

The GayZette



Published by the Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Community Center

New California Law Protecting Gay, Transgender Students Meets Resistance

A recent amendment to California's education code has outraged many conservatives, who say the new laws push a gay agenda in public schools, according to a story in The Washington Times.

The law, SB 777, signed by Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger in October to take effect in January, forbids any activity in school that "promotes a discriminatory bias" on the basis of sexual orientation or gender.

In recent weeks, preachers, parents, conservative lawyers, and advocacy groups have launched protest campaigns, which have included pulling children out of school, circulating a petition, and even filing a lawsuit.

The law's opponents argue that the amendment would allow students to decide their own gender, creating potential "havoc" in school locker rooms and bathrooms.

"If this is not repealed, the next step is to get out of California itself -- it's like Sodom and Gomorrah," minister Vincent Xavier told the Times.

Proponents, though, say the law only clarifies and streamlines -- and doesn't expand -- existing protections for students.

"There has been no change in California law, none at all," state senator Sheila Kuehl, the Democrat who authored the original bill, told the Times. (The Advocate)



Season's Greetings from
the
Rainbow Outreach GLBT
Community Center

Hungary Legalizes Civil Partnerships

Hungary's parliament voted 185-154 (with nine abstentions) Monday to pass a law allowing same-sex couples to register their civil partnerships. Registered couples will have access to the same rights as married straight couples with respect to inheritance, taxes, and other financial matters, Reuters reported. They will not, however, be allowed to adopt children.

While none of the former communist states allow same-sex marriage, the Czech Republic and Slovenia allow same-sex partnerships to be registered.

The law is slated to take effect in January 2009. (The Advocate)

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.)

December 21, 2007 - January 4, 2008

P.O. Box 8583, Omaha, Nebraska 68108 (402) 341-0330
Web Site: www.rainbowoutreach.org email the GAYZETTE: gayzette@cox.net

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Location: First United Methodist Church
7020 Cass, Omaha, Nebraska
Web Site: www.pflag-omaha.org

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GAYZETTE AD RATES, PRINTED COPY AND ON THE WEB

Whole Page 7 1/2W X 10H \$100.00 Half Page 7 1/2W X 4 3/4H \$ 50.00
Fourth Page 3 3/4W X 4 3/4H \$ 25.00 Business Card \$ 15.00

All ads should be emailed to Gayzette@cox.net. Checks should be made payable to Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center. 10% Discount for on-going ads of any size. Payment and ads may also be delivered to the Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Center, P.O. Box 8583, Omaha NE 68102 on or before the deadline or you may pay with credit card on our web site at www.RainbowOutreach.org and email the ad. We reserve the right to refuse any ad which we deem to be inappropriate.

Ad Deadlines: Friday, Dec 28, for Publication Jan 4th Friday, Jan 11 for Publication Jan 18th

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Friday December 28th

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ALL NIGHT LONG!

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Pre -New Years Party!

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Monday December 31st

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LANCE... YOU'RE STILL HERE? EVERYONE ELSE IS GOING HOME!

I KNOW. THAT'S WHY I NEED YOU TO STAY AND HELP ME GET THESE REPORTS OUT, DAVE.

BUT... IT'S CHRISTMAS EVE! KYLE'S HOLIDAY PARTY IS STARTING... NICK'S WAITING FOR ME.

I GOT YOU THIS JOB HERE, DAVE... I CAN JUST AS EASILY HAVE YOU FIRED.

MAN. ALL RIGHT. BUT THIS ISN'T IN MY JOB DESCRIPTION. I'M A COMPUTER TECH.

THEN YOU SHOULD BE QUITE CAPABLE OF FAXING THESE REPORTS OUT. MOVE IT.

CHRISTMAS. BAH, HUMBUG! WHO NEEDS THE DISTRACTION?

I THINK YOU DO, LANCE.

WHAT THE--?!!

AREN'T YOU KYLE'S FRIEND STEVE?!

I'M FRIENDS WITH MANY PEOPLE.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE... IN THAT OUTRAGEOUS COSTUME?!!

JUST WANTED TO SHOW YOU SOMETHING. HAVE A LOOK AT YOUR LAP-TOP.

MY LAP-TOP? WHAT FOR?

RECOGNIZE HIM?

IT'S AN OLD MAN STUMBLING THROUGH THE SNOW. WHAT IS THIS?

THAT'S YOU... IN THE FUTURE.

ALONE... NO FRIENDS. NO ONE LEFT TO CARE ABOUT YOU. UNLESS YOU CHANGE YOUR WAYS.

