The GayZette



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

Obama Signs Bipartisan Bill Lifting Ban on HIV-Positive Organ Transplants

by Justin Snow

President Barack Obama signed into law Thursday a bill lifting the ban on organ transplants between people who are HIV-positive.

The HIV Organ Policy Equity Act, also known as the HOPE Act, ends a



decades-long federal ban on allowing donated HIV-positive organs from being translated into HIV-positive patients.

"For decades, these organ transplants have been illegal. It was even illegal to study whether they could be safe and effective," Obama said in a statement after signing the bill. "But as our understanding of HIV and effective treatments have grown, that policy has become outdated. The potential for successful organ transplants between people living with HIV has become more of a possibility."

By lifting the research ban, Obama said a door has been opened that could "lead to life-saving organ donations for people living with HIV while ensuring the safety of the organ transplant process and strengthening the national supply of organs for all who need them."

The HOPE Act received bipartisan approval in both houses of Congress earlier this year. Introduced by Sens. Barbara Boxer (D-Calif.), Tammy Baldwin (D-Wis.), Tom Coburn (R-Okla.) and Rand Paul (R-Ky.), the Senate approved the bill in June with no opposition. The House of Representatives passed the Senate version of the bill earlier this month, with Reps. Lois Capps (D-Calif.) and Andy Harris (R-Md.) leading the fight in the House.

"The bipartisan passage of the HOPE Act will fundamentally improve the quality of healthcare available for people living with HIV and AIDS," said Allison Herwitt, vice president for government affairs for the Human Rights Campaign, in a state-

ment. "By removing these antiquated barriers to transplants, the lives of hundreds of people living with HIV and AIDS can be saved each year."

The HOPE Act directs the Department of Health and Human Services and the Organ Procurement Transplant Network (OPTN) to develop and institute standards for research on HIV-positive organ transplants, opening the door for the HHS secretary to permit HIV-positive transplants in HIV-positive patients when that research is complete.

According to HRC, more than 100,000 patients are currently waiting for organ transplants, with about 50,000 added each year. Permitting HIV-positive organ transplants in HIV-positive patients with liver or kidney failure could save up to 1,000 people per year.

"Improving care for people living with HIV is critical to fighting the epidemic, and it's a key goal of my National HIV/ AIDS Strategy," Obama said. "The HOPE Act marks an important step in the right direction, and I thank Congress for their action."

Study Suggests Many More are Same-Sex Attracted than Willing to Admit

By Andrew Potts, Gaystarnews

A new study suggests a much larger segment of the population has some level of same-sex sexual attraction and is only prepared to admit it if no one can find out who they are.

Researchers at Ohio State University and Boston

University conducted an experiment with 2,516 Americans where they were randomly separated into two groups. One group were given a private and anonymous computer survey, whereas the other group was given a survey that further concealed their responses using a so-called 'veiled' method.

(Continued on page 3)

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According to the researchers, 'the veiled method increased self-reports of non-heterosexual identity by 65% and same-sex sexual experiences by 59% The researchers concluded that the results show that 'non-heterosexuality ... [is] substantially underestimated in existing surveys.' When asked directly 'Do you consider yourself to be heterosexual,' 11% of participants said they did not consider themselves heterosexual. However when asked indirectly to agree with the statement in a scale of 0 to 4 19% of participants did not agree completely with the statement.

The researchers also found that people were more likely to admit anti-gay bias if their answers could not be traced back to them. The researchers do not claim that their sample is a representative sample of the population of the United States, but merely shows that a much larger segment of the population experiences some level of same-sex attraction than they are prepared to admit.

'The results show non-heterosexuality and anti-gay sentiment are substantially underestimated in existing surveys, and the privacy afforded by current best practices is not always sufficient to eliminate bias,' the researchers say. The paper 'The Size of the LGBT Population and the Magnitude of Anti-Gay Sentiment are Substantially Underestimated' by Katherine B. Coffman, Lucas C. Coffman, and Keith M. Marzilli Ericson was published in the US National Bureau of Economic Research.

Judge Sets June 9 Trial on Pennsylvania Gay Marriage Suit

By Peter Jackson, Associated Press

A federal judge Friday set June 9 as the trial date for a lawsuit challenging Pennsylvania's gay-marriage ban after rejecting a request to delay the proceeding.

U.S. District Judge John E. Jones III also set a timetable for pre-trial motions and other paperwork to be filed before the trial at the federal courthouse in Harrisburg.

Jones said a defense request to delay the trial until August would be unnecessary.

"I'm an optimist by nature," he said.

Pennsylvania is the only northeastern state that bars same-sex marriage. Nationally, Illinois this week joined 15 other states and the District of Columbia in allowing it.

State Attorney General Kathleen Kane, a Democrat who took office in January, has refused to defend the law in court, saying it violates the state and federal constitutions.

