

# The GayZette



Published every two weeks by the Rainbow Outreach Metro GLBT Center Omaha

## Marriage Equality Almost Official in Ireland

BY DAWN ENNIS



Marriage equality in the first country in the world to approve it by popular vote is now one step away from reality.

One of the two houses of Irish Parliament Wednesday passed what is simply known as the Marriage Bill, granting same-sex couples the same marriage rights as heterosexual couples. Although the right has already been enshrined in the Irish constitution after voters approved it in a referendum in May (and legal challenges to it were dismissed), Parliament has to pass the bill before marriages can take place.

"This is a day to thank the people of Ireland for their vote on May 22," declared Minister for Justice Frances Fitzgerald, after the bill passed the Dáil Éireann, which is Irish for "Assembly of Ireland," to great applause, according to a report from Irish broadcaster RTE. That vote made Ireland the first country in the world to approve marriage equality by popular vote.

Wednesday marked a "momentous day on our journey towards a more equal republic," said Robert Troy, a member of Parliament from the center-right Fianna Fáil party.

Now the bill moves onto the Seanad, the Irish equivalent of the Senate. Same-sex marriages are expected to be taking place by November.

## San Diego Mourns Fourth Trans Teen Lost to Suicide This Year

BY CLEIS ABENI

Beloved by his mother and father, Sarah and Mike Castle, and friends and family, Emmett Castle, a sensitive, quietly mature 14-year-old transgender boy in San Diego took his life Saturday morning at his father's Mission Valley home, according to local news station KGTV.



"He had a wisdom beyond his years" and a big heart, his mother told KGTV.

Castle began transitioning last summer, and his family immediately accepted him, encouraging him to attend meetings at the Hillcrest Youth Center at the San Diego LGBT Community Center. The Hillcrest Youth Center is the only drop-in and recreational center in San Diego County dedicated to the needs of LGBT youth.

His family sought medical help for Castle's severe depression, but despite these interventions, Castle had previously attempted to take his life several times, his mother shared with KGTV. She emphasized that there were no immediate warning signs that would have prepared the family for what happened Saturday morning, noting that the teen was excited about legally changing his name later in the month.

Yet his mother reported that the physical changes of puberty were difficult for Castle, and his occasional misgendering at school upset him to the point where the teen would ask to be picked up by his father.

This is the fourth trans teen reportedly passing by suicide in the San Diego area this year. The Advocate last reported on the death of Kyler Prescott, another 14-year-old transgender boy, who was an accomplished pianist and activist for marriage equality and animal rights. Prescott, who died by sui-

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cide on May 18, was beloved by his family who affirmed him through his transition. Prescott and his's family also attended local San Diego support groups for family members of trans youth. Their support mirrors the love shown to Castle by his family.

Taylor Alesana, a 16-year-old transgender girl near San Diego, took her life on April 2, while a gender-nonconforming teenager named Sage, also died by suicide in early March. Both Alesana and Sage were reportedly involved with the North County LGBTQ Resource Center, where Prescott also attended various group meetings.

With the Castle family's blessing, the young man's aunt, Danielle Stickler, and family friend Allison Erickson, have set up the Emmett Castle Memorial fund as a GoFundMe page where the public may contribute funds towards funeral costs, with remaining donations to be given directly to the the San Diego LGBT Community Center.

In her discussion with KGTV, Castle's mother urged family members of trans youth to love their child and seek help when it is needed.

To trans teens themselves, the grieving mother has a more urgent message:

"I just want them to hold on. The transition can be painful, but we love you. We love you."

If you are a trans or gender-nonconforming person considering suicide, Trans Lifeline can be reached at 877-565-8860. LGBT youth (ages 24 and younger) can reach the Trevor Project Lifeline at 1-866-488-7386. The National Suicide Prevention Lifeline at 1-800-273-8255 can also be reached 24 hours a day by people of all ages and identities.

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## Antigay Sweet Cakes Bakers Don't 'Feel Like' Paying Fine

BY NEAL BROVERMAN

Melissa and Aaron Klein are refusing to pay a \$135,000 fine they incurred for violating Oregon law by denying services to a lesbian couple.



The married opposite-sex couple behind Sweet Cakes by Melissa are digging in their heels and defying Oregon's Bureau of Labor and Industry, The New Civil Rights Movement reports.

The governmental body fined Melissa and Aaron Klein \$135,000 back in July for the couple's refusal to accommodate a wedding cake order for Laurel and Rachel Bowman-Cryer, and for allegedly publishing the same-sex couple's home address in the Klein's very public response to the state's lawsuit. BOLI officials ordered the Kleins to pay the fine to the Bowman-Cryers "for emotional suffering stemming directly from unlawful discrimination."

But the Kleins are proudly telling right-wing media, including Glenn Beck's The Blaze, that they're dodging the fine. The Kleins have already received donations and crowd-funding money to the tune of \$500,000, so coming up with the money is not the issue. It's principle and precedent, they say.

"We feel like we shouldn't have to pay when we haven't even gotten due process," Melissa Klein told The Blaze. "We also feel like we're taking a stand for the next person... that this could happen to. We don't want to set a precedent. We want to fight this, and we want to fight this all the way."

But they'll be holding on to that half-million, Melissa added: "Right now, we're not touching that money, because we don't know what the future holds."

## Hillary Clinton Says Kim Davis Got What She Deserved

BY SUNNIVIE BRYDUM



Kim Davis deserved to spend time in jail, and should resign if she's not willing to follow the law of the land when it comes to marriage equality, says Clinton.

At a campaign event at Cornell College in Iowa, Democratic presidential candidate Hillary Clinton offered a pointed critique of antigay Kentucky clerk Kim Davis's ongoing defiance of the Supreme Court decision mandating nationwide marriage equality.

"What would you do about somebody if they were to do something like what Kim Davis did recently?" a young person asked the Democratic front-runner, referring to the clerk who spent six days in jail for contempt of court after she cited her Christian faith and refused to issue marriage licenses to any couples in Rowan County, Ky., to avoid licensing same-sex couples.

"I think what happened to Kim Davis was the right thing,"

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Clinton replied. "She violated the law, and therefore she was arrested. And when she was released, she had to agree that she would not stand in the way of doing her public duty under the Constitution.

"So I actually think that she was treated as she should have been treated," Clinton continued, before affirming that "people are totally entitled to their personal, private beliefs."

But that entitlement doesn't give anyone, especially elected public officials with a taxpayer-funded salary, the right to disobey the law of the land, Clinton added.

"When you take an oath to uphold the Constitution of the United States, that is your job," she said. "Whether you agree with a decision or not, we have the rule of law. You have to follow the law. ... You either enforce the law or you resign from your public position. That is exactly what should have happened."

