The GayZette



Antigay Sweet Cakes Bakery Now Out of Business

BY NEAL BROVERMAN



Sweet Cakes by Melissa refused to bake a cake for a lesbian couple and found themselves at the center of a media storm. Three years later, the bakery is closed.

Aaron and Melissa Klein abruptly announced the closure of their Gresham, Ore., bakery three and a half years after they ignited a firestorm by proudly refusing service to a same-sex couple.

Rachel and Laurel Bowman-Cryer were denied a wedding cake from the Kleins, who claimed their "religious freedom" allowed them to turn away the women. The Bowman-Cryers says the Kleins seized the opportunity to exploit the situation and become darlings of the religious right.

After being fined \$135,000 by the Oregon Bureau of Labor for violating the state's 2007 Equality Act, the Kleins refused to pay and appealed to their supporters, who showered them with over \$500,000 in donations. The Kleins still appealed the Bureau of Labor's decision and the Bowman-Cryers said that, as of last month, they haven't received a penny in restitution.

Now, the humble bakery has shuttered, Towleroad reports. The bakery's Facebook page only states, "We have closed Sweet Cakes. We appreciate everyone's continued prayer and support!"

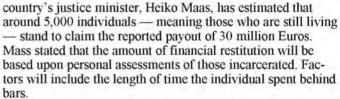
Germany Pays Reparations to Gay Men Jailed for Sodomy

BY NICO LANG

The German government has announced that it will make reparations to the men imprisoned under Paragraph 175, a provision in the country's criminal code that outlawed sodomy until

Authorities also plan to expunge the records of the 50,000 jailed under the law.

Although 140,000 people were arrested in total, the



"We will never be able to remove these outrages committed by this country but we want to rehabilitate the victims," Mass said in a statement. "The convicted homosexual men should no longer have to live with the black mark of a criminal conviction."

Germany's Green and Left parties have placed enormous pressure in recent years on federal authorities to make amends to the men incarcerated under the law. Politicians Katja Keul and Volker Beck, both of whom serve in the German Bundestag, have referred to the lack of compensation as "a monstrous disgrace."

The law was first enacted following the unification of Germany under Kaiser Wilhelm in 1871. After taking power in 1933, the Nazi Party intensified the prohibition against homosexual acts as a reaction to the permissiveness of cities like Berlin, which had become a safe haven to the nascent LGBT community with the success of its popular drag and cabaret bars. Many would be thrown into concentration camps because of their gender identity or sexual orientation.

(Continued on page 3)

October 14th, 2016 - October 28th, 2016

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Following the fall of the Third Reich, the anti-sodomy law remained on the books in both West Germany and the Socialist East Germany. Paragraph 175 would be used to target homosexuals, getting them fired from their professions and kicked out of their homes.

East Germany stopped prosecuting homosexual acts in the 1950s, although West Germany was slower to catch up. The statute was amended in 1969 to prohibit sexual assault in the workplace and gay male prostitution. It also stipulates that as a punishable act intercourse between "a man over twenty-one years old who engages as the active or passive partner in lewdness with another man under the age of twenty-one." The age of consent would be lowered to 18 in 1973.

Paragraph 175, however, wouldn't be stricken from the legal code for another 25 years.

Although Germany would expunge the arrests made under Hitler's regime, that would not apply to the men harassed and imprisoned by police after the war. Those convictions had yet to be vacated.

Homophobic Taxi Driver Given the Sack by Company

by Darius Zheng

Company had previously supported its driver who allegedly velled homophobic abuse outside a gay bar.

An American taxi company which had previously supported one of its homophobic drivers, fired him over last weekend.

Portland Taxi Company, which changed its tune for reasons unknown, confirmed that Svodboda, one of its drivers, has been given the sack.

Svodboda was allegedly yelling homophobic words at patrons outside Scandals, a gay bar in Southwest Portland, last Tuesday evening. He allegedly told people outside the bar that they were 'going to hell' and also offered to help them get out of a 'difficult lifestyle'.



He was asked by some bar employees to leave, according to KATU. Bar patron Ty Raia, however, shared that 'another patron called the (taxi) company to express their concerns that he was doing this while representing the company' - only to receive a response that 'they don't care'.

The company claimed that Svodboda was exercising his First Amendment rights and there should be no disciplinary action.

'If the gays don't want to use our company then that's good for us,' a representative from the company added.

This, however, isn't the first incident that the company has faced. In March, one of its driver refused payment from a passenger and told the latter he should be in jail because of his sexual orientation.

The company changed its stance, unexpectedly, over the weekend. Owner Ken Karkhu showed text messages to KATU that he had fired Svodboda. This was further confirmed with subsequent text messages on Saturday night of Syodboda's suspension.

By Sunday night, it is confirmed that Svodboda had been fired.

Syodboda admitted that he had received complaints from gay passengers about how he had treated them. However, according to Karkhu, none of these complaints were ever relayed to senior management.

Uber, though, has decided to terminate its partnership with the company.



BIRTHDAYS



A Strip Mall Gay Bar in Detroit Helped Me Come Out

BY DR. GUY RINGLER

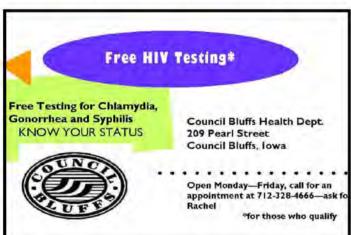
When I was a young medical student in the early 1980s, the gay world was a complete unknown to me. Growing up, I had no gay friends that I knew of. There were no Will & Grace or Mitchell and Cameron on TV. In Michigan, where I went to school, sex between two men was, shockingly, illegal.

In medical school in Detroit planting the seeds for my future, having just finished my undergrad at the University of Michigan, I was as closeted as could be. Keeping my sexuality a secret to virtually everyone through high school and college was paramount. I could never come out.

I had learned how to hide myself in books and to suppress my sexuality for years while studying to gain admission to medical school. I was excellent at avoiding my sexual identity issues. Nothing, I had decided, would interfere with my goal to become a physician and a respected member of the community. If I had to bury the potential of complete personal happiness, so be it — my professional life was too important.

That was what fear of public reprisal did to so many gay men, particularly professionals, my age.

In the '80s and '90s it was not only "not cool" to be gay, it was politically high-risk for career aspirations. Being an aspiring



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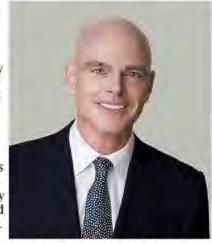
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doctor, I imagined people's irrational fears would run to protecting themselves as well as their children, from a gay man. How could I ever be a trusted doctor in the community if I had sex with men? Being gay was still worse than a dirty word. Even before we knew what AIDS was in the very early '80s it was just called the "gay cancer" - gay men lived in fear of public reaction.



