



Radical Christian Group Prays for George Michael's Death

By Jeremy Kinser

A radical religious group called Christians for a Moral America is asking followers to pray for the death of singer George Michael, who is recuperating from pneumonia, due to his "Satanic lifestyle," reports Huffington Post.

In an article written for the site, author John Shore, who identifies as Christian, takes the religious group to task for the series of vicious tweets sent by a member known only as Keith.

Shore makes an effort to distinguish other LGBT Christians from this homophobic group and admonishes Keith, who sent tweets that speculate on Michael's HIV status and writing that after Michael "bites the dust, it'll be the perfect time to roll out anti-sodomy laws." Shore points out that the group has a small amount of followers on Facebook and Twitter.

Shore reveals that while working on his book *Wings on a Pig: Why the 'Christian' View of Gays Doesn't Work*, he learned that "for every one person like Keith I've ever known — for every person who's ever fanatically endeavored to transmogrify the beautiful love of God into the horrible hatred of men — I've known 200 who are quietly and humbly working, in Christ's name, to make the world a better, more loving place for all."

Last week Michael was forced to cancel the remaining dates of his Symphonica concert tour after being checked into a hospital in Vienna to recover from what has been described as a severe case of pneumonia. Both Michael's current boyfriend, Fahdi Fawaz, and his spokesman insists that the singer is responding to treatment and improving.



Russia to U.S. on St. Petersburg Antigay Bill: Butt Out

By Neal Broverman



Russian police detains gay rights activist during an attempt to hold an unauthorized rally in Moscow on May 28, 2010.

The U.S. State Department is condemning a sweeping antigay law proposed in St. Petersburg, Russia's second-largest city. But the Russians have a message for the Americans: mind your business.

If passed, the law would ban gay pride parades and any public St. Petersburg event or discussion dealing with LGBT issues that could be observed by minors. The bill supposedly bans "gay propaganda"; the legislation's author believes gay gatherings negatively influence young people. The Moscow Times described the bill as "curiously equating [LGBT events] to promotion of pedophilia."

The legislation would impose monetary fines on individuals and companies that put on LGBT events. Similar measures have been enacted in two other Russian regions.

After the U.S. State Department scoffed at the most recent bill, which recently passed a first reading by St. Petersburg lawmakers, Russian officials fired back.

(Continued on page 8)

December 2nd, 2011 - December 16th, 2011

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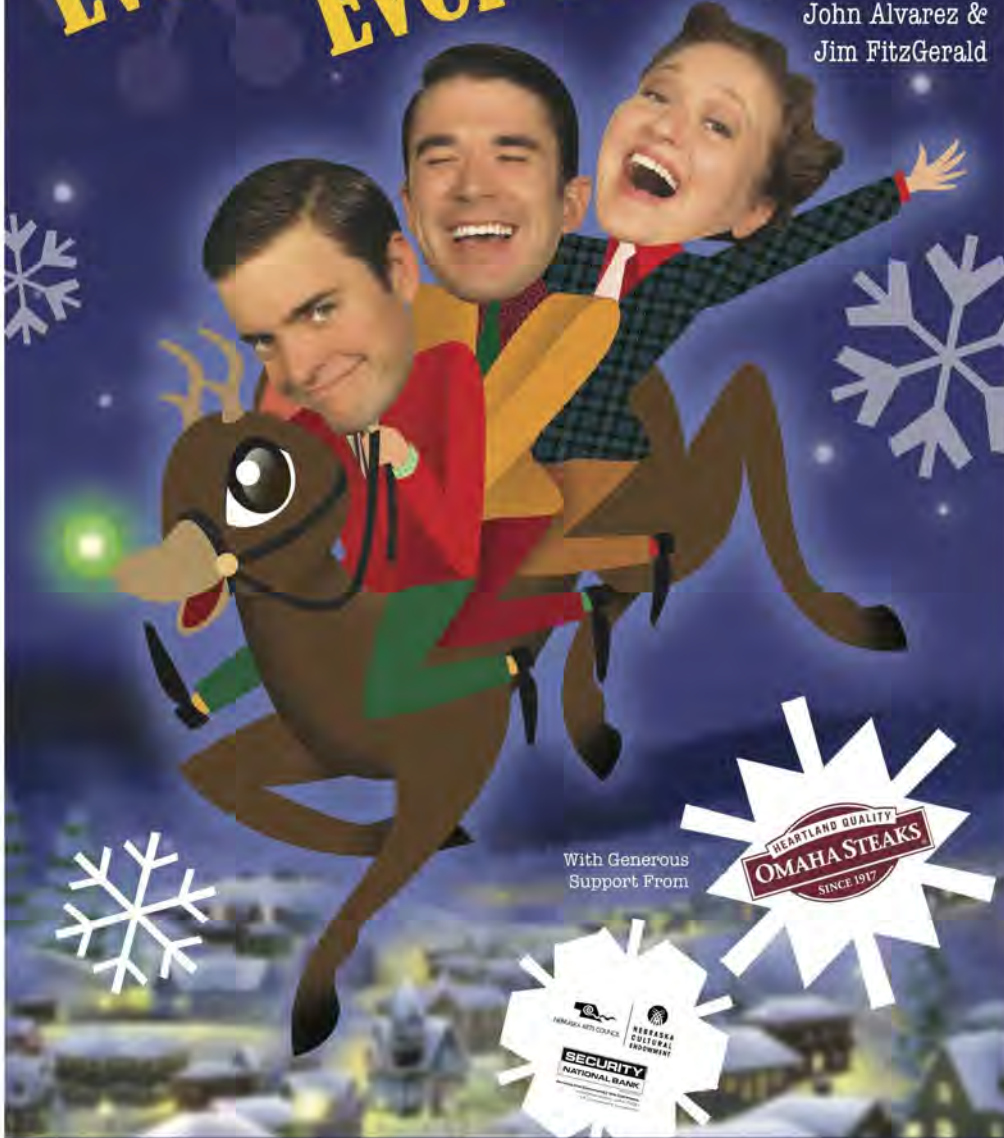
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Gay Marriage Could Bring Shifts in Republican Race

The Associated Press

Republican presidential candidates are joining New Hampshire's intensifying gay marriage debate — whether they like it or not.

