Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

OBSERVER

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THE WEEKLY OBSERVER | MARCH 25, 1998 | ISSUE 714

Legislative Update:

Time Is Running Out; Possