



## Baltimore Passes Amended Transgender Rights Bill

By Michelle Garcia



David Marks

Todd Huff

The Baltimore County Council passed a bill today to extend its standing human rights ordinance to protect LGBT citizens from discrimination.

The bill, which passed 5-2, prohibits discrimination against people in the Maryland County based on the basis of sexual orientation and gender identity when it comes to housing, employment, education, financing, or public accommodations, according to WMAR News. The legislation does not include any mention of locker rooms and bathrooms, which became contentious areas of debate.

The bill makes Baltimore County the fourth municipality in Maryland to extend such protections.

Republicans Todd Huff of Lutherville and David Marks of Perry Hall voted against the measure, even though Marks previously had indicated he would support the bill, the Baltimore Sun reports.

## Rick Santorum Attacks Media for Asking About Social Issues

The candidate now says it's the media who keeps forcing him to talk about antigay issues. But we looked around, and at almost every point across the country the topic has come up.

By Lucas Grindley and Nick Visser

Presidential candidate Rick Santorum has bragged many times during the campaign about his credentials on social issues. But when asked Friday about adoption by gay people, he sniped at a reporter for "trying to create this perception that this is what Rick Santorum talks about."



"Is a lesbian or a gay couple who adopt children, is that a family?" asked a reporter from WKAR in Michigan.

"Of course it's a family," Santorum scoffed.

The reporter followed up, asking whether he thought the family was immoral. Then Santorum took a page from Newt Gingrich and attacked the media for even asking.

"I think I have answered that question probably more than any other candidate in this race," he said. "The preoccupation with this question with me can be a little trying after a while. I don't think you ask these questions of everybody else with the insistency that you do with me."

Santorum claimed it was part of a media conspiracy to paint him as extreme on social issues.

"I understand the game," he told the reporter. "You are trying to create this perception that this is what Rick Santorum talks about. It's because I get asked these questions all the time, which is why they get told I talk about it."

Santorum has said he wants to pass a federal constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage and that it would lead to banning adoption by gays nationwide. He's also said on the campaign trail that children would be better off having a heterosexual father in prison than being raised by two moms.

*(Continued on page 5)*

February 24th, 2012 - March 9th, 2012

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## Facing Deadline, Prop. 8 Backers Seek Full Review by Appeals Court

By Neal Broverman

With Tuesday serving as the deadline for Prop. 8 proponents to request another appeal on the ruling that declared the voter initiative unconstitutional, proponents of California's same-sex marriage ban say they're seeking a full review by the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals.

Prop. 8 attorney Charles Cooper tells Metro Weekly that he is seeking en banc review for the case — Prop. 8 was declared unconstitutional in 2010 by a federal judge, and a three judge appellate panel upheld that ruling two weeks ago. Now, the group Protect Marriage, behind the 2008 antigay initiative, are seeking more of the Ninth Circuit to review the case. A majority of the approximately 20 Ninth Circuit judges have to approve an en banc review. Because the Ninth Circuit is a large circuit, they could approve a partial en banc, which would allow 11 judges to rule on the constitutionality of Prop. 8.

The en banc request will likely keep the case out of the Supreme Court until the 2012 presidential election. It's not exactly clear how this will effect marriage equality resuming in California, but the stay on marriages will likely continue until the Ninth Circuit decides whether to review the three judge decision.

## Staples Co-Founder: Allowing Breastfeeding At Work Will 'Kill Jobs'

Staunch Republican donor and co-founder of Staples, Tom Stemberg, has a grave concern that might just throw the fragile economic recovery into the into a precipitous tailspin: breastfeeding. Indeed, the ever-so menacing and communist practice of a new mother providing natural enrichment and bonding with her newborn child (maybe because she doesn't charge the kid a fee for service?) will hurt businesses.

Not surprisingly, Stemberg is a longtime supporter of policies of Republicans like Mitt Romney, and he's incessantly complaining about how Obama's health care reform will force him to abide by such onerous laws as providing what he called "lactation stations" for new moms who need to breastfeed at work. So much for thinking that lactation station was a bosomy all-female rock group from the late 70s.

"Do you want [farming retailer]



Tractor Supply to open stores or would you rather they take their capital and do what Obamacare and its 2,700 pages dictates — which is to open a lactation chamber at every single store that they have?" said a dyspeptic Stemberg.

Aside from it secretly fulfilling Stemberg's warped sexual fantasy of watching a woman breast feed on a tractor, would Stemberg rather women be late for work and jeopardize day-to-day activities. Or would he quit pouting and let nursing female employees find a quiet and empty place to breastfeed. Stemberg is of course referring to the provision of health care reform that requires employers to give lactating mothers "reasonable break time" to nurse their child, as well as "a place, other than a bathroom, that is shielded from view and free from intrusion from coworkers and the public.

The place they provide for new moms doesn't have to a special room just as long as it's private and can be called into use when female employees need it. In other words, Tina the sales manager isn't going to be affixing her newborn to her tete on the sales floor or forcing her male co-workers to endure the act as they scarf down some pre-digested, high-fructose crap of a pocket variety in the break room. So much for bringing your child to work day when your boss is an infant himself.

Stemberg, who has contributed tens of thousands of dollars to Romney's campaign and SuperPAC, ironically enough has urged repealing healthcare to be the first on the next president's "to-do" list. It's ironic considering that his candidate of choice, Mitt Romney, wrote the blueprint for Obama's health care reform and has been assaulted for it by every one of the 2012 republican candidates.

