

The GayZette



Published by the Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Community Center

Lambda Legal Applauds Perry v. Schwarzenegger Ruling Striking Down Proposition 8

(Los Angeles, August 4, 2010) — Jennifer C. Pizer, National Marriage Project Director for Lambda Legal, issued the following statement in reaction to today's decision from U.S. District Court Judge Vaughn Walker in Perry v. Schwarzenegger:

"This is historic. Last summer, Judge Walker asked for a detailed factual record so he could assess the public interests supposedly served by Proposition 8. The meticulous assessment of the Prop 8 defenders' case today makes clear: there's no there, there. In holding that Prop 8 cannot stand because it violates the equal protection and due process rights of California's lesbian and gay couples, this decision adds to the growing consensus in courts and legislatures across the country that there are no good reasons for excluding same-sex couples from marriage. Instead, the evidence and legal arguments proved once again that withholding marriage harms devoted same-sex couples and their families, and helps no one.



"The court examined the range of excuses used by anti-gay groups to justify this government discrimination against same-sex couples. The testimony of leading experts on everything from child development to adult psychology to the public costs of anti-gay discrimination laid bare the misinformation and outright lies that anti-gay groups have been pushing on the public.

"This thorough review of both sides' evidence vindicates the rights of LGBT people not only to marry based on love and commitment, as heterosexuals do, but to be treated equally and fairly by their government more generally. Just as past marriage victories laid the foundation for today's important win, the court's preparation of a detailed record for the Court of Appeals provides a potent tool for other legal cases and the many, ongoing educational campaigns. It doubtless will help more people see that anti-gay discrimination in marriage is destructive and unjustifiable.

(Continued on page 4)

Iowa... the Better Life

By Susannah Go,
Council Bluffs Community
Alliance Board Member



When I was a young girl, I used to imagine what I would be like at 28 years of age. I have to chuckle when I compare my hypothetical future self to what I actually am today – we are almost nothing alike! For example, I had never envisioned myself living in Iowa. I thought that I would stay in my home state of Illinois. Or maybe I would live in Florida, as an employee of Kennedy Space Center (it was my childhood dream to be an astronaut). Possibly even California, so I could be near the sea. But certainly not Iowa.

Fate and the job market had different ideas though, and here I am beginning my third year as a resident of Iowa. As it turns out, living here is quite enjoyable. The people are friendly, honest, and hard-working. The plentiful wind turbines are a reminder that Iowa is leading the nation in renewable energy. Iowa has great schools, and I've had the pleasure of hiking in some really beautiful state parks. The list goes on and on! But what I love best is the ongoing fight to make sure that everybody is treated equally. It's a fight with a lot of support and voices behind it, and it's a fight we're winning.

From the Iowa Supreme Court protecting marriage equality to the Council Bluffs City Council banning discrimination due to sexual orientation and gender identity, Iowans everywhere are making it clear: our GLBT friends will enjoy the same rights and protections as everybody else. As a straight person, I know it can be tempting to ignore my privilege and turn a blind eye to disparity, because "it doesn't affect me." Except that's not true. If a bisexual woman is not allowed to adopt a child because she is bisexual, that troubles me. If my gay friend cannot marry his partner of 30 years, that disturbs me. If my transgender co-worker is fired because he is transgender, that upsets me. And I'm not alone – people all across Iowa, whether GLBT or ally, are rallying to support each other. We do this because we appreciate fairness. We appreciate the bond that we all share as human beings. We appreciate the Golden Rule and above all, we appreciate each other.

I don't have an ocean in my backyard, a stunning view of Cape Canaveral, or a house right down the street from my parents'

(Continued on page 10)

August 13, 2010 - August 27, 2010

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(Striking Down Prop 8, Continued from page 1)

"No one is under any illusion that today's decision is the end of this fight. Prop 8's proponents have made clear they will appeal. But today, we appreciate the clear and detailed analysis in this decision that will frame the case as it moves forward, and we congratulate the legal team of Ted Olson and David Boies, and of the City and County of San Francisco, for presenting such a thorough and compelling case in court."

The law firms Gibson Dunn & Crutcher and Boies, Schiller & Flexner filed *Perry v. Schwarzenegger* in U.S. District Court for the Northern District of California on May 22, 2009, on behalf of two same-sex couples who had been denied marriage licenses earlier that month. The case challenges California's Proposition 8, which changed the California Constitution on November 4, 2008 to eliminate lesbian and gay couples' right to marry in that state.

Lambda Legal, the ACLU, and the National Center for Lesbian Rights filed two friend-of-the-court briefs in the case supporting the argument that Prop 8 violates the federal Constitution. The LGBT legal groups' amicus briefs explained that, given California's unique history and laws and the campaign process through which Prop 8 was enacted: (1) the measure is an unlawful denial of equal protection no matter what form of constitutional review is applied and (2) it fails the heightened due process review required under the U.S. Constitution.

As of today, ten countries allow same-sex couples to marry: Argentina, Belgium, Canada, Iceland, the Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, South Africa, Spain and Sweden). Lesbian and gay

MCC OMAHA

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couples also can marry in Mexico City—the most populous city in North America.

