

the

GAYZETTE

News and Events for the GLBTA Communities

Stop the Federal DOMA We Need Your Help!

By Tim Butz, ACLU Nebraska

The Federal Marriage Amendment (FMA) is again picking up momentum this session as a partisan issue in Congress. This proposal would create a so-called "defense of marriage amendment" to the federal constitution that would be similar to Nebraska's Initiative 416. If it passes congress and is ratified by enough states, it will be a tremendous blow to equal rights for gays and lesbians.

Nebraska has been identified as an important state on the FMA because of Senators Chuck Hagel and Ben Nelson, whose opposition to the Amendment we would like to solidify and confirm through upcoming efforts.

We are aware of a friendly national group, Pro-Family Pediatricians (visit http://www.profamilypediatricians.org/), that is setting up in-district meetings during the upcoming recesses, placing direct calls to the Washington Offices when Congress is in session, and/or submitting local letters to the editor by pediatricians. Because of the credibility and influence that these doctors have as an independent voice, we believe that is important that Sen. Nelson and Sen. Hagel hear from them.

The caveat is that Nebraska is only one of two states in which there are currently no Pro-Family Pediatrician doctors. If you have a child in your family, please consider asking him or her to visit the PFP website and helping in this effort.

The Federal Marriage Amendment would severely and negatively impact the health and development of hundreds of thousands of children whose parents are same-sex couples by denying them the security and permanence that children need to thrive. This amendment would deny a non-biological parent the right to authorize emergency medical or surgical treatments, stay with a child in the hospital, provide health insurance for the child, or take time off work to care for a sick child. Your pediatrician should care about these issues, but they will not know about them unless you talk to them. Please, do it soon!



Tom Mahony Pride Prom

Proud Horizons, Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network-Omaha (GLSEN-Omaha) and the metropolitan Omaha Gay Straight Alliances eagerly announce the Tom Mahony Pride Prom 2006 for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) youth and their straight allies aged 14-23 will be held Saturday, May 20 from 7-11 PM at Cary Hall in First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass, Omaha, NE. The dance, very similar to last year's, which 111 youth attended, will have a DJ, photographer, uniformed security officers and plenty of refreshments. The theme selected for this year's dance is Masquerade. Admission is \$5.00 per person, payable at the door.

Continued on Page 5

Senior 50+ Group Meeting

A new group has begun regular social meetings at the Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Center at 1719 Leavenworth Street. The next meeting is on Saturday, March 18th, from 7 until 10PM.

If you're 50 or older, or like to socialize with your older peers, share your experiences and viewpoints, then this group is for you. Not into the bar scene? Then stop in for a visit, enjoy some great conversation, and make some new friends. The event is free and open to everyone.

Don't be an old Scrooge, come on down and have some fun!

March 3, 2006 - March 17, 2006

Published every two weeks by the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center P.O. Box 8583, Omaha, Nebraska 68108 (402) 341-0330 Web Site: www.rainbowoutreach.org email the GAYZETTE: news@rainbowoutreach.org

Jeremy & James Will be hosting Game Day at the Center 1719 Leavenworth St

Sundays: 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Come down and check out the games we have available or bring your favorite game and show us how to play.

Ages 5 - 105.

Parents bring the kids down and play or read some of the books in our Library while they play.

CENTER WINDOW DISPLAY

Come check out the GLBT Center front window display - a tribute to Brokeback Mountain, the gaythemed love story nominated for eight Academy Awards including Best Picture. The Center is located at 1719 Leavenworth in downtown Omaha. The display will be up until Sunday, March 5, the night of the 78th Annual Academy Awards.



Helping the Center is Easier than Ever!

The Center is now accepting donations of household items that can be sold on eBay to raise money!

We accept donations during regular Center hours or arrange for local pickup.

We are currently accepting the following types of items:

Clothing & Accessories Working Electronic Equipment Houseware & Giftware Tools Jewelry Books Music CD's DVD's & VHS tapes Video Games And more....

If you are not sure if we can accept an item, call (402) 341-0330 or email: auctions@rainbowoutreach.org and we will be happy to assist you!

Please Remember; All Donations to the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center are TAX DEDUCTIBLE!!!





GAYZETTE AD RATES, PRINTED COPY AND ON THE WEB ole Page 7 ½ X 10 \$100.00 Half Page 7 ½ X 4 ¾ \$50.00

Whole Page 7 1/2 X 10 Fourth Page 3 3/4 X 4 3/4 \$ 25.00

Business Card

\$ 15.00

All ads must be camera ready. Payment must accompany ad, Checks should be made payable to Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center. 10% Discount for on-going ads of any size. Payment and ads should be delivered to the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center, P.O. Box 8583, Omaha NE 68102 on or before the deadline or emailed to news@RainbowOutreach.org. Please email or call ahead to reserve space. We reserve the right to refuse any ad which we deem to be inappropriate.

Ad Deadlines: Friday, Mar 10, for Publication Mar 17th

Friday, Mar 24, for Publication Mar 31st

FLIXX WIDEO BAR

www.flixxvideobar.com



ACADEMY AWARDS PARTY

MARCH 5TH, 2006 BEGINNING @ 7PM

BALLOT CONTEST FOR \$5...WINNER TAKE ALL!



PIANO BAR HAPPY HOUR TUESDAYS & FRIDAYS 6:30-8:30PM FOOD, FRIENDS & COCKTAILS... WHITE PARTY
IS
COMING...
3.25.2006



ST. PATRICK'S DAY

FRIDAY, MARCH 17TH...DOORS OPEN @10AM!



THE KINGSMEN!

MARCH 17TH DOORS OPEN @ 9PM OLD MARKET EVENT CENTER



WET BOXER CONTEST
FRIDAY MARCH 31ST @ 11:00PM
\$100 FIRST PRIZE



FROZEN

FROZEN
DRINKS
\$3.00
& TO WARM
YOU UP...
YOUR HOTTEST
DIVA VIDEOS
ALL
NIGHT LONG



OLD MARKET EVENT CENTER



ACADEMY A WARDS PARTY

...A BENEFIT FOR NEBRASKA AIDS PROJECT
JOIN US FOR THIS LANDMARK EVENT ON
MARCH 5TH, 2006!

CALL 408.0882 OR EMAIL FOR MORE INFO!

SPRING BREAK BRUNCH SUNDAY BRUNCH & BINGO

MARCH 26TH 12 PM \$10/ PERSON PLEASE CALL 408.0882 /408.1020 OR SPEAK TO A FLIXX BARTENDER TO RESERVE A SPOT!



THE OLD MARKET EVENT CENTER IS AVAILABLE FOR PARTIES & SPECIAL EVENTS!