State lawmakers plan to take up a measure to repeal the law allowing same-sex couples to wed and a vote is expected at some point in January — the same month as New Hampshire holds the nation's first Republican presidential primary contest. Already, candidates have been put on the spot over the divisive social issue when most, if not all, would rather be talking about the economy, voters' No. 1 concern.

The impending focus on gay marriage carries risk for several of White House contenders — including former Massachusetts Gov. Mitt Romney, Texas Gov. Rick Perry and former businessman Herman Cain — whose inconsistencies on the topic are well documented.

Recent polls have shown former House Speaker Newt Gingrich at or near the top of the field, along with Romney. With a little less than six weeks to go until the lead-off Iowa caucuses, people are listening to the former nemesis of Bill Clinton and would-be challenger to President Barack Obama.

But this issue may cause Gingrich problems. Earlier in the fall, he told an Iowa audience that gay marriage is a "temporary aberration" likely to go away because it defies convention. Gingrich, who has been married three times, has a half-sister in a same-sex marriage.

"The truth is that you're living in a world that no longer exists," Candace Gingrich-Jones wrote the former speaker in a letter posted on the Huffington Post in 2008: "In other words, stop being a hater, big bro."

The Republican candidates' increasingly vocal support for "traditional marriage" also threatens to alienate a growing number of younger Republicans and independents here who support legal recognition of same-sex couples. That note of divisiveness could bode poorly for the eventual Republican challenger to Obama in the general election.

Even so, the Republican candidates aren't shying away from the topic as they run for the nomination of a party dominated by conservatives and pushed further to the right by the tea party over the last few years.

"As conservatives, we believe in the sanctity of life, we believe in the sanctity of traditional marriage, and I applaud those legislators in New Hampshire who are working to defend marriage between one man and one woman realizing that children need to be raised in a loving home by a mother and a father," Perry told a New Hampshire audience recently, becoming the latest contender to address gay marriage directly.

Although the issue hasn't yet become a regular talking point on the campaign trail, most Republican candidates declare support for the effort to repeal the law. And groups like the National Organization for Marriage hope to force the presidential con-

tenders to publicly embrace the repeal.

Romney was the Massachusetts governor when his state legalized gay marriage. The Romney administration, as directed by the courts, granted nearly 200 same-sex marriage requests for gay and lesbian couples in 2005.

Campaign spokesman Ryan Williams said the former governor had little choice but to follow the state Supreme Court ruling at the time. He noted his candidate's consistent opposition to both civil unions and gay marriages, adding that Romney openly supports the New Hampshire repeal effort.

But Romney has reversed himself on whether gay marriage should be addressed at the state or federal level.

This past June, he said during a debate that he favors a federal constitutional amendment banning the practice. That's been his position at least since the beginning of his 2008 presidential bid, when he was the only major Republican candidate to support such an amendment.

But as a Massachusetts Senate candidate back in 1994, Romney told a Boston-area gay newspaper that same-sex marriage is "a state issue as you know — the authorization of marriage on a same-sex basis falls under state jurisdiction." Aides say it's unfair to scrutinize Romney's position in 1994 — when there was virtually no discussion of a federal amendment. And they suggest Romney's rivals have far more blatant inconsistencies in recent months.

Both Perry and Cain have drawn conservative criticism for recent comments related to gay marriage.

Asked in mid-October whether he supports a federal marriage amendment, Cain told the Christian Broadcasting Network that federal legislation is necessary to protect traditional marriage. That seemed to be a direct contradiction from his statement of just six days earlier, when he told "Meet the Press" host David Gregory that states should be allowed to make up their own minds.

"I wouldn't seek a constitutional ban for same sex marriage, but I am pro traditional marriage," Cain told Gregory.

In Perry's case, the Texas governor says he supports the New Hampshire repeal. But in July he said that New York's move to legalize gay marriage was "fine by me." A week later, facing social conservative criticism, he walked back the comments.

"It's fine with me that the state is using their sovereign right to decide an issue. Obviously gay marriage is not fine with me," he said then.

Nigeria Senate Votes to Criminalize Gay Marriage

By Julie Bolcer

Senators in Nigeria voted Tuesday to approve a bill that would criminalize same-sex marriage with prison terms of more than a decade for couples and those who help them marry.

The bill would penalize same-sex couples who marry with up to 14 years in prison, according to the Associated Press, while witnesses and others who assist them could be sentenced to 10 years. The House of Representatives still needs to pass the bill, and President Goodluck Jonathan has to sign it, but supports for the measure appears widespread in deeply religious Nigeria, the most populous nation in Africa.

Same-sex marriages and homosexuality already are illegal in the country, where in some parts of the north, gays and lesbians can be stoned to death under Islamic Shariah law. Countries throughout Africa have sought to criminalize homosexuality, most notably in Uganda, where an internationally decried measure would impose the death penalty for some gays and lesbians. Lawmakers in Nigeria have now tried three times to pass the law banning same-sex marriage, and a similar bill is being considered in Cameroon.

The Nigerian bill has drawn sharp opposition from international human rights organizations that, according to the AP, sent a letter to President Goodluck earlier this month. Advocates fear

that the bill could hinder HIV/AIDS prevention and treatment efforts, stir violent antigay sentiments, and criminalize couples who live together without being married.

Officials Fear Rise in HIV Among Israeli Gay Men

By Andrew Harmon

Israeli health officials are concerned with a "dramatic increase" in HIV rates among gay men in figures released Tuesday.

The Jerusalem Post reports that of 420 diagnosed cases of HIV last year in the country of 7.8 million people, 148 were gay men, who comprised half of all new infections among men. The infection rate among gay men is a four-fold increase over 2000 figures, according to the Health Ministry.

In a 2010 study of 2,000 Israeli gay men, 20% reported that they did not use condoms during the previous six months.



