



San Diego Gay Men's Chorus 'Humiliated' at Padres Game

BY NEAL BROVERMAN

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One hundred singers affiliated with the choir were scheduled to sing the national anthem during the Saturday match-up between the Padres and the Los Angeles Dodgers. Instead of the men's voice, a woman's voice was broadcast for the entire length of the National Anthem. The confused singers stood on the field until being led off, where the audience heckled them with homophobic taunts.

In a Facebook post, the choir says there was tension bubbling up before Saturday — the team suddenly demanded the singers purchase tickets to the game before rescinding the demand at the last minute — and strongly insinuates the singers were purposefully embarrassed.

"No attempt was made to stop the recording and start over," according to the post. "No announcement of apology was made to the singers or their friends and families in the stands. No attempt to correct the situation occurred other than to force the 100 men to stand in the spotlight of center field for the song's duration and then be escorted off the field to the heckles of baseball fans shouting homophobic taunts including "You sing like a girl."

Padres president Mike Dee did apologize to chorus members, though there is no word on a rescheduled performance. The choir accepted the apology but condemned the team's short public statement on the matter (see below), saying it didn't address the gravity of the incident. The chorus is asking the City of San Diego City Attorney's Office and the City of San Diego Human Relations Commission to investigate the incident to see if the team violated the city's human rights ordinance.

Senate Confirms First Openly Gay Army Secretary

Jennifer Bendery, The Huffington Post

WASHINGTON — The Senate on Tuesday confirmed Eric Fanning as the new secretary of the Army — quietly making history by putting the first openly gay person in the post.

Fanning was confirmed unanimously on a voice vote. He previously filled a number of senior positions in the Department of Defense, including acting undersecretary of the Army, special assistant to Defense Secretary Ashton Carter and undersecretary of the Air Force.



President Barack Obama nominated Fanning in September, but his confirmation was delayed because of politics. Sen. Pat Roberts (R-Kan.) put a hold on his nomination in November over his opposition to Obama's push to close the prison at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, and transfer prisoners to facilities in the United States. In the meantime, Sen. John McCain (R-Ariz.), who chairs the Armed Services Committee, refused to give Fanning a hearing because he was irked that Fanning was serving as acting Army secretary while his confirmation was pending.

The Pentagon alleviated McCain's concerns in January by reassigning Fanning to a staff position. On Tuesday, Roberts said he has gotten the "assurances I need" about Guantanamo and was ready to release his hold on Fanning.

The Kansas senator said he personally called Fanning earlier in the day to tell him he was planning to let him through.

"My issue has never been with Mr. Fanning's character, his courage or his capability," Roberts said on the Senate floor. "He will be a tremendous leader."

Gay rights groups celebrated the news.

"Eric's sexual orientation has absolutely no bearing on his ability to do this job; nor was it the reason for his nomination," said Matt Thorn of OutServe-SLDN, which advocates for LGBT military personnel. "But this milestone of having an

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openly gay individual in this high level position within the Department of Defense will help to continue to set a tone of understanding and respect for the LGBT community throughout the armed services."

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ICON Board Open Position

Have you ever been interested in shaping the direction of a community-based organization? Now is your time to make a difference.

The Imperial Court of Nebraska would like to announce a vacant Member-At-Large position serving on the Board of Directors. A special election will be held at their regular monthly board meeting at Metropolitan Community Church on Monday, June 20th at 6:30pm.

Interested individuals must meet eligibility guidelines for general membership to the Imperial Court of Nebraska and should be in good standing within the community.

We encourage all parties interested in this position to contact Board Secretary Adam Podraza (events@imperialcourtofnebraska.com) or Board Vice President Conway John (vp@imperialcourtofnebraska.com) for more details.



America: Have You Lost Your Mind?

by Neil Crone

Dear America: Hi, it's Canada. Just thought I'd drop you a line to catch up. I know we haven't corresponded in a while and I just wanted to check in and make sure you hadn't, you know, completely lost your mind. Because, golly, I have to tell you...it sure looks that way from here.



We're all pretty darned worried about you up here, pal. You don't seem at all yourself lately. For starters, I know you're only 240 years old but you might want to think about setting up an eye exam. You seem to be losing your vision. And I've never seen you so grumpy. Is this some kind of weird, middle-aged crisis or something?

And what's with all the hate? I mean, don't take this the wrong way, pal, but have you been tested for Dementia? You're like a different guy all of a sudden. Maybe it's Alzheimer's? You know, your memory does seem pretty sketchy lately. You're telling me you have no recollection of all of those immigrants who built you? All those people you welcomed with...how did you put it again... 'Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free'? Man, I gotta tell you, pal, that was some inspired stuff. And that Constitution of yours? Wow. You were on your game back then, dude.

So, what the hell, exactly, is going on these days? I don't know if you've noticed but you've got a guy in the race for president who we wouldn't trust running a chip truck. I mean, he's nothing more than a bully with bad hair. And you're about to hand him the keys? Dude, you used to despise guys like him. Remember when we all got together and tuned up that German moron? You were awesome then. And the rest of us, well, we kinda looked up to you. Now, jeeze, I don't know.

