



Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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THE WEEKLY OBSERVER

AUGUST 13, 1997

ISSUE 682

Book Stays In Pennsylvania Library

PHILADELPHIA, PA (NP) - Free speech and parental control are both protected in an agreement to keep a book for Gay and Lesbian teens on the shelf in a Pennsylvania school district -- it was "a matter of life and death."

Scores of attempts to ban gay-themed books from U.S. public schools and libraries are documented each year by People For the American Way, but a resolution has been reached in a dispute in western Pennsylvania's Brownsville Area School District that generally meets the needs of both sides.

At issue was Janice Rench's 56-page tract "Understanding Sexual Identity: A Book for Gay and Lesbian Teens and Their Friends," targeted for youth in grades 7 through 10. As formally announced by Brownsville's superintendent of schools, an appeals panel was able to agree unanimously to keep the book in general circulation while offering parents the option to advise the librarian not to check it out to their children.

When Gina Wellington's son brought the book home from the high school library, she was disturbed. She said later, "I don't like what's in this book. It's against the morals of how I raised my children." She spoke with the principal and with librarian Kathy Deicas, who says that books are chosen for the collection based on recommendations by faculty and students, if they "foster respect for all members of our pluralistic society."

When those three proved unable to agree as to whether the book should be left in general circulation, moved to a reserve shelf, or removed from the library altogether, in accordance with the appeals process a panel of three teachers and three parents was convened with an assistant principal acting as facilitator. That's the group that reached the unanimous decision seeking to preserve both freedom of speech and parental control.

Had the panel been unable to reach consensus, the question would have gone before the Brownsville Area School

Board. One Board member, Stella Broadwater, remains dissatisfied with the conclusion of the affair, believing the book should at best be on a reserve shelf. Broadwater, apparently, is not a big fan of books, as she told the local press that if students would "read one book -- the Bible -- it will answer all the questions they have."

Two local clergy had also jumped into the spotlight at the panel's public meeting with similar points of view: Barry Stewart, who said, "We're asking the wrong question here. Why should this book be in our library? Should we have a book about how to raise marijuana for fun and profit?" and Robert Spence, who feared that the book could "push students one way or the other, make them become homosexual. I think this book is garbage...it's a diabolical insult."

But somewhat more moderate Board member Nena Kaminsky was pleased with the compromise between parental responsibility and student choice. She told the public hearing it was "not a Gay issue. It's a First Amendment issue. I think our children need to read more of these books. It's nothing that's not being taught in our health classes." But she also said following the announcement of the decision that, "I think as a parent it should be my responsibility as to what my children are exposed to. I also think children should have the option to select what they want to read."

And even the Pittsburgh Chapter of the American Civil Liberties Union was "very pleased" and "very happy" with the outcome. Before the decision, a spokesperson had expressed "grave concern" at the possibility of removing the book from the shelves, and the group would likely have gone to court if necessary to keep it available. ACLU spokesperson Lisa Price-Gunter had told the public hearing, "This book is important to all students, whether they are curious about sex or already sexually active. Moreover, this book is especially important to Lesbian and Gay youth. Indeed, the availability of the book to Brownsville students may be a matter of life and death."

Seems Like Old Times

by Al Kielwasser

Despite pockets of improvement in the coverage of murder-suspect Andrew Cunanan, most mainstream media continue to use the words "Gay," "prostitute," and "serial killer" in one quick breath -- as if these terms were virtually interchangeable. Reuters filed a story with this lead, for example: "Fashion designer Gianni Versace knew the alleged serial killer and Gay prostitute suspected of his murder, according to 'Vanity Fair' magazine."

This "laundry list" style of reporting (literally balances the crimes of "serial killing" and "Gay prostitution" -- which is hardly consistent with the central

facts of the story. Cunanan is not on the FBI's most wanted list for prostitution, after all, but murder! Being either Gay or a prostitute is not the problem or the issue here; being a murderer is.

In the same story, Reuters goes on to report that Cunanan's victims "carried the signature of what police called a "pathological sadistic sexual offender." These strained sexual connotations are unfounded, however -- at least to date.

When heterosexuals kill an ex-lover, they are first (and foremost) presumed to be murderers. Just because Cunanan was Gay does not make his

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY

To See Is To Be Out



ALBUQUERQUE, NM - Perhaps for the first time in the nation, Lesbians have a sign on the highway.

Lesbians for Change (LFC), a group dedicated to the empowerment of Lesbians through political involvement, higher visibility, community service and economic impact, adopted a one mile stretch of Interstate Highway 40 within city limits.

One of the members contacted the state highway department last fall and was sent an application, no questions asked. The highway department welcomed the organization as they would any civic minded group. Since then two clean-ups have happened with strong support from Lesbians for Change members. High cold winds did cancel one proposed clean-up but members showed up two months later in the heat of summer.

The sign "Adopt-a-Highway Litter Control Next 1 Mile Lesbians for Change" has generated some controversy. Some motorists have complained to the highway department and the Christian Coalition adopted another mile nearby to get even with the Lesbians. This caused local columnist Jim Belshaw to quip "if we play this right," we could have the cleanest streets in the country." TV and newspapers covered the controversy. Lesbians have been ecstatic, almost driving off the road with happy surprise.

"We hope other groups in other states will pick up this idea," says Joan Robins of Lesbians for Change. "With

one sign we've been able to meet our visibility and community service goals. Our next step may be postcards commemorating our litter campaign," she added.

LFC has coordinated forums of candidates for mayor, raised funds for scholarships for out and active Lesbians, participated in building projects and Gay Pride Day, and social events. For more information, contact Lesbians for Change, P.O. Box 27664, Albuquerque, NM 87-125.

Team Arizona Golf Tournament Aug. 30

TUCSON - Team Arizona will be hosting its Third Annual Gold Tournament, August 30, at the La Paloma Country Club.

Proceeds from the golf tournament will support Team Arizona's participation at the 1998 Gay Games in Amsterdam.

The tournament, as mentioned, will be held at La Paloma Country Club, 3660 East Sunrise in Tucson, beginning at 1:00 P.M., Saturday, August 30.

Tournament registration is \$75 per player - four player scramble available. Registration forms will be available at the Team Arizona meeting at Girlfriend's Coffeehouse, 3540 N. Oracle. For more information contact Colette in Tucson (520) 327-3591 or Kevin in Phoenix (602) 274-9729.

UPDATE

Meet Ward 6 Council Candidate Alison Hughes Aug. 17



by Mark R. Kerr

TUCSON (ON) - IBT's will be holding the second of their "Meet the Ward 6 Candidate" forums, Sunday, August 17, 5:00 to 7:00 P.M.

The featured candidate will be Alison Hughes, who is running for the Democratic nomination for the open Tucson Ward 6 seat. The current Councilmember, Molly McKasson, announced earlier this year she would not run for another term.

Hughes is the Associate Director

the U of A Rural Health Office. She has served: as the Executive Director of the Pima County/Tucson Women's Commission; as an aide to former Congressman Jim McNulty. Alison has been very involved in Democratic party politics, serving in many positions with the Democrats.

Hughes is the second candidate in the series. The first was Carol Zimmerman, who is also running for the Democratic nomination in Ward 6. Zimmerman, (pictured lower left), met with patrons of IBT's this past Sunday, informing potential voters her stands on issues of concern.

SAAF Employment Opening

TUCSON - The Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) is looking for a temporary Office Manager for the AIDS Walk.

Experienced office worker needed to provide clerical/administrative support to major fund raising event, full time, flexible hours, for up to \$12 weeks. Comp. to \$7/hour; no benefits. Open until filled.

To apply, pick up job description and applications, M-F, 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., at 151 S. Tucson Blvd., #211, or call 322-6226 to have them faxed to you. AA/EOE.

Computer Virus Alert!

TUCSON - Computer hackers have been sending AOL members rogue software programs in the form of attachments to e-mail.

These programs are disguised as software enhancements, screen savers, pictures and other offers that promise free products. When a member downloads these attachments, the program captures the member's password and mails to the hacker's Internet e-mail address.

Your best protection is to follow a few simple rules:

- 1) Never download files attached to e-mail if you don't know the sender.
- 2) Never give out your password; and
- 3) if you receive any suspicious files, forward them immediately to screen name TOSFiles.

For more information on how to protect your computer, please go to Keyword: Virus Info. Additional online safety information is available at Keyword: Reach Out.

Reveille To Hold Open Auditions Aug. 30

TUCSON - Reveille Gay Men's Chorus will hold open auditions for the '97-'98 season Tuesday, August 26.

Any male vocalist who wishes to tryout for the Chorus should be at MCC Church, 3269 N. Mountain Avenue, 7:00 P.M. No prepared material is necessary.

Chorus membership is currently at 30 singers, somewhat evenly distributed between the four vocal sections. However, Reveille's Artistic Director, James Gall, would like to start the season with at least 35 members and, he says, "It'd be orgasmic to have 40 or more quality singers by the second half of the season!" Rehearsals begin in early September.

Three major concerts are planned for '97-'98: the holiday show, "Nutcracker: Men In Tights" on December 6; "Prayers For Bobby" on March 14; and "SSSteam Heat" on May 30, 1998.

For more information, call the Reveille Hotline, 617-3100.

Spice For Life III August 24-26

TUCSON - It's time again to spice up your life!

The Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) presents Spice For Life III, a fund and wacky evening of celebrity food schlepping that benefits people who are affected by HIV/AIDS.

Dine out on Sunday, August 24 at Suite 102 (745-9555), on Monday, August 25 at Cafe Terra Cotta (577-8100) or on Tuesday, August 26 at Presidio Grill (327-4667). Local celebrity servers, including COOL FM's Alan Michaels, KVOA's Lupita Murillo and Tony Paniagua and Olympic swimmer Crissy Ahman, will wait on Spice diners and all gratuities support SAAF's critical services.

Make your reservations for Spice For Life at the restaurant of your choice! Limited seating is available. For more information, please call Jenny Porter, 322-6226.

St. Philips Film Weekend Aug. 15-16

TUCSON - The Gay & Lesbian Spirituality Group of St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church is presenting a "Film Weekend," August 15-16.

All films will be shown at St. Philip's (NE corner of River & Campbell). Here is the schedule of films to be presented:

August 15: 5:45 P.M. - The Celluloid Closet. 8:00 P.M. - The Incredible True Story of Two Girls in Love.

August 16: 5:45 P.M. - The Sum of Us. 8:00 P.M. - Beautiful Thing.

\$5 donations accepted, with proceeds going to Wingspan and the St. Philip's Building Fund.

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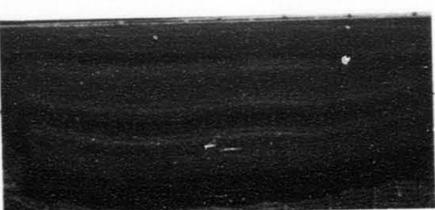
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Thurs. AUGUST 28th 9 P.M.- 11 P.M.

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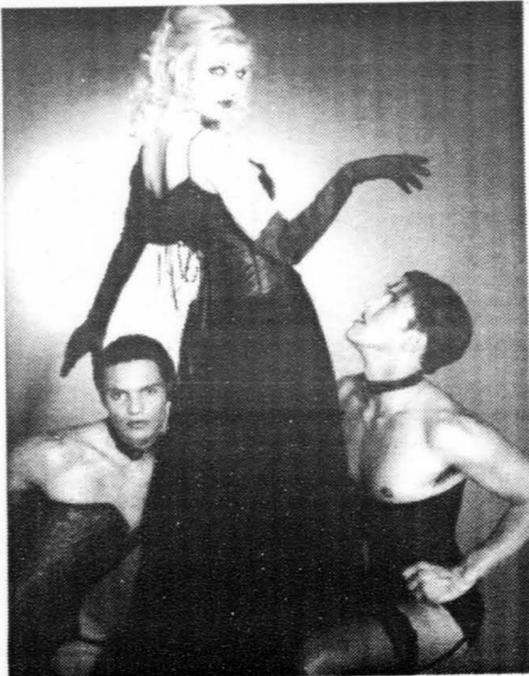
IBT's News Gay-zette

Your Source for What's Hot & Happening in Tucson • Published Weekly in the Observer

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20TH, 9:00 PM

"THE GIRLIE SHOW"

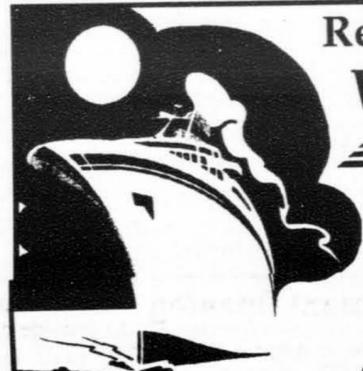
Hosted by Larry Moore and Starring Victoria DuPuis, Felice Renard, Lani and Celia Putty. Don't miss the entertainment!



