



## Gay Country Singer Reveals Ex-Gay Therapy Past

By Jase Peeples



Steve Grand became an overnight sensation when his gay-themed music video, "All American Boy," went viral shortly after being posted on YouTube last week.

The video has racked up more than 650,000 views in just six days—an accomplishment on par with some of the most successful artists currently working in the music industry.

However, the independent singer/songwriter wasn't always as comfortable with his sexuality as he appears in his hit video, and has revealed to ABC that he once endured so-called gay-to-straight reparative therapy after he told his family he was gay.

"I felt like I really was a shame to my parents," Grand said. "I felt like there was no way I could ever make them proud and I felt like I was a constant disappointment."

Since coming to terms with his sexuality, Grand says he was driven to tell the story of his popular power-ballad, risking everything he had to make "All American Boy" a reality.

"I went into credit card debt," Grand said. "I funded the song myself because I was so obsessed with telling this story and it has resonated with thousands of people."

## ACLU Sues for Marriage Equality in Pennsylvania

By Jase Peeples



COURTESY OF THE ACLU

The American Civil Liberties Union filed a federal lawsuit today in Pennsylvania on behalf of 23 residents of the state who are seeking marriage equality. The lawsuit is the latest to be filed in the wake of the U.S. Supreme Court's landmark decisions in favor of same-sex marriage in June.

The group of plaintiffs, which includes 10 couples, two minor children of those couples, and one widow who recently lost her partner of 29 years, argue Pennsylvania's own Defense of Marriage Act violates both the fundamental right to marry and the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment.

"We only want what every married couple wants — to express our love and commitment in front of friends and family, and the security and protections that only marriage provides," said

*(Continued on page 3)*

July 12th, 2013 - July 26th, 2013

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plaintiff Deb Whitewood, who has been with her spouse, Susan, for 22 years. "Our life is built around our relationship and the family we have made."

The Whitewoods are the lead plaintiffs in the lawsuit. The couple first demonstrated their commitment to one another in a ceremony in 1993, and again in 2001 when they entered into a civil union in Vermont. But Pennsylvania law still fails to legally recognize their relationship, depriving the couple and their family of the security and dignity of a marriage.

"As the cradle of American liberty, it is shameful that Pennsylvania denies some families the dignity and respect that can only come with marriage," said Reggie Shuford, executive director of the ACLU of Pennsylvania. "It's wrong that the state where these couples live, work, and raise families treats them as second-class couples."

Additional Pennsylvania plaintiffs Edwin Hill and David Palmer from Bangor, Pa., Helena Miller and Dara Raspberry from Philadelphia, Heather and Kath Poehler from Downingtown, Pa., and Marla Cattermole and Julia Lobur, from Harrisburg, Pa. are already married, having wed in other states, but are treated as legal strangers in their home state.

Plaintiff Maureen Hennessey of Philadelphia is a widow who lost her spouse after 29 years together. Because her spouse was a woman, their marriage is not recognized by the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and she is not provided the protections afforded to widows under state law.

The ACLU also announced today that it will amend an existing adoption lawsuit in North Carolina, and will file a marriage lawsuit in Virginia as co-counsel with the ACLU of Virginia and Lambda Legal in the coming weeks.

"In the past few years, we have seen an astonishing and welcome shift toward Americans embracing the idea that married same-sex couples and those who wish to marry should not be regarded as less than any other family," said Leslie Cooper of the ACLU's LGBT Project. "Whether it's through litigation, through the legislature, or at the ballot box, we will continue to work to broaden the number of states where same-sex couples can marry."

## ICE CREAM SOCIAL/BAKE SALE

Join your friends for some ice cream and baked goods on July 28, 2013 in the social hall at MCC-Omaha from 1230-230pm. If anyone would like to donate some baked goods please let Ted Sewell know at [tedomaha@gmail.com](mailto:tedomaha@gmail.com) or Kevin at [bigred1997@hotmail.com](mailto:bigred1997@hotmail.com). All donations need to be at the church on July 28 by 1100am.

There will be a variety of ice cream flavors all for the cost of \$2.50. All baked goods will be priced accordingly. All proceeds will benefit the upcoming youth's retreat. Come support this growing ministry as we see our young people transform into new leaders.

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## Andy Naquin, Louisiana Councilman, Proposes Gay Rainbow Flag Ban

A Louisiana city councilman has proposed banning the rainbow flag from being flown on government property after receiving complaints from local veterans.

Andy Naquin says he is working with Lafayette City-Parish Attorney Mike Hebert on drafting an ordinance that would "limit the types of flags that could be displayed in such spaces, according to The Daily Advertiser.