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(Russia to U.S. on St. Petersburg Antigay Bill: Butt Out,
Continued from page 1)

"We are perplexed by the American side's attempts to interfere in the legislative process in Russia, especially publicly. We consider these attempts inappropriate and inconsistent with the practice of interstate relations," Konstantin Dolgov, the Russian Foreign Ministry's Commissioner for Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law, said in a statement, according to Interfax.

Suit Against New York Gay Marriage Law May Proceed

By Julie Bolcer

A lawsuit seeking to overturn the New York marriage equality law on the grounds that the legislature followed improper procedures in the days leading up to the vote may proceed, a state Supreme Court judge has decided.

In the decision issued November 18, Acting Livingston County state Supreme Court Judge Robert Wiggins found that New Yorkers for Constitutional Freedoms, which lobbied against that law that passed in June, could proceed with its suit, New Yorkers for Constitutional Freedoms v. New York State Senate. New York attorney general Eric Schneiderman, also named as a defendant in the case, had filed papers in court seeking to dismiss the suit.

The suit filed in July alleged improper activity in the days leading up to the vote in the legislature. According to the complaint, among other actions, the Republican senate conference and elected officials including Governor Andrew Cuomo held meetings in violation of the state's Open Meetings Laws, financial support was promised to win Republican votes, the bill bypassed senate committees, and the governor unjustifiably issued a message of necessity to expedite the vote and avoid the normal three-day waiting period for a bill.

In his decision, Judge Wiggins said that the plaintiffs, who are being represented by Christian conservative legal group Liberty Counsel, presented enough evidence that the Open Meetings Law may have been violated in order to allow the case to proceed. The plaintiffs allege that the meetings between the senate Republican caucus and the governor were not exempt from the law, which requires that meetings be open to the public, while the state argued the meetings were exempt.

"...The Court must consider allegations by Plaintiff as true," wrote Wiggins. "Considering Plaintiff's allegations, and without deciding matter at this time, the Court feels that is a justiciable issue presented whether there was a violation of the Open Meetings Law."

Wiggins also addressed the allegation that Cuomo improperly issued a message of necessity to expedite a vote on the bill and avoid the normal three-day waiting period. In his message, the governor had cited the "long overdue" right of same-sex couples to enter into marriages in New York and the denial of "critical protections" to more than 50,000 couples caused by "continued delay" of the bill's passage.

"Logically and clearly this cite by the Governor is disingenuous," wrote Wiggins. "The review of such concept altering legislation for three days after generations of existing definitions would not so damage same-sex couples as to necessitate an avoidance of rules meant to ensure full review and discussion prior to any vote. Nonetheless, this Court is reluctantly obliged to rule that that the message of necessity submitted by the Governor was accepted by vote of the Senate, and is NOT within this Court's province to nullify."

While Wiggins did not rule on the legality of the issue, he bluntly criticized the governor for his interactions with the legislature, saying, "It is ironic that much of the state's brief passionately spews sanctimonious verbiage on the separation of powers in the governmental branches, and clear arm-twisting by the Executive on the Legislative permeates this entire process."

The Rev. Jason J. McGuire, New Yorkers for Constitutional Freedoms executive director and one of three plaintiffs named in the suit, hailed the decision, saying, "We have said all along that we look forward to our day in court. Now we will have it. The legality of our legislative process must be protected."

The attorney general office's did not immediately respond to requests for comment, and a Cuomo spokesman declined to comment beyond previous remarks that dismissed the lawsuit as being "without merit" at the time of filing. Some analysts, moreover, have questioned whether the courts in New York would be willing to intervene in the independent affairs of the legislature.

New Yorkers for Constitutional Freedoms has fought vigorously against the marriage equality law in concert with other religious figures, including Rabbi Nathaniel S. Leiter of Torah Jews for Decency, who is listed as a plaintiff in the lawsuit. New Yorkers for Constitutional Freedoms, with support from the Alliance Defense Fund, also launched the Courage Fund this summer to offer assistance to the handful of town clerks who have refused to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples, most notably Rose Marie Belforti of Ledyard in upstate New York. The National Organization for Marriage also has supported the clerks.

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Going to carpet meant we would need to replace the tables we had with something lighter weight. Thanks to the generosity of NAP, Gary West and the Omaha Meat Packers, Empress Chandler Chubbs, and members of MCC's congregation, new tables are now in place at MCC, and the whole Social Hall has been carpeted. Just in time for Thanksgiving!

The carpeting was funded in part by last year's MCC Prom, which was a joint fund raiser sponsored by MCC and the Imperial Court of Nebraska. MCC's 3rd Annual Art Auction, which took place Thanksgiving Weekend at Prouty Place will provide the final funding for the carpeting! Together we are a strong and powerful community, and all things are possible! MCC Omaha wishes to thank all of you in the community who played a part in helping us make our Social Hall a nicer gathering place for NAP lunches and other community gatherings!

Activists Push LGBT Rights in Holland, Michigan

By Trudy Ring

About 40 supporters of an LGBT rights ordinance rallied Monday on the steps of City Hall in Holland, Mich.

Last month the City Council voted down the ordinance 5-4, but supporters in the western Michigan city are not giving up, although they are changing strategy, local TV station WZZM reports.

"I announced that I was going to start a petition drive and ask the voters of Holland to approve a gay rights ordinance," Bill Freeman, a leader of the effort, told today's gathering. "After much deliberation, I have decided not to do that, because I don't think you ask for the majority to vote for the rights of the minority."

Instead, he and fellow activists plan to attend every City Council meeting and ask opponents of the ordinance to reconsider. The next meeting is Wednesday.



Holland is home to Hope College, a school affiliated with the Christian Reformed Church, and is noted for its Dutch cultural attractions, including the annual Tulip Festival.

Partner of Fallen State Trooper Fighting for Benefits

By Neal Broverman

The American Civil Liberties Union and the ACLU of Eastern Missouri head to court on Wednesday for Kelly Glossip, who's being denied death benefits after his partner of 15 years, a Missouri state trooper, was killed on duty.

