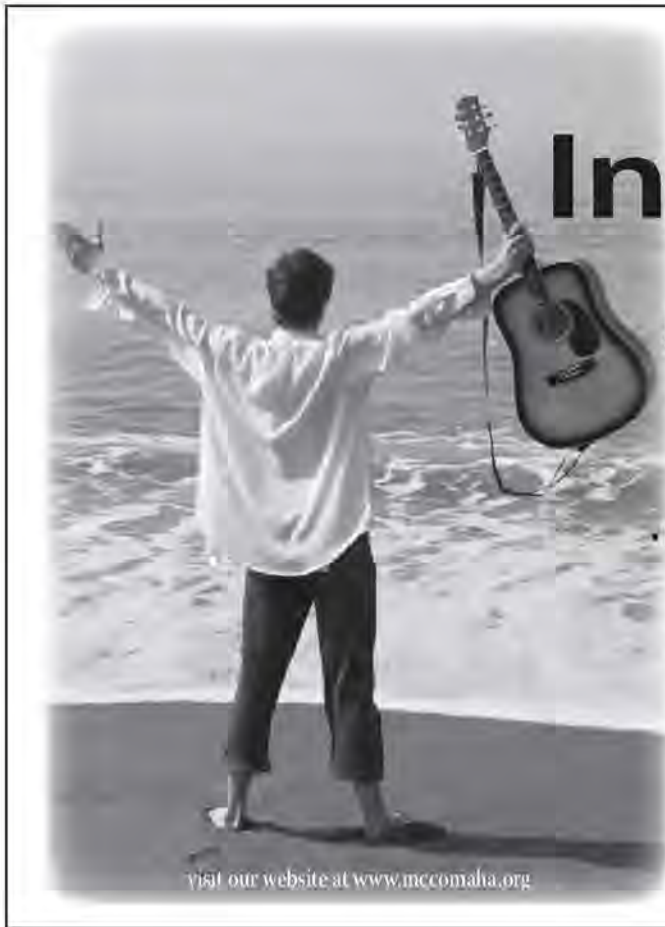


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(California Gay Marriage on Track, story Continued from page 1)

In an interview on April 11, Governor Schwarzenegger stated that an initiative to amend the California Constitution to ban gay and lesbian couples from marriage was "a waste of time," adding "I will always be there to fight against that. It will never happen."

In addition, more than 250 religious and civil rights leaders and organizations, including the California NAACP, Mexican American Legal Defense and Educational Fund, California Council of Churches, Asian Pacific American Legal Center and National Black Justice Coalition, filed briefs supporting same-sex couples seeking the right to marry. Numerous legal and bar associations, including the Los Angeles County Bar Association, also registered their support, as well as many of the state's leading constitutional law scholars and family law professors.

"It's clear that public opinion is moving toward a new day where true equality is fully accepted for all Californians," said Maya Harris, Executive Director of the ACLU of Northern California.

To read the court's decision, visit <http://courinfo.ca.gov/opinions/documents/S147999.PDF>

(Victory for LGBT Students story, Continued from page 1)

dents. Stay tuned for more details about the upcoming trial. It will be interesting to see what evidence the school will try to put forth to prove that it is harmful to have a club where students discuss how to combat the rampant anti-gay harassment at the school.

For more information about how to make your school a safe space for LGBT Students, or to learn how you can start a GSA, visit Get Busy, Get Equal at <http://gbge.aclu.org/>

New York to Recognize Gay Marriages

From Cheryl Robinson CNN

NEW YORK -- Gov. David Paterson of New York has told state agencies to recognize same-sex marriages performed in states and countries where they are legal, his spokeswoman said Wednesday.

The governor's legal counsel told state agencies in a May 14 memo to revise policies and regulations to recognize same-sex marriages performed in California and Massachusetts as well as Canada and other countries that allow gays and lesbians to marry, said Erin Duggan, the governor's spokeswoman.

The memo informed state agencies that failing to recognize gay

(Continued on page 7)

Rainbow Celebrations & Nebraska Pride Present:

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Reflections With Pastor Tom

Fear

Let's face it. Especially since the shock of 9-11, we live in a culture of fear. More and more we are looking to organizations and the government to solve our problems. While we wait for big brother to save us, we distract ourselves by consuming more and more stuff with only debt to show for it in the end. (This is what Jesus is talking about when he says: "From those who have more, more will be taken away.") We are seeking safety and security, but in the midst of that search we have lost sight of what is really important: purpose and meaning.



Benjamin Franklin once said, with his usual profound yet simple wisdom (real wisdom is almost always simple), that "those who sacrifice freedom for safety ultimately have neither." This is truth. Lately, Americans, out of our fears—fears of terrorists, of Mexican immigrants, of crime, of religious fundamentalists, of secular atheists and the list goes on and on—are more and more willing to give freedom over to our government and multinational corporations that our lives might seem more safe and secure. It boggles my mind that we, as a nation, are more concerned with the economy than with the human consequences of our military intervention in Iraq.

So, what potential, what un-lived part of your life are you sacrificing for a feeling of safety? What part of your life aren't you living so that you can feel secure? Is the feeling of being safe, of not risking, worth the potential payoff of what you would like to do, who you wish you could be, who you know deep down inside that you must become?

