

National Gay Rights Group To Fight Pima County Domestic Partners Challenge

by Mark R. Kerr
Observer Political Reporter

TUCSON (ON) - The policy to provide medical and dental benefits to the domestic partners of Pima County employees is being challenged in court by the Pima County Attorney's office.

The lawsuit was filed, Wednesday, July 2, by Deputy County Attorney Chris Roads. The complaint contends the Board of Supervisors exceeded its legal powers on March 25, when they voted to extend medical and dental benefits to the domestic partners of county employees.

According to lawsuit, the County Attorney's office contends it is illegal to spend taxpayer money for the coverage, because state law does not allow the board to expand the definition of "dependent" to include live-in couples, both heterosexual and homosexual, and their children.

An attorney for the Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund (LLDEF) disagrees with the County Attorney's contentions. John Davidson said Arizona law does not have any definition for "dependent." According to Davidson, the term is throughout state statute, but is undefined.

Davidson added that the County Attorney's office's only legal avenue was to challenge the Board's decision on the

grounds it was "an illegal expenditure."

Davidson went to say that the "legal question" is whether how Arizona law treats "domestic partners and dependents." He said that some state statutes do recognize "non-traditional" families.

Davidson said that one of the county employees spearheading the effort to extend benefits had contacted LLDEF for legal help. He said that LLDEF exploring which legal avenues would be the best way to act. "Lambda will act on this precedent setting case," Davidson said.

According to Diane Post, a LLDEF attorney based in Phoenix, LLDEF could legally act two ways: 1) By filing an amicus "friend of the court" brief or, 2) Filing papers to intervene on behalf of a group or employees affected by the litigation. To intervene, Post said, would give LLDEF more say in the pending case.

The lawsuit is now in the hands of the Pima County Board of Supervisors. According to Post, the Board has twenty days from the date of filing, July 2, to respond to the County Attorney's office complaint.

When the Board, and their attorney, legally reply to the suit, a date will be

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Hawaii Reciprocal Beneficiaries Law Takes Effect

By Linda Hosek

HONOLULU, HI (SB) - For a 34-year-old Gay corporate executive with the AIDS virus, a new law extending benefits to adults who can't marry will save thousands of dollars in medical bills for his partner of 13 years.

The executive, who declined to be named to avoid discrimination, said he will apply for an \$8 certificate to get his partner, who also has the AIDS virus and skin cancer, on his medical policy.

But he also owns a small company with about 40 employees, most of whom have relatives not likely to have medical insurance.

If he has to cover their legal partners the same way his corporation will cover his, he fears he could go out of business.

"I'm happy we're finally being recognized," he said. "But I don't think it's right to extend benefits to couples who aren't committed."

The controversial law makes Hawaii the first state in the nation to legally recognize same-sex couples, extending significant rights in areas of insurance, property, pension and hospital visitation.

Its importance ranges from symbolic to the practical in which some same-sex couples will seek certificates as a step toward legal marriage.

Portland residents and Waikiki condo owners John Weston, 65, and Jim McBroom, 63, plan to fly to Hawaii this month to apply for a certificate to acknowledge their relationship of 27 years.

"Our theory is not so much that reciprocal benefits will help us as much as it is a philosophical statement to assist in achieving civil rights," said Weston, a retired English professor, who has been with McBroom, a semiretired real-estate broker, for 27 years.

A Pandora's Box

But while the bill is historic in extending rights to same-sex couples, the rights remain unequal, said Dan Foley, attorney for the three couples who sued the state in 1991 for the right to marry.

"The irony is that all this was done to deny full equal rights to Gays," he said.

The law stems from a bill to offer benefits to same-sex couples to convince the state Supreme Court to overturn its own 1993 ruling to allow same-sex marriage.

State representatives proposed rights that didn't carry costs, but senators insisted that same-sex couples have health benefits.

The House agreed to health insurance, but extended rights beyond Gay couples to any two adults. Expanding the category also was a way to kill the bill by making it expensive to implement, Foley said.

But the bill survived because it was politically tied to one calling for a constitutional amendment in 1998 to let the Legislature decide who can marry.

Pressure to pass the amendment led to the passage of both, giving the state a new category of people with rights.

"We feel this may be a Pandora's box," said Fred Fortin, spokesman for the Hawaii Medical Services Association, which provides health insurance to most residents.

Fortin said HMSA didn't think domestic partnerships for same-sex couples would have had much impact on costs.

But the reciprocal-beneficiary law remains an unknown in which it may become a strategy to enrich coverage for any two adults, he said.

It also may force businesses to drop coverage for children to afford coverage for adult beneficiaries, he said, adding, "We may gain on the one hand and lose on another."

Foley described the concerns of the business community as legitimate and predicted the Legislature would clean up the law next year.

He said lawmakers would like to add residency requirements and narrow the category to those with committed relationships.

Rep. Sam Slom, a small-business advocate who opposed the bill because lawmakers didn't know its economic impact, said he anticipated pressure to expand rights for reciprocal beneficiaries.

"The Gay and Lesbian community is strong," he said. "They will want to add benefits."

Foley said the same-sex community wanted equal rights, but only for committed couples: "You can broaden rights, but limit them to same-sex couples and limit costs."

He said many rights have no costs and that traditional marriage laws would add responsibilities to couples, shifting burdens away from the state.

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY FOUR

"Don't Ask, Don't Tell" Unconstitutional

NEW YORK, NY (WS) - A federal judge issued a scathing decision striking down the military's "don't ask, don't tell" policy, saying it caters to heterosexual prejudices by discriminating against Gays.

In finding the rules unconstitutional, U.S. District Judge Eugene Nickerson of Brooklyn became the first federal judge to strike down the entire policy against homosexuals that includes bans against both speech and conduct.

If the ruling is upheld by an appeals court, it could pave the way for U.S. Supreme Court review. Three other appeals courts have issued rulings supporting the policy. So far, the Supreme Court has refused to review any cases.

"A service called on to fight for the principles of equality and free speech embodied in the United States Constitution should embrace those principles in its own ranks," Nickerson wrote.

He said the government defended the policy by arguing it furthered the "vital military goal of unit cohesion" and by saying the known presence of homosexuals might disrupt a unit because heterosexuals might morally disapprove of Gays.

"This is an outright confession that 'unit cohesion' is a euphemism for

catering to the prejudices of heterosexuals," he said.

The decision is his second invalidating the policy. His previous ruling in March 1995 was based on speech restrictions and the Second Circuit Court of Appeals last year ordered him to reconsider his decision based on the entire policy including a ban on homosexual conduct.

In the current decision, Nickerson found the policy unconstitutional because it denies Gay service members, without "legitimate reason," the right to participate openly as equals in the defense of the nation.

"For the United States government to require those self-identifying as homosexuals to hide their orientation and to pretend to be heterosexuals is to ask them to accept a judgment that their orientation is in itself disgraceful and they are unfit to serve," he wrote.

"To impose such a degrading and deplorable condition for remaining in the armed services cannot in fairness be justified on the ground that the truth might arouse the prejudice of some of their fellow members."

The Clinton Justice Department
CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY FOUR

UPDATE

Wingspan Organizing Third Annual Film Festival; Volunteers Needed

TUCSON - Wingspan is setting up an organization to plan and present its Third Annual Film Festival.

The Festival is planned for October 18 and 19, in conjunction with OUT-oberFest.

Joe Astorga and John Potter, Wingspan directors, and James Uhrig, committee chair, have put out a call for all persons interested in helping with the planning and setting up of the Festival to attend a first organizing meeting, Saturday, July 12, 1:00 P.M., at the Main Library on the University of Arizona campus.

For further information, contact Joe or John at Wingspan, 624-1779.

Pintauro Comes Out

HOLLYWOOD, CA (NP) - A castmember of "Who's The Boss?" answers the question, "Who's the Gay?"

Another U.S. TV actor has come out: Danny Pintauro, who played Jonathan Bower on the now-defunct Tony Danza sitcom "Who's The Boss?" Pintauro, now 21, shared his experience with the tabloid "National Enquirer," including how he came out to Danza and Gay-supportive co-star Judith Light. He said, "I couldn't deny it any more. It was just the right time to come out."

GLAAD, the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, called the article, "The most sensitive, accurate story concerning sexual orientation" they've seen in the "Enquirer" to date. GLAAD accepted an invitation from the "Enquirer" to provide a sidebar on the coming-out process.

United's Battle With SF Gets Ugly

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (SFC) - The simmering battle between United Airlines and the San Francisco Board of Supervisors over the city's domestic partnership law has boiled over as the two sides traded heated accusations of bad faith negotiating and outright lying.

The bitter fight got even nastier when Supervisor Tom Ammiano levelled accusations that United had reneged on an agreement to provide domestic benefits in exchange for a lease renewal at San Francisco International Airport.

Recalling negotiations held in January and February, United Chairman

Gerald Greenwald said, "They say United Airlines agreed to some extension of benefits in return for a two-year lease. I have searched everywhere in our records for such statements -- written statements, oral statements, winks, nudges. I can't find it. It's not true."

"I feel directly responsible to state this clearly -- the people who are accusing United of a lack of integrity should explain themselves," Greenwald is quoted as saying.

"United's charge that they never said it reminds me of Mike Tyson's apology. It has about as much veracity and is intended to disguise the truth of how reprehensible their negotiating tactics were," Ammiano is quoted as saying.

Marian Durkin, United's senior counsel involved in the negotiations, said the city was told only that the airline would establish a six-person committee which would work "toward how to provide domestic partners benefits."

Supervisor Leslie Katz also charged United promised it would not sue the city to prevent enforcement of the ordinance, an assertion United denies. Katz and Ammiano contend if they had known United would sue, they would never have granted the lease extension agreed to in February.

Arizona Aces Softball Fundraiser July 12

TUCSON - The Arizona Aces Softball Team will be holding a steak-fry fundraiser, July 12.

This event is being held at the Venture-N, from 5:00 to 8:00 P.M. The cost is \$5.

The menu will consist of: steak, beans, dinner or potato salad.

Fugitive Cunanan May Have Huge Cash Holdings

CHICAGO, IL (CT) - In the four months preceding his disappearance, Andrew Cunanan, a 27-year-old Gay man from San Diego suspected of killing four people in a grisly, cross-country spree, moved nearly \$75,000 in and out of bank accounts bearing his name.

The latest revelation casts new light on Cunanan's ability so far to elude capture. Authorities believed originally that Cunanan was desperate for money. If instead he is in possession of more than \$70,000, his available options in remaining mobile and out of sight are far greater.

A financial study prepared by a

California fugitive task force determined the unemployed model deposited and withdrew tens of thousands of dollars -- while holding no legitimate job -- beginning in January at two San Diego banks.

One investigative source told reporters the sudden surge in bank activity gave the appearance Cunanan was planning something. "I really believe he prepared for this [disappearance]," the source said.

As to the source of the money, federal authorities said they have not ruled out a pyramid scheme or a possible link to drug trafficking given San Diego's proximity to the Mexican border. Investigators said they were also pursuing reports Cunanan was sited in New Mexico.

In the weeks leading up to his disappearance, Cunanan told friends he was moving to San Francisco, but that he needed first to fly to Minnesota to meet with 28-year-old Jeffrey Trail over some unexplained business. Trail's body was discovered one week later. The body of his lover, David Madson, four days after that.

Butch Camp In West Hollywood

WEST HOLLYWOOD, CA - "Butch Camp," the romantic farce starring Judy Tenuta will have its West Coast premiere at the Los Angeles OUT FEST where it has been selected for screening in the much coveted Saturday Midnight showing, July 19, at the Sunset Five Theatres in West Hollywood.

"Butch Camp" is the outrageous sexual romp which has critics in an uproar as audiences fall in the aisles with laughter over its politically incorrect portrayal of contemporary life between Gays and straights.

"Butch Camp" will begin its regular West Coast run in Los Angeles on August 1, at the Cineplex Odeon Theatres Beverly Center Theatre Complex. "Butch Camp" will play additional theaters later this Summer and Fall.

Gay Health Guide To Be Released January '98

NEW YORK, NY - "The Gay Men's Wellness Guide," written by Robert E. Penn is association with members of The National Lesbian and Gay Health Association, will be published Books/Henry Holt & Company in January 1998.

It is the first book of its kind and will fill a vital void for the health conscious Gay community. It is expected to be for Gay men, what "Our Bodies, Ourselves" was for women and the publisher has announced a 100,000 copy first printing. A portion of the book's sales will benefit Gay health organizations.

This comprehensive Guide will cover physical, mental, emotional, spiritual and social concerns of Gay men. It is written to be a user-friendly source book and manual that will serve as a reference one will use throughout his life for finding quick answers to specific questions.

For more information call (212) 678-4849.