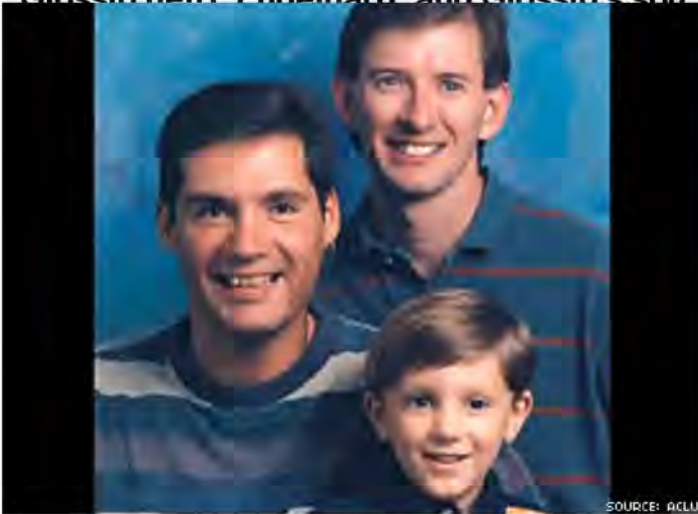
Cpl. Dennis Engelhard died on Christmas Day 2009 after he was hit by a car as he investigated an accident. While spouses and opposite-sex partners of Missouri state troopers can receive an annuity of 50% of the employee's salary, Glossip is being denied the benefit. Glossip is raising a teenage son, who Englehard considered a stepson.

Arguments in the case begin at 1:30 CT in Jefferson City, Mo., with Glossip in attendance. Read more here.

(Continued on page 10)

(Partner of Fallen State Trooper Fighting for Benefits, Continued from page 9)

Glossin (left), Engelhard, and Glossin's son



Barney Frank Won't Seek Reelection in 2012

By Glen Johnson, Noah Bierman and Donovan Slack, Globe Staff

US Representative Barney Frank, the state's highest-profile congressman and one of the nation's leading liberal voices after being among its first openly gay elected officials, announced today that he will not seek reelection next year.

The Newton Democrat faced the prospect of a bruising reelection campaign next year after surviving a brutal battle in 2010. He also would have run in an altered district that retained his Newton stronghold but encompassed more conservative towns like Walpole.

In addition, Frank lost New Bedford, a blue-collar city where he had invested a lot of time and become a leading figure in the region's fisheries debate.

"I don't have to pretend to be nice to people I don't like," the famously irascible Frank told reporters and supporters during an early afternoon news conference at Newton City Hall.

Turning serious, he said: "It would have been a rough campaign," adding, "I don't like raising money."

As for his future plans, he answered with a barely veiled shot at Republican presidential candidate Newt Gingrich.

"I will neither be a lobbyist nor a historian," said Frank, noting two jobs that have enriched Gingrich since he stepped down as House speaker. Frank said he intends to pursue "some combination of writing, teaching, and lecturing."

He also offered an interesting regret: "I voted against President Bush, the first, request to go into Iraq," he said of the congressional vote that preceded the 1991 Persian Gulf War after Iraq invaded Kuwait in 1990.

"If we were back again, I would have voted for that," said Frank.

The current president, fellow Democrat Barack Obama, said, "This country has never had a congressman like Barney Frank, and the House of Representatives will not be the same without him."

Obama credited Frank with helping to pass the Dodd-Frank Act, "the most sweeping financial reform in history designed to protect consumers and prevent the kind of excessive risk-taking that led to the financial crisis from ever happening again."

Frank's campaign manager last year said his withering 2010 reelection effort spurred the congressman to think seriously about retirement, even saying a few days after the election that it would be his last one.

Frank wanted to announce that this would be his final term immediately afterward, but decided against it, said Kevin Sowyrda, the campaign manager.

"We looked him right in the face and said, 'You can't resign,'" Sowyrda said. "In fairness to Barney, he was emotional about it. He said, 'I know I've got to stay.'"

"I believe that Barney felt an obligation to come through for the (supporters) people that came through for him," said Sowyrda.

But retirement has been on his mind ever since.

(Continued on page 12)



STOP HATING YOURSELF: THE JOYS OF GETTING OLDER

Michael Kimmel [beyondtherapy@cox.net]

It seems like an epidemic: we're all becoming older and feeling that we're becoming more-and-more invisible. I get a lot of emails from mid-life gay men (and a few women) saying some version of: "I am physically aging much faster than I'd hoped (wrinkles, love handles, receding hairline, expanding belly). Who's going to want me now?" Popular culture calls this a "midlife crisis", but does it have to be a crisis?



Midlife crises shake up our lives for better and for worse, but - surprisingly - the biggest mistake is not having one at all. A midlife crisis is a period of a time of intense growth and dramatic life changes that are exciting and terrifying. The "crisis" usually occurs between our late 30's and early 50's. How do you know you're having a midlife crisis? It's not only about how your looks change; more importantly, it's about realizing that your values have changed. You realize that the values that have guided you for so many years no longer work. Something's gotta give!

Most midlife crises are triggered by introspection, events like a death or a relationship ending, unhappiness with physical aging and/or money or career concerns. For many of us, physical aging hits us - hard - about this time. As one client told me, "What will I do when I'm not young and cute any more?" Unlike celebrities and movie stars, most normal people visibly age. More importantly, we psychologically age. This is also known as becoming "wiser", and it's a good thing. Wisdom, however, has a way of pulling the rug out from under our youthful illusions ("I'm going to be rich and famous." or "Once I find my soul mate, everything will be perfect".) Few of us manage to manifest all the dreams of our 20's and 30's, and when we do, the money or the success or the partner rarely measures up to our idealistic standards.

As enlightened LGBTers, most of us have looked at our own racism and homophobia, but let's look at a more subtle form of discrimination and self-hatred: ageism. Straight and gay media lovingly promote the high-priced anti-aging products of their advertisers. They are unlikely to encourage us to love ourselves just as we are. Instead, we are brainwashed to think we are barely acceptable unless we hide or eliminate our gray hair, receding hairlines, love handles and wrinkled skin. Happy, secure LGBTers won't buy overpriced anti-aging products; but scared and desperate people will...and do.

