

The GayZette



Published by the Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Community Center

\$65M for Gay Rights And HIV/AIDS Groups

By Elizabeth M. Gillespie, Associated Press Writer

Microsoft Pioneer Weiland's Estate Gives \$65M for Gay Rights, HIV/AIDS Groups

SEATTLE (AP) -- The estate of Ric Weiland, a high school classmate of Microsoft Corp. founders Bill Gates and Paul Allen and one of the first five people to work at the software giant, has left \$65 million to gay rights and HIV/AIDS organizations.



The bequests were announced Sunday by the Pride Foundation of Seattle, where Weiland was a board member for several years. The foundation called it the largest single bequest ever given to gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender causes. Gates and Allen hired Weiland in 1975, the year they founded Microsoft. He worked as a project leader for the Microsoft Works word processing and spreadsheet software, and was a lead programmer and developer for the company's BASIC and COBOL systems, two of the first personal computing interfaces. He left Microsoft in 1988.

Weiland donated tens of millions to various organizations -- from gay rights groups to environmental and education organizations -- before he died in 2006. He committed suicide at age 53 after a long battle with depression, and survivors include his partner, Mike Schaefer.

The \$65 million is among bequests totaling about \$160 million -- the bulk of Weiland's estate-- to various charities and Stanford University, his undergraduate alma mater, according to an estimate provided by the Pride Foundation. In the latest bequest, the Pride Foundation said Weiland's estate had established a fund at the foundation that would give \$46 million over the next eight years to 10 national gay rights and HIV/AIDS groups, including Lambda Legal; the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force; Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays; the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation; and amfAR, the Foundation for AIDS Research.

His estate also bequeathed \$19 million directly to the Pride

Foundation for scholarships and grants supporting the gay, lesbian, bisexual and transgender community in the Pacific Northwest.

Repeal Sought of Moroccan Anti-gay Law

Human Rights Watch and the Moroccan Human Rights Association is demanding that the government repeal a law under which gays can be imprisoned for having consensual sex. The two groups are also asking for the release of six men now in jail under Article 489 of the Moroccan penal code, according to a press release.

Police arrested the men in November after a video of a private event circulated on the Internet. Prosecutors did not submit any evidence at the trial that the defendants violated the law and all men denied the charges.

A court in Ksar el-Kbir sentenced the six men to between four and 10 months in prison. An appellate court in Tangier upheld the conviction, but reduced their sentences.

"This trial shows how an unjust law can be used to violate the basic right to privacy and fuel social prejudice," Joe Stork, director of Human Rights Watch's Middle East and North Africa division, said in the press release. (The Advocate)

Presbyterian Pastor Defends Wedding Gays

A Presbyterian minister from Pittsburgh is facing charges for performing a wedding for a lesbian couple in June 2005. The Investigating Committee of the Pittsburgh Presbytery's Permanent Judicial Commission will pursue new charges against the Rev. Janet Edwards.

(Continued on page 4)

February 29, 2008 - March 14, 2008

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(Presbyterian Pastor story, Continued from page 1)

Edwards said she is dismayed that marrying gay and lesbian couples like Brenda Cole and Nancy McConn has been a divisive issue in the church.

"I believe with my whole heart that my decision to perform Nancy and Brenda's wedding was faithful to my pastoral call. I did not arrive at the decision overnight," she wrote in a statement Tuesday.

"I spent many months in prayer and met with Nancy and Brenda numerous times before concluding that it falls within the Presbyterian tradition of reform to extend the blessings of marriage to all couples who show deep love and commitment for one another within the context of their faith in God."

Edwards said she has spoken with several other Presbyterian ministers who initially disagreed with same-sex marriage but now support it. She cited the Presbyterian Book of Order, which instructs the church to "give full expression to the rich diversity within its membership," which she said would be consistent with allowing same-sex marriage.

"As a Presbyterian, I belong to a tradition of reform in which change is both possible and necessary in Christian life," she wrote.

"In that centuries-old tradition, difference and dialogue are welcomed. I am also called to the ministry of reconciliation that Christ entrusted to us. It is in this spirit of reconciliation and reform that I work to reconcile my church with the lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender faithful who have been shunned by our spiritual community, even as their lives testify to their love for God and neighbor."

Charges by the Presbyterian Church were dropped against Edwards in 2006 after the committee voted 8-0 that the case was filed too late. The church's constitution defines marriage as a strictly heterosexual institution, though ministers are allowed to bless other types of "holy unions," the Associated Press reported in 2006.

In August 2007, another Presbyterian minister was convicted for marrying two lesbian couples in 2004 and 2005, reversing the ruling in the Rev. Jane Spahr's favor from a lower church court. (The Advocate)

Phelps's Picket Slain Student's Funeral

More than 3,000 mourners gathered Saturday night to remember a 19-year-old college student believed killed by a serial rapist as a loving, caring woman with many friends and a winning personality. Brianna Denison's body was found in a Reno field Feb. 15. Police said she was abducted Jan. 20 and strangled by a man linked to two earlier attacks on the edge of the University of Nevada, Reno.

Her cousin, Spencer Terry, said Denison's spirit would continue to live in the hearts of friends and family.

"Could anybody have asked for a prettier face and a more beautiful soul? I don't think so," Terry said.

Friend Danielle DeTomaso said Denison embraced all kinds of people.

"She knew people from all walks of life," DeTomaso said. "She was the glue that held all of us together."

Denison's aunt, Lauren Denison, reminded the crowd at the Reno-Sparks Convention Center that "we still have a job to do: bring Brianna's killer to justice."

The sophomore at Santa Barbara City College in California was visiting her hometown over winter break when she was abducted while she slept on a couch in a friend's home just off the Reno campus.

Outside the memorial service, several members of a fundamentalist Kansas church faced off against more than 150 counterdemonstrators.

The standoff, which occurred during a fierce snowstorm, ended peacefully when police escorted the three protesters associated with the Westboro Baptist Church away from the convention center, Sgt. Chris Lange said.

"There were a couple of eggs thrown at them and that's about it," Lange said.

Members of the Topeka, Kan., church picketed military funerals out of a belief that the Iraq war is a punishment for the nation's tolerance of homosexuality. Last month, the church announced it would protest the service for Denison because it believes God hates Reno.