How long will you keep bitching about that job you hate, the relationship that is not fulfilling you, the out of shape body you loathe or the broken relationship you just don't get around to working on? Is the "safety" of doing nothing really paying you dividends? Is it?

Jesus came to show us how to be real risk takers. Our brother Jesus is a pushy risk-taking revolutionary that challenges us to risk so we can be complete and full human beings. Jesus came to wake us up into the activity of transformation. Yet, to be transformed requires an initial up front investment of risk. This generates fear and ambivalence in a culture of consumption and immediate gratification. It's easier to be safe, but that feeling of safety will cost us. The cost lies in undiscovered meaning and purpose that will never transform us as long as fear compels us to seek safety. "Those who have ears, let them hear."

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

Next Issue: Hope

(New York to Recognize Gay Marriages, story Continued from page 4)
marriages would violate the New York's human rights law, Duggan said.

The directive follows a February ruling from a New York state appeals court. That decision says that legal same-sex marriages performed in other jurisdictions are entitled to recognition in New York.

"This was in direct response to a court ruling," Duggan told CNN. "Just to make sure all the state agencies are on the same page." See what rules your state has about same-sex unions »

Duggan says that the court's decision was consistent with the findings of several lower courts in New York State.

The governor's legal counsel sent the memo one day before the California Supreme Court struck down a ban on gay marriage in that state. Court officials in California counties may begin issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples on June 17, state officials said Wednesday.

Massachusetts legalized same-sex marriages in 2004, and gay couples need not be state residents there to wed. However, then-Gov. Mitt Romney resurrected a 1913 law barring non-resident marriages in the state if the marriage would be prohibited in the partners' home state.

Subsequent court and agency decisions have determined that only residents of Massachusetts, Rhode Island and New Mexico may marry in Massachusetts, unless the parties say they plan to move there after the marriage.

New Hampshire, Vermont, New Jersey and Connecticut permit civil unions, while California has a domestic-partner registration law. More than a dozen other states give same-sex couples some legal rights, as do some other countries.

RCMC Presents The Gender Blender

Some people think that life is easy- black or white, up or down, men or women. Simple, right? Well, come to the River City Mixed Chorus' upcoming concert, "The Gender Blender" and you'll see that the world of men and women is simply not that black and white.

This concert will show the many variations of how people feel, act and even dress, contrary to the stereotypes of their gender. "The Gender Blender" is an eclectic journey that will, at times be funny, moving and even poignant, as the choir looks at the blurred line of what it means to be a man or a woman.

The River City Mixed Chorus will present "The Gender Blender", on Saturday, June 21st at 7:05p.m., and Sunday June 22nd at 4:05p.m., at UNO's Strauss Performing Art's Center.

The highlight of the concert will be a world premier performance of a five part piece titled "The Gender Blender", a commissioned work written by RCMC's Music Director Mark Kurtz, that members of the chorus will be taking to Miami to

perform this July at the GALA Chorus Festival!

NOTE: This concert is rated PG for adult themes and some language.

Tickets can be purchased in one of several ways:

- online at www.RCMC.org- with either Visa or Mastercard
- calling the Chorus information line: 341-SING (7464)
- or at the performance the day of the show.

Ticket prices are as follows:

Day of the show: \$18

Advance Adult: \$15

Seniors (55+)/Students (13+)/Groups: \$13

Children 12 and under: \$10

For more information, contact Victor Hahn, River City Mixed Chorus Media Coordinator at 670-1078.

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Women's Biker Club

Connections bar located at 1901 Leavenworth St. (Omaha's Original Lesbian Establishment), has formed an all women's biker club. CONNECTIONS BIKER CHICKS just recently held their first meeting and to date has 10 members.



The women meet at Connections on Sundays initially for a short meeting, then take an afternoon ride to various destinations around the metropolitan area. This past Sunday, the cyclists rode to Colon NE. and back. After the ride, the girls return to the bar for free food, beer bust and free pool.

Our intent is to have 18-20 riders who will be willing to ride in the PRIDE PARADE representing Connections Bar.

Some of the members are experienced riders, others are beginners. The main purpose of the club is to have fun, meet other women interested in riding and also support Connections at the same time.

Any women out there interested in joining should contact Connections Bar at (402) 933-3033 or Bren Pudvah at (402) 658-1227. We look forward to getting more women involved!

RIDE ON LADIES!

Shelterbelt Audition/Workshop

In the Dance Studio at the Omaha Community Playhouse 69th & Cass Streets Omaha, NE. For the ensemble role of THE BACCHANTS in a devised theatre piece, time-laughs, composed by Susann Suprenant (performed during last weekend of Shelterbelt's performance series, Summer Stock, July 31 – Aug 2, 2008).

Looking for:

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Needed:

performers who are lithe, strong, flexible, creative and able to work well in an ensemble. Some speaking/chanting/poetry reading in the performance but no acting experience required.

No prepared material or special clothing/footwear required for the audition, but be ready to move (in bare feet).

