Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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Kolbe Gives First Public Address To G/L Republican Group

by Mark R. Kerr
Observer Political Reporter

WASHINGTON, DC (ON) - U.S. Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-Tucson, gave his first public speech to a group of Gay and Lesbian Republicans this past weekend.

Rep. Jim Kolbe

Kolbe spoke during the annual convention of the Log Cabin Republicans. In addition to Rep. Kolbe, Senators Jim Jeffords of Vermont and Alfonse D'-Amato, and Rep. Christopher Shays of Connecticut addressed the gathering of Gay and Lesbian Republicans.

In his address, Kolbe said that while he often asked himself whether focusing solely on issues important to the GOP leadership and conservatives in the mainstream had a negative impact on Gay civil liberties, he thought it a mistake for Gays and Lesbians to focus solely on their own comparatively narrow agendas.

Kolbe said members of the Gay and Lesbian community can advance by focusing on issues that appeal to all members of society, such as crime and education.

"The cause for Gay Republicans and Gay Democrats will be advanced when Gays and Lesbian act like straight people," said Kolbe. "Not when we go back into the closet, for we will never do that, but when we demonstrate our concern and our commitment to issues that matter to main street America."

Kolbe said his sexual orientation was a "secondary" aspect of his identity. "Being Gay was not, and is not today, my persona," Kolbe is quoted as saying.

"I'm not surprised by Kolbe's address. We didn't expect him [Kolbe] to lead a Gay Pride Parade," Bruce Corey, president of Wingspan said. "All we want is equal rights, nothing more and nothing less."

"The Gay and Lesbian supports and contributes to the betterment of all society," Dave Huff, co-owner of 1BT's and the Graduate said.

"Mr. Kolbe skips a step. First we have to be able to come out of the closet. Then we can openly work on issues that affect main-street America [As if we haven't been working on those issues all along while pretending to be straight for main-street America]," noted defense attorney Emma Keller said.

Keller added, "We don't even have a First Amendment right to say who we are. Does main-street America care about that?"

Pima County Charter Election Aug. 5

by Mark R. Kerr
Observer Political Reporter

TUCSON (ON) - To charter county government, or not to charter county government? That is the question.

The blatant rip-off of Shakespeare aside, voters, Tuesday, August 5, will go to the polls and decide the future of Pima County government in the special election. Voters will consider the fate of the proposed Home Rule Charter for Pima County. Home Rule? Charter?

Flash back to 1992. Proposition 105, was the referendum that would allow Maricopa and Pima Counties the opportunity to draw up a charter for "Home Rule." One of the provisions would allow the two counties Board of Supervisor's the ability to enact local laws. Voters approved the proposition in the 1992 general election.

Home Rule was on the way for the two largest counties in Arizona. Or was it? Maricopa County took the lead and elected their County Charter Committee. The Committee, 15 individuals, drew up a proposed "Home Rule" charter and presented it for consideration during the 1996 general election.

The voters weren't thrilled with the committee's work: Voters thought it was too convoluted. People didn't like ending of elections for such offices as Assessor and Recorder. Even members on the charter committee actually campaigned against the proposal. "Home Rule" didn't have a chance, the proposed charter was overwhelmingly rejected in the 1996 general election.

Pima County watched and allegedly "learned." After much bickering and delay, the Board of Supervisors finally set a date for electing a charter committee. During the 1996 general election, voters elected 15 individuals, three from each Supervisorial District, and work began on "Home Rule" for Pima County.

After the mandated 180 days a proposed charter had been drafted. A bare-bones document the committee hoped would be approved by the voters. The document had some proposed changes, but kept many aspects of the current county government. Voters would still elect the administrative county posts as Treasurer, Assessor, Recorder, Clerk of the Court, and School Superintendent.

The Board of Supervisors set the date for the special election, August 5. With everything in place, you would think a campaign, pro or con would result. The campaign has been minimal. Some newspaper articles, opinion pieces, stories on low rated local television programs, and the Tucson television news-outlets ignoring the issue until election night, resulting in a predictably low turnout.

What are the pros and cons of the proposed charter for Pima County? I n their special sample ballot, the committee states the proposed charter would:

Allow decisions affecting Pima County to be made locally than by the State Legislature; voter approval of any new tax; staggering the terms of the five members of the Board; establish an independent method of drawing Supervisorial district boundaries; requires the Board to institute an ethics commission; establishes the position of auditor to improve the efficiency, effectiveness and accountability of county government; and increased cooperation with other governments in the county. Does it?

Not according to charter opponents, who make the arguments:

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Five Emmy Nominations For 'Ellen'

HOLLYWOOD, CA (NP) - Yep -- she's an Emmy nominee...times 5! -- and Ellen DeGeneres isn't the only LesBiGay fave standing in line for the gold statue.

Right-wing groups may be distressed that the lead character on ABC's "Ellen" became the first ever to come out as an open Gay or Lesbian, but the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (ATAS) has given both the show and its now-openly Lesbian star Ellen DeGeneres a strong show of support with the announcement this morning of nominations for the 49th Primetime Emmy Awards.

The series and its coming out "Puppy Episode" garnered five nominations, while DeGeneres herself not only shared in those, but also helped win a handful of nominations for HBO's "The Larry Sanders Show," which featured an episode that satirized the months-long media frenzy buildup to the coming out of the star and her character.

DeGeneres was nominated for Outstanding Actress in a Comedy Series for her work on "Ellen" and for Best Guest Performance in a Comedy Series for appearing as herself on "Larry Sanders" in "Ellen, or Isn't She?" DeGeneres also had a story credit for "The Puppy Episode," which was nominated for Outstanding Writing for a Comedy Series, a category in which it will compete with her "Sanders" appearance. "The Puppy Episode" also won nominations for Gil Junger for Outstanding Directing in a Comedy Series and for Kris Trexler for Outstanding Multi-Camera Picture Editing.

ATAS President Rich Frank said of DeGeneres, "Ellen is going to be a star for a long time. The entire Gay issue is just another issue. She's an unbelievable talent."

Gay and Lesbian influences were present in other Emmy nominations as well. HBO, which has been a pioneer in presenting Gay- and Lesbian-themed material, made history by becoming the first cable network to lead in total awards, edging out broadcast leader NBC by one. "The Larry Sanders Show" contributed 16 nominations (including those for "Ellen, Or Isn't She?") to HBO's total of 90, a record for most nominations for a comedy in a single year, including Outstanding Comedy Series and Outstanding Actor in a Comedy Series for Gary Shandling.

HBO took five more nominations

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY FOUR

Gay Comedy Jam Hits Tucson

TUCSON - The Gay Comedy Jam: Freedom Tour starring Scott Kennedy and Kevin Maye comes to Tucson's Laff's Comedy Club for one night only; Tuesday, August 5, 1997.

Scott Kennedy and Kevin Maye are two of the hottest stand-up comedians working at comedy clubs and colleges across the country. They have headlined most major comedy clubs in the U.S. from Seattle to Miami: The Improvs, Laff Stops, Punchlines, Funny Bones, Comedy Works, and Las Vegas showrooms. They have also opened in concert with superstars such as: Garth Brooks, The Temptations, The Four Tops, David Sanborn and Judy Tenuta.

You may have seen them HBO's "Comedy Channel," or A&E's "An Evening at the Improv." The Gay Comedy Jam: Freedom Tour is sponsored by The Advocate Magazine, the national Gay and Lesbian news source. The tour began in 1994 and sold-out in almost every major market. 1995 brought more tour dates that included international dates as well as many more college performances. 1997 is shaping up to be the most successful year yet. In 1996 the Hollywood Reporter named Scott and Kevin " . . . the most successful Gay comics to ever tour nationally."

Kevin Maye says: "I know that 25 years ago to have an openly Gay performer at a 'mainstream' venue was unheard of, today we are selling out shows all over the nation!"

Maye continues, "Scott Kennedy and I are very excited to be a part of this history making event." To add a twist to the plot, Scott Kennedy and Kevin Maye share not only the stage together but also their lives off stage as well. They are

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY FOUR

UPDATE

Wingspan Featuring Photographic Exhibition In August

TUCSON - Wingspan will open its new Gallery featuring photographs by Misty Blue. Ms. Blue has just returned to Tucson after a twelve year stay, in an around Albuquerque, New Mexico, making photographic images and handmade paper, among other things.

Misty's collection of photographs is quite extensive, about 250 color and B/A images. She draws on a wide range of subject matter. Utilizing her love of fine handmade paper; some of her images are framed with this paper. Others draw on interest in in-camera multiple exposures.

This exhibit will be her first in gallery showing. She has participated in several arts and crafts shows in Northern New Mexico and will be soon introducing a line of photography-based notecards.

The images she has selected to show at the Wingspan Gallery; primarily are those which tell a Lesbian and Gay story; however there are also include a few pieces that touch on a full range of her work.

Ms. Blue's exhibit will open August 1, and run through August 30. A reception for the artist will be held Saturday evening, August 2, from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. Light refreshments will be served and the public is cordially invited. The new Wingspan Gallery is housed in the new Wingspan Lesbian, Gay and Bisexual Community Center, 300 East Sixth Street, one half block West of Fourth Avenue.

Another G/L Club Controversy Brews In Utah

SALT LAKE CITY, UT (WS) - In a reminder of events which have caused repeated upheaval in Salt Lake City schools since late 1995, the Granite School Board adopted a district-wide policy this week which all but prohibits a proposed Gay and Lesbian student club from meeting on school grounds.

In a 3-2 vote the board adopted what it called a Limited Open Forum Club policy which forbids clubs that "materially or substantially encourage criminal or delinquent conduct, promote bigotry, or involve human sexuality." The wording is based on a controversial 1996 Utah state law.

Faced with a cut-off in federal funding for violating Equal Access provisions, the Utah State Board of Education adopted a rule in January nominally allowing the formation of Gay and Lesbian student clubs in Utah's schools. The rule allows local school districts to make their own decisions on the formation of Gay clubs.

The Granite School Board policy was thus much harsher on Gay clubs than is either required by law or recommended by the state education board. The board further announced that if the policy were challenged in court, it would immediately disband all noncurriculum based clubs meeting on school grounds. "This board is not prepared to spend one dime on litigation over clubs," Board Chairman Lynn Davidson said.

Students at Cottonwood High School were told by members of the Granite School Board in January they would follow the new state rule and allow the Gay club to proceed under tight supervision. There was no explanation as to why the board reneged on its promise to Cottonwood students.

CBA Trade Fair Set For Aug. 21

TUCSON - Tucson Gay and Lesbian Community Business Association (CBA), will hold its annual Trade Fair Thursday, August 21, starting at 5:30 P.M.

The site for this year's fair is the Grand Ballroom at the Doubletree Hotel, 445 South Alvernon, Tucson. The annual event is open to the public; admission is $3 for non-members. Entertainment will be provided by Take V, from Reveille Men's Chorus.

CBA was formed in January, 1996 for the Tucson's Lesbian and Gay business community for the purpose of networking and marketing their services. According to Greg Hollman, president of CBA. "The association has more than doubled in members over the past year. Plus, our members are more diversified covering from Doctors, Artists, Restaurant owners and almost every professional service needed."

According to recent newspaper articles and surveys, Tucson was voted one of the top cities in the country for Gay and Lesbian lifestyle acceptance, making the Tucson area a growing business Mecca for future members.

In other communities, the increase of Gay and Lesbian business managers and owners gives a huge economic boost to their community. The economic benefits of Gay and Lesbian couples are greater than that of average married couple. Benefits include less of a burden on the school systems, most couples do not have children. Also, 60% of Gay couples income is spent on housing, home furnishings, entertainment and travel all having a greater than normal tax rate.

Other Gay and Lesbian business managers and organizations are invited to join our monthly Thursday morning breakfast meeting, enjoy an interesting speaker and take the opportunity to meet each other and promote products, services and specials.

To join CBA, please contact Greg Hollman or Brad Sensenbach, (520) 577-5999 Ext. 1112.

St. Francis Support Group Welcomes All

TUCSON - You are invited to the St. Francis Discussion/Support Group. The group is there for all of us who desire a safe place for discussion and support of issues in our lives.

The group also offers participants a sense of community and a place to make lasting friendships. This drop-in group meets on Thursday evenings (7:30 to 9:00 P.M.) at St. Francis in the Foothills (northwest corner of Swan & River Road) in room 43.

This community-serving group is an outreach of St. Francis United Methodist Church, which is a Reconciling Congregation accepting all people regardless of sexual orientation. For more information, call 299-9063.

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Thursday, Aug. 21

Doubletree Hotel

5:30 p.m.

Support your community business association by attending this annual trade show and learn more about the Gay and Lesbian owned and/or operated businesses in Tucson.

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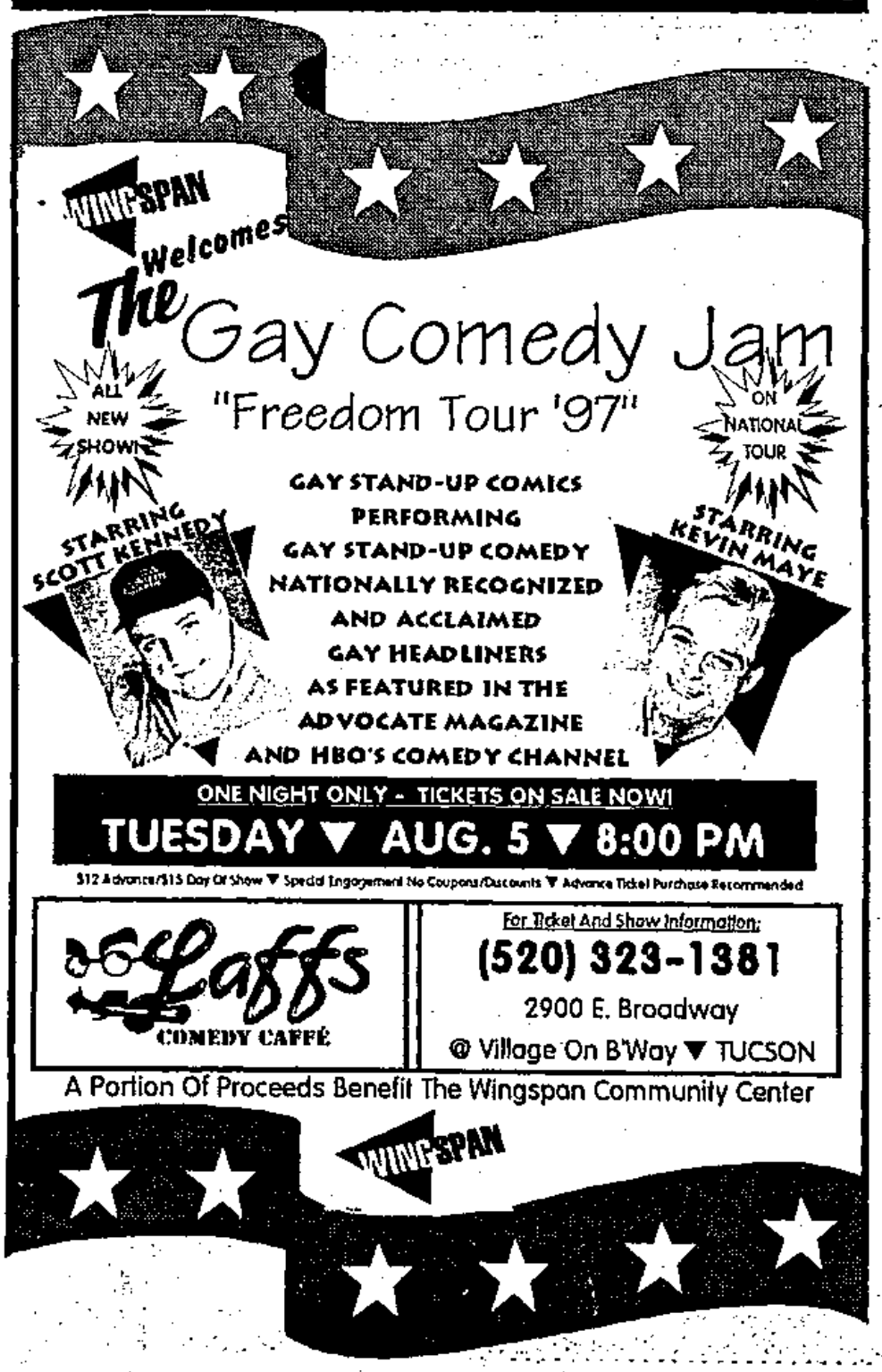

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TO THE COMMUNITY:

Sunday's Roast and Toast of Lucinda Holliday finally came and it was worth the wait. There was a wonderful feeling of love and unity as we took Lucy down memory lane.

Willie Gradillas was the recipient of the MPS Volunteer of the Year Award. He was treated to a standing ovation that was well deserved. As Natalie said, "your are no longer the Susan Lucci of Tucson!"