How can we escape the self-hatred of ageism? First off, be will-

ing to identify old parts of yourself that you've suppressed. Those needs and desires can be very important for us as we pour the "foundation" for the second half of our life. Ask yourself: what do I really care about? What do I want to spend my energy on? We are a generation of LGBTers who (in general) are better educated, healthier and more affluent than our forefathers/mothers. We may live for another 40 or 50 years. But, as one of my 40-something clients recently asked me, "What am I gonna do with all that time?"

I experienced my own midlife crisis when I was 41, a long-term relationship ended and I found myself unhappy in my job and newly single. While it was a time of great potential, it was as scary as hell. As a result of this midlife "crisis", I found a good therapist, quit my job, dated a lot, and went back to college. It was quite an upheaval (I moved from the East Coast to the West Coast with no job, no man and few friends) but I doubt I would have changed my life so dramatically if I wasn't "forced" to.

Some of us, in midlife, go through a period of reckless behavior. If we're in a monogamous relationship we may have affairs or even end a long-term relationship. We may find ourselves drinking more, taking more recreational drugs, shopping and spending money we really don't have and/or charging expensive vacations that will take us years to pay for. All these behaviors are ways of acting out and avoiding reality. They're detours off the path. We can take them, but sooner or later, we have to face the music: we're getting older and our lives have to change. How are we going to handle this?

Instead of acting out like some overaged teenager - kicking and screaming into your 40's and 50's - I suggest that you use this time to make your life even better. Take more healthy risks: try things that make you uncomfortable, like learning a new sport, going to social gatherings and starting conversations (rather than waiting for people to come to you), volunteering or even going back to school to switch careers.

At times like these, lean on your friends and family. These folks can be your rock. As you begin to change your life, you need them more than ever. Ask them for support, call them when you get scared, and hang with them when you need some comfort. It's okay to be scared, but don't wallow in self-pity. When you ask "Who's going to want me now?" the answer needs to be: "I do". If you don't want to be with yourself, who else would want to be with you? Mid-life is the perfect time to start to please yourself by finding out what's missing from your life (self-esteem, excitement, joy, spontaneity, fulfilling sex) and taking steps to have it.

If we are lucky, we get to be older. Because of AIDS, previous generations of our brothers and sisters didn't make it to midlife, so let's be grateful we're still alive and use our 30's, 40's and 50's to learn from past mistakes and set the course for our future: a future based on more than unwrinkled skin...a future based on wisdom and self-acceptance.

**FRIDAY
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DROP-IN 6PM-11PM
AGES 13-23 YOUTH ORGANIZED
 AT THE RAINBOW OUTREACH GLBT CENTER
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Email it to us: gayzette@cox.net



OMAHA PFLAG

Monthly Meetings: Second Thursday 6:30 P.M.
 Countryside Community Church
 8787 Pacific Street, Omaha NE
 Web Site: www.pflag-omaha.org

P.O. Box 390064
 Omaha, NE 68139-0064

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(Barney Frank Won't Seek Reelection in 2012, Continued from page 10)

"After that election, he began the process of contemplating a different future with different challenges," Sowyrda said.

John Walsh, chairman of the Massachusetts Democratic Party, said in a statement: "In a state that has sent many great leaders to Washington, Barney Frank will take his place in history as a shining son of Massachusetts."

Former party head Philip W. Johnston told the Globe: "He was brilliant, funny, acerbic, strategic, and unashamedly liberal. And they're in short supply these days."

The Massachusetts Republican Party reveled in the announcement.

"It is clear that Congressman Frank was not looking forward to another hard-fought campaign after losing his gerrymandered district and spending nearly every penny he had in 2010. Republicans were already gearing up for a strong race, and Frank's sudden retirement injects added optimism and excitement into the election," said party Executive Director Nate Little.

Frank, 71, was raised in Bayonne, N.J., but schooled at Harvard University and Harvard Law School, endowing him with a street-fighter's mouth and an academic's wit.

He was elected to the Massachusetts House of Representatives in 1972 and the US House eight years later.

He ultimately became a cable TV favorite with his pithy, fearless comments. Once remarking about the nearly \$15 billion Big Dig cost, Frank said: "Wouldn't it be cheaper to raise the city than to depress the Artery?"

In 1987, he became the first member of the chamber to voluntarily acknowledge he was gay. Another Massachusetts congressman, US Representative Gerry Studds, had been forced to acknowledge his homosexuality in 1983 after disclosure of a sexual relationship with a House page.

In 1989, Frank was involved in a scandal after the revelation that a live-in boyfriend had formerly operated a gay prostitute service from his home. The House ended up reprimanding Frank for fixing parking tickets on behalf of the prostitute.

More recently, he has been one of President Obama's most important allies but also a target of Republicans. They accuse him of helping create the country's housing collapse by pushing the government and banks into approving loans to unqualified buyers.

Frank faced a stern reelection challenge last year from Republican Sean Bielat, prevailing 53 percent to 43 percent but only after a blistering campaign.

He also shifted from chairman of the House Financial Services Committee to its top-ranking minority member when Republicans regained control of the House of Representatives in last year's midterm elections.

Frank, who co-authored the law overhauling financial regulation and spearheaded its passage as chair of the Financial Ser-

vices Committee last year, acknowledged himself in February that he had contemplated retirement after last year's race.

But he said after GOP lawmakers took over the House and began targeting the financial overhaul he authored, he decided he needed to try to keep his job.

"Some very important programs are at risk," he said then.

The announcement comes a week after Governor Deval Patrick signed a law creating the new state congressional districts. Another Democrat in the delegation, US Representative John Olver, announced in October that he would not seek reelection next year amid the specter of being forced into a showdown with US Representative Richard E. Neal of Springfield.