Yet as I approached my mid-20s in Detroit, I realized more and more that I couldn't keep hiding myself from everyone, or life and happiness would pass me by.

Fortunately, the secret gay world was alive and flourishing.

The first gay bar I ever visited was called Backstreet, in a strip mall in Detroit. It was located in an area known for crime, so the parking lot was well-lit and bustling with security guards — guards I did not want to see me walking in or out of said bar. I would walk quickly, head down, from my parked Volkswagen Rabbit to the bar entrance on a Saturday night.

As soon as I entered Backstreet I could feel and hear the exuberant and welcoming spirit. Men of all types, shapes, sizes and ages were dancing the night away and celebrating their gay lives. It felt so comfortable, so real, and so... "normal." Finally. My nights dancing, drinking, and talking with new friends made me feel like it was OK to feel the things that I had always shamed in myself. It felt OK to be me.

I always looked forward to my Saturday nights at the dance bar. It was there that I met my very first boyfriend and learned that I could be gay and still be accepted by a community. That foundation helped me take the next step, coming out to my sister, and being introduced to my boyfriend's parents as a "gay man." As seemingly all of us have experienced, this seemed impossible just a couple years earlier.

Throughout the '90s I worked hard to balance being "out and proud" in my personal life, while keeping it walled off from my professional life. It took time, a little therapy, and some gradual societal change, before I could start blending my personal and professional lives together.

My chosen specialty of reproductive medicine has provided many wonderful opportunities, including the ability to help all kinds of people to have children and to build families of their own. My passion for babies and my growing comfort with being a "gay doctor" motivated me early on to work with same-sex couples, even before many other fertility doctors would consider helping LGBT people have children.

But I never would have gotten where I am today — happily married and serving the LGBT community — if it wasn't for the men in that gay bar in Detroit in the early '80s who, before I was ready to come out to the world, helped me come out of my shell.

The very existence of a National Coming Out Day makes me smile every October. That our community has arrived at this very different place in 2016 makes all of our struggles so many years ago worth it.

GUY RINGLER is a board-certified physician in both obstetrics and gynecology and reproductive endocrinology and infertility. He is a partner with California Fertility Partners.

ACC Pulls 10 Championships Out of N.C. in Protest of Anti-LGBT Law

BY NICO LANG

The Atlantic Coast Conference is the latest sporting association to pull out of North Carolina over House Bill 2, the state's controversial anti-LGBT law.

The ACC announced Wednesday that all championship games would be moved for the 2016-2017 season. This decision affects 15 universities, including Clemson, Duke, Florida State, and the University of North Carolina, and will lead to the loss of 10 championships. These games include title matches in men's baseball, women's basketball, men's golf, and women's soccer.

The Dr. Pepper ACC Football Championship, scheduled to be held in Charlotte this December, was expected to bring in an estimated \$32 million for the state.

James Clements, chair of the ACC Council of Presidents, said that the decision to relocate the games was in direct response to HB 2 — which he said is counter to the ACC's goal of furthering inclusivity and diversity in its sports.

"The ACC presidents engaged in a constructive, wide-ranging and vigorous discussion of this complex issue over the past two days," Clements said in a press release. "The decision to move the neutral site championships out of North Carolina while HB2 remains the law was not an easy one but it is consistent with the shared values of inclusion and non-discrimination at all of our institutions."

Currently, discrimination is the law of the land in North Carolina.

In March, the state introduced, debated, and signed into law HB 2, which mandates that transgender people use public restrooms (in government buildings) that do not match their gender identity. HB 2 also prevents localities from enacting or enforcing LGBT-inclusive nondiscrimination laws or setting a minimum wage higher than the state's.

This decision is only the latest protest against North Carolina's anti-LGBT law.

The NBA announced in August that it would be moving next February's All-Star Game from Charlotte. Earlier this week, the NCAA followed suit by relocating seven championship games out of the Tar Heel State for the upcoming year. The Williams Institute, a think tank at the University of California, Los Ange-



les, estimated that HB 2, if not repealed, will cost the state \$5 billion in further loss of revenue.

The blow, however, is also a cultural one. The state has hosted 251 men's basketball tournament matches, more than any other state, in the past 65 years. This ACC decision represents a way of life that's being threatened by continued anti-LGBT discrimination.

"College sports has been the biggest thing in North Carolina going back 70 years," University of Richmond professor Thad Williamson told NBC News. "For most people, it's the thing that bonds families together. Seats get passed down to grand-kids. It's a huge part of everyday life in North Carolina."

Tami Fitzgerald, executive director of the North Carolina Values Coalition, disagreed with Williamson, doubting that the ACC decision would have much of an impact on the state.

"I don't think it's going to have an effect," Fitzgerald told WRAL, a TV station in Raleigh. "In fact, I think it's going to make people reconsider whether it's that important to go to a basketball game or a soccer match or a football game. The ACC and the NCAA are trying to bully the state of North Carolina into us coming to a radical sexual agenda that they're pushing off on the state."

North Carolina Gov. Pat McCrory, who has stood by the anti-LGBT law, added that other sporting associations should wait until the bathroom issue is decided by federal courts rather than joining the protest.

"The issue of redefining gender and basic norms of privacy will be resolved in the near future in the United States court system for not only North Carolina, but the entire nation," McCrory said in a statement. "I strongly encourage all public and private institutions to both respect and allow our nation's judicial system to proceed without economic threats or political retaliation toward the 22 states that are currently challenging government overreach." He was apparently referring to challenges to the U.S. Department of Education's guidance on accommodating transgender students as well as North Carolina's suit against the Department of Justice because of its stance against HB 2.

Religion Is the Biggest Bully of Them All

BY KURT NIECE

Gay Arkansas writer Kurt Niece considers the outsize role other people's religion has in his life and the world.

Superlatives are hazardous. The biggest, best, or worst are declarations just begging to be shot down. Superlatives almost always lead to a great big heap of smoking one-upmanship. There's always something bigger or better and always something worse. That's the way it is in a universe of infinite variables; suck it up. mortals. This is our lot.