The Roasters and Entertainers had plenty to say. We like to thank all of them: Alotta Whoremones (Brian Fox), Felice Renard, Kenneth Blake, Scott Hawkins, Paul Moore, Celia Putty, Gary Clark, Brian Krueger (Boom-Boom's), Ajia Simone and Virginia Sacrifice.

To all our volunteers: Doug, David Z., Tim Brightwell, Shawn Kennedy, Vanna (Tim Barth), Esther Hillman, Larry, Nancy Sarama, Patrick Tobin, Paul Ornelas, Scott & Ricky (The Norkins), Willie Gradillas, David Locke, Moose, Harry Lewis, Julie and Susan and Erin Duffy. It took a lot of us but we did it!

Chip Crimbill from the Holiday Inn: Thank you, Larry and Max for "everything." The food was fabulous, the room looked fabulous and you looked fabulous!

Bob Ellis, Gary Clark and Mark Kerr, we did it again! Thanks for all the advertising and support you've given us from the beginning, we love you!

Woody gave out his "Best Friend" award to someone he adores. As he said in his short speech, "I know you think you're all getting it but this award goes to Moose!"

Ricky and Scott: Thank you for everything. You have been with us from the beginning, not only for the Roasts, but for our family. Ricky, you keep in touch with my children, E-mail my daughter Erin at school and I have no doubt that she and her friends are the most well informed prep students in the country.

Woody was sick at the Roast and his good friend Doug took him to his room and cared for him. It was not an easy task, thanks for your help. Because Woody was sick, he couldn't give his speech he had prepared. Included in his speech was a few tips for Lucy. Also included was special thanks to Frank and Dave of IBT's. People assume that I talk to Frank and Dave about the MPS Barbecues. The truth is Woody calls Dave and Frank and they "discuss" and make their own plans, when Woody went to camp this summer he hold his friend that if he couldn't afford to come next year he'd have a barbecue and help pay their way, so be prepared for a phone call some time in March guys!

To all who attended, you certainly got your moneys worth. Thanks for being a part of Lucinda Holliday's night to remember.

To Lucy: Thank you for being a good sport. We hope we have you your just desserts. If anyone wants to know how I'm doing a week before a Roast, just ask Lucy.

A special thanks to Kelly Griffith of Shanti (SAAF) for listening to me this year, it's been an emotionally trying year. Woody's disease has progress and I've had a hard time watching it happen. Kelly has been there for me and I will always be grateful.

Last: To Natalie, my wife and best friend. You have loved me and helped me through it all, you are my soulmate.

Thanks to everyone!

Love, Beth

DEAR OBSERVER:

I would like to address a concern of mine, something that touches those of us in the Gay community who are Pagan. Paganism, is a loving, life-affirming Nature Religion, with no connection of any kind to "Satanism" (Satan is only a fallen angel and part of the Christian Bible). Yet, I have heard people speaking against us in ignorance, linking us to bad Hollywood stereotypes, etc. Let me explain a little bit about Paganism, and what it really is all about.

We hold Nature to be sacred, and are centered on Mother Earth. Animals and plants, all life, is holy, and respected. The highest tenet of Wicca, a form of

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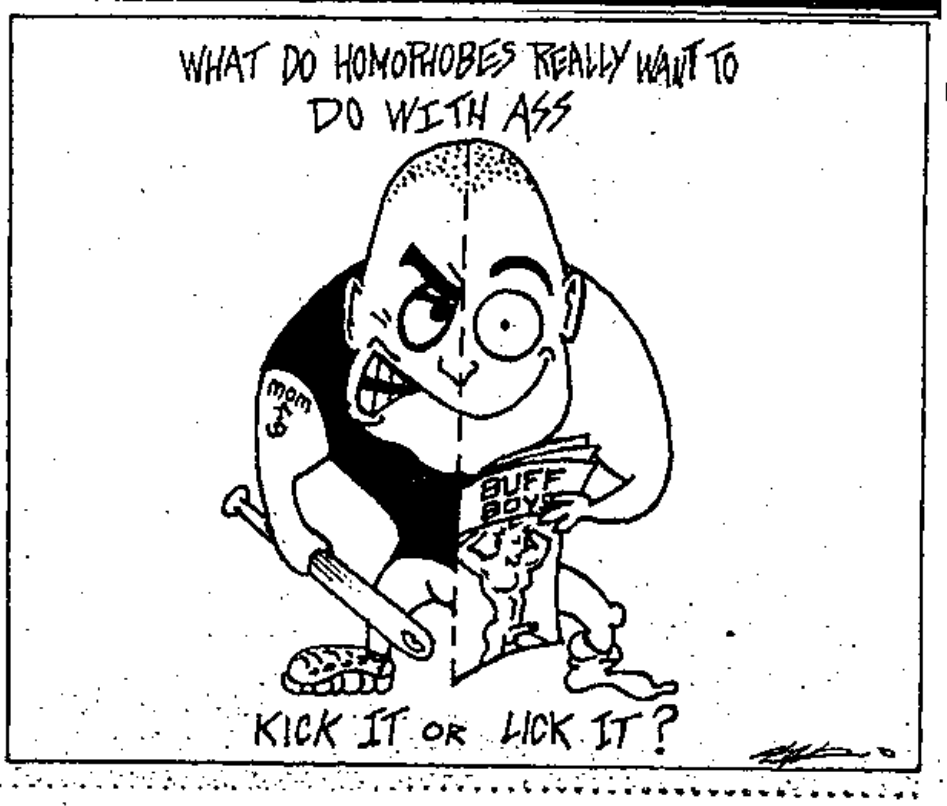
AS I SEE IT..... BY CLARK



Spree Killer Andrew Cunanan Found Dead In Miami Houseboat

MIAMI BEACH, FL (NP) - The killings, the chase, the fears -- and the life of the only person who really knew what motivated his actions -- have come to an end, the questions will continue.

"Come out! Come out!" yelled the Metro-Dade County, Florida SWAT team outside a houseboat in Miami Beach where they believed openly Gay alleged multiple murderer Andrew Cunanan might be holed up.

But on Wednesday afternoon, Cunanan was already out, and out of this life, apparently his own sixth victim with a bullet in the head. So it was that one of the biggest and most dramatic manhunts in U.S. history, which got its climatic bang with the murder of openly Gay fashion designer Gianni Versace, came to an end with an unexpected whimper.

In fact, after several hours of hollering at the houseboat, sending 6 or 9 rounds of tear gas/percussion grenades into it, and finally edging into it single-file behind shields, the police at first reported there was no one on board at all -- only several hours later did they report finding a body they believed to be Cunanan's.

Thursday morning forensic reports gave official confirmation of the corpse's identity, including a match to the thumbprint on Cunanan's California driver's license -- his face, according to some reports, was no longer recognizable. A .40-caliber handgun similar to the one Cunanan allegedly used against three of his victims was found on the houseboat as well. Apparently while an unparalleled nationwide lookout was maintained and leads were investigated the length of the East Coast, Cunanan never went much more than two miles away from where he allegedly shot Versace dead outside his home July 15.

(From FBI)

When a caretaker reported activity on the houseboat, which hadn't been used in months, police took seriously his possible identification of Cunanan because of other sightings reported in the neighborhood. One of those was from the owner of a sailboat moored nearby, who said someone had apparently slept in his boat and left some items behind, items whose nature have so far been withheld from the public.

The houseboat is owned by Torsten Reineck, who is also sole owner of the Apollo Spa and Health Club in Las Vegas, Nevada. It's a members-only club catering to Gay men. Reineck had been trying to sell the luxurious two-story houseboat for some time at an asking price of $250,000.

The end of the search for Cunanan, which began in late April with the discovery of the bodies of his Gay friend Jeff Trail and former lover David Madson in Minnesota, will leave many feeling safer not only from the alleged killer, but also from the dragnet trying to capture him.

One man caught by error was open Gay Peter Ah Jay of Sumner, Christchurch, New Zealand. Shortly after arriving in Miami, where he had a job interview, Ah Jay was dropped at the wrong bus stop after midnight and had to hike to his hotel. A police car first cruised past him and then returned with officers who surrounded Ah Jay at gunpoint. He was taken into custody and interrogated for two hours before being returned to his hotel without apology. Ah Jay, like Cunanan, is Gay, 27 years old, has dark hair, wears glasses, and is of similar height and weight.

CUNANAN: SOME ANSWERS, MORE QUESTIONS

In the wake of the discovery of the Cunanan's dead body on the houseboat in Miami Beach, Florida on July 23, the mammoth manhunt is ended and some fears are allayed, but more questions remain than are likely ever to be answered.

More details have emerged about his activities as authorities, now more free of the confidential necessities of prosecution, make them public; still more will surely be turned up in a major review of law enforcement activities in the case ordered by Attorney General Janet Reno.

But the "why" of it all, of the reputedly popular "party boy" suddenly becoming an unpredictable killer of lover, friend and strangers alike, using methods both torturous and quick, will remain entirely speculative. "There was no suicide note and no correspondence to reflect why he committed the crimes," Miami Beach Police Chief Richard Barreto announced.

Cunanan's apparently self-inflicted fatal shooting may have been a final means of escape, according to the FBI, after a desperate phone call to "an associate" failed to bring him the false passport he needed to escape the country where essentially everyone had come to know his name and face. The "associate" was one of those people the FBI had attempted to warn because their names came up in the course of interviews relating to Cunanan; the "associate" declined to explain why s/he hadn't taken the step of contacting the FBI.

Thank You Ricky Norman.
I love you.
Woody

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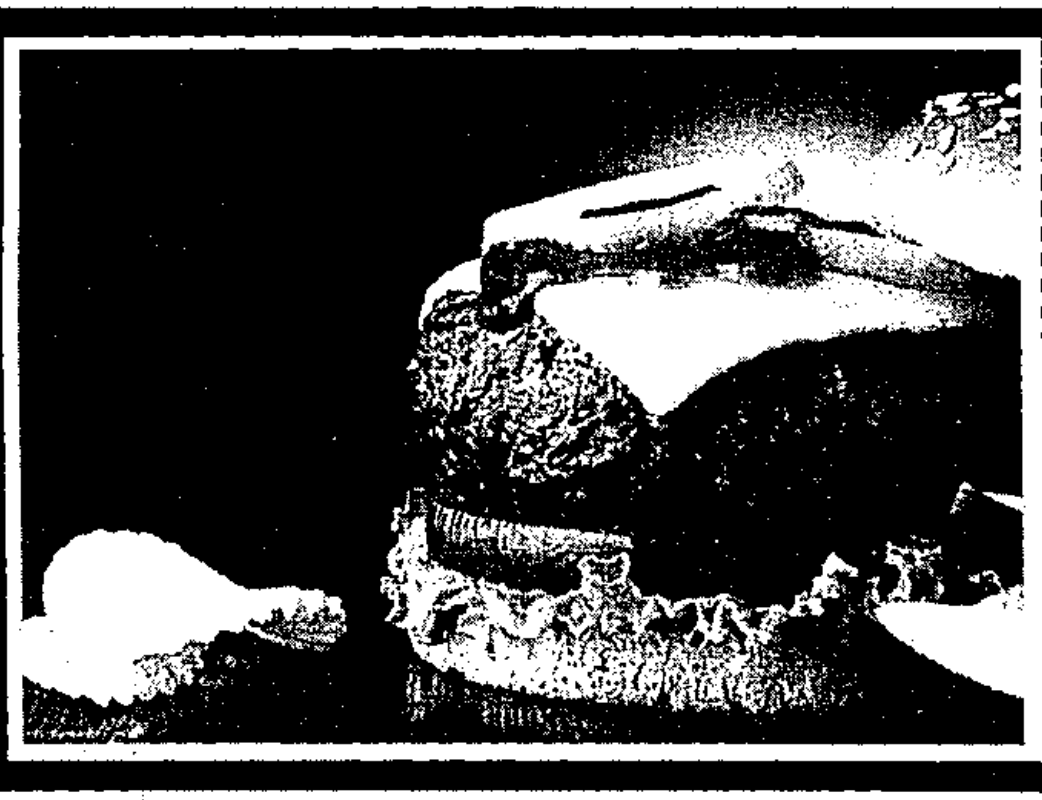

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IT'S NEWS TO ME . . BY STEVE RISLEY

Collective Horror: The nightmare that was Andrew Cunanan and his reign of terror stretching from sea to shining sea came to an abrupt end last week. Over the course of the past few months, and particularly during the days following the murder of designer Gianni Versace, Cunanan caused the mainstream media to focus its spotlight and attention upon the nation's Gay community.

Rushing blindly into the feeding frenzy, everyone from NBC to the Associated Press shoved all kinds of "experts", both straight and Gay, in front of the camera or onto the front page. Most of them had never met Cunanan and weren't credentialed professionals, but of course they all absolutely knew what made him tick and what he would do next.

Every detail of Cunanan's decadent lifestyle was dug up and examined with anthropological zeal and breathlessly reported with naughty delicious delight to a titillated nation . The most mundane and innocuous minutia of his life was examined and the art of innuendo reached new heights. Toward the end even law enforcement authorities working on the case bought into it all and began speculating that Cunanan was freely moving about in drag. Well, he was Gay, wasn't he?

Of course Cunanan's sexual orientation didn't have anything to do with anything. The guy was a psychological mess. Period.

Throughout the unfolding tragedy Gays the world over complained that the mainstream media couldn't report on Cunanan without linking him with the word "Gay." An acquaintance of mine in London was positively apoplectic over it. "Why do they always have to mention the word 'Gay' when they talk about him?", he asked bitterly. "It's excessive and unfair!"

My response to him was, "Why does the media have to always use words such as 'black', 'hispanic' or 'asian' when they report on other alleged suspects or perpetrators?". He didn't like hearing that one bit and angrily informed me that I simply "didn't understand the issue" before abruptly ending our conversation. Well, I think I do understand and so do blacks, hispanics or asians.

If he would have allowed me to explain, I would have said that we ARE "Gay" - we just spent the month of June celebrating our "Gay"-ness. What my British friend failed to recognize was that his real problem was the embarrassment he felt because this man who just happened to be "Gay" was suspected of committing some heinous crimes that captured the world's attention.

Cunanan's sexuality wasn't any more of a factor in his crimes than Ted Bundy's sexual orientation was in his. The problem is that the media reflects the attitudes of society in general. And, unfortunately, society in general still fails to recognize that we are not defined as human beings by our homosexuality.

Granted, we don't need the bad publicity, but if you're Gay and you're upset and embarrassed because of Cunanan's sexual orientation you need to remember this - our sexual orientation is a simple commonality; it is what binds us together as brothers and sisters. It's not any indicator of any propensity for committing criminal acts or moral misdeeds.

We need to demonstrate that to society and the mainstream media all the year round as much as we do in June. And as trying and difficult as unhappy events such as the Cunanan murder spree may be it is precisely at these times, when we are under close scrutiny, that it is most important that we maintain our pride and dignity.

And then it was now.....

