

Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSEVER

THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

AUGUST 7, 1985

ISSUE 55

EDITORS NOTE

As predicted, the situation is getting worse. And it will get a lot worse before it's all over. Two more Tucsonans died just last Monday from the dreaded Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome. Actor Newton John Skinner and George Hamilton both met their maker after valiant efforts to 'beat' the effects of AIDS. This makes a total of 13 deaths in Pima County, with the State's death count at 28 as of the 7th of August.

Before this unpleasant news, a letter from the Arizona AIDS Fund Trust Executive Director Bob Hegyi, informed us that in a recent two week period in Arizona, "20 people were diagnosed with AIDS Related Complex, 11 people were diagnosed with certifiable AIDS and 7 people died of AIDS".

Pretty frightening figures. And they promise to get worse—much worse!

The Reagan administration has finally increased the AIDS funding request by some \$46 million, according to the National Gay Task Force. This budget amendment adds \$5 million to AIDS spending in 1985 bringing the total to nearly \$109 million and adds \$40.7 million to the President's budget request for fiscal 1986 [which brings that amount to over \$126 million].

All well and good for the researchers and toward educational efforts. But what about the actual victims? Who are they to turn to for help, assistance, counseling, guidance and the thousands of other things that a person who finds themselves in such a predicament, needs to take care of? To this end a state-wide organization—Arizona AIDS Fund Trust—was set up to administer one-on-one assistance to People With AIDS [PWA's]

CONTINUED ON PAGE THREE

IN LOVING MEMORY

Newton John Skinner

George Hamilton

Lou Hudburgh

AUGUST 7, 1985

Tucsonan Newton John Skinner Succumbs To AIDS

It's like to have AIDS.

"It's like sitting on a time bomb, what do you think. I think the most difficult time for anyone who gets AIDS emotionally is when they first find out. Their first thoughts is that they have been given an automatic death sentence. Death is everywhere. Not only death, but guilt. And worst of all—fear. If the patient continues in this state of mind for too long a period, then he must surely die, but, if he has the courage and the stamina to make the decision that he will fight this monster, then maybe, there's no guarantee he won't die, but maybe miraculously he will live.

"There's a small handful of men who were diagnosed in 1979 who are still alive. They are the survivors, and it seems to me, that we must look to them if we are to survive. The first thing they possess is hope. But how do we find hope when we know that the medical profession can do only so much? I believe they can and will find a cure, but it will take time. To those people already affected, time is running out. So the hope I am referring to is not a cure for the masses immediately, but rather a cure for the individual.

"AIDS is an individual disease. It affects everyone differently. And if we are to be cured, then we must pay attention not only to the body, but to the mind and to the spirit as well. To deal with the spirit means to deal with whatever emotional turmoil we may be going through. The stress of everyday living is taxing enough. To be told you are a terminal case is enough to drive you a little batty. Some people will be overwhelmed by fear, some by guilt. I can feel only anger—anger at God. It was beyond me why I should get this thing. Why it should exist. I can't answer that, no one can.

"But I've been comparatively lucky. I've had only Kaposi's Sarcoma, a skin cancer that is not, in and of itself, a life threatening condition. But since about last June, my life has become a parade of doctor's offices, Kimo therapy, waiting rooms, and blood tests. My life has changed immeasurably. But in many instances, it has changed for the better. First of all, I know who my real friends are. There have been instances where I told some person or another that I have AIDS, and I can see their eyes kind of glaze over, and I know that because of their fear, they have shut me out of their lives. That is understandable, fear is everywhere. But my real friends have stood staunchly beside my side. They have given me not sympathy and pity but rather respect and love, and I am grateful. They have not treated me like a sick person, and I think there is a lot of truth in the old adage, 'If you're treated like a sick person, you're apt to act like one.'

"Don't think, however, that everyone is as lucky as I am. Thousands of men, women and children are dying, and I am young. They need our care. They need our prayers, they need our money. And they need to feel they are not lepers. How do you deal with an AIDS patient? If you have any intelligence at all, you'll treat him like anyone else.

"I'd like to take a few moments to talk about politics. For me, this is a very dangerous subject as I believe that actors should stay out of politics. Ronald Reagan is clear proof of that. But, like our dear sainted Katherine Hepburn, I cannot bear to keep my mouth shut."

"The government's handling of the AIDS situation has been, up to this point, abominable. I am ashamed to live in a country that has so idiosyncratically ignored the largest public



NEWTON JOHN SKINNER
1959 - 1985

TUCSON - Talented local actor and popular member of the Tucson community, Newton John Skinner passed away last Monday, August 5 from complications associated with AIDS. Services will be held this Thursday, May 8, at 11:00 a.m. at Christ The King Church, 2800 West Ina Road.

A real show business trooper, Newton, who studied at the University of Arizona Drama Department, last appeared in a light-hearted revue "Summer Smiles" at the Fineline during the month of July. The show, which contained some of his original material as well as others, and played with Barbara Tafoya, showed off Skinner's unique talents. Summer Smiles played to large audiences and was extremely well received. All the reviews were excellent.

Newton was a very outspoken person on the subject of AIDS, and he used every opportunity to voice his opinions and knowledge in an attempt to educate people about the dread disease. He spoke eloquently before the first Tucson AIDS Project forum held last May 23.

Since he was so sincere in his desire to let people know about AIDS, and the fears of the unknown, we are herewith reprinting his short talk for those who may have missed it. Of course, the words ring even truer today.

"First of all, I want to thank Bob Henry because he's done a lot of work to get us all here, and also the Tucson AIDS Project for finally getting together. It's happening now.

"The Choice was mine, and mine completely. I could have any prize that I desired. I could burn with the splendor of the brightest fire. Or else, or else I could choose time.

"My name is Newton. With a name like Newton, I was marked as an oddball from the very beginning. I have been Gay since I saw Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz. I am twenty-six years old and last year I was diagnosed with AIDS.