## Washington State Governor Gregoire Signs Same-Sex Marriage Bill

BY Joel Connely, SEATTLEPI.COM Staff

Governor Chris Gregoire celebrates with legislators after signing a bill legalizing gay marriage in Washington State on Monday February 13, 2012 at the Legislative Building of the Washington State Capitol in Olympia. At left is State Representative Jamie Pedersen and at right is Senator Ed Murray.

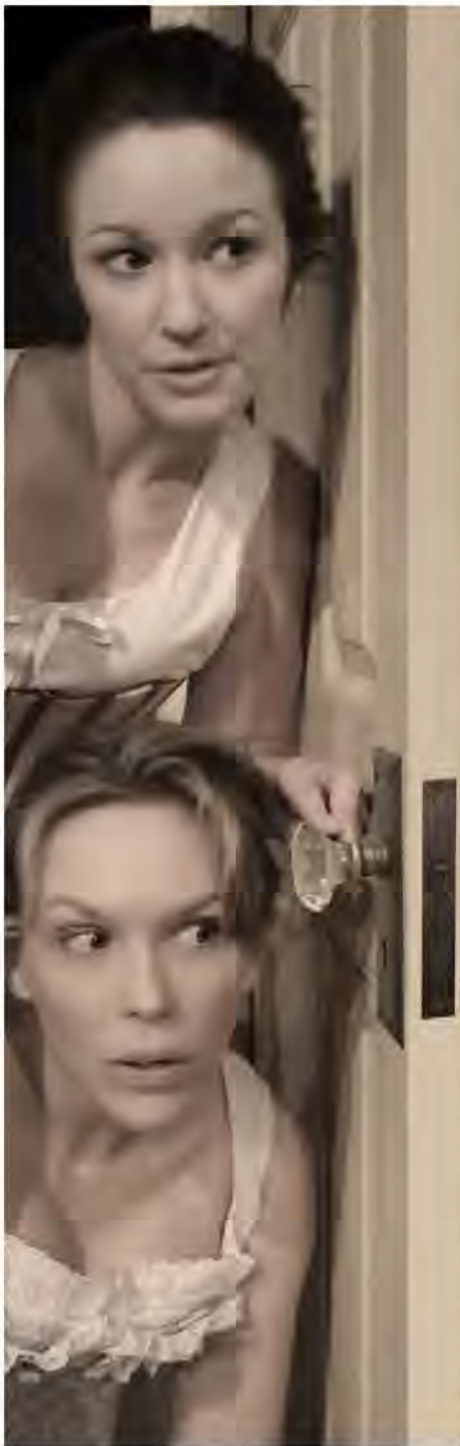
An emotional Gov. Chris Gregoire signed legislation Monday making Washington the seventh state to legalize marriage between same-sex couples, declaring it was time "to make history in this great state."

Gregoire's voice broke as she described conversations with her two daughters, who told her that marriage equality was "the civil rights issue of their generation . . . Thank you to that younger generation and my two daughters."

The governor presided at a ceremony in Olympia, joined by legislative leaders and the longtime same-sex partners of such lawmakers as Sen. Ed Murray and Reps. Jamie Pedersen and Laurie Jinkins.



(Continued on page 9)



  
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**About IN THE NEXT ROOM (OR THE VIBRATOR PLAY)**

A finalist for the 2010 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and recipient of three Tony Award nominations, In The Next Room (or the Vibrator Play) enjoyed a successful opening run at Lincoln Center Theatre in New York. In the twilight of the Victorian age, a gentleman doctor has innocently invented a most extraordinary and mysterious device for treating "hysteria." When his increasingly despondent wife overhears the strange sounds emanating from the operating theatre and sees patients leaving in the pink of health, she is compelled to investigate - even if it means throwing over domesticity for desire. Ranging from the tender to the farcical, Ruhl's stylish comedy pulses and hums along as it dispels old-fashioned notions of female sexuality, intimacy and marriage at the dawn of the age of electricity.

**About the Director and Cast**

Guest Director Amy Lane is an instructor at the University of Nebraska at Omaha's Department of Theatre and Resident Director of the "21 & Over" program at Omaha Community Playhouse. She holds a B.F.A. from Creighton University, an M.F.A. in Directing from the University of Memphis and a Ph.D. from Wayne State University in Detroit. She has directed and acted at numerous theatres around the country. In the Next Room (or the Vibrator Play) will be Amy's first BLUEBARN production as a guest director.

The Cast of In The Next Room includes familiar faces as well as actors new to the BLUEBARN. Matthew Pyle (Rabbit Hole 2010) plays the young Dr. Givings, while Ashley Spessard (BLUEBARN's Witching Hour) makes her main-stage debut in the role of his wife Catherine Givings. Doug Blackburn and Teri Fender play the other married couple, Mr. and Mrs. Daldry. Additional cast members include Mary Kelly as Annie, Rusheaa Smith as Elizabeth, and Gage Wallace as Leo.