Clinton previously discussed Davis's extralegal saga in a Saturday address to Human Rights Campaign volunteers, but declined to mention Davis by name in that instance. Instead, she focused her ire on Republican presidential hopeful Mike Huckabee, who was "literally standing in the courthouse door in Kentucky, calling for people to join him in resisting a Supreme Court ruling, celebrating a county clerk who's breaking the law by denying other Americans their constitutional rights."

## Brian Sims Is Congress's Great Gay Hope

BY NEAL BROVERMAN

Don't let that mug fool you — this Pennsylvania legislator is primed for battle against the Paul Ryans and Kim Davises of the world.

A stocky former football player with a substantial beard is not what you'd expect a reproductive rights advocate to look like. But it makes sense that Democrat Brian Sims, Pennsylvania's first out gay legislator, can sympathize with the plight of women, so often judged solely by their appearance. The accomplishments of the 37-year-old Philadelphia-based assemblyman — onetime civil rights lawyer, former board president for Equality Pennsylvania — are often overshadowed on the gay blogosphere by those aforementioned physical traits. But Sims, who recently announced his run for Congress against a scandal-ridden incum-



bent, is unquestionably a powerhouse.

He's fought vociferously for numerous pieces of pro-LGBT legislation, such as conversion therapy bans and a statewide nondiscrimination bill, while his work for Planned Parenthood funding and against Harrisburg's numerous assaults on abortion rights netted him a pro-choice award last year.

"All those people who talk about small government but support legislation that puts their ideology front and center," Sims tells *The Advocate*, "that's something I find very difficult to understand."

Sims is still unguarded enough to tell a reporter he abandoned the Catholic Church ("my faith is in humanity"), so it's not a huge surprise that he wasn't lining up to meet a certain Argentinian who just swung by Philly. "No, I didn't see the pope," he says. "I saw the president in New York."

The dogma tied to organized religion clearly chafes Sims, who doesn't miss a beat when asked about Francis's maybe-buddy Kim Davis, the Kentucky county clerk briefly jailed for refusing to issue marriage licenses to same-sex couples.

"[People like Davis] need to be relieved of their positions," he says. "We're not talking about a disability that she has. We're talking about an inability. If you're unable to perform your job in a secular government in a secular way, I don't think an accommodation [for them] is appropriate. Period."

As Sims gears up for the spring primary fight, his blunt left-wing talk should only do him good. Pennsylvania's Second Congressional District is overwhelmingly liberal and Democratic, and the primary winner will almost certainly head to Washington. While Sims acknowledges he'll be discussing ethics for the foreseeable future — his opponent, Rep. Chaka Fattah, was indicted in July on charges of misappropriating funds — he'd rather discuss other issues that some politicians would never touch.

"I'm going to be talking about education funding," he says. "[The election will be] a larger discussion about tax reform, a larger discussion about the safety of neighborhoods and guns."

Sims often emphasizes the importance of nondiscrimination protections and hate-crimes laws, pointing out just how dangerous life remains for LGBT people. In his district, a male couple was beaten to a bloody pulp last year in an alleged antigay mob attack. The high-profile case attracted national attention — one of the assailants is the daughter of a Pennsylvania police chief — and served as impetus for Philadelphia passing its own hate-crimes legislation (the three defendants are expected to make a plea deal later this month).

Sims is aware that all the bills in the world will not change the frequently frightening experience of walking down the street holding a same-sex partner's hand or what it's like for a transgender person to simply operate in society. Kiesha Jenkins, a 22-year-old black trans woman, was beaten by five or six men in North Philadelphia Wednesday before being shot to death.

"The LGBT civil rights movement is moving at full steam, but if you're a trans woman of color right now, your life right now is not the cover of a magazine," Sims says, adding that the nu-

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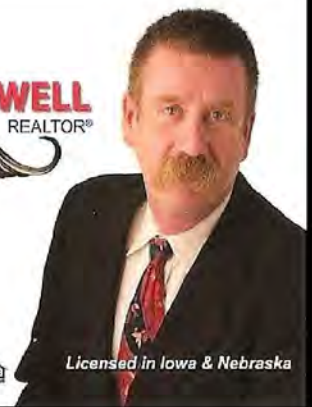
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merous murders of trans women — 20 reported so far this year — are making some inured to the violence.

"We have to talk about those real issues [of safety] before we can talk about the intricacies of LGBT civil rights in the future," he says. "Right now we've got to talk about the day-to-day because it's very real for too many people."

## Marriage Equality Ruling an 'Atrocity,' Says Alabama Justice

BY TRUDY RING

State Supreme Court Justice Tom Parker urges states to disobey the ruling and adds that gay people already had equal marriage rights — to marry someone of the opposite sex.

It's probably no surprise that Chief Justice Roy Moore isn't the only antigay member of the Alabama Supreme Court — now Justice Tom Parker, who is up for reelection next year, is saying state courts should defy the U.S. Supreme Court's marriage equality ruling.



"There is nothing in the Constitution that delegates any right over marriage to the federal government," Parker said in a Tuesday interview on Focal Point, a radio show hosted by the virulently antigay activist Bryan Fischer. With the Obergefell marriage equality decision in June, the high court "is intruding into the state prerogative over marriage, and this is an atrocity," he said.

Parker and Fischer both said there was no constitutional question of equal protection for the U.S. Supreme Court to settle — they claimed that gays and lesbians already had the same right to marriage as heterosexuals, as long as they married someone of the opposite sex.

"The states should be a check on the federal government," Parker continued, "and the proper organ within a state to do that versus the U.S. Supreme Court would be a state supreme

court. Now, I doubt that it would be a blanket defiance of all jurisdiction on the U.S. Supreme Court, but in regards to the Obergefell decision where it's clear that they jumped outside of all of the precedents in order to impose their will on this country, that yes, resisting that decision could maybe start a revival of what we need in this country and return to our original founding principles."

Parker also suggested that the justices who voted for marriage equality be impeached, and he contended that courts where judges are elected rather than appointed are more responsive to the public. In Alabama, state Supreme Court justices are elected for six-year terms. Parker was first elected to the court in 2004 and reelected in 2010. He is so far unopposed in his 2016 reelection bid.

Parker has a long history of anti-LGBT activism. He was the founding executive director of the Alabama Family Alliance (now called the Alabama Policy Institute), a far-right think tank, and Alabama Family Advocates, which were state organizations associated with right-wing minister James Dobson and Focus on the Family. When he was in private practice as a lawyer, he handled cases advocating for prayer in public schools.