The move came after Naquin received complaints from Korean War veteran Ray Green, 79, who called the rainbow flag "a poke in the eye of a way of life" after seeing it hoisted in Lafayette's Girard Park in honor of LGBT Pride Month, according to the Advertiser.

Green told KLFY, "If you allow the gay pride flag to be flown, then you got to by all rights allow the KKK, the Muslims and anybody else."

Meanwhile, Naquin, a Republican, denied implications that he is anti-gay, saying he is against any flag unrelated to government flying in that location. "I never once mentioned any one particular organization," he is quoted as saying. "I addressed as totality that every private organization should be limited from flying their flag."

Nonetheless, the move has angered local lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) rights advocates. Acadiana OUTspoken Alliance President Amanda Kelley called a potential restriction "a violation of free speech," noting that the flag's display "wasn't intended to insult or hurt anyone."

She added, "We fought for this country, too."

## Real Estate & Tax Benefits Post DOMA

On June 26th, 2013, the Supreme Court finally scrapped the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA); the law signed by President Clinton in 1996 that consequently denied same-sex couples 1,138 federal privileges and programs that were available to opposite-sex couples. During a historic 5-4 decision the Supreme Court struck down this law that cost many LGBT couples thousands of dollars in taxes that could not be declared as well as many wasted hours doing unnecessary property tax returns. The law also sentenced LGBT spouses to a poverty-stricken old-age as they were not exempt from property taxes if an estate was passed on to them after their spouse's death.



Although it is good news that marriage is no longer strictly defined as a union between a man and woman on the federal level, the sobering fact is there are only twelve states plus the District of Columbia that recognize gay marriage as legal at the state level. The great news is that if you live in one of these states you will soon be able to benefit from tax breaks and spousal benefits that were previously denied to you. Gay and lesbian couples will no longer be shouldering the higher tax burden that they have for decades because they can now file estate tax exemptions and head of household deductions.

In fact, it is highly recommended that if you are in a gay or lesbian relationship that you keep in close touch with your accountant/cpa over the next few weeks to see if it is appropriate for you to file amended tax returns for the past couple of years. As DOMA was declared unconstitutional it may be possible for

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some couples to recoup money paid out in separate returns if your joint return far exceeds those threshold deductions.

Same-sex spouses can also now file tax returns jointly, which will also help the couple build a nest egg sooner. This will help many LGBT couples afford a larger home if desired, and possibly build an investment property portfolio. In some states where marriage is legal couples had to file jointly with the state and then follow up with individual tax returns that had them splitting their income. For many individuals this meant that not enough money was declared to meet the minimum deduction threshold, whereas sometimes thousands of dollars could have been saved if they had been allowed to file the taxes jointly in the same way as the married same-sex couple living next door!

The ability to file joint tax returns also makes processing credit easier for LGBT couples. The amount of paperwork required to composite the two separate incomes, credit scores and other aspects of the mortgage application will now be much less complicated.

The striking down of the federal Defense of Marriage Act also means that gay couples can now pass their assets on to a surviving spouse without having to pay real-estate taxes that prohibit them for doing so. Over the long term many gay couples will be able to also collect spousal benefits under Social Security or because they were married to a veteran which in turn allows them to stay in their home longer and benefit from the escalation of value of the equity in the home over time.

Overall LGBT individuals can expect to become more prosperous if they are legally married. However if the couple moves from a state where gay marriage is legal to one that is not, they may be facing some very interesting bureaucratic snarls that prevent them from having all of their rights recognized even though they are living in the post-DOMA era. Those that do live in the states where gay marriage is legal will find themselves enjoying real prosperity, less red tape and peace of mind.

Author Jeff Hammerberg is the Founding CEO of <http://www.GayRealEstate.com>. Free Instant Access to the Nation's Top Gay, Lesbian and Gay Friendly Realtors Coast to Coast. FREE Buyers Representation ~ Free Relocation Kit to any City, USA ~ Free Sellers Market Analysis for home sellers.

## **Esteban Navarro, Gay Chilean Teen, Will Have Leg Amputated After Alleged Hate Crime**

A gay Chilean teen will reportedly lose his leg after being attacked in an alleged hate crime.

San Diego Gay & Lesbian News cited a translated version of an original Spanish-language report in Terra Online, which claimed that



19-year-old Esteban Navarro was jumped by a group of six people on a soccer pitch June 23. The group reportedly attacked Navarro with a machete, knives and iron bars while shouting a series of anti-gay epithets.

Navarro was rushed to an emergency room immediately following the attack, where doctors determined that his foot would need to be amputated. Since then, Navarro's doctors have determined it will be necessary to remove his legs, according to the report.