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The BLUEBARN Theatre continues its 2011-2012 Season - "The Rebellious One"- with IN THE NEXT ROOM (OR THE VIBRATOR PLAY) by Sarah Ruhl, which opens Thursday, February 16th and runs through March 10th. Guest Director Amy Lane will direct, with scenic

**About BLUEBARN Theatre**

The BLUEBARN Theatre has been bringing professionally-produced plays to area audiences since its inception in 1989. Since that time, BLUEBARN has produced over 80 plays and has established itself as Omaha's premier contemporary theatre company. Striving to bring artistically significant scripts and professional production values to Omaha and the surrounding region, BLUEBARN is known for high quality entertainment and the fearless pursuit of stories that challenge both theatre artists and patrons.

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## A LOW STRESS LIFE

Michael Kimmel  
[beyondtherapy@cox.net]



Today I got a call from a new client, who asked me, "Can you help me lower my stress and anxiety? I don't want to take medication. Oh, and by the way, I'm kinda depressed too." This is a common request. Despite TV commercials that show relaxed, happy people running in fields, blessed out on their new anti-depressants or anti-anxiety medications, many people don't want to take pills. Many pills have a lot of side effects, some of which may be worse than the anxiety or stress itself. And many people don't want to feel "dependent" on pills. I am not an MD, so I don't prescribe medication for my clients. For some people, medication works. For the rest of you who prefer to lower your stress and anxiety without medication, this column is for you. Here are some suggestions for reducing your stress, anxiety, panic and worry without taking medication.

Try a simple 3-5 minute meditation: sit comfortably in a chair or sofa and let your feet rest easily on the floor. Relax and allow the chair to hold you up; you don't have to do anything. Let your eyes gently close. Put your hands on your stomach and begin to breathe deeply and easily. As you breathe in, say to yourself, "I am breathing in." As you breathe out, say to yourself, "I am breathing out." Notice the easy rising and falling of your stomach as you breathe. If thoughts come into your mind, let the thoughts be like clouds: they float into your mind and easily float out. Enjoy your breathing.

Get away from people on a regular basis. Even if you adore your partner or you are the mother of 5 fabulous kids, you need to periodically get away from people. One client I know – a stay-at-home dad - leaves his beloved partner and their son and goes to a coffee shop, reads the paper and people-watches at least once a week. Another client of mine takes a bubble bath and locks the door. Her partner and kids are not allowed to disturb her during her 30 minutes in the tub.

Create a relaxing morning and evening routine. When you wake up and just before you fall asleep are two times of day when your conscious is very receptive to positive (or negative) thoughts. Even if you're super-energetic, don't leap out of bed and try to control your day from the get-go. Let yourself wake up gradually...you might even make a statement of gratitude like "Thank you for another day." This sets the tone for your day. You can also do the 3-minute meditation (see above) when you wake up. Before going to sleep, don't read the newspaper or watch the news; you don't want to take all those disasters to sleep with you. Instead, create a simple routine for yourself that calms you and sets the tone for the kinds of dreams you want to have.

Get enough sleep. Experiment: find out how many hours of sleep really makes your body happy. What time is it best for you to go to bed/wake up? Don't compare yourself with other people, your body is unique. Once you find what works, stick with it as much as possible. A predictable sleep schedule promotes deep, stress-reducing sleep.

Moderate your sugar, caffeine and alcohol intake. Sugar and caffeine highs and the crashes that follow make it hard to stay relaxed and grounded. Alcohol can temporarily relax you, but you pay a price later...usually in lousy sleep or low energy the next day. If you know you're going to be drinking a lot, keep the next day as undemanding as possible.

Find outlets for your anger and frustration. You can't live in this world without getting pissed off at times. Even the Dalai Lama loses his temper and Mother Teresa was no pushover. For some of us, this means a physical outlet. I used to have a punching bag suspended in my bedroom, and I'd hit it with boxing gloves when I was frustrated or annoyed. Writing can be a good way to discharge intense emotions. So can music: find yourself a nice, aggressive and angry song to sing along with when you're irritated and pissed off. Some people go dancing at Rich's or Urban Mo's and sweat through their clothes, thoroughly discharging all the negative emotions they've held onto all day.

Know your limits. Sometimes, feelings of anxiety, panic or depression are too much for us. If you have suicidal feelings, pay attention: this may be a sign that you need professional help. Call your doctor, therapist or go to the nearest hospital emergency room and ask for help from the on-duty psychiatrist.

In this world, living a low-stress life is an ongoing challenge. Whether you live in a fabulous mansion or a tiny studio apartment, there's no escaping stress, anxiety and worry. The above ideas are a start. This stuff works when they do it, but it's hard to do it all the time. Not to worry: the goal is a long-term, sustainable reduction of stress and anxiety in your life. Try these ideas and see if they work for you, keep the ones that do and let the others go.





*(Washington State Governor Signs Same-Sex Marriage Bill, Continued from page 5)*

The law goes into effect on June 7, unless opponents succeed in gathering 120,577 valid voter signatures to force a referendum in November. If so, marriage equality would be held up pending a decision by Washington voters.

Gregoire predicted that Washington, for the second time, would vote to ratify a major piece of gay/lesbian civil rights legislation. Washington voted in favor of Referendum in 2009, becoming the first state to ratify an "everything but marriage" domestic partner law.

"Washington will say yes because a family is a family," Gregoire declared. "It is time to give our loving gay and lesbian couples a chance to have a married life in the state of Washington.

Gregoire told of receiving a letter from a 16-year-old girl who had just come to grips with her sexual orientation. In the future, said the governor, the young woman will "not have to get on bended knee and ask, 'Will you civil union me.'" Kids in schools will not have to have their parents seen as "somewhat different than other loving parents," Gregoire added.