Audition will consist of learning and performing a dance combination, participating in a dance improvisation and creating an ensemble composition.

Space will be available for warm up from 6:00 – 6:45 p.m. Audition begins at 7:00 p.m. and runs until approximately 9 p.m. Some participants may be asked to stay until 10 p.m.

Questions? Contact artistic@shelterbelt.org (include your phone # in e-mail message if you want a return phone call).



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Monthly Meetings: Second Thursday 7:00 P.M.
Location: First United Methodist Church
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Clinton Says She's Open To Being Obama's VP

Hillary Rodham Clinton told colleagues Tuesday she would consider joining Barack Obama as his running mate, and advisers said she was withholding a formal departure from the race partly to use her remaining leverage to press for a spot on the ticket.

On a conference call with other New York lawmakers, Clinton, a New York senator, said she was willing to become Obama's vice presidential nominee if it would help Democrats win the White House, according to several participants in the call.

Clinton's remarks came in response to a question from Democratic representative Nydia Velázquez, who said she believed the best way for Obama to win key voting blocs, including Hispanics, would be for him to choose Clinton as his running mate.

"I am open to it," Clinton replied, if it would help the party's prospects in November. Her direct quote was described by two lawmakers who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to speak for Clinton.

Clinton also told colleagues the delegate math was not there for her to overtake Obama, but that she wanted to take time to determine how to leave the race in a way that would best help Democrats. "I deserve some time to get this right," she said, even as the other lawmakers forcefully argued for her to press Obama to choose her as his running mate.

Joseph Crowley, a Queens Democrat who participated in the call, said her answer "left open the possibility that she would do anything that she can to contribute toward a Democratic victory in November. There was no hedging on that. Whatever she can do to contribute, she was willing to do."

Another person on the call, Rep. José Serrano of New York City, said her answer was "just what I was hoping to hear.... Of course, she was interested in being president, but she's just as interested in making sure Democrats get elected in November."

Rep. Charles Rangel, a devoted booster of Clinton who helped pave the way for her successful Senate campaign, said he spoke to her Tuesday and got much the same answer.

"She's run a great campaign and even though she'll be a great senator, she has a lot of followers that obviously Obama doesn't have, and clearly the numbers are against her and so I think they bring all parts of the Democratic Party together and then some," Rangel said.

Aides to the Illinois senator said he and Clinton had not spoken about the prospects of her joining the ticket.

Obama effectively sewed up the 2,118 delegates needed to win the nomination Tuesday, based on a tally of pledged delegates, superdelegates who have declared their preference, and another

18 superdelegates who have confirmed their intentions to the Associated Press. It also included five delegates Obama was guaranteed as long as he gained 15% of the vote in South Dakota and Montana later in the day.

Word of Clinton's vice presidential musings came as she prepared to deliver a televised address to supporters on the final night of the epic primary season. She was working out final details of the speech at her Chappaqua, N.Y., home with her husband, former president Bill Clinton, their daughter, Chelsea, and close aides.

Earlier, on NBC's Today Show, Clinton campaign chairman Terry McAuliffe said that once Obama gets the majority of convention delegates "Hillary Clinton will congratulate him and call him the nominee."

Clinton will pledge to continue to speak out on issues like health care. But for all intents and purposes, two senior officials said, her campaign is over. Most campaign staff will be let go and paid through June 15, said the officials who spoke on condition of anonymity because they were not authorized to divulge her plans.

The advisers said Clinton has made a strategic decision to not formally end her campaign, giving her leverage to negotiate with Obama on various matters including a possible vice presidential nomination for her. She also wants to press him on issues he should focus on in the fall, such as health care.

Universal health care, Clinton's signature issue as first lady in the 1990s, was a point of dispute between Obama and the New York senator during their epic nomination fight.

Other names have been floated as possible running mates for Obama, including New Mexico governor Bill Richardson, former North Carolina senator John Edwards, and governors including Janet Napolitano of Arizona, Kathleen Sebelius of Kansas, and Tim Kaine of Virginia. Also mentioned are foreign policy experts including former Georgia senator Sam Nunn, Connecticut senator Chris Dodd, and Delaware senator Joe Biden, and other senators such as Missouri's Claire McCaskill and Virginia's Jim Webb.

Obama could also look outside the party to people such as anti-war Republican senator Chuck Hagel of Nebraska or independent New York City mayor Mike Bloomberg. Or he could look to one of his prominent supporters such as former senator Tom Daschle of South Dakota or try to bring on a Clinton supporter, such as Indiana senator Evan Bayh or retired general Wesley Clark. (AP)

Berlin Inaugurates Memorial to Nazis' Gay Victims

By GEIR MOULSON, Associated Press Writer

Germany unveiled a memorial Tuesday to the Nazis' long-ignored gay victims, a monument that also aims to address ongoing discrimination by confronting visitors with an image of a same-sex couple kissing.

The memorial — a sloping gray concrete slab on the edge of Berlin's Tiergarten park — echoes the vast field of smaller slabs that make up Germany's memorial to Jewish victims of the Holocaust, opened three years ago just across the road.

The pavilion-sized slab includes a small window where visitors can view a video clip of two men kissing.