Church officials said they targeted the city because local law enforcement officers failed to protect church members who picketed a Jan. 26 memorial service there for a soldier who was killed in Iraq.

On Saturday, the three protesters waved placards reading "Pray for More Dead Kids," "Don't Worship the Dead" and "God Sent the Killer."

Counterdemonstrators said they strongly disapprove of the church's message and tactic of picketing outside memorial services.

"For them to come out and target tragedies like this, I don't think it's right," Greg Bailor Jr. said. "There's enough emotions as it is." (AP)



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The session will not only be a fantastic opportunity for you to learn about the issues at play in Nebraska and around the country, but we will also provide you with the tools necessary to successfully engage decision-makers on those issues. The training is completely free, you just need to RSVP.

Sign up to attend our activist training now at <http://action.aclu.org/nebraskatraining>.

Here's what to expect:

Please plan to attend the entire training

9:30 a.m. Registration

10 a.m. Introductions and Welcome Exercise

10:30 a.m. How to affect change on issues you care about

12 p.m. Lunch (Provided)

12:45 p.m. Meeting with decision makers

3 p.m. How to talk to others about important issues

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Reflections With Pastor Tom

Inner Peace

Have you ever thought about all the time you waste worrying?

We worry largely because we want things to be as we think they should. We worry, largely because we are selfish. (Here I am not speaking of a mother, for example, who “worries” for her child. That is love.) When we are selfish we are putting faith in our own agency above that of God. Much of our worrying is a form of faithlessness and an act of egocentrism.



Inner peace is found in the intentional exercise of acceptance. Acceptance comes when we see ourselves and the world as they really are. We stop fighting and trying to control through useless worrying and positioning, but, instead, we walk into the immediate reality of the situation as it really is.

This whole concept is found in something called the Serenity Prayer. Popular among 12-step groups, the prayer contains timeless wisdom: “God, grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can and the wisdom to know the difference.” I believe that living this is the key to inner peace for all of us. The instructions are

simple, but as you might expect, it takes a lot of hard work. I know I have a long way to go.

When you have a Sprit of inner peace you will be very attractive. There is a reason, you know, why people always flock like mad to meet the likes of the Dali Lama, Bishop Tutu, and Mother Theresa. Their ability to see things as they are and respond with a kind, gentile yet powerful presence draws us unto them. We want to be like them, but we don’t know how. We are too busy worrying. We often worry about things we cannot change and thus waste time that could be spent of working on what can be changed.

Do you want to be attractive to people in a way that really matters? Begin the process of acceptance and move in the direction of inner peace. This week pick three things that you are not going to worry about anymore. See what happens. I can promise progress.

May God Bless & Keep You . . . Pastor Tom
pastortom@mccomaha.org

Next Issue: Being Re-Born

Pastor Tom Emmett is licensed and credentialed with the Metropolitan Community Church (MCC). MCC was the first church to fully include all people. Tom holds a Masters Degree in European history from the University of Colorado and a Masters of Divinity from the Iliff School of Theology. He is currently learning Spanish and studying the cello. You may contact Pastor Tom by telephone at 345-2563 or electronically at pastortom@mccomaha.org

MCC-OMAHA WILL HOST SECOND PROM

Mark your calendars for a FUN! experience. MCC-Omaha is holding its Second Annual Prom on April 5, 2008, at the Downtown Doubletree Hotel, 1616 Dodge St., from 8pm to 12pm. Last year over 140 people attended, and according to the feedback we've received, this prom should be even bigger!

Prime yourself for a semi-formal event complete with decorations, dancing, light hors d'oeuvres, silent auction, raffles, photographer, and cash bar. Bring a party, bring a friend, bring yourself, but mostly plan on a good time! This is an inclusive party—all ages welcome. Tickets are \$15.00 apiece, or \$25.00 for two people.

This prom is a fund raiser for building improvements. The MCC-Omaha church at 819 S. 22 St. is a beautiful and historic building, but maintenance and needed renovations continue to make fund raising a necessity. While having a fun time, you can contribute to a worthy cause.

This year's theme is "Dancing in the Moonlight!" Talk to some



of the people who attended last year. They'll tell you the place was rockin'! You don't need a date, but to take advantage of the cheaper ticket prices, you might want to team up with a friend. This will be a great way to celebrate the arrival of spring, shake off the winter doldrums. Bring out your most glamorous outfit or your most comfortable and let's dance!



A limited amount of working scholarships will be available. Please see Pastor Tom for details at 345-2563. For information on how you can help or for ticket information, call Susie Brenner at 578-7291 or Cheryl Arends at 341-6565.



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MOST POWERS OF ATTORNEY ARE OUTDATED WHEN PRESENTED (MANY ARE NOT EVEN AVAILABLE). Your Power of Attorney is used to allow someone to make financial or health care decisions on your behalf when you are unable to. Unfortunately, these documents keep becoming outdated. Assuming your document is current, will it be available in an emergency? Hospitals report in 3 out of 4 cases the Patient's Health Care Power of Attorney is not available when needed (they will always ask if you have one before you are admitted, regardless of your age). Our new program makes this document accessible 24 hours a day, 7 days a week via the telephone.

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Superdelegates Start Switching to Obama

The Democratic superdelegates are starting to follow the voters -- straight to Barack Obama.

In just the past two weeks, more than two dozen of them have climbed aboard his presidential campaign, according to a survey by The Associated Press. At the same time, Hillary Rodham Clinton's are beginning to jump ship, abandoning her for Obama or deciding they now are undecided.

The result: He's narrowing her once-commanding lead among these "superdelegates," the Democratic office holders and party officials who automatically attend the national convention and can vote for whomever they choose.

As Obama has reeled off 11 straight primary victories, some of the superdelegates are having second -- or third -- thoughts about their public commitments.

Take John Perez, a Californian who first endorsed John Edwards and then backed Clinton. Now, he says, he is undecided.

"Given where the race is at right now, I think it's very important for us to play a role around bringing the party together around the candidate that people have chosen, as opposed to advocating for our own choice," he said in an interview.

