

SEASON'S GREETINGS

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OBSERVER

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Gay & Lesbian Couples Granted Joint Adoption Rights In New Jersey Landmark Decision



NEWARK, NJ - Gay and Lesbian couples along with unmarried heterosexual couples will be on an equal basis with married couples when it comes to adoptions in New Jersey. The landmark decision happily affects Jon Holden, Michael Galluccio and their son, Adam, pictured above. See related story below.

by Mark R. Kerr

NEWARK, N.J. (ON) - In a landmark judgment for Gay and Lesbian families, attorneys reached an agreement with New Jersey to allow Lesbian and Gay couples to adopt children on equal footing with married couples.

The consent judgment was approved by Judge Sybil R. Moses of the Bergen County Superior Court in Hackensack, takes effect immediately and can be enforced by any Lesbian and Gay couple in the state who wishes to adopt children jointly. The judgement also applies to unmarried heterosexual couples living in New Jersey.

With the agreement, New Jersey became the first state in the nation to specify that Gay and unmarried couples will be measured by the same adoption standards as married couples, and that no couple will be barred from adopting be-

cause of their sexual orientation or marital status.

Gay people in New Jersey, as well as 45 other states, are allowed to adopt children, but a partner or "spouse" had to petition separately, resulting in extensive delays and legal costs.

"New Jersey is the first state in the country to agree to treat Gay and unmarried couples the same as married couples," said Michael Adams, an attorney with the ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, in an interview.

The settlement ruled that the state Division of Youth and Family Services policy of not permitting joint adoption by same-sex couples was inconsistent with its policy of doing what is in the best interests of the child.

"The settlement guarantees that all couples seeking to adopt will be judged

only by their ability to love and support a child," said Lenora Lapidus, the legal director of the state's ACLU chapter, in an interview.

The agreement came in response to a class action suit brought by the ACLU on June 19, 1997 challenging a policy devised by the state's Department of Youth and Family Services to prohibit joint adoptions by unmarried partners. The suit charged that the policy violates equal protection guarantees and is inconsistent with state adoption law, which requires that a child's best interest take precedence.

The class action was brought on behalf of a Gay male couple from Maywood who wanted to adopt their 2-year-old foster son and Lambda Families, a Lesbian and Gay family organization. The couple, Jon Holden and Michael Galluccio, recently won the right to adopt Adam in a parallel court petition before Judge Moses.

In that ruling, which was narrowly tailored to the facts of the individual petition, Judge Moses said that Adam's interests were best served by the joint adoption. Holden and Galluccio had cared for Adam since he was three months old, when he was drug-addicted and HIV-exposed, and had nursed him to recovery.

The ACLU entered settlement negotiations with state attorneys shortly after that ruling and began to craft an agreement that would accomplish the same goals sought by the class-action.

"We have achieved in this consent judgement what we had hoped to secure through a lengthy class-action lawsuit," said Michael Adams, staff attorney with the ACLU's Lesbian and Gay Rights Project, in an interview. "I believe the state recognized that further delay was harmful to both taxpayers and adoptive children."

"This is a victory about goodness and equality," said Holden at an ACLU news conference after the settlement was announced.

"We're good people, just like everybody else," said Holden in an interview, who along with Galluccio won the right to adopt their foster-son Adam in October, setting the stage for the decision.

Kate Kendell, the executive director of the National Center for Lesbian Rights in San Francisco, estimated that there are about 8 to 13 million children in the United States being raised by Gay

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY

Pima County Domestic Partners Update: County Attorney Files Motion For Judgement; Lambda Will Intervene

by Mark R. Kerr

TUCSON (ON) - The Pima County Attorney's office has filed the "motion for summary judgement" in the Pima County Domestic Partners Case.

According to Pam Liberty, lead attorney for five county employees affected by the freezing of the benefits, the motion was filed this week by County Attorney Chris Roads, who informed Liberty of the maneuver.

A "motion for summary judgement" requests the pending litigation to have a formal hearing before a judge with both sides presenting their cases.

Liberty said the County Attorney will argue that the Board of Supervisors can not define a benefits plan that is in conflict with state law. She added that her argument will be based on the concept of the expanding definition of families and dependents.

Pam Liberty and the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund can now "intervene" in the case since the County Attorney's also filed the written stipulation agreeing to the intervention by Liberty and Lambda. She said Jon Davidson of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund will join the case when it goes before the judge.

The two had filed a "motion for intervention," and the County Attorney and Board of Supervisors had verbally agreed to the motion. What was required for them to officially join the case was a signed written stipulation by the County Attorney's office, the plaintiff's in the case.

That written stipulation was filed at the same time as the "motion for summary judgment."

Chris Roads and the Pima County Attorney's have repeatedly declined comment regarding the case.

The dispute over the extension of health benefits to the domestic partners of Pima County government employees is now going into its ninth month.

On March 25, the Pima County Board of Supervisors had voted 3-2 to extend the medical and dental benefits to the domestic partners and dependents of county employees.

Domestic partners was defined by

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY

UPDATE

SAAF Seeks Outreach Worker

TUCSON -- The Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) is looking for an Outreach Worker:

The position is (3/4 time) for AIDS Prevention Collaboration. Provide HIV prevention services and recruit participants from the Gay community for HIV prevention programs.

Requires organized, out-going person with ability to interact with Gay men of all ages, with emphasis on Gay youth. Salary \$12,750-\$15,750/year, excellent benefits.

To apply, pick up job description and application instructions, M-F, 8:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M., at 151 South Tucson Boulevard, #211. Or call 322-6226 to have them faxed to you. Closes January 5, 1998, 5:00 P.M. AA/EOE

Phelps Plans Duluth Visit

DULUTH, MN (WS) -- City planner Darrell Lewis turned down a job offer in Topeka, Kan., because of the bigotry fostered there by the Rev. Fred Phelps.

Now Phelps, who has attracted national attention for his traveling crusade against Gay men and Lesbians, has announced he's busing that crusade to Duluth on December 26.

Phelps said he will bring about 25 of his flock to Duluth "for an old-fashioned street preaching," likely on the steps of City Hall, where the openly Gay Lewis works.

"From the fact that a militant, openly Gay crusader is employed as Duluth's city planner appears that Duluth, Minn., is another antichristic municipality going the self-destructive way of Sodom and Gomorrah," Phelps wrote in announcing his trip to Duluth.

Eyeglass Assistance For HIV+

TUCSON -- Through HOPWA funding, the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) is able to provide assistance with eye exams and eyeglasses for registered clients.

This money will only be available through May 1998.

SAAF encourages any HIV+ person who needs this assistance to come in to apply for it. Call 322-6226 for an appointment or for more information.

The Definitive Guide To Gay/Lesbian Mexico

PHOENIX -- For the first time ever, there is now an up-to-the-minute, accurate guide to Gay and Lesbian Mexico!

From the wonders of Mayan architecture to the hottest strip shows in the Gay clubs, the cruisy baths and the secluded nude beaches, "The Definitive Guide to Gay and Lesbian Mexico" puts you in the know about Gay Mexico.

The author who traveled exhaustively throughout Mexico in preparing this book, honestly reviews hotels, bars and baths in city after city, from the point of view of an American who lives in and understands Mexico.

While this book, like Mexican Gay life, is dominated by male-oriented information, the author has made a point of noting the places that are patronized by women and those where women will feel welcome.

For more information, call (602) 863-2408.



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Desert Voices Audition; Coming Concert Schedule

TUCSON -- Desert Voices cordially invites men and women to audition for the Spring 1998 season, "Many Hearts, One Voice."

This season will include two major productions and several community performances. Workshops will be offered to members who would like to have the opportunity to increase their musical ability.

Auditions will be held on January 12 and 19, 6:00 P.M. to 7:00 P.M., at the Armory Park Senior Center, 220 South Fifteenth Avenue. Please call, 791-9662, to schedule an audition time or for more information. . . .

Desert Voices season, "Many Hearts, One Voice" will include a February return to the San Xavier Mission to record several of the original commissioned selections premiered in the last two years such as "And If?" and Miracle. These choral works will be included in Desert Voices first CD recording that will be completed in 1999, celebrating Desert Voices 10 year anniversary. . . .

Dance! March 28-29 at the Temple of Music and Art. Desert Voices takes a playful look at contemporary popular dance, from Broadway to Motown to disco to hip-hop. Many selections will include dance choreography by Dan Yurgaitis.

SouthWest Fest! June 19-20 at the Temple of Music and Art. The New Mexico Gay Men's Chorus, San Diego Women's Chorus, South Coast Chorale, Long Beach and other Arizona Choruses will join Desert Voices in two day choral festival. Several world premieres are expected including Pima Canyon by Vancouver composer Stephen Smith, an "Angels with AIDS" memorial work, and "Karen," a tribute to the music of the Carpenters on the fifteenth anniversary of her death.

Ticket outlets for the scheduled performances can be purchased at: Antigone Books, 411 North Fourth Avenue; Tucson Trunk, 5605 East River Road, #131; The Allergy Vacuum Store, 3455 East Speedway Boulevard.

For reservation call, 791-9662. Visa or MasterCard preferred.

Quien Es Mas Macho? Hanson Or Rupaul?

NEW YORK, NY (WS) -- Mmm-Bop this!

In what can only have been taken as a slap in her pretty, albeit stubbly, little face, drag sensation RuPaul was told that bubble-gum music phenoms Hanson would not appear on her VH1 talk show because the kids' parents wouldn't allow it.

Although no reason was given, Gay activists are already claiming this as a clear-cut case of homophobia.

Bitter Melon As HIV Cure?

BANGKOK, Thailand (NP) -- Researchers believe bitter melons contain proteins that can inhibit the replication of HIV, but they say it will take more than ten years to develop a usable drug from those proteins.

The plant, which is known to stimulate appetite, has been used by HIV-positive people in Thailand for several years.

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Life Is A Drag

By Elise Barbara Fox

Twas the night before Christmas
And all through the town
Nightclubs are dark, all shut down

But what to my wondering eyes should
appear?
IBT's is open
Be of good cheer

My stocking is hung
Turkey trimmings are fixed
Will David Z. provide a hot mix?

A sleigh is arriving
Hoofs on the rooftop create a great noise
Will Dave or Frank bring us new toys?