Berlin's openly gay mayor, Klaus Wowereit, said the monument was a reminder of the ongoing struggles that still confront gays.

"This memorial is important from two points of view — to commemorate the victims, but also to make clear that even today, after we have achieved so much in terms of equal treatment, discrimination still exists daily," Wowereit said as he inaugurated the memorial alongside Culture Minister Bernd Neumann.

Nazi Germany declared homosexuality a threat to the German race and convicted some 50,000 homosexuals as criminals. An estimated 10,000 to 15,000 gay men were deported to concentration camps, where few survived.

"This is a story that many people don't know about, and I think it's fantastic ... that the German state finally decided to make a memorial to honor these victims as well," said Ingar Dragset, a Berlin-based Norwegian who designed the memorial along with Danish-born Michael Elmgreen.

The commemoration "unfortunately comes too late for those who were persecuted and survived in 1945," said Guenter Dworek, of Germany's Lesbian and Gay Association. "That is very bitter."

He said the last ex-prisoner that his group knows of died in 2005. Wowereit echoed his regret over the time it took to honor the Nazis' gay victims.

"That is symptomatic of a postwar society which simply kept quiet about a group of victims, which ... contributed to these victims being discriminated against twice," he said.

Few gays convicted by the Nazis came forward after World War II because of the stigma attached to homosexuality. The law used against them remained on the books in West Germany until 1969, and Dworek said there were 50,000 convictions under the legislation after the war.



Not until 2002 did the German parliament issue a formal pardon for homosexuals convicted under the Nazis. One reason it took so long was because the legislation had been linked to a blanket rehabilitation of 22,000 Wehrmacht deserters — a move many conservatives opposed.

The effort to get a memorial built started in 1992, and a 1999 parliament decision to build the memorial to the Holocaust's 6 million Jewish victims also called for "commemorating in a worthy fashion the other victims of the Nazis." In 2001, Jewish and Gypsy leaders backed an appeal for a monument to the gay victims.

After lawmakers approved its construction, a jury picked the winning design in early 2006 out of 17 design proposals.

The federal government financed the \$945,660 building costs, while Berlin's city government provided the site.

The designers' original plan to feature only a video of two men kissing ran into criticism that lesbians were left out. Last year, a compromise was reached to change the memorial's video every two years, allowing lesbian couples to be shown in the future.

The first film — a repeating clip of two men kissing, shot at the site of the memorial before it was built — was done by photographer Robby Mueller and directed by Denmark's Thomas Vinterberg.

"It was quite important to have a direct imagery of a love scene, a passionate scene ... because that is the main problem in homophobia," designer Elmgreen told AP Television News. "You can get acceptance on an abstract level, but they don't want to look at us."

Germany has allowed gay couples to seal their partnerships at registry offices since 2001, although the law stops short of offering formal marriage. Berlin has a large gay community, as do other major German cities, such as Cologne and Hamburg.

The memorial to the Nazis' Jewish victims and the new monument will soon be joined by a third memorial honoring the Roma and Sinti, or Gypsy, victims. Some 220,000 to 500,000 Gypsies were killed during the Holocaust.

Work begins this year on that memorial, also in Tiergarten park.

"We stand stunned before the brutality with which the Nazis threatened, persecuted and destroyed all those who did not correspond to their inhuman ideology," Neumann said.

"The experience of war and Holocaust, state terror and tyranny, puts on us Germans a special responsibility to protect freedom and human rights."

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox

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...WE HERE AT KYLE'S B&B WANTED TO SHOW OUR PRIDE IN OUR OWN SPECIAL WAY.

SINCE NOTHING DRIVES THE ANTI-GAY ZEALOTS INTO MORE OF A LATHER THAN SEEING TWO MEN BEING INTIMATE AND ROMANTIC...

...WE'RE PROUD TO PRESENT 6 OF THE MOST ROMANTIC MOMENTS AT KYLE'S B&B!

BREYER & KYLE'S FIRST KISS CERTAINLY QUALIFIES AS ONE OF THOSE MOMENTS, DON'TCHA THINK?

NOT EVERYONE AT THE B&B HAS HAD THE SORTA' LONG-LASTING ROMANCE KYLE AND BREYER HAVE, BUT...

...THERE'S BEEN NO SHORTAGE OF PASSION!

SEAN & LANCE SURE GENERATED SOME STEAM FOR A WHILE, DIDN'T THEY?

GREG FOX © 2008

RICHARD & ANDREW HAD IT GOIN' ON FOR A WHILE, TOO!

BRAD & MATT HIT SOME ROUGH TIMES RECENTLY...

...BUT THEY HAD A ROMANCE TO REMEMBER... WHILE IT LASTED!

SPEAKING OF BRAD... HIS FIRST ROMANCE, WITH VINCENZO, IS SOMETHIN' FOLKS ARE STILL TALKIN' ABOUT!

VINCENZO, I...

AND ONE OF THE SWEETEST ROMANCES... THAT'S STILL GOIN' STRONG... WOULD BE NICK & DAVE!