Clinton still leads among superdelegates -- 241 to 181, according to the AP survey. But her total is down two in the past two weeks, while his is up 25. Since the primaries started, at least three Clinton superdelegates have switched to Obama, including Rep. David Scott of Georgia, who changed his endorsement after Obama won 80 percent of the primary vote in Scott's district. At least two other Clinton backers have switched to undecided.

None of Obama's have publicly strayed, according to the AP tally.

There are nearly 800 Democratic superdelegates, making them an important force in a nomination race as close as this one. Both campaigns are furiously lobbying them.

"Holy buckets!" exclaimed Audra Ostergard of Nebraska. "Michelle Obama and I are playing phone tag."

Billi Gosh, a Vermont superdelegate who backs Clinton, got a phone call from the candidate herself this week.

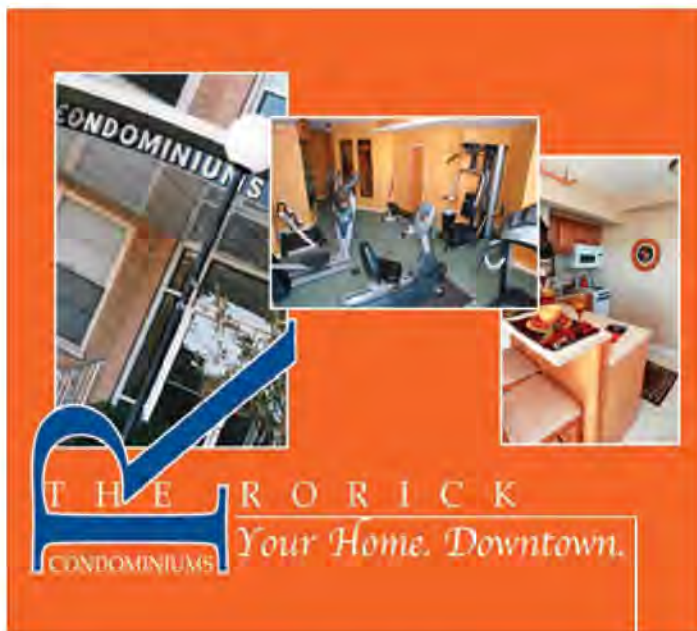
"As superdelegates, we have the opportunity to change our mind, so she's just connecting with me," Gosh said. "I couldn't believe she was able to fit in calls like that to her incredibly busy schedule."

In Utah, two Clinton superdelegates said they continue to support the New York senator -- for now.

"We'll see what happens," said Karen Hale. Likewise, fellow superdelegate Helen Langan said, "We'll see."

Other supporters are more steadfast.

"She's still in the race, isn't she? So I'm still supporting her,"



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said Belinda Biafore, a superdelegate from West Virginia.

Obama has piled up the most victories in primaries and caucuses, giving him the overall lead in delegates, 1,361.5 to 1,267. The Illinois senator's half delegate came from the global primary sponsored by the Democrats Abroad.

It will take 2,025 delegates to secure the nomination at this summer's national convention in Denver. If Clinton and Obama continue to split delegates in elections, neither will reach the mark without support from the superdelegates.

That has the campaigns fighting over the proper role for superdelegates, who can support any candidate they want. Obama argues it would be unfair for them to go against the outcome of the primaries and caucuses.

"I think it is important, given how hard Sen. Clinton and I have been working, that these primaries and caucuses count for something," Obama said during Thursday night's debate in Austin, Texas.

Clinton argues that superdelegates should exercise independent judgment.

"These are the rules that are followed, and you know, I think that it will sort itself out," she said during the debate. "We will have a nominee, and we will have a unified Democratic Party, and we will go on to victory in November."

Behind the scenes, things can get sticky.

David Cicilline, the mayor of Providence, R.I., indicated this week that his support for Clinton might be wavering after -- he

(Continued on page 10)

GAMES DAY AT THE CENTER

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contended -- members of her campaign urged him to cave to the demands of a local firefighters union ahead of her weekend appearance there.

The firefighters, in a long-running contract dispute with Cicil-line, have said they would disrupt any Clinton event the mayor attends. A Clinton spokeswoman said the campaign would never interfere in the mayor's city decisions.

Obama has been helped by recent endorsements from several labor unions, including the Teamsters on Wednesday.

"He's our guy," said Sonny Nardi, an Ohio superdelegate and the president of Teamsters Local 416 in Cleveland.

The Democratic Party has named about 720 of its 795 superdel-egates. The remainder will be chosen at state party conventions in the spring. AP reporters have interviewed 95 percent of the named delegates, with the most recent round of interviews tak- ing place this week.

The superdelegates make up about a fifth of the overall dele- gates. As Democratic senators, both Clinton and Obama are superdelegates.

So is Cincinnati Mayor Mark Mallory, which is one reason his phone rings often.

He is a black mayor, and Obama has been winning about 90 percent of black votes. His state has a March 4 primary with 141 delegates at stake. The Democratic governor, Ted Strick- land, is stumping hard for Clinton -- and perhaps a spot on the national ticket.

A phone call from former President Clinton interrupted Mallo- ry's dinner on a recent Saturday.

"I continue to get calls from mayors, congresspeople, gover- nors, urging me one way or another," said Mallory, who is still mulling his decision. "The celebrities will be next. I guess Oprah will call me." (Stephen Ohlemacher, AP)

Swedish Patients to Get Unisex Underwear

Sweden, a champion of gender equality, plans to introduce uni- sex underwear for hospital patients in a move designed to save both money and space, the project leader said Thursday.

The Swedish Standards Institute has developed a new boxer- style underwear that is considered equally suitable for male and female patients.

Swedish hospitals currently have four different models of un- derwear -- two for men and two for women.

Switching to one model will save money because hospitals can buy greater quantities at a better price, project leader Tuula Cammersand said. It is also an issue of space.

"A lot of people have complained that the different types take up a lot of space because you need all the different models and in different sizes," Cammersand said.

