

the

GAYZETTE

News and Events for the GLBTA Communities

International Ms Leather 2006

Celebrate Twenty Years of History

This July, International Ms Leather (IMsL) will celebrate its 20th Anniversary and International Ms Bootblack (IMsBB), its 8th. Join us in Omaha, Nebraska on July 14-16, 2006 to look back on our history and to help shape the future.



Whether this is your first IMsL or your 20th, this is a MUST ATTEND event for everyone female, male, trans, gay, straight, bi, etc.

Experience an energy that spans two decades-add your spirit to this gathering of leather folk. Let the community

embrace you.

All women are welcome to compete, regardless of experience or other titles.

If you care about the community and want to add your voice and vitality to the continuation of our clan, then you are just the type of woman we want to compete.

This year we're adding a twist to the contest! In honor of our Continued on Page 7

From Fantasy to Reality.... Dare To Dream

Another year has come and gone and now it is time for Emperor 25 Dan Knobbe and Empress 25 Lana Caine to join the land of wuzzies and let a new reign take the stage to lead the Imperial Court of Nebraska.

Over the past vear, Dan and Lana have helped raise over \$25,000.00 for local and national charities including Nebraska AIDS Project, MCC-Omaha. American Red Cross. Hurricane Katrine Relief Efforts. Michele's Fund and Rainbow Celebrations.



Coronation 26 ceremo-

nies kick off Thurday, July 6th at The MAX with the In-Town Show when Dan and Lana will thank the many local and state titleholders along with the Royal Family of Reign 25 for all their help and support over the past year. The show begins at 6:00 PM with cocktails and entertainment at 7:00 PM.

Friday, July 7th, hospitality will open at the Doubletree Hotel Downtown at 12:00 Noon - 4:00 PM. That evening, people from across the country will converge on DC's Saloon for the

Continued on Page 7

July 7, 2006 - July 21, 2006

Published every two weeks by the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center P.O. Box 8583, Omaha, Nebraska 68108 (402) 341-0330 Web Site: www.rainbowoutreach.org email the GAYZETTE: news@rainbowoutreach.org

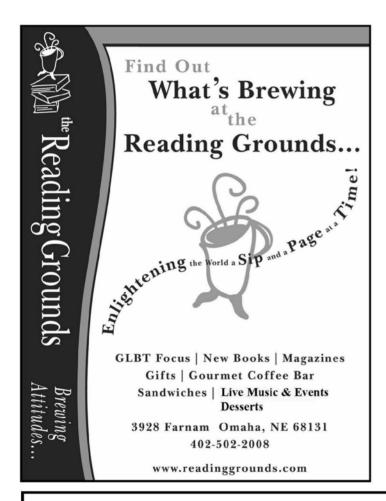
Jeremy & James Will be hosting Game Day at the Center 1719 Leavenworth St

Sundays: 1:00pm - 3:00pm

Come down and check out the games we have available or bring your favorite game and show us how to play.

Ages 5 - 105.

Parents bring the kids down and play or read some of the books in our Library while they play.





Antiques, Collectibles & More

4679 Leavenworth • Omaha, NE 68106 • 402.660.0778 Tues., Wed., Thurs. — 3-8 pm. Fri.— 2-6 pm. Saturday — 10-6 pm.

Helping the Center is Easier than Ever!

The Center is now accepting donations of household items that can be sold on eBay to raise money!

We accept donations during regular Center hours or arrange for local pickup. We are currently accepting the following types of items:

Clothing & Accessories Working Electronic Equipment Houseware & Giftware Tools Jewelry **Books** Music CD's DVD's & VHS tapes Video Games And more....

> If you are not sure if we can accept an item, call (402) 341-0330 or email: auctions@rainbowoutreach.org and we will be happy to assist you!

> Please Remember; All Donations to the **Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center are** TAX DEDUCTIBLE!!!

GAYZETTE AD RATES, PRINTED COPY AND ON THE WEB

Whole Page 7 ½ X 10 Fourth Page 3 3/4 X 4 3/4 \$100.00 \$ 25.00

7 ½ X 4 ¾ Half Page **Business Card**

\$ 50.00 \$ 15.00

All ads must be camera ready. Payment must accompany ad, Checks should be made payable to Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center. 10% Discount for on-going ads of any size. Payment and ads should be delivered to the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center, P.O. Box 8583, Omaha NE 68102 on or before the deadline or emailed to news@RainbowOutreach.org. Please email or call ahead to reserve space. We reserve the right to refuse any ad which we deem to be inappropriate.