In the United States, the following six jurisdictions allow same-sex couples to marry: Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Hampshire and Vermont.

The California Supreme Court held in May 2009 that the estimated 18,000 couples who married in California between that court's marriage equality decision in May 2008 and Prop 8's passage on November 4, 2008 remain validly married under California law. At least Maryland and New York honor married same-sex couples' marital status from other states. At least California and New Jersey treat married same-sex couples as entitled to all state law rights and responsibilities through state domestic partnership or civil union rules.

According to U.S. Census figures for 2005, California is home to more than 100,000 same-sex couples, living in every county in the state and raising nearly 40,000 children but with fewer financial resources than their married counterparts. The data also show more than 1,300,000 lesbian, gay and bisexual individuals living in California, and that California's LGB population is racially and ethnically diverse and by far the largest nationally.

Marriage Equality Win in Mexico

(Continued on page 7)

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A black and white photograph of Melissa Etheridge performing on stage. She is wearing a dark leather jacket and has long, wavy hair. She is leaning forward, playing an electric guitar. The background is dark with spotlights illuminating her from above.

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(Striking Down Prop 8, Continued from page 4)

By Advocate.com Editors

The marriages of same-sex couples performed in Mexico City must be recognized by all Mexican states, the country's supreme court ruled Tuesday.

Though Mexico's 31 states now must recognize such unions from Mexico City, none are required to sanction gay marriages performed within their locales.

The court ruled last week that the Mexico City law permitting marriage

rights for same-sex couples is constitutional, rejecting an appeal by federal prosecutors, who argued that it violated mandates to protect the family.

In a 9-2 vote, the supreme court found that states are obligated to honor legal contracts formed elsewhere in the country, the Associated Press reports.

Mexico City legalized gay marriage in March, and it includes the right for same-sex couples to adopt children.



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Gay Man Prevented From Dying Partner Wins Settlement

By Advocate.com

An elderly gay man who was prevented from seeing his dying partner in the hospital by social workers will receive \$600,000 in a settlement, reports the Mercury News. Clay Greene, 78, of Guerneville, Calif filed a lawsuit against Sonoma County's Public Guardian program earlier this year, claiming he was discriminated against because of his sexual orientation.

Greene accused the county's social workers of denying him hospital visitation rights to see his partner, Harold Scull, despite medical declarations, powers of attorney, and signed wills that named each other as spouses. The couple was not married nor registered as domestic partners. The lawsuit also alleged that after Scull died, Greene was forced into a nursing home by social workers, who then sold many items of the couple's personal property.

Gregory Spaulding, the attorney who represented the county, denied the discrimination claims, but he admitted mistakes in selling the couple's property. According to the county, Greene was kept away from his partner because of previous domestic violence allegations. According to a sheriff's report, Scull went to authorities with a black eye, claiming Greene threatened to kill him. However, no formal complaint was lodged against Scull.

"The county remains confident in its position that there was no discrimination in this case," Spaulding says. Under the law, property worth \$5,000 or less can be sold by officials to cover medical expenses, but the sale of the couple's property brought in more than \$25,000 at auction. "Errors in that case have led to revised policies at the Public Guardian's office," Spaulding says.

Spaulding acknowledges the county settled the case Thursday to avoid further expense. "It just made economic sense to stop the bleeding," Spaulding says. "To end the case and avoid all expenses and costs."

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CURIOSITY and PASSION

By Michael Kimmel
[beyondtherapy@cox.net]



Joni Mitchell has a song, "Happiness is the best facelift", but curiosity may be just as good. If you want to stay youthful and energetic, consider the role of curiosity in your life. As kids, many of us were not encouraged to be curious: "Curiosity killed the cat", my grandma told me when I asked too many questions. At the time (age 5) I shut up and obeyed her, but I wish I had replied with, "But Grandma, I'll bet that cat had a fabulous 9 lives before he died."

Curiosity in the world

Curiosity is enthusiasm about your own life and that of others. It's about being out there in the world, not all wrapped up in your neurotic little self. Curiosity is questioning, wondering, and pondering. Reading can be a great way to experience curiosity: you can travel the world and meet the most bizarre and amazing people without leaving your home. Travel is another way to express your curiosity about the world. When you go to different places, you leave your comfort zone behind: new people, places, things and customs keep you alert and pose questions like: "Why do they do that?" or "What would I be like if I grew up here?" Curiosity in the world keeps us mentally expanding and growing...and youthful.

Curiosity about yourself

Besides wondering about others and how they live, it's mentally healthy to wonder about yourself. Consider these questions:

- Who am I really?
- Who am I today?
- Who did I used to be?
- Who do I want to be in 5, 10 or 15 years?