The new boxers are expected to receive final approval in April and be introduced before the summer, she said. (AP)

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Fridays	6:00PM - 11:00PM

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

SATURDAY APRIL 26th
NEBRASKA GLBT SUMMIT, 4th Annual Nebraska LGBTQ Summit "Sharing Ideas, Building Bridges" April 26, 2008 at Mahoney State Park For more information check on-line at www.cfep-ne.org or call Jim Kieffer - 553-1670 in Omaha or Tim Hopkins - 483-6183 in Lincoln

WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Sunday

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

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

DIETZ METHODIST 1423 S.10, Coffee-house casual downstairs at 9am, Traditional Worship at 11am

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

FIRST CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH of

CHRIST, info at: www.firstcentral.org

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

FIRST UNITARIAN 3114 Harney, 11am services

LOWE AVE PRESBYTERIAN, 1023 N 40 10am service

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WIMMIN'S SHOW, KZUM 89.3 12:30pm

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

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

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

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

WOMEN'S SUPPORT GROUP Confidential, meeting at the MCCO Church, 819 S. 22nd St, call 345-2563 for meeting times, all women are welcome

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

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

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

WORSHIP SERVICES
MCC OMAHA, Bible Study, 7pm

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

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

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

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

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

KARAOKE W/ STACY 9:00 pm DC's

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

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

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

KARAOKE 9pm, Connections Bar

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

GLBT SEXUAL COMPULSIVE ANONYMOUS, (SCA), A program of recovery, 11am to 12pm, meeting at Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St.

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

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

MONTHLY EVENTS

1st Tuesday
LINCOLN MIXED CHORUS 6:30pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

1st Thursday
GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S SUPPORT AND DISCUSSION GROUP 7 to 8:30pm, Meeting in Lincoln first and third Thursdays of the month. Call 434-9880 / 476 9668 for location and information.

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

1st Friday
FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE HOUSE 8pm, Musicians, poets, open mic, First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney, Omaha

1st Saturday OR Sunday
HEARTLAND GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION, Meeting days and times may vary, call 402-505-3331 for info or see www.hgra.net for meeting schedules etc.

1st Sunday
GAY GUYS SPAGHETTI NIGHT, at a Lincoln restaurant, call 402-483-6183 to reserve a seat up until the day before

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

2nd Wednesday
ACTS II WORSHIP SERVICE, 7pm, MCC Omaha, 819 S. 22nd Street

2nd Thursday
PFLAG- OMAHA, 7pm, First United Methodist Church

2nd Saturday
LEARNING TO EXCHANGE POWER L2EP@aol.com 2pm; DC's Saloon

2nd Sunday
INTEGRITY 6-7:30pm, St. Marks, Lincoln NE

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

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

3rd Tuesday
IMPERIAL COURT OF NE, Board of Governors meeting, 7:15pm, meeting at the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Community Center, www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org

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

3rd Thursday
GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S SUPPORT AND DISCUSSION GROUP 7-8:30pm, Meeting in Lincoln first and third Thursdays of the month. Call 434-9880 / 476 9668 for location and information.

LES/BI/GAY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP, Village Inn, 78th & Dodge, 7 PM

3rd Friday
GAY/BI SUPPORT GRP FOR HIV+ MEN 6-8pm NAP, 220 S. 17, Lincoln, 476-7000.

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

COFFEE HOUSE Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

3rd Saturday
GAY/BI SUPPORT GRP FOR HIV+ MEN 6-8pm NAP, 220 S. 17, Lincoln, 476-7000.

3rd Sunday
TRANSGENDER DROP-IN, 2 to 4pm at Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth St.

4th Tuesday
PFLAG-CORNHUSKER Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln, 7 p.m.

YOUTH HIV TEST Lighthouse, 2530

N, Lincoln, ages 13 to 18, FFI: 475-3220. 3-5:30 pm

4th Friday
LEO LEATHER ENGINEERS—OMAHA
Not currently meeting.

Email Your Event to:
GAYZETTE@COX.NET

A Definition We Love

Electile Dysfunction : the inability to become aroused over any of the choices for president put forth by either party in the 2008 election year.

SMART A\$\$ ANSWER #4

A lady was picking through the frozen turkeys at the grocery store but she couldn't find one big enough for her family. She asked a stock boy, "Do these turkeys get any bigger?" The stock boy replied, "No ma'am, they're dead."

Riddle of the Week

What do you get when you put 32 West Virginia cheerleaders in one room?
.....A full set of teeth.

*Did you know that you can see the entire **GAYZETTE** on our web site?*

Go to:

www.rainbowoutreach.org

*And click on the Publications link.
George W. Bush reads the Gayzette.
(Ok, he just looks at the pictures.)*

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>

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

Diamond Foundation, GLBT Scholarships, Mentoring and Leadership, call 877-87-DIAMOND or see www.diamond-foundation.org

Family Foundations Therapy for individuals, couples or families, for info call 558-3856

First Central Congregational Church UCC, 421 South 36th St., 402-345-1533, www.firstcentral.org, GLBT-affirming

First Lutheran Church, 542 So. 31st St., 402-345-7506, GLBT Friendly www.firstlutheranomaha.org

First 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

Alphabet (ABC) Soup at UNO, http://groups.yahoo.com/group/uno_abcoup, Phone Student Organizations at 554-2711.

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

GayLibrary.com, World Wide Resources

Heartland Gay Rodeo Association, see www.hgra.net for information

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 556-9907, Board Meets 3rd Monday, Doubletree Hotel Downtown, www.icon.impcourt.org

Learning to Exchange Power, L2EP@aol.com; Social, educational group novices in Leather, S/M, B/D Lifestyle

Leather Engineers of Omaha (LEO) Box 8101, Omaha, 68108-8101 Gay men in leather lifestyle, not currently meeting

LinOma Bares, for more Info email linomabares@yahoo.com or mail to P.O. Box 24547, Omaha NE 68124

Low Avenue Presbyterian Church, 1023 No. 40th St., fully open to GLBT's,

Mpower Program, 139 S. 40, Omaha 68131 email: mpower@nap.org website: www.mpower-nap.org phone: 402.552.9260x20, Holistic Gay Men's Health Program

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha, 819 S. 22 St., Omaha 68108 345-2563, mccomaha@mccomaha.org Website:www.mccomaha.org Sunday

Worship 11am, Wed Evening Bible Study at 7pm

NA Rainbow Group, Narcotics Anonymous, meets every Sunday at 6pm, MCC -Omaha Church, 819 South 22nd St

Nebraska AIDS Project, 552-9260 Watanabe Wellness Ctr, 139 S. 40, Omaha 68131, Testing Wed from 1:30-4PM by appointment only, Thurs 7PM-9PM results in a week, Fri 5PM-10PM with 20 minute results Call 402-552-9255 info

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

Nebraska GLBT Events, Community Events Calendar web site, see www.NebraskaGLBTEvents.com

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

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

Omaha Bi Married Men Yahoo Group <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/OmahaBiMarriedMen>

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

Omaha GLBT Professionals, Contact omahaglbtprofessionals@cox.net for more info.

