

Pima County Reporting 10-Fold Rise In AIDS Cases

By Judy Carlock

Pima County will close out 1985 with about 10 times as many AIDS cases as were reported last year, according to county health officials. But the increase may be somewhat inflated, the officials note.

Bruce Porter, epidemiologist with the county Health Department, said that about 20 cases of acquired immune deficiency syndrome, will be tallied here by the year's end, compared with two in 1984. The cases continue to occur among "high-risk groups" - homosexual or bisexual men, intravenous drug users and hemophiliacs. One child with AIDS in Tucson was born to an infected mother, Porter said.

The county had a recent lull in reported cases of the disease, and the number has rested at 17 for several weeks, Porter said. But doctors in the community have told him of two or three other people who probably have AIDS. "These may very well get reported this year," he said. "It just depends on what I can get done between now and the 31st."

A similar delay in reporting at the end of last year means that 1984's count of two AIDS patients might be

low. Since it can take years to develop the disease, annual figures can sometimes be misleading, Porter said. He estimated that at least a quarter of the people diagnosed as having AIDS this year already were sick last year.

"One recently reported case had been sick for over a year," Porter said. "He had it all along, but he didn't meet the case definition before."

Until a patient develops one of the "opportunistic infections" that are the hallmark of full-blown AIDS, they are not counted as AIDS patients, even though they may be sick from the same virus that causes AIDS, Porter said. That condition is known as "AIDS-Related Complex", and that is also on the rise, Porter said. State officials have said that AIDS and "suspected AIDS" diseases must be reported to the state health department, but they did not define "suspected AIDS", he said.

Porter said it is hard to estimate how many lives the disease has claimed here. He estimated that about half the patients whose cases

Figure may be slightly inflated, officials say

were reported this year have died already. Nationwide, there have been more than 14,000 cases of AIDS reported and more than 7,000 deaths.

Although the rate of increase appears higher here than it does for the country as a whole, where cases of AIDS are expected to double each year, Porter said the Tucson situation "is about what we had expected. Proportionately, we have about what we should. He had no predictions for 1986, but said he doubted Pima would see another ten-fold increase. He said he has spent about three-quarters of his time this year tracking AIDS cases and giving talks on how the disease is spread.

Members of the Tucson AIDS Project, formed this year, also have kept busy with a program of education and fund-raising, said the project director, Dr. Bob Henry. Volunteers who work directly with people with AIDS have noticed a recent increase, he said. "He went along for several months with no new clients. There's been four or five in the last couple of weeks," he said.

Unlike Pima County officials,

volunteers with the private project to not limit their concern to Pima County cases. "We don't pay that much attention to whether they were diagnosed here or in Phoenix or in New York," Henry said. Because some people with AIDS have moved to Tucson, there is no way of knowing how many AIDS patients live here he noted.

Public awareness has increased this year with the death of Rock Hudson and a made-for-television movie about AIDS called "An Early Frost".

Community interest has been so high here that people who want to work directly with AIDS patients found there weren't enough patients to go around. "A few months ago we had gotten to the point of asking people not to sign up because we simply didn't have enough clients," Henry said. "And we're to the point now where we're probably going to open it back up again."

Anyone interested in volunteering or finding out more about the Tucson AIDS Project is invited to an informational meeting Jan. 9 at 7:30 p.m. in Dining Room "C", of University Medical Center, 1501 N. Campbell Ave. (Reprinted from the Tucson Citizen)



THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

JANUARY 1, 1986

ISSUE 76

EDITORIAL

As we enter 1986, it is with a fervent hope that the news concerning our Gay communities will be a bit brighter than it has in the past year.

It is a very difficult thing to attempt to bring news to our readers each week and have nine-tenths of it be so bleak. Ever since I ran my first article about the dreaded AIDS crisis way back in 1980, the problem has steamrolled so fast that it now takes up more than half of the material received at my desk daily.

There is no question that the spread of the disease has had an big impact on the actions of our Gay communities - businesses, activities, conversations, even our everyday humor has changed to become more unhappy. The mood of our Gay sisters and brothers is indeed a somber one. It is true to say that not one person in any of the Gay communities has not been touched by the knowledge of at least one person who has become afflicted with acquired immune deficiency syndrome.

We, in the Arizona communities, are rather fortunate in that our PWA's are quite low in numbers compared with the cities with much larger concentrations of Gays. But we have certainly had our share of members in our community becoming persons with AIDS or with AIDS-related Complex.

So much has been printed, voiced and viewed concerning AIDS that it is difficult to assimilate all of the information - some true and some only conjecture. One researcher says one thing and another something quite different. Example: saliva does, does not, maybe.....

What to do? I personally resent being lumped as one of the "high risk group." As with many members of the Gay community, I have lived a rather monogamous life for the past several years and feel rather "secure" in my feeling that I am not a "high" risk person. It is not only my opinion, but that of the medical profession that monogamy, (staying with one partner rather than promiscuously jumping from bed to bed) is one of the best ways of staying healthy.

The other is the highly publicized safe-sex habits that every member of the Gay community should begin adhering to immediately. It is appalling when you read that 50 to 75 percent of the active Gay population may already have been infected with the HTLV-III antibody! Not meaning

that they're necessarily going to get a full-blown case of AIDS, but they're certainly able to give it to someone else! Safe-Sex is the wave of the future, in homosexual relations, bi-sexual relations, heterosexual relations.

Since AIDS has moved out of the homosexual community into the heterosexual community, some of the onus has been taken off us. It movement certainly has gotten our government to take another look at the seriousness of the situation and provide millions of additional dollars this year to research the AIDS problem.

There is one positive thing that the AIDS crisis has shown - our Gay communities can come together in unity when the need arises. We have all given generously of time, money and effort to promote benefits which has raised thousands of dollars for our own Tucson AIDS Project and the Arizona AIDS Fund-Trust. These organizations take care of our own Arizonans stricken with the disease on a one-to-one basis and also provide many educational programs and material that inform everyone about the epidemic.