Look, we grew up together. I'm probably your best friend. Heck, our yards are right beside each other. And I understand

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we've had our ups and downs...I mean, I know you're still steamed about us burning your capital and handing you your ass at hockey every time you turn around and our beer is way better than yours and your health care system blows, but still...We're buds, right? Who totally had your back during that Iraq WMD snafu?

So, I'm telling you, as your friend...I love you bro, but you're being a tool. You're better than this. Remember who you used to be and, come Election day...fix it.

Love and Poutine
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American Men Are Still Being Arrested for Sodomy

BY JULIE COMPTON

Imagine you are a young man alone in a park. Another man approaches you. He flirts with you. You flirt back, flattered that the handsome stranger likes you. He asks you to come back to his place. When you accept the invitation, he slaps handcuffs on your wrists and says you are under arrest.

Yes, it's unlawful for police to arrest someone for being gay, but it still happens.

In its landmark ruling *Lawrence v. Texas*, the Supreme Court



ruled that antisodomy laws —sometimes referred to as “crimes against nature” laws — are unconstitutional. But 12 states, including Louisiana, continue to keep such laws on their books.

You may believe antisodomy laws are not harmful because they can't be enforced. But they are an important symbol of homophobia for those who oppose LGBT rights. What's more, the laws create ambiguity for police officers, who may not be aware they are unconstitutional.

If a policeman looks it up, he will see that sodomy is a violation of Louisiana state law, according to Marjorie Esman, executive director of the American Civil Liberties Union of Louisiana.

“So if you [are a police officer] and haven't been trained to know that this is no longer enforceable, you [may] think you have basis to arrest someone,” Esman says.

One example includes a string of about a dozen undercover arrests by East Baton Rouge Parish police targeting gay men in a park. The arrests, which stretched over a 10 year period until 2013, demonstrate how problematic state laws can be when they contradict court rulings.

“Cops would sit in public parks in unmarked cars, propositioning [men] for sex, then when the men agreed, the police would arrest them for attempted crimes against nature,” says Matt Patterson, managing director of Equality Louisiana. “People were being arrested for agreeing to have sex in private at a future time.”

Despite the arrests, the charges were dropped because they were not enforceable.

In a separate 2015 incident, two men were arrested in Baton Rouge for having sex in a car parked in a public park after hours. The officer charged them with “crimes against nature.” The charge was later dropped and the men were charged only with trespassing.

In response to the incident, Baton Rouge Police Chief Carl Dabadie sent a memo out informing officers they can't make arrests under the “crimes against nature” statute.

Patterson says someone who is arrested for sodomy in Louisi-

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sound design by Craig Marsh, and properties design by Amy Reiner.

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Single tickets for Heathers: the Musical are \$30 for adults; and \$25 for students, seniors 65+, TAG members, and groups of 10 or more.

Heathers: the Musical is generously sponsored by Kate and Roger Weitz, and Dr. Merlyn Knudsen and James Davis.

About HEATHERS: THE MUSICAL
The darkly delicious story of Veronica Sawyer, the brainy and beautiful misfit who hustles her way into the most powerful and ruthless clique at Westerberg High: the Heathers. But before she can get comfortable atop the high school food chain, Veronica falls for the dangerously sexy new kid, J.D., who plans to put the Heathers in their place - six feet under.



BLUEBARN Theatre PRESENTS HEATHERS: THE MUSICAL

The BLUEBARN Theatre is proud to present the regional premiere of Heathers: the Musical with book, lyrics, and music by Laurence O'Keefe and Kevin Murphy.

BLUEBARN Associate Artistic Director Randall T. Stevens directs with Producing Artistic Director Susan Clement-Toberer, with set design by Martin Scott Marchitto, lighting design by Carol Wisner, costume design by Wesley Pourier,

About the stars of HEATHERS: THE MUSICAL
Heathers: the Musical showcases the talents of many newcomers to the BLUEBARN stage. The large cast is lead by Roni Shelley Perez (Jesus Christ Superstar, Omaha Community Playhouse) as "Veronica" and Andy Augenbaugh as "J.D.", who are both making their BLUEBARN debut. Rounding out the stellar cast is Nick Albrecht, Matt Bailey, Katy Boone, James Delage, Aaron Ellis, Joey Galda, Sarah Gibson, Thomas Gjere, Matthew Hansen, Natalie Hanson, David Jesik, Lauren Krupski, Aguel Lual, Laurel Rothamel, Samantha Simpson, Robby Stone, Mallory Vallier, Kelsi Weston, and MacKenzie Zielke.

ana is not likely to come forward because the state, like many others, does not have civil rights protections for LGBT people. That could make them vulnerable to housing and job discrimination.

“As long as it’s still on the books, I’m worried about the next person or the one after that or the next Baton Rouge police chief.” Patterson says, “or some sheriff somewhere else in the state that thinks they can get away with it because after all, they got away with it in Baton Rouge for a decade.”

Sodomy laws in some states are linked to rape and bestiality. That can make it difficult for legislators to remove them from the books.

Attempts have been made to repeal the Louisiana antisodomy statute to no avail. In 2014, Louisiana state Rep. Patricia Smith proposed such a bill, which failed to pass.