Frank has depended on his hometown of Newton, as well as Brookline and the Democratic strongholds of Fall River and New Bedford to keep his seat the last three decades. But he lost New Bedford and picked up additional conservative voting towns west and south of Boston and in Bristol and Norfolk counties.

Bielat is weighing a second campaign, and a bevy of Democrats are expended to seek the suddenly open seat. Brookline School Committee member Elizabeth Childs has already announced her candidacy for the GOP nomination.

A longtime supporter and friend, Provincetown resident Ann Maguire, who is openly gay, said she was first inspired to support Frank in the early 1970s when he publicly announced his support for gay rights, even though he had not come out yet.

"He was running to be state rep, and he was going to be supporting gay rights, and I was like, 'Wow.' Here he was taking that first step. 'Here is someone who has the courage and strength who is willing to go out and fight for something he believes in.'"

She said his retirement is an "incredible loss.

"I think he is one of the brightest, if not the brightest, representatives we have," she said.

Maguire touted his intellectual prowess, noting that he went to law school at the same time he was a state representative.

"Over the years, people - other reps in Massachusetts - who were not even on his side on stuff would call him to ask him what bills were all about," said Maguire, who has hosted fundraisers for Frank and hosted the congressman and his partner during vacations on the Cape. "They trusted him, and he would be very honest with them and they always could respect that."

Frank also has inspired many openly gay people to run for office, including New York City Council Speaker Christine Quinn, the first openly gay council president in the city.

"He really showed that this was something that was possible, that you could make a difference and be yourself," said Quinn, who first was elected to the council in 1999. "I think Barney Frank really changed the world for a lot of people, but he certainly changed the world for LGBT individuals. ...He's really a hero to all of us."

Why You Shouldn't Donate to the Salvation Army Bell Ringers

Filed By Bil Browning

As the holidays approach, the Salvation Army bell ringers are out in front of stores dunning shoppers for donations. If you care about gay rights, you'll skip their bucket in favor of a charity that doesn't actively discriminate against the LGBT community.

The Salvation Army has a history of active discrimination against gays and lesbians. While you might think you're helping the hungry and homeless by dropping a few dollars in the bright red buckets, not everyone can share in the donations. Many LGBT people are rejected by the evangelical church charity because they're "sexually impure."

The church claims it holds "a positive view of human sexuality," but then clarifies that "sexual intimacy is understood as a gift of God to be enjoyed within the context of heterosexual marriage." The Salvation Army doesn't believe that gays and lesbians should ever know the intimacy of any loving relationship, instead teaching that "Christians whose sexual orientation is primarily or exclusively same-sex are called upon to embrace celibacy as a way of life."

On its webpage, the group claims that "the services of The Salvation Army are available to all who qualify, without regard to sexual orientation." While the words are nice, their actions speak volumes. They blatantly ignore the position statement and deny LGBT people services unless they renounce their sexuality, end same-sex relationships, or, in some cases, attend services "open to all who confess Christ as Savior and who accept and abide by The Salvation Army's doctrine and discipline." In other words, if you're gay or lesbian, you don't qualify.

The organization also has a record of actively lobbying governments worldwide for anti-gay policies - including an attempt to make consensual gay sex illegal. (Yes, you're paying lobbyists with those donations.)

Since 1986 the Salvation Army has engaged in five major assaults on the LGBT community's civil rights and attempted to carve out exemptions that would allow them to deny gays and lesbians needed services as well as employment.

- When New Zealand considered passage of the Homosexual Law Reform Act in 1986, the Salvation Army collected signatures in an attempt to get the legislation killed. The act decriminalized consensual sex between gay men. The measure passed over the charity's objections.
- In the United Kingdom, the Salvation Army actively pushed passage of an amendment to the Local Government Act. The amendment stated that local authorities "shall not intentionally promote homosexuality or publish material with the intention of promoting homosexuality" or "promote the teaching in any maintained school of the acceptability of homosexuality as a pretended family relationship." The law has since been repealed, but it led many schools and colleges to close LGBT student organizations out of fear they'd lose their government funding.
- In 2001, the organization tried to extract a resolution from the White House that they could ignore local non-discrimination laws that protected LGBT people. While the commitment would have applied to all employees, the group claimed that it needed the resolution so it "did not have to ordain sexually active gay ministers and did not have to provide medical benefits to the same-sex partners of employees." After lawmakers and civil rights activists revealed the Salvation Army's active resistance to non-discrimination laws, the White House admitted the charity was seeking the exemptions.
- Also in 2001, the evangelical charity actively lobbied to change how the Bush administration would distribute over \$24 billion in grants and

(Continued on page 17)

GAYZETTE EVENTS

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

NEW WALK-IN HOURS

Saturdays 4:00PM - 11:00PM
 Sundays 4:00PM - 6:00PM
 Thursdays 7:30PM - 9:00PM
 Fridays 6:00PM - 11:00PM

***Closed Most Major Holidays**
(402) 341-0330
www.rainbowoutreach.org

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

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

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

WIMMIN'S SHOW, KZUM 89.3 12:30pm

Every Monday

A A GLBT "RAINBOW GROUP" Meeting Place, 28 & S, Lincoln, 7:30 pm

GAY/BI/STRAIGHT SUPPORT GROUP HIV+ MEN 7pm every Monday, NAP, 2147 S. 15th St., Lincoln NE, contact Nick or Rick at 402-476-3144

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

RIVER CITY MIXED CHORUS 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 ander-son@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

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

Every Friday

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

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

OUT & ABOUT SOCIAL CLUB

Open to everyone 21 and over, every Friday 6:30pm (time may vary), for more info email outandaboutsocialclub@gmail.com

DJ & LIVE ENTERTAINMENT at Connections Bar, theme nights and shows

GLBT CENTER YOUTH NIGHT, 6PM to 11PM, for ages 13 to 23. Youth sponsored and organized activities, under adult supervision. Every Friday, excluding holidays. 1719 Leavenworth Street, snacks, soda's provided