Volunteers have swarmed to these projects in an effort to make them work smoothly and effectively. It has been a great emotional outpouring of "our" people's concern for "our" people's problem.

The problem is still with us but the ball is now in the other "court" also. It is with this in mind that we should look forward to additional funding from the non-Gay community, since it will be impossible to finance this burden from Gay community sources alone. Federal, state, county and city resources as well as funding from the private sector must be forthcoming if this epidemic, that is seriously threatening literally millions of people, is to be stemmed.

The outlook for 1986 is bleak indeed. It must be kept in mind that the end is not in sight. But, again remember, you can take positive preventive measures. Keep healthy by taking care of your body. Utilize safe-sex practices and become well informed concerning this killer. It will be contained, but just when depends a lot on how we act as concerned citizens and stop indiscriminate, multiple sexual encounters. The once popular phrase, "So Many Men, So Little Time", is no longer fashionable. Don't become a statistic when you don't have to.

PWA's going to Nogales for unproven drugs

by Armando Durazo

NOGALES, SONORA - Patients of AIDS have been travelling here in small numbers to purchase two unproven drugs to fight the fatal disease, pharmacists said. But a doctor here said the drugs, Isoprinosine and Vilona, do nothing to combat acquired immune deficiency syndrome. "It's completely wrong. It doesn't do anything. These kinds of drugs are good for certain types of viruses," said Dr. Andrew McGahey. "If you have AIDS, there is no cure right now."

Pharmacists here said U.S. citizens have purchased the drugs since news of the disease began hitting newspapers and television. They said, however, the demand here is not as great as in other border cities. The drugs, which are supposed to be sold by prescription but can be purchased over the counter, have not been proven effective against the disease, which attacks the body's immune system.

"Sometimes we run out," said Carlos Munoz, owner of Farmacia Galeno here, which sells the two drugs. But, he said, sometimes weeks go by before anyone asks for either drug. "I had one client asking for more than 100 boxes," said Munoz. He also said most of the buyers are young men who say they use the drugs to fight infections. He said they ask for the drugs by name. "I don't prescribe them," he said.

At another Sonoran drug store, the drugs are selling sporadically. A pharmacist at Farmacia Lig said some weeks go by in which none of the drugs are sold. In other weeks, he said, up to 30 boxes are sold.

A box of Isoprinosine contains 20 tablets and costs about \$1.71. A box of Vilona contains about 12 capsules and costs about \$7.50. Both drugs are anti-viral medications commonly used to fight hepatitis, measles, chickenpox and herpes, said McGahey.

He said AIDS patients are scared and buy anything people say will help them. "They (patients) need to be educated. People are running scared," said McGahey. He said the drugs give patients "false hope." He said some doctors continue to prescribe the drugs to fight AIDS. "Those doctors

Rep. Goudinoff to address TAP

TUCSON - State Representative Peter Goudinoff, D-Tucson, will discuss a bill he has submitted to the legislature at the next general meeting of the Tucson AIDS Project (TAP) on Thursday, Jan. 9 at 7:30 p.m. in Dining Room "C", second floor, University Medical Center, 1501 North Campbell Ave. Goudinoff's bill concerns the protection of people with AIDS and related conditions from discrimination in housing, employment and education. (OBSERVER, Nov. 27). Goudinoff will review the state legislative process and invites input from the audience about AIDS matters that should be brought to the attention of the state legislature.

Following Rep. Goudinoff's presentation, there will be a business meeting with reports of activities of the various project committees. Persons interested in volunteering for the project are invited to attend. The Project has a particular need for volunteers with legal or public relations experience.

Miss Gay Tucson Pageant Jan. 12

TUCSON - The first annual Miss Gay Tucson Pageant will be held at the Fineline on Sunday, January 12 at 8:00 p.m. Miss Gay Arizona, Tamara, will act as Mistress of Ceremonies with Tucson's Monte-Jon acting as co-Host for the big event. There will be some special guest performers including Miss Gay Phoenix, Miss White; Deja Vu; Moosalu and Zenobia all from Phoenix and Don Henkle of Tucson's Garland Productions.

Tickets for the contest and show are \$10 in advance and \$12 for reserved seating. Tickets are available at The Fineline and The Graduate in Tucson and at J.R.'s; Phoenix Power and Supply and Shampoo's in Phoenix.

Several entrants have entered the pageant that will crown Miss Gay Tucson which makes her eligible to enter the Miss Gay Arizona Pageant and possibly going on to enter and win the Miss Gay America Pageant later this year.

Contestants will be judged on a total points accumulated system in the following categories: Evening Wear; Contemporary Fashion Sportswear; and

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BRIEFS

WOMEN IN TRANSITION
PROGRAM AT YWCA

TUCSON - Women in Transition is a program at the YWCA City Center which supports women facing drastic changes in their lives and who need to reenter the workforce for both economic and emotional reasons. They need help but are ineligible for government assistance and have no outside income. This is a United Way funded program.

Within this program are projects such as job training and counseling as well as live-in privileges. There are certain eligibility requirements. To be certain about these and for further information about Women in Transition program, call 884-7810 as for Jan Fusinati. The YWCA City Center is located at 730 N. Fifth Ave.

MORE AIDS AID

NEW YORK, NY - It's not a fashion statement, it's a statement about life," says shoe designer Kenneth Cole, who is donating \$250,000 for public-service ads to raise money for AIDS research. The famous models who lent their famous faces to the project include: Christie Brinkley, Kelly Emberg, Andie McDowell, Cindy Harrell, Joan Severance, Ariane, Julianne Phillips Springsteen (Bruce's wife), Paulina and Beverly Johnson. (Newsweek)

GOLF ADDED TO GAY GAMES II

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - Due to worldwide interest and the efforts of local organizers, golf has been added to the roster of sports included in Gay Games II, bringing the number of sports to 18. Co-chairs for golf are currently preparing the rules and regulations for the event, and specific information will be available upon request shortly.

The final list of sports in Gay Games II are: basketball, bowling, boxing, cycling, golf, marathon, physique, pool, powerlifting, racquetball, soccer, softball, swimming and diving, tennis, track and field, triathlon, volleyball and wrestling.