Omaha Metro GLBT Sports League, NEW contact info coming soon!

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

Parents and Friends of Lesbians And Gays (PFLAG) Omaha Chapter Box 390064, Omaha, 68139-0064 291-6781 Website:www.pflag-omaha.org, email info@pflag-omaha.org Meet 2nd Thurs, 1st United Meth, 7020 Cass

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

Prairie Bares, nudist group, no further info available, ask Dino A. or David F.

Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Ctr, 1719 Leavenworth, Omaha, 341-0330

Rainbow Bible Study, Fridays, 6-7:30pm, Lowe Ave Presbyterian, 1023 N. 40 St.

Rainbow Celebrations, PO Box 8488, Omaha, 68108, 402-212-6302 locally, 866-NE-PRIDE toll free, sponsors of annual Gay Pride & National Coming Out Day, for complete information see www.rainbowcelebrations.org

River City Gender Alliance, P.O. Box 4083

Omaha, NE 68104, for info call 402.813.1842 or Email: info@rivercitygenderalliance.org

River City Mixed Bowling II 3pm, Sundays, Maplewood Lanes, Omaha Norma Harrison (402) 731-5706

River City Mixed Chorus, Box 3267, Omaha, NE 68103, 402-341-SING Website: www.rcmc.org

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

WomenSpace, no current info is available

LINCOLN BASED

GLBT and Ally Programs and Services at UNL, Pat Tetreault, Ph.D. Sexuality Education Coordinator University Health Center Health ED Dept. 402.472.7447 for info see <http://www.unl.edu/health/sexuality>

Gay/Lesbian/Bi/Straight Alliance 2229 J St., Lincoln 68510 (402) 436-1301 ext. 232 Ruth Kupfer

Gay & Bi Men's Discussion & Support Group, Tim, P.O. Box 6341, Lincoln 68506-0341 483-6183

Lesbian, Bisexual and Questioning Women's Discussion Group, University of Nebraska, Lincoln Women's Center (sponsor), Room 340, Nebraska Union, Lincoln 68588-0446. 402/472-5644.

Nebraska AIDS Project, 2147 S. 15th St. Lincoln, NE 68502. (402) 476-7000

Mixed Chorus, Rehearse 1st & 3rd Fridays, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, No auditions, Just a desire to sing, info contact Scott at sdorchid@neb.rr.com

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://pflag.ineb.org/>

Plainsmen, Support FtM's (Female to Male) Drag Kings TV Butches, 402-820-1267

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

Straight Spouse Support Grp 402-429-6094

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

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

UNL Committee on GLBT Concerns, Contact Pat Tetreault, c/o University Health Center, 15th & U Streets, Rm. 12h Lincoln, NE 68588-0618, (402) 472-7447 or email: ptetreau@unlnotes.unl.edu

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

Iowa Based

Council Bluffs Pride, www.councilbluffspride.org
Iowa Equality, GLBT -allied against change to the state and federal
Constitutions, <http://www.iowaEquality.org>
Sioux City, Iowa Resource Web Site: www.siouxlandpride.net

A Point of View to Disagree

No one knows everything. The smartest man and woman on this planet even don't know everything. So why is it we pretend and act like we do?



Arrogance! When one person has an ideal that we don't like we take a hostile action towards them or their group or like-minded believers, and when someone's ideal is like ours we open our arms to them. The latter is normal and nothing is wrong with it, but hostility should not be taken towards someone who simply disagrees. What if we were wrong? Far be it!

It seems in these days towards our election that people of different minds cannot come together calmly and discuss different political ideas.

That people would rather shout and point fingers at others accusing them of wrong doings without all the facts. If they have all the facts they don't use it in their accusations. Leaving those who only hear the one side to quickly come to the same conclusions. This is normal and shouldn't be so. I watched a South Park episode in which Cartman claims that the best way to fight hate is with more hate. This seems to be the ideal way of doing things in our society today. If a Christian bans a homosexual because they disagree it is wrong to do so, and if a gay organization disagrees with someone then that person can't participate in their functions. So why is one wrong and another right. Let each decide who can and cannot be part of their functions. It's called the right of the people peaceably to assemble. However, let each let the other at least attend quietly so that maybe the other can see the other's point of view. Each organization wants people of like-minds to be the leaders of their own group, and if a leader goes against the ideas of organization then by all means let that organization let that leader step down and only become a spectator.

If an organization believes my lifestyle is immoral. Let them. Far be it from me to tell one person they are wrong and create a terrible conflict when I might win them over by showing them that in reality I'm not all that bad of a person. Maybe I believe their organization is immoral. By taking a harsh and same reaction towards them does that make me right?

Wouldn't someone who takes a harsh stand against me be the same as me retaliating and taking a harsh stand against them also? Sometimes boycotts work, but what you've done is pres-

Community Announcements

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



Did you know that you can see the entire *GAYZETTE* on our web site?

Go to:

www.rainbowoutreach.org

And click on the Publications link.

George W. Bush reads the Gayzette.

(Ok, he just looks at the pictures.)



OMAHA PFLAG

Monthly Meetings: Second Thursday 7:00 P.M.

Location: First United Methodist Church

7020 Cass, Omaha, Nebraska

Web Site: www.pflag-omaha.org

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

HELPLINE
(402) 291-67681

sure someone financially to bend to your ideal. You haven't changed their opinion. A better idea might be to patronage such a place with many people of your ideals and show them that you are worth supporting at the same time showing them that you are patrons of their business. When you do this you show the business that you are not just patrons but you are their friends, and you will teach them who you really are. You'll change their perception of you and your ideals while getting them to change their practices against you.