The intrepid Bob Ellis is there
He's not Santa since his suit isn't red
But he's happy because the paper's to bed

Hark! I spot Larry Moore out on the
town
A little bit of sugar
Makes the medicine go down

Is that Anne Maley wearing an elf cap?
She's back from the North Pole
Bringing us SAAF's latest rap

Mark Kerr is sorry he can't be here
His pen stalks political crazies
Who make us cry in our beer

I see Felice Renard in a glittering gown
She looks here and there
Won't Santa bring me a new crown?

There's Eric the ultimate volunteer
Where do you find the time
To be such a charming cavalier?

Maya Erection is on a clothing trip
Here scissors are out
But there are no more jeans to snip

Uh oh! I see a Grinch who is a mess
You know after Christmas
Comes - the IRS

Sabrina has out her dragon nail kit
She's lost another
Super Glue, Santa, or I'll throw a fit

Where is Stan in the motorcycle jacket?
He's polishing the bike
When it starts it'll make no racket

Victoria du Puis sits and looks pensive
When she gets on stage
She'll not be the least apprehensive

ABBA plays under laser light
Is "Dancing Queen" just cotton candy?
But when they sing it sounds just dandy

I'm glad we're now and not then
Because there's no room at the inn
History tells kids where we've been

Separating church and state is a must
Read the back of a \$1 bill
"In God We Trust"

You know why it's a special night
Magi crossed the desert
And saw a brilliant light

Christmas celebrates the human condition
We hope, we dream
Is that such a terrible admission?

Truly Fabu is making the scene
Your slim waist makes us jealous
We don't say it to sound mean

Ms. JODY is going
She'll head north on I-10
We'll be sad if she doesn't return again

Remember the red nosed reindeer?
It must be an electronic jammer
His speed! FAA would put him in the
slammer

AGRA enjoyed a holiday hayride
They can't be here - oh no
Must be dreaming of the next rodeo

Fourth Avenue Street Fair is over
Trolley is back
Careful, don't catch your heels in the track

There's a cute girl
She's spectacular and witty
Must be Mr. Kenneth Blake in Barbie
pretty

Lights are dimming
Santa really must be here
You know why -- to important good cheer

Mama Reyna waits with a grin
Santa, did you bring a pageant?
If so I will win

But how does he deliver
In chimney year after year
Without one bit of climbing gear?

I love to play with verse and rhyme
But a friend said
Your muse is junk nine-tenths of the time

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New Zealand Top Court Rejects Same-Sex Marriage

AUCKLAND, N.Z. (WS) — Three Lesbian couples in the forefront of the equal marriage rights struggle in New Zealand have lost their final court appeal, but vow to carry on through the United Nations Commission on Human Rights.

The quest for equal marriage rights in New Zealand has gone as far as it can go in the courts and come up empty: a full five-justice bench of the nation's highest court, the Court of Appeal, unanimously agreed in a ruling that the Marriage Act of 1955 provides only for heterosexual couples — despite its gender-neutral language and failure to actually define marriage, and despite all that has changed in the 42 years since its passage, including civil rights legislation which arguably calls for an inclusive interpretation.

For the plaintiffs, three lesbian couples, the battleground must shift to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, New Zealand's own Human Rights Commission (now in the midst of being de-fanged by the government) and the national Parliament.

As in the previous High Court (which is actually a lower court than the Court of Appeal) decision, which also went against the women, the justices believed it was up to the Parliament rather than the judiciary to break the venerable traditions of common law, and New Zealand's only openly Gay Member of Parliament, Tim Barnett, believes some of their statements are an open invitation to a private member's bill.

However, prospects for such a bill cannot be said to be hopeful at this time, when Justice Minister Doug Graham

has recently moved against the interests of Gay and Lesbian couples in matters of inheritance and of property division when couples break up.

The most encouraging element of the ruling is the statement by Justice Thomas that, "Gays and Lesbians are denied a basic civil right in that freedom to marry is rightly regarded as a basic civil right. In a real sense, Gays and Lesbians are effectively excluded from full membership of society."

Justice Tipping said the Court lacked the authority to override the Marriage Act even if it is discriminatory, writing that, "It is the Human Rights Commission which has the duty to find discrimination and advise the Government."

Justice Gault joined with Justice Keith in stating that the establishment and maintenance of the institution of marriage in itself is not discriminatory, but Gault did not stop there.

Gault wrote that, "it seems to me the real complaint of the appellants here is not that they are ineligible for licenses to marry [which they were, forming the basis of their lawsuit] but that they are denied rights and privileges which are available to married persons. Where that is the case there may well be discrimination on the basis of marital status but that is not what we are presently concerned with."

The plaintiff couples are civil servant Juliet Ann "Jools" Joslin and Jennifer Rowan of Wellington; graphic designer Lindsay Quilter and physiotherapist Margaret Pearl of Auckland; and student Sarah Anderson and technician

Samantha Court of Christchurch. Joslin says they're "in it for the long haul" and will continue to pursue all available options. Their legal challenge has cost thousands of dollars thus far. . . .

New Zealanders Vow Long Fight for Gay Marriage

The ruling upholding the legal ban on same-sex marriages in New Zealand has Gay and Lesbian advocates in the country vowing to take their fight to the national legislature.

The New Zealand Parliament's only openly Gay member, Labour MP Tim Barnett said the legal options now open to Lesbians and Gay men in New Zealand who experience discrimination are far too limited.

"The Bill of Rights cannot override discriminatory laws, the Human Rights Commission cannot challenge those laws, and the Government recently halted a major project designed to remove discrimination from legislation and regulations," he said.

Barnett said married heterosexual couples were given specific rights and protections in 37 Acts of Parliament. De facto couples were recognized in 25 of those Acts, though only five Acts gave full protection to same-sex couples (these included the Bill of Rights, the Domestic Violence Act and the Human Rights Act). Barnett vowed that would change.

Jo Crowley, a spokeswoman for Rights Right Now, a national lobbying group that represents a number of Gay and Lesbian organizations, told reporters the battle for civil marriage would continue,

despite recent legal setbacks.

If legislative efforts fail, Crowley said she would lodge formal protest with the Human Rights Commission. "In the end we will attain equality," she said. "It is just a question of when."

Hans Christian Anderson Poem Found

COPENHAGEN, Denmark (NP) — A third-grader's class project leads to a long-lost poetic condolences from the Danish "fairy tale king" — or should that be "fairy tale queen?"

A previously unknown poem by Danish Gay Hans Christian Andersen, best known for his "fairy" tales ("The Little Mermaid," "The Little Matchgirl" and the quintessentially Gay "The Ugly Duckling," among others), has just come to light.

When a Copenhagen area teacher assigned a project on Andersen to his third grade class, one girl's father suddenly recalled a long-forgotten hand-written original poem Andersen had composed for her great-grandmother.

Written in 1836, "To Frederick's Mother" offers condolences on the death of a 13-year-old boy.

Although longer than most of his poems and atypical in referring to Jesus by name, the Hans Christian Andersen Institute of Odense University believes it to be genuine and calls it "an exciting and untraditional find." The poem will get its first publication in the grade school's newspaper.

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Man Wins Lesbian Bar Apology

NEW SOUTH WALES, Australia (NP) — Reverse discrimination or cognitive dissonance: was he drunk or just drinking, walking briskly or barging, assertive or aggressive? The man is straight, the bar was Lesbian, and the tribunal ruled he was the victim.

partly provoked by the refusal of the nightclub to admit him on grounds which he thought were unlawful."

It ruled that he had been illegally discriminated against because of his gender.

New South Wales' Equal Opportunity Tribunal has ordered the owners of a Lesbian bar to apologize to a non-Gay man they turned away, in the tribunal's first case of "reverse discrimination."

Similar to previous statements he has made, Halliwell said after the decision, "I support very firmly the rights of Gays in the community and what this is about is equality. That homosexuals shouldn't be discriminated against but clearly they should not discriminate against non-homosexuals."

Although the Tribunal chose in large part to believe non-Gay banker Brett Halliwell's version of events, they did not award him any damages from Jane Stephens and Christine Bradley, owners of the now-defunct Sirens nightclub.

Halliwell also said he is not a crusader, but did hope to set a precedent.

At about 2 AM on January 14, 1996, Halliwell entered Sirens, in full knowledge of the nature of its clientele, bypassed the door staff without paying admission, and ascended several flights of steps to the dance floor, where he saw about 200 women -- and no men.

Former Sirens owner Bradley said the club "wasn't about excluding straight people from its premises, it was about providing a service to a minority group that has not got many services available to them." She was concerned that Halliwell's limited victory would serve to encourage others who "wanted to make an issue out of something when we're just trying to have a place, or a service, provided to us where we can freely be ourselves."

He had been drinking since 8 PM; in his version, he was not intoxicated, but in the bar owners' version, he was drunk. In his version, he moved "briskly"; in the bar owners' version, he "barged" past the door staff and "ran" up the stairs. In the confrontation which ensued, he says he was "assertive," while the bar owners say he was "aggressive." In his version, he was told specifically by the bouncer and both club owners that as a man he could not enter the Lesbian club; the owners deny that, saying he was bounced for "inappropriate behavior" in failing to pay admission.

Halliwell did not leave when requested to, and was ultimately removed by the police for disturbing the peace.

Although it wasn't part of the complaint, Halliwell also made another attempt to enter Sirens in February, when he was ejected because his discrimination lawsuit from the January visit was pending.

The bar shut down in March.

The Tribunal's belief in Halliwell's description of events is evidenced in its ruling that, "Mr. Halliwell had been drinking that evening but not to excess and that his demeanor was assertive, rather than aggressive, but that this response was

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Jingle bells, Batman smells, the case is on its way! Finally! The Pima County Domestic Partners dispute, now in its ninth month will finally go to "judgment," so to speak.

Pam Liberty, an attorney representing five county employees stated the Pima County Attorney's office has finally filed the motion of summary judgement. She said she received the written motions on Tuesday, December 23. Talk about coal in the stocking!

She added that the County Attorney also filed the written stipulation to allow her and the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund to intervene in the case, joining the cast of the County Attorney and the Pima County Board of Supervisors. Scorecard?

Liberty said that she had spoken with County Attorney Chris Roads and that an extension of the deadline for her to file her counter-motion of summary judgement will be granted. How nice!

Tuesday, January 6 would have been the deadline. Now Liberty, Lambda and the Board's attorney, Grace Melvain, have thirty days to file their motions, with the County Attorney having the change to file their motions after which. Legal-Lambda anyone!