NO!!! I DON'T WANT TO END UP LIKE THIS--

HUH?! GOOD LORD... I MUST HAVE FALLEN ASLEEP AT MY DESK! IT WAS ALL A DREAM! OR... WAS IT?

SHORTLY... WHAT ABOUT ALL THOSE REPORTS YOU HAD TO GET OUT?

THEY CAN WAIT! WE HAVE A HOLIDAY PARTY TO GO TO!

MERRY CHRISTMAS, DAVE... MERRY CHRISTMAS EVERYONE!!!

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Holiday Stress Levels Higher for Lesbians Than Straight Women

Lesbians tend to be more stressed and depressed during the holidays than straight women, according to a survey conducted by market research firm Harris Interactive and Witeck-Combs Communications.

The survey found that 80% of lesbian adults felt more stress around the holidays, compared with 64% of heterosexual women. And while 51% of lesbians said they tend to feel more depressed around the holidays, only 36% of straight women did.

"Estrangement from family, marginalization within and isolation from society, separation from children (sometimes due to custody battles), and inadequate access to culturally sensitive health care practitioners are all factors that can adversely affect mood during a season so identified with family activities and belonging," Linda Spooner, a Washington, D.C., physician, said in a press release.

Smoking is also a greater problem for lesbians, according to the survey. Twenty-five percent of lesbians said they smoked, compared with 19% of heterosexual women.

Half of the straight women polled said they would try to quit smoking in the next year, while only 23% of lesbians said they would try to stop. (The Advocate)

Florida Could Vote to Ban Same-Sex Marriage

Voters may decide next year whether Florida will become the 28th state to place a constitutional ban on same-sex marriage. Sponsors of the proposed ban claim they have gathered the required 611,009 signatures necessary for a referendum vote, but Florida's Division of Elections website shows the group is 253 signatures short of its goal, the Associated Press reported Friday. An election official has yet to formally verify the signatures.

Florida currently prohibits same-sex marriage, but John Stemberger, an Orlando attorney heading the group opposed to marriage equality, said a constitutional ban would prevent judges from overturning the law.

"We believe kids need a mom and a dad, very simply," Stemberger told the AP. "Moms and dads bring something different to the table. Dads are not optional."

Opponents of the measure are worried that the amendment could supersede some Florida cities' existing domestic-partnership laws, thereby affecting unmarried heterosexual couples as well.

"It's government saying this is the only sanctioned relationship that you can have," said Stephen Gaskill, spokesman for Florida Red and Blue, an opposition group. (The Advocate)

From Shelterbelt with Love Auditions and Public Reading

SHELTERBELT THEATRE announces auditions for its annual love fest of vignettes, From Shelterbelt with Love, will be held one night only on Monday, December 10th at 7:00 pm in the back room of CALIFORNIA TACOS at 33rd and California.

Auditions will consist of readings from the selected plays. Production volunteers are also being sought.

From Shelterbelt with Love will run from January 17 to February 14.

If interested but busy on Monday or if you have questions, email artistic@shelterbelt.org



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THIS YEAR YOU ARE SIX TIMES MORE LIKELY TO BECOME DISABLED THAN DIE! This alarming statistic shouldn't surprise you . . . you see it everyday. Unfortunately, the number of people becoming disabled will double in the next decade. Most estate planning was designed to deal with death not disability, but that can be corrected.

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

WITHOUT A LIVING WILL YOU MAY BE KEPT ALIVE ON LIFE SUPPORT AGAINST YOUR WISHES IN CERTAIN INSTANCES. Remember Terri Schiavo? She was only 26 years old when she collapsed in her home due to respiratory and cardiac arrest. She spent the next 15 years of her life in a persistent vegetative state, kept alive on feeding tubes, until she died at age 41. We will never know whether those were her wishes since she did not have a Living Will. Don't let this happen to you. Make sure your wishes are known.

Don't wait until you actually have a problem before you deal with it. By waiting until the problem happens you typically can only minimize the damage, rather than prevent it. Let's prevent it! We have developed a solution for every problem.

Call our office today to schedule your complimentary consultation.

WITHOUT PROPER ESTATE PLANNING YOU ARE LEAVING YOUR FUTURE IN THE HANDS OF THE LEGAL SYSTEM WHICH WILL FOLLOW THE LAWS OF THE STATE YOU LIVE IN. TO MAKE MATTERS EVEN WORSE, THE INTESTACY LAWS OF NEBRASKA HAVE NO DEFAULT PROVISIONS TO ADDRESS SOME OF THE UNIQUE ESTATE PLANNING ISSUES FACING THE GLBT COMMUNITY. THERE IS A SOLUTION BUT YOU MUST HAVE THE PROPER PLANNING IN PLACE BEFORE THE NEED ARISES.