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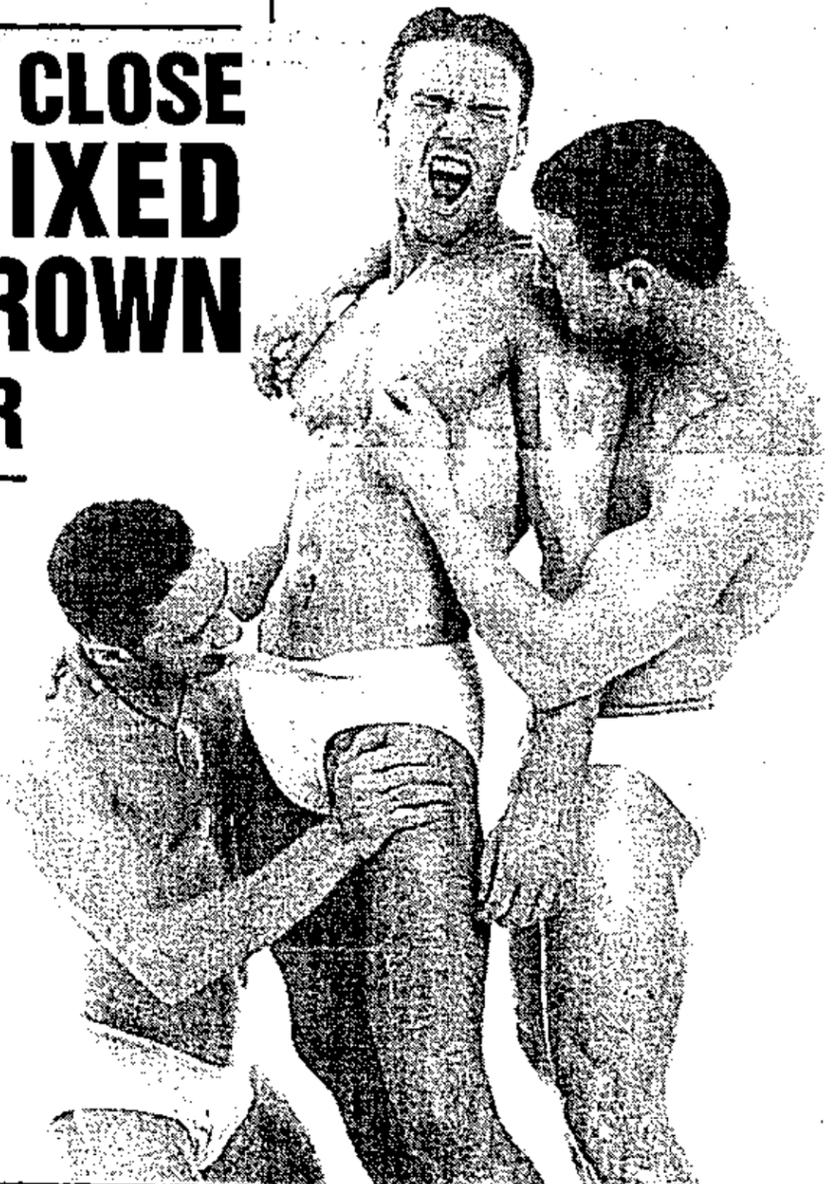
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Viewpoint

by Alan McLaughlin

Over the last few weeks this series has looked into some irregularities with the merger of the People with AIDS Coalition of Tucson (PACT For Life), Shanti and the Tucson AIDS Project (TAP) to become the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF). (For the record, this merger was to be effective July 1, 1997, but this can't happen until the State of Arizona issues not-for-profit 501 (c) 3 certification to SAAF, and this may be held up for some time yet. So, in the meantime, the three Boards are continuing to serve even though SAAF is acting as if the merger has taken place.)

To say that the spirit of the merger was not upheld with respect to the initial composition of SAAF's Board of Directors would be a gross understatement; to say that the building of the infrastructure of the organization seems of higher priority than the clients it is supposed to serve seems blatantly obvious.

Much of the process in selecting and nominating people to serve on the SAAF Board has been behind closed doors and has, in the opinion of many who have responded to this series of articles, intentionally overlooked experienced and willing applicants from all three Boards, but primarily from Shanti and PACT.

The secrecy issue came to light during the early nominations process when the current president of the PACT Board who, as such, was automatically seated on SAAF's Board and who also volunteered to serve on the Nominations Committee, witnessed firsthand that one HIV positive PACT Board member's application was denied at the recommendation of one of the (then) co-Executive Directors, even though this applicant has helped raised tens of thousands of dollars for PWAs over the years. Feeling more allegiance to people living with HIV/AIDS than to the as-yet non-existent organization and its political agenda, he revealed the circumstances to the individual and to a Special Meeting of the PACT Board at which I was present. This "breach of confidence" evidently caused quite an uproar and led to his voluntary resignation from the SAAF Board. Not because he felt he had done

anything wrong, but rather to avoid undue stress which would've affected his mental and physical health. However, the very person who was going to call for his resignation at the next SAAF Board meeting also violated "confidentially" by revealing even more about the circumstances to the individual than had PACT's president. Talk about a double standard!

What's all this secrecy and confidentiality about anyway? These meetings should be open to the public, and should be dictated by what's good for client services: not about whether or not one will unquestionably follow along with the agenda of the powers-that-be.

Next week, we'll wrap up this particular series with a look at fund-raising, development, and ways you can support client services without financially supporting the overly top-heavy administration.

Desert Voices Announces '97-'98 Season Artwork Contest

TUCSON - Desert Voices is conducting a artwork contest for the upcoming 1997-98 season.

Any artists interested in presenting a design which will be used on all marketing material and season T-shirts should call the Desert Voices office, 791-9662 for a Contest Packet. Designs should represent the season title, "Many Hearts, One Voice" and take into account the Mission of Desert Voices.

The winning design will become the property of Desert Voices and the original will not be returned. All other entries will be returned to the artist if a postage pre-paid envelope is included.

The contest deadline is July 30, 1997. For additional information, call 791-9662.



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Montana Supreme Court Strikes Down State's Sodomy Law

HELENA, MT (NP) - Montana's "deviate sexual conduct" law, which carried the heaviest penalty for same gender sex acts in the U.S., has been tossed out by the state Supreme Court.

The Montana state Supreme Court on July 2 unanimously struck down the state's sodomy law, ruling that it violated state constitutional rights to privacy. The 1953 "deviate sexual conduct" law, although it has not been enforced recently, had provided for felony convictions carrying sentences of up to 10 years in prison and a \$50,000 fine for private, non-commercial sex acts between consenting adults of the same gender - the heaviest penalty of any such law in the U.S. The ruling came in response to a lawsuit filed by a six Gays and Lesbians who charged that it limited their lives in various ways by condoning discrimination based on sexual orientation.

The decision agreed that, "There is enough evidence to show that there is a correlation between homosexual sodomy laws and homophobic violence." There can be no further appeals in the case.

The state's arguments in defense of the law were all rejected by the court. One had been that the law could do no harm because it had not been enforced. Another was that the law served to limit

the spread of AIDS, but the court noted that it had failed to achieve this end: even though the law was passed long before any AIDS cases had been reported in Montana, the disease had become widespread there. While the state asserted that the law represented the will of the people, the court ruled that, "absent an interest more compelling than a legislative distaste of what is perceived to be offensive and immoral sexual practices on the part of homosexuals, state regulation, much less criminalization, of this most intimate social relationship will not withstand constitutional scrutiny."

Although all the justices agreed that the sodomy law is unconstitutional, Chief Justice Jean Turnage differed from the other six as to how. Turnage believed the law violated the constitutional guarantee of equal protection under the law, and warned that by invoking privacy the other justices were inviting a stream of lawsuits against any statute an individual might disagree with.

Sodomy laws applying only to homosexual acts remain on the books in five other states: Arkansas, Kansas, Maryland, Missouri and Oklahoma. Many more states have sodomy laws which apply regardless of gender, while about half the states do not criminalize private, non-commercial acts between consenting adults.

Probation For Killer Of Texas Gay

HOUSTON, TX (WS) - Another one gets away: the second defendant in the case of a Texas Gay man's murder is found guilty, but only guilty enough for probation.

Daniel Bean was given a life sentence in the brutal stabbing death of open gay Fred Mangione, but his half-brother Ronald Gauthier has been given 10 years' probation for the same crime. The Harris County, Texas jury found Gauthier guilty of murder and could have selected any of a range of punishments up to life imprisonment.

One juror told local reporters that the jury felt the prosecution had failed to prove that Gauthier was actively involved in the stabbing itself. Gauthier claimed he was not in Mangione's van when Bean killed him there, while the prosecution argued that Gauthier had held Mangione during the stabbing.

When Gauthier and Bean were arrested soon after the slaying, there was no blood on Gauthier's shirt or jacket, although some was found on his pants legs. Gauthier had joined Bean in bragging about the crime to the arresting officer and in threatening to mess with the "fags" beforehand.

Texas State District Judge Werner Voigt placed a number of conditions on Gauthier's probation when he handed down the sentence.

Gauthier will remain in jail until he can enter Harris County boot camp, which may be several months. He must avoid all contact with Bean, with whom he's been very close, and with hate groups, such as the German Peace Corps in California whose tattoo Bean wears. He must also shun guns and knives. He must write letters of apology to Mangione's long-time partner Kenneth Stern and to the people of Harris County. He must pass a high school equivalency exam, attend community college and hold

a job, while also performing 1,000 hours of community service. The judge has every intention of sending Gauthier to jail if he violates the terms.

Gauthier is also ordered to stay at least 150 feet away from Stern. Shortly before Stern discovered Mangione's body, Gauthier had suddenly attacked him in the Katy, Texas bar where the four men met. Gauthier is currently living in the same neighborhood as Stern, leading Stern to fear for his own safety.

On January 4, 1996, Stern and Mangione had gone out to look at wedding rings in anticipation of their upcoming anniversary. They stopped at a neighborhood bar they frequented and Mangione worked the tables trying to sell Avon products. His effeminate manner annoyed one patron who made some homophobic remarks. When Bean and Gauthier appeared ready to intervene to protect Stern and Mangione, it opened a friendly conversation among the four men. In reality, Bean and Gauthier had reassured the angry patron that they were going to harm the "fags."

But when the four went out in the van to buy cigarettes, Stern was under the impression that Bean and Gauthier were not only companionable but possibly interested in sex. When they returned to the bar, Stern was the first to enter. Gauthier then came in and started beating Stern. Bean followed and threw a bloody knife on the bar. Bean and Gauthier fled, only to be picked up shortly after by a police officer who at first thought they were youth violating curfew. Stern went out to the van to check on Mangione and found him dead of 35 stab wounds from a large knife.

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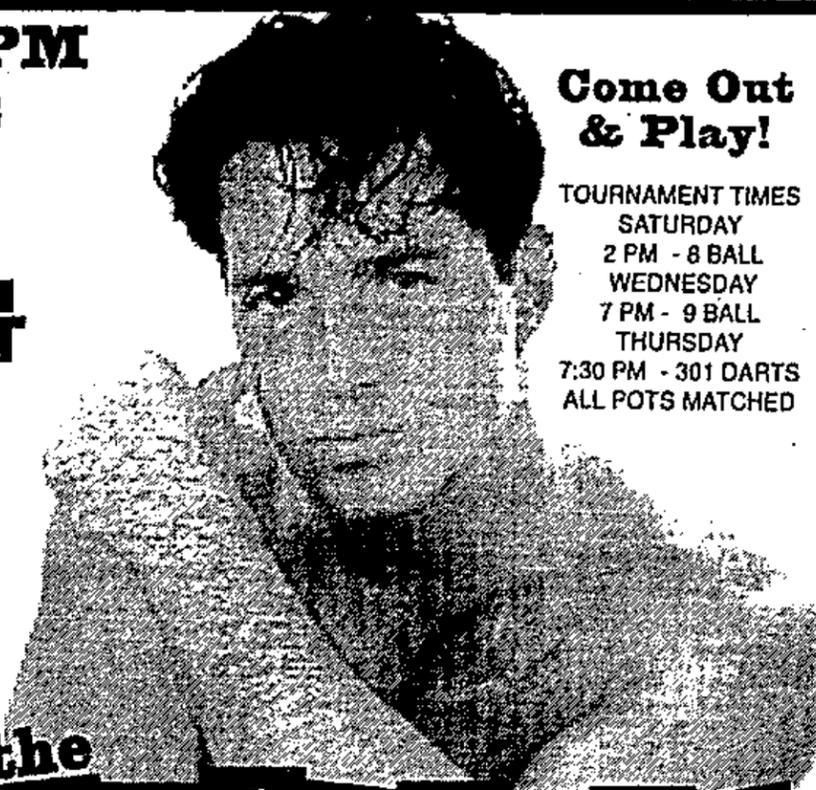
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by Sharon Kutzschbach

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If you are indigent, you are entitled to have an attorney appointed to represent you "in any criminal proceeding which may result in punishment by loss of liberty." In other words, if there is mandatory jail time required if you are convicted (DUI or prostitution cases for example), or in cases where the state is requesting that you serve time in jail. If you have no money and the Court refuses to appoint an attorney, the good news is that no one is planning to send you to jail if you are convicted.

At your arraignment, your first appearance before the Court, you may request that an attorney be appointed to represent you. You will fill out a financial information affidavit listing your income and expenses. If the Judge finds that you cannot afford to hire an attorney, one will be appointed for you. You may be asked to make some payment toward the cost of counsel. Those payments may be set up on a payment plan and are paid to the Court, not to the attorney.

Usually the appointment of an attorney is conditional, that is, an attorney is appointed if you provide the supporting documents that you are to bring to the Court. (Check stubs, rent receipts, disability award letter, utility bills, etc.) If you do not bring the supporting documents, your request for an attorney will be denied. Get that paperwork in on time!

You are always free to hire an attorney to represent you in any matter. Be certain you understand from the beginning what the fee will be, when and how it will be paid. Is there a charge per hour for your case, or a flat fee? If the case goes to trial are there additional fees? What costs will you be expected to pay?

You also have a right to represent

yourself in court. If you don't qualify for an appointed attorney, and feel that you cannot (or do not want to) pay the fee of a private attorney, you may represent yourself. Get copies of the police reports (available from the Prosecutor's Office for a twenty cent/page copy fee) and a copy of the law you are alleged to have violated. (There is a Law Library on the second floor of the Superior Court, 110 W. Congress. Copies are ten center per page.) For \$25 you can have a half hour consultation with an attorney to discuss your case. (Call the Pima County Bar Association Lawyers Referral Service, 623-4625.)

At the Pre-Trial Conference be prepared to list the names, addresses, and telephone numbers of your witnesses. The state will provide their witness information to you. Any witness not listed at least 20 days prior to trial may not be allowed to testify. This isn't "Perry Mason." Both sides are entitled to full disclosure of witnesses and evidence prior to trial.

If you have any evidence - photos, receipts, bills, medical reports or anything else that you intend to use, you need to list it on the Pre-Trial Statement and provide a copy to the prosecutor's office.

In general, your witnesses and evidence will be limited to people present at the time the event occurred or with particular knowledge concerning some aspect of the case. (The passenger in your car at the time of the accident, the person waiting to cross the street who saw the accident.) You will not be able to bring in witnesses to say the other person (your alleged "victim") is a bad person in general, or has a habit of speeding, or whatever. The Judge generally is not interested in the relationship the two of you have had, only in what happened at the specific date and time that resulted in your being charged with a crime.