No one will ever agree on the best athlete. Imagine that conversation in a sports bar at midnight after shots and a losing game. Or imagine getting multiple generations to agree on the best music. Kanye West? Taylor Swift? The Beatles? Elvis? Let me know when you work that one out. Now imagine the worst ailment. Get a bunch of retirees together and discuss health. It's kind of hilarious. Or compare notes on the worst date ever. That one's fun too, after the horror of the incident has finally been rubbed off by time.

But there's one superlative that doesn't bother me at all. It's a conundrum, and I feel safe in saying it's the biggest conundrum of all: Religion in the 21st century is the biggest bully in the room.

See how quiet it got, all of a sudden? Either you're for it or against it. It's the topic that isn't discussed with strangers and has ruined as many holiday meals as politics. And not surprisingly, politics and religion at family dinners are a combination about as constructive as Fukushima and an earthquake. Nothing good ever comes from it.

Well, maybe one thing; now you have an excellent excuse to go to a friend's house next Thanksgiving, after your crazy aunt kicked over her chair in a rush to leave the table and pray for everyone because a grandchild said "fuck."

Personally, Christianity was kind of an early teen angst pageant. Godspell was a big stage hit, and I'd worn the hell out of the soundtrack playing "Day by Day" again and again and again until my brothers threatened to stomp the cassette to smitherens. Then a girl I worked with asked me to go with her to church. I was still desperate to be straight and thought, What the hell.

Everyone whose undies just wadded up about being desperate to be straight, try to imagine very, very different times. I knew absolutely no gay people. I was certain I was the only male who was far more interested in Superman's comic book bulges than Supergirl's short skirt. That Certain Summer wouldn't air on television till the next year, which was, incidentally, lifealtering. Of course the characters were sort of tragic, but at least there was finally a depiction of two men in love who seemed pretty ordinary, and no one committed suicide.

But anyway, the point is, I had a very hard time coming out. Like I said, it was a different time and there were no role models. I was incredibly ashamed. So,I went to this church with my "girlfriend" and tried to pray the gay away.



Ahem ... it didn't work, after a rain of "Amens" and before "It's Raining Men" caused a stampede to the dance floor. But I kept an open mind in that goofy little pre-New Age church in the basement of some obscure building in Akron, Ohio. I patiently awaited for the spirit to flood me. I was promised it would if I prayed hard enough. And I continued to trace Superman's bulges with my eyes and fingertips as soon as I got home. There was a tad of conflict for a few years.

Then sometime later in the 1970s, billboards and bumper stickers popped up everywhere with a very, simple message of three little words: "I Found It."

For several weeks it was a mystery. Who lost what? And what is it?

Then the truth came out. The "I Found It" campaign was organized religion's foray into the politics of mass marketing. No longer were the religious powers that be content to wait politely to be discovered. Their secret message, plastered on billboards, bumper stickers, and T-shirts, was a devious sales pitch.

Like many others at the time, I lost it. Any interest in becoming a part of the fold vanished like Joseph Smith's golden tablets. Besides, by then I'd discovered the real thing was far better than comic books, and I was just tired of feeling guilty. "I Found It" was prophetic. I found myself.

At this stage, I'm agnostic. I believe there's something going on that's far beyond human comprehension, and if science can explain life, time, thought, and consciousness, and if humanity will ever be able to grasp the vastness of this thing we call the universe, then maybe I'll rethink the agnosticism. I doubt that will happen anytime soon, though quantum physics is getting pretty darn close to proving that the ancient mystics were right all along.

Matter is an illusion. Now, to circle back to the conundrum.

Sometimes I think there is truth in religion and ancient texts. The Bible speaks of an Antichrist, and I wonder if the Antichrist isn't a person, despite the temptation to bring Cheeto Head Trump into the conversation. Perhaps the Antichrist has never been a being but is instead a metaphor. Perhaps the Antichrist is a metaphor for organized religion. Maybe organized religion sprayed Roundup on the Garden of Eden.

How many wars, how much death, and how much havoc has been wrought over who is most loved by the biggest, baddest God? How many people have been subjugated and diminished by priests and clerics, over the millennia? How many Buddhas dynamited, and how many skyscrapers destroyed by airliners? How many people, in this country alone, have been enslaved and oppressed, because the Bible or the Koran said so? How much longer will "faith" be confused with morality?

Living in the Bible Belt has been eye-opening. The people here are really, really nice and generally kind. But way too often, many vote for and believe some pretty hateful concepts. Too often, these nice and kind people quote laughably selective scripture to justify injustice and tragedy, both past and present. There are more churches than schools here, by at least a factor of 10, and an astounding number of these folks tithe to the church monthly. I wonder, what would it be like if they gave 10 percent of their income to the school systems and preschools instead?

Here's the justified superlative: Is there any bigger conundrum than nice people all over the world doing really crazy shit in the name of religion?

Malicious misinformation in the name of good is the worst thing ever, especially in less educated, overly religious regions, and especially right before a presidential election.

Now there's a superlative I can wrap my arms around.

KURT NIECE is an artist, jeweler, and author of The Breath of Rapture and Mercury Fields. He and his partner, Gary, live with their beloved feline in the crystal valleys of Hot Springs Village, Ark.

Donald Trump, Sex, and the Death of Propriety

BY ELIZABETH DALEY

We can finally say "pussy" thanks to a misogynist.

Once upon a time, there was a presidential candidate who said the best way to pick up women is to "grab them by the pussy."

This is a story we will likely tell future generations who may ask how we became such a swiftly unmasked casually vulgar society. They may wonder if it was the internet, pop music, or hyper-sexualized video games. But we will look them in the eyes and say: "No, my little son of a bitch, the reason we talk however the fuck we want is because in 2016 a presidential candidate suggested the best way to pick up women is to 'grab them by the pussy.' Now go eat your dinner, fuck-face."

Congratulations, Donald: We are in a post-asterix world and we couldn't have done it without you. Profanity is sacred when delivered from your mouth. The word "pussy" rolls off your tongue as if we shouldn't ever be ashamed to say it.

And women shouldn't, actually. What I learned from Donald Trump is that women shouldn't ever be ashamed to say "pussy." I learned this because everything he does must be interpreted like a Rorschach test that only shows positive images. I also learned this because something in me changed. Some tightly wound part of me that had never written



the word "pussy" online was liberated. "PUSSY!" I screamed in the locker room. "PUSSY!" I yelled down the street.

I am a journalist and we don't use such words. Or we didn't, until now. But today is pussy liberation day.

When Trump's comment was uncovered it went instantly viral. It was covered by The New York Times, the Daily News, pretty much every paper in America. It's hard to tell though what offends people most. For some it's clear: Trump is perpetuating rape culture; he is part of a not-so-secret society of men who treat women as objects. He is a dirtbag, hung by the noose of his own sick behavior and loose lips.