Republican Louisiana state Sen. Dan Claitor this month proposed a series of bills that would remove outdated laws from Louisiana’s books, but none addressed the antisodomy law or a state ban on same-sex marriage, according to *The Advocate*, a Baton Rouge-based newspaper.

Gene Mills, president of the Louisiana Family Forum, told the Baton Rouge *Advocate* he would oppose any bills related to changing sodomy laws or same-sex marriage.

“History has proven that ‘unenforceable’ doesn’t mean ‘useless,’” Mills, speaking on *Lawrence v. Texas*, told the newspaper. “They’re called opinions because that’s all they really are. The Supreme Court has reversed itself on more than 250 occasions.”

Opponents of the sodomy law argue that leaving it in place because the Supreme Court may reverse the *Lawrence vs. Texas* decision someday is nonsensical.

“To keep laws on the books that could confuse law enforcement — and the public — as to what their rights are, simply on a principle that has lost, is counterproductive at best and harmful at worst,” says Esman. “It’s an argument that is dangerous.”

Mercedes Successful Becomes 12th Trans Person Killed in 2016

BY SUNNIVIE BRYDUM

A 32-year-old black transgender woman in Florida has become the 12th known transgender person killed in the U.S. this year.

Mercedes Successful, an active member of the LGBT community in Haines City, Fla., was found shot to death in a parking lot Sunday evening, reports Monica Roberts at *TransGriot*. Police are investigating her death as a homicide, but have not revealed a possible motive.



A native of Kingston, Jamaica, Successful was well known and

active in the drag and pageant communities in Haines City, reports *TransGriot*. *Autostraddle* notes that Successful represented her home nation in the 2014 Gay Caribbean USA pageant and was remembered as a lively, fun-loving member of her local community.

Several local media reports on Successful’s death misgendered the victim, identifying her with male pronouns and a masculine name. A follow-up report published Tuesday by Lakeland newspaper *The Ledger* includes quotes from Successful’s friends confirming that she had recently begun a clinical transition to live full-time as her authentic self, but the article wholly avoids pronouns and uses the late performer’s given name to identify her throughout. In addition to needlessly noting that Successful was “not dressed like a woman when found,” the *Ledger* article indicates that police are not currently investigating the murder as a hate crime.

Trans advocates have continually noted that when media fails to report responsibly on transgender victims of fatal violence — in violation of industry standards endorsed by the Associated Press and GLAAD — it not only disrespects the victim, but makes it more difficult for readers and advocates to understand that such violence is part of an ongoing fatal epidemic overwhelmingly impacting transgender women of color. Actress and trans advocate Laverne Cox has repeatedly critiqued such tactics, saying earlier this month that “misgendering a transgender person is an act of violence.”

Last year proved to be the most deadly on record for transgender women in America, with at least 21 killed, the vast majority of whom were women of color. This total does not include those whose deaths went unreported by media or law enforcement, or those whose identity was obscured by misgendering by those sources.

By comparison, at least 12 transgender people have been killed this year. Six of those victims have been black women, three were Latina, and one was a white woman working to pull herself out of homelessness. Two transgender men — one white, one black — are also among the dead in 2016. The average age of those killed is just 27 years old.

Anyone with information regarding the death of Mercedes Successful is asked to contact the Haines City Police Department at (863) 421-3636 or Crime Stoppers at (800) 226-TIPS.

KKK Is Using Trans Bathroom Controversy To Recruit New Members

Nina Golgowski, *The Huffington Post*

Members of the Rebel Brigade Knights and the Nordic Order Knights, groups that both claim affiliation with the Ku Klux Klan, hold their lit torches during a cross lighting ceremony at a private residence in Henry County, Virginia.

Anti-transgender advocates have friends in the KKK.

The leader of a white supremacy chapter has taken responsibil-

ity for hateful fliers found distributed to residents in an Alabama town urging them to join in standing up against the transgender community.



Grand Dragon Robert Jones, who oversees the Loyal White Knights KKK chapter in North Carolina, told The Huffington Post Tuesday that the fliers were distributed by their members in Alabama and Mississippi.

“I think that it’s sick that the federal government is trying to push us on a state level,” Jones said of his view on the Obama administration cracking down on a North Carolina law that prohibits transgender-friendly restrooms.

“I think that it’s going to become an issue in the future,” he said. “I have a feeling a lot of violence is going to come out of this.”

Jones’ claimed responsibility a day after a resident of Dothan, Alabama contacted police after finding one of the fliers at his door. It was one of at least two fliers found, Dothan Police Captain William Benny told HuffPost.

A copy of the flier, obtained by the Dothan Eagle, identifies transgender individuals as an “abomination according to the Kings James Bible,” specifically Deuteronomy 22:5. That passage speaks out against individuals wearing clothing of the opposite gender.

The flier goes on to accuse transgender individuals of “jeopardizing the safety of bathrooms all across the nation for our women and children. This needs to STOP.”

Jones called the fliers a success.

“We got five new members just today from Dothan, Alabama,” he said.

Benny noted that the leaflet’s content is protected by the First



Amendment right to free speech, “no matter how vile it is.” Still, he said they notified the FBI over it potentially promoting a hate crime.