1015 SOUTH 10TH STREET—NEXT TO FLIXX. CALL MIKE @ 408-0882 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox







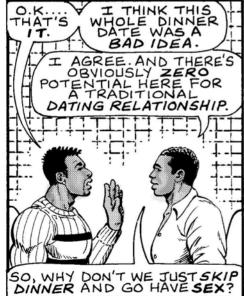






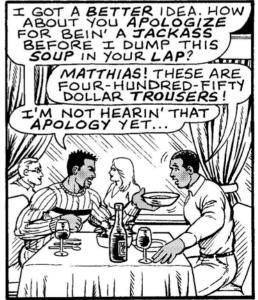












E-Mail - KylesBnB@aol.com

Nebraska Pride Spaghetti Feed

By Nate Tedrow PR Chair

Rainbow Celebrations the producers of Nebraska Pride are hosting a Spaghetti Feed on Saturday March 4th form 4-6 pm at MCC Omaha – Social Hall located at 819 S. 22nd street. in Omaha

Join the Nebraska Pride 2006 Committee for an evening of fun and food!

All proceeds will benefit Nebraska Pride and Rainbow Celebrations. \$5.00 gets you a plate of Spaghetti, salad and bread. Show Your Pride Join Us.

Pride Prom Story Continues from Front Page

Beginning this year we are dedicating our annual prom to Tom Mahony. In the mid 1990's the Omaha School Board was reviewing the student code of conduct. Tom Mahony and his wife stood with their gay son as he spoke to the school board regarding harassment he received in a gym class. Fol lowing this presentation the school board, in a nearly unanimous vote, added sexual orientation to the district's student harassment policy. Tom Mahony passed away last year. In recognition of this family's courage, the prom organizers chose to honor Tom. Dave England from Proud Horizons said, "In supporting their son, Tom and his wife were saying their son deserved the same protection from harassment as other students. It is always important for us to remember our heritage. Today's students need to know that the protection afforded them resulted from the Mahony family's action."

Due to last year's attendance at the prom, the planners are expecting at least 200 youth this year. As a result, our budget increased by nearly half. In order to accomplish our goal of a bigger prom we need the community's financial support.

Please make checks payable to Proud Horizons. Donations may be sent to Proud Horizons, 2912 Lynnwood Dr., Bellevue NE 68123.

As part of PFLAG-Omaha, Proud Horizons is a 501(c) 3 organization and donations to the prom are tax deductible in accordance with applicable IRS regulations.

All groups and individuals will be given recognition at the prom for their donations. If you wish to remain an anonymous donor, please let us know.

Proud Horizons is a youth support group for LGBT youth and their allies. Sponsored by Parents Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Omaha Chapter, Proud Horizons provides a safe space for youth to discuss life's issues with their peers and to create a social network.

L2EP Leather Show

On February 9, the Gay and Leather communities lost a good friend with the death of Scott Distefano. Scott died peacefully in his sleep at the home of a friend, after a long battle with AIDS. He is missed by those who knew him.

Dreams to Reality, an event of the BDSM community in Omaha, has been held for the past nine years on the second weekend of March, sponsored by Susan Able and Learning to Exchange Power (L2EP). This year "Dreams" had been canceled, although Scott was trying to help organize a smaller, day long event to continue the tradition. To honor both Scott's memory, and the tradition of Dreams to Reality, the board members of L2EP are pleased to announce a Leather show, with auction, and dungeon party on the night of March 11, 2006, at DC's. Proceeds from the evening will be used to help cover funeral and burial expenses for Scott. Any additional funds raised will go to the L2EP educational fund which helps provide speakers and educational opportunities related to the BDSM lifestyle.

Anyone who is interested in participating in the show, please contact Joe at omaha-joe@hotmail.com

Please join us at DC's from 6 to 8 pm on March 11 for the show, and from 10 pm to 1 am for the dungeon party. Cost for the event will be a \$10 donation for the dungeon party.



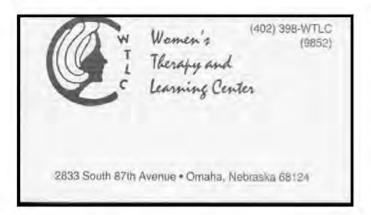
Ban Republican Adoptions, Not Gay Adoptions

COLUMBUS, Ohio - State Senator Robert Hagan says he has a better idea than barring gay couples from adopting children. The Democrat from Youngstown says he'd ban Republican adoptions.

In a tongue-in-cheek memo to his colleagues, Hagan spoofs a bill from House conservatives that would keep gays from becoming adoptive or foster parents in Ohio.

He counters that adopted children raised in Republican households have told him it's just plain boring most of the time. Hagan also writes that the kids are more at risk for developing -- as he puts it -- "an alarming lack of tolerance."

An aide says there's no comment from Republican Representative Ron Hood of Ashville, the sponsor of the gay-adoption ban.





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

Attorneys at Law

Susan Ann Koenig Angela Dunne Tiritilli Bradley Z. Haumont

1266 South 13th Street Omaha, NE 68108-3502 (402) 346-1132 www.koeniglaw.com *Irrevocable Advocacy*

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Monthly Meetings: Second Thursday 7:00 P.M. Location: First United Methodist Church 7020 Cass, Omaha, Nebraska Web Site: www.pflag-omaha.org

P.O. Box 390064 Omaha, NE 68139-0064 HELPLINE (402) 291-67681



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Tim Reeder has been serving the Omaha metro area GLBT community since 1998. Licensed in Nebraska and Iowa, Tim has helped hundreds of people like you buy and sell their homes. Backed by the areas largest & best real estate firm CBS Home, Tim has the tools, resources and experience to make your next real estate transaction an easy one. Call Tim

YES! I WANT TO SUPPORT THE GLBT CENTER!

Here is my tax-deductible contribution...

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City	
State	Zip
Phone	
Gift	
□ \$300 Activist □ \$240 Advocate □ \$180 Pioneer □ \$120 Sustainer □ \$75 Organizer □ \$50 Builder □ \$35 Family □ \$20 Individual Other \$ Method	Thank you for helping to create a more just and inclusive world. - GLBT Center 99
, 100,70 W	□ VISA □ Check enclosed payable to Rainbow Outreach
Card #	
Exp. Date	
Signature Contact info must match your monthly card billing statement.	

Instructions



Mail this form to Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, PO Box 8583, Omaha, NE 68108



Donate online at www.RainbowOutreach.org

We honor your privacy and do not sell, trade, or share personal information. The GLBT Center is a 501c(3) nonprofit organization. Your donation is fully tax-deductible under law.



About the Gayzette & the GLBT Center

The Gayzette is published by the Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Center every two weeks - 26 times per year. The Gayzette can be picked up for FREE at area establishments including the Center and can be read online at RainbowOutreach.org. Homedelivery subscriptions are \$35 and arrive in a plain envelope. Stop by the GLBT Center or log on to our website to subscribe using Visa, MasterCard, or personal check. Or send payment to our PO Box address below. Views expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the GLBT Center or its board of directors.

The Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Center is a nonprofit 501c(3) organization dedicated to providing education, information, and social services in a safe, neutral environment. The GLBT Center strives to foster understanding, personal growth, and development for all people, specifically (but not limited to) those persons aligned with and/or directly involved with the GLBT community. We are an all-volunteer organization serving the gay, lesbian, bisexual, transgender (GLBT) population as well as family, friends and allies in eastern Nebraska and western Iowa.

Visit: Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth. Free Parking. Walk-in Hours: Sun.1-6PM, Mon.1-3PM, Tue.7-9PM, Wed. 7-9PM, Thu.1-3PM, Fri.1-9PM, Sat.1-4PM. Closed most major holidays.

Write: Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, PO Box 8583, Omaha NE 68108

Email: GLBTcenter@RainbowOutreach.org Click: www.RainbowOutreach.org

Call: (402) 341-0330

Center Wish List

Do you have something that the GLBT Center could use? Please call us at (402) 341-0330 or email wishlist@rainbowoutreach.org

Some Objects on our Wish List

Items for Raffles (event tickets, etc.); 6ft-tall 5-shelf Bookcase; Games (board games, card games, roleplaying games, chess, puzzles); Laminator (8.5"x11" or larger); Laser Printer (600 dpi or greater, PC compatible); Library Materials (GLBT-related Books, Magazines, Books on Tape, Videos, DVDs); Overhead Projector; Public Address System; Tables (three collapsible, 6-8 ft. long); Toolbox; VCR; TDD/TTY (Telecommunications Devices for the Deaf/Teletypewriters); TeleBraille (TB) machines for the Blind.

Wish List Contributors

Anonymous - Books, Videos/DVDs, Snacks; Bill Gaus - Books; Dino A. - 6X9 envelopes; Roxy Brandt & Chris Hamilton - Books and Magazines; George Broadway - Computer Equipment, PO Box Sponsor, Printer Ink Cartridges; Stephen Cohen - Book; Chris Curtis - Raffle Items; Bob Ewing at Printing Plus - 2 cases of 6X9 envelopes; Marcus Fender - Oscillating Floor Fan, 8 Bulbs, Box of Trash Bags; Flat Water Bears - Bookcase; Bob Gittins - Cards, DVD Players, Books, Office Supplies & Equipment; Judy Hancock - Bulletin Boards, Chairs & Tables, Games, Office Supplies, Printer Stand, more; Jon Holloway - Books; Jim from Jim's Seek & Save - Games; James Lunbeck - Vacuum Cleaner, Open House Food; Monty McClean - Books; Sarah - Coffee Maker, Cleaning Supplies, Magazines; Scott - Books; Sharon VanButsel & Carla Petersen - Books; Brian Wyant - Books, Open House Food, Websites.

Your Generosity Helps Us to Serve

son@hastings.edu for more information.

Miss Susan Bids Adieu To Gayzette Readers

Dear Reader.

I hope that after reading my letters in the *Gayzette* over these past few weeks you will have gained some insight into the world and gay and lesbian jurisprudence. My greatest hope is that judges all around the country will read my letters and realize that gays and lesbians are really not so different from any other people who find their way into a courtroom. Even if you are not a judge, you no doubt noticed that the legal standard applied in any given case does not vary with the sexual orientation of the parties involved in the litigation.

If you happen to be a judge, I hope you may learn from the mistakes of other judges who were less than kind to the gay and lesbian individuals who appeared before them. If you can remember my personal motto—that good manners and good law often coincide—I'm sure your opinions will always be just and well-reasoned.

Very truly yours, Miss Susan

Miss Susan is a fictional advice columnist created by Bradley Z. Haumont and Susan Ann Koenig, two attorneys at Koenig & Tiritilli, P.C., L.L.O. based in Omaha, Nebraska. Please don't confuse Miss Susan with either of the authors. She is really much taller and much funnier than either of us.

DISCLAIMER. This column is intended for informational purposes only. DO NOT RELY ON ANYTHING YOU READ IN THIS COLUMN. IT IS NOT INTENDED AS LEGAL ADVICE. The legal principles discussed herein do not necessarily apply in the State of Nebraska. If you have questions, please consult an attorney.

Day of Silence

The Hastings College Alliance will recognize Day of Silence on Wednesday, April 12. Student members will encourage people to remain silent for the day, in recognition of the silence GLBT persons must practice in respect to who they truly are. Students and employees will wear ribbons for the day to signify that they are remaining silent for the day, or are in support of those who are remaining silent. The chapel service at 10 AM will feature special music by Jon Sokasits, Associate Professor of Music, and a message from Michael Adee, Field Organizer for More Light Presbyterians. Interested persons can join Mr Adee for lunch at the Hazelrigg Student Union. At 8 PM, Alliance will host a Breaking the Silence vigil, followed by a reception for Mr Adee. Alliance is also hosting an exhibit of Shower of Stoles at the college library and chapel during the week. See www.showerofstoles.org for more information. Contact jdenkovich@hastings.edu, jsandeen@hastings.edu, or aander-

Sno-Ball 2006

Guardian Emperor Jeff McKenzie and Princess Royale Stella Dallas, Present Sno-Ball 2006.

Please join the Imperial Court of Nebraska. Saturday March 11, at The Max, for a night of Disco Revolutions. Cocktails at 6:00 PM with the show starting at 7:00 PM.

This will be an evening of great entertainment, with a special appearance by none other then Pitty Pat Magnolia Sugarbaker, from Houston, Texas.



Raffle tickets are currently on sale for this event.

Many wonderful prizes, with a 50/50 Raffle. Find out who will be this years King and Queen of Sno-Ball!

Put on those bell-bottoms, get some raffle tickets and come shake your groove thing. We look forward to entertaining you!

Miss Beatrice.....

......the church organist, was in her eighties. She was admired for her sweetness and kindness to all. One afternoon the pastor came to call on her and she showed him into her quaint sitting room. She invited him to have a seat while she prepared tea.

As he sat facing her old Hammond organ, the young minister noticed a cut-glass bowl sitting on top of it. The bowl was filled with water, and in the water floated, of all things, a condom! When she returned with tea and scones, they began to chat.

The pastor tried to stifle his curiosity about the bowl of water and its strange floater, but soon it got the better of him and He could no longer resist. "Miss Beatrice", he said, "I wonder if you would tell me about this?" pointing to the bowl.

"Oh, yes," she replied, "Isn't it wonderful? I was walking through the park a few months ago and I found this little package on the ground. The directions said to place it on the organ, keep it wet and that it would prevent the spread of disease. Do you know I haven't had the flu all winter?"