However, for others, the most offensive part of his comment may lie in the fact that he used the word "pussy" or even referred to female genitals at all. As a rule, it would have been much more acceptable had he talked about grabbing "dick," or even used the very common expression: "grab X by the balls." That expression even has a positive connotation, as in "grab life by the balls."

But "pussy" is really something we don't talk about in polite company. However, there was a presidential debate scheduled last night, during which one candidate was asked point-blank about pussy. He was angry to be confronted and barely apologetic.

While intensely disturbing, stranger still is that it is Donald alone who has elevated "pussy" to a matter of national debate. It takes a misogynist man to make it OK for women to say "pussy" on the air or write it on Twitter. Hillary Clinton has one, but rarely speaks of it in such terms or at all. I have not heard Clinton mention her vagina or anyone else's genitals once during this whole election — imagine that!

Donald Trump, on the other hand, has taken language from the street and from the pornography he has appeared in and tossed a lowbrow wrench into our well-heeled system. He claimed that he sought to erode "PC" culture, but it seems he has taken the kitchen sink of decorum with it as well. It is not that he is different from fellow video star Billy Bush or any of hundreds of frat boys who hang offensive banners each year to ask women about their gag reflexes. He is no different from the song I heard on the way home from a bar where a man groped women without being kicked out.

Lyrics: "You call her Stephanie / I call her Headphanie / I don't open doors for a whore / I just want the neck, nothin' more." The song is by Young MA, an out lesbian rapper. We are all implicated in the proliferation of rape culture. As Ariel Levy writes in her book Female Chauvinist Pigs, women have assimilated and incorporated rape culture into our own language and actions, at times as a twisted ex-

(Continued on next page)

pression of liberation.

Trump's language is replicated throughout our culture. Usually the only way we hear about sex is from a brutal masculine perspective, even if it's a woman rapping. We have no idea how to talk respectfully about sex in this country and can barely even acknowledge its existence. Politics is the last place we speak about sex, and when we do, it's always in some form of scandal: Anthony Weiner. Rudy Giuliani. Bill Clinton.

For decades, politics has been about finessing a message. Trump has no message and no finesse, and what we are left with is a stark look at our own culture. What we are left with is pussy-grabbing.

But what we are also left with, is a world in which I no longer feel discomfort in saying the word "pussy."

Trump has forced me to be more honest about myself. To acknowledge the unacknowledged hidden parts. To be as unapologetically female as I have ever been. He has forced me to take a position. He has placed me in a position with his words. He has brought into the open misogynistic truths women have known forever. He has given credence to thoughts women are called "crazy" for thinking: that some men actively want to rape. That they applaud each other for it, even.

Beneath the surface, sexism, sexual harassment, and discrimination have festered in our country like a disease. However, I believe at the core, this is not how we would like to see ourselves. It's not even how we would like to exist, nor is it the best way to foster sex, if that is, in fact, Trump's end goal.

My patriotism stems from the belief that while perhaps we have created and live in a country of inequality, we are always striving for that "more perfect union," a phrase itself tinged with sexuality waiting to be unleashed.

Mr. Trump, we are striving for consensual "pussy-grabbing," between people of all genders. We are striving for open discussion of sexuality, "a dyke for president ... a person with AIDS for president ... a fag for vice president," as Zoe Leonard wrote in her popular 1992 poem. We are striving to be able to speak radical truths without hatred and aggression.

While it would have been nice to reach this place of radical truth without being faced with brutality in the form of a presidential candidate, sometimes it is only under the force of such brutality that we rise up, not as who we wish to be, but as who we actually are. So thank you, Trump, for making me great again. For allowing me to realize my own greatness in the face of that which repulses me.

APPETIZER	PASTA			
BEVERAGE	PASTRY			
BLUE PLATE	SALAD			
BRUNCH	SANDWICH			
BUFFET	SEAFOOD			
DESSERT TRAY	SOUP			
DRINK	SPECIAL			
ENTREE	STEAK			
MAIN COURSE	STIR FRY			
MAIN DISH	WRAPS			

Can you find all of the words?

Answer key on Page 15

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Life Beyond Therapy

By Michael Kimmel

Visit Michael's website: www.lifebeyondtherapy.com

Bringing Back Romance

Plenty of people have focused on bringing "sexy" back. But, perhaps it's time to dig a little deeper.

What about romance?

You know, that desire to be wined, dined, paid attention to, courted, wooed (I like that old-fashioned word). I hear from a lot of clients in their 20's and early 30's that they're over quick hookups and fast sex. They've done it, had fun, but now they want more. They read about "old" ideas like "courtship" and find it appealing.

Perhaps the days of no impulse control are over. Is it time to try going slower? Could there be joy and bliss in slowly getting to know someone? No sex right away, but yes to kisses and stuff to lead up to it. It is amazing how many handsome young Gay/Bi/Trans men and women tell me that they don't want to have sex on the first date. Perhaps it's time to bring back romance.

If you'd like to experiment with this, here are some ideas:

Get clear on what you want and ask for it. If you're single, tell guys/girls you date that you want to take it slow. Notice their reaction. There is so much pressure on everyone these days to be "hot" and have "amazing, porn star sex" right away, so that you can "hook" someone with your fabulous talents in bed. Let's shatter this illusion. Despite San Diego being one of the porn capitals of America (hello Sean Cody), please do not believe that everyone in San Diego lives a super sexualized life. You know, the porn dream/fantasies of sex with the mailman, sex with the next door neighbor, sex with the UPS guy... and all before lunchtime!

Most of us are searching for a combination of friendship, physical attraction and respect in a partner relationship. Great sex is great stuff, but it's not the foundation for a long term connection. Sometimes we settle for sex, when we really want romance. In this Grindr/Scruff instant hook-up world, it may take longer to find a lover who shares your commitment to romance, courtship and wooing than someone who just wants sex, but once you do, it's more likely that they'll be a keeper.

Some clients – particularly younger men and women – have asked me: "What exactly is romance?" Author, Ellen Gilchrist talks about a woman who fell in love with a man because he bought her a clothes dryer and had it delivered to her house: the woman was struggling financially and had to take her clothes to a laundromat to dry them. Her lover saw a need and filled it. That's romance! Talking about love is easy. Romantic actions –

like Mr. Dryer Man's - speak volumes.

