

The GayZette



Published by the Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Community Center

October is the Final Chapter for Reading Grounds

By John Keenan
Omaha World-Herald Staff Writer

The Reading Grounds at 40th and Farnam Streets will close by the end of this month, bookstore owners Cindy Collins and Angie Keyes announced in an e-mail to their customers.

Cindy Collins, an owner of the Reading Grounds, stands before a wall of autographs from the authors, musicians and poets who have performed at the bookstore. "We gave it everything we had to realize our vision of a place that would feed the community with literature, writers, musicians, artists and educational events," the e-mail read. "We welcomed diversity and offered information. . . . In the end, high rent, chain stores, Amazon and a struggling midtown economy were too much for us to endure."

Independently owned bookstores in general have struggled, and many have closed, because of competition from online stores such as Amazon.com and from national chains such as Borders and Barnes & Noble.

Collins also said crime in the neighborhood hurt her business. The store was robbed at gunpoint less than a year ago, Collins said, and she called police four times over the last two months to remove people "behaving badly" or shoplifting.

"I lost employees because we had drunks coming in, drug ad-

(Continued on page 4)



HGRA UPDATE

Heartland Gay Rodeo association held its annual awards banquet and elections on Saturday Oct.20 at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center in Omaha. Awards were given to the top HGRA cowgirl and cowboy based on total points earned during the 2007 rodeo season. The top cowgirl was Bryn G. and the top cowboy was Tim K. with Rich P. 1st runner up and Roger P. 2nd runner up. Other awards were given out that evening for outstanding achievements by members in the association.

Elections were held that evening to select the board members and chairpersons for 2008. The results are as follows:

President- Charley W.
Vice President- Shelley F.
Secretary- Harry M.
Treasure- Paul S.
Rodeo Director- Roger P.
Trustee- Dan J.

Elected Chairpersons

Public Relations- Kurt R.
Rodeo Events- Dave E.
Membership- Tony H.

The new board of directors assumed their duties immediately following the elections. Plans and preparations are being made for an HGRA Rodeo 2008. The new Board of directors and Chairpersons would like to thank the past board and chairs for the hard work and dedication that was given to Heartland Gay Rodeo Association. Many thanks go out to The Rainbow Outreach Center for the use of their facility.

Heartland Gay Rodeo association would like to extend an open invitation to come join the team as HGRA moves into the 2008 rodeo season. The selection of HGRA royalty will be held on Friday Nov. 2nd at 9:00 PM at DC's. The next HGRA general membership meeting will be Nov. 3rd at 4:00 pm. The location of this meeting will be DC's Saloon. Come on down and join us.

Kurt R- HGRA Public Relations

October 26, 2007 - November 9, 2007

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GAYZETTE AD RATES, PRINTED COPY AND ON THE WEB

Whole Page	7 ½W X 10H	\$100.00	Half Page	7 ½W X 4 ¾H	\$ 50.00
Fourth Page	3 ¾W X 4 ¾H	\$ 25.00	Business Card		\$ 15.00

All ads should be emailed to Gayzette@cox.net. Checks should be made payable to Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center. 10% Discount for on-going ads of any size. Payment and ads may also be delivered to the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center, P.O. Box 8583, Omaha NE 68102 on or before the deadline or you may pay with credit card on our web site at www.RainbowOutreach.org and email the ad. We reserve the right to refuse any ad which we deem to be inappropriate.

Ad Deadlines: Friday, Nov 2nd, for Publication Nov 9th Friday, Nov 16th for Publication Nov



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(Reading Grounds Closing, Continued from page 1)
dicts coming in," she said.

She also cited as a factor Straight Shooters II, a bar across the street.

The City Council revoked the bar's liquor license last May after testimony from police and neighbors, including Collins. It remains open as owner Terry Wilson appeals the ruling.



Cindy Collins, owner

Collins said she was not blaming Wilson or the bar.

"We haven't had run-ins with them, but it changed the image of the neighborhood," she said.

After reports of trouble at the bar, many patrons stopped coming in, Collins said.

Wilson declined comment through his lawyer, Ernest Addison.

Jim Champion, president of Destination Midtown, a community improvement group focused on central Omaha, said he was sorry to see the store close.

"I think Cindy was maybe just a little ahead of the curve, because in the future I do envision that as a beautiful place," he said.