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GAMES DAY AT THE CENTER

Enjoy socializing at Games Day on Sundays 2-4pm at the GLBT Center with hosts James & Jeremy.

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Gay Pride

Guest Commentary by by Robi Zahrus
(OmahaFag@excite.com)



The Stonewall riots were a series of violent conflicts between New York City police officers and groups of gay and transgender people that began during the early morning of June 28, 1969, and lasted several days. Also called the Stonewall Rebellion or simply Stonewall, the clash was a watershed for the worldwide gay rights movement, as gay/lesbian and transgender people had never before acted together in such large numbers to forcibly resist police harassment directed towards their community.

This was a "hair pin drop" heard around the world. Gay men and lesbians all over stood up for themselves and became a voice heard, and all they wanted was equality and fairness. To be treated as an equal human being with the same rights as others. Though we have many of those rights and have come a long way in the eyes of the world and among straight people, even to the point of being accepted by many. We have not shown ourselves, each other, and those who still oppose us the love needed to finally be accepted as normal.

Now ever since the 1960's and 70's we as gay men and lesbian women have no longer acted together but just the opposite. We tear each other apart almost daily with our gossip, trash talking, and hatred. We go so far as to hold a pride event commemorating the Stonewall riots only to hold such an event that most of the men and women in their teens in the 60's who knew of the oppression at Stonewall don't even attend. Better yet when these older people complain we take a hostile view of their comments and never try to understand what they are really saying. Is our pride event nothing more than a Sunday show at the Max just put out on the streets of Omaha? Shouldn't it become more than a parade event and drag shows? Why not be proud of whom we are and set aside out petty bickering for at least one day and again act in unity as those did who were alive during Stonewall? Yes, we love hot young bodies. We love good-looking people, but that is not what pride is about. It's about gays and lesbians acting together and in unity. It's about putting

aside our opinions and inner fighting and coming together to show the world that we as lesbians and gay men can be accepted as normal and should have the same rights as others. It's not about half-naked men in a parade, drag queens lip singing, or multi color flags flying in the air.

It's about unity and love of a community that is not always accepted because of their sexual preferences and the lifestyle they lead.

Understand that when one of us complains about Omaha's pride event they aren't speaking against homosexuality they are speaking about the pride's intentions and meaning. Most of the older ones who knew of Stonewalls unfairness and who lived in the shadows of society hiding who they truly were only complain because they don't feel represented by the younger generation who hold pageants, shows, and a parade who never knew what it's like to be humiliated by public authorities just because of their sexual preferences. We who are young today don't know what it was like to go into a gay bar every night in fear that police would raid that bar, and not for illegal drugs or alcohol but because we loved those of the same sex.

When I first started going out to drag shows I was made fun of by gay men. Most people would tease me and make fun of me and comment they didn't know I was into that. Of course they always included the phrase, "there's nothing wrong with it it's just not my thing". I simply responded with my opinion that I think it's totally weird but I also know most drag queens are my friends and they are some of the nicest people in Omaha. Yes, I still don't get it, but I don't have to. I just have to support my friends and community which I do every Sunday. You'll often hear my Xena warrior princess cheer during the shows. I do this cheer so my friends will know I'm there and that I support them.

Do I have a problem with the gay pride celebration in Omaha? No not at all, but I do have a problem when we as a community take offense to it.

I also have a problem with us who are younger when we forget what it truly is about; unity, equality, and freedom to be ourselves. So many who attend and probably some who help with it just look at it as a day of fun, parades, drag shows, beer and

(Continued on page 14)

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GAYZETTE COMING EVENTS

**Rainbow Outreach
Metro Omaha GLBT Center
1719 Leavenworth, Omaha**
(mail address: PO Box 8583 Omaha NE 68108)

WALK-IN HOURS

| | |
|-----------|------------------|
| Sundays | 2:00PM - 8:00PM |
| Tuesdays | 7:00PM - 9:00PM |
| Thursdays | 7:30PM - 9:00PM |
| Fridays | 6:00PM - 11:00PM |
| Saturdays | 4:00PM - 6:00PM |

***Closed Most Major Holidays
(402) 341-0330
www.rainbowoutreach.org**

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

**SATURDAY APRIL 26th 2008
NEBRASKA GLBT SUMMIT**, Mahoney State Park, more info later

WEEKLY EVENTS

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

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

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

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

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

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

FIRST UNITARIAN 3114 Harney, 11am

services

LOWE AVE PRESBYTERIAN, 1023 N 40
10am service

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

WIMMIN'S SHOW, KZUM 89.3 12:30pm

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Every Wednesday
AA FOURTH DIMENSION**, 7pm, Open to

men and women, 219 North 48th Street

**WORSHIP SERVICES
MCC OMAHA**, Bible Study, 7pm

UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA, 7pm

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

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

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

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

KARAOKE W/ STACY 9:00 pm DC's

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

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

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

KARAOKE 9pm, Connections Bar

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

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

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

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

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

GLBT SEXUAL COMPULSIVE ANONYMOUS, (SCA), A program of recovery, 8pm to 9pm, call Kirk at (402) 403-0277