SO, THERE YOU HAVE IT! GUARANTEED TO CAUSE A HISSY-FIT AMONGST THE HOMOPHOBES! OR MAYBE... JUST MAYBE...

...TWO GUYS KISSING ISN'T SUCH A BIG DEAL ANYMORE. IT KINDA WARM'S YOUR HEART, DOESN'T IT?

SO, LIGHTEN UP, EVERYBODY... AND HAVE A HAPPY GAY PRIDE SEASON!

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
(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.

**SUNDAY JUNE 8th
GLBT NIGHT OUT PARTY**, South Pacific, Omaha Community Playhouse, 5:30pm, contact Karli Newman for info & tickets at 553-4890 ext. 147

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

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

WEEKLY EVENTS

**Every Sunday
WORSHIP SERVICES:
AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH**, ELCA, 3647 LaFayette Ave., Omaha GLBT friendly, www.augustanalutheran.com

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

DIETZ METHODIST 1423 S.10, Coffee-house casual downstairs at 9am, Traditional Worship at 11am

EPISCOPAL GLBT FELLOWSHIP, St. Andrews Church, 84th & Pacific, 6-7PM, email: EpiscopalGLBT@yahoo.com

FIRST CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST, info at: www.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 & Wednesday Worship at 7pm

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

SECOND UNITARIAN, 10:30am Sunday service, 3012 South 119th St., Omaha NE

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 3424 N. 90, Omaha, 10:30am service and Wednesday meditation service at 7pm

GAMES DAY AT THE GLBT CENTER, 1719 Leavenworth, 2PM to 4PM

GAY MEN'S ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 4pm Lowe Avenue Presbyterian, 1023 N. 40 St Info call Mark 639-3055

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

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

WIMMIN'S SHOW, KZUM 89.3 12:30pm

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

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

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

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

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

**Every Tuesday
HASTINGS COLLEGE ALLIANCE**, meet Tuesdays at 7PM (when college is in session), Please contact Dr Antje Anderson at [ander-](mailto:ander-son@hastings.edu)

son@hastings.edu or Judy Sandeen at jsandeen@hastings.edu for further information.

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

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

**WORSHIP SERVICES
MCC OMAHA**, Bible Study, 7pm

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

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

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

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

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

KARAOKE W/ STACY 9:00 pm DC's

**Every Thursday
DANCE LESSONS WITH GORDON** 7-9pm, DC's Saloon

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

KARAOKE 9pm, Connections Bar

FREE CONFIDENTIAL ANONYMOUS HIV TEST, UNL 472-7447, 2:30 to 4:30pm, University Health Center Room 164 (next to Pharmacy on the first floor), Orasure test, no needles, Lincoln NE, results in one week - will close most of May and reopen May 30th 2008 - call for more info

**Every Friday
AA ALTERNATIVE MEETING**, 7pm, open to men and women, at Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church in the basement, 1023 North 40th Street

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

GLBT CENTER YOUTH NIGHT, 6PM to 10PM, for ages 13 to 23. Youth sponsored and organized activities, under adult supervision. Every Friday, excluding holidays. 1719 Leavenworth Street

GLBT AA 7PM to 8PM, Lowe Avenue Presbyterian, Call 556-8364, ask for Sanford

HIV TESTING 5-7PM walk-in, NAP, 139 S. 40th Same day results

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

FREE CONFIDENTIAL ANONYMOUS HIV TEST, UN-L 472-7447, 2:30 to 4:30pm, University Health Center Room 164 (next to Pharmacy on the first floor), Orasure test, no needles, Lincoln NE, results in one week

RAINBOW BIBLE STUDY, 6 to 7:30PM, Lowe Ave. Presbyterian, 1023 No. 40th St.

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

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

MONTHLY EVENTS

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

1st Thursday
GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S SUPPORT AND DISCUSSION GROUP 7 to 8:30pm,
Meeting in Lincoln first and third Thursdays of the month. Call 434-9880 / 476 9668 for location and information.
GLBT PROFESSIONALS, meeting at 6PM.
Email at: 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
IMPERIAL COURT OF NE, Board of Governors meeting, 6pm, meeting at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Community Center, www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org

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

3rd Tuesday
HIV TESTING AT THE PANIC, Lincoln NE, 7-10PM walk-in, same day results, 200 South 18th Street

3rd Thursday
GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S SUPPORT AND DISCUSSION GROUP
7- 8:30pm, Meeting in Lincoln on the third Thursday of the month. Call 434-9880 / 476 9668, held at the Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street, Lincoln NE

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

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

COFFEE HOUSE Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

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

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

4th Tuesday
PFLAG-CORNHUSKER Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln, 7 p.m.

YOUTH HIV TEST Lighthouse, 2530 N, Lincoln, ages 13 to 18, FFI: 475-3220. 3-5:30 pm

4th Friday
LEO LEATHER ENGINEERS—OMAHA
Not currently meeting.

Email Your Event to:
GAYZETTE@COX.NET

Too Much Help!

The family wheeled Grandma out on the lawn, in her wheelchair, where the activities for her 100th birthday were taking place.

Grandma couldn't speak very well, but she would write notes when she needed to communicate.