Friday's meeting came a week after Jones denied a motion to dismiss the lawsuit by the two major defendants — the secretar-

(Continued on next page)







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ies of the state departments of Health and Revenue.

William Lamb, a former state Supreme Court justice who heads the private legal team that Republican Gov. Tom Corbett hired to defend the state officials, said he plans to appeal Jones' ruling to the 3rd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals by next week.

The defendants' motion cited a 1972 U.S. Supreme Court decision to argue that federal courts lack jurisdiction over state marriage laws. But Jones said that decision has been eroded by the court's subsequent rulings on constitutional challenges based on sex or sexual identity.

"The jurisprudence of equal protection and substantive due process has undergone what can only be characterized as a sea change since 1972," Jones said in his opinion.

Americans More Accepting of Confederate Flag than Rainbow Pride Flag

By Andrew Potts, Gaystar News

Americans find the public display of the Confederate Civil War rebel flag more appropriate than the rainbow gay pride flag according to a recent poll.

A Public Policy Polling robocall telephone poll reported last week that 43% of those surveyed thought that high school students should be allowed to wear Confederate flags while at school, whereas only 28% thought it was appro-



priate for students to wear the rainbow gay pride flag in school.

Only 9% of Americans thought it was more appropriate to wear the rainbow gay pride flag to school than the Confederate flag.

38% of those polled thought it was more appropriate to wear the Confederate flag to school than the gay rainbow pride flag.

However in a good sign for US Democrats the poll also found Hillary Clinton leading the most likely Republican presidential candidate pick, Ted Cruz, by 17 points, with 50% saying they would likely vote for Clinton if she runs in 2016, while only 33% said they would vote for Cruz – suggesting a crushing loss for Republicans if they don't improve their game.

The Confederate flag was the flag of the rebelling Southern states of the United States in the Civil War which killed an estimated 600,000 people over four years.

The Hungry Homo

Acorn Squash

By Lisa Broadway-Savage

As the fall season is upon us, I picked a fall vegetable for my column. You may not be familiar with acorn squash, but I think you



will be pleasantly surprised when you eat it. This recipe will appeal to your sweet tooth as well due to the honey or syrup. I usually save it for eating after my meal like a desert.

Recipe Ingredients:

- 1 Acorn Squash
- 1 tbsp Butter/Margarine
- 2 tbsp Brown Sugar
- 2 tsp Maple Syrup or Honey

Directions:

- 1. Preheat oven to 400F
- 2. Cut squash in half and place upside down on baking sheet. Bake for 30 minutes
- 3. After 30 minutes, remove and add 1/2 of the ingredients to each half. Place back in oven and bake for another 15 minutes
- 4. When done, spoon excess liquid over dryer parts of squash and serve

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ness partner after that? To escape his own chains, he must first redeem Scrooge. So begins a journey of laughter and terror, redemption and renewal, during which Scrooge's heart, indeed, is opened; but not before Marley—in this irreverent, funny and deeply moving story—discovers his own.

About The BLUEBARN Theatre

The BLUEBARN Theatre has been bringing professionallyproduced plays to area audiences since 1989, and this season is celebrating its 25th Anniversary. Since its inception, BLUEBARN has produced over 100 plays and has established itself as Omaha's professional contemporary theatre company. Striving to bring artistically significant scripts and professional production values to Omaha and the surrounding region, BLUEBARN is known for high-quality entertainment and the fearless pursuit of stories that challenge both theatre artists and patrons.

JACOB MARLEY'S CHRISTMAS CAROL

The BLUEBARN Theatre continues its 25th Anniversary Season with the return of Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol by Tom Mula. The production, which is back by popular demand, opens Friday November 29th and runs four weekends, closing Sunday December 22nd.
BLUEBARN co-founder Kevin Lawler directs, with scenic design by Martin Scott Marchitto, lighting design by Bill Van Deest, original costume design by Jennifer Pool and properties design by Amy Reiner. Shows run Thursdays-Saturdays at 7:30 p.m., Sundays December 1, 8, & 22 at 6 p.m. and Sunday December 15 at 2 p.m. There is no show on Thursday December 5th. Single tickets for Jacob Marley's Christmas Carol are \$25 for adults; and \$20 for students, seniors 65+, TAG members, and groups of 10 or more.

About JACOB MARLEY'S CHRISTMAS CAROL

"Marley was dead, to begin with..." — and what happens to Ebenezer Scrooge's mean, sour, pruned old busi-





Toy 4 Totz Benefit

ICON's annual Toy 4 Totz benefit is on Sunday, December 15th at 9pm @ The MAX. There is a \$5 cover for the event. All money raised that night will go towards the purchase of toys for children infected or affected with HIV through Nebraska AIDS Project.

