



Gay Marriage Gets US Supreme Court Review for the First Time

By Greg Stohr - Dec 8, 2012

The U.S. Supreme Court will consider gay marriage for the first time, accepting appeals on a California ballot measure banning the practice and a federal law defining marriage as solely an opposite-sex union.

The cases, which the court will decide by June, loom as a potential turning point on one of the country's most divisive issues. The gay-marriage movement is showing unprecedented momentum, winning victories at the polls in four states this year. A Quinnipiac University survey released Dec. 5 showed that 48 percent of voters support same-sex unions, up from 36 percent in 2008.



The California dispute will address whether gay marriage is legal in the most populous U.S. state, home to more than 37 million people. The case also gives the justices a chance to go much further and tackle the biggest issue: whether the Constitution guarantees same-sex marriage rights nationwide.

That question is "perhaps the most important remaining civil-rights issue of our time," said Theodore Olson, a Washington lawyer leading the legal fight against the California measure.

In addition to the California case, the justices yesterday said they will review the U.S. Defense of Marriage Act, a 1996 law

that two federal appeals courts said impermissibly treats legally married gay couples differently than heterosexual couples. DOMA, as the measure is known, blocks gays from claiming the same federal tax breaks and other marriage benefits that opposite-sex spouses receive.

'Exceptional' Importance



The case "is of exceptional practical importance to the United States and to tens of thousands of individuals affected," the Obama administration said in court papers opposing the law while urging the court to review it.

Together, the two cases ensure the Supreme Court's nine-month term will be a landmark one for civil rights. The court already is considering the future of university affirmative action programs and a central provision in the 1965 Voting Rights Act.

Previous Supreme Court cases provide no clear sign as to how the court will rule. Although Justice Anthony Kennedy, who may cast the deciding vote, backed gay rights in 1996 and 2003 rulings, neither case involved marriage.

Support for gay nuptials has soared since 1996, when DOMA was approved 342-67 in the House of Representatives and 85-14 in the Senate before being signed into law by President Bill Clinton.

Voters last month approved gay marriage in Washington, Maryland and Maine and rejected a bid in Minnesota to amend the state constitution to bar the practice.

Nine States

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Web Site: www.rainbowoutreach.org email the GAYZETTE: gayzette@cox.net

Joan Watke Stacy

Attorney at Law

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Tribute to a Fallen Hero/Community Leader

As I received word on Sunday afternoon, that the community lost a leader, business owner and a fellow veteran Terry Tippet, I began to think how much this individual did for the community of Omaha. His life of 50 years was cut way to short.

A young man that had traveled from Oklahoma City, Oklahoma to begin a successful career as owner and manager of The Omaha Mining Company for over 20 years.



Terry was a person that deep down had a heart for people. He loved his Oklahoma Sooners, but occasionally you would hear him say Go Big Red and be rooting for the Nebraska Cornhuskers. He drove a nice red pick up truck.

He opened the club, so the young people had a place to go for after hours. He provided his club for dances, fundraisers, picnics and even opened the doors for Thanksgiving dinner for those that had no place to go for a turkey dinner.

Terry got involved in the community by hosting many shows at the club and providing a place for others to do fundraisers. He enjoyed his bowling and always wanted to finish 1st. He was very competitive and never settled for 2nd place.

One of my fondest memories, was when Terry helped carry the giant Rainbow Flag in the Pride Parade in 2007. He marched along side the flag with community organizers and the folks from Metropolitan Community Church.

Terry had faith in and he cared for people. He would attend MCC and be supportive in any way he could.

Terry and I would get together on Veterans Day and attend a meal at the Golden Corral honoring all the veterans. Terry was a proud Marine.

Terry had a lot of respect and love for his mother Charlotte and sister Kathy. He cared about his family deeply. He also cared about animals, especially his dogs which he loved so much.

As I say good bye to this community leader, I know he left so many memories throughout the community for us remember. There were so many good times and challenging times, but Terry always had a heart and cared about the community.

Terry you will be missed by many and thanks for the memories.

Your friend,
Kevin Marik

(We will all miss Terry. He touched many lives.....editor)

(Gay Marriage Gets Supreme Court Review for the First Time. Continued from page 1)

By Jan. 1, same-sex couples will have the right to marry in nine states and the District of Columbia, and President Barack Obama has said he backs that right.

California voters approved Proposition 8, banning gay marriages, in 2008. The ballot initiative reversed a decision by the California Supreme Court, which five months earlier had said the state constitution guaranteed the right to gay marriage.