After a short time out on the lawn, Grandma started leaning off to the right, so some family members grabbed her, straightened her up, and stuffed pillows on her right.

A short time later, she started leaning off to her left, so again the Family grabbed her and stuffed pillows on her left.

Soon she started leaning forward, so the family members again grabbed her, then tied a pillowcase around her waist to hold her up.

A nephew who arrived late came up to Grandma and said, 'Hi, Grandma, you're looking good! How are they treating you?'

Grandma took out her little notepad and slowly wrote a note to the nephew.....

'Bastards won't let me fart.'

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>

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

Diamond Foundation, making a difference through music and education, call 877-87-DIAMOND or see www.diamond-foundation.org

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

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

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

First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass St., 402-556-6262, www.fumcomaha.org, GLBT-affirming

Flat Water Bears, (group disbanded)

Front Runners/Walkers, Wednesdays at 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha

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

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

GayLibrary.com, World Wide Resources

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

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

Imperial Court of Nebraska, Box 3772, Omaha 68103 556-9907, Board Meets 3rd Monday, 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

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

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

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, 819 S. 22 St., Omaha 68108 345-2563, mccomaha@mccomaha.org Website: www.mccomaha.org Sunday Worship 11am, Wed. Worship at 7pm

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

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

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

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

Nebraska 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

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

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

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

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

Omaha Metro GLBT Sports League, See www.omahaglbtsportsleague.org for more information

Onyx Images, Box 31026, 68131-0026 Social/Support Organization for African American Males age 21 and over

Out and About in Nebraska, website: www.travel.to/outabout Email: NeOutAboout@yahoo.com

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

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

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

Prairie Bares, nudist group, no further info available

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

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

Rainbow Celebrations, PO Box 8488, Omaha, 68108, 402-212-6302 locally,

866-NE-PRIDE toll free, sponsors of annual Gay Pride & National Coming Out Day, for complete information see www.rainbowcelebrations.org

River City Gender Alliance, P.O. Box 4083 Omaha, NE 68104, for info call 402.813.1842 or Email: info@rivercitygenderalliance.org

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

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

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

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

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

WomenSpace, no current info is available

LINCOLN BASED

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

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

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

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

Nebraska AIDS Project, Lincoln, 1921 S. 17th St. (402) 476-7000

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

Parents, Friends of Lesbians & Gays, Cornhusker Chapter, Box 30128, 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>

BE VERY CAREFUL OR THIS COULD HAPPEN TO YOU TOO!

A "heads up" for you and any of you who may shop at Home Depot. Over the last month I became a victim of a clever scam while out shopping. Simply going out to get supplies has turned out to be quite traumatic. Don't be naive enough to think it couldn't happen to you.

Here's how the scam works:
Two handsome 18 or 19-year-old guys come over to your car as you are packing your shopping in the trunk. They both start wiping your windshield with a rag and Windex, then take off their t-shirts to dry the windshield. It is impossible not to look at their lean muscular chest and ripped abs. When you thank them and offer them a tip, they say "No" and instead ask you for a ride to another Home Depot.

You agree and they get in the back seat. On the way, they start having sex with each other. Then one of them climbs over into the front seat and performs oral sex on you, while the other one steals your wallet.

I had my wallet stolen May 4th, 9th, 10th, twice on the 15th, three times just yesterday, and very likely again this upcoming weekend.

Again - please beware!

Community Announcements

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



First Same-Sex Weddings Held in Greece

Two same-sex Greek couples, one gay and one lesbian, were married Tuesday in the first civil ceremonies of their kind in Greece, on the isle of Tilos.

"From this day, discrimination against gays in Greece is on the decline. We did this to encourage other gay people to take a stand," one of the newlyweds, Evangelia Vlami, told BBC News.

The mayor of Tilos, Anastassios Aliferis, married the couples despite warnings from the government that the ceremonies are illegal.

"There is no legal framework for the holding of same-sex weddings in Greece," Greek justice minister Sotiris Hatzigakis said in a statement, according to Agence France-Presse.

In March, gay and lesbian organizations discovered that a 1982 law on civil wedding ceremonies did not explicitly state marriage was between a man and woman but rather between two "persons."

The Lesbian and Gay Community of Greece (OLKE) announced its intention to test its interpretation of the law, and couples began making wedding announcements in local and national newspapers.

A poll by the Greek newspaper Ethnos Daily in April showed Greek citizens were divided on the issue. Over 48% of respondents said they oppose the legislation allowing same-sex unions.

**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.)**

Koenig & Tiritilli, P.C., L.L.O.
Irrevocable Advocacy

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Author of Divorce in Nebraska
- Angela Dunne Tiritilli
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1266 South 13th Street
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www.NebraskaDivorce.com



while 45.1% stated they are in favor. (The Advocate)

First Gay Civil Ceremony Held in Australian Territory

The first gay civil ceremony took place in the Australian Capital Territory (ACT) on Monday. It was the first legally recognized commitment ceremony to be held in Canberra since the ACT government passed laws allowing same-sex partnerships.

Australia's federal government has only recently started to recognize state and territory civil unions performed in order to obtain federal benefits.