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

NAP OUTREACH CENTER HIV TESTING

7 TO 10PM, walk-in, 2202 St. Marys Ave., Same day results

FREE CONFIDENTIAL ANONYMOUS

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

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

Every Saturday

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

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

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

MONTHLY EVENTS

1st Tuesday

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

1st Thursday

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

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

1st Friday

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

1st Saturday OR Sunday

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

1st Sunday

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

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

2nd Wednesday

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

2nd Thursday

PFLAG- OMAHA, 7pm, First United Methodist Church

2nd Saturday

LEARNING TO EXCHANGE POWER

L2EP@aol.com 2pm; DC's Saloon

2nd Sunday

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

OUUT SECOND SUNDAY SCREEN-

ING (gblt film shown at 7pm followed by discussion) First Unitarian, 3114 Harney

3rd Monday

PFLAG SOUTH CENTRAL

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

3rd Tuesday

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

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

3rd Thursday

GAY & BISEXUAL MEN'S SUPPORT

AND DISCUSSION GROUP 7-8:30pm, Meeting in Lincoln first and third Thursdays of the month. Call 434-9880 / 476 9668 for location and information.

LES/BI/GAY BOOK DISCUSSION

GROUP, Village Inn, 78th & Dodge, 7 PM

3rd Friday

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

LINCOLN MIXED CHORUS

6:30pm, Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

COFFEE HOUSE Unitarian Church, 6300 A, Lincoln

3rd Saturday

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

3rd Sunday

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

4th Tuesday

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

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

4th Friday

LEO LEATHER ENGINEERS— OMAHA

Not currently meeting.

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

A Little Elf Humor?

I rear-ended a car this morning.

So there we are alongside the road and slowly the other driver gets out of the car and you know how you just-get-sooo-stressed and life-stuff seems to get funny?

Yeah, well, I could NOT believe it . . he was a DWARF!

He storms over to my car, looks up at me and says, "I AM NOT HAPPY!"

So, I look down at him and say, "Well, which one are you then?"

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

Go to:

www.rainbowoutreach.org

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

GLBT RESOURCE LIST

OMAHA BASED

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Flat Water Bears, (group disbanded)

Front Runners/Walkers, Wednesdays at 6:30pm, Elmwood Park Parking Lot by softball field, Omaha

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

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

GayLibrary.com, World Wide Resources

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

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

Imperial Court of Nebraska, Box 3772, Omaha 68103 556-9907, Board Meets 3rd Monday, Doubletree Hotel Downtown, www.icon.impcourt.org

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

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

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

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

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

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

Worship 11am, Wed Evening Bible Study at 7pm

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Omaha Metro GLBT Sports League, See www.omahaglbtsports.net for info

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

Out and About in Nebraska, website: www.travel.to/outabout Email: NeOutAbout@yahoo.com

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

River City Gender Alliance, P.O. Box 4083

Omaha, NE 68104, call Starla @402.813.1842 Or email info@rivercitygenderalliance.org

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

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

SNAP Productions, Box 8464, Omaha, NE 68108 www.snapproductions.com

Temple Israel Synagogue, 7023 Cass St., 402-556-6536, member of the Union for Reform Judaism, GLBT inclusive

Unity Church of Omaha 3424 N. 90, Omaha, Sunday worship: 10:30am Wednesday meditation service 7pm; 571-1344; www.unityomaha.org

WomenSpace, no current info is available

LINCOLN BASED

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Straight Spouse Support Grp 402-429-6094

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

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

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

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

Community Announcements

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



LOST? IDLE FOR A WHILE WITH PASTOR TOM



MCC **Omaha** | 819 S. 22nd St.
402/345-2563
Omaha, Nebraska 68108
visit our website at www.mccomaha.org
Join Us for Sunday Worship - 11 am

(Gay Pride, Continued from page 10)

music. It is so much more. Those who are 60 and over remember when we couldn't do what we do in June.