Destination Midtown's plans call for converting Farnam from

one- to two-way traffic and adding "streetscaping" - landscaping, wider sidewalks and improved lighting - along the street to make it more attractive, Champion said.

However, current funding doesn't allow for improvements from 36th to 42nd Streets, where it might have helped Collins, he said. Eventually, though, he hopes to extend improvements to 42nd Street.

Collins said Destination Midtown's current plans were too far east to help her store.

Champion said the Reading Grounds and Collins were just what the area needs.

"Her sweat equity, everything she's done - she's the type of person we're trying to attract," Champion said.

The Reading Grounds opened in 2005.

Beth Black, owner of the independent Bookworm at Country-side Village, said she was sad to see Reading Grounds close.

"It's sad for the reading community," Black said. "It's one less choice. And those ladies worked so hard. It makes me sad to see them close."



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WITHOUT PROPER ESTATE PLANNING YOU ARE LEAVING YOUR FUTURE IN THE HANDS OF THE LEGAL SYSTEM WHICH WILL FOLLOW THE LAWS OF THE STATE YOU LIVE IN. TO MAKE MATTERS EVEN WORSE, THE INTESTACY LAWS OF NEBRASKA HAVE NO DEFAULT PROVISIONS TO ADDRESS SOME OF THE UNIQUE ESTATE PLANNING ISSUES FACING THE GLBT COMMUNITY. THERE IS A SOLUTION BUT YOU MUST HAVE THE PROPER PLANNING IN PLACE BEFORE THE NEED ARISES.

2007 IGRA FINALS

3 Cowgirls represented the Heartland at the IGRA Finals Rodeo in Denver CO earlier this month. Teeny C finished 4th overall in goat dressing and Bryn G finished 7th in pole bending and 8th in barrel racing. The top eight women were separated by 1 second.

The highest honor of the weekend went to Tamara M. who received her 10 years IGRA royalty anniversary buckle. This buckle is given to past IGRA royalty who continue to be actively involved with IGRA. Since Tamara was MS IGRA 1998, she has held the office of IGRA Vice President and was IGRA Finals Rodeo Director for 2004. She is a rodeo announcer and a certified IGRA official. Tamara also continues to support many IGRA associations by performing at their rodeos.

Tamara receiving 10 year Buckle ←



Leo Presented the Presidential Award →
Local Leaders Recognized At Year End Awards



At their October meeting, HGRA members were honored for their dedication and accomplishments over the past year. These members were honored.

Dave McGinnis Award – Kathy W.

Founders Award – Holly B., and Terri R.

Ranch Hand Award – Paul S., Jim R., Dino A.

A special Presidential Award was presented to Leo J. for his promotion, dedication, and spirited enthusiasm of HGRA over the past 10 years.

Cowboy of the year honors for the 2nd time went to Tim K and Cowgirl of the year for the 8th time went to Bryn G.

Congratulations to the 2007 Board of Directors and members for their tremendous contributions to the community.

HGRA also said goodbye to several longtime members. Jo Knott and Charlotte Werth have been members for 13 yrs and Tamara Marks and Bryn Geerdes have been members for 10 years. The GLBT and rodeo community wish them well and thank them for their contributions to rodeo and the Community.



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Sea of Pink

WASHINGTON – The fight to end bullying never looked prettier. Dressed in pink shirts and headbands, students at a Cambridge, Nova Scotia high school rallied to support a ninth grade male student who was called homophobic slurs and threatened with physical violence for wearing a pink polo shirt to school earlier this semester.

"It's our last year and we want to make a difference. At a young age, you don't know that difference between playful teasing and bullying," said David Shepherd in an interview with The Daily News. "Doing it over the color pink is just so stupid."

The "sea of pink" campaign started when David and fellow classmate Travis Price learned of the bullying incident. The two did not hesitate to e-mail their classmates and use various social networking websites to ask students to take a stand against bullying by wearing pink to school. More than half of the school's 830 students wearing pink polos, tees, and other paraphernalia the following day.

The campaign has taken on a life of its own. The local police department is showing its support by wearing pink armbands. The Nova Scotian government has even designated the second Thursday of each school year as "Stand Up Against Bullying Day" and is asking students at all grade levels to wear pink. Countless schools across North America are also implementing "wear pink days" to show their solidarity to the anti-bullying cause.