By actively questioning and exploring who you are and who you want to be (e.g., "Why am I here?") you are creating new neural patterns in your brain that make you younger, smarter and healthier. While there is a fine line between self-curiosity and self-obsession (hello narcissists!), it's hard to grow without periodic spells of self-examination (even Madonna said, "an unexamined life is not worth living" in her song lyrics). You can use self-help books, prayer, meditation, psychotherapy and even shopping to explore your curiosity about yourself. Yes, shopping! For example, when you go shopping, how do you define what's really "You"? Do you look at something and think, "I like that shirt/lamp/whatever, but that's just not 'me'." This is shopping as a form of self-definition. By saying "yes" or "no" to things you could wear/buy/have, you are asking yourself, "Who am I and what do I think is right for me?" So the next time you go shopping, consciously enjoy your curiosity. Let yourself be amused and perhaps even surprised at how you define yourself.

Passion: curiosity's best friend

I define passion as strong feelings or energy directed towards someone or something. There is a common misconception about passion that it must be dramatic and over-the-top. This is bullshit. Passion can be as subtle as watching a spider spin a web at your cubicle at work or noticing the color of the tomato

plants on your apartment balcony. We are all passionate beings. You may not think you are, but, dear reader, get over yourself. You may not yet be aware of your passion or expressing it (yet), but it's there.

Often I hear my clients say, "Oh, I wish I felt passionate about something...my life is just so boring." Even a statement like: "I just HATE my life! Everything sucks!" is hardly passionless. There is passion there: thwarted passion. Thwarted passion kills: a little bit at a time, we die. Don't let this happen to you. Instead, look for little things that bring you joy, that make your heart beat just a little faster. Look at the people in your life in whose presence you feel most alive. Look at the animals and plants in your life whose presence you delight in. These are all sources of passion. Your passions are uniquely your own...no one may understand why you love gardening and circuit parties. These are your passions and they need fulfill only you.

Discover your own passions

Here's an exercise to get in touch with some of your passions. Sit in a nice relaxing spot, turn off the cell phone, get a piece of paper and pen and then ask yourself these questions:

- What do I care about?
- What do I find interesting?
- What would I like to know more about?
- What have I long wanted to do/try/learn?

These are not easy questions, but they will stimulate the right side of your brain...the creative, inspiring side. Take your time and think about them. You may want to answer them now and put them aside, then look at them tomorrow and add to your answers. Let yourself free associate...there are no wrong answers!

Allow the questions to help you identify your passions, those parts of your life that you are curious about and want to explore more. When you follow your curiosity, your life gets more vivid and energized. Curiosity leads to passion: curiosity is the process of investigation and passion is the experience that comes from acting on what you discover. If your life feels a bit dull and boring, try the exercises, have fun playing with your curiosity and identifying your passions. Above all: enjoy the process.

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Contact Posha_Towers@yahoo.com
or Jodi_p07@yahoo.com

(Iowa.. The Better Life. Continued from page 1)

place. But I have a home in a state that is easily leading the nation when it comes to equality. I have surrounded myself with people who are outraged when their neighbor is mistreated, even if they themselves are not. I have chosen to live in a place where there is liberty and justice for all, and that place is called Iowa. Twenty years ago I could not have imagined myself living here – now I can't imagine myself living anywhere else!

DON'T MISS THE 4TH ANNUAL SPAGHETTI DINNER

MCC-Omaha and the community it is time for the annual spaghetti dinner. Mark your calendars for August 28, 2010. This event will be in the social hall at MCC-Omaha at 819 S. 22nd St from 5-7:30pm. Carryout orders will be accepted by calling 402 345-2563.

The menu will consist of spaghetti, salad, garlic bread, dessert and a drink for the low cost of \$8.00 for adults, \$10.00 for all you can eat, and \$4.00 for children 12 and under. Tickets will be sold at the door.

There will be silent auction items, raffle prizes and fellowship for all.

For any questions please contact Ray Page at 402 293-7519.

If anyone has any raffle prizes or silent auction items to donate please contact Ray.

This has always been a fun event for everyone. All proceeds will be going back to MCC-Omaha to help support the sunroom project.

RCMC Auditions

Want to sing with the River City Mixed Chorus? Your chance is coming up soon. Auditions will be held Monday, Aug. 23rd from 6-9pm and Monday, Aug. 30th from 6-6:30pm. Rehearsals for the next season start on Monday Aug. 30th.

To set up an audition time, e-mail us at audition@rcmc.org or call the sing line at 341-SING (7464). More information is available on our website www.RCMC.org.

Our next season: "Our Family Tree"- Saturday, January 22 and Sunday January 23, 2011; "American Pie"- Saturday, June 11 and Sunday, June 12, 2011. Come be a part of the area's only GLBTA Chorus!

MCC OMAHA HOSTS NEIGHBORHOOD NIGHT OUT

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha partnered with the Imperial Court of Nebraska to host its first Neighborhood Night Out Celebration on Tuesday, August 3. This celebration was part of the National



Neighborhood Night Out Event which has brought neighborhood groups together on the first Tuesday in August for the last 20 years. MCC Omaha invited their neighborhood by passing out flyers door to door in a 20 block area around the church which resulted in nearly 200 people including nearly 90 children coming out to enjoy the evening. When asked by the media why the church decided to host this event, organizers replied, "We are a diverse church located in a highly diverse neighborhood and we wanted to celebrate that diversity."