They remember when even going out and being in groups was to live in fear that authorities would break in and arrest them. We who are younger should sit down with those in their 60's and listen to their stories. We have come a long way, but we have forgotten our roots. Let's not be angry towards the "religious right" or those who hate us. Let's reach out to them and be sensitive to them that maybe just one day we will all be part of the day we celebrate as pride. It is a day when we as lesbians and gay men remember back to a time when it was illegal to simply be ourselves. How we celebrate might seem odd to some older gay men and straight people, but let's not let our freedom become a barrier separating us into groups. Let's use our freedom with sensitivity and try and bring us back into that spirit of Stonewall and show those who disagree with us love that they may see we are not so different. I have heard a great lie and seen it in action; that the best way to fight hate is with more hate. Let us be better than those negative opinions and those who dislike us and rise up to be those who are strong and know opinions aren't going to stop us. To be offended by the comments made against us is a sign of weakness. Let those who are stronger live by the scruples of those who are weaker and take no offense to what is said or done, and help those who aren't so strong take no offense. Barriers in the gay community aren't any better than making a barrier between us and the straight community. For those who don't like us we'll keep reaching out to them.

Celebrate Pride, Unity, Equality, and Freedom. Do it in a spirit of togetherness remembering those who fought so long ago for the freedoms we have now with love towards ourselves, our community, and those who disagree with our lifestyle!

The River City Mixed Chorus Presents their Upcoming Season!!

"Great Men of Song" will be performed Saturday, January 12th, 2008 at 7:05p.m., and Sunday January 13th at

4:05p.m. At UNO's Strauss Performing Art's Center. This concert is the flip side to the "Great Women of Song" performance from several years back. Featured will be songs made famous by men of our time - from as far back as Bing Crosby, Nat King Cole and Frank Sinatra, to the Beatles, Elvis Presley, Queen and Elton John, to contemporaries like Josh Groban. The show isn't going to be a typical choral concert, but rather an entire production, on a par with our last winter concert, "The Big Bent Broadway Bash"! It's a must see for anyone who wants to hear one of the Midwest's very best choruses pull out all the stops once again on an entertaining journey of music, fun and choral beauty for the Omaha/Council Bluffs area.

The second concert of the season will be "The Gender Blender", an intriguing look at gender issues and the blurred lines between what it is that makes a man or a woman, and all the wonderful variations in between! This concert will be Saturday, June 21st, 2008 at 7:05p.m. and Sunday June 22nd at 4:05p.m., also held at UNO's Strauss Performing

Art's Center.

Tickets can be purchased several ways:

- online at www.RCMC.org- either Visa or Mastercard;
- from any chorus member- either cash or check, made payable to the River City Mixed Chorus;
- or at the performance the day of the show.

Ticket prices are as follows:

Season Tickets: \$25 (2 tickets, one for each concert of the season)

Day of the show: \$18

Advance Adult: \$15

Seniors (55+)/Students (13+)/Groups: \$13

Children 12 and under: \$10

For more information, contact Victor Hahn, River City Mixed Chorus Media Coordinator at 670-1078.

WANTED:


Energetic, outgoing, and friendly persons to join this year's Pride 2008 "Pride Army of Volunteers" We will work with your flexible schedule. Many opportunities to help Rainbow Celebrations (Pride) besides Pride weekend. If interested email volunteer@rainbowcelebrations.org or fill out a form at <http://www.rainbowcelebrations.org/NPvolunteers.htm>

Stella's Show is Big Hit

Stella Dallas and friends were in the Christmas spirit on December 7th at The Max. From the opening number, "Island of Misfit Toys", to all of the glitter and glamour and the fabulous cast of entertainers, this was one of the best shows of the year!

Proceeds of the show were split between the MCCOmaha Church and Rainbow Celebrations. We raised an outstanding amount of money. There were raffles, a pre-auction and food galore. Thanks to all who made this yearly event a success. See you there next year!

Stella Dallas



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By Ron Blake
Certified Personal Trainer



The gifts of the season include the clichéd fruitcake, striped tie, and Fruit of the Loom underwear. Go outside the holiday box this year and give the gift of health and fitness. I am further recommending that you go outside of the traditional health and fitness presents. These trite expressions of love involve the giving of health club memberships or the presentation of treadmills. That is such a nice intention but that membership will not be used beyond Martin Luther King Day and that treadmill will quickly bear the weight of more junk than a rented Tijuana mulc. My suggestions require your active participation and they are truly the gifts that keep on giving.

Make arrangements to walk twice a week with that out-of-shape recipient of your munificence. Initially give this person a calendar and circle the same days of the week for each week throughout the year. Be sure to indicate a time and only mark in pencil. You have laid the groundwork and it is now up to the two of you to identify a compatible schedule for the two of you to walk. Then you can mark in ink. This will work even if you are separated by hundreds of miles. You both can walk simultaneously and communicate through mobile phone technology. T-Mobile's friends and family will gladly assist you.