Have your witnesses subpoenaed (ordered to come to court). (The bailiff can tell you where and how to do that.) If you don't subpoena your witnesses and they don't come to court the day of your trial, you are out of luck. If they were served with a subpoena and don't show

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up, you can get a continuance to get them to come in to testify for you.

Even though you are not an attorney, the Rules of Procedure will apply to you. You can find them in the Law Library.

Watch a couple of trials before you do your own. Be prepared. The better understanding you have of the charges and procedures, the better you will be able to defend yourself.

[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.]

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IGTA Member

ACT-UP Boycotts Glaxo's Zantac

NEW YORK, NY (WS) - ACT UP (AIDS Coalition to Unleash Power) groups have been pressuring pharmaceutical giant Glaxo Wellcome to expand supplies of an experimental AIDS drug, 1592 (abacavir). Now that's escalated to a boycott targeting Glaxo's most popular over-the-counter remedy, the antacid Zantac, and an anti-infective drug, Zovirax (acyclovir), used in the treatment of shingles.

Activists charge that Glaxo has been dragging its heels for nine years in developing the nucleoside drug, which they believe could replace both AZT and 3TC (Epivir) with more potency and less toxicity than either. Some suspect that the company may be trying to avoid undercutting what the activists say is now \$441-million per year in AZT sales. Glaxo denies the charges, and one former employee suggests that Glaxo's 1996 buy-out of Wellcome led to personnel changes which may have interfered with 1592's development.

Glaxo has announced it will be making 1592 available for a total of 2,500 children in the U.S. and elsewhere in a compassionate use program in July, and possibly another 2,500 in January. AIDS activists believe it should be made available through an expanded access program to some 10,000 people in the U.S. for whom AZT has become ineffective.

The activists point to a number of previous expanded access programs, some much larger than 10,000 people, which have expedited delivery to the gravely ill of drugs still pending approval by the Food & Drug Administration. Such programs also provide data about drug dosag-

AIDS INFO UPDATE

es and effectiveness. The activists claim 1592 is actually inexpensive to manufacture, and they see no reason why larger quantities have not been made available. Glaxo anticipates receiving FDA approval in March, but activists feel that will be too late for many people who are ill now.

The San Francisco Board of Supervisors will be considering a resolution against Glaxo written by openly Gay supervisor Tom Amunio, calling for access to the drug for all those in need in San Francisco. ACT UP/NY seized Glaxo's investor relations office in New York City and held it for an hour and one-half before seven of the protestors were arrested. Canada's direct action AIDS Action NOW recently demonstrated at a new Glaxo plant in Toronto.

The boycott's supporters include AIDS activists in San Francisco, New York, Buenos Aires, and Tel Aviv, among others.

Boycott organizers The 1592 Coalition (a group that includes several well-known AIDS workers, such as Cleve Jones, Jeff Getty and Dr. Andy Lipshitz) suggest substituting Tagament, Pepcid, Cimetidine or Axid for Zantac; they recommend consulting your pharmacist about the generic alternative to Zovirax. Supporters are encouraged to contact Glaxo Wellcome about their concerns, directed to CEO Robert Ingram.

Lift The Needle Ban

WASHINGTON, DC (WS) - The American Medical Association joined a growing chorus of public health professionals and

organizations in calling on the federal government to lift its funding prohibition of needle exchange programs citing an "urgent public health need."

The AMA says that more than one-third of all new AIDS cases in the country are caused by contaminated needles or sex with intravenous drug users. IV drug users themselves now account for the highest rates of new infection, a rate nearly twice that of Gay men.

The AMA has in the past "encouraged" needle exchange programs, but the call the organization issued Thursday was much stronger. AMA leaders called on members to work with Congress to repeal the 1988 federal funding ban and urged state and local agencies to do the same.

"There is more and more evidence that the advantages of needle exchange outweigh the disadvantages," Dr. Nancy Dickey, AMA's president elect, told reporters. "We're addressing a public health epidemic."

The next step in the process will be in convincing a reluctant Congress and wary President to lift the funding ban so needle exchange programs can be expanded. Congress stated that the ban could be lifted only when they were proven to reduce transmission of the virus and not to increase IV drug use.

Despite the fact these conditions have been met by numerous studies, no one in either the administration or Congress seems willing to take the political risk in advocating expanded needle ex-

change access. The AMA notes if no action is taken by 2000, the government will have done nothing to prevent 11,000 new AIDS cases by users, their sexual partners and their children.

Confide Home HIV Tests Being Pulled From Market

NEW YORK, NY (WS) - The Direct Access Diagnostics unit of Johnson & Johnson announced that owing to lack of demand, the company is taking its Confide home HIV test off the market.

Company spokespeople acknowledged they had overestimated the demand for the product noting that after being on the market for more than a year, only 90,000 Confide test units had been sold.

Confide's only other competitor in the home HIV blood testing market is Home Access Health Corp., which reported sales of around 150,000 units for the first six months of 1997. Direct Access stopped shipping Confide last week and will ask retailers to pull them from the shelves and return inventories.

The company will continue to process test results until Aug. 8. Anyone seeking results after that time will receive a refund. Confide's result center, which provides counseling and referrals, will remain open until August 29. After that date, callers will be referred to the CDC National AIDS Hotline.

He who has a thing to sell
and goes and whispers in a
well, is not so apt to get the
dollars as he who climbs a
tree and hollers.



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Friday & Saturday ~ in The Eagle

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**Monday - Free Pool with Vanna All Day
Doc's Dart Tourney 8:30PM in the Eagle**

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Best Latin/American "Sounds" Around**

**Wednesday - Karaoke Night with
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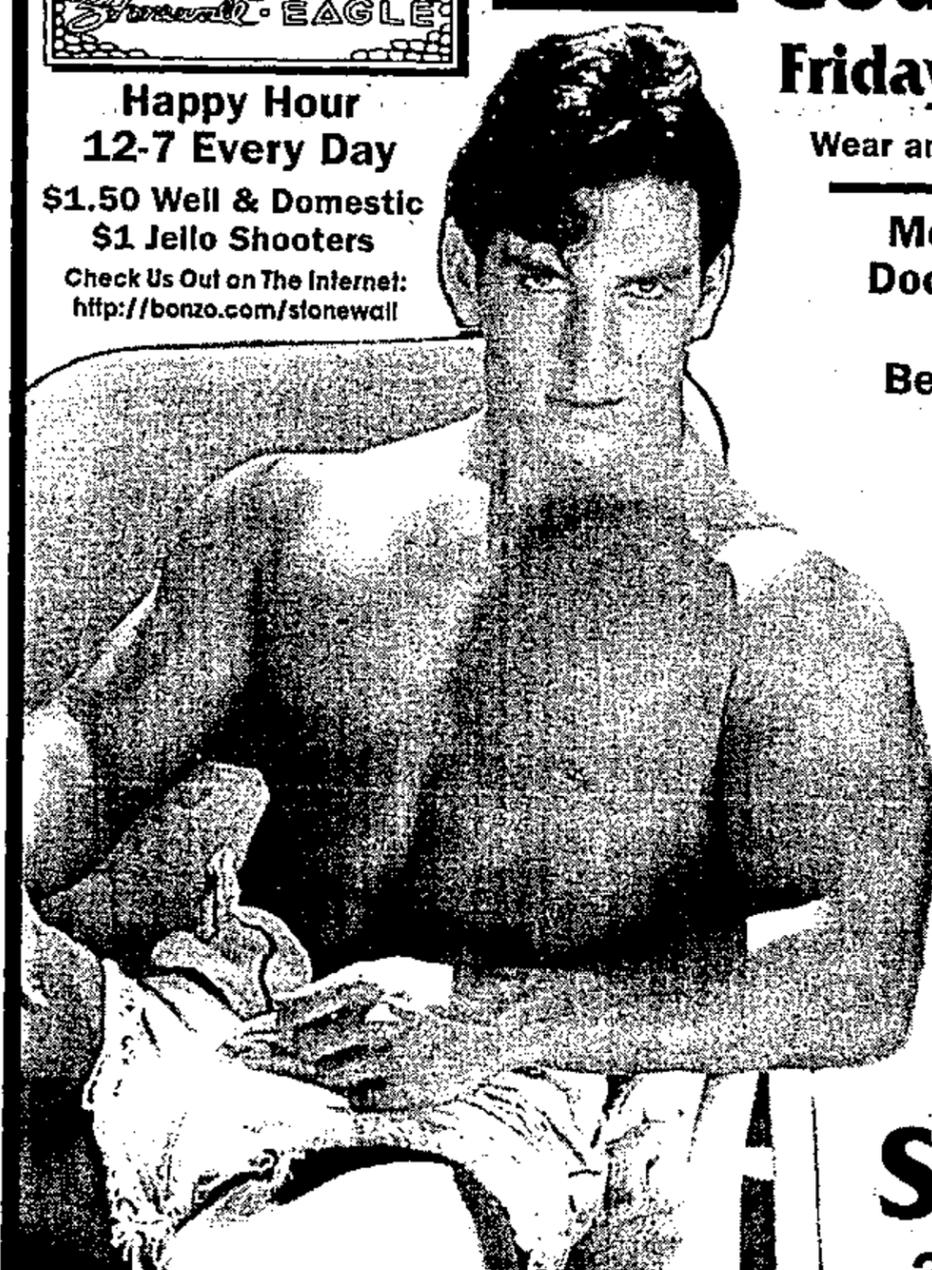
**Thursday - Naughty Body's
Male Revue 10PM**

**Friday Don't Miss the
FREE Spaghetti Feed 7-10**

Saturday - Free Pool All Day with Vanna

**Sunday - Steak & Burger BBQ w/ Ernie
Beer Bust 2-7PM**

**Latin Tea Dance 4-9 in Stonewall
Karaoke 9 to Close
Dream Girls Show 9:30PM**



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RIDE THAT TECHNO DONKEY ALL NIGHT THIS SATURDAY AT
311 EAST (HOTEL) CONGRESS 9PM \$3

FEMME FATAALS

NEWS FROM SAAF

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION
by Sharon Kutzschbach, VP Program Evaluation

SAAF (the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation), the successor to PACT, TAP and Shanti is now a vibrant reality. It is important that the community know who we are, what we are doing, where the money comes from, and where it goes. Through the years, Tucson AIDS Project, Shanti Foundation of Tucson, and the People with AIDS Coalition of Tucson have been providing services to those living with and affected by HIV/AIDS. Everyone was familiar with their names and knew, or at least thought they knew, about the services each agency provided. Now, with the merger of the three agencies some people are anxious or uncomfortable about the changes taking place.

In the time before AIDS had a name, when loving caring people in our community began to gather to try to help their friends and loved ones who were ill, there were no budgets or administrative costs. At that time, there were more people volunteering to help than there were people needing assistance. And, unfortunately, time was very short for those who were ill. When money was needed, someone passed the hat.

Time went by and we became more aware of the epidemic. Ever increasing numbers of infected and affected individuals looked to our community for help. It became necessary to have an office and a telephone. Someone was needed to obtain information from the client and provide information about available services. The number of volunteers increased, and someone had to keep track of them and match them to the need. Our volunteers needed help in maintaining their own emotional equilibrium. Someone needed to facilitate support groups and training. We began to see that without education and prevention efforts the number of infected individuals would be ever increasing. Someone had to obtain and distribute that information.

In trying to provide services only through volunteer efforts, we discovered that it was difficult to provide consistent and timely assistance to our clients. We also needed much more money to meet the great need for services as advances in treatment allowed our clients a longer life after diagnosis.

Funding for some services was obtained through contracts and grants. Money from those sources must be carefully tracked and used only for the purpose for which it was awarded. Each

contract/grant has its own reporting requirements, many of them quite complex. Failing to properly track and report grant money could result in the loss of the funds previously granted, and an agency being barred from obtaining any future grants. Support staff and data entry people are necessary to handle these matters.

The need was ever increasing, and the three agencies found themselves competing for many of the same limited dollars. We started discussions to eliminate duplication of services and cooperate in requesting funding wherever possible. Those talks over the years eventually lead to our merger. Tucson is leading the way in working cooperatively to provide client services in a cost effective manner.

One thing has not changed: Clients are the SAAF priority. Client services formerly provided by TAP, Shanti, and PACT will still be provided. Clients will not come to one location (151 S. Tucson Blvd., Suite 211, the former site of the TAP offices) instead of three. We have one budget now of approximately \$2.2 million, just about the amount of three former budgets combined. SAAF has budgeted for 36.3 Full Time Equivalent (FTE) paid employees, four fewer FTE's than the three agencies previously employed. Job descriptions have been changed and program areas consolidated to provide the most efficient use of our staff.

What is not reflected in the bare bones budget that the SAAF Board approved was the actual number of FTE's required to continue providing these services to our clients. Last year volunteers for the three agencies reported 30,000 hours in service last year, (the equivalent of another 15 full time employees), with many hours unreported. SAAF, as the other agencies before us, continues to rely heavily upon our dedicated volunteers to allow us to provide the maximum services with the minimum funds. We rely on you. We need your help, the willing gift of your time, talent, and resources. There are opportunities for everyone to serve in one capacity or another. Find the area best suited to your time and talent, and join us in making life a little better for our friends, family, and neighbors with HIV/AIDS.

Twice a month a program from SAAF will be highlighted in this space, providing information about services which are available and volunteer opportunities. We look forward to working with you!

COMMUNITY BUSINESS ASSOCIATION
Tucson's Gay and Lesbian Networking Organization
Meets every third Thursday of each month. Call for time and details.
CALL GREG HOLLMAN 577-8333

SAAF
SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION
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THE TUCSON AIDS PROJECT
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UPDATE

Mass. Challenged Over Foster Placement In Gay Homes

BOSTON, MA (BG) - The state of Massachusetts is again being challenged over its practice of occasionally placing children in the foster care of Gay people.

A suit, now pending review before the US Supreme Court, involves a man whose son was placed for six months last year in the care of a Gay couple. This man has charged that the Department of Social Services violated his and his wife's Catholic beliefs which condemn homosexuality.