Jones defended their language, however, calling their organization a non-violent, civil rights, Christian order, which fights for “equal rights for whites.”

Asked if he’s ever met a transgender individual he answered yes, saying “We see these people all the time.” But he shrugged off the difference between gays and transgender people saying: “They all look the same to me. The men are dressed like women. The women dressed like men.”

Benny said the homes that received the pamphlets Monday
(Continued on next page)

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appeared to be at random.

“There’s nothing that stands out in that neighborhood that would make me think of something like that,” Benny said while referencing the LGBT community.

“There have been no other complaints. I’m hoping that this is just an isolated incident,” he added.

He also said that, to his knowledge, there are no active KKK chapters nearby.

Contact info printed on the fliers direct individuals to the KKK’s national hotline and website where they express anti-homosexual views.

The KKK’s involvement comes amid rising controversy following North Carolina’s controversial HB2 law which prohibits people from using a restroom that doesn’t match the gender of their birth.

Critics like Jones — notably the American Family Association, which has been declared a hate group by the Southern Poverty Law Center, like the KKK — say they support the law out of fear that some people may misuse transgender bathroom rights to harm others.

The Obama administration is challenging the law, calling it blatant discrimination.

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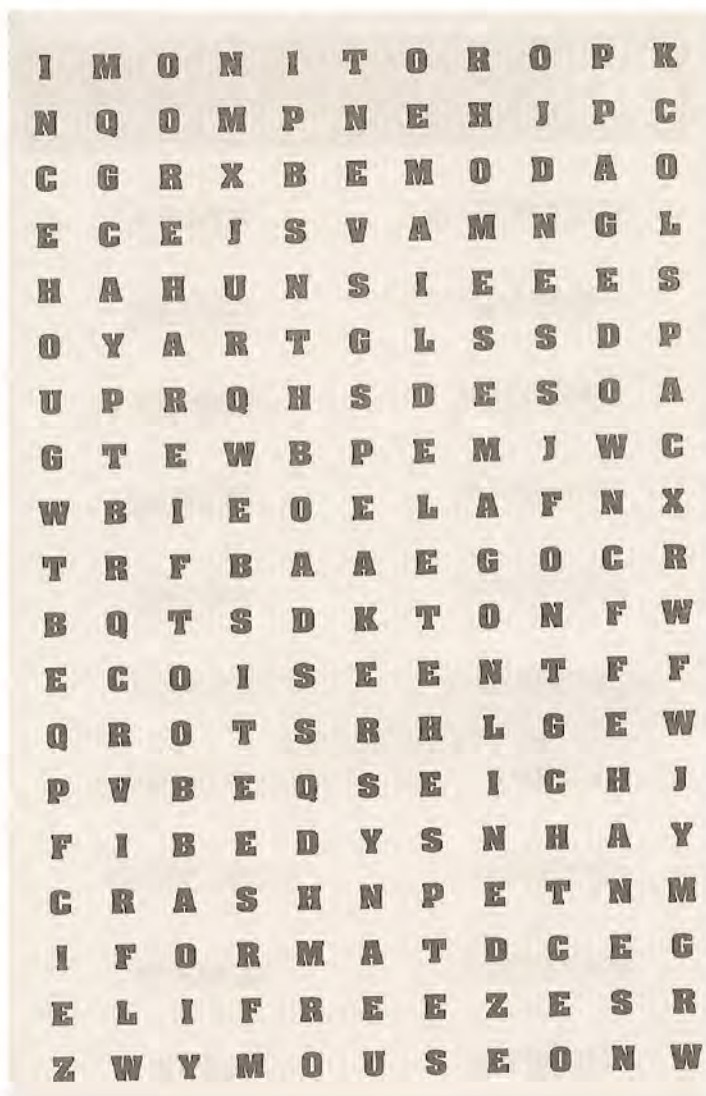
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Becoming More Resilient

The same bad thing can happen to two people: one gets really down and depressed for a few days/weeks, the other bounces back to "normal" within a few hours. What's the difference?

When I worked for Child Protective Services, we talked about "resilient children" and how they managed not only to survive abusive/neglectful parents, but to thrive in tough situations. This column is about how YOU too can thrive when bad things happen.

Most successful people had a lot of obstacles thrown in their way, but, somehow, they kept going. How can we? Here's a little quiz:

When you're stuck in a bad situation, which answer sounds most like you?

Answer #1: "This sucks, but I'll get through it and be stronger when it's over."

Answer #2: "Why is this happening to me?"

Answer #3: "I know that this is going to screw me up forever."

Obviously, #1 is the answer for the most resilient of us, but how do we get there? It's all-too-easy to drift into #2 (I know that I do) and, if we're really going through a rough time, we might even opt for #3. If you want to become more of an answer #1 kind of person, here are some suggestions:

Be grateful for what works – Stop every so often and tell yourself three things you're grateful for. Gratitude builds resiliency.

Keep learning new stuff – Resilient people don't sit back and watch bad TV for hours (not usually, anyway). They keep growing and getting smarter and more skillful, so that when bad things happens, they know what to do.

Build a strong support network – No one can do it alone. Do your friends tell you, "Oh, you poor little victim" or "You can get through this. How can I help?" Hint: Choose the latter.