I will conclude with this: Sometimes things are worth fighting for. You must pick your battles but do it with humility so you don't look stupid when you find out you are wrong. You're not always right! Pick those battles carefully too. No matter how right you are you must understand the cost maybe more than you can handle; like to lose a job. If hostility, anger, and hate are your first response to conflict you've only shown people what is in your heart and what kind of person you really are. The phrase "you gather more flies with honey than vinegar" isn't just something told to kids. It's told so you don't always fly off the handle in every situation in which you disagree. Remember you want to be treated with dignity and respect. You are not alone with this belief so show some to those around you too. Remember also that a majority doesn't mean right. If more people believe something than another it doesn't mean it's right. I just wish bickering and fighting would end, but it will always be here. It would be nice though if those who call each other family would do it out of kindness and possibly love rather than obligation because of lifestyle. I also would like the idea of first looking at things through many eyes than just the box we live in. Treat each other with love and respect and you'll see you will get it in return... it might just take a while to earn though so be patient.

2008 Chevrolet Volt

by Scott Corlett, Gaywheels

We may never know who really killed the electric car -- maybe it was Mr. Mustard, in the library, with a copy of "Mame" on DVD? But we do know who is trying to resurrect it.

Oh, you say, that must be Toyota, the maker of the egg-shaped Prius and current gold standard in automotive eco-friendliness. Well, hold on to your Sierra Club cards, because the actual leader of the push for the return of mass-production electric vehicles is none other than Detroit's General Motors.



Chevrolet first showed off its Volt concept car at the 2007 Detroit Auto Show. On the surface, the Volt is a super-slick, futuristic sedan, with four doors and a coupe-style body. Sure, the Volt's design is dreamy gorgeous, and makes me want to throw my jetpack in the back, as I head off to work at Spacely Sprockets. But futuristic concept cars at auto shows are more common than Britney's breakdowns.

So what makes the Chevy Volt so special? The Volt is powered by a hulking, 400-pound lithium-ion battery. GM claims that after a six-hour charge from a standard 110-volt outlet, this battery can power the Volt's electric motor for 40 miles of petroleum-free driving.

After 40 miles, the Volt's three-cylinder, "EV-extender" gasoline engine takes over, not by directly powering the wheels, but by generating current for the electric motor and battery.

You say the Volt sounds more like a plug-in hybrid vehicle than an electric car? Well, that depends on your daily driving patterns. If you drive less than 40 miles a day, then the gasoline engine never starts, and the Chevy Volt is in fact an electric car that solely relies on a wall socket for its nightly juice.

But if your commute is longer, let's say 70 miles per day, then what kind of mileage will the Volt offer? Based on GM's claim of 50 mpg for the three-cylinder engine, you will use 0.6 gallons of gasoline to travel your 70 miles (40 "free" miles plus 30 miles at 50 mpg). This equates to an astounding 117 mpg for your daily commute.

The Volt's mileage numbers are fab, but what's revolutionary about this Chevy is its E-Flex System. E-Flex is the Volt's clever power train architecture, which allows future EV-extenders -- such as diesel or E85-ethanol engines, or even hydrogen fuel cells -- to easily replace the current gasoline plant.

Just imagine the petroleum savings using the simplest of these alternatives, the E85-ethanol engine. E85 fuel is 85 percent ethanol and 15 percent gasoline. Now, your 70-mile commute consumes almost entirely only American-made electricity and ethanol. Plus a measly 0.1 gallons of old-fashioned gasoline, which works out to something like 700 mpg.

That thud that you just heard? That was Al Gore running to sign up for the Volt's waiting list.

Well, not so fast, former Vice President. GM says there's one little bump on the road to independence from foreign oil: The Volt's huge lithium-ion batteries won't be ready for production until sometime between 2010 and 2012. But if GM can deliver on the Chevy Volt, then what's good for General Motors will once again be good for America.

Chevrolet is a gay-friendly company.

Get gay-friendly automotive reviews and pricing information at Gaywheels.com.

Fitness Corner

By Ron Blake
Certified Personal Trainer



By the time you read this, the Academy Awards gadabouts will be looking forward to next year's red carpet faux pas. You will likely have listened ad nauseam to the incessant prattling of that sham fashion critic Joan Rivers. You will probably be joining the droves of lemmings to rent the Oscar winning movies at the corner Blockbuster. I will now beseech your participation for my health version of the body's Academy Awards. I promise to shut up when the music starts to play.

The winner for best editing goes to the reticular activating system, or the RAS as it is known to the medical snobs. This system was responsible for filtering all the unnecessary dreck that made its way to your brain during the past year. It decided what was important for you to pay attention to. It concluded that 99% of the sensory input that approached your cerebral cortex was to be ignored. Without this RAS, you would likely have been bombarded with an overload of drab detail all around you. The kind of overload you would experience while on the drug LSD, which does temporarily disable the RAS.

The winner for best supporting role goes to the diaphragm. This veteran provided enough action and drama for five hysterical queens. It was capable of providing sufficient pressure change in your thoracic cavity to send blood soaring happily back to the heart on many an occasion. It has so ardently allowed you to give that much needed extra push while grunting and groaning on the toilet. It was even so chivalrous to accompany you to the health club and save you from muscle tears during your heavy lifting exercises.

The best makeup award is presented to the circulatory system for its presentation of the numerous bruises that you displayed to the world. These hematomas are more than just clotted blood masses and it is long overdue that the Academy finally recognizes these purveyors of black and blue marks. They maintained their iridescent beauty until the body naturally reabsorbed the escaped blood that clotted just beneath the skin's surface.

The best leading role goes to the lungs. This organ is usually secondary to the perennial favorites such as the heart, brain, or the stomach. This year the voters spoke and showed the world that nobody puts the lungs in a corner. This tour de force has provided the heart with all its oxygen which in turn has provided the properly conditioned blood for your brain's processing of your impure thoughts and the stomach's digesting of those roast beef sandwiches ladled with horsey sauce.

The best director goes to the adrenaline. This little behemoth was responsible for preparing all your body parts for that fight or flight reaction when you came face to face with that curmudgeonly pit bull in the park. Audience members cheered furiously when you chose the flight version and outpaced the Hound of the Baskervilles and then leapt that six foot brick wall to the safety of those hydrangea bushes on the other side. Only a capable director could cajole you out of your slothful ways to negotiate that feat.