The intervention hearing, scheduled for Monday January 12, 1998 has been vacated. Time stumbles on for the employees who want to extend health benefits to their domestic partners and their dependents. . . .

"In and Out," the motion-picture hit, starring Kevin Kline, could also be the story of two Arizona politicians...one of which is not Congressman Jim Kolbe!

The first politician is State Senator Dr. Tom Patterson, R-Phoenix. Patterson, the "Dr. Jekyll" of the Arizona Legislature announced that he would not

POLITICS 1997 by Mark R. Kerr

"Where's My 'Bite Me Barney' Doll?"

challenge incumbent "Eunice" Hull for the "nod of the elephants" for the state's top post.

"I concluded this was not the right time for me to run for statewide office," Patterson said in a statement. The right time is never, but we digress!

Most press accounts said he "pulled out of the gubernatorial race with as little fanfare as when he got in." Really, then how come he didn't resign his post in the State Senate per Arizona's "resign to run law."

The "resign to run" law is designed to keep our elected officials from using their current office to ease the way into a new one. Laws? Tommy don't need no stinking laws!

In a letter to a Tucsonan obtained by this reporter, Patterson wrote, "There is no contract between a Senator and their constituency as to how a person must vote or act..." Well!

Patterson started his "putsch," err campaign, back on September 29 with his starring role in an infomercial for the Arizona Legislative Republicans. Look out Dionne Warwick!

This infomercial was to push the Arizona Republican's cure for the ailing welfare system. Yes, send poor people to the moon! That will work!

With this breaking story, the next day Patterson denied that he was running for governor, but was going to run for governor, emphasis on was going to.

He's in, he's out. In, out, in, out, in, out...just like Richard Simmons!

Patterson's non-campaign, which wasn't limped along till this past week, when he announced that he was pulling out of the Republican gubernatorial contest, leaving 46 or so wannabees to challenge Gov. "Eunice" Hull. Was he a candidate then? Huh?

Patterson also announced that he wasn't going to run for another term in the State Senate. Wasn't "the right time" to run as well?

Politician number two is State Senator John Kaites, R-Evan Mechamville. This past year, Senator John McCain's "Chosen One" has held a couple hundred fund raisers, yes coffees too, raising close to a quarter million for 1998. Can we say election time!

Kaites is a, will be a, candidate for the Republican candidate for Attorney General, to succeed Grant Woods. Kaites is also flouting the "resign to run law!"

Interesting. A candidate running for office, which the post upholds current statutes may be violating state laws. May be? Hey, this is Arizona! Laws just don't matter, as long as you have the cash!

Tom McGovern, a deputy attorney general under Woods, and a mentioned candidate for the post, says Kaites is, by holding the fund raisers and either should resign his post or return the moolah!

A pissing contest has ensued between the two "candidates" and their

supporters. Charges, innuendo and calls for investigations reign supreme! Was something done? Of course not!

Plus Kaites, who is not a candidate, repeat, not a candidate has been taking pot-shots at Janet Napolitano, the only announced candidate for the Dinosaur, err Democratic party.

The "Golden Boy" has criticized Napolitano for being a single, aggressive, "female" lawyer. The mud has been thrown. Let the bigotry begin!

Kaites is not a candidate. Sure! Come New Year's Eve at John and Cindy McCain's party, Kaites will be singing "Aude Lang Sine," at midnight, but with a twist:

"Tis old acquaintances be forgot, I'm now a candidate for Attorney General!"

Paraphrasing Patterson, "Electorate? We don't need no stinking electorate!" . . .

With the New Jersey court decision putting Gay and Lesbian couples on the same footing as "married" couples when it comes to adoption; how quickly will the Arizona Legislature will act to forbid Gay and Lesbian adoptions? According to capitol sources, very quickly! . . .

In less than three weeks, the Inquisition, err Arizona Legislature goes back into session. Happy holidays! . . .

So it goes for now kids!



From The Staff of Venture-N..

Perhaps this can be a good reminder for all of us to speak the words of Christmas. This Christmas, for instance, may each of us seek to mend a quarrel. Dismiss suspicion and replace it with trust. Seek out a forgotten friend. Write a love letter. Share some treasure. Give a soft answer. Find the time. Forgo a grudge. Forgive an enemy. Apologize if you are wrong. Try to understand. Reject envy. Examine your demands on others. Think first of someone else. Appreciate. Be kind. Be gentle. Laugh a little. Laugh a little more. Deserve confidence. Decry complacency. Express your gratitude. Go to your place of worship. Welcome a stranger. Gladden the heart of a child. Take pleasure in the beauty and wonder of the earth. Speak your love. Speak it again. Speak it still once again. May God Bless you with a full and Merry Christmas.

To All Our Friends. Thanks for making 1997 a spectacular year. Come by & see what we have planned for 1998!

**DJ RAYman's Top 12 Dance List at the Stonewall/Eagle
December 1997 Week 4**

- TUB THUMPING - Chumbawamba - Domestic
- BARBIE GIRL (Porky Park Club Mix) - Aqua - German Import
(Spike's anatomically correct dub)
- INNERSELF - (Technoix) - Gullama - Euro Import
- SEND ME AN ANGEL - Netzwerk - Euro Import
- FANTASY - (Florida House) - Race - SoSo - Domestic
- ENCORE UNE FOIS - (Future Breeze Mix) - Sash - Europe Import
- (That Body Made For) SIN - (House Techno) - Squeen - MCA
- SHOW ME LOVE - Robyn - 12" Show - Domestic
- DA DEE DA - Jennifer - Euro Import
- INNERSELF - (Technoix) Gullama - Euro Import
- HEY EVERYBODY - DJ Compny - Domesticated
- FERNANDO - Abbadabra - Remix Import
- HAPPY BOYS AND GIRLS - (Extended Mix) - Aqua - German Mix

**Young People Largely
Unconcerned About AIDS**

NEW YORK, NY (RHIS) - Eighty-seven percent of young people do not believe they are vulnerable to getting the AIDS virus, according to a new study conducted by Viacom's MTV and Yale University.

The study, conducted in partnership with Yale's Center for Interdisciplinary Research on AIDS, found an even higher percentage of white youths - 98 percent - considered themselves invulnerable to becoming infected with HIV, the virus that causes AIDS.

Higher percentages of minorities - 16 percent of Hispanics and 11 percent of blacks - saw themselves as being vulnerable to the virus. AIDS has disproportionately affected minorities and homosexual men, but young people have been among the fastest-growing population segments.

The survey was conducted among a national sample of 770 people aged 12 to 34 during June and had a margin of error of error of plus or minus 4 percentage points.

Asked how vulnerable they thought they were to getting the AIDS virus on a scale of 1 to 5, with 1 one being not vulnerable at all and 5 being extremely vulnerable, 87 percent answered either 1 or 2.

The survey also found that while 20 percent of subjects had a friend or acquaintance who had died of AIDS, when asked based on what they knew or had heard whether there were any particular ways they and people they knew were at risk for getting the virus, over half could not think of a way.

"It tells us that despite the information that's out there, young people have not internalized the dangers of AIDS, drugs and alcohol, and other health-related risks," Dr. Michael Merson, Yale's School of Medicine's dean of Public Health said of the findings.

The study found that information provided in the mass media was not meeting young people's needs. About two-thirds said there was also not enough advertising about pregnancy prevention and the dangers of unprotected sex, while just over half said the same thing about AIDS.

Health issues in general were not among top concerns of the survey's subjects, with only 3 percent citing AIDS and sexually transmitted diseases as their most important personal concern. Nearly half cited career, employment, personal development and educational achievement as their top concern.

the major contributor donating \$50,000 toward the AIDS memorial.

During the early planning stages, Landmark Enterprises, Inc., was contacted to develop sponsorships and acquire designs for the memorial.

"We are honored to have been a part of this memorial from the beginning," stated Jim Moore of Landmark. "This memorial's message goes beyond Key West and stands as a testament for all the lives that have been lost to AIDS throughout the world."

For more information on the Key West AIDS Memorial, call (305) 296-6196.

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**Key West AIDS Memorial
Dedicated**

KEY WEST, FL - The Key West AIDS Memorial was dedicated commemorating 760 persons who have died from AIDS.

Many local residents were in attendance for the dedication ceremony, as well as representatives from Miller Brewing Company and Landmark Enterprises.

"Miller is proud to be a sponsor in this homage to those who have lost their lives to this devastating disease. We hope that the Key West AIDS Memorial will not only serve as a tribute but as a reminder that there is no cure for AIDS," remarked Tom Reed, director of government affairs, Miller Brewing Company. Miller was the first corporate sponsor and

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Gay & Lesbian Golden Globe Nominations

HOLLYWOOD, CA (NP) — Get your scorecard here and root-root-root for Ellen, Rupert and all the LesBiGay-themed nominees in one of the major pre-Oscar contests!

The Hollywood Foreign Press Association announced the nominees for the 55th annual Golden Globe Awards, with something Gay or Lesbian in 2/3 of the categories by GLAAD's (Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation) count, plus a few more of interest.

GLAAD professed to be "thrilled" by this "Hollywood milestone," noting that last year they'd counted only 12 categories with Gay or Lesbian actors, characters or themes, compared to 16 this year.

Because the Hollywood Foreign Press Association has only 90 members, many of them not actually full-time journalists, there are circles in which the Golden Globes don't get much respect, but major producers court them and fans tune in for the awards presentations (this year's will be January 18).

Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role in a Motion Picture: openly Gay actor Rupert Everett for his gay role in "My Best Friend's Wedding," Anthony Hopkins for "Amistad," Greg Kinnear for "As Good As It Gets" (not Gay, but playing one in this movie), Burt Reynolds for "Boogie Nights," Jon Voight for "The Rainmaker," Robin Williams for "Good Will Hunting."

Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series, Musical or Comedy: openly Lesbian actress Ellen DeGeneres for her lesbian lead in "Ellen," Kirstie Alley for "Veronica's Closet" (with its everyone-thinks-he's-Gay-except-himself regular character), Helen Hunt for "Mad About You" (with a recurring Lesbian couple), Brooke Shields for "Suddenly Susan" (with an occasional Gay character), Jenna Elfman for "Dharma and Greg," Calista Flockhart for "Ally McBeal."