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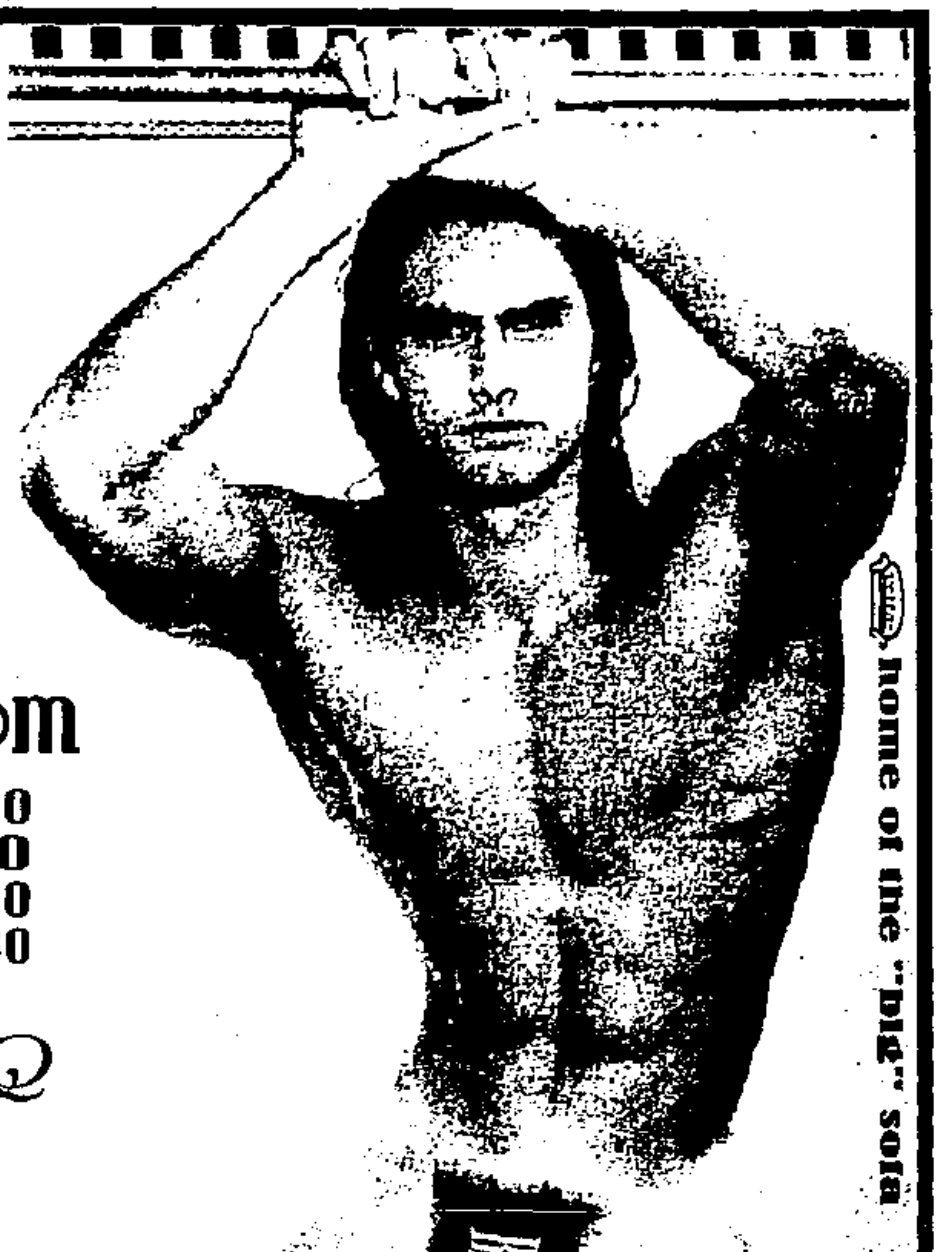

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"The Roast And Toast Of Lucinda Holliday' Another Successful MPS Event

by Mark R. Kerr

TUCSON (ON) - This past Sunday, Tucson's Gay and Lesbian family came together to help one of it's most special members, Woody Duffy, and special children like Woody who are living with MPS.

"The Roast & Toast of Lucinda Holliday," a benefit for the National MPS Society took place at the Holiday Inn-City Center. Despite the monsoons, a couple of hundred people turned out to help the family's "smallest member with the biggest heart," Woody Duffy and other special children living with MPS.

Woody, the son of Beth and Natalie Perry has Hurler/Scheie Syndrome, a rare genetic disease that usually kills children between 14 and 18 years of age. Lacking an enzyme that breaks down mucopolysaccharides, the long chains of sugar molecules that help build connective tissues, his body is slowly shutting down.

His mother Beth knows there is neither a treatment nor a cure for his disorder. She knows time in running out, but she's not willing to give him up without a fight. Thus the annual benefit, "A Roast and Toast."

Proceeds from the benefit go to the National MPS Society which: helps to continue the society's membership directory; it's annual magazine and a quarterly newsletter, and, most importantly, it's educational and research efforts.

This year's honoree was Lucinda Holliday. La Lucinda made a tremendous entrance, throwing chocolate goodies to the crowd.

Mr. Larry Moore aka Lucinda Holliday

The hostess for the evening's festivities was Miss Gilda Fatale. She had a wonderful gown on, "a Puerto Rican prom dress," quoting Fatale.

Gilda praised Lucinda for her work for the Gay and Lesbian Community and the budget of Hometown Buffet.

Gary Clark told a story of one of La Lucinda's gastronomic exploits, and showed the results. Gary showed the audience the voo-doo doll of Gilda Fatale.

Felice Renard wowed the audience with a wonderful performance, and told the crow that Lucinda had been a mother and a best friend to her.

In a heartfelt gesture, Brian Krueger of Boom-Boom's offered to bury the hatchet and made up with Lucinda. Brian gave the honoree and bejeweled hatchet.

Lucinda's brother Paul Moore talked about family life and Lucinda. Paul had the line of the roast, Moore opened with "Hi, I'm Paul and I'm a breeder!"

Ajia Simone, as Sister Cantelope, wowed the crowd with "Big Fat Woman!" and told the audience about Lucinda's lack of cooking prowess.

Natalie Perry announced Willie Gradillas as the winner of the "MPS Volunteer of the Year." An emotional Gradillas thanked the crowd. Woody Duffy gave his "Special Friend of the Year Award" to Moose Pagel.

Mr. Kenneth Blake, the current Miss Gay Tucson, gave a show-stopping number as Cruella DeVille. Blake's costume was stunning, according to many person present for the benefit. Blake performed a medley of songs, based on DeVille. Songs ranged "Cruella DeVille, How Much Was That Doggie In The Window, Wonder Woman, to I Am What I Am."

Felice Renard did another performance, as Marilyn Monroe. Alotta Whoremones (Brian Fox) told the crowd of the famous Lucinda "transvestite stripper story" and how it got on KRQ radio.

Scott Hawkins read from a passage from Lucinda's diary, "Food For Thought." Celia Putty talked about how Lucinda taught her famous modeling techniques, which were used at the Flex club.

Lucinda had her chance for rebuttal. Holliday performed a show-stopping medley of songs from "Jose Cuervo to I Will Survive." Event organizers tried to trip up Holliday when they put the Spanish language version of the Gloria Gaynor hit. La Lucinda went along, as the professional she is, and didn't miss a bit.

Lucinda gave out momentos to the roasters and thanked the crowd for attending the MPS benefit.

No final figures were available as of press time, but it is expected that several thousand dollars were raised at "The Roast and Toast."

A good time was had by all. Those in attendance saw one of the best shows in a long time, to help Woody and special children like him. The Tucson Gay and Lesbian Community showed themselves to be a family once again.

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POLITICS 1997

By MARK R. KIRK

"Elephant Droppings!"

The first time is the hardest! U.S. Rep. Jim Kolbe, R-Tucson, gave his first public speech to Log Cabin Republicans, a group of Gay and Lesbian conservatives who held their annual convention this past weekend.

In his speech, Kolbe stated he thought it a mistake for Gays and Lesbians to focus solely on their own comparatively narrow agendas. Kolbe said members of the Gay and Lesbian community can advance by focusing on issues that appeal to all members of society, such as crime and education.

Kolbe went on, "The cause for Gay Republicans and Gay Democrats will be advanced when Gays and Lesbian act like straight people.—Not when we go back into the closet, for we will never do that, but when we demonstrate our concern and our commitment to issues that matter to main street America."

Kolbe said his sexual orientation was a "secondary" aspect of his identity. "Being Gay was not, and is not today, my persona," Kolbe is quoted as saying.

Narrow agendas? No way Jimbo! It's about basic rights denied to Gays and Lesbians who dare to live their lives as themselves!

Gays and Lesbians are concerned about rising crime, especially against themselves. Gays and Lesbians are concerned about education, so that the warped ideas spewed about sexuality will stop, resulting in people living in a hostile-free environment.

He just doesn't get it! We act like human beings, not breeders! Gays and Lesbians have contributed greatly to the betterment of society as a whole! Gays and Lesbians pay taxes, served our country in the armed forces and government, are church goers, raise families and do the same things breeders do!

Gays and Lesbians have long demonstrated their concerns for issues impacting all aspects of society. The environment, free speech, the arts, crime, a women's right to choose, just to name a few, but Jimbo just doesn't get it!

Gays and Lesbians are fighting for equal rights, as the breeders have. Nothing more, nothing less. Jimbo has led a sheltered life, and just doesn't have a clue!

Rep. Kolbe may be "out of the closet," but these statements made this past weekend show that he is "out" of touch as well. . . .

Severely indicted guv, J. Fife "I didn't do it" Whitewash III, R-Depending Upon Which Financial Statement, testimony highlighted his federal fraud trial this past week.

Before the Fifester got on the hot seat, his mouthpieces called several witness who played up their strategy of "blame the bookkeepers, banks or anybody else!"

Last Thursday, the Fifester took the stance and swore under oath that he never committed the crimes alleged by federal prosecutors. Whitewash said he didn't lie to a U.S. bankruptcy court, threaten financial lenders for the Mercado, and didn't defraud his bankers or falsify financial information. Sure!!!

When the feds got a crack at Whitewash, things changed. The hot seat got hotter! Under cross-examination, the Fifester conceded he paid himself about $2.3 mil in salary and profits from his company when his development partnerships were scraping to repay the multi million dollar loans. Isn't that fraud?

Whitewash also denied again that he had tried to use his power of his office to extort concession from a lender of his controversial downtown Mercado project. Did he deny being a great businessman?

Whitewash's testimony will continue this week as federal prosecutors continue their cross-examination. . . .

First laptops, now abstinence! In their "infinite wisdom," legislators decided to spend $2.6 million on promoting sexual abstinence in teens.

The $2.6 million will come from the state's federal welfare block grant. Yes, the poor and health care programs gets it again from the Phoenix Republicans. This hair-brained scheme came from St. Rep. Mark Anderson, R-Mesa, and of "Just Say No Homos" fame. Now, "Just Say No Nookie!"

Anderson said the state health department will offer grants to churches, schools and non-profit groups that already have or want to create programs aimed at promoting abstinence. Common sense? No! Politics? Definitely!

Arizona spends nothing to teach kids, the state's future, about sex, STD's, HIV/AIDS or parenting. They "think" an abstinence program for teens, despite 80 percent of births are to mothers over 21, will work. How can it? The Arizona Legislature has basically outlawed all aspects of sex, so how would they no about sex? . . .

"Contributions, we've not received any contributions," is a quote that could be attributed Dan Copeland, the elephant running for the Tucson Ward 3 Council.

Copeland's treasurer resigned, Mary Preble over what she called violations of campaign disclosure laws. Ooh! [According to city campaign statutes, candidates must file as a political committee no later than 10 days after receiving donations of more than $250.]

Copeland's response, "the allegations are politically motivated." Sure! Preble alleges Copeland had obtained money before officially filing as a candidate. She said Copeland refused to turn over receipts after spending the money, even though the campaign hadn't opened a checking account. Uh-oh!

According to news reports, Copeland had received checks from Toni Hellon, chair of the Pima County Republican Party, and Dodie Londen, state chair of the Arizona Republican Party, gave Copeland $100 and $300 dollars respectively. The checks were cashed. Ooh!

When asked about this, Copeland

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY

A Certain 'Understanding' Between Gays And Law Enforcement

Efforts To Solve Cunanan Case Brought Something Of A Breakthrough

by Richard Willing and
Maria Puente

BOSTON, MA (USA) - In May, Boston police Sgt. Norman Hill learned that murder suspect Andrew Cunanan might be in the city and rushed out to spread the word.

Hill, a 14-year veteran who is openly Gay, took Cunanan's picture to a popular Gay nightspot and received a shock: An FBI agent he knew to be heterosexual already had been there, warned management and even passed out a "wanted" poster.

"A few years ago I doubt that would have happened," Hill says. "But things are changing. The (FBI agent) knew who to talk to and where to go because he had made the effort to learn. That says something about where we are."

The relationships between law enforcement and Gays, traditionally testy or non-existent, achieved something of a breakthrough in the Cunanan case.

Police and FBI agents were required to work Gay bars, develop Gay sources and tap into Gay communications networks they never knew existed. Gays granted interviews to police officers and put them in touch with others who keep their sexual direction private but who might help solve the case.

"If there's anything good that has come out of this horrific situation, it's better understanding between law enforcement and the Gay community," says Clinton Van Zandt, who retired two years ago after 25 years in the FBI.

"The negative views that hold held had to be shed for the good of the entire community. I think it was a refreshing experience for both sides."

Others say the Cunanan investigation is a story of two cultures, police and Gays, that still miss far more often than they click.

Of agents in business suits looking awkward in Gay bars, fumbling Gay slang, misunderstanding Gay ways.

Of Gays unable to overcome their rocky history, especially with the FBI, to reach out and provide crucial information.

What the Cunanan case highlights most of all, some say, are the uneven relations between law enforcement and Gays in America's major cities: good relations in Minneapolis, fair relations in New York, problematic relations in Miami.

"I don't think one should pin too high hopes on this case (to embrace those relations," says John D'Emilio who teaches history at the University of North Carolina-Greensboro. "Hopefully there's a constructive lesson to be learned that police need to develop a permanent lasting relationship or find themselves with a problem the next time something like this arises."

Among Gays critical of the Cunanan investigation, the FBI takes the majority of the heat.

"Right after the Versace murder, the FBI was on record as saying, 'We did out best; we did outreach.' And I say absolutely, positively not," says Bill Watson, publisher of TWN, a Miami Gay newspaper. "Like AIDS and Rock Hudson, it took Versace to get people interested in this case."

Two weeks before Versace was killed, FBI agents met with Gay activists and leaders at a community center in Fort Lauderdale. They got a list of clubs, bars, bookstores and publications to visit for canvassing or leafleting.

"But there was no follow through," Watson says. "They promised 15,000 fliers, but they didn't show up until they day after Versace was killed."

When agents did make contact with Florida Gays, their styles often chafed.

David Yudin, owner of Moby Dick, an upscale Gay bar in Fort Lauderdale, says he was contacted five times by FBI agents who thought Cunanan was a regular patron.

"But they wouldn't tell me anything about this guy for a long time other than that he was 'armed and dangerous,'" Yudin says. "I had to find out through the Gay press." The experience left him wondering, "Is this the usual protocol or is it because we're (Gay?)"

When they did make the Gay scene, agents sometimes stood out awkwardly. One story now circulating tells of two agents who showed up at a casual Miami lounge in full FBI dress: business suits and sensible shoes.

Bar patrons "probably just closed up, saw them as the 'other side' and resisted talking to them," says Mark Johnson of the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force.

The FBI makes no apologies for its performance.

The bureau tracked the elusive Cunanan to the Miami area in early June, and apparently just missed catching him during a Gay bar's happy hour.

After the Versace shooting, the FBI threw unprecedented resource at the case, blanketing south Florida with 400 agents. And, the FBI had to jump some obstacles it did not create: the fear of violence that kept potential informants quiet, and the fear of exposure that caused some "closeted" Gays to balk at helping investigators.

In a bit of diplomacy, the bureau persuaded Gamma Mu, an upscale Gay social group with a secret membership list, to aid the investigation without divulging members' names.

"We built a bridge between the FBI and members of the Gay community through the country," FBI Deputy Director William Esposito says. "Now we'd like to make that bridge stronger."

Esposito also says the bureau took steps to warn "hundreds" of Cunanan's associates or people he may have bragged about knowing that they could be at risk.

Whatever bridges have been built may be needed very soon.

Gay groups charge that five serial

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY

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by Tom Stoppard

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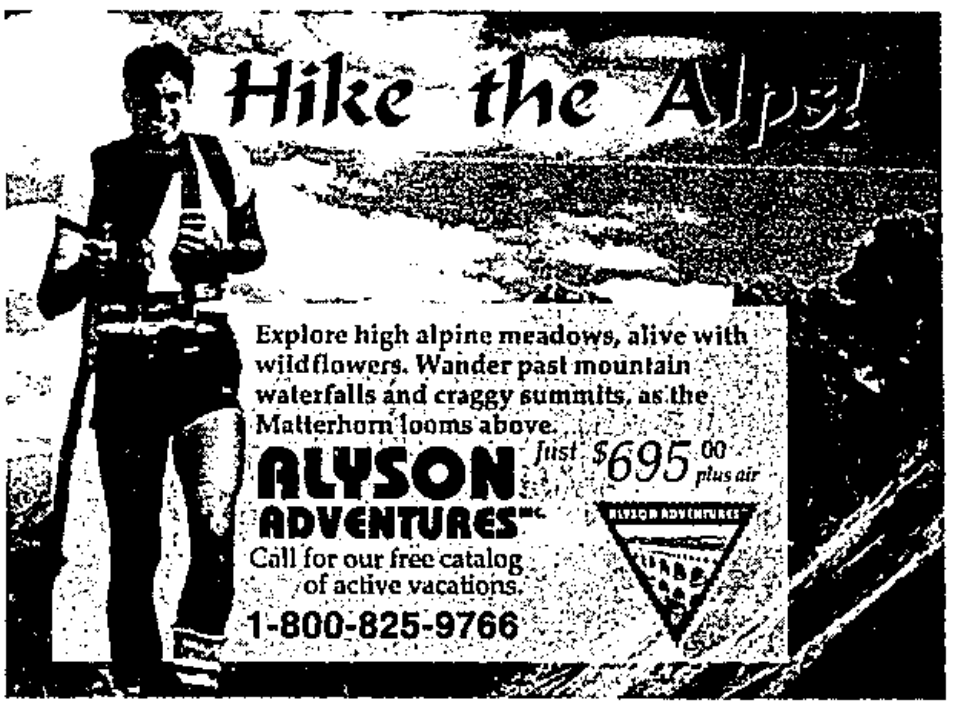

Columna Abierta . . . .

by Dr. Eleazar Garcia

¿Qué tal?, un poco de prisa como en otras ocaciones, pero en esta ocación es por los arreglos que tenemos que hacer con respecto a la 24a. Conferencia anual de la Asociación de Salud Rural de Arizona que se llevará a cabo en Rio Rico Arizona los días 6 al 8 de agosto y esperamos una gran asistencia como las que hemos tenido en años anteriores; en ésta ocación el lema es: Innovación para el nuevo milenio: Oportunidades en Salud Rural; y es patrocinada por la Oficina de Salud Rural de la Universidad de Arizona y la Asociación de Salud Rural de Arizona. Dentro de los oradores invitados figuran Claude Earl Fox, III, M.D. Administrador del departamento de Salud y de Servicios Humanos; y Dena S. Puskin, Sc.D. Directora de la Oficina Federal de Salud Rural... Además de otros no menos importantes personajes dentro de la Salud Pública, tanto de Arizona como del resto de la nación,. Si necesita información adicional en relación a esta conferencia, por favor puede comunicarse con Rebecca Ruíz al (520) 626-7946.