Every Saturday

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

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

PROUD HORIZON YOUTH GROUP

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

Every Other Friday

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

MONTHLY EVENTS

1st Monday

HEARTLAND PRIDE, meeting 1st Monday of each month at Element Hotel, Omaha. Email: info@heartlandpride.org, or PO Box 8273, Omaha, NE 68106

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

1st Thursday

GLBT PROFESSIONALS, meeting at 5:30pm in various locations. Email at: GOglbt@cfep-ne.org or see www.GOglbt.org for info

1st Friday

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

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

2nd Saturday

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

3rd Monday

IMPERIAL COURT OF NE, Board of Governors meeting, 6pm, meeting at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Community Center, www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org

PFLAG SOUTH CENTRAL (HASTINGS, NE)

Meeting on 3rd Mondays at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 7th and Marian St., 7PM, email to jsandeen@inebraska.com or call 402.462.2961 or 402.460.8696

3rd Thursday

COFFEE HOUSE Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

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

3rd Sunday

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

4th 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.

Email Your Event to: GAYZETTE@COX.NET

Don't Eat Chicken Sandwiches, No Matter What....

A little boy and a little girl attended the same school and became friends. Every day they would sit together to eat their lunch. They discovered that they both brought chicken sandwiches every day!

This went on all through the fourth and fifth grades, until one day he noticed that her sandwich wasn't a chicken sandwich.

He said, "Hey, how come you're not eating chicken, don't you like it anymore?"

She said "I love it but I have to stop eating it."

"Why?" he asked.

She pointed to her lap and said "Cause I'm starting to grow little feathers down there!"

"Let me see" he said.

"Okay" and she pulled up her skirt.

He looked and said, "That's right. You are! Better not eat any more chicken."

He kept eating his chicken sandwiches until one day he brought peanut butter.

He said to the little girl, "I have to stop eating chicken sandwiches, I'm starting to get feathers down there too!" She asked if she could look, so he pulled down his pants for her.

She said "Oh, my God, it's too late for you! You've already got the neck and the giz-zards!!!"

Turner Brown

Skinny little white guy goes into an elevator, looks up and sees this HUGE black guy standing next to him.

The big guy sees the little guy staring at him looks down and says: "7 feet tall, 350 pounds, 20 inch private, 3 pound testicles, Turner Brown."

The white man faints and falls to the floor. The big guy kneels down and brings him to, shaking him.

The big guy says: "What's wrong with you?"

In a weak voice the little guy says, "What EXACTLY did you say to me?"

The big dude says: "I saw your curious look and figured I'd just give you the answers to the questions everyone always asks me.....I'm 7 feet tall, I weigh 350 pounds, I have a 20 inch private, my testicles weigh 3 pounds each, and my name is Turner Brown."

The small guy says: "Turner Brown?!...Sweet Lord, I thought you said: "Turn around."

Heaven

An old lady dies and goes to heaven. She's chatting it up with St Peter at The Pearly Gates when all of a sudden she hears the most awful, blood curdling screams.

Don't worry about that," says St Peter, "It's only someone having the holes put into her shoulder blades for wings."

The old lady looks a little uncomfortable but carries on with the conversation.

Ten minutes later, there are more blood curdling screams.

"Oh my God," says the old lady, "now what is happening?"

"Not to worry," says St Peter, "She's just having her head drilled to fit the halo."

"I can't do this," says the old lady, "I'm going to hell instead."

"You can't go there," says St Peter. "You'll be raped and taken advantage of".

"Maybe so, says the old lady, but I've already got the holes for that."

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

Heartland Pride
PO Box 8273 Omaha, NE 68108, email: info@heartlandpride.org

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 6pm, 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.omahaglbtsportsleague.org for more information

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

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

OUTLinc, group to put together a community center in Lincoln. PO Box 84253, Lincoln, NE 68501-4253, www.outlinc.org

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, 1719 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.rivercitygenderalliance.org

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

River City Mixed Chorus, Box 3267,

Omaha, NE 68103, 402-341-SING Website: www.rcmc.org

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

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

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

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

Unity Church of Omaha 3424 N. 90, Omaha, Sunday worship: 10:30am Wednesday meditation service 7pm; 571-1344; www.unityomaha.org

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-glb.com/>

UNL Committee on GLBT Concerns, Contact Pat Tetreault, (402) 472-1752 or

email: ptetreault1@unl.edu / www.unl.edu/cglbtc
Women In Trades/YWCA, 1432 N St., Lincoln 68508; 434-3494,
Youth Support Group, (402) 434-9880

Iowa Based

Council Bluffs Community Alliance

www.councilbluffscommunityalliance.org

Council Bluffs Pride, www.councilbluffspride.org

Iowa Equality, GLBT –allied against change to the state and federal
Constitutions, <http://www.IowaEquality.org>

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

Nationally Based

Trevor-24-hour National Suicide Hotline for GLBT and

Questioning Youth 1-800-850-8078 or see web site at
<http://www.thetrevorproject.org/helpline.html>

*(Why You Shouldn't Donate to the Salvation Army Bell Ringers,
Continued from page 13)*

tax deductions by urging the White House deny funding to any cities or states that included LGBT non-discrimination laws. Ari Fleischer, White House press secretary, issued a statement saying the administration was denying a "regulation sought by the church to protect the right of taxpayer-funded religious organizations to discriminate against homosexuals."

•In 2004, the Salvation Army threatened to close all their soup kitchens in New York City to protest the city's decision to require all vendors and charities doing business with the city to adhere to all civil rights laws. The organization balked at having to treat gay employees equal to straight employees.

I've seen the discrimination the Salvation Army preaches first hand. When a former boyfriend and I were homeless, the Salvation Army insisted we break up before they'd offer assistance. We slept on the street instead and declined to break up as they demanded.

Instead of donating to the Salvation Army, choose a different charity that will help everyone without prejudice. Find a local secular charity - or here are some national organizations that provide help to anyone who needs it:

Where Can You Find *The Gayzette?*

Omaha:

Broadway Joe's Bar, 35th & Broadway 712-256-2243
Connections, 1901 Leavenworth 402-933-3033
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
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,
1719 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**

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox

ALL RIGHT, LET'S GET THIS LAST BUNCH OF LEAVES BAGGED UP, N' WE'RE DONE.