Ask your mother why it's called "The Girlie Show"

WET SHORTS CONTEST SUNDAY, AUGUST 17TH SIGN-UP 9:30 - \$150 WINNER TAKE ALL

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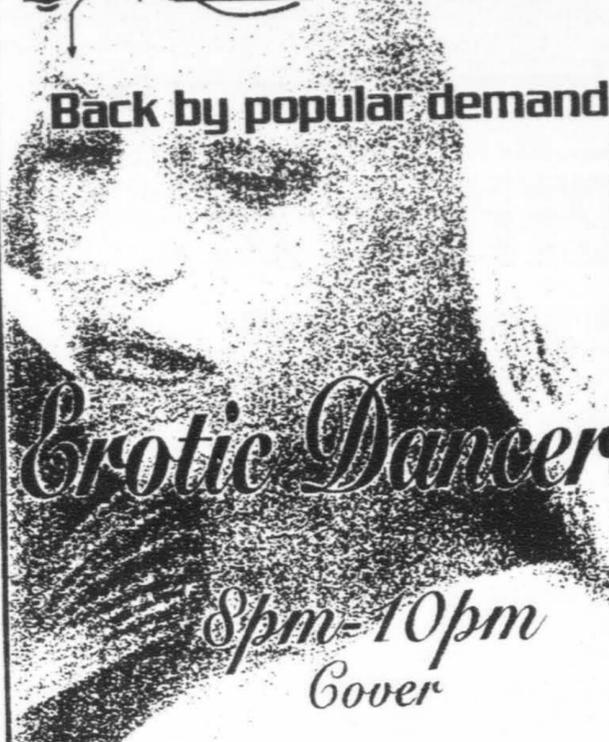
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August

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

End of a Literary Era: The novelist William S. Burroughs, who along with poet Allen Ginsberg and writer Jack Kerouac formed a literary triumvirate credited with creating and defining the "beat" generation of the 1950's, passed away last week. All three men lived life on the ragged edge, often stepped over the line to thumb their noses at the accepted moral limits of mainstream society, and they created signature works that are still absorbing and controversial. Their work influenced the lives and thinking of millions of young Americans growing up in the 50's and 60's. Burroughs and Ginsberg were Gay; Kerouac was bi-sexual.

Burroughs was the scion of the wealthy St. Louis family. His grandfather was the inventor of the Burroughs adding machine and the Burroughs Corporation, through subsequent mergers and evolution, became what is known today as Unisys. Although he graduated from Harvard, Burrough's family catered to his aimless degenerate lifestyle and supported him well into adulthood. A willing drug addict, acquaintances eventually introduced him to both Kerouac and Ginsberg who were studying at Columbia University in New York at the time. Both were intrigued by Burrough's complete disregard for the normal conventions of society and his propensity for enjoying a good long roll in the gutters of the seamier side of life.

Kerouac's seminal work, "On the Road", romanticized the free-wheeling, hedonistic lives of some post-war young men and women who weren't sure where they were headed in life (and didn't necessarily care), lived only in and for the moment, but who knew that the next good time was just around the corner. Occasional regular jobs were held just long enough to make sufficient money to bankroll the next adventure, pay for a cross country road trip, to finance an expedition into Mexico, or to join friends in far flung corners of the country for a communal romp. And, of course, to keep everyone in booze, Benzedrine and marijuana.

Burrough's most famous work, "Naked Lunch", was published in 1959 by Olympia Press, a Parisian house well-known for printing and supporting controversial works. The book was criticized for its peripatetic construction, surreal visions, and was condemned for its depictions of insanity, a degrading attitude toward women, and sexual perversion. Both Kerouac and Ginsberg helped to type and organize Burrough's notes which became "Naked Lunch" and the former is credited with naming the book.

That Kerouac not only idolized his closest friend Neal Cassady, a straight, handsome, fast-talking Denver hustler, but loved him as well is clearly apparent in the autobiographical "On the Road" and subsequent novels including "The Dharma Bums". Kerouac's only devotion to responsibility, in an otherwise aimless and introspective life, was to his writing which also chronicled the lives of his hedonistic circle of friends both literary and otherwise. His dissipating lifestyle, and alcoholism, eventually caught up with him and he died in 1969 at the age of 47.

The lives, both personal and literary, of all three men converged, parted, came crashing together once more, and parted yet again as they careened from Morocco to Mexico and points in between. Their writings are a fascinating and riveting chronicle of personal excess and a joyous freedom of spirit celebrated in a unique time and place in American life. If you read them, particularly Kerouac, you will find yourself swept into a provocative and vivid world of sensuous revelry and personal liberation often equated with the more base elements of human gratification. We will never see anything like it again and you will never read any better accounts of their fascinating lives.

Ginsberg's poem "Howl", which he debuted at a wildly shocking reading in San Francisco in 1955, included a depiction of gang sodomy and was denounced as obscene and depraved. Printed in the 1956 anthology entitled "Howl and Other Poems" by Lawrence Ferlinghetti's famed San Francisco publishing firm, City Lights Books, it resulted in a high profile obscenity trial. Ferlinghetti, defended by the ACLU, was subsequently acquitted and the trial only served to provide a windfall of publicity for the poet. He died this past April at the age of 71.

And then it was now.....



AS I SEE IT BY CLARK

WHERE'S MADALYN MURRAY O'HAIR?



- A. IN A CATHOLIC CONVENT
- B. VICTIM OF A JERRY FALWELL HIT
- C. LOOKING FOR JIMMY HOFFA

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AS I SEE IT BY CLARK

WHERE'S MADALYN MURRAY O'HAIR?



A. IN A CATHOLIC CONVENT
B. VICTIM OF A JERRY FALWELL HIT
C. LOOKING FOR JIMMY HOFFA

OLYMPIA, WA (NP) - Hands Off Washington has succeeded in getting its ENDA measure on the November ballot, unlike a proposed anti-marriage referendum whose legislative proponents got cold feet.

Washington state's proposed initiative to establish protections from workplace discrimination based on sexual orientation won final approval from Secretary of State Ralph Monroe to appear on the November 1997 ballot as Initiative 677, also known as the "Employment Non-Discrimination Act of Washington." The sponsoring Seattle-based Hands Off Washington (HOW) group -- named for its formation to combat earlier anti-Gay initiatives pushed by out-of-state organizations -- submitted 230,000 signatures in

How To Take The Initiative

early July to qualify.

In anticipation of opposition arguments, the initiative specifies that it will not require spousal benefits for same-gender domestic partners, it will not require "preferential treatment" for gays and lesbians from their employers, and it will not apply at all to businesses with fewer than 8 employees, non-profit groups, or religious organizations.

HOW has hired political consultant Mitch Fouchee to manage the campaign. It's an ambitious plan beginning with phone banking for voter identification and ending with actively assisting prospec-

tive "yes" voters to get to the polls. Despite essentially every survey of recent years showing large majority support for Gay and Lesbian job rights, the campaign will also include a heavy dose of public education.

Washington's rare attempt this year to use the referendum process to extend rather than limit the civil rights of Gays and Lesbians came close to helping an anti-marriage measure on to the ballot.

After Governor Gary Locke had vetoed a bill to deny legal recognition to same-gender marriages, the state legislature considered putting a similar proposal to the voters. That proposed initiative was

expected to zip through to passage, but hit unanticipated roadblocks. Many legislators who supported an anti-marriage law did not wish to see the state undergo the kind of dangerous polarization that initiative campaigns relating to Gays and Lesbians almost invariably spark.

While the legislative process was delayed, HOW, assuming that the anti-marriage measure would certainly succeed, was proceeding with its proactive approach. That left some legislators feeling that the same public problems would occur whether they approved the anti-marriage initiative or not. To everyone's surprise, the anti-marriage referendum proposal ultimately failed in the legislature.

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KARAOKE

wednesdays 9 - 1
sundays 7 - 11

thursday, aug. 14... scooby's torn & tattered party
saturday, aug. 23... end of summer beach party & luau
thursday, aug. 28... raymond's black-out party
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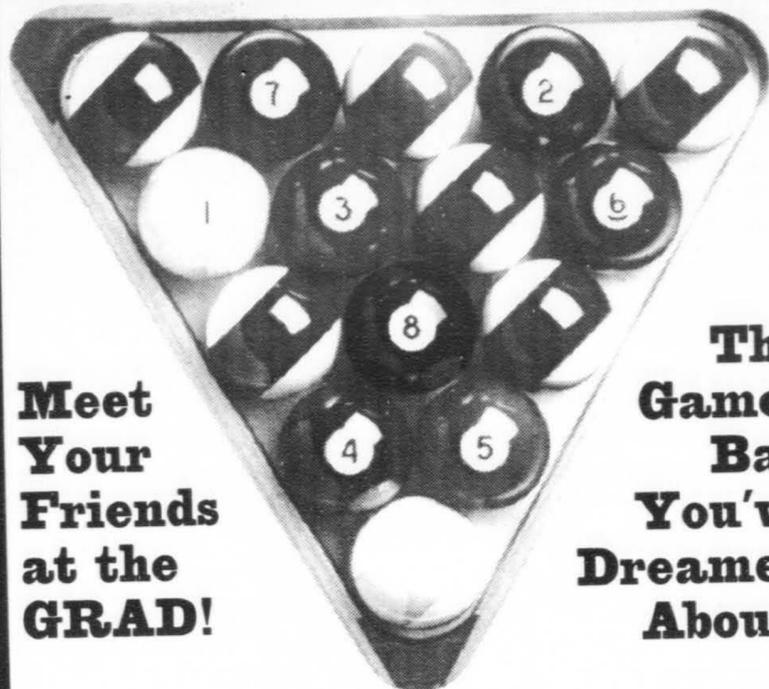
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IN FLIGHT... WINGSPAN

Making Our Home

by Rich Muszynski

I remember my first Gay and Lesbian potluck dinner. It was fairly early in my coming out, and I had just moved to Houston. I didn't know a soul, but I went anyway, nervously clutching my lasagna pan. After being there for about five or ten minutes, I was struck with a bittersweet feeling. In a roomful of strangers, I felt I was finally at home.

Lesbians and Gay men are no longer strangers to me, as I've made my home in our community. Home is a place to be at ease with family and friends. Home provides a safe haven when the outside world gets overwhelming, pressured, or scary. Home defines the boundary between out there in the public space and in here in our private space. At home, we relax, rest, play, wash, take sustenance, talk over our day, argue, cry, laugh, putter, recuperate, love and are loved, make love, wait out the storm, stimulate each other's growth, mourn, create new things and ideas, dream, sing, whisper, shout, and pray. At home our belonging is unquestioned. At home our belonging needs no defense or justification.

Houses become homes when they are inhabited by families, of one of many. We make our houses our homes by expressing ourselves in our private spaces. Houses become homes when we get the pictures on the wall in just the right places. When the remote is on the coffee table, within easy reach. When the roses and marigolds take root and brighten the garden. When friends can help themselves to the stuff in the 'fridge without asking. When the candles on the nightstand get lit at the end of the day. When the smell of the lasagna in the oven wafts out of the kitchen.

Wingspan has moved to a new home. Our family grew too big to fit in our old house. We needed more space to shelter all of the plans we're making, the dreams on which we're sleeping, the rights we're asserting, the stories we're sharing, the arguments we're having, the development we're fostering. We've laid new carpet, and remodeled some rooms. We've hung new pictures. A pot of coffee is brewing. Come on out to the open house, have a snack, and check out the new nest. Wingspan is home to Tucson's Lesbian, Gay, and Bisexual community. Wingspan is your home. You belong.

HOME ON THE RANGE WITH AGRA-TUCSON

by Scott Weidamoyer

Hey Tucson! Short, sweet and to the point this week! This Sunday we are having our monthly Board (2:00 P.M.) and General Membership (5:00 P.M.) meetings. The Rodeway Inn (Grant Road and I-10) will be hosting the meetings along with a cookout and pool party to boot! We have a lot on the agenda to discuss this month, so if you are able to attend, I strongly urge you to be there. As mentioned last week, Old Tucson Studios has offered their rodeo grounds to host the 1998 Saguaro Regional Rodeo this March. We will have a representative from Old Tucson Studios at the meeting to give us full details on the offer. We also will be discussing many other issues and presenting lots of information. So, why not come out for free food, friends, and a cool dip in the pool.

We will also be handling out copies of AGRA Tucson's financial statement to inform all members of the status of the organization. The financials will also be printed in next week's Observer and will be done so in each issue following the General Membership meetings. The Board of Directors are looking for

members that are interested in serving on Committees. I am looking for a few people who are interested in serving on Public Relations Committee. I plan on meeting once every two weeks to discuss how we can get the information on rodeo out to our community as well as advertising and media coverage for AGRA Events and most of all the 1998 Saguaro Regional Rodeo. Please feel free to contact me at 792-5653 if you are interested in being a committee member. Or see me at the meeting on Sunday.

Also, if you have any questions, comments or concerns regarding AGRA-Tucson, feel free to contact me directly at the above voice mail/pager number or contact the AGRA Hotline at the number listed below. That's all for now and I look forward to seeing you all on Sunday.

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.]

Meet New Friends FACE-to-FACE SOCIAL NETWORK

You asked for it...
You got it!

WHAT IS FACE TO FACE?

It's a social group for people living with HIV. The objective of this group is to develop bi-monthly social activities

WHEN?

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WHERE?