(Continued on next page)



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In challenging the law, Olson joined forces with David Boies, his opponent from *Bush v. Gore*, the Supreme Court case that resolved the 2000 presidential election deadlock. The pair set out to win a Supreme Court ruling establishing same-sex marriage as a constitutional right.

At the appeals court level, they instead won a narrower ruling with limited applicability beyond California's borders. The San Francisco-based 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals said Proposition 8 violated the constitutional guarantee of equal protection by stripping same-sex couples of a right they once had -- and that heterosexual couples would continue to possess.

Irrevocable Experiment

Writing for the majority on the 2-1 court, Judge Stephen Reinhardt said the measure "serves no purpose, and has no effect, other than to lessen the status and human dignity of gays and lesbians in California, and to reclassify their relationships and families as inferior to those of opposite-sex couples."

Supporters of Proposition 8, led by former state Senator Dennis Hollingsworth, appealed to the Supreme Court. They argued that the lower court's reasoning was a "suggestion that any experiment with the definition of marriage is irrevocable."

The group also contended in court papers that Proposition 8 "furthers society's interest in responsible procreation and child-rearing."

Olson said in an interview before the court acted that he would make California-specific arguments as well as broader contentions that could establish same-sex marriage rights nationwide. Marriage, Olson said, is a "fundamental right that cannot be taken away from citizens on the basis of their sex or sexual orientation."

Marginalizing Gays

In court papers, Olson and Boies defended Reinhardt's reasoning. They said the judge correctly concluded that, by stripping away marriage rights, Proposition 8 "achieves nothing except the marginalization of gay and lesbian individuals and their relationships."

The lead lawyer for the measure's opponents, Charles J. Cooper, said Supreme Court precedent was on their side.

"The Supreme Court has made it very clear that the age-old definition of marriage as the union of one man and one woman is constitutional as a matter of public policy," Cooper said in a statement.

Gay marriage is on hold in California while the litigation plays out. More than 18,000 same-sex couples were married in the state before the ballot initiative passed. San Francisco

"Today marks the beginning of the end for a California journey that started eight years ago when San Francisco issued same-sex marriage licenses," said California Lieutenant Governor Gavin Newsom, who was San Francisco's mayor when the city took that step in 2004. "By agreeing to hear the Proposition 8 case the U.S. Supreme Court could end, once and for all, marriage inequity in California."

Backers of the measure said the high court shouldn't second-guess California's voters.

"The people's vote on Proposition 8 should be respected," said Tony Perkins, president of the Family Research Council. "Activist courts like the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 9th Circuit should not overturn their decision."

Both sides asked the court to take up DOMA, a law the Obama administration decided last year it would begin opposing in court. That reversal left it to congressional Republicans led by House Speaker John Boehner to spearhead the defense.

Opponents say the law violates the Constitution's equal protection guarantee by denying legally married gay couples the same federal benefits as opposite-sex spouses. Under the law, people in same-sex marriages can't file joint federal tax returns, claim exemption from estate taxes, receive Social Security survivor benefits or obtain health insurance as the spouse of a federal employee.

Rearing Children

Supporters of the law say it promotes traditional marriage -- and by extension makes it more likely that children will grow up in a nurturing environment.

"Traditional marriage protects civil society by encouraging couples to remain together to rear the children they conceive," 15 states led by Indiana argued in court papers. "It creates the norm that potentially procreative sexual activity should occur in a long-term, cohabitative relationship."

The Boston-based 1st U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals and the New York-based 2nd Circuit rejected that reasoning. Ruling in the Massachusetts case, the 1st Circuit pointed to "a lack of any demonstrated connection between DOMA's treatment of same-sex couples and its asserted goal of strengthening the bonds and benefits to society of heterosexual marriage."

Rigorous Scrutiny

The 2nd Circuit broke new legal ground by saying that laws discriminating against gays, like those targeting racial minorities and women, should get especially rigorous scrutiny from the courts. The Obama administration backs that approach.

The court will review the law using the case of 83-year-old New York resident Edie Windsor, who is fighting a \$363,000 estate tax bill imposed after the 2009 death of her spouse, Thea Clara Spyer. Windsor and Spyer were married in Canada in 2007, a marriage the 2nd Circuit concluded would be recognized under New York law.

The legal battle over DOMA doesn't affect a separate provision in the law that says states can refuse to recognize same-sex marriages from other jurisdictions.

Kennedy looms as the potential swing vote in both cases. He has been a champion of gay rights in past cases, writing the 2003 decision that said states can't criminalize gay sex acts. Overturning the convictions of two men in Texas, he wrote that "the state cannot demean their existence or control their destiny by making their private sexual conduct a crime."