"From the bubonic plague to cancer, no epidemic has struck hysteria in the human heart like AIDS. They will talk of it years from now as an epidemic, syndrome, whatever you like, that wiped out thousands of homosexuals. A disease that made a clean sweep through a society that worshipped only two things—physical beauty and our own sensuousness. And so I come to you here on my soapbox to tell you what

BRIEFS

Jimbo Dowdy, new Tramps manager

TRAMPS IN PERIOD OF REORGANIZATION

TUCSON - Tramps, is undergoing a complete reorganization. Jim "Jimbo" Dowdy has taken over complete management of the entire complex and has many ideas concerning it's future operation. Jimbo said that, in his opinion "The Tramps name has gotten a little tarnished here lately, and we want to polish it up again." In keeping with several operational changes, Jimbo is considering a complete name change.

Along those lines, he is requesting some ideas and if a name that someone submits is used as the new identification for the place, the winner will receive \$100.00 cash prize.

Tramps has been placed in what is known as Chapter 13, which makes it temporarily 'immune' to harassment in collecting older bills, and allows the bar time to reorganize and get rolling once more. The bar proved to be a very popular establishment when it first opened in May 1984. A lot of time and effort was put into creating several new areas in the complex, and in doing this, Dowdy believes that some of the impetus and excitement of the club was lost. "A lot of money was spent -- some things that were not necessary some of the more important things were neglected," said Jimbo.

The large patio area in the rear is one of the better improvements, although the hot weather has allowed only limited use so far, "but our beautiful fall and winter weather is just around the corner," smiled Jimbo. "I hope that all of my friends in the community will support me and the staff," he said.

Located in a historic old complex on Fourth Avenue, and noted for its extremely high ceilings and heavy wooden interior decor, Tramps is trying hard for a comeback. Bonnie, Dale and Dan will be the regular bartenders. Drink prices have been revamped downward, and there will be daily drink specials.

Stop by and give Jimbo some input as to what ideas you may have to help him in revitalizing this establishment.

TUCSON KNIGHT OWLS present

CASINO NIGHT
SUNDAY, AUGUST 11
4:00 P.M. - 7777

BACK POCKET /
JOSHUA TREE
2921 N. 1st Avenue,
Tucson 622-6233

LIZ VISITS ROCK IN HOSPITAL

LOS ANGELES, CA (AP) - Actress Elizabeth Taylor visited longtime friend Rock Hudson at UCLA Medical Center, where the actor is being treated for acquired immune deficiency syndrome. Taylor, who is one of the organizers of a star-studded extravaganza planned for next month to raise money for AIDS research, met with the stricken actor last Sunday.

"Mr. Hudson is gaining strength and is in good spirits, however his condition remains fair," said a statement released on Monday. "His physician will decide on a day-to-day basis whether he should have visitors," the statement said.

Miss Taylor starred with Hudson in the 1956 movie, "Giant," the only film for which Hudson received an Academy Award nomination. Hudson's most recent role was in the "Dynasty" TV series.

Shirley MacLaine, Bette Midler, Burt Lancaster and Burt Reynolds will join Miss Taylor and other stars at a September 19th extravaganza to try to raise \$1 million to combat AIDS.

As of July 29, there were 12,067 reported cases of AIDS in the United States, and 6,079 of the victims had died, said officials of the National Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE**NEWTON JOHN SKINNER SUCUMBS TO AIDS**

health problem, not only of the decade, but of the century. The government is only too glad to ignore the homosexuals. We are considered an eyesore. But AIDS is no longer just a homosexual problem. It is affecting women and children, and still the government will not wake up. How many people will we have to bury? Money is needed not only for research but for support groups, and financial assistance for those people who are too sick to work.

"We can no longer sit placidly by and be ignored. Make no mistake, I am raising a battle cry. And having moved in Gay society for quite some time now, I know a lot of cats, and no one fights better than a cat. I call upon you to use whatever wiles you possess to put an end to this ridiculous prejudice that goes not just with having AIDS, but with being Gay."

"In closing, I would like to point out that from the beginning of this crisis, we have been barraged with only negative information. If we are to survive, then we must look to the positive aspects, no matter how slim they seem to be. We must reach out to whatever source that will contribute to our own individual wellness. There are many alternate methods of healing that we are just beginning to become aware of."

"In my own experience, I have found that the idea of Holistic Medicine, healing the whole person, is an important idea that will unleash the body's vital healing force that we all possess. My friend, Fay McCoy, has been treating me with Homeopathy, which bases its philosophy on the body's natural ability to heal itself. I have experimented with nutrition, exercise, meditation, and religion, and have found that they are all helpful in making me feel better when I have been ill."

"Reach out to your friends, forgive your enemies, and you can begin to find peace, and courage, and happiness. And some day, we will be the victors. We will conquer AIDS."

"Thank you."

1997

AT THE CURRENT RATE OF INCREASE, EVERYONE IN THE UNITED STATES WILL BE DEAD OF AIDS IN 12 YEARS.

If you care... if you are concerned... If you want to help or need information, please join with the Tucson AIDS Project at one of their regular open meetings held the second Thursday of each month at the University of Arizona Medical Center, Dining Room "C" [second floor] at 7:30 p.m. For more information call 792-3772.

WE'RE DOING SOMETHING

MONUMENT TO LESBIAN/GAY MEN KILLED IN CONCENTRATION CAMPS

HAMBURG, WEST GERMANY (AP) - The first monument dedicated solely to the Gay men and Lesbians killed in Nazi concentration camps was unveiled here recently, according to a United Press International report in the Washington Blade. Made of pink granite, the monument was placed at the site of the Neuengamme concentration camp by a group of Independent Alternative Homosexuals. It bears the inscription, "Dedicated to the Homosexual Victims of National Socialism. 1985." Approximately 150 people attended the dedication ceremony.

It is believed that between 250,000 and 500,000 Gay men and Lesbians died in Nazi concentration camps.

EGYPTIAN COURT BANS**'A THOUSAND AND ONE NIGHTS'**

CAIRO, EGYPT (AP) - An Egyptian court ordered the confiscation of new editions of the ancient classic, "A Thousand and One Nights," charging the tales pose a threat to morals, according to the Boston Globe. The order capped a heated battle between the Interior Ministry and three booksellers trying to distribute the editions.