Although details of the case are scarce in English language media, Gay Star News cites a spokesperson for Navarro's family, who said, "We hope the courts will punish those responsible with the full extent of the law. Esteban's life has changed dramatically."

In 2012, the Chilean congress passed an anti-hate crime law following the death of Daniel Zamudio, a young gay man who was reportedly attacked by a group of neo-Nazis, the Associated Press reported.

The law enables Chilean residents to file anti-discrimination lawsuits and adds hate-crime sentences for violent crimes.

## **George W. Bush On Why He Won't Discuss Gay Marriage**

George W. Bush made headlines when he declined to comment on same-sex marriage to a Zambian journalist last week, arguing that he "shouldn't be taking a speck out of someone else's eye when I have a log in my own."



The former U.S. president now explained the somewhat cryptic remark further in a new interview with ABC News Chief White House Correspondent Jonathan Karl.

"I meant that I wasn't going to answer the question then, and I'm not going to answer it now ... I just don't want to wade back into the debate; I'm out of politics," he told Karl.

He then added, "I meant it's very important for people not to be overly critical of someone else until you've examined your own heart."

Bush offered similar sentiments in an April interview with Charlie Rose, saying he had "made the decision to get off the stage, and so I'm off the stage."

In 2004, Bush endorsed a constitutional amendment banning same-sex marriage.

"Marriage cannot be severed from its cultural, religious and natural roots without weakening the good influence of society," he stated, as quoted by CNN.

## Jim Petro, Former Ohio GOP Attorney General, Backs Campaign To Overturn State Gay Marriage Ban



Supporters of an effort to repeal Ohio's gay marriage ban picked up a prominent Republican backer Monday in the form of former state attorney general and gubernatorial candidate Jim Petro.

Petro came out for marriage equality last year, when he announced that his daughter, Corbin, had legally married her partner in Massachusetts. He opposed same-sex marriage during his 2006 campaign for governor. On Monday, however, he made his support official for a forthcoming 2014 ballot effort to overturn a ban on gay marriage passed by voters in 2004.

At a press conference, Petro said he "quickly and without hesitation said 'I'm all for it,'" when organizers asked for his help, according to the Columbus Dispatch. Petro now joins marriage equality group FreedomOhio in its mission to gather at least 385,245 valid signatures of registered Ohio voters on petitions by July 3, 2014, in order to qualify for next year's general election ballot. The signatures must come from at least 44 counties, according to the Dispatch.

Ohio's Issue 1 gay marriage ban passed with overwhelming support in 2004, taking nearly 62 percent of the vote. A poll conducted earlier this year showed that opinions in the state have changed greatly on the issue, however, with 48 percent of respondents expressing support for same-sex marriage rights. Another survey showed that a majority of Ohioans would support an effort to repeal Issue 1.

The campaign to overturn Ohio's gay marriage ban now has support from two high-profile Republicans. Sen. Rob Portman (R-Ohio) announced a similar reversal on the marriage equality issue earlier this year, citing his gay son as a reason why he believed same-sex couples should be allowed to get married. In an interview last month, Portman said he believed the ban should be reversed.

## Why I Love the Westboro Baptist Church

by Joanna Montgomery

In the wake of the recent Supreme Court ruling finding DOMA (the Defense of Marriage Act) to be unconstitutional, I feel compelled to send a little gratitude toward the Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kansas.

For those not familiar with this "church," the hate group founded by self-proclaimed pastor Fred Phelps and consisting largely of his offspring, is not affiliated with any Baptist denomination (they have been denounced by all known denominations of the Baptist church). The church describes itself as following Primitive Baptist and Calvinist principles, and its apparent singular mission is to publicly oppose gay relationships and any person or entity that supports them. If you head on over to the WBC's website (at the url "godhatesfags.com"), you'll find the following seemingly innocuous description:

WBC engages in daily peaceful sidewalk demonstrations opposing the homosexual lifestyle of soul-damning, nation-destroying filth. We display large, colorful signs containing Bible words and sentiments, including: GOD HATES FAGS, FAGS HATE GOD, AIDS CURES FAGS, THANK GOD FOR AIDS, FAGS BURN IN HELL, GOD IS NOT MOCKED, FAGS ARE NATURE FREAKS, GOD GAVE FAGS UP, NO SPECIAL LAWS FOR FAGS, FAGS DOOM NATIONS, THANK GOD FOR DEAD SOLDIERS, FAG TROOPS, GOD BLEW UP THE TROOPS, GOD HATES AMERICA, AMERICA IS DOOMED, THE WORLD IS DOOMED, etc.

(I especially love the "etc." at the end of that quote, as though they've just listed a variety of seasonal vegetables.)

