



Federal Judge Strikes Down Utah's Gay Marriage Ban

By Greg Hernandez, GayStarNews

Utah's ban on same-sex marriage was struck down by a federal judge on Friday (20 December) who has declared it unconstitutional and said there is no 'rational' reason to not allow gays to marry.

US District Judge Robert J. Shelby, (pictured) in a 53-page ruling, writes that the law passed by voters in 2004 is a violation of due process and equal protection under the 14th amendment of the US Constitution.



Shelby writes in part: 'The state's current laws deny its gay and lesbian citizens their fundamental right to marry and, in so doing, demean the dignity of these same-sex couples for no rational reason. Accordingly, the court finds that these laws are unconstitutional.'

The ruling, which comes one day after the New Mexico Supreme Court ruled for marriage equality in that state, is from a lawsuit challenging Utah's ban brought by three gay and lesbian couples in the state.

This is the first ruling on a state marriage ban since the US Supreme Court struck down key provisions of the federal Defense of Marriage Act in June.

Attorneys for the state had argued for the ban to be upheld saying the Supreme Court's ruling on DOMA does not give gay couples the universal right to marry in every state.

But much of the hearing earlier this month focused on the state's contention that a same-sex marriage ban assists with 'responsible procreation' provides 'optimal mode of child-rearing.'

(Continued on page 3)

Marriage Equality Reaches New Mexico

By Steve Benen

New Mexico has held a unique position in the larger fight over marriage equality: it's the only state that hasn't taken a firm position on whether same-sex couples have equal marriage rights or not. Of the nation's 50 states, 49 have either allowed or prohibited same-sex marriage – with New Mexico as lone holdout.



This afternoon, the state Supreme Court settled the dispute, ruling that marriage rights apply equally to all. From the ruling:

"Prohibiting same-gender marriages is not substantially related to the governmental interests advanced by the parties opposing same-gender marriage or to the purposes we have identified. Therefore, barring individuals from marrying and depriving them of the rights, protections, and responsibilities of civil marriage solely because of their sexual orientation violates the Equal Protection Clause under Article II, Section 18 of the New Mexico Constitution. We hold that the State of New Mexico is constitutionally required to allow same-gender couples to marry and must extend to them the rights, protections, and responsibilities that derive from civil marriage under New Mexico law."

The decision was a unanimous, 5-0 ruling.

The legal dispute, which reached the New Mexico Supreme Court very quickly this year, came up after several of the state's 33 county clerks started granting marriage licenses to same-sex couples, taking advantage of the ambiguity in state law, which didn't explicitly prohibit it.

New Mexico is now the 16th state where marriage equality is the law of the land, following Hawaii and Illinois, which joined the club last month.

(Continued on page 3)

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(Federal Judge Strikes Down Utah's Gay Marriage Ban....., Continued from page 1)

Shelby concluded that the state had failed to show such marriages would affect heterosexual marriages in any way.

The judge made clear he is mindful of the charged political climate in the state regarding the issue.

He writes: 'It is only under exceptional circumstances that a court interferes with such action. But the legal issues presented in this lawsuit do not depend on whether Utah's laws were the result of its legislature or a referendum, or whether the laws passed by the widest or smallest of margins.'

Gay marriage advocates celebrated the news Friday. 'Today's ruling by a federal district court in Utah, striking down Utah's marriage ban, is a huge win, not only for same-sex couples in Utah, but for our entire country,' said National Center for Lesbian Rights Legal Director Shannon Minter. Minter added: 'To have such a historic ruling take place in Utah speaks volumes about our country's trajectory from discrimination to acceptance and support for same-sex couples and their families.' But Utah Governor Gary R. Herbert described himself as 'very disappointed' in the ruling and called Shelby 'an activist federal judge.'

'I am working with my legal counsel and the acting Attorney General to determine the best course to defend traditional marriage within the borders of Utah,' Herbert said in a statement.

(Marriage Equality Reaches New Mexico, Continued from page 1)

It's amazing the progress almost seems routine at this point, and how our expectations have changed now that nearly a third of the nation's states extend equal-marriage rights to all of its citizens.

And while this progress is heartening for those who celebrate the expansion of civil rights, it's worth appreciating every breakthrough as it happens. In time, 16 marriage-equality states will become 50, but until then, every step towards that goal is cause for celebration.

County Clerk in New Mexico and her Deputy Resign Rather than Issue Marriage Licenses to Gay Couples

By Greg Hernandez

A ruling this week by the New Mexico Supreme Court means that all 33 counties in the state must begin issuing marriage licenses to same-sex couples. That includes Roosevelt County where Donna Carpenter in the county clerk and Janet Collins is her chief deputy.

(Continued on page 4)



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The Hungry Homo

Banana Bread

By Lisa Broadway-Savage

For me, nothing says winter like baking. There's nothing like a nice slice of warm banana bread with a smear of butter on top to put a smile on my face while the snow falls and the wind howls. I like to put mini chocolate chips in my banana bread for an added touch of sweetness that plays well with the banana flavor. You can make this recipe in a loaf pan or in cupcake tins. I like to use silicone bake ware for easier cleanup.

Recipe & Ingredients:

3 ripe bananas
1 cups sugar
2 cups flour
1 tsp baking powder
1 tsp salt
1 tsp baking soda in 1 tbsp water
1 tsp vanilla
2 eggs
1/2 cup oil
Optional-1/2 cup chopped walnuts
Optional-1/2 cup mini chocolate chips coated in flour
Crisco to grease the pan

Directions:

1. Mash bananas with a potato masher, add sugar, and let stand for 15 minutes
2. Mix flour with baking powder and salt
3. Beat eggs with a fork in a small bowl
4. Add a little flour to the banana mixture. Add oil and the rest of the dry ingredients and mix lightly
5. Dissolve baking soda in 2 tbsp of water and mix with dry ingredients
6. Fold in nuts and chocolate chips (optional)
7. Pour in greased loaf pans (1/2 full) and bake at 350°. After 30 minutes, test with a toothpick and continue to test every 10 minutes until toothpick comes out clean. They are usually done after 50-60 minutes depending on your oven.