Just last month, when the Alabama Supreme Court refused to recognize a lesbian's adoption of her former partner's children, Parker wrote a special ruling that was even more homophobic than the majority decision, saying adoption is a privilege, not a right, and that children should be raised "with both a father and a mother."

## NYPD Harming Homeless LGBT Youth

BY ALEXANDER CHEVES

The New York City Police Department is again being accused of anti-LGBT harassment, as a new study indicates that homeless LGBT youth are being repeatedly harmed by NYPD officers.

The Urban Institute surveyed 283 homeless LGBT youth in

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New York City who currently engage in survival sex — sex in exchange for shelter and food — and found that 71 percent have had interactions with the NYPD, most of them negative and often turning physical.



Seventy percent of the youth said they had been arrested at least once, usually for crimes like fare evasion. Of those arrested, 49 percent said they felt “unsafe” in the patrol car after the arrest, and had experienced violence at the hands of officers.

“This abuse consisted of verbal harassment, physical assault such as beating and choking, sexual assault including being propositioned for sex in exchange for release from custody and rape, denial of help when reporting a crime against police, and destruction or theft of personal property,” the report says. “In addition to physical injury, youth identified police violence as leading to psychological injury, including post traumatic stress disorder.”

Meredith Dank, senior research associate at the institute, says that although this sample was specific to homeless LGBT youth in New York City, such experiences are not unique to them. “This is happening on a national level,” she told Newsweek. “LGBTQ youth are experiencing police discrimination and abuse, especially those who are engaging in survival sex to have their basic needs met.”

Homeless LGBT youth are seven more times likely to trade sex than heterosexual youth, according to an earlier study conducted by the Urban Institute titled “Surviving the Streets of New York.”

The True Colors Fund, an organization that supports homeless LGBT youth cofounded by singer and activist Cindy Lauper, cites “family conflict” as the most common cause of LGBT youth homelessness. “For LGBT youth in particular, the conflict tends to be over their sexual orientation or gender identity,” the organization’s website notes. “Half of all teens get a negative reaction from their parents when they come out to them. More than one in four are thrown out of their homes.”

LGBT youth are disproportionate represented among homeless youth in the United States. According to the study, LGBT youth make up five to seven percent of the overall youth population but 20 to 40 percent of the homeless youth population.

The study is the latest example of accusations that the New York police mistreat LGBT people. In August, Jacob Alejandro filed a federal lawsuit against the NYPD alleging that officers held him down, broke his ribs, and used antigay slurs against him as he tried to leave the city’s Pride celebration in 2014. In July, Louis Falcone, a gay black man, reported being beaten by police outside his Staten Island home the previous month. The department has also often been criticized for transphobia.

## Bill Gates Gives \$6 Million to Develop HIV Vaccine, but Scientists Say Decades May Be Needed for Cure

By Jacob Anderson-Minshall



Scientists at the The Scripps Research Institute were just awarded nearly \$6 million from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation to develop a genetically engineered HIV vaccine that has shown potential in animal models. The approach works by coaxing muscle cells into producing inhibitor proteins that block key sites on the virus’s surface used to attach and invade human immune cells—fooling the virus into thinking it is binding to a human cell. Unable to attach to cells, and unable to reproduce, the virus simply floats impotently in the blood stream. Research on the drug, eCD4-Ig, shows it’s the “broadest and most potent entry inhibitor described so far, effective against all strains tested,” according to lead researcher professor Michael Farzan. “At the end of our research, we expect to have enough evidence to develop a firm foundation to fully evaluate its potential as an alternative vaccine.”

The announcement comes on the heels of a new study published this week in the journal *Cell*, which reveals that it can take a hundred years and thousands of researchers before a cure is found for a particular disease.

As Dawn Ennis explains in this article on how a drug makes it to market, there is a step by step process that happens between the development of a breakthrough treatment and when it becomes available at your local pharmacy. Unfortunately, the actual development of a drug is rarely that straightforward, simple or precise. This new study reveals just how incredibly long, arduous, convoluted, and even haphazard the road to a curative therapy can be.

Researchers at the Gladstone Institutes, the nonprofit biomedical research arm of UCSF, went back in time, tracing the path to discovery for two drugs recently approved by the Food and Drug Administration (FDA). The first is Ivacaftor, (also known as Kalydeco) the first medication to effectively treat underlying cause of cystic fibrosis; and ipilimumab, also known as Yervoy, an immune therapy that’s dramatically in-

*(Continued on next page)*

creased the survival rates for some patients with metastatic melanoma.

Looking at published citations and other references they call "bibliometrics," the researchers deciphered the incremental scientific advances that eventually led to the development of those two medications.

They traced ipilimumab back a 100 years and found it was the result of work conducted by 7,000 scientists at 5,700 institutions. The other drug, Ivacaftor, involved the research of 2,900 scientists affiliated with 2,500 institutions over the course of 60 years.

Even the people doing this archeological dig into the drugs' histories were surprised what they unearthed.

"We were surprised," acknowledged Alexander Pico, Gladstone's associate director of bioinformatics, speaking to The Washington Post. He added that their work showed a "large and complex network" of individuals and institutions contributed to the development of these – and maybe all -- drugs. "It's more of a collective endeavor... It really does take this network of individuals over a long time to lay the foundation."

Still, Pico said, not every cog in the wheel is of equal importance. They found that specific scientists played outsized roles in the steps toward the final, successful development. Researchers dubbed these scientists "elite performers," much like the "elite controllers" (like this California woman) who are uniquely resistant to the negative impacts of HIV). In other words, the elite performers can move the drug forward in leaps compared to the small steps of their colleagues.

"We're not claiming that every paper in this network has a direct and obvious connection to the final drug," Pico added. "But that's also kind of the point -- that basic research has to explore peripheral topics in order to narrow down and lead to the final drug development. It takes exploratory research on a wide range of topics."

Pico told The Post that he hopes the Gladstone project will remind people just how important scientific research is; and why it should be seen as an investment for governmental spending. He said the ultimate goal of this work is to a set of "predictive" metrics that could illuminate which research, institutions or scientists to fund to speed up the development of new drugs and treatment therapies.

What does all this mean for an HIV cure? As the October issue of Poz puts it, "The Cure For HIV Is Not Around the Corner." Researchers have been working on the problem for over three decades and have had many breakthroughs, but key scientists still admit that a cure for HIV isn't going to happen anytime soon. (Read more about why it's so hard here).

Still, we are closer than ever to understanding exactly what needs to happen for a person with HIV to be cured (for example, using antiretroviral treatment to suppress the viral load, then employing a kick and kill strategy to target hidden reservoirs of the virus, before employing a vaccine to protect from future infections).

In other words, don't hold your breath, but don't give up either. A cure is coming. It just may take another decade.