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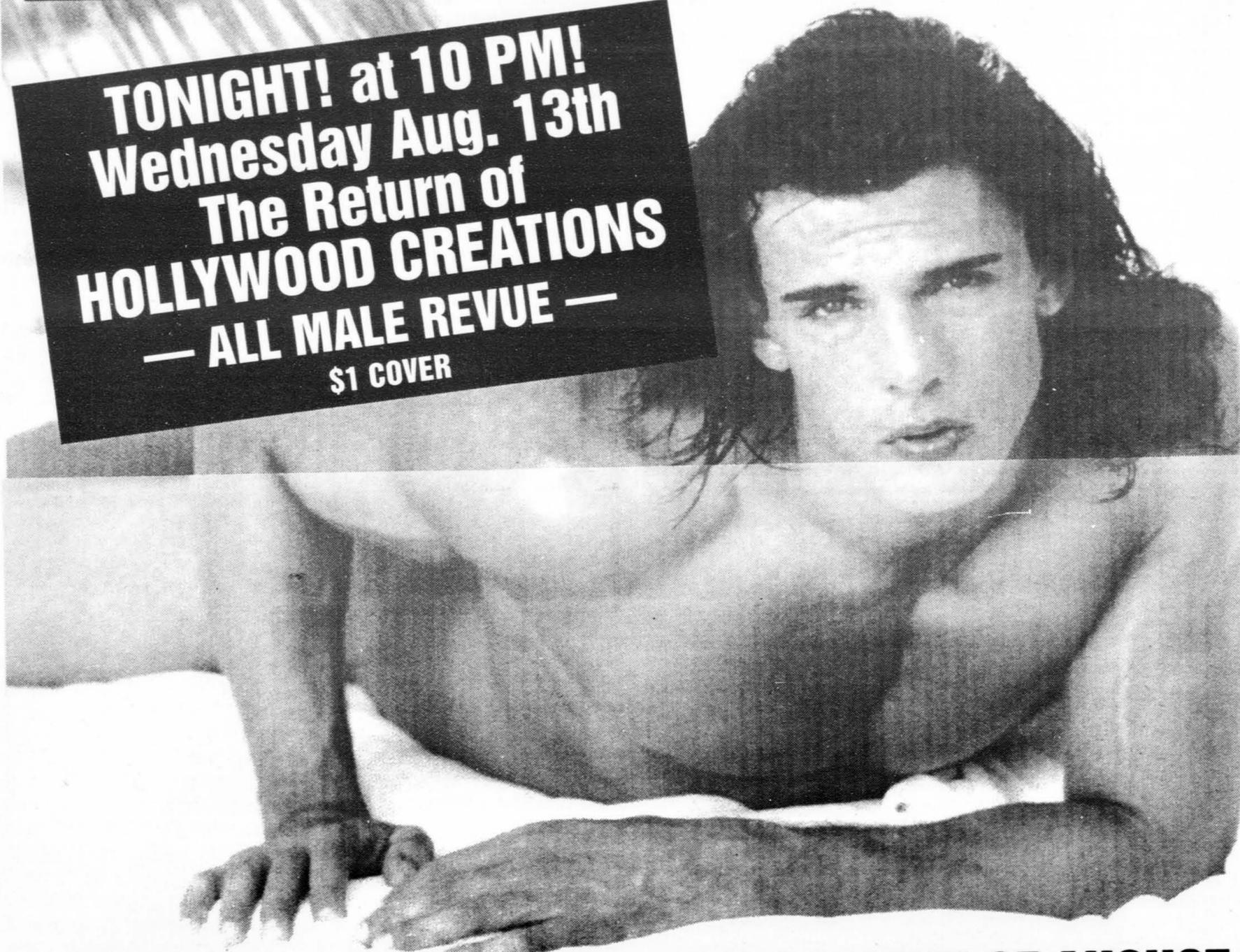


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Lesbian Mother Cannot Adopt

TALLAHASSEE, FL (NP) - Broward County Circuit Judge John Frusciante has denied the petition of a Lesbian woman who was challenging Florida's prohibition on Gays and Lesbians becoming adoptive parents.

Lesbian mother June Amer filed a lawsuit in 1992 when the Children's Home Society denied her application to adopt a special needs child to be a sibling for her 6-year-old son by artificial insemination. In ruling against her, Frusciante upheld as constitutional a 1977 law -- passed by the state legislature during the Anita Bryant/Save Our Children furor -- banning adoptions by Lesbians and Gays.

Of that time, Judge Frusciante said that "reasonable minds were present" when the law was designed and that, "The actions taken clearly show that legislators were attempting to provide a complete family to children at a time when no studies were available to determine the long-term effect on children raised by homosexuals."

In his 19-page opinion, Frusciante acknowledged that Florida has had past difficulties placing children from foster care into permanent homes. However, he wrote that, "If the state legislature chooses to allow children of special need to languish in foster care drift, instead of opening the doors to homosexual households, it has that authority," and said it was not up to the court to make laws as to who is the appropriate person to become an adoptive parent.

"This is a very tragic loss for Florida's children, for children in need of adoptive parents," says Bill Adams, co-counsel for Amer, a Dade County corrections supervisor who with her retired prison guard partner Gail DeShon, has been raising her own son since 1990. Adams expressed dismay that the court relied on the state's experts, one of whom testified that boys need a male parent "to teach them how to throw a baseball." A psychologist testified at the trial to Amer's fitness to be an adoptive parent (her athletic prowess notwithstanding).

Since the Florida Supreme Court had already ruled that the adoption ban does not violate the rights of due-process or privacy, Amer's attorneys fought her case on equal protection grounds, charging that the legislature's action in passing the measure had been based in anti-LesBiGay bias. The state had argued that Gay and Lesbian parenting was a new phenomenon and that there wasn't enough information available on the impact of what happens to children adopted and raised in a same-sex household.

"Foster children are a unique population," said Michelle Lagos, spokeswoman for the Department of Children and Families, the agency in charge of adoption in Florida. "These are kids who've been abused, who have very deep wounds, who tend to have more identity issues. And I think it is relevant, and the

court believed it was relevant, to know what impact it would have on those children to be raised by homosexual parents."

Lagos denied that there was any fear involved in the idea of allowing Gays and Lesbians to adopt foster children. "It's not a matter of fear. In this case, the burden of proof was on the plaintiff to show that there would be no harm to the children. And because of the lack of research, they weren't able to show that." In fact, the plaintiff's side presented substantial evidence to the contrary, with the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU) bringing numerous witnesses to testify to current research findings that Lesbian and Gay adoption is not harmful to children at all.

However, according to Adams, "the court accepted the evidence put on by the state lock, stock and barrel...."

Because of the wording of Judge Frusciante's findings in the case, attorneys for Amer are not sure if they will appeal the decision or try to get the law appealed through the growingly-conservative Florida legislature. "It [the decision] has very serious negative consequences for Gays and Lesbians, some of whom are having children of their own, and their partners want to adopt the children," said Adams. "This decision says your family doesn't count. We don't recognize your family."

Florida and New Hampshire are the only states which explicitly deny Gays and Lesbians the chance to adopt children. However, a 1992 decision in Florida's Monroe Circuit Court in favor of a Gay man adopting a teenage boy still stands in that jurisdiction.

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Next MovieQuestion" Will Audiences Accept A Gay Playing A Heterosexual?

by Ellen Goodman

BOSTON, MA - Not that I am worried about Rupert Everett's career. Anyone who can dance away with the kudos at "My Best Friend's Wedding" is bound to catch bouquets.

The British actor was more than Julia Roberts' Gay consolation prize for losing the man she loved, more than a walker at a wedding. He was campy, sensitive, sensible and, by anybody's definition, a true friend. He was the best man - or woman - at the movie.

So no one is surprised that Everett has lined up two more star turns, one as a Gay secret agent and the other as a married man coming to terms with coming out. Nor is it any wonder that the Gay actor is being cast as a Gay character.

But Everett's very success has people asking whether he can break through the ceiling, the last taboo against an openly homosexual actor playing a heterosexual lead.

Of course, it's progress of a sort, the Hollywood sort, when there are enough interesting Gay parts to keep a career rolling. Who among us can forget those wonderful yesteryears when the celluloid closet was locked so tight that barely a hint of homosexuality could escape through the keyhole?

The closest we came to a Gay role back in the days when Doris Day was a virgin was "Pillow Talk." In a landmark moment, Rock Hudson, a closeted Gay man, played a straight man impersonating a Gay man. In order to get Doris

Day into bed.

For a long time, no Gay actor dared to be open. For a long time, no straight actor worth his or her equity card would have played a homosexual character. Finally, we've seen Tom Hanks with AIDS and William Hurt in jail. But can we now accept a straight man playing a Gay more easily than a Gay playing a straight?

This is the second time the whole matter of Gay "acting and being" has been raised this year. In the spring, Anne Heche became the very public partner of Ellen DeGeneres. The moguls who had already signed her to play opposite Harrison Ford in the movie "6 Days, 7 Nights" were in full flop sweat. You might have thought another "Volcano" erupted.

They way they figured it, the audience could imagine Anne Heche with lava rolling across Los Angeles but couldn't imagine her necking with Harrison Ford. We could fantasize Ford as president of the United States slugging it out with airborne terrorists, but not romancing Heche.

Anybody around there heard of acting? Not according to the screenwriter who said of Everett's chances as a cross-over hunk: "Uncle Joe in Des Moines is not going to sit and watch a Gay guy make love to Kim Basinger." Did an earlier Uncle Joe watching the all-male cast of Shakespeare in the 17th century dismiss Ophelia as a drag queen?

The theory behind all this anxiety is not homophobia so much as box office phobia, the deep belief of the dream-mak-

ers that every moviegoer wants to imagine her/himself in the love duet with the star - not just the character.

A recent People magazine, for example, interrupted its report on Everett to offer condolences. "Sorry, ladies," it said, he was Gay in real life, too.

Sorry, ladies? Somehow I have trouble believing that if only the 37-year-old Rupert Everett changed his sexual identity he'd be parking his Gucci loafers next to my futon. I don't even think he'd leave his Labrador, Moire, on my doorstep.

On the other hand, anyone who can imagine that once Brad Pitt stepped aside Gwyneth Paltrow would be his, would have no trouble making the leap of imagination to Anne Heche. Ironically, the one openly Gay actor truly accepted in a straight role, Dan Butler, plays the sports announcer and womanizer on "Frasier."

There are many weird side-effects to the Hollywood cult of celebrity. We have fused and confused characters on and off the screen. In the up-close-and-personal world, we insist on knowing about a superstar's private life and lay that grid over his professional life.

In a strange way, Americans are looking for authenticity - among actors. This is like choosing "ER's" George Clooney for your pediatrician. Yes, Rupert Everett was a Gay man playing a Gay man. No, he was not playing himself. "Sorry, ladies," it was a role.

Movies at their best suspend

reality. As a British newspaper noted, the late, great Jimmy Stewart once starred in a movie in which he befriended a 6-foot rabbit named Harvey that only he could see.

"I wrestled with reality for 35 years," he told the psychiatrist. "And I'm happy, doctor. I finally won out over it." So can we.

[Ellen Goodman is a columnist for The Boston Globe. This article was reprinted from the Arizona Daily Star.]

Wingspan Calling For Artists For OUToberfest Juried Art Auction

TUCSON - The third annual OUToberFEST Juried Art Exhibition will be held the month of October and Wingspan is searching for Lesbian and Gay artists.

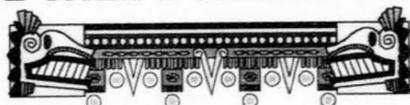
Artists will submit three works to the new Wingspan Community Center, 300 East Sixth Street, and fill out an entry form. Please submit your art on or before September 24. The Wingspan volunteer will assist you with the entry.

All of your works will be hung and a Jury, yet to be selected, will judge the exhibition on October 3. Ribbons will be awarded to the Best of Show, First Place, Second Place, Third Place and two Honorable Mentions.

Wingspan has a much larger gallery space in the new facility and we hope we will have a much larger group of artists. For more information, contact Wingspan Curator, Bob MacMahon, 624-1779.

SALUD ES PODER

Latino Men's Health Project



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

August 17 Noche Latina Featuring Miss Gay Hispanidad-Tucson 1996 and Mr Gay Latino -Tucson 1996 with Special Guests - Show at 10:30 p.m. Stonewall 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

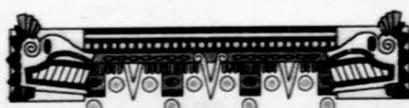
August 22 Noche Latina Featuring Variety Show at 10:30 p.m. Boom Boom's Dance Club 9 p.m. to 1 a.m.

August 24 Desert Voices Fundraiser and Tardeada Featuring Rare Breed and Proyecto Latino. Dance Concert at 8 p.m. Stonewall 4 p.m. to 1 a.m.

August 30 Noche Latina Grand Opening Fiesta. Stonewall 8 p.m. to 1 a.m.

September 13 Miss Gay Hispanidad - Tucson 1997 Pageant 7 p.m. Mexican Independence Fiestas. Stonewall 9:30 to 1 a.m.

"Salud es Poder" is a project of the AIDS Prevention Collaboration, via the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF). Funded by ADHS/CDC.



To Protect Yourself Is to Love Yourself

AIDS INFO UPDATE

I KNOW IT'S TIME TO GO WHEN . . .

- I want to rearrange the cell.
- I dust the rocks before I crack them.
- I note that overweight inmates must wear horizontal stripes (*Good thing you're not here Ms. Holliday*)
- I send the ball and chain to be cleaned.
- I ask the warden if I can paint my bars purple.
- I order earrings to match the bracelets. (*They already have matching anklets, why not!*)

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Newsweek:

"You could spend half the night surfing and only find half of what's there."

SmithKline Beecham Files New AIDS Drug With FDA

PHILADELPHIA, PA - SmithKline Beecham announced that it has filed a supplemental new drug application with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration for the use of Famvir (famciclovir) in the treatment of herpes simplex virus (HSV) infections and acute herpes zoster (shingles) infections in immunocompromised patients and can lead to increased morbidity.