"No one should be threatened just because of the color of their shirt, but that is too often the reality in schools," said Brittney Hoffman, Campus Director for the Gender Public Advocacy Coalition's GenderYOUTH Network. "Boys can be 'pretty in pink' too, and this shows how youth can help youth make schools safer."

(Continued on page 8)

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(Continued from page 6)

The GenderYOUTH Network is a collaborative effort of student groups at over 100 colleges and universities working to ensure their campuses are GenderSAFE (TM) for all students, whether or not they fit expectations for masculinity and femininity. To support their work, please visit www.gpac.org/give.

history GLBT people have exercised gay pride in a multitude of ways. In 1969, for example, New York City community members marched as a protest against discrimination and violence against the GLBT community.

This historical march, known as *The March on Stonewall*, acts as our community's first gay pride parade. Today, pride events have become an annual ritual in many cities around the world

(Continued on page 12)

Exercising Your Pride!

Dr. Seuss once was quoted saying, "Be who you are and say what you feel, because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind."

Seuss's quote is relevant to our community as it's the basis of most "out" and "proud" GLBT persons' personal mantra. Throughout

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GAYZETTE COMING EVENTS

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

WALK-IN HOURS

Sundays	2:00PM - 8:00PM
Tuesdays	7:00PM - 9:00PM
Thursdays	7:30PM - 9:00PM
Fridays	6:00PM - 10:00PM
Saturdays	4:00PM - 6:00PM

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

SATURDAY OCTOBER 27TH
GARY'S HALLOWEEN PARTY, hosted by Mr. Gay Pride Nebraska 2007-8, 6pm to Midnight or later, (this is not a bar event). See www.myspace.com/mr_gay_pride_ne for full info

SUNDAY OCTOBER 28TH
GAYLA OF GHOULS, Halloween Show, at the Max, 10:15PM

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 2ND
HGRAROYALTY CONTEST, DC's Saloon, 9PM

SATURDAY APRIL 26th 2008
NEBRASKA GLBT SUMMIT, Mahoney State Park, more info later

WEEKLY EVENTS

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

CROSSROADS COMMUNITY FELLOWSHIP, Now meeting at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Community Center, 1719 Leavenworth St., Fellowship starts at 6PM, services begin at 6:30PM. Everyone Welcome! Doors open at 6PM.

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, 11am services

LOWE AVE PRESBYTERIAN, 1023 N 40 10am service

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

ONE PROMISE GROUP, Narcotics Anonymous, every Sunday at 6PM, MCC-Omaha, 819 South 22nd St., for info contact Tamara B. at 714-8552

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

GAMES DAY AT THE GLBT CENTER, 1719 Leavenworth, 2PM to 4PM

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

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

RIVER CITY II MIXED BOWLING, 3pm, Maplewood Lanes.

WIMMIN'S SHOW, KZUM 89.3 12:30pm

Every Monday
A A RAINBOW RECOVERY, an AA group meeting at the MCCO Church at 6pm. Call 612-4648 for more info. Starting April 10th 2006

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

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

WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP Confidential, meeting at the MCCO Church, 819 S. 22nd St,

call 345-2563 for meeting times, all women are welcome

Every Tuesday
HASTINGS COLLEGE ALLIANCE, meet Tuesdays at 7PM (when college is in session). Please contact Dr Antje Anderson at aanderson@hastings.edu or Judy Sandeen at jsandeen@hastings.edu for further information.

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

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

WORSHIP SERVICES
MCC OMAHA, Bible Study, 7pm

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

HIV TESTING, 1:30pm to 4 pm walk-in NAP, 139 S. 40 St., results in 20 minutes, call 402-552-9260 for info

HIV TESTING LINCOLN, 4-7 pm, results in 20 minutes, 2147 South 15th 402-476-7000

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

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

KARAOKE W/ STACY 9:00 pm DC's

Every Thursday
DANCE LESSONS WITH GORDON
7-9pm, DC's Saloon

GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S SUPPORT AND DISCUSSION GROUP 7- 8:30pm, Meeting in Lincoln first and third Thursdays of the month. Call 434-9880 / 476-9668, held at the Unitarian Church, 6300 A Street, Lincoln

