



Greg Louganis Makes History as First Openly Gay Grand Marshal of Rose Parade

by Greg Hernandez

Forty years after competing in his first Olympics, Greg Louganis is still making history.

The Olympic diving legend will be the first openly gay man to ride as grand marshal of the Rose Parade in January.

Louganis, 56, was chosen for the honor along with fellow Olympic medalists Janet Evans and Allyson Felix.



The parade takes place on 2 January in Pasadena, California and its theme is Echoes of Success.

In a Twitter post, Louganis described himself as 'incredibly honored.'

The three athletes have been active in promoting Los Angeles' bid for the 2024 Summer Games.

Louganis, who has been living with HIV for three decades, won two gold medals in 1988, two in 1984 and a silver medal in 1976 while still in high school.

Although he did not come out publicly as a gay man until 1994, Louganis was rumored to be gay and that seemed to hurt his commercial endorsement opportunities.

But in recent years he seems to be getting more his due especially since the airing of the Emmy-nominated documentary Greg Louganis: Back On Board.

Earlier this year, Louganis and Evans along with fellow Olympic legend Edwin Moses received the long overdue honor of being placed on boxes of Wheaties breakfast cereal.

'It means more now than it probably would've then, because they would've been celebrating the athlete (back then),' Louganis said in a July episode of Where Are They Now?

'I'm a gay man living with HIV. I feel like I'm being embraced as a whole person, and not just a part of me.'

Orlando to Buy Pulse Nightclub and Install Permanent Memorial

BY JACOB OGLES



The site of the most deadly hate crime in modern U.S. history will likely be purchased by the City of Orlando and turned into a memorial.

City officials announced today that they've negotiated a price of \$2.4 million to buy Pulse, the nightclub where a gunman and 49 others were killed in June.

"This location is now a permanent part of Orlando's history," said Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer. "It's the site of the most tragic event that has ever occurred in the City of Orlando. We want our entire community to be a part of this site."

The site has been visited by President Obama, Vice President Biden, Hillary Clinton and her running mate Tim Kaine, plus visiting world leaders, and a number of celebrities. But most frequently, it's visited by everyday people who want to remember those lost.

Talks about the club's future took place for the past few

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months, according to Cassandra Lafser, press secretary for the mayor's office, and a final price was reached this week. The Orlando City Council will vote on the purchase Monday, two days after Orlando's annual pride celebration, Come Out With Pride.

On June 12, Fort Pierce man Omar Mateen opened fire in the Orlando LGBT club. In phone calls to police, Mateen swore an allegiance to leaders of ISIS. Mateen ultimately died at Pulse, where police shot him eight times before taking control of the club. Pulse regulars say Mateen frequented the club, leading to speculation he was gay, but family members and the FBI dismiss that.

The attack occurred on Latin night at Pulse, and a disproportionate number of victims were Latino. Dyer stresses the massacre, though, tore at all of Orlando, and the Pulse now should serve as memorial site recognized by the entire community.

"It has great significance, not just for the LGBTQ community and the Hispanic community, but for all of us that live and love Orlando," Dyer said.

A timeline for turning Pulse into a formal memorial has not been set, but Dyer says the club will remain in its current state for the next 12 to 18 months. In the wake of the shooting, Pulse and the fencing surrounding turned into a makeshift monument to the fallen 49. The logo for the Pulse since became a mourning and rallying cry. But the site has also drawn trespassers and criminals breaking into the property, according to the Orlando Sentinel.

The Sentinel notes owners Barbara and Rosario Poma negotiated a price well beyond the \$1.65 million appraised value of the club. Pulse has not re-opened since the shooting.

Barbara Poma opened the bar in 2004 and named it in honor of her later brother John, who died from AIDS in 1991. Poma issued a statement earlier this year expressing her desire for part of the club to include a memorial. Dyers said a public process will determine what sort of memorial gets created at the site.

Remembering the Gay Man Who Saved 17 Million Lives

By Warren J. Blumenfeld

"[Alan Turing] was and is a hero of all time... a man who is a gay icon, who didn't deny his nature, his being, and for that he suffered. ... This is a story that celebrates him, that celebrates outsiders; it celebrates anybody who's ever felt different and ostracized and ever suffered prejudice."

—Benedict Cumberbatch



I usually find movie award shows to project primarily fluff and silliness, and they rarely stir deep emotions in me. But listening to Benedict Cumberbatch accept the award for Best Actor at the American Film Awards for his portrayal of Alan Turing in the film *The Imitation Game* two years ago brought me to tears.

This stemmed from a sense of deep pride and an endless abyss of sadness. Cumberbatch's commitment and passion shined through on stage as he talked about transforming Turing's story, his brilliance, and his humanity to the silver screen, helping to give Turing the long-overdue wide-scale recognition he rightly deserves.

Alan Mathison Turing was a pioneering computer scientist, and he served as a mid-20th century British mathematician, logician, and cryptanalyst who, working during World War II at England's Government Code and Cypher School at Bletchley Park, succeeded with his team of scientists and linguists in cracking the "Enigma code" used by the Nazi command to conduct covert communication operations.

Because of Turing and his colleagues' efforts, Cumberbatch said, there is now general agreement that they shortened the war by at least two years, saving an estimated 17 million lives.

(Continued on page 4)

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Prime Minister Winston Churchill singled out Turing as the person whose work contributed the most to defeating the Germans.

The Imitation Game also highlights the enormous obstacles placed in the way of women entering the sciences, especially mid-century. In this regard, Keira Knightley made an equally moving speech at the American Film Awards in accepting the Best Supporting Actress award for her portrayal of Joan Clarke, who worked with Turing in deciphering the code.

"Particularly now, when women are such a minority in all fields, her story and the fact that she really perseveres, and she had space and time and grace, is really inspiring," she said.

Though initially considered a national hero in Britain, in 1952, government officials arrested and prosecuted Turing on the antiquated charge of "gross indecency" when he "admitted" to maintaining a same-sex relationship. Rather than serving time in prison, Turing chose to undergo estrogen injections then considered in men a form of "chemical castration" eliminating sex drive. Turing took his life two years later by swallowing cyanide just two weeks short of his 42nd birthday.