Music was provided by Radio Lobo and DJ Lenin with 4 hours of Latino Rock. Volunteers cooked and served over 200 hot dogs along with fried chicken, chips, cookies, soda and bottled water while other volunteers coordinated games for the children. Children also enjoyed a "Big Bouncey Crayola Palace," face painting by CrossOver Ministries, and playing in the water sprayed from the Fire Truck's hose.

Over 450 items of school supplies were given away to needy children along with 108 flash drives with computer games and music and over 100 toys.

Over 20 volunteers from MCC Omaha and 9 volunteers from the Imperial Court of Nebraska worked in 90 degree heat to make sure everything went smoothly. Fifteen volunteers from Target made a brief appearance to distribute beach balls and other gifts to those in the crowd.

The event was honored by visits from Omaha Mayor Jim Suttle, Omaha Police Officers and Chief of Police Alex Haley, a Hook and Ladder Truck from the Omaha Fire Department with Fire Chief Price and his crew. News coverage was provided by the Omaha World Herald and TV stations WOWT, KETV, and KPTM. In fact, MCC's Neighborhood Night Out was the lead story on WOWT's 5pm news and Pastor Tom Emmet was featured in live interviews on all three TV stations.

Special thanks go to the Imperial Court of Nebraska who co-sponsored the event and the candidates for Emperor and Empress XXX (Todd Pacas, David Chippy Allen, and Wendy Dey) whose benefit functions provided the majority of the funding. Thanks also to Rainbow Celebrations for the donation of their tables and to the many volunteers and others whose generous donations made this event possible.

Antigay Student Sues University

By Advocate.com Editors

A Georgia student who believes homosexuality is immoral and a lifestyle choice has filed a lawsuit against Augusta State University, reports the Atlanta Journal Constitution. Jennifer Keeton, a school of counseling graduate student at the university, claims her constitutional rights were violated by school officials who threatened to expel her if she didn't complete a remediation plan that includes diversity sensitivity workshops.



A lawsuit filed in federal court in Augusta, Georgia last Wednesday states that Keeton frequently said in and out of the classroom that, according to her Christian beliefs, homosexuality is immoral and a lifestyle choice. The Alliance Defense Fund, a coalition of Christian attorneys, will represent Keeton in the lawsuit, which accuses Augusta State officials of violating Keeton's First Amendment rights to free speech and the free exercise of religion. A statement released by David French, senior counsel for the defense fund, states, "A public university student shouldn't be threatened with expulsion for being a Christian and refusing to publicly renounce her faith, but that's exactly what's happening here." The lawsuit claims Keeton's beliefs would not affect her ability to counsel gays and lesbians.

Gay Priests Caught in Sex Scandal

By Advocate.com Editors

Three gay priests in Rome have been caught visiting gay night-spots and having casual sex in an undercover operation conducted via hidden cameras by a journalist from Italian magazine Panorama.

The story leaked by e-mail yesterday and states that video footage will be made available. An Italian Catholic diocese has responded to the article, denouncing the gay priests for their "double life" and saying they should not be in the priesthood, according to the BBC.

This is the latest in a series of sex scandals that have caused embarrassment for the Vatican and the Catholic Church, which forbids priests to have sex and considers homosexuality a sin.

Panorama magazine, which is owned by Italian prime minister Silvio Berlusconi, described what it found during the investigation as "deeply disturbing" as it detailed how three priests happily took part in gay events and had casual sex. Panorama also reveals in the preview of the article, "By day they are regular priests, complete with dog collar, but at night it's off with the cassock as they take their place as perfectly integrated members of the Italian capital's gay scene."

The magazine also reports that one priest, referred to as Carlo,

willingly put on his cassock to have sex with the reporter's gay accomplice.

Did Glee Cast Kurt's Boyfriend?

By Advocate.com Editors

ICarly star Chord Overstreet has been cast for the upcoming season of Glee... and it looks likely he's going to be playing Kurt's boyfriend.

Creator Ryan Murphy has said that the second season of Glee would feature Kurt (played by Chris Colfer) in a relationship. He said the role would be cast after a nationwide search.



According to Movieline, Overstreet will play Sam, an athlete who "starts off as Finn's protégé but becomes his competition."

The second season of the Emmy-nominated show starts Sept. 21.

Gay Man Prevented From Dying Partner Wins Settlement

By Advocate.com

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Cyndi Lauper: "I'm Your Extended Family"

By Jeffrey Gerson

In a compelling interview with XTRA's Elvira Kurt on Tuesday, Cyndi Lauper expresses her passion for her gay fans, dedication to civil rights, and distaste for the Bush administration and evangelism.

Despite having lost her creative voice through the show, The Celebrity Apprentice, she says it was all worth it due to having the opportunity to champion gay civil rights on national television and establish WeGiveADamn.org.