Romance isn't the same as being seduced into sex. It's not about being tricked or used. It's about being heard, seen and appreciated. Romance is about getting to know each other. Sex is about sexual release. The two overlap, but, unlike sexual hookups, romance involves the gradual buildup of sexual desire and interest. You might not like to hear this, but a certain amount of sexual frustration is good for you (I already hear moaning from the Internet sex addicts).

Have you noticed how empty you feel after instant sexual gratification? You had no time to develop interest in the person. There was no romance; you just hooked up, did it, and moved on. This quantity approach to love leaves you feeling empty. There's something missing. Romance may seem hopelessly old-fashioned word, but what we're really talking about here are satisfaction, depth and meaning. And who doesn't want that?

Researchers: British Man May Have Been Cured of HIV

By Bil Browning

British researchers think they may have found a cure for HIV, although they warn that it is still too early to tell for sure.

After a clinical drug trial that combined traditional drug treatments with a new med-



ication that reactivates dormant HIV cells, allowing the body to learn how to attack the virus successfully, one patient has no sign of the virus left in his system. The 44 year old social worker from London is the first patient to complete the therapy.

"It would be great if a cure has happened. My last blood test was a couple of weeks ago and there is no detectable virus," the man told the London Times. "It could be the anti-retroviral therapies, so we have to wait to be sure."

"This is one of the first serious attempts at a full cure for HIV," Mark Samuels, managing director of the British National Institute for Health. "We are exploring the real possibility of curing HIV. This is a huge challenge and it's still early days but the progress has been remarkable."

Professor Sarah Fidler, a consultant physician at Imperial College London, explained, "This therapy is specifically designed to clear the body of all HIV viruses, including dormant ones. It has worked in the laboratory and there is good evidence it will work in humans too, but we must stress we are still a long way from any actual therapy.

"We will continue with medical tests for the next five years and

(Continued on page 14)

GAYZETTE EVENTS

The Gayzette

(mail address: PO Box 8583 Omaha NE 68108) (email to: Gayzette@cox.net)

Published every two weeks and distributed in paper copy and online on the web.

To subscribe to the free online edition, go to:

www.rainbowoutreach.org

Click on the Gayzette tab and click on the Subscribe link. It's free and we won't give out your email address or send you a bunch of junk email.

WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Sunday
WORSHIP SERVICES:
AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH,

ELCA, 3647 Lafayette Ave., Omaha GLBT friendly, www.augustanalutheran.com

DIETZ METHODIST 1423 S.10, Coffeehouse 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 ANONY-MOUS 4pm , Augustana Lutheran Church 3647 Lafayette Ave., Info call Mark 639-3055HASTINGS COLLEGE GSA 8PM FFI: Judy Sandeen (402) 461-7372

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA 819 S. 22nd St., 345-2563 Sunday Worship 9:30am and 11:15am

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 MIXED BOWLING
LEAGUE, 3pm, Maplewood Lanes, at 402572-9393

SECOND UNITARIAN. Sunday morning

services, 3012 S 119th St., Omaha, info@2uomaha.org, 402-334-0537

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

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

RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS RE-HEARSALS, 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 <u>aanderson@hastings.edu</u> or Judy Sandeen at <u>isandeen@hastings.edu</u> for further information.

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA 819 S. 22nd St., 345-2563— Bible Study at 7pm

UNL LESBIAN/BI/QUESTIONING SUP-PORT 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 barbqbill@aol.com

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

Metro Omaha Prime Timers, 4:00-6:00pm Coffee with the Boys at No More Empty Cups, 1502 So. 10th St., In the Community Room. Meet up for coffee and conversation. Many of the guys go out for dinner afterwards. Everyone welcome to attend.

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

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 info email outandaboutsocialclub@gmail.com

Every Saturday
AA SATURDAY AFTERNOON, 1:30pm,

Open to men and women, 219 North 48th Street, call 402-558-0733 for more info

Metro Omaha Prime Timers, 9am—11am Coffee with the Boys at Paradise Cafe, Regency Court. Meet up for coffee and conversation. Good food and good coffee too. Everyone welcome to attend.

PROUD HORIZON YOUTH GROUP

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

MONTHLY EVENTS

1st Thursday GLBT PROFESSIONALS, meeting at 5:30pm in various locations. See www.GOglbt.org for info

1st Friday FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE HOUSE 8pm, Musicians, poets, open mic, First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney, Omaha

1st Sunday

Soka Gakkai International (SGI-USA), Lay Buddhist organization based on Nichiren Buddhism, World Peace Prayer the First Sun day of each month, 10am-11:30am, LGBTQIA Friendly, 1021 N 46th Street, Omaha, NE 68132, call 402-558-6148

SPIRITUAL FRIENDS OF LINCOLN
12-1pm Fellowship and 1p-2p worship

12-1pm Fellowship and 1p-2p worship Meets Lincoln at Bennett Martin Library info@inclusivelife.org and on Facebook

2nd Thursday

HEARTLAND PRIDE, Board Meeting- at D Dale Clark Library, 215 S. 15th St. 6:30pm-8pm, Email: info@heartlandpride.org, or find us on Facebook

PFLAG- OMAHA, 6:30pm to 9pm, Countryside Community Church, 8787 Pacific Street Omaha, Nebraska

2nd Sunday

Metro Omaha Prime Timers, Monthly Meeting, Abrahams Library, 5111 North 90th St, Stop by our monthly get-together to hear about the great upcoming events, and spend time with good friends. 3pm to 4:30pm. Snacks and beverages provided. Everyone Welcome!!

3rd Monday

IMPERIAL COURT OF NE, Board of Governors meeting, 6:30pm, meeting at the MCC-Omaha, www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org

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 – see website for more information at www.councilbluffscommunityalliance.org

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

Email Your Event to: GAYZETTE@COX.NET

Look at all of this
WASTED
SPACE
Your Event could be listed

HERE!!

HIV Testing Info

NAP is located at 250 S. 77th St

The Omaha NAP office offers the following hours for HIV and STI testing:

Monday: 9:30-11:30; 1:00-3:30 appointment testing - 5:00-8:00-walk-in testing

Tuesday: 9:30-11:30; 1:00-3:30 appointment testing - 5:00-8:00-walk-in testing

Wednesday: 1:00-3:30 appointment testing - 5:00-8:00-walk-in testing

Thursday: 9:30-11:30; 1:00-3:30 appointment testing

Lincoln NAP offers HIV and STI testing by appointment. To schedule call (402) 476-7000. Also the new Lincoln address is 1120 K. St.

For more information call: Dara Pagano, PLCSW (She/Her/Hers) Prevention & Support Services Manager Nebraska AIDS Project (402) 552-9260 ext. 105

Or see www.NAP.org for information.