Lo que también quiero mencionar fué el gran éxito que tubo el Festival para los jóvenes de Ambos Nogales, que organizáron los estudiantes del grupo Interdisciplinario de la Universidad de Arizona y de la Universidad del Estado de Arizona, el cual se llevó a cabo el pasado viernes 25 y fácilmente se puede calcular que más de 200 personas asistieron al festival donde hubo más de 25 mesas de información para que el público pasara y recibiera una breve charla o información sobre prevención y/o servicios que estan disponibles en las diferentes agencias y organizaciones, además se contó con las mesas de información para el proceso de reclutación en las diferentes academias del cuerpo de defensa de los Estados Unidos... También el "Tuffy" de los Toros de Tucson quién estubo repartiendo cupones y regalos, en general hubo mucha música, globos, palomitas, refrescos, y rifas de fabulosos premios donados por diferentes comercios y agencias de servicios y lo mejor de todo fué gratis!, y la ganadora del premio mayor fué Raquel Morales de Nogales Sonora, con una bicicleta para montañas con un precio aproximado de 300.00 donado por Juntos Unidos,... De verdad que fué un gran trabajo el que desempeñaron los estudiantes, y desde luego con la ayuda de varios voluntarios que sin la valiosa ayuda de ellos no hubiese sido posible sacar adelante todo el programa como así fué antes de que nos refrescara la lluvia que cernó con una fresca y "remojada" tarde... Entre los voluntarios más valiosos fueron: Theresa, Mario, Williams y Tony; quienes trabajaron desde muy temprano ayudando al acomodo de las mesas hasta el recoger todo; a todos ellos muchísimas gracias!!!

Otro gran evento que cabe mencionar, fué el del Show a beneficio de Salud es Poder que coordinó Scott en substitución de Ernie, y de verdad se pudo apreciar las magníficas actuaciones de Mr. Gay Latino '97, Jorge de Hollywood, Valeoro, Brissa, Mama Reyna, Jody, Felice Reynard y todas las personas que participaron; y lo mejor fué la participación del público que respondió con donaciones y muchos aplausos, felicidades a todos los participantes!!!

Se les recuerda que las Noches Latinas de Salud es Poder se están llevando a cabo en "el Otro cuarto" del Boom-Booms y se están poniendo muy buenas, por allá se les espera a la vez se les recuerda que sí, se cuenta con el apoyo de todos, se podrán cambiar a los días sabados como ma mayoría lo ha hecho saber, que los sabados sería el mejor día...

Esperamos que Ernie Pérez nos traiga mucha información en su regreso de Atlanta y desde luego que las compartirá con todos ustedes, así también que nos platique como le fué por esa ciudad...

Por hoy es todo, los esperamos la próxima semana D.M.

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Same Sex Benefits Have Little Impact On Business Costs

WASHINGTON, DC (WS) - A recent study conducted by the Washington-based Employee Benefit Research Institute shows the cost of extending medical benefits to Gay and Lesbian couples poses a far smaller cost to businesses that many claim to fear.

In fact, says the report, since most same-sex couples do not experience the high costs associated with pregnancy, childbirth and post natal care, relative costs to employers for Gay couples are lower generally than for opposite-sex couples.

Hawaii's reciprocal beneficiaries law went into effect July 8 and is meant to provide Gay and Lesbian couples, and other qualified households, some 60 benefits, including medical insurance, property rights, and survivorship rights such as inheritance and workmen's compensation. The law was almost immediately challenged in Federal court by five of Hawaii's largest employers which claimed the law imposed an unfair financial burden on their businesses.

"Employers currently offering benefits to domestic partners have not experienced higher risks of cost in the health insurance coverage than they have with legally married spouses," quoting the Institute report. "The difference in cost between firms offering and denying this type of coverage appears slight."

Other reports bear out similar findings. A survey of employers conducted by the Society for Human Resource Management earlier this year found 85 percent of the companies it surveyed showed absolutely no increase in health care costs after adopting domestic partner benefits plans.

Play Safe!

You Have The Right. . .

by Sharon Kutzschbach

Q: I have just been diagnosed with HIV. Legally, what should I do now?

A: First, take a deep breath and relax. This is not the immediate death sentence it once was. With advances in treatment and early detection, people with HIV are living much longer and better quality lives than those diagnosed only a few years ago. That said, we are all going to die someday. Start planning your life and death immediately.

After you have been diagnosed as having any terminal or chronic illness with a prognosis that over time your condition will worsen, one of the first things you need to do is start keeping a diary or journal. This is not a "Dear Diary - I just met the dreamiest guy!" king of thing. The purpose is to prove that your illness has limited your lifestyle so that down the road you can qualify for Social Security Disability.

You can use a typical journal, a notebook, or a calendar with plenty of space to write for each day. It should be bound so that pages don't get lost. Your journal should contain things like what you did during the day, activities at work, home, and leisure time. How did you sleep? How do you feel? Any medical appointments, medications taken along with the dosage, time, and side effects, if any. Note your T-cell count or viral load when you have those tests run. Note any symptoms you have, whether you believe that they are related to your diagnosis or not.

It is important that you do this every say, no matter how good or bad you feel. It is natural that you will have good days, probably even some great days, along with the bad days. The only way to show that over time your life has changed is by keeping a consistent daily written record. You will not be able to reconstruct this from memory when you need it. Trust me.

By the time you file for disability, you will have an impressive record to prove that your quality of life has changed and how it has changed. This can eliminate a lot of problems in getting financial help whether in the form of Social Security Disability, Supplemental Security Income, or food stamps.

Now that you have started your journal, your next priority is to learn your rights. If you are uninformed, you may lost valuable rights simply because you did not know how to exercise them.

Where are your important papers - insurance policies, information about stocks or other investments, bank accounts, title to your car, deed to the house. If you haven't already done so, now is the time to gather these all together and really read them. A notebook that lists your assets can be very helpful.

Start with your health insurance policy. The people who write insurance policies are very fond of extremely complex language and teeny tiny print. By checking it out now and keeping a record of what the policy actually says once it has been translated into real English, you can save yourself a lot of time and trouble at a later date when you may not feel well anyway. Note the section and paragraph number where you found the information you are writing down in case you need to find it again later.

List the name of the company carrying the policy, their address, telephone and fax numbers. The policy number, date it was issued, amount and due date for the premium. Check to be certain that the policy paperwork you are looking at is the current policy and that you have any amendments, exclusions, or additions to the policy since it was issued.

Exactly what is covered? Hospitalization? Double or private room? is there a maximum room allowance? Prescriptions? What is the co-pay? Do they only cover drugs listed on their formulary (specific list of drugs)? What is the procedure to get a drug not on the formulary? Do they cover experimental treatment? How do they define "accepted medical treatment?" What out patient procedures are covered? Do they cover any complimentary or alternative therapies? List any exclusions. Is there an annual or lifetime maximum benefit?

What are your rights to appeal a company decision that they will not pay for treatment your doctor authorizes? Exactly how do you file an appeal? What is the time limit for appealing their decision? Must your doctor be on their list of practitioners?

If, as is true of most of us, your insurance is obtained through your employer, what happens if you are unable to work for a while? Will the employer continue to pay the amount of the insurance premium they currently pay? For how long? What would be the total premium you would be required to pay, and when, during periods of unpaid leave?

To get the answers to those questions, you may have to go to Employee Benefits or Human Resources at your place of employment. You are not obligated to tell them anything about your health or HIV status. Make a note in your notebook of the date, time, name, and title of the person who answered your questions. Get the answers in writing if possible. That may mean photocopying a few pages from the policies and procedures manual, or you may have to request a letter be written to you answering your questions.

Never assume that because your employer may be required to hold open your job for up to six months while you are on medical leave that they will automatically pay for your health insurance as well. This is not the time to be wrong and uninsured.

What will happen to your health insurance if you change employers? Do you qualify to convert the policy from group to individual status? Do you qualify for group insurance not related to your employer? (Some professional associations, unions, or fraternal groups provide group insurance to their members. This is usually more expensive than the insurance that your employer provides, but can be better than having no insurance at all.) Check the options now while there is no pressure to make a decision.

Do you qualify for insurance through your spouse or partners employment? When can you be added to their coverage? What is the cost? Are there excluded time periods for coverage or total exclusions for certain conditions?

Get the same information for your disability or named illness policies. Are

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY

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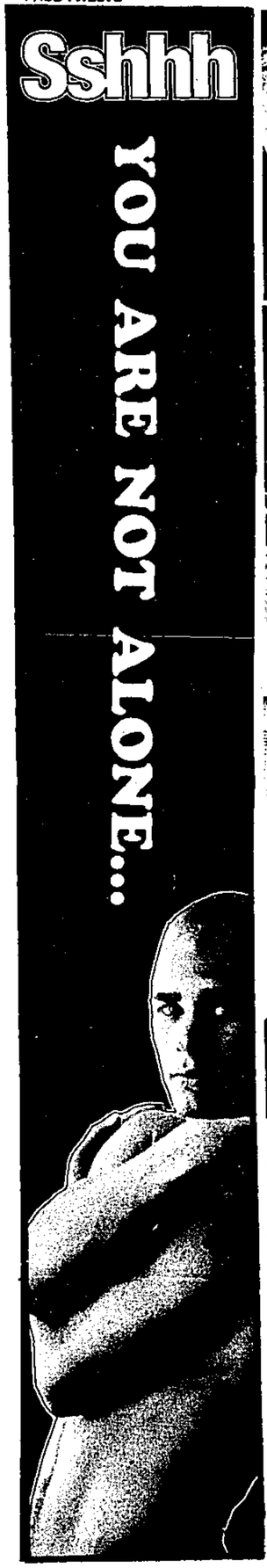

Saturday, August 2nd

Desert Leathermen

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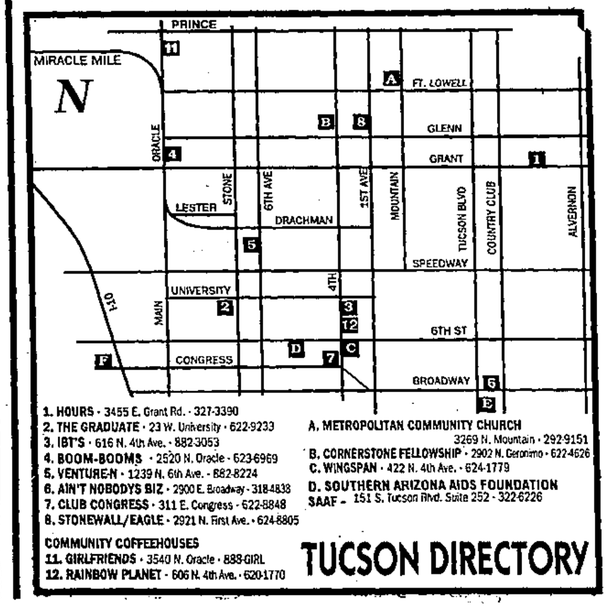

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2. THE GRADUATE - 23 W. University - 622-9233
3. IBT'S - 616 N. 4th Ave. - 882-3053
4. BOOM-BOOMS - 2520 N. Oracle - 623-6969
5. VENTUREN - 1239 N. 6th Ave. - 882-8224
6. AIN'T NOBODYS BIZ - 2900 E. Broadway - 318-4838
7. CLUB CONGRESS - 311 E. Congress - 622-8848
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TUCSON DIRECTORY

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TUCSON GREATER SOFTBALL ASSOCIATION

BS West/Phoenix Takes 1st Volleyball Challenge Title

Even the sudden downpour could not detract from what has to be considered a great success, for turnout as well as competitiveness, the First Annual Volleyball Challenge.

"The Girls" team from BS West in Phoenix, in an awesome display of teamwork, claimed the inaugural championship this past Sunday, July 27 at De-Anza Park.

Many thanks to "The Girls," Teigh, Lee, Jennie and Local Marana resident Dee-Dee for making the trip. In a real touch of class and sportsmanship, the girls decided to present the championship trophy to Dee-Dee, who sprained her knee early in the tourney and could not continue playing. Way to go!

Thanks to all 6 participating teams and to the spectators. Thanks also to Greg F., and Peter R., for organizing this fun event. Special, thanks to Robb G., and all other volunteer referees and linesmen, especially to Dean T., who came to watch and wound up being a linesman for the entire event.

This event was sponsored by the Arizona Aces Softball Club to raise money for its trip to the Gay Softball World Series in San Diego, California, August 12-16.

Beer/Soda Bust At Graduate

The Graduate will be hosting a Beer/Soda bust for the Arizona Aces travel fund this Saturday, August 2, from 5:00 to 8:00 P.M. Please come and show your support for the Aces as they prepare for the road trip.

Car Wash At Boom Boom's

The Aces will hold a car wash this Sunday, August 3, 12 noon to 5:00 P.M. at Boom-Boom's, 2520 North Oracle. The team is asking for a $3 donation per car for the exterior wash. Advance tickets are available from team members or at the door. Please note that the printed tickets may have August 4 on them, the event will definitely take place, Sunday, August 3.

For more information on these events, please contact Greg F., 326-2053. All fund raisers help the Aces defray costs when the team travels to San Diego as the Tucson Greater Softball Association (TGSA) Open Division Representative to the Gay Softball World Series (GSWS), August 12-16.

Other Tucson representatives to the GSWS are Ain't Nobody's Bizness and Hill Foot Gems, competing in the Women's Competitive and Women's Recreational Divisions respectively.

Since its humble beginnings in 1977 as a challenge between San Francisco (the first champion) and New York City, the GSWS has grown to over 100 teams in five divisions, Open, A, B and C (both men and women), and Women's Competitive and Recreational (Women Only).

Teams travel from throughout the U.S. and Canada to compete in this tournament. The 1998 GSWS will be held in Atlanta. The GSWS is presented under the auspices of the North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAAA) which governs Gay Softball in the U.S. and Canada. NAGAAA currently serves 50 leagues (Open and Women's Divisions) in 30 cities.

For more information on TGSA, please contact Commissioner Mary O., 770-9979. Also, look for future Observer articles regarding the TGSA Fall-Ball League scheduled to start in mid-September and run through mid-November. New players to the league, and to softball, are always welcome and encouraged. Fall-Ball is designed to keep current TGSA members active and as a way to encourage persons who may not have played in a while or ever to give the sport a try. Fall-Ball is less structured and less competitive than the TGSA Spring League which determines the TGSA representatives to the GSWS. There are no awards or league banquets for Fall-Ball, just lots of fun.

Shootin' Around Town

by Wayne Steele

TUCSON - Here are the winners of the most recent pool tournaments held in the Old Pueblo:

Hours, 7/20. Hostess: Dee-Wed Maghan-Sun. 8 players. First Place - Nari, $29. Second Place - Jackie, $12. Third Place - Mary, $7.

Hours, 7/23. Hostess: Dee-Wed. 14 players. First Place - RKR, $50. Second Place - Louis, $21. Third Place - Liz, $13.

Ain't Nobody's Biz, 7/22. Host: Louis. 13 players. First Place - Diane, $39. Second Place - Louis, $17. Third Place - Leslie AW, $10.

Stonewall/Eagle, 7/27. Host: David Zinke. 8 players. First Place - Dennis HL, $25. Second Place - Cynthia MD, $15. Third Place - Leslie AW, $10.

Graduate, 7/26. Host: Larry. 15 players. First Place - Juan, $45. Second Place - David Zinke, $30. Third Place - Larry LL, $15.

Boom-Boom's, 7/24. Host: Dee. First Place - Wayne CS, $39. Second Place - Anna, $17. Third Place - Diana, $10.

Venture-N, 7/24. Host: Steve Melton. Six players. First Place - Steve Melton, $18.

WHAT'S BLACK & WHITE & READ ALL OVER?