The ACT is the third of eight Australian states to recognize same-sex partnerships. Only residents of the three particular states are eligible for unions. All other Australian states do not recognize the civil unions performed in the other three. (The Advocate)

Pride Prom Rocks, Again

By Carrie Spencer

Be yourself and dance with whom you want. That's exactly what young people did at the fourth annual Tom Mahony Pride Prom on Saturday night, May 17. Youths came to the dance from 22 Omaha and surrounding-area high schools and from several colleges and universities.

Organizers for this year's Pride Prom set their sights on attracting at least 250 youths, and they surpassed their goal. Attendance for this year's prom was 266, up slightly from last year's attendance of 243.

Admission to the prom was \$6, or \$5 with a can of food donation. As a result the prom committee was pleased to donate 86 cans of food to the Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha's food pantry, which provides services to the Nebraska AIDS Project and the community.

The theme for this year's dance, Vampire Gothic, was carried out with many creative decorations that transformed First United Methodist Church's Cary Hall into a dark vampire-like castle. Many of the youth embraced the theme and dressed to match the occasion. To help commemorate the evening, attendees received a pin with the theme, date and prom logo on it, a rubber wrist band that bore the words "Vampire Gothic 2008" and plastic glow-in-the-dark vampire teeth.

One of the prom highlights was a visit from members of the Imperial Court of Nebraska (ICON). Princess Royale XXVII Teagan, Prince Royale XXVII Jeremy and Macy Riley all stopped in to say hello and present a donation to Pride Prom and Proud Horizons. As has been ICON's tradition in past years, the group held several fundraisers and donated generously to both groups.

Music was provided again this year by DJ Jim Kaup and professional photos were taken by KVM Photographers. Additionally, six off-duty Omaha police officers generously gave up their Saturday nights to make sure the prom was safe for all.

The Tom Mahony Pride Prom is named after Tom Mahony, who, with his wife Kay, stood with their son Tim, as he testified before the Omaha school board regarding harassment he received at school. Following the testimony, the board voted nearly unanimously to add sexual orientation to the student code of conduct. Tom passed away a few years ago; to honor the Mahony family, the prom committee permanently named the prom after Tom. The committee is pleased that Kay Mahony, accompanied by PFLAG Omaha president Bob Dorr and board member Betty Dorr, was able to attend the dance this year, as she has in past years.

The Pride Prom committee is all volunteers and includes representatives from Proud Horizons, PFLAG Omaha, GLSEN Omaha, ICON, the metropolitan Omaha gay straight alliances and other community groups. Thank you to all the generous sponsors and hard-working volunteers and committee members who made it all possible.

Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

Omaha:

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

Lincoln:

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

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

Fitness Corner

By Ron Blake
Certified Personal Trainer



Sun Tzu was a management conflict philosopher and author who lived in a time and land far, far away. He had many grand things he laid out in his writings but we shall focus on only one of his wise sayings: "All battles are won before they are fought." My task today is to make this relevant to your health and fitness mode in your life.

You are on lunch hour and are driving down the boulevard of broken diets and you are hungry. Three of your best work buddies are in the car with you. "We don't have much time and we need to just grab something now," is the consensus from the backseat and shotgun positions. You've already lost this battle and you'll end up eating out of that fat trough with Ronald, Hamburglar, and Grimace. This could have been avoided with a little pre-lunch menu planning or the sack lunch from home.

You haven't run in over five years but you used to be the All-Conference runner back in your university days. You grab those dusty Asics shoes and decide to give that five mile race the old college try at the old college pace. You've already lost this battle and will end up limping and muttering obscenities for the next four score and seven hours while you nurse that sore Achilles. This could have been avoided with a gradual training regimen and the purchase of some new shoes before entering that Charity 5K race.

After one round of Jose Cuervo you announce your retirement from cigarettes beginning tomorrow. After three rounds of Jose Cuervo you announce with mucho gusto your intention to banish Joe Camel from your life beginning tomorrow. After five rounds of Jose Cuervo you boisterously and vehemently declare your partnership with nicotine to be dissolved beginning tomorrow. You've already lost this battle even before the seventh round of Senor Tequila. This could have been avoided by making a signed declaration to stop smoking while you weren't half in the bag with agave juice. The sober power of pen to paper has a great effect on action.

Your class reunion is three months away and you want to shed that freshman fifty that you've put on since being named most likely to blah, blah, blah in the Quill and Scroll Yearbook. You've joined the health club and you want Donna Dixbottom to rue the day she turned you down to prom. You'll show her the error of her ways with that great body and that rented Sebring convertible. You've already lost this battle and Ms. Dixbottom will only treat you to a haughty cursory glance at the festive soiree. You need more than just a health club membership and a desire. You need a daily workout routine and a trusty companion to guide you to your fitness goals.

Think about what you want to accomplish in life. You don't need to be Chinese, have a two syllable name, or be a philosopher to achieve successes in your time. You only need a well prepared plan and action.

This health and fitness entrée is brought to you by that guy who likes to read his fortune cookies between the sheets or in his

bed. That guy is Ron Blake and he can be unwrapped at www.goblakefitness.com.