At any rate, the members of this clan are rabidly opposed to homosexuality and have devoted their lives to protesting it and any person, place or thing tied to it (which is pretty much anything and everything, apparently). You've seen them protesting the funerals of soldiers and firefighters and thanking their god for everything from 9/11 to cancer. Most recently they've targeted Taylor Swift (for being a whore and a fornicator, according to their "picket schedule").

So why, you might ask, am I grateful for the WBC's existence? Well, it's like this.

Remember when Tina Fey started doing her dead-on Sarah Palin impressions on SNL, often using Governor Palin's own words (which were better than anything any comedy writers could have crafted) in the sketches? Many would argue, myself included, that Fey's ability to humorously and accurately highlight Palin's gaffes during the 2008 presidential campaign, week after week, ultimately moved the needle in favor of the Obama campaign. Not that Tina Fey cost McCain the election, but those sketches certainly didn't hurt the campaign of his opponent.

By the same token, the very visible presence of the WBC in the

media, with their venomous hate speak and ludicrously offensive signage have, in my opinion, done the gay rights movement a tremendous favor in putting a face on the ugly ignorance of homophobia and bigotry. Their wild, deranged claims that virtually any and every tragedy in the world is a punishment by their god for the tolerance of same-sex couples in our culture simply serve, in an exaggerated fashion, to show how cruel, ignorant and unreasonable homophobia truly is. Even the most virulent of anti-gay critics, the Pat Robertsons and the Bishop Eddie Longs, refuse to touch the WBC with a 10-foot pole.

The Westboro Baptist Church has made it embarrassing to be homophobic. And for that I thank them.

I am encouraged by the Supreme Court ruling, and am hopeful that the end of DOMA proves to create a domino effect that results in same sex marriage becoming simply "marriage," with all of its rights and benefits. I am also encouraged by the ex-gay group Exodus International closing its doors and apologizing to gays for the "pain and hurt" they caused.

For me, 2013 is shaping up to be a year of progress and healing, which makes me hopeful as the mother of a young child. I would love nothing more than for my 18-month-old daughter to grow up in a world where discrimination against gay people is as head-scratchingly, shamefully archaic as the old anti-miscegenation laws. And for the first time in my lifetime, I feel that this may actually be possible.

## ENDA Vote: Key Republicans Pressured To Back LGBT Workplace Protections

WASHINGTON -- With a Senate committee set to vote on the Employment Non-Discrimination Act on Wednesday, supporters are focusing these final hours on convincing a few additional Republicans to join Sen. Mark Kirk (R-Ill.) and the 12 committee Democrats, giving the measure a strong bipartisan backing.



Tico Almeida, founder of Freedom to Work, an organization dedicated to banning workplace harassment and discrimination against LGBT individuals, identified several possible Republican supporters on Monday. Almeida named Sens. Richard Burr (R-N.C.) and Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) as potential backers,

*(Continued on next page)*

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along with Sens. Lamar Alexander (R-Tenn.) and Orrin Hatch (R-Utah).

All are members of the Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor and Pensions, which will mark up ENDA on Wednesday morning. The bill would make workplace discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation or gender identity illegal.

"My tendency is to vote for the bill," Hatch told The Huffington Post on Tuesday. He said he wanted to make sure that exemptions for religious organizations in the bill remain strong.

"I have concerns about it but I also think that the language in there is really good language," he added.

Alexander told HuffPost that he does not plan on supporting the bill.

"I don't expect to vote for it, but I expect it to pass out of committee," Alexander said.

Murkowski refused to give a definitive response, saying, "I want to take a look at the amendments in committee."

Activists were hopeful about her support, in light of the fact that she recently came out for marriage equality.

On Tuesday afternoon, however, Burr appeared to be against the bill. When asked by The Huffington Post whether he backed ENDA, he replied, "I do not. I haven't supported it in the past."

One LGBT advocate close to the negotiations, who requested anonymity to speak openly, said there was a possibility that Burr may not show up on Wednesday to avoid having to cast a vote. Burr's office did not return a request for additional comment.

On Tuesday afternoon, Freedom to Work was also holding a press conference with other ENDA advocates in Raleigh, N.C., urging Burr to come out and vote for ENDA. One of the participants was Dan Gurley, the former North Carolina Republican Party executive director, who is openly gay.

"I think he is a fair-minded person who will consider, most importantly, if this is the right thing to do," Gurley said in an interview with The Huffington Post on Tuesday morning, when asked why he was hopeful that Burr would back ENDA. "I have been privileged to know him for more than 20 years, before he even served in elected office, and I personally believe and know him to be just one of the finest people I've come across in politics."