HIV TESTING 7- 9pm walk-in, NAP, 139 S. 40th Same day results,

KARAOKE 9pm, Connections Bar

FREE CONFIDENTIAL ANONYMOUS HIV TEST, UN-L 472-7447, 2:30 to 4:30pm, University Health Center Room 164 (next to Pharmacy on the first floor), Orasure test, no needles, Lincoln NE, results in one week

Every Friday
AA ALTERNATIVE MEETING, 7pm, open to men and women, at Lowe Avenue Presbyterian Church in the basement, 1023 North 40th Street

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

GLBT CENTER YOUTH NIGHT, 6PM to 10PM, for ages 13 to 23. Youth sponsored and organized activities, under adult supervision. Every Friday, excluding holidays. 1719 Leavenworth Street

GLBT AA 7PM to 8PM, Lowe Avenue Presbyterian, Call 556-8364, ask for Sanford

GLBT SEXUAL COMPULSIVE ANONYMOUS, (SCA), A program of recovery, 8pm to 9pm, call Kirk at(402) 403-0277

HIV TESTING 5-7PM walk-in, NAP, 139 S. 40th Same day results

NAP OUTREACH CENTER HIV TESTING 7 TO 10PM, walk-in, **2202 St. Marys Ave.**, Same day results

FREE CONFIDENTIAL ANONYMOUS HIV TEST, UN-L 472-7447, 2:30 to 4:30pm, University Health Center Room 164 (next to Pharmacy on the first floor), Orasure test, no needles, Lincoln NE, results in one week

RAINBOW BIBLE STUDY, 6 to 7:30PM, Lowe Ave. Presbyterian, 1023 No. 40th St.

Every Saturday

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

OLDER ADULT DROP-IN, 4 TO 6PM, at the GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St., for older adults age 50+, single or partnered, Free

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

MONTHLY EVENTS

1st Tuesday

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

1st Thursday

GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S SUPPORT AND DISCUSSION GROUP 7 to 8:30pm, Meeting in Lincoln first and third Thursdays of the month. Call 434-9880 / 476 9668 for location and information.

GLBT PROFESSIONALS, meeting at 6PM. Email at: omahaglbtprofessionals@cox.net

1st Friday

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

1st Saturday OR Sunday

HEARTLAND GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION, Meeting days and times may vary, call 402-505-3331 for info or see www.hgra.net for meeting schedules etc.

1st Sunday

GAY GUYS SPAGHETTI NIGHT, at a Lincoln restaurant, call 402-483-6183 to reserve a seat up until the day before

TRANSGENDER DROP-IN, 2 to 4pm at Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St.

2nd Wednesday

ACTS II WORSHIP SERVICE, 7pm, MCC Omaha, 819 S. 22nd Street

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, Lincoln NE

OUUT SECOND SUNDAY SCREENING (gblt film shown at 7pm followed by discussion) First Unitarian, 3114 Harney

3rd Monday

PFLAG SOUTH CENTRAL (HASTINGS, NE), Meeting on 3rd Mondays at First Congregational United Church of Christ, 7th and Marian St., 7PM, email jsandeen@inebraska.com or call 402.462.2961 or 402.460.8696

3rd Tuesday

IMPERIAL COURT OF NE, Board of Governors meeting, 7:15pm, meeting at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Community Center, www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org

HIV TESTING AT THE PANIC, Lincoln NE, 7-10PM walk-in, same day results, 200 South 18th Street

3rd Thursday

GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S SUPPORT AND DISCUSSION GROUP 7-8:30pm, Meeting in Lincoln first and third Thursdays of the month. Call 434-9880 / 476 9668 for location and information.

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

3rd Saturday

GAY/BI SUPPORT GRP FOR HIV+ MEN 6-8pm NAP, 220 S. 17, Lincoln, 476-7000.

3rd Sunday

TRANSGENDER DROP-IN, 2 to 4pm

at Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St.

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—OMAHA Not currently meeting.

Email Your Event to:
GAYZETTE@COX.NET

*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.)*

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox

HEY, KYLE... WHO'S THAT GROUP OF PEOPLE IN THE LIVING ROOM?

OH, THAT'S THE LONG ISLAND GAY & LESBIAN FILM FESTIVAL BOARD.

I'M FRIENDS WITH THE PROGRAMMING DIRECTOR, PETE DALY.