According to Sohair Kalamawy, a professor at Cairo University who wrote her doctoral dissertation on the centuries-old stories, "The words on sex constitute less than one-tenth of this book... There are many more graphic details of sex, even homosexual sex, in our heritage of literature and poetry." Kalamawy added, "It is our heritage and, of course, we will not change it."

In "A Thousand and One Nights," Scheherazade, bride of King Shehrayar of Samarkand, tells the king stories, including some with homosexual sex scenes, to stop him from beheading her as he has done to a series of virgin brides after their wedding nights.

THE WEEKLY OBSERVER**ASPIRIN-HORMONE MIX FOUND TO STIMULATE IMMUNE SYSTEM**

WASHINGTON, DC (AP) - Common aspirin has been found to stimulate the body's immunological system, thereby raising the possibility of combining the drug with certain hormones to treat deficiencies in the body's infection-fighting defenses, including an AIDS-like condition.

Scientists at George Washington University Medical Center said Monday they have discovered that aspirin indirectly boosts the immunological system by blocking synthesis of substances called prostaglandins, which inhibit key immunity cells. Test-tube work indicates that combining aspirin with thymus-gland hormones that also stimulate the immunological system produces an effect greater than using each alone, and the researchers said they are beginning testing in humans.

Dr. Allan Goldstein, chairman of the biochemistry department and chief researcher, said that there is not yet any evidence that aspirin will help people with AIDS, or help to prevent AIDS.

Certain thymus hormones called thymosins have been given to people with a condition called AIDS-related complex or ARC. Goldstein said thymosin boosted their bodies' levels of an important anti-viral infection-fighting chemical called interleukin-2, but did not decrease the signs of immunological suppression. This effect also was noted in tests on healthy people.

Goldstein said the next step, which has begun, is to test the combination in ARC patients.

THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

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SHOP FOURTH AVE.

Tramps

**NEW MANAGEMENT
- NEW PRICES**

616 N 4th Ave., Tucson

MEMBER A.G.B.A. 882-0795

Tucson AIDS Project: Update

Recent months have seen the conception, organization and strong beginning of the Tucson AIDS Project [TAP], a volunteer group whose primary purpose is to provide necessary support for people with AIDS [PWAs]. TAP is already supporting the current PWAs of Tucson with various services, and is ready to help those who are diagnosed with the disease.

TAP has presented two forums to people in high-risk groups, providing further information on AIDS, methods of risk reduction, coverage of legal and other social aspects, and an opportunity to ask questions of a panel of local professionals who deal with AIDS.

Currently, TAP is set up to quickly process a PWA as soon as he/she contacts the group, to assess the person's needs and provide information about TAP. This first visit opens access to TAP's various services.

One primary service is counseling and support, provided by qualified professionals in both private and group settings. A local PWA group has already formed and is meeting regularly. TAP is also aware of local clergymen who are willing to provide spiritual counseling. In addition, a counselor for people concerned about AIDS is available at the Men's Clinic held Friday evenings at La Clinica del Pueblo, 101 West Irvington from 6 to 8 p.m.

Another TAP service is providing in-home assistance to PWAs as needed. These services range from such simple items as helping with laundry or grocery shopping to daily visits by a nursing care professional.

Volunteers are also available to assist with transportation, to insure PWAs are able to make their medical appointments and handle other transportation needs.

Tucson AIDS Project is also affiliated with the Arizona AIDS Fund Trust [AAFT], and oversees disbursement of funds from the Trust in the Tucson area. Funding from AAFT is available for daily or emergency needs such as shelter and food, but generally not granted for medical care.

Other groups within TAP are in the process of forming, and should be providing services in the near future, including public assistance advocacy, help in legal and insurance matters, education, recreation and socialization.

As with any all-volunteer organization, TAP needs more volunteers. General meetings are held

the second Thursday of each month at the University Medical Center. The next such meeting will be this Thursday night, August 8th at 7:30 p.m. If you are interested in learning more about the group or want to help, but are unable to attend the meeting, feel free to contact the group via the mailing address below.

TAP has set up two avenues for inquiries and information requests. A hotline is available -- (602) 792-3772 for emergency and general calls. The service is being provided jointly by TAP and Gay Information and Referral volunteers. Written requests can be sent to: Tucson AIDS Project, 3242 E. Speedway, Tucson, AZ 85716. A brochure further describing TAP is also available at various locations, or by writing the above address.

TLGPC REPORT

A few months ago the Committee was made aware of discrimination based on sexual preference against two employees by the Tucson Women's Commission. A meeting was held with the two people involved and a representation of our political subcommittee. It was decided by unanimous vote to support the complainants and to issue a formal letter of complaint to the TWC. I wrote the letter and read it at an open public meeting of the Tucson Women's Commission. Since then, through the City of Tucson Human Relations Commission, the agency through which complaints of discrimination are filed, a no-fault settlement has been reached. The results of the charges were reported on the front page of the Arizona Daily Star, Friday Aug. 2. Unfortunately the chairwoman of the TWC admitted no guilt and instead claimed that she was discriminated against. The two former employees did receive financial settlements and changes in the bylaws including Lesbians and Gays as a protected minority.

The Tucson Women's Commission is a tax-funded group whose goal is to fight discriminatory attitudes and promote equality which is very similar to one of the goals of the Tucson Lesbian and Gay Pride Committee. It was my position and that of TLGPC that especially a group funded by taxpayers must not be able to get away with discriminating against Lesbians and Gays from where at least 10% of their money comes. Gay money is Gay power.

This action is of great significance to us. First of all it demonstrates that the city law protecting us in employment works and is enforceable even when the employer who discriminates is an agency funded

by the Tucson City Council. That the law is there for us and we must use it. Secondly, that there is developing in Tucson some recognition that TLGPC is a viable organization whose support does carry some weight. This is borne out by the fact that the charges of discrimination made the front page of the paper which included two paragraphs of direct quotations from our letter of complaint. When we are organized and united as men and women we can make a difference in effecting issues that touch our daily lives such as job discrimination.