"I'm proud that our same-sex couples will no longer be treated as separate but equal," the governor said.

Opponents show no sign of slackening their opposition. "We ARE going to exercise our right to referendum and reject this law," declared the website of the Family Policy Institute of Washington.

There was coast-to-coast action on marriage equality Monday. As Gregoire signed Washington's bill into law, the New Jersey State Senate voted 24-16 to legalize same-sex marriage in the Garden State. State Assembly approval is expected. But Republican Gov. Chris Christie says he will veto the legislation.

Ex-Sen. Rick Santorum, a scathing critic of marriage equality, will meet this afternoon in Olympia with opponents of the bill Gregoire signed into law. The Republican presidential candidate holds a rally with supporters tonight at the Washington State History Museum in Tacoma.

The Family Policy Institute and the Catholic Archdiocese of Seattle had asked followers to call on Gregoire to veto the marriage equality bill. A statement by diocesan bishops, critical of the law, was included Sunday in Catholic parish bulletins.

Other faith groups in the state have endorsed marriage equality. Episcopal Bishop Greg Rickel has described it as a "conservative" step in which society recognizes and encourages fidelity in human relationships. The Faith Action Network has lobbied for the legislation. Churches hosted meetings at which Washington United for Marriage mobilized support for the legislation.

Under the law, no church or religious denomination is required to marry same-sex couples -- or anybody. "This bill preserves freedom of religion for our churches: Absolutely nothing changes in the state of Washington," said Gregoire, herself a practicing Catholic.

New York, Connecticut, Massachusetts, Iowa, Vermont, New Hampshire and the District of Columbia currently allow same-sex couples to marry.

New York approved marriage equality last year in a manner replicated by Washington. A Catholic governor -- Andrew Cuomo -- championed the legislation. Four Republicans in the New York State Senate provided crucial backing, as did four GOP members of the Washington State Senate.

Washington has passed three landmark gay/lesbian civil rights bills during Gregoire's tenure as governor. The first civil rights bill was passed in 2006, after a 19-year effort. Domestic partnership was approved two years later.

"Years from now, our kids will look back and ask what all the fuss was about," joked Rep. Pederson. Pedersen pointed proudly to "my partner and future husband Eric," who stood a few feet away, baby in hand.

Sen. Ed Murray has worked 17 years on civil rights and marriage equality. He came to the Legislature after the death of State Sen. Cal Anderson, Washington's first gay lawmaker, who had worked eight years on civil rights legislation.

"My friends, welcome to the other side of the rainbow," said Murray. "No matter what the future holds, nothing will take this moment away from us."

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

## 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 17<sup>th</sup> Street in Lincoln, NE.

**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY**

**CHURCH OF OMAHA** 819 S. 22nd St., 345-2563 Sunday Worship 9:30am and 11:15am & 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 MIXED BOWLING LEAGUE,** 3pm, Maplewood Lanes, at 402-572-9393

**SECOND UNITARIAN,** 9:30 & 11:30am Sunday service, Vespers Service 4th Sunday at 5pm, 3012 South 119th St., Omaha NE 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**  
**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 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 [anderson@hastings.edu](mailto:anderson@hastings.edu) or Judy Sandeen at [jsandeen@hastings.edu](mailto:jsandeen@hastings.edu) for further information.

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

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

**FRONTRUNNERS RUN/WALK** 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha (402-804-8720)

**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 3:30pm, Walkin from 5pm to 8pm

**UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA,** 7pm

**WORSHIP SERVICES**

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

**Every Thursday**  
**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** 250 So. 77th., by appointment from 1:30pm to 3:30pm and Walk-In from 5pm to 8pm

**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 info email [outandaboutsocialclub@gmail.com](mailto:outandaboutsocialclub@gmail.com)

**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

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

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

**Every Other Friday**  
**BCA SOCIAL GET-TOGETHER** at Barley's, 114 West Broadway in CB) starting at 5:00-7:00pm every other Friday

## MONTHLY EVENTS

**1<sup>st</sup> Monday**  
**HEARTLAND PRIDE,** meeting 1st Monday of each month at Element Hotel, Omaha. Email: [info@heartlandpride.org](mailto:info@heartlandpride.org), or PO Box 8273, Omaha, NE 68106

**1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday**  
**FREE RAPID HIV TESTING,** 8pm to 10pm at Flixx Show Bar, STD testing also available for \$10, call 552-9260 ext. 113 or 142 or visit [www.nap.org](http://www.nap.org) for more info

### 1st Thursday

**GLBT PROFESSIONALS**, meeting at 5:30pm in various locations. Email at: [GOglbt@cfep-ne.org](mailto:GOglbt@cfep-ne.org) or see [www.GOglbt.org](http://www.GOglbt.org) for info

### 1st Friday

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

### 1st Saturday

**RIVER CITY GENDER ALLIANCE**, at 7:00 pm. See [www.rivercitygenderalliance.org](http://www.rivercitygenderalliance.org)

### 1st Sunday

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

### 2nd Monday

#### **NAP HIV TESTING**

Respect Clinic, walk-in from 5:00pm to 7pm  
—50th & Ames Ave.