For the smoker in your life, make monthly appointments to visit the cancer unit at your local hospital. Bring flowers along and spread some cheer among the oncology patients. Some will be suffering the effects of lung cancer and some will be suffering from the effects of other forms of cancer. The impact should be sufficient nonetheless. Continue these monthly appointments as needed during the coming year.

Send a motivational saying once a week to that certain person on your list in need of well...motivating. I like to print an inspiring saying or quote on a slip of paper and distribute it to the intended individual. This will have a profound impact upon your special person. Sure it would be much easier for you to purchase a book or calendar of quotes and hand this off to him or her. Where would that personal touch come in to play? There would also be no guarantee that the book or calendar would be used. Everyone loves to get mail and everyone will open their mail. Your desired effect will be achieved.

If you live close enough, you can choose two days (or more) each month when you will cook a meal with that friend or relative on your holiday list. You can work together on planning healthy, delectable, and enjoyable meals. This can sow the seed for much healthier eating when you are not in the company of each other.

What makes these gifts so different from traditional gifts is that you are actively involved in their presentation until the next fruitcake and striped tie season. You are frequently there to provide that extra something for that gift designee in your life. Most of these holiday ideas are inexpensive and will simply require the time commitment. You can even throw in a package of tighy whities for good measure. Happy holidays!

This health and fitness column is brought to you by that guy who believes there is nothing phallic about Santa riding up and down chimneys all night long. That guy is Ron Blake and he can be showered with presents at www.goblakefitness.com.

Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

Omaha:

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

Lincoln:

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

Iowa:

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

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

New MPower Group to be forming in 2008

Nebraska AIDS Project's MPower Program Coordinator is currently recruiting 18 to 29 years old Gay/Bi-Sexual men who want to get involved developing a new social fraternity in 2008. We need 12 to 20 "Core Members" (Big Brothers) who will be making decisions for the group.

Core Members will start in January deciding on the following:

- New name that group or fraternity will operate.
- What informal outreach activities the group will do?
- What formal "social" outreach activities the group will attempt?
- Focus group and summit topics.
- M-Group facilitators.
- Publicity.
- Project space.



Celebrate Christmas

Metropolitan Community Church of Omaha

Christmas Eve Services



6:30 p.m. - Children's Service
 8:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Service: "Can You Find the Star?"
 9:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Reception
 11:00 p.m. - Christmas Eve Service

Christmas Day Service and Breakfast



10:00 a.m. - Christmas Reflections
 11:00 a.m. - Christmas Pancakes

visit our website at www.mccomaha.org

MCC **Omaha**

819 S. 22nd St.
 402/345-2563
 Omaha, Nebraska 68108

Core Members (Big Brothers) will sponsor volunteers (Little Brothers) to assist with all activities carried out by the group. If you are an individual who wants to take an active role in creating something positive within your identifiable population, now is the time to get involved. We will begin building this dynamic and much needed program from the ground up starting in January of 2008.

This new group will operate under the existing philosophy as the original MPower Group. *"A program that encourages all gay/bi-sexual men to work together to build a healthy community in which they can thrive, formulate optimistic social connections and support safer sex; using gay-positive and sex-positive approaches."*

One of the focus groups that will be starting in January will be a bi-weekly support group for the HIV-Negative Gay Man. As AIDS prevention strategies focus more on psychosocial pressures of gay men who are HIV-negative, group work with this population has proved to be a healing solution to the on-going psychological toll of the AIDS pandemic. In an environment in which the link between sex and survival has been turned upside down, groups of these men offer invaluable forums for normalizing fears, clarifying values, disseminating information, and building a community of concern that mitigates overwhelming feelings of loss and isolation that might otherwise lead to self-destructive behaviors. Of particular importance with this focus group will be stage specific interventions. Recognizing how to utilize an integrative approach may give the group leaders the best opportunity for exploring the multi-issue concerns related to both staying uninfected and maintaining psychological well-

being. To be very frank, the group will talk about sex, relationships and concerns about your confidence in staying negative.

As MPower Program Coordinator, I firmly believe that only by celebrating the normality and healthiness of gay men's needs for social, emotional and sexual connections with each other can we begin to help men not place themselves or others at risk of becoming infected. When gay men deeply feel good about themselves, good about what they do sexually and good about their partners, there is a hope and possibility that they will choose not to behave in ways that will continue to transmit HIV. Unsafe sexual behaviors are possibly an expression of low self-esteem or occur solely under the influence of alcohol or party-and-play drugs.