Ad Deadlines: Friday, July 14, for Publication July 21st Friday, July 28, for Publication Aug 4th



www.flixxvideobar.com

COMING SOON:

TUESDAY NIGHTS
MARTINIS AND MANICURES

SATURDAY JULY 15TH \$1 WELLS ALL RIGHT LONG

COMING JULY 29TH SPANKCANDY ,FANTASY AND FETISH SHOW. 9PM IN THE SHOWBAR



THE KINGSMEN!
FRIDAY JULY 28TH DOORS



WET BOXER CONTEST
FRIDAY JULY 21ST @ 11P

Sunday Night

Amateur Drag hosted by Dominique Diva Moore
A FUNDRAISER FOR THE NEBRASKA AIDS PROJECT
CALL FLIXX FOR MORE INFORMATION 408-1020

THE OLD MARKET EVENT CENTER IS AVAILABLE FOR PARTIES & SPECIAL EVENTS!

1015 SOUTH 10TH STREET—NEXT TO FLIXX. CALL MIKE @ 408-0882 FOR MORE INFORMATION.

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox













BUT THAT WOMAN WAS









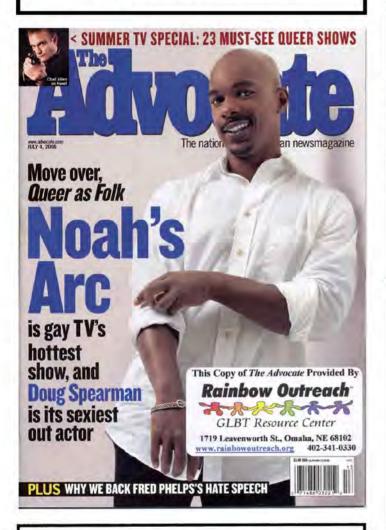


Website - www.kylecomics.com

E-Mail - KylesBnB@aol.com

Would you like a FREE Copy of the Advocate?

Stop in at the GLBT Community Center at 1719 Leavenworth and pick up a copy. Free while supplies last. Limit one copy per person while 50 copies of each issue last.



Printing Plus Inc

2431 South 120th Street Omaha, Nebraska 68144 402.333.5935

email: printingplusinc@aol.com Serving Our Community for 21 Years



Senior 50+ Group Meeting

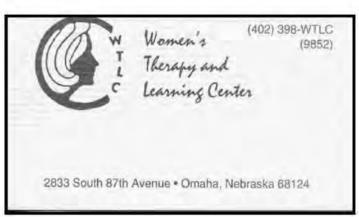
A new group has begun regular social meetings at the Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Center at 1719 Leavenworth Street. The next meeting is on Saturday, **July 15th**, from 7 until 10PM.

If you're 50 or older, or like to socialize with your older peers, share your experiences and viewpoints, then this group is for you. Not into the bar scene? Then stop in for a visit, enjoy some great conversation, and make some new friends. The event is free

and open to everyone.

Don't be an old Scrooge, come on down and have some fun!







DC'S SALOON "IT'S THE PLACE TO BE"

WE'RE CELEBRATING OUR

15 YEARS ANNIVERSARY SATURDAY, JULY 15TH

WE'RE GIVING AWAY PRIZES ALL NIGHT LONG
VIVACE GIFT CERTIFICATE
M'S PUB GIFT CERTIFICATE
AIRLINE TRAVEL VOUCHERS

AND MORE...

DRAWINGS BEGIN AT 10:00 PM YOU MUST BE PRESENT TO WIN

DRINK SPECIALS

\$2.50 JOSE QUERVO - \$2.50 SOUTHERN COMFORT

\$1.50 COCKSUCKERS

LINE-DANCE DRINK SPECIALS EVERY HOUR

DC'S SALOON ~ 610 S 14TH ST ~ OMAHA, NE 68102 402-344-3103 WWW.DCSSALOONOMAHA.COM

ICON Story Continues from Front Page.....

Out-of-Town Show starting at 7:00 PM. Immediately following the show, guests will take a Bus Tour of Omaha's gay bar scene ending at The MAX at 12:00 midnight. \$10.00 cover get you into the show and on the tour. Hospitality will open again at the Doubletree Hotel from 12:30AM - 3:00 AM. Out-of-Town Show or Coronation ticket is required to attend hospitality.

A reminder for all those interested in performing at Coronation 26. The Board of Directors have approved the auctioning off of a command performance during the Out-of-Town Show Friday evening. The performance will go to the highest bidder.

Saturday, July 8th is the big day starting at 10:00 AM with hospitality until 3:00 PM. Doors for Coronation 26 open at 6:00 PM at the Doubletree Hotel Downtown in the Grand Ballroom. Tickets are \$30.00. The opening number will begin promptly at 7:00 PM. After the crowning of ICON's Emperor and Empress 26, hospitality will again open until 3:00 PM. Admission with your Out-of-Town or Coronation ticket.