To be able to grow and have a much more resounding effect we need more active help from you. Please attend our next meeting on Monday, Aug. 12 at 6:30 p.m. at Ruby's, 2512 E. Grant Road. We will be discussing this issue and many more.

NEWS FROM MCC TUCSON

As reported last week, August is going to be a busy month for the family at MCC/Tucson. This coming Sunday, Aug. 11, Reverend Bernardo David will be preaching at the 10:45 a.m. service. Plan to be at this service to show Rev. Bern your support and your appreciation for all that he has done for this community. Following this morning service, the Board members and their families will continue with their "Sunday Brunch" to help raise funds for the new typewriter for the Church.

Letters have been sent to all members of MCC/Tucson to attend the Congregational Meeting to be held on August 16 at 1:00 p.m. This meeting will decide if the Board of Directors has the authority to vote on the funding for bidding on property for a building to be owned by MCC/Tucson. This promises to be a very special meeting, and it is open to the public but only those who are members of MCC/Tucson have a chance to vote on this issue.

On the same day at 6:30 p.m., as part of our Sunday Night Videos, a video tape of the UFMCC television special, "God, Gays and the Gospel. This is Our Story." will be shown. This is a really great event, not only to the members of U.F.M.C.C. but to the whole Gay community - nationally. Plan to be one of the first to view this historical film at 6:30, Sunday, Aug. 18.

Also, as reported last week, Pastor Dave is on vacation this week. But, we have a team of caring people who are ready to counsel, share and pray with you. If you have a spiritual concern or just want to talk with someone who will listen, please give the Church office a call to arrange a time. The telephone number is 622-4536.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: A person who loses their temper always loses more than he wins.

EDITORIAL

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE)

Recently, because of rapidly increasing numbers of PWAs in the Tucson area, the Tucson AIDS Project was formed to handle our 'own' PWAs, with financial assistance from the Phoenix-based AAFT. TAP and AAFT work directly with the AIDS patient. Volunteers visit hospitals, transport PWAs to doctors, shopping, recreation, assist with legal advice, pays bills when patients are no longer able to work, counsels and provides encouragement and support among a myriad of other efforts.

Regyl informs us that for the 30-day period ending July 6, the expenditures for AAFT were \$7,524 paid out to Arizona AIDS patients. Regyl said that as of July 6, the Fund had just over \$10,000. But here we are at August 6, and the treasury is now down to where it probably cannot continue its present service unless something drastic is done.

It is clear that the Gay community of Arizona is not able to contribute enough to keep such a costly operation solvent alone. We are sure that every Gay and Lesbian community nationwide is facing the same hard facts of life.

Even the annual fundraising effort "Get Physical" to be held on September 14 will not net enough capital to continue operations at the present level of increase. What can be done?

There is only one solution. The Gay community must seek additional funding from outside. From government, from individuals. Large fundraising drives have been held in the past and more are planned. Couldn't this money be placed with an administrator who would be charged with giving out sufficient monies to each city according to its needs. This, in addition to local fundraising in the Gay community, would be a positive step forward.

Rock Hudson's recent disclosure has prompted several of Hollywood's top stars to have a fundraiser. This benefit alone should raise millions of dollars. Isn't there a way to get some of this down to the grassroots level - where the PWAs are and need it. Why isn't the National Gay Task Force behind an idea of this kind? Where are our other national organizations when in this time of emergency, we need them.

A very conservative estimate for our state of Arizona is that AAFT will need at least \$100,000 to continue its operations for the next twelve months, and as the increase in the number of AIDS patients goes up, so does that budget figure.

Something drastic must be done now.

DAILY DRINK SPECIALS

.75

With juice or Martini's

\$1.00

11 a.m. to 8 p.m.

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Dear Blabey

DEAR BLABEY:

I am writing this letter as sort of a dare. You see, this girl I know seems to believe that I won't tell the world what a tramp she is and WHAT A TRAMP she is! Now I realize that your column is not one of those gossip rings so I will do my best to form this as a question. After all, I would like to know how someone can take on six guys at once in a public Jacuzzi and still think they are the picture of sweet innocence. Let's face it, everyone knows that girls just want to have fun, but don't you think this little episode is carrying fun a bit too far?

signed, Who Got Who

Dear Who -

Sounds to me like this girl put the capital 'T' in Tramp. To be perfectly honest, I haven't got the vaguest idea what to tell you. As long as you weren't one of those six guys, it would seem that you've got nothing to worry about.

B.

ADVERTISE



Dear Blabey -

Yes, the umpire of the Gay softball games is one of the best. She is very impartial and has a real good eye. Above that, the players themselves are very good about calling the plays and usually are honest about being safe or out. And yes, the games are played for fun and are fun for everyone. If things seem to get a little heated it is only because all the players are playing to win. To see a pro game and you'll see things that would make our Gay games look like a tea party with your grandma. A good shouting match is what makes baseball the national game.

B.

COUNSELING CONCEPTS

AFTER THE FACT

HAVE YOU EVER FOUND A FRIEND AFTER THE FACT? It happened the other day to a friend of mine. It started with a letter from his boss back home. It was a newsie letter letting him know how things had changed, etc. As it turned out, these two didn't particularly get along too well so the letter was a surprise. Not wishing to be rude by not answering, a letter was written back. Back comes a prompt reply. Amazing!! To say the least, but why?

After giving it some thought, a person finds the old adage about people who don't get along are too much alike in some ways turns out to be true. Being removed from the job situation, the tension has been removed so there can be some communication. How often do we write someone off because we tend to grade temperments or work habits in some way, shape or form?

Time and again those really violent differences occur when a person exhibits strongly those characteristics that we like the least in ourselves. Unless this is dealt with head on, working together is out of the question. When things are this severe, a negotiation of responsibilities would have to be done to preserve peace and sanity for all. Let's face it, an environment filled with tension is not good for anyone.