SOUNDS GOOD.

I GOTTA' SAY, PRICE...

YOU'RE SURPRISED, HUH? THAT A SPOILED RICH BOY LIKE ME...

...IS ACTUALLY PROFICIENT AT DOING YARD WORK?

BACK IN KENTUCKY, MY DADDY WOULD SEND THE MAINTENANCE STAFF AT THE MANSION ON VACATION FOR THE WHOLE MONTH OF NOVEMBER...

...AND LEAVE MY BROTHERS AND I IN CHARGE OF THE ENTIRE FALL CLEAN-UP.

HE SAID IT WAS CHARACTER BUILDING.

HE SOUNDS LIKE A SMART GUY.

OH, ELIAS KINGSBURY IS A BRILLIANT BUSINESSMAN. HOWEVER, AS A FATHER...

...HE HAD HIS SHORTCOMINGS.

PLAYING MY BROTHERS AND I AGAINST EACH OTHER LIKE PAWNS IN A CHESS GAME...

...AND PUNISHING US WITH UNSPEAKABLE CRUELTY.

HEY, MY OLD MAN WAS TOUGH ON ME N' MY BROTHERS, TOO. BUT I'M GLAD HE WAS.

IT MADE A MAN OUTTA' ME.

DID YOUR FATHER EVER FORCE YOU TO STRIP NAKED AND SHAVE OFF YOUR PUBIC HAIR IN FRONT OF YOUR OTHER BROTHERS... BECAUSE YOU LOST A TENNIS MATCH...

... AND YOU NEEDED TO "FEEL THE SHAME" YOU'D BROUGHT UPON THE FAMILY?

UM...NO. GEEZ.

THAT'S MESSED UP.

HOLY CRAP. WHAT IS WITH THE GUYS AT THIS B&B AND THEIR WHACKO, ABUSIVE FATHERS? FIRST BREYER... NOW PRICE.

I...FEEL BAD THAT HAPPENED TO YOU, MAN.

"YOU FEEL BAD ENOUGH TO SLEEP WITH ME?"

DAMN, PRICE... I WAS JUST STARTIN' TO FEEL FRIENDLY TOWARDS YOU... N' THEN YOU HAD TO GO RUIN IT.

I'M GOOD AT THAT...

Fitness Corner

By Ron Blake



Toys or Wellness Under the Tree?

It was every kid's nightmare... clothes for Christmas! Toys were in great demand during those early days of life and nothing else seemed to matter. The older you get the more you just will settle for good health and the chance to make it to another Christmas. What a difference that hourglass of time can make!

When you were three years old, you just wanted a slinky from Santa. They looked so nifty on the TV commercials and you had a set of stairs to explore all the fun with 'em. Fast forward a couple of decades and you'll be happy if St. Nick leaves you height-weight appropriate and without diabetes. Better hope that stocking is stuffed with some new walking or running shoes. You've got some weight to shed.

Your first year in kindergarten and you were on top of the world with your new G.I. Joe action figure from Uncle Len. Every tough tyke in your afternoon class wanted that army hero and you were lucky enough to get him. Now your wish list for the big jolly guy includes samples of Viagra for your erectile dysfunction. That list should include a book on healthy eating. Knowing how to eat correctly should help you salute without all those blue pills; and knowing is half the battle!

Hungry Hungry Hippos could be a theme song for today's society as well as the game we all clamored for in the cherubic childhood days. Santa certainly had you on the nice list if you received one of these games all those years ago. Two score and seven years later and you will gladly take a clean bill of health instead of that boisterous game with the monster mammals. Write to the North Pole with your request for recommended cancer screenings and regular doctor checkups. Kris Kringle is quite munificent this way!

By the fifth grade you were ready for the sophistication of technology. You were master of the video games and you still loved your Atari system more than girls in those days. Today you are more than happy to trade those vintage cartridges for the end of any lower back pain. Santa can refer you to a good doctor and a fitness trainer that can get you a list of back strengthening exercises. Walking without pain doesn't need to involve pain killers for breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

The advent of junior high school meant a ten speed bicycle from that guy formerly known as Santa. You were too cool to be seen in the car with you parents and too young to take your driving test. A bike gave you all the freedom to get around town on your own. A double chin, an expanded waistline, and some crow's feet into the future and here you are wishing away your curses of age. A new bike would still be a great gift under the tree this year. Pedal your way to the fountain of youth!

This can be a magical time of the year where all your wellness dreams can come true...if you just believe! Yes, Virginia, there is a Santa Claus and he wants more than anything to see you happy and healthy!

This health and fitness article is brought to you by that guy putting up his tree for all to see. That guy of glee is Ron Blake and he can be CC'd on all emails to the Big Guy at rblake5551@hotmail.com.



Want to Make a Difference?


Volunteer

Volunteers Needed For:
*Administrative
Client Support
Special Events*

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

Phone: 402-552-9260
E-mail: kyleb@nap.org


250 South 77th St
Suite A
Omaha, NE 68114



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

Know your status. GET TESTED!

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

DECEMBER²⁰¹¹ @ THE MAX

FRIDAY, 2ND
**"CHRISTMAS TREE
LIGHTING"**
with Stella

SATURDAY, 3RD - 5:30PM
**"AN INTERNATIONAL
FEAST"**

A Benefit for NAP before
Night of a Thousand Stars
(RSVP to Todd Pacas)

SATURDAY, 10TH - 7PM
**"A WINTER EVENING
IN IMPERIAL RUSSIA"**
Presented by
Madeline Feinstien

SUNDAY, 11TH - 10PM
"TOYS FOR TOTS"
Presented by ICON

SUNDAY, 18TH - 10PM
**"MAX FAMILY
CHRISTMAS SHOW"**
Presented by the
Reigning Max Family

SATURDAY, 31ST
NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY

FOLLOW
THE MAX