## Curious Straight Guy Attempts Sex with a Man – Realises You Definitely Can't Choose to be Gay, Receives an Eye-opening Experience

by Joe Morgan

A curious guy has had his world straightened out after a horny meetup from Craigslist.



Posting on Reddit, the self-proclaimed straight guy revealed he had been thinking of hooking up with a guy.

And it turned out it gave him a new understanding of not just his sexuality, but all sexualities.

He said he realised that his experience has given him, and anyone else that might not believe this, the proof that being gay is definitely not a choice.

'Ok so for a few years now I've been curious about sleeping with a guy. I watched the porn and questioned my sexuality about my thoughts and fantasies, and thought to myself one day it'll happen and then we'll know. Well it happened, and I wasn't a fan,' the Redditor said.

'So it started off I was in a really horny mood grabbed my ... and double clicked for all the porn I could find and then the adventurous side of my brain woke up and pointed me to Craigslist and next thing i knew i was emailing this guy in the same situation as me, curious and wanting to experiment.'

He continued: 'So the next day happens and we're still emailing and we arrange to meet at stupid o'clock in the morning and see what happens. Luckily he was a really nice guy, shy and kind hearted. Any guy would be lucky to have him as a partner.'

'Anyway many things happened and we end up there lying on the bed, a touch bemused with what just went down.'

'It was at this moment I realized that I'm really not gay.'

'Ok so it took sex with a stranger to help me realize and I'd be lying if some bits weren't interesting but those questions have been put to rest.'

'Personally sex with guys is crap and there's no beauty in it for me. Ok so inexperience will have played a part but at the base of it, it didn't feel right for me, and was actually kinda dull compared to sex with women.'

'Regardless I've got to be thankful for the experience otherwise I would have spent forever wondering what it might be like.'

'So yeah there's my confession.'

'I guess you could use this as proof against all those people that say being gay is a choice. It's really not.'



# Life Beyond Therapy

By Michael Kimmel

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## What is Internalized Homophobia and what can I do about it?

The other day I was talking with a client, a well-adjusted gay man, who told me, "I don't think I'm homophobic anymore. I think I've worked all that through."

My response was, "Really? Do you think that's possible?"

He was pretty surprised to hear me say that. And that led us to a discussion of what homophobia really is. Internalized homophobia is based on fear. A fear that who we are is not okay and that if we allowed how we feel inside to show outside, we'd never fit in.

Ironically, for many of us, this fear encourages us to act as if we are superior to others. It combines – unfortunately – with racism, misogyny and ageism to manifest in a variety of subtle and not-so-subtle ways in our community: men feel superior to women; white people feel superior to people of color; gay men and lesbians feel superior to bisexual and transgender men and women; young people feel superior to older people, wealthy people feel superior to poorer people... and young, middle-class gay white men feel superior to everyone else in the LGBT community (but still feel inferior to their straight counterparts).

Yes, dear reader, I hear you saying that generalizations like this aren't always true. Granted. But, in all-too-many cases, our fears encourage us to believe – often subconsciously – that people like us are better than people who appear to be different from us, and it goes unexamined.

Until now.

To me, internalized homophobia is the process of how we take negative stereotypes, beliefs and prejudice about being lesbian/gay/bisexual/transgender and use them against ourselves.

The intensity of our internalized homophobia depends on how much self-hatred we have consciously and subconsciously internalized. Growing up in a conservative, Republican family in a small Ohio farm town, I was filled to the brim with internalized homophobia. I had so few allies and so little support that I didn't come out until my early thirties when – in a men's support group in NYC – I burst out with: "I don't want to be gay, but I am. I am." I did so not want to be gay that I struggled hard for years not to be. Or, more accurately, not to admit it to myself.

Internalized homophobia also applies to the things we do and the ways we act (or try to act) to conform to heteronormativity. Have you ever seen profiles on Grindr or OK Cupid that stress how "masculine" the guy is? Or all those "No femmes, no fats, no old guys" statements? No internalized homophobia there, right?

Let's be clear: there is a difference between having preferences and internalized homophobia. You can prefer to be with a certain type of partner, and that's all good, as long as you don't feel a need to con-

demn people who don't match your preference.

Behind most internalized homophobia is fear: we want to fit in and be accepted. It's too scary to be alone, isolated and "weird". So we hide the parts of ourselves that may not be acceptable to our circle of friends/community and promote the parts that everybody seems to like.

The psychological term "ego-dystonic homophobia" refers to a sexual orientation that is at odds with your idealized self-image: who you are is a bad fit with who you want to be.

The result is depression, fear, shame and – in the most extreme cases – suicide.

I can honestly say that in my early twenties, I felt such self-hatred for my same-sex attractions that I occasionally thought about suicide. Luckily, it never went further than that. But not every young LGBT person is so fortunate. Internalized homophobia is strongly correlated with suicidal thoughts and acts among LGBT youth.

What can we do? We can start by telling ourselves the truth about the parts of ourselves as LGBT people that we hide and are ashamed of and getting support to address them. We can tell the truth to our friends, counselors, mentors and lovers. We can notice when we feel shame and ask ourselves, "What is going on with me right now?" and "Where does that come from?"

This is the first step on the path to freedom: we stop fooling ourselves. Even if we convince others we're cool, what really matters is what we say to ourselves. Our own self-opinion is much more powerful than what others think of us. This is why our own unspoken internalized homophobia has great destructive power to mess with us. If you feel bad about your sexual orientation, you probably find lots of ways to subconsciously sabotage yourself. No surprise there.

To be really free and happy, I invite you to explore the parts of your personality that have long been "missing" or embarrass you. How will you recognize them? Just notice the types of people in our community that make you uncomfortable...and be grateful to them: they are truly your best teachers.

## For Black Gay Men, HIV Is a Perfect Storm

BY GREG MILLETT

Over the course of my career as an HIV/AIDS epidemiologist, my peers and I have documented and helped answer a public health mystery affecting black gay men in the United States. Namely, why are HIV infection rates so high among this population, compared to two other communities that comprise the overwhelming majority of HIV cases in the nation: black Americans and gay men in general?

The statistics are hard to ignore and even harder to fathom. Gay men make up only 1.4 percent of the total black population in the U.S., yet they account for an astounding 53 percent of new HIV infections in the black community. And while new HIV infection rates have decreased among black women and injecting drug users, infections continue to rise among black gay and bisexual men. In addition, although gay men are 40 times more likely to get HIV than the general population, that figure rises sharply to 72 times more likely among black gay men.

There is, of course, no single factor that has led to black gay men being one of the groups most disproportionately affected by HIV in the U.S. Instead, it is a multifaceted "perfect storm" of problems involving social, cultural, and economic forces interacting in a variety of ways.