"There are very few herpes treatments that are safe for use in HIV-infected and other immunocompromised individuals," said Barbara Romanowski, M.D., clinical professor, division of medical microbiology and immunology, University of Alberta and director of sexually transmitted disease services at Alberta Health. "Famvir may soon offer a safe and effective treatment option with a convenient dosing schedule. Convenient dosing is especially important for HIV-infected patients who often take a lot of medications, because it might help increase compliance."

Herpesvirus Infections Common in Immunocompromised Patients: Herpesvirus infections are often more severe in immunocompromised patients than in otherwise healthy adults. In these patients, the herpes virus can spread to other parts of the body such as the liver or lungs which is potentially life threatening. Recurrent genital herpes infections in immunocompromised patients are more painful and produce more necrosis (tissue damage) than in immunocompetent patients. Furthermore, several studies have shown that infection with certain sexually transmitted diseases such as genital herpes may increase the likelihood of transmitting HIV.

Shingles, which is the same virus that causes chicken-pox, is characterized by an outbreak of painful and itchy blister-like sores which may last up to six weeks. Immunocompromised patients are at a greater risk of having a shingles attack, and multiple recurrences have been reported in this patient population. Shingles affects an estimated 850,000 Americans each year and is eight times more likely to develop in HIV-infected patients than in otherwise healthy adults.

Studies Show Famvir is An Effective and Convenient Treatment: In a double blind, acyclovir controlled multicenter study, 148 immunocompromised patients (bone marrow transplant recipients and cancer patients) with herpes zoster were randomized to receive either Famvir 500 mg three times daily or acyclovir 900 mg five times daily for ten days. The median time to complete healing of all lesions was comparable for patients treated with either Famvir or acyclovir. In addition, there were no significant differences between both treatment groups in times of loss to lesion associated symptoms or new lesion formation.

In a separate double-blind, acyclovir controlled multicenter study, 293 HIV-infected patients with HSV disease were treated within 48 hours of lesion onset with either Famvir 500 mg twice daily or acyclovir 400 mg five times daily for seven days. Famvir was comparable to acyclovir in preventing new lesion formation and in median time to complete healing of all lesions. Furthermore, there were no significant differences in times in loss of lesion associated symptoms or

cessation of viral shedding.

"This is an important step forward in the management of herpes virus infections in immunocompromised patients," said Dr. Jerry Karabelas, executive vice president, SmithKline Beecham Pharmaceuticals. "Clinical trials have shown that Famvir is a safe and effective treatment option that can be taken less frequently than the currently available treatment. This improved convenience is good news for patients and the physicians who treat them."

Famvir was generally well-tolerated. The most commonly reported side effects observed in both trials included headache, nausea and malaise. Famvir is the oral form of penciclovir and is rapidly absorbed into the body's bloodstream, providing a 77 percent rate of bioavailability versus 15 percent for acyclovir. It is a potent antiviral agent with activity against the herpes viruses. In addition, Famvir has a long intracellular half-life in infected cells in vitro (10-20 hours in herpesvirus infected cells versus one hour or less for acyclovir).

Famvir is located for the treatment of recurrent genital herpes and acute herpes zoster in immunocompetent individuals. SmithKline Beecham has filed a new drug application with the FDA for the use of penciclovir IV in the treatment of mucocutaneous herpes simplex and herpes zoster infections in immunocompromised individuals. Other studies are ongoing to evaluate the use of Famvir in the treatment of herpes virus infections in immunocompetent and immunocompromised individuals. In addition, studies are ongoing in the treatment of chronic hepatitis B virus infection.

ABA Calls For End Of Legal Constraints On Needle Exchange

SAN FRANCISCO, CA - The American Bar Association (ABA), the world's largest professional legal group, has called for an end to laws which prohibit nationally funded needle-exchange programs.

Though the ABA has sizable influence in the U.S. Congress, it is unclear, what impact, if any, the group's call will exert on lawmakers.

At its annual meeting in San Francisco, the ABA's House of Delegates voted 233 to 175 to support "the removal of legal barriers to the establishment and operation of approved needle exchange programs that include a component of drug counseling and drug treatment referrals."

In June, the American Medical Association issued a similar call asking the federal government to lift funding prohibitions against organizations which incorporate needle exchange into their services. Citing an "urgent public health need," The AMA said more than one-third of all new AIDS cases in the U.S. are caused by contaminated needles or sex with intravenous drug users. A recent study found that IV drug users now account for the highest rates of new infection, a rate nearly twice that of Gay men.

While the AMA has in the past "encouraged" needle exchange programs, the call issued at its annual delegate convention was much stronger. AMA leaders called on members to work with Congress to repeal the 1988 federal funding ban and

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY

Columna Abierta.

by Dr. Eleazar Garcia

Saludandoles con el gusto de siempre, y sobre todo que sigan llegándonos sus llamadas con todos los comentarios que quieran, somos honestos en decirles que no todos son positivos, pero así es, no todas las personas tenemos que coincidir con todo, ni con todos, pero que bueno que nos sigan apoyando, de una manera u otra... Me dió mucho gusto ver que las tardeadas de Salud es Poder de los domingos en el Stonewall, "ya agarraron vuelo" de verdad son bastantes los camaradas que puede saludar, ojala que así sigan y se les recuerda que hay comida gratis, y muy buenas ofertas en las bebidas desde las 3:00 pm a las 7:00 pm. No dejen de poder saborear los platillos de Ernie, y sobre todo de compartir buenos momentos con la música de Edoardo... Además, nos comenta Ernie, que ya pronto las Noches Latinas de los martes serán los sábados, espere los volantes que se les haran llegar!!! por lo pronto nos vemos los martes, en el Stonewall, y los viernes en el "Otro cuarto" del Boom Booms...

Un artículo que quiero compartir con ustedes es el que me llegó del Population Reports, que considero puede ser de utilidad para los que trabajan con jóvenes, o tal vez tengan hermanos o familiares a quienes pasarles la información: Cómo satisfacer las necesidades de los adultos jóvenes. Al llegar a la madurez y volverse sexualmente activos, más jóvenes enfrentan serios riesgos para la salud. En su mayoría, estos jóvenes encaran estos riesgos provistos de escasa información objetiva, demasiada poca orientación sobre la responsabilidad sexual y demasiado poco acceso a la asistencia sanitaria. Cómo satisfacer las diversas necesidades de los dispensadores de atención sanitaria y los educadores. Pese a las urgentes necesidades, los esfuerzos de los programas han sido insignificantes y se han visto frenados por las controversias. La quinta parte de la población mundial tiene entre 10 y 19 años de edad. Los jóvenes se casan ahora más tarde y es más común que inicien la vida sexual antes del matrimonio. Están, por tanto, más expuestos al riesgo de tener un embarazo no deseado o enfermedades de transmisión sexual (ETS). El embarazo pone en riesgo la salud de las jóvenes, sea por el parto o por un aborto peligroso. Cada vez más, la paternidad precoz entraña la pérdida de educación, con la consiguiente pérdida permanente de ingresos. La mitad de los infectados por el VIH causante del SIDA tiene menos de 25 años de edad.

Los programas de educación sexual y salud reproductiva para adultos jóvenes tienen opositores, pero las

investigaciones muestran que estos programas no conducen a una actividad sexual más frecuente o temprana, como temen aquéllos. Para obtener apoyo del público, los programas deben trabajar con los padres y dentro de las normas de la comunidad. Al mismo tiempo, los programas deben abogar por nuevas normas sociales que protejan la salud de los adultos jóvenes. Las normas actuales premian a los muchachos pero castigan a las niñas por tener relaciones sexuales; embellecen la actividad sexual irresponsable en los medios de difusión pública, pero rechazan el interés natural de los jóvenes en la sexualidad. Mientras no cambien estos valores, les resultará muy difícil a los programas para adultos jóvenes fomentar el comportamiento responsable y suministrar atención adecuada.... En el Estado de Arizona se ha establecido la Coalición para la salud del Adolescente la cual tiene un cuerpo de educadores certificados para dar orientación sobre la salud del adolescente; si tiene interés sobre esta coalición deme una llamada, y con mucho gusto le daré más información al respecto....

Cambiando totalmente de tema; nuestro colega Marco Martinez del TAP, está necesitando de personas con deseos de ayudar a las personas incapacitadas para trabajar por problemas relacionados al VIH, para que donen alimentos enlatados, cereales, harinas, pastas, así como artículos para limpieza; y así mismo a voluntarios para que trabajen una hora por semana para hacer llegar esas donaciones a las mencionadas personas; El banco comunitario de comida de Tucson ya tiene un compromiso de 24 despensas para 24 personas, pero éstas son insuficientes ya que actualmente son de 45 a 55 personas incapacitadas que necesitan de su ayuda, por favor comuníquese con Marco al 322-6226. Agradeciendoles infinitamente su ayuda...

Por hoy es todo le esperamos la próxima semana D.M.

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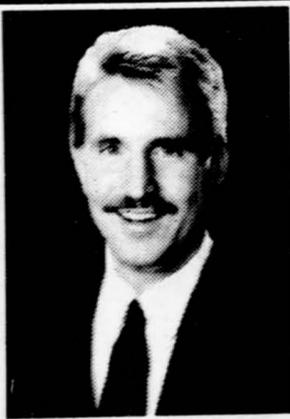
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- Compensation for time and travel

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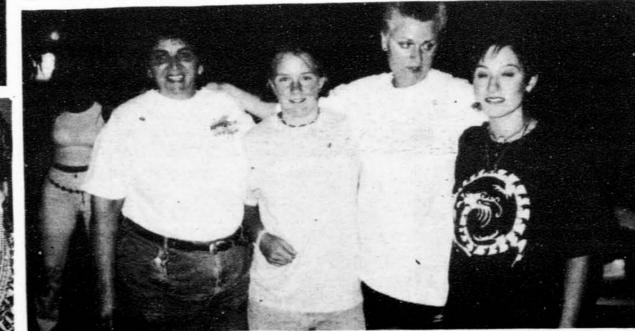
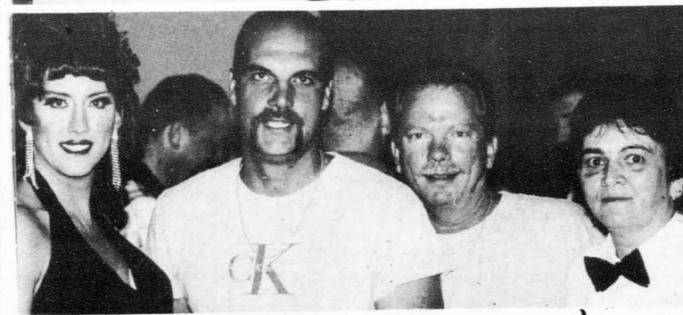
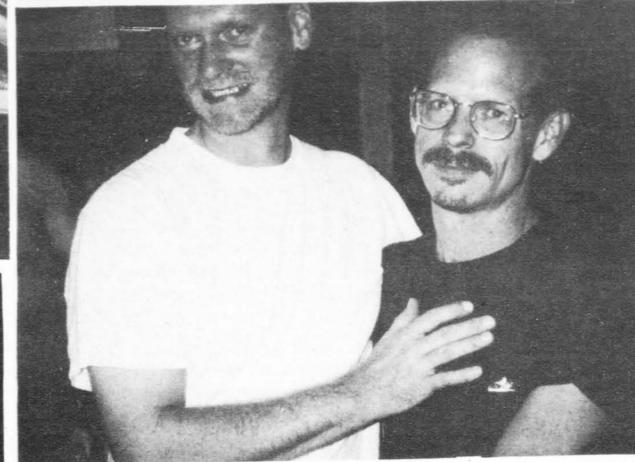
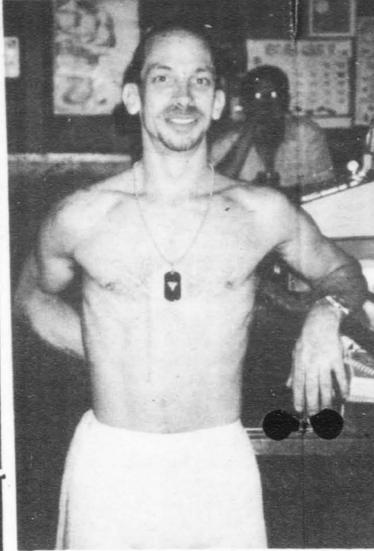
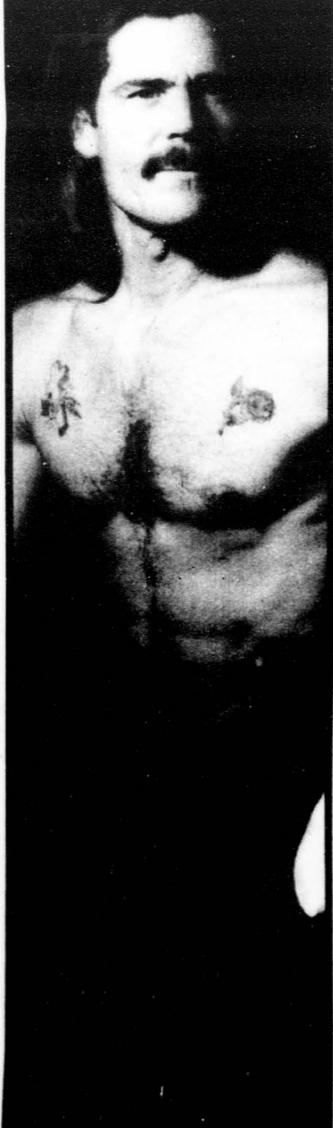
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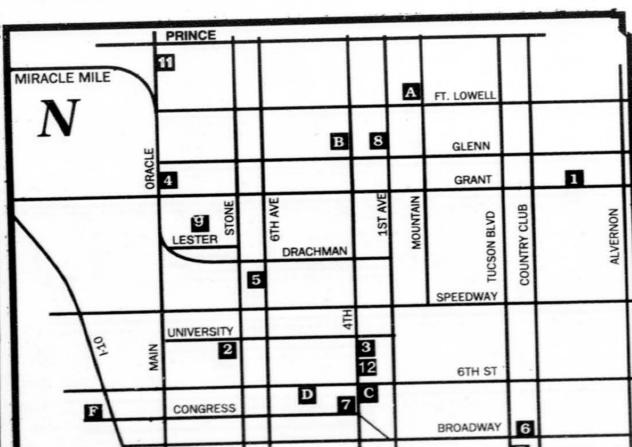
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Another three weeks have passed in the long-running Pima County Government "domestic partners" benefits battle.