(County Clerk in New Mexico and her Deputy Resign Rather than Issue Marriage Licenses to Gay Couples, Continued from page 3)

Rather than have to comply with the law, the two women resigned from their jobs on Friday (20 December), according to state's largest progressive advocacy organization

ProgressNowNM which supported the campaign for marriage.

Roosevelt County Manager Charlene Webb confirmed the resignations. The county commission will appoint a new clerk.



'We respect that these women made a tough decision,' Pat Davis of ProgressNowNM says in a statement. 'In the end, their decision to resign is honorable if they feel that they are unable to execute their duties under the law.'

All 33 New Mexico counties sought a decision on the marriage issue from the state's Supreme Court after some county clerks began issuing same-sex marriage licenses.

States Davis: 'All of our county clerks deserve credit for coming together to ask for a definitive decision on this issue of equality and we look forward to every clerk in the state offering licenses to every loving couple in their county.'

The justices unanimously found that barring couples from marrying based on their sexual orientation violates the Equal Protection Clause of the state's constitution.

In Remembrance:

Harold James Wells

August 6, 1936 - December 12, 2013
Resided in Des Moines, IA

Harold James Wells, activist, political junkie and friend of many died on Thursday, December 12, 2013. Harold was born in 1936 in Russell, Arkansas, smack dab in the middle of the great depression, which explains both his lifelong inordinate love of pot luck dinners and his inability to ever throw anything away. Ever.

Harold loved the opera, symphony, ballet, and all manner of plays. More often than not he would wake both of his young boys to the sounds of WOI public radio FM, blaring the likes of Puccini, Carmen and Bach. A true dream come true for grade school aged boys. He was not all highbrow and college-educated however, and had a wonderfully eclectic record collection, where the likes of Isaac Hays, Simon and Garfunkel, and Elmore James all waited patiently for the curious and prying fingers of his young boys.



Who knows what drives people to become themselves. Perhaps it was Harold's intimate familiarity with the cruelty of others. Cruelty fostered in the dark recesses of intolerance and insecurity. Perhaps, it was his kind soul. Whatever it was, it led to a lifetime of helping others. It led to a lifetime of protests, demonstrations, marches, and counseling. He was tireless. He marched for civil rights in Arkansas in the 1960s; he marched on Washington in the 1970s for the ERA. In the 1980s, he fought for peace with STAR*PAC and finally he fought for equality for all, regardless of sexual orientation.

In 1976, Harold opened the Thoreau center, a community center where like-minded people could congregate, people from across the aisle could debate, and everyone could let down their hair and have a good time. For four decades there have been weddings, birthday parties, political functions, French Club meetings, poetry readings, gypsy jazz shows, and old fashion house parties too numerous to count.

Over the last 77 years Harold has been a campus minister, teacher, politico, sexologist, rape counselor, rabble-rouser, raconteur, and dreadful cook. He rarely paid a bill on time and punctuality remained an absolute stranger to him until the very end.

Harold was preceded in death by his father Alton Wells, his mother Esta Wells--who was salt of the earth, a wizard with fried chicken, mashed potatoes, and gum drop cake--and without a doubt, the best hugger and baby holder ever. He was also preceded by his sister Frances Walker who was as radiant and warm as the sun itself.

He is survived by his three wonderful and beautiful sisters: the lovely Kathryn McKee (Lavern) who was the only one that could ever get his toupee to truly look right, Lola Blanton (Jerry) whose kindness and devotion know no bounds, and Linda Harbour (Calvin) whose smile always sparkles and whose laughter remains infectious to this day. He is also survived by his brother Carroll Wells (Imogene) the diamond in the rough, cantankerous, black sheep who, like a fine Bourbon, has mellowed just right.

Finally he is survived by his two sons Malcolm (Janel) and Gregory Wells, to whom he has given the love of music, the arts, sports, and most of all the gift of an open mind and the ability and desire to question the man, though at times he has regretted that last gift. Harold also has four wonderful, riotously spirited grandchildren who are as talented as they are

diverse, Matthew, Kathryn, and Cassandra Wells (children of Gregory), and Riley Wells (son of Malcolm and Janel). There was a Celebration gathering on Thursday, December 19th at the Thoreau Center, 3500 Kingman Blvd, Des Moines, Iowa 50311, from 5-8 p.m. Please join us and rejoice, pray, commiserate and laugh together. Harold would have liked that.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be directed in Harold's name to the Ballet Des Moines (www.balletdesmoines.org), Des Moines Symphony (www.dmsymphony.org), Youth & Shelter Services, Inc. (www.yss.org), or Des Moines Gay Men's Chorus (www.dmgmc.org). Online condolences may be shared at www.IlesCares.com. - See more at: <http://www.ilesfuneralhomes.com/obituary/Harold-James-Wells/Des-Moines-IA/1322219#sthash.tV4adVWa.dpuf>

Duck Dynasty's Star Gave Fiery Anti-Gay Sermon Before Similar Comments got Him Suspended from Show

By Greg Hernandez

Video has emerged of Phil Robertson, suspended indefinitely from A&E's Duck Dynasty for anti-gay comments made to GQ magazine, making even more hate-filled remarks during a sermon prior to his reality show days.

In the sermon, Robertson said gays and lesbians are 'full of murder, envy, strife, hatred. They are insolent, arrogant, God-haters. They are heartless, they are faithless, they are senseless, they are ruthless.'

He also said: 'Women with women, men with men, they committed indecent acts with one another, and they received in themselves the due penalty for their perversions.'

On Wednesday, remarks he made to GQ about gays caused an uproar as well as debates about free speech with former Republican vice presidential candidate Sarah Palin stepping up to defend Robertson.

He made crude comments about gay sex in the article, compared it to bestiality and also grouped 'the homosexual offenders' with prostitutes, swindlers, drunks and others who 'won't inherit the kingdom of God.'