The Human Rights Campaign has also been targeting Burr, Hatch and Murkowski, with more than 12,000 constituent postcards, emails and phone calls to the three senators, according to spokesman Michael Cole-Schwartz. In Charlotte, N.C., on Tuesday, HRC President Chad Griffin held a press conference with local business leaders on ENDA.

*(Continued on page 13)*

# The Hungry Homo

## Omelet in a Bag

### Ingredients:

2 eggs  
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1 tbsp. chopped onion  
1 tbsp. chopped green bell pepper  
1 tbsp. chunky salsa

### Methods/Steps:

Crack the 2 eggs into a large and heat resistant re-sealable freezer bag. Press out most of the air, and seal. Shake or squeeze to beat the egg. Open the bag, and add the ham, cheese, onion, green pepper and salsa. Squeeze out as much of the air as you can, and seal the bag.

Bring a large pot of water to a boil. Place up to 8 bags at a time into the boiling water. Cook for exactly 13 minutes. Open the bag, and let the omelet roll out onto a plate. The omelet should roll out easily.

Makes 1 serving





# Life Beyond Therapy

By Michael Kimmel

## ANGER: A WAKE-UP CALL

Does traffic piss you off? Do you get easily irritated at other people? Have you ever wondered if you need "anger management" classes? And what exactly is "anger management"? Let's talk a bit about what anger is and how to work with it.



When someone treats you badly, it's natural and healthy to feel angry. Instead of stuffing your anger until it builds (like a volcano), anger is a sign that you have needs that aren't being met. When you act out your anger, usually it's you who suffers the most. You may yell at someone else, give the finger to another driver on the freeway, insult a colleague at work, but, in the long run, it will come back to hurt you more than it will them. Out-of-control anger is destructive. Anger expressed responsibly is constructive and healthy.

Being able to responsibly express anger is part of being assertive. If you can't assert your needs, wants or desires, you're going to get frustrated, annoyed and angry. This doesn't mean you always get what you want: you ask for what you want and see what happens. For example, if your boyfriend does something you don't like, you can be passive (stuff it and say nothing), aggressive (overreact and yell at him, "You stupid idiot, I told you not to do that") or assertive: "Remember that I told you how much that annoys me. I'm starting to get angry because you're doing it again."

Anger Management is about responsible and timely expression of anger. This doesn't mean going off on people whenever you feel like it. It means finding a way to maturely and respectfully express yourself when someone or something is bothering you. When I work with clients on "anger management", I help them figure out what to do with their anger, how to control it (not vice-versa) and where it comes from. Where DOES your anger come from? Anger Management asks you to THINK before you REACT. Your thoughts create your emotional reaction, not vice-versa.

The next time you're angry, think before you react. You could ask yourself: "What am I upset about?" "What need of mine is being ignored?" "What do I want to be different?" or "How do I want to be treated?" When you are clear on what you want, you can ask for it. You can let others know when you don't like what they're doing/saying to you.

However, if you're angry almost ALL the time, this is different from situational anger. Chronic, ongoing anger is almost al-

ways a reaction to really old stuff; so it's important to figure out where it comes from. This doesn't mean that you blame your parents, teachers, or whomever for past poor behavior. It means that you take responsibility for yourself by: (1) admitting that you have valid reasons to be angry and (2) finding healthy outlets for that anger. The worst way to channel your anger is to aim it at someone by yelling at or blaming them. Usually, our nearest and dearest get the worst of our anger. This can destroy a good relationship, so it's crucial to find other ways to channel your anger.

Don't see anger as a "problem"; instead, see it as a wake-up call. Anger clarifies what you think and feel; it can help you to identify the source of your conflicts with others. You can say to your partner, "This matters to me, I need to be able to talk with you about it, because if I don't, I'm going to resent you." Unexpressed anger causes resentment, and too much resentment results in emotional "explosions" that ruin friendships and relationships.

Let's be real. If your goal is to express your anger responsibly, in all conditions, at all times. Good luck! No one I've ever met has pulled this off. But, it's a good goal. "Anger management" is about gaining control over your emotions so your brain can short-circuit your impulsive reactions to say and do hurtful things. In the long run, learning to manage your own anger is one of the best things you can do for YOU...and, of course, all the people in your life will be happy too.



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**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 & Wednesday Worship at 7pm

**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, 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 [aander-son@hastings.edu](mailto:aander-son@hastings.edu) or Judy Sandeen at [jsanden@hastings.edu](mailto:jsanden@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

**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

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

**UNITY CHURCH OF OMAHA**, 7pm

### WORSHIP SERVICES

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

### Every Thursday

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

### Every Friday

#### LIVE & LET LIVE AA Meeting

8:15pm to 9:15pm, Open to men and women, at Underwood Hills Presbyterian Church, 851 North 74th Street

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

### OUT & ABOUT SOCIAL CLUB

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

**GLBT CENTER MOVIE NIGHT**, 8PM, for all ages. Every Friday, excluding major holidays. 3620 Leavenworth Street, snacks, water and soda's provided for free.