*(Continued on page 15)*



# GAYZETTE EVENTS

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

**We closed the Center as of December 2nd, 2013.**

**The Gayzette will continue to be published and our phone line will be available for Gayzette advertising & info uses only.**

**We appreciate the past support for the Center but it became clear that it was time to close.**

**We feel we can accomplish much more for the GLBT community in this way.**

**Thanks,  
George Broadway  
Board Chair and Gayzette editor  
Email: [Gayzette@cox.net](mailto:Gayzette@cox.net)  
Www.rainbowoutreach.org**

## WEEKLY EVENTS

### Every Sunday

**WORSHIP SERVICES:**  
**AUGUSTANA LUTHERAN CHURCH**, ELCA, 3647 Lafayette Ave., Omaha GLBT friendly, [www.augustanalutheran.com](http://www.augustanalutheran.com)

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

**EPISCOPAL GLBT FELLOWSHIP**, St. Andrews Church, 84th & Pacific, 6-7PM, email: [EpiscopalGLBT@yahoo.com](mailto:EpiscopalGLBT@yahoo.com)

**FIRST CENTRAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH of CHRIST**, info at: [www.firstcentral.org](http://www.firstcentral.org)

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

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

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

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

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

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

**RIVER CITY MIXED BOWLING LEAGUE**, 3pm, Maplewood Lanes, at 402-572-9393

**SECOND UNITARIAN**, Sunday morning services, 3012 S 119th St., Omaha, [info@2uomaha.org](mailto:info@2uomaha.org), 402-334-0537

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

**WIMMIN'S SHOW**, KZUM 89.3 12:30pm

### Every Monday

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

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

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

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

### Every Tuesday

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

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

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

### Every Wednesday

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

**FRONTRUNNERS RUN/WALK** 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha (402-804-8720)

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

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

**Metro Omaha Prime Timers**, 4:00-6:00pm Coffee with the Boys at Howlin' Hounds Café,

712 South 16th St. Meet up for coffee and conversation. Many of the guys go out for dinner afterwards. Everyone welcome to attend.

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

**UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA**, 7pm

### Every Thursday

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

### Every Friday

**LIVE & LET LIVE AA Meeting**, 8:15pm to 9:15pm, Open to men and women, at Underwood Hills Presbyterian Church, 851 North 74th Street

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

### OUT & ABOUT SOCIAL CLUB

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

### Every Saturday

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

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

**PROUD HORIZON YOUTH GROUP** 4-6pm, First United Methodist Church, 291-6781 [proudhorizons@yahoo.com](mailto:proudhorizons@yahoo.com)

## MONTHLY EVENTS

### 1<sup>st</sup> Monday

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

### 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday

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

### 1<sup>st</sup> Friday

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

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday

**Soka Gakkai International (SGI-USA)**,

Lay Buddhist organization based on Nichiren Buddhism, World Peace Prayer the First Sun day of each month, 10am-11:30am, LGBTQIA Friendly, 1021 N 46th Street, Omaha, NE 68132, call 402-558-6148

### **SPIRITUAL FRIENDS OF LINCOLN**

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

#### **2nd Monday**

#### **NAP HIV TESTING**

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

#### **2nd Thursday**

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

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

#### **2nd Sunday**

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

#### **3rd Monday**

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

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

#### **3rd Sunday**

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

#### **4th Monday**

#### **NAP HIV TESTING**

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

#### **4th Tuesday**

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

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

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

## **PECANS IN THE CEMETERY**

On the outskirts of a small town, there was a big, old pecan tree just inside the cemetery fence.

One day, two boys filled up a bucketful of nuts and sat down by the tree, out of sight, and began dividing the nuts.

'One for you, one for me. One for you, one for me' said one boy.. Several dropped and rolled down toward the fence.

Another boy came riding along the road on his bicycle. As he passed, he thought he heard voices from inside the cemetery. He slowed down to investigate. Sure enough, he heard, 'One for you, one for me. One for you, one for me..'

He just knew what it was.. He jumped back on his bike and rode off.

Just around the bend he met an old man with a cane, hobbling along.

'Come here quick,' said the Boy, 'you won't believe what I heard! Satan and the Lord are down at the cemetery dividing up the souls.'

The man said, 'Beat it kid, can't you see it's hard for me to walk.'

When the boy insisted though, the man hobbled slowly to the cemetery. Standing by the fence they heard, 'One for you, one for me. One for you, one for me.'

The old man whispered, 'Boy, you've been tellin' me the truth. Let's see if we can see the Lord.'

Shaking with fear, they peered through the fence, yet were still unable to see anything. The old man and the boy gripped the wrought iron bars of the fence tighter and tighter as they tried to get a glimpse of the Lord.

At last they heard, 'One for you, one for me. That's all. Now, let's go get those nuts by the fence and we'll be done.'

They say the old man made it back to town a full five minutes ahead of the kid on the bike.

## **HIGH SCHOOL 1960 vs. 2010**

### **Scenario 1:**

Johnny and Mark get into a fist fight after school.

1960 - Crowd gathers. Mark wins. Johnny and Mark shake hands and end up buddies.  
2015 - Police called and SWAT team arrives -- they arrest both Johnny and Mark. They are both charged them with assault and both expelled even though Johnny started it.

### **Scenario 2:**

Jeffrey will not be still in class, he disrupts other students.

1960 - Jeffrey sent to the Principal's office and given a good paddling by the Principal. He then returns to class, sits still and does not disrupt class again.

2015 - Jeffrey is given huge doses of Ritalin. He becomes a zombie. He is then tested for ADD. The school gets extra money from the state because Jeffrey has a disability.

### **Scenario 3:**

Billy breaks a window in his neighbor's car and his Dad gives him a whipping with his belt.

1960 - Billy is more careful next time, grows up normal, goes to college and becomes a successful businessman.

2015 - Billy's dad is arrested for child abuse. Billy is removed to foster care and joins a gang. The state psychologist is told by Billy's sister that she remembers being abused herself and their dad goes to prison. Billy's mom has an affair with the psychologist.

### **Scenario 4:**

Pedro fails high school English.

1960 - Pedro goes to summer school, passes English and goes to college.

2015 - Pedro's cause is taken up by the state. Newspaper articles appear nationally explaining that teaching English as a requirement for graduation is racist. ACLU files class action lawsuit against the state school system and Pedro's English teacher. English is then banned from core curriculum. Pedro is given his diploma anyway but ends up mowing lawns for a living because he cannot speak English.

### **Scenario 5:**

Johnny falls while running during recess and scrapes his knee. He is found crying by his teacher, Mary. Mary hugs him to comfort him.