There were many nominees for great body parts and their exciting roles. With all due respect to the aforementioned winners, the body does function as a whole and winning team. Keep learning about your anatomy and physiology. This knowledge is what will keep you healthy and prepare you for the recipient of the lifetime achievement award.

This column is brought to you by that guy who frequently and sophomorically ordered Whopper sandwiches while in the McDonald's drive-throughs in his carefree youth. That guy is Ron Blake and he can be castigated at www.goblakefitness.com.



Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

Omaha:

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

Lincoln:

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

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



Attacks Show Easygoing Jamaica Is Dire Place for Gays

By MARC LACEY,
NY Times

MANDEVILLE, Jamaica — One night last month, Andre and some friends were finishing dinner when a mob showed up at the front gate. Yelling antigay slurs and waving machetes, sticks and knives, 15 to 20 men kicked in the front door of the home he and his friends had rented and set upon them.

[Skip to next paragraph](#)
[Enlarge This Image](#)

Oscar Hidalgo for The New York Times
Inspector Claude Smith says of gays, “I don’t think they can survive in the open.”
“I thought I was dead,” Andre, 20, a student, recounted in a faint voice, still scared enough that he was in hiding and did not want his full name to be used.

The mob pummeled him senseless. His right hand, the one he used to shield himself from the blows, is now covered with bandages. His skull has deep cut marks and his ear was sliced in half, horizontally. Doctors managed to sew it back together and he can hear out of it again.

Being gay in Jamaica is not easy. For years, human rights groups have denounced the harassment, beating and even killing of gays here, to little avail. No official statistic has been compiled on the number of attacks. But a recent string of especially violent, high-profile assaults has brought fresh condemnation to an island otherwise known as an easygoing tourist haven.

“One time may be an isolated incident,” said Rebecca Schleifer, a researcher for Human Rights Watch who has studied the issue and regularly gets calls from the island from gays under attack. “When they happen on a repeated basis across the country, it is an urgent problem that deserves attention at the highest levels.”

Disapproval of gays is an entrenched part of island life, rooted, Jamaicans say, in the country’s Christian tradition. The Bible condemns homosexuality, they say. But critics say islanders are selective in the verses they cite, and the rage at gay sex contrasts sharply with Jamaicans’ embrace of casual sex among heterosexuals, which is considered part of the Caribbean way.

While some other Caribbean tourist destinations have made a point of marketing to gay travelers, Jamaica has notably not joined the trend.

The double standard on the island is reflected in the antigay lyrics of Jamaican dance hall music, the headlines of more hyperventilating tabloids — “homo” is the term most often used — and the fact that homosexuality remains illegal here, with the specific crime called “buggery.”

No place has shown that hostility recently more than Mandeville, a prosperous and quiet town in the South Coast area that rarely makes big news.

A couple of weeks back, a local tabloid, The Jamaica Star, ran a screaming headline when a local police officer, disturbed by the attack on the dinner party guests, decided to disclose his sexual orientation to the paper. He said he had been harassed regularly by his colleagues because he is gay. He said the police did not take violence against gays seriously.

“Jamaica’s motto is ‘Out of Many, One People,’ and I say, ‘What about us?’ ” said the police officer, Michael Hayden.

Mr. Hayden, who has since taken leave from the force, is in hiding out of fear that his colleagues might kill him.

Not even funerals are safe for gays. A year ago, just down the road from the disrupted dinner party, a gay businessman’s funeral was interrupted by a mob that gathered outside the church. The mob, outraged that effeminate mourners wearing tight pants and shirts had dared to show up, threw bottles and rocks through the church’s windows, then barged inside and ordered that the service be stopped.

The pastor, who had not known the dead man was gay, pressed on, furious at the protesters for what he considered a defiling of his church. “The same religion they use to justify these attacks, I use to show what they do is wrong,” said the pastor, the Rev. Amos Campbell, of True Vine True Holiness Church.

No one was prosecuted in the episode.

The country’s public defender, Earl Witter, later condemned the violence at the funeral, but he also reinforced the common view that if only gays would be less flamboyant, there would be less violence against them. Speaking to the Mandeville Rotary Club last April, he urged Jamaica’s gays to avoid flaunting their sexual orientation. “Hold your corners,” he said in the local vernacular, because “it may provoke a violent breach of the peace.”

As it is, Jamaica’s gays socialize at underground nightclubs and worship at secret church services that move around the island. The leading gay rights organization, Jamaica Forum for Lesbians, All-Sexuals and Gays, must lie low even as it pushes for societal change.

[Skip to next paragraph](#)

The New York Times
A mob assaulted gays in Mandeville recently.
Gareth Henry, a former leader of the group, fled to Canada last month, saying he had grown tired of being threatened. “Here, I’m no longer living in fear,” he said in a telephone interview from Toronto. “I’m finally able to be myself, to be an out gay man.”

The commander of the Mandeville police station, Inspector Claude Smith, while making clear that his religious beliefs firmly oppose homosexuality, rejected the notion that the police condone violence against gays. Enforcement of the law against homosexuality, he said, should be up to the police, not angry mobs.

In an interview, he recalled protecting a gay man who was chased through the streets of Mandeville about 15 years ago for wearing lipstick and carrying a purse. He predicted that the climate would not change for gays any time soon.

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox

WELL... I'VE NARROWED DOWN THE LIST OF POSSIBLE DOG NAMES TO TWO NAMES.

YOU CAN MAKE THE FINAL CALL.

GREAT. LET'S HEAR THEM.

OKAY... FIRST ONE IS HOTCAKE.

HOTCAKE?

YEAH. IT'S ANOTHER WORD FOR PANCAKE.

I REALIZE THAT.

AND I GET WHY YOU CHOSE IT.

BECAUSE THIS IS A B&B, AND I'M ALWAYS MAKING ALL KINDS OF PANCAKES, RIGHT?

WELL, YEAH... THAT, AND THE FACT THAT HE SWIPED A FULL STACK OF PANCAKES OFF THE COUNTER THE OTHER DAY...