### 2nd Thursday

**PFLAG—OMAHA**, 6:30pm to 9pm, Country-side Community Church, 8787 Pacific Street  
*Omaha, Nebraska*

### 2nd Saturday

**Ecumenical Catholics of Omaha**, 5pm – 6:30pm, A progressive community in the Catholic tradition, Meets in the MCC sanctuary  
Phone: 402.953.7656

Email: [ecuomaha@live.com](mailto:ecuomaha@live.com)

Web: [www.ecuomaha.org](http://www.ecuomaha.org)

### 3rd Monday

**IMPERIAL COURT OF NE.** Board of Governors meeting, 6pm, meeting at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Community Center,  
[www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org](http://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](mailto:jsandeen@inebraska.com) or call 402.462.2961 or 402.460.8696

### 3rd Thursday

**COFFEE HOUSE** Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

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

### 3rd Saturday

**Ecumenical Catholics of Omaha**, 5pm – 6:30pm, A progressive community in the Catholic tradition, Meets in the MCC sanctuary,  
Phone: 402.953.7656

Email: [ecuomaha@live.com](mailto:ecuomaha@live.com)

Web: [www.ecuomaha.org](http://www.ecuomaha.org)

### 3rd Sunday

**BCA 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 Monday

#### **NAP HIV TESTING**

Respect Clinic, walk-in from 5:00pm to 7pm—50th & Ames Ave.

### 4th Tuesday

**PFLAG-CORNHUSKER** Unitarian Church, 6300 & A, Lincoln, 7 p.m.  
**YOUTH HIV TEST** Lighthouse, 2530 N, Lincoln, ages 13 to 18, FFI: 475-3220, 3-5:30 pm

### 4th Friday

**LEO - LEATHER ENGINEERS OF OMAHA**, Not currently meeting.

## A Very Tough Day

An attorney arrived home late, after a very tough day trying to get a stay of execution. His last minute plea for clemency to the governor had failed and he was feeling worn out and depressed.

As soon as he walked through the door at home, his wife started on him about, 'What time of night to be getting home is this? Where have you been? Dinner is cold and I'm not reheating it'. And on and on and on.

Too shattered to play his usual role in this familiar ritual, he poured himself a shot of whiskey and headed off for a long hot soak in the bathtub, pursued by the predictable sarcastic remarks as he dragged himself up the stairs.

While he was in the bath, the phone rang. The wife answered and was told that her husband's client, James Wright, had been granted a stay of execution after all. Wright would not be hanged tonight.

Finally realizing what a terrible day he must have had, she decided to go up stairs and give him the good news.

As she opened the bathroom door, she was greeted by the sight of her husband, bent over naked, drying his legs and feet.

'They're not hanging Wright tonight,' she said.

He whirled around and screamed, 'FOR THE LOVE OF GOD WOMAN, DON'T YOU EVER STOP?!

## Shopping

A woman was in town on a shopping trip. She began her day finding the most perfect shoes in the first shop and a beautiful dress on sale in the second. In the third, everything had just been reduced by 50 percent when her cell phone rang.

It was a female doctor notifying her that her husband had just been in a terrible car accident and was in critical condition and in the ICU. The woman told the doctor to inform her husband where she was and that she'd be there as soon as possible.

As she hung up she realized she was leaving what was shaping up to be her best day ever in the boutiques. She decided to get in a couple of more shops before heading to the hospital.

She ended up shopping the rest of the morning, finishing her trip with a cup of coffee and a beautiful chocolate cake slice, compliments of the last shop. She was jubilant.

Then she remembered her husband. Feeling guilty, she dashed to the hospital.

She saw the doctor in the corridor and asked about her husband's condition. The lady doctor glared at her and shouted, 'You went ahead and finished your shopping trip didn't you! I hope you're proud of yourself! While you were out for the past four hours enjoying yourself in town, your husband has been languishing in the Intensive Care Unit! It's just as well you went ahead and finished, because it will more than likely be the last shopping trip you ever take! For the rest of his life he will require round-the-clock care. He will now be your career!'

The woman felt so guilty she broke down and sobbed.

The lady doctor chuckled and said, 'I'm just pulling your leg. He's dead. Show me what you bought.'

# GLBT RESOURCE LIST

## OMAHA BASED

**BiMenNebraska**, Social Support for Bi and BiCurious Men <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BiMenNebraska> and <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Bi-MEN-MIDWEST>

**Camp Kindle**, Nebraska based summer camp for kids affected by HIV/AIDS, 877.800.CAMP, [www.CampKindle.org](http://www.CampKindle.org)

**Citizens for Equal Protection** 1105 Howard St. Suite 2, Omaha NE 68102, 398-3027 [www.cfep-ne.org](http://www.cfep-ne.org), email to: [Michael@cfep-ne.org](mailto:Michael@cfep-ne.org)

**Diamond Foundation**, making a difference through music and education, call 877-87-DIAMOND/[www.diamond-foundation.org](http://www.diamond-foundation.org)

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

**First Central Congregational Church** UCC, 421 South 36th St., 402-345-1533, [www.firstcentral.org](http://www.firstcentral.org), GLBT-affirming

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

**First Unitarian Church**, 3114 Harney Street, 402-345-3039,

[www.firstuomaha.org](http://www.firstuomaha.org), GLBT Welcoming Congregation

**First United Methodist Church**, 7020 Cass St., 402-556-6262, [www.fumcomaha.org](http://www.fumcomaha.org), GLBT-affirming

**Flat Water Bears**, (group disbanded)

**Front Runners/Walkers**, Wednesdays at 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha (402-804-8720)

**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. Email at: [GOglbt@cfep-ne.org](mailto:GOglbt@cfep-ne.org) or see [www.GOglbt.org](http://www.GOglbt.org) for info

**Heartland Pride**

PO Box 8273 Omaha, NE 68105, email: [info@heartlandpride.org](mailto:info@heartlandpride.org); meets twice a month on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month at 7pm to 8pm. @ D. Dale Clark Library

**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, Board Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center at 6pm, [www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org](http://www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org)

**Inclusive Life**

402-575-7006 [www.inclusivelife.org](http://www.inclusivelife.org)

Offering religious and non-religious care and services to all without exception. Weddings, Funerals, Coaching and Pastoral Care.