1960 - In a short time, Johnny feels better and goes on playing.

2015 - Mary is accused of being a sexual predator and loses her job. She faces 3 years in State Prison. Johnny undergoes 5 years of therapy..

### **Sensible Observations**

When I die, I want to die like my grandfather-who died peacefully in his sleep. Not screaming like all the passengers in his car."

"My Mom said she learned how to swim when someone took her out in the lake and threw her off the boat. I said, 'Mom, they weren't trying to teach you how to swim.'"

--Paula Poundstone

"I think that's how Chicago got started. Bunch of people in New York said, 'Gee, I'm enjoying the crime and the poverty, but it just isn't cold enough. Let's go west.'"

--Richard Jeni

# GLBT RESOURCE LIST

## OMAHA BASED

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

**Camp Kindle**, Nebraska based summer camp for kids affected by HIV/AIDS, 877.800.CAMP, [www.CampKindle.org](http://www.CampKindle.org)

**Citizens for Equal Protection** 1105 Howard St. Suite 2, Omaha NE 68102, 398-3027 [www.cfep-ne.org](http://www.cfep-ne.org), email to: [Michael@cfep-ne.org](mailto:Michael@cfep-ne.org)

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

**First Central Congregational Church UCC**, 421 South 36th St., 402-345-1533, [www.firstcentral.org](http://www.firstcentral.org), GLBT-affirming

**First Lutheran Church**, 542 So. 31st St., 402-345-7506, GLBT Friendly [www.firstlutheranomaha.org](http://www.firstlutheranomaha.org)

**First Unitarian Church**, 3114 Harney Street, 402-345-3039, [www.firsttuomaha.org](http://www.firsttuomaha.org), GLBT Welcoming Congregation

**First United Methodist Church**, 7020 Cass St., 402-556-6262, [www.fumcomaha.org](http://www.fumcomaha.org), GLBT-affirming

**Flat Water Bears**, (group disbanded)

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

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

**GayLibrary.com**, World Wide Resources

**GOglbt Professionals**, meeting at 5:30PM. Email at: [GOglbt@cfep-ne.org](mailto:GOglbt@cfep-ne.org) or see [www.GOglbt.org](http://www.GOglbt.org) for info

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

**Heartland Pride** [www.heartlandpride.org](http://www.heartlandpride.org), email: [info@heartlandpride.org](mailto:info@heartlandpride.org); meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month from 6:30pm to 8pm. @ D. Dale Clark Library

**Ice Bowl Invitational Bowling Tournament (IBIT)** P.O. Box 31838, Omaha, 68131 R. Hollendieck (402) 556-5556

**Imperial Court of Nebraska**, Box 3772, Omaha 68103, [www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org](http://www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org)

**Inclusive Life** 402-575-7006 [www.inclusivelife.org](http://www.inclusivelife.org)  
Offering religious and non-religious care and services to all without exception. Weddings, Funerals, Coaching and Pastoral Care.

**Learning to Exchange Power**, no current info available

**Leather Engineers of Omaha (LEO)** not currently meeting

**Metro Omaha Prime Timers**, provides a welcoming and supportive environment to

mature gay and bi men and their fans to encourage participation in fun, cultural, educational or social activities. Email [PrimeTimersEvents@gmail.com](mailto:PrimeTimersEvents@gmail.com) for more information & schedule. Also on Facebook as Metro Omaha Prime Timers Also see the Events list on page 10

**Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha**, 819 S. 22 St., Omaha 68108 345-2563, [mccomaha@mccomaha.org](mailto:mccomaha@mccomaha.org)  
Website: [www.mccomaha.org](http://www.mccomaha.org) Sunday Worship 9:30am and 11:15am

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

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

**Nebraska AIDS Project**, 250 So. 77th St., HIV testing and counseling  
**NebraskaEquality.org**, Find out everything about Nebraska and the GLBT Community [www.NebraskaPrideIDOL.com](http://www.NebraskaPrideIDOL.com)

**Nebraska Zen Center**, Soto Zen Buddhist, 3625 Lafayette Ave., 402-551-9035, [www.prairiewindzen.org](http://www.prairiewindzen.org) GLBT inclusive

**North Side Christian Church** 5555 Larimore Ave., Sunday service at 9:30am, see [www.NorthSideOmaha.org](http://www.NorthSideOmaha.org)

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

**Omaha Metro GLBT Sports League**, See [www.oglbtsports.com](http://www.oglbtsports.com) for more information

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

**Out and About in Nebraska**, website: [www.travel.to/outabout](http://www.travel.to/outabout)  
Email: [NeOutAbout@yahoo.com](mailto:NeOutAbout@yahoo.com)

**OUUT (Omaha Unitarian Universalists for Tolerance)** First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney, 68131, 345-3039, [www.ouut.org](http://www.ouut.org)

**PFLAG Omaha Chapter**, For confidential information or support, call: 402-291-6781, meeting at Countryside Community Church, 8787 Pacific Street Omaha, Nebraska

**Proud Horizons Youth Group**, Sat Afternoon 4pm to 6pm, for info: email [proudhorizons@yahoo.com](mailto:proudhorizons@yahoo.com)

**River City Gender Alliance**, PO Box 284, Boys Town, NE 68010, email [president@rcga.co](mailto:president@rcga.co) or call 402-541-5792, web site [www.rcga.co](http://www.rcga.co)

**River City Mixed Bowling** Sundays, Maplewood Lanes Omaha, at 3PM call 402-572-9393 for details

**River City Mixed Chorus**, Box 3267, Omaha, NE 68103, 402-341-SING  
Website: [www.rcmc.org](http://www.rcmc.org)

**Second Unitarian Church**, 3012 S 119th St., Omaha, [www.2uomaha.org](http://www.2uomaha.org), 402-334

-0537, LGBTQ Welcoming Congregation  
**SNAP Productions**, Box 8464, Omaha, NE 68108 [www.snapproductions.com](http://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](http://www.unityomaha.org)

**Youth Emergency Services, Inc. (Y.E.S.)**  
Offices: 2679 Farnam Street, Suite. 205 Omaha, NE 68131, 402-345-5187, email to [info@yesomaha.org](mailto:info@yesomaha.org)  
**Y.E.S. Drop-in Center**, 2057 Harney Street Omaha, NE 68102, 402-505-6922

## LINCOLN BASED

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

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

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

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

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

**OUTInc**, a nonprofit organization that engages in and fosters the well-being and advancement of the LGBT community, [www.outinc.org](http://www.outinc.org), Lincoln NE

