

Happy New Year



Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSEVER

THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

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EDITORIAL

WHAT A YEAR!

The year 1987 was a mix of good and bad. It began on a low note when on Feb. 12 Arizona's new governor, Evan Mechem, declared that homosexuality is "not an acceptable lifestyle". "Estimates that homosexuals represent about ten percent of the population are put out to create a power of fear in officeholders," the governor continued.

In March the governors supporters attacked Mechem Watchdog Committee founder Ed Buck and "exposed" him to be a "sexual-disoriented" person. Buck responded by saying that he didn't intend to debate homosexuality or his credibility, that the campaign didn't depend on him and that the committee has 3,000 members. Buck said that the effort to recall Mechem "is happening because of Evan Mechem and that personal attacks against him will not hurt the effort. "I am not the key to the campaign," he said.

In March in response to a letter from a Tucson Lesbian, Mechem special Assistant, Mac Matheson, on official stationery, wrote, "...I am sure that God loves you, even though your chosen lifestyle is so abhorrent that it was punishable by death among the Children of Israel." "...You say you are gay, and I thought too bad. How sad! My dictionary describes a gay as 'one given to social pleasures or indulgence; hence, loose; licentious.' And licentious: 'Characterized by license; lawless, now esp., dissolute; libertine; lewd.' It is difficult for me to comprehend how you can reconcile that kind of behavior with God's laws." !!!!!!

Then in April, President

WHAT A YEAR!

Reagan, for the first time in his more than six years in office, talked extensively about AIDS. He defended his administration's commitment to alleviating the AIDS crisis. He was reminded that Congress actually had approved more than he recommended for AIDS in recent years. Reagan replied, "Well, Congress is made up of spendthrifts." !!!!!!

In May, Ed Buck called in to Gov. Mechem's weekly radio show to say the governor had falsely said he had worked to support the Carolyn Warner candidacy. Mechem replied to Buck: "You are a very deceitful person, and we have the goods on you, and you really don't amount to a hill of beans, and we aren't concerned about you, and as far as I'm concerned, you've faded into the woodwork." !!!!!!

By May 20, over 6,000 people had contacted the Recall Committee wanting to get involved in the recall effort!

In June nearly 3,000 people attended the 10th Annual Gay/ Lesbian Pride Picnic in Himmel Park. The then Mayoral candidate Tom Volgy spoke to the large crowd.

July 10 saw the arrival of Mechem Recall Petitions in Tucson. Over 5,000 petitioners statewide began the long, hot, hectic recall process. Mechem has claimed that the recall effort is the product of homosexual activists and dissident Democrats. In the first ten days, as of July 20, 46,109 signatures had been gathered for the recall. !!!!!!

In early August, Mechem declared on his weekly radio call-in

show that he doesn't believe the First Amendment gives homosexuals the right to have their own club at the Arizona State University. Mechem wrote to University President J. Russell Nelson that he was "greatly disturbed" about the existence of the club, adding that he thought it was a "questionable activity". Concerning his letter, Mechem said, "I asked President Nelson that if we have an organization ... that was fostering homosexuality, that I want to know what the university is doing fostering such a thing.

When challenged that the First Amendment guarantees the group the right to organize under freedom of speech and freedom of association, Mechem responded, "I disagree with you." He later added that, "I am very, very familiar with the Constitution."

The same week, the third largest newspaper in the state, Tucson's Arizona Daily Star, called for the governor's recall. !!!!!!

By August 19, 103,379 signatures had been collected on recall petitions. By the middle of September the signatures totalled 182,264. And toward the end of September, the Committee announced that it had reached its initial goal of over 217,000 names on recall petitions. !!!!!!

In September our communities were alerted to the upcoming Supreme Court nomination hearings of Judge Robert H. Bork. Requests for letters and mailgrams to the Senate confirmation committee again paid off. On Oct. 6 the Senate Judiciary Committee voted 9 to 5 against Judge Bork's nomination.

In November over 600,000 Gay men and Lesbians marched on Washington in a show of force never before seen in our nation's Capitol. The March, The Names Project, The Wedding, The protest

demonstration at the Supreme Court are memories now, but they are live memories that will continue to blossom and grow in all Gay communities across the country.

In the November Tucson City Council elections, Democrat Tom Volgy was elected Mayor.

As of November 3rd, the deadline, a total of 386,648 recall signatures on petitions were turned over to Arizona Secretary of State Rose Mofford. By the middle of December more than enough signatures had been verified by the various county recorders to assure that Governor Evan Mechem would be forced into a recall election next spring.

The year has been a busy one politically. And for the first time in Arizona, the Gay and Lesbian community has been heard from - loud and strong. We all had a hand in forcing our governor into at least a recall election, if he is not impeached or resigns before that election.

Our voices were heard as far away as Washington when tons of mail and thousands of phone calls voiced our objection to the nomination of a Supreme Court nominee who was out of touch with the realities in the world. And it was heard locally when the voters in the community elected Tom Volgy as Tucson's new mayor.

These are the positive things that happened during the past year. Congratulations to the community for these excellent efforts.

There have been several things that have happened on the down side that are still nagging, not only our community, but all communities around the world. The most sullen was when it was announced that the number of AIDS cases had doubled in Pima county since last January.

Koop puts '91 AIDS cost at \$16 billion

by Jack Schreiman

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (AP) - Surgeon General C. Everett Koop estimated that by 1991 it could cost Americans as much as \$16 billion to cope with AIDS, the worldwide scourge he called "the most vicious of infectious diseases in the history of the race."

The Centers for Disease Control in Atlanta, Ga., predicted that by 1991, 270,000 people in the United States will have the disease, and Koop noted no cure is on the horizon.

"We eventually will have something that will resemble a vaccine that is safe, effective and available," but nothing is in

sight, he told 1,300 public-health executives, staffers and allied workers attending the National AIDS Conference.

The nation's top public-health officer said education against spread on all levels of society, remains the chief weapon to fight acquired immune deficiency syndrome, which destroys the body's ability to fight off disease.

People at low risk to catch AIDS should not smugly comfort themselves that they are in the clear, he said, because they and the rest of society are and will be affected by it in some way.

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"It is imperative that we tell the public... that at the moment death is the partner of most people with AIDS... an enormous human catastrophe."