Cornhusker Baby

A Nebraska Cornhusker fan is drinking in a New York bar when, he gets a call on his cell phone. He hangs up, grinning from ear to ear, and orders a round of drinks for everybody in the bar announcing his wife has produced a typical Cornhusker baby boy weighing 25 pounds.

Nobody can believe that any new baby can weigh in at 25 pounds, but the Nebraska fan just shrugs, "That's about average back home folks, like I said, my boy's a typical Nebraska Corn husker baby boy.

Congratulations showered him from all around, amid many exclamations of "WOW!". One woman actually fainted due to sympathy pains.

Two weeks later, he returns to the bar. The bartender says, "Say, you're the father of that typical Nebraska Cornhusker baby that weighed 25 pounds at birth. Everybody's been making bets about how big he'd be in two weeks. So how much does he weigh now?"

The proud father answers, "Seventeen pounds." The bartender is puzzled, concerned, and a little suspicious. "What happened? He already weighed 25 pounds the day he was born!" The Nebraska father takes a slow swig from his beer, wipes his lips on his shirt sleeve, leans in to the bartender and says, "Had him circumcised."

Go Huskers!!!!!!!!!!!!

Priceless

A guy goes to the supermarket and notices an attractive woman waving at him.

She says hello. He's rather taken aback because he can't place where he knows her from. So he says, "Do you know me?"

To which she replies, "I think you're the father of one of my kids."

Now his mind travels back to the only time he has ever been unfaithful to his wife and says, "My God, are you the stripper from my bachelor party that I made love to on the pool table with all my buddies watching while your partner whipped my butt with wet celery???"

She looks into his eyes and says calmly, "No, I'm your son's teacher."

Master Card Wedding

It was a huge wedding with about 300 guests. After the wedding, at the reception, the groom got up on stage with a microphone to talk to the crowd. He said he wanted to thank

everyone for coming, many from long distances, to support them at their wedding. He especially wanted to thank the bride's family -- especially his new father -in-law for providing such a lavish reception

As a token of his deep appreciation he said he wanted to give everyone a special gift just from him. So taped to the bottom of everyone's chair, including the wedding party, was an envelope. He stressed that this was his gift to everyone, and asked them to open their envelope.

Inside each manila envelope was an 8 x 10 glossy of his bride having sex with his best friend, the best man. The groom had gotten suspicious of them weeks earlier & had hired a private detective to tail them.

After just standing there, just watching the guests' reactions for a couple of minutes, he turned to his best man and said, "F--- you!" Then he turned to his bride & said, "F--- you!"

Then he turned back to the dumbfounded crowd & said, "I'm outta here." He had the marriage annulled first thing the following morning.

While most people would have canceled the Wedding immediately after finding out about the affair, this guy goes through with the charade, as if nothing were wrong. His revenge--making the bride's parents pay over \$32,000 for a 300+ guest wedding & reception, & best of all, trashing the bride's & his best man's reputations in front of 300+ friends & family members.

This guy has balls the size of church bells

Do you think we might get a Master Card "PRICELESS" commercial out of this?

Elegant wedding reception for 300 family members & friends: \$32,000...

Wedding photographs commemorating the Occasion: \$3,000...

Deluxe two week honeymoon accommodations in Maui: \$8,500...

The look on everyone's face when they see the 8x10 glossy of the bride humping his best man: Priceless...

There are some things money can't buy, for everything else there's MASTER-CARD!

GLBT RESOURCE LIST

OMAHA BASED

Beth El Synagogue, 14506 California St. A GLBT inclusive synagogue, same-sex marriages performed by their rabbis, provided both persons are Jewish. Call 402-292-8550 for more info.

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

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.firstuuomaha.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 barbqbill@aol.com

Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network -Omaha, Box 641676, Omaha 68164, 712-325-0117 http://www.glsenomaha.org GayLibrary.com, World Wide Resources GOglbt Professionals, meeting at 5:30PM. See www.GOglbt.org for info

DCDP LGBT Democrats, https:// www.facebook.com/DCDPLGBTDemocrats, Contact Ken - 531-205-3193

Heartland Pride

Www.heartlandpride.org, email: info@heartlandpride.org; meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 6:30pm to 8pm. @ D. Dale Clark Library

Ice Bowl Invitational Bowling Tournament (IBIT) P.O. Box 31838, Omaha, 68131

Imperial Court of Nebraska, Box 3772, Omaha 68103,

www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org Inclusive Life

402-575-7006 www.inclusivelife.org
Offering religious and non-religious care and services to all without exception. Weddings, Funerals, Coaching and Pastoral Care.

Metro Omaha Prime Timers, provides a welcoming and supportive environment to mature gay and bi men and their fans to encourage participation in fun, cultural,

educational or social activities. Email PrimeTimersEvents@gmail.com for more information & schedule. Also on Facebook as Metro Omaha Prime Timers Also see the Events list on page 10

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, 819 S. 22 St., Omaha 68108 345-2563, mccomaha@mccomaha.org Website: www.mccomaha.org Sunday Worship 9:30am and 11:15am

NAMI - Community Mental Health Support for the LGBTIQ community 415 South 25th Ave, Omaha, NE 402-345-8101 or 877-463-6264

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., HIV testing and counseling

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

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., Sunday service at 9:30am, see www.NorthSideOmaha.org

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

Omaha Metro GLBT Sports League, See www.oglbtsports.com 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@vahoo.com

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

PFLAG Omaha Chapter, For confidential information or support, call: 402-291-6781, meeting at Countryside Community Church, 8787 Pacific Street *Omaha*, *Nebraska*

Proud Horizons Youth Group, Sat Afternoon 4pm to 6pm, for info; email proudhorizons@yahoo.com

River City Gender Alliance, PO Box 284, Boys Town, NE 68010, email president@rcga.co or call 402-541-5792, web site www.rcga.co

River City Mixed Bowling Sundays, Maplewood Lanes Omaha, at 3PM call 402 -572-9393 for details

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

Second Unitarian Church, 3012 S 119th St., Omaha, www.2uomaha.org, 402-334 -0537, LGBTQ Welcoming Congregation SNAP Productions, Box 8464, Omaha, NE 68108 www.snapproductions.com

Temple Israel Synagogue, 13111 Sterling Ridge Drive., 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

Youth Emergency Services, Inc. (Y.E.S.) and Y.E.S. Drop-in Center

Offices: 2679 Farnam Street, Suite. 205 Omaha, NE 68131, 402-345-5187, see www.yesomaha.org for information

LINCOLN BASED

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

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

http://www.unl.edu/health/sexuality Lincoln Women's Center, Lincoln 402/472-2597.