I find it deeply ironic that while Turing and his team helped defeat the Nazi war machine, a nation intolerant of any form of difference including same-sex relations (especially between men), the primary "allied" nations fighting Nazi Germany – United States, Britain, and the Soviet Union – all maintained laws criminalizing homosexuality.

Under King Henry VIII in 1533, England passed a

"buggery" (or sodomy) law, doling out the penalty of death for "the detestable and abominable Vice of Buggery committed with mankind or beast." Under the rule of Elizabeth I in 1564, death for same-sex acts between men became a permanent part of English law until the 1880s. British courts at the time concluded that sex between two women was impossible and, therefore, exempted women from the statute. By 1885, English Criminal Law punished homosexuality with imprisonment up to two years. This remained in effect until homosexuality was decriminalized in 1967.

In addition, Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin criminalized homosexuality with eight years imprisonment or exile to Siberia. And in the United States, consensual same-sex relations were against the law at one time in all states, and remained illegal in some states as late as 2003, when the Supreme Court finally overturned such bans in its Lawrence v. Texas decision.

In 2009, British Prime Minister Gordon Brown officially apologized to Alan Turing on behalf of the people of his nation for "the appalling way he was treated." Parliament finally brought up a bill of "pardon" in 2013, and on 24 December, 2013, Queen Elizabeth granted Turing a posthumous pardon.

Though the English government never actually forced a physical stigma onto Turing's body, they branded the symbol of the outsider, the pervert, the enemy deeply into his soul. This branding seriously deprived the British nation and the larger world community of his continued genius, his generosity, and the many additional gifts he could have imparted.

I agree with Benedict Cumberbatch that Turing's wide-scale recognition is long overdue.

Gay Cops Accused of Having Bareback Sex Parties with Underage Boys

by Stefanie Gerdes

Gay cops in New York state are under investigation over allegations they held bareback sex parties with teenagers below the age of consent.

A number of New York police departments are now investigating the allegations.

It is alleged those parties were attended by teenagers below the legal age to either drink alcohol or consent to sex with an adult.

Schenectady Police Department and Albany Police Department are both involved in the multi-agency police investigation. It is claimed they are investigating that gay officers attended or hosted the 'breeding parties'.




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'I'm not really in a position to say anything about it at this point,' Albany Police Chief Brendan Cox told the Times Union.

'There is a case we are looking into but we are not in a position to even gauge whether or not there is any truth to what has been alleged.'

According to the Times Union, the investigation was triggered after an officer's live-in boyfriend was arrested last month.

Sgt Jonathan E Moore and his partner, Anthony Aubin, were trying to buy a car when Aubin was arrested on felony charges for allegedly using a fraudulent check.

They claim these fraudulent checks were provided to them in payment for work.

Aubin was on parole for a previous conviction.

Separate fraud, parole and porn investigation

There is no evidence yet that indicates Moore and Aubin were involved with the teen sex parties.

All we do know is that Aubin reportedly made statements about those parties and officers' involvement in gay sex with teenagers at Albany County Jail after his arrest on the fraud matter.

This led law enforcement officials to start a separate investigation. It's the new investigation that is looking at whether unnamed officers had underage teen sex.

Separately, it is known that Moore made a sworn statement admitting he had debt issues.

Aubin reportedly offered to help out with by producing gay porn for Florida-based Bear Films.

When the deal fell apart, the couple signed up with another porn company, it is claimed.

But when they failed to receive payment from that new company, it is claimed their female agent for the porn work gave them the fraudulent checks.

Aubin is being held at Albany County Jail without bail; his case for fraud is pending in Albany Country Court.

Moore is on paid suspension from the police department while they investigate his conduct. This investigation is apparently focused on his relationship with Aubin, because he was on parole, and Moore's involvement in gay porn.

Kim Davis Attempts to Skirt \$230,000 Legal Fees

BY NICO LANG

Kim Davis, who attempted to prevent gay couples from acquiring marriage licenses, is being asked to cover the legal fees of

the people she discriminated against.

The couples who sued Kim Davis are lobbying the Rowan County, Ky., clerk to pay their legal fees, amounting to over \$230,000, but lawyers for Davis are attempting to block the request.

Liberty Counsel, the right-wing legal firm based in Florida, has been representing Davis since she was briefly jailed for contempt of court in September 2015 after shutting down all marriage license operations to avoid issuing same-sex couples marriage licenses. Davis's attorney, Roger K. Ganam, argued that because the case was resolved after the state of Kentucky opted to take clerks' names off marriage licenses, she shouldn't be forced to pay.

The state legislature passed that law in April, codifying what Gov. Matt Bevin had done through executive order in December 2015, shortly after he took office.

Couples who sued disagree with that assessment, the Lexington Herald-Leader reports. They say it doesn't change the fact that Davis blocked their right to be wed and they had to sue to be able to exercise their legal rights.

The American Civil Liberties Union is leading the effort to recoup their expenses. "Courts recognize that when successful civil rights plaintiffs obtain a direct benefit from a court-ordered victory, such as in this case, they can be entitled to their legal expenses to deter future civil rights violations by government officials," said ACLU of Kentucky legal director William Sharp in a press release issued in September.

"By filing today's motion, we hope to achieve that very objective — to send a message to government officials that willful violations of individuals' rights will be costly."

The decision on this matter will go to U.S. District Judge David Bunning, the same judge who issued a contempt of court ruling against Davis last year. "Our form of government will not survive unless we, as a society, agree to respect the U.S. Supreme Court's decisions, regardless of our personal opinions," Bunning said at the time. "Davis is certainly free to disagree with the Court's opinion, as many Americans likely do, but that does not excuse her from complying with it. To hold otherwise would set a dangerous precedent."