— C. Everett Koop
Surgeon general

UPDATE

DRINK TOO MUCH?
NEW LAW PROVIDES FOR IMMEDIATE
DRIVER'S LICENSE SUSPENSION
OPERATION SAFERIDE OFFERS
CAB SERVICE TO HOME

TUCSON - A new state law that takes effect Jan. 1 puts some additional teeth into Arizona's drunken driving laws. Beginning this New Year's Eve a police officer must take your driver's license on the spot if a breathalyzer shows you're legally intoxicated or if you refuse to take the test. The new state law gives the officer no choice. The instant suspension can last up to a year.

If you doubt your sobriety, Operation Saferide offers an alternative to getting behind the wheel of your car.

By calling 797-1111, you will get an operator who will dispatch a Yellow Cab to take you to your home.

The ride is free, paid for out of a fund into which bar owners around town donate a monthly fee.

Callers are asked their location, where their car is and where their home is. They will not be given a ride to a bar or a house where there is a party going on, said Helen Wolf, coordinator of the program.

The service is available from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m. Wednesdays through Sundays year-round.

Since Thanksgiving, Wolf said the program has received 25 to 50 calls a night and has provided 265 rides home.

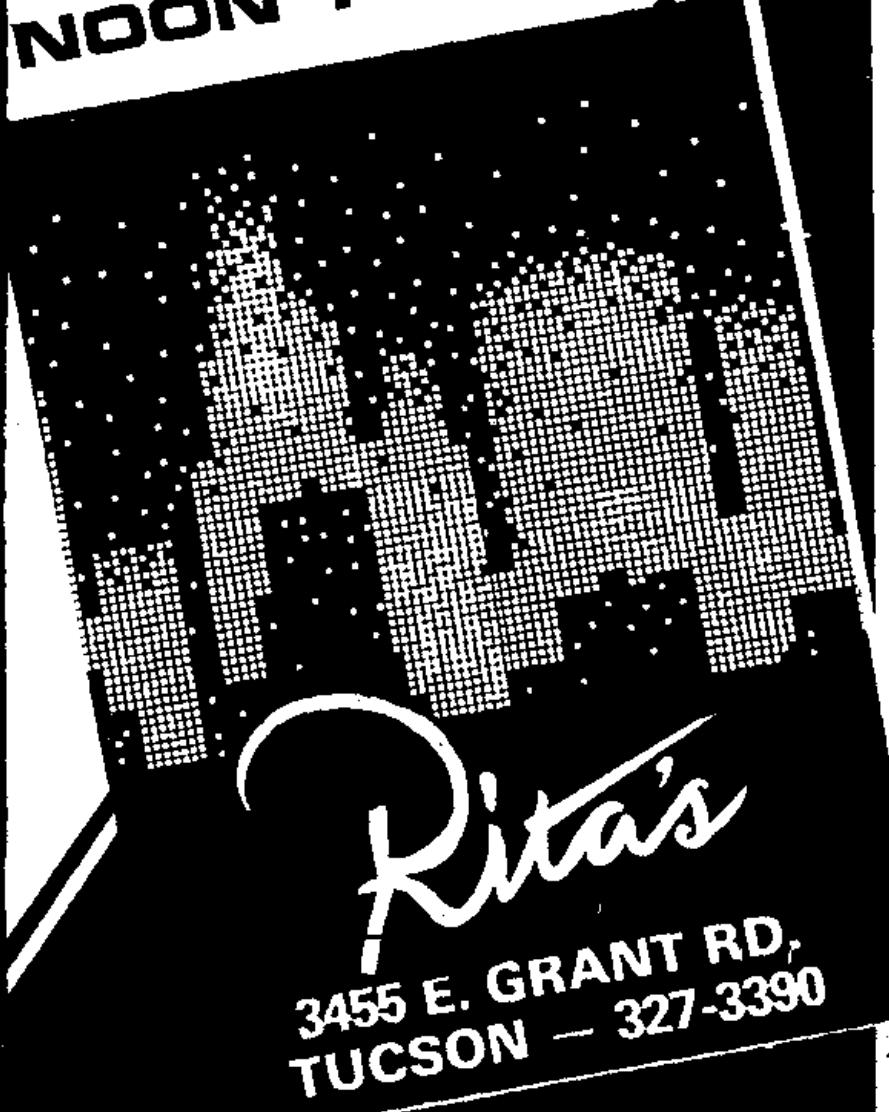
"If we save one life, the program's working," Wolf said.



TUCSON - Shown above is the banner for the Make-A-Wish Foundation of Tucson, outside of their local office, where the Tucson Knight Owls presented a check for over \$1,100 representing proceeds from their annual Christmas Tree Benefit Raffle. See related story.



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CHRISTMAS TREE RAFFLE UPDATE
TUCSON - The Christmas Tree Raffle held by the Tucson Knight Owls (TKO) at the Graduate on Dec. 18, with proceeds going to the Make-A-Wish Foundation has been finalized and the money has been designated.

Tommy Maclin, President of TKO, has announced that the money raised will go to Billy, whose wish was "to go to the moon". Billy, a four-year-old with leukemia, with his parents and fourteen month old sister, will fly to Florida where the family will stay at the Disneyland Hotel for five days. During the family's stay in Florida, they will tour Disneyland and Cape Kennedy. Arrangements have been made for Billy to meet the astronauts and go through a spaceship.

While the family is in Florida, they will be given a rental car for their personal use when they are not being guided by the local organization. Tentative plans are that the family will leave Tucson on January 1, and will be met at the airport and be taken directly to the hotel.

Joan, a spokesperson for Make-A-Wish Foundation will have a full report on the trip and hopefully have pictures by the middle of January.

Thank you Tucson, you have made not only a wish, but a dream come true.

ARCHIE COMIC TO PLUG

AIDS EDUCATION TO KIDS

NEW YORK, NY (AP) - Kids who revel in the adventure of Archie and Jughead will get a plug for AIDS education with the start of a year-long public service campaign.

Each monthly issue of Archie Comics will include a full-page ad showing Archie and his friends in a class, with Riverdale High School's principal, Mr. Weatherbee, pointing to a blackboard that reads:

"HEALTH EDUCATION: AIDS is a serious worldwide problem that affects people of all ages, in all walks of life. Until a cure is found, there is only one effective weapon against this problem, and that weapon is EDUCATION!!"