There will be a bake sale of homemade goodies starting at 4pm and continuing through the show. One of our auction items is this beautiful hand made quilt donated by Andrew Janzen.



ICON is now set up with SQUARE and is able to accept credit card donations at it's event also. We look forward to seeing you there. Please like us on Facebook or visit our website at www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org

US Lutheran Pastor tells how Gay Sons Made Him Embrace Same-Sex Marriage

By Andrew Potts, Gaystarnews

A retired US Lutheran pastor has shared how his sons coming out to him has inspired him to question his beliefs and come to accept same-sex couples as acceptable for marriage in the eyes of God.

Gilbert Rossing, a former minister of Gethsemane Lutheran Church in Portland who now lives in Washington state, told his story in a bid to urge people in Oregon to support efforts to put same-sex marriage on the ballot for 2014 elections. 'The last 40 years of advocacy for people who are gay and lesbian set off difficult times for me,' Rossing wrote in an op-ed for The Oregonian. 'My own journey of understanding came about through the most personal of catalysts.

On a March night in 1987, our oldest son - now a Portland business owner - told his mother and me that he was gay. 'My first, determined response was to counsel him both as father and pastor, and both academically and biblically, to turn back from this identity. When he tearfully pleaded, "I don't want to lose you!" I realized that my pontificating was driving him away.'

Rossing wrote that he realized he needed to 'listen and learn' and that he quickly found it difficult to reconcile the reality of his son's morality and the condemnations of homosexuality in the Bible. 'When I first wrestled with Scripture passages, I was struck by the disconnectedness between the idolatrous and sexually abusive behaviors the Bible condemned in contrast to the high character and integrity of my son,' Rossing wrote. 'Through ensuing years I developed an understanding not only of my older son, but also my younger son, who is gay as well. I was fortunate to become friends with dozens of devout, godly people who are gay, lesbian and transgender. I saw that we may seem different, but we all have a lot more in common.'

Rossing wrote that gay people want to be able to get married for the same reasons as straight people. 'They want to grow old and be there for each other, in good times and bad,' Rossing wrote. 'They share similar dreams, like building a life together, and similar worries, like making ends meet. Imagine if you'd already been doing the hard work of marriage but were told you could not marry the person you love, or that your relationship didn't matter when sickness or death came knocking.

Rossing wrote that for him same-sex marriage was not just an issue for his sons but for his own religious freedom 'I believe, as do many other clergy, it is a Godly thing to bless and celebrate the love of same-gender couples,' Rossing wrote. 'The freedom to marry in Oregon would allow that to happen. That freedom would also give me the religious freedom to officiate at the wedding of my Portland son and his partner of 15 years, much as I did this year at the Washington marriage of his brother.'

Rossing is a former member of the David Douglas School Board and the author of the 2009 book "Dignity, Dogmatism and Same-Sex Relationships." Earlier this month Oregon announced it would recognize same-sex marriages performed in other states and countries where they are legal.

Moscow Gay Club Comes Under Gas Attack



On the night of November 23rd, a well-known Moscow gay club "Central Station" was again under attack. Unknown malefactors sprayed some harmful gas inside the club among about 500 attendees. Several people sought medical attention but refused to go to a hospital.

The club staff immediately turned on a smoke removal machine which eliminated the gas from the premises in a couple of minutes, LifeNews reports.

"Today is the fourth provocation against the club arranged by unknown persons. We believe that they are connected with the building owner", says Andrey Leschinsky, the club general director. "They are spaying the gas inside the club premises, thereby trying to express their extremist views against LGBT community, which likes to visit our club".

Andrey Leschinsky stressed that that in addition to gas attacks there were other insidents against the club. About a week ago, unknown visitors threatened the club and even shot a gun.

The club's management filed a complaint to the police to deal with the incident and prevent such extreme actions against the LGBT community.

Russian Editor Arrested for Printing 'being gay is normal'

By Joe Morgan

A Russian journalist is being charged under propaganda laws after he published an interview with a gay teacher.

Alexander Suturin, chief editor of a Khabarovsk newspaper, is suspected of violating the 'non-traditional sexual relations' propaganda ban.

He published an article where he printed a direct quote from a geography teacher who was fired from his job in September.

The former educator had said: 'My very existence is proof being gay is normal.'

The case file claims Suturin 'distorted' the picture of society by publishing the quote and such a statement is 'contrary to the laws of logic'.

By exposing readers under the age of 18 to the article, the author 'leads them astray to believe homosexuality is normal'.

And by following the logic of the author, he will lead children into believing 'serial killers' is also normal.

But by publishing this quote, Suturin's newspaper is facing a 200,000 rubles (\$6,090) fine as a media organization. It could also be closed by the Russian authorities.