THEY NEEDED A PLACE TO HOLD THEIR MONTHLY BOARD MEETING, SO I OFFERED THEM THE B&B.

SHORTLY... THE GAY & LESBIAN FILM FESTIVAL'S MEETING IN THE LIVING ROOM.

KYLE'S FRIENDS WITH THE DIRECTOR, PETE DALY.

MINUTES LATER... LANCE SAID THEY'RE DOIN' SOME KINDA' GAY FILM THING IN THE LIVING ROOM.

KYLE KNOWS THE DIRECTOR... SOME GUY NAMED DALY.

YOU MEAN... BIG JIM DAILEY?!! HE'S A FAMOUS GAY PORN DIRECTOR!

WITHIN MINUTES... RICHARD! BIG JIM DAILEY IS SHOOTIN' A GAY PORN FILM OUT IN THE LIVING ROOM!!!

WHA-A-A-AT?!!

SECONDS LATER... KYLE? WHERE ARE THEY?! DAILEY... AND THE REST OF THEM?!

OH, THEY JUST FINISHED UP A FEW MINUTES AGO AND LEFT.

THEY LEFT?! BUT... WHY DIDN'T YOU TELL ME THEY WERE GOING TO BE HERE? SO I COULD WATCH?

UM... IT WASN'T REALLY THAT EXCITING, RICHARD.

DID THEY DO IT ON THE COUCH?

ACTUALLY, THEY USED ALMOST ALL OF THE FURNITURE.

THERE WERE FIVE OF THEM.

FIVE?! WHOA.

DID THEY GET ROUGH WITH EACH OTHER?

"ROUGH"? NO, THEY WERE VERY CIVIL.

REALLY? NO DIRTY TALK? NO SPANKING?

SPANKING? WHY ON EARTH WOULD THERE BE SPANKING?

OH, KYLE... YOU'RE SO VANILLA...

Help Wanted

Older male couple with large house and yard seeks cleaning and maintenance assistance. Prefer someone who can work one full day weekly, or a few hours each on two days - pay and hours negotiable, depending on amount and type of work agreed upon. Located 12 miles from downtown Omaha. Please reply by email only: Gayzad@cox.net.

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**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.)**

Community Announcements

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If you have a life event, birth, adoption, anniversary, wedding, graduation, memorial or other special announcement that you would like to see in the Gayzette, send it to Gayzette@cox.net and we'll be happy to publish it here for free.

Would you like a FREE Copy of the Advocate?

**Stop in at the GLBT
Community Center
at 1719 Leaven-
worth and pick up a
copy. Free while
supplies last. Limit
one copy per per-
son while 60 copies
of each issue lasts.**



(Exercising Your Pride, Continued from page 8)

and have grown to include thousands of gay and gay-friendly participants, not to mention hundreds of spectators.

Each year in June the Nebraska GLBT community exercises our gay pride by producing a weekend long event held in Omaha. Participants join the festivities to remind our community that all homosexual persons deserve the same rights as others; that we should all be free to live life void of judgment or hate. The Nebraska Pride Committee is currently meeting the first and third Tuesday's of each month at Rainbow Outreach Resource Center located at 1719 Leavenworth, just east of 18th Street & Leavenworth in the Old Market region of downtown Omaha, Nebraska, to organize and plan for this year's upcoming Nebraska Pride. Volunteers are desperately needed as there are many activities ranging from entertainment planning to sponsorship that need the attention of community members who have availability to offer their time and talent in helping organize our 2008 Pride.

Your participation is needed! Help make Nebraska Pride 2008 a great community event by volunteering your time. Visit www.rainbowcelebrations.org for more information on how you can get involved with this year's Nebraska Pride.

TJ Johnson, Nebraska Pride PR Chair

The River City Mixed Chorus

"Great Men of Song" will be performed Saturday, January 12th, 2008 at 7:05p.m., and Sunday January 13th at 4:05p.m. This concert is the flip side to the "Great Women of Song" performance from several years back. Featured will be songs made famous by men of our time – from as far back as Bing Crosby, Nat King Cole and Frank Sinatra, to the Beatles, Elvis Presley, Queen and Elton John, to contemporaries like Josh Groban. The show isn't going to be a typical choral concert, but rather an entire production, on a par with our last winter concert, "The Big Bent Broadway Bash"! It's a must see for anyone who wants to hear one of the Midwest's very best choruses pull out all the stops once again on an entertaining journey of music, fun and choral beauty for the Omaha/Council Bluffs area.