If you run to a situation similar to this, the best things to do is play it cool. Give it some thought yourself first. Ask yourself some questions about the situation. What do I see in this person that I don't care for? Is the person achieving goals that are similar to mine and I haven't achieved yet? A little envy on my part? Do I see like things in me? Are there some ways I can relieve some of the tension? This grating, it is coming from me or more from the other person? After asking a lot of questions hopefully you'll have a handle on the situation. You may be able to do some things on your own to make the whole thing a lot better. Otherwise, armed with some determination approach the person and honestly meet the issue head on. Be sure in this kind of approach that you're not so upset that you could lose your temper. This would not be a wise move. Deal with any emotion before you talk to another person.

It's really sad that no matter the severity we don't take the time and energy to make the effort to get beyond those things that irritate us in others. We certainly miss out on what a lot of people have to offer. True, it may not mean you'd be the best of friends but surely not enemies. You would be surprised at the understanding that would be between you, and know where the other is coming from.

We need more of this in our community. Everything is too superficial. Superficiality promotes itself and reproduces all too quickly. We don't need any more of it. In fact, if we are to have a thriving Gay and Lesbian community, superficiality has got to go for all our sakes.

Paul W. Helge
for Counseling Concepts - Tucson

Club

Events

by Doe

Forgive me for being a little proud when it comes to the Tucson Knight Owls. Saturday, they were the first and, as of this writing, the only club that had hung their colors at the Graduate for Club Appreciation Month. In defense of SOS and TALL, both clubs are readying their club colors. Remember, the Graduate is the home bar for both SOS and TALL and with some of the past activities both clubs have held there, everyone knows who you are, but it still would be nice to see all of you there Wednesday evenings.

As for more news from TKO, this Sunday, August 11, the Tucson Knight Owls are having their Casino Night at the Joshua Tree/Back Pocket. The fun & festivities begin at 4:00 p.m. and runs until ?????? The following weekend is TKO's annual trip to the City of Rocks. This is always a lot of fun. 24-hour parties, good food (when TKO cooks) and the hot tubs are scenic. If you would like more info on this one or would like to go along, contact a member of TKO.

Talking to some of the members of TALL, they tell me some of them will be going on the City of Rocks run also. If wonder if "IP" will be taking his yellow raincoat this year?

That's about all for the regular news this week. On to TBBS. Days can go by when I can't come up with a single TBBS, but let me tell you, this past week, in one evening, I've got enough TBBS' to fill a complete page of this paper. Then a couple of days later these same two (Bill H. and David) gave me more. Now, of course, not knowing short hand and not having a tape recorder, I couldn't remember all of them. Here are a couple I did get:

TBBS: Arriving at Rumor Hazzit, Dave said he hoped Doe wasn't in the bar so he [David] wouldn't have to keep his mouth shut. Keeping his mouth shut wouldn't be possible with Bill H. Things really started rolling at the Graduate last Tuesday night between Bill H and David. After Bill H. asked David if he wanted to sit on his lap, David's response was, "I'd rather sit on your face!" After that one it was a free-for-all between the two of them. David, did you get to sit on Bill's face that night?

That's it for this week, so until next week, may everyone have a productive and happy week. One last thing, I almost forgot. I hear that Peter from Rita's Rendezvous is getting this fall's version of the Graduate Bowling League together. This fall's version will be sponsored by Rita's Rendezvous.

D.P.'s FINELINE

MEMBER A.G.B.A.

AFTER HOURS UNTIL 4:00 A.M.

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NON-ALCOHOLIC DISCO FOR 18 AND OVER

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101 W. DRACHMAN,

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Review...

THE FRED DOTY SHOW



Fred Doty shown with his companion and musical director Doug Gohr.

Tucsonans were treated to some mighty fine country and western music recently. On Friday, July 26 at Colette's West and Saturday, July 27 at the Graduate, Fred Doty, of the Fred Doty show displayed his varied talents as he sang some of the most popular country and western songs by some of the most popular country and western artists. Doty sings live to pre-recorded taped music, but the absence of the 'live' band does not take away any of the live vocals and movements by Doty. He has a fine singing voice and obviously a lot of experience as a stage performer. His monologues and quips to the audience between numbers kept the show moving at a rapid pace.

The show at Colette's West was played to a half-full house. Those who missed it there missed an excellent

JUDGE ANNULLS TRANSSEXUAL'S MARRIAGE

BALTIMORE, MD (AP) - A judge has annulled the marriage of a student who learned after the wedding that his wife was born a man.

Circuit Judge Hillary D. Caplan ruled last week that the marriage between M.K. Ofosu-Appiah and Delores Buchanan, 38, was void from the beginning because Maryland law prohibits men marrying men. "The evidence here is that there was no sexual relationship, although it's hard for any court to believe it," Caplan said.

Ofosu-Appiah, 28, of Liberia, testified the couple had some sexual relations, but had not had intercourse. He also said he had never seen his wife in the nude during the seven months they lived together before separating. He testified he first suspected his wife might be a man in September, when he examined her birth certificate before an immigration hearing to change his status from visitor to resident.

The Johns Hopkins University student testified that the name on his wife's birth certificate, John William Buchanan, had been covered with white ink and the name Delores Buchanan had been typed over it. The sex on the certificate was listed as male, he told Caplan.

When confronted with the discrepancy, Ofosu-Appiah said his wife told him she was transsexual. "I just - I can't deal with that," Ofosu-Appiah stammered in court. "I was inclined to end the marriage at that time."

Ofosu-Appiah testified he married Buchanan because he "really admired her for her intelligence," not to obtain U.S. citizenship, and that he began annulment proceedings knowing it could jeopardize his immigration status.

Samuel Bilbeum, Ofosu-Appiah's attorney, said his client chose annulment because it could be obtained more quickly than a divorce. Caplan granted the annulment based on the original name and sex listed on the

birth certificate.

"There was no consummation and the factual circumstances show that there was no marriage under the law," he said, referring to state law which makes marriages between two males or two females illegal. Buchanan failed to appear for court-ordered physical and psychiatric examinations and did not appear at the annulment proceedings.

GAY FATHERS INTENSIFY EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM

LOS ANGELES, CA - The Gay Father's Coalition International, a worldwide support organization for Gay parents, will initiate an intensified campaign to educate members of the judicial system about the realities of being Gay and being a parent, according to Don Harrelson of Los Angeles, president of the 2000-member GFCI.