Sunday, July 9th, the newly crowned monarchs will attend the Victory Brunch at the Doubletree Hotel. The cost is \$25.00. At 7:00 PM that evening, the celebration will continue with the Victory Show at The MAX.

On behalf of the Imperial Court of Nebraska, Emperor 25 Dan and Empress 25 Lana would like to thank all those who have helped and supported them throughout the past year. Good luck to all the candidates and hope to see you all at the Coronation Festivities.

IMsL Story Continues from Front Page

20th anniversary, every former IMsL has been invited to judge. Those who accept, however many that may be, will make up the judging panel. This will be an amazing experience - so if you've been waiting for the "right" year to compete, this is it!

If you'd like to give a lecture or demo during this 'reunion' weekend celebration, send a synopsis and bio to zack@KCLeatherUniversity.com.

Registered guests can attend workshops, shop at our vendor fair, attend a dungeon party, participate in a tattoo contest or join us on casino trips. There will be a basket auction and proceeds will benefit the winners' travel fund.

Come enjoy a hot show at the MAX, share a toast at the victory brunch, relax at the annual Sunday pool party at an indoor pool, reserved just for us!

Visit our website at www.imsl.org for the applications to register (package price is \$75 per person) or applications to compete for IMsL or IMsBB. On the website, you will find information about how to donate prizes, advertise, host a reception, hotel registration and other information. As well as being informative, the site lets you browse through a photo gallery of hot past titleholders and others involved with IMsL.

We encourage anyone interested in competing to contact us for information. Contact information is available on the website.

Make this the year you attend-again, or for the first time.



Tim Reeder 612-3833 www.omahagayrealtor.com

Omaha's Leading Gay Realtor



\$20 Buy-in Weekly! Great Trophies! An Afternoon of Fun!

If Texas Hold 'em is your game, join the friends of MCC-Omaha at DC's Saloon for four Sunday afternoons of poker that will benefit MCC-O and provide lots of fun! There is a \$20 buy-in each week that will benefit MCC-Omaha.

Players will get 200 chips and will join a table of enthusiastic Texas Hold 'em players. You will note that the players are enthusiastic – skill levels will vary considerably. So don't worry if you don't think you're a great poker player – just come and have fun while you're making a donation to MCC-O. Beginners are welcome.

There's no actual money to be won – instead you will be competing for a weekly trophy and the chance to have bragging rights. Trophies will be on display at DC's in the near future.

Just think! You could announce to your friends, "Yep, I was the big winner in one of those Texas Hold 'em Poker Tournaments." And if you have your sights set on one of the "real" poker tournaments, this is a great way to improve your skill.

Mark your calendars for Sunday, July 23 & 30 and August 6 & 13. Play time is 4-6 PM

Pope Blasts Gay Marriage Ahead of Spain Trip

Maria Sanminiatelli, Associated Press

VATICAN CITY -- Pope Benedict XVI appealed Sunday for peace in the Middle East and for governments to help safeguard the traditional family structure.

"I ask your prayer for all families, that they will live in accordance with their God-given vocation and benefit from just governmental policies that safeguard their fundamental role in society," Benedict said in his traditional Sunday blessing, before a visit to Spain to attend a Roman Catholic Church conference on families.

Benedict did not expand on that comment, but the church has consistently criticized movements in Italy and other countries that call for legal rights for unmarried couples.

The Vatican's ties with Spain have been strained since the Socialists took office in 2004 with an agenda that has included legalizing same-sex marriage and making divorce easier.

Prime Minister Jose Luis Rodriguez Zapatero's government also has scrapped plans by the previous conservative government to make religion classes mandatory in schools.

"Attention: Omaha area GLBT homeowners in trouble! There is a solution!"

Candice Zoucha - Omaha, NE

Many Omaha area gay and lesbian homeowners who have had trouble with credit cards and so on have found that there is *one* place in Omaha where they can be treated with respect.

No "better than you" attitude, no "b.s.", no guilt just for being gay or lesbian.

At last, finding financial help doesn't have to be like a "coming out" at Thanksgiving dinner with everyone pointing fingers, and finding fault.

Mindy Hahne, of Service First Home Mortgage in Omaha's Midtown area works at a GLBT friendly outfit that specializes in helping Omaha area GLBT homeowners in need.

Hahne says she takes great pride in being gay and lesbian friendly. And treating the folks she helps like family.



Mindy Hahne with her dogs Piper and Emerson

"A lot of people in the GLBT community don't realize that even without gay marriage, or civil unions, there are already several equal protections in place for gay and lesbians as real property owners! Maybe because no one else wants to tell you about them!" Mindy says.

"Being gay or lesbian doesn't have to be a barrier to equal treatment anymore!' Hahne says.