OBSERVER TUCSON, ARIZONA

Two More California Banks Add Domestic Partners Benefits

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (WS) - Wells Fargo and Union Bank have announced they will be wise when it comes to keeping their employees – and their domestic partners -- healthy and wealthy.

As of January 1, the three largest banks in California will all be extending spousal benefits to their employees' unmarried domestic partners, whether heterosexual or same-gender. The state's second- and third-largest banks, Wells Fargo Bank and Union Bank, announced their domestic partner benefit plans, following the leader, Bank of America ("B of A"), which made its announcement March 10.

Both Wells Fargo and Union Bank cited the need to offer competitive compensation packages to attract and retain the most talented staff. However, since both are headquartered in San Francisco, there's reason to think that both companies, like "B of A," were also motivated in part by San Francisco's controversial new law requiring firms contracting with the city to extend spousal benefits to employees' registered domestic partners.

Wells Fargo and Union Bank didn't quite follow "B of A" the whole route, however. When "B of A" determined to become the largest financial institution so far to offer significant partner benefits, the company extended them all the way to "extended family members," allowing employees the option to select not only a spouse or domestic partner but a parent, a sibling, or a grown child as the beneficiary of a full range of health benefits.

By contrast, Union Bank has identified a domestic partner as an adult – regardless of gender -- who has cohabited with the employee at least six months and has an exclusive commitment to and financial interdependence with him/her. Wells Fargo Bank is also extending spousal coverage only to domestic partners but has not yet issued its eligibility standards. Wells Fargo has about 35,000 employees and combined assets of about $100-million.

Thanks in part to the San Francisco law, as well as to statewide legislation introduced by openly Lesbian California Assemblymember Carole Migden (D-SF) and to a growing demand, the four leading health plan providers in the state are now all offering employers the option of extending coverage to domestic partners. Two lawsuits seeking to strike down the city ordinance are now in progress, one by the Air Transport Association and one by an out-of-state electrician.

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A View From The Rock

A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

What was your reaction to the news that Andrew Cunanan killed himself? Was it one of relief? After all, it appeared that he targeted those from the Gay community for his victims, for the most part, and there was always the possibility, however remote, that he would choose Tucson as a place to hide from the authorities, and perhaps choose another victim. Did you feel cheated, because since he took his own life there would be little opportunity to find out the "why's behind his string of murders? Someone I spoke with at work indicated that she felt sorry for his family. In spite of his apparent guilt, he still had family who loved him. What a terrible way for his life to be ended!

I'll tell you how I felt, if I can. The closest emotion I can describe is that of pity. When Cunanan realized that he was not going to be able to escape, that there were just too many people looking for him, from law enforcement to those hoping to cash in on the large rewards offered for information leading to his arrest, he decided to pull the biggest escape act of his life. By choosing to take his own life, I'm sure he thought that he would not have to face the terrible consequences of his actions.

That decision was the worst one in a long string of bad decisions, beginning with his decision to murder his first victim.

Scripture makes it very clear that, " . . . man is destined to die once, and after that to fact judgement . . ." (Hebrews 9:27) By taking his own life, Cunanan escaped facing the judgment of man, but he expedited God's judgement on himself! If Cunanan had been captured, tried and found guilty, he still would have had an opportunity after opportunity to confess his sin and receive God's forgiveness and assurance of a place in Heaven. If he would have accepted Jesus as his savior even if he had been executed for his crimes he would have immediately entered the eternal bliss that everyone who accepts Jesus' sacrifice for their sins experiences upon their death!

By taking his life, however, Cunanan gets no more chances!

God in his mercy does not give us a detailed description of just what awaits those who die without accepting his son Jesus as their savior, but there are several passages that speak about their fate. When Jesus was speaking about their doom, he referred to it as " . . .the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." Further on in the same passage he calls it " . . . eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels." And finally, " . . . eternal punishment . . ." (Matthew 25:30 41,46) John, the Beloved Apostle, writes this description of what awaits them, ". . . the lake of burning sulfur . . . They will be tormented day and night for ever and ever . . . The lake of fire is the second death. If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire." (Revelation 20:10, 14, 15) While these descriptions are not complete, they are enough to make me want to be sure that I never experience this doom!

I thank God that I know where I will be the instant after I die! Because I have accepted Jesus as my savior, I will hear, "'Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world.'" (Matthew 25:34)

Jesus is extending the same invitation to you today: "'Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.'" (Matthew 11:28) How will you respond?

With God, all things are possible!

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ARIZONA

FRIENDLY IN FLAGSTAFF I'm a good natured, good looking, 21 year old, White male, seeking friends for hanging out and good times. (Flagstaff) ▫34514

GRAND CANYON SWEET Very good looking, versatile, White male, 5'5, 155lbs, is willing to travel to meet other hot guys. (Grand Canyon) ▫2974

KINGMAN CAPERS Interested in going out for a good time? This young, attractive, White male, wants to oblige you. Let's go. (Kingman) ▫3384

THE SKI BOAT APPROACH I'm a 23 year old, White male who has never been with a man before. A good way for us to get to know each other might be for us to go out on my old ski boat for a day of fun in the sun. (Kingman) ▫34442

PUMP IT UP Curious about vacuum pumping? This very well endowed, horny, Bi, White male, pumper, 46, is a top who likes mutual oral, videos, long stroke sessions, and using the pump. I'm clean shaven and lots of fun. Your age and race aren't important to me. (Page) ▫3719

IT'S ENORMOUS If you're a hungry, horny, bottom, into size, I'm your man. I'm an extremely well endowed, Single, White male, 46. I'm looking for insatiable bottoms into hot, kinky fun. I'm a vacuum pumper so it gets huge. I also like couples, and more. (Page) ▫34241

MIDDLE OF NOWHERE I'm 49 years old, but am told I look 38, and sometimes I act about 28. I live in the middle of nowhere, on the edge of Arizona. I'm versatile but prefer to be the bottom. I'm looking to meet men in the area. I live alone with my two dogs. (Parker) ▫3344

GET DOWN Brand new in town. This young stud is wants to meet other hot guys who are interested in getting together, getting it on, and getting off. (Phoenix) ▫4288

THERE'S PLENTY OF TIME I'm just looking for some nice, good looking, guys to hang out with. Let's make friends, have some fun, and take it from there. (Phoenix) ▫4182

VERY STRONG LIBIDO I need a hot bottom, 25 to 46, to service me orally. You must be able to eat eight and be available during the day. I'm a good looking, 19 year old, White male, 6ft, 165lbs, with plenty to chew on. I have a very strong libido so I need constant attention. (Phoenix) ▫4188

MY FIRST TIME I want to share my first male to male experience with a hot, sexy, shapely, very passionate, well endowed, dark skinned, Transsexual, Transvestite, or male. You must be out, enjoy foreplay, and be willing to play with my sensitive nipples while showing me how to please you. I'm an attractive, healthy, Married, White male, 49, 6ft, 190lbs. (Phoenix) ▫4219

SERVICE FOR BEACH GODS Sexy, smooth, attractive, White male, bottom, 19, seeks athletic, muscular, 18 to 20 year old, White males, with Blond hair and Blue eyes, who need to be serviced. Use me. (Phoenix) ▫4239

BUTTON FLY GUY I want to meet a top, who wears 501s or Silver Tab jeans, and who likes to be orally serviced. (Phoenix) ▫4083

VISIT THE MOUNTAINS I like Phoenix and have met some friends at the bars there but I'm looking for romance with someone who's willing to spend some time with me here in beautiful Prescott. I'm a handsome, masculine, Divorced, White male, 42, into hiking, water-skiing on the Colorado, and enjoying the outdoors. I have a nice, modest, place and lots of enthusiasm for life. (Prescott) ▫2688

MOUNTAIN MATE I'm a good natured, fun loving, White male and I'm looking for a friend. (Prescott) ▫2307

YOUNG AND CAREFREE This 18 year old, college student likes hiking, biking, rollerblading, playing sports, swimming, and going out partying with my friends. Let's hook up. (Scottsdale) ▫3947

LIGHT BROWN EYES I'd like to meet, and make friends with, nice guys, over 21, in the area. I'm a good looking, 21 year old, Hispanic male, 5'11, 170lbs, with light Brown hair and eyes, and a nice build. (Sedona) ▫2104

I LOVE LEATHER Single, White male, 28, likes to have good times and is into the leather scene. (Tucson) ▫4232

TALL ORDER I'm 6'4, masculine, sexy, and I like to play. Call for details. (Tucson) ▫4023

WHAT'S UP, DOC? Good looking, 30 year old, Hispanic male, wants to hook up with other hot guys and see what's up. (Tucson) ▫3877

LOOKS AND LIKES I like all guys who are nice looking and friendly. Fit the bill? Call. (Tucson) ▫3523

ALL KINDS OF STUFF Smooth, well endowed, White male, 22, 6ft, 180lbs, with short hair and a goatee, is into all kinds of stuff. (Tucson) ▫3536

I'LL CUM8 ABOARD Sexy, Hispanic male, 38, 5'6, 160lbs, seeks White guys, a little older than me, who like to be on the bottom. I love to be on top. (Tucson) ▫2945

TIGHT IN TUCSON I just moved here and want to meet someone to have fun with. I'm 6'1, with Blond hair, Brown eyes, and a tight, swimmer's build. (Tucson) ▫2215

CLUBS ARE WILD I'd like to get together with friends and enjoy life. I'm a nice guy, and rather a homebody. I don't enjoy the club scene very much. I prefer quiet times. If you feel the same way, and are between 25 and 40, let's get to know each other. (Tucson) ▫1339

BIG BANG THEORY I love to meet other good looking, White males, who are versatile bottoms, who like to get wild. I'm an attractive, extremely well endowed, very horny, White male, 37, 5'10, 170lbs. Let's party. (Yuma) ▫24276

MAN OF THE HOUR Me and my girlfriend want to party with another guy. She wants to watch you and I go at it. I'm a good looking, muscular, White male, 33, 6'2, 240lbs, with Blond hair and Blue eyes. She's a knockout Brunette. We love to party but this will be our first time with another man. (Yuma) ▫34818

ALL DRESSED UP I like to get dressed up all pretty for men. Let's get together real soon. ▫3936

THE LATEST THING Active, fit, 23 year old, White male, into the outdoors, hiking, soccer, swimming, and other sports, likes meeting new people and trying new things. ▫3607

HOMEBOY HAVEN This clean shaven, worked out, 35 year old, White male, 5'10, 190lbs, seeks homeboys and gang bangers, especially Black and Latino men, 18 to 19, for hot, sweaty, sessions. Let me take care of you. I give a great massage, and several other things. ▫3081

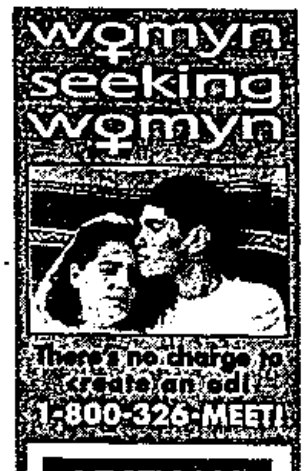
ROCK HARD WORKER I want to get acquainted with other Gay males, and see what happens. I'm an attractive, 26 year old, Gay, Hispanic male, student, I'm masculine, honest, and employed. I like good conversations, great times, and getting to know new people. ▫2763

PARTY MIX I'm looking for passable Transvestites and Transsexuals and very well hung males. What a nice mix we'll make. ▫2185

SLOW STARTER I'm looking for friends in northeastern Arizona. I'm a Native American male, interested in the outdoors and travel. Let's start slow and see where it goes. ▫1027

EVERYTHING'S BIG Maybe I like things big because I just moved here from Texas. I'd like to meet a guy, over 5'8, for friendship and good times. ▫34814

FRIENDS AND MORE I'd like to meet nice guys, 18 to 28, for friendships or a relationship, whichever happens. I'm an 18 year old, White male, 6ft, 200lbs, with Black hair and dark Brown eyes. ▫34399



ARIZONA

AND THE BAND PLAYED ON During the day, I'm an X-ray technician but in the evenings, I'm a disc jockey at a local club. Obviously, I love music, as well as movies, sports, books, concerts, dinners, and any fun we can dream up. I'd love to meet some new people. (Glendale) ▫1906

FROM THE BOTTOM UP This Bi, Hispanic female, 5'4, 115lbs, with dark hair and eyes, wants to hang out, talk, and have good times with an open minded womyn who is clean and safe, sexually. (Phoenix) ▫3080

BREAK THE ICE I want to talk to womyn in the area. I'm a 23 year old, White female, 5'5, 120lbs, with Brown hair and Hazel eyes. Let's talk on the phone or, maybe, get together for coffee. (Phoenix) ▫34799

ANGEL ON THE HORIZON I'm looking for love and someone to share my dreams with. This White female, 21, seeks an angel for a real relationship and true friendship with other womyn. I'm most interested in bonding emotionally at first. The rest will follow. (Tucson) ▫3598

LOVE LIFE WITH ME This incurable romantic doesn't want to be cured. I love life and deserve someone who will appreciate me. I'm a young looking, 40 year old, White female, with 2 daughters, one of whom has Cerebral Palsy, so I have a lot on my plate. I'm an active Virgo who enjoys dancing, camping, fishing, and much more. (Tucson) ▫2327

HIT IT OFF I've been here for a year so I'm settled but now I'm ready to meet more friends. I like interesting, exciting people who like to do fun stuff. I'm a social drinker and occasional smoker. Shall we hook up and see if we hit it off? (Tucson) ▫1723

TUCSON TWOSOME I'd like to get to know another Lesbian with the hope that a special bond will develop between us. I'm a 20 year old, White female, 5'2, 110lbs, with a fun loving personality. I'm outgoing, athletic, love to dance, and enjoy all music. (Tucson) ▫1496

POSITIVE THINKER Twenty four year old, college student, into movies, music, and kids, wants to talk to, and get to know, positive thinking, fun loving, womyn. ▫2849

LUXURIOUS PACE This mature, business oriented, 20 year old, female enjoys dancing, being wined and dined, and massage, both giving and receiving. I seek a friend I can call my very own. I'm willing to take it very slow. ▫33575

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TIHAN Update

TUCSON - The Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network (TIHAN) is a coalition of churches and synagogues committed to a compassionate response to the HIV/AIDS crisis.

Formed three years ago, TIHAN has taken the lead in our community:

offering HIV awareness and education programs within congregations; providing non-medical in-home and socialization to people living with HIV; recruiting, training, coordinating, and supporting volunteers to serve persons living with HIV/AIDS; ensuring the availability of spiritual support to HIV-affected persons who so request;

providing opportunities for the community to come together and heal the fear and separation regarding HIV; forging partnerships between local congregations, people of faith, AIDS service organizations, and people in our community who are living with, and those affected by, HIV/AIDS.

During the past 18 months, TIHAN has accomplished the following:

Provided 10,447 hours of service to HIV+ CarePartners and their families by 164 CareTeam volunteers from 32 congregations. TIHAN now has 18 CareTeams in service, and we have continually had a waiting list of potential CarePartners for over one year.

Provided HIV awareness and educational programs attend by more than 1,233 people (ranging in age from teens to senior citizens) from over 50 congregations. To youth and adult Sunday School forums, college classes and religious groups, rural congregations, high school groups, civic organizations, faith community committee meetings and women's groups, as well as though presentations and sermons as part of worship services.

Provided CareTeam services to 42 HIV-positive persons and their families. Care Teams provide many support services, including socialization, emotional support and companionship, transportation, preparing or bringing food or going out to eat together, shopping, taking to doctor's appointments, light housekeeping, and errands.

Developed a coalition of 17 formally-endorsed "member congregations" (representing ten denominations), alone with one "member organization," with involvement from more than 40 other congregations.

Completed six full 8-hour training sessions that have been attended by 129 volunteers, as well as conducted continuing education programs for current volunteers. Developed a Clergy Resource Referral Network consisting of 60 clergy (from 17 denominations) available, as requested, to provide pastoral counseling to HIV+ persons and their families, to offer the sacraments, and to perform memorial services and funerals.

TIHAN's existence and visibility are helping the religious community's compassion and mobilize the vast resources of our faith communities into the fight against AIDS. TIHAN has accomplished these results with just one paid staff person, 200 wonderful and caring volunteers from synagogues and churches throughout Tucson, and a small budget of $40,000.

For more information about TIHAN, or to volunteers, call Scott Blades, 299-6647.

AZAPA Exec Position Open

by David Hoover

PHOENIX - The Arizona AIDS Policy Alliance (AZAPA) is a state-wide group, working for people living with, or at risk for AIDS.

AZAPA's mission is to influence public policy. People in the AIDS community from throughout the state began the organization in January 1997. The founders believed that a united effort could bring about change in Arizona's AIDS policy.

The Arizona AIDS Policy Alliance is now looking for an Executive Director to fulfill its mission. AZAPA hopes to find a dynamic leader with proven skills in legislative advocacy. This position is critical, because the person who holds it will influence the Arizona legislature on behalf of people with AIDS.