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LaRouche followers get AIDS initiative on California ballot again

by Kevin Naderick

SACRAMENTO, CA - Followers of extremist Lyndon LaRouche have placed a new AIDS initiative on the California ballot that is nearly identical to Proposition 64, the measure soundly rejected by voters a year ago.

Secretary of State March Fong Eu announced that initiative petitions turned in by LaRouche followers, Khushra Ghandhi and Brian Lantz, carried signatures of 508,695 voters, about 100,000 more than required.

The initiative, which will appear on the June, 1988 ballot, is essentially the same as Proposition 64, spokesmen for Eu and Atty. Gen. John K. Van de Kamp said. It would require doctors and local health officials to report the names of AIDS patients and people who test positive for AIDS antibodies. Both AIDS patients and those with positive tests would be subject to quarantine laws, the official state summary of the measure says.

A year ago, health officials and Gay groups joined in a campaign that spent nearly \$3 million to defeat the LaRouche effort. Opponents said Proposition 64 was a thinly veiled attack on homosexuals by LaRouche, who has a long history of writings abusive to Gays and would only hurt efforts to find a cure for acquired immune deficiency syndrome. It was defeated by a 71% to 29% margin.

Melissa Warren, a spokeswoman for Eu, said the latest petitions were declared valid after a random check of the signatures - but without ascertaining that the petitions themselves were properly circulated by California residents. "We have had no complaints," Warren said.

For more than a year, investigators have been looking into allegations that some signatures were forged on the Proposition 64 petitions. The investigation, which was started by Van de Kamp's office and included a raid on LaRouche's Los Angeles headquarters, also focused on reports that the petitions were circulated by hired out-of-state residents, in violation of state election laws.

Last February, after eight months, the case was turned over to the Los Angeles District Attorney for further investigation. "It has been under investigation there for a considerable period of time," Nelson Kamps, chief deputy attorney general said.

Reiner aides said that the probe has continued and that investigators traveled back East to wrap up questioning.

State officials said they have received no complaints about the current petition signatures. In any case, the LaRouche followers were able to again gather sufficient valid signatures to qualify for the ballot.

LaRouche is a political extremist, based in Virginia and West Germany, who has filed papers to seek the 1988 Democratic Party nomination for President, his third run for the office. He is believed to have a cadre of fewer than 1,000 hard-core supporters spread around the country.

In October, 1986, 10 of his followers were indicted by a federal grand jury in Boston on a variety of fraud and obstruction of justice charges. LaRouche, who was not indicted, sent a telegram to President Reagan vowing to

resist if he were arrested, but later submitted to questioning.

This year LaRouche, 64, was himself charged with a federal count of obstruction of justice for allegedly directing the destruction of documents and hiding witnesses requested by the Boston grand jury. His trial has been delayed pending completion of the trial for former Ku Klux Klan leader Roy Frankhauser, who was charged with helping LaRouche hide a fraudulent scheme to finance his

In California, his followers have run for hundreds of state, local and congressional offices with little success other than to win seats on the Democratic and Republican party central committees.

Ghandhi and Lantz, who also sponsored Proposition 64, are long-time LaRouche associates who have run for office under the banner of his National Democratic Policy Committee.

Helms amendment 'amended'

WASHINGTON, DC - The Human Rights Campaign Fund has declared a victory on behalf of the Gay community as the Continuing Resolution Committee for the Budget Bill dealt favorably with four resolutions directly related to Gay issues.

The Conference accepted a change in the language of the Helms Amendment to the Labor and Health and Human Services Appropriations Bill. The amendment now reads that federal funding will be withheld from AIDS programs for educational material that "promotes or encourages directly homosexual, sexual material that promotes or encourages directly homosexual, sexual activity". The new language, introduced by Steny Hoyer (D-MD), ensures that funding for AIDS educational programs aimed at the Gay community will not be blocked by Congress.

Steve Smith, legislative counsel for HRCF, said, "Congress' intent is now clear. The government is willing to assist organizations within the Gay community in providing accurate and effective AIDS educational material targeted at the Gay community."

"There is no question in my mind that the Campaign Fund's nationwide ad campaign to bring attention to this issue has made a difference," said Vic Basile, Executive Director.

The HRCF worked closely with the AIDS Action Council to make the amendment less damaging to AIDS educational programs. The HRCF will monitor closely the administration's response to the new language changes to ensure that such actions are carried out, Smith said.

Conferees also deleted the Helms amendment to repeal an existing District law which prohibits the use of HIV testing to determine eligibility for insurance coverage.

The Campaign Fund was successful in its efforts to have the Conference Committee adopt two resolutions concerning federal management which could well make a major difference in the time needed to initiate AIDS research projects.

The first resolution will require the Office of Personnel Management to

CONTINUED ON PAGE FOUR

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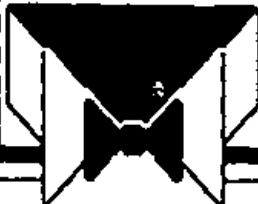
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A COMMENTARY BY

CHRISTOPHER GEOFFREY McPHERSON

LIVE FROM L.A., IT'S . . .

Geez: the holidays have been so hectic, as has work, and life in general that I have been late in getting to this week's column. Part of the problem stems from my recent trip over the weekend to Los Angeles: City of Civilization.

Partly pleasure, partly business, Los Angeles saw another shopping spree down Melrose Avenue; another shopping fest at Beverly Center; the American Ballet Theatre "Nutcracker" — a not too inappropriate title for a weekend in Los Angeles.

Two fun things came out of this trip: First, on Melrose I saw a pair of sports shorts for men called "Safety Shorts". For \$18, one can buy a pair of all-cotton shorts — in a variety of colors — complete with a special pocket for a condom and a condom. How appropriate. Changing the face of fashion design as we know it.

Next, a wonderful pair of exhibits at the Los Angeles County Museum of Art: "Hollywood and History: Costume Design in Film" opened Dec 20 and runs through March 6, 1988. "Masters of Starlight" Photographers in Hollywood" opened the same day and runs through Feb. 21.

These two brilliantly executed exhibits show usually-unseen sides of Hollywood and the stars which populated it.