Combine optimism with critical thinking – A guy I know can build or fix anything. Since I'm far from being able to do that, I asked him how he does it. "Well, I think I can figure just about anything out, so I just keep going until I do." When you combine skill with self-confidence, you can accomplish almost any-

thing.

Have an internal locus of control – Resilient people believe that the actions they take will affect the outcome of an event. They know that they have the power to make choices that will affect their situation, their ability to cope and their future.

Be a good communicator – Assertiveness comes with resilience: we ask respectfully for what we want and negotiate until we get it, or most of it anyway. A resilient person is calm and cool, doesn't create a lot of drama to get her/his way.

Identify as a Survivor, Not a Victim – When dealing with any potential crisis, avoid thinking like a victim of circumstance and instead look for ways to resolve the problem. While the situation may be unavoidable, you can still stay focused on the most positive outcome possible.

Ask for Help – While being resourceful is an important part of resilience, it's also essential to know when to ask for help. During a crisis, people can benefit from the help of psychologists and counselors specially trained to deal with crisis situations.

Cultivate good problem-solving skills – In difficult situations, people sometimes develop tunnel vision. They fail to note important details or take advantages of opportunities. Resilient individuals, on the other hand, are able to rationally look at a problem and work toward the best possible solution.

Embrace Change – Flexibility is an essential part of resilience. By learning how to be more adaptable, you'll be better equipped to respond when faced with a crisis. Resilient people can utilize tough times as an opportunity to try new things and move in new directions.

Nurture Yourself – Eating junky food, ignoring exercise, and not getting enough sleep are all common reactions to a crisis. Instead, by taking extra-good care of yourself, you can boost your overall health and resilience and be better able to handle whatever life sends your way.

In summary, you CAN learn to adapt to change. When you're faced with a crisis or stressful situation, you can't always choose what happens, but you can choose your response and become more resilient. Since bad things happen to all of us, learning to bounce back quickly from trouble is a really good quality to cultivate.

Why not start now?



The Exorcist

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WORSHIP SERVICES:

AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH, ELCA, 3647 Lafayette Ave., Omaha GLBT friendly, www.augustanalutheran.com

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

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

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

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

GAY MEN'S ALCOHOLICS ANONYMOUS 4pm, Augustana Lutheran Church 3647 Lafayette Ave., Info call Mark 639-3055 **HASTINGS COLLEGE GSA** 8PM FFI: Judy Sandeen (402) 461-7372

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

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

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

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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

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GAY/BI/STRAIGHT SUPPORT GROUP

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

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

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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 (402-804-8720)

HIV TESTING LINCOLN, 4-7 pm, results in 20 minutes, 1921 So. 17th St. 402-476-7000

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.

NAP HIV TESTING, 250 South 77th St., by appointment only on Wednesdays from 1:30 to 3:30pm

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

Every Thursday

NAP HIV TESTING 250 So. 77th., by appointment from 1:30pm to 3:30pm and Walk-In from 5pm to 8pm

Every Friday

LIVE & LET LIVE AA Meeting

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

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

OUT & ABOUT SOCIAL CLUB

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

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 Monday

FREE RAPID HIV TESTING, 8pm to 10pm at Flixx Show Bar, STD testing also available for \$10, call 552-9260 ext. 113 or 142 or visit www.nap.org for more info

1st Thursday

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

1st Friday

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

1st Sunday

Soka Gakkai International (SGI-USA), Lay Buddhist organization based on Nichiren Buddhism, World Peace Prayer the First Sun day 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 Monday

NAP HIV TESTING

Respect Clinic, walk-in from 5:00pm to 7pm
—50th & Ames Ave.

2nd Thursday

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

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

2nd 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

FREE RAPID HIV TESTING, 8pm to 10pm at Flixx Show Bar, STD testing also available for \$10, call 552-9260 ext. 113 or 142 or visit www.nap.org for more info

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 Monday

NAP HIV TESTING

Respect Clinic, walk-in from 5:00pm to 7pm—50th & Ames Ave.

4th Tuesday

PFLAG-CORNHUSKER Unitarian Church, 6300 & A, Lincoln, 7 p.m.

YOUTH HIV TEST Lighthouse, 2530 N, Lincoln, ages 13 to 18, FFI: 475-3220. 3-5:30 pm

Killing Flies

A woman walked into the kitchen to find her husband stalking around with a fly swatter. "What are you doing?" she asked. "Hunting flies," he responded. "Oh! Did you kill any?" she asked. "Yep, 3 males, 2 females," he replied. Intrigued, she asked, "How can you tell them apart?"

He responded, "3 were on a beer can, 2 were on the telephone."

Be Discrete

Six retired Irishmen were playing poker in O'Leary's apartment when Paddy Murphy loses \$500 on a single hand, clutches his chest, and drops dead at the table.

Showing respect for their fallen brother, the other five continue playing standing up.

Michael O'Conner looks around and asks, "Oh, me boys, someone got to tell Paddy's wife. Who will it be?"

They draw straws. Shaun Gallagher picks the short one. They tell him to be discreet, be gentle, don't make a bad situation any worse.