Omaha GLBT Sports

By Chris Orr

The Omaha GLBT Sports league has been rained out it's past few games. Sorry to report no scores or pictures to share. One thing to share is that if people are still interested in playing softball to email Chris Orr – orrthumper83@yahoo.com – or come to the field (50th & "C" St.) Tuesday & Thursday 7:00 p.m. & 8:30 p.m. to get registered or to watch a couple of games. Please email if any questions.



Omaha GLBT Sports has been busy with a benefit garage sale. They had two on Memorial Day weekend and it was a success. Money raised will help the league to prepare for Pride 2008 to have people be more aware of the league and it's purpose.

The league's websites are up and running again. Our information can be viewed at www.omahaglbtsportsleague.org and you can link onto our MySpace page.

WARNING! Flag Football season and Kickball fundraiser will be starting soon! View our website and MySpace page to be keep up to date of all league information.

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.).



Illusions can be a trickery of the mind or set up by

other people. We all have a view of how things should be. Life should be simple and to include all people of every aspect of life and not discriminate. This is the illusion of a perfect world. The neighbors are polite, keep down the noise, and also keep clean. By clean, I mean they keep up the yard, keep up appearances, and don't partake in illegal activity. Ah, the illusion of t.v. 1950's in which is missed and is remembered of the yester-year. A sale, promotion, or portrayal for an event and all involved goes to reach out to partake what is set forth by before mentioned. When the event takes place, you are sorely disappointed. A lesson learned to read in between the lines of this illusion. A group of people in an organization that make up the smallest fraction of one mind set and exhaust every right to overturn the whole organization's purpose which it serves, only fails. To then have every door slammed in their face, be called on lies by others, and to finally break away, to so much as say they didn't have their ducks all lined in a row and in order. The illusion of a closed mind take over, that had also failed them. With illusions, it can be the window dressing. Illusions can also serve as a fantasy. They may also be a way of remembering the past, or viewing today, or thinking of a future. But sometimes, our illusions for life can lead to delusions.

Pride 2008 has really taken a turn, I hopefully see, for the better and practicing this year's theme of "Pride Knows No Borders". A source within Pride has told me that they are slowing down previous forms of entertainment that took place all day, and to be replacing it with what other cities (that we flock to because each year their Pride is different) may be doing. That would be different types of entertainment acts, various live bands, and vendors of all types for everyone, and also to say more awareness of local GLBT Community groups and organizations. Thank you Pride & Rainbow Celebrations to take Pride itself down a different path this year. Volunteers are needed for this event and it is worth the time. The volunteers are appreciated with goodies! (all Pride forms at www.nepride.org) It will be great to see what is new and different from that of the past.

A Night OUT at the Omaha Community Playhouse presents South Pacific. We all know the story and the great numbers. If not then your gaycard is canceled! The show is on Sunday June 8th with a reception forty five minutes prior.

Don't we all love a little Bloody Mary once in a while?
www.omahaplayhouse.com

The ICON Candidates are revealed and unleashed! The candidates are Gary Allinger, Misty Stokes, and Shawn Shea. They are also doing some fun activities for those in the community. Misty Stokes will be throwing a breakfast brunch after services at MCC-Omaha Sunday June 8th. It's a benefit for MCC-Omaha Arch of Accessibility. Gary Allinger is having a pool party on June 14th at 6:00 p.m. at Camp Pokamoke on the outskirts of Cresent, Iowa. Proceeds will go to Rainbow Celebrations. Shawn Shea will be hosting a spaghetti feed Sunday June 15th after services at MCC-Omaha. The feed is a benefit for MCC-Omaha Arch of Accessibility. View all listing of ICON events at www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org

There are parties around the nation that are nationally known and recognized for HIV/AIDS awareness and are put on or held to benefit HIV/AIDS centers. These parties have such names as (Black & Blue Ball, Cherry, One Mighty Weekend, Fire Ball – discontinued) the White Party in Miami Florida, the real one. Then there was a White Party at The Max by Diana and her friends on May 30th. Was this a bait and switch? Diana and her friends took a nationally known recognizable party and used it's namesake to benefit who? It wasn't NAP or MPower. The Max said it was just a party and not a benefit. Why wasn't this White Party held by Diana and her friends not based on the same reasons as the real White Party in Miami Florida? It seems that this is a slap in the face from here in Omaha to Miami, Florida and the parties real purpose and intentions.

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

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FRIDAY JUNE 6TH

**HGRA Patio Party
6-8:30pm**

FRIDAY JUNE 6TH

MEN'S NIGHT

**AMATEUR STRIP CONTEST
\$100 CASH PRIZE - 7PM
UNDERWEAR NIGHT 9PM**

SATURDAY JUNE 7TH

**Rainbow Celebrations
Benefit
6pm Doors Open
7pm Show**

SUNDAY JUNE 8TH

**"VOICES OF PRIDE"
HGRA Rainbow Outreach
Center Benefit
10pm**

SUNDAY JUNE 15TH

**Rainbow Celebrations
Pride Pageant
10pm**

FRIDAY JUNE 20TH

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

SATURDAY JUNE 21ST

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

THE MAX
THEMAXOMAHA.COM