Also, more quotes from his GQ interview have surfaced that deal with his views on discrimination against blacks - he

(Continued on next page)



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does not think there is any.

'I never, with my eyes, saw the mistreatment of any black person,' he told GQ. 'Not once. Where we lived was all farmers. The blacks worked for the farmers. I hoed cotton with them. I'm with the blacks, because we're white trash. We're going across the field.... They're singing and happy. I never heard one of them, one black person, say, 'I tell you what: These dog-gone white people'—not a word!... Pre-entitlement, pre-welfare, you say: Were they happy? They were godly; they were happy; no one was singing the blues.'

Robertson's family has released a lengthy statement in which they say 'while some of Phil's unfiltered comments to the reporter were coarse, his beliefs are grounded in the teachings of the Bible.'

'Phil is a Godly man who follows what the Bible says are the greatest commandments: "Love the Lord your God with all your heart" and "Love your neighbor as yourself.' Phil would never incite or encourage hate. We are disappointed that Phil has been placed on hiatus for expressing his faith, which is his constitutionally protected right.'

The family adds: 'We have had a successful working relationship with A&E but, as a family, we cannot imagine the show going forward without our patriarch at the helm. We are in discussions with A&E to see what that means for the future of Duck Dynasty.'

Good News About Life Expectancy For Young Americans With HIV

The life expectancy for young, HIV-positive adults in America today is nearly the same as that of the general population, according to a new study.

The findings, published in the journal PLOS ONE, show that a 20-year-old adult in the U.S. or Canada who is receiving antiretroviral therapy can be expected to live into his or her early 70s.

The study is based on data from nearly 23,000 people who are HIV-positive and on antiretroviral therapy, and who were 20 years or older. Researchers from the British Columbia Centre for Excellence in HIV/AIDS and the North American AIDS Cohort Collaboration on Research and Design examined the death rates among these people from the early to mid-2000s, in order to see how life expectancy increased or decreased from 2000 to 2007.

Researchers found that life expectancy among HIV-positive adults taking antiretrovirals at age 20 increased dramatically, going from 36.1 in 2000 to 2002 to 51.4 in 2006 to 2007.

Based on these increases in life expectancy, the researchers calculated that "a 20-year-old individual on ART today in the U.S. or Canada would expect to live into their early 70s, a life expectancy that approaches that of a 20-year-old person in the general population," they wrote in the study.

However, life expectancy was not identical for all HIV-positive people examined in the study. Researchers found that people who had a history of injection drug use, non-white people, and people who had a low CD4 count when starting antiretroviral therapy (versus a high CD4 count) had a lower life expectancy.

Ohio Gay Marriage Ruling May Be Just The Beginning

By Amanda Lee Myers & Dan Sewell

CINCINNATI (AP) — A federal judge's decision ordering Ohio authorities to recognize gay marriages on death certificates may be a narrow ruling, but observers — and even the judge himself — predict it will spark further litigation aimed at striking down the state's ban on gay marriage.

In a broadly written ruling Monday, Judge Timothy Black said Ohio's ban is unconstitutional and that states cannot discriminate against same-sex couples simply because some voters don't like homosexuality.

Although the ruling applies only to death certificates, his statements about the ban were sweeping and unequivocal, and are expected to incite further litigation challenging the law. Ohio's attorney general said the state will appeal.

Black cited the Supreme Court's June decision striking down part of a federal anti-gay marriage law, saying the lower courts are now tasked with applying that ruling.

"And the question presented is whether a state can do what the federal government cannot — i.e., discriminate against same-sex couples ... simply because the majority of the voters don't like homosexuality (or at least didn't in 2004)," Black said in reference to the year Ohio's gay marriage ban passed. "Under the Constitution of the United States, the answer is no."

His ruling stems from a July lawsuit by two gay Ohio men whose spouses recently died and wanted to be recognized as married on their death certificates.

The men's attorney, Al Gerhardstein, said he was considering whether to file further litigation right away or let Black's decision "percolate for a little bit."

"I can tell you that the reasoning in this opinion is broad and the principals he set out are firmly rooted in solid legal arguments, but they would support a broader attempt on marriage recognition and marriage celebration in Ohio, so we're looking at that," he said.

Attorney General Mike DeWine said the state will appeal Black's decision to the 6th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals, based in Cincinnati. He called Monday's decision "not a huge surprise," given earlier rulings Black made in the case.

"Our job is to defend the Ohio Constitution and state statutes ... and that's what we intend to do," DeWine said.

Bridget Coontz, the attorney who argued on behalf of the state, said Wednesday in Black's Cincinnati courtroom that in the

Supreme Court's historic June decision, the justices also found that states have the right to decide for themselves whether to recognize gay marriage, and Ohio voters decided not to in 2004.

"Ohio doesn't want Delaware or Maryland to define who is married under Ohio law," she said. "To allow that to happen would allow one state to set the marriage policy for all others."

Black said constitutional rights trump Ohio's gay marriage ban, questioning whether it was passed for a legitimate state interest "other than simply maintaining a 'traditional' definition of marriage."

He quoted then-Gov. Robert Taft, who said in 2004 that the law was intended "to reaffirm existing Ohio law with respect to our most basic, rooted, and time-honored institution: marriage between a man and a woman."

Black wrote that "the fact that a form of discrimination has been 'traditional' is a reason to be more skeptical of its rationality."

"No hypothetical justification can overcome the clear primary purpose and practical effect of the marriage bans ... to disparage and demean the dignity of same-sex couples in the eyes of the state and the wider community," Black wrote.

Eighteen states and the District of Columbia allow same-sex weddings, up from six before the Supreme Court's decision in June.

Also Monday, a federal judge in Utah allowed gay weddings to continue there, rejecting a request to put them on hold as the state appeals a decision that sent couples flocking to county clerks for marriage licenses.

Judge Robert Shelby overturned Utah's ban on same-sex marriage on Friday, ruling the voter-approved measure is a violation of gay couples' constitutional rights.