Nebraska AIDS Project, 1120 K Street Suite 100, Lincoln, NE 68508, (402) 476-7000. Wednesdays 4pm to 7pm. Walk-in ok.

Nebraska Trans* Community

This group is for individuals that identify with a nontraditional masculine or feminine sense of self (MtF, FtM and anywhere in between) and their Partners. Contact info can be found at: NebraskaTransCommunity.com

OUTLine, a nonprofit organization that engages in and fosters the well-being and advancement of the LGBT community, www.outline.org, Lincoln NE

PFLAG Cornhusker Chapter, Box 30128, Lincoln 68508, Meet 4th Tues, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, email to Barbara Kimberly, jbkiber@hotmail.com. Website: http:// pflagcornhusker.org/

Queer Student Alliance, UNL, contact unlqsa@yahoo.com for info

Spiritual Friends of Lincoln.

Offering fellowship and worship for those seeking radical hospitality, openess, and inclusiveness. Meets the 1st and 3rd Sunday in Lincoln

info@inclusivelife.org and on Facebook

Straight Spouse Support Grp 402-429-6094 TriCity GLBT, serving Central Nebraska, web site at http://www.tri-city-glbt.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 Health Department/Free

STD Clinic

209 Pearl Street, Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503, 712-328-4666 - ask for Rachel, Monday - Friday by appointment, call to inquire about extended hours, FREE testing for HIV, Syphilis, Gonorrhea and Chlamydia Council Bluffs Community Alliance

www.councilbluffscommunitvalliance.org

Council Bluffs Pride, www.councilbluffspride.org
First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ. GLBT friendly. 611 First Avenue, Council Bluffs, IA 51501, 712-322-5324 - http://www.cbfirstcongregational.org/

Iowa Equality, GLBT -allied against change to the state and federal Constitutions, http://www.lowaEquality.org

Sioux City, Iowa Resource Web Site: www.siouxlandpride.net

Nationally Based

Trevor-24-hour National Suicide Hotline for GLBT and 1-800-850-8078 or see web site at Questioning Youth http://www.thetrevorproject.org/helpline.html

The Hungry Homo

Potato and Egg Casserole

Ingredients 6 potatoes

8 eggs

Seasoning salt to taste

1 cup margarine

1 (16 oz.) container sour cream

Methods/Steps

Preheat oven to 350 degrees.

Bring a large pot of salted water to a boil. Add potatoes and cook until tender but still firm, about 15 minutes. Drain, cool, peel and slice.

Place eggs in a saucepan and cover with cold water. Bring water to a boil and immediately remove from heat. Cover and let eggs stand in hot water for 10 to 12 minutes. Remove from hot water, cool, peel and slice.

In a 9x13 inch casserole dish layer potatoes and eggs, sprinkling each layer of eggs with seasoning salt, ending with pota-

In a small saucepan over low heat, melt margarine with sour cream. Pour over potatoes and sprinkle lightly with seasoning salt.

Bake in preheated oven for 30 minutes.

Makes 10 servings



Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

Omaha:

Dixie Ouick's Restaurant, 157 West Broadway 712-256-4140

First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney

Flixx , 1015 South 10th Street Omaha 402-408-1020 Lover Luxuries, 6065 Maple St. 402-932-3377 The Max. 1417 Jackson St. 402-346-4110 Metropolitan Community Church, 819 South 22nd Street Nebraska AIDS Project. 250 South 77th St 402-552-9260 Omaha Mining Co., 1715 Leavenworth 402-449-8703 Rodeo Saloon & BBO 164 W Broadway 712-256-0510

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

Peanut Butter Pie

Ingredients

1 1/2 cups crushed shredded wheat crackers

1/2 cup chopped pecans

1 1/2 tsp. heat stable artificial sweetener

3/4 cup butter, softened

1/2 (8 oz.) pkg. light cream cheese, softened

3/4 cup peanut butter

1 package sugar free chocolate pudding

I cup skim milk

1 (8 oz.) container frozen whipped topping, thawed

Methods/Steps

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Prepare chocolate pudding using skim milk. Set aside. In a medium-size bowl, mix together crushed crackers, pecans, and artificial sweetener. Cut in butter or margarine until mixture is crumbly. Press into a 9-inch pie pan. Bake in preheated oven for 7 minutes. Remove and cool. In a medium-size mixing bowl, combine cream cheese and peanut butter. Beat until fluffy, and then fold in whipped topping. Pour in chocolate pudding as bottom layer. Pour mixture into cooled crust.

Chill 2 to 3 hours before serving.

Makes 8 servings



at the moment we are not recommending stopping [antiretroviral therapies] but in the future depending on the test results we may explore this."

"I took part in the trial to help others as well as myself. It would be a massive achievement if, after all these years, something is found to cure people of this disease," the patient told the Times. "The fact that I was a part of that would be incredible."

Only one person in the world has been cured of HIV. Timothy Ray Brown underwent a stem cell transplant to treat his leukemia in 2007; his donor had a rare gene mutation known as CCR5, which makes human cells immune to HIV. Scientists acknowledged the cure officially in 2011.

Dress Up and be Fabulous

Greetings and blessings to you and yours. Following our last article I'm presenting the second installation of updates. Br. Jerry, osf, and myself, are attempting to create an Intentional Franciscan Community here in Omaha so that we can do spiritual works of mercy in our fair city. You can find more information about our tiny community, with hopes of growth, at our Facebook page: www.Facebook.com/csfon



Halloween is nearly upon us! What a fun and whimsical time of year where we get to be a child again and "play pretend" with costumes and parties. We ask that you be safe in your partying and have a designated driver or just ask ahead of time if you can just stay over. We want you to have all the fun in the world that you can but we want you to be safe too. One favor, there are the rare instances in this country where abductions and worse occur in the name of the darker side of the holiday. Please light a candle and pray or talk or give intention that everyone one be safe from this night. With all the candle lit brightly we hope no harm comes about to anyone. So enjoy Halloween and do what GLBTQI people do best...dress up and be fabulous at the party. Peace to you and yours.