When asked why she seemed to have a special place for gays at her shows and in her heart, the singer responded in her heavy New York accent, "Because I'm your extended family." She continued to explain, "Because the past — this year is getting a little better, but the past eight years, it was so dark. It was not good, and I was not gonna stand by and not say anything."

What? Now everybody's afraid to say, 'Hey, this isn't right. What are you doing?' or 'Hey! Let's pick on the gays because really we're having a fire sale and selling your country right down the river.'"

Regarding the blames recently placed on Obama, she blames the past administration: "And then this guy goes in and it's 'his fault.' But it's not his fault; it's the other two. The criminals that never got charged. I can't say enough how upsetting that was. I can't. And the way he would go on television — that George Bush — and speak hate. I mean, just unabashed hatred."

She blames the religious aspect utilized by the Bush administration for deceiving the public, stating that "the whole Evangelist bologna, I think it's bullshit." Lauper is also a founding partner of True Colors Residence, "the first permanent, supportive housing facility for lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender youth in New York State."



AFA Boycotting Pro-Gay Home Depot

By Neal Broverman

OMAHA PFLAG

Monthly Meetings: Second Thursday 7:00 P.M.
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AT THE RAINBOW OUTREACH GLBT CENTER
1719 LEAVENWORTH, OMAHA

EVERY FRIDAY EXCLUDING MAJOR HOLIDAYS
(402) 341-0330 WWW.RAINBOWOUTREACH.ORG

The antigay American Family Association is targeting Home Depot because the retail chain sponsored pride festivals and offers domestic-partner benefits to its employees.

JoeMyGod reports the AFA has launched a formal boycott, urging its members to stop shopping at Home Depot stores. The AFA website includes the two images, shown above, including the picture with children that is allegedly from a pride festival.

According to the AFA: "The flags in these Home Depot cups promote a gay website which proclaims itself as 'the men's social group for men who have sex with men.' The cups were given to children by The Home Depot gay parade marchers, while homosexual activists followed up by introducing them to gay sex websites. The Home Depot has no problem aligning itself with gay activist groups who target children with a pro-homosexual message."

The AFA takes umbrage with Home Depot sponsoring Pride events in Nashville and Durham, N.C., as well as offering domestic-partner benefits to its employees. The AFA also tries to incite ire by pointing out Home Depot offers insurance benefits that cover gender reassignment surgery.

Lutherans Welcome Reinstated Gay Pastors

By Michelle Garcia

The Reverend Megan Rohrer Seven gay and transgender pastors in California who were barred from serving in the Lutheran Church were reinstated in a ceremony on Sunday.

The pastors, all from the San Francisco Bay area, were folded back into the church a year after the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America decided to allow gay pastors serve as clergy. The church previously only allowed gays to serve if they adhered to a vow of celibacy. The "Bay Area Seven" were Jeff Johnson, Megan Rohrer, Paul Brenner, Craig Minich, Dawn Roginski, Sharon Stalkfleet, and Ross Merkel, according to the San Francisco Chronicle.

In 1990 two San Francisco churches saw the policy as discriminatory and ordained Johnson and a lesbian couple. The churches, First United and St. Frances, were then expelled from the denomination.

Gay Military Group Forms for Post-DADT Life

By Michelle Garcia

An organization representing gay and lesbian active duty military personnel announced its launch Monday, as the Defense Department seeks to repeal the nation's ban on openly gay troops.



Outserve, formed to help the Pentagon as the military eases into its proposed policy change, is headed up by J.D. Smith, an officer who cannot reveal his full name because of "don't ask, don't tell." The organization started in October 2009 as an underground group formed under the name Citizens for Repeal. There are approximately 450 members, including about two dozen who are currently deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq.

"We are here to fight and win wars, serve with integrity and honesty and protect the people fighting next to us," said the organization's overseas director, who is currently deployed with an artillery unit in Baghdad. "We are proud to sacrifice for the nation we love, but we have a lot of educational work to do."

Target & Best Buy Contribute to Antigay Politician

By Advocate.com Editors

Target, the LGBT-friendly department store chain, has contributed \$150,000 to Minnesota Forward, a political action committee that supports Minnesota Republican gubernatorial candidate Tom Emmer, an opponent of gay marriage, reports NBC Bay Area. Emmer, who says "I believe marriage is the union between one man and one woman," received the money for TV ads. Website SFist reports that Emmer is also friends with controversial musician Bradlee Dean, of the Christian rock band called You Can Run But You Cannot Hide. Dean was recently quoted saying that Muslim countries that execute LGBTs are "more moral than even the American Christians." Target, whose company headquarters is located in Minneapolis, released a statement that says, "Target supports causes and candidates based strictly on issues that affect our retail and business interests."

One candidate for Governor of Minnesota has promised to veto marriage equality legislation and has ties to a Christian rock band that advocates death to gays.

Target and Best Buy, both based in Minneapolis, have donated \$250,000 to a political committee supporting his campaign.

GAYZETTE EVENTS

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

NEW WALK-IN HOURS

Saturdays	4:00PM - 11:00PM
Sundays	call before coming by
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.