The petition before the court as saying, "The petitioner's fundamental Catholic religious beliefs concerning what constitutes a moral family unit are completely incongruous and incompatible with this foster placement."

Constitutional scholars doubt the Supreme Court will review the case since the foster case on which the complaint is based has already been resolved. The DSS said there was not enough evidence to support the abuse allegations leveled against the boy's father and allowed the 14-year-old to return home.

James Michael Kelley, the father's lawyer, told reporters the court should agree to hear the case since clear constitutional questions are at issue. "Because this can happen to other parties and is susceptible to repetition, I believe the Supreme Court would be justified in taking up the matter," Kelley said.

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The company's not worried, claiming that ads are often held up in the process of review by the liquor board and Advertising Standards Canada, which brewers submit to voluntarily to avoid having their ads pulled from the air.

The scene is a bar, where a woman catches the eye of a man. He sends over a beer which she accepts, and he starts to head over to speak with her. But while he's en route, another woman comes in, sits next to the first, and kisses her passionately. The man returns to his own seat, sends over another beer for the second woman, and all three characters smile at each other.

Molson has been a leader among Canadian companies in supporting Gay and Lesbian community events. If the ad is ultimately released, it will air only in Ontario.

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The unanimous decision touches every American family but is of particular relevance to the Gay community given the moral and ethical choices so many have made in helping decide the fate of loved ones no longer willing or able to continue their battle with AIDS.

The high court overturned two federal appeals court rulings in New York and Washington state that would have lifted criminal prohibitions against doctors who administered life-ending drugs requested by mentally competent but terminally ill patients.

Chief Justice William H. Rehnquist writing for the court said, "The history of the law's treatment of assisted suicide in this country has been and continues to be one of the rejection of nearly all efforts to permit it... That being the case, our decisions lead us to conclude that the asserted 'right' to assistance in committing suicide is not a fundamental liberty interest protected by the due-process clause."

In an indication of how widespread the practice has become, The New England Journal of Medicine published a report in February which revealed half of all AIDS doctors in a San Francisco survey admitted to prescribing deadly doses of narcotics such as morphine to help terminally-ill patients hasten their own deaths.

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Sullivan suspects some of his neighbors who have abused him with homophobic language in the past, and Detroit's Gay and Lesbian Triangle Foundation has asked that the attack be considered a hate crime, but police and fire officials are not yet ready to say more than that the fire was caused by arson. A \$5,000 reward has been posted by the fire department for information leading to the arrest of the arsonist.

Sullivan says he's lost more than 90% of everything he ever had, and his home was not insured. Those wishing to help him out can send checks made out to "Triangle Foundation - Sullivan Fund" to the Triangle Foundation, 19641 West Seven Mile, Detroit, Michigan 48219, or call the Foundation at (313) 537-3323 from 10 AM - 4 PM EDT.

White Out Party

FRIDAY, JULY 18TH
9-CLOSE

WEAR ALL WHITE AND GET:
\$2.75 WHITE RUSSIANS
\$1.00 PUCKERS
\$1.00 CACTUS JUICE

ALL NITE

No cover

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Qualified participants will receive at no cost:

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President Clinton May Appoint Gay Ambassador

by Lou Chibbaro Jr.

WASHINGTON, DC (WB) - President Clinton has chosen an openly Gay person to be the United States ambassador to a European nation and has picked at least two other open Gays for high-level domestic positions that require confirmation by the Senate, a White House official said.

Bob Nash, director of the White House office of presidential personnel, said that the White House will announce the names of these and other high-level openly Gay appointees within the next two months.

Nash said he could not disclose the name of the openly Gay nominee for the ambassador job nor the names of the nominees for the other two posts that require Senate confirmation because the three candidates are undergoing standard background checks by the FBI and the Internal Revenue Service.

Normal protocol and White House policy, Nash said, call for withholding public announcement of the nominees for high-level government jobs until the vetting process is completed.

Nash's disclosure that Clinton has chosen at least three open Gays for high level appointments comes after two national Gay political groups, coalitions and an openly Gay councilmember in New York City send the president separate letters expressing disappointment that Clinton had yet to make any high-level appointments of open Gays in his second term.

White House officials have said the president appointed more than 100 open Gays to mostly middle-level positions in federal agencies and departments in his first term, which began in January 1993. Five of those first-term appointments were for positions that required Senate confirmation and several were for positions in the White House.

Richard Socarides, the White House liaison to the Gay community, is among the open Gays whom President Clinton appointed to the White House posts in both the president's first and second terms.

Socarides released a list of 26

openly Gay people that Socarides said Clinton has appointed so far in his second term.

Ten of the 25 appointees were named to middle-level, staff assistant, and non-paid advisory committee positions at the White House. Several of the 10, including Socarides, had been first-term Clinton appointees whom the president appointed to new positions during the past five months, according to Socarides. The other 16 appointees were named to various federal agencies and departments. None were named to positions that require Senate confirmation.

Expressions of concern by activists over a lack of high-level Gay appointments surfaced when openly Gay Councilmember Tom Duane of New York City sent Clinton a letter there appeared to be a sharp "underrepresentation" of open Gays



President Bill Clinton

in the president's second term. The Gay and Lesbian Victory Fund, followed Duane when 29 members of the group's board of directors sent Clinton a similar letter asking for more high-level openly Gay appointees. Human Rights Campaign Executive Director Elizabeth Birch sent her own letter to the president asking Clinton "for your direct intervention into the placement process."

"Although we can point to substantial success at the middle tiers of the administration, we have yet to see a single Gay or Lesbian candidate appointed to a Senate confirmed position [in the second term]," Birch said in her letter.

Nash said that the president is

committed to appointing open Gays to high-level positions and is moving ahead with what Nash called a somewhat cumbersome process of screening and vetting candidates for such presidential appointments.

Clinton himself also assured both Duane and the Victory, in separate letters, that he has discussed the issue of Gay appointments with Nash.

"On my instruction," Clinton said in a letter to the Victory Fund, "[Nash] has assured [Gay] organizations of my continuing commitment to placing qualified Gay men and Lesbians in positions at every level of my administration.

"I am the first president in history to appoint openly Gay and Lesbian individuals to senior administration positions," Clinton continued. "Many of those who were appointed during my first term are still serving, and they have contributed significantly, both in expertise and in their ability to advocate for the concerns of Gay men and Lesbians. . . . I look forward in the near future to announcing additional appointments."

Nash noted that he has met several times with leaders of Gay organizations to discuss the appointment process. He said he and other White House officials have been carefully looking over a list of nearly 100 names of potential Gay appointees that a coalition of Gay groups has submitted to the White House.

In addition to the Victory Fund and HRC, the groups making up that coalition include the National Black Lesbian and Gay Leadership Forum, the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force, and the National Latino/a Lesbian and Gay Organization (LLEGO).

Although administration officials have long boasted that Clinton had appointed more than 100 open Gays in his first term, the administration has never released the names of more than about 25 open Gays in the first term.

Socarides, when pressed for these names two years ago, conceded that many of them were "out" to their bosses or co-workers but did not want their names released to the press or to Gay activist groups.

"We made it very clear this time that closeted people don't count," said Brian Bond, executive director of the Victory Fund.

"The message we want to send is that openly Gay people are qualified to serve in all positions of government," said Martin Ornelas-Quintero, executive director of LLEGO. "What's important about having openly Gay appointees is we can move forward to show the world who we are."

[Lou Chibbaro Jr. is a reporter for the Washington Blade, from which this article is reprinted and edited for The Observer format.]

Some Interesting Statistics On Same Sex Relationships

Of the 3,187,772 "unmarried partners counted in the 1990 U.S. census, it was inadvertently discovered that 145,130 are same sex couples: 9,301 in New York City, 6,816 in San Francisco, 3,842 in Chicago, and 2,213 in Washington, DC. (Census officials admit that these figures do not reflect the true number of same sex couples living together - the true figure is undoubtedly much higher)

55.5% of Gay men and 71.2% of Lesbians are in steady relationships, according to "The Gay Market" study, Chicago, January 1992.

Of the 1,266 Lesbian and Gay couples that took part in a 1988 survey conducted by Partners Task Force for Gay and Lesbian Couples:

More than 80% had been together for more than a year

87% of the women and 93% of the men lived together

On average, the couples had been together for 6 years

In a 1987 study of Gay male couples:

96.4% said they were monogamous

45% of the partners reported no previous relationship

If same-gender marriage were legal, 81% of respondents to a 1996 Advocate survey say they would choose to marry

According to a 1996 Mellman Group national survey for the Human Rights Campaign:

27% of the American public believe that Gay marriage is a threat to the family;

41% do not venture a guess.

32% accept the view that the anti-Gay Defense of Marriage Act is an attempt to "play politics, scapegoat Gays, and embarrass supporters of Gay civil rights"

ONE OF The most recent mass "Gay wedding" took place as part of a demonstration during the April 24, 1993 National March on Washington. An estimated 2,000 marchers participated.

At least 44 cities worldwide held Gay and Lesbian pride celebrations in 1993. New York City's celebration attracted an estimated 750,000 spectators, according to Heritage Pride, Inc., New York, 1993.

For more background on these and other statistics on Gay and Lesbian couples, please call 212-627-8098 or email paul@mkpr.com

Salud Es Poder

Latino Men's Health Project

Calendar of Events

July 27 Tardeada 4p.m. - 9p.m. and Benefit Drag Show featuring Veronica Rios and Special Guests at Stonewall 10p.m.

Sept. 13 Miss Gay Hispanidad '97 Pageant at Stonewall 7p.m.

To Protect Yourself is to Love Yourself

IT'S NEWS TO ME . . . BY STEVE RISLEY

Onward and Upward: There were two events of legal significance to Gays and Lesbians that occurred in the past week. The first was a decision by the Montana Supreme Court to set aside that state's 1973 prohibition against Gay sex. Montana's high court determined that the ban was a violation of privacy rights and therefore unconstitutional.

Writing for the court, Justice James Nelson remarked, "Quite simply, consenting adults expect that neither the state nor their neighbors will be co-habitants in their bedrooms. Montana's constitutional right to privacy - this right of personal autonomy and right to be let alone - includes the right of consenting adults, regardless of gender, to engage in non-commercial, private, sexual relations free of governmental interference, intrusion and condemnation."

Typically, the response from Montana's Christian Coalition pronounced the ruling a threat to, "the sanctity of marriage and traditional family values," according to executive director Laurie Koutnik. "With this law being struck down, the door is open to teach that homosexuality is acceptable on par with heterosexuality in schools."

Arlene Randash of the Eagle Forum, a family advocacy group, predicted that the ruling will, "permit our public school children to become fair game for pro-homosexual sensitivity training in the classroom."

As of this date no busloads of Gay teachers and Lesbian sensitivity train-

ers waving copies of "The Joy of Gay Sex" have been detected heading toward Montana.

The other important ruling came from U.S. District (N.Y.) Judge Eugene Nickerson who ruled that the military's "Don't ask, don't tell" policy violates Gay's rights to serve in the U.S. military forces. This was the second time that Nickerson has so ruled. 1995 he became the first federal judge to strike down the policy but was forced by the 2nd U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to revisit the issue. After doing so he re-iterated his original decision and stated that the policy was a violation of U.S. constitutional guarantees of both free speech and equal protection.

"There should be one set of rules for everyone, Gay or straight," he said. Further, "to single out Gay and Lesbian members denies them, without legitimate reason, the right to openly participate as equals in the defense of the nation. The Constitution does not grant the military special license to act on prejudices or cater to them."

The plaintiff in this case, the U.S. government, argued that the "don't ask, don't tell" policy was necessary to protect military "unit cohesion". Nickerson said that policy "assumes that, provided homosexuals stay in the closet, heterosexuals will believe there are no homosexuals present in their unit. In fact, homosexuals are present and are entitled to be present."

And then it was now....

HOME ON THE RANGE WITH AGRA-TUCSON

by Scott Weidamoyer

Hey Tucson, another great weekend in the Old Pueblo! Hope everyone had a safe and happy July 4 weekend. It was a great weekend in the Old Pueblo! It was a great weekend for AGRA. We, along with the management and staff of the Stonewall/Eagle pulled off yet another successful fund raiser for AGRA. I want to take a minute to thank everyone who attended the July 4 bash this past weekend. From what I remember, it was a great weekend.

I want to give a very deep and sincere thank you to one person in particular, our sweet little and very own Ms. Diane for taking the bull by the horns and coordinating a great entertainment schedule for the weekend. This girl is the best! On short notice she was able to take a list of phone numbers and turn it into a very entertaining weekend. I also want to thank Lucinda (Larry) for responding to the call for help and rounding up performers while at the same time planning a weekend get-away and preparing for a show one evening, Larry, you have once again proved that your talents are multi-faceted. Thanks! To Ms. Victoria, flawless girl, thanks for your support all weekend. We look forward to working with you in the future. And to all of the other talent we had over the weekend. Mr. J. Lloyd (Tucson's contestant for Mr. AGRA), Mr. Billy D., Vangie, Shaundriana, Electra Blue, and the list goes on, my apologies go out to those of you I did not mention, I know, and you know who you are and your help was greatly appreciated.

As I said, another successful

event finished and on to the next, Hours, July 20, 1997, the AGRA Anniversary Party. Party all day and night with us at Hours to help AGRA celebrate another great year in Tucson. We will have food, drink, friends and plenty of fun and prizes to give away. We will also have plenty of entertainment and dancing throughout the night. Hopefully Diane will be recovered from this weekend and be ready for July 20. Look for more information in The Observer and in the week to come. We will also be holding our monthly membership meeting prior to the Anniversary party also at Hours beginning at 5:00 P.M. Come out and join us for a great and informative meeting. One more thing for July 20, it is also the deadline and judging of all entries for the 1998 Saguaro Regional Rodeo Poster Contest. Call the AGRA Hotline for more details. I think it is going to be quite a busy day at Hours so Lee, get ready for us, and thanks for all of your support.

Reminder: The next General Membership Meeting is scheduled for July 20, 5:00 P.M. at Hours. We will also be celebrating an other AGRA-Tucson Chapter Anniversary. Leave it to AGRA to help you stay out of the heat this month! Hope to see everyone there.