The costume design retrospective shows how...contemporary...ideas in fashion affected the way historical fashions were designed for films throughout the years. In

other words, Cleopatra's outfit in 1917 (worn by Theda Bara) ignored historical accuracy in favor of designing a then-modern 1920s sheath. The 1934 Claudette Colbert, and 1963 Elizabeth Taylor Cleopatra also suffered from effects of contemporary influence.

The photographer exhibit shows us the stars we love when they are not being stars. Many are publicity stills from the era, and others are pictures taken while a film was in progress. It provides an always fascinating look behind the processed images.

Sorry for such a short column this week. Must go and finish preparing for the New Year.

At Spes Non Fracta: See you next year!

CONTINUED FROM PAGE THREE

"HELM'S AMENDMENT" AMENDED

agent and General Services to respond to "priority" requests from the directors of the National Institutes of Allergies and Infectious Diseases and the Centers for Disease Control within 21 days. Additionally, it was resolved that the National Institutes of Health will have six months to review grants, contracts and cooperative agreements before they make a decision to award funds or not.

"These actions, together with the appropriation of \$906,459,000 for Fiscal Year 1988 for federal AIDS programs, more than double last year's appropriation, are critical steps in the effort to speed up research and ensure that services and education go forward," said Basile.

KOOP PUTS '81 AIDS COST
AT \$16 BILLION

"It is imperative that we tell the public... that at the moment death is the partner of most people with AIDS... an enormous human catastrophe," he said.

He added that since 1981 the disease has afflicted more than 44,000 Americans, of whom 25,000 have died.

In a wide-ranging philosophical speech, Koop counseled courage in victims of AIDS; those who have tested positive for the virus but have no symptoms; and especially people who, "weakened by the despair of the disease," deny compassion to their fellow beings.

He made forceful reference to "physicians and nurses — very few, thank goodness — who don't want to treat AIDS patients because of the danger of becoming infected with the virus themselves.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ONE

They know, said the pioneer in pediatric surgery, that hepatitis "is 40 times more infectious for people working with patients than is AIDS... the risk is minuscule."

These medical practitioners, he said, might be trying to say, but cannot bring themselves to do so, "we don't care, because these people with AIDS are as good as dead already... that's a horrible statement and the first moment it is said it must stimulate our compassion for people with AIDS... they must not be abandoned, and therefore given a foretaste of death.



Rev. Eduard Perry



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Tiff over incident at L.A. Gay bar

by Bill Boyarsky

LOS ANGELES, CA - If the firefighters and police summoned to handle an overcrowding complaint at the One Way bar thought it would be a routine assignment, they picked the wrong bar.

Among the 286 people - triple the permitted capacity - who were in the Silver Lake club at 1:15 a.m. were some of the most politically influential members of the local Gay community. They complained to City Councilman Michael Woo, who demanded an investigation of the incident. That set off a row between Woo and Police Chief Daryl F. Gates, who said he was "incensed and offended" by the councilman.

Cmdr. William Booth, a police spokesman, said Woo had called Gates, told him of the complaints and asked for an investigation. When Woo said he was going to make a statement about the incident, Booth quoted Gates as saying, "make a statement that you asked, or if you want, demanded, that I find out [what happened] and that I would get back to you immediately." That was the understanding the chief thought he had with the councilman.

But when Woo - whose district includes Hollywood and Silver Lake, both with large Gay populations - held a press conference without mentioning his conversation with the chief, Gates felt he had been attacked without warning by the councilman, Booth said.

Police and fire officials defended the conduct of their forces. But West Hollywood City Councilman Steve Schulte, a Gay political leader who was at the One Way at the time, said the incident brought back memories of what he considered anti-Gay raids on bars in the 1970s.

"It looks like the old pattern," he said.

Among other Gay community leaders who were at the bar were Eric Rofes, executive director of the Gay and Lesbian Community Service Center and Steve Weltman, former chair of the Stonewall Democratic Club, an influential Gay political organization.

Although the incident now threatens to explode into a major feud between the Los Angeles Police Department and the Gay community, it began in a routine manner.

Los Angeles Fire Department Battalion Chief Dean Cathey said someone - there is no record of a name - phoned the department to complain of overcrowding in the bar.

Following procedure, he said, a crew from the nearest fire station was sent to the bar, which is located in one of the lower-rent sections of Silver Lake, a neighborhood that stretches from poor housing just northwest of downtown to affluent sections in the hills. He said there were six firefighters in a ladder truck and another vehicle. An investigator from the Fire Prevention Bureau was also sent there, he said.

Three firefighters walked in and found 286 people in an area in which 90 were permitted, Cathey said. "We counted them," he said.

Police were called. "There was a large crowd, some resistance on the part of the patrons and the management, and there was concern for injury to Fire Department personnel and the patrons," he said.

Chief Cathey said the club owner was cited for overcrowding and obstruction of exits.

Schulte saw the incident differently. "Four fire officers with asbestos coats walked in,

which was pretty intrusive," he said. "The word was there were lots of police outside." Schulte said he counted between 15 to 20 officers at one point.

The bar management asked the patrons to leave. Outside, Schulte said things were pretty orderly. Then someone higher up in the Fire Department said the bar was closed. A couple of police officers got pretty aggressive, gave people 'till a count of three to leave. I thought people would be arrested. It was a tense scene for a moment or more.

At his press conference, Woo charged that "10 police cars were deployed" to the One Way bar, and that two other bars, the Detour and the Gauntlet "were subject to raids this weekend."

"It raises serious questions as to whether our police officers are best being utilized," he said.

Assistant Police Chief Robert Vernon gave a different account in an interview. Vernon said that when the Fire Department called for help, two police cars, each with two officers, responded. He said those officers asked for a supervisor to come to the bar. A sergeant arrived, as did two other police cars, each with two officers. That made a total of nine officers in five cars, he said.

Booth said the supervisor, Sgt. R.J. Freet, wrote in his log after the incident that he saw "lots of unhappy customers and allegations of harassment."

Vernon said the Police Department usually does not help the Fire Department with calls concerning overcrowding. He said, for example, that the police did not accompany the Fire Department to an investigation of overcrowding at the Detour bar over the weekend.

AIDS MEMORIAL QUILT RETURNS TO SAN FRANCISCO TO OPEN TOUR
SAN FRANCISCO, CA (AP) - The AIDS memorial Quilt, which was unfurled in Washington, D.C. last October, came home Thursday, Dec. 17 for the holidays to the city where it was created.