"Discreet??? I'm the most discreet Irishmen you'll ever meet. Discretion is me middle name. Leave it to me."

Gallagher goes over to Murphy's house and knocks on the door. Mrs. Murphy answers, and asks what he wants.

Gallagher declares, "Your husband just lost \$500, and is afraid to come home."

"Tell him to drop dead!", says Murphy's wife.

"I'll go tell him." says Gallagher.

Florist Friars

These friars were behind on their belfry payments, so they opened up a small florist shop to raise the funds. Since everyone liked to buy flowers from the men of God, the rival florist across town thought the competition was unfair. He asked the good fathers to close down, but they would not. He went back and begged the friars to close. They ignored him. He asked his mother to go and ask the friars to get out of business. They ignored her too.

So, the rival florist hired Hugh MacTaggart, the roughest and most vicious thug in town to "persuade" them to close. Hugh beat up the friars and trashed their store, saying he'd be back if they didn't close shop.

Terrified, they did so - thereby proving - that Hugh, and only Hugh, can prevent florist friars.

Just Practice

A lawyer is standing in a long line at the box office. Suddenly, he feels a pair of hands kneading his shoulders, back, and neck.

The lawyer turns around. "What the hell do you think you're doing?"

"I'm a chiropractor, and I'm just keeping in

practice while I'm waiting in line."

"Well, I'm a lawyer, but you don't see me screwing the guy in front of me, do you?"

EVE'S SIDE OF THE STORY

After three weeks in the Garden of Eden, God came to visit Eve. 'So, how is everything going?' inquired God.

'It is all so beautiful, God,' she replied. 'The sunrises and sunsets are breathtaking, the smells, the sights, everything is wonderful, but I have just one problem.

It's these breasts you have given me. The middle one pushes the other two out and I am constantly knocking them with my arms, catching them on branches and snagging them on bushes. They're a real pain.'

And Eve went on to tell God that since many other parts of her body came in pairs, such as her limbs, eyes, ears, etc. She felt that having only two breasts might leave her body more 'symmetrically balanced'.

'That's a fair point,' replied God, 'But it was my first shot at this, you know. I gave the animals six breasts, so I figured that you needed only half of those, but I see that you are right. I will fix it up right away.'

And God reached down, removed the middle breast and tossed it into the bushes.

Three weeks passed and God once again visited Eve in the Garden of Eden.

'Well, Eve, how is my favorite creation?'

'Just fantastic,' she replied, 'But for one oversight. You see, all the animals are paired off. The ewe has a ram and the cow has her bull. All the animals have a mate except me. I feel so alone.'

God thought for a moment and said, 'You know, Eve, you are right. How could I have overlooked this? You do need a mate and I will immediately create a man from a part of you. Let's see....where did I put that useless boob?'

Now doesn't THAT make more sense than all that crap about the rib?

Quote of the day:

"Whatever you give a woman, she will make greater. If you give her sperm, she'll give you a baby. If you give her a house, she'll give you a home. If you give her groceries, she'll give you a meal. If you give her a smile, she'll give you her heart. She multiplies and enlarges what is given to her. So, if you give her any crap, be ready to receive a ton of shit.

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.firstlutheranoma.org

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

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

Flat Water Bears, (group disbanded)

Front Runners/Walkers, Wednesdays at 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha (402-804-8720)

Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network - Omaha, Box 641676, Omaha 68164, 712-325-0117 <http://www.glsenomaha.org>

GayLibrary.com, World Wide Resources

GOglbt Professionals, meeting at 5:30PM. Email at: GOglbt@cfep-ne.org or see www.GOglbt.org for info

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

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 R. Hollendieck (402) 556-5556

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

Nebraska Trans* Community
This group is for individuals that identify with a nontraditional masculine or feminine sense of self (MtF, FtM 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/cglbtc

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

WEIGHT LOSS WONDER SOUP

INGREDIENTS

½ head of cabbage, chopped
1 cup celery, diced
1 cup white or yellow onion, diced
1 cup carrots, diced
1 green bell pepper, diced
2-3 cloves garlic, minced
4 cups chicken broth
14 oz can diced tomatoes
1 teaspoon oregano
1 teaspoon basil
½ teaspoon red pepper flakes
and cayenne pepper
Salt and Pepper to taste

INSTRUCTIONS

Heat 2-3 tablespoons of olive oil in a large pot over medium heat.

Add celery, onions, bell peppers, and carrots.

Sauté until slightly tender.

Stir in garlic.

Pour in chicken broth.

Stir in tomatoes and cabbage.

Bring to a boil and

then reduce heat.

Cook until cabbage is tender.

Stir in oregano, basil, red pepper flakes, black pepper and salt (if using)

Taste broth and adjust seasoning if needed



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
Lover Luxuries, 6065 Maple St. 402-932-3377
The Max, 1417 Jackson St. 402-346-4110
Metropolitan Community Church, 819 South 22nd Street
Mystery Bookstore, 1414 South 13th St. 402-342-7343
Nebraska AIDS Project, 250 South 77th St 402-552-9260
Omaha Mining Co., 1715 Leavenworth 402-449-8703
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

THE ARE YOU KIDDING CAKE

3 large eggs
1 box cake mix (any flavor)
1 can pie filling (any flavor)

Put the three ingredients into a bowl, mix them well, and bake for 35 minutes at 350 degrees in a 9×13 pan. It's got almost a pudding-cake kind of consistency, lighter than pound cake. It's spotted on the inside with little pieces of whatever fruit filling you are using. The edges are crispy, like you would get on brownies.