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Colorado Precedent

Kennedy, appointed by President Ronald Reagan in 1988, also wrote the court's 1996 decision striking down a Colorado constitutional amendment that barred cities and counties from enacting anti-discrimination laws to protect gays.

Even so, he underscored in 2003 that he wasn't passing judgment on gay marriage. He said the case "does not involve whether the government must give formal recognition to any relationship that homosexual persons seek to enter."

In each case, the justices also will take up a procedural question affecting whether they have the legal power to decide the main issues. In the California case, the issue is whether the supporters of Proposition 8 have "standing" to defend it. California Governor Jerry Brown, then the attorney general, decided after the measure was approved to oppose it in court.

Similarly, the court asked the litigants to address whether Boehner's congressional group has the legal right to defend DOMA, given the Obama administration's opposition.

The cases the court will review are *United States v. Windsor*, 12-307, and *Hollingsworth v. Perry*, 12-144.

Justice Scalia: Constitution Is 'Dead, Dead, Dead, Dead'

By Julie Bolcer, The Advocate

Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia dismissed the notion of the U.S. Constitution as a "living document" that changes with the times, instead describing the bedrock of American law as "dead, dead, dead, dead" in advance of major decisions about marriage equality.

Scalia spoke Monday at Princeton University in New Jersey, where gay freshman Duncan Hosie asked about his dissent in the 2003 *Lawrence v. Texas* decision, in which he compared laws that ban sodomy to those prohibiting bestiality and murder. The question received more applause than Scalia's speech, according to the Associated Press.

"I don't think it's necessary, but I think it's effective," said Scalia of the bans. He said that he was not equating sodomy with murder, but rather drawing a parallel between the prohibitions on both acts.

"It's a form of argument that I thought you would have known, which is called the 'reduction to the absurd,'" he told Hosie, who is from San Francisco. "If we cannot have moral feelings



against homosexuality, can we have it against murder? Can we have it against other things?"

Scalia answered questions following a lecture to promote his new book, *Reading Law*. As for the law, Scalia said the Constitution was already "flexible" enough, in his view.

"My Constitution is a very flexible one," he said. "There's nothing in there about abortion. It's up to the citizens. ... The same with the death penalty."

"It isn't a living document," he said. "It's dead, dead, dead, dead."

The comments from Scalia, who has previously been outspoken in public venues, arrive days after the Supreme Court announced it would hear challenges to the Defense of Marriage Act and Proposition 8, the California marriage ban. Advocates of marriage equality have expressed optimism the high court could rule for a federal constitutional right to marry in the latter case.

Our Inner Light

Advent draws near to an end and for Christians the world over the light of Jesus is given forth at Christmas. To be fair to our non-Christian brothers and sisters, and even among ourselves, we've not always been as historically kind as Christ would have us be with his light. Remember the story of the baby Jesus visited by three wise men? These wise men travelled from the lands of Persia and came to be with the holy family in common goodness despite their cultural, social, economic, political and learned differences.

During Christmas let us be reminded that we, too, are different in so many rich and wonderful ways and that because of those differences we are called to share in each other's unique inner light. Wherever you find yourself in relationship with faith and worship during this season of hope and renewal know that our diverse communities are enriched by your light and that, equally so, our communities want to be enriching to yours. Our community wishes to add our voice to the voices of the collective community's sentiments of the season and wish you each the merriest of holidays and a happy New Year.

Home Improvements

So, what home improvements add the most value, with the least investment? If you're thinking about selling your home, this is a reasonable question to ask. Even if you are not thinking about selling right away, you might be wondering which improvements have the most impact and offer a reasonable chance of recovering the cost, without making a major investment.



First, consider your home's current paint and wallpaper. If the walls are in bad shape, or the colors and wallpaper are dated,

fresh paint can add quite a bit to your home's value. Patch and sand to fill cracks, cover holes, and remove any irregularities. Choose a neutral color except for maybe a splash of color on one wall, and break out the paint brushes. Doing the job yourself makes this a low-cost improvement with a huge impact.

Our gay realtor experts consistently point to kitchens and bathrooms as the improvements offering the best return on investment. Of course, they are usually talking about big-ticket upgrades and remodeling. However, not all upgrades require a big investment.

- If a total kitchen remodel is beyond your budget, cabinets can be resurfaced or even a coat of paint with new hardware.

- Counters can be upgraded to stone which are sold by the square foot, if your kitchen is not very large, or even new laminate at a few hundred dollars, replacing the counters might be reasonably inexpensive.

- If your kitchen or bath faucets leak or simply look old, replacements can be inexpensive. Installing new faucets is relatively easy to do. With some additional effort, a bathroom vanity can be replaced.