Best performance by an actress in a Motion Picture, Musical or Comedy: Joey Lauren Adams for her lead role as a Bisexual in "Chasing Amy," Julia Roberts for "My Best Friend's Wedding," Helen Hunt for "As Good As It Gets," Pam Grier for "Jackie Brown," Jennifer Lopez for "Selena."

Best Performance by an Actor in a Motion Picture, Musical or Comedy: Kevin Kline for his Gay lead role in "In & Out," Jack Nicholson for "As Good As It Gets," Jim Carrey for "Liar, Liar," Dustin Hoffman for "Wag the Dog," Samuel L. Jackson for "Jackie Brown."

Best Motion Picture, Musical or Comedy: "My Best Friend's Wedding" (with openly Gay actor Rupert Everett playing an openly Gay man), "As Good As It Gets" (with a Gay character played by Greg Kinnear), "The Full Monty" (which had its Gay moment), "Wag the Dog," and "Men in Black."

Best Director, Motion Picture: Mark Andrus and James L. Brooks for "As Good As It Gets" (with its Gay character played by Greg Kinnear), James Cameron for "Titanic," Curtis Hanson for "L.A. Confidential," Jim Sheridan for "The Boxer," Steven Spielberg for "Amistad."

Best Screenplay, Motion Picture: Mark Andrus and James L. Brooks for "As Good As It Gets" (with its Gay character played by Greg Kinnear), James

Cameron for "Titanic," Matt Damon and Ben Affleck for "Good Will Hunting," Brian Helgeland and Curtis Hanson for "L.A. Confidential," Hilary Henkin and David Mamet for "Wag the Dog."

Best Television Series, Drama: "Chicago Hope" (with its newly-out continuing character played by Vondie Curtis-Hall), "ER" (with continuing Lesbian character played by Jorja Fox), "NYPD Blue" (with recurring Lesbian character played by Paige Turco); "Law & Order" (which has done its share of Gay plot-lines), "The X-Files."

Best Television Series, Musical or Comedy: "Frasier" (with a regular non-Gay role for openly Gay actor Dan Butler and a recurring Gay role for non-Gay actor Edward Hibbert), "Friends" (two recurring Lesbian roles), "Spin City" (with Michael Boatman's regular Gay character), "3rd Rock from the Sun," "Ally McBeal," "Seinfeld."

Best Foreign Language Film: "My Life in Pink" (France/Belgium/UK, in which a small boy who's certain he's a girl seeks acceptance), "Artemisia" (France), "The Best Man" (Italy), "Lea" (Germany), "The Thief" (Russia).

Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role in a Motion Picture: Joan Cusack for her role in the Gay-themed "In & Out," Sigourney Weaver for "The Ice Storm," Kim Basinger for "L.A. Confidential," Julianne Moore for "Boogie Nights," Gloria Stuart for "Titanic."

Best Performance by an Actress in a Television Series, Drama: Kim Delaney for "NYPD Blue" (which has a recurring Lesbian character), Christine Lahti for "Chicago Hope" (which has a continuing Gay character), Julianna Margulies for "ER" (which has a continuing Lesbian character), Roma Downey for "Touched By An Angel," Gillian Anderson for "The X-Files."

Best Performance by an Actor in a Television Series, Drama: George Clooney and Anthony Edwards for "ER" (which has a continuing Lesbian character), Kevin Anderson for "Nothing Sacred" (which has had Gay storylines), David Duchovny for "The X-Files," Lance Henriksen for "Millennium."

Best Performance by an Actor in a Television Series, Musical or Comedy: Michael J. Fox for "Spin City" (with its regular Gay character), Kelsey Grammer for "Frasier" (with its recurring Gay character and openly Gay actor in a regular role), Paul Reiser for "Mad About You" (with its recurring Lesbian couple), John Lithgow for "3rd Rock From the Sun" Jerry Seinfeld for "Seinfeld."

Best Performance by an Actress in a Supporting Role in a Series, Mini-Series or Motion Picture Made for Television: Joely Fisher for the one-and-only "Ellen," Gloria Reuben for "ER" (which has a continuing Lesbian character), Angelina Jolie and Mare Winningham for "George Wallace," Della Reese for "Touched By An Angel."

Best Performance by an Actor in a Supporting Role in a Series, Mini-Series or Motion Picture Made for Television: David Hyde Pierce for his tres fey non-Gay character on "Frasier" (with its openly Gay actor in a regular role and recurring Gay character), Eric LaSalle and Noah Wylie for "ER" (with its recurring Lesbian character), Jason Alexander for "Seinfeld," Michael Caine for "Mandela and DeKlerk," George C. Scott for "12

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Also of interest:

Best Performance by an Actress in a Motion Picture - Drama: Jodie Foster

for "Contact," Judi Dench for "Mrs. Brown," Jessica Lange for "A Thousand Acres," Kate Winslet for "Titanic," and Helena Bonham Carter for "The Wings of the Dove."

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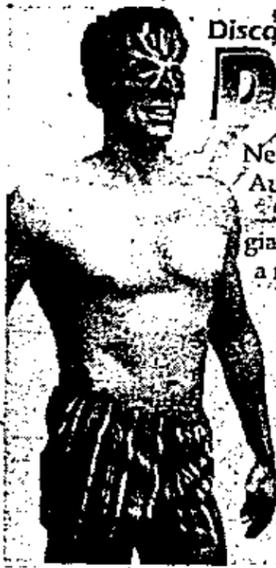
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Gay/Lesbian Ordinance Approved

YPSILANTI, MI (NP) — The opposition's vitriol convinced the city council that Gays and Lesbians indeed needed protection from some people, but Ypsilanti, Michigan's anti-discrimination ordinance will no doubt be dragged before the voters.

The Ypsilanti, Michigan City Council voted unanimously on a second and final reading to adopt an anti-discrimination ordinance including sexual orientation among 14 protected categories — but ballot initiatives are already in the works not only to repeal the measure but to prevent it, a la Cincinnati's Issue 3 (recently upheld on rehearing by a federal appeals panel) and Colorado's Amendment 2 (struck down by the U.S. Supreme Court).

The ordinance provides for fining violators as much as \$500 and includes exemptions for religious organizations, exercise of free speech, and for state and federal laws which have precedence over the local statute.

The sexual orientation element of the human rights ordinance has been the subject of intense controversy since it was published November 7, having been drafted by a committee formed in July. It had the active support of the Ypsilanti Campaign for Equality and the Washtenaw Rainbow Action Project (WRAP), and local leaders of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) also supported the ordinance.

The opposition — now known as Campaign Opposing Special Treatment (COST) — has had a distinctly Christian flavor, from the vocal opposition of Levon Yuille, pastor of Ypsilanti's Bible Church, to the group participation of 44 clerics comprising the predominantly African-American Minister's Alliance of Ann Arbor, Ypsilanti and Vicinity.

The Councilmembers found themselves increasingly convinced of the neces-

sity of civil rights protections for Gays and Lesbians by the very tenor of the public debate itself, according to Councilmember Pam Cuthbert (D-Ward 3), one of the authors of the bill.

Everyone agrees that the trigger for the civil rights debate was when Standard Printing owners Carole and Loren Hansen refused on the grounds of their Christian beliefs to print raffle tickets for the Eastern Michigan University group Tri-Pride ten months ago.

So emblematic of the campaign did the raffle tickets become that the Ypsilanti Campaign for Equality made a fundraiser out of auctioning off some of those that were eventually used, after getting them signed by the likes of openly Gay Congressman Barney Frank (D-MA) and openly Gay Olympic champion diver Greg Louganis.

Yet ironically, the ordinance passed by the City Council would not impact the original Standard Printing situation at all, since it would fall under an exemption for free speech issues.

Even before the Council vote, COST had already received authorization to collect signatures for its Issue 3-style measure — a referendum to amend the city charter to prohibit any legislation recognizing Gays and Lesbians as a minority group. The group had been waiting until the vote on the new law had been taken so that they could circulate the first petition at the same time as their new petition for a repeal initiative.

There's little question that both measures will qualify to go before the voters: the charter amendment requires 706 signatures and the repeal initiative requires 562, gathered before November 1998, and COST already has a contact list of about 400 supporters.

Court Says Lawmakers Can't Join Case

HONOLULU, HI (NP) — Hawaii's highest court won't allow 8 politicians represented by a right-wing legal hit man to pile on against "Baehr v. Miike."

Eight current and former state legislators have been denied the chance to intervene in the Hawaii same-gender marriage case, "Baehr v. Miike." The Hawaii state Supreme Court upheld without comment Circuit Court Judge Kevin Chang's decision that the legal defense of heterosexual-only marriage belongs solely to the Hawaii state Attorney General's office.

The ruling is one more step in clearing the path for the state Supreme Court's final review of "Baehr," which has been pending since Chang ruled a year ago that the state had failed to prove a compelling state interest in reserving legal marriage exclusively for heterosexual couples.

The decision to leave the defense of marriage discrimination in the hands of the state mirrors the high court's January 1996 decision to deny the Church Of Jesus Christ Of Latter-Day Saints (Mormons) the chance to appear as co-defendants with the state in "Baehr."

The legislators suing for a place in the case were state Representatives Felipe Abinsay, Jr., Romy Cachola, Michael Kahikina, Ezra Kanoho, Colleen Meyer, David Stegmaier, William Swain, and Gene Ward. They were represented by attorney Jay Sekulow of the right-wing American Center for Law and Justice, founded by religious right leader Pat

Robertson, which has milked the Hawaii case for fund-raising purposes.

Ward (R-Mariner's Ridge-Aina Haina, and a state leader of Robertson's 1996 Presidential campaign) took the occasion of the ruling to publicly urge the high court to hold off on deciding the final appeal of "Baehr" until after November 1998, when voters will consider a ballot initiative to authorize the legislature to amend the state constitution to explicitly reserve marriage for heterosexual couples only.

That initiative was placed on the ballot by the state legislature as part of a "compromise" that also made Hawaii the first state to register and recognize non-marital relationships (between any two unmarried adults, regardless of gender or kinship) known as "reciprocal beneficiaries," which went into effect June 1. Reciprocal beneficiaries qualify for about one-seventh of some 350 rights and privileges the state extends to legally married couples, but the most valuable of those benefits — spousal health insurance coverage for unmarried partners — was later denied to the large majority of couples when the state Attorney General found that lawmakers had failed to amend specific code sections covering health maintenance organizations and group health associations.