### Every Saturday

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

### PROUD HORIZON YOUTH GROUP

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

### Every Other Friday

**CBCA SOCIAL GET-TOGETHER** at Barley's, 114 West Broadway in CB) starting at 5:00-7:00pm every other Friday

## MONTHLY EVENTS

### 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday

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

### 1st Thursday

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

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

**FIRST FRIDAY COFFEE HOUSE** 8pm.

Musicians, poets, open mic, First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney, Omaha

### 1st Saturday

**RIVER CITY GENDER ALLIANCE**, at 7:00 pm . See [www.rivercitygenderalliance.org](http://www.rivercitygenderalliance.org)

### 1st Sunday

#### **SPIRITUAL FRIENDS OF LINCOLN**

12-1pm Fellowship and 1p-2p worship  
Meets Lincoln at Bennett Martin Library  
[info@inclusivelife.org](mailto: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](mailto:info@heartlandpride.org), or find us on Facebook

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

### 2nd Saturday

**Ecumenical Catholics of Omaha**, 5pm – 6:30pm, A progressive community in the Catholic tradition, Meets in the MCC sanctuary  
Phone: 402.953.7656

Email: [ecuomaha@live.com](mailto:ecuomaha@live.com)

Web: [www.ecuomaha.org](http://www.ecuomaha.org)

### 3rd Monday

**IMPERIAL COURT OF NE**, Board of Governors meeting, 6:30pm, meeting at the MCC- Omaha, [www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org](http://www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org)

### 3rd Saturday

**Ecumenical Catholics of Omaha**, 5pm – 6:30pm, A progressive community in the Catholic tradition, Meets in the MCC sanctuary, Phone: 402.953.7656

Email: [ecuomaha@live.com](mailto:ecuomaha@live.com)

Web: [www.ecuomaha.org](http://www.ecuomaha.org)

### 3rd Sunday

**CBCA MEETING** 5 PM until about 6:30 PM is our monthly meeting with potluck. We meet at St Paul's Episcopal Church in Council Bluffs

### 4th Monday

#### **NAP HIV TESTING**

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

### 4th Tuesday

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

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

### 4th Friday

**LEO - LEATHER ENGINEERS OF OMAHA**, Not currently meeting.

### 2nd Saturday

**Ecumenical Catholics of Omaha**, 5pm – 6:30pm, A progressive community in the Catholic tradition, Meets in the MCC sanctuary, 402.953.7656

Email: [ecuomaha@live.com](mailto:ecuomaha@live.com)

Web: [www.ecuomaha.org](http://www.ecuomaha.org)

## Haunting

An old man and woman were married for many years. Whenever there was a confrontation, yelling could be heard deep into the night. The old man would shout, "When I die, I will dig my way up and out of the grave and come back and haunt you for the rest of your life!"

Neighbors feared him. The whole town feared him. The old man liked the fact that he was feared.

To everyone's relief, he finally died of a heart attack when he was 98. His wife had a closed casket at the funeral.

After the burial, her neighbors, concerned for her safety, asked "Aren't you afraid that he may indeed be able to dig his way out of the grave and haunt you for the rest of your life?"

The wife said, "Let him dig. I had him buried upside down. And I know he won't ask for directions."

## Shipwrecked

A man was washed up on a beach after a shipwreck. Only a sheep and a sheepdog were washed up with him. After looking around, he realized they were stranded on a deserted island. After being there awhile, he got into the habit of taking his two animal companions to the beach every evening to watch the sunset.

One particular evening, the sky was a fiery red with beautiful cirrus clouds. The breeze was warm and gentle, a perfect night for romance. As they sat there, the sheep started looking better and better to the lonely man. Soon, he leaned over to the sheep and put his arm around it. But the sheepdog, ever protective of the sheep growled fiercely until the man took his arm from around the sheep. After that, the three of them continued to enjoy the sunsets together, but there was no more cuddling.

A few weeks passed by and lo and behold, there was another shipwreck. The only survivor was Nancy Pelosi. That evening, the man brought Nancy to the evening beach ritual. It was another beau-

tiful evening - red sky, cirrus clouds, a warm and gentle breeze, perfect for a night of romance. Pretty soon, the man started to get those "feelings" again. He fought the urges as long as he could but he finally gave in and leaned over to Nancy and told her he hadn't had sex for months.