Halme has helped many gays and lesbians over the years, many personal friends.

"I am the one person in town that *specializes* in helping gay and lesbian folks with dcbt consolidation, cash out, credit repair and so on!" Hahne says.

"These are good people with damaged credit reports and/or hard to prove income! Not through any fault of their own! I specialize in helping the gay and lesbian community get a fair shake from the financial industry!" Hahne says.

Hahne says she has a lot of connections to Wall Street money, "I have personal relationships with investors *nationwide*, even *internationally*! Fair-minded people who want to fund loans for people with past credit problems!" she says.

"Many of them have a social conscience! And they take pride in helping gay and lesbians in particular! Just like I do! They use my proprietary system as their own little bit of "social activism!" Hahne says.

These investors are people who buy 'pools' of mortgages of 50 million dollars at a whack! 50 million bucks! It's taken me 4 long years and it's been *really* hard to find these 'fat cats!' People who are 'likeminded' about what I do for the Omaha gay and lesbian community!" Mindy says.

"Not only is it *illegal* to discriminate against the GLBT community, it's just plain *wrong*!" Hahne says. "The self-limiting perceptions held by some in the community are just as much of a problem as the crooked people who perpetrate the discriminatory practices themselves!" she says.

Hahne says, "It's my *personal mission* to change the mindsets! And to *liberate everyone* from the restraints!"

"I grew up in a house where we didn't have much money! And my parents understood just how money *really* works even less! Nowadays, it's a lot of fun for me to help people get control over their money and their lives!" Mindy says.

Mindy Hahne can be reached at 934.9248 x1010. "I'm really busy, so those who don't get a live answer from me need to leave a detailed message and then give me at least 24 business hours to return the call!" Or to lean more, you can call 800-223-6724...option 1...then ext 8619. Just listen in to the free-recorded message.

SFHMI is a Nebraska Residential Mortgage Licensee, an Equal Opportunity Lender, an 'Honor Roll' member of the Heartland Better Business Bureau and Greater Omaha Chamber of Commerce.

The preceding is a paid advertisement.

The overwhelmingly Catholic country is hosting the World Meeting of Families in the eastern coastal city of Valencia.

Benedict is scheduled to travel to Valencia on Thursday and is scheduled to meet with Zapatero the next day, after a meeting with members of the Spanish royal family.

The Netherlands, Belgium, Spain and Canada have legalized same-sex marriage in recent years. Britain and several other European nations now give such couples the right to form partnerships that entitle them to most of the same tax and pension rights as married couples.

Cardinal Alfonso Lopez Trujillo, who heads the Pontifical Council for the Family and will attend the gathering in Spain. said in an interview published Sunday that politicians everywhere should "rethink some decisions they have made."

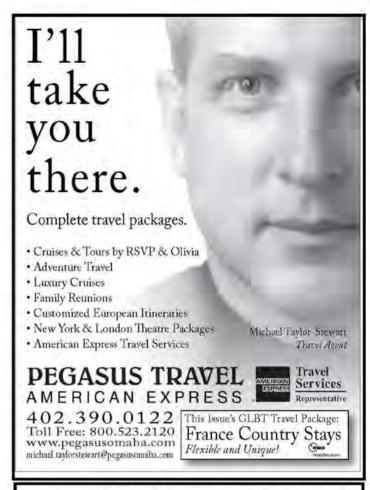
He told the Rome daily Il Tempo that the world was "drunk from secularization." but said the decision to hold the family meeting in Spain had nothing to do with defying Zapatero's government and policies.

"There's no need to call a world meeting to go against one nation or the next, one legislature or the next," Lopez Trujillo

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.)





Destination Travel......France

France Welcomes the Gay Traveler!!!

Ideally located in the heart of Europe, France is the gay-friendly destination par excellence. Discover gay Paree and many other sensa-

tional regions of France.

France is called the "Country of Enlightenment". The first nation on earth to outlaw discrimination on the basis of sexual preference. France has recognized gay rights since 1792!. Partnership laws allow gay and lesbian couples to exchange vows in civil unions and enjoy legally protected rights of partnership in areas such as housing, health benefits and inheritance. (One partner must be a French citizen.) Discrimination against gays in the military is outlawed, and a 2004 law explicitly gives gays and lesbians the same protection as everyone else in French society against offensive speech or insults. You'll find adventure, romance and playfulness - each combined with that indescribable French flair - in almost every corner of the country. Whether you want to enjoy the fun of Paris Plage (the summer beach music and arts celebration all along the Seine), head to Montpellier

and the crystalline waters of the Mediterranean, dance as the belle of the many balls on Bastille Day, or shop for quality French designer clothes and goods, you will have the time of your life! If it's your first trip, or a rediscovery of this breathtaking country, gay-friendly France promises a wonderful experience and lasting memories to

It's not possible to speak of France without mentioning la cuisine! The diversity of its regions, its world-renowned culinary heritage, vineyards, and influx of new cultures combine to create a palate for all the senses. What are you waiting for? We invite you to discover gay-friendly France.