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

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, 250 South 77th St., by appointment only on Wednesdays from 1:30 to 4:00pm, Thursday and Friday Walk-In from 5pm to 9pm, & at the Respect Clinic walk-in from 5:30pm to 7pm

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

WORSHIP SERVICES
MCC OMAHA, Bible Study, 7pm

Every Thursday
CONNECTIONS THIRSTY THURSDAYS
 Club Passion Party

DANCE LESSONS WITH GORDON
 7pm, free, DC's Saloon, Classes run from Sept 9th thru May 20th annually

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

NAP HIV TESTING 5pm- 9pm walk-in, 250 So. 77th, Same day results

OMAHA GLBT SPORTS LEAGUE, playing Softball every Thursday 6-10pm, at Churchich park (50th and C). Games will be played through August 12th

Every Friday
LIVE & LET LIVE AA Meeting, 8:15pm to 9:15pm, Open to men and women, at Underwood Hills Presbyterian Church, 851 North 74th Street

LIVE & LET LIVE AL-ANON, a group focused on support and recovery for the friends and relatives of alcoholics, 7pm to 8pm at the Underwood Hills Presbyterian Church, 851 North 74th Street

OUT & ABOUT SOCIAL CLUB
 Open to everyone 21 and over, every Friday 6:30pm (time may vary), for more information call 402-384-8014

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, 250 So. 77th, Same day results

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

DIXIE AFTER DARK, Enjoy Breakfast at Dixie Quicks Restaurant, 12AM to 4AM, every Saturday night, 1915 Leavenworth St., Proceeds benefit local GLBT organizations

DJ MUSIC AND DANCING 10PM, Connections Bar (open Thurs., Fri., Sat. nights from 6PM to 2AM)

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

Every Other Friday

WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Sunday

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

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, 9:30 a.m. "eclectic service" and 11:15 a.m. "traditional service"

GAY MEN'S ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 4pm, Augustana Lutheran Church 3647 Lafayette Ave., 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.

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY

CBCA SOCIAL GET-TOGETHER at Broadway Joe's (34th & Broadway in CB) starting at 5:15pm every other Friday

MONTHLY EVENTS

1st Tuesday

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

1st Wednesday

FREE RAPID HIV TESTING, 8pm to 10pm at Flix Show Bar, STD testing also available for \$10, call 552-9260 ext. 113 or 142 or visit www.nap.org for more info

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 ASSOCIATION, Meeting days and times may vary, call 402-505-3331 for info or see www.hgra.net for meeting schedules etc.

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

2nd Thursday

MCCO DISCUSSION GROUP, 7p.m. and shares a light meal. Normally ends at 9p.m. Spirituality, faith, religion, world issues, life issues are just some of our topics. Contact Royal for more information: royalb@mccomaha.org or 516-2759

PFLAG-OMAHA, 7pm to 9pm, First United Methodist Church

2nd Saturday

LEARNING TO EXCHANGE POWER L2EP@aol.com 2pm; DC's Saloon

TOP TRANSGENDER DROP-IN, 6 to 9pm at Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St.

2nd Sunday

QUUT SECOND SUNDAY SCREENING (glt 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 Thursday

COFFEE HOUSE Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

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

3rd Sunday

CBCA MEETING 5 PM until about 6:30 PM is our monthly meeting with potluck. We meet at St Paul's Episcopal Church in Council Bluffs

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 Thursday

MCCO DISCUSSION GROUP, 7p.m. and shares a light meal. Normally ends at 9p.m. Spirituality, faith, religion, world issues, life issues are just some of our topics. Contact Royal for more information: royalb@mccomaha.org or 516-2759

4th Friday

LEO - LEATHER ENGINEERS OF OMAHA, Not currently meeting.

Email Your Event to:
GAYZETTE@COX.NET

'Ya, shure It's right here in my tackle box,' says Ole.

'Could I see him?'

Ole opens his tackle box and sure enough, out pops the Genie.

Addressing the genie, Sven says, 'Hey dere! I'm a good friend of your master. Vill you grant me vun vish?'

'Yes, I will,' says the Genie.

So Sven asks the Genie for a million bucks.

The Genie disappears back into the tackle box leaving Sven sitting there waiting for his million bucks.

Shortly, the sky darkens and is filled with the sound of a million ducks... Flying directly overhead.

Over the roar of the million ducks, Sven yells at Ole, 'Yumpin' Yimminy, I asked for a million bucks, not a million ducks!'

Ole answers, 'Ya, I forgot to tell yew dat da Genie is hart of hearing. Do yew really tink I asked for a 10-inch Bic?'

I'm Buying One

Two young men were looking at a mail order catalog and admiring the models. One says to the other, 'Have you seen the beautiful girls in this catalog?'

The second one replies, 'Yes, they are very beautiful. And look at the price!'

The first one says, with wide eyes, 'Wow, they aren't very expensive. At this price, I'm buying one!'

The second one smiles and pats him on the back, 'Good idea! Order one and if she's as beautiful as she is in the catalog, I will get one too!'