**Learning to Exchange Power**, no current info available

**Leather Engineers of Omaha (LEO)** not currently meeting

**LinOma Bares**, for more Info email [linomabares@yahoo.com](mailto:linomabares@yahoo.com) or mail to P.O. Box 24547, Omaha NE 68124

**Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha**, 819 S. 22 St., Omaha 68108 345-2563, [mccomaha@mccomaha.org](mailto:mccomaha@mccomaha.org) Website: [www.mccomaha.org](http://www.mccomaha.org) Sunday Worship 9:30am and 11:15am, 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 Pride IDOL**, PO Box 241733, Omaha NE 68124, 866-4-NE-IDOL, [www.NebraskaPrideIDOL.com](http://www.NebraskaPrideIDOL.com)

**Nebraska Zen Center**, Soto Zen Buddhist, 3625 Lafayette Ave., 402-551-9035, [www.prairiewindzen.org](http://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](mailto:Theohanagroup@msn.com)

**Omaha NE Gay Pride Web Page** <http://ONGP.com>; email to: [omahanegaypride@cox.net](mailto:omahanegaypride@cox.net) or [ongp1@cox.net](mailto:ongp1@cox.net)

**Omaha Metro GLBT Sports League**, See [www.omahaglbtsportsleague.org](http://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](http://www.travel.to/outabout) Email: [NeOutAbout@yahoo.com](mailto:NeOutAbout@yahoo.com)

**OUTline**, group to put together a community center in Lincoln. PO Box 84253, Lincoln, NE 68501-4253, [www.outline.org](http://www.outline.org)

**OUUT (Omaha Unitarian Universalists for Tolerance)** First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney, 68131, 345-3039, [www.ouut.org](http://www.ouut.org)

**Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays (PFLAG) Omaha Chapter**, 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, info: (402) 291-6781 or email [proudhorizons@yahoo.com](mailto:proudhorizons@yahoo.com)

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

**Rainbow Pride/Rainbow Celebrations** PO Box 8273 Omaha, NE 68108, See [www.rainbowpride.org](http://www.rainbowpride.org) for info

**River City Gender Alliance**, for info see [www.rivercitygenderalliance.org](http://www.rivercitygenderalliance.org)

**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](http://www.rcmc.org)

**SECOND UNITARIAN CHURCH**, 3012 South 119th Street, 402-334-0537, [www.secondunitarianomaha.org](http://www.secondunitarianomaha.org), GLBT Welcoming Congregation

**SNAP Productions**, Box 8464, Omaha, NE 68108 [www.snapproductions.com](http://www.snapproductions.com)

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

**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](http://www.unityomaha.org)

**Youth Emergency Services, Inc. (Y.E.S.)** Offices: 2679 Farnam Street, Suite. 205 Omaha, NE 68131, 402-345-5187, email to [info@yesomaha.org](mailto: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](mailto: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 4<sup>th</sup> Tues, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, email to Barbara Kimberly, [jbkiber@hotmail.com](mailto:jbkiber@hotmail.com). Website: <http://pflagcornhusker.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](mailto:sindu.s@gmail.com)

**SAGE**, Box 22043, Lincoln 68542 Coffee House 2<sup>nd</sup> Sat, 6-9pm, Lesbian Videos 7:15pm, 3319 S. 46

**Spiritual Friends of Lincoln**

Offering fellowship and worship for those seeking radical hospitality, openness, and inclusiveness. Meets the 1st and 3rd Sunday in Lincoln [info@inclusivelife.org](mailto: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-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](http://www.councilbluffscommunityalliance.org)  
**Council Bluffs Pride, [www.councilbluffspride.org](http://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](http://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>

## THANKS COMMUNITY

The Omaha Meatpackers' Labor Day Event brought in a total amount of:

|                     |    |          |
|---------------------|----|----------|
| Large Raffle        | \$ | 1,380.00 |
| Wheel of Fortune    | \$ | 1,000.00 |
| Picnic Raffle       | \$ | 500.00   |
| Silent Auction      | \$ | 580.00   |
| Show Auction        | \$ | 420.00   |
| Show Admission Tips | \$ | 1,931.00 |

We would like to thank those individuals and businesses that helped make our event very successful with their donations of gifts and services. We would like to thank Emperor V Dick Brown for all of his helpful support throughout the day, The MAX for letting us have the show at their establishment, Tom Cech & Todd Pacas for putting and taking down the set—awesome job, Royal Bush and Jim Anderson for emceeing the show, Macy Riley for all your efforts to be sure things ran smoothly at the show, to all the helpful dressers (Chuck, Michael, Michael, and Vince) to be sure we looked pretty, to the owners of FLIXX (Jeremiah & Kyle) for letting us rehearse there for five weeks (4 nights a week) and for all the pre-advertising. To Reyna for all your help with choreography and Chandler Chubbs for her donation of wardrobe & helpful shopping. Special thanks also to our fellow show participants: Empress 31—Chandler, Emperor 31—Todd Pacas, Princess Royale 31—Phoebe DuVet, Prince Royal—Cupid, Miss MAX 27—Tharin Craze, Empress 13 Roxi, Empress 27—Madeline, and Quincy.