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

**Queer Student Alliance, UNL**, contact [unlqsa@yahoo.com](mailto:unlqsa@yahoo.com) for info

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

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

**Straight Spouse Support Grp** 402-429-6094

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

**UNL Committee on GLBT Concerns**, Contact Pat Tetreault, (402) 472-1752 or email: [ptetreault1@unl.edu](mailto:ptetreault1@unl.edu) / [www.unl.edu/cglbte](http://www.unl.edu/cglbte)

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

Youth Support Group, (402) 434-9880

## Iowa Based

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

**Council Bluffs Community Alliance**  
[www.councilbluffscommunityalliance.org](http://www.councilbluffscommunityalliance.org)

**Council Bluffs Pride, [www.councilbluffspride.org](http://www.councilbluffspride.org)**

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

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

**Sioux City, Iowa Resource Web Site:** [www.siouxlandpride.net](http://www.siouxlandpride.net)

## Nationally Based

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

#####

# The Hungry Homo

## Sausage-Stuffed Mushrooms

### Ingredients

- 24 large fresh mushrooms
- 1 lb. bulk Italian sausage
- 1/2 cup of chopped green onions
- 1 cup of spaghetti sauce
- 1 cup of mozzarella cheese, shredded

### Methods/Steps

Remove mushroom stems; set caps aside. Chop stems; set aside. In a skillet, cook sausage over medium heat until no longer pink; remove with a slotted spoon. In the drippings, saute onions and mushroom stems. Stir in spaghetti sauce and sausage. Stuff into mushroom caps. Sprinkle with cheese. Place in a greased 15-in. x 10-in. x 1-in. baking pan. Bake at 350 degrees for 12-15 minutes or until cheese is melted.

READY IN 30 Min, Makes 8



## Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

### Omaha:

- Dixie Quick's Restaurant, 157 West Broadway 712-256-4140
- Flixx , 1015 South 10th Street Omaha 402-408-1020
- Lover Luxuries, 6065 Maple St. 402-932-3377
- The Max, 1417 Jackson St. 402-346-4110
- Metropolitan Community Church, 819 South 22nd Street
- Mystery Bookstore, 1414 South 13th St. 402-342-7343
- Nebraska AIDS Project, 250 South 77th St 402-552-9260
- Omaha Mining Co., 1715 Leavenworth 402-449-8703
- Rodeo Saloon & BBQ 164 W Broadway 712-256-0510

**Would you like to have the Gayzette at your Place of business? Email your request to: [Gayzette@cox.net](mailto:Gayzette@cox.net)**

## Cheesy Baked Asparagus

- 1 bunch of asparagus, woody ends trimmed...
- 3 T. butter, melted
- 1/2 tsp. my house seasoning (equal parts garlic powder, onion powder and pepper...combine and store in an airtight container)
- 1 T. grated parmesan cheese
- 3/4 C. shredded mozzarella cheese
- Italian seasoning

Line a baking sheet with some tinfoil. Place the asparagus on the baking sheet and drizzle with the melted butter. Sprinkle the house seasoning and parmesan cheese over the top. Place in a 400 degree oven for 15 minutes. Remove and top with the mozzarella cheese and a little sprinkling of italian seasoning over the top. Return to the oven for an additional 5-7 minutes to melt the cheese and let it begin to brown.

source: JanetsAppalachianKitchen



# Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox



GOOD THING LANCE TOOK DREW WITH HIM ON HIS EUROPEAN BUSINESS TRIP.

GIVES ME A FEW WEEKS TO WORK ON BOTH OF THEIR ENGINES.

RIGHT.

SIGH? OKAY... WHAT'S WRONG? YOU LOOK LIKE YOU'VE BEEN ITCHIN' TO TALK TO ME ABOUT SOMETHIN' ALL DAY.

ACTUALLY... IT'S ABOUT EDUARDO.

WHAT ABOUT HIM?

LOOK, NICK...

...I KNOW YOU HAVE A PROBLEM WITH ME DATING HIM.

HE TOLD YOU I HAVE A "PROBLEM" WITH YOU TWO DATING? MAN...

...THAT KID IS A PIECE OF WORK.

YOU CAN DATE WHOEVER YOU WANT, JAKE. THAT'S YOUR BUSINESS.

I'D STILL LIKE TO KNOW YOUR OPINION.

NO, YOU REALLY DON'T, JAKE.

YEAH, I DO, NICK.

ALL RIGHT. BUT ONLY 'CAUSE YOU INSISTED.

YOU'RE MAKIN' A STUPID MISTAKE.

THAT KID'S NOT EVEN HALF YOUR AGE!

MOST PEOPLE ARE GONNA' SEE YOU GUYS AND ASSUME YOU'VE GOT A SUGAR DADDY THING GOIN' ON.

AND YOU WANNA' FEEL OLD?

WAIT'LL HE TAKES YOU OUT TO SPARTACUS... TO MEET HIS CATTY, CLUB-QUEEN FRIENDS.

THEY'RE GONNA' TAKE A BIG OLD BEAR LIKE YOU AND ROAST YOU ALIVE.

GREG FOX © 2015

OTHER THAN THAT? I THINK YOU GUYS HAVE A SPARKLING FUTURE.

GEE, YOU KNOW... I'M GLAD WE HAD THIS LITTLE TALK.

ONE OF US IS...



Contrary to what was presumed, multiple studies have shown that black gay men are less likely to have condomless sex than white gay men and far less likely to use drugs like poppers or crystal methamphetamine during sex, which heighten the risk of HIV infection.

One major issue is the sheer number of black gay men living with HIV. Higher rates of HIV within a smaller population of men nationwide (compared to white gay men) mean that the chance of encountering a partner living with HIV is greater for black gay men than white gay men. As an illustration of this, a recent study found that white gay men in Atlanta needed to meet seven sex partners to have a 50 percent probability of meeting an HIV-positive partner, whereas black gay men needed only 3.5 sex partners.

Because the majority of gay men prefer sexual and romantic partners of the same racial/ethnic background, the probability that a black gay man will contract HIV is greatly increased, while other populations of gay men (such as Asians) face a greatly reduced risk of infection. Adding fuel to the fire, in light of studies showing high rates of transmission among people who do not know their status, a higher proportion of black gay men are unaware of their HIV infection compared to gay men of other races/ethnicities.

We cannot separate the high infection rates among black gay men from several ills that continue to plague our society. Discrimination, poverty, stigma, and lack of access to health care all affect health care utilization for black gay men.