The colorful quilt slowly was unfurled in 24-foot by 24-foot sections during a three-hour ceremony by 150 white-clad volunteers inside the city's cavernous Moscone Center.

The homespun memorial, sort of a cloth version of the Vietnam Memorial in Washington, bears 2,177 names of AIDS victims emblazoned on patches of cloth and sewn into a giant quilt.

Those names were read aloud by 68 speakers, including state Assembly Speaker Willie Brown and San Francisco Examiner Publisher William R. Hearst III, as about 1,000 tearful survivors and friends looked on, occasionally hugging each other. Some sat by themselves and cried. For the most part, there was a somber silence.

"I'm glad we finally have a chance to show it to San Franciscans because people in San Francisco have been so good to this project," said Cleve Jones, coordinator of The Names Project.

"It just feels so good to have it [become a reality] and know that there was that much love and creativity and energy out there," he added. Jones said he has no idea how large the quilt eventually will become. Another 800 panels each bearing the name of a victim have not yet been sewn into the larger quilt.

The Quilt will begin a nationwide tour this spring and the tentative date for the viewing in Phoenix is April 15.

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TUCSON AIDS RESOURCE LIST
This resource list has been compiled for the benefit of those HIV+ or diagnosed with AIDS/ARC, by the People with AIDS Coalition of Tucson (PACT).

as well as, to advocate for those HIV+ or with AIDS/ARC in order to insure a speedy response to their needs by existing service organizations and the protection of their individual rights.

(Alphabetically listed)
A.S.A. - AIDS SPIRITUAL AID - 622-4536.

We are a group of clergy and lay counselors who are non-judgmental, dedicated to walk hand-in-hand with people with AIDS and their families to wherever their spiritual walk takes them. Many christian and non-christian faiths are represented, and we invite others to offer their services.

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A 12-step support group for family, lovers and friends of people with AIDS.

P.A.R. - Positive Aids in Recovery 293-4848.

A 12-step support group for those recovering from addictions, who are living with AIDS.

P.A.C.T. - PEOPLE WITH AIDS COALITION OF TUCSON - 792-3775

The People with AIDS Coalition of Tucson is an information and referral organization comprised of people HIV+ or with AIDS/ARC. Our objectives are to keep a constant flow of information and news regarding drugs, treatments and experimental protocols and their availability.



diseases. We provide a program of botanical medicines, homeopathy, acupuncture, massage therapy and counseling designed to assist the body and the person in returning to health.

OTHER TELEPHONE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES:
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC SECURITY -
FOOD STAMPS AND ASSISTANCE:
150 W. Congress, 628-5691
1557 W. Prince, 628-5460
195 W. Irvington, 628-5855
6970 E. Broadway, 628-5702

SOCIAL SECURITY ADMINISTRATION:
4601 E. Broadway
2716 S. 6th Ave.
1-800-352-5488

AHCCCS ELIGIBILITY: 2980 E. Ajo Way. 746-1073

UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CENTER:
1501 N. Campbell 626-0111
Internal Medicine 626-6197

VETERANS MEDICAL CENTER:
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EXT. 651

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WHAT'S UP DOC?

Being from back east, I really enjoyed waking up Christmas morning to a white Christmas. But, having lived in Tucson for 16 years now, I'm ready for the warm weather to return. The newspaper said Tucson gets a white Christmas approximately every 46 years. By the time the next one should be here, I'll be turning 21, and leaving on a world tour.

The holidays started out way back last weekend with the Tucson brotherhood of clubs, having their annual Christmas Party. Once again, in true brotherhood, all of Tucson's clubs were present and in high holiday spirits - even before the liquid spirits were consumed. Gifts were passed out and I think all were well chosen for the occasion. Probably one that might not agree with me was Dennis, who received a child's starter plate setting. After the party, everyone headed for the Graduate for more liquid libation.

The next party followed on Sunday evening, finding TKO, DL, Partners, and T-Squares over at Joe and Bob's. At this party, we witnessed remains from T-Squares Hoedown earlier in the day, plus a beauty contest that Bert and I were called on to judge. Walking off with top prize was Double Flap 2 (TKO), the prize being an altered 10" ruler to check true measurements. A very close "Miss Runner-Up" was TKO's -pledge John. I can honestly say the vote was close and both were beautiful (??).

Starting the holidays off was way back on Dec. 18 at the Graduate. That was the night TKO held the drawing for their annual \$100 Christmas tree raffle. This year's winner of the tree was Roger of the Graduate, but the big winner of the evening was a 14-year-old boy in the Make-A-Wish program. Check elsewhere in this issue of OBSERVER for a complete story on the wish this kid and the end results as to what he will be receiving.

At this time on behalf of TKO, I want to thank the Tucson community for coming through for this raffle. The total proceeds raised came to over \$1,100. With this type of support from each of you, one special wish will come true (to a degree) and Christmas 1987 will be a very special one for a kid.

Of course, no evening, this one especially, is complete without another show. Starring for this holiday show was Miss Gay Tucson Tabitha Scott; Tucson's Queen of Country, Bobbi Jo, and the #1 Barbra Streisand, Tiffany. It was a beautiful show and all three really got the Christmas spirit off on a high note, with plenty of love.

With all the parties going on, why have a Beer Bust? On Saturday, Partners and DL teamed up for a Beer Bust over at IBT's. All proceeds (\$110) went to People with AIDS Coalition of Tucson (PACT). It was a fun Beer Bust with all of both clubs parking lots on hand trying to keep up with the drivers (private joke folks). We, as a group, also came up with a TTT Parking Lot (Harald)

Then, over at the Graduate Sunday, T.A.L.L. had a full day of activities. Starting off the day was a Beer Bust. Then along with that, there was a supper served for \$2.99. Finally that evening, T.A.L.L. put on a show. I wasn't there for the complete day, but the time I was there, the bar was full and everyone was having fun. During the time I was there, George gave about a 30-minute show on how not to hang the strap above the pool table.

An up-coming event you should be marking on your calendar is Saturday, Jan. 16. On that day, over at IBT's, Partners will be swearing in their newly elected officers for 1988. In addition they will be celebrating their birthday and afterward will present a show that, I'm sure will go down in history. Just where in history, good or bad, will be up to you. All members of Partners will be performing their own version, on like you'll never see again, of Gypsy. This day will be a really great day for Partners, and we hope you join us for all the festivities.