GLBT CENTER HAPPY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION

Put the rainbow in your St. Pattie's Day partying! Join us as we celebrate the 9th birthday of the GLBT Center! Enjoy free cupcakes, beverages, and other treats. We look forward to seeing you on Friday, March 17, from 7PM-9PM at the Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth



Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

Omaha:

Connections, 1901 Leavenworth
The Diamond, 712 South 16th Street
DC's Saloon, 610 South 14th Street
Dixie Quick's, Restaurant 20th Leavenworth
Flixx 1019 South 10th Street Omaha
Gilligan's Pub, 1407 Harney Street
The Max, 1417 Jackson
The Reading Grounds, 3928 Farnam Street
Metropolitan Community Church, 819 South 22nd Street
Omaha Mining Co., 1715 Leavenworth
Mystery Bookstore, 1422 South 13th St
Nebraska AIDS Project, 139 South 40th St
Next Millennium, 2308 North 72nd Street
Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Resource Center,
1719 Leavenworth St.

Lincoln:

Panic Bar, 200 South 18th Street (as available) Q Bar, 226 South 9th Street (as available)

lowa:

Adult Emporium, 1 blk.So. of 32nd & Broadway, Council Bluffs

Wilson Resource Center, Arnolds Park, IA



Building A Community of Stronger Men

Are you a man who has sex with other men?
Are you looking for a discreet way to learn about making sex safer?
Would you like to get FREE Stuff?

→Web Visa+T-Shirt+Safe Sex Kit-

Check it out On-Line http://www.projectsamson.org



METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA

Sunday Services at 11AM

Wednesday 7:00 PM

819 South 22nd Street (Just south of Leavenworth Street)
Omaha, Nebraska 68103 Phone: 402-345-2563
Web site: www.mccomaha.org

FRANK & GRYVA, P.C.

CRIMINAL/DUI SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY BENEFITS/SSI

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Mary C Gryva

1823 Harney St. Suite 201 Omaha Nebraska, 68102

Phone: 402-346-0874



GAYZETTE COMING EVENTS

March is LGBT Health Awareness Week

FRIDAY MARCH 3RD NEBRASKA PRIDE IDOL Prelim #2. 8pm at FLIXX Video Bar

MCC OMAHA FELLOWSHIP FRIDAY 7:30pm, MCCO Church

SATURDAY MARCH 4TH

HEARTS A'FIRE, Dance Party and Show, 1st Inn Gold Hotel, York Nebraska, doors open at 8pm, see www.Tri-City-GLBT.com for more information, 8pm, \$5 cover, door prizes and raffle

NEBRASKA PRIDE SPAGHETTI DIN-NER MCCO Social Hall, 4-6pm, \$5 per plate

SUNDAY MARCH 5TH 5TH ANNUAL OSCAR NIGHT BENE-FIT The Max, Red\Carpet 7pm, Show

WEDNESDAY MARCH 8TH MPOWER M-SOCIAL 7pm at The Reading Grounds, food and beverages, free

FRIDAY MARCH 10TH NEBRASKA PRIDE IDOL Prelim #3, TBA

MCC OMAHA PRAYER DINNER 6:30pm, MCC Social Hall ONE SHOW FIVE ARTISTS Friday and Saturday March 11th at The Reading Grounds, an exhibit of paintings, drawings, photography and welding sculptures, starts at noon Friday, ends 10:30pm Sunday night

SATURDAY MARCH 11TH GROUNDHOG PROM, 28th Annual event, 7:30pm, Mid-America Center Council Bluffs Jowa

SUNDAY MARCH 12TH NEBRASKA PRIDE BENEFIT hosted by Mr. Pride Johnnie Richards, DC's Saloon, 9pm

FRIDAY MARCH 17TH KINGSMEN ST. PATTYS DAY SHOW 9:00 p.m., \$5 Cover. Flixx Video Bar

SUNDAY MARCH 26TH NEBRASKA PRIDE BENEFIT hosted by Mr. Pride Johnnie Richards, The Max, 9:30pm

WEDNESDAY MARCH 29TH ERIC HIMAN & LEVI KREIS IN CON-CERT 8PM at MCC Omaha

SATURDAY APRIL 1ST NEBRASKA PRIDE IDOL Prelim #4, The Reading Grounds, 8pm

SUNDAY APRIL 2ND TURNABOUT ON BROADWAY Where the Pride Bois become Pride Girls, benefit for NE Pride, The Max, 9:30pm

FRIDAY APRIL 7TH FELLOWSHIP FRIDAY MCC Omaha,

TUESDAY APRIL 18TH DINING OUT FOR LIFE 2006, Eat out to raise funds for the Nebraska AIDS Project, details

SATURDAY APRIL 22ND MADELINE FEINSTEIN'S ONE WOMAN SHOW For the Diamond Foundation's GLBT Scholarship Fund, The Max, 7pm

GLBT SUMMIT PLANNING MEETING Mahoney State Park, 11am, lunch and meeting

SUNDAY APRIL 23RD NEBRASKA PRIDE IDOL Prelim #5, DC's Saloon, 9pm

FRIDAY APRIL 28TH MCCO BENEFIT SHOW DC's Saloon, 7pm

SATURDAY APRIL 29TH NEBRASKA PRIDE IDOL Prelim #6, MCC Omaha, 8pm

SUNDAY APRIL 30TH DIAMOND FOUNDATION GLBT SCHOL-ARSHIP BENEFIT The Q, 9:30pm

SATURDAY MAY 6TH MCC SPAGHETTI DINNER, 4:30PM—8PM at the MCCO Church

NEBRASKA PRIDE IDOL Prelim #7, 9pm at The Q, in Lincoln NE

SATURDAY MAY 13TH GLBT CENTER ANNUAL PRIDE WALK.

Have fun, get exercise, and earn great prizes while you raise funds for the Center and your favorite qualifying nonprofit GLBT group(s). Register at the GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth, or online at www.PrideWalk.org

SATURDAY SUNDAY MAY 20TH & 21ST HGRA RODEO, Sarpy County Fairgrounds, Springfield NE

FRI SAT SUN, JUNE 9TH TO 11TH 2006 NEBRASKA GAY PRIDE

SATURDAY JUNE 17TH AND SUNDAY JUNE 18TH

SPIRIT AND SOUL, presented by the River City Mixed Chorus at the Strauss Performing Arts Center-UNO Campus at 7:05pm. Call 341-7464 for tickets or online at www.rcmc.org

WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Sunday WORSHIP SERVICES:

DIETZ METHODIST 1423 S.10, Heartland Casual Coffeehouse 9:30am, Traditional Worship 11am

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

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

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

FIRST UNITARIAN 3114 Harney, 11am

LOWE AVE PRESBYTERIAN, 1023 N 40 10am service

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA 819 S. 22, 345 -2563 Sunday Worship: 11am

NA RAINBOW GROUP, Narcotics Anonymous, every Sunday at 6PM, MCC-Omaha, 819 South 22nd St., for info contact Kip K. at 612-4648