Dan Foley, the non-Gay attorney who represents the two Lesbian couples

CONTINUED ON PAGE SIXTEEN

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HOME ON THE RANGE / AGRA TUCSON

by Scott Weidamoyer

Hey, Tucson, I want to wish each and every one of you a Happy and Healthy New Year and a joyous Holiday Season from the entire AGRA Tucson Board of Directors. Just one more week and we will ring out yet another great year (I hope) and welcome in an even better 1998.

Here is a quick rundown of the past week...I still have shopping to do so it will be short and sweet.

The outcome of this year's State elections is as follows: President - Dan Iverson; Vice President - run-off between Tommy Ragan and Chuck Browning; Secretary - Ron Trusley; Treasurer - to be appointed; Trustee - Chuck Browning; Member of the Year - Jodi Hines; Delegates for the 1998 IGRA Convention in Baltimore - Chuck Browning, Dan Iverson, Jodi Hines, Bill Travis, John King, Mark McCrory, Brian Helander, Terry Delaney, Scott Weidamoyer, Eryk Benjamin, Linda Hoffman and Bob Janssen.

Congratulations to all that were elected and good luck in the upcoming year. Runoff elections will be held only for those who voted in the initial election and you must be present at your chapter meeting to vote, no absentee ballots will be accepted.

I would like to thank everyone who attended the Eryk Benjamin/Nichelle charity organization benefit held this past

Saturday night at the Stonewall. As well as all of those who volunteered your time, to the performers: Victoria DuPuis, Regina Reid, Crystal Blake, Billy D., and Vangie; Thank you all! I greatly appreciate all of your work and dedication to this organization.

This is a reminder that the State dinner is going to be held at the T-Bone Restaurant in Phoenix on December 27, 1997. Reservations should already have been made...we look forward to seeing you all there.

AGRA is also selling the '98 Entertainment books at \$35 each and are still readily available. Call the hotline for more information.

The next Board and General Membership meeting is scheduled for January 25, 1998. The Board meeting will begin at 2:00 P.M. and the General Membership commences at 5:00 P.M.

Well, I guess that is all for this week. A lot of information to cover and I got it all out. I hope you all have a great week and enjoy the Holidays.

Until then, remember to keep your pride and always play safe in the saddle.

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

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A View From The Rock

A Comentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

Our community has banded together on many issues, ranging from health benefits for our spouses to Gays in the military, in which equal opportunities have been denied Gay people. While these causes are noble and should be pursued, the most important issue facing not only each person in our community but every human being, their relationship with God, has been the one which has caused the greatest division within the Gay community.

At this time of year we are celebrating the birth of much more than a wise man and teacher. We are celebrating the birth of the son of God who came to this earth to sacrifice himself for the sins of all humanity. A segment of the straight fundamental Christian community has stirred up hostility toward our community, but this doesn't mean that all Bible-believing Christians are hostile towards Gay men and Lesbians. It does not mean that they are correct in their interpretation of Scripture, nor is it the first time in the history of Christianity that the prejudices of people have caused controversy.

The Apostle Paul was given a mission by God to minister the gospel of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles (those who were other than Jews). He received opposition from many Jewish Christians who did not want to accept the Gentiles into the faith. Paul said to them, "For there is no difference between Jew and Gentile-the same Lord is Lord of all and richly blesses all who call on him, for 'Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'" (Romans 10:12, 13)

When our community challenges much of the world on issues other than Christianity, we take great pains to study

and interpret the laws of the land to pinpoint the injustices and misunderstandings. I wonder what percentage of our community has put the same kind of effort into studying the word of God? How many have studied the Hebrew and Greek words from which the Bible was translated, or the culture and customs of biblical times that are important in the understanding of these words? We often claim moral injustice, citing moral and ethical laws that come from God himself through his word, yet somehow blame God for the sins and ignorance of men. God does not break his own laws, but humanity does. Many Gay people have given up what was been freely offered to them by God and replaced it with alternative beliefs and false assumptions about his word. Many have lashed out in bitterness, engaging in a war of stereotypes with straight fundamental Christians.

This month, as all Christians celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace, I urge one and all in our community not to defiantly perpetuate stereotypes that others perceive, but to take a step toward studying and understanding the Word of God, which reveals his great love for each one of us. Keep in your hearts these words of Scripture: "This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus." (Romans 3:22-24)

All of us at Cornerstone Fellowship extend our best wishes to you for a blessed Christmas! Come and join with us at 7:00 P.M. this evening as we celebrate the gift of Christmas, given for each of us who will believe!

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UK Domestic Partners Immigration Problematic

LONDON, U.K. (WS) — Britain's reformed immigration rules for Gay and Lesbian domestic partners prove that you can't judge a policy by its cover.

New immigration policies proposed in Britain for Gay and Lesbian couples have been promoted by the government for their "fairness" and seemed at first to be an advance for same gender pairs, but the details prove to offer barriers which few will be able to surmount.

The direct action group OutRage! has called the policy a "cruel deception," with spokesperson Peter Tatchell clarifying that, "It's hedged with so many restrictions and qualifications that hardly anyone will be able to meet the requirements."

The Stonewall Immigration Group, which has taken the lead on the issue, notes that requirements are much more strict for those who cannot marry than for those who can.

Formerly, unmarried couples were required to have lived together for at least two years; now that's been upped to four years, plus an additional year's "probationary period" after filing. Immigration restrictions themselves have made this a difficult goal to reach, even though time lived together outside the UK will be taken into account.

By comparison, in New Zealand current regulations call for no previous time together for legally married couples, two years for unmarried heterosexual couples, and four years for Gay and Lesbian couples. Earlier this year, Australia passed legislation to specifically allow for immigration purposes otherwise-illegal discrimination based on marital status.

One of the most challenging elements is the requirement that neither

partner be supported by public funds, as so many Britons are. It has not yet been determined whether student grants count against this requirement or not. But if the British citizen in the couple loses a job, even though s/he legally qualifies for public assistance, taking advantage of it would damage the residency application of the immigrant partner. The immigrant partner is allowed to work during the probationary period, but not to claim any benefits.

The financial aspect is even more difficult in that couples may not share housing, but must demonstrate that they have "adequate accommodation" which they alone own or occupy, again without the use of public funds.

The mood in Britain is not very favorable to immigrants at this time, and the mainstream media's promotion of visions of "Gay foreigners flooding the country." In fact only about 20 such immigrants have been granted residency to date. Under John Major's Conservative government, Britain chose in 1996 to suspend all immigration by unmarried couples rather than open it to Gay and Lesbian partners.

Another indicator of anti-immigrant sentiment is the current legal case of a destitute Gay Brazilian visitor seriously ill with AIDS who hopes to stay in the country at least until it is physically safe for him to fly home.

Northwest London's Brent Borough has been contesting a High Court order to provide him with food and shelter because he has overstayed his visitor's visa and the borough claims it has "insufficient resources." Brent estimates that London boroughs could face expenses totalling some 500-million pounds per year from similar cases, should the man known as

"D" win his lawsuit and set a precedent.

A judgment in his case could be handed down this week.

Fired Dean Slaps Catholic School With Lawsuit

NEW HAVEN, CT (WS) — An openly Gay associate dean at the Roman Catholic Albertus Magnus College, fired in October after he identified himself in a newspaper article as a priest, has filed suit against the school and its president for breach of contract, slander, and libel.

Julia McNamara, the school president, said two months ago that Michael Hartwig, a professor of philosophy and religion, was dismissed because he misrepresented himself on his job application. He told the college six years ago he had left the priesthood.

Hartwig has also filed suit with the state Commission on Human Rights

and Opportunities, in what is to be a prelude to a separate discrimination lawsuit. In his complaint to the rights commission, Hartwig alleges he was discriminated against because of his sexual orientation and religious beliefs.

"This case is about keeping the academic process fair and honest," Hartwig said in a prepared statement.

"No faculty member should have to fear discrimination because of their personal beliefs or relational commitments. I want to ensure that what happened to me, won't happen to my colleagues."

The school maintains that Hartwig was dismissed because he misled the school about his status in the priesthood. Hartwig says, however, his status was not an issue until a nationally circulated conservative Roman Catholic newspaper identified him as an openly Gay priest at Albertus.



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American Airlines Pulls Out Of 'Circuit' Sponsorship

NEW YORK, NY (WS) -- The ongoing controversy generated by charges of illegal drug use and unsafe sex at Gay male "circuit parties" has prompted American Airlines to pull its sponsorship support from several of the events.

The airline's decision was made without fanfare and became public only recently. American spokespersons denied that the decision had anything to do with the targeting of the airline by social and religious conservatives last spring.

In June, an "open-letter" ad campaign criticizing American Airlines' support of Gay and Lesbian organizations and events hit several major U.S. newspapers. The ad called upon American Airlines CEO Robert Crandall to end his company's "support of homosexuality."

Circuit party events such as Hotlanta in Atlanta, the White Party in Miami, the Black Party in New York, the Fire and Ice Party in Phoenix, and the Black and Blue Party in Montreal are just some of the 20 or so parties on the Canadian-American "circuit" that take place each year.

The Gay Men's Health Crisis which throws and benefits from the Morning Party on Fire Island was blasted in a New York paper by Michelangelo Signorile. The author and activist charged GMHC with hypocritically supporting a "circuit mentality" which tolerated illegal drug use and unsafe sex.

Bob Witek, a Gay consultant to

UPDATE

American on marketing and public relations with the Gay community, told reporters the decision to end sponsorship of circuit events was made for several reasons, but that "obviously" the controversy around the events contributed to the decision.

"Having our name on an activity that's been linked to drug use and other kinds of questionable behavior," said airline spokeswoman Andrea Rader, "whether it be a Gay function or some other function, certainly is something that would make us sit up and take notice."

Rader noted that American Airlines continues to sponsor organizational events like those hosted by the Human Rights Campaign and the Parents Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays. Witek added that American's support of Gay-related groups has in fact risen this year.

Genital Piercing Increases STD Risk

NEW YORK, NY (RHIS) -- Some people, especially teens and young adults, are opting to have their genitals pierced. But the fad can increase their risk of contracting sexually transmitted diseases (STDs), researchers warn.

"Genital piercing gives sexually transmitted diseases a direct transmission route into the blood stream (and) exposure (to STDs) is more likely because it is more difficult to use condoms," said Dr. Nicole Aydt Klein, an assistant professor of health education at Southern Illinois

University, Edwardsville.