The Alliance has decided to make state funding for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program its top priority. In the six months of its existence AZAPA has built a financial base of dues-paying members from throughout the state. It also received a start-up grant from the Arizona Community Foundation.

The Alliance sponsored a June luncheon in Tucson, inviting legislators to learn about AIDS issues. In July the organizations gathered legislators and lobbyists for the purposes of developing a strategy for obtaining state funds for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program.

The next few months are crucial. AZAPA will be looking for new members to exert pressure on the Arizona legislature. Persons who wish to join AZAPA should call Body Positive, 602-955-4673. The new Executive Director will mobilize new members to continue this important work. Therefore the Alliance needs a person with energy and vision to expand the work and further the cause of AIDS funding in Arizona.

Applicants for the Executive Director position of AZAPA should mail their resume by August 18 to Arizona AIDS Policy Alliance, 6929 North Hayden Road, Suite C4 #142, Scottsdale, Arizona 85250.

[David Hoover is Chair of the Board of Arizona AIDS Policy Alliance.]

Team Arizona To Participate In Aquatics Championships Oct. 16-20

TUCSON - Team Arizona members will be participating in the Tenth Annual International Gay & Lesbian Aquatics (IGLA) Championships, October 16-20, in San Diego, California.

IGLA is expecting over 1,000 swimmers, divers, and water polo players to compete this fall. Registration and entry fees will vary. Registration Forms will be available at the Team Arizona meeting at Girlfriend's Coffeehouse, 3540 N. Oracle in Tucson, Saturday, August 2, 1:30 P.M.

The entry deadline is firmly set for August 29. For more information contact Edna in Tucson, (520) 293-9356 or the IGLA internet site: http://www.-qspec.com.

FULL *disclosure*

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Go In Good Health

by Rev. Andrew Brooks

This week, I would like to talk about some natural assistance in dealing with life's lessons. As we go through life, we experience many things, some of them good, some of them bad. We develop a personality based on many factors, and all of us go through periods of happiness, sadness, joy and pain.

As we learn from these experiences, we sometimes encounter a kind of emotional aftershock, and this can inhibit us. Yes, it is true that some of us move through life with little deep emotional context, meaning, things don't affect us deeply on an emotional level, since we have learned to shrug these things off. However, for others, some experiences really shake them. Especially in the instances of relationships and love.

If we find our childhoods memories taunting us, or a bad relationship, counseling may bring peace. But we must also move on. Instead of holding on to the wounds forever, for the sake of remaining powerless, we must stand up, and have the courage to heal. I want to share some remedies that can assist in maintaining and restoring a healthy emotional state, since we now know that emotions are linked to our well-being.

There is a whole like of natural remedies, that I have mentioned a bit from time to time. Bach Flower Remedies are small bottles of essences distilled from plants and flowers, and through some scoff at the notion of healing from these things, it is a fact that most medicine is a synthetic copy of Nature's Own Pharmacy. Through research, these tinctures have been discovered. They can assist in self-healing.

You will often find pamphlets and sometimes even a questionnaire on the Bach Flower Remedies, ask around at health food stores, and read through it to help determine what you need. For example, there is a remedy called White Chestnut, to be used to assist in bringing tranquility and discernment, according to information I gleaned from a phone call to a local health food store. I had purchased it some time ago, and my intuition told me to use it. When we undergo stress, or nagging unwanted thoughts, etc. These tinctures do help.

From the original research of Dr. Bach, from whom the Bach Flower Remedies Come, other companies began to do investigation into this approach to emotional healing, and several other lines emerged. The original formula created by Dr. Back was Rescue Remedy, which is used to calm down someone who is very upset, or panicked, etc. It does work!

Of course, there are many other wonderful natural things, such as the family of B Vitamins, and herbs I have discussed from time to time. The sublingual (meaning liquid form to be taken under the tongue) form of B Vitamins is available, from various sources. I have seen it all over town. It is both soothing, and energizing at the same time. Consider it!

Beyond this, we also must learn to laugh at life! That may sound silly at first, but think about it! We learn as much from our mistakes as we do from the things that go right. When we begin to learn from our mistakes, and forgive ourselves for making them, we can move on in life. This can take time for some people. Rather than hating and blaming, we can move into a realm of forgiveness, and let go and move on.

If someone else wrongs us, and we can make this situation right, by reconciliation and forgiveness, then we should. When a break-up occurs, we often go through sadness, anger, etc. We should not "stuff" our emotions, meaning, burying them and repressing them, but once we go through it, let it go! When it comes back to haunt you, tell yourself, "That is no longer part of my life. I learned what I could from it, and let go of it." This may take some time.

Now, I too, am learning this life lesson. We all have arguments, and disagreements, but we can learn to improve our lives by forgiving and moving on. If a friendship ends, or something is not for our highest good, then we should move on. But when we can, we can forgive, work it out, and make everything peaceful. We can part company sometimes better at a point of neutrality, rather than anger, bitterness, etc.

When we hate someone, or feel resentment towards them, we give our power away. Instead, work through your feelings, and then put it behind you. I just wanted to share these thoughts with you, and sincerely wish for all of us the best of life, joy, happiness, wisdom and inner peace. It can be achieved!

With help and courage, and the right assistance, we can all lay our ghosts to rest. Then, we can move forward in life, healed of the wounds of the past. Blessing to all! Till next time, Go in Good Health!

[Andrew Brooks is an herbalist and holistic counselor. He can be reached at 326-0841.]

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You Have The Right...

CONTINUED FROM PAGE ELEVEN

their any exclusions for specific illnesses, or periods of time? Are you carrying the maximum coverage available to you? Will you be able to increase coverage? When? What will be the limitations on your new coverage? Exclusions?

How about life insurance? Now is the time to find out exactly the coverage you have when and how it pays out. Some policies have a cash value, others are fully paid after a certain number of years. Some pay only upon you death, while some may be converted to allow you to receive a payment when you reach a certain age or in some circumstances relating to your health.

Don't guess. Keep after it, ask questions of your insurance agent, the company issuing the policy, whomever you need to talk until you know your rights. Often you have specific rights that must be exercised within a specific time period - to convert from group to individual insurance, or to contest a decision not to pay for a procedure, if you are unaware of your rights you may lose them.

Next week, we will continue with stocks, bonds, and bank accounts.

[Sharon Kutzschbach is an attorney with the City Public Defender's Office and a member of the State Bar Task Force on Homophobia in the Bench, Bar, and Justice System. Questions for future columns may be addressed to her at P.O. Box 77362, Tucson, AZ 85704. Questions of general interest will be answered in The Observer. No personal responses may be given.]

RSLETTERSLETT ERSLETTERSLET

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOUR

Paganism, is "and it harm none, do what you will." (That takes in all of the Ten Commandments right there!) Wicca is a faith that honors both a Goddess and God, seeing the divine as both male and female. A great number of Lesbians and other women have embraced Goddess Worship and Women's Power. Many Gay men too, have found Paganism to be right for them. Of course, all religions have problems, and not all people drawn to any religion are loving, accepting people. The "holier than thou" attitude is all too common in all walks of life.

But Paganism is right for some of us. We find beauty in honoring nature, and many (but by no means all) of us are vegetarian, into nature, herbs etc. We seek to walk in reverence for the Earth, and rely on her gentle wisdom for our healing and guidance. Despite negative ideas thrown around about us, much like the negative ideas aimed at Gays, we are a religion of love for the Earth, and reverence for life. Yes, we believe in mystical things, such as psychic phenomena, etc. But so do many other people. It is sad to have to be in a "double closet" as it were, " since many of us cannot speak openly of our faith for fear of ridicule.

But we are still here. And yes, some of us are called witches. I myself got the nickname "Endora" put on me by some local drag queens. But that's OK. What I seek to do is help, and assist others, and do what good I can in life. We believe what you send out, comes back to you, threefold. So, to the Gay Community, we send all of our light, love, blessings, and hope to get a little back in return. We are among you, quietly doing the good that we can. Do try and welcome us! We love you, and wish only to be another interesting segment of the kaleidoscope of the Gay world.

Sincerely, Andrew Brooks
A.K.A. "Endora"

Politics

CONTINUED FROM PAGE EIGHT

said that the campaign hadn't received any money. Sure! Copeland said it was "seed money up front to before the campaign started." Seed money no! Contribution yes!

It gets better! Copeland added that he had reimbursed the two. When asked that neither party had gotten a check, money order, etc., Copeland stated the check's in the mail."

"We're not collecting money. People are sending donations to us," he said. So that's how Jim Bakker did it? . . .

So it goes for now kids!

A Certain 'Understanding'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE NINE

killers in five states have killed a total of 30 Gays since 1988. The Cunanan case now closed, they're calling on the FBI to prove its good faith by solving the murders.

Jule Miller, a spokesperson for the FBI, says she had no information on any of these cases and the FBI does not investigate local homicides.

[Richard Willing and Maria Puente are reporters for USA Today, from which this article is reprinted.]

CDC Announces Dramatic Decline In AIDS Mortality

ATLANTA, GA - The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention announced that AIDS mortality in the United States decreased 19 percent last year.

AIDS deaths in the United States fell from 37,900 for the first nine months of 1996 to 30,700. And for the first time, noted officials, deaths among women also declined.

The CDC said that the decline in mortality began before the first release of protease inhibitors were put on the market at the end of 1995. The decline, therefore, is entirely attributable to advances in treating opportunistic infections.

Officials voiced the hope that the impact of combination therapies using the new family of protease inhibitors will yield similarly dramatic results. Regionally, Florida posted the largest decline over the period, showing a 30 percent fall in mortality in 1996.

Discharge Of 20-Year Veteran Angers Gay Advocates

WASHINGTON, DC (WS) - In what scores of angry civil rights activists point to as yet another example of the brazen injustice inflicted upon Gay men and Lesbians in the military, a decorated 20-year Army veteran was given an "other than honorable" discharge one week before he was to retire.

The troubles of Army lieutenant colonel Steve Loomis were just beginning when a soldier burned down his off-base home last year. A fire marshall investigating the ruins found a sexually explicit video cassette featuring Loomis and three other men. The marshall passed the information along to Army officials.

The board of inquiry which followed handed down its verdict one week before Loomis, the recipient of two Bronze Stars and a Purple Heart, reached his 20-year active-duty career mark. He loses not only a comfortable pension that would have accompanied his voluntary retirement, but life-long health benefits as well.

In May, Defense Secretary William Perry opened a formal three-month view into allegations that military investigators are violating "don't ask, don't tell" regulations and conducting aggressive inquiries into the private lives of Gay people in uniform. The Servicemembers Legal Defense Network has contended for years that Gay men and Lesbians were being illegally hunted down, investigated, and discharged.

Jim Wittmeyer, an Army Spokesman at Texas-based Fort Hood where Loomis served told reporters, "The policy is clear on how people are supposed to conduct themselves, and if they don't there is an established procedure for administrative separation that was followed in this case."

The fire was set by Army private, Michael Burdette, who met Loomis two years ago and had posed for nude photos in Loomis' home. According to local newspaper reports, Burdette wanted to retrieve the photos, and failing that, burned down the house in an attempt to destroy them. The fire marshall investigating the blaze reportedly took the video from a standing camera in hopes it might provide clues as to the arsonist's identity.

HOROSCOPES

BY C. LICHTENSTEIN

The Sun changes signs from sensitive and deferring Cancer to proud but pushy Leo. Energetic and over the top? You bet! Read ahead to see if you are destined to be the diva or the yutz.

ARIES
MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

Take your latest squeeze by the hand and demonstrate why proud Rams are fiery signs. This week, when the Sun changes signs from Cancer to Leo, your passion for fun, creativity and romance with a certain special someone is intense. Try writing a love letter or dancing up a storm. And while you're at it, buy a lottery ticket. Luck is also highlighted. Hey, you never know.

TAURUS
APRIL 21 - MAY 21

The Sun ambles into ambitious Leo. May I suggest a little "spring cleaning," even though it's July? The planets offer tremendous opportunity for you to conquer any home based project with verve and commitment, no matter how nasty. Proud Bills can more easily deal with family issues. Be your dear queer self and let others adjust. There can be no compromise.

GEMINI
MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Gay Twins are more talkative than usual with the Sun in Leo. Why not use this time to take our cause one step forward? You communicate well and now have the artistic flair and diplomacy to draw people's attention and win their hearts and minds. The planets also highlight community efforts and relationships with neighbors. Take it to the streets cousin, and you'll have followers.

CANCER
JUNE 22 - JULY 23

Money issues come into focus when the Sun enters Leo. Proud Crabs seems to have a clearer sense of what fiscal responsibility means and may even consider saving for a rainy day. The most important thing is to do careful research into what is and is not your fiscal goal. Search your values and toss out what no longer works for you. Then make a million in the market and retire!

LEO
JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

Stand back world and take a back seat to regal Leo. The Gay Lion has far too much confidence with the Sun in their own sign to be considered sane. The Sun highlights meeting (with a capital ME), greeting and you, you, you! Proud Lions will roar quite a bit now and toss their massive purple robes into everyone's face. Sigh . . . Thankfully, this too shall pass.

VIRGO
AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

Queer Virgins may entertain an enticing psychic thought or two when the Sun waltzes into Leo. It is time to give your all to Gay causes and charities; Good things will come of these efforts for both the community and for you. In addition, the Sun unlocks and opens your closet and pushes you out into the open. Freedom at last! Ain't life grant, kids?

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

The Sun moves into Leo which makes friends and social groups even more important to you than usual. Surround yourself with affirming friends, proud Libra. Pals are there for you and vice versa as you fit well into the group dynamic and feel at one with the cause. Long term goals are also highlighted; that means planning more than one week ahead.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

Always the strategist, Gay Scorps can finally see the professional playing field clearly and accurately. Thank the stars for the Sun in gallant Leo for lighting your path. It is an excellent time to play the politico and climb one more rung on the corporate ladder. Remember to be kind and generous to those of us that you will have to step on your way up.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

Social director Sag will be happily planning a world tour for friends and family, if the planets have their way. The Sun in Leo highlights travel and faraway exotic locales. Gay Archers should make the most of this ambitious energy; It is also an opportune time for you to finish off any legal fights or entanglements. You are less hot headed and more judicious, thank goodness.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

The planets stir up your sexual drive this week and even cold, cold Capricorns can't resist this heated surge. The Sun places you in the drivers seat so dive right in. Prepare yourself for a summer romance that has the legs (among other parts) to go the distance through the winter. Know who you are looking for, though, queer Goat; don't just settle for a pretty face.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

Even independent Aqueerians need a little tle now and then. Then is now, friend, as the Sun conspires to make you value one-to-one relationships. Thankfully, partners are there for you and have not given up on the relationship despite your traipsings and trawlings for the greater good. Sometimes the greater good is achieved one special person at a time.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

Even though it may not seem like the nicest summer pastime, the Sun helps to make your work easier, so . . . get to work! Work can mean a variety of things, the job, exercise and diet, or even some deep psychological ponderings and revelations. Pink Fish must now toss out any baggage that prevents affirmation and lowers confidence. Forget that self flagellation, unless of course you like it that way.

For entertainment purposes only. For best results, read both your Sun sign and Ascendant. For a free calculation of your ascendant, send birth date, time, place, name of this publication and s.a.s.e. to: Lichtenstein, POB 1726, Old Chelsea Station, NY, 10011.

CALENDAR of upcoming events

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30

IBT'S - Tonight! Special Male Box Nite and Wet Shorts Contest 9:30 p.m. $100 cash prize for the winner!

THURSDAY, JULY 31

IBT'S - Anniversary party weekend starts tonight and runs through Sunday, Aug. 3rd! Tonight the party begins with "Cruise Night" and Underwear Night. 9:00 p.m. to closing. Register to win a free RSVP Gay Cruise to the Mexican Riviera! A $2,600 value!! (Sponsored by Arizona Travel and IBT's). Drink specials and prizes and give-aways. The party continues Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2

GRADUATE - Benefit Beer Bust for 'Arizona Aces' trip to San Diego Gay World Series. 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.

IBT'S - The anniversary party continues! As a special added feature, it's " Mike's Going Away Party" too. Join Mike for his last day behind the bar before moving to La La Land! Noon until ???.

VENTURE-N - Desert Leathermen's 'Wet & Wild' party with celebrity guests in the dunk tank. Come on out and get wet! The party includes a Desert Leathermen Beer Bust from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. on the patio to benefit the condom fund.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

BOOM BOOMS - Benefit Car Wash and Bar-B-Que to send Team Arizona (AZ Aces) baseball team to San Diego to the Gay World Series. Support our players! Boom Booms opens at noon for this special event!