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

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

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

LINCOLN WOMYN'S POTLUCK Cheryl 474-1937 11:30am-4pm

WIMMIN'S SHOW KZUM 89.3 12:30pm

RIVER CITY II MIXED BOWLING, 3pm, Maplewood Lanes, GAMES DAY AT THE GLBT CENTER. 1719 Leavenworth, 1PM to 3PM

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

Every Monday 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

HIV TESTING, 7-9:30pm, 139 S. 40th

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

A A GLBT "RAINBOW GROUP"

Meeting Place, 28 & S, Lincoln, 7:30 p

Every Tuesday

UNL LESBIAN/BI/QUESTIONING SUP-

PORT GROUP, 7-8:30PM, Women's Center, Nebraska Union, Lincoln, 472-5644

Every Wednesday WORSHIP SERVICES

MCC OMAHA, Bible Study, 7pm

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

READING GROUNDS OPEN MIC

NIGHTS, Music, poetry, comedy or whatever . 40th & Farnam St.,

HIV TESTING, 1-4 pm NAP, 139 S. 40 St.

HIV TESTING LINCOLN, 4-7 pm, using

Orasure, results in one week; results in 20 minutes on the last Wednesday of the month. 2147 South 15th #476-7000

FRONTRUNNERS RUN/WALK

6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha

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

KARAOKE W/STACY 8:30pm DC's

Every Thursday GILLIGAN'S PUB OPEN MIC NIGHT,

sing to your hearts content, be a comedian for a night, it's an open mic night

HIV TESTING 7-9:30 pm, NAP, 139 S. 40th

KARAOKE 9pm, Connections Bar

FREE CONFIDENTIAL ANONYMOUS HIV

TEST, UN-L 472-7447, 3-5:00pm, University Health Center Room 158D (in Radiology on the first floor), Orasure test, no needles, Lincoln

Every Friday GLBT CENTER YOUTH NIGHT, 5PM to

9PM, for ages 13 to 23. Youth sponsored and organized activities, under adult supervision. Every Friday, excluding holidays. 1719 Leavenworth Street

FREE CONFIDENTIAL ANONYMOUS HIV

TEST, UN-L 472-7447, 2:30-4pm, University Health Center Room 158D (in Radiology on the first floor), Orasure test, no needles, Lincoln GLBT AA 7PM to 8PM, Lowe Avenue Pres-

byterian, Call 556-8364, ask for Sanford

GLBT SEXUAL COMPULSIVE ANONY-

MOUS, (SCA), A program of recovery, 8pm to 9pm, call Joe at 932-8066 or Tony at 933-1318

GILLIGAN'S PUB KARAOKE NIGHT,

have fun from 9 pm to 1 am READING GROUNDS GAYME NIGHT

Music, laughter & board games. 23yrs. Old & up, 40th & Farnam St., 502-2008

Every Saturday

GILLIGAN'S PUB KARAOKE NIGHT,

have fun from 9 pm to 1 am

GLBT BICYCLING CLUB OMAHA, For

details call Jeri at 614-6145

PROUD HORIZON YOUTH GROUP

4-6pm, 291-6781 proudhorizons@yahoo.com

MONTHLY EVENTS

1st Tuesday

CENTER LIBRARY FAIRIES, 7PM. Bookworms become butterflies. Stretch your wings helping the Center library. No experience necessary to volunteer. Drop-in to the GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth.

VOLUNQUEER DROP-IN, at the GLBT Center. Be a "VolunQueer" and help out. Spend an hour or two volunteering at the Center - 6PM or 7PM, your choice, whenever it fits your schedule. No special skills or ongoing commitment required. VolunQueers have fun and make a difference.

1st Friday

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

FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE HOUSE

8pm, Musicians, poets, open mic, First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney, Omaha

1st Saturday

RIVER CITY GENDER ALLIANCE

Room Open: 4pm Meeting at 7pm, 991-8845 or email: rcga@tgforum.com

1st Sunday

GAY GUYS SPAGHETTI NIGHT, at a

Lincoln restaurant, call 402-483-6183 to reserve a seat up until the day before

2nd Tuesday

CENTER WESTERN IOWA COM-

MITTEE, 6PM at the GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth, Omaha. For details,

visit rainbowoutreach.org
FREE MOVIE NIGHT, for fans of GLBT cinema, 7PM, at the GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth. Snacks and beverages provided. Check

www.RainbowOutreach.org for movie selection or show up and be surprised.

2nd Thursday

PFLAG-OMAHA, 7pm, First United Methodist Church

2nd Saturday

LEARNING TO EXCHANGE

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

2nd Sunday

INTEGRITY 6-7:30pm, St. Marks, Lin-

OUUT SECOND SUNDAY SCREEN-

ING (glbt film shown at 6:30pm followed by discussion) First Unitarian. 3114 Harney

3rd Monday

IMPERIAL COURT OF NEBR 6:30pm. MCC-O, 819 S. 22 St., www.icon.impcourt.org

3rd Tuesday

VOLUNQUEER DROP-IN, at the GLBT Center. Be a "VolunQueer" and help out. Spend an hour or two volunteering at the Center - 6PM or 7PM, your choice, whenever it fits your schedule. No special skills or ongoing commitment required. VolunQueers have fun and make a difference.

3rd Thursday

LES/BI/GAY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP, Village Inn, 78th & Dodge, 7 PM

3rd Friday

GAY/BI SUPPORT GRP FOR HIV+ MEN

6-8pm NAP, 220 S. 17, Lincoln, 476-7000. LINCOLN MIXED CHORUS 6:30pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

COFFEE HOUSE Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

4th Tuesday

CENTER POTLUCK, 6:30PM, 1719 Leavenworth. Everyone welcome. Table service and drinks provided. Bring a dish and a smile to

PFLAG-CORNHUSKER Unitarian Church,

6300 A, Lincoln, 7 p.m. YOUTH HIV TEST Lighthouse, 2530 N, Lincoln, ages 13 to 18, FFI: 475-3220. 5:30 pm

4th Friday

LEATHER ENGINEERS—OMAHA Monthly Beer Bust, 9pm, DC's Saloon

4th Saturday

FREE MATINEE MOVIE, at the GLBT Center, 1:30PM, Bring a snack to share, everyone is welcome, 2nd and 4th Saturdays every month

LAST Sunday

REAL FAMILIES Omaha-area families headed by gay/lesbian parents, Margaux at 561-6738 or email MargauxPolo@aol.com