No matter Bunning's verdict, Rowan County has already said that it would not foot her bill, claiming that Davis acted on her own behalf in refusing to issue licenses. "County clerks are not employees of the county," Jeffrey C. Mando, an attorney for the county, stated in a press release, "but instead are the holders of elective office pursuant to the Kentucky Constitution."



Straight Men Reveal How Much Gay Sex They Would Have to Get a Real Lightsaber

by Joe Morgan

Straight men have revealed how much gay sex they would have to get a lightsaber. You know, a real one.

Posting on Reddit, a user set out the challenge. You can get a real life lightsaber if you have gay sex, and it could be with any man, dead or alive, celebrity etc.

The simple version is: If you top a guy, you get a purple lightsaber

If you bottom, you get a lightsaber in any color of your choice
If you try both, you get either a double ended lightsaber or two lightsabers in the color of your choice

But to make it more complicated...

If you give a guy a handjob, you get a stun baton
If you experiment with gay BDSM, you get a lightsaber whip
If you suck a guy's dick, you get a blaster
If you get your dick sucked, you just get a really good blowjob
If you get fisted, you get a thermal detonator (Don't waste it!)
If you fist a guy, you get an adhesive grenade, because stickiness...

Every time you use a condom, you get a deflector shield, because stay safe, guys!

Intercrural sex (between the thighs) gets you a vibrosword

If you're bi, you would apparently get Obi-Wan Kenobi's powers and weapons, because Alec Guinness was supposedly bisexual.

So how did the users of Reddit respond?

'I have no shame, I'd proudly flaunt that double-ended lightsaber as I limped down the street the next day.'

'I'm pretty clumsy. I'm not having sex with a guy just for the change to cut my own hands off,' one said. Responding, one guy said: 'I'd do it for a lightsaber, but a whip? Now that's asking for some trouble.'

'I'd probably slam a guy in the ass for a purple light saber. And that guy would be Leonardo DiCaprio.'

One girl said: 'I asked my bf this and he answered YES! quicker than I thought possible. In his words, a lightsaber is a lightsaber'

'I'd let the entire stormtrooper army slam me up the ass for one of those.'



'Absolutely yes. One session of getting buttfucked for a cool laser sword seems a good deal to me.'

'Yes. I'm not that straight. I'll take a blue one and a green one.'

'All I know is... I got a lot of lightsabers and I'm a huge fan of Star Wars.'

Legalizing Marijuana Will Help Disenfranchised Families

BY DONA FRANK

An LGBT cannabis proponent says Californians — and voters in Nevada, Arizona, and Maine — need to embrace the future.

When I started in the cannabis business more than a decade ago, my sole purpose was to create a safe space for women to access clean, quality cannabis. For 10 years, I've been drawn into a legalization war that rages on with aggressive conflict between our state and federal governments, between cultivators and law enforcement. But with successive legalization in states across the country, it's clear that legalization in California is no longer an issue of "if" but "when." The LGBTQ community has tremendous power when we work and vote together. Proposition 64 — which would legalize recreational marijuana — is our chance to make positive changes that could reverberate nationally.

The 2016 presidential election ensures a high voter turnout, and it's our opportunity as a state, as counties, as compassionate communities, to send a clear message at the ballot box. We want cannabis legalized. Period. Prop. 64 is imperfect; that too is something most people agree on. But do we stand still and create the "perfect" proposition? How much longer do we wait? Or do we move forward and correct course as we go like the pioneers we once were? California once led the charge in progressive lawmaking, especially regarding cannabis. Now we lag behind states like Alaska, Washington, Oregon, and Colorado.

At the crux of Prop. 64 is access. It removes the barrier that says, "Cannabis is OK for me but not for you." Under Proposition 215, marijuana isn't legal; it allows medicinal use and provides immunity to prosecution. Big difference. Prop. 64 makes marijuana legal. That automatically eliminates the gross waste of resources being poured into combating cannabis use, and not just the ticketing and arrests, but all the way down the chain — prosecution, detainment, housing, appeals. The agencies dealing with this suffer from a lack of proper equipment and training. Wouldn't those resources be better spent combating real social problems or providing better services? I refer you to the massive police raids on dispensaries and cultivators only this past summer right here in California.

One concern people have expressed is that Prop. 64 kills small business, but has this been true in the wine industry? Craft beer? Micro-distilleries? The coffee industry? There will always be a place for artisanal, small-batch, premium-quality products. At Natural Cannabis Co., we do very little vertical integration and instead work exclusively with small farms and cultivators. That's what our clients want. It varies by communi-

ty, but speaking for Sonoma County, we have a loyalty and passion for supporting independents and small businesses. Prop. 64 adds a residency requirement through 2019 and has antimonopoly and price-fixing language. Is it perfect? No. But it allows people with prior cannabis convictions to get licenses to operate a legal business, something Prop. 215 lacks. It eliminates the irony of refusing cannabis cultivation licenses to people who have been convicted of cultivating cannabis — imagine that!



Did you know that there are still people in prison for cannabis in recreational-use states? With Prop. 64, California has a chance to set an important nationwide precedent by addressing that very issue.

Consider this: “Individuals serving sentences for activities that are made legal or are subject to lesser penalties under the measure would be eligible for resentencing.”

The proposition also says, “Individuals who have completed sentences for crimes that are reduced by the measure could apply to the courts to have their criminal records changed.”

Another important issue Prop. 64 addresses is guaranteeing privacy and parental rights. In communities of color and LGBTQ families, parents have more to fear when it comes to losing their children to protective services. Prop. 64 means you will not lose your children for cannabis use. Isn't it time to end the terrible irony of so many lives ruined over a plant that has caused exactly zero overdose deaths? Those ruined lives have disproportionately been in disenfranchised communities.

Part of civilization is compromise, and that's what Prop. 64 is. It's seeking to balance the concerns of both sides; people who love and consume cannabis and nonusers alike. By its very nature, it's not meant to be 100 percent satisfactory to everyone. That's simply not possible. It's still a big step forward, not just for people actively using cannabis now, but for the people who have been victims of this failed drug war and their families as well. In all the squabbling over money and power, the humanity gets forgotten.