Bon voyage!

GAYZETTE COMING EVENTS

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.

FRIDAY JULY 14TH THRU 16TH INTERNATIONAL Ms LEATHER, See front page for more info

JULY 15TH THRU 22ND

GAY GAMES CHICAGO. If you are interested in attending as an athlete or a spectator, then you need to sign up soon. Participants march in by State and we need folks from Nebraska to participate. For more information contact MrBordeaux@cox.net and lets get organized now for this great event this Summer!

SUNDAY JULY 23RD DIAMOND FOUNDATION, GLBT Scholarship Benefit at The Q, 9:30PM

SUNDAY AUGUST 20TH

<u>DIAMOND FOUNDATION</u>, GLBT Scholarship Benefit at DC's, 9PM

SUNDAY SEPTEMBER 17TH 1ST ANNUAL DIAMOND PRINCESS PACEANT AT The May 0PM pag

PAGEANT, AT The Max, 9PM, pageant@diamond-foundation.org for details

SUNDAY OCTOBER 8TH
NEBRASKA PRIDE IDOL REUNION
SHOW, Old Market Event Center, 9PM

SUNDAY NOVEMBER 5TH
DIAMOND FOUNDATION, GLBT Scholarship Benefit at The Q, 9:30PM

SATURDAY DECEMBER 9TH
LIGHTING THE FIRST GLBT HOLIDAY TREE, details to be announced

SUNDAY DECEMBER 10TH
GLBT SCHOLARSHIP DINNER, Old
Market Event Center, 6PM

WEEKLY EVENTS

Every Sunday
WORSHIP SERVICES:

<u>DIETZ METHODIST</u> 1423 S.10, Coffeehouse 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

NA-RAINBOW GROUP, Narcotics Anonymous, every Sunday at 6PM, MCC-Omaha, 819 South 22nd St., for info contact Kip K. at 612-4648

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

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

LINCOLN WOMYN'S POTLUCK Cheryl 474-1937 11:30am-4pm

WIMMIN'S SHOW KZUM 89.3 12:30pm

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

GAMES DAY AT THE GLBT CENTER, 1719 Leavenworth, 1PM to 3PM

GAY MEN'S ALCOHOLICS ANONY-

MOUS 4pm Lowe Avenue Presbyterian, 1023 N. 40 St Info call Mark 639-3055

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 REHEARS-

ALS, 6:45PM—9:15PM, First United Methodist Church, 7020 Cass St.

Every Tuesday

UNL LESBIAN/BI/QUESTIONING SUP-

PORT GROUP, 7-8:30PM, Women's Center, Nebraska Union, Lincoln, 472-5644

Every Wednesday
WORSHIP SERVICES
MCC OMAHA, Bible Study, 7pm

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

READING GROUNDS OPEN MIC

NIGHTS, Music, poetry, comedy or whatever . 40th & Farnam St.,

HIV TESTING, 1:30–4 pm NAP, 139 S. 40 St., results in one week

HIV TESTING LINCOLN, 4-7 pm, using
Orasure, results in one week; results in 20
minutes on the last Wednesday of the
month. 2147 South 15th #476-7000

FRONTRUNNERS RUN/WALK

6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha

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

KARAOKE W/STACY 8:30pm DC's

Every Thursday

HIV TESTING 7- 9pm, NAP, 139 S. 40th Results available in one week

KARAOKE 9pm, Connections Bar

FREE CONFIDENTIAL ANONYMOUS

HIV TEST, UN-L 472-7447, 3-5:00pm, University Health Center Room 158D (in Radiology on the first floor), Orasure test, no needles, Lincoln

Every Friday

GLBT CENTER YOUTH NIGHT, 5PM to

9PM, for ages 13 to 23. Youth sponsored and organized activities, under adult supervision. Every Friday, excluding holidays. 1719 Leavenworth Street

FREE CONFIDENTIAL ANONYMOUS

HIV TEST, UN-L 472-7447, 2:30-4pm, University Health Center Room 158D (in Radiology on the first floor), Orasure test, no needles, Lincoln

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

GLBT SEXUAL COMPULSIVE ANONY-

MOUS, (SCA), A program of recovery, 8pm to 9pm, call Tony at 933-1318

GILLIGAN'S PUB KARAOKE NIGHT,

have fun from 9 pm to 1 am

HIV TESTING 5-10pm, NAP, 139 S. 40th Results available in 20 minutes

READING GROUNDS GAYME NIGHT,

Music, laughter & board games. 23yrs. Old & up, 40th & Farnam St., 502-2008

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

Every Saturday GILLIGAN'S PUB KARAOKE NIGHT, have fun from 9 pm to 1 am

GLBT BICYCLING CLUB OMAHA, For details call Jeri at 614-6145

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

MONTHLY EVENTS

1st Tuesday

CENTER LÍBRARY FAIRIES, 7PM. Bookworms become butterflies. Stretch your wings helping the Center library. No experience necessary to volunteer.