... AND WOLFED 'EM DOWN BEFORE I COULD STOP HIM.

HMM... SOUNDS LIKE HE COULD USE SOME OBEDIENCE TRAINING... BUT I DO LIKE THE NAME.

WHAT'S THE OTHER CHOICE?

"BY-TOR!"

BY-TOR?

IT'S FROM A RUSH SONG. "BY-TOR AND THE SNOW DOG."

AH. I SHOULD'VE ANTICIPATED YOU'D PICK SOMETHING FROM THE RUSH CATALOGUE.

IT'S CUTE, BUT...

... I'M A LITTLE HESITANT ABOUT NAMING OUR DOG SOMETHING THAT SOUNDS LIKE "BITER".

I REALLY LIKE "HOTCAKE", THOUGH.

THEN HOTCAKE IT IS!

ALL RIGHT!

ON A COMPLETELY UNRELATED NOTE... ARE YOU WEARING ANYTHING UNDERNEATH THAT HOCKEY JERSEY?

THERE COULD BE A JOCKSTRAP INVOLVED.

UM... I THINK WE NEED TO SEND HOTCAKE OUTSIDE TO PLAY NOW.

OH? WHY'S THAT?

BECAUSE IT'S ABOUT TO GET VERY X-RATED IN HERE...

“Based on the response of these mobs, people get very angry when they come across them,” he said. “I don’t think they can survive in the open.”

The issue, though, is certainly out in the open. Last November, The Gleaner, the largest daily newspaper here, published an article saying that some of the island’s schools were using a home economics textbook that suggested same-sex unions were a type of family. Andrew Holness, the new education minister, swiftly pulled the book from circulation.

“We are reviewing all our books to ensure that they adhere to the moral view of society,” he told reporters.

Last April, the local news media reported that gays had protested outside the offices of the Western Mirror, a Montego Bay newspaper, after it published an article that said gays were responsible for a shortage of women’s underwear in the city.

Then there was the recent attack in Mandeville, which is still under investigation, with no arrests. Next to Andre, huddled in a corner during the attack, was his boyfriend, 22, who goes by the nickname Junior. Deep machete slashes run up and down the arm he held in the air to protect himself. His head was also battered, though he escaped a more vicious beating by running through the mob waving a kitchen knife.

Two other men at the dinner got away, but the fate of one guest remains unknown. He had fled into the yard before the attackers broke in and has not been heard from since. The police found blood at the mouth of a deep hole nearby; they suspect he may have been attacked in the yard, then fallen to his death.

Since the attack, Andre said, he has been trying to undo his gayness, following a common view here that it is an acquired behavior that can be dropped if only one prays more and pays more attention to the opposite sex.

He fled Mandeville after the attack and found refuge at the home of a pastor, who now delivers at-home sermons to him on how he must change.

With the pastor standing over him, Andre said he would try to be attracted to women, if only so he would never be beaten again. But he mentions another option, as well: leaving Jamaica.

The pastor says he has a son who is gay and has been unable to turn him around. But he is intent on converting Andre.

“Instead of cutting him, people should be counseling him,” said the pastor, who declined to be identified out of fear that his family might be attacked for protecting a gay man. “He needs to get over this demonic thing.”

THE LITTLE DOG LAUGHED

SNAP! Productions will hold auditions for the comedy/drama, “THE LITTLE DOG LAUGHED” by Douglas Carter Beane. The show requires one male to play a sexy young drifter/rent boy in his early twenties. One female to play the rent boy’s naive, needy girlfriend in her mid twenties. One male in his late twenties to early thirties to play a budding screen idol. One female who can play a hard-driving Hollywood agent (early thirties).

THE LITTLE DOG LAUGHED follows the adventures of Mitchell Green, a movie star who could hit big if it weren’t for one teeny-weensy problem. His agent, Diane, can’t seem to keep him in the closet. Trying to help him navigate Hollywood’s choppy waters, the devilish Diane is doing all she can to keep Mitchell away from the cute rent boy who’s caught his eye and the rent boy’s girlfriend.

The auditions will be held on Saturday, March 15th and Sunday, March 16th. Both at 2:00 pm. The auditions will be held at the SNAP! theatre located at 3225 California Street. Any questions, please call Todd Brooks at (402) 968-5543 or email at Brooks1965@aol.com.

The Best Ever Blonde Joke

It was Postman Pat's last day on the job after 35 years of carrying the post through all kinds of weather to the same neighborhood.

When he arrived at the first house on his route, he was greeted by the whole family there, who all hugged and congratulated him and sent him on his way with a gift check for \$500.

At the second house they presented him fine Cuban cigars in an 18-carat gold box. The folks at the third house handed him a case of 30-year old Scotch whisky.

At the fourth house he was met at the door by a dumb blonde in her lingerie. She took him by the arm and led him up the stairs to the bedroom where she blew his mind with the most passionate love he had ever experienced.

When he had had enough they went downstairs, where the dumb blonde fixed him a giant breakfast: eggs, tomatoes, ham, sausage, blueberry waffles, and freshly-squeezed orange juice. When he was truly satisfied she poured him a cup of steaming coffee. As she was pouring, he noticed a \$5 note sticking out from under the cup's bottom edge. "All this was just too wonderful for words," he said, "but what's the five dollars for?" "Well," said the dumb blonde, "last night, I told my husband that today would be your last day, and that we should do something special for you. I asked him what to give you". He said, "F*** him. Give him five bucks."

She smiled prettily. "The breakfast was my idea".

THE MAX

SUNDAY MAR 2ND

Mr Max Jeffrey's
"A BOY AND HIS DIVA'S"
10pm

FRIDAY MAR 7TH

MEN'S NIGHT
AMATEUR STRIP CONTEST
\$100 CASH PRIZE
7PM
UNDERWEAR PARTY
9PM

SATURDAY MAR 8TH

Jeff McKenzie &
Sharon VanButsel's
AHS Class Reunion
6pm Roll Call
7pm Show

SUNDAY MAR 9TH

Rainbow Celebrations
Benefit
10pm

SATURDAY MAR 15TH

Omaha Gay Latin@s Show
6pm Doors Open
7pm Show

BACKGROUND:
MR MAX JEFFREY

THEMAXOMAHA.COM