Big thanks to ICON for your support and to all those that attended our events with support and donations to the cause.

The recipients of the funds to be split equally were the Imperial Court of Nebraska, Nebraska AIDS Project, Proud Horizons, Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, and Pink Ribbon Foundation.

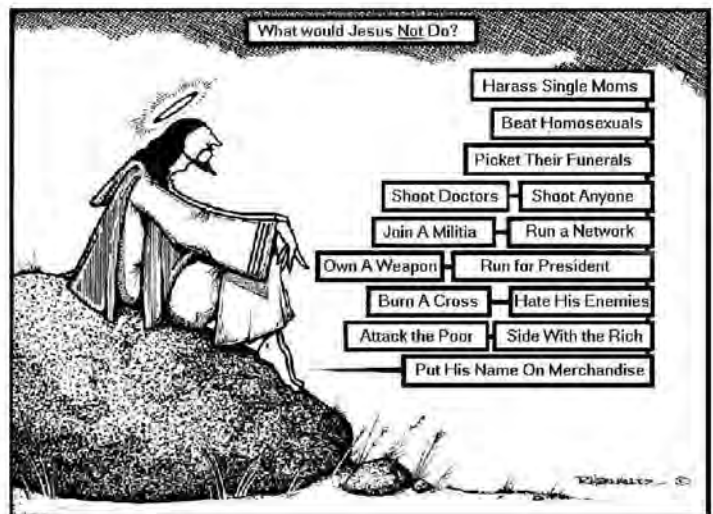
Sincerely—the Meat Packers & Packettes  
 Gary West, Kyle, Jeremiah, Kyle Jr, Steve, Joey, Michael, Sharon, & Carla

## MCC Omaha Hosts St Patricks Day Dinner

Mark your calenders for March 17th and join us for a delcious dinner of corned beef and cabbage and potatoes and green desserts , serving is from 4 to 8 pm in the Social hall. We will have car-youts as well so you can call in your order at 345-2563 and pick up your order at the church. We will have some fun live auctions with some interesting things up for auction. The cost for the meal is only \$7.00.



Come join us for a fun evening.  
**EVERYONE IS IRISH ON ST PATRICKS DAY!**



# Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox



HOW GOES THE JOB HUNTING, BREYER?

NOT GREAT. BETWEEN THE BAD ECONOMY...



...AND THE FACT THAT I GOT FIRED FROM MY LAST JOB FOR PUNCHING MY BOSS IN THE FACE...

...I DON'T THINK ANY-ONE'S GONNA' HIRE ME.



I'VE GOT AN IDEA. HOW ABOUT STARTING YOUR OWN HOUSECLEANING BUSINESS?

HOUSECLEANING? WHY WOULD ANYBODY HIRE ME TO CLEAN THEIR HOUSE...



... WHEN THERE'S ALREADY HUNDREDS OF OTHER HOUSE-CLEANERS OUT THERE?

THEY'D HIRE YOU IF YOU WERE NUDE.



NAKED HOUSE-CLEANING?! NO WAY. I COULD NEVER DO THAT. AND BESIDES...

...KYLE WOULD NEVER APPROVE.

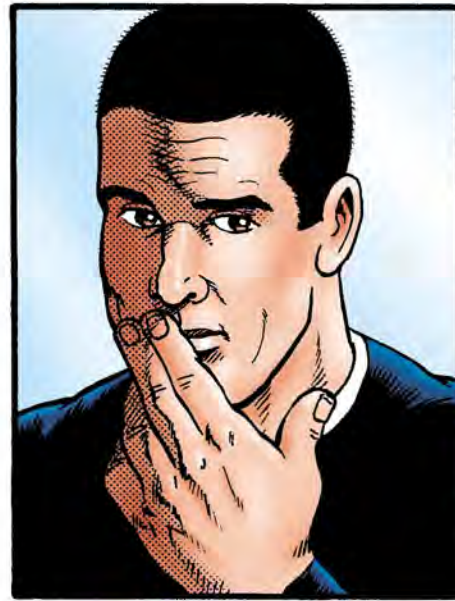


THEN WEAR A JOCK-STRAP. PEOPLE WOULD STILL PAY TO SEE THAT...

...YET YOU WOULDN'T BE SHOWING EVERYTHING.

ANYWAY, I HAVE TO RUN. I HAVE A LUNCH DATE WITH KRISTIAN.

CIAO!



ANY LUCK WITH THE JOB SEARCH?

MAYBE.

HEY, KYLE... IS MY JOCK IN THAT LOAD OF LAUNDRY YOU JUST DID?



I BELIEVE SO.

GOOD.

I MIGHT BE NEEDING IT...

# Fitness Corner



By Ron Blake

The more things change the more they stay the same. That does not apply to life expectancies. The average American only lived to be about 50 years old in 1900. Today we red, white, and blues are living on average to be octogenarians. However, there are some obstacles to getting to 80 years old and I've taken the liberty of introducing some of them. Take my hand and dance The Great Waltz with me as we uncover those heartbreakers of healthiness with an Academy Award winning theme.