For your home's closets, there are a variety of storage upgrades to make better use of the space including reasonably-priced closet organizers that are sold as ready-to-assemble units. Organized roomy closets make a huge difference.

If your home has hardwood floors, have them refinished to make them look "as good as new" (plan on about \$1.50 per square foot for refinishing).

In some cases, simple maintenance is an improvement that adds value. Make the yard immaculate: add mulch, pull weeds, and fertilize the grass. Maintaining a nice yard does not have to be expensive and it adds curb appeal ~ it's the first thing potential buyers see. Look at simple things like the mailbox and entry light fixtures.

Here is one suggestion for a home improvement that has negative cost: get rid of things you no longer need! Have a garage sale; let other people pay you to get rid of things, or donate them to charity; you know, practicing the law of circulation. Seriously, getting rid of unnecessary items will make your home look bigger. Clutter and just "too much stuff" is the #1 issue our gay realtors have to confront when listing a home. Less is better.

Of course the improvements that add the most value with the least investment will be determined by the parts of your home that need help. When you attack a problem area of your home, value is added.



If you need a professional opinion and guidance about making improvements to your home, prior to listing it for sale, one of the many professional gay realtors at gayrealestate.com will be happy to provide you a free consultation.

Author Jeff Hammerberg is the Founding CEO of www.GayRealEstate.com ~ Free Instant Access to the Nation's Top Gay, Lesbian and Gay Friendly Realtors Coast to Coast.

ESPN Radio Hosts Suspended for Mocking Transgender Basketball Player

By Michelle Garcia

Transgender woman Gabrielle Ludwig, a Desert Storm veteran, got to fulfill her life-long wishes by going back to college and playing for Contra Costa Community College's basketball team at age 50.

But that didn't stop ESPN radio hosts Steve Czaban and Andy Pollin from brutally degrading her experience and mocking her appearance and calling her "he/she" and "it." According to Outsports, the radio hosts also say transgender people should not play sports, and conveyed disgusted reactions regarding her appearance.

Helen Carroll, an advocate for LGBT people in athletics said the language used in the broadcast is "inexcusable."

The duo issued a 10-second apology, according to the report, for calling Ludwig an "it."

A request for comment from the ESPN radio station in Washington, D.C., which airs the show, has not yet been returned.

UPDATE: ESPN980 has suspended sports talk show hosts Steve Czaban and Andy Pollin for their segment last week.

In a statement sent out Tuesday, the station wrote: "We strongly believe two of our employees crossed the line when discussing a transsexual person on their program last Thursday. Such intolerance and insensitivity will never be tolerated by this company. Due to the nature of this conversation, the pair have been temporarily removed from ESPN980's Sports Reporters program."



Susan Rice on International Human Rights Day

By Neal Broverman

(Continued on next page)

Susan Rice, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations and a top contender to fill Hillary Clinton's seat as Secretary of State, released a statement regarding International Human Rights Day on Monday that attacks antigay discrimination.

"On Human Rights Day, we celebrate a simple but powerful declaration that 'all human beings are born free and equal in dignity and rights,'" she said. "Adopted 64 years ago today, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights stands as a monument to the courage of its founders and to freedoms longed for by every human being. But the fight for these freedoms — from demagogues and from tyrants, from the shackles of slavery and from the censor's pen — did not end with the historic adoption of the Universal Declaration on December 10, 1948. As Eleanor Roosevelt said, success in the struggle 'is a question of actually living and working in our countries for freedom and justice for each human being.'

"Today, we pledge to live up to Eleanor Roosevelt's inspirational example, for in far too many places human freedoms are still denied. As long as a family anywhere is tormented by a state-sanctioned killer; a peaceful agitator is hounded by a violent brigade; an artist is locked away for expressing what she thinks; an LGBT individual is harassed because of whom he or she loves; a community is beleaguered because of how it worships; a person with a disability is marginalized by those who ignore plain injustice; or a girl is threatened for having the audacity to pick up a book; all of our rights have been violated.

"The United States is relentless in pursuit of a world that protects these rights. We fight for them at the United Nations, where we have made important strides, because we know that American leadership in the world can bring action against oppressors and hope to the oppressed. Our job is not done and the path ahead is fraught. But may we work together every day for the cause of human rights, so that our efforts can forge a world that respects our differences, protects our dignity, gives our children opportunities to pursue their dreams, and ensures that freedoms we have pledged to protect are universally enjoyed."

Rice is still considered a favorite for the position of Secretary of State, but she is now fending off various controversies, including the terrorist attack in Libya that claimed an American ambassador.



Antigay Hate Crimes Second Highest Category in Nation

BY Michelle Garcia.