Chile Gay Man found Naked, Stabbed and Choked in His Own Home

By Joshua Poncil, Gaystar news

Juán Fernando Vera Mejias was found stabbed and choked. Police are trying to determine what happened in the last hours before a 51year-old gay man was murdered

Juán Fernando Vera Mejias, 51, was found in his house with signs of stran-



gulation and severe wounds to the neck.

His mother, who suffers from dementia, called the police after she did not know the whereabouts of her son.

Las Condes PDI released a statement regarding the incident on Mejias.

Investigator Fabian Silva, according to Nación, said: 'It was determined that indeed this person had some injuries attributable to third parties. The exact cause of death will be delivered by the Forensic Medical Service.

'We have suggested suffocation could be the possible cause of death and we are trying to establish [what happened] in the last hours of this person's life.'

When police discovered the body, they said he could have died up to 48 hours before he was found.

lan McKellen, 'Hobbit' Star, Now Wishes He Came Out As Gay Earlier



Sir Ian McKellen now lives out and proudly as a gay man -- but he does have one regret about his coming out.

McKellen, who is currently starring on Broadway alongside longtime pal Sir Patrick Stewart in Samuel Beckett's "Waiting for Godot" and Harold Pinter's "No Man's Land," tells Men's Journal, "I wish I had come out much earlier, but again, what can you do? You do what you can now."

As the article points out, McKellen first addressed his sexuality with the media in 1988. He was 49 years old at the time.

"I hadn't given much thought about it before then, to tell you the truth," he recalled. "I was living very happily and openly as a gay man. It all happened in a bit of a rush when I decided to come out. I was angry because of a law that was anti-gay in the United Kingdom, and it was easier to come out in my indignation."

He added, "When people are worrying about coming out, they're worried about what other people will think, they're worried about whether they'll lose the love of their family."

McKellen, 74, had spoken previously of this regret in a 2012 Vanity Fair interview.

"You know, when I was growing up in 1950s England, there were no gay clubs I knew about," he said at the time. "There were no bars. Homosexuals were shamed publicly and imprisoned. You were on your own, looking over your shoulder all the time, hoping in the handshake of a stranger that he might be somebody gay ... It's probably one of the reasons I became an actor."

He also joked to Anderson Cooper last year, "I was making love until I was about 30 with my live-in boyfriend and we were breaking the law every time we had sex."

Terminally III Woman and Partner First to Marry Under Illinois Law

By Trudy Ring

Illinois's marriage equality law will not go into effect until June, but one couple will be able to marry under the law now, as one of the partners has been diagnosed with terminal cancer.

A federal judge in Chicago Monday ordered the Cook County clerk to immediately issue a marriage license to Vernita Gray and Patricia Ewert, according to a Lambda Legal press release. Gray has had cancer for several years, and it has now spread to her bones and brain, making it unlikely that she will live until



the law's effective date. Lambda, the American Civil Liberties Union of Illinois, and private attorneys had filed a motion with the court Friday requesting emergency action.

"I have two cancers, bone and brain, and I just had chemo today
— I am so happy to get this news," said Gray, a longtime activist, in the Lambda release. "I'm excited to be able to marry and take care of Pat, my partner, and my family, should I pass." The women, Chicagoans who have been together for five years, will be the first same-sex couple married in Illinois.

"Vernita is terminally ill and she wishes to marry the woman she loves before she dies — and now she won't have to wait another day," said Camilla Taylor, Lambda's marriage project director. "These two women, who have loved and cared for each other in good times and bad, through sickness and through health, will get to know what it means to be married."

"The court recognized that Vernita and Pat should not be denied the freedom to marry simply because of the arbitrary nature of the start date of the new law," added John Knight, LGBT project director at the ACLU of Illinois. "Their love deserves the dignity of marriage now and there is simply no justification for forcing them to wait."

Alec Baldwin, MSNBC Part Ways

By Michelle Garcia

After Alec Baldwin's MSNBC show was suspended after he used used homophobic language toward a news photographer, USA Today reports that the show has been officially pulled from broadcast.

Earlier this month, Baldwin's Up Late show was suspended for two weeks after he apologized for reportedly calling the photographer a "cocksucking little fag." The next day, Baldwin said his "offensive, unacceptable" behavior occurred when he was trying to protect his family. "Behavior like this undermines hard-fought rights that I vigorously support," he said.

Baldwin's representative said in the statement that the actor-host and the network have parted ways. A statement from MSNBC said the decision was a "mutual parting, and we wish Alec all the best."

Baldwin is well known for his liberal politics,



including support for LGBT rights, but he also has a history of using antigav slurs when angry. Last summer, for instance, he called a British reporter a "toxic little queen," among other things, and he also used "queen" in reference to a New York Daily News editor. Regarding the latest incident, he initially claimed he called the photographer "fathead" instead of "fag" and asserted he did not know that "cocksucking" had an antigay connotation. He received condemnation from several organizations and people, including GLAAD, CNN journalist Anderson Cooper, and gay columnist Andrew Sullivan.