Gay and Lesbian county employees, their spouses and dependents, continue to wait. Unmarried heterosexual employees, their spouses and dependents continue to wait. Attorney Grace McIlvain, who's representing the Board of Supervisors continues to wait. Judge Bernado Velasco, who has been assigned to the case, continues to wait. The Board of Supervisors just can't get along, but we digress!

Why? The anticipated legal battle over the extension of health and dental benefits to the "domestic partners" and their dependents of county employees, both Gay and straight is on hold.

Not good, nor bad, just going nowhere. No hearings, summary judgments, testimony, and no extension of benefits to the above-mentioned county employees. Just more waiting. All this due to the Pima County Attorney's Civil Division, the ambulance-chasers who filed the lawsuit claiming the Board's action was an "illegal expenditure" hasn't moved on the case, despite the proverbial "ball being in their court."

Why? Good question! Deputy Civil County Attorney, Chris Roads, who filed the lawsuit trying to void the Board's action has not returned numerous



"Pima County DP Update"

phone calls made by this reporter to find out when they'll proceed. Especially when his boss, David Dingeldine, said this issue was to be resolved by early August. Unconfirmed rumors have circulated that Roads is the instigator behind the lawsuit to overturn the Board's vote on 3/25 to extend medical benefits.

Throughout the Pima County Government domestic partners benefits battle, the County Attorney's Civil Division have "dragged their feet." Flash back to March of this year. As first reported, much to the surprise of everyone, the Pima County Board of Supervisors voted on 3/25 to extend health and dental benefits to the "domestic partners" and dependents of Gay, Lesbian and unmarried heterosexual county employees. The cost to extend benefits would be \$105,000 annually. (A drop in the bucket, the County's annual budget runs close to \$700,000 million.)

The Board instructed their counsel, Chief Civil County Attorney David Dingeldine to write an opinion on whether the Board's vote was legal, due one month later (4/25). The Board instructed

the committee of county employees who spearheaded the effort to work with County Administrator Chuck Huckelberry to draft guidelines and procedures to extend benefits. This was to be completed and voted on before Pima County's open enrollment period for health and dental benefits, May 6-23. Well?

The committee and County Administrator Chuck Huckelberry completed their task, Dingeldine didn't. When reached for comment by this reporter, Dingeldine quipped, "The Board would like a decision in five minutes!" Not five minutes, just thirty days!

The open enrollment period passed, while some county employees, their spouses and dependents received their health and dental benefits, Gay, Lesbian, and unmarried heterosexual county employees, their spouses and dependents continued to "wait outside looking in." Especially since the County offered to sign up those employees, on the "outside," with the proviso, they would be responsible for all medical bills if the Board's action is ruled to be illegal. A total of 88 employees swallowed the County's ill-

tasting compromise.

At the June 24 meeting of the Board of Supervisors, Dingeldine *finally* informed the Board, in executive session, *and then* to the press, that the Board's action to extend benefits to same-sex employees was an "illegal expenditure," and he was going to take legal action against the Board to overturn their vote. Dingeldine stated a whopping total of two "taxpayers" had called and written to complain about the Board's vote. A landslide? When asked about a time-frame to resolve the pending case, Dingeldine and Roads are both on record as saying that the litigation should be settled by early August, approximately in 30-60 days.

Same-sex employees? What about the unmarried heterosexual county employees and their "domestic partners and dependents" as the Board voted to extend benefits to? Dingeldine was challenged by this reporter on that continued and changed his story to The Observer and the Tucson daily newspapers. A pyrrhic victory of sorts.

The suit was filed by none other than Chris Roads, on July 2. The County Attorney's suit in a nutshell: they contend this was an "illegal expenditure." That's it. The Board had twenty-days to respond. The Supervisors hired Grace McIlvain to represent them in the pending lawsuit. McIlvain filed the Board's legal response to the pending litigation on July 20.

According to a spokesperson for the County Attorney's Civil Division, they were going to file their motions, one week after receiving McIlvain's response. So was it sent by UPS or by Sun Tran?

McIlvain said that the "ball is now in the County Civil Attorney's court." According to McIlvain, with the filing of the initial lawsuit and the [Board's] defendant's response, the plaintiff [County Attorney] would file a "motion for summary judgment," and have the hearing to resolve the pending issue. Okay when?

As first reported, the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund was going intervene on behalf of Gay and Lesbian county employee's affected by the pending lawsuit.

More time has passed? Some county employees "domestic partners" are fortunate to have health and dental insurance benefits at their place of work. Other county employees, such as Damien McNeal, can't get health and dental benefits for his lover, Richard.

According to Damien, "we must take a gamble that the same situation that affected Richard, when I had to take him to a hospital emergency room two years ago doesn't happen again." "The cost to insure Richard under a individual health-care plan are just too-high," McNeal said. So very true!

Damien McNeal summed it up best, "I am wondering why this is taking so long." So are we! . . .

So it goes for now kids!

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Henry David Thoreau

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CBA Trade Fair August 21 At Doubletree Hotel

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

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

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

According to recent newspaper articles and surveys, Tucson was voted one of the top cities in the country for

Gay and Lesbian lifestyle acceptance, making the Tucson area a growing business Mecca for future members.

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

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

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

Rev. Jorge Delgado At MCC Aug. 17

TUCSON - The Rev. Jorge Delgado will be the featured guest speaker at Water of Life Metropolitan Community Church (MCC), Sunday, August 17, at the regular 10:45 A.M. Sunday morning worship service.

Rev. Delgado currently serves as the Pastor of Iglesia Comunitaria Metropolitana (ICM) Los Angeles, a congregation of Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) of Los Angeles, California.

Initially from Puerto Rico, Rev. Delgado has been a school teacher in Los Angeles for a number of years. In addition to his pastoral responsibilities, Rev. Delgado is also an educational administrator in Los Angeles.

Delgado also serves as Chair of the UFMCC Board of Ordained Ministry for Spanish speaking Metropolitan Community Churches in the United States, Mexico, Central and South of America.

During the past several years, Rev. Delgado has been instrumental in the organization of Spanish speaking Metropolitan Community Churches (Iglesia Comunitaria Metropolitana) in southern California. He also led Hispanic and Mexican cultural celebrations within the Gay and Lesbian community. Rev. Delgado and his partner Michael are rearing a son in their home in North Hollywood.

Water of Life Metropolitan Community Church, is located at 3269 North Mountain Avenue between Fort Lowell and Prince Roads, is a member congregation of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Churches. All church activities are open to the public, and the congregation of Water of Life MCC invites everyone to come and hear this dynamic Pastor speak on August 17.

For more information call (520) 292-9151.

A View From The Rock

A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

Today I am celebrating my birthday. I'm not going to tell which one, but I will say that I have reached the age where people intentionally guess I am much younger than I appear to be just to be polite!

Whenever anyone complained about getting older, I used to respond with a saying of my uncle's, "When you consider the alternative, getting older doesn't seem so bad!" Of course, the alternative to getting older is not having birthdays at all, which only happens when a person dies. Although death is not something which most people like to talk about, unfortunately in our community it is something we have to deal with on a very regular basis.

Sometimes ago I realized that because I am a Christian I never should use my uncle's old saying about getting older being better than dying, because that just isn't true for me! When the Apostle Paul talked about his death in the New Testament, he called it being "... away from the body and at home with the Lord." (II Corinthians 5:8b) In the years I have lived in my body here on earth I have grown rather fond of it. I try to feed

it the right food (most of the time, at least!), get enough rest, and exercise on a regular basis (at least, I used to exercise. Now it seems that I am too busy to do more exercising than walking from the house to the car and from my car to my work!) In return, my body does almost everything I want it to! My eyes allow me to see the beauty of God's creation here in Arizona, my ears let me hear the majestic music of the great composers, my hands feel the soft skin a baby. I am very thankful for the body which I have to use and enjoy while I am here on earth.

However, all the joys of this world will fade when I experience that which is waiting for me when I am "at home with the Lord!" I am sure that the most glorious music I have ever heard here cannot begin to compare with the music of the angels as they sing praises to God! And, wonder of wonders, I will be singing along with the angels in that heavenly choir! And the beauties of this world, which is called "God's footstool" (Matthew 5:35), are nothing alongside the beauties of heaven, where God resides.

I have all these thrilling things, and many more, to look forward to when

TRADE SHOW

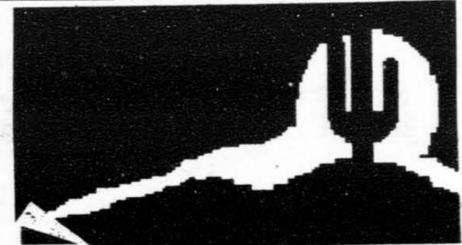
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I am "away from (my body)" because I have become a child of God by trusting in Jesus as my savior.

What about you? Another old saying goes, "The only things certain in life are death and taxes." I can't do anything about your taxes, but I would like to help you be sure that when you die - go

"away from (your) body" - you will spend eternity "at home with the Lord." Accept Jesus' death as payment for your sins and receive him as your savior. Then you will be certain that you will share in that glorious future promised to those leave this earth and are "at home with the Lord."

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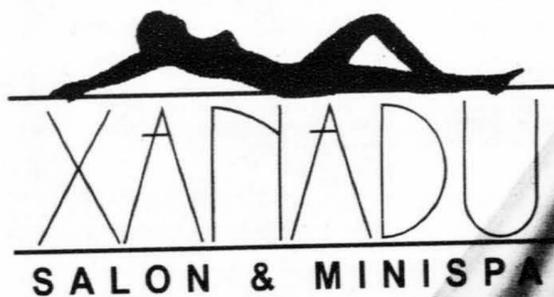
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PERSPECTIVE....

Marriage Matters

by the Reverend Christine Leslie

On October 7, 1995, my partner, the Rev. Martha Dyson, and I made a covenant to be each other's life-long companion in a wonderful Service of Commitment and Celebration at Church of the Redeemer Episcopal in Morristown, NJ. We were surrounded by 200 people that included most of our immediate families, and many, many wonderful friends. Asking The Holy One, and our friends and family, to be with us and bless us as we publicly promised to love and live with each other for the rest of our lives, helped me to understand just why straight people make such a big fuss about getting married. Yes, as I stood on those sanctuary steps that day, I realized there are some amazing benefits that come from crossing the threshold of public commitment with one's beloved in the presence of family, friends, and The Holy One.

Now given I have officiated at many commitment ceremonies, Straight and Gay, throughout my 20 years in the ministry, I found all of this somewhat ironic. Prior to my own experience, I supported many a couple's decision to commit publicly to one another, and officiated at their services. However, I just didn't know personally about the depth and breadth of meaning, tenderness, fun, and holiness possible in my love for Martha until I publicly committed to her and she to me.

Thank goodness we are making headway in our culture in general with the rising acceptance of Gay and Lesbian people as people, so that such ceremonies of covenanting and commitment can, and do, take place for Gay and Lesbian couples who want them. Many Gay and Lesbian people believe, as do Martha and I, that the benefits of such public covenanting are real even though Gay and Lesbian couples cannot yet access the 352 legal and economic benefits available to straight couples who marry.

In fact, the growing number of Gay and Lesbian couples who want to have services of commitment under the present circumstances attests to the benefits that are emotional/mental, social, and spiritual in nature. These are the benefits that infuse our public vow making with much of what makes them matter so much to us anyway. (This is not to say that the refusal to grant Gay and Lesbian couples the legal and economic benefits available to Straight couples at this time is acceptable or just and not worth fighting for. They are!)

When Gay and Lesbian couples publicly promise to love and live together for the rest of their lives, the emotional and mental benefits can blossom and grow. It begins with the outpouring of love and support from people in attendance who love us and who believe in the rightness and goodness of our relationships. Their presence, love and support for us and validates our own thoughts and feelings about the rightness and goodness of our relationships, and of ourselves as Gay and Lesbian people. For instance, when Martha and I entered that beautiful sanctuary, and saw so many of the people we know and love there with us, our love and regard for each other, and our own belief in the rightness and goodness of our relationship was widened, deepened, and strengthened. What an amazing gift to us

on which we have continued to build our life and love together. What a loss for us had we not had such a wonderful commitment service!