Hope you have a great week! As always, remember to keep your pride and play safe in the saddle!

[AGRA-Tucson, POB 40894, Tucson, AZ 85717-0894. Phone: (520) 323-0805.]

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Sunday, July 13th

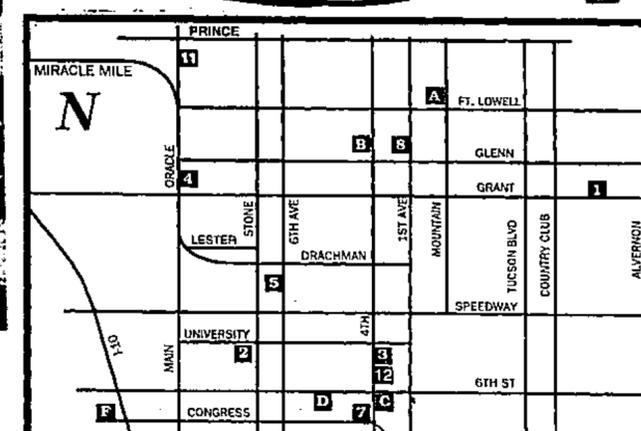
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Go In Good Health

by Rev. Andrew Brooks

This time I would like to talk about something I see that is all too common in the Gay world (and the straight world as well, for that matter!) and that is the obsession with physical perfection. We live in a culture that is daily saturated with messages of all kinds, and a dominant message is that is that we should have the "perfect body." Gay men, especially, often buy into this image. We feel the need to be thin, sculpted and "toned," with a body that would rival that of a Greek God.

There is nothing wrong with physical fitness, and taking care of your body is important. If you want to work out at a local gym, by all means, go for it! But when we begin to obsess over it, it becomes a problem. Often, men who desire a perfect body, will project this desire onto the men that they date. He has to be gorgeous, thin, well-toned, well-hung (of course!) and have a nice car, lots of money, etc! But what does that say about us as people? A lot of the guys we reject as "average" or "plain" or "fat" or too "fem" are really nice people and deserving of our attention, too.

How often have you seen or heard the phrase in a Gay personal ad "no fats, no fems?" Think about that. It reduces a person down to one word, and dismisses them outright as immediately undesirable. A person is much more than a body type or a persona, and though it is true that we

often desire a certain "type" sexually, we need to look a little deeper than that. Many Gay guys are "fems," and tend to act in very effeminate ways, and these are the Gays that are the brunt of all those jokes. If a man is naturally acting more on his feminine side, what's wrong with that? I know several "fem" Gay guys, and they are wonderful people. We should not shun others or lump them indiscriminately into a group and write them off.

It is important to deal with people as individuals. And the anti-fat prejudice among Gays is really very childish. I am a big man myself, and too often hear guys in the bar talking about so-and-so being "really fat, and ugly, etc." I wonder about that person they are talking about. There is so much more to a person than their body size! Maybe that person is funny, kind, or really creative and worth getting to know! But when we allow prejudice to color our thinking, we reject the possibility of getting to know a lot of potentially wonderful people along life's path.

That is why groups like Girth and Mirth and Bear groups exist, to allow people to congregate with others who will be more open, more accepting, and not criticize them or tear them down for bodily attributes. It would be a wonderful world if more Gays would drop the childish prejudices over "perfect bodies" and embrace more people, with an open, friend-

A View From The Rock

A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

A couple of weeks ago I left my umbrella on the bus. I had used it the night before when I left work, so even though it wasn't raining the following morning I took it to work so it would be available the next time I needed it. My umbrella was one of the clear, bubble umbrellas, which meant it was not collapsible, so I placed it on the seat next to the window, handy to pick up when I got off the bus. Unfortunately, that morning we had a little excitement on the bus; although we normally take the freeway all the way downtown there was some kind of problem on the freeway so we exited before we normally do. Not only that, but the driver didn't seem to be real familiar with how the route went. I left my seat to talk with the driver to ensure that we would go close to my place of employment, which we did, even though we did run the route backwards! When it was time for me to get off the bus I picked up my bag and purse and walked out the door, happy that I was not going to be too late for work.

It wasn't until several hours later that I realized that I had left my umbrella on the bus!

On the way home that evening one of my fellow riders asked me if I had left my umbrella; she had noticed it and turned it in to the bus driver. While I was glad to learn that someone had turned it in rather than keeping it for themselves; I wasn't exactly sure where to go to retrieve it. And since the umbrella wasn't in very good shape, (some of the ribs had become detached from the material), I decided that this would be a good excuse for me to purchase a new one. However, I decided to wait until they were on sale-after all, monsoon season was some time in the distance! In fact, I was in the store last night where in the past I have seen collapsible umbrellas on sale, but since they were still at their regular price, I didn't

buy one.

You guessed it! Today, just before it was time to leave work to come home, the monsoon season began! As I watched the rain come down in buckets I wished I hadn't waited to purchase my umbrella! I sure wasn't looking forward to sitting in wet clothing for the 20 minutes or so it would take me to get home! But then, the grace of God stepped in, and by the time I actually left work the rain had completely stopped so I didn't get drenched!

How thankful I am that God is always giving me second, third, and hundredth chances! And you should be too! But one of the facts of life is that some day our chances are going to be used up!

If you are like many people, you really intend to investigate Christianity "some day." Because of what you have read, or Christians you have observed, you would like to know more about what makes a Christian "tick." Or perhaps you have already begun investigating and are convinced that Jesus is the Son of God; you acknowledge with your head that it is necessary for you to make a commitment to follow him but you just "aren't ready."

When Jesus was speaking with his disciples about the time when he would come back to earth, he warned them, "So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him." (Matthew 24:44) You see, while our God is the God of the second, third and hundredth chance, the time is coming when there will be no more chances to accept Jesus as your personal savior.

God's word reminds us that "... now is the time of God's favor, now is the day of salvation." (II Corinthians 6:2) Don't miss out on what may be your final opportunity to accept Jesus as your savior!

dly attitude.

I am sure those kinds of problems exist among Lesbians also, and that is sad. I think a lot of us forget that every one of us needs to feel loved, be accepted, be treated with kindness, decency and respect, the same way we want to be treated. I think a healthy community is an open, caring community, and if we can start on a small scale, then we are making a step in the right direction. When we can look at others with love in our eyes, not condemnation, we have come a long way in our personal growth. It's something to think about. Till next time, Go in Good Health

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



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ARIZONA

GRAND FUN IN CASA GRANDE I'm looking for some new buddies to hang out with. I'm tall and slender, 6'1, 165lbs, with dark brown hair, and brown eyes. I'm interested in sports, hiking, camping, clubbing, movies, and kicking back at home. (Casa Grande) #11049

SUMMER CAPERS This young, hot, White male, college student, will be in town for the summer and want to have some fun. (Flagstaff) #1553

ANYTHING CAN HAPPEN I wanna have fun with in shape guys, under 40. I'm a healthy, attractive, and enthusiastic, 23 year old male. Let's be friends and kick up our heels together. Long term relationship possible. (Flagstaff) #26815

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

LET'S HAVE A PARTY This 22 year old Guy, White male, is looking for another guy in his mid to late twenties. I'm 6'2, 170lbs, with brown hair, brown eyes, and a smooth body. You should like the outdoors, drinking beer and partying. Let's hook up and pour out some cool ones. (Grand Canyon) #25466

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

SUBMISSIVE IN MESA Hot, Hispanic male, 28, wants to meet sexy, White male, tops, 18 to 30. (Mesa) #3113

AT A CROSSROADS I have a girlfriend but she has given me the green light to explore other avenues. My favorite road is Man to Man Sex Street. I'm a Bi White male, college student, 21. I'm mostly a top but will cross the street for the right, handsome, built man. I like the clubs, camping, hiking, fishing, boating, and travel. I'm going to Mexico for Spring Break. You should be a hot stud hungry for sex. (Mesa) #8880

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

THROW YOUR WEIGHT AROUND I wanna meet a guy who weighs over 200lbs for fun. I'm an attractive, White male, 24, 6ft, 150lbs. (Phoenix) #1236

HEEL ME I want to meet a very well endowed, dominant man, over 40, to train me how to be his bottom. I'm a masculine, 39 year old, brown, tattooed, White male, 5'11, with brown hair and a goatee. I love to be leath trained and spanked. I give great anal service. (Phoenix) #3247

GOLDEN HOUR Good looking, very well endowed, young, blond, bottom boy, 5'9, 145lbs, seeks fun loving guys to get it on with. I have a smooth, tanned, swimmer's build. (Phoenix) #3296

YOU CAN CALL ME TONTO Here's the deal. I'm 6'4, 300lbs, a native American, and am seeking sex buddies. (Phoenix) #3322

ALL BEEF FRANK Extremely well endowed, 32 year old, White male, 6ft, 150lbs, is always horny and wants to get together with other hot men, 19 to 35. (Phoenix) #3339

SUPERHERO Here to save the day! I'm a good looking, 25 year old, Hispanic male, 5'4, 130lbs. I'll answer to the sound of your calls. (Phoenix) #2325

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

ENEMANCIAC I get into erotica and light spanking with other sexy, smooth, men, 30 to 50. I'm a sexy, 48 year old, White male, 6ft, 181lbs, with rugged good looks. I like giving and receiving. (Scottsdale) #3496

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. (Scottsdale) #2104

LOOKS AND LIVES I like all guys who are nice looking and friendly. Fit the bill? Call. (Tucson) #3323

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) #3336

I'LL CLIMB 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

ARE YOU PLEASED? I would please me to please you. This good looking, Guy, White male, 34, is into making other men feel good. I like to do it all. What tickles your fancy? (Tucson) #12116

GROUPS ARE GOOD I'm looking for safe, discreet fun with other attractive, well built, masculine guys. I'm a White male, 5'10, 180lbs, with brown hair, and Green eyes. Group action sounds like fun, too. (Tucson) #27302

IT'S A UNIFORM THING I want to meet an attractive, masculine man for good friendship, and possibly more. I'm a good looking male, 32, 6ft, 190lbs, with short dark brown hair, brown eyes, a mustache, and a very nice, muscular build. I'm especially interested in military men, or other guys in uniform. (Tucson) #8223

IN MY HANDS I give great massages and even better anal service. I'm a 35 year old, White male, 5'10, 190lbs, with a clean shaven dark complexion. I work out five days a week. I want to get my hands and tongue on you if you're a black or Hispanic guy, a bodybuilder, a jock, or a wrestler. I work nights but have Wednesdays and Thursdays off. (Tucson) #27844

MY TIME IS YOUR TIME I'm a 31 year old, Hispanic man, looking for an older guy to spend time with. I'm 5'5, 145lbs, and attractive. You should be an honest, nice guy, older than me, and in good shape. All races are encouraged to call. (Tucson) #27137

THIRD HOTTEST MASTER You are a reflection of me, so you have to be the best. I want a slave who will make me feel proud when I am among other masters. I will train you well, and if you are truly submissive, you will be in heaven. I'm 6'1, 180lbs, very dominant, and ready to go. (Tucson) #27079

PROTECTIVE LAYER OF FUR Do you like a bottom guy who is pretty hairy? Call me. I'm a Guy, Hispanic male, looking for tops, to get down with. (Tucson) #26495

HOMEROY HAVEN This clean shaven, worked out, 35 year old, White male, 5'10, 190lbs, seeks homeboys and going bangers, especially Black and Latina 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 muscular, honest, and employed. I live good conversations, great times, and getting to know new people. #2763

PARTY MIX I'm looking for possible transvestites and transsexuals and very well hung males. What a nice mix we'll make. #2185

REST YOUR WEIGHT ON ME I can sum myself up pretty easily. I like to be on the bottom. I love toys, and I'm very aggressive. Can you come out and play? #9994

BLACK JACK This well endowed, Black male, is looking only for other well endowed, Black men. I'm 6'4, 185lbs, and in very good shape. #26662

HAIR ALL OVER I'm looking for well endowed, top men, with hair everywhere. I guess I want a laddy bear. #25737



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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

CLEAN AND SAFE 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 woman who is clean and safe, sexually. (Phoenix) #3080

A FRACTION FEMININE I'm a little shy and bashful so it might take me an extra minute to get to know someone. I'm a White female, 5'5, 135lbs, with long brown hair and hazel eyes. I enjoy erotic, camping, movies, and more. I'd like to meet another friendly female, a little on the feminine side. (Phoenix) #1371

BREAK THE ICE I want to talk to women 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

LOVE LIFE WITH ME This incredible romantic doesn't want to be cured. I love life and desire 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 for 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, woman. #2849

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Columna Abierta.

by Dr. Eleazar Garcia

Saludandolos con el mismo compromiso de siempre; y sobre todo agradeciendoles las llamadas que hemos recibido durante la semana en relación a la Columna Abierta de la edición pasada, en la cual se escribió sobre la homosexualidad en el adolescente; es por eso que hoy voy a retomar el tema para complementar un poco más sobre este interesante y discutido tópico... Los mayores problemas médicos que enfrentan los homosexuales están relacionados con el tipo de prácticas sexuales que realizan, el número de compañeros sexuales que tienen y el uso apropiado de métodos para prevenir enfermedades sexuales.

Asimismo, existen otros problemas de igual importancia no necesariamente relacionados con una afección física, sino psicológica. Estos problemas psicosociales están vinculados con las dificultades que el homosexual tiene que atravesar en su proceso de aceptación personal, y la actitud de rechazo por parte de la sociedad. Tanto los homosexuales como los heterosexuales que tienen muchos compañeros sexuales corren el riesgo de adquirir enfermedades como gonorrea, sífilis, clamidia, condilomatosis y SIDA. La localización de la enfermedad depende del tipo de práctica sexual realizada, ya que puede darse en la orofaringe, el ano y los genitales. Los jóvenes homosexuales tienen un alto riesgo de adquirir SIDA, especialmente los que hacen sexo por dinero, tienen relaciones sin ninguna protección o usan drogas intravenosas. Asimismo, pueden sufrir lesiones traumáticas relacionadas con el coito, como laceraciones, hemorroides y fístulas. Las afecciones de tipo psicosocial tienen una gran importancia. Los homosexuales experimentan un aislamiento tanto físico como emocional, ya que muchas veces no tienen confianza para expresar sus sentimientos a los demás, lo cual le lleva a que se distancie o aisle de su familia y amigos debido a su identidad sexual.