Hate crimes against gay people are up 2.6% over last year, while the number of hate crimes is down overall across the U.S.

Out of 6,222 hate crimes reported nationwide, half were racially motivated, but antigay crimes account for the second highest category. According to the report, 1,572 crimes (20.4%) were reported on the basis of sexual orientation.

HRC President Chad Griffin commended the FBI's reporting.

"The 2011 FBI hate crimes data is a sad reminder that even as we make great strides toward equality under the law, LGBT people in face dangers in America," said HRC President Chad Griffin. "We must rid our country of the violence that has devastated our community for far too long."

A breakdown of hate crimes according to sexual orientation:

- 56.7% were victims of an offender's anti-male homosexual bias.
- 29.6% were victims of an anti-homosexual bias.
- 11.1% were victims of an anti-female homosexual bias.
- 1.5% were victims of anti-bisexual bias.
- 1.2% were victims of an anti-heterosexual bias.

The FBI does not report the rates of hate crimes against transgender people, and gender non-conforming people, but that will change when the FBI begins collecting that data in 2013.

University Settles With Expelled Counseling Student Julea Ward

BY Michelle Garcia.

Eastern Michigan University will pay \$75,000 to counseling student Julea Ward, who was expelled from university for refusing to provide services to gay and lesbian clients.

Ward, who filed the lawsuit in April 2009 with the assistance of the Alliance Defense Fund, was training to become a counselor for children in grades K-12. She was released from the program after she said she did not want to counsel a gay client because her religious beliefs. The university says she was expelled for not following the American Counseling Association's code of ethics.



Walter Kraft, EMU's vice president for communications announced that it would be less costly to the state to settle out of court, rather than to go to trial, according to the Detroit Free Press.

SELF ESTEEM

Michael Kimmel
[beyondtherapy@cox.net]



A lot of new clients tell me that they have lousy self-esteem...when someone gives them a compliment, they can't let it in. I think most of us have troubles with self-esteem (myself included), so let's look at what it is and how we can cultivate it.

Self-esteem is how we "esteem" ourselves: what we think about ourselves. No one thinks they're fabulous 24/7, but, how do you feel about yourself most of the time? Do you usually think you're okay, sometimes really good, other times, not so great? If so, you're normal. Most people have frequent fluctuations in their self-esteem.

If your self-esteem is messed up, it's hard for your brain to allow positive, kind and loving experiences to sink in. Here are my top three symptoms of poor self-esteem:

- (1) you don't believe that anything positive about you is true (denial)
- (2) you don't trust what people say to you (mistrust/invalidation)
- (3) you think everyone wants something from you (paranoia)

These are useful things to know about yourself. Try not to judge yourself, just observe what you do. And please don't beat yourself up for doing this (that always slows down the change process): just notice what you do to sabotage your self-esteem. Observe it as neutrally as possible.

Once you see what you do, you can begin to change it with some introspection. Ask yourself questions like: Have I always been this way? Was I ever able to trust people? Did I used to allow myself to receive praise from others? Do a little detective work: go back in your life and see where any cognitive distortions may have originated. Who said what to you and when? Who hurt you/betrayed you/disappointed you/used you? Do you want to continue through life not trusting people? (sorry, rhetorical question).

Part of freeing yourself from past conditioning is to see where all this crap started. It helps to identify how the innocent, trusting child you started out as (yes, even you hyper-cynical folks) somehow got turned around. For many of my clients, this is their "aha" moment: they see that something (or a series of events) happened that really changed who they were. They gave up being trusting and open; and replaced it with defenses to prevent ever being hurt again. This is what is known as the "adaptive self": it's what we did to survive, to get through tough times. However, as adults, it doesn't serve us to continue this way.

I'm not encouraging anyone to be stupid and gullible. It's good to have a healthy dose of skepticism, but it's not helpful to be so over-defended that you don't let anyone into your heart. This is often why low self-esteem is correlated with feelings of isolation and loneliness. Are you willing to let people get to know you? Or do you give off a "leave me alone" vibe that would intimidate even Brad or Angelina?

While poor self-esteem isn't necessarily linked to emotional, physical or sexual abuse, some studies show that when adults don't remember large chunks of their childhood, there is usually a good reason. Often, our mind "protects" us against remembering something unpleasant or painful. While this doesn't mean you were abused, it's likely that

something bad happened (you were made fun of by someone, your parents were divorcing, you had a crush on some same-sex hottie at school and felt miserable because you couldn't express it) and perhaps it's too painful to remember.