Br. Jason McGuire, osf, mft Br. Guardian Community of Saint Francis, Omaha, Nebraska www.Facebook.com/csfon

Creating Caucuses with Ken Riter, NDP LGBT Caucus CD2 Director

The LGBT community in Douglas County needs an apparatus to promote the involvement of the LGBT community in the Democratic Party as well as its political processes and political activities at the local, state and national levels. I currently serve the Nebraska Democratic LGBT Caucus as Congressional Dis-

trict 2 Director. Now, in accordance with those responsibilities, I am leading an effort to create the Douglas County Democratic Party's LGBT Caucus. An LGBT caucus is charged with leading LGBT Democrats in supporting LGBT-friendly candidates and recruiting LGBT people to run for office, as well as leading efforts in the Democratic Party to ensure the Party supports issues correctly that impact the LGBT Community. We need such an apparatus at the County Level as much as we do at the State level and National Level. I have created a Facebook page (DCDP LGBT Democrats), a Facebook discussion group (DCDP LGBT Caucus), a blog and an events page to help facilitate the creation of a Douglas County Democratic Party LGBT Caucus.

On October 22nd, 2016 at 4pm in the Benson neighborhood we will be meeting to elect officers, adopt bylaws and a platform, and even a strategy to help elect Hillary Clinton and other Democrats in current and future elections. Please consider being a part of that. If you are LGBTQIA and a registered Democrat in Douglas County. NE, this is where your voice, and your vote can directly impact how we can help the LGBT community, discuss issues that directly affect us and even find and adopt solutions that will help us along the way. If you have questions, please contact me. Ken Riter at 531-205 -3193 and I can answer your questions. Here are some important things to remember: Election Day is November 8th, 2016. Polls are open 8am -8pm. You can register to vote by October 21, 2016 by mail or by October 28, 2016 in person. You can request to vote by mail by November 1st, 2016, but the sooner the better!!! Send in your ballot by mail by November 8th, 2016. Drop off your ballot to the Election Commission Office by 8pm on November 8th 2016. Early voting in person began October 10th and you have through November 7th to vote early, in person at the Douglas County Election Commission Office near 114th and Davenport in Omaha. NE.

Shelterbelt Opens 24th Season

Shelterbelt Theatre is pleased to present Revelation by Samuel Brett Williams, at 3225 California Street, October 7-30.

Performances are Thursday/Friday/Saturday at 8pm and Sunday at 6pm (except for the October 30th performance at 2pm.) (Plays: Thursdays | \$12 (online: use ticket code THU) • Friday/Saturday/Sunday \$20 - general | \$15 - students, seniors 65+, TAG). Tickets are on sale at www.shelterbelt.org (click box office), or boxoffice@shelterbelt.org or 402.341.2757. On Saturday. October 8, the theatre will host a post-show talkback with the playwright.

Brandon's Southern Baptist father always taught him to be prepared for the Rapture. Rebecca is a pre-med student, raised as an atheist. All of a sudden, people begin disappearing, the Hudson River turns to blood, and the entire state of Ohio comes down with a bad case of boils. Brandon grabs Rebecca and tries to make it from New York City to Arkadelphia, Arkansas in hopes of finding the New Jerusalem. Revelation explores faith, love, and the American landscape in a pitch black comedy about the End Days.

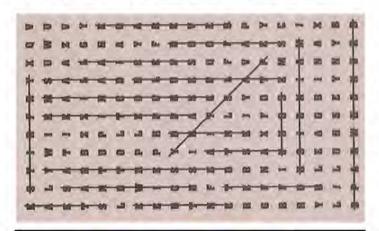
"I've been interested in the Book of Revelation and "the end of the world" for as long as I can remember," says playwright Samuel Brett Williams. "When writing plays, I never have answers — I always just have questions that I want to explore. I'm much more interested in theme, than thesis. For this play, I kept going back to the same question — Why as a culture do we crave apocalyptic entertainment?"

The cast features: Nick LeMay, Meganne Storm, Sarah LaCount and Craig Bond. Shelterbelt's Artistic Director Elizabeth Thompson directs. Stage Manager: Jayma Smay • Assistant Director: Emma Rasmussen • Set Design/Props: Robyn HelwigLighting Design: Joshua Mullady • Assistant Lighting: Beau Fisher • Sound Design: Shannon Smay • Costumes: Bridget Mueting.

"I love this play because it allows us (the audience) to see both sides of the religious discussion in humorous, honest and human ways. It's a comedy, but it has a lot of heart and moments of real truth that I hope will allow people to relate to the characters, all of the characters, on a basic human level regardless of all the labels we place on ourselves and others. The struggle is real right now but if we open our minds, hearts and hands we can get by with a little help from our friends," Thompson said.

This is Williams first script produced in Omaha. He says, "I came to Omaha a year ago from New York City by way of Arkansas. The theatre and film community have been incredibly welcoming and generous. I've fallen in love with Omaha and the art the city is producing. Shelterbelt has been tireless, professional, and utterly fearless in producing this play."

"This experience will be unlike others in Omaha because for





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many in our country it feels like the End Days right now. Brett has found a way to tell this story with an open mind and heart," said Thompson. "Answers are not given freely and questions are encouraged at the end of this world, so it makes sense that the journey should be just as loaded!"

Williams adds, "I promise that if you come see this show you will laugh. And maybe think. And hopefully even feel. But, you'll definitely laugh."

In the gallery, Shelterbelt presents ink and watercolor illustrations by William Holland.

Shelterbelt Theatre is Omaha's home for new plays. This is the opening play in Shelterbelt's 24th By Local/Buy Local season featuring scripts celebrating our local playwrights. Shelterbelt Theatre is a 2015 and 2016 recipient of the international 50/50 Applause Award by the International Centre For Women Playwrights, which applauds theatres that produce a season with an equal or greater number of plays written by female playwrights. (www.womenplaywrights.org).

3225 California St. • Omaha, NE 68131 • www.shelterbelt.org • 402.341.2757

South Africa to Give Free Treatment to all People Living with HIV

By Associated Press

JOHANNESBURG (AP) — South Africa said Thursday it will now provide free treatment to all people infected with HIV, regardless of the condition of their immune system. The country leads the world in infections.

Before the announcement by the country's health department, people were eligible for free treatment based on a certain measure of their white blood cells, which fight infection.

"This new policy extends this to all people living with HIV," the department said.

The change is based on World Health Organization guidelines adopted in late 2015 after it was found that treating those with HIV as early as possible improves their health and prolongs their life.

South Africa has one of the world's largest treatment programs, with over 3.4 million people receiving HIV medication.

The United Nations has said some seven million people in South Africa were believed to be infected with HIV in 2105.

The health department said the change in policy would help increase life expectancy in the country, currently at 63 years, to at least 70 years by 2030.

It warned, however, that the change may lead to congestion and increased waiting times at health facilities.

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