Facilitators of this group will be Jessyca Vandercoy, PLMHP Comprehensive Risk Counseling Coordinator and Gary Wingham, MPower Program Coordinator from Nebraska AIDS Project. Please call Gary at (402) 552-9260 x 122 for details. Dates for this support group will begin January 7th, 2008. Start time will be 6:30 pm at Watanabe Wellness Center.

Schedule for up-coming meetings:

Recruitment for "New" Core Group Members

Place: Watanabe Wellness Center
 Address: ½ block south of 40th and Dodge Street (east side of street)
 Dates: Saturday December 15th Time: 11:00a.m.
 Monday January 14th Time: 5:30 p.m.

M-Group Workshops (3hours)

Place: Watanabe Wellness Center

Address: ½ block south of 40th and Dodge Street (east side of street)
Dates: Saturday December 15th Time: 11:30a.m.
Monday January 14th Time: 6:00 p.m.

Gay/Bi-Sexual Men Staying HIV-

Place: Watanabe Wellness Center
Address: ½ block south of 40th and Dodge Street (east side of street)
Dates: Monday January 7th Time: 6:30 p.m.
Monday January 21st Time: 6:30 p.m.

MPower's "thought provoking" "safe-sex" questions of the month:

Do you know the four body fluids that transmit the HIV virus?

What are the three materials that condoms are made of?

Answers:

The only four body fluids that transmit the HIV virus are blood, semen, vaginal fluid and breast milk.

The three materials that condoms are made of are latex, polyurethane and animal membrane (sheep or lamb skin). Animal membrane condoms are worthless at stopping the spread of STDs and HIV. They only help prevent pregnancy. If someone is allergic to latex they need to use polyurethane condoms. These are twice as strong as latex, retain more heat, slip less, can be made extremely thin and have no smell or taste. They are more costly and less flexible than latex condoms and may require more water-based lube. Only water-based lubricants should be used with all condoms.

Nebraska AIDS Project would like to extend an enormous and very sincere thank you to everyone who participated in Night of 1000 Stars 2007, "***One World Under the Stars***." The Clients, Staff and entire Agency were very appreciative and felt the night was fun, exciting and a wonderful experience for all. Thank you to the volunteers who made the gala truly successful. We look forward to Stars 2008.

Nebraska AIDS Project wants to bring community awareness of free 20 minute results anonymous/confidential HIV testing at the new Outreach Center located on the northwest corner of 22nd Street and St. Mary's Avenue. Testing takes place every Friday night from 7:00 to 10:00 p.m. NAP still does testing at the Watanabe Wellness Center on Thursdays from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. and on Fridays from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. Testing on these nights are walk-ins only. It's very important that you know your status. You owe it to yourself to get tested. Call 402-552-9260 if you have any questions.

IDIOT SIGHTING: Hubby and I had to have the garage door repaired. The Sears repairman told us that one of our problems was that we did not have a "large" enough motor on the opener. I thought for a minute, and said that we had the largest one Sears made at that time, a 1/2 horsepower. He shook his head and said, "Lady, you need a 1/4 horsepower." I responded that 1/2 was larger than 1/4. He said, "NO, it's not. Four is larger than two." We haven't used Sears repair since.

IDIOT SIGHTING: I live in a semi rural area. We recently had a new neighbor call the local township administrative office to request the removal of the Deer Crossing sign on our road. The reason: "Too many deer are being hit by cars out here! I don't think this is a good place for them to be crossing anymore." *From Kingman, KS*

IDIOTS IN FOOD SERVICE: My daughter went to a local Taco Bell and ordered a taco. She asked the person behind the counter for "minimal lettuce." He said he was sorry, but they only had iceberg. He was a Chef? *Yep...From Kansas City!*

IDIOT SIGHTING: I was at the airport, checking in at the gate when an airport employee asked, "Has anyone put anything in your baggage without your knowledge?" To which I replied, "If it was without my knowledge, how would I know?" He smiled knowingly and nodded, "That's why we ask." *Happened in Birmingham, Ala.*

IDIOT SIGHTING: The stoplight on the corner buzzes when its safe to cross the street. I was crossing with an intellectually challenged coworker of mine. She asked if I knew what the buzzer was for. I explained that it signals blind people when the light is red. Appalled, she responded, "What on earth are blind people doing driving?!" She was a probation officer in *Wichita, KS*

IDIOT SIGHTING: I work with an individual who plugged her power strip back into itself, and for the sake of her own life, couldn't understand why her system would not turn on. A deputy with the Dallas County Sheriffs office no less.