Three weeks later, the youngest man asks his friend, 'Did you ever receive the girl you ordered from the catalog?'

The second man replies 'No, but it shouldn't be long now. She sent all her clothes yesterday?'

No Minnesotans were insulted by this joke (they really do sound like this). The two young men.... Well.... They really are idiots. I hope the clothes fit them. Maybe they can perform in a few shows for the GLBT community.

Two Minnesota Guys

Ole and Sven were fishing in Minnesota when Sven pulled out a cigar. Finding he had no matches, he asked Ole for a light.

'Ya, shure, I tink I haff a lighter,' he replied, and then, reaching into his tackle box, he pulled out a Bic lighter 10 inches long..

'Yiminy Cricket!' exclaimed Sven, taking the huge Bic lighter in his hands. 'Vere dit yew git dat monster?'

'Vell,' replied Ole, I got it from my Genie.'
'You haff a Genie?' Sven asked.

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

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 Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney Street, 402-345-3039, www.firstuomaha.org, GLBT Welcoming Congregation

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

Inclusive Life Care & Service Group 105 S. 49th Street Omaha 68132
Spiritual-Interfaith-Secular Care & Service for all Individuals, Couples and Families www.inclusivelife.org 402-516-8475

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

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, 250 So. 77th St., testing Wed from 1:30-4PM by appointment only, Thurs & Fri 5PM-9PM with 20 minute results Call 402-552-9255 for 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

North Side Christian Church 5555 Larimore Ave., Contemporary service Saturday night at 5:30pm

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

OUUT (Omaha Unitarian Universalists for Tolerance) First Unitarian Church, 3114 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 at 7pm, 1st United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass

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

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

Rainbow Celebrations, PO Box 8488, Omaha, 68108, call 866-NE-PRIDE toll free, sponsors of annual Gay Pride & National Coming Out Day, for complete info 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

SECOND UNITARIAN CHURCH, 3012 South 119th Street, 402-334-0537, www.secondunitarianomaha.org, GLBT Welcoming Congregation

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

TOP, Taking Our Places, meets 2nd Saturdays at 6pm at Rainbow Outreach Center

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 Community Alliance
www.councilbluffscommunityalliance.org
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>

Sordid Lives

SNAP! Productions is serving up a heaping helping of Southern-fried sauciness with **SORDID LIVES**; a comedy by Del Shores.

The hilarious exposé of small-town Texas life is full of love, loss, and big hair. Sometimes it takes a death to bring a family together, but not necessarily Peggy's family.

Her tragic death brings out the best, the worst, and the most peculiar in her family and friends. The dark comedy is the perfect summer fare for anyone who loves to laugh and laugh loud. Get ready for guffaws the size of Texas with this twisted, white-trash tale "that puts the 'fun' in 'dysfunctional'".

The hilariously sordid details about a southern family surface with a vengeance when relatives converge for the funeral of "Grandma Peggy," who died after tripping over her lover's wooden legs! Toss in a couple of feuding, big-haired daughters, a jumpy aunt who just quit smoking, the scorned neighbor from hell, and crazy, cross-dressing "Brother Boy" - and you've got an outrageous "train wreck you can't help but watch!"

Todd Brooks will direct this dark comedy and is very fortunate to have assembled an award winning cast that includes SNAP! veterans Mary Carrick, Jerry Evert, Scott Fowler, Connie Lee, Chelsea Long, Denny Maddux, John Remington, Therese Renels, Barb Ross and Daena Schweiger. Plus very talented newcomers to SNAP!: Gary Planck and Isaac Reilly. SNAP! is pleased to have on its production staff John Remington (Stage Manager), Echelle Childers (Costumes), Todd Brooks (Set/Light/Sound Design), James Brooks (Specialty Set Construction), Connie Fowler (Properties) and Dan Baye (Sound/Light Operator).

Buy your tickets now for this outrageous comedy. **Sordid Lives** will run from **August 19 – September 12**, 2010 at 3225 California Street. Curtain times are 8:00 pm, Thursday, Friday and Saturday; 6:00 pm on Sundays. The Sunday, September 12th show will start at 2:00 pm.

There will be a Tag Nite Out Preview performance on Wednesday, August 18, 2010. There will also be a special signed performance for the hearing impaired on August 22, 2010.

The theater opens a half hour before curtain time. Reservations may be made on the SNAP! Productions' website: www.snapproductions.com.

Tickets are \$15.00, general admission; 12.00, students, senior citizens, and TAG members. The performances on August 19, 26, September 2 and 9 will have our New Thursday Special Pricing of only \$10.00. Any questions about tickets call 402-341-2757.

Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

Omaha:

Broadway Joe's Bar, 35th & Broadway	Council Bluffs IA
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
The Max, 1417 Jackson St.	346-4110
Metropolitan Community Church, 819 South 22nd Street	
Mystery Bookstore, 1414 South 13th St.	342-7343
Nebraska AIDS Project, 250 South 77th St	552-9260
Omaha Mining Co., 1715 Leavenworth	449-8703
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: news@rainbowoutreach.org

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox

YAWN. LET'S SEE... I'LL HAVE EGGS FLORENTINE AND A SIDE ORDER OF--

WHOA. SLOW DOWN, STUPID. KYLE'S THE COOK AROUND HERE... NOT ME.