If your self-esteem isn't where you'd like it to be, I encourage you to do some introspective detective work to see why. Then you can begin to address any cognitive distortions (inaccurate ways you talk/think about yourself) so you can begin the change process. Self-esteem isn't fixed, it's malleable. Admittedly, it takes time and energy to shift it... but it's an awfully good investment in yourself.

Community Pulls Together to Find Missing Transgender Teen

By Michelle Garcia

A 19-year-old transgender teenager has been missing since Thanksgiving weekend, when she was supposed to show up to her family's house as a surprise but never arrived.

Sage Smith, also known as Dashad Smith, last communicated with family on November 20. Erik McFadden, 21, was supposed to meet Smith that night, C-Ville.com reports. A week later, no one had heard Smith's whereabouts, so locals started to press the Charlottesville, Va., police to put greater efforts in their search for Smith.

Amy Sarah Marshall, the president of Charlottesville's LGBT organization C-ville Pride, said authorities have seemed somewhat dismissive over Smith's case.

"We want to make sure this gets as much attention and value from the community as a whole as any other disappearance would," she said.

Charlottesville Police Chief Tim Longo told concerned citizens during a city council meeting Monday night that authorities are doing all they can to find Smith.

"I see this as a member of mu community who is missing, and nobody knows why," he said. "Where we are in the process, we're really not in a position to share. And that silence, which has meaning and purpose, can sometimes be perceived as disinterest and inaction. That couldn't be farther from the truth."

For more information on the search for Smith, visit [Facebook.com/FindSageSmith](https://www.facebook.com/FindSageSmith).

MISSING FROM CHARLOTTESVILLE, VIRGINIA



Dashad "Sage" Smith

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(402) 341-0330
www.rainbowoutreach.org

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

WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Sunday

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

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

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

FIRST CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST, info at: www.firstcentral.org

FIRST UNITED METHODIST 7020 Cass, 8:30 & 10:45am services

FIRST UNITARIAN 3114 Harney, 9:30 a.m. "eclectic service" and 11:15 a.m. "traditional service"

GAY MEN'S ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 4pm, Augustana Lutheran Church 3647 Lafayette Ave., Info call Mark 639-3055

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

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

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY

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

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

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

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

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

GLBT CENTER YOUTH NIGHT, 6PM to 11PM, for ages 13 to 23. Youth sponsored and organized activities, under adult supervision. Every Friday, excluding holidays. 3620 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
CBCA SOCIAL GET-TOGETHER at Barley's, 114 West Broadway in CB) starting at 5:00-7:00pm every other Friday

MONTHLY EVENTS

1st 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 for more info

HEARTLAND PRIDE, Pride Planning Meeting- 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month at D Dale Clark Library, 215 S. 15th St. 6pm-8pm, Email: info@heartlandpride.org, or find us on Facebook

1st Thursday
GLBT PROFESSIONALS, meeting at 5:30pm in various locations. Email at: GOg-1bt@cfep-ne.org or see www.GOg1bt.org for

info

1st Friday

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

1st Saturday

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

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, Country-
side Community Church, 8787 Pacific Street
Omaha, Nebraska

2nd Saturday

Ecumenical Catholics of Omaha, 5pm –
6:30pm. A progressive community in the Cath-
olic tradition, Meets in the MCC sanctuary
Phone: 402.953.7656
Email: ecuomaha@live.com
Web: www.ecuomaha.org

3rd Monday

IMPERIAL COURT OF NE, Board of Gov-
ernors meeting, 6:30pm, meeting at the Rain-
bow Outreach GLBT Community Center,
www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org

3rd Wednesday

HEARTLAND PRIDE, Pride Planning
Meeting- 1st & 3rd Wednesday of each month
at D Dale Clark Library, 215 S. 15th St. 6pm-
8pm, Email: info@heartlandpride.org, or find
us on Facebook

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Ecumenical Catholics of Omaha, 5pm –
6:30pm. A progressive community in the Cath-
olic tradition, Meets in the MCC sanctuary,
Phone: 402.953.7656
Email: ecuomaha@live.com
Web: www.ecuomaha.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

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.

Getting a Divorce

An old man calls up his son and says,
"Listen, your mother and I are getting
divorced. Forty-five years of misery is
enough."

"Dad, what are you talking about?" the
son screams.

"We can't stand the sight of each other
any longer," he says. "I'm sick of her
face, and I'm sick of talking about this, so
call your sister and tell her," and he hangs
up.

Now, the son is worried. So he calls up
his sister. She says, "Like hell they're
getting divorced!" and calls her father
immediately. "You're not getting di-
vorced! Don't do another thing, the two of
us are flying home tomorrow to talk
about this. Until then, don't call a lawyer,
don't file a paper, DO YOU HEAR ME?"
and she hangs up.