IDIOT SIGHTING: When my husband and I arrived at an automobile dealership to pick up our car, we were told the keys had been locked in it. We went to the service department and found a mechanic working feverishly to unlock the driver's side door. As I watched from the passenger side, I instinctively tried the door handle and discovered that it was unlocked. "Hey," I announced to the technician, "Its open!" His reply, "I know - I already got that side." *This was at the Ford dealership in Canton, Mississippi!*

I SPY.....

Hello there reader.
My name is Chris Orr and I am doing an opinion column of just whatever. Sometimes I'll



be expressing views or giving a heads up on persons, places, or things that need to be mentioned at all or more of. Remember this is an opinion column and does not reflect the opinions of those who are responsible (staff, owners, persons etc.).

The year is coming to an end. I sit here and reflect what has happened this last year. What things I have done or been associated with that succeeded and failed. What has been improved and what has turned for the worse. Sometimes I wonder why I get so involved and travel the route I go and my answer is a border between redeeming myself from all the mean spirited, worthless, damaging shit I did and really trying to make a difference in this town. What about you the reader? Is there that unfinished business of a discussion that needs to be resolved? A habit or activity that needs to slow down or stop because of various reasons? Could you be satisfied and ready now to do those projects you've been waiting to do? I think as the snow falls and blankets and covers up the earth we too tend to do the same things. Political figures have done that and then shoved everything off of them and onto others. We've seen so many of the same type of things done until it's over baked like Christmas cookies. All sorts of people are digging up material of discussion on you like finding that wreath you hang on the door every year. It may be ugly but it's tradition. The best part of this time of year is those lists of the best, worst, and whatever else that have T.V. specials. It almost sets the tone of how to kick off the new year. Which celebrities are going to clean up their acts or who is going to spiral out of control. How are we going to spend our money and what we are going to spend it on. How we are going to succeed and fail throughout the next year. So Merry Christmas and Happy New Year to you because it's time to reflect and set the tone for next year.

Toys 4 Tots was a phenomenal success Sunday the 9th. ICON had raised over \$8,000! There are going to be many happy children this Christmas. ICON also has a show over at the Q in Lincoln on the 16th so that will be added on too. The great thing is raising all this money but the fun thing is that the royal family has to go buy the toys! Thank you Jason Riddle for letting the family buy at the store you manage. ICON's next function will be the E&E ball in January.

The Pride committee has selected the theme for Pride 08! This year's theme is "Pride Knows No Borders". Everybody be ready to sketch a logo soon. The logo contest will be having a \$100 winner. Remember to also go to their website if you would like to help and volunteer! These people are needed to make Pride 08 a success. Pride meetings are every 1st & 3rd Tuesday of the month at Rainbow Outreach Center. Just show up and voice your concerns and suggestions. I will say though that what has been suggested and possible has been told no unless we bring in lots of money from our fundraisers! Make sure to do that so we can improve our Pride.

I'm going to keep the column short this time. That is my Christmas present from me to you. Websites of the bi-week: www.wisteria-lane.com // www.hgra.net // www.glbtfantasy.com // www.rainbowoutreach.org So any gripes, comments, or having me check something out? Email me at orrthumper83@yahoo.com

OMAHA GLBT SPORTS

By Chris Orr

Here are the scores from volleyball. Most teams are finding their bearings on the roster list as some remained in their position and some moved up or ended a tie. Remember we are taking 2 weeks off for the holiday season. Play resumes on January 6th! Make sure to come watch the ten teams have a fun Sunday night out. We play at the Westroads Club on North 102nd Street. No admission to be a spectator. Check us out on the web! www.omahaglbtsports.net

December 2nd

White 12 13 21 Vs. Yellow 21 21 19
Green 21 19 21 Vs. Grey 16 21 18
Red 21 15 15 Vs. Blue 12 21 21
Brown 21 21 21 Vs. Purple 12 15 18
Orange 21 19 19 Vs. Black 17 21 21

December 9th

Black 21 21 25 Vs. Green 13 13 23
White 21 21 21 Vs. Grey 15 12 9
Brown 21 21 21 Vs. Yellow 13 15 19
Red 21 19 23 Vs. Purple 15 21 21
Blue 21 21 21 Vs. Orange 9 13 10



SUNDAY DEC. 23RD

**"A NAUGHTY and NICE
CHRISTMAS"**

**Hosted By:
Miss Max Reyna
& Mr Max Jeffrey
10pm**

FRIDAY, JAN 4TH

MEN'S NIGHT

AMATEUR STRIP CONTEST

\$100 CASH PRIZE

7PM

UNDERWEAR PARTY

9PM

MONDAY, DEC 31ST

***The Biggest Party In The
Midwest!!!***

NEW YEARS EVE

9PM

THE MAX
THEMAXOMAHA.COM