Life Beyond Therapy

By Michael Kimmel

I'LL GET HURT

Have you ever met anyone whose heart had never been broken?

Me neither. And yet, some people are terrified to date, socialize or fall in love because "I'll get hurt". A new client of mine came in and basically told me this story:

"I'm such an idiot. I fell in love with this guy who really wasn't that interested in me. But, I let myself fall for him - big time. I feel so hurt and used. How can I ever trust a man again?"

Haven't we all been there? You meet someone, open your heart,

love him/her and then get dumped. Usually, at this point, we do one of two things: (1) Blame ourselves, or (2) Blame them. Neither one of these does much good, nor will they help you feel better in the long run. Let's look at each:

Blaming yourself: you can analyze and over-analyze what you did/what he did, forever. You can beat yourself up and make yourself wrong for not being perfect. You can refuse to forgive yourself and punish yourself in lots of subtle ways. And where does this get you? Nowhere. Instead, try a little objectivity...a little neutrality. Instead of blaming yourself, why not try exploring what didn't work. For example: were there signs that you ignored? Did you have blinders on or did you go into this aware of the pros and cons of loving this person? Is being hurt like this a pattern for you? Do you pick continually pick unavailable or unsuitable people to love? This is good stuff for psychotherapy: you can ferret out the subconscious stuff that keeps pushing you to give your number to one Mr/Ms. Wrong after another.

Blaming him/her: This is a popular game that most people play with their friends. While it can be fun - and your friends are likely to encourage it - it usually just makes you feel worse. e.g., why did you fall for such an awful person? For your own mental health, resist the tendency to make this person into a monster. This won't help you; it just keeps you feeling victimized. After all, this person must have had plenty of good qualities, or you wouldn't have opened your heart to them, right? If this person cheated on you or treated you poorly, then tell yourself the truth about it and give yourself permission to feel your anger towards them.

I also recommend that you write about your hurt. Write a noholds-barred "evil" letter to them. This is a letter that you will never mail, so let yourself go with it. Let them know how pissed off you are for every single rotten thing he/she did. When you're finished with the letter, put it aside for three days, then read it one last time, and burn it. Yes, burn it. Burning it is a symbolic gesture to the universe that you are ready to let go of your hatred and move on. Don't stay stuck in anger. You could be furious for months while the heart-breaking sucker is off having a good time. Letting go of your anger isn't for the other person, it's for your benefit - so you can be free to move on with your life.

If you've been hurt and you're healing now, it's okay to allow yourself to say stuff like. "I'll never fall in love with anyone ever again." Just don't expect to actually do it. When you've been hurt, it's necessary to grieve the loss of your love. Remember the good and bad times you had as well as their good and bad qualities. For all you know, they're with their therapist right now talking about how stupid they were to let you get away!

Healing your hurt is a gradual process. Expect good days and bad days, days when you cry a lot about "the lover who got away" and days when you barely think of them. This is part of the natural process of healing, it comes in stops and starts, ups and downs. While initially you may want to "stay busy" and avoid feeling your feelings, eventually, you need to feel them. Numbing yourself with drugs, alcohol, shopping, workaholism or revenge sex with their best friend (tempting, I admit) are only temporary diversions, and are likely to leave you feeling worse than before. And don't pretend that everything's "Great". Putting on a fake smile makes the hurt even worse. Tell people the truth: "I'm hanging in even though it hurts like hell" and just keep going. Eventually, the pain recedes and you return to your world again, stronger and - eventually - grateful for the love you gave and the love you received.

GAYZETTE EVENTS

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

We are closing the Center as of December 2nd.

The Gayzette will continue to be published and our hotline and web site will be continued.

We appreciate the past support for the Center but it became clear that it was time to close and become a virtual Center. We feel we can accomplish much more for the GLBT community in this way.

Thanks, George Broadway Board Chair and Gayzette editor Email: Gayzette@cox.net Www.rainbowoutreach.org

WEEKLY EVENTS

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

<u>DIETZ METHODIST</u> 1423 S.10, Coffeehouse casual downstairs at 9am, Traditional Worship at 11am

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

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

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

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

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

HIV+ SUPPORT GROUP 7-8:30 pm at the NAP office located at 1921 South 17th 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 aanderson@hastings.edu or Judy Sandeen at
jsandeen@hastings.edu for further information.