Drop-in to the GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth.

VOLUNQUEER DROP-IN, at the GLBT Center. Be a "VolunQueer" and help out. Spend an hour or two volunteering at the Center - 6PM No special skills or ongoing commitment required. VolunQueers have fun and make a difference.

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

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

1st Saturday RIVER CITY GENDER ALLIANCE No Current RCGA Information Available

1st Sunday

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

2nd Tuesday CENTER WESTERN IOWA COMMIT-

TEE, 6PM at the GLBT Center, 1719 Leavenworth, Omaha. For details, visit rainbowoutreach.org

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 **OUUT SECOND SUNDAY SCREENING** (glbt film shown at 6:30pm followed by discussion) First Unitarian, 3114 Harney

3rd Monday IMPERIAL COURT OF NEBR 6:30pm, Doubletree Hotel Downtown, www.icon.impcourt.org

3rd Tuesday

VOLUNOUEER DROP-IN, at the GLBT Center. Be a "VolunQueer" and help out. Spend an hour or two volunteering at the Center - 6PM or 7PM, your choice, whenever it fits your schedule. No special skills or ongoing commitment required. VolunQueers have fun and make a difference.

3rd Thursday LES/BI/GAY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP, Village Inn, 78th & Dodge, 7

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

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 LEATHER ENGINEERS—OMAHA Not currently meeting anymore.

4th Saturday

FREE MATINEE MOVIE, at the GLBT Center, 1:30PM, Bring a snack to share, everyone is welcome, 2nd and 4th Saturdays every month

LAST Sunday REAL FAMILIES Omaha-area families headed by gay/lesbian

parents, Margaux at 561-6738 or email MargauxPolo@aol.com

Email Your Event to: news@rainbowoutreach. org

NEBRASKA AIDS PROJECT AND OMA-HA PUBLIC LIBRAR-IES TEAM UP FOR FIRST EVER GLBT **BOOK DRIVE!**

EFFECTIVE IMMEDIATELY— Midtown's The Reading Grounds bookstore/coffeehouse is calling on customers to help Nebraska Aids Project's MPower and the Omaha Public Libraries reach their goal of obtaining 100 literary pieces to help improve their much-lacking Gay, Lesbian, Bi-Sexual, Transgender and Questioning sections of our public librar-

"This is a great way for customers to both support the public library and also independent local business," says Cindy Collins, co-owner of The Reading Grounds which is offering a 15% discount on any donated book plus a free 12oz cup of daily brew coffee. Books may be placed in a donation box at the bookstore, or customers may deliver them directly to Jeremy Muckey at the Watanabe Wellness Center, 139 South 40th Street (located directly behind The Reading Grounds). Deadline for donations is July 28th.

The Reading Grounds is located on the corner of 40th & Farnam Sts., Omaha, www.readinggrounds.com, 502-2008.

Classified Ad

Nice, easy going guy needs a place to live. Need dependable, non-party type roommate. Would like to spend \$400 or less / month. Contact Andy at 706-3191

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 1102 Howard St. Suite 2, Omaha NE 68102, 398-3027 www.cfep-ne.org, email to: Michael@cfep-ne.org
- Diamond Foundation, GLBT Scholar ships, 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, Box 3751, Omaha 68103 flatwaterbears@yahoo.com Hirsute men and admirers group (group disbanded)
- Front Runners/Walkers, 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha
- GALO (Gay & Lesbian Org at UNO) www.angelfire.com/home/GALO contact: unogalo@hotmail.com or SPO (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 Box 3354, Omaha 68103
- 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, Box 24547, Omaha 68124 Nudist/ Naturist Club for gay/bi men Info: Linomabares@yahoo.com or call Eric at (402) 553-5944 or Tim S (712) 527-5887
- Lowe 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 Anony-