The old man turns to his wife and says
"Okay, they're coming for Christmas and
paying their own airfare."

Three Wishes

A Woman was out golfing one day when
she hit the ball into the woods. She went
into the woods to look for it and found a
frog in a trap.

The frog said to her, 'If you release me from
this trap, I will grant you three wishes.'

The woman freed the frog, and the frog said,
'Thank you, but I failed to mention that there
was a condition to your wishes.

Whatever you wish for, your husband will get
times ten!'

The woman said, 'That's okay.'

For her first wish, she wanted to be the most
beautiful woman in the world.

The frog warned her, 'You do realize that this
wish will also make your husband the most
handsome man in the world, an Adonis whom
women will flock to'.

The woman replied, 'That's okay, because I
will be the most beautiful woman and he will
have eyes only for me.'

So, KAZAM-she's the most beautiful Woman
in the world!

For her second wish, she wanted to be the
richest woman in the world.

The frog said, 'That will make your husband
the richest man in the world. And he will be
ten times richer than you.'

The woman said, 'That's okay, because what's
mine is his and what's his is mine.'

So, KAZAM-she's the richest woman in the
world!

The frog then inquired about her third wish,
and she answered, 'I'd like a mild heart attack.'

Shopping

A couple was Christmas shopping at the mall
on Christmas Eve and the mall was packed. As
the wife walked through the mall she was
surprised to look up and see her husband was
nowhere around. She was quite upset because
they had a lot to do. Because she was so wor-
ried, she called him on her mobile phone to
ask him where he was.

In a calm voice, the husband said, "Honey,
you remember the jewelry store we went into
about 5 years ago where you fell in love with
that diamond necklace that we could not afford
and I told you that I would get it for you one
day?"

The wife choked up and started to cry and
said, "Yes, I remember that jewelry store."

He said, "Well, I'm in the bar right next to it."

GLBT RESOURCE LIST

OMAHA BASED

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

Camp Kindle, Nebraska based summer camp for kids affected by HIV/AIDS, 877.800.CAMP, www.CampKindle.org

Citizens for Equal Protection 1105 Howard St. Suite 2, Omaha NE 68102, 398-3027 www.cfep-ne.org, email to: Michael@cfep-ne.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

Flat Water Bears, (group disbanded)

Front Runners/Walkers, Wednesdays at 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha (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 or see www.GOglbt.org for info

Greater Omaha LGBT Democrats <http://omahalgbtDemocrats.wordpress.com> - contact Ken @ 402-686-6389 See also <http://ProgressiveOasis.com>

Heartland Pride www.heartlandpride.org, email: info@heartlandpride.org; meets on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of each month from 6pm 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 3rd Monday, Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center at 6:30pm, 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.

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 or mail to P.O. Box 24547, Omaha NE 68124

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, 819 S. 22 St., Omaha 68108 345-2563, mccomaha@mccomaha.org Website: www.mccomaha.org Sunday Worship 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

Nebraska Zen Center, Soto Zen Buddhist, 3625 Lafayette Ave., 402-551-9035, www.prairiewindzen.org GLBT inclusive

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

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

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

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@yahoo.com

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

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

Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays (PFLAG) Omaha Chapter, 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

Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Ctr, 3620 Leavenworth, Omaha, 341-0330

Rainbow Pride/Rainbow Celebrations PO Box 8273 Omaha, NE 68108, See

www.rainbowpride.org for info

River City Gender Alliance, for info see www.rcga.org or call 402-291-6781

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

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

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

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.) Offices: 2679 Farnam Street, Suite. 205 Omaha, NE 68131, 402-345-5187, email to info@yesomaha.org

Y.E.S. Drop-in Center, 2057 Harney Street Omaha, NE 68102, 402-505-6922

LINCOLN BASED

LGBTQ and Ally Programs and Services Resource Center, Pat Tetreault, LGBTQ Resource Center Director, <http://involved.unl.edu/lgbtqa> - 402.472.1752 or 402-472-1652 <http://www.unl.edu/health/sexuality>

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

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

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

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

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

Parents, Friends of Lesbians & Gays, Cornhusker Chapter: Box 30128, Lincoln 68508, Meet 4th Tues, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, email to Barbara Kimberly, jbkiber@hotmail.com. Website: <http://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

SAGE, Box 22043, Lincoln 68542 Coffee House 2nd 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 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

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.councilbluffscommunityalliance.org
Council Bluffs Pride, www.councilbluffspide.org
Iowa Equality, GLBT –allied against change to the state and federal Constitutions, <http://www.IowaEquality.org>
Sioux City, Iowa Resource Web Site: www.siouxlandpride.net