Entry fees to Gay Games II are \$20 per person per sport. All inquiries may be addressed to: Gay Games II, 526 Castro St., San Francisco, CA 94114. In Tucson, information about Gay Games II can be obtained from local coordinator Jack Stockslager, 293-3515.

NO AIDS FROM SALIVA

BOSTON, MA - Perhaps nothing about AIDS has frightened mainstream America so much as the thought that the virus can be spread by saliva, even though not one case of AIDS has yet been traced to that source. In letters to The New England Journal of Medicine last week, however, researchers reported evidence suggesting that transmission of the disease by saliva is highly unlikely.

Dr. David Ho and colleagues at Massachusetts General Hospital tested saliva from 71 homosexual men whose blood had antibodies showing exposure to the AIDS virus. Only one saliva sample actually contained the virus; but when the blood of 50 of the men was cultured, 28 yielded the virus, suggesting that the virus does not necessarily enter the victim's saliva. The finding is supported by a second letter to the NEJM reporting on two nurses who gave mouth-to-mouth resuscitation to a man with the early signs of AIDS; nine months later, neither has shown any sign of infection. (Newsweek)

HALLEY'S COMET COMING

TUCSON - Halley's Comet - catch it this year while you can. You won't have another chance until 2061. Stargazers are alerted to an upcoming event in the panoply of the universe. Right now Halley's comet will start being close enough to Earth to come into view. On February 9, 1986, the famous comet will make its thirty-third return to Earth's skies since its first recorded sighting in 467 B.C.

Already Comet Fever is hitting. People are buying comet T-shirts, "I survived the 1986 comet" caps, bottling comet wine, brewing comet beer and flooding the market with all sorts of "comet craziness."

On its last visit in 1910, people sealed their windows so comet gas wouldn't poison them; gathered on rooftops to toast with comet cocktails and thought the water would be sucked up out of the ocean. Even though modern man with all of his high-tech machinery knows that the comet will still be 39 million miles away at its closest encounter to Earth, still "comet craziness" will spew on the land like a shooting star falling from the heavens.

JANUARY 1, 1986

CHOOSING BLOOD DONORS
DOESN'T RULE OUT AIDS

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - More and more patients, who fear contracting AIDS from blood transfusions are getting relatives or friends as their donors but that practice does little to protect them from disease, a new study shows.

The study, by three researchers at San Francisco's Irwin Memorial Blood Bank, has found that donors designated by patients test positive for AIDS, syphilis or hepatitis B at about the same rate as volunteers who donate blood "just because it makes them feel good," says Vince Yalon, one of the researchers. A second study, being completed at the Stanford University Blood Bank, is uncovering similar results.

"It will be interesting to see how people react to this," said Dan Danzig, a spokesman for the Kaiser Permanente Medical Center in San Francisco. "My guess is that people still are going to trust their own family members more."

Concerned about blood donations ebbed after scientists discovered that AIDS could be contracted through transfusions. Last spring, blood banks nationwide began testing all donations for antibodies present when the AIDS virus is present.

The Irwin researchers compared the test results of about 9,500 designated donors to the results for first-time donors and routine donors. Routine donors are less likely to show positive test results because they have been tested before.

Yalon said 0.21 percent of the designated donors tested positive for the AIDS antibodies, slightly fewer than the 0.24 percent for routine donors, although the difference is "statistically insignificant." He said the results for the first time donors were "only marginally higher," although an exact figure hadn't been determined.

Only a small fraction of people with the antibodies actually contract AIDS, which stifles the body's immune system and leaves it undefended against infection. However, blood found to contain the antibodies is discarded.

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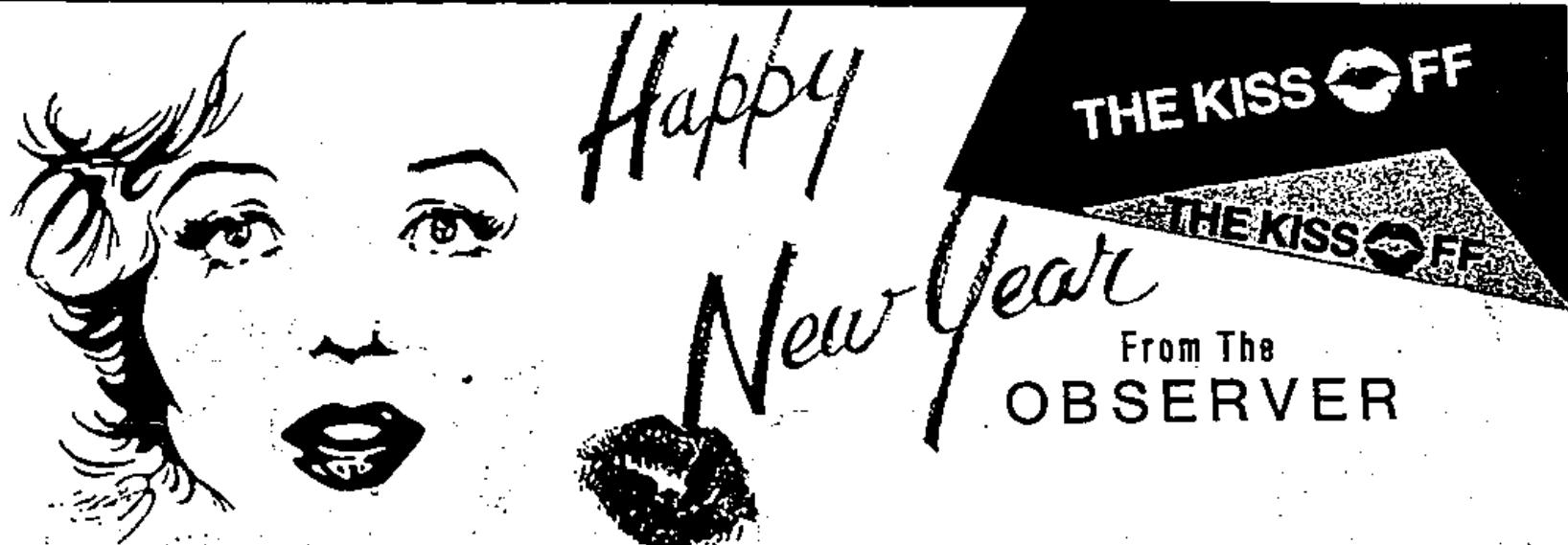
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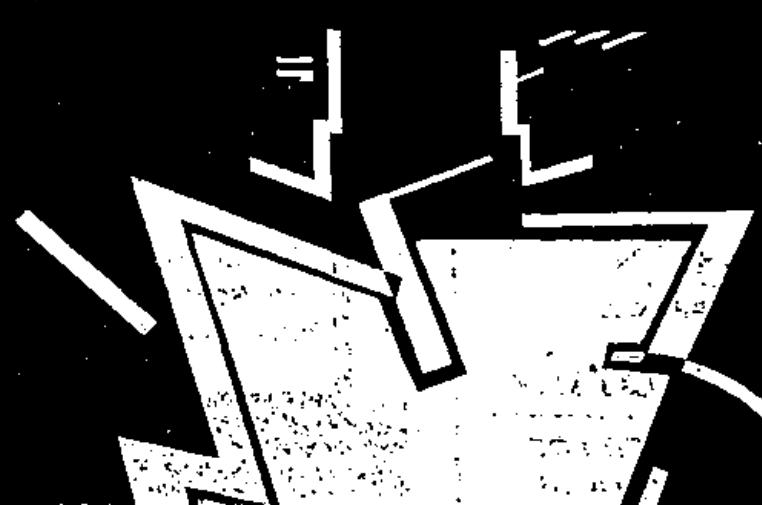