Currently, Prop. 215 forces people to disclose their personal and medical information to seek recommendations for what's basically an herbal medicine. They're paying for these visits, renewing their cards every year, and still we can't guarantee these people, many of them vulnerable, are getting safe, clean cannabis. Whether you're using it for medical reasons or recreationally, you deserve safe, clean, quality product. Prop. 64 helps by setting guidelines and regulations meant to protect the consumer. We have four recreational-use states showing us that legalization does not inflate prices, it has not increased vehicular deaths, and it has not increased teen drug use. What it has done is create a tremendous revenue stream, a boost in tourism, and dramatically reduced marijuana arrests.

This is a new era for cannabis. People who would have never considered cannabis a couple of years ago are seeing life-changing results in people close to them. The increase in cannabis use directly correlates to a reduction in opioid deaths. People are finding relief and enjoyment in this humblest of plants,

and now is the time to make it legal for everyone who chooses to use it, for whatever they want to use it for. Living in the heart of wine country, it's hard not to look at that industry and our acceptance and celebration of alcohol, a substance with virtually no medical benefit and directly responsible for the deaths of more than 3,000 Californians annually.

The time to usher in a new stage of acceptance for cannabis in California is now. Time has proven that minds and laws change. More people than ever approve of legalization. Legalization can happen now or we can stagger along behind Nevada, Arizona, Maine, and other states where recreational marijuana is likely to pass next week, waiting for that “perfect” proposition. Northern California, in particular, is known around the world for cannabis, so why are we so far behind the times? Vote yes on Prop. 64.

DONA FRANK is a passionate proponent of cannabis legalization. She's the founder and owner of Natural Cannabis Co., an experienced businesswoman, honored veteran of the U.S. armed forces, and a proud member of the LGBTQ community. Natural Cannabis Co. operates three Northern California dispensaries: Oakland Organics, Oakland; OrganiCann, Santa Rosa; and MendoCann, Hopland.

Transgender Woman Shot to Death in Virginia

BY TRUDY RING

Another transgender woman of color has been murdered: Noony Norwood, who was shot Saturday in Richmond, Va., and died in a hospital the next day, just five days after her 30th birthday.

Police are investigating, and they are circulating photos of a man who was seen near the site of the shooting, GayRVA.com reports.



This is the 24th reported murder of a trans person in 2016; the majority have been transgender women of color. The year is the deadliest on record, already surpassing 2015's total of 21. The actual total for any year is likely higher, given that some deaths are not reported and some victims are misgendered by police or media.

Friends said Norwood was a vibrant presence. “Noony's energy always brightened the room. She cared about her community and always lifted up and supported her friends and family,” Zakia McKensy, founder and executive director of Richmond nonprofit Nationz Foundation, told the Virginia Anti-Violence Project. Nationz Foundation is a health and wellness group that focuses on serving LGBT people.

McKensy, who was a mentor to Norwood, last saw her about two weeks ago, when she invited her to a meeting of a transgender support group at the foundation, she told

(Continued on next page)

GayRVA.com. "She used to call me "Mom'pie," and so she said, 'Mom'pie, I promise I'm coming.' I told her to be safe and be careful," McKensey said.

Janet Wright, who calls herself Norwood's aunt although they are not related, told Richmond TV station WWBT that Norwood was "a beautiful person" who "would give you anything, would help anybody without even a second thought."

"She was a wonderful person, and they took somebody great from us, seriously," Wright said.

The Virginia Anti-Violence Project noted that while it is yet unknown if Norwood's killer was motivated by anti-transgender bias, trans people are high risk for violence. "While there is still an active investigation happening into the shooting of Noony Norwood, we absolutely do know that perceived and actual gender identity and race often play a role in escalating violence against LGBTQ+-identified individuals," the group wrote on its website. "VAVP hopes that throughout the investigative process, the media, police, and the public at large, will respect Noony's identity and maintain a level of decorum and understanding when interacting with her family and other individuals who identify within transgender and non-conforming communities."

American Hate Preacher Tries to Escape Charges for Promoting 'Kill the Gays' Law

By Associated Press

SPRINGFIELD, Mass. (AP) — A Massachusetts evangelist will ask a federal judge to reject a lawsuit that accuses him of waging a long campaign to persecute gays in Uganda.

An East African gay advocacy group filed the lawsuit in 2012 against minister Scott Lively under a statute that allows non-citizens to file U.S. court actions for violations of international law.

Lively's Springfield church is known as Redemption Gate Mission Society. He has called the lawsuit "absurd" and "completely frivolous."

Lively said he has preached against homosexuality, but advised therapy, not punishment.

The New York-based group Center for Constitutional Rights filed the suit on behalf of Sexual Minorities Uganda.

A hearing will be held Wednesday in U.S. District Court in Springfield on Lively's request for summary judgment to keep the case from going to trial.



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How to Behave at a Sex Party

Lately, I am getting quite a few questions from clients about sex parties that are apparently happening all over San Diego County. People ask me what I think about them, are they a good thing or a bad thing? Should they stay away from them or embrace them with open arms (and legs)?

Frankly, I don't have an opinion about sex parties. Nor do I have an opinion on where and when people have sex. I don't think the externals are what make sex fulfilling or not. You can have wonderful, deep, loving sex with a stranger in a bathhouse and meaningless, crummy sex with someone you know very well in a romantic room set with candles, your favorite music and a blanket by the fireplace. This is because good sex is mostly in your head and heart (yeah, and also in your genitals, we'll address that too).

My definition of good sex: (1) no one seroconverts and (2) when the experience is over, you feel good about yourself, good about your partner(s) and good about life in general.

By that definition, how much good sex have you had recently? You can see, by that definition, that it's more about your experience of what happened as opposed to what you did, he did, she did, etc. It's more about having a good connection with someone else, as opposed to who topped who, who came first, who stayed hard the longest, etc.