Stay away from instability and guns. It didn't work out so well for Sean Connery's character Jim Malone in the Untouchables as he was shot down in a blaze of glory. Not too many of the wise guys in The Godfather fared any better because of rampant cases of lead poisoning. There are over 30,000 deaths each year from firearms. Be on the alert for this Cavalcade of chaos!

Of course cigarette smoking will cut short The Best Years of Our Lives. Lung cancer will get you, but not if heart disease, emphysema, or stroke put a bid on you first. No one was quite as witty while puffing on Parliaments as George Sander's Addison DeWitt. Lighting up at every social occasion was what all the Ordinary People would do back in the day. But today you're much smarter than that Mrs. Miniver; drop the habit before it drops you!

Your weight is a great predictor of advancing, or not, into your ninth decade of life. There is no need to be the all American Beauty; you just need to be height weight appropriate. Check online for a body mass index and determine your level of acceptable. It's not likely It Happened One Night if the weight is skewed in the wrong direction. Obesity occurs gradually so be constantly vigilant.

Be certain to visit your doctor regularly My Fair Lady. You're going to get ill Sooner or Later and you're going to need medical care. Guys are less likely to go see the doc than women, and thus it's one of the reasons women generally outlive men. It is true that Whatever Will Be, Will Be, but you can detect health problems early with frequent doctor visits and checkups. I'd be indebted to you for a ride to the office of Dr. Zhivago...if you're Going My Way.

Whether you are walking the Streets of Philadelphia during the dog days of summer or reading a book in The Apartment, you need plenty of water. Your body is comprised of mostly water and your body functions better with this essential liquid intake. There are good odds you will make it past your life expectancy with ample waves of water hitting your shores. Stay adherent to drinking at least eight cups of this good beverage each day and just maybe you'll live From Here to Eternity.

Cars come equipped with seat belts for a reason...they save lives! There is no reset button after a fatal car Crash. Get in the habit of strapping in for safety each time you head down Sunset Boulevard for a Sunday drive On the Waterfront. The Traffic is great anytime you are able to reach eighty years of age.

The Greatest Show on Earth is the one you are in. Make some healthy changes in your life and don't be joining that list of those dearly Departed just yet. I've got High Hopes that you'll do The Right Stuff!

This health and fitness article is brought to you by that guy with Oscar aspirations. That guy with red carpet swagger is Ron Blake and he can be nominated for best story at myblakefitness.com.



**Want to Make a Difference?**

**Volunteer**

**Volunteers  
Needed For:  
Administrative  
Client Support  
Special Events**

Nebraska AIDS Project is currently looking for volunteers who want to make a difference in our community. Call Kyle today to find out how you can help.

250 South 77th St  
Suite A  
Omaha, NE 68114

Phone: 402-552-9260  
E-mail: [kyleb@nap.org](mailto:kyleb@nap.org)



**250 South 77th Street, Suite A  
Omaha, NE 68114**

(Located behind McDonald's at 77th & Dodge Street)

[www.nap.org](http://www.nap.org)  
**402-552-9260**

**Free anonymous or confidential rapid HIV testing.  
Chlamydia & Gonorrhea testing also available for \$10.00**

|  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <p><b>NAP:</b><br/>77th &amp; Dodge St.</p>  | <p><b>Wednesday</b><br/>1:30 to 3:30 pm (appointment only)<br/>5:00 to 8:00 pm (walk-in)</p> <p><b>Thursday</b><br/>1:30 to 3:30 pm (appointment only)<br/>5:00 to 8:00 pm (walk-in)</p> |  |
| <p><b>Flix Lounge:</b><br/>10th &amp; Pacific St.</p>  | <p><b>1st &amp; 3rd Mondays of each month</b><br/>8:00 to 10:00 pm (walk-in)</p>   |   |
| <p><b>RESPECT Clinic</b><br/>50th &amp; Ames Ave.<br/><small>(Located in Baker Square Plaza)</small></p> | <p><b>2nd &amp; 4th Mondays of each month</b><br/>5:00 to 7:00 pm (walk-in)</p>  |   |

**Know your status. GET TESTED!**

Call 402-552-9260 to schedule an appointment or with any questions.  
[www.nap.org](http://www.nap.org)

# MARCH 2012

**SUN 4TH - 9PM**

**"DIVINE DIVA"**

**Presented by Chandler Chubbs**

**SUN 11TH - 10PM**

**"LET'S TALK ABOUT REX"**

**Presented by  
Mister Max MI Rex**

**SAT 17TH - 7PM**

**"Kiss Me, I'm Gay-rish"**

**Presented by Mark Aartun**

**FRI 23 - 7PM**

**"DISCO DOWN TO DENVER"**

**Presented by RCMC**

**SUN 25 - 9PM**

**MISTER MAX MI PAGEANT**

**SAT 31 - 7PM**

**"DUKE & DUCHESS BALL"**

**Presented by ICON**

**SUN APRIL 1 - 5:30PM**

**"WRESTLE MANIA 28"**

**SUN APRIL 1 - 7PM**

**MR MAX 20 RYAN**

**the max**  
1417 JACKSON ST, OMAHA, NE 68102 (402) 346-4110