IT'S 'BOUT TIME

616 N. 4th Ave. Tucson,

882-3053

Dance Music Wednesday
Saturday by Clint



a bar
whose time has come

Art of the Slumber Party

by Joseph Kramer

After a wonderful dinner, the five of us sat around remembering our years of friendship. The conversation moved from the good days to stories of the current epidemic. Suddenly the meal together, the wine and conversation among friends were not enough. I felt a chill, a distance, an emptiness.

Tactfully, I suggested that we do what we had never done -- discard our clothes and play with ourselves and with each other.

Resistance came up immediately in the usual form: words. We talked for the next two hours about the pros and cons of sex with friends. It was a lively, intellectual exchange. The man who was the most opposed to the idea left the party for the bars, picked up a stranger and spent the night with him.

I arrived home still feeling empty. Walt Whitman stared at me from a poster over my bed. "Publish my name and hang up my picture as that of the tenderest lover who oft as he sauntered the streets, curved with his arm, the shoulder of his friend - while the arm of his friend rested upon him also." Yes Walt, intimacy heals.

Before falling asleep that night, I wrote in my journal: "The future of Gay men's liberation lies in physical intimacy with friends." Every day shows me new ways to live out that intimacy.

Last week I traveled to New York to teach a seminar on Taoist and Reichian approaches to sex. I stayed with a close friend in the Village. The first night I was offered the couch. "Roger, I would rather sleep with you." I told him that good friends should touch and hold each other and sleep side by side and that Walt Whitman would approve. We giggled and caressed and played for over two hours before falling asleep. A pajama party without pajamas. I barely noticed the New York cold that night.

First Safe-Sex Video Available

LOS ANGELES, CA - HIS Video, a division of VCA Pictures, is releasing the very first safe sex video this month - "Life Guard". Officially endorsed by the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, "Life Guard" draws the line between risky behavior and truly safe sex.



Rick Donovan

"Life Guard" contains graphic scenes that demonstrate exactly what sexual acts are safe. Prominent male stars like Leo Ford and Rick Donovan (who came out of retirement to do this) lend their talents to these erotic and informative sequences.

HIS Video has provided the regional AIDS foundations across the country with copies of "Life Guard" at a reduced rate for fund raising. The tape is also available to the general consumer for \$39.95, so the message of "playing it safe for fun" reaches everyone.



Steven Craig

As a final bonus, a special safe sex brochure is included in every copy of "Life Guard". Already causing excitement among video distributors and Gay publications across America, "Life Guard" will be available by January 1986 from HIS Video.



Leo Ford

AT RUMORHAZZIT

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Platter Chatter

by L. Mills - Tucson

LP - "High Plains" - Philip Aaberg - Windham Hill Records.

Philip Aaberg shows his expertise in this album not only by his excellent piano playing but shows us his skill as a composer. It seems as though he takes us on a musical journey through Montana. Starting with "Mario's River Breakdown", "Montana Half-Light", "Westbound", "High Plains", "The Big Open", etc., to "Going-to-the-Sun". The music flows from scene to scene. One can almost see the wheat bend and hear the rustle of it in the wind, or feel a train moving across the wide-open spaces of Montana in "Westbound", and maybe a brook in "Spring Creek". This LP is an overall enjoyable experience. There are few albums that show art and instrument in such harmony as does "High Plains" by Philip Aaberg and his piano. This is a digital recording which adds to the super sound quality. Listen and enjoy!

LP - "Friends" - Dionne Warwick - Arista Records.

"Friends" begins with "That's What Friends Are For." This sets the tone for the LP. With 'heavyweight' friends like Burt Bacharach and wife, Carol Bayer Sager (co-writers of the tune), Elton John, Gladys Knight, and Stevie Wonder lend their vocal talents, the producers, technicians and unions all donating the proceeds of this single to AIDS research. It shows that responsible persons are digging in and do care about people. Stevie Wonder produced and arranged one song and Barry Manilow follows suit with "No One There (To Sing Me A Love Song)".

Dionne not only proves here big heart again in this LP but proves herself a master of a beautiful voice as well as her material. "Love At Second Sight" is one of those cuts that the message comes through... "If we learn to face ourselves, the ghost in the attic may disappear." There is a powerful rich bass underlying this song that helps Dionne to coax one's feeling to the surface with that rich voice. Standout track on this LP is "Extravagant Gestures" one of the most heartbreaking ballads of the year. Bravo! Dionne, you're wonderful! And we love you.