The second concert of the season will be "The Gender Blender", an intriguing look at gender issues and the blurred lines between what it is that makes a man or a woman, and all the wonderful variations in between! This concert will be Saturday, June 21st, 2008 at 7:05p.m. and Sunday June 22nd at 4:05p.m.

Tickets can be purchased several ways:
online at www.RCMC.org - either Visa or Mastercard;

- from any chorus member- either cash or check, made payable to the River City Mixed Chorus;
at the performance the day of the show.

Ticket prices are as follows:
Season Tickets: \$25 (2 tickets, one for each concert of the season)
Day of the show: \$18
Advance Adult: \$15
Seniors (55+)/Students (13+)/Groups: \$13
Children 12 and under: \$10
For more information, contact Victor Hahn, River City Mixed Chorus
Media Coordinator at 670-1078.

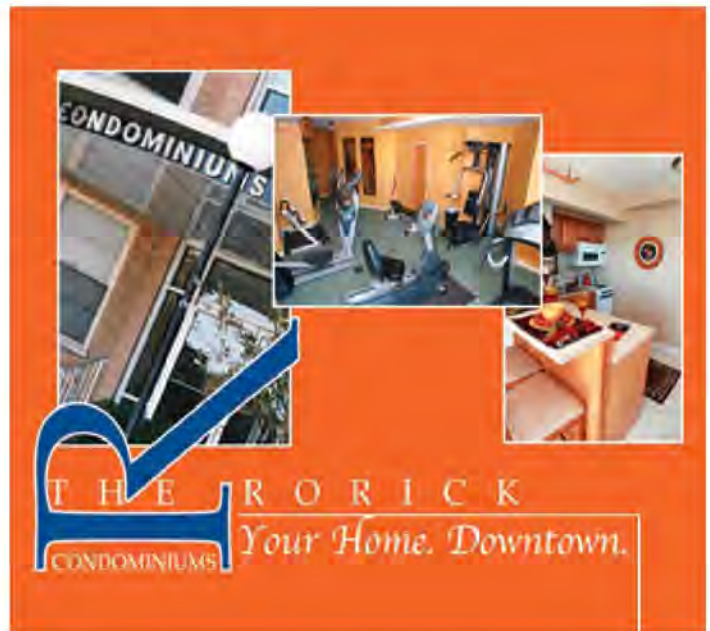
COUPLES ASKED TO PARTICIPATE IN IOWA LGBT FAMILY SURVEY

As the Iowa Supreme Court prepares to hear the lawsuit that legalized same-sex marriage in Iowa, part of ONE IOWA's work is to demonstrate the need for legal equality for same-sex couples throughout the state. That's why ONE IOWA, a statewide nonprofit group working for marriage equality, is announcing its Iowa LGBT Family Survey.

The survey is designed to pinpoint critical rights and responsibilities LGBT families don't yet have. The survey is quick and easy, taking just a few minutes to complete. Your answers are confidential and your identity is protected.

Visit www.iowafamilysurvey.org today to complete the survey. Even if you're not part of an LGBT family, you can help: Pass this information along to your friends, colleagues, family or neighbors in same-sex relationships.

If you need access to a computer, the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center provides free high speed internet access. Just stop in. See the calendar page of the Gayzette for walk-in hours.



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Fitness Corner

By Ron Blake
Certified Personal Trainer



I am thirty-eight years old and I recently desired a change in my life. I contemplated the notion of dying my hair, buying a convertible, wearing skater shoes, and purchasing a cool puka shell necklace. I was informed that these are all signs of a midlife crisis and I can't be associated with any labels like that. I thus decided to satisfy my hunger for variety in a non-crisis fashion and I joined a softball team. It's been about a month and I've managed to survive about a half dozen softball games. These are my stories.

I have been a solitary runner for twenty years. Teamwork has not been a necessary part of my designated sport of distance running. I have been master and commander of my ship. Softball demands that ten players contribute for the common good of the team. My days of spinsterhood, playing solitaire, and reclusiveness are over. I have to look out for my fellow brethren. It has been great learning to be part of something. I can't function without them and vice versa.