You can have good sex anywhere. It's not the environment that matters, it's your attitude. This is why I don't condemn sex parties, bathhouses, or orgys (like some therapists do) as long as the people involved are having good sex (by my definition). People have been having sex in as many places as you can imagine ever since time began. Making some situations right and some wrong isn't helpful.

Let's turn to the matter of sex parties. Why do people go to sex parties? Don't assume you know their motivation. I have had clients who were sex workers who told me that most clients came to them because they were lonely, not because they wanted to have fabulous sex. We never know someone else's motivation for doing something, especially something as complex as having sex. So, instead, focus on yourself. Ask yourself: What's my motivation for going to a sex party? Is it to have fun, meet people, be social, get off, feel attractive, combat loneliness, boost your self-esteem? Tell yourself the truth and then proceed accordingly.

That said, I have consulted some my "experts" in the Sex Party department and have the following suggestions if you are considering attending:

Party tip #1: Sex parties are not about finding a long term relationship. Sex parties are about having sex. Don't confuse a sex party with a social gathering, whose purpose is primarily to meet people, eat, drink and talk to people. If that's what you want, go to a social event. Again, be clear on your motivation. If you want Italian food, don't go to a Chinese restaurant.

Party tip #2: Communication at sex parties isn't like a social event. Smiling or being friendly to someone at a sex party might give him/her the impression that you're interested in them. Instead of "nice", aim for "neutral" and you should stay out of trouble (or get into trouble with someone you're hot for).

Party tip #3: At a sex party, everyone is fair game and no one is a mind-reader. Simply ignore people you're not interested in. If they touch you, take their hand off your body, calmly say "no thanks" and walk away. No muss, no fuss, no attitude. And if you approach someone and they take your hand off their body, don't take it personally. Move on and have fun with someone else.

Party tip #4: No matter what your HIV status is, use condoms. No matter how tempted you are, stay healthy and help your brothers and sisters to do the same.

Party tip #5: Be respectful, playful and open to new experiences. Ask for what you want, and see if you get it. Have good boundaries: be able to say no to what you don't want and stick to it. Don't have "pity" sex, where you feel sorry for someone and give them what they want. Take good care of yourself and have the kind of experience that makes you feel good about yourself.

The Truth About Gay Men, Sex and Penis Size

The surprising facts prove we have bigger things to worry about.

by GSN Contributor

We all know that penis size is one of men's greatest obsessions but most don't know the surprising truth behind the size myths.

Did you know, for example, that humans are better endowed than all our primate cousins? You may expect a gorilla to be better hung than you but you would be wrong, both in terms of absolute and relative size.

The subject has been firmly on the agenda with a couple of big stories over the last few weeks.

Over the weekend we heard a penis transplant on a 21-year-old in South Africa had apparently been a success. He had lost his penis in a botched circumcision at age 18 but now has a fully

(Continued on page 14)

GAYZETTE EVENTS

The Gayzette

(mail address: PO Box 8583 Omaha NE 68108)
(email to: Gayzette@cox.net)

Published every two weeks and distributed in paper copy and online on the web.

To subscribe to the free online edition, go to:

www.rainbowoutreach.org

Click on the Gayzette tab and click on the Subscribe link. It's free and we won't give out your email address or send you a bunch of junk email.

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

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA 819 S. 22nd St., 345-2563 Sunday Worship 9:30am and 11:15am

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, Sunday morning

services, 3012 S 119th St., Omaha, info@2uomaha.org, 402-334-0537

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

WIMMIN'S SHOW, KZUM 89.3 12:30pm

Every Monday

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

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

Every Tuesday

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

METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA 819 S. 22nd St., 345-2563—Bible Study at 7pm

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 barbqbill@aol.com

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

Metro Omaha Prime Timers, 4:00-6:00pm Coffee with the Boys at No More Empty Cups, 1502 So. 10th St., In the Community Room. Meet up for coffee and conversation. Many of the guys go out for dinner afterwards. Everyone welcome to attend.

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

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

Every Saturday

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

Metro Omaha Prime Timers, 9am—11am Coffee with the Boys at Paradise Café, Regency Court. Meet up for coffee and conversation. Good food and good coffee too. Everyone welcome to attend.

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

MONTHLY EVENTS

1st Thursday

GLBT PROFESSIONALS, meeting at 5:30pm in various locations. See www.GOglbt.org for info

1st Friday

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

1st Sunday

Soka Gakkai International (SGI-USA), Lay Buddhist organization based on Nichiren Buddhism, World Peace Prayer the First Sunday of each month, 10am-11:30am, LGBTQIA Friendly, 1021 N 46th Street, Omaha, NE 68132, call 402-558-6148

SPIRITUAL FRIENDS OF LINCOLN

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

2nd Thursday

HEARTLAND PRIDE, Board Meeting- at D Dale Clark Library, 215 S. 15th St. 6:30pm-8pm, Email: info@heartlandpride.org, or find us on Facebook

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

2nd Sunday

Metro Omaha Prime Timers, Monthly Meeting, Abrahams Library, 5111 North 90th St, Stop by our monthly get-together to hear about the great upcoming events, and spend time with good friends. 3pm to 4:30pm. Snacks and beverages provided. Everyone Welcome !!

3rd Monday

IMPERIAL COURT OF NE, Board of Governors meeting, 6:30pm, meeting at the MCC-Omaha, www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org

3rd Sunday

CBCA MEETING 5 PM until about 6:30 PM is our monthly meeting with potluck. We meet at St Paul's Episcopal Church in Council Bluffs – see website for more information at www.councilbluffscommunityalliance.org

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

**Email Your Event to:
GAYZETTE@COX.NET**

**Look at all of this
WASTED
SPACE
Your Event could be listed
HERE !!**

HIV Testing Info

NAP is located at 250 S. 77th St

The Omaha NAP office offers the following hours for HIV and STI testing:

Monday: 9:30-11:30; 1:00-3:30 appointment testing - 5:00-8:00-walk-in testing

Tuesday: 9:30-11:30; 1:00-3:30 appointment testing - 5:00-8:00-walk-in testing

Wednesday: 1:00-3:30 appointment testing - 5:00-8:00-walk-in testing

Thursday: 9:30-11:30; 1:00-3:30 appointment testing

Lincoln NAP offers HIV and STI testing by appointment. To schedule call (402) 476-7000. Also the new Lincoln address is 1120 K. St.