- mous, 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 / Nontraditional Family group), email to: Theohanagroup@msn.com
- Omaha Bi Married Men Yahoo Group http://groups.yahoo.com/group/ OmahaBiMarriedMen
- Omaha Nebr Gay Pride WebPage http://ONGP.com; email to: omahanegaypride@cox.net or ongp@cox.net
- 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: NeOutAboout@vahoo.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@vahoo.com
- 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, Box 241733, Omaha, 68124, 402-212-6302 locally, 866-NE-PRIDE toll free, sponsors of annual Gay Pride & National Coming Out Day, see www.rainbowcelebrations.org
- Real Families, Omaha-area families headed by gay/lesbian parents, meet last Sunday of every month. Info: Margaux at 561-6738 or email MargauxPolo@aol.com
- River City Gender Alliance, No Current RCGA Information Available
- 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, D. Moritz, Assistant Director, 402-472-1752 email: dmoritz2@unl.edu Located in Student Involvement Office of the Nebraska Union, Room 200.
- Gay/Lesbian/Bi/Straight Alliance 2229 J St., Lincoln 68510 (402) 436-1301 ext. 232 Ruth Kupfer
- Gay Men's Support Group, UNL Health Center, Counseling & Psychology, Rm. 214, Lincoln 68588-0618 472-7450
- Lesbian, Bisexual and QuestioningWomen'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. 73, 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
- RIVER CITY GENDER ALLIANCE, Room Open: 4pm Meeting at 7pm, 991-8845 or email: rcga@tgforum.com
- SAGE, Box 22043, Lincoln 68542 Coffee House 2nd Sat, 6 – 9pm, Lesbian Videos 7:15pm. 3319 S. 46
- Sexuality Education eXchange, University Health Ctr, 15th & U, Rm.12h, 472-7447 or email: ptetreault1@unl.edu Comprehensive, inclusive sexuality/sexual health info, resources/referrals including sexual orientation, ally and diversity training.
- 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-glbt.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: ptetreault1@unl.edu
- Women In Trades/YWCA, 1432 N St., Lincoln 68508; 434-3494,
- Youth Support Group, (402) 434-9880

Iowa Based

Council Bluffs Equality, www.cbequality.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

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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

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Lincoln:

1719 Leavenworth St.

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

lowa:

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

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Mixed Picture Emerges of Global Gay Rights

David Crary, Associated Press

NEW YORK -- While cities around the world hosted upbeat gay Pride parades in recent weeks, human rights activists kept watch on a contrasting set of developments -- gay people beaten by demonstrators in Moscow, convicted on sodomy charges in Cameroon, targeted by sweeping anti-gay legislation in Nigeria. "It shows there are still dangers in just being gay -- and dangers in speaking out," said Paula Ettelbrick, executive director of the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission in New York.

"You need people willing to stand up and claim their space, even against tremendous odds -- country by country, city by city.

Ettelbrick's commission, along with other human rights groups and some members of Congress, are intensifying their efforts to monitor and protest abuses and oppression of gays and lesbians overseas. Results have been mixed.

Regions of concern include Africa, where many politicians engage in anti-gay rhetoric; Islamic countries where gay sex is illegal and sometimes punishable by death; and certain Eastern European countries where gay pride marches have been banned or targeted by harassment and violence.

"In a lot of countries, you've got gays and lesbians enjoying new visibility, but at the same time the opposition forces become more angry," said Scott Long of Human Rights Watch. "People need to be aware of the possible backlash."

Among the recent incidents:

In Moscow, gay activists were pummeled by right-wing protesters and detained by police May 27 when they tried to gather after the city banned a pride parade. Mayor Yuri Luzhkov says he will ban such parades as long as he holds office. More than 30 members of the U.S. Congress signed a letter asking Russian President Vladimir Putin to condemn the antigay violence.

In Cameroon, where gay sex is punishable by up to five years in prison, seven men were jailed more than a year before being convicted three weeks ago on sodomy charges. Human rights groups say the men were abused in prison and convicted despite lack of evidence; one died just days after his release. Ettelbrick's organization also says many youths have been expelled from schools in Cameroon on suspicion of homosexual behavior. Closeted gays have been targeted by the West African country's tabloid newspapers, which claim to have outed several dozen prominent people.

Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo has proposed a bill that would criminalize same-sex relationships, imposing prison terms for not only for gays or lesbians who have sex, but also for organizers of gay rights groups and participants in same-sex marriage ceremonies.

In Africa, politicians trying to shore themselves up see homophobia as a useful thing to exploit, Long said.

Rep. Barney Frank, D-Mass., one of three openly gay members of Congress, wrote to Obasanjo in May, warning he might reconsider his support for U.S. aid to Nigeria unless the legisla-

tion was withdrawn.

Frank and five other members of Congress also protested the convictions and imprisonment of 11 men arrested in November at what police in the United Arab Emirates called a mass samesex wedding. Initially, authorities said the men would be tested for male hormone levels and might face hormone injections, though these procedures did not occur.