UNL LESBIAN/BI/QUESTIONING SUP-PORT 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, Walkin 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

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

MONTHLY EVENTS

1st 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 for more info

1st Thursday GLBT PROFESSIONALS, meeting at 5:30pm in various locations. Email at: GOglbt@cfep-ne.org or see www.GOglbt.org for info

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

1st 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

1st Sunday SPIRITUAL FRIENDS OF LINCOLN 12-1pm Fellowship and 1p-2p worship Meets Lincoln at Bennett Martin Library

Meets Lincoln at Bennett Martin Library info@inclusivelife.org and on Facebook 2nd Monday

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

2nd Thursday

PFLAG- OMAHA, 6:30pm to 9pm, Countryside 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: ccuomaha@live.com Web: www.ecuomaha.org

3rd Monday

IMPERIAL COURT OF NE, Board of Governors meeting, 6:30pm, meeting at the MCC-Omaha, 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 Web: 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 – see website for more information at www.councilbluffscommunityalliance.org

4th Monday NAP HIV TESTING

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

4th Tuesday

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

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

4th Friday LEO - LEATHER ENGINEERS OF OMA-HA, Not currently meeting.

Email Your Event to: GAYZETTE@COX.NET

Adult Scrabble...

Rearrange the letters to spell out an important part of the human body which is even more useful when erect.

PNESI

People who wrote SPINE became doctors... The rest are all my e-mail friends.

Sound Health Advice

When you drink vodka over ice, it can give you kidney failure.

When you drink rum over ice, it can give you liver failure.

When you drink whiskey over ice, it can give you heart problems.

When you drink gin over ice, it can give you brain problems.

Apparently, ice is really bad for you. Warn all your friends.

TALKING DOG FOR SALE

A guy is driving around the back woods of Montana and he sees a sign in front of a broken down shanty-style house:

"Talking Dog For Sale"

He rings the bell and the owner appears and tells him the dog is in the backyard.

The guy goes into the backyard and sees a nice looking Labrador retriever sitting there.

'You talk?' he asks.

'Yep,' the Lab replies.

After the guy recovers from the shock of hearing a dog talk, he says 'So, what's your story?'

The Lab looks up and says, 'Well, I discovered that I could talk when I was pretty young. I wanted to help the government, so I told the CIA.

In no time at all they had me jetting from country to country, sitting in rooms with spies and world leaders, because no one figured a dog would be eavesdropping.

I was one of their most valuable spies for eight years running.

But the jetting around really tired me out, and I knew I wasn't getting any younger so I decided to settle down. I signed up for a job at the airport to do some under-

cover security, wandering near suspicious characters and listening in I uncovered some incredible dealings and was awarded a batch of medals. I got married, had a mess of puppies, and now I'm just retired.'

The guy is amazed. He goes back in and asks the owner what he wants for the dog.

'Ten dollars,' the guy says.

'Ten dollars? This dog is amazing! Why on earth are you selling him so cheap?'

'Because he's a liar. He's never been out of the yard'

Ole's car was hit by a truck in an accident.

In court, the trucking company's lawyer was questioning Ole. 'Didn't you say, sir, at the scene of the accident, I'm fine?' asked the lawyer.

Ole responded, 'Vell, I'll tell you vat happened. I had yust loaded my favorite mule, Bessie, into da......'

I didn't ask for any details', the lawyer interrupted. 'Just answer the question. Did you not say, at the scene of the accident, 'I'm fine'?

Ole said, 'Vell, I had yust got Bessie into da trailer and I vasdriving down da road.....

The lawyer interrupted again and said, 'Judge, I am trying to establish the fact that, at the scene of the accident, this man told the Highway Patrolman on the scene that he was just fine. Now several weeks after the accident he is trying to sue my client. I believe he is a fraud. Please tell him to simply answer the question.'

By this time, the Judge was fairly interested in Ole's answer and said to the lawyer, 'I'd like to hear what he has to say about his favorite mule, Bessie'.

Ole thanked the Judge and proceeded. 'Vell, as I vas saying, I had yust loaded Bessie, my favorite mule, into da trailer and vas driving her down da highvay ven dis huge semi-truck and trailer ran da stop sign and smacked my truck right in da side. I vas trown into one ditch and Bessie vas trown into da other. I vas hurting real bad and didn't vant to move. However, I could hear Bessie moaning and groaning. I knew she was in terrible shape yust by her groans'. 'Shortly after da accident da Highway Patrolman, he came to da scene. He could hear Bessie moaning and groaning so he vent over to her'. 'After he looked at her and saw her fatal condition her took out his gun and shot her right 'tween da eyes.

Den da Patrolman, he came across da road, gun still smoking, looked at me and said, 'How are you feeling?'

'Now vat da hell vould YOU say?