When Gay and Lesbian couples publicly promise to love and live together for the rest of their lives, the social benefits become evident, too. Every time a Gay or Lesbian couple chooses to commit publicly to one another, we are helping our straight friends and family, as well as ourselves, to experience a wider, healthier understanding of human sexuality, love, and commitment. We are also chipping away at society's homophobia one commitment service at a time. Most of all, we are helping to free others and ourselves from narrow and oppressive definitions of marriage that limit its purpose, power, function, and benefits and only serve to diminish us all.

When it comes to Gay and Lesbian people being open and honest about our lives, I believe that "normal is as normal does," because that which is normative, and therefore normal, in any society only becomes so when the majority of people accept, support, and practice certain attitudes and actions (see Webster's New Universal Unabridged Dictionary definition of "normative" - that which is "an acceptable standard, model, or pattern for a group, especially corresponding to the median or average of a large group")

It seems to me that the more Gay and Lesbian couples who marry publicly, the less our relationships will be thought unacceptable, abnormal, and perverted regardless of the laws of this land. In fact, I wish I had a \$1 for every one who told me how touched and moved they were to have attended our commitment service. (We could have gone on a honeymoon!) And these were supportive and on-board people who, I am sure, went on from there to tell their friends and co-workers about this amazing Lesbian wedding they attended. The ripple effect of good news worth telling is how we are going to help many straight people change their hearts and minds about us.

It was especially meaningful to me that my two youngest brothers brought their spouses and all of their children to our service, none of the children having ever attended any kind of wedding or commitment service prior to ours. I will cherish forever the joy of dancing with my 10 year old nephew, Kevin, who asked "Are all weddings this much fun, Aunt Chris?" I told him the ones that have dancing at the party afterwards are, and he just beamed.

I also believe the more we do this the more likely we will prevail in getting the marriage laws changed in our country. Can you imagine what could happen in this country, and to our legal system, and ultimately to our marriage laws, if thousands upon thousands of Gay and Lesbian couples began requesting marriage licenses and suing when refused? We could have a grass roots legal revolution the likes of which this country has never seen. The powers that be might just change the laws to get us off their backs! What a delightful thought!

When Gay and Lesbian couples publicly promise to love and live together for the rest of their lives, spiritual bene-

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY

New Book Says Gay Rights Part Of Larger Trend

NEW HAVEN, CT (WS) - A new book by University of Michigan political scientist Ronald Inglehart which says the social upheavals that have rocked the government, the church and other cultural institutions over the last quarter century are only just beginning.

The changes, he says, are part of a global transformation which rejects rigid and traditional norms and embraces personal freedom and non traditional thinking. The changes felt in the worldwide Gay and Lesbian community over the last twenty years seem to bear out his theories.

In his book, "Modernization and Postmodernization," Inglehart argues that once modern industrial societies meet the basic survival needs for the majority of its people, their religious, political, and cultural views begin to change.

It is not a coincidence, Inglehart argues, that deeply industrialized countries in Europe, North America, Asia, and Australia have undergone virtually simultaneous changes on almost identical issues. Everything from the rise in environmental concerns, the changing role of women, to the degree of social acceptance now granted Gay men and Lesbians, can be explained by a shift into what the author calls postmodern thinking.

Postmodern thinking rejects rigid hierarchies, be they corporate or governmental, or religious. Top-down management has been replaced by working groups in corporate culture. Devotion to particular political issues (abortion, Gay rights, the environment) has begun to erode traditional party lines and group affiliations. Even the recent rise in religious fundamentalism can be attributed to a reaction against new ideas (women priests, Gay marriage) gaining ground on traditionalist thinking. According to Inglehart, "fundamentalism reflects the rearguard action of a dwindling segment of the population, not the wave of the future."

Inglehart tested his theories in two rounds of polls conducted in 43 countries comprising 70 percent of the world's population. Postmodern change, he says, is everywhere and inexorable. "People of each society tend to assume that the erosion of confidence (in politics, work, religion, family, and traditional sexual norms) are due to factors unique in their own country. In reality, he states, "it is taking place throughout advanced industrial society."

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U.S. Judge Okays Same-Sex Harassment

PITTSBURGH, PA (NP) - If your supervisor makes unwanted sexual advances, even threatens to break your legs if you refuse, is it sexual harassment? Not if you're both members of the same sex, it isn't!

A federal judge in western Pennsylvania dismissed a case of same-gender sexual harassment, denying that it's prohibited under US law intended primarily to protect women from men. Chief U.S. District Judge Donald Ziegler rejected a lawsuit in which Shawn O'Mahony alleges that his former employer Steven Breuner, owner of a Supercuts hair salon in Shady-side, Pennsylvania, failed to intervene while O'Mahony was harassed, threatened and finally fired in 1994 by the salon's former manager, Joe Steifvater (who is not himself named as a defendant).

This ruling is the latest example of the confusion on this issue, which it's hoped the U.S. Supreme Court will resolve in the coming session when it considers the case of Oncale v. Sundowner Offshore Services, Inc. Various courts

have made a range of rulings in this fast-growing area of case law, from treating same-gender sexual harassment exactly as they would heterosexual harassment, to believing same-gender abuse constitutes harassment only if one or both parties are in fact Gay or Lesbian, to denying -- as in the current case -- that the federal law applies at all. O'Mahony plans to file an appeal, and the American Civil Liberties Union seems likely to join it.

Ziegler chose to follow a widely-cited 1988 ruling by the U.S. District Court for the Northern District of Illinois, as he wrote in his own decision that that court had found "that Congress enacted [Title VII of the federal Civil Rights Act of 1964, prohibiting sexual harassment in the workplace] to address the imbalance of power, which results in discrimination against a discrete and vulnerable group. . . . Because the [Illinois] plaintiff worked in a male-dominated environment, the court found that his harassment by another male did not create an environment in which males were treated as inferior." By that logic, the "Oncale" case would also have to be dismissed, since the plaintiff there worked in the all-male environment of an offshore oil rig.

O'Mahony alleges that manager Steifvater told other employees that it was O'Mahony's "attractive" appearance that led to his hiring in mid-1993. O'Mahony says that Steifvater made numerous sexual advances and abused O'Mahony for rejecting them, ultimately threatening to break O'Mahony's legs and kill him. O'Mahony charges that despite his complaints, salon owner Breuner failed to stop Steifvater.

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Viatical Settlement Update

As medical science gains ground in the fight against HIV and AIDS, an industry known as viatical settlements continues to provide financial relief for those facing challenging illnesses. A viatical settlement is the option to sell or "viaticate" an existing life insurance policy for up to 85% of its face amount. The owner, usually the insured, receives the viatical settlement and uses the benefit in any way they choose. Over 700 million dollars in life insurance coverage has already been viaticated since this option originated in 1989.

In the past year much has been said and written about the negative and positive effects of protease inhibitors. The downsides being that many people living with HIV/AIDS refuse to take these drugs due to some negative side effects, many are not able to afford them and most health insurance does not cover them. The extraordinary upside being that these treatments have in some cases increased CD 4 T-cells by the hundreds and decreased viral loads to undetectable levels. Insurance companies and pharmaceutical companies are proud to proclaim these medical advancements.

A few viatical settlement funding companies have tightened their restrictions because these advancements have increased life expectancies. This has led many people to believe that they cannot qualify for a viatical settlement. However, The Medical Escrow Society, the nation's largest viatical settlement broker, states there are a growing number of aggressive private funding companies that qualify people with HIV up to 1,000 CD 4 T-cells and/or low viral loads. When considering a viatical settlement, you can increase your chances of qualifying and receiving the

highest settlement by using a competitive broker. Viatical settlements have been considered mainstream financial planning for some time now and both sellers and buyers have entered the arena. As more funding companies (buyers) enter the market, the more competition increases, allowing brokers to drive settlement amounts higher. Be encouraged by protease inhibitors and other ongoing medical advancements, but don't be discouraged by someone who was turned down by one viatical funding company or by believing propaganda that you can no longer sell your life insurance.

A common reason for viatication is when premium payments are no longer affordable and the policy is in jeopardy of lapsing. Also, instead of leaving group life insurance coverage behind when changing or terminating their employment, wise viators convert it to an individual policy and then viaticate after making one premium payment. A common misconception is if you have HIV, you cannot obtain life insurance. The fact is there are special risk and guaranteed issue life insurance policies available with no medical exams and very few or no questions asked. Recently, the Illinois-based Guarantee Trust Life Insurance Company became the first company to market life insurance directly to people with HIV. The amount of coverage ranges from \$50,000 to \$250,000 of whole life coverage. The premium payments are expensive, but if you plan to viaticate, your vested premium dollars will pay off. When considering buying, selling, or converting life insurance, it is recommended that you seek advice from a qualified professional who represents you and your interests.

For those who have already benefited from a viatical settlement, its no secret how a viatical settlement can enhance the quality of ones' life. The viatical settlement industry is rapidly growing and constantly changing. Since January 1, 1997 proceeds from a viatical settlement have been (in most cases) free from Federal income tax. Also, several states including Florida have adopted laws that regulate viatical companies doing business in their respective state. These positive changes are protecting viators and allowing them to sell their life insurance today, when they need the financial benefits the most. To find out if your state has viatical settlement laws already in place and to ensure that the companies you choose are reputable, contact the VAA (Viatical Association of America) for a list of brokers and funding companies or call The Medical Escrow Society at 1-800-422-1314.

St. Philip's Film Weekend Aug. 15-16

TUCSON - A "Film Weekend" is being presented, August 15-16 by the Gay and Lesbian Spirituality Group of St. Philip's in the Hills Episcopal Church.

Here is the schedule for the film-fest:

August 15 - 5:45 P.M., The Celluloid Closet. 8:00 P.M., The Incredible True Story of Two Girls in Love.

August 16 - 5:45 P.M., The Sum of Us. 8:00 P.M., Beautiful Thing.

All films will be shown at St. Philip's (NE corner of River and Campbell). \$5 dollar donations will be accepted, with proceeds going to Wingspan and the St. Philip's Building Fund.

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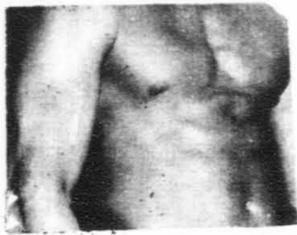
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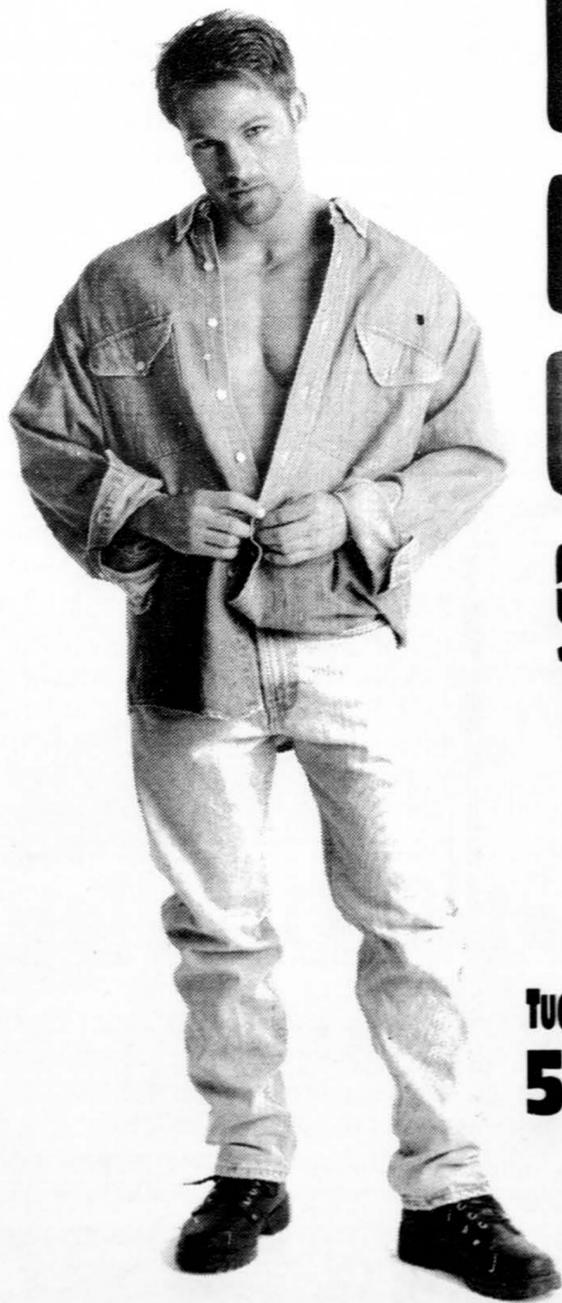
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Seems Like Old Times Continued from Page One

crimes a "sexual."

Consistently, the press and public tend to fixate on homosexuality in this way -- treating it as either the cause or symptom of any and every ill. Clearly, a similar standard is not applied to heterosexual mayhem. In the endless coverage of O.J. Simpson's trial, the mainstream press never reported that the accused was "straight."

like a strange way for a man fleeing the FBI to elude detection," the article began, "but in gender-bending Miami Beach even a cross-dressing multiple killer could blend right in."

Here too, the reporter has opted for a long and awkward adjective chain. Implicitly, cross-dressing is cast as one more act of deviance -- right alongside of killing.

Such heterosexist bias is also evident in another Reuter's story on Cunanan -- which took cross-dressing as its focus. "Slipping on a skirt may sound

Of course, the implied connection is baseless. In the context of this story, in fact, it makes about much sense as reporting the murder's political affiliation or

favorite color ("Andrew Cunanan, Republican-voting, brown shoe wearing, multiple serial killer. . . .")