LP - "Pie and Phil" - Pia Zadora - CBS Assoc. Records.

I must admit when this album first crossed my desk, I thought "No not another Pia Zadora album." Little did I know what a wonderful surprise awaited me. Lesson number one, forget every nasty comment you've ever heard about this woman. She has found her niche. If you enjoyed Linda Ronstadt's and Toni Tennille's rendition of torch songs, you'll love Pia's. Zadora was born to sing these songs and the lush sound of the London Philharmonic Orchestra - "Phil" to Pia - only adds the frosting to this breathtakingly gorgeous offering. Zadora brings to mind a young Judy Garland in songs such as "The Man That Got Away," "Come Rain Or Come Shine," and "The Boy Next Door".

Each song sensitively and beautifully performed by someone you'd think of as a pro - not someone who's been so savagely treated by the press. This woman's got the pipes to torch with the best of them and is capable of keeping you in awe the entire time the album is playing. I kept saying to myself, "That's Pia Zadora?" It looks like she may have found a home at CBS Records. Regardless of what the radio folks might tell you, this is the kind of music people like to hear. Music born for candlelight and romance and memories. This is my pick for one of the 10 best of the year. Now that's Pia Zadora!

LP - "Watching My Life Go By" - Michael Hedges - Open Air Records / Windham Hill.

My first encounter with Michael Hedges has been a good one. Energetic, sensitive, in control are some descriptive words that come to mind. There is something to these songs with lyrics like "Watching my life go by, I'm watching my life go by. Somebody help me find my way back down." There's almost a pleading in that voice at times. Hedges has had two previous solo guitar albums but this is his first vocal/guitar attempt. Attempt and accomplishes to a high degree of excellence I might add.

PICK OF THE WEEK

"Good Friends" - Joni Mitchell - Geffen Records.

From the LP "Dog Eat Dog". Welcome back to the charts, Joni. You've been missed.

Miss Gay Tucson

Pageant
Jan 12

Eight O'Clock P.M.
January 12, 1986
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COUNSELING CONCEPTS

RESOLUTIONS

Resolved that where as . . . sound like some legal document? Could be. It is at this time of the year people think about making some changes in the way they do things. Some persons really make these New Year's resolutions and believe it or not some actually follow through. Why now? When something comes to a close, such as a year, it dies so to speak and people mourn it. It causes thought. Then a new year is beginning and here is an opportunity to start again new and fresh. So . . . Why not? Let's give it a try! If all you do is make the attempt, you've taken those first important steps and you'll be a better person for it.

The first question is from where do I start and to what destination am I going? This involves some goal setting. Goal setting starts with getting down on paper as many things as possible. Things you'd like to do

or things you don't want to have happen again. This technique might be better termed a brain-storming technique. Be sure to write everything down. Now begins the process of sorting, go through the list and try to grade the difficulty of each would be resolution. There may be a number of ones that fall into the low difficulty area. Prioritize these into order of need to be taken care of first and place the list to one side. Now, look at the more major items on the list. There is more challenge here, more responsibility, and more reward too. Depending on the situation, severity of change, and the area involved two selections from this portion of the list is plenty, maybe one is enough. Choose high priority items that need dealing with. Look these over and try to break them down to see what's involved in carrying out this resolution. Realistically, what other people, circumstances, attitudes, etc., will have a bearing on completion of this resolution?

The trick in all of this is to know what you're going after, know the way to get it, and know what to expect along the way. If this procedure is carried out, then your chances of making it through to completion are very good. Too many people err in making a list that even superman would have trouble completing. Don't be foolhardy. Choose one or two major items and three or four minor items from your lists. You might also try categorizing your resolutions into areas of physical kinds of things, mental and emotional, job-related, relationships, etc.

Think about it; sort things out; decide what you can handle; make a plan of getting the job done; go for it! You'll feel better and be better because of it. 1986 will then be the best year of your life. It will be for me!

Paul W. Reigle
for Counseling Concepts - Tucson

300 CARRIERS OF AIDS ANTIBODIES TO BE STUDIED

LOS ANGELES, CA (AP) - About 300 people who carry antibodies of the AIDS virus will be studied in Los Angeles, Boston and Syracuse, NY, to determine whether the presence of the antibodies harms their health, a researcher said.

The presence of the AIDS antibodies means only that a person has been exposed to the AIDS virus and does not necessarily mean the person has or will get the deadly disease.

AIDS, acquired immune deficiency syndrome, cripples the body's immune system, leaving the patient vulnerable to infections and other diseases, including cancers.

"The people we look at will be different from participants in other studies because they will be basically healthy, so we can learn the ramifications of the positive tests on their health," said researcher Dr. Harold Lamberson, director of Blood Services in Syracuse.

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NOVELTIES

SPECIAL CALENDAR

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 31 - NEW YEARS EVE
FINELINE - New Year's Eve lasts all night and into the wee hours. After Hours dancing until DAWN! Enjoy the party complete with all the trimmings!

GRADUATE - Happy Hour Prices from opening to closing, plus other drink specials plus champagne at midnight brings in the new year in style here.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Schnapps .50; All well drinks \$1.25 with champagne served at Midnight.

JOSHUA TREE - Gay's New Year's Eve Party. Hots, noisemakers, favors and plenty of fun and dancing. Champagne at midnight!!!!

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Daniel Steenken, pianist extraordinaire. Two shows 7:30 and 9:00 p.m. Requests will be taken for the 9 p.m. show. ALSO the winner of the RSVP "Cruise To Remember" will be drawn during a short show by Christi Lunden.

RUMOR HAZZIT - Bring in the New Year with an all-star show featuring Imports - Dani Reid, Flo and Alex Villa with local favorites Monte-Jon, and Aviva Diamond in a "Tucson's Finest Reunion". Showtime 9:00 p.m. \$10.00 at the door. Champagne at midnight. Reservations being taken.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 1, 1986 - HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!!