Nancy batted her eyelashes and asked if there was anything she could do for him.

He said, "Take the dog for a walk."

## The Tiger

A blonde called her boyfriend and said, "Please come over here and help me. I have a killer jigsaw puzzle, and I can't figure it out or how to get it started."

Her boyfriend asked, "What is it supposed to be when it's finished?"

The blonde said, "According to the picture on the box, it's a tiger."

Her boyfriend decided to go over and help with the puzzle. She let him in and showed him where she had the puzzle spread all over the table. He studied the pieces for a moment, looked at the box, then turned to her and said, "First of all, no matter what we do, we're not going to be able to assemble these pieces into anything resembling a tiger." He took her hand and said, "Second, I want you to relax. Let's have a nice cup of hot chocolate and then.....," he sighed, .... "Let's put all of these frosted flakes back into the box."

## Silent Fart

An elderly couple Shannon & Ken were recently attending a church service at their retirement village.

About halfway through the service, Shannon took a pen and paper out of her purse, and wrote a note and handed it to Ken.

The note said: "I just let out a silent fart, what do you think I should do?"

Ken scribbled back: "Put a new battery in your hearing aid."

## New Commemorative Pistol

Ruger is coming out with a new pistol in honor of the United States Senate and The House of Representatives. It will be named the Congressman.



It doesn't work and you can't fire it.

# 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.firstuuomaha.org](http://www.firstuuomaha.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: [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, Board Meets 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday, Rainbow Outreach GLBT Center at 6:30pm, [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

**LinOma Bares**, for more Info email [linomabares@yahoo.com](mailto:linomabares@yahoo.com) or mail to P.O. Box 24547, Omaha NE 68124

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

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

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

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

**Nebraska Pride IDOL**, PO Box 241733, Omaha NE 68124, 866-4-NE-IDOL, [www.NebraskaPrideIDOL.com](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 NE Gay Pride Web Page** <http://ONGP.com>; email to: [omahanegaypride@cox.net](mailto:omahanegaypride@cox.net) or [ongp1@cox.net](mailto:ongp1@cox.net)

**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)

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

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

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

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

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

**Rainbow Pride/Rainbow Celebrations** PO Box 8273 Omaha, NE 68108, See [www.rainbowpride.org](http://www.rainbowpride.org) for info

**River City Gender Alliance**, for info see [www.rcga.org](http://www.rcga.org) or call 402-291-6781

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

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

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

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

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

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

**Nebraska AIDS Project**, Lincoln, 1921 S. 17th St. (402) 476-7000

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

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

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

**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.tricity-glbtc.com/>

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

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

**Youth Support Group**, (402) 434-9880

## Iowa Based

**Council Bluffs Health Department/Free STD Clinic**

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

**Council Bluffs Community Alliance**

[www.councilbluffscommunityalliance.org](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>

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*(ENDA Vote, continued from page 8)*

Advocates were hopeful for Burr's support due to the fact that he was one of only eight Republican senators who voted for the repeal of "don't ask, don't tell" in 2010. Burr also represents the state of North Carolina, where some of the biggest companies in the state, like Bank of America and Wells Fargo, have inclusive company policies and have publicly called for ENDA.

"I would be very surprised and quite frankly interested to hear if he voted against this, what his reasoning would be," said Todd Sears, a North Carolina native who founded Out on the Street, an LGBT leadership organization for Wall Street. "He couldn't say from a business perspective [that] it's bad for North Carolina; it's good for North Carolina. He couldn't say the Republican base didn't want him to vote for it, because that's not true. To me, it seems like, there really is no reason for him not to, and by the way, his Republican colleagues are voting for it as well. So I really do hope he makes the right decision."

Hatch, however, received praise from Almeida for expressing a willingness to back ENDA.

"Freedom to Work teamed up with the advocates from Paul Singer's Unity Fund and the Religious Action Center and sev-

## Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

**Omaha:**

- Dixie Quick's Restaurant, 157 West Broadway 402- 346-3549
- Flixx , 1015 South 10th Street Omaha 402-408-1020
- Lover Luxuries, 6065 Maple St. 402-932-3377
- The Max, 1417 Jackson St. 402-346-4110
- Metropolitan Community Church, 819 South 22nd Street
- Mystery Bookstore, 1414 South 13th St. 402-342-7343
- Nebraska AIDS Project, 250 South 77th St 402-552-9260
- Omaha Mining Co., 1715 Leavenworth 402-449-8703
- Rainbow Outreach Metro Omaha GLBT Resource Center, 3620 Leavenworth St. (home of The Gayzette) 402-341-0330

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

eral other faith groups to lobby Sen. Hatch's office in favor of the LGBT Employment Non-Discrimination Act last week," he said.