Try all of these

Pineapple cake mix and blueberry filling
Chocolate cake mix and cherry filling
Yellow cake mix and cherry filling
Yellow cake mix and blueberry filling
Butter pecan cake mix and apple filling
Yellow cake mix and apple filling
Yellow cake mix and blackberry filling
Strawberry cake mix and blueberry filling



Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox



BUT, RICHARD... I THOUGHT YOU *ALREADY* CHECKED INTO TERRENCE'S BACKGROUND.

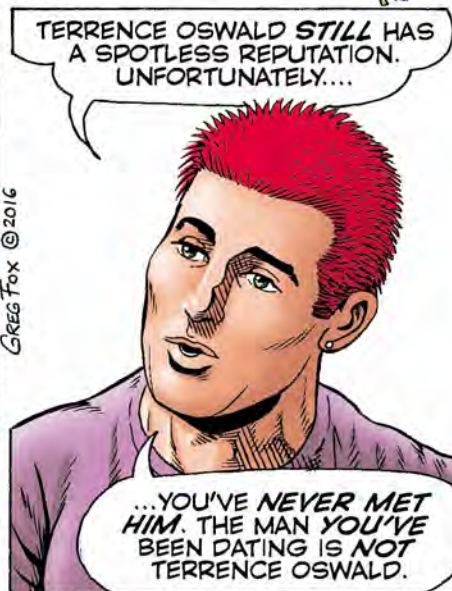
I DID, RUDY... AND HE CAME UP SMELLING LIKE ROSES. HOWEVER...



...SOMETHING JUST DIDN'T SEEM *RIGHT* TO ME.

SO I DID A LITTLE MORE CHECKING.

AND WHAT DID YOU FIND?



TERRENCE OSWALD *STILL* HAS A SPOTLESS REPUTATION. UNFORTUNATELY...

...YOU'VE *NEVER* MET HIM. THE MAN YOU'VE BEEN DATING IS *NOT* TERRENCE OSWALD.

GREG FOX © 2016



EXCUSE ME?!

HE'S **ROBERT OSWALD**...

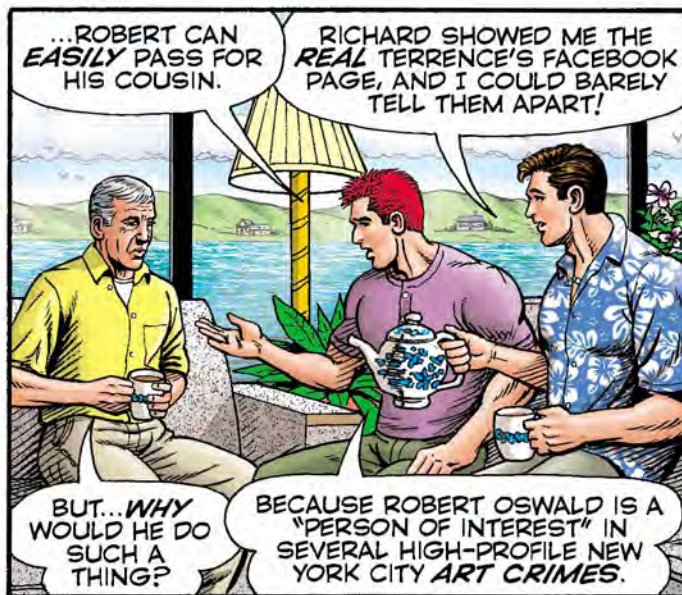
...TERRENCE'S *FIRST* COUSIN.

I...DON'T UNDERSTAND.



I'M AFRAID HE "BORROWED" HIS COUSIN'S IDENTITY.

THEY'RE ABOUT THE SAME AGE...AND THE FAMILY RESEMBLANCE IS STRONG ENOUGH THAT...



...ROBERT CAN *EASILY* PASS FOR HIS COUSIN.

RICHARD SHOWED ME THE *REAL* TERRENCE'S FACEBOOK PAGE, AND I COULD BARELY TELL THEM APART!

BUT...*WHY* WOULD HE DO SUCH A THING?

BECAUSE ROBERT OSWALD IS A "PERSON OF INTEREST" IN SEVERAL HIGH-PROFILE NEW YORK CITY *ART CRIMES*.



ART CRIMES?!

NOTHING'S EVER BEEN *PROVEN*. HE'S A *SLICK* ONE, I'LL GIVE HIM THAT.

BUT I'D WAGER HE'S GOT HIS EYE ON A *NEW TARGET* NOW. YOUR *ANDY WARHOL* DRAWINGS.



HOW? I ONLY TOLD HIM ABOUT THOSE DRAWINGS THE *OTHER DAY*!

OH, RUDY...I'M SURE HE DID HIS HOMEWORK ON *YOU* AND YOUR VALUABLES *WAY* IN ADVANCE.