For more information call:
Dara Pagano, PLCSW (She/Her/Hers)
Prevention & Support Services Manager
Nebraska AIDS Project
(402) 552-9260 ext. 105

Or see www.NAP.org for information.

Horseback

I'm at the emergency room: Today was not a good day. I decided to go horseback riding, something I haven't done in a few years.

It turned out to be a big mistake! I got on the horse and started out slow, but then we went a little faster before I knew it, we were going as fast as the horse could go. I couldn't take the pace and fell off, but caught my foot in the stirrup with the horse dragging me. It wouldn't stop.

Thank goodness the manager at Wal-Mart came out and unplugged the machine.

Baby Airplanes

A mother and her very young son were flying Southwest Airlines from Kansas City to Chicago. The little boy (who had been looking out the window) turned to his mother and asked, "If big dogs have baby dogs, and big cats have baby cats, why don't big airplanes have baby airplanes?"

The mother (who couldn't think of an answer) told her son to ask the flight attendant, so the boy went down the aisle and asked the flight attendant.

The flight attendant, who was very busy at the time, smiled and said, "Did your Mom tell you to ask me?" The boy said, "yes she did." "Well, then, you go and tell your mother that there are no baby airplanes because Southwest always pulls out on time. Have your Mom explain that to you."

Are You Ok ??

A man and a woman were sitting beside each other in the first class section of an airplane. The woman sneezed, took out a tissue, gently wiped her nose, and then visibly shuddered for ten to fifteen seconds.

The man went back to his reading. A few minutes later, the woman sneezed again, took a tissue, wiped her nose, then shuddered violently once more.

Assuming that the woman might have a cold, the man was still curious about the shuddering. A few more minutes passed when the woman sneezed yet again. As before she took a tissue, wiped her nose, her body shaking even more than before.

Unable to restrain his curiosity, the man turned to the woman and said, 'I couldn't help but notice that you've sneezed three times, wiped your nose and then shuddered violently. Are you OK?'

'I am sorry if I disturbed you, I have a very rare medical condition; When ever I sneeze I have an orgasm..'

The man, more than a bit embarrassed, was still curious. I have never heard of that condition before' he said. 'Are you taking anything for it?'

The woman nodded, 'Pepper'

Sweethearts

An Elderly couple was celebrating their sixtieth anniversary. The couple had married as childhood sweethearts and had moved back to their old neighborhood after they retired.

Holding hands they walked back to their old school. It was not locked, so they entered, and found the old desk they'd shared, where Andy had carved "I love you, Sally."

On their way back home, a bag of money fell out of an armored car, practically landing at their feet. Sally quickly picked it up, but not sure what to do with it, they took it home. There, she counted the money--fifty-thousand dollars.

Andy said, "We've got to give it back."

Sally said, "Finders keepers." She put the money back in the bag and hid it in their attic.

The next day, two FBI men were canvassing the neighborhood looking for the money, and knocked on the door.

"Pardon me, but did either of you find a bag that fell out of an armored car yesterday?"

Sally said, "No."

Andy said, "She's lying She hid it up in the attic."

Sally said, "Don't believe him, he's getting senile."

The agents turn to Andy and began to question him.

One says: "Tell us the story from the beginning"

Andy said, "Well, when Sally and I were walking home from school yesterday . . ."

The first FBI guy turns to his partner and says, "We're outta here."

Teacher: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

Donald: H I J K L M N O.

Teacher: What are you talking about?

Donald: Yesterday you said it's H to O.

GLBT RESOURCE LIST

OMAHA BASED

Beth El Synagogue, 14506 California St. A GLBT inclusive synagogue, same-sex marriages performed by their rabbis, provided both persons are Jewish. Call 402-292-8550 for more info.

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

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

Front Water Bears, (group disbanded)

Front Runners/Walkers, Wednesdays at 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha barbqbill@aol.com

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. See www.GOglbt.org for info

DCDP LGBT Democrats, <https://www.facebook.com/DCDPLGBTDemocrats>, Contact Ken - 531-205-3193

Heartland Pride www.heartlandpride.org, email: info@heartlandpride.org; meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 6:30pm to 8pm. @ D. Dale Clark Library

Ice Bowl Invitational Bowling Tournament (IBIT) P.O. Box 31838, Omaha, 68131

Imperial Court of Nebraska, Box 3772, Omaha 68103, 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.

Metro Omaha Prime Timers, provides a welcoming and supportive environment to mature gay and bi men and their fans to encourage participation in fun, cultural,

educational or social activities. Email PrimeTimersEvents@gmail.com for more information & schedule. Also on Facebook as Metro Omaha Prime Timers Also see the Events list on page 10

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

NAMI - Community Mental Health Support for the LGBTIQ community 415 South 25th Ave, Omaha, NE 402-345-8101 or 877-463-6264

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., HIV testing and counseling

NebraskaEquality.org, Find out everything about Nebraska and the GLBT Community 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., Sunday service at 9:30am, see www.NorthSideOmaha.org

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

Omaha Metro GLBT Sports League, See www.oglbtsports.com for more information

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

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

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

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 4pm to 6pm, for info: email proudhorizons@yahoo.com

River City Gender Alliance, PO Box 284, Boys Town, NE 68010, email president@rcga.co or call 402-541-5792, web site www.rcga.co

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 S 119th St., Omaha, www.2uomaha.org, 402-334-0537, LGBTQ Welcoming Congregation

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

Temple Israel Synagogue, 13111 Sterling Ridge Drive., 402-556-6536, member of the Union for Reform Judaism, GLBT inclusive

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

Youth Emergency Services, Inc. (Y.E.S.) and Y.E.S. Drop-in Center Offices: 2679 Farnam Street, Suite. 205 Omaha, NE 68131, 402-345-5187, see www.yesomaha.org for information

LINCOLN BASED

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

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>

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

Nebraska AIDS Project, 1120 K Street Suite 100, Lincoln, NE 68508, (402) 476-7000. Wednesdays 4pm to 7pm. Walk-in ok.