While Almeida declined to give specifics of what was discussed, he added, "It was a very productive conversation. Sen. Hatch's office showed impressive knowledge and thoughtfulness about the bill.

"No decisions were made," he said, "but we maintain hope that Sen. Hatch will stand on the right side of history in banning workplace discrimination based on who you are or who you love."

Ryan Grim and Ashley Balcerzak contributed reporting.

This story has been updated to include information on the Human Rights Campaign efforts.



# Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox



# Fitness Corner

By Ron Blake



## UNHEALTHY POLICIES OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH IN OMAHA

The Archdiocese of Omaha is putting the well being of many of their thousands of students at their schools in jeopardy every day. The Church's teachings on gay and lesbian behavior that is intertwined in its schools' curricula are harmful to students and are not recommended by many reputable national organizations such as the American Medical Association and the American School Counselor Association.

Several representatives from the Catholic Church recently told me their official position is that people are sinners when they are gay and engage in homosexual behavior. Students are informed about the consequences of this deviant behavior that accompany it. This is made clear in the church doctrine that is a vital part of what is taught in the diocesan Catholic schools and that students are expected to understand and comply with.

One of the options given by a diocesan priest I spoke with was that students could become celibate and not act upon their homosexual urges at any time. It is healthy and normal to want to have sex at some point in life so this seems quite an unlikely option for gay students. The only remaining option by default for these students if they want to avoid sinning in their lifetimes is that they must change their sexual orientation.

The American Psychological Association adopted a resolution which states that efforts to change a person's sexual orientation using reparative therapy are unlikely to be successful and involve some risk of harm.

It seems counterintuitive to me then that the schools in the Archdiocese of Omaha should put students in a position where a harmful process should be considered in order to be considered normal. With this official position, the diocesan schools are also teaching multitudes of children in its many schools that changing sexual orientation is a viable option.

The American Academy of Pediatrics said that reparative therapy directed specifically at changing sexual orientation is contraindicated, since it can provoke guilt and anxiety while having little or no potential for achieving changes in orientation.

The Archdiocese of Omaha is essentially rejecting these students. The Merriam Webster dictionary definition of the verb reject is to refuse to accept. This is exactly what the Catholic schools and teachers are doing when they instruct their students with this Church policy as part of the curriculum. They are rejecting the normal and healthy actions that gay students will likely participate in during their lifetimes.

A study done at San Francisco State University showed that those gay and lesbian students that felt highly rejected by their teachers were eight times more likely to attempt suicide than those students that were only slightly rejected by their teachers. These same students feeling highly rejected were six times more likely to experience high levels of depression than their peers that felt only slightly rejected.

It seems ironic for example that some diocesan schools express in their philosophy that they will develop the potential of each child emotionally and physically among other things.

Students' emotional potential can't be developed if they are being rejected for the people they are. The emotional trauma they experience from this rejection also often leads to many physical problems from the extreme stress put upon them to change.

There are certainly options that can minimize or eliminate this harm that is prevalent in the schools within the Archdiocese of Omaha. These include having Gay Straight Alliances in the student body or having openly gay mentors or role models in the school that can speak freely about their experiences. It should also include a change in the curriculum that is currently predicated upon the official Church policy of rejecting the sexual orientation and actions of gay students.

I encourage Archbishop Lucas of Omaha and all Catholic leaders to make these changes as soon as possible. There are many students that are being harmed each school day with the current policies in the Archdiocese of Omaha schools and numerous other diocesan schools as well. It is appalling to think that in 2013 in our land of opportunity we are treating the future of our society in such a damaging and unhealthy manner.

This article of saintly suggestion is brought to you by that guy wandering in the desert for 40 days. That guy of fantastic faith is Ron Blake and you can send a Hail Mary his way at [my-blakefitness.com](http://my-blakefitness.com).



**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**

**SUN JULY 14 - 10PM**

**"FIERCENESS PERSONIFIED"**  
FEATURING RUPAUL's WILLAM  
Presented by Miss Max 29 Eva Styles



**SAT JULY 20 - 8PM**

**"SUPER BEST FRIENDS FOREVER"**  
Presented by Ryan Klaus

**SUN JULY 21 - 9PM**

**"DANCE NIGHT"**  
\$3.50\* Shots All Night Long

**SAT JULY 27 - 7PM**

**"MCC Benefit"**  
Presented by Montana

**SUN JULY 28 - 9PM**

**"An Evening with After 9"**  
Presented by Kathy Banta



**JULY 2013**  
**the max**

1417 JACKSON ST, OMAHA, NE 68102 (402) 346 - 4110