The announcement was made in the wake of news reports that Frank Batey, a Gay father who has waged an expensive and highly-publicized battle for legal custody of his 14-year-old son, was dropping the case. Batey told the Gay press earlier this month that he has decided to give up the protracted fight for custody of his son. The decision means an end to more than two years in the courts at a cost of several hundred thousand dollars, according to news reports.

"Frank is making the ultimate sacrifice," explained Harrelson, who spoke in length with Batey shortly after revealing that he would drop all legal action. "He wants to protect his son from the stress and emotional turmoil that has been created by the controversy."

"As usual, ignorance is our enemy. Through the implementation of a judicial education program under the auspices of GFCI, we hope to open some minds. If you believe in the American system of justice as a whole, you have to also believe that judges really want to make informed decisions. GFCI will see that adequate information is readily available."

Samuel Bilbeum, Ofosu-Appiah's attorney, said his client chose annulment because it could be obtained more quickly than a divorce. Caplan granted the annulment based on the original name and sex listed on the

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Tucson Community Directory**TUCSON COMMUNITY DIRECTORY**

(NOTICE: Any business, club or organization wishing to be listed here should contact the OBSERVER by mail giving full particulars).

BARS

BACK ROCKET/JOSHUA TREE
2921 N. 1st Ave., 622-6233. Open daily from 2 p.m.-1 a.m.
Sat. 11 a.m.-1 a.m. Sun. Noon-1 a.m. Joshua Tree opens
4 p.m. for dancing. Patio and volleyball court.

COLETTE'S WEST
2849 N. 1st Ave., 622-9733. Open daily 1 P.M. Noon
Sundays. A woman's bar where everyone is welcome.

CONGRESS TAFF ROOM
311 E. Congress, 622-8848. Open daily 9 a.m. Noon
Sundays. A mixed downtown hotel bar.

PINELINE
101 W. Drachman, 682-4933. Upstairs open daily 7 p.m.
"Dicks" downstairs bar open 7 p.m. Dancing on main floor
9 p.m. Afterhours Wed., Fri., Sat., and Holidays.

GRADUATE
23 W. University, 622-9233. Opens at 11 a.m. Mon.-Sat.,
Noon Sun. Daily drink specials.

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS
3455 E. Grant Rd., 327-3390. Opens daily 11 a.m. to 1 a.m.
Noon on Sundays. Daily drink specials. Dancing. Kitchen
closed during summer months.

RUBY'S
2512 E. Grant Rd., 327-0114. Womyn's feminist bar.

REINER BAZZIT
2222 N. Stone, 791-0309. Opens daily 11 a.m. to 1 a.m.,
Noon on Sundays. Daily drink specials. Video Dancing 9
p.m. to 1 a.m.

TRAMPS
616 N. 4th Ave., 682-0795. Open daily 8 a.m. Noon
Sundays. Western and light disco dancing. Patio. After
hours on special occasions.

ADVERTISERS BUSINESS GUIDE

BATHS
STABLES - 3820 E. 40th Street, 748-0088. Private Men's
Bath. Open 24 hours. 1/2 price Tuesdays.

BOOK STORES
BOOKS BROS., LTD. - 3242 E. Speedway, 326-3332. (Full range
of books. Hundreds of Lesbian and Gay titles)

ADULT BOOKSTORES
BOOKSTORE SOUTHWEST - 1400 S. Alvernon, 326-6668
CESAR'S - 2540 N. Miracle Mile, 622-9479
SPEEDWAY BOOKS - 3660 E. Speedway, 795-7467.

COUNSELING
PAUL O'LEARYAN, Ph.D. - 135 N. 3rd Ave., 628-7043
COUNSELING CONCEPTS. (Paul Reigle) 2612 N. Country Club,
325-6885

FLORISTS
ENCHANTED FLORIST - Campbell Plaza (Campbell & Glenn)
325-9914

HAIR SALONS
HEATWAVE HAIR STUDIO - Fourth Avenue in Tramps Complex
622-7341
DIAMOND'S HAIR SALON - Lee Bezel, 293-4550 (Ext. 4071)

OFFICE SUPPLIES
TUCSON OFFICE SUPPLY - BILL James, 622-3808.

PUBLICATIONS
OBSERVER - P.O. Box 50733, Tucson 85703-1733, 622-7176 (A
weekly newspaper serving Tucson and Phoenix)

REAL ESTATE
SIERRA INVESTMENTS - 623-4897, Wayne Proctor.

RESTAURANTS
EL TORERO - (Mexican) 231 E. 26th St., 622-9534
JR's GOURMET DELI - 3550 N. 1st Ave., 622-8515
LA INDIA - (Mexican/Indian) - 622 N. 4th Ave.
BITA'S RENDEZVOUS - (Full Menu), 3455 E. Grant Rd., 327-3390
(Kitchen closed late May through late September)

SERVICES
BUCKAROO CATTLE REST - Horse Boarding - 574-9216.
CREATIVE SILK SCREENING - 1010 E. Greenlee, Tucson, AZ
85719, 627-3885
JERRY'S ELECTRICAL SERVICE - 293-9434.
M.A.R.S. - Maintenance & Repair (Heating, refrigeration,
electrical) 622-9291.
PHOTOGRAPHY - Specializing in fine black and white images.
35mm processing - 622-5031.
POOL PERSONS - Pool Cleaners, 681-3345.

TRAVEL AGENCIES
TANQUE VERDE TRAVEL - 7000 E. Tanque Verde, 886-4081
(Veronica Cota)

RELIGIOUS ORGANIZATIONS
AFFIRMATION (Gay Mormons) - Box 42891, Tucson 85716,
299-5141.
DIGNITY - (Gay Catholics) - P.O. Box 27927, Tucson, AZ
85726, 622-9517.
METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH (MCC) - 560 S. Stone Avenue,
Tucson, AZ 85701, 622-4536.