Email Your Event to: news@rainbowoutreach.org

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
- Citizens for Equal Protection 1102 Howard St. Suite 2, Omaha NE 68102, 398-3027 www.cfep-ne.org, email to: Michael@cfep-ne.org
- Family Foundations Therapy for individuals, couples or families, for info call 558-3856
- Flat Water Bears, Box 3751, Omaha 68103 flatwaterbears@yahoo.com Hirsute men and admirers group
- Front Runners/Walkers, 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha
- GALO (Gay & Lesbian Org at UNO) www.angelfire.com/home/GALO contact: unogalo@hotmail.com or SPO (Student Organizations) at 554-2711.
- Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network Omaha, Box 641676, Omaha 68164, 712-325-0117 http://www.glsenomaha.org
- GayLibrary.com, World Wide Resources Heartland Gay Rodeo Association Box 3354, Omaha 68103
- Ice Bowl Invitational Bowling Tournament (IBIT) P.O. Box 31838,Omaha, 68131 R. Hollendieck (402) 556-5556
- Imperial Court of Nebraska, Box 3772,
 Omaha 68103 556-9907, Board Meets 3rd
 Monday, 819 S. 22 www.icon.impcourt.org
- Learning to Exchange Power, L2EP@aol.com; Social, educational group novices in Leather, S/M, B/D Lifestyle
- **Leather Engineers of Omaha (LEO)** Box 8101, Omaha, 68108-8101 Gay men in leather lifestyle, Mt 4nd Fri Gilligan's 7pm
- LinOma Bares, Box 24547, Omaha 68124 Nudist/ Naturist Club for gay/bi men Info: Linomabares@yahoo.com or call Eric at (402) 553-5944 or Tim S (712) 527-5887
- Mpower Program, 139 S. 40, Omaha 68131 email: mpower@nap.org website: www.mpower-nap.org phone: 402.552.9260x20, Holistic Gay Men's Health Program
- Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, 819 S. 22 St., Omaha 68108 345-2563, mccomaha@mccomaha.org
 Website:www.mccomaha.org Sunday
 Worship 11am, Wed Evening Bible Study
 at 7pm
- NA Rainbow Group, Narcotics Anonymous, meets every Sunday at 6pm, MCC-Omaha Church, 819 South 22nd St
- Nebraska AIDS Project, 552-9260 Watanabe Wellness Ctr, 139 S. 40, Omaha 68131, Testing Mon, Thurs Eve, Wed aft
- NebraskaEquality.org, Find out everything about Nebraska and the GLBT Community
- Nebraska GLBT Events, Community Events Calendar web site, see www.NebraskaGLBTEvents.com
- The 'Ohana Group, (GLBT / Non-traditional Family group), email to: Theohana-group@msn.com
- Omaha Bi Married Men Yahoo Group http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ OmahaBiMarriedMen

- Omaha Nebr Gay Pride WebPage http://ONGP.com; email to: omahanegaypride@cox.net or ongp@cox.net
- Onyx Images, Box 31026, 68131-0026 Social/Support Organization for African American Males age 21 and over
- Out and About in Nebraska, website: www.travel.to/outabout Email: NeOutAboout@yahoo.com
- OUUT (Omaha Unitarian Universalists for Tolerance) First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney, 68131, 345-3039, www.ouut.org
- Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays (PFLAG) Omaha Chapter Box 390064, Omaha, 68139-0064 291-6781 Website:www.pflag-omaha.org, email info@pflag-omaha.org Meet 2nd Thurs, 1st United Meth, 7020 Cass
- Proud Horizons Youth Group, Sat Afternoon, info: (402) 291-6781 or email proudhorizons@yahoo.com
- Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Ctr, 1719 Leavenworth, Omaha, 341-0330
- Rainbow Bible Study, Fridays, 6-7:30pm, Lowe Ave Presbyterian, 1023 N. 40 St.
- Rainbow Celebrations, Box 241733, Omaha, 68124, 402-212-6302 locally, 866-NE-PRIDE toll free, sponsors of annual Gay Pride & National Coming Out Day, see
- www.rainbowcelebrations.org
- Real Families, Omaha-area families headed by gay/lesbian parents, meet last Sunday of every month. Info: Margaux at 561-6738 or email MargauxPolo@aol.com
- River City Gender Alliance, www:genderalliance.com Social/ Support Group for transgender/ transsexual/cross-dressers and supporters
- River City Mixed Bowling II 3pm, Sundays, Maplewood Lanes, Omaha Norma Harrison (402) 731-5706
- River City Mixed Chorus, Box 3267. Omaha, NE 68103, 402-341-SING Website: www.rcmc.org
- **SNAP Productions,** Box 8464, Omaha, NE 68108 www.snapproductions.com
- Unity Church of Omaha 3424 N. 90, Omaha, Sunday worship: 10:30am Wednesday meditation service 7pm; 571-1344; www.unityomaha.org
- WomenSpace, Box 24712, Omaha 68124 Newsletter, Concerts

LINCOLN BASED

- GLBT and Ally Programs and Services at UNL, D. Moritz, Assistant Director, 402-472-1752 email: dmoritz2@unl.edu Located in Student Involvement Office of the Nebraska Union, Room 200.
- Gay/Lesbian/Bi/Straight Alliance 2229 J St., Lincoln 68510 (402) 436-1301 ext. 232 Ruth Kupfer
- Gay Men's Support Group, UNL Health Center, Counseling & Psychology, Rm. 214, Lincoln 68588-0618 472-7450
- Lesbian, Bisexual and QuestioningWomen's Discussion Group, University of Nebraska, Lincoln Women's Center

- (sponsor), Room 340, Nebraska Union, Lincoln 68588-0446. 402/472-5644.
- Nebraska AIDS Project, 2147 S. 15th St. Lincoln, NE 68502. (402) 476-7000
- Mixed Chorus, Rehearse 1st & 3rd Fridays, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, No auditions, Just a desire to sing, info contact Scott at sdorchid@neb.rr.com
- Omaha Women's Riverboat Cruise, 4949 N. 73, Lincoln, 68507 467-5737
- Parents, Friends of Lesbians & Gays, Cornhusker Chapter; Box 30128, Lincoln 68508, Meet 4th Tues, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, email to Barbara Kimberly, jbkiber@hotmail.com. Website: http://pflag.ineb.org/
- Plainsmen, Support FtM's (Female to Male) Drag Kings TV Butches, 402-820-1267
- RIVER CITY GENDER ALLIANCE, Room Open: 4pm Meeting at 7pm, 991-8845 or email: rcga@tgforum.com
- SAGE, Box 22043, Lincoln 68542 Coffee House 2nd Sat, 6 – 9pm, Lesbian Videos 7:15pm, 3319 S. 46
- Sexuality Education eXchange, University Health Ctr, 15th & U, Rm.12h, 472-7447 or email: ptetreault1@unl.edu Comprehensive, inclusive sexuality/sexual health info, resources/referrals including sexual orientation, ally and diversity training.
- Straight Spouse Support Grp 402-429-6094 Trevor-24-hour National Suicide Hotline for GLBT and Questioning Youth 1-800-850-8078 or email: http://
- www.thetrevorproject.org/helpline.html **TriCity GLBT,** serving Central Nebraska, web site at http://www.tri-city-glbt.com/
- UNL Committee on GLBT Concerns, Contact Pat Tetreault, c/o University Health Center, 15th & U Streets, Rm. 12h Lincoln, NE 68588-0618, (402) 472-7447 or email: ptetreault1@unl.edu
- Women In Trades/YWCA, 1432 N St., Lincoln 68508; 434-3494,
- Youth Support Group, (402) 434-9880