Individually, these matters of word choice and phrasing can seem a bit subtle -- even insignificant. Collectively, however, such reporting reveals a constant, consonant bias. The effect might be ignored, but can no longer be denied.

The recent coverage of Cunanan harkens back to much earlier reporting on homosexuality. A 1949 issue of "Newsweek" included the article "Queer People" -- which began: "The sex pervert, whether a homosexual, an exhibitionist, or even a dangerous sadist, is too often regarded merely as a 'queer' person who never hurts anyone but himself. . . ."

The article referred to homosexuality just that once and then went on to give examples of other horrors). "But the damage was done," according to the editors of "Talk Back! - The Gay Person's Guide to Media Action." "To the average 'Newsweek' reader, homosexuals were established as violent psychopaths."

A half century later, that damage has yet to be undone. Even worse it's being done again.

Action Alert! Reuters and other mainstream news outlets must be held responsible for the cumulative effect of an enduring media bias. Send critical feedback to: Reuters, 199 Water Street, New York, NY 10038, fax 212-859-1717, e-mail webmaster@reuters.com, Website: www.reuters.com.

[MEDIALert is an action-, and advocacy-oriented column of media criticism, focused on Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender issues.]

ABA Calls For End Continued from Page Ten

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."

Marriage Matters

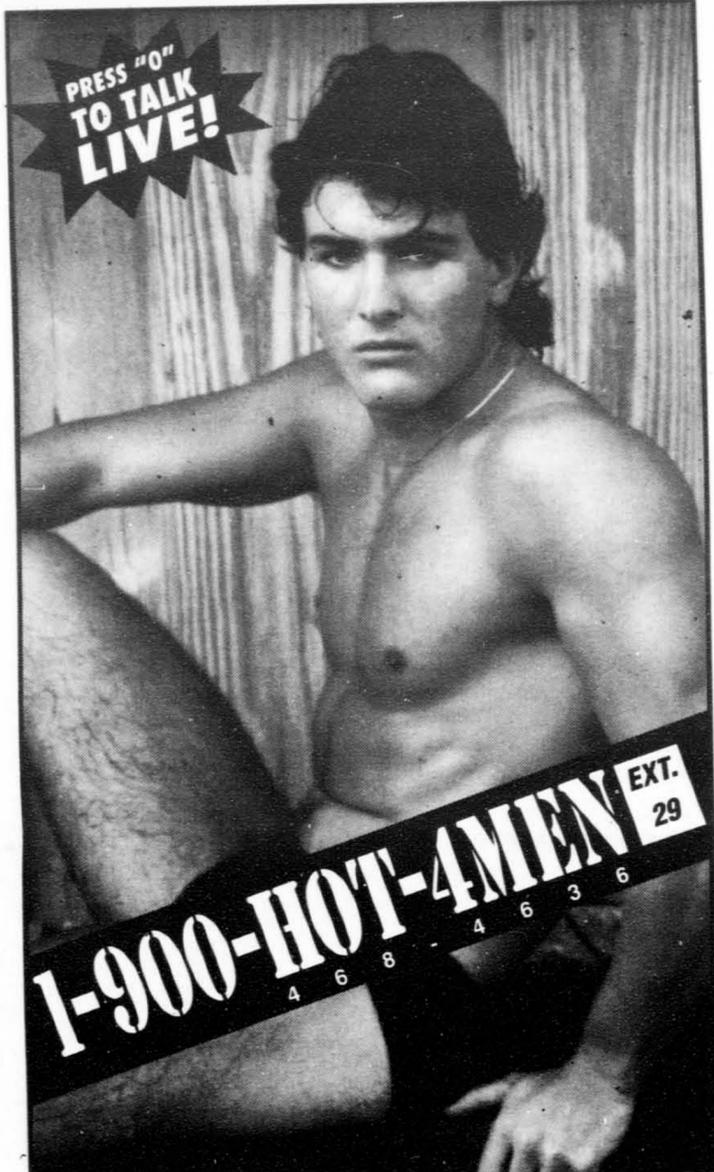
Continued from Page Sixteen

fits, or those things that stretch, deepen, and strengthen our experience of The Holy One, flourish too. Experiencing The Holy One's presence in our services of commitment is important to our healing and well-being because of all of the negative, hateful, homophobic teachings of many faith traditions that have told Gay and Lesbian people we are abominations in the sight of God. It was very meaningful and comforting to Martha and me to realize and acknowledge that The Holy One was with us reassuring us every step of the way that were not alone in this service or in our day-to-day lives.

When invited to be present, The Holy One is with us, supporting, loving, blessing guiding, and believing in us, and the goodness and rightness of our relationships. If this were not so, where on earth would we get the strength and courage to love one another much less have such public ceremonies in a world filled with narrow-minded, mean-spirited homophobes? Surely The Holy One cannot be about such hatred and bigotry. Its just not in Her makeup. However, it is in the makeup of many people who make God in their own image.

These are the very same people who would not have us be firm in our faith in ourselves or our belief in The Holy One who made us in Her image for loving and being loved. It is no small accomplishment for Gay and Lesbian couples to make public covenants in services of commitment and celebration. For each time another Gay or Lesbian couple vows to have and to hold, in plenty and in want, in joy and in sorrow, in sickness and in health - to love, honor, and cherish their beloved Until death parts them, our faith in ourselves, each other, and The Holy One matters just a bit more and so does marriage.

Rev. Christine Leslie, the first openly ordained Lesbian in the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), is founder and director of Triangle Ministries, A Center For Lesbian & Gay Spiritual Development near Burlington, Vermont. Rev. Leslie offers counseling, commitment services, workshops, & retreats, and specializes in the integration of sexual-identity formation & spiritual development. Contact her at Triangle Ministries, 14 White Birch Lane, Williston, VT 05495 or visit the Triangle Ministries web page <http://members.aol.com/revcsi>.



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Neptune is the planet of foggy thinking and it's placement in our chart indicates where we live in a fool's paradise. Neptune has been ensconced in Capricorn since late 1984 and has only six more months to go before it spreads its cheer in Aquarius. Before the party is over, let's review the performance of Neptune in Capricorn:

ARIES

MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

If the past few years have been a professional quagmire, blame Neptune in Capricorn. Queer Rams may have bumped and schlumped their way around the corporate ladder. But for those lucky pups who turns lemons into lemonade, this has been a time of great creative inspiration and recognition. If you've been plucked from the chorus, you gotta strut your stuff!

TAURUS

APRIL 21 - MAY 21

Although Gay Bulls are not the world's greatest travelers, Neptune has given you ample opportunity to escape to wild and woolly faraway destinations. Let's face it kids, how wild and woolly do these old farts really like to get? You have a good six months to get the real juice from this placement; The secret is to indulge your exotic vices. Have the kitchen help rub your tummy with oil.

GEMINI

MAY 22 - JUNE 21

The past few years may have had more than its fair share of unusual sexual liaisons. While lucky pink Twins may have seen and done it all with fluid Neptunian flair, foolish pink Twins may have placed their hopes and dreams on a dreck. You have six months left to raze psychological roadblocks. Enlist the help of an old spiritualist. Hello - anyone Out there?

CANCER

JUNE 22 - JULY 23

Queer Crabs have wandered, wide-eyed and hopelessly romantic through many a relationship minefield over the past few years. Have you chosen wisely? Delusional Neptune in Capricorn gives you six more months to experience periodic trips to the moon on gossamer wings. Let's just hope that you progress from just one of those things.

LEO

JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

Lusty queer Lions have spent the last few years overindulging in a variety of areas including food and drink. Neptune in Capricorn never seems to know when enough is enough. It tempts you to go for the gusto to your detriment. For the next six months, take it easy in food, drink and even exercise. Muscles can be over-worked too. Most, but not of all of course.

VIRGO

AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

As with Leo, Gay Virgins must temper their intact of alcohol, drugs, and any other seemingly fun and addictive stuff. Neptune doesn't believe in stop signals; Even conservative pink Virgo's could fall overboard in wallowing excess. Don't piss away this energy on nonsense, cousin. Use the next six months to expand and explode your creative Gay muse. Go overboard in artistic excess - paint, dance or write!

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

There you are, wandering through Oz in those fabulous slippers and crying to go home. Neptune has been changing the direction on you for the past few years but the compass will slowly come into focus in the next six months. Gay Libra's may also feel that their family does not give

HOROSCOPES*
BY C. LICHTENSTEIN

them the respect and affirmation they deserve. Perhaps so, but buck up honey; planets move on.

as a notice. Use the next six months to get a handle on finances, particularly when it comes to Gay causes. There should always be enough green to give the lavender.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

Even the most sarcastic Gay Scorps sound amazingly prophetic with dreamy Neptune in Capricorn. Don't waste the opportunity within the next six months to make your mark on the great Gay agenda with your eloquence and sense of destiny. Use your tongue for goodness and not for nastiness, unless of course it's a one to one "conversation."

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

Gay Archers are one of the few signs that cannot be bought or sold. Money has never been an especially alluring motivator to you and over the past few years, the geld has come and gone without so much

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Neptune in your own sign stressed the importance of a softer, more cuddly appearance. The old saying that you attract more flies with honey than with vinegar has been pounded home. Of course, if your only interest is in attracting flies, do continue to wear those ridiculous Isadora Duncan outfits. Otherwise, update your appearance in preparation for the next neptunian move.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

Perceptive Aqueerians have used Neptune's energy to formulate particularly

astute insights into feelings and motivations of others. You move spiritual mountains and bring warring factions to the peace table. On the other hand, you may have been more susceptible to frauds and cheats. Use the next six months to hone your e.s.p. for both your good deeds and your protection.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

Pink Fish have done swimmingly well with Neptune in Capricorn as far as friendships and large social groups are concerned. Over the past few years you've built stronger and more cohesive platonic outlets. Since we are only as strong as the alliances we have with others, use the next six months to politicize your Gay activities. Take the party to the streets!

For entertainment purposes only.

For best results read both your Sun sign and Ascendant. For a free ascendant calculation, 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, AUGUST 13

GRADUATE - 9-Ball Pool Tournament begins at 7:00 p.m.

IBT'S - Tonight! 9:00 p.m. Special Benefit Show for Celia Putty's Miss Gay America campaign. Hosted by Lucinda Holliday and starring Ajia Simone, Felice Renard, Shandrianna, Victoria Du Puis, Lani, Kenneth Blake and Raven.

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 14

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

IBT'S - Cruise Night 9:00 p.m. to closing, come register to win a free Cruise for two or join IBT's cruise of the Mexican Riviera for \$250 down - \$149 per month. Do all this in your underwear and get special drink prices.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16

VENTURE-N - Village People Party celebrating the 20th anniversary - all night!!

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17

IBT'S - All-you-can-eat Bar-B-Que and the only 16oz Beer Bust in town to benefit Tucson Lesbian / Gay Alliance (TLGA) 4:30 - 7:00 p.m. Show our support for the OUToberFEST picnic. From 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. it's "Meet the Candidate Night. Come meet Allison Hughes, a Democratic Primary Candidate for the Tucson City Council, Ward 6. Then there's a Wet Shorts Contest tonight. Sign-up at 9:30 p.m. \$150 first place winner takes all. Another busy day and night at IBT's.

VENTURE-N - Summer Brunch by Ray Greg from 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. \$4.00.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 19

IBT'S - Torrid Tuesday continues. Wear black and white for happy hour prices from 9:00 p.m. to closing.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20

HOURS - Free and anonymous HIV testing by the Pima County Health Department 5:00 to 8:00 p.m.

IBT'S - The Girlie Show 9:00 p.m. hosted by Larry Moore and featuring Celia Putty, Lani, Felice Renard and Victoria Du Puis.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Back by popular demand, Exotic Dancers from 8:00 to 10:00 p.m. Cover.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

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

VENTURE-N - Mr. Venture-N contest. Watch for more details.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

STONEWALL/EAGLE - "Dance Thru The Monsoons". Live band Rare Breed, BBQ, folklorico dancers, drag show at 10:00 p.m. It all starts at 4:00 p.m. with proceeds to benefit Desert Voices. For ticket info call 791-9662.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 27

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Miss Jody Show at 9:00 p.m. Watch for more details.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 28

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

IBT'S - Free and anonymous HIV testing by Pima County Health Department 9:00 to 11:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 31

STONEWALL/EAGLE - The return of Miss Touché. Showtime at 9:00 p.m.

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 1

HOURS - Join the HOURS crew for the last Bar-B-Que of the season. Say goodbye to summer with hamburger, hot dogs, etc. on the patio.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Manager "Mae's" Birthday Blowout all day long.

SUNDAY, SEPTEMBER 7

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

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13

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

FRI-SAT-SUN, OCTOBER 10-11-12

HOURS - It's the 7th Anniversary for HOURS Make it on over and join in on the celebration.

Non-Bar CALENDAR

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13

1. 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.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages, guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Dinner Out will be held at the Kingfisher this month. If you'd like to join your gay family for a nice dinner out, please call Bill at 615-0979 by Monday, August 11, to reserve your place at the table.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 15

Gay and Lesbian Movie Night at St. Philips Episcopal Church on the corner of Campbell and River. 5:45 p.m. "The Celluloid Closet"; 8:00 p.m. The incredibly true adventure of two girls in love. Proceeds will help Wingspan.