Klein spoke at the joint annual meeting of the Society for the Scientific Study of Sexuality and the American Association of Sex Educators, Counselors and Therapists held recently in Arlington, Virginia.

All forms of piercing carry a risk of infection, with nose piercing associated with the highest rate of infection, Klein says in the Medical Tribune, Obstetrician and Gynecologist edition.

Genital piercing can make it difficult for a man to use a condom, and in both sexes, piercing can increase the risk of tearing a condom.

Klein recommends that people follow after-care instructions carefully after any body piercing. And if an individual does undergo genital piercing, then he or she should abstain from sex until the site is completely healed, which takes about 3 to 6 months.

Armenians Claim 'Gay For Dutch Asylum'

YEREVAN, Armenia (NP) -- Turn the closet upside down and shake and hundreds of Armenian queer impersonators (diagnostic procedures unknown) seeking asylum in the Netherlands fall out.

It's the opposite of the closet: a December 15 Russian language report (translated by the BBC) from the Yerevan office of the Armenian news agency,

Armenpress, claims that hundreds of non-Gay Armenians are lying about their sexual orientation in hopes of winning asylum in the Netherlands.

Armenpress says that of about 600 Armenians the Armenian Center for Democracy and Human Rights has identified as applying for Dutch refuge based on sexual minority status, Netherlands sources have found that less than one percent are actually Gay or Lesbian. Armenia's sodomy law provides for punishment of up to five years in prison.

In July, a court in Zwolle reversed a Netherlands Ministry of Justice decision in granting asylum to a Gay man known as "Andrej," in what was believed to be the Netherlands' first case where a Gay or Lesbian who had never actually been imprisoned or tortured at home was granted asylum.

Rare personal communications to the international community by Gays and Lesbians in Armenia have shown them to be extremely isolated, with no organized Gay and Lesbian groups in a country that denies their existence.

Lawmakers Can't Join Case

Continued from Page Twelve

and one Gay couple who are the plaintiffs in "Baehr," charged that Ward was trying to advance his own career by politicizing a constitutional issue. Noting that the marriage initiative was the first in the state intended to deny civil rights, Foley held that to allow a majority vote to determine minority rights was to leave minorities without rights.

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Ho, ho, ho. The Sun changes signs this week moving into capable, conservative Capricorn and sets the stage for a glorious holiday and a proud 1998. We get what we deserve under the capricornic sun and I believe we deserve the very best. Read ahead to see where your gifts are hidden and where your new years revolutions feed the fire:

ARIES

MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

Proud Rambos are exemplary career movers and shakers. Now the jolly Sun in Capricorn provides you with a tank with which to plow under all adversaries and competitors. You may crush a boss or two in your professional battle. If so, be prepared to either dutifully accept the punishment or commandeer the offensive. Come to think of it, you are rather good at the offensive...

TAURUS

APRIL 21 - MAY 21

Queer Bulls need to feel part of the greater Gay community before their personal goals can be addressed. All for one and one for all this holiday season! Legal battles can now be effectively waged because the conservative Capricorn energy will not take any undue risks. Maybe you should be the one to champion partnership benefits at the courts.

GEMINI

MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Just when you thought you were ready to dive head first into the hot tub of passion, Sun in conservative Capricorn gives you a wintry chill. Don't write off a holiday fling. It's still possible to feast at the sexual smorgasbord. The planets simply recommend that you choose your dish carefully and don't overeat. Gay Twins should remember to wear their holiday bells and balls.

CANCER

JUNE 22 - JULY 23

Queer Crabs won't spend this holiday season alone if they make proper use of the affirming Capricornic Sun. The planets highlight one-to-one relationships and enable you to either make the most out of current partnerships or to pluck your soulmate from the back of the chorus line. The secret is to treat others the way you want to be treated and don't allow yourself to be a doormat.

LEO

JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

Proud Leos are bored with the details, but Sun in Capricorn spreads it all over your desk. Deal with it darling; things are too bogged down on the job and a good end of year cleaning is worth it in the end. The Sun also commands you to concentrate on improving your diet and exercise regime. 1998 brings a trim new you with a bod that can stop traffic. Let them honk at you.

VIRGO

AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

They say that genius is 1% inspiration and 99% perspiration. This makes sense to queer Virgos especially when the Sun resides in calculating Capricorn. You're in your artistic element cousin so reap the benefits by seeking expressive and fun filled outlets for your inspiring Gay muse. Toss a grand holiday bash. Detail oriented Virgins make it an affair to remember.

LIBRA

SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

Use the holiday season to roll up your sleeves and tackle any home or family issues. Sun in staid Capricorn enables all proud Libras to handle all problems deftly and appropriately. Don't allow relatives to fob their personal mandates on you. It's a new year and a fresh breeze, cousin.

HOROSCOPES*

Remember that closets are made for clothes and old Christmas ornaments and not for people.

SCORPIO

OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

Sun in Cap makes you sound balanced and knowledgeable in almost any subject. Lucky queer Scorps can make excellent use of this planetary advantage in either selfish or altruistic pursuits. Gee, which one will you choose...? Let's hope that the prospect of a new year entices you to use your bonanza for good Gay purposes and not solely for personal gain. We can only hope.

SAGITTARIUS

NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

How about giving some homemade gifts this year? Sun in Capricorn fuels you with capitalistic advantage and you can sock the dough away for the next 32 days

CAPRICORN

DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

The glorious Sun in your own sign infuses you with optimism and confidence. Gay Goats usually feel the yoke of responsibility tugging at their necks. Now you can breathe free and soar, at least for the next month or so. Get out there and meet as many new people as possible. This holiday season hearkens new adventures and new pals if you grab the opportunity.

AQUARIUS

JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

Aqueerians are not particularly revealing about themselves; they would rather ex-

pose others. Well the tables are turned, friend, and it's now time to remove that fig leaf. The Sun in Capricorn fixes a penetrating spotlight on all that you are trying to hide in your life. Good thing too; why not start the new year with the debut of the true lavender you. Fig leaf forbidden.

PISCES

FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

The Sun in Capricorn places you in the center of the social scene. Queer Fish can make the most of their friendships and acquaintances now and should be planning extraordinary events to celebrate the holiday season. Get involved with a particular group in 1998; it will give you a chance to meet important and exciting new people and help a momentous Gay cause.

For Entertainment Purposes Only. For best results, read both your Sun sign and Ascendant. For a free ascendant calculation, send birthdate, 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, DECEMBER 24

IBTS - Special Christmas Eve Girls Show "A Family Event" starring Victoria Du Puls, Felice Renard, Mr. Kenneth Blake, Regina Reed and Shaundriana. 9:00 p.m.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Karaoke hosted by Billy Dee in the Eagle, plus Party with Rayman in the Stonewall at 9:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

HOURS - Open today at 7:00 p.m.

IBTS - Open today at 5:30 p.m. Hot dance music at 9:00 p.m.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open today at 3:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26

NEON MOON - Star Traxx Christmas Show "Better Life Than Never!" starring Mr. Kenneth Blake, Karina Montenegro, Aja Simone, Lola and Lucinda Holliday. \$2.00 cover for the show.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27

IBTS - 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. Benefit Bar-B-Que and 16oz. Beer Bust to benefit Reyvala Gay Men's Chorus. 8:00 to 7:00 Bon Voyage Party for Jay and Brian B. Drink specials and fun!

STONEWALL/EAGLE - The JODY Show at 9:30 p.m. A benefit for Rudi's Kids at the Arizona Children's Home.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

IBTS - 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. Benefit Bar-B-Que and 16oz. Beer Bust to benefit Reyvala Gay Men's Chorus. 8:00 to 7:00 Bon Voyage Party for Jay and Brian B. Drink specials and fun!

STONEWALL/EAGLE - The JODY Show at 9:30 p.m. A benefit for Rudi's Kids at the Arizona Children's Home.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29

IBTS - Party favors - champagne and prizes. No cover. Hot dancing from 9:00 to closing. A light buffet will be served from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Stonewall Second Annual New Years Eve Fiesta. Buffet from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. DJ Eduardo and DJ Rayman mix the tunes until 1:00 a.m. (Designated drivers get free soda and coffee (see doorman for details).

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30

IBTS - New Year's Day Party from noon until closing. \$1.25 bloody marys; Mimosas \$1.50 and bloody Beer \$1.00. Snacks and football

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 31 NEW YEAR'S EVE

NOTE: All local bars will be having some sort of celebration for New Years Eve. Don't drink and drive. Happy New Year!

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - New Year's Eve Bash! Free champagne at midnight! Free party favors! Drink specials every half hour! No Cover!

GRADUATE - New Year's Eve Gala - Special Show at 9:00 p.m. hosted by Christina de Alexis. Champagne - party favors - fun!

HOURS - Complimentary champagne at Midnight, good food for munching, party favors. Enjoy the dance mix with a touch of country.

IBTS - Party favors - champagne and prizes. No cover. Hot dancing from 9:00 to closing. A light buffet will be served from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Stonewall Second Annual New Years Eve Fiesta. Buffet from 7:00 to 9:30 p.m. DJ Eduardo and DJ Rayman mix the tunes until 1:00 a.m. (Designated drivers get free soda and coffee (see doorman for details).

THURSDAY, JANUARY 1 - NEW YEAR'S DAY

IBTS - New Year's Day Party from noon until closing. \$1.25 bloody marys; Mimosas \$1.50 and bloody Beer \$1.00. Snacks and football

Non-Bar CALENDAR

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 25

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 1:00 p.m. Merry Christmas! Join the MSN family of choice for Christmas dinner. Jerry and Las will open their home for a wonderful holiday potluck dinner. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry or Las at 690-9565 and determine what your contribution to the dinner will be.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 8:30 p.m. Enjoy a video double feature with holiday themes. Steve Martin stars in "Planes, Trains and Automobiles." That will be followed by the 1961 classic "The Apartment" that stars Jack Lemmon and Shirley Maclaine. For reservations and directions, please call Las at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 27

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. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 318-1650.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 28

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. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 318-1650.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 29

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Have a safe and happy New Year's Eve as MSN has a Game Night devoted to all sorts of games. Play a favorite card game or board game—the choice is yours. If you have a favorite you'd like to play, bring it along, but there will be plenty of games from which to choose. For reservations and directions, please call Lex or Jerry at 690-9565.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 30

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 8:30 p.m. Join us at a special time as we have our monthly Potluck and Social Gathering. This month we're also having our 3rd Annual Auction to help raise funds for the group. You're invited to come and share your favorite dish with the 100+ men who come to our monthly gathering. Stick around for the fun auction afterwards. Join us at 33 Ochoa Street (downtown's Scottish Rite Hall). For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 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. For reservations and directions, please call Tom at 318-1650.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 2

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

FRIDAY, JANUARY 3

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. A fun evening devoted to British comedy series. Three episodes from your favorite series: "Absolutely Fabulous," "Fawlty Towers," and "Keeping Up Appearances." For directions and reservations, please call Loren at 733-0072.