Not everyone is good. Some of the outfielders race in to catch a fly ball only to see it sail thirty feet over their noggin. There are still others who throw like Blanche, Rose, Sophia, and Dorothy. I have experienced the trials and tribulations of watching guys swing the bat with all the grace of a fairy godmother and her wand. I don't mind these dreadful displays of athleticism. It is humbling to me because I know that there is something out there that I am horrible at. I proceed with this mindset and complete understanding

The theme song for this season of roundball could easily be REM's "Everybody Hurts". To my disbelief, I have already been injured and I have felt the sting of many a painful practice and game. I run forty miles a week, I workout three days per week, and I even take long bike rides for cross-training purposes. How could this suffering be a possibility for someone like me? The reality is that I am working a different range of motion for my muscles. Even Superman has his Kryptonite and Achilles had his heel. I have given greater credence to the expression that what doesn't kill me will only make me stronger.

Softball certainly has its gadabout tendencies. I am especially fond of this social side of the sport. The reward for engaging in the weekly ritual of two consecutive seven-inning games is found in a mug of Bud Light at ye olde watering hole after the barbarism has subsided. Rewards have even been known to involve some backyard frolicking in our shortstop's pool. The horse is bound to gallop when he has that carrot stuck in front of his nose. Our team has tremendous galloping power thanks to our "carrots".

I am enjoying the break in my daily monotony that has come from this thing called softball. I am reaping the benefits from the healthy mental and physical aspects of the activity. I have found a niche that has proved exciting for me. It has been quite cheaper than acquiring that box of Clairol, the ragtop Mustang, the black pair of Vans, and the island accessory with the shark tooth that would have adorned my neck. I even feel ten years younger since my first day of taking to right center field. My

midlife emergency has suffered a crippling blow. The world is safe now, but for how long?

This health and fitness column is brought to you by that guy whose ten gallon hat has been largely unaffected by his fifteen gallon mouth. That guy is Ron Blake and he can be reached at www.goblakefitness.com.

Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

Omaha:

Connections, 1901 Leavenworth	933-3033
DC's Saloon, 610 South 14th Street	344-3103
Dixie Quick's Restaurant, 1915 Leavenworth	346-3549
Flixx, 1015 South 10th Street Omaha	408-1020
Gnome's Bar, 1951 Saint Marys Ave	991-6470
The Max, 1417 Jackson St.	346-4110
The Reading Grounds, 3928 Farnam Street	502-2008
Metropolitan Community Church, 819 South 22nd Street	
Omaha Mining Co., 1715 Leavenworth	449-8703
Mystery Bookstore, 1422 South 13th St	342-7343
Nebraska AIDS Project, 139 South 40th St	552-9260
Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Resource Center, 1719 Leavenworth St. (home of The Gayzette)	341-0330

Lincoln:

Panic Bar, 200 South 18th Street (as available)	435-8764
Q Bar, 226 South 9th Street (as available)	475-2269

Iowa:

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

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

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I SPY.....

I SPY.....

Hello there reader. My name is Chris Orr and I am doing an opinion column of just whatever. Sometimes I'll be expressing views or giving a heads up on persons, places, or things that need to be mentioned at all or more of. Remember this is an opinion column and does not reflect the opinions of those who are responsible (staff, owners, persons etc.).



All news stations had either interrupted daytime talk shows or ran the panic bar, bottom news bar which gives you useless information, the other day. Religion has been restored with all those who go to church on Saturdays. I'm talking about the Nebraska Cornhuskers. The bitter corn has been shocked and dispensed. Pope Osbourne has returned to restore faith and turn around the sliding costs of the religion's merchandise and low growth of a season. Great thing about this is that have you ever gone shopping when the game is on? I do and it's awesome! The stores are practically empty and you don't have to be rushed on anything. When I was at one store the clerk told me that the reason why she is working during Nebraska's time on T.V. and radio is because the staff requests those times off. Halleluiah!

Now onto some brighter news is how Holly Day and Teagan Thomas looked so damn fabulous at Bingo For Life a few weeks back. Those two are quite a team and NAP had raised nearly \$3,000! Nebraska Aids Project hosted one of the best benefits I have seen yet. Location was freakin sweet along with the setup. I kept making multiple trips just like others back to the food line, and the crowd was a great mix of people from all different walks of life. Can't wait until next time to attend! Bingo!