In Jamaica, which outlaws gay sex, gays are frequent targets of attacks and harassment. The Caribbean island's best-known gay activist was murdered in 2004 by an assailant wielding an ice pick; a gay man who counseled people with AIDS was shot dead last year.

Iran is a constant concern to activists because of recurring reports of men being executed for gay sex. A pending Human Rights Watch investigation has verified that such executions occur, Long said, though it is difficult to gauge how frequently. The minimum you'll face is torture in jail or court-ordered floggings," he said of gays arrested in Iran.

U.S. activists were pleased this year when the State Department's annual worldwide human rights report devoted more attention than usual to problems gay men and lesbians face. Even Frank, who disagrees with most Bush administration policies on gay issues, took note.

Worldwide, Frank said, "things are getting better, but not fast enough."

Eastern Europe has become one of the most intriguing gay rights battlegrounds, as activists in several countries confront conservative political and religious leaders who disdain Western Europe's gay-friendly policies.

In Poland, about 3,000 people marched peacefully three weeks ago in Warsaw's annual gay rights march, an event marked in previous years by violence and official bans. Former Warsaw Mayor Lech Kaczynski, now Poland's president, refused to grant permits for the parade in 2004 and 2005, saying such events threatened Polish society.

The European Parliament adopted a resolution in mid-June asserting that homophobia is on the rise in Poland. Latvian lawmakers have approved a constitutional ban on marriage for same-sex couples and refused to outlaw workplace

discrimination against gays, despite concerns that European Union policies require such a law. Last year, hundreds of antigay demonstrators jeered and hurled debris at marchers in Latvia's first Pride parade.

Allan Carlson, a conservative American scholar organizing a World Congress of Families in Warsaw next year, says Polish and Latvian authorities should discourage anti-gay violence, but he supports their efforts to resist the gay rights and marriage equality movements sweeping Western Europe.

"The pressure on these countries will be enormous," Carlson said. "They see the promotion of gay culture as one more ideological threat to their values."

Who Cares?

How Typical

By Michael McManus

I often wonder why we are who we are. Why I'm gay, you're straight, I'm white, you're black - why some people slide through life with ease while others barely make it from day to day. It never seems fair, but what in life is?

Ever since I moved up to New York, the rhythm of my life has made quite a drastic change. I'm no longer Mike the gay guy, I'm just Mike. Things like my sexuality, color and religion don't seem to matter anymore. I see men holding hands on a daily basis, women embracing each other on the streets and every religion imaginable preaching their good news to anyone interested in listening.

New York truly is a melting pot, a mixture of all the good things in life that some of us don't believe in, but all things worth giving a try.

I'm not going to try and deny it, I truly miss Nebraska. I miss my friends, my family, my apartment and more than anything, the fries they sell at Runza, as shocking as it may sound, Runza doesn't exist in New York. Though I miss home, I really don't have any desire to go back.

It's shameful when I read the paper and see that Nebraska's Ben Nelson is fighting to ban same-sex marriage, and when I remember the way people look in disgust when a male couple tries to hold hands in public. It's just not fair.

When I tell people in New York that I'm from Nebraska I get a mixed reaction. A part of them looks at me with sympathetic eyes while the other half assumes that I haven't experienced life. I guess both reactions are justifiable.

Looking at Nebraska from the outside is quite different than looking at it from within. I asked one of my friends up here what he thought of Nebraska; he laughed and said "You have the Cornhuskers and probably lots of cows." His reaction may sound humorous, but it holds truth. Honestly, it seems as if the only good thing Nebraska is known for is its football team (and we all know that is nothing to be proud of anymore).

I'm from Nebraska and know very well all the good that it possesses. However, how can we expect anyone else to have a clue? The only time we hear Nebraska in the news is when our conservative train of thought or conservative leaders get a small mention.

Nebraska is a great state. We're the home of the College World Series. We have beautiful scenery and beautiful residents with big hearts. My only wish is that one day our views and values can be as welcoming as our state. Instead of preaching the importance of a man marrying a woman, perhaps we should preach the importance of a man marrying someone he loves. Instead of segregating our children by school districts, why can't we understand the importance of intermixing cultures?

If I bring anything back from New York I think it's going to be a sense of carelessness. I'm not going to care what people think about my sexuality, what they say when I protest an anti-gay

movement or how they look at me when I hold hands with another man.

Why should I?

The looks and comments that my actions generate only feed the stereotypes that everyone has about our state. I know I'm not the only one who feels this way, so it's up to us to make the change that our politicians and state leaders obviously can't seem to understand.

So instead of wondering why we are who we are, let's start being careless about it. Who cares why I became gay or why you were born black or with a handicap. Let's embrace our differences and show others that Nebraskans aren't as closeminded as they may assume.

This article was reprinted from The Gateway Site URL: http://www.unogateway.com



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