Iowa Based

- 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

CLASSIFIED ADS

Your Classified Ad Could be HERE! 20 WORDS/\$5 20g each additional word

Ads and Payment May Be Taken to the Resource Center,
1719 Leavenworth or emailed to news@rocc.org. No ad will be
published until payment is received in full. Personal Ads Accepted for Those Seeking Relationships, Friendships, etc.
NO ADS FOR SEX OR ILLEGAL ACTIVITIES. THE
GAYZETTE Reserves the Right to Accept or Reject ANY Ad.
Ads may be edited for spelling, grammar, or content.

Did you know that you can see the entire **GAYZETTE** on our web site? Go to:

www.rainbowoutreach.org
And click on the Publications link.
George W. Bush reads the Gayzette.
(Ok, he just looks at the pictures.)

Study: Marriage Bans Harm Gay Health

Christopher Curtis, PlanetOut Network

The National Sexuality Resource Center on Tuesday revealed results of the first U.S. study to analyze the impact of marriage discrimination on the mental health and well-being of gay men and lesbians.

The report, titled, "I Do, But I Can't," examined 150 studies on same-sex couples. It will be published in the center's journal Sexuality Research and Social Policy.

"What I have come to understand from our study is that there is a double problem," said Gilbert Herdt, Ph.D, lead author of the study.

"On one hand there is no association between mental illness and homosexuality," Herdt said. "On the other hand, we also know that gays and lesbians have higher levels of stress problems," he said, naming depression, alcoholism and drug abuse as examples.

Herdt told reporters those problems could be blamed on "minority stress," the impact of discrimination in housing, jobs, and other forms of bigotry LGBT people experience.

A main form of discrimination gay men and lesbians face is the denial of marriage rights in every U.S. state except Massachusetts.

Continued on Page 14

"Attention: Omaha area GLBT homeowners in trouble! There is a solution!"

Candice Zoucha - Omaha, NE

Many Omaha area gay and lesbian homeowners who have had trouble with credit cards and so on have found that there is *one* place in Omaha where they can be treated with respect.

No "better than you" attitude, no "b.s.", no guilt just for being gay or lesbian.

At last, finding financial help doesn't have to be like a "coming out" at Thanksgiving dinner with everyone pointing fingers, and finding fault.

Mindy Hahne, of Service First Home Mortgage in Omaha's Midtown area works at a GLBT friendly outfit that specializes in helping Omaha area GLBT homeowners in need.

Hahne says she takes great pride in being gay and lesbian friendly. And treating the folks she helps like family.



Mindy Hahne with her dogs Piper and Emerson

"A lot of people in the GLBT community don't realize that even *without* gay marriage, or civil unions, there are already several equal protections in place for gay and lesbians as real property owners! Maybe because *no one else* wants to tell you about them!" Mindy says.

"Being gay or lesbian doesn't have to be a barrier to equal treatment anymore!' Hahne says.

Hahne has helped many gays and lesbians over the years, many personal friends.

"I am the one person in town that *specializes* in helping gay and lesbian folks with debt consolidation, cash out, credit repair and so on!" Hahne says.

"These are good people with damaged credit reports and/or hard to prove income! Not through any fault of their own! I specialize in helping the gay and lesbian community get a fair shake from the financial industry!" Hahne says.

Hahne says she has a lot of connections to Wall Street money, "I have personal relationships with investors *nationwide*, even *internationally*! Fair-minded people who want to fund loans for people with past credit problems!" she says.

"Many of them have a social conscience! And they take pride in helping gay and lesbians in particular! Just like I do! They use my proprietary system as their own little bit of "social activism!" Hahne says.

These investors are people who buy 'pools' of mortgages of 50 million dollars at a whack! 50 million bucks! It's taken me 4 long years and it's been *really* hard to find these 'fat cats!' People who are 'likeminded' about what I do for the Omaha gay and lesbian community!" Mindy says.

"Not only is it *illegal* to discriminate against the GLBT community, it's just plain *wrong*!" Hahne says. "The self-limiting perceptions held by some in the community are just as much of a problem as the crooked people who perpetrate the discriminatory practices themselves!" she says.

Haline says, "It's my *personal mission* to change the mindsets! And to *liberate everyone* from the restraints!"

"I grew up in a house where we didn't have much money! And my parents understood just how money *really* works even less! Nowadays, it's a lot of fun for me to help people get control over their money and their lives!" Mindy says.

Mindy Hahne can be reached at 934.9248 x1010. "I'm really busy, so those who don't get a live answer from me need to leave a detailed message and then give me at least 24 business hours to return the call!" Or to lean more, you can call 800-223-6724...option 1... then ext 8619. Just listen in to the free-recorded message.

SFHMI is a Nebraska Residential Mortgage Licensee, an Equal Opportunity Lender, an 'Honor Roll' member of the Heartland Better Business Bureau and Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce.

Would You Like A Free Bible?

by Mike McManus

It was like any other day. I woke up late for class, couldn't find anything to wear to class, and was now contemplating whether I even wanted to go to class. A typical morning in the life of a Mike McManus.

Although my bed was looking awfully tempting, I weighed my options and decided that the old saying "Be cool, stay in school," was my best bet. I threw on some clothes, grabbed my bag and was off to school...and might I add I was feeling pretty damn cool.

Class got out early and it was off to the student union for a quick bite to eat. My walk to the union, however, wasn't as quiet and quick as usual. I am sure most of us UNO students noticed a group called "Gideon's" handing out Bibles on Tuesday, Oct. 11.

The goal of this group is solely to distribute Bibles to those in need. No harm, right? Well here is a little fact that I am sure most of you, and not even I until recently, knew.

Tuesday, Oct. 11 was also National Coming Out Day. Funny this was the first time the Gideons were on campus this semester, right?

I had one of my friends go and ask one of the men distributing Bibles if there was any connection between National Coming Out Day. When asked, the man paused for a long couple seconds, and answered with a stern and quick "no." He then went back to distributing his New Testament Bibles.

Since the man answered "no," I can't say without doubt that he wasn't telling the truth, but I have a hard time believing his response.

Conservative Christian organizations are always doing their best to protest anything involving the gay community. Gay Pride is always a prime target for these particular groups, and I guess National Coming Out Day is considered another. I wonder how they would react if I brought the gay community to protest at one of their events, perhaps the next pro-life chain? I doubt they would be pleased.