I understand that the group who went to Phoenix to be guest bartenders at Charlie's, really had a knock out of a good time. Then, one of the group was seen on the floor, again, bouncing across the dance floor on his rear. Boy, am I glad I stayed home.

Mystery of the Week: Which local bartender took about 30 minutes helping put on a G-String on a male strip dancer? I also heard something about teeth, but I'll leave that part to your own imagination.

That's it for this week. New Year's comes rolling in this week, and you can bet the cops will be out in full force. Please call taxi, don't drive if you have had too much to drink. If you are at someone's home, sleep on the floor for the night. Let's all have a good one, but also come out of it safely.

ABBY APOLOGIZES FOR INSENSITIVE REMARK ABOUT GAY
NEW YORK, NY - Advice columnists get it all the time. And, sometimes when they feel the sting of criticism for their advice, it can be embarrassing. Recently Abigail Van Buren ("Dear Abby"), who has often written pro-Gay material in her column, received an avalanche of angry protests about advice she had given to a Gay-related situation.

To Abby's credit, she took the criticism and admitted she was wrong.

The incident began when Abby received a letter from a mother, whose Gay son had just lost a lover to AIDS. The son had just returned home for a family reunion and was asked to pretend life was "beautiful" rather than reveal the pain of his loss as well as his sexual orientation. The son, "John", refused to do this.

His mother said, "We love our son, but don't want the embarrassment and hysteria that this situation could bring." Abby said in her column that John was being "inconsiderate and insensitive."

Abby didn't realize, however that her usually loyal fans weren't going to tolerate an answer like that.

A bisexual in Chicago lashed into Abby, saying that "I can't believe anyone who would make that statement would advise a Gay person to stay in the closet at a time when he needs all the support and understanding he can get. If his family can't stand the 'embarrassment and hysteria,' that's their problem, not his."

Gary of Houston opined that since John "is almost certain to die of AIDS, how are they (the parents) going to deal with the 'hysteria and embarrassment', of that situation?"

Kristi of Mill Valley, California shamed Abby for "encouraging them (the parents) to stifle" John.

Abby apologized for "my own insensitivity," adding that "I should have known better. And the sad fact is, I really do."

If you missed it once, don't let it happen again!

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News From MCC / TUCSON

MCC/Tucson wants to wish each and every one a Happy New Year. May 1988 be the best year you have ever had. May the year bring joy, prosperity and good health to you and your loved ones. May your resolutions be made and not broken too early in the year.

MCC/Tucson resolves to continue to be a part of the Tucson community and to minister to those who need us. We have a full Pastoral Staff to serve you. Rev. Eduard Perry, our Pastor, has office hours Wednesday through Saturday from Noon to 7:00 p.m. Rev. Bernardo David, our Associate Pastor, has office hours on Tuesday from 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m. Rev. Nita Terlesner-Willey, our Chaplain, has office hours on Wednesday from 3:30 to 6:30 p.m.

and on Sundays after our Morning Worship Service. Each of our Pastoral Staff is available for special counseling by appointment. The church telephone number is 622-4536 and there is an answering machine if no one is in the office at the time of your call.

Our worship services are at 10:00 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. on Sundays. We also have a special Hispanic Service at 3:00 p.m. on Sundays. There is a Bible Study Meeting on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. Everyone is invited to attend our services held at 560 South Stone Avenue.

Thought for the Week:
Blessed are they who have nothing to say and cannot be persuaded to say it.



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Lights of Tucson

by Michael - Tucson

The Full Moon occurs on January 4, 1988 at 1:41 a.m. GMT, or 6:41 p.m. Jan. 3 Tucson time in the 12th degree of Cancer. The Ascendant is also in Cancer placing great emphasis on home and family, health and work.

ARIES

10th House. Honor and glory to Aries. Jupiter rides the Midheaven in the 10th and is now direct which will bring public attention.

TAURUS

11th House. Clubs, group involvement, cooperation and team work will work for Taurians this week. Possible election to club or organization office. New friends will be made and new opportunities for expanding social life will be present.

GEMINI

Intercepted 11th House. You may not be noticed much in your club or group this week, but the work you do will be rewarded later.

CANCER

12th House and Ascendant. Some kind of psychic experience will be manifested for you at this time which will broaden your understanding of human foibles. Greater personal freedom will be available for you this week also and it is a great time for self-expression.

LEO

2nd House. Your turn to make some bucks this week. Good business opportunities will present themselves, take advantage.

VIRGO

3rd House. Communication will be your forte this week, answer all that backlog mail and get those Christmas cards out, remember that Christmas lasts until the 6th. Lots of phone calls and some short trips, including ones with

your close friends, relatives and neighbors.

LIBRA
4th House. You will probably entertain at home this week, a raise is possible in your job. Redecorating funds are available.

SCORPIO
5th House. Play the pick this week or the office pool. Winning will be your bag unless a new romance shows up. You might become a grandparent if you are old enough, or a parent.

SAGITTARIUS
Also 5th House Intercepted. A time to do a little behind-the-scenes investing. Luck could be yours this week, especially with dark horses.

CAPRICORN
6th House. Work and health are on your agenda. Time to put those new ideas to work to make things easier for you. If you are feeling down, get a checkup. Also, 7th House, business partners may be a pain, but go along with them. Things will work out.

AQUARIUS
8th House. Time to end old matters, collect funds due you from others, end of year is end of debts. Check up on your insurance and get ready to pay your taxes.

PISCES
9th House. You may take a trip, go back to school, or meet foreign people this week. Whatever it is it will be a group thing or on behalf of others.

* * * * * * * * *
[NOTE: For personal assistance regarding your Horoscope, call Michael at 327-4243 in Tucson].

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SPECIAL CALENDAR

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31 - NEW YEAR'S EVE
BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - New Year's Eve Party begins when you get there. Hats, noisemakers, favors, dancing and complimentary champagne at midnight.