New Mexico's highest court also legalized gay marriage Thursday.

Alan Turing Pardoned By UK Government, Finally

By Raphael Satter

LONDON (AP) — His code breaking prowess helped the Allies outfox the Nazis, his theories laid the foundation for the computer age, and his work on artificial intelligence still informs the debate over whether machines can think.



But Alan Turing was gay, and 1950s Britain punished the math-

ematician's sexuality with a criminal conviction, intrusive surveillance and hormone treatment meant to extinguish his sex drive.

Now, nearly half a century after the war hero's suicide, Queen Elizabeth II has finally granted Turing a pardon.

"Turing was an exceptional man with a brilliant mind," Justice Secretary Chris Grayling said in a prepared statement released Tuesday. Describing Turing's treatment as unjust, Grayling said the code breaker "deserves to be remembered and recognized for his fantastic contribution to the war effort and his legacy to science."

The pardon has been a long time coming.

Turing's contributions to science spanned several disciplines, but he's perhaps best remembered as the architect of the effort to crack the Enigma code, the cypher used by Nazi Germany to secure its military communications. Turing's groundbreaking work — combined with the effort of cryptanalysts at Bletchley Park near Oxford and the capture of several Nazi code books — gave the Allies the edge across half the globe, helping them defeat the Italians in the Mediterranean, beat back the Germans in Africa and escape enemy submarines in the Atlantic.

"It could be argued and it has been argued that he shortened the war, and that possibly without him the Allies might not have won the war," said David Leavitt, the author of a book on Turing's life and work. "That's highly speculative, but I don't think his contribution can be underestimated. It was immense."

Even before the war, Turing was formulating ideas that would underpin modern computing, ideas which matured into a fascination with artificial intelligence and the notion that machines would someday challenge the minds of man. When the war ended, Turing went to work programming some of the world's first computers, drawing up — among other things — one of the earliest chess games.

Turing made no secret of his sexuality, and being gay could easily lead to prosecution in post-war Britain. In 1952, Turing was convicted of "gross indecency" over his relationship with another man, and he was stripped of his security clearance, subjected to monitoring by British authorities, and forced to take estrogen to neutralize his sex drive — a process described by some as chemical castration.

S. Barry Cooper, a University of Leeds mathematician who has written about Turing's work, said future generations would struggle to understand the code breaker's treatment.

"You take one of your greatest scientists, and you invade his body with hormones," he said in a telephone interview. "It was a national failure."

Depressed and angry, Turing committed suicide in 1954.

Turing's legacy was long obscured by secrecy — "Even his mother wasn't allowed to know what he'd done," Cooper said. But as his contribution to the war effort was gradually declassified, and personal computers began to deliver on Turing's promise of "universal machines," the injustice of his conviction became ever more glaring. Then-Prime Minister Gordon Brown issued an apology for Turing's treatment in 2009, but campaign-

(Continued on next page)

ers kept pressing for a formal pardon.

One of them, British lawmaker Iain Stewart, told The Associated Press he was delighted with the news that one had finally been granted.

"He helped preserve our liberty," Stewart said in a telephone interview. "We owed it to him in recognition of what he did for the country — and indeed the free world — that his name should be cleared."

Virginia Marriage Lawsuit Proceeds, Without Governor as Defendant

By Trudy Ring

A federal judge in Virginia Monday removed outgoing governor Bob McDonnell as a defendant in a lawsuit challenging the state's same-sex marriage ban, letting the suit proceed with two other officials as defendants.

U.S. District Judge Michael F. Urbanski said McDonnell cannot be part of the suit because the governor does not enforce marriage laws, the Associated Press reports. State officials had also sought to have Staunton County Circuit Court clerk Thomas Roberts removed from the suit, but Urbanski ruled that since Roberts's office issues marriage licenses, he should remain a defendant.

"The ruling allows the lawsuit to continue with Roberts and Janet Rainey, the state registrar of vital records, as defendants," the AP reports. "The state did not contest Rainey's involvement in the lawsuit."

Two Virginia couples, Joanne Harris and Jessica Duff of Staunton and Christy Berghoff and Victoria Kidd of Winchester, filed the suit August 1, claiming the state's constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage violated their rights to equal protection and due process of the law under the U.S. Constitution. The American Civil Liberties Union's Virginia affiliate is representing them. Another couple, from Norfolk, filed a similar lawsuit in July.

"We're grateful that we have the chance to move ahead to challenge this discriminatory ban on behalf of loving and committed Virginia couples," ACLU of Virginia executive director Claire Guthrie Gastanaga told the AP after Urbanski's ruling.

McDonnell, a conservative Republican who has taken several antigay stances, is leaving office in January. In the race to succeed him, his ultraconservative attorney general, Ken Cuccinelli, lost to Democrat Terry McAuliffe.



No, Pope Francis Is Not the LGBT Person of the Year

By Michelangelo Signorile, Huffington Post

The Advocate magazine put Pope Francis on its cover, proclaiming him the Person of the Year, offering a myriad of reasons why it passed up others, such as Edie Windsor. The best thing about this is that Francis has a "NoH8" decal Photoshopped onto his face, and it's driving poor Bill Donohue of the Catholic League into a blood-vessel-popping rage.



But mostly, this was idiotic. Pope Francis is a lot of things to many people in the world. But he is not our hero of the LGBT community in 2013. Can we please get a grip, folks? Are we that starved for validation?

Pope Francis' statements of the past, which he's never repudiated, and the doctrine of his church, are horrendously homophobic. As Cardinal Jorge Mario Bergoglio in Argentina three years ago, he called gay marriage the work of the devil and said it was "a destructive attack on God's plan." And his recent statements, saying church leaders are too "obsessed" with the issue of gay marriage, and that he can't pass judgement a gay priest, while very encouraging, do not in any way take back those statements.