El adolescente homosexual teme que se sepan sus preferencias sexuales, debido a que ello suele provocar respuestas de ira, shock y negación por parte de sus padres. El Instituto de Protección de Lesbianas y Gays de Nueva York, afirma que es normal la expulsión de hijos homosexuales de sus casas, y además están expuestos a abuso físico y verbal.

El conflicto entre la familia y el adolescente homosexual obliga a que éste deje su casa y viva en la calle. Muchos adolescentes que abandonan sus casas por la reacción de sus familiares y amigos se ven abocados a la prostitución y las drogas. Durante los últimos 25 años, las estadísticas de suicidio entre jóvenes se han cuadruplicado, siendo el suicidio la segunda causa de mortalidad en el adolescente. El proceso de Identidad Sexual constituye un factor de riesgo de suma importancia en los intentos de suicidio ocurridos en adolescentes. Los homosexuales adolescentes tienen un riesgo tres veces mayor de suicidarse que los jóvenes heterosexuales. Se estima que aproximadamente un 30 % de los suicidios de jóvenes en los Estados Unidos son cometidos por adolescentes homosexuales. Entre los que han atentado contra su vida, se ha comprobado un mayor abuso de drogas, abuso sexual y arrestos por mala conducta.

A pesar de que se desconoce la incidencia real de la homosexualidad, el número de adolescentes que se identifican como homosexuales está aumentando. Es

obvio que esto varía dependiendo de las características demográficas de cada población, por lo que es necesario realizar estudios estadísticos que tengan en cuenta estas variables para establecer programas de apoyo a estas comunidades. Aquí en la ciudad de Tucson, AZ, el TAP ofrece ciertos servicios de apoyo a los adolescentes homosexuales, si necesita información al respecto, por favor comuníquese con Arthur Padilla al 322-6226. Y a nivel estatal se ha creado la Coalición Estatal para la Salud del Adolescente con un grupo de personas que laboran o tienen interés en esta área, si le gustaría participar en la mencionada Coalición o recibir más información sobre futuros programas y actividades por favor comuníquese conmigo al (520) 287-4722.

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

Ernie Perez, Salud es Poder/TAP
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Dr. Eleazar Garcia, SEAHEC
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Nogales, AZ 85621
(520)287-4722 - FAX: 287-4349

Theresa Mendez, HIV/AIDS Education Coalition, 1852 N. Mastick Way, Nogales, AZ 85621 (520)761-2147 - FAX: 761-2153.

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Three State Legislatures Pass Hate Crimes Bills

WASHINGTON, D.C. (WB) - Triumphant over opponents, legislators in Delaware, Louisiana and Nebraska pushed through the passage of statewide hate crimes bills which include protections for Gay men and Lesbians.

The bills increase penalties for crimes motivated by bias against people for their actual or perceived race, color, religion, ancestry, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, age or disability.

The Delaware legislature voted overwhelmingly to amend the state's current hate crimes bill to include protection for Gay men and Lesbians. The state House passed the bill unanimously 38-0 and the Senate passed the measure by a lopsided 16-3. Delaware Gov. Thomas Carper plans to sign the measure at a ceremony in Rehoboth Beach on July 12.

Nebraska Governor Ben Nelson said during the bill's signing ceremony last month, "It has always been easier to change laws than it is to change attitudes. . . . Nebraska is taking one more step away from prejudice, racism, and discrimination."

The fate of Louisiana's bill is less certain, especially given the strenuous opposition it faced in the legislature. Unlike its breezy passage in Delaware, the Louisiana hate crimes bill was bogged down for weeks in plodding and often furious debate. It barely scraped by a last minute amendment (voted down 49-46) which would have deleted the sexual orientation provision in the bill.

Louisiana Gov. Mike Foster, Jr. has not yet decided whether he will sign the hate crimes bill, veto it, or allow it to become law without his signature.

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"I'm Not Small! It's The Sets That Got Bigger

An update of sorts, on the Employment Non-Discrimination Act (ENDA), the 1997 model.

On June 10, the new version of last year's ENDA was reintroduced into both houses of Congress. Reaction was swift and positive from national Gay and Lesbian rights organizations. Many proclaimed this would be the year of ENDA's passage, since Republican's were leading the fight for the measure. So were does the proposal stand with the elephants leading the "charge?"

Two versions of the bill were introduced, one of the House of Representatives, and one for the Senate (H.R. 1858 and S.869 for those playing the home game).

The Senate bill, S.869, was read twice on June 10, and then referred to the Committee on Labor and Human Resources, where the bill is now gathering dust. S.869 has a total of 35 sponsors and co-sponsors. Arizona Senators McCain and Kyl are not co-sponsors of S.869. What a shocker!

The House bill, H.R. 1858, was referred to the following committees: Education and the Workforce; Oversight; Government Reform and Oversight; Judiciary; Constitution Subcommittee; Employer-Employee Relations Subcommittee. Even with all those referrals, H.R. 1858 gathers dust. H.R. 1858 has 150 sponsors and co-sponsors. Reps. Kolbe and Pastor are co-sponsors of House ENDA.

What can we do? Take action! Call Senator's John McCain and Jon Kyl, 670-6334 and 575-8633 respectively, and urge them to co-sponsor S.869. Call Rep. Ed Pastor, 624-9986, and urge him to continue to lobby for H.R. 1858. Call Rep. Jim Kolbe, 881-3588, and urge him to lobby Speaker Newt, a friend of Jim's, to get H.R. 1858 heard.

Three days does not a week make, unless it's a criminal trial. Speaking of criminal, another "week" in the Fifester's trial is in the can. Here are the highlights, so to speak:

Governor Whitewash's former accountant with Coopers & Lybrand, Katherine Wrigley, testified that her accounting firm was "misled in some way" when she worked with Fiferama on financial reports in the "nifty 80's." Misled, no! Cooked-books, yes!

When asked by prosecutors if Whitewash had been "entirely forthright" with her when she reviewed his "methodology" of his '87-'89 financial statements and reports sent to lenders. Wrigley said, after a long pause and commercial break, "Based on what I know today, I think Mr. [Whitewash] must have known that we'd been misled in some way." Go figure!

Talk about a ingrate son! The day after the Fifester received a \$300k loan from mommy, she ordered that her will be amended to "forgive his debts to her" on her death, according to testimony from Thomas Washburne, a Baltimore attorney who represents the estate of Martha Frick Whitewash, the Fifester's mom.

"I think she knew that if she

didn't forgive them, I would probably have to sue her son to recover the loan and other debts," Washburne said in further testimony. The day after giving Fiferama the loan? C'mon!

"I know you are, but what am I?" A school yard comeback that could have been used during the testimony of Kendall Milhon. Milhon, a former Valley National Bank (VNB) credit officer, challenged the honesty and character of Governor Whitewash. His testimony, about Whitewash's VNB dealings from '87-'89, prompted one of the Fifester's mouthpiece's to call him, "a stooge for the government." Still blaming others?!

Milhon told the jury that he was unaware of discrepancies between Whitewash's December '87 VNB personal financial statement and another December '87 financial statement sent to other lenders. A fool and their money are soon parted!

Speaking of trials, it's official, Pima County Domestic Partner (DP) benefits will be settled in court. The Pima County Attorney's office filed suit to have a judge decide whether the Board of Supes has the authority to extend medical insurance to the "domestic partners" and dependents of county employee's (Gay and straight).

According to David Dingeldine of the County Attorney's office, and the pending litigation, it's is "an illegal expenditure" to spend taxpayer money for the coverage, because "state law does not allow the board to expand the definition of 'dependent' to include the 'domestic partners' and dependents."

The case will be heard by Judge Bernado Velasco in Pima County Superior Court. The Supes will hire Grace McIlvane, to represent them to defend their actions. What about the committee of county employees who spearheaded the effort to extend benefits? According to Damien McNeal, the committee has been in contact with the Lambda Legal Defense & Education Fund, and they will either represent the employees or file an amicus brief in the case.

Something to consider on Pima County's DP benefits battle. According to county officials, the extension of medical benefits was to cost up to \$165k. Dingeldine said this was an "illegal expenditure" and sued. The Board will have to hire an attorney to defend them. Add in court costs and the expenditures by the Dingeldine's office to get the Board's decision overturned in court. What about appeals? This will cost more than \$165k. Couldn't this lawsuit be considered an "illegal expenditure?"

The filing deadline for the Tucson City Council elections passed last week and there are people willing to be masochists, err elected officials. Three seats on the Council are up, and two are contested, of sorts. Incumbent Ward 5 Democratic Councilmember, Steve Leal, has no primary or general election opposition thus "passes go" and collects four or so more years.

In Ward 3, incumbent Democratic Councilmember, Michael Crawford will face a primary and general election chal-



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Candace is the lesbian sister of Newt Gingrich,
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lenge (Depending upon petition challenges). Those who filed for the seat are: The incumbent, Michael Crawford; former McKasson council aide, Jerry Anderson; former city employee, Alex Kimmelman; and, Demetri Downing. The winner of the Democratic primary will face Republican Dan Copeland. Whoopie!

The donnybrook is in Ward 6, to see who will succeed Molly McKasson, who is not running for a third term. For the Democrats: U of A employee, Octavio Barcelo; neighborhood activists Tres English and Leo Pilachowski; political consultant Carol Zimmerman; and, Democratic party official Alison Hughes are vying for the nod (Depending upon petition challenges). The Republicans are

putting up Fred Ronstadt, son of City's Park and Rec Chief Jim Ronstadt. Does this mean Jim's gonna retire if Fred somehow wins, something a Republican has not done since 1985? Dan Dougherty will be the Libertarian's standard bearer for the open seat.

Yet another example of the "excellence" of Tucson television news. This past Sunday on KGUN-9, "not in touch with rewrites," during a 10:00 P.M. news promo, Tammy Vigil said, "Someone was killed in boat collision and we'll tell you how it happened." Why? You already have!

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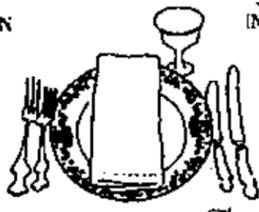


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Venturing Out

by Sasha Alyson

Gay-owned and Gay friendly businesses in Hawaii are eagerly anticipating the onslaught of new visitors should the "Gay marriage" initiative become law. Although no one can predict exactly how many same-sex couples might choose to have their union officially sanctioned in the 50th state, the measure is expected to draw several thousands of new visitors to the islands each year.

While Hawaii's airports, hotels, and restaurants are well-equipped to handle the multitudes of American and Japanese tourists who visit each year, a recent visit showed that establishments catering to a Lesbian and Gay clientele still have room for growth.

On Oahu, Honolulu boasts several excellent bars and the state's only Gay hotel, the Hotel Honolulu (800-426-2766), but Gay-operated guesthouses are springing up on other islands as well, particularly Maui, Kauai, and the Big Island. Most islands can also claim at least one beach, usually nude, popular with Lesbian and Gay visitors.

If it's nightlife you're after, then Honolulu will probably be your destination. A three-block section of Kuhio Avenue in Waikiki contains most of the Gay bars and the businesses in Honolulu. The legendary Gay watering hole, Hamburger Mary's, has closed, but Trixx, an outdoor bar famous for its Sunday afternoon barbecue, has taken its place.

Adjoining Trixx is Hula's, a wonderful outdoor video bar popular with both locals and visitors. Other bars on

Kuhio include Angles, a relaxed second floor bar, and Fusion, a late-night dance club.

Also in Waikiki are the friendly Michelangelo, featuring karaoke and occasional appearances by strippers, and Windows on Eaton Square, a relaxed lounge next door. In Honolulu itself is Metropolis, Hawaii's only nightclub for women. It's open Friday, Saturday and Sunday nights, and features dancing each night.

On Maui, your choice are more limited, but the scene is more relaxed than the hustle and bustle of Oahu. Most Gay visitors make their way to Little Beach in Makena, a nude beach popular with locals as well as tourists. Nightlife revolves around Hamburger Mary's, a terrific restaurant and bar in Wailuku. Saturday and Tuesday nights are the busiest.

For accommodations on Maui, Andrea & Janet's Maui Condos (800-289-1522) in Puunene offers oceanfront one- and two-bedroom condos, and in nearby Kihei, the Triple Lei Bed & Breakfast (800-871-8645) is a clean, friendly, clothing-optional guesthouse for Gay men.

No visit to Maui would be complete, however, without a visit to Hana, a beautiful town whose beauty is only surpassed by the winding 40-mile coastal drive leading to it. The road to Hana is a spectacular trip that should be savored, not rushed, to allow full enjoyment of the waterfalls, tropical jungle, and clear swimming holes along the way.

In Hana, Lesbian and Gay visitors

are warmly welcomed by Blair's Original Hana Plantation Houses (800-228-HANA), a Gay-owned business that rents quite a range of properties, priced from \$70 to \$160 per night.

The Big Island and Kauai both boast a number of Gay guesthouses and beaches, and more are expected in the future. For more information pick up a copy of Island Lifestyles Magazine, Odyssey, and The Pocket Guide to Hawaii when you arrive. When planning your trip, it would be worthwhile to have a copy of The Pages, which contains a wealth of information on accommodations, nightlife, and other businesses. To order The Pages, send \$4 to Lifestyle Publishing Co., POB 11840, Honolulu, Hawaii 96-828.

Gay guidebooks, such as those published by Dutton, Ferrari, Fodor, Out & About, and Spartacus are also helpful.

Send questions or comments about Gay travel to Sasha Alyson, Alyson Adventures, POB 180179, Boston, MA 02-118.

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by Wayne Steele

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Ads, Airlines & 'The Advocate'

SAN FRANCISCO, CA (NP) - What shall we make of United's decision to advertise in one of the top G/L/B/T magazines while the airline is suing San Francisco over domestic partner benefits -- and will the Gay media be caught in the crossfire?