Cronies Social Club Movie Night at Leo's. Viewers choice of classic oldies. Call Leo at 624-6768 for RSVP and directions.

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 & 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 647-3436.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 16

Rainbow Families, Tucson's Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual Parents Network, holds a support and discussion group every third Saturday of the month. The group meets at 4:00 p.m. at St. Francis in the Foothills Church at River and Swan, in Room 31. All Gay, Lesbian and Bisexual parents, partners and family members are welcome. Call Craig at 318-9348 for more information.

Gay and Lesbian Movie Night at St. Philips church on the corner of Campbell and River. \$5.00 donation accepted. Proceeds will benefit Wingspan. 5:45 p.m. "The Sum Of Us"; 8:00 p.m. "Beautiful Thing".
Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:30 p.m. Feeling hot tonight—and it's not because of all the men in your apartment complex? Join the MSN men as they head off for a cool evening of ice skating at the Iceplex. For details, please call Donn at 325-4257, or C.W. at 326-5439.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17

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.

Men's Massage Group meets at 6:00p.m. This is a good place to meet men in a safe and nurturing environment. Call in advance because we have a limit of 12. Call Marc at 881-4582 to sign up at least 3 days in advance or for more information.

MONDAY, AUGUST 18

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, AUGUST 19

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

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 20

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

THURSDAY, AUGUST 21

Cronies Social Club. August is the 8th anniversary of this club. Call Dick at 742-1271 RSVP and help us celebrate at El Corral.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Our monthly Pizza Party will take place at Les & Jerry's house. Simply bring \$4.00 and join in for a fun evening of food and good conversation. Salad and dessert are also served. Vegetarian pizza offered as well. For directions and reservations, call Jerry at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 23

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join your gay family in Tucson for a fun night out at Fantasticks as we hold the 1st Annual MSN Miniature Golf Tournament. After the game, we'll head over the Jerry & Les' for dessert. For details and reservations, please call Dan or Richard 622-8112.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24

1. **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.

2. **Men's Social Network** (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. The final "Favorite Film" of the month is "Ghost." This 1990 film stars Patrick Swayze and Demi Moore as lovers whose love knows no bounds. Please call Les at 690-9565 for reservations and directions.

MONDAY, AUGUST 25

The Church's Ministry to Gay/Lesbian Catholics and their families invites anyone interested to attend and participate in a general meeting to be held at 7:30 p.m. in Madonna Hall at Saints Peter and Paul Church, North Campbell Ave. and Adams St. The agenda will include an opportunity to fill out an anonymous questionnaire on the needs of Gay/Lesbian Catholics and their families. If unable to attend the meeting, call 320-7881 and a questionnaire will be sent to you. Also copies of the questionnaire are available at Wingspan.

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. \$1.25 small pitchers of Bud or Miller. Happy Hour 4-8. Karaoke with Nancy 7-11pm. Blues and Jazz music 11-Close.
GRADUATE - Happy Hour 4-8 pm all well \$1.25 Draft 75¢ Schnapps 75¢. Drink Specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Bloody Marys and Scroves 1.50 til 7 pm. Pool Tournament 4pm. Country/Western dance instruction 6-8 pm. Country Dance Music 8 to 1.
IBT's - Open Noon to 1 am. Happy Hour noon-8pm, \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 Well. Benefit B-B-Q and Beer Bust for community organizations 4:30-7:00pm. Hi energy dancing 9pm to close. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Pool Tourney at 2pm. Beer Bust \$1 Pitchers, 50¢ a glass. Free hamburgers 2-7pm. 2-4-1 Domestic and well 6-9pm.
VENTURE-N - Open 10 a.m. Backside Beer Bust 3-8pm 50¢ draft. 301 Dart Tournament 5pm \$3 entry fee. Bert Burgers 5-7, Tuff Stuff Too! 4-11pm.

Monday

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

BOOM-BOOMS - Closed Mondays. See you out at the other bars.
GRADUATE - Open 9am. Happy Hour 4-8pm all well \$1.50 Draft \$1.75 Domestic. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Open Noon. Happy Hour 12 to 7pm - Well and Domestic Beer \$1.50. 50¢ Draft Beer 7 to close.
IBT's - Open noon. Happy Hour noon-8pm, \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 well. 8pm to midnight, \$1.50 / 32oz pitchers. Retro 80s Dance 9pm-1am. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-8pm \$1.50 well & domestic. Free pool all day. Dart tourney 8:30 pm. 2-4-1 Domestic and well 6-9pm.
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 domestics \$1 Cocksucker 9-close. DJ 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 to 7pm Well or Domestic Beer \$1.50. Schnapps 75¢ 7pm to close. Karaoke 9pm.
IBT's - Open noon. Happy Hour Noon-8 pm, \$1.75 domestic beer & \$1.50 well. 9 pm to close 2for1 well/ Miller Lite. High Energy Dance with David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2 to 8pm. \$1.50 well and domestic. Karaoke 9pm. 2-4-1 Domestic and well 6-9pm.
VENTURE-N - Open 6am to 1am. Draft Beer 75¢ 6am - 8pm. Happy Hour prices 6am - 8pm.

Wednesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7. 2for1 well or domestic beer. \$1.25 pitchers from 9 to midnight. Alternative music w/Stephanie 9pm-1.

BOOM-BOOMS - Happy Hour 4-8pm. Karaoke with Christopher 9pm-1am. \$1.50 White Well 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 1am. 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 - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2 to 8pm. \$1.50 well and domestic. Latino Nite 9pm. 2-4-1 Domestic and well 6-9pm.
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 Too! open 8:30pm.

Thursday

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

BOOM-BOOMS - Playgirlz Cabaret Show at 9:30 in the "Other" Room \$1.50 Dark Well 9pm to close. Hi NRG Dance Music at 9 with Raymond.
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 (pant check available). Hi energy dancing 9-close with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-8pm. \$1.50 well and domestic. 2-4-1 Domestic and well 6-9pm. Naughty Bodies Male Revue 10pm.
VENTURE-N - Open 6am Draft Beer 75¢ 6am-8pm. Pool Tournament 7pm \$3 entry fee. Happy Hour prices for Men in Leather 8pm to close. Backside open 5pm-close. Tuff Stuff Too! open 8:30pm

Friday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7, 2for1 well or domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. Complimentary Hors d'oeuvres. Michael spins hi energy dance music 8:30 to close. Drink specials every 1/2 hour.

BOOM-BOOMS - Happy Hour 4-8pm. Latin Dance Party 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 8-1am.
IBT's - Open noon. Happy Hour Noon-8pm \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 well. ... Patio Bar with Looney 9-1. Dance Party 9 to 1 with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-8pm; Hors d'oeuvres 5pm. Beer Bust 6-9pm \$1 pitchers 50¢ glass. 2-4-1 Domestic and well 6-9pm.
VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Draft Beer 75¢ Bar 6am-8pm. Happy Hour Prices 6am-8pm. Backside open 5pm-close. Tuff Stuff Too! opens at 8:30 pm.

Saturday

AIN'T 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. Country/Western Danced in the "Other" room at 9:30 with lessons starting at 8pm. Dance to the latest club mixes in the main bar 9pm to close.
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 Coladas \$3. Country/Western Music 8-1.
IBT's - Open Noon to 1am. Happy Hour noon to 8pm \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 well. Patio Bar 9-1. Dance 9 to 1 with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Happy Hour Noon to 8pm Beer Bust 6-9pm \$1 pitchers, 50¢ glass. Hors d'oeuvres 4pm. 2-4-1 Domestic and well 6-9pm.
VENTURE-N - Open 6am. Bitches & Bagels w/\$1 Bloody Marys 6am-noon. Happy Hour Prices 6am-8pm. Backside open 5pm-close. Tuff Stuff Too! Opens at 8:30pm.



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

SUPPORT GROUP FOR MEN IN SAME SEX RELATIONSHIPS who have ever been physically, verbally or sexually abused, is now forming. Call Randy 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 388-6843.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

YOUNG AND GAY?

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

The **TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS INTERNATIONAL** invites Gay or Bisexual men over 30 years old to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature 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, 4-6 p.m. at Wingspan, 422 N. 4th Ave.

TUCSON GAY INFORMATION AND REFERRAL

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

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

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

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

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

NOTICES

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

THE JOHN HANTEN MEMORIAL GROUP, a Catholic support group for Gays and Lesbians, meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 1946 E. Lee St. at 7:30 p.m. For more information call the parish office at 327-6015 or Jane Perri at 326-8577.

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

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

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

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

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

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

COCAINE ANONYMOUS

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

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

SMART (Self Management And Recovery Training) a free non-12-step self-help alternative for people working to overcome addictive and other emotional problems meets in Tucson Monday thru Thursdays at different locations. For more information about SMART, contact Brenda at 884-9320, Ext.448 or Emmett 322-6057 (evellen@ix.netcom.com)

PERSONALS

ERIC M. - I want to apologize for any ripoff. I would like to see you. Please call me anytime at the Red Dog and leave message if I'm not working. Joe. 683

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

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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. 690

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Transformation Ministries Latest Weapon Of Religious Right

RALEIGH, NC (WS) - A new religious right tactic: conservative evangelists to embrace, instead of blindly condemning, homosexuals. The goal, say adherents, is to win over a disbelieving public (and a hostile Gay community) to the idea that Gay men and women can be "healed" through the power of prayer.

Gay civil rights advocates say this is the latest in a battle conservatives realize they are losing badly. According to recent surveys, two out of three Americans now believe what Gay men and women have been saying for years; that sexual orientation is an immutable characteristic. To the horror of the Christian Right, accompanying that perception is the growing acceptance of Gay men and Lesbians into the cultural mainstream.

The idea that homosexuality could be changed through prayer is not new. But the growing visibility and tolerance of Gay men and women has forced conservative churches to refresh their tactics. "Transformation Ministry" chapters are on the rise. The largest of these organizations, Seattle-based Exodus International, has more than 100 referral agencies around the world.

But despite its apparent growth in recent years, even Exodus acknowledges its methods are not always successful. Michael Bussee and Gary Cooper, the founders of the group, fell in love and left their bewildered followers in 1979. They have since been the biggest critics of the organizations method, calling it "homophobia with a happy face."

Most psychiatric professionals are inclined to agree. An American Psychiatric Association position paper on transformation ministries, said, "There is no evidence that any treatment can change a homosexual person's deep-seated sexual feelings for others of the same sex."

Cathy Renna, manager of the Washington office of the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation put it another way. "You can tie my right hand behind my back and force me to write with my left hand," she says. "But you know what? I'm still right-handed."

SMART Recovery Program

TUCSON - SMART Recovery is a free non-12-step self-help alternative for people working to overcome addictive and other emotional problems, meets in Tucson at the following times and locations:

Mondays, 5:30 P.M. - La Frontera Center, 502 West 29th Street. Please enter by patio gate at NW corner of building.

Tuesdays, Noon. 410 South Sixth Avenue. Check in with the recep-

tionist, please.

Wednesdays, Noon. 8:00 P.M. SAMHC, 1930 East Sixth Street.

Thursdays, 7:00 P.M. University Health Sciences Center, Pinal Room (2500-D), on south side of hospital cafeteria.

SMART stands for Self Management And Recovery Training. For more information, contact Brenda, 884-9920, ext. 448, or Emmett, 322-6057.

ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES - DIVISION OF DISEASE PREVENTION AIDS, HIV+ SURVEILLANCE REPORT FOR ARIZONA THROUGH JUNE 30, 1997

COUNTY OF RESIDENCE	1990 POPULATION	CASES OF AIDS THROUGH			DEATHS	CASES OF HIV+ THROUGH			DEATHS
		SEPT '96	JAN '97	JUNE '97		SEPT '96	JAN '97	JUNE '97	
APACHE	66,299	7	7	7	6	3	3	4	1
COCHISE	105,671	49	52	56	35	42	43	50	5
COCONINO	108,381	42	45	47	29	23	33	35	3
GILA	42,845	10	11	11	7	2	2	2	0
GRAHAM	29,094	9	10	10	7	0	6	6	0
GREENLEE	8,617	2	3	3	2	1	1	2	0
LA PAZ	15,522	8	8	8	6	4	5	6	0
MARICOPA	2,399,600	3397	3482	3593	2389	1851	1897	2713	297
MOHAVE	116,523	67	70	73	36	34	36	46	12
NAVAJO	84,150	15	15	16	10	5	5	8	2
PIMA	751,311	1022	1074	1137	726	592	609	822	68
PINAL	128,820	66	68	69	44	37	38	47	8
SANTA CRUZ	33,340	14	15	16	8	1	1	1	0
YAVAPAI	123,894	52	52	63	37	33	33	48	5
YUMA	120,827	56	57	59	30	51	51	57	9
UNKNOWN		5	5	4	3	110	110	109	3
TOTALS	4,134,894	4820	4075	5172	3375	2795	2873	3956	413**

** NOTE: ON MARCH 15, 1989, THE OPTION TO RECEIVE HIV TESTING ANONYMOUSLY BECAME AVAILABLE. AN ADDITIONAL 2937 ANONYMOUS HIV POSITIVE TESTS WERE REPORTED. THIS REPORT IS NOW ISSUED QUARTERLY BY ARIZONA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH SERVICES.

HAVING HIV IS TOUGH ENOUGH

GIVING IT TO A PARTNER IS EVEN TOUGHER

USE CONDOMS GET TESTED AIDS IS A FACT OF LIFE