IBT'S - The anniversary weekend concludes tonight with Captain's Dinner from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Join the crew for a great party, followed at 90:00 p.m. show in the ship's lounge, "The RSVP Revue" the standup talents of Rodney Shanks and the live vocals of Roland Baines II and, Mr. David Z and Jay Cotner and the special talents of Mr. Kenneth Blake and Ms. Ajia Simone.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6

IBT'S - A *Very Special 'Girlie Show' starring Celia Putty* (Miss Gay Enchantment America 1997); Virginia Sacrifice (Miss Gay Arizona America 1997); Mr. Kenneth Blake (Miss Gay Tucson 1997) and Lucinda Holliday (Miss Gay Arizona America 1994).

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13

STONEWALL / EAGLE - The return of Hollywood Creations - an all-male dance revue. 10:00 p.m. $1.00 Cover.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14

BOOM BOOMS - It's Scooby's Torn and Tattered Party. Wear your sleaziest torn outfits and qualify to win the grand prize! Check next week's ad for more info.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

BOOM BOOMS - End of Summer Beach Party and Luau. If you didn't make it to Hawaii this summer, here's your chance. Check upcoming ads for more information.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

BOOM BOOMS - Black Out Party. DJ Raymond controls the lights for this event and be assured he likes it dark. Free give-aways and door prizes.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

STONEWALL / EAGLE - Miss Carousel Pageant will be held here beginning at 7:00 p.m. Call Misti Malone for more information and an entry form. Digital Pager (520)566-5185.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

STONEWALL / EAGLE - Miss Gay Hispanidad '97 Pageant at 7:00 p.m.

Darrin Brightman
NSCA-Certified Personal Trainer

Fitness Assessment ◆ Program Design ◆ Instruction

Tucson, Arizona Dial 1-520-449-3277 (cellular)
8:30 am - 10:00 pm

I'm never going to have sex again.

If you're not quite ready to make that statement, then come to Wingspan for free, anonymous, open, walk-in HIV testing. On the 2nd and 4th Friday every month.

Non-Bar CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JULY 30

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. A Discussion Group will read a section from the recent bestseller "Conversations With God", then discuss the reading. For reservations and directions, please call Justin or Gary at 792-4224.

THURSDAY, JULY 31

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join MSN for a fun night of roller skating on "Adult Night." The cost will be $5.50 for rental of traditional skates, or $8.50 for in-line skates. Call C. W. at 326-5439 or Donn at 325-4257 for details and directions.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 1

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Game Night is an evening devoted to all sorts of games. Play a favorite card game or board game-the choice is yours. If you have a favorite you'd like to play, bring it along, but there will be plenty of games to choose from. For reservation and directions, please call Les at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 2

Team Arizona meeting to be held at 1:30 p.m. at Girlfriends Coffee House, 3540 N. Oracle Rd. Suite 126. For more information call 888-GIRL or Edna Spring at 293-9356.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join MSN for our monthly Potluck and Social Gathering. You're invited to come and share your favorite dish with the 100+ men who come to our monthly gathering. Join us at 33 Ochoa Street (downtown's Scottish Rite Hall). Call Jerry at 690-9565 for more details and directions.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 3

A final fund raiser for Hillfoot Gems to go to the National Championships in San Diego. Pool Party at 544 S. 6th. $2.00 to get in. Food and Drinks for sale and there will be raffles plus give aways. Don't miss the fun and help this team to go to the championships, and bring the trophy to Tucson.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 4-6 p.m. The Triangle Tribe - it's an awareness group which meets to learn and use communication and relationship skills toward developing feelings of trust, love, acceptance and brotherhood. Call Tom at 318-1650 for reservations and directions.

MONDAY, AUGUST 4

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Bridge night. Bridge for men who may want to refresh their bridge skills; table talk playing. For reservations and directions, please call Jim at 790-8735.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 5

A Benefit for Wingspan, "The Gay Comedy Jam" at Laffs Comedy Cafe, 2900 E. Broadway. Gay stand-up comics performing Gay Stand-up Comedy. Starring Scott Kennedy and Kevin Maye, nationally recognized Gay headliners as featured in the Advocate and HBO's Comedy Channel. Tickets $12 in advance or $15 on the day of the show. The fun begins at 8:00 p.m. and a portion of the proceeds benefit Tucson Gay Community Center, Wingspan.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6

Tucson Prime Timers invites Gay men over 30 to their monthly Wednesday dinner at Chad's Steak House on Ft. Lowell near the corner of Swan at 6:30 p.m. Please RSVP 887-7493.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. A Discussion Group will read a section from the recent bestseller "Conversations With God", then discuss the reading. For reservations and directions, please call Justin or Gary at 792-4224.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 7

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join some of the guys of MSN for a "Favorite Film" night as we present a showing of "Fried Green Tomatoes." This fun and thought-provoking film stars Kathy Bates, Mary Stuart Masterson, Mary Louise Parker, and Jessica Tandy. Please call Les at 690-9565 for reservation and directions.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 8

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. The Book Club will be discussing "Sex Between Men" by Douglas Sadownick. Even if you don't read the book, we encourage all book lovers to attend. For reservations and directions, call Jerry at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 9

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Get out your mood rings, slip on a groovy, white belt, spray on some bell bottoms and join us as we trip back in time for a showing of "A Very Brady Sequel." For reservations and directions, please call Les at 690-9565.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 4-6 p.m. The Triangle Tribe-it's an awareness group which meets to learn and use communication and relationship skills toward developing feelings of trust, love, acceptance and brotherhood. Call Tom at 318-1650 for reservations and directions.

MONDAY, AUGUST 11

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. The second "Favorite Film" of the month is another Kathy Bates movie: "Delores Claiborn." Did Delores kill two people or not? This stylishly filmed movie features a powerhouse performance from the star. For reservation and directions, please call Les or Jerry at 690-9565 after August 11.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 12

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 6:00 p.m. Due to popular request, Jack is having a second class on Stained Glass. This class meets every Tuesday for the next six weeks. By the time it is over, you will have completed your very own piece of Stained Glass Artwork. Keep in mind that you must attend this class from the very first session. For details and reservations, please call Jack at 745-8844.

Tucson CALENDAR

Sunday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Beer Bust 5-10, $1.25 pitchers. Salsa Sunday! Great music, better dancing and it all begins at 8pm.

BOOM-BOOMS - Open at 4pm. Karaoke with Nancy 7-11pm. Blues and Jazz music 11-Close.

GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8 pm all well $1.25 Draft 75¢ Schnapps 75¢. Drink Specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Bloody Marys and Screws $1.50 til 7 pm. Pool Tournament 4pm. Country/Western dance instruction 6-8 pm. Country Dance Music 8 to 1.

IBT's - Open Noon to 1 am. Happy Hour noon-8pm, $1.75 domestic beer and $1.50 Well. Benefit B-B-Q and Beer Bust for community organizations 4:30-7:00pm. Hi energy dancing 9pm to close. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Pool Tourney at 2pm. Beer Bust $1 Pitchers, 50¢ a glass. Free hamburgers 2-7pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 10 a.m. Backside Beer Bust 3-8pm 50¢ draft. 301 Dart Tournament 5pm $3 entry fee. Bert Burgers 5-7, Tuff Stuff Too! 4-11pm.

Monday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Happy Hour 2-7 2for1 well and domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. $1.75 white well 8pm to close.

BOOM-BOOMS - Closed Mondays. See you out at the other bars.

GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm all well $1.50 Draft $1.75 Domestic. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Open Noon. Happy Hour 12 to 7pm - Well and Domestic Beer $1.50. 50¢ Draft Beer 7 to close.

IBT's - Open noon. Happy Hour noon-8pm, $1.75 domestic beer and $1.50 well. 8pm to midnight, $1.50 / 32oz pitchers. Retro 80s Dance 9pm-1am. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Happy Hour 12-8pm $1.50 well & domestic. Free pool all day. Dart tourney 8:30 pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Draft Beer 75¢ 6am - 8pm. Happy Hour Prices 6am - 8pm.

Tuesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7 pm 2for1 well and domestic long necks. 2-7 p.m. Boys Night Out 9pm to closing. $1.00 longneck Hot dance music.

BOOM-BOOMS - Happy Hour 4-8 daily. Dart Tourney 8:30. Special prices for all tourney players. $1.50 domestic bottle beer & $1 Cocksuckers 8-close.

GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm all well $1.50, Domestic $1.75. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Happy Hour 12 to 7pm Well or Domestic Beer $1.50, Schnapps 75¢ 7pm to close. Karaoke 9pm.

IBT's - Open noon. Happy Hour Noon-8 pm, $1.75 domestic beer & $1.50 well. 9 pm to close 2for1 well/ Miller Lite. High Energy Dance with David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Happy Hour Noon to 8pm. $1.50 well and domestic. Karaoke 9pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Draft Beer 75¢ 6am - 8pm. Happy Hour prices 6am - 8pm.

Wednesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7. 2for1 well or domestic beer. $1.25 pitchers from 9 to midnight. Alternative music w/Stephanie 9pm to close.

BOOM-BOOMS- Happy Hour 4-8pm. Karaoke with Christopher 9pm - 1am $1.50 Well & $2.25 Call 8pm to close.

GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm all well $1.50; Domestic $1.75. 9 Ball Simple Elimination Pool Tourney. 7pm, Pot matched. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Happy Hour 12 to 7pm, Well or Domestic Beer $1.50, 50¢ off all call drinks 7 to close. Feb. 19 New Pool Tournament Begins 6pm

IBT's - Open Noon to 1 am. Happy Hour Noon to 8pm, $1.75 domestic beer & $1.50 well. Mystery Night. $1.75 Bud Product Special 9 pm to close. Dance with David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Happy Hour Noon to 8pm. $1.50 well and domestic. Latino Nite 9pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am Draft Beer 75¢ 6am-8pm. Cuervo Gold $2 all daylight. Happy Hour Prices 6am-8pm. Backside open 5pm-close. Tuff Stuff Too! open 8:30pm.

Thursday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7, 2for1 well or domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. Karaoke 8pm to close.

BOOM-BOOMS - $1.50 well & $2.25 call 8pm to close. Hi NRG Dance Music at 9 with Raymond. Pool Tourney at 7pm with Dee. Pot matched.

GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm all Well $1.50, Domestic $1.75. 301 Dart Tournament 7:30pm. Double Elimination. Pot Matched. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Happy Hour 12 to 7pm, Well or Domestic Beer $1.50. Corona $2.00 9pm to 1am. Country/Western dancing 8 to 1.

IBT's - Open noon to 1am. Happy Hour noon-8 pm $1.75 domestic beer and $1.50 well. Underwear Nite. $1.50 Well and $1.75 Domestic Beer to those in their underwear (part check available). Hi energy dancing 9-close with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Happy Hour noon-8pm. $1.50 well and domestic. Naughty Bodies Male Revue. 10pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am Draft Beer 75¢ 6am-8pm. Pool Tournament 7pm $3 entry fee. Happy Hour prices for Men in Leather 8pm to close. Backside open 5pm-close. Tuff Stuff Too! open 8:30pm

Friday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7, 2for1 well or domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. Complimentary Hors d'oeuvres. Michael spins hi energy dance music 8:30 to close. Drink specials every ½ hour.

BOOM-BOOMS - Happy Hour 4-8pm. Latino Dance Music in the "Other Room" at 9pm. Dance Party with Raymond in the main bar at 9. Country/Western dance music in the "Other" Room.

GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm, all well $1.50/ domestic $1.75. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Happy Hour 12-7pm well or domestic beer $1.50. Country Western Music 8-1am.

IBT's - Open noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm $1.75 domestic beer and $1.50 well. .. Patio Bar with Loosey 9-1. Dance Party 9 to 1 with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Happy Hour noon-8pm; Hors d'oeuvres 5pm. Beer Bust 6-9pm $1 pitchers 50¢ glass.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Draft Beer 75¢ Bar 6am-8pm. Happy Hour Prices 6am-8pm. Backside open 5pm-close. Tuff Stuff Too! opens at 8:30 pm.

Saturday

AIN'T NOBODYS BIZNESS - Pot matched, 1st: 70%, 2nd: 20%, 3rd: 10%. Michael spins hi energy dance music from 8:30pm to 1am. Drink specials every ½ hour.

BOOM-BOOMS - Happy Hour 4-8pm. Dance to the latest club mixes in the main bar

GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm, all well drinks $1.50/domestic $1.75. 8 Ball Pool Tournament 2pm, Double Elimination, pot matched. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Open Noon. Strawberry & Banana Daiquiris, Pina Coladas $3. Country/Western Music 8-1.

IBT's - Open Noon to 1am. Happy Hour noon to 8pm $1.75 domestic beer and $1.50 well. Patio Bar 9-1. Dance 9 to 1 with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Happy Hour Noon to 8pm Beer Bust 6-9pm $1 pitchers, 50¢ glass. Hors d'oeuvres 4pm.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Bloody Marys & Bagels w/$1 Bloody Marys 6am-noon. Happy Hour Prices 6am-8pm. Backside open 5pm-close. Tuff Stuff Too! Opens at 8:30pm.

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE .25 PER WORD $5.00 MINIMUM.

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED, NO PHONE ADS.

NOTICES

INNER WISDOM - Try hypnotherapy for pain relief, past life exploration and addiction release. Also available: Spiritual Counseling and Dream Interpretation. 579-9029

COCHISE COUNTY LESBIANS AND GAYS. P.O. Box 818, Bisbee, AZ 85603 / (602)432-5591. Rap Group, Youth Group, Social and Political Events.

SUPPORT GROUP FOR MEN IN SAME SEX RELATIONSHIPS who have ever been physically, verbally or sexually abused, is now forming. Call Randy Oberheff, Ph.D. at 570-0027 for more

BEARS OF THE OLD PUEBLO -- a social club for bears and bigger, more robust men (and of course, those who prefer their company). For more info, Call the Bears Hotline (520)327-1620 or write P.O. Box 43910, Tucson, AZ 85733-3910, or come to our general meetings the second Friday of every month. Location listed on our hotline.

TUCSON ROOMMATE LOCATOR SERVICE Men and women welcome. Pager 388-6843.

LAMBDA CAR CLUB, A social organization of Gays and Lesbians who share interest, information and fellowship involving collectible vehicles. Call 298-9454.

LESBIAN AND GAY AL-ANON - Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2940 E. Thomas, Phoenix. Ellie 581-8850 or Ronn 968-2384.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE GROUP - Outreach to Gay and Lesbian people in Arizona. Meets monthly. Write to P.O. Box 893, Phoenix, AZ 85001 or call Eddy Walters, (602)371-1102

CRONIES SOCIAL GROUP. A Social group for Gay men who enjoy the fellowship of their peers. Call Merle at 888-7264.

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 6:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to All. Call Jeff or Art (520)762-9135.

LIGHTNING LIGHTING will provide lighting for AIDS and related benefits at no charge. For more info call Adrienne at 889-7288.

MANE MEN: Long-haired Gay male penpal network. Photo, 3 IRC's to join. Box 231, Station B, Ottawa, CANADA, K1P6C4

GAY & LESBIAN SPIRITUALITY GROUP of St. Phillips in the Hills Episcopal Church meets first and third Mondays. Call David, 323-7943 for more information.

"AT EASE AGAIN", a men's discussion group meets at Wingspan at 7 p.m. every Tuesday. 422 N. 4th Ave.

LESBIAN/GAY WRITERS: Workshop at 7:00 p.m. third Wednesday of every month. Read and critique current projects. Network and support. For info call 325-4737.

DESERT VOICES, Tucson's Gay & Lesbian Chorus rehearses Monday evenings at 7 pm at UofA School of Music Rm #162. For information call 791-9662.

Join the LESBIAN & GAY PUBLIC AWARENESS PROJECT. In Tucson, write Awareness Project, 3661 N. Campbell Ave. #365, Tucson, AZ 85719.

AA Meeting with HIV/AIDS focus, Wednesdays, 7:30 p.m., MCC Church, 3269 N. Mountain. All alcoholics welcome.

MEN'S SOCIAL NETWORK: Social organization for men of all ages. Building an extended Gay family in Tucson. Monthly social potluck gatherings the first Saturday of each month and almost weekly social activities. Call Jerry at 690-9565 for information and a newsletter. Check the Non-Bar Calendar in the Observer.

SOFTBALL - For info on the Tucson Greater Softball Association T.G.S.A., please contact. Mary 770-9979 or Bertie 318-3415.

CARE TEAMS ARE AVAILABLE to offer support to people living with HIV/AIDS. The Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network offers trained, compassionate and committed volunteers to provide services including friendly visits, light housekeeping, assistance with meals, shopping, errands, transportation and companionship for medical appointments, and respite care for primary care givers. No judgement or proselytizing - we are here to be of service. For information call Scott at 299-9063.

ARE YOU GAY OR BISEXUAL AND UNDER 21 YEARS OF AGE? The Gay Young Men's Project is now looking for volunteers for the project. We need people who want to help create a positive social change for young Gay men as well as reduce the risk for HIV infection. For more information please call 322-6226.