I CANNOT *BELIEVE* THAT TERRENCE WOULD BE INVOLVED IN *ANY* OF THIS!

TERRENCE *WOULDN'T*, SWEETIE. BUT I'M AFRAID *ROBERT* WOULD...AND *IS*...

SNAP! Productions.....

.....is pleased to announce its next offering, the Omaha Premiere of Madeleine George's comedy Seven Homeless Mammoths Wander New England which will run from May 26 - June 19, 2016.



Seven Homeless Mammoths Wander New England tells the story about Dean Wreen, who is not having a good week. Her college is in dire financial straits and a plan to close its tiny, all-but-forgotten natural history museum is sending unexpected shock waves across campus and out into the local community. At home, her ex-lover, Greer, is staying with her—sending shock waves of a different sort through her relationship with her current (and much younger) girlfriend, Andromeda. Town-gown relations are in tatters! The local newspaper is erupting in violent protest! Even the awful, historically inaccurate dioramas in the museum have started mouthing off. A screwball sex comedy about the perils of monogamy, certainty, and academic administration. A thoughtful study in love and extinction...

Echelle Childers has taken the helm of this production as director. She has amassed a great cast of actors to bring to life this poignant comedy. Andy Niess (Early Man 1), Becky Noble (Dean Wreen), Colleen O'Doherty (Andromeda), Sara Planck (Greer), Kate Simmons (Early Man 2) and L. James Wright (Caretaker).

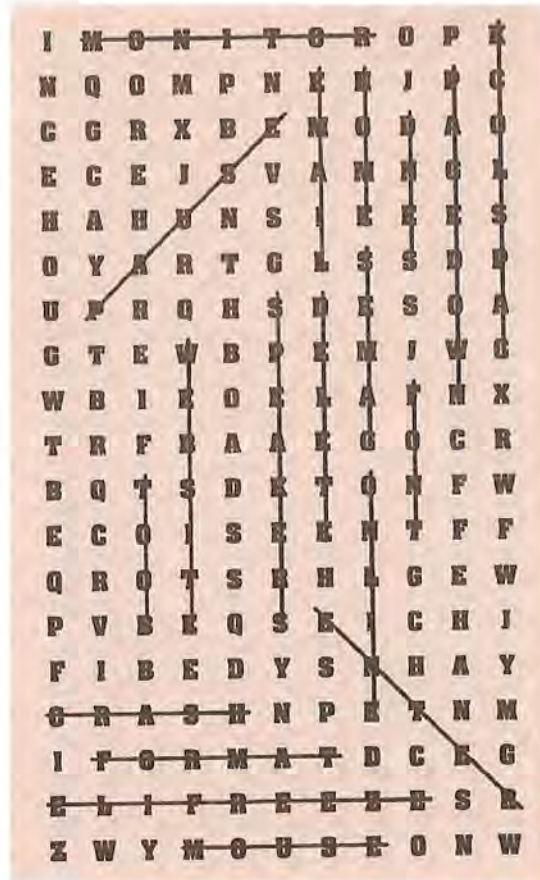
Seven Homeless Mammoths Wander New England is fortunate to have assembled the following production staff: Daena Schweiger (Sound/Lights), Michal Simpson (Producer), Brian Callaghan (Stage Manager/Booth Operator) and Joshua Mul-lady (Set Designer).

A few special notes, our THURSDAY, MAY 26th performance will be a TAG Night Out preview show which will benefit the Theatre Arts Guild Scholarship Fund. The ASL Interpreted Performance will be THURSDAY, JUNE 9th at 8 pm, and is made possible due to generous community support and donations made through the Omaha Gives! Campaign.

Buy tickets now for Madeleine George's funny comedy Seven Homeless Mammoths Wander New England which will run from May 26th - June 19th, 2016 at 3225 California Street. Curtain times are 8:00 pm, Thursday, Friday and Saturday; 6:00 pm on Sundays. The Sunday, June 19th show will start at 2:00 pm. The theater opens a half hour before curtain time. Reservations must be made on-line at the SNAP! Productions website: www.snapproductions.com. Tickets are \$15.00 for

Adults; \$12.00 for Students, TAG and Seniors. We are continuing our "Throwback Thursday" pricing of \$10.00 tickets for all Thursday shows.

Implemented at the beginning of 2015, SNAP! Productions will again be doing the NEW FREE STUDENT RUSH TICKET program. This program is made possible by a grant from the Jetton Fund. If you have a valid Student ID, you can get a chance for one of the limited Free Student Rush tickets. Just be at the box office twenty minutes before show time to see if there are any available for that performance. They are based on availability and definitely on a first come/first serve basis.





NEBRASKA AIDS PROJECT

250 South 77th Street, Suite A
Omaha, NE 68114
(Located behind McDonald's at 77th & Dodge Street)

www.nap.org
402-552-9260

Get Smart, Get Tested

Imperial Court of Nebraska

Memorial Day



PICNIC

Monday, May 30

1PM to 6PM

Vennelyst Park • 9100 N 31st St

\$12

DONATION

Jello Shots

**Proper ID
REQUIRED**

No Pets Allowed

www.ImperialCourtOfNebraska.org