COLETTE'S WEST - New Year's Eve Dinner, a complete meal to begin your evening will be served from 5 to 8:30 p.m. (Prepaid reservations only) \$38.50 which includes dinner, admission to the New Year's Party, champagne (regular or n/a) and party favors. R.S.V.P. 323-0008. Then the New Year's Eve Party begins at 9:00 p.m. \$5.00 Cover. Includes free buffet, complimentary champagne at midnight and party favors. Make your reservations early.

GRADUATE - New Year's Eve Party all day and all evening. Schnapps .50, with party favors and champagne at midnight. No Cover!...

IBT'S - New Year's Eve Party features .75 longneck domestic beer from 5:30 until closing. Plus an early show beginning at 8:00 p.m. with Mr. Dan Reid, Tiffany, Bobbi Jo, Mr. Monte-Jon, Lillian Jade and Miss Gay Tucson, Tabitha Scott. Dancing, party favors, complimentary champagne at midnight.

RITA'S - New Year's Eve Party begins at 9:00 p.m. with longneck domestic beer for \$1.00, complimentary champagne at midnight. Party, Party, Party...

RUMOR HAZZIT - New Year's Eve here is celebrated with their regular Thursday night Kegger. Draft Beer only .25 per glass, plus, hats, noisemakers and complimentary champagne at midnight. It begins here at 8:00 p.m. Enjoy and drive carefully!

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1 - NEW YEARS DAY
IBT'S - Opens at 7:00 p.m. today. Then PARTY!

RITA'S - Complimentary black-eyed peas for good luck in 1988!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2
IBT'S - Desert Leatherman's Beer Bust. .50 draft beer from 2:00 to 6:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 3
IBT'S - "Suicide Show" begins at 9:00 p.m. includes the regular IBT show cast with Candy Plastique. It's a very different type of show this time though. The performer does not know what the number she will be performing until the music starts! Sounds like fun!

MONDAY AND TUESDAY, JANUARY 4 AND 5
RUMOR HAZZIT - Popular entertainer Doug Cooper is playing the piano and singing live here beginning at 5:00 p.m. He's fun and entertaining. If you haven't had a chance to enjoy this unique talented musician, be sure to take this opportunity.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 9
GRADUATE - It's "Rodeo Date" at the Grad with the appearance of Charlie's Country Cloggers from Phoenix and a extra special ACRA fundraising show which features of the several rodeo participants. Watch for more on this super-special day at the Graduate.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 13
RITA'S - Kick-off for the Arizona Gay Rodeo with the live country/western style of Dena Raye makes a return appearance here. Make plans to see this popular entertainer.

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THE TUCSON CALENDAR

wednesday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - "Wednesday Madness" - From 2-6 pm Drink Special: Check the chalkboard. Draft Beer Bust Bud or Bud Lite .50 per glass! Bobby Jr. DJ's 9 pm to 1 am.

COLETTE'S WEST - Check for daily sandwich special.

Schnapps shots .75 from 6 pm to Midnight.

GRADUATE - Domestic Beer \$1.00 with other specials.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Noon to 5:30 Well Drinks \$1. (With juice \$1.25), Long Neck Beer (non-premium) \$1.25. 5:30 to 1 am Draft Beer .50 and Schnapps .75 shot. Dance 8 - 1 am.

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Open 12 noon to 1 am. Happy Hour 3 to 6 pm.

RUMOR HAZZIT 2222 - "White Wednesday" 8 pm to midnight .99 White Well (with juice .25 extra), \$1.25 Well Drinks or Long Neck Domestic Beer & Munchies 1-7 pm. Video Disco

Dancing 9 - 1.

thursday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Domestic Bottled Beer Nite \$1.25 from 9 pm to 1 am. Dave Pierson, DJ, 9 to 1 am.

COLETTE'S WEST - Bottle Beer Special - .85 - from 8 pm to Midnight.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour Prices until closing!

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Noon to 5:30 Well Drinks \$1. (With juice \$1.25), Long Neck Beer (non-premium) \$1.25. 5:30 to 1 am Long Neck Beer (non-premium) .75 Dance 8 to 1.

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Open 12 noon to 1 am. Happy Hour 3 to 6 pm.

RUMOR HAZZIT 2222 - Kegger 8 pm to 12 am .25 per glass. \$1.25 Well Drinks or Long Neck Domestic Beer & Munchies 1-7 pm. Video/Disco dancing with David Ross 9-1.

friday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Shots of Schnapps \$1.00 each from open to closing. Bobby Jr. DJ's 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

COLETTE'S WEST - Check for daily sandwich special.

Party Nite. Hourly Drink Specials 8 p.m. to Midnight.

GRADUATE - Drink specials until closing.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Noon to 5:30 pm Well Drinks \$1. (With juice \$1.25), Long Neck Beer (non-premium) \$1.25. 5:30 to 1 am All Well \$1.50 (With Juice \$1.75). Dancing 8 to 1.

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Open 12 noon to 1 am. Happy Hour 3 to 6 pm.

RUMOR HAZZIT 2222 - \$1.25 Well drinks and Long Neck Domestic Beer plus Munchies 1-7 p.m. Video/Disco dancing 9-1 with David Ross.

saturday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Drink Specials. Bobby Jr. DJ's in J/T 9 pm to 1 am.

COLETTE'S WEST - Party Nite Hourly Drink Specials 8 to Midnight.

GRADUATE - Drink Specials until closing.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Noon to 6 pm Bloody Marys \$1.00 6 pm to 1 am All Well \$1.50. Dance 8 to 1.

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Open 12 noon to 1 am. Happy Hour 3 to 6 pm.

RUMOR HAZZIT 2222 - Corona Nite 8 pm - 12. Open Noon til 1 am. Video/Disco dancing with David Ross 9pm - close.

sunday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Draft Beer Bust Noon to 7 pm Bud or Bud Lite .50 per glass. Steak Dinner 4 pm to 7:30 \$4.00. Dave Pierson DJ's from 9 pm until 1 am.

COLETTE'S WEST - "Wine Down Nite" .75 Wine 8 pm to Midnight. Movie Nite at 7 pm.

GRADUATE - Bottle Beer (non-premium) \$1 with other drink specials.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Bloody Marys \$1.00 Noon to 5:30

5:30 to 1 am "Moose Madness" every hour (?). Dance 8pm-1am

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Open 12 noon to 1 a.m. Brunch served

12:30 to 3:30 pm. \$3.00 per plate. Screwdrivers and Bloody Marys \$1.25 during brunch hours. Video/Disco dancing 9-1

monday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - Bud canned beer .75 - 9 pm to 1 am. "Bowlers Special Night" 1/2 price on Well drinks for J/T Bowling Leaguers. Dave Pierson DJ's from 9 pm until 1 am.