I grow tired of discussing anything along the lines of religion, because everyone's religious beliefs are usually set in stone. It doesn't matter how many times I try and tell my parents that I am a gay Christian because they still don't believe the two can exist together.

I recently got two e-mails about my column regarding homosexuality and the Bible. They basically condemned me to hell and accused me of twisting the text in the Bible to accommodate my lifestyle. That's hard to hear. My response was simply of appreciation and thanks for taking the time to write to me, because I knew there was nothing I could say to change their beliefs.

I'll say it once and I'll say it again. I'm a gay Christian, I believe in God and know that he loves me and accepts me for who I am. The Bible is simply man's interpretation of God's word, not once did God sit down and write the Bible, and if conservative Christians are going to sit there and acknowledge the parts of

the Bible that benefit them, yet ignore others, I have nothing more to say to them.

Can you imagine a heaven without gay people? Doesn't sound like heaven to me. Being gay is more then the "sexual act" some consider a perversion. It's about family, love, commitment and support, just like the relationships you are in.

I think these Gideon/conservative Christians should get their priorities straight and reach out to those truly in need. I can't think of the last time I saw someone handing out Bibles in the streets of North Omaha. How about the hooker I saw on 10th Street last week? I'm sure she could have used a Bible.

Instead, they concentrate their time and effort on a minority that has done no wrong, but simply scares and disgusts them. If anything, conservative Christians are scaring people away from their religion by forcing such teachings onto them.

Fifty years ago, many churches turned their backs on African Americans. One hundred years ago, Christian families treated women more like property than they did as wives and mothers. Now that equality (unfortunately not in all cases) has been given to these minorities, I guess the gays are the next target.

I think that if we all lived by the old saying "to each their own," the world would be a better place. I love the fact that some of my friends don't believe in the same things I do. I love discussing their religions and learning more about the culture they live in.

That's one of the joys of life. A little word called diversity is a lot more powerful them most think.

I pray that one day discussions like this will be nothing more then distant memories, but until then I will continue defending the person that I am. I'm a gay Christian. Deal with it.

Send questions or comments to McManus@mail.unomaha.edu

This article was reprinted from The Gateway Site URL: http://www.unogateway.com

Gay Health Harmed story continues......

Researchers said the studies they examined showed far more similarities than differences in the psychological attributes and advantages of being coupled in same-sex and opposite-sex relationships. One study reported that lesbians and gay men in general were no more likely to experience dissatisfaction in their relationships than heterosexuals.

British researchers found that children with lesbian mothers were just as well-adjusted and had the same gender role behaviors as children of heterosexual parents.

Robert-Jay Green, director of the Rockway Institute, an LGBT research and public policy center at California's Alliant International University, added, "I think that what's most important is that the denial of marriage rights leaves gays and lesbians with feelings that they cannot fulfill their deepest dreams."

Some lesbian and gay couples had a sense of ambiguous commitment, researchers found, consisting of uncertainty about when relationships started, the extent of mutual obligations and recognition of the partnership by family, friends and coworkers.

The researchers noted that discrimination and fear of discovery can undermine relationships if the partners do not have internal ways of countering the social stigma of homosexuality.

"We felt the shame placed right back upon us," said Stuart Gaffney, who married his partner of 17 years in San Francisco in 2004 only to have it invalidated by the courts. "We live as married," Gaffney asserted, "but without the protections of marriage."

Gaffney provided an example: He and his partner, John Lewis, took his mother to the hospital when she was complaining about chest pains. The medical staff recognized the resemblance between Gaffney and his mother but wanted to know Lewis' relationship.

"This was not the place to justify your relationship," said Gaffney.

"We believe the laws should be changed to allow marriage equality," Herdt concluded, "for everyone's mental health."

Armed Gang Attacks British Gay Bar

Gay.com U.K.

An armed gang attacked a gay bar in the northern England city of Sheffield over the weekend, terrifying patrons and trashing the venue in what police have described as a homophobic attack.

According to South Yorkshire police, five men entered Club X-es in Sheffield early Sunday morning with weapons, smashing windows, breaking beer pumps and threatening drinkers. Three people were hurt in the attack, which took place in the Attercliffe part of the city, according to the city's Star newspaper.

Police said they thought the attack could only be motivated by anti-gay sentiment.

"So far, the only suggested motive is that this was a homophobic attack on the people in the club or those running it," Detective Nathan Hoole said.

He added that the gang shouted insults at patrons and set out to deliberately cause damage to the bar. The attack was thought to be over within minutes.

"We believe they came with the intention of causing damage and that people who got in their way got assaulted," he said. "They came brandishing weapons, so this was pre-planned. This is being treated extremely seriously."

Cameroon Jails Two Men for Gay Sex

Tom Musbach, PlanetOut Network

Two men in Cameroon were sentenced Monday to year-long jail terms for having sex with each other, the Reuters news agency reported.

The men were reportedly trying to resolve a dispute over a stolen cell phone when authorities discovered their sexual affair. Details were not reported on when the men were first arrested and charged.

In Cameroon, homosexuality is punishable by up to five years in prison, according to Section 347 of the country's penal code.

Cary Johnson, senior specialist for Africa at the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, said his organization was "very concerned" about the jail terms.

"Cameroon has become a hotbed for attacks on gay and lesbian people in the past year," he told the PlanetOut Network. "These gross violations of (gays') rights are not acceptable in a modern society."

Last year, the country arrested 11 men on suspicion of sodomy and threatened to conduct medical examinations to "prove" their homosexual activity. Several international human rights groups, including Johnson's, appealed to the country's minister of justice to release and men and cancel the examinations.

The 11 men, between the ages of 17 and 35, were arrested at a nightclub, and nearly all have been detained since May, according to IGLRC. Two of the men were released last week. Trial dates for the remaining nine are scheduled for late March.

Quote..... Unquote

I'm not saying that the religious right is wrong for condemning homosexuals and terrorizing them for thousands of years. I'm just saying...F******CK YOU.

Christina Applegate (in magazine interview)

Sure'n You'll Be Havin' Fun With The Men Of THE MAX On St Paddy's Day "They're Magically Delicious"

Sunday, March 5

Hooray For Hollywood Our Annual Oscar Night Bash -7 PM

Saturday, March 11

ICON's Sno-Ball It's A 70's Retro-Disco Party

Sunday, March 12

Our New Miss Max Robbie Jean Stars In Her First Superstar Show

Friday, March 17 St Patrick's Day

You'll Have The Luck Of The Irish All Night Long First Join The N'Joy Girls At Annie's Jazz Club And If You're Not Irish Get A Little Irish In Ya! And Party All Night At THEMAX

For More Information On Our Great Max Events, Visit Us At www.themaxomaha.com