SERVICE ORGANIZATIONS
AA (Alcoholics Anonymous) - 624-4183 - 24-hour hotline for
information on Gay and Lesbian meetings.
AIDS INFORMATION AND COUNSELING - Mike Griffin, 682-9814,
Monday-Friday, 11 a.m. - 5 p.m.
ARIZONA AIDS FUND TRUST, Tucson, 3242 E. Speedway, Tucson
85716
GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL - 792-3772
GAY MEN'S CLINIC - See TALHA
NCIE - AIDS HOTLINE - 1-800-221-7044 (TOLL FREE)
LESSIAN/GAY SOCIAL RAP GROUP - 792-3772
OPBPA (Old Pueblo Business and Professional Association) -
P.O. Box 44013, Tucson 85733
PIMA COUNTY HEALTH DEPT. - 332 S. Freeway, 624-8271
ROOMMATE REFERRAL OF TUCSON - 622-3808 (NO FEE)
SENIOR GAYS - 795-7810 (Russ, coordinator)
TALHA - Tucson Alternative Lifestyle Health Association,
101 W. Irvington, Open 6 to 8 p.m. every Friday.
573-0096

TLGPC - Tucson Lesbian/Gay Pride Committee - 1111 E.
Limerlost, 8143, Tucson, AZ 85718 293-3535
TUCSON YOUTH CHURCH - 540 S. Stone, Tucson, 85701 - 792-3772
(Under 22 meets every Saturday. Not a church group)
WOMIN ON WHEELS - P.O. Box 41492, Tucson 85717 - 792-3745

SOCIAL CLUBS / SERVICE CLUBS

ARIZONA FRONTRUNNERS (Joggers and Runners) - 792-1586
GAY ARIZONA BICYCLISTS - 626-8431.
GREAT OUTDOORS - P.O. Box 42740, Tucson, AZ 85733
SOS (Sisters of Sonora) - 622-9233, Roger.
TALL - Tucson Arizona Levi/Leathermen - 3405 N. Rancho,
80-8 Tucson, AZ 85705 293-4089
TMO - Tucson Knight Oats - P.O. Box 2332, Tucson 85702

Poetry Corner**HOT SHOT**

by Patrick E. McCurdy

He keeps his gun in his holster.
Taking it out only when needed.
Always loaded, ready to fire.
Hot shot.

Long, hard barrel glasses.
Loaded with lead.
Finger tight on trigger.
Hot shot.

Weight feels good in the hand.
Finger squeezes once.
Barrel tip hot to touch.
Hot shot.

In time he reloads.
Gun back in holster.
Ready for the next man.
Hot shot.

COMING OUT

by Patrick E. McCurdy

I looked deep inside of myself.
And saw oblivion.
I didn't know who or what I was.
I was empty.
But what scared me the most
Was I couldn't cry.
I wanted to but the tears wouldn't fall.
So I took a look at my life,
And I saw the light.
I had built a wall around and of myself.
Acting for society.
But what about the real me?
I looked for women and yearned for men.
My mistake.
Women weren't for me.
So I looked for the men.
And found them.
Now the wall is gone.
I'm happy.
I'm me.
Thank God for my coming out.



CLASSIFIED: 20¢ per word \$4.00 Minimum.

THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

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visualization and releasing. Call
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RELEASE STRESS. Let go of tension
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By appointment. Marc 681-4582 in
Tucson. 55

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For information call Bill in Tucson at
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Near Glenn and Campbell. A/C, pool.
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1 Bedroom apartment in Amphi High
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Good condition, clean, hi-rents. Paid
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owners MUST SELL. Try 223,000.00.
Call me, Wayne, 623-4897, Sierra
Investments. 55

PERSONALS
The folks at Charlie's would like to
thank the entire City of Tucson (and
surrounding communities for their kind
help in getting Max laid. 55

LIVE IN SIERRA VISTA AND ALONE?
22-year-old male seeks fun, friendship
and a serious relationship with some
plus or minus 5 years. Reply:
Leonard, R.R. 1, Box 77R, Hereford, AZ
85615 55

WANTED
WE'RE LOOKING FOR used mandates,
I.T.'s, Blueboys, and other Gay
magazines. We're also looking for Gay
gimmicks in good condition. Please
call 326-6668 in Tucson. 55

INTEGRITY, affiliated with the
Episcopal Church, is a group for Gays,
Lesbians and other concerned people.
Meeting 19th August to discuss forming
Tucson branch. All welcome.
Information 791-7430 evenings. 56

GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL has over
90 resources for Gay men and Lesbians
in Tucson. Call 792-3772

GAY OR LESBIAN???
AND HAVE A DRINKING PROBLEM???

Call A.A. 624-4183. 24-Hour Hotline,
for information on Gay and Lesbian
meetings.

T-SQUARES, square dancing group meets
at 7 p.m. every Wednesday at Tramps.

THE ARIZONA LESBIAN AND GAY TASK

FORCE, your organization aimed at
furthering human rights, education and
networking with other national and
local organizations, invites you to
participate. Come and attend our
meetings and input your ideas.
Visitors and new members always
welcome. Meetings: Every Monday.
Membership: \$10 per year. Contact:
Lesbian/Gay Community Switchboard (7
p.m. - 11 p.m.) 234-2752 or write P.O.
Box 1405, Tempe, AZ 85281.

TUCSON LESBIAN AND GAY PRIDE COMMITTEE
(TLGPC) meets the second Monday of
every month at 6:30 p.m. The August
meeting will be held at Ruby's, 2512
E. Grant Road, on Monday, August 12.
Everyone welcome.

DO IT LIKE THE GREEKS AND ROMANS DID.
Get into shape the enjoyable way.
Exercise in the buff. Serious daily
exercise and stretching class, before
8:00 a.m. Call Marc 681-4582 for
information. 55

SENIOR GAYS (Over 40). If interested
in forming a new group, call Russ at
795-7180 Tucson.

TUCSON GAY MEN'S CHORUS now meeting
every Friday evening at 7:30 p.m. If
you like to sing, please join us. We
practice at MCC, 560 S. Stone. We are
not church affiliated, but appreciate
using the church for practice.

ROOMMATE REFERRAL OF TUCSON. Men and
women both welcome. NO FEE. Call
Bill James 622-3808.