Speaking of benefits at this time, Pride needs some volunteers. So for those who always bitch about how Pride can do better and blah blah blah it's time to say something to those who help manage it. Also you could get off your ass and come to a meeting to express these views. Pride meets every 1st and 3rd Tuesday of every month at 7 P.M. at Rainbow Outreach Center or if you can't make it they like fan mail too. www.rainbowcelebrations.org. This really is a great opportunity to help the community out on so many levels. It's not back breaking work, it is effort to make our pride better tomorrow.

How are you going to spend your Halloween? I personally am going to be domesticated and stay home and pass candy out to the childrens. Oops I followed President Bush's articulate language. When giving a press conference about education he said "...education today for our childrens". Talk about country grammar! Anywho, many activities are going on around the week of Halloween. Mr Gay Pride Gary Allinger will be hosting a Haunted Woods on Saturday October 27th. Check out myspace.com/mr_gay_pride_ne for more details and directions. The 28th he will also be hosting a Nebraska Pride benefit Halloween show at the Max at 10 P.M. DC's Saloon has quite a bit going on too. Chuck Ritterbusch and DC's will be hosting a memorial benefit show for the family of Joe Alcorta, who has passed away. Joe will be missed by the community including myself. Make sure to attend on Saturday October 27th - 8 P.M. at DC's Saloon, his memorial service will be held at MCC Omaha October 27th at 10 A.M. October 28th is Rocky Horror Theatre with ICON Emperor 27 Thomas at DC's Saloon at 7 P.M. It's great times from what I hear. Now, with the actual day of Halloween, every bar U.S.A. is having some

type of a contest and please please please if you go out and have too much, take a cab or have someone sober to drive you because I'll let you in on a secret. It's "trust me I know" (LOL). Also make sure to check your candy and make sure it is also wrapped up for you don't want anything to "poison" you.

Websites of the bi-week to check out:
www.rainbowoutreach.org // www.aidsquiltomaha.com // www.mccomaha.org // www.otterfashion.com

So any whining, comments, or having me check something out? Email me at orrthumper83@yahoo.com

OMAHA GLBT SPORTS

The Omaha GLBT Sports organization is currently working on a lot of issues to further encourage and gather participation. We have community meetings once a month to address business and other issues concerning league play and other matters, open to the public to discuss what they would like to see or happen. Remember it's a community league. Here is a list of our committee members and their position: Alisha Cobb- President, Chris Orr - Vice President, Jenny Vanlandingham - Treasurer, Nate Rotschafer - Web Advisor, Windell Austin - Sergeant in Arms, Hank Davis - Secretary, Jordan Goodman - Assistant Secretary, Wes Schleifer - Sports Coordinator, Angel Harry - Committee at Large, Sarah Glynn - Committee at Large, Justin Hendricks - Committee at Large. One issue that is being taken care of right now and has been filed is our tax I. D. among the other legal papers. This will help keep costs down for league member registration by others who donate to the league. Our logo contest has come to an end and the committee will decide on a winner and their design will represent our league. Dodgeball will be a benefit tournament being held here in a little over a month where teams will either play representing themselves as a group or a bar/organization raising money just by playing. That is where all fee money will go. Info will be released about that soon!

Our website WWW.OMAHAGLBTSPORTS.NET is being updated about every other day with new information about the league. Be sure to visit the site to stay in tune with what is going on. Especially since PayPal is a method of payment with online registration from now on. Volleyball registration is at an end and the teams are being made as we speak. One thing that is very new, we are trying, is that we need volunteer referees for this season. We will take part in a clinic to train these referees and it is already paid for. Volleyball will be played at Westroads Club every Sunday Nov. 4th - Feb. 3rd from 6 P.M. - 8 P.M. with respective holiday weeks off. So if you would just like to come and cheer on you're more than welcome to join us.

Any questions, concerns, or suggestions please email us at: committee@omahaglbtsports.net and please visit our website WWW.OMAHAGLBTSPORTS.NET.

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SUNDAY OCT 28TH

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Present Gary's
"GALA OF GHOULS"
9:30PM**

SUNDAY NOV 4TH

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10pm**

FRIDAY NOV 2ND

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