GRADUATE - FREE "Thank You" Buffet served from 2:00 p.m. until ?? Bloody Marys or Schnapps .75 plus Happy Hour Prices from Opening to Closing!!!!

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Opening today at 6:00 p.m.

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Daniel Steenken, pianist extraordinaire will play two shows again this evening - 7:30 and 9:00 p.m. Bring in the New Year right.

RUMOR HAZZIT - Open at 2 p.m. Bloody Marys and Screwdrivers .75 - FREE Mexican Buffet from 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. PLUS from 8 p.m. to closing Domestic Beer .75 or Schnapps .50.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2
JOSHUA TREE - Celebrating their Eighth Anniversary. Complimentary Buffet at 6:00 p.m. Special drink prices all day and night at this second oldest Gay bar in Tucson.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5
RUMOR HAZZIT - "SHOWTIME" starring Dani Reid, Monte-Jon, Aviva Diamond, Christi Lunden with a special guest-star AND Sasha in her farewell Tucson performance. Best of luck in San Diego, girl. Cover \$10. 9:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 12
FINELINE - JBC Production of "MISS GAY TUCSON PAGEANT" first annual contest with Miss Gay Arizona, Tamara, as Mistress of Ceremonies and co-host, Monte-Jon. Special guest performers Miss White (Miss Gay Phoenix), Deja Vu, Don Henkle, Moosal and Zenobia. 8:00 p.m. in BFR. Tickets \$10 in advance or \$12 reserved available at Fineline and Graduate in Tucson and J.R.'s, P.P.'s and Shampoo's in Phoenix.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 15
RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - The DEBBIE RAYE SHOW. Two shows 9 & 10:30 p.m. Great Country/Western music live!

SPORTS



TEAM STANDING
JOSHUA TREE VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE
AS OF DEC. 16, 1985

TEAM	W	L	TOTAL	PIRS
1. CLEAN UP ARTISTS	41	15	24043	
2. JOSHUA TREE	33.5	22.5	24375	
3. LAVADA	33	23	24011	
4. IT'LL COME TO US	32	24	23855	
5. BACK POCKET	29.5	26.5	23745	
6. SANTA BARBARA	39	27	23629	
7. FLIMSTONES	28	28	21684	
8. CUT FOR BLOOD	26	30	23553	
9. MEN FROM MARS	25.5	30.5	23658	
10. LADIES AND THE TRAMP	21.5	34.5	23336	
11. WILD ONES	18.5	37.5	23233	
12. SIVONE'S	18.5	37.5	22098	

HIGH SERIES TEAM: SIVONE'S - 1911 / LADIES AND THE TRAMP - 1859 / JOSHUA TREE - 1879

HIGH SERIES MEN: BOB K. 646 / JIM G. 593 / JACK S. 548.

HIGH SERIES WOMEN: BOBBI R. 538 / MARY B. 524 / TAMSA S. 501

HIGH GAME TEAM: CUT FOR BLOOD - 890 / LADIES AND THE TRAMP - 689 / SANTA BARBARA - 686.

HIGH GAME MEN: BOB K. 253 / BOBBIE R. 243 / JIM G. 231.

HIGH GAME WOMEN: TAMSA S. 215 / BOBBIE R. 210 / MARY B. 194

JOSHUA TREE VOLLEYBALL LEAGUE
STANDINGS AS OF
DECEMBER 29, 1985

TEAM	WIN	LOST	PERC.
MEAN MACHINE	31	12	.721
Men At Play	26	16	.626
COURT JESTERS	22	19	.537
SIX E 2 PIECES	2	23	.057

In the tournament held last Sunday, Dec. 29, Mean Machine was the best team of the day and winner of the tournament. Men At Play won the Overall League Play however for the third straight season. Trophies were awarded in a ceremony held in the Joshua Tree following tournament play. Although they finished last, Six E 2 Pieces won trophies for being "The Most Entertaining Team" during the Fall season.

Spring Volleyball will kick off the last Sunday of February so watch this column for further details and plan on entering a team for this fun outdoor sport.

TERRY MILLER
Inspector

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THE NATIONWIDE PEST CONTROL EXPERTS

JANUARY 1, 1986

THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

THE TUCSON CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - "Wednesday Madness" - From 2 to 8 p.m. Drink Specials. Check the chalkboard. Draft Beer \$1.50 to 1 a.m. .50 per glass. Bobby Jr., DJ in J/T 8 to 1

FINELINE - Upstairs bar opens 7 p.m. Disco at 9:00 p.m.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour Prices from opening to closing.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Like to 6pm Well Bourbon \$1. Western

Nite with "T" Squares from 7 to 9 p.m. \$1.25 Well \$1.

RITA'S - Longest cocktail hour in town 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

featuring Well Scotch \$1 and Schnapps .75. ITALIAN

NIGHT: Italian Buffet 3:30 to 8:00 p.m. \$1.25.

"Bowlers Special" - Special drink prices for bowlers in

Rita's shirts. DJ 8 to closing.

RUMOR HAZZIT - Wednesday Beer Bust from 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

"Dynasty" on life-size screen plus Drink Specials from

2 p.m. to 1 a.m.

THURSDAY

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Bottle Beer Night \$1.25 domestic 9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Dave Pierson, DJ in J/T 9 to 1

FINELINE - Upstairs bar opens at 7 p.m. Disco at 9:00 p.m.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour prices until closing.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Like to 6pm Well Rum \$1. From 6pm to

1am Long Necks .75. Clint your DJ.

RITA'S - Longest Cocktail Hour in town 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.

featuring Well Bourbon \$1, Schnapps .75. Hors

d'oeuvres \$1 to 7 p.m. Well Vodka \$1.25; Schnapps .75

and Domestic Beer (non-premium) \$1.00 from 7 p.m. to 1

a.m. DJ 9 pm - 1

RUMOR HAZZIT - Open 2 p.m. to 1 a.m. Daily drink specials from open to 8 p.m. plus video dancing 9 pm. to 1 am.

FRIDAY

FINELINE - Upstairs bar opens at 7 p.m. Disco at 9:00 p.m.