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

877.800.CAMP, www.CampKindle.org
Citizens for Equal Protection 1105 Howard St. Suite 2, Omaha NE 68102, 3983027 www.cfep-ne.org, email to:
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, GLBT-affirming

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

First Unitarian Church, 3114 Harney Street, 402-345-3039, www.firstuuomaha.org, GLBT Welcoming Congregation

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 (402-804-8720)

Gay Lesbian Straight Education Network -Omaha, Box 641676, Omaha 68164, 712-325-0117 http://www.glsenomaha.org GayLibrary.com, World Wide Resources GOglbt Professionals, meeting at 5:30PM.

Email at: GOglbt@cfep-ne.org or see 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, email: info@heartlandpride.org; meets on the 1st Thursday of each month from 6:30pm to 8pm. @ D. Dale Clark Library

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

Imperial Court of Nebraska, Box 3772, Omaha 68103.

www.imperialcourtofnebraska.org

Inclusive Life

402-575-7006 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 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 Website: 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

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

North Side Christian Church 5555 Larimore Ave., Sunday service at 9:30am, see www.NorthSideOmaha.org

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

Omaha NE Gay Pride Web Page http://ONGP.com; email to: omahanegaypride@cox.net or ongp1@cox.net

Omaha Metro GLBT Sports League, See 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

Email: NeOutAbout@yahoo.com
OUTLinc, a nonprofit organization that
engages in and fosters the well-being and
advancement of the LGBT community,
www.outlinc.org, Lincoln NE

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, 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

Rainbow Outreach GLBT Resource Ctr, 3620 Leavenworth, Omaha, 341-0330 Rainbow Pride/Rainbow Celebrations PO Box 8273 Omaha, NE 68108, See www.rainbowpride.org for info River City Gender Alliance, for info see

River City Gender Alliance, for into see 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

Second Unitarian Church, 3012 S 119th St., Omaha, www.2uomaha.org, 402-334-0537, LGBTQ Welcoming Congregation

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

Youth Emergency Services, Inc. (Y.E.S.) Offices: 2679 Farnam Street, Suite. 205 Omaha, NE 68131, 402-345-5187, email to 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 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**, 1120 K Street Suite 100, Lincoln, NE 68508, (402) 476-

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:// 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

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

Spiritual Friends of Lincoln

Offering fellowship and worship for those seeking radical hospitality, openess, and inclusiveness. Meets the 1st and 3rd Sunday in Lincoln

info@inclusivelife.org and on FaceBook

Straight Spouse Support Grp 402-429-6094 TriCity GLBT, serving Central Nebraska, web site at http://www.tri-city-glbt.com/ UNL Committee on GLBT Concerns, Contact Pat Tetreault, (402) 472-1752 or email: ptetreault1@unl.edu/ 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

Council Bluffs Pride, 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

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

Where Can You Find The Gayzette?

Omaha:

Dixie Ouick'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.

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

Federal Judges: Domestic Partners Should Be Considered Married in Non-Marriage Equality States

By Sunnivie Brydum

A three-judge panel from the Ninth Circuit U.S. Court of Appeals declared Monday that same-sex couples in domestic partnerships in states without marriage equality must be recognized as married for the purpose of federal benefits, reports BuzzFeed's Chris Geidner.

Monday's ruling only directly affects the ongoing case of former Oregon federal court clerk Margaret Fonberg. who will now receive back pay to offset the



increased health insurance premiums she had to pay when the federal government refused to recognize her domestic partner as her spouse for the purpose of benefits.

"To quote Joe Biden 'This is a big fucking deal!" Fonberg told BuzzFeed via email late Monday. "I'm ... beyond thrilled with the decision."

She and her same-sex partner had entered into a legally binding domestic partnership under Oregon law, and in 2009 Fonberg attempted to enroll her partner in a federal health insurance program. When her petition was denied, officials cited the since -gutted federal Defense of Marriage Act, which forbade federal agencies to recognize any same-sex couples as spouses.

But even with the demise of that provision of DOMA following the Supreme Court's landmark ruling in ruling in June, the three -judge panel considering Fonberg's case determined that such a denial, as it still exists in regard to domestic partnerships in non -marriage equality states, is "plainly discrimination on sexual orientation." The three-judge panel included Alex Kozinski, the chief justice for the Ninth Circuit.

Geidner notes that Monday's decision runs counter to several other recently litigated cases that determined domestic partnerships or civil unions were inherently unequal to civil marriages. That's the argument equality advocates in New Jersey successfully used to force the state to embrace marriage equality in October.

Monday's ruling only directly affects Fonberg's case, since hers was a dispute filed when she was an employee within the federal court system. But as Geidner notes, the chief justice's opinion on the matter adds his "weighty voice to buttress arguments that will be made in court cases seeking equal treatment for domestic partnerships or civil unions, particularly where marriage equality is not an option."

Kyle's Bed & Breakfast by Greg Fox









... AND MOVING ALL THE WAY ACROSS THE COUNTRY ... AWAY FROM YOUR FAMILY .