**TUCSON ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLE HEALTH
ASSOCIATION (TALHA)** Gay men's clinic.
for the treatment of sexually transmitted
diseases, and counseling on
AIDS, the HTLV-III blood test and for
the worried-well. Located at 101 W.
Irvington; Open 6 to 8 p.m. every
Friday. A \$5 donation is requested.
TALHA also is in need of doctors and
nurses to volunteer their services.

GAY AND LESBIAN SOCIAL RAP GROUP
TUCSON meets every Tuesday evening at
8 P.M. AT MCC, 560 S. Stone. For more
information call 792-3772

TUCSON YOUTH GROUP meets every Saturday
from 3 to 5 p.m. at 560 S. Stone.
All Lesbians and Gays under 22 invited
792-3772



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MEMBER A.G.B.A.



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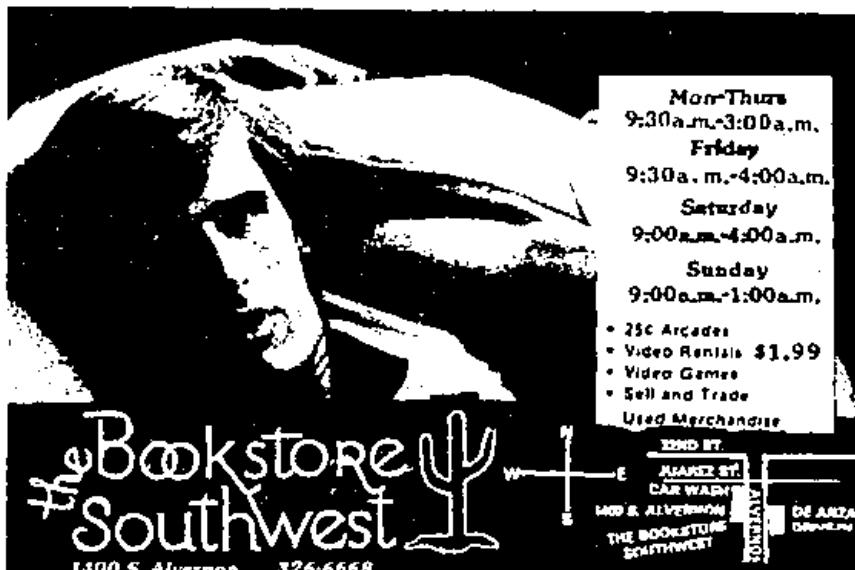
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A View From Within

by Christopher Geoffrey McPherson

WHO IS ROCK HUDSON, AND WHY IS HE DYING FROM AIDS?

It was just after 12:30 in the morning on the 24th of July. I was watching CNN Headline News, when the anchorwoman began a piece about Rock Hudson being so gravely ill, and in a foreign hospital. I was concerned, but not overly so. It was just after 1:00 a.m. that same morning when I was watching the next CNN show: There was another story on Rock Hudson which ended with a comment like, "...And it is rumored that he has been diagnosed as having AIDS...". My attention grew.

The next day, I spoke to three friends of mine about Rock Hudson being ill. The official word that he was being treated for AIDS had not come out in the press at this time, and it was still all conjecture. I said that I hoped he DID have AIDS. I must admit that I was rather surprised when all three of my friends replied how awful a person I was that I wished this. Did they not see as clearly as I did - what a great event this was?

For the very first time, a person of prominence was in the media as suffering from AIDS. And a movie star on top of it all: Now, I thought, we will get some action on the AIDS funding, and some more serious concern from the government and the press.

Two days later, it was official that Rock Hudson did indeed have AIDS -- he had been diagnosed in 1984 -- and that he was being treated with a (another) experimental drug. On the ABC network news that night, a story about AIDS research ended with the same hope as I had: "many Gay advocates" were hoping that this would make the government move faster... et

cetera.

Well, it has been a big help. Rock Hudson told Amistead Maupin -- the journalist and author -- some time ago (in 1976) that one day he wanted to do something positive with the fact that he was Gay, and in a position to make a statement that would carry some weight.

He most certainly has....

Now, however, we are seeing the backlash from this whole affair. Hollywood, and many industry insiders, are up-in-arms about having to work with Gays in television or films. It is even rumored that Linda Evans is very concerned because of her kissing scenes with Rock Hudson, that she may be vulnerable to contracting AIDS. And a lot of other people are mad at him for continuing to work a year after having been diagnosed.

One must take the good with the bad.

It is sad that he has AIDS. It is sad that anyone has AIDS. It is sad that there is no cure or treatment yet. Yes, it is sad.

What Mr. Hudson has done took a lot of courage, and we should all thank him. Any person who eventually survives AIDS, will have him to thank for their survival -- of course, all of the doctors and scientists, and other AIDS patients who have died, or who are surviving have helped. But no other single event will have done so much so fast.

I am sure we all wish him well.

A NEW BATH HOUSE WILL BE OPENING SOON - IT'S STRICTLY FOR THE BIRDS.

Dear Reader:

An amusing new cartoon story arrived in the mail last week. It is being drawn by two talented Tucsonans. Not really knowing what reaction there might be to a column of this type, we will be featuring it the next few weeks and would appreciate your reaction. The cartoon takes place in a "Bird Bath" house. Some of the amusing characters are Pereival "Perky" Pheasant - late adolescent towel boy; Patricia "Butch" Pheasant - the Lesbian bartender at the Bird Bath; Peter "Judy Garland" Peacock - aging drag queen; Charles "Chuck" Chickenhawk - middle class and middle-age; Father Cliff Cardinal - has been known to hand out a little leather penance to confessions. This will give you an idea. Let us hear from you - we think this is really a clever cartoon idea. We will give you more information next week.

BIRD BATH

HELP! CALL
A PRIEST
PLEASE!!

WHAT'S THE
PROBLEM?

IT'S SATAN!
CAN'T YOU SEE HIM?

HE'S TWISTING MY ARM,

FORCING ME TO GO INTO

THIS TEMPLE OF SEX SIN,

AND DEGRADATION!

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