ALTHOUGH I DO FILL IN FOR HIM ON OCCASION... WHATEVER I COOK TENDS TO END UP ON THE CHARRED SIDE.

DIDN'T YOU GET THE MEMO? BREAKFAST IS SERVED BETWEEN 7 AND 9.

REALLY? THAT'S DAMNED INCONVENIENT. WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO NOW?

RELAX. KYLE ALWAYS LEAVES AN AMPLE SUPPLY OF MUFFINS AND FRESH FRUIT FOR US LATE RISERS.

AND THERE'S COFFEE ON THE STOVE.

TREMENDOUS.

I'M RICHARD, INCIDENTALLY. AND YOU ARE...?

PRICE KINGSBURY.

"PRICE"? THAT'S... AN INTERESTING NAME.

I SUPPOSE.

WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE?

LOCATION. I JUST LEFT BRINKLEY-SLOAN TO OPEN MY OWN FINANCIAL CONSULTING BUSINESS.

I WANTED TO DO IT IN THE HAMPTONS, BUT THAT'S TOO FAR FROM MANHATTAN.

THIS TOWN... HAS HAMPTONS CHARM AT HALF THE DISTANCE.

HMMM... CUTE SLOGAN. KYLE SHOULD USE THAT IN HIS ADVERTISING MATERIALS.

BY THE WAY, I'M GUESSING FROM THAT SLIGHT TWANG IN YOUR VOICE, YOU'RE NOT FROM THE AREA?

LEXINGTON, KENTUCKY... BORN AND RAISED. THOUGH... I'M SURPRISED YOU DETECTED AN ACCENT.

NOT THAT I'M TRYING TO HIDE IT. BUT FOUR YEARS AT DARTMOUTH COLLEGE... AND THE PAST THREE WORKING IN NEW YORK CITY...

...I FIGURED IT'D BEEN GROUND OUT OF ME TO THE POINT WHERE NO ONE COULD NOTICE IT.

OH, I NOTICE EVERYTHING.

LIKE THE FACT YOU AREN'T WEARING ANY UNDERWEAR...

Fitness Corner

By Ron Blake



It can be a lot of fun to sit back, relax, and create some escapist entertainment for you. It can also be quite a healthy retreat too. I recently wrote an article about the songs from the 1980s and I thought I'd keep with that theme while giving you that healthy escape.

Who did you want to be when you were young? The President? The Pope? The principal at your school? Are you kidding? How about a character from a movie, book, or television show? That's where the real excitement is at. It might just have been daydreaming but it sure got me through my teen years in those roaring 80's. Close your eyes and imagine where it is all possible.

MacGyver. One name says it all. Want to make a bomb? Grab some tweezers, the stem of a rhododendron, table salt, marshmallows, and some candle wax. Think it can't be done. Think again. It's MacGyver. He was the survivalist par excellence. He could have led my Boy Scout troop any day!

Han Solo. I drove 110 miles per hour in an Oldsmobile V-8 when I got my drivers license. Mr. Solo was flying the Millennium Falcon at light speed anytime he wanted. I negotiated the Dan Ryan Expressway in Chicago during rush hour. Han negotiated an asteroid field while being pursued by stormtroopers. I thought it was cool to hang around with the different kids who wore all black clothing and imagined they were warlocks. Han Solo befriended a seven foot tall Wookiee and often fraternized with "things" that were a mix between aluminum garbage cans and club kids from Greenwich Village. Han Solo is the reason I still like playing with my light saber to this day.

Blake Carrington. He was suave, sophisticated, and savvy. He had women clawing away in catfights over their right to lay claim to him. He was rich beyond imagination. His family life was never boring. They were a gallimaufry of the Kennedys, the Menendez bothers, and Lorena Bobbitt. His middle age and salt and pepper hair assured me that sexy had no upper limits.

Wren McCormick. He's the big city kid who moved to that one-horse town and changed it all. I'm talking about the seven degrees of Kevin Bacon. Footloose proved that husbandry can be all that its cracked up to be. You just need the music and all that dancing and your worries float away. Wren had a neat little VW Bug, the cool haircut, the dance moves, and the knack of persuasion. By the end of the movie, he changes the rules, he defeats the tough guys, and he gets the girl. Sounds like hundreds of movies. Yeah, but I was in high school at the time and this was "MY" movie. Let's hear it for the boy!

Some guy named Charles Fisher once said, "Dreaming permits each and every one of us to be quietly and safely insane every night of our lives. "Grab another brew from the barkeep and let's take a trip back to the 1980's with your favorite character. "Fasten your seatbelts, it's going to be a bumpy night."

Ron Blake is a funny little guy who likes to write funny little things. You can send Ron any funny little suggestions or comments at rblake5551@hotmail.com.

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