Nationally Based

Trevor-24-hour National Suicide Hotline for GLBT and Questioning Youth 1-800-850-8078 or see web site at <http://www.thetrevorproject.org/helpline.html>
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Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

Omaha:
 Door 19, 1901 Leavenworth CLOSED CLOSED
 DC's Saloon, 610 South 14th Street 402-344-3103
 Dixie Quick's Restaurant, 157 West Broadway 402- 346-3549
 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
 Mystery Bookstore, 1414 South 13th St. 402-342-7343
 Nebraska AIDS Project, 250 South 77th St 402-552-9260
 Omaha Mining Co., 1715 Leavenworth 402-449-8703
 Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Resource Center, 3620 Leavenworth St. (home of The Gayzette) 402-341-0330

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



Golf One Liners

When I die, bury me on the golf course, so my husband will visit.
 I don't say my golf game is bad, but if I grew tomatoes they'd come up sliced.
 I've spent most of my life golfing. The rest I've just wasted.

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox



Fitness Corner

By Ron Blake



Gifts of the Season

The gifts of the season include the clichéd fruitcake, striped tie, and Fruit of the Loom underwear. Go outside the holiday box this year and give the gift of health and fitness. I am further recommending that you go outside of the traditional health and fitness presents.

These trite and traditional expressions of love involve the giving of health club memberships or the presentation of treadmills. That is such a nice intention but that membership will not be used beyond Martin Luther King Day and that treadmill will quickly bear the weight of more junk than a rented Tijuana mule. My suggestions require your active participation and they are truly the gifts that keep on giving.

Make arrangements to walk twice a week with that out-of-shape recipient of your festive munificence. Initially give this person a calendar and circle the same days of the week for each week throughout the year. Be sure to indicate a time and only mark in pencil. You have laid the groundwork and it is now up to the two of you to identify a compatible schedule for the two of you to walk. Then you can mark in ink. This will work even if you are separated by hundreds of miles. You both can walk simultaneously and communicate through mobile phone technology. T-Mobile's friends and family will gladly assist you.

For the smoker in your life, make monthly appointments to visit the cancer unit at your local hospital. Bring flowers along and spread some cheer among the oncology patients. Some will be suffering the effects of lung cancer and some will be suffering from the effects of other forms of cancer. The impact should be sufficient nonetheless. Continue these monthly appointments as needed during the coming year.

Send a motivational saying once a week to that certain person on your list in need of... well... motivating. I like to print an inspiring saying or quote on a slip of paper and distribute it to the intended individual. This will have a profound impact upon your special person. Sure it would be much easier for you to purchase a book or calendar of quotes and hand this off to him or her. Where would that personal touch come in to play? There would also be no guarantee that the book or calendar would be used. Everyone loves to get mail and everyone will open their mail. Your desired effect will be achieved.

If you live close enough, you can choose two days (or more) each month when you will cook a meal with that friend or relative on your holiday list. You can work together on planning healthy, delectable, and enjoyable meals. This can sow the seed for much healthier eating when you are not in the company of each other.

What makes these gifts so different from traditional gifts is that you are actively involved in their presentation until the next fruitcake and striped tie season. You are frequently there to provide that extra something for that gift designee in your life. Most of these holiday ideas are inexpensive and will simply

require the time commitment. You can even throw in a package of tights for good measure. Happy holidays!

This health and fitness column is brought to you by that guy who believes there is nothing phallic about Santa riding up and down chimneys all night long. That guy is Ron Blake and he can be showered with presents at www.myblakefitness.com.



NEBRASKA AIDS PROJECT

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

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

www.nap.org

402-552-9260

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

NAP: 77th & Dodge St.	Wednesday
	1:30 to 3:30 pm (appointment only) 5:00 to 8:00 pm (walk-in)
	Thursday
	1:30 to 3:30 pm (appointment only) 5:00 to 8:00 pm (walk-in)



Flixx Lounge: 10th & Pacific St.	1st & 3rd Mondays of each month 8:00 to 10:00 pm (walk-in)
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RESPECT Clinic 50th & Ames Ave. (Located in Baker Square Plaza)	2nd & 4th Mondays of each month 5:00 to 7:00 pm (walk-in)
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Know your status. GET TESTED!

Call 402-552-9260 to schedule an appointment or with any questions.

www.nap.org

MONDAY, 12.31.2012

\$10 COVER ALL NIGHT

NEW YEAR'S EVE

CELEBRATE THE NEW YEAR AT
OMAHA'S BEST PARTY

the max

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