After Hours dancing until 4 a.m.

JOSHUA TREE - Bobby Jr. disc Jockey 9 to 1

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - 11am to 6pm Well Gin \$1. Dance music

from 9 p.m. to 1 a.m. Clint your DJ. Well drinks

\$1.25 from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m.

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Longest cocktail hour in town 11 a.m.

to 7 p.m. featuring Well Rum or Tequila \$1. Schnapps .75.

Hors d'oeuvres \$1 to 7 p.m. DJ plays from 9 p.m.

RUMOR HAZZIT - Open 2 p.m. until 1 a.m. Drink special

daily open to 8 pm. Video dancing 9 p.m. to close.

SATURDAY

GRADUATE - Bottle Beer \$1.00 (except premium). Drink specials until closing.

FINELINE - Upstairs bar opens at 7 p.m. Disco at 9:00 p.m.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour prices until closing.

JOSHUA TREE - Bobby Jr. disc Jockey from 9 to 1

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - 11am - 6pm Bloody Marys \$1. Well drinks

\$1.25 from 6 p.m. to 1 a.m. Dance music from 9 p.m.

to 1 a.m. Clint your DJ.

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Domestic Beer Special (non-premium)

\$1.00 - 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Lunch Buffet served noon

until 5 p.m. DJ 9 pm to 1 am.

RUMOR HAZZIT - Open Noon until 1 a.m. Daily Drink Special. Video dancing 9 p.m. until close.

SUNDAY

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Beer Bust 4 to 6 p.m. .50 per

glass. Steak Dinner 4:00 to dusk \$4.00. - Dave

Pierson DJ's in J/T 8 to 1

FINELINE - Upstairs bar open from 7:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m.

GRADUATE - Draft Beer .50 and drink specials until closing.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - All day: 1st Well Drink or 1st Long Neck

Beer .50 plus one can of vegetables or fruit for needy

families. Noon to 6pm Draft Beer .50. T-Squares

beginners class 7-9 p.m.

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Brunch 12:30 to 3:00 p.m. \$1.75.

Bloody Marys or Screwdrivers \$1.25 noon to 7 p.m.

RUMOR HAZZIT - Open noon until 1 a.m. Drink Specials.

Sunday Foot Tournaments 3-6 p.m. Video dancing from 9 p.m. until 1 a.m.

MONDAY

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - "Bowlers Special" .75 well drinks

for J/T bowling league bowlers. Dave Pierson DJ's.

FINELINE - Upstairs bar open from 7:00 p.m. until 1:00 a.m.

GRADUATE - Draft Beer .50 and drink specials until closing.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - 11am to 6pm Well Vodka \$1. From 6pm to

1am Well Dranks .50.

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Longest cocktail hour in town - 11

a.m. to 7 p.m. featuring Well Vodka \$1, Schnapps .75.

Hors d'oeuvres \$1 to 7 p.m. daily.

RUMOR HAZZIT - Open 2 p.m. until 1 a.m. Daily drink

specials open to 8 pm. Video dancing from 9 p.m. until

1 a.m.

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in Tucson. Call 792-3772

NOTICES

TUCSON AIDS PROJECT (TAP) MEETS THE
SECOND THURSDAY OF EACH MONTH at the
University of Arizona Medical Center
in Dining Room "C" (Second Floor) at
7:30 p.m. Everyone welcome and urged
to attend. Get involved! For more
information call 792-3772.

CAY OR LESBIAN?? AND HAVE A DRINKING PROBLEM??
Call A.A.: 624-4183. 24-hour Bottling
for information on Gay and Lesbian
meetings in Tucson.

OBSERVER BLACK & WHITE

NOTICES

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

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Lambda Introduction service is
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THIS IS IN NO WAY AN ESCORT SERVICE.
Call Dan, 323-2740.

SENIOR GAYS (Over 40). If interested
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T-SQUARES, square dancing group meets
at 7 p.m. every Wednesday at "It's
Boot Time", 616 N. 4th Ave.

MEN'S COUNSELING GROUP meets every
Saturday, 1:00 p.m. at Center for
Human Development, 198 S. Tucson
Boulevard. Issues focus on individual
needs of participants, including self-
identity, coming out, relationships,
family concerns, etc. Group meets for
one hour, during the week [5:30 p.m.].
Call Dr. Dan Overbeck at 881-0476 for
more details.

NOTICES

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
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Membership: \$10 per year. Contact:
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CASA DE LA PALOMA will be holding
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TUCSON LESBIAN AND GAY PRIDE COMMITTEE
[TLGPC] meets the second Monday of
every month at 6:30 p.m. Call
293-3515 for location. Everyone
welcome.

TUCSON GAY AND LESBIAN RAP GROUP
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

U.S.A. - The Uncircumcised Society of
America is accepting members in
the Tucson area. For uncircumcised males
or those interested in this area.
Call 881-4582 for information.

A View From Within

by Christopher Geoffrey McPherson

A CHORUS LINE THE MOVIE

Yesterday, 20 Dec. 1985, I went to the opening of the newest musical, A CHORUS LINE. I have waited a long time for this movie. Yes, I have.

Nine years ago, 22 December 1976 to be exact, I was in Los Angeles at the Shubert Theatre at Century City Plaza with my parents. My wonderful mother and father took me to California to see the show that I would not stop talking about. The musical, originally opened off-Broadway in 1975, then on Broadway in 1976. I remember the beginning of my A CHORUS LINE fantasy very clearly. I was in a local Fry's supermarket with my mother. I wandered to the magazine rack to see the new magazines and was struck by the cover of Newsweek for 1 Dec. 1975. On it, in a dashing bold pose, stood Donna McKechnie -- perhaps the world's greatest Broadway dancer -- in front of a wall of mirrors which reflected the footlights. I stood mesmerized.

I was in the middle of my "I want to be a dancer" phase of life, and was a dancer in theatre productions around the Valley and in Tucson. When I finally discovered this --easily the greatest Broadway musical ever created-- I was moved up to another, higher level of existence.

So, from that point forth, I wanted to know everything about A CHORUS LINE.