HIV-positive black gay men are far less likely to make more than \$20,000 annually than white gay men and 50 percent less likely to have health insurance, both of which limit access to care. Discrimination experienced at doctors' offices has also been found to hamper future health care engagement for both HIV-negative and HIV-positive black gay men. As a result, a substantial proportion of black gay men remain undiagnosed, and others who are diagnosed and without the financial means to access medications will remain virally unsuppressed.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, only 28 percent of HIV-positive black Americans are virally suppressed. Among black gay men, only 16 percent are virally suppressed. While being on antiretroviral treatment decreases the chance of transmitting HIV to a partner by as much as 96 percent, these low rates of viral suppression among black gay men only help to fuel HIV transmission. A recent eye-opening study revealed that it would take decades before HIV infection disparities drop among black gay men relative to white gay men even if 95 percent of black gay men were tested and treated for HIV.

Neglect and an inadequate response to the HIV epidemic among black gay men in the U.S. is one of the most important and least cited factors underlying these disparities. Despite decades of evidence tracking the population's skyrocketing infection rates, very little was done (compared to communities with fewer infections) by Congress, the Department of Health and Human Services, the gay community,

or the black community to mount an appropriate response.

A recent review of HIV prevention programs ordered by the Obama administration revealed that the overwhelming number of HIV prevention programs operated by DHHS and geared toward black populations focused on heterosexuals, with a national HIV prevalence of 2 percent (98 percent are not HIV-positive), compared to black gay men, where one in three are HIV-positive. Studies also find that funded research underprioritizes gay men, particularly black gay men, and HIV testing and prevention programs at local health departments overwhelmingly favor heterosexuals, despite the fact that gay men represent the greatest number of HIV infections in 49 states nationwide. Funding and appropriate actions must follow the epidemic.

Despite insurmountable challenges, I remain hopeful. We have an administration that has done more to address the domestic HIV epidemic than all previous administrations combined, including a sharp increase in HIV programs, interventions, and research targeting gay men in general and black gay men in particular. The updated National HIV/AIDS Strategy lays out specific targets for gay men and black gay men, and the White House official presiding over these activities is a black gay man living with HIV, Douglas Brooks. Our president has also helped expand LGBT rights and acceptance, giving room for prominent black athletes and celebrities to publicly support and embrace black LGBT fans, friends, and family members, which might help reduce stigma.

Moreover, passage of the Affordable Care Act gives us the unprecedented opportunity to dramatically increase health care access for HIV-positive and HIV-negative black gay men alike. And the advent of pre-exposure prophylaxis, in addition to existing strategies to test for and treat HIV, may be the game changer we need to help finally turn the corner on the number of annual HIV infections among black gay men. Lastly, a dedicated, bright, and determined cohort of young black gay men is keeping a laser focus on this issue in policy, research, and program arenas. And we are seeing other signs of hope—the number of new HIV infections is no longer increasing among black gay men in San Francisco.

Albert Einstein once said, "The significant problems we have cannot be solved at the same level of thinking with which we created them." We are finally on a path to keeping HIV infection from becoming a rite of passage for another generation of black gay men.

GREG MILLETT, MPH, is a well-published and nationally recognized HIV/AIDS epidemiologist and researcher. He is a vice president and director of public policy for amFAR, the Foundation for AIDS Research.

**NEBRASKA AIDS PROJECT**

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

[www.nap.org](http://www.nap.org)  
402-552-9260

**Get Smart, Get Tested**

## Meet the Gay Classical Star Who's Painted His Body Like a Piano to Get More People Into Music

by Mel Spencer

'I'm a pianist who pumps iron and goes to the gym - I don't want to hide that under a suit!' says topless classical musician

I don't need to look like Mozart to play his music!

A British classical pianist is bringing his art form to a new audience by painting his body to look like a piano.

While pop stars or opera singers are able to use their body as their instrument, 26-year-old Emmanuel Vass wanted to explore the relationship between the artist and the piano - by transforming his muscular arms and torso into painted black and white keys.

'As a piano player I play something external, but it is a part of me - there has to be a connection between you and the instrument,' he explained, speaking to Gay Star News. 'I wanted to explore that link.'

'I was thinking carefully about how classical music is represented in mainstream media. When a lot of people think about classical music they think about an introverted, anemic-looking person standing meekly on the stage. That's not me at all, and it's the complete opposite of my training!

He added: 'I don't think it's necessary to wear clothing from the 19th Century when you're playing music from that time. I don't have to look like Mozart when I'm playing his music!

'It's a bit like saying One Direction should look like the Beatles to be good pop stars. When you put it like that, it just sounds insane.'

While he's happy to show the sexier side of his art form, Vass understands his topless photos are bound to shatter a few champagne glasses among the classical elite, who generally expect a performer to be wearing at least a shirt - if not a suit.

'Some people have reacted in a negative manner,' he said. 'As an artist you can never please everybody all the time across the board. I feel personally that I am bringing something new to the table. Nobody has ever done this before in classical music!

'Controversy drives art forward in many ways. It's about pushing boundaries and driving discussion and always being at the forefront of vision. We don't need to look back to the 19th Century - we should embrace what's going on right now!

'We live in a social media age, a smartphone age; the general public do look before they hear. If you have some striking visuals they might be more likely to want to listen to the piano for the first time.'

He added: 'I completely acknowledge I'll probably piss some people off... but Brahms pissed people off too, right? Stravinsky wrote a ballet that caused people to riot and run out of the theatre - but now that ballet is seen as the pinnacle of contemporary music and completely changed the way we understand the music that followed.'

'The quality of my playing is still inherent - it's been broadcast by Classic FM and BBC Radio 3, and my album was at the top of the UK classical charts a few months ago - so I don't think I'm taking it too far.'

'The most important thing is always the music, and the way I look doesn't actually affect the way I play. It just might turn a few heads in the right direction, that's all.'

'So many musicians are objectified for their talent; either that or you're a 'youth object', or a 'hero object' - so why can't you be a 'sex object'?' he said.

'That's not necessarily what I'm aiming for, but if that's what I'm being perceived as, then why not?!

'I'm a pianist who pumps iron and goes to the gym - I don't want to hide that under a suit! I enjoy exercise and running with my dog. That's part of my life, just like playing is.'

So what does his partner make of his unconventional classical photoshoot?

'My boyfriend has been very supportive,' he explained. 'It's part and parcel of having a career - you have to do some promotion for your music, after all. He takes it as a compliment that I'm getting attention!'

Anyone expecting to get a glimpse of Vass's body-painted torso at an upcoming concert might have to wait until the warmer months; while he won't be wearing a Mozart costume, the pianist is planning on wearing a few more clothes as he tours the UK.

'The music deserves a certain level of respect,' he said. 'I wouldn't go on stage in my piano outfit; you're in danger of making it a circus if you take it too far. Besides, my next concert is in the Chapel Royal in Brighton, then I'm playing at St Mary Redcliffe in Bristol on the 26th of September - it's a little cold at that time of year to be strutting around topless!'