COLETTE'S WEST - Check for daily sandwich special.

.50 hot dogs and .25 draft. All White Well .89 from 8 pm to Midnight. Monday Night Football on our big screen.

GRADUATE - All White Well Drunks \$1.50 until 1 am plus other drink specials.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Noon to 5:30: Well Drinks \$1. (With juice \$1.25), Long Neck Beer (non-premium) \$1.25. 5:30 to 1 am "Moose Madness".

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Open 12 noon to 1 a.m. Happy Hour 3 to 6 pm.

RUMOR HAZZIT 2222 - 4 to 7 pm Well drinks or domestic long neck beer \$1.25, munchies. Video/Disco dancing 9-1 with Gavin

tuesday

BACK POCKET/JOSHUA TREE - "Spuds McKenzie Nite" Bud Lite Long Neck \$1 plus \$1.50 Well drinks from 9 pm to 1 am Bobby Jr. DJ's in J/T beginning at 9 pm.

COLETTE'S WEST - Check for daily sandwich special.

"Sudsercize" .40 draft beer from 8:00 until midnight.

Alternative listening and dancing music from 60s - 70s and early 80s from 7 to 11.

GRADUATE - Dark Well Drunks \$1.50 till closing plus other drink specials.

IT'S 'BOUT TIME - Noon to 5:30 pm Well Drinks \$1.00, Long Neck Beer (non-premium) \$1.25. "Trashy Tuesday" show begins at 4 p.m. 5:30 to 1 am "Moose Madness".

RITA'S RENDEZVOUS - Open 12 noon to 1 am. Happy Hour 3 to 6 pm.

RUMOR HAZZIT 2222 - Well drinks or domestic long necks \$1.25, munchies 1-7 pm. Video/Disco Dancing 9-1 with David Ross.

et cetera



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COME RUN WITH US
TUCSON FRONT RUNNERS has changed to their Fall/Winter schedule. The group will now meet at 6:00 p.m. every Tuesday in front of Rimmel Park Library for a fun run. Everyone is encouraged to get healthy. For more information call Mitch, 326-3332.

CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP is a loving Christian church where YOU are welcome. Sunday worship services are at 10:30 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study is at 7:00 p.m. Our caring staff is on duty Tuesday through Friday 7-9 p.m. and at other times by appointment. Call 881-3519 or stop by at 3333 E. Grant Road, Next to O'Reilly Leasing.

ANYONE INTERESTED IN JOINING A SUPPORT GROUP for Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, please contact Herb at 327-8519 or Sean, P.O. Box 26394, Tucson, Arizona 85726. All information is strictly confidential.

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

GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL IN TUCSON
Call Information and Referral 881-1794

TUCSON AIDS PROJECT (TAP), 151 S. Tucson Blvd., Suite 252 (The Broadmoor). Services for people with AIDS/ARC or HIV+, community education. Monthly public meetings. Volunteers welcome. 326-AIDS (Hotline) or 322-6226 (Administration).

ARE YOU GAY OR LESBIAN and someone else's drinking is getting to you? Call Information and Referral about Gay Al-Anon 881-1794 in Tucson.

AFFIRMATION, Gay and Lesbian Mormons meet monthly in Phoenix for fellowship and positive support. AFFIRMATION, P.O. Box 315, Mesa, AZ 85201 or (602) 981-0121.

TUCSON WOMEN'S POTLUCK
Open to all women. 2nd Sundays at 6:00 p.m. Various locations. Call Claire at 795-1006 for more information.

OLD PUEBLO BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION
For meeting dates and locations or membership information call 296-4642 or write OPBPA, P.O. Box 44033, Tucson, AZ 85733.

SHANTI FOUNDATION OF TUCSON
Volunteer groups meet each Tuesday from 7:30 to 9:00 p.m. at 602 N. Fourth Ave. Potential Shanti volunteers seeking information 7:30 to 8:00 p.m. only. Phone 622-7107.

SOURCES UNLIMITED is a non-profit information and referral service for the Lesbian and Gay community. Businesses and individual listings are free. Call 884-1606 in Tucson for information.

TUCSON LESBIAN/GAY YOUTH GROUP is now sponsored by Matrix Community Services/Unity Incorporated and meets at the following locations: Wednesdays 6 to 9 p.m. at 1030 N. 4th Ave. 884-7413 (Matrix) and on Saturdays 3 to 5 p.m. at 420 S. Main, 792-0204 (La Plata). For more information call Wayne Blankenship at 882-4009.

Gay & Lesbian Adult Discourses are informal rap group meetings provided by and for our Gay community in the Tucson area. All discussion is Gay-related. Compassion and confidentiality emphasized. Meetings are free and facilitated. Occasional guest speakers, films and social outings. For "G.L.A.D." contact information, call Information & Referral at 881-1794, N-P 8-5.

GAY OR LESBIAN AND HAVE A DRINKING PROBLEM?
Call A.A. 624-4181. 24-Hour Hotline. Call for information on Gay and Lesbian meetings in Tucson.

AIDS Hotline - 326-AIDS. Hours: M-F, 10am - Midnight
Information, Counseling, HIV-related Services.

ARIZONA/SONORA PROYECTO S.I.D.A. is seeking volunteers who are bilingual (Spanish/English) and are interested in presenting information about AIDS to Spanish speakers - in both Arizona and Sonora, Mexico. For further information, please call Enrique at 741-1965 in Tucson. 168

NEEDED, 8mm or Super 8mm movie projector. Rent or borrow. 622-0815 Tucson. 173

Personals

Happy Holidays, J. Arthur and Sophie. Love Always, Twinkie. 180

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VERY ATTRACTIVE MALE, 6'3", 205 lbs, 26, would like to meet trim men over 50. If you've written before, write again. P.O. Box 31324, Tucson, AZ 85751. Send photo. 180

25, 175 lb BLONDE, BLUE-EYED, ATTRACTIVE MALE seeks companionship and friendship for dating and spending party and quiet times together. Call Gordon at 882-5247 Tucson. 180

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