SATURDAY, JANUARY 4

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Investment Club meeting. Bring your investment ideas and desires to help shape a group dedicated to investing a minimum of \$20 per month. For reservations and directions, please call Lary at 615-8322.

2. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. A Study Group will discuss a section from the recent bestseller "Conversations with God." You're encouraged to read the book first. For reservations and directions, please call Justin or Gary at 792-4224.

SUNDAY, JANUARY 5

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. The Book Club will be discussing "Now Let's Talk About Music" by Gordon Merrick about a globe trotting gay man and his entanglement with a wealthy, mysterious man. Even if you don't read the book, we encourage all book lovers to attend. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-9565.

MONDAY, JANUARY 6

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 9:00 a.m. A yoga workshop will be held by a professional yoga instructor. Gordon will give us an overall view of yoga and work with us through some of the moves. For reservations, directions & details, please call Gordon at 321-9509.

TUESDAY, JANUARY 7

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 9:00 a.m. Join us for a hike in the new addition of the Saguaro National Park East as we do a six mile hike in the south Rincons. For details and directions, please call Ed at 722-4712.

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

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 8

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Bridge lessons for men who want to learn how to play bridge, that is. For reservations and directions, please call Perry at 321-4367.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 9

1. Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 1:00 p.m. Join the guys for a relaxed Lunch Out as we eat at the Cushing Street Bar & Grill. Good food, good conversation, and good guys.

Tucson CALENDAR

Sunday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Beer Bust 5-10, \$1.25 pitchers. Latin Music 9-1. Shot specials all night.

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

HOURS - Open Noon. Bloody Marys \$1.75 till 7 pm. Pool Tournament 4pm. Country/Western Dance Instruction 6-8 pm. Country Dance Music 8 to 1.

IBTS - Open Noon to 1 am. Happy Hour noon-8pm, \$1.75 domestic beer and \$1.50 Well. Benefit 8-9-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.

NEON MOON - Open 2pm. Party with Stan. Complimentary hot dogs. STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open noon. Pool Tourny 2pm with Zipperman.

Beer Bust 2-7pm \$1.50 Pitchers, 50¢ a glass. Free burgers 2-7. Karaoke Nite hosted by Billy Dee. Stonewall opens at 9pm, hot sounds with Rayman.

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

Monday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Happy Hour 2-7 2for1 well and domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. Bar/Restaurant Appreciation Night. \$1.00 off on all drinks 6-12.

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 2pm. Happy Hour 2 to 7pm Well and Domestic Beer \$1.50. 50¢ Draft Beer 7 to close.

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

NEON MOON - Open 4pm. Happy hour 4-7. Drink specials to pool and dart players.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Monday Night Football. Free pool all day.

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

Tuesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7 2for1 well and domestic long necks. 2-7 p.m. Pool Tournament 7:30 pot matched. \$1 longnecks all night for tournament players. Boys' Night Out 9pm to closing. Hot dance music.

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

HOURS - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2 to 7pm Well or Domestic Beer \$1.50. Schnapps 75¢ 7pm to close. Karaoke 9pm.

IBTS - 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.

NEON MOON - Happy Hour 4-7pm. Karaoke with Billy Dee. \$1.00 off drinks to singers.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour till 8pm. Dart Tourny 8:00 in the Eagle. Miller & Miller Lite \$1.75 Cuervo Gold \$2 after 8pm.

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.

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

HOURS - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2 to 7pm, Well or Domestic Beer \$1.50. 50¢ off all call drinks 7 to close. Feb. 10 New Pool Tournament Begins 6pm

IBTS - 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.

NEON MOON - Happy Hour 4-7. 2for1 from 7-10. Liquidation 7 to 10 pm.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour till 8pm. Karaoke Nite: 9 to close. Stonewall opens at 9:00 p.m. with Rayman.

VENTURE-N - Open 6am Draft Beer 75¢ 6am-8pm. Cuervo Gold \$2 all day/night. Happy Hour Prices 6am-8pm. Backside open 5pm-close. Tuff Stuff Tool open 8:30pm.

Thursday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7. 2for1 well or domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. Karaoke 8:30 pm to close. (New time)

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 - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2 to 7pm, Well or Domestic Beer \$1.50. Corona \$2.00 9pm to 1am. Country/Western dancing 8 to 1.

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

NEON MOON - Open 4pm. Happy Hour 4-7pm. Drink specials to pool and dart players.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour till 8pm. Latine Nite in the Stonewall.

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

Friday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7. 2for1 well or domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. Complimentary Hors d'oeuvres. Hi energy dance music 6:30 to close. Drink specials every 1/2 hour.

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

HOURS - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 2-7pm well or domestic beer \$1.50. Dance Music Mix 9-1am.

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

NEON MOON - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 4-7. Country/Western Dance Party with Billy Dee.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour till 8pm. Hors d'oeuvres 5pm. Wear a Stonewall/Eagle T-shirt and receive 1/2 price all night.

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

Saturday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Hi energy dance music from 8:30pm to 1am. Drink specials every 1/2 hour.

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

HOURS - Open Noon. Strawberry & Banana Daiquiris, Pina Coladas \$3. Dance Music Mix 9-1.

IBTS - 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.

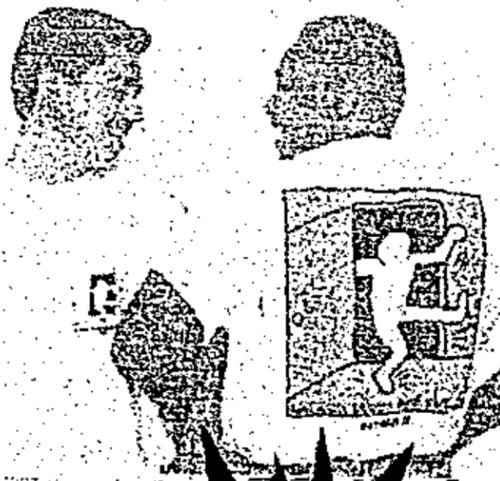
NEON MOON - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 4-7. Saturday Night Party and Dance!

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open noon. Happy Hour till 8pm. Free Pool all day.

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

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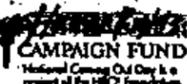
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CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED, NO PHONE ADS.

NOTICES

NOTICES

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF), 151 S. Tucson Blvd., Suite 211 (The Breadroom Building). Office Hours 9am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Direct services and emotional support for persons with and affected by HIV. Anonymous HIV testing and support groups available. Prevention education programs. 322-8226. 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 328-3555

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 575-8860 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 881-1764 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 300 E. 6th Street from 3 to 5 pm. You are not alone. For more info call Wingspan, 624-1778.

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 2nd Sunday, 4-6 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St.

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 745-8977 in Tucson for more information. Strictly confidential.

WINGSPAN - Tucson's Gay, Lesbian & Bisexual Community Center, 300 E. 6th St., 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.

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, 300 E. 6th St. 624-1779.

L.D.S., EX-L.D.S., GAY LESBIAN, BISEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP. Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesdays, 7pm. 320-1318 for information.

RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL every Sunday 3 to 5 pm at St. Francis in the Foothills for anyone who likes to play and have a blast call Davey 888-1208 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. 322-5855. Leave message.

GAY COWBOY CLUB - Nationwide Personal Ads. Admixers welcome too. Send stamp for information: Mavericks, Box 9543, Santa Fe, NM 87504.

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

"EVOLVE" 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.

BISEXUAL INFORMATION/SUPPORT GROUP for women and men. Meetings 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. 624-1779.

GAY VOLLEYBALL ON SATURDAYS. Competitive play. BB or better players only. Grass court Northwest corner Himmel Park 10:00 a.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 KANTEN 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 Holman 577-8333 for more info.

TUCSON LESBIAN/GAY ALLIANCE (TLGA) meets on the second Tuesday at Wingspan, 300 E. 6th Street at 7pm. For more information call 622-3200.

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. 604-7063.

THAN, a coalition of churches and synagogues committed to providing a compassionate response to the HIV crisis, provides HIV education in congregational settings, volunteer Care Teams to support HIV+ persons, a referral network of HIV-sensitive clergy, and interfaith services of healing and hope. For more information call 299-8647.

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 707-3116 for more information and a membership list.

LESBIAN/GAY/BI OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Saturdays noon-1pm in UMC Dining Room "F". 325-0676 or 870-1954.

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 791-7878.

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

CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 3rd Monday at St. Plus 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 Arna Marie at the Parish office 885-3573.

COCAINE ANONYMOUS

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

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

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 684-9920, Ext.448 or Emmett 322-6057 (evetten@tc.netcom.com)

AZdykes is a new email list for Lesbians living in Arizona. For information mail lynd@tharivar.com and request guidelines.

OUTLOUD! Tucson's premiere Local Lesbian and Gay Radio Show, broadcast each 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 8:30pm on 91.3 FM, Community Radio KXCJ. This show alternates with "This Way Out", a nationally syndicated Lesbian and Gay radio show.

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

COCHISE COUNTY LESBIANS AND GAYS. P.O. Box 818, Bisbee, AZ 85603 / (520)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.

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, 2949 E. Thomas, Phoenix. EWs 581-8850 or Room 968-2384.

CHRISTIAN SCIENCE GROUP - Outreach to Gay and Lesbian people in Arizona. Meets monthly. Write to P.O. Box 883, Phoenix, AZ 85001 or call Eddy Walters, (602)371-1102

CRONES SOCIAL GROUP. A Social group for Gay men who enjoy the fellowship of their peers. Call Marie at 888-7284.

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 8:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Gerardo (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 885-7298.