Now, I honestly don't think Francis really believes the ugly statements he made in Argentina, as he actually tried to broker a deal on civil unions in Argentina at one point, trying to get the government to back off gay marriage. I offered my thoughts on that in a post that brought me some criticism, "Is Pope Francis Secretly Pro-Gay?" I believe he made those horribly anti-gay statements just to keep his job, as Argentina was embarking upon gay marriage and he was expected to rail against it, and it was the only way to advance in Benedict's Vatican. And it worked. But what does that actually say about Francis? That he's a pretty shrewd politician who says what he has to, even if it means horribly attacking a minority, in order to win -- not much different from some in the current Republican Party. And does being secretly pro-gay really count? Aren't we past that?

It's true that once he became pope, Francis refrained from gay-bashing, and I noted that too in a post in which I asked, "Is Pope Francis Waving the White Flag on Gay Marriage?" He'd not said anything about several countries and U.S. states passing marriage equality earlier this year -- and that was months before his commenting that church leaders are "obsessed" with gay marriage and abortion.

All of that is a good thing, just like when some Republican leaders (not many) realized the anti-gay rhetoric didn't work for them and that it was time to pull back. And maybe they, too, weren't ever so anti-gay and were glad to be pulling back. But do we give them a prize for it? Sure, if the pope is not speaking as virulently on the issue as the previous pope, certainly that's a positive. But the Catholic Church has a long way to go on gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender people -- and women -- in terms of changing its doctrine. Francis may be embarking on that monumental project, which may take a century. Or he may

not be, and is just keeping his head down, focusing on the issues he wants to focus on, like helping the poor, which is surely laudable. He may be tamping down the talk of homosexuality among church leaders while not bothering with really changing the homophobia built into the church, which could just ruffle too many feathers.

All of that means we should take note, watch and see. As I write this, little boys and girls in Catholic schools all across the world are still being taught that homosexuality is "inherently disordered." Many of them will grow up hating themselves, living in pain, perhaps finally coming out, yet feeling damaged -- or perhaps living a tormented life in the closet. Some will even take their own lives, as we have painfully witnessed. Sure, some will see the message of the pope ("Who am I to judge?" he said when asked about gay priests), but others will have that waved off by an anti-gay Catholic leader who points them to the doctrine of hate, right there in the catechism. And as I write this, Catholic teachers have been removed from jobs simply for exercising their rights as gay Americans. I haven't heard the pope weigh in or stop it, while many other people are actually fighting the fight for them.

Sure, we should note that Francis has made some relatively supportive statements toward gays this year, but to make Francis the person of the year for the LGBT community, when so many others have worked tirelessly to advance equality, is silly and seems like a PR move by the Advocate to get attention. Bravo for them, they got it. How it advances LGBT rights and upholds our credibility when we give out honors so lightly, however, is another matter.

Life Beyond Therapy

By Michael Kimmel

COPING WITH CHANGE AND MAJOR LIFE UPSETS

In this crazy economic time, so many people have lost their jobs, their homes, their stock portfolios, their retirement monies. How can we cope with change and major upsets in our lives? What do we do when we're scared shitless about the present and/or the future? Even if the changes are "good" (e.g., you've found a new job, you're moving in with your partner, or you're going back to college to finish your degree) it's still scary and daunting. What to do?

There is no way to avoid major changes/upsets in our lives. No matter how carefully we plan, the Universe has a mind of its own. It's like my ex-sister-in-law, a nun, used to tell me: "Know how to make God laugh? Tell Him your plans." Let me share some ideas on how to minimize your anxiety and

maximize your enjoyment as you weather the inevitable life changes that are thrust upon us all.

- Mobilize your resources. Usually, your best resources are people who love you. Stay in touch with people then and let yourself receive their love and support through phone calls, Emails, text messages, coffee dates, etc. Resources are anything you can call upon for strength: they may include your yoga class, the gym, that nice waiter at the local diner who always listens to your troubles. Resources also include Mother Nature; there is a lot of peace and comfort in being outside and drinking in the beauty of flowers, trees and animals.

- Expand your circle of people. If you've just found a new job, even if it's a temp job, get to know the new people around you. When you meet new people be open, friendly and -- most importantly -- keep your expectations low. These people may not become forever friends, but you can enjoy each other's company as you make your transition into the next phase of your life. And, you never know who you may be sitting next to (at the new job, at the Unemployment office, at registration for next semester) and how they can help you through your crisis (and vice-versa). They may know a lot about the new boss, how to fill out confusing forms, or which classes are taught by the best professors.

- Surround yourself with as much comfort as you can. Play your favorite songs, wear your favorite clothes, eat your favorite comfort foods (within reason).

- Normalize your fears, e.g., talk with other people who are in the same boat. Realize that it's normal to feel this way and that every other person in your situation is scared too.

- Become your own cheerleader. I know, it sounds corny, but who else is going to encourage you on a daily basis? If you feel like you're going to puke before going to your first class or first job interview, calm yourself with something like: "I know I'm nervous, but I can do this, even though I feel shaky."

- Reward yourself for doing something difficult. It's behavior modification and it works. I don't mean buying something you can't afford. Go for something free or affordable, like a budget matinee movie or a nice meal somewhere (try the lunch specials) that won't bust your budget. One client of mine takes a bubble bath and has a dish of strawberries by the tub that she nibbles on as she soaks. Not very expensive, but she feels like she's living in luxury when she rewards herself that way.

- Expect setbacks. Nobody goes through major life changes without occasionally falling on their ass. Treat yourself as a beloved child who's learning to walk. If she/he walks a few feet and then falls down, you don't say, "Is THAT the best you can do?" Instead, you'd praise the child for what she/he DID accomplish: "That was great, I know you can do it again... come on, get back up and let's do it again." Treating yourself kindly after a setback will get you a lot further in life than berating yourself.

When it all feels like too much, remember that nothing lasts forever. Bad times pass; scary things become familiar and strangers eventually become friends. Be kind to yourself during these challenging times, and getting through change and upset will be a lot more pleasant.