I memorized the music, got the record, scoured every publication and clipped every article even remotely connected with the show. I pestered, begged and finally convinced my parents to take me to see this show in Los Angeles, otherwise I would surely die.

Back to the movie. When we were in Los Angeles, we took the Universal City Tour. I remember very well --and had a picture to prove it, once-- a huge, possibly life-size poster (in blue) on the side of one of the soundstages. It said something like "Coming Soon from Universal Pictures, A CHORUS LINE". I was thrilled!

So now, two days short of nine years later, I sat in the theatre as the lights went down and held my breath awaiting the celluloid version of the quintessential Broadway musical (in capital letters).

Okay, so the choreography was done by the guy who did FLASHDANCE (one of the best dance-type movies); okay, so the casting was a bit interesting; okay, so a couple really good musical numbers were omitted, one really rearranged, and new ones added: All in all A CHORUS LINE THE MOVIE was brilliant.

Having seen the stage production four times, and having seen (at one time or another) almost all of the original cast members, I had some pretty concrete convictions about how the movie should have been done, (like casting Donna McKechnie as Cassie as in the original stage production), but Richard Attenborough (the Oscar-winning director of CHANDI) must be given a lot of credit for sculpting this movie into a credible behind-the-scenes look at a dance audition.

Even if you have never seen the stage production, the film has many merits and still hold true to the original intent of Michael Bennett's (he created, directed, choreographed the stage version and won Tony Awards for all three) vision of a story about the lives of dancers.

Originally a series of tape-recorded sessions of dancers talking about their lives, Michael Bennett was thinking about writing a book, or something, which finally evolved into the musical.

This, then, finally evolved into the movie.

Notable in the cast is Alyson Reed who plays the one-time star Cassie who --after not having worked for a year-- wants to audition for a chorus part in the show her ex-lover is choreographing.

Also excellent is Cameron English

who plays Paul. This part --in the stage version-- was a Tony winner for Sammy Williams. Paul is a Gay man who began his "dancing" career as a 15-year-old drag queen. The revelation of this story is quite powerful (in the stage version, as well as in the movie) but unfortunately watered-down in the movie. But, with what Cameron English has to work with, he does quite admirably.

Vicki Frederick as the smart-mouthed (hasn't her part been watered-down also?) Sheila --the "almost 30, and I'm glad" dancer-- is wonderful. She is talented, beautiful, and delightful. (She played Cassie when the road company opened in San Francisco and then traveled to Los Angeles, which is where I saw her).

Don't get me wrong, all of the kids in this show are hot. They dance and act with skill. The exuberance makes you glad to be alive. Honestly.

Unfortunately, I must admit to my disappointment with the finished product. One thinks that it is easier to be flashy and dashy on film than in the limited confines of the stage. I think the stage production had more flash, more power, more to say than does this film. The techno-pop marvels unleashed by Robin Wagner (stage designer) for the stage production were not only nonexistent, but not even closely matched in this film. (How can one EVER forget the thrill when the wall of mirrors behind the dancers revolved to reveal a mega-deco golden sunburst? This ethereal dream-image is nowhere to be found in the film.) Another disappointment is the finale. The point of A CHORUS LINE is to prove that no matter who you are (even a "lowly" chorus dancer) you are someone special. This point is addressed in the film, but the stage finale --where each dancer came out dressed in the golden-tux to be a "star" even if only for a brief moment-- is not captured in the film. We never get the joy of seeing each dancer be the STAR. Truly a missed opportunity.

These may be fine hairs, but all-in-all the film is wonderful. It is a go see, for sure.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

MISS GAY TUCSON PAGEANT JAN. 13
Personal Interviews (male and female attire); Talent and Poise. The talent presentation is limited to seven minutes.

The person winning the title of Miss Gay Tucson will receive a cash prize of \$150, her crown, a trophy and flowers. The title will be retained for a period of one year and the winner will represent the city of Tucson at various functions during her reign. The First Runner-up will receive a \$100 cash prize; \$50 to the 2nd Runner-up and the winner of Miss Congeniality will receive a cash prize of \$25.

There is limited seating available and several reservations have already been accepted. It is highly recommended that you make your reservations as soon as possible in order that you may get good seats for this first annual Miss Gay Tucson Pageant.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

AIDS SUFFERERS GOING TO SONORA TO SEEK CURE IN UNPROVEN DRUGS

are taking advantage of the situation," said McGahey, who added that the doctors also must be educated about the disease. "It's more money for the doctors and the pharmacists."

According to Associated Press reports, the two drugs are selling very well in places like Tijuana, across the border from San Diego.

Isoprinosine is legal in more than 70 countries but is not readily available in the United States. AIDS experts say the drug is being tested in the United States both on AIDS patients and people with pre-AIDS symptoms, but many U.S. health officials have questioned its effectiveness.

Boxes of Isoprinosine sold in Nogales list the manufacturer as Grupo Roussel of Mexico, using a formula from Newport Pharmaceuticals International Inc. of California.

Rita's Rendezvous Calendar Man



Rita's Rendezvous

3455 E GRANT RD. TUCSON

327-3390

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
26	19	12	5	1	2	3
Sunday Brunch 12:30-3:00 p.m. \$1.75	Sunday Brunch 12:30-3:00 p.m. \$1.75	Sunday Brunch 12:30-3:00 p.m. \$1.75	Dinner Buffet 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. \$1.75	Dinner Buffet 5:30 to 8:00 p.m. \$1.75	Party Night! 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Drink Specials	Party Night! 7 p.m. to 1 a.m. Drink Specials
27	20	13	6	7	8	9
28	21	14	15	16	10	11
29	22	17	18	19	20	21
30	23	24	25	26	27	31
31						

TUCSON CALENDAR MAN: Ed Nagengast. Born: August. Blue eyes, brown hair. 6' tall. Ex-Military, honorable discharge. Native of Montana. Special interests: Travel, Hiking, Reading. No hobbies other than men. Goals: Owning a Gay travel agency in Tucson. Likes warm weather.

Gabriel Baxurto - Photography