"As Gay content works its way into mainstream media, advertisers are being forced to choose between morals and money." So says the blurb for a story in the current edition of the venerable U.S. national Gay and Lesbian magazine "The Advocate" -- but for the upcoming edition, the axiom could be paraphrased, "As mainstream advertising works its way into Gay media, Gay media are being forced to choose between morals and money."

What "Advertising Age" has touted as the first specific advertising to the Gay and Lesbian community by a major airline is an ad placed in the upcoming "Advocate" by United Airlines. Although "Advocate" staff says the ad was placed beforehand, United Airlines recently reneged on negotiations with the city of San Francisco and joined the Air Transport Association's (ATA) lawsuit to reject the city's authority to force equal spousal benefits for domestic partners on airlines contracting to use the city-owned airport.

That action led San Francisco Gay and Lesbian activists to burn their United frequent flyer cards in a demonstration. Recently, the city's Harvey Milk Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual Democratic Club called for a boycott of United protesting its "hypocrisy."

It's hard to expect United to miss a chance to retain air carriers' extraordinary autonomy from local ordinances, which is what the ATA lawsuit is all about, but to be simultaneously launching an advertising push to the community is what "Advertising Age" gently calls "a delicate time." It may pose a test as to whether the community is more responsive to marketing or to the politics of domestic partnerships in the city by the Bay. It will certainly pose a challenge to "The Advocate" now that both the ad and the lawsuit are on the table.

According to "Advertising Age," Kiwi International Airlines and Virgin Atlantic Airways have long placed ads in the Gay and Lesbian press, but United is the first major carrier to do so. "Advertising Age" also continued to display its remarkably credulous acceptance of community market research figures based on seriously skewed samples, citing the Simmons Market Research Bureau to say that "90.6% of Gays and Lesbians took a domestic trip in the last year compared to 64.5% of the general market."

"Advertising Age" had previously elevated the Gay and Lesbian community to advertising chic by swallowing whole the unsystematic findings of Overlooked Opinions. When "Advertising Age" spoke to American Airlines, which has been a visible presence backing Gay and Lesbian events since 1994, they were told the peculiar story that since "the perception is we've already advertised," it's cheaper not to actually do so. While those alternative marketing activities have won friends for American within the community, they've also won it enemies among the homophobes.

The national religious conservative groups Family Research Council, Focus on the Family, American Family Association, Concerned Women for America, and the lesser-known Coral Ridge Ministries, and the Christian Life Commission of the Southern Baptist Convention placed a letter to American Airlines CEO Robert Crandall where he's sure to find it: in the editions of the "Washington Times," "Louisville Leader" and several smaller mainstream newspapers.

The letter protests American's marketing to the Gay and Lesbian community via its assorted sponsorships and contributions, which it details, and calls "on American Airlines to stop lending its name to behavior that is immoral, unhealthy and destructive to individuals, families and societies."

But in the broader public, sponsorship of Gay and lesbian network television programming seems to be finding more acceptance, as GLAAD, the Gay &

Lesbian Alliance Against Detamation, interprets a new Roper Starch Worldwide survey. That study found that 87% of respondents agreed that it is appropriate

for network programs to deal with "sensitive topics" and 86% agreed that advertisers should support such programming.

Two New Research Articles Highlight Critical Aspects Of Lesbian Health Care

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - Two original research articles published in the first issue of the Journal of the Gay and Lesbian Medical Association underscore the need for physicians, nurses, and all health care workers to question their assumptions about Lesbian sexual practices and to discuss transmission of sexually transmitted diseases, HIV, and gynecological infections with their Lesbian patients.

"HIV Risk Among Lesbians and Bisexual Women," the largest qualitative study of HIV risk-taking among Lesbians and Bisexual women to date, found that many Lesbian and Bisexual women continue to believe they are not at risk for HIV.

The peer interviews with 563 women who attended women's bars, dance clubs, and Lesbian/Bisexual community events in San Francisco showed that most women engaging in unprotected sex with other women did not believe their actions put them at risk of HIV transmission. Twenty percent of the women surveyed said they have had oral, vaginal, or anal sex with men without using condoms.

The survey also found that women often believe it is riskier to have sex with women who identify as Bisexual than with women who identify as Lesbian. Yet, as the survey underscored, women who identify as Lesbian also have sex with men, and, when they do, they are less likely than women who identify as Bisexual to use condoms.

"The evidence is accumulating that the sexual decisions Lesbians and Bisexual women make are often influenced by their belief in an innate ability to know who is at risk," said Patricia E. Stevens, RN, PhD, a professor at the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, who co-authored the study with Joanne M. Hall, RN, PhD. "In the past, rational decision-making and behavioral skills building has been the emphasis of safe sex education programs. But this study makes clear that women's decisions are much more likely to be based on their emotions and social needs, and educational programs need to account for that."

The second study, "Gynecological Infections and Sexual Practices of Massachusetts Lesbian and Bisexual Women," emphasizes the need for regular STD

screening for Lesbians. The survey of 421 Lesbians and Bisexual women in eastern Massachusetts found that while STD's and gynecological infections, such as chlamydia, trichomonas, genital herpes, and gonorrhea, seem to be more common among Lesbians who have had sex with men in the past, more than 80 percent of the Lesbian survey respondents, these infections could have also been caused by or resulted in female-to-female transmission.

"We found that STD's were often diagnosed at a time when the women said they had no recent male partners," said Nine Carroll, MD, Director of Women's Health at the Fenway Community Health Center in Boston, one of the study's co-authors. "Either these STD's had been latent for several years or they were due to woman-to-woman transmission. Since Lesbians don't typically receive screenings for STD's, they may, unknowingly, be transmitting an STD or a gynecological infection to their female partners."

"These studies make it clear that the assumptions commonly held within the Lesbian community and by health care providers, that Lesbians don't sleep with men and that female-to-female transmission of STD's can't occur, are faulty," said Marj Plumb, GLMA's Director of Public Policy. For Lesbian and Bisexual women to get appropriate medical care, all health care workers need to be educated about the ways in which Lesbian and Bisexual women may be at risk for HIV and other STD's."

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If you enjoy a little cognac in your coffee, this week's transit is for you. Lovely "Venus" opposes surprising Uranus and pushes us into temptation. The pursuit of happiness packs a punch so be careful of what you wish; This time, the planets give you what you want and much, much more. Pack a pillow to soften your splat when the transit passes.

ARIES

MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

Grab the goodies while you can, but try not to trample on the toes of friends in the frantic rush for fulfillment. Proud Rams may wind up quietly nursing a major hangover in the glorious aftermath of the Venus/Uranus opposition. Although you will never admit it dear, it is possible to have too much of a good thing. You are never too old, it seems, to have that one drink too many.

TAURUS

APRIL 21 - MAY 21

The comforts of home may be shaken to their foundations during the opposition between Venus and Uranus. Gay Bulls are wrenched from quiet but enjoyable domesticity and thrust into the political maelstrom of their career. It's time to fight the sharks again, kids, but this time you are destined to triumph. The secret is to never let the bastards know what you are really thinking.

GEMINI

MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Ever had a thought which took on a dramatic life of its own? Prepare to create a few new lives when Venus opposes Uranus and your ideas are released to the immediate universe. Choose your Outlets wisely, dear queer Twin; Your gems must not fall on deaf ears or be wasted on nonsense. The force is with you; start the revolution across the world or across the street.

CANCER

JUNE 22 - JULY 23

The sad fact of life is that love doesn't come cheaply. This is quite evident during the Venus/Uranus opposition. Gay Crabs can sit at home in that old shell and count their pennies or can say, "What the hell, everyone's gotta eat" and serve them some safe but saucy Crab meat. It's amazing what can be accomplished with a feather boa or an egg timer.

LEO

JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

Proud and regal Lions test the limits of the Venus/Uranus opposition with an imperious strut onto center stage. You are too beautiful for words so don't let partners become jealous. If you have a solid relationship, it will withstand the call of the diva in you. If the partnership is built on sand and a dream, expect an earthquake. Planets know what needs to be done and undone.

VIRGO

AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

"Good things comes to those who serve" is usually the motto of self sacrificing queer Virgins. But Venus opposes Uranus and changes your motto to "No good deed deserves to go unpunished." It's not as bad as it sounds, friend; just don't expect a thank you and pat on the back at work. Fact is, as long as you are personally fulfilled, why do you care what the yaloots think?

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

Friends heat up the pot when Venus opposes Uranus. If you're planning a summer fressfest be sure to add a dollop of pals into the mix to insure a deliciously good time. Queer Libras may find them-

selves trolling for the bottom feeders though if they allow the good times to get out of control. Excessive behavior tips the scales. Stay balanced.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

Your ascent into the corporate starchamber is easier, thanks to benign Venus, but like everything else in this capitalistic world, it extols a price. Venus opposite Uranus unleashes surprises at home and with family. Remember proud Scorp, change can be cathartic and liberating. If surroundings are not in sync with your synchronization, change it.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

Proud Sags are the travellers of the zodiac and this week, with Venus opposite Uranus, your itchy hooves may lead you to surprising situations. Prepared to start and

international incident? Anything is possible with a well placed word or five. Your winning personality can avoid an all out nuclear war but it may take time for cooler heads to prevail.

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Is it a trip to the moon on gossamer wings or just one of those things? Gay Caps may be uncharacteristically floating on cloud nine with their latest fling but when Venus opposes Uranus, this love is definitely for sale. Be prepared to open up that checkbook and pay up. Don't be your stingy self, lover; believe me, you'll get what you pay for.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

The demands and attentions of partners may prevent you from doing something independently fulfilling but let your frus-

tration pass. The opposition between Venus and Uranus should teach all Aquarians the importance of give and take in a relationship. Balance in this old life is everything darling, and that goes double in love.

PISCES

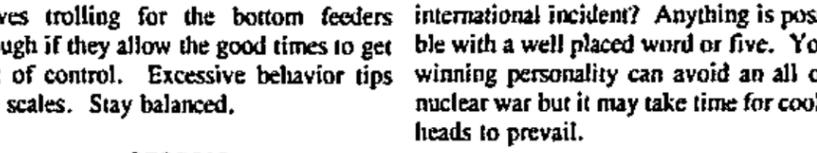
FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

Things are going so well at work that you may be tempted to toss all caution to the wind and bare your soul (among other things) to coworkers and subordinates. Will you be able to face yourself in the mirror next week? If so, go for it girl! If not, bare it all at the health club and forget about making work more affirming for the time being.

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.

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CALENDAR of upcoming events

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

BOOM BOOM'S - Candy Plastique returns with special guest Christina de Alexis, Raven and Tiffany St. Thomas. Showtime 9:00 p.m. in the "Other Room".

IBT'S - The Girlie Show 9:00 p.m., starring Mr. Kenneth Blake, Felice Renard, Victoria Du Prais and Truly Fabu. Don't miss this wonderful show!

THURSDAY, JULY 10

IBT'S - 9:00 p.m. to closing. Cool off in your underwear. Get \$1.50 well and \$1.50 domestic beer. (Pool check available).

FRIDAY, JULY 11

BOOM BOOM'S - Tony and the Torpedoes blues band is back in the "Other Room". Cover. Regular dance party with DJ Raymond in the main bar.

SATURDAY, JULY 12

GRADUATE - Tucson Knight Owls (TKO) Anniversary party. 2:00 p.m. until 6:00 p.m.

VENTURE-N - Bears Beer Bust 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. on the patio. Steak Fry 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. to benefit Venture-N softball team.

SUNDAY, JULY 13

GRADUATE - First Annual Grey Eagle Arm Wrestling Contest - a benefit for SAAF - Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation 4:00 p.m. Wrestlers may pick up their packets at the Grad, IBT's, Venture-N, Hours or the Biz. All pledges will be donated directly to SAAF. Show your support, sponsor your favorite wrestlers.

HOURS - AGRA 7th Anniversary Party. Bar-B-Que, Hat Raffle, 50/50 Raffle, Door Prizes, Rodeo Poster Contest, dancing, entertainment - and lots of fun.

IBT'S - 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. Benefit Bar-B-Que and Beer Bust on the patio. All proceeds benefit the Millennium Theater Company. Then hang around for the Hot Male Strippers and Wet Shorts Contest. Sign up at 9:30 p.m. \$100 first place, \$50 second and \$25 third place.

VENTURE-N - Egg Casserole Brunch by Ray Gregg 11:00 to 2:00 p.m. \$4.00.

FRIDAY, JULY 18

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - "White Out Party" 9:00 p.m. to close. Wear all white and get \$2.75 White Russians, \$1.00 Puckers or \$1.00 Cactus Juice all night! No Cover.

SUNDAY, JULY 20

BOOM BOOM'S - "Taming of the DO" drag show. The higher the hair, the closer to God. No cover for this spectacle.

HOURS - AGRA's 6th Anniversary Party with food, entertainment, dancing, door prizes, hat raffle, 50/50 raffle, and the rodeo poster contest. It starts at 2:00 p.m. and runs throughout the afternoon and evening. See ya there. Congrats to Arizona Gay Rodeo Association for six great years!

SATURDAY, JULY 26

BOOM BOOM'S - John Green's Annual "Summer Heat White Party" promoting Hot & Healthy. Give-aways, hors d'oeuvres and entertainment. Wear white! 9:00 p.m. in the main bar. Then at 10:00 p.m. it's the tacky swag lamp contest! \$100- Grand Prize! Become a permanent part of the decor at BOOM BOOM'S. See this week's ad for more details.

SATURDAY & SUNDAY, JULY 26 & 27

BOOM BOOM'S - Club 2520 The "Country" Reunion! Join the old gang for an old-fashioned Hoe Down. Check upcoming ads for more details.

SUNDAY, JULY 27

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Avatar is back from vacation! Come hear Tucson's hottest Latin band. 9:00 to close.

STONEWALL / EAGLE - Tardeada 4:00 - 9:00 p.m. and benefit drag show featuring Veronica Rios and special guests. 10:00 p.m.