GAYZETTE EVENTS

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

**We are closing the Center as
of December 2nd.**

**The Gayzette will continue to
be published and our hotline
and web site will be contin-
ued.**

**We appreciate the past sup-
port for the Center but it be-
came clear that it was time to
close and become a virtual
Center. We feel we can ac-
complish much more for the
GLBT community in this way.**

**Thanks,
George Broadway
Board Chair and Gayzette editor
Email: Gayzette@cox.net
www.rainbowoutreach.org**

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 ANONY-
MOUS** 4pm, Augustana Lutheran
Church 3647 Lafayette Ave., Info call Mark
639-3055 **HASTINGS COLLEGE GSA** 8PM
FFI: Judy Sandeen (402) 461-7372

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

**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH
OF OMAHA** 819 S. 22nd St., 345-2563 Sunday
Worship 9:30am and 11:15am & Wednesday
Worship at 7pm

ONE PROMISE GROUP, Narcotics Anony-
mous, 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, [in-
fo@2uomaha.org](mailto: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

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

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

NA RAINBOW GROUP, Narcotics Anony-
mous, 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 [aander-
son@hastings.edu](mailto:aander-
son@hastings.edu) or Judy Sandeen at
jsandeen@hastings.edu for further information.

**UNL LESBIAN/BI/QUESTIONING SUP-
PORT 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.
Fairley, Grand Island. Peggy (308) 226-8286,
Center (308) 398-5427

NAP HIV TESTING, 250 South 77th St., by
appointment only on Wednesdays from 1:30 to
3:30pm, Walkin from 5pm to 8pm

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

WORSHIP SERVICES
MCC OMAHA, Bible Study, 7pm

Every Thursday

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

PROUD HORIZON YOUTH GROUP

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

MONTHLY EVENTS

1st Wednesday

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

1st Thursday

GLBT PROFESSIONALS, meeting at
5:30pm in various locations. Email at: [GOg-
lbt@cfep-ne.org](mailto:GOg-
lbt@cfep-ne.org) or see www.GOglbt.org for
info

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

1st Friday

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

1st Saturday

RIVER CITY GENDER ALLIANCE, at
7:00 pm See
www.rivercitygenderalliance.org

1st Sunday

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

2nd Monday

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

2nd Thursday

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

2nd Saturday

Ecumenical Catholics of Omaha, 5pm - 6:30pm, A progressive community in the Catholic tradition. Meets in the MCC sanctuary
Phone: 402.953.7656
Email: ecuomaha@live.com
Web: www.ecuomaha.org

3rd Monday

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

3rd Saturday

Ecumenical Catholics of Omaha, 5pm - 6:30pm, A progressive community in the Catholic tradition, Meets in the MCC sanctuary,
Phone: 402.953.7656
Email: ecuomaha@live.com
Web: www.ecuomaha.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

4th Friday

LEO - LEATHER ENGINEERS OF OMAHA, Not currently meeting.

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

Groaners

I changed my iPod's name to Titanic. It's syncing now.

When chemists die, they barium.

Jokes about German sausage are the wurst.

I know a guy who's addicted to brake fluid. He says he can stop any time.

How does Moses make his tea? Hebrews it.

I stayed up all night to see where the sun went. Then it dawned on me.

This girl said she recognized me from the vegetarian club, but I'd never met herbi-vore.

I'm reading a book about anti-gravity. I just can't put it down.

I did a theatrical performance about puns. It was a play on words.

They told me I had type-A blood, but it was a Type-O.

Why were the Indians here first? They had reservations.

We're going on a class trip to the Coca-Cola factory. I hope there's no pop quiz.

I didn't like my beard at first. Then it grew on me.

Did you hear about the cross-eyed teacher who lost her job because she couldn't control her pupils?

Broken pencils are pointless.

I tried to catch some fog, but I mist.

What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary? A thesaurus.

England has no kidney bank, but it does have a Liverpool.

I used to be a banker, but then I lost interest.

I dropped out of communism class because of lousy Marx.

I got a job at a bakery because I kneaded dough.

Haunted French pancakes give me the crêpes.

Velcro - what a rip off!

A cartoonist was found dead in his home. Details are sketchy.

Venison for dinner again? Oh deer!

The earthquake in Washington obviously was the government's fault.

Be kind to your dentist. He has fillings, too.

Seeing Eye Dogs

Two women were out for a Saturday stroll. One had a Doberman and the other, a Chihuahua. As they walked down the street, the one with the Doberman said to her friend, "Let's go over to that bar for a drink."

The lady with the Chihuahua said, "We can't go in there. We've got dogs with us."

The one with the Doberman said, "Just watch, and do as I do."

They walked over to the bar and the one with the Doberman put on a pair of dark glasses and started to walk in.

The bouncer at the door said, "Sorry, lady, no pets allowed."

The woman with the Doberman said, "You don't understand.

This is my seeing-eye dog."

The bouncer said, "A Doberman?"

The woman said, "Yes, they're using them now. They're very good."

The bouncer said, "OK, come on in."

The lady with the Chihuahua thought that convincing him that a Chihuahua was a seeing-eye dog may be a bit more difficult, but thought, "What the heck," so she put on her dark glasses and started to walk in.

Once again the bouncer said, "Sorry, lady, no pets allowed."

The woman said, "You don't understand. This is my seeing-eye dog"

The bouncer said, "A Chihuahua?"

The woman with the Chihuahua said, "A Chihuahua? They gave me a f.....g Chihuahua ?!"

Oh Grandma!!

A man moves into a nudist colony. He receives a letter from his grandmother asking him to send her a current photo of himself in his new location.

Too embarrassed to let her know that he lives in a nudist colony, he cuts a photo in half and mails it.

The next day he discovers that he had accidentally sent the bottom half of the photo. He's really worried but then remembers how bad his grandmother's eyesight is, and hopes she won't notice.