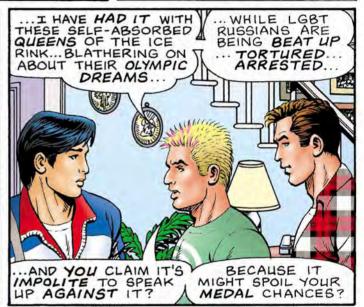
I'M USED TO IT, KYLE.
ASIDE FROM PAYING MY
BILLS, MY PARENTS
AREN'T REALLY INVOLVED
IN MY SKATING CAREER.

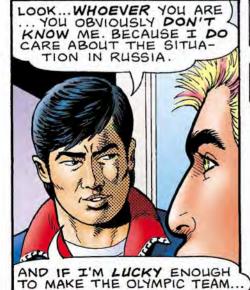


EVEN IF I MAKE IT TO THE OLYMPICS, THEY'LL PROBABLY STAY HOME AND WATCH IT ON TV!









...I AM GOING TO SPEAK UP. I'M GOING TO BE A LOUDMOUTH FOR LGBT RIGHTS! AND IF THAT COSTS ME AN OLYMPIC MEDAL, WELL ... IT'LL BE WORTH IT. SATISFIED?





E-Mail - KylesBnB@aol.com

Fitness Corner

By Ron Blake

THE GHOSTS OF CHRISTMAS FITNESS

The ghosts of Christmas past, present, and future are coming soon to a dream near you! Their visits will take a look at the health and fitness of you. I can just make out the shadow of someone approaching now through the haze and flickering lights. Let's greet this first spirit of the holiday haunting!

It is indeed the ghost of Christmas past. It is time to explore what you have done to get your body where it is at today. There is always room for improvement. Constructive criticism is fantastic if you can graciously accept it and use it to make the necessary changes for betterment. Those who don't look at their past and review it are likely to repeat it.

If you have lived an exemplary life of health and fitness then you are more than happy to repeat the saga of your finely tuned years. If you have yawed from the course of purity then you might want to take note of the errors of your ways from bygone months. Look at the common miscreants of health such as smoking, excessive drinking, unprotected sex, and overindulgence of fast or slow food. Simply take note of all these and carry them with you now. The ghost of Christmas present is coming hither.

The second spirit of our holiday review is standing akimbo and would like to observe you as you are right at this moment. Will he see you as overweight, wheezing, wrinkled, aching, sad, and uncertain about the future. Perhaps he will see a lean mean fighting machine. You will need to write your own screenplay for this segment.

You are a moment in time at the present. It is only a snapshot. Where has your past brought you? Take a look in the mirror and ask yourself if you are happy as the person you see. Is that person in the looking glass a visage of healthiness that will allow for many more days of life? Jot down some notes while perusing the museum of YOU with your ghostly docent. Now be prepared as you are squired from the second apparition to our third ghost of Christmas.

This leg of our trip is scary and exciting. It is the unknown and is what can cause plenty of trepidation for even the best of our planners and shakers. Our third ghostly guide makes it clear that the future is what you make of it. He cues up "Que Sera Sera" from Doris Day and gets you in the mood. "Whatever will be, will be. The future's not ours to see." Ghost #3 knows you can't control the future, but you can certainly influence the outcomes by what you do today.

If you continue your ways; whatever they might be, then you are likely to reap the results of those ways. Begin planting healthy and happy seeds today and give them plenty of water, sunshine, and fertilizer along your journey. The third ghost wishes you a fond farewell and leaves you to ruminate on your life and where you will head next.

I asked my mother, what will I be; Will I be pretty, will I be rich; Here's what she said to me....

This health and fitness column is brought to you by that guy who wants a Red Rider BB gun for Christmas. That guy is Ron Blake and he could also use some safety goggles. Send donations to myblakefitness.com.



250 South 77th Street, Suite A Omaha, NE 68114

(Located behind McDonald's at 77th & Dodge Street)

www.nap.org

402-552-9260

Free anonymous or confidential rapid HIV testing.
Chlamydia & Gonorrhea testing also available for \$10.00

NAP:

Wednesday

77th & Dodge St.

ge St. 1:30 to 3:30 pm (appointment only)

5:00 to 8:00 pm (walk-in)

Thursday

1:30 to 3:30 pm (appointment only)

5:00 to 8:00 pm (walk-in)

Flixx Lounge:

1st & 3rd Mondays of each month

10th & Pacific St.

8:00 to 10:00 pm (walk-in)

RESPECT Clinic

2nd & 4th Mondays of each month

50th & Ames Ave.

5:00 to 7:00 pm (walk-in)

(Located in Baker Square Plaza)

Know your status. GET TESTED!

Call 402-552-9260 to schedule an appointment or with any questions.

www.nap.org