Nebraska Trans* Community This group is for individuals that identify with a nontraditional masculine or feminine sense of self (MF, FM and anywhere in between) and their Partners. Contact info can be found at : NebraskaTransCommunity.com

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

PFLAG Cornhusker Chapter, Box 30128, Lincoln 68508, Meet 4th Tues, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, email to Barbara Kimberly, jbkiber@hotmail.com. Website: <http://pflagcornhusker.org/>

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

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/cglbt

Women In Trades/YWCA, 1432 N St., Lincoln 68508; 434-3494,

Youth Support Group, (402) 434-9880

Iowa Based

Council Bluffs Health Department/Free

STD Clinic

209 Pearl Street, Council Bluffs, Iowa 51503, 712-328-4666 – ask for Rachel, Monday – Friday by appointment, call to inquire about extended hours, **FREE testing for HIV, Syphilis, Gonorrhea and Chlamydia**
Council Bluffs Community Alliance

www.councilbluffscommunityalliance.org

Council Bluffs Pride, www.councilbluffspride.org

First Congregational Church, United Church of Christ. GLBT friendly. 611 First Avenue, Council Bluffs, IA 51501, 712-322-5324 - <http://www.cbfirstcongregational.org/>

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

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

Nationally Based

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

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The Hungry Homo

Pudding Cupcakes

Ingredients

Cupcakes:

- 1 1/2 cups self-rising flour
- 2/3 cup packed brown sugar
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 egg
- 1 tsp. vanilla extract
- 3 tbsp. sweet butter, melted
- 1 1/4 cups chopped dates

Topping:

- 1/2 cup packed brown sugar
- 2 tbsp. sweet butter
- 2/3 cup boiling water

Steps:

Preheat oven to 375 degrees; line 8 muffin tins with baking parchment. In a bowl, combine flour and sugar. In another bowl, beat milk, eggs, vanilla, and butter until smooth and pale, about 2-3 minutes. Pour the batter over the flour mixture; stir with a wooden spoon. Fold in the dates; scrape mixture into the muffin pans, filling each about halfway. For the topping: sprinkle 1 tbsp. of the sugar on top of the batter in each cup. Add 1/2 tsp. butter, and then pour about 1 table water over each. Bake for 25 minutes; remove from oven and cool for 5 minutes in the pan. Invert onto plates, peel off the parchment and serve immediately.



Ready in 55 min
Makes 8 cupcakes

Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

Omaha:

- Dixie Quick's Restaurant, 157 West Broadway 712-256-4140
- First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney
- Flixx , 1015 South 10th Street Omaha 402-408-1020
- The Max, 1417 Jackson St. 402-346-4110
- Metropolitan Community Church, 819 South 22nd Street
- Omaha Mining Co., 1715 Leavenworth 402-449-8703
- Rodeo Saloon & BBQ 164 W Broadway 712-256-0510

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

Mediterranean Potatoes

Ingredients

- 4-5 medium potatoes, cubed
- 1 tbsp. olive oil
- 1 tbsp. butter, melted
- 1-2 tbsp. Greek seasoning
- Dash garlic seasoning

Steps

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Toss potatoes with remaining ingredients. Bake in 9x13 inch casserole dish for 30-40 minutes, turning occasionally, until golden.

Ready in 40 min

Makes 4 servings



functioning member, capable of urination, erection, orgasm and ejaculation.

It makes you wonder if one day, lab-grown or donated penises will be grafted on to men who have extreme concerns over size.

And at the start of March we learned about a study of 15,000 penises, finally answering the question of average size.

The typical penis is just 13.12cms (5.16ins) long and 11.66cms (4.6ins) around when erect.

The study also busted the myth that size varies with race. While scientists say the sample wasn't quite big enough to reach a firm conclusion on this, they found no link between size and race.

Most people assume average size is much bigger. 6ins or even 7ins are commonly quoted figures.

Despite everyone wanting to be big, we tend to underestimate our own size too. The angle at which you look down on your penis leads you to think it's smaller than it really is and if you have any fat on your belly, that only makes it worse.

There's evidence gay men take all this particularly seriously. A study by Utrecht University in the Netherlands around a decade ago showed penis length had a big impact on gay men's self esteem.

In the worst cases men – gay, bi and straight – can suffer from body dysmorphic disorder. This can even lead to anti-social behavior, depression and suicide.

No wonder newspaper and web advertising continuously pushes various methods to increase size. Of course, it is very well established none of them work. The fact we keep trying, however, is the clearest signal of all that most of us believe bigger is better.

But perhaps the biggest question of all is not about average size but about how important it is in sex.

Let's start with the assumption you can't dismiss this notion of being 'big' as entirely worthless. After all, on the internet there are rather more searches made for 'world's biggest dick' but very few links for the shortest.

In my last article I looked at the imbalance of power between tops and bottoms, provoking some very interesting comments from GSN readers.

I have noticed in particular that bottoms tend to look for 'more hung' men and I often seen tops boasting about their size and capacity on dating sites.

I have often seen gay relationships fail after three or four sex meetings. After this it seems everyone wants to put their hands in a new man's underwear, wondering what new and big thing they will find there. Can this size worship be one reason gay romances are so fragile?

My first relationship was with someone I met online was with a guy I met on Facebook. We chatted a lot on phone, including talking about sex and he boasted about his size a lot.



So when we met in person I was a little shocked to see his little master. Not shocked that it was anything unusual but only because of the mental picture he put in my mind.

Despite this, I have to say I really enjoyed myself with him and the smaller-than-advertised size of his penis made no difference at all. Frankly I can say we had some of the best sex I've ever had in my life.