A few weeks later, he receives a letter from his Grandmother. It says: "Thank you for the picture. Change your hairstyle... it makes your nose look too short." Love, Grandma

GLBT RESOURCE LIST

OMAHA BASED

BiMenNebraska, Social Support for Bi and BiCurious Men <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BiMenNebraska> and <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Bi-MEN-MIDWEST>

Camp Kindle, Nebraska based summer camp for kids affected by HIV/AIDS, 877.800.CAMP, www.CampKindle.org

Citizens for Equal Protection 1105 Howard St. Suite 2, Omaha NE 68102, 398-3027 www.cfep-ne.org, email to: Michael@cfep-ne.org

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.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://omahalgbtDemocrats.wordpress.com> - contact Ken @ 402-686-6389 See also <http://ProgressiveOasis.com>

Heartland Pride www.heartlandpride.org, email: info@heartlandpride.org; meets on the 1st 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.

Learning to Exchange Power, no current info available

Leather Engineers of Omaha (LEO) not currently meeting

LinOma Bares, for more Info email linomabares@yahoo.com or mail to P.O. Box

24547, Omaha NE 68124

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, 819 S. 22 St., Omaha 68108 345-2563, mccomaha@mccomaha.org Website: www.mccomaha.org Sunday Worship 9:30am and 11:15am, Wed. Worship at 7pm

NA Rainbow Group, Narcotics Anonymous, meets Friday thru Monday at 10pm, MCC-Omaha Church, 819 South 22nd St

Nebraska AIDS Project, 250 So. 77th St., testing Wed from 1:30-4PM by appointment only, Thurs & Fri 5PM-9PM with 20 minute results Call 402-552-9255 for info

NebraskaEquality.org, Find out everything about Nebraska and the GLBT Community

Nebraska Pride IDOL, PO Box 241733, Omaha NE 68124, 866-4-NE-IDOL, www.NebraskaPrideIDOL.com

Nebraska Zen Center, Soto Zen Buddhist, 3625 Lafayette Ave., 402-551-9035, www.prairiewindzen.org GLBT inclusive

North Side Christian Church 5555 Larimore Ave., Sunday service at 9:30am, see www.NorthSideOmaha.org

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

Omaha NE Gay Pride Web Page <http://ONGP.com>; email to: hanegaypride@cox.net or ongp1@cox.net

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

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

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

Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays (PFLAG) Omaha Chapter, For confidential information or support, call: 402-291-6781, meeting at Countryside Community Church, 8787 Pacific Street Omaha, Nebraska

Proud Horizons Youth Group, Sat Afternoon, info: (402) 291-6781 or email proudhorizons@yahoo.com

Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Ctr, 3620 Leavenworth, Omaha, 341-0330

Rainbow Pride/Rainbow Celebrations PO Box 8273 Omaha, NE 68108, See www.rainbowpride.org for info

River City Gender Alliance, for info see www.rcga.org or call 402-291-6781

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, 7023 Cass St., 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.) Offices: 2679 Farnam Street, Suite. 205 Omaha, NE 68131, 402-345-5187, email to info@yesomaha.org

Y.E.S. Drop-in Center, 2057 Harney Street Omaha, NE 68102, 402-505-6922

LINCOLN BASED

LGBTQ and Ally Programs and Services Resource Center, Pat Tetreault, LGBTQ Resource Center Director, <http://involved.unl.edu/lgbtqa> - 402.472.1752 or 402-472-1652 <http://www.unl.edu/health/sexuality>

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

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

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

Nebraska AIDS Project, 1120 K Street Suite 100, Lincoln, NE 68508, (402) 476-7000

Omaha Women's Riverboat Cruise, 4949 N. 73rd, Lincoln, 68507 467-5737

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

Planned Parenthood, F2M and Questioning Support group & Partners of FTM Support Group, meet monthly at 10am Saturday, for info call Ryan Sallans at 441-3321 or email sindu.s@gmail.com

SAGE, Box 22043, Lincoln 68542 Coffee House 2nd Sat, 6 - 9pm, Lesbian Videos 7:15pm, 3319 S. 46

Spiritual Friends of Lincoln Offering fellowship and worship for those seeking radical hospitality, openness, and inclusiveness. Meets the 1st and 3rd Sunday in Lincoln info@inclusivelife.org and on FaceBook

Straight Spouse Support Grp 402-429-6094

TriCity GLBT, serving Central Nebraska, web site at <http://www.tri-city-glb.com/>

UNL Committee on GLBT Concerns, Con-

tact 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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Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

Omaha:

Dixie Quick's Restaurant, 157 West Broadway	402- 346-3549
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

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

CSU Coach Suspended For Slinging Slur At Player

By Michelle Garcia, The Advocate

The defensive line coach for Colorado State's football team was suspended for two weeks for using an antigay slur with Washington State quarterback Connor Halliday.

The exchange between Halliday and coach Greg Lupfer was caught by ESPN after the quarterback threw a touchdown pass in the first half of the New Mexico Bowl game on Saturday. CSU beat Washington State, 48-45.

"I accept these consequences — two weeks without pay and the training programs -- and I am thankful for this second chance to continue coaching at Colorado State and be a part of the Ram family," the coach said in a statement, according to the Coloradoan. "I am deeply sorry for my behavior, which does not represent who I am or my values. I embrace the opportunity to participate in anger management and diversity sensitivity training. I was angry and careless with my words, and my words hurt many people. I sincerely apologize to the GLBTQ community for causing pain by using a slur without considering its meaning. I take ownership of my words and fully understand why people are very upset."

Lupfer will have to undergo anger management and diversity training, as directed by Colorado State athletic director Jack Graham.

Rose Parade Gay Wedding: Danny Leclair And Aubrey Loots To Marry At Annual New Year's Event

At this year's Rose Parade, attendees can expect to enjoy the usual array of flowers, floats and marching bands, as well as an unexpected surprise to ring in 2014: a same-sex wedding ceremony.

With this Rose Parade the first since marriage equality passed in the Golden State, one Los Angeles gay couple will celebrate by marrying each other on top of the AIDS Healthcare Foundation's wedding cake-shaped float. This will reportedly be the third year the AIDS Healthcare Foundation has taken part in the parade.