MONDAY, JULY 28

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Mile High Drag Show with Lucinda Holliday, Miss Gay Tucson Kenneth Blake, Miss Gay Tucson 1996 Felice Renard. Cover.

TUESDAY, JULY 29

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Country music returns to the Biz! K.C.'s Mixx 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. Cover. DJ music follows. \$1.00 domestic long necks 9:00 p.m. to close.

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

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

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Non-Bar CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, JULY 9

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 10

Gays and Lesbians United (GLU) Supper will be at St. Phillips in the Hills Episcopal Church NE corner of River and Campbell. Supper starts at 5:30 p.m. and is sponsored by PFLAG. All Gay & Lesbian organizations are welcome to send a representative. Please RSVP to David at 323-7943.

TEGLD - Tucson Employee Gay and Lesbian Organization, open to all city employees will meet at 7:00 p.m. at Rainbow Planet Coffee House, 606 N. 4th Ave. For more info call Richard DiRusso at 791-4393.

FRIDAY, JULY 11

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. The Book Club will be discussing Without Sanction, by J. M. Roberts. 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, JULY 12

Cronies Social Club monthly meeting 7:00 p.m., MCC Church, 32369 N. Mountain. All Gay men are welcome.

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.

SUNDAY, JULY 13

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 4-6 p.m. The Triangle Tribe, an awareness group 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.

TUESDAY, JULY 15

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Have a family dinner with the men of MSN. Tonight, we head out to dinner at Keaton's on the east side of town. The food is wonderful and the company can't be beat. For reservations, details and directions, please call Bill at 615-0979 by 7/13/97.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 16

Cronies Social Club Movie Night at Leo's. Leo has a great collection of classic oldies from the 30s and 40s. RSVP 624-6768.

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 17

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 directions.

FRIDAY, JULY 18

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:30 p.m. Have an evening meal and a night of lively conversation as Bill and Stephen host Dinner & Conversation Night. The evening will be limited to 10 participants, so call early if you would like to attend. For reservations and directions, please call Bill or Stephen at 847-3438.

SATURDAY, JULY 19

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome) 2:00 p.m. Davey hosts his second day of Pool Volleyball this month. Join him and other guys for a fun afternoon in the pool. For directions and reservations, please call Davey at 886-1208.

SUNDAY, JULY 20

1. **Men's Social Network** (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 3:00 p.m. Davey hosts his final Pool Party for the month with an afternoon of lying in the sun, lounging in the pool, or playing volleyball. Join him and other guys for a fun afternoon in the pool. ZAFar directions and reservations, please call Davey at 886-1208.

2. **Men's Social Network** (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 4-6 p.m. The Triangle Tribe, an awareness group 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, JULY 21

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. We're at a new location for this month only. For reservations and directions, please call Jim at 790-8735.

TUESDAY, JULY 22

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. A night devoted to getting out the MSN newsletters. It's a fun way to help the organization and get to know the MSN guys. Dessert and door prizes. Call Les at 690-9565 for directions.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 23

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 24

Cronie's Social Club Mid-month Dinner at Cattletown, 3141 E. Drexel Rd. Call Bill at 297-3794 to be counted.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 1:00 p.m. Have lunch with the guys, as Jerry hosts a Lunch Out at La Indita on 4th Avenue. Please call Jerry at 298-7415 for reservations and to let him tell the restaurant how many to expect for lunch.

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 11-12pm.

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

HOURS - Bloody Marys and Screws \$1.50 til 7pm. Pool Tournament! 4pm. Country/Western dance instruction 6-8pm. 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 8-8-0 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 - Happy Hour Noon-7pm. Pool tournament 2pm. Steak Fry/Beer Bust 2-6pm \$4.75. Stonewall opens at 4pm with Latin music until 9pm followed by High Energy Dance Music.

VENTURE-N - Open 10 a.m. Backside Beer Bust 3-8pm 50¢ draft. 301 Dart Tournament 5pm \$3 entry fee. Bart Burgers 5-7, Tuff Stuff Tool 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 80's Dance 9pm-1am. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Happy Hour Noon to 7pm. Party with Stephan. Free pool 7 to close.

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! M&W Lite. High Energy Dance with David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Happy Hour Noon to 7pm. Stonewall opens at 9pm with Latin Music Party.

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 9pm to close.

GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm all well \$1.50; Domestic \$1.75. 9 Ball Single 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 7pm. College Logo Nite w/Darren 9pm. Karaoke 9pm. Stonewall opens 9pm. Corona & Cuervo Gold \$1.75

VENTURE-N - Open 6am Draft Beer 75¢ 6am-8pm. Cuervo Gold \$2 all day/night. Happy Hour Prices 6am-8pm. Backside open 5pm-close. Tuff Stuff Tool 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. Alternative Dance Music 8 with Raymond. Pool Tourney at 7pm with Des. 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 (paid check available). Hi energy dancing 9-close with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Happy Hour noon-7pm. Party with Peter in the Eagle. Stonewall opens 9pm with hot male strippers from Phoenix.

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 Tool 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 1/2 hour.

BOOM-BOOMS - Happy Hour 4-8pm. Live bands in the "Other Room" at 9pm. Dance Party with Raymond in the main bar at 9.

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 8-1.

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-7pm; Hot Hors d'oeuvres 6pm. Stonewall opens 9pm. Wear Stonewall T-Shirt and get happy hour prices all evening. Hot Go-Go Boys 10pm to midnight.

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

Saturday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Pot matched, 1st: 70%, 2nd: 20%, 3rd: 10%. Michael spins hi energy dance music from 8:30pm to 1am. Drink specials every 1/2 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, Piña Coladae \$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 7pm. Free pool all day. Stonewall opens 9pm with High Energy Dance Music. Hot Go-Go Boys 10pm to Midnight.

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

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE .25 PER WORD \$5.00 MINIMUM



CLASSIFIEDS



CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED, NO PHONE ADS.

NOTICES

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF), 151 S. Tucson Blvd., Suite 211 (The Breadroom Building). Office Hours 9am 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 8 p.m. Group meets in front of the Himmelpark 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 Alcohol 851-1794 in Tucson info about special groups for Gays and Lesbians.

YOUNG AND GAY?

Lesbian and Gay youth 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 men 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, 4-8 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 psychological 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 Footfalls Church, Swan and River Road, Room 32. Call the church at 299-9063 for information.

LICHEN HIKING CLUB for women of all ages and backgrounds of life. Hike with other women. Listings in Rebyrill 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 Footfalls 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.

GAY COWBOY CLUB - National Gay and Lesbian Riders Association. Send stamp for information: Mavericks, Box 9543, Santa Fe, NM 87504.

ATTENTION ALL NUDDISTS - 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 84-6, Catalina, AZ 85632.

"EVOLVERE" a transgendered Support Group open to all T.V.'s, C.D.'s, T.B.'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. 320-1319.

GAY VOLLEYBALL ON SATURDAYS. Competitive play. 88 or better players only. Grass court Northwest corner Himmelpark 5:00 p.m. Check it out!

THE MEN'S MESSAGE 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, 1946 E. Lee St. at 7:30 p.m. For more information call the parish office at 327-8015 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. 684-7063.

TIHAN, a coalition of churches and synagogues committed to providing a compassionate response 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/B 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.

NOTICES

INNER WISDOM - Try hypnotherapy for pain relief, past life exploration and addiction release. Also available: Spiritual Counseling and Dream Interpretation. 579-9020

COCHISE COUNTY LESBIANS AND GAYS. P.O. Box 818, Bisbee, AZ 85603 / (602)432-5581. 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 Oberhoff, 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 328-8843.

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. ESlE 581-8850 or Renee 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

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

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 8:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Gerónimo (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to All. Call Jeff or Art (520)782-9135.

LIGHTNING LIGHTING will provide lighting for AIDS and related benefits at no charge. For more info call Adrianna at 889-7298.

MANE MEN: Long-haired Gay male pampal 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 323-4737.

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, 3461 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 770-9679 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 Man'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 the Tucson AIDS Project at 322-6226.

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. Jean 742-8900.

PERSONALS

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ATTENTION - ATTENTION - ATTENTION

Si eres hombre que tiene sexo con otros hombres y quieres ayudarnos a extender y apoyar los programas para Los Latinos. llama para una entrevista estrictamente confidencial al 322-6226 y pregunta por Ernesto. 678

If you are a Latino man who is having sex with other men and you want to help us to support and expand our programs for Latinos, call for a confidential interview at 322-6226 and ask for Ernie. 678

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FANTASTIC HOUSE TO SHARE for mature GM (35+), quiet, respectful; 2-bedroom, 2-bath in Tucson Blvd. and Elm area. Includes W/D, fireplace, large private patio, storage space. All furniture provided except bedroom. Full privileges all facilities. \$295/mo. + deposit. Discount for summer sitting. 325-4778. 677.

ROOMMATE TO SHARE newly renovated, fully furnished house. Quiet, private, garden surrounding. Near Grant and Country Club. Must see. \$300/mo. + share utilities. 323-3223. 677.

GM TO SHARE LARGE 4 BEDROOM HOUSE with private pool, gas grill, big screen TV and more. \$295/mo. Includes utilities. 689-7875 or 620-1770. 677.

EMPLOYMENT

Room Rooms is now accepting security monitors. Must be neat in appearance and have a commanding personality. Good pay. Call Ron at 405-5350 from 10am to 4pm only. 676

COUNTRY DJ WANTED StoneWall/Eagle, 2921 N. 1st Ave. Apply within. 677

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Domestic Partners Challenge

Continued from Page One

set for oral arguments, Post said. According to Chris Roads of the County Attorney's office, he expects a hearing within the next two months.

The Board would also have to hire an attorney to represent them in the suit. Local attorney Grace McIvain has been mentioned as the lawyer the Board wants to hire. In an interview with this reporter, McIvain stated that she has accepted the job, but final contractual negotiations were ongoing.

"I'm glad that part is finally over, and want to get the judicial review of the matter done," Damien McNeal, one of the county employee's spearheading the effort to extend medical and dental benefits. "The committee is committed to see this through and resolved."

A possible factor that could affect the lawsuit is the August 5 vote on the proposed Pima County charter. According to Davidson, if voters approve the charter before the initial hearing of the lawsuit, the Board could vote again to extend benefits, since the Board would have the power to enact laws. The lawsuit would then be moot.

Could this case go to the U.S. Supreme Court? According to Grace McIvain, it is doubtful since the pending litigation doesn't deal with constitutional issues, but she would not predict the case wouldn't end up there.

The pending lawsuit will be heard in Pima County Superior Court. Pima County Superior Court Judge Bernardo Velasco is expected to hear the case.

Hawaii

Continued from Page One

No one has pinpointed the number of heterosexuals or homosexuals who will add a person to their policies.

"There's still so much homophobia," said Barry Porter, a deputy public defender who will apply with his partner of eight years. "People are still afraid to come out. There's also reticence about putting your name on a list run by the state."

The state Health Department anticipated 20,000 to 40,000 Gays will sign up within three months, but may revise its count downward, said Patrick Johnston, department spokesman. Only 25 to 30 people picked up applications the first day forms were available.

He had no estimate of how many heterosexuals will add a beneficiary to their policies, but said numbers would likely increase as people understand the law.

Impact May Be Minimal

Sen. Matt Matsunaga, who favored domestic partnerships, has estimated that health costs will increase by about 1 percent of health budgets, based on research of other governments who have domestic-partnership laws.

The health cost to the state would run about \$1.1 million at 1 percent and about \$11.3 million at 10 percent, according to the Hawaii Public Employees Health Fund.

Jack Law, a Gay man who owns Hula's and the Wave, said the law doesn't affect his costs because he doesn't offer medical insurance to dependents of his

80-some employees.

He likened fears over it to fears raised over the law to prohibit discrimination against employees on the basis of sexual orientation. "People said it would be bad for business, but it created more stability," he said.

Paul Groesbeck, Life Foundation executive director, said foundation staffers have just begun to scrutinize the law, which could enable people with AIDS to become a beneficiary.

But he said most foundation clients have Medicaid, Medicare or private insurance through the state. Groesbeck doubted that they would change their coverage under the new law, explaining that people tend to stick to what they have.

"I hope we can look into this law and make it work," he said.

[Linda Hosek is a reporter for the Honolulu-Star Bulletin, from which this article is reprinted.]

Unconstitutional

Continued from Page One

will appeal the court ruling which found the 'don't ask, don't tell' policy unconstitutional.

"Yes it will," quoting Attorney General Janet Reno when asked if the Justice Department would appeal the decision. She offered no further comment. White House spokesman Mike McCurry said, "We continue to believe the policy is a good one."

Lawyers from the American Civil Liberties Union and the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund, which brought the case, said the ruling applied only to the six named plaintiffs and would extend to others in the Second Circuit — New York, Connecticut and Vermont — only if upheld by the appeals court.

"We have said from the time this policy was first proposed that it violates the most basic tenet of America and that tenet is equality. One set of rules for everybody. Today for first time a federal judge has applied that basic policy to the U.S. military," Matt Coles, director of the ACLU's National Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, said.

The policy, which went into effect Feb. 28, 1994, allows homosexuals to serve in the military but requires service members to keep their sexual orientation private. It also bars commanders from investigating homosexual activity unless they first receive compelling evidence that such activity has occurred.

The policy states that declaring homosexuality in a public forum is considered evidence of an intent to commit homosexual acts and is therefore grounds for discharge. While it allows homosexuals to serve in the military, the policy continued the longtime ban on homosexual acts including signs of affection.

"It is hard to imagine why the mere holding of hands off base and in private is dangerous to the mission of the armed forces if done by a homosexual but not if done by a heterosexual," Nickerson wrote.

Most expect the Supreme Court will eventually decide whether the military has the right to apply one set of rules to Gay and Lesbian servicemembers not applied to heterosexuals in uniform. This separate set of rules is referred to as the

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SUPPORT GROUPS FOR LESBIANS & GAY MEN WHO ARE VICTIMS/SURVIVORS

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"conduct" portion of the ban. While other 'don't ask, don't tell' challenges cases working their way through the courts focus on free speech, Nickerson's ruling is the first to rule against the "content" provisions.