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF), 151 S. Tucson Blvd., Suite 211 (The Broadmoor Building). Office Hours 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Direct services and emotional support for persons with and affected by HIV. Anonymous HIV testing and support groups available. Prevention education programs. 322-6226. AIDS Hotline: 326-AIDS. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

FRONT RUNNERS OF TUCSON meet for fun runs Tuesdays at 6 p.m. Group meets in front of the Himmel Park Library (East side), and Sundays at various times and places. For more information call Mitch at 326-3555

P.F.L.A.G. - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 575-8660 or write P.O. Box 36264, Tucson, AZ 85740-6264. All replies confidential.

ARE YOU GAY OR LESBIAN and someone else's drinking is getting to you. Call information and Referral about Al-Anon 881-1794 in Tucson info about special groups for Gays and Lesbians.

YOUNG AND GAY?

Lesbian and Gay youths 23 and under, meet every Saturday in Tucson for sharing, support and information. Meetings are held at 422 N. 4th Avenue from 3 to 5 pm. You are not alone. For more info call Wingspan, 624-1779.

The TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS INTERNATIONAL invites Gay or Bisexual men over 30 years old to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature man who are or wish to be involved in Gay community activities, issues and organizations. Call 887-7493 and leave your name and phone number. Monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Sunday, 4-6 p.m. at Wingspan, 422 N. 4th Ave.

TUCSON GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

For information on human service organizations, health and mental health services, financial and government assistance, emergency services such as food and shelter, education, etc. Call Information and Referral 881-1794 - 8 am - 5 pm Mon. - Fri.

AIDS HOTLINE - 326-AIDS. Hours M-F, 9:00 am to 10:00 pm. Information, counseling, HIV-related services, Tucson.

GAY OR BI-SEXUAL MEN in relationships with women. Need friends you can talk to? Weekly support group meets Wednesdays 6:30 - 8:00 pm. Licensed psychologist facilitator. Call 745-6977 in Tucson for more information. Strictly confidential.

WINGSPAN - Tucson's Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Community Center, 422 N. 4th Ave., offers support groups / info line / social events / library / meeting space. Volunteer Opportunities. Board meetings every 2nd Sunday (open to all), 6:00 p.m. Information 624-1779.

SUPPORT GROUP: Gays, Lesbians and Bisexuals meet weekly for open discussions in a loving, supportive atmosphere. Meetings Thursdays from 7:30 to 9:30 pm at St. Francis in the Foothills Church, Swan and River Road, Room 32. Call the church at 299-9063 for information.

NOTICES

LICHEN HIKING CLUB for women of all ages and backgrounds of life. Hike with other women. Listings in Rubyfruit Journal available at Antigone Books, 411 N. 4th Ave.

CAMELBACK BUSINESS AND PROFESSIONAL ASSOCIATION (CBPA) OF PHOENIX For information and membership write: CBPA at P.O. Box 2097, Phoenix, AZ 85001.

LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP addressing a full spectrum of issues, problems and situations. Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesday 7 to 8:30 p.m. at Wingspan, 422 N. 4th Ave. 624-1779.

L.D.S., EX-L.D.S., GAY LESBIAN, BISEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP. Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesdays. 7pm. 320-1319 for information.

RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL every Sunday at 4:00 pm at St. Francis in The Foothills for anyone who likes to play and have a blast call Davey 886-1208 for more info.

ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION (AGRA) TUCSON CHAPTER. Interested? Call 323-0805 or write AGRA/Tucson, P.O. Box 40894, Tucson, AZ 85717.

SOURCES UNLIMITED, a Lesbian & Gay referral service. Business and individual listings are free of charge. All information available to anyone just simply by asking. 322-5655. Leave message.

ATTENTION ALL NUDISTS - Tucson Tanners is a nudist group open to all -- Nude activities scheduled both indoor and outdoors. Not "Gay Only", but Gays are welcome and invited to join. For further information send SASE to: Tucson Tanners, P.O. Box 84-G, Cortaro, AZ 85652.

"EVOLVERE" a transgendered Support Group open to all T.V.'s, C.D.'s, T.G.'s & T.S.'s. Dedicated to all our brothers and sisters. Offering our help and support in every way we can. Meetings held on 4th Saturday of each month at 2 p.m. Call 884-0541.

SCUBA DIVING CLUB. For information call digital pager 291-9602.

BISEXUAL INFORMATION/SUPPORT GROUP for women and men. Meetings 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. at Wingspan. 624-1779.

GAY VOLLEYBALL ON SATURDAYS. Competitive play. BB or better players only. Grass court Northwest corner Himmel Park 5:00 p.m. Check it out!

THE MEN'S MASSAGE GROUP meets the 3rd Sunday of each month. It is a good way to meet other men of all ages, safely, and with the art of nurturing touch. There is a fee. You must sign up in advance to participate. Call Marc at 881-4582 for more information or sign up.

THE JOHN HANTEN MEMORIAL GROUP, a Catholic support group for Gays and Lesbians, meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 1945 E. Lee St. at 7:30 p.m. For more information call the parish office at 327-6015 or Jane Perri at 326-8577.

COMMUNITY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION (CBA), Tucson's Gay and Lesbian business networking group holds regular meetings the third Thursday of every month. Call Greg Hollman 577-8333 for more info.

TUCSON LESBIAN/GAY ALLIANCE (TLGA) meets every third Thursday at Wingspan, 422 N. 4th Avenue at 7pm.

LEARN TO BE A LISTENING FRIEND. Unique Hospital Volunteer Program teaches listening skills to Volunteers who provide a safe/compassionate environment to at-risk patients. Training every 6 weeks. 694-7063.

TIHAN, a coalition of churches and synagogues committed to providing a compassionate retponse to the HIV crisis, provides HIV education in congregational settings, volunteer CareTeams to support HIV+ persons, a referral network of HIV-sensitive clergy, and interfaith services of healing and hope. For more information call 299-6647.

THIRTYsomething Society - an exclusive society for single Gay and Bi men in or near their thirties. A social society that offers monthly activities including a monthly outing away from Tucson. Call 797-3116 for more information and a membership bio.

LESBIAN/GAY/BI OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Saturdays noon-1pm in UMC Dining Room "F". 325-6676 or 670-1954.

ANONYMOUS HIV COUNSELING AND TESTING is available through the Pima County Health Department at sites throughout Tucson. Very Gay Friendly. For more information or to make an appointment call 791-7676.

CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 3rd Monday at St. Pius X Catholic Church, 1800 N. Camino Pio Decimo in the Kino Room at 7:00 p.m. For more info call Ernie 721-2003 or Anna Marie at the Parish office 885-3573.

COCAINE ANONYMOUS

"The Fruits Of Sobriety" particularly for Gays and Lesbians (but everyone is welcome) meets every Tuesday night at 7:30 p.m. at the MCC Church, 3269 N. Mountain, Hotline: (520)326-2211

NORTHWEST CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 4th Monday at St. Odilia's Catholic Church, 7570 N. Paseo Del Norte in the Parish Hall Conference Room (Bldg. North of the Church) at 7:30 p.m. For more info call Mary 297-9602 or Sr. Joan 742-8900.

PERSONALS

TO MY CUSTOMERS: I will be gone from Aug. 4 to Aug. 26. Sorry for any inconvenience. Hope to be of service again when I return. Merle Hudson.

HUNG TOPS & HOT BOTTOMS. Record & listen to ads FREE. 520-622-1100, 18+ Code 5014. 680

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ROOMMATES

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GM ROOMMATE TO SHARE CHARMING HOSUE. Near UofA. Oak floors, ceiling fans, W/D. $350/mo. Includes utilities. 325-1951. 680

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HELP! HELP WANTED. Bookkeeper / Office Manager. Computer skills a must. Organized and take charge. Small growing business. Fresh Air Systems, 49 W. Sahuaro St., 624-2820. Pay DOE. 680

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VARIOUS CENTRAL TUCSON LOCATIONS. 1 and 2 bedroom apartments from $325 - $495. Clean, private, quiet. Many extras. Mention this Observer ad. 318-1506. 690

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SENSUOUS BODY RUB AND MASSAGE at very reasonable prices. Please only 18-35 and and no overweights. David, 571-7782. 683

MASSAGE AND BODY RUBS. Call for appointment 9:30 am. 3:00p.m. only. 577-1278. 680

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ATTRACTIVE, MUSCULAR MEN offering nude sensual body rubs in your home. Reasonable rates. Call our voice mail: Ray 932-6692 or Alan 932-6691 680

ATTRACTIVE YOUNG MAN offers a very relaxing, sensuous, one-hour massage at a very reasonable price. Days, evenings and weekends. Michael 790-2884 680

GREAT PROFESSIONAL QUALITY MASSAGE. 16 YEARS EXPERIENCE. The best value around. 7 styles with euphoric aromatic oils. A heavenly experience. LEGITIMATE. By appointment. Marc Haberman, LMT, 881-4582. 684

QUALITY PROFESSIONAL MASSAGE by experienced masseur. Strong, yet very soothing touch. Relaxed, comfortable, private setting. First time intro rate! West University area. Call Robert Feldhaus at (520)623-1732 680

FULL BODY MASSAGE FOR MEN by professionally trained and experienced therapist. For a therapeutic and sensual, full-hour for $35.00, call Rick at 299-1792. 681

SERVICES

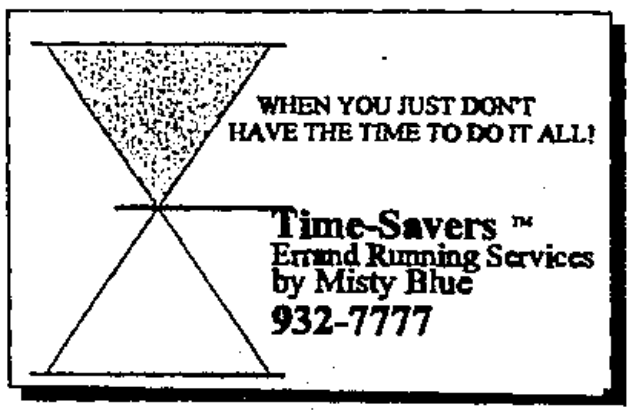
EXPERT HOUSE CLEANING with references, and personal home health care, ie. running errands, etc. by professional man. Call 881-4582 682

POOL CLEANING BY HANDSOME YOUNG MAN. Weekly, bi-weekly. Free estimates. Full service, licensed, Gay-oriented. Call me! Robert, 886-6933. 686

CATERING TO YOUR EVERY NEED - Theme Parties, Gift Baskets, Specialty Cakes, Intimate Dinners, Menu Planning. We also make Red Chile and Green Corn Tamales (oh so good, yum.) Call Becka or Craig at Masterpiece Catering 622-4232. 680

ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS

Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced -- Economical -- Prompt. Mr. Merle Hudson, 888-7264 in Tucson. 680



Nominations For 'Ellen'

Continued from Page One

with the Gay- and AIDS-themed drama special "In the Gloaming," including nominations for lead actress Glenn Close, supporting actress Bridget Fonda, and for Christopher Reeve's directorial debut, as well as Outstanding Made-for-Television Movie.

Another HBO candidate for Outstanding Made-for-Television Movie is its risky dramatic realization of open Lesbian Dorothy Allison's autobiographical "Bastard Out of Carolina," with nods for Glenne Headley's supporting actress performance and Anjelica Huston's first directing effort.

HBO will also see competition between its own products in several categories as Gay icons Bette Midler and Tracey Ullman dominated the Variety/Music specials areas with "Diva: Las Vegas" (10 nominations) and "Tracey Takes On... Childhood" (4 nominations). A special centered on another Gay icon, Elizabeth Taylor, the AIDS benefit tribute "Happy Birthday, Elizabeth," won a technical award nomination.

Meanwhile, back in traditional broadcasting, NBC's "ER," which led the field for the third consecutive year with 22 nominations, recently announced it will be continuing the character of Dr. Maggie Doyle, who came out as a Lesbian at about the same time as "Ellen." "ER" executive producer John Wells said week, "She is a doctor and a character who we like, who just happens to be Gay.... It doesn't make her unusual in any way within the hospital environment."

Among shows with continuing Gay and Lesbian characters, ABC's "NYPD Blue" hooked 11 nominations, including Outstanding Drama Series, for which "Chicago Hope" also got a nod. NBC's perennial comedy hit "Frasier," with a continuing non-Gay character played by openly Gay actor Dan Butler as well as an occasional Gay character, had nine nominations including Outstanding Comedy, for which NBC's "Mad About You" was also nominated.

The Fox network's venerable series "The Simpsons" snagged numerous animation nominations, including recognition specifically for the episode called "Homer's Phobia" (guess what it was about!), which guest-voiced openly Gay filmmaker John Waters.

"The Last Don" took an Outstanding Miniseries nomination, but probably not as a result of its memorable cameo by k.d. lang.

The awards will be presented September 14 in a live broadcast on CBS with Bryant Gumbel hosting.

Charter Election Aug. 5

Continued from Page One

The State Legislature can still enact legislation to nullify a county statute. The City of Tucson wouldn't be able to annex the unincorporated areas with the charter's passage. Cooperation between governments can be mandated. The county's power to levy taxes is small and specific, just a sales tax. The positions of auditor and the ethics commission are vague and ill-defined; costs are not set and will result in the Board becoming another "Tucson City Council," with more bureaucracy and nothing getting done.

The committee says the charter will set up an independent method of drawing Supervisorial districts. Misleading? In their sample ballot, the "independent" Citizens Redistricting Committee is appointed by the Board of Supervisors. Plus, the County Manager, a Board appointee, under the charter would provide staff, expertise, facilities, and supplies to help the redistricting committee. Independent?

Arguments aside, the polls will be open Tuesday, August 5, from 6:00 A.M. to 7:00 P.M. Sample ballots may be brought to the polling place and may be taken into the voting booth on the day of election. Any qualified voters, who at 7:00 P.M. is in the line of waiting voters shall be allowed to vote. For more information call 740-8683.

To charter or not to charter in Pima County? That question will be answered Tuesday, August 5.

Gay Comedy Jam

Continued from Page One

domestic partners and enjoy life in Houston, Texas when they are not on tour with the show. (They tour 150+ days per year!)

The Gay Comedy Jam is gaining national attention as it tours world wide as the "first Gay comedy show of its kind." The show is structured for a Gay audience but even widely enjoyed by the non-Gay crowd as well. Scott Kennedy says: "We were both accomplished comedians before we came 'out' professionally." "Funny is funny, whether it is Gay or straight, people laugh."

Kevin Maye has gone public about his HIV+ status, Scott is HIV negative. Kevin is one of only two HIV+ comics in the world doing HIV+ comedy. This is truly ground breaking.

The show is also fund raiser for the Wingspan Lesbian and Gay Community Center which provides countless services to the Lesbian and Gay community in Tucson.

The Gay Comedy Jam: Freedom Tour starring Scott Kennedy and Kevin Maye will be at Laff's Comedy Club, 2900 East Broadway. The show starts at 8:00 P.M. Ticket prices are $12 in advance, $15 day of the show, plus tax. For information or to charge tickets, call (520) 323-1381.

HIV Protein Stimulates T-Cells

NEW YORK, NY (RNS) - One way in which HIV brings the immune system to its knees is to continuously activate infection-fighting T cells until they are depleted, thus allowing normally harmless infections to become life-threatening.

Now a new study suggests that the virus may promote this process by stimulating infected cells to secrete a protein, called Tat. The Tat protein appear to spur quiescent, uninfected T cells to become activated, a state most hospitable to infection by the virus.

The new finding offers a promising avenue of research in the fight against AIDS, according to study authors from the Dana-Farber Cancer Institute and Harvard Medical School in Boston.

"Our results suggest potential therapeutic strategies for HIV-1 infection," such as antibodies or drugs that neutralize Tat after it has been secreted, wrote lead study author Chiang Li, of Harvard Medical School.

"Tat protein may serve as a target for potential AIDS vaccine development," Li wrote in the current issue of the Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences.

In the new study, quiescent, uninfected T cells collected from blood samples were treated with Tat protein, a process that "primed" the cells and made them vulnerable to infection by HIV in laboratory culture dishes.

"These results suggest that HIV-1 has evolved a self-perpetuating mechanism to activate general cells permissive for productive and cytopathic (cell-killing) infection," the authors wrote.

Get The OBSERVER Habit

"I'm not a straight man, but I play one on television."

Dan Butler, Bulldog on NBC's hit series, Frasier.

Many gay and lesbian people like Dan Butler thought acting straight was better than being open and honest. They hoped that others did not know, or that they feared friends and family would not accept them. After coming out, the love and support many receive tells them one thing -- that being themselves is the best act to follow.

National Coming Out Project
is an education and outreach program of the
Human Rights CAMPAIGN FUND

For more information about how you can make a difference
or to order official Keith Haring National Coming Out Day merchandise, call 1-800-866-6263.