"One of the things we're really excited about is we're standing on the shoulders of thousands of men and women who came before us in this fight for marriage equality," Danny Leclair, who will marry Aubrey Loots, said in a statement. "We're excited to be part of that story, to be able to do this because of them. We're looking forward to honor that."

Sharon Raphael and Mina Meyer, a lesbian couple together for 42 years, will also join Leclair and Loots on the float. Raphael and Meyer were legally married in California in 2008 prior to the passage of Proposition 8.

This will not be the first live wedding to take place in the Rose Parade. A couple tied the knot during the celebration in 1989, with their wedding being dubbed the "most widely witnessed wedding in American history," according to the Pasadena Star-News.

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox



WHERE'D YOU GET THE IDEA FOR A HOLIDAY COSTUME PARTY, KYLE?

WELL, WE ALL MISSED HALLOWEEN LAST YEAR BECAUSE OF THE HURRICANE.

...SO WE DECIDED TO HAVE TWO THIS YEAR. ONE ON HALLOWEEN...

...AND ONE ON CHRISTMAS EVE. AND RICHARD CREATED ALL THE COSTUMES!

SO, THESE COSTUMES WE ALL PAID 50 BUCKS FOR...

...RICHARD'S DONATING ALL THE MONEY TO THE PHILIPPINES DISASTER RELIEF FUND.

RIGHT. AND I GUESS IT'S JUST A "COINCIDENCE" HE PICKED TWO HAIRY-CHESTED GUYS TO WEAR THE SHEPHERDS COSTUMES?

YA' CALL THIS A COSTUME? I GOT JOCK-STRAPS THAT SHOW LESS SKIN!

I HATE THAT RICHARD MADE ME SANTA CLAUS! EVERYONE'S ASKING ME FOR A TOY!

JUST SAY YOU'RE SAVING 'EM ALL FOR ME, WILLIAM!

HEY, AT LEAST HE DIDN'T MAKE YOU A SNOWMAN, WILLIAM.

AND THIS IS NICK UNDER HERE, IN CASE YOU'RE WONDERIN'...

WHY AM I "KRAMPUS"? I'VE NEVER EVEN HEARD OF THIS CHARACTER!

HE'S THE DARK LORD OF CHRISTMAS IN EUROPEAN FOLKLORE, PRICE.

BUT... WHY DID RICHARD CHOOSE ME TO PORTRAY HIM?

I'M SURE IT WAS... TOTALLY RANDOM, PRICE.

HOLD ON... STEVE?!

THAT'S ONE COSTUME I DIDN'T CREATE!

WELL, I FIGURED THIS HOLIDAY PARTY COULD USE AN ANGEL, RICHARD.

WHAT YOU'RE DOING HERE... RAISING MONEY AND AWARENESS FOR THE TYPHOON VICTIMS... IS VITALLY NEEDED!

SO MANY PEOPLE ARE STILL STRUGGLING... AND NEED OUR HELP! IT'S IMPORTANT WE DON'T FORGET ABOUT THEM.

OKAY, STEVE, BUT... WHAT I WANT TO KNOW IS... HOW'D YOU RIG UP THAT HALO EFFECT?

TRADE SECRET, RICHARD.

...DON WE NOW OUR GAY APPAREL...

Fitness Corner

By Ron Blake



NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTIONS AND THE MOVIES

Movies entertain us like no other art form. The silver screen continues to captivate us today just like it did back in the early 20th century. These stories on film also have given us many memorable quotes and I plan on using some of those quotes to inspire you to move forward with your New Year's resolutions.

Any resolution you make is bound to be difficult; otherwise you'd already have what you're trying to get. Make it challenging and understand it will be worth completing whatever you decide. "Fasten your seat belts. It's going to be a bumpy night" It might even be many bumpy nights depending on the goal time frame you set to complete it.

"You don't understand! I coulda had class. I coulda been a contender. I coulda been somebody, instead of a bum, which is what I am." Don't start feeling sorry for yourself and throw a pity party. Get off your arse and make those resolutions come true this year. You have no one to blame if you don't give 'er the old college try.

The harder you work, the luckier you'll get at realizing the resolutions you create. "You've got to ask yourself one question: Do I feel lucky? Well, do ya punk?" Your luck is what you make it to be.

Stay focused on what is important to you. "Mrs. Robinson, you're trying to seduce me. Aren't you?" There will be distractions along your journey to work toward your resolutions. Don't be led astray by those treacherous temptations. Keep looking ahead to the goal.

If you dream it, you can achieve it. Go on and make this the year of your ultimate resolution. Just be willing to work really hard to make it happen. "Carpe diem. Seize the day, boys. Make your lives extraordinary!" Your name in lights on the marquee is already flickering; make it shine brightly!

It is certainly fine to readjust your means to attaining your resolution. You may just find that "you're going to need a bigger boat." Find that vessel that will help you navigate that sea of unexpected sharks waiting to gobble up your dreams. Always keep floating and keep your head above water.

Look to others who have had success with resolutions similar to yours. "I'll have what she's having." If it worked for her, it just could work for you. Jot down the secrets of her success and make 'em your own.

Find some good friends to cheer you on to reaching your resolution. "A boy's best friend is his mother." If the maternal thing doesn't work for you then go lassoe some supporters for your cause. You're gonna have some tough moments on your resolution journey and your booster club will be very helpful.

"Round up the usual suspects." They can be found lurking at every street corner and they go by names like apathetic, indifferent, unambitious, lackadaisical, and complacent. They want to steal your resolutions and leave you defeated. Be wary and stand your ground against these purveyors of perhaps.

Get your list of resolutions ready and make it a great 2014! This is your year to exclaim, "I'm king of the world!"

This wellness article is brought to you by that guy who has all the wide-eyed optimism of the Baby New Year. That guy of hope is Ron Blake and you can send a toast to him at ron@myblakefitness.com.



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