I've met plenty of guys in my time, of all different sizes, but honestly as a bottom I can't agree that bigger is always better. I simply can't say that I have had better experience with larger guys.

The law of averages means, of course, that most of the sex I've had has been with guys with an average penis. And from that, I've taken the very clear lesson that having sex is not just about the sex – it's an important moment, which is only good when you feel safe with someone and your partner treats you well.

For me the kisses and embraces are the most important part. The love and the quality of the time you give each other means more than size. Sex is not limited to physical intercourse. Mental satisfaction is what it's all about. And I can promise you – if you are worried about your own size – that in bed, it's not your partner's length or girth but their performance that matters.

To me, the idea that size is important in gay sex is just a myth. If you are craving for a bigger penis for yourself, or for your lovers, remember that 'bigger is better' is not always true.

The Trump Effect is Causing a Rise in STIs

By Savas Abadsidis

As ignorance prevails, sexually transmitted infection rates spike in the United States.

The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's recent report showed a growing and alarmingly large increase in STIs in 2015, especially in gonorrhea, chlamydia, and syphilis. This may seem shocking to some, and will invariably lead to rhetoric

stigmatizing and blaming the rise of STIs among certain groups in particular on the rising use of PrEP. (Although experts have already said that's not true, as STI rates began rising long before PrEP became more widely used).



I want to preclude the inane reasoning about causation we're sure to see with this announcement. This explosion in transmission rates did not occur in a vacuum. It's no accident that the rise of and popularity of the Donald Trump/Mike Pence presidential ticket is happening concurrently with skyrocketing STI rates.

Here's why we're in this dilemma. No one actually reads beyond headlines anymore. No one educates themselves. People often feel their opinions are just as valid as facts. How many times have you seen a response on a Facebook post that says something to this effect of "I didn't read this [article you posted] but here's my knee jerk, poorly written and argued [ad hoc, uninformed] opinion on what I think about the headline I just looked at. #ijs [I'm just sayin']."

That folks, is what passes for an in-depth discussion of a serious topic to a considerable portion of our fellow citizens these days.

We've already seen this lack of concern for fact-checking in the national primary and presidential debates, to the point that major

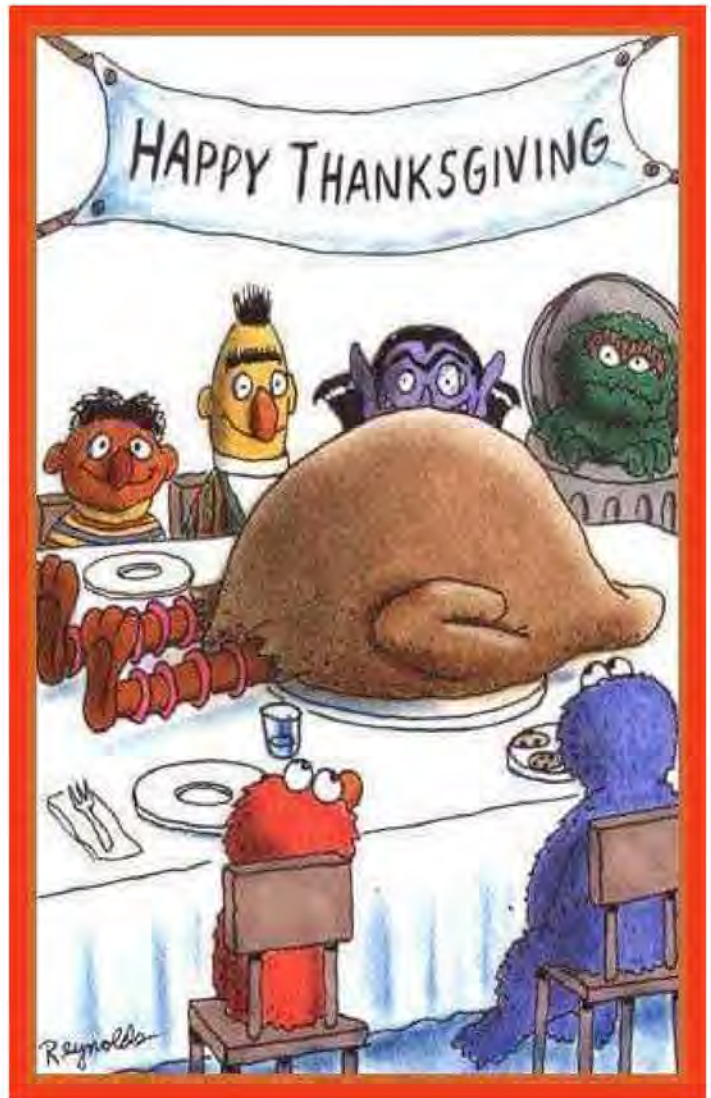
news outlets like The New York Times and The Washington Post are covering which candidate was actually lying on their front pages. And it's accounted for so many poorly written, poorly structured, false equivalency statements by virtually every major news outlet that I've lost count.

I believe this is emblematic of what Chelsea Clinton has called "The Trump Effect." Donald Trump can lie about virtually anything and get away with it because an increasingly large percentage of the population is not informed enough to know any better. His running mate Mike Pence, governor of Indiana, is even worse, especially when it comes to STIs. His policies in Indiana caused the largest outbreak of HIV among heterosexuals in the years. Pence's dastardly campaign of misinformation and hypocritical moral false equivalencies has caused Indiana to be the fulcrum of a huge rise in teen pregnancy, HIV, and STIs that is surely a foreshadowing of what is to come if he's at the top of the country's chain of authority.

The same folks who can't be bothered to care to know the truth of the Republican party's policy positions, not just the reality TV star leading the ticket, are also going to consider any medical, scientific, or public health messages to be a part of the same "rigged system" that Trump espouses as having disenfranchised the "average" American citizen.

A campaign of ignorance isn't just a disservice to our country's commitment to civilized political discourse and the (for lack of a better phrase) once gentlemanly art of debate. No, it's a huge detriment to your health and mine, and come November 9th, it could get even worse.

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