MALE MEN: Long-haired Gay male penpal network. Photo, 3 IRC's to join. Box 231, Station 8, 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. 300 E. 6th St.

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 from 8:30 to 9:30pm at Armory Park Senior Center, 220 S. 6th Ave. 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 Bartie 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.

PERSONALS

FREE CHATLINES! Hottest Action 24 hour (473)441-1146 / (212)796-3382 / (704)319-2071. Free to: (213)680-7525. Only 1hr apply. 18+

CYBER CRUISE - Meet Arizona Gay men and women as well as people all over the U.S. Gay owned. www.merz.com 704

HORNBY FRATHOUSE TALK! 1-266-404-5292. Only 1hr apply. 18+ 710

ATTENTION - ATTENTION - ATTENTION Si eres hombre que tiene sexo con otros hombres y quieres experimentar o apoyar los programas para los Lesbos, llama para una entrevista estrictamente confidencial al 322-6226 y pregunta por Ernie. 698

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. 698

GAY CHAT HOT LOCKER ROOM J/O ACTION PHONE SEX FOR THE GAY 90'S JOIN IN OR JUST EAVESDROP 1-900-745-0622 MORE ACTION AT 1-900-745-2045 GAY SEX SAMPLES 1-800-714-4865 \$2.49/MIN - WWW.XAPEX.NET - 18 YRS

HOUSING/FOR RENT VARIOUS CENTRAL TUCSON LOCATIONS. 1 and 2 bedroom apartments from \$325 - \$485. Clean, private, quiet. Many extras. Mention this Observer ad. 885-6022. 710

ROOMMATES GAY/OPEX MIMDED MALE. Near UofA. Washer/Dryer. Cable TV, own room, phone line. \$300 per month plus 1/2 utilities. Deposit negotiable. References requested. Call evenings (520)323-6653. 700

REAL ESTATE JUST YOU, WILD LIFE AND A WESOME VIEWS at the base of Rincon Peak. 2200 Sq. Ft. custom home with pool on horse property. Jacuzzi and chef's kitchen. 5 miles past Rocking K to Pistol Hill. 17881 E. Gila Monster Way. \$218K. Dave 791-0792. 700.

EMPLOYMENT Accepting applications for Bartender. Stonewall/Eagle, 2921 N. 1st Ave. Apply in person, see Jeff. 700. PAINTER WANTED. References required. Pay depends on experience. Apply in person, Royal Sun Inn Suites, 1015 N. Stone Ave., Tucson, AZ. Check our ads elsewhere in this issue for other employment opportunities. 700.

SERVICES DON'T WORRY ABOUT THE HOLIDAYS, LET US DO YOUR HOUSE CLEANING. References - reasonable rates. Call 622-1124 or dig. Pager 932-9961. 702

COME RELAX WITH ME. THE NURTURING TOUCH OF ESALAN MASSAGE combined with the healing strokes of Hawaiian Lomi Lomi, deep release and relaxation. In Casa Del Cafe. Discreet/Strong/Sensual. Call Glenn 907-2551 Days/Even/Weekends. 706.

MESSAGE THERAPIST, 13 years experience. Catering to your needs. Specializing in pain relief (neuromuscular), Swedish. Legitimate, Licensed. Call Torrence 628-8999. 700.

I WANT YOUR BODY - on my massage table. Thorough professional bodywork. Warm, comfortable studio. Evenings and weekends. Mike 531-9844 702

STRESSED? GET A REAL MASSAGE! 16 years experience. Get value and quality. Strong, gentle, lactic, healing sessions. Legitimate. By appointment. Marc Haberman, LMT. 881-4582. 705

A MAN'S MASSAGE. Sensual and stress relieving. Full body massage in a private setting. Full Hour \$35. When only the best will do, call Rick at 299-1792. 704

CATERING TO YOUR EVERY NEED - Theme Parties, Gift Baskets, Specialty Cakes, Intimate Dinners, Menu Planning. We also make Red Chile and Green Corn Tamales (oh so good, yum.) Call Becka or Craig at Masterpiece Catering 622-4232. 705

ALTERATIONS AND REPAIRS Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced - Economical - Prompt. Mr. Merle Hudson, 688-7284 in Tucson. 710

WANTED AUDITOR, \$8.00 PER HOUR. BENEFITS INCLUDE SMALL APARTMENT WITH UTILITIES INCLUDED. ROYAL SUN INN, 1015 N. STONE, TUCSON, AZ

A man who doesn't advertise is like one who winks in the dark: he knows he's doing it, but nobody else does.

New Jersey Landmark Decision

Continued from Page One

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"The issues and the visibility of Lesbians and Gay parents is at an impressive high," said Kendell, in an interview. "But there will continue to be a tremendous backlash against Gay and Lesbian families." "We fully expect that there will be several states in the coming months who will attempt to enact legislation prohibiting Gay adoption rights."

Gay advocates also stress that the needs of children should come first.

"We should not be decreasing the chances for kids to have homes in this country," said Joan Garry, executive director of the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, in an interview. "There are way too many kids who need homes."

"Children languishing in foster care deserve better," agreed Kendell. "They deserve stable, loving homes. Lesbians and Gay men are every bit as able to provide such homes as any other American."

[Pictured: Jon Holden, Michael Galluccio and their son, Adam.]

Pima County Domestic Partners Update:

Continued from Page One

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With the pending litigation, the Board did not implement the new policy. Pima County employees, totalling 88 - 7 of which were Gay and Lesbian, who signed up were denied the extension of benefits to their domestic partners and dependents.

The litigation was assigned to Pima County Superior Court Judge Bernardo Velasco in July and the case sat in "legal limbo," awaiting the County Attorney's office to file the paperwork to move the case to a formal hearing.

Five Pima County employees affected by the freezing of benefits and the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund filed a "motion of intervention" with Judge Velasco to join the case. A hearing on that motion was scheduled for January 12, 1998.

On December 10, Pima County Superior Court Presiding Judge, Michael Brown, entered a ruling to reassign the pending litigation from Judge Bernardo Velasco to visiting Greenlee Superior

Reasons for the reassignment, according to court sources, were possible conflict of interest.

Judge Minker will hear the case in Pima County. Liberty said she tried one case before Judge Minker. She described Minker as "fair, listens a lot and pays close attention to testimony." "A smart and well respected judge," she added.

The intervention motion for the Pima County Domestic Partners case that was scheduled for a hearing 9:30 A.M., Monday, January 12, 1998, has been vacated, Liberty said.

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Lambda Lizards Bowling League Standings

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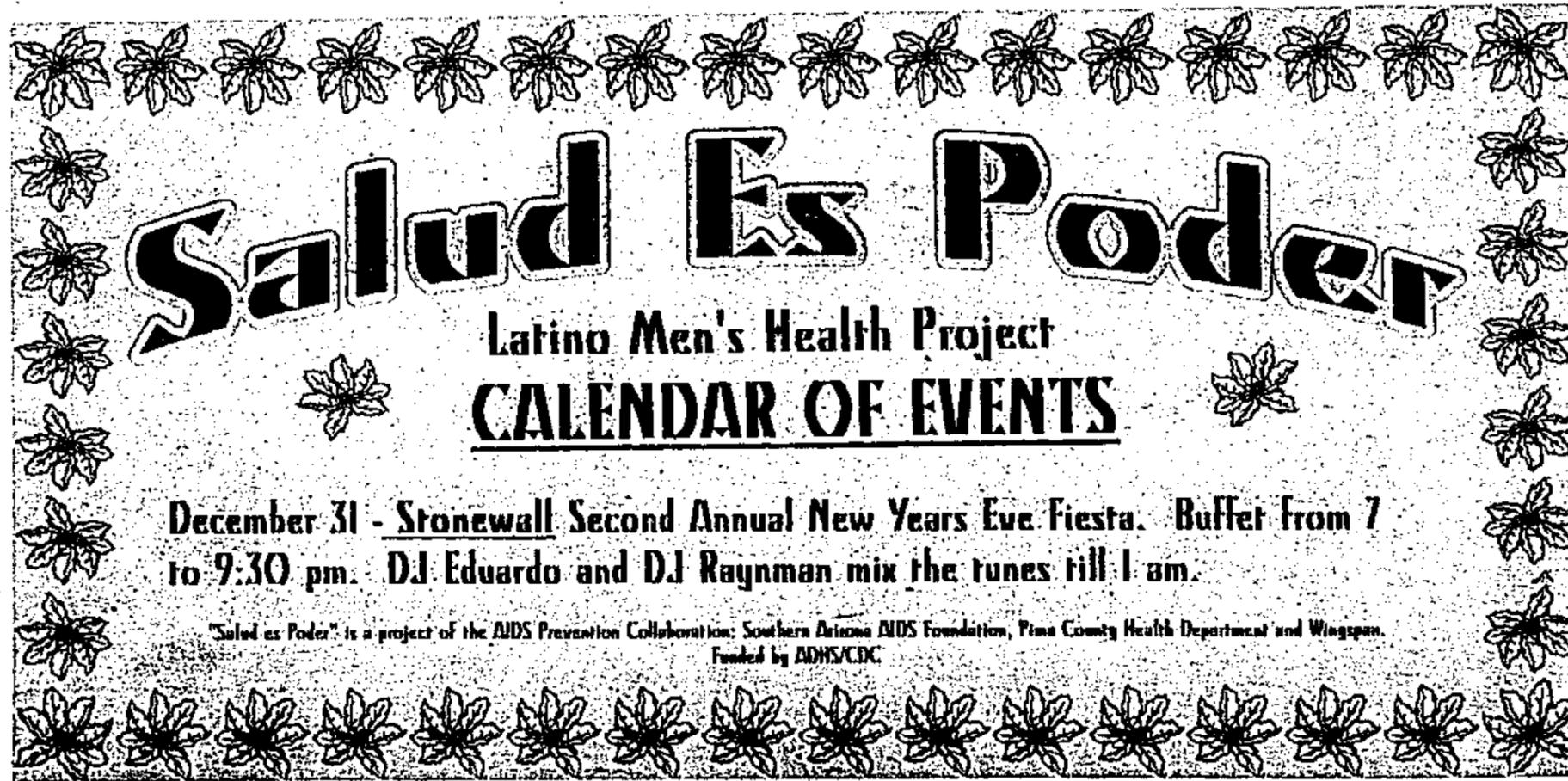
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Salud Es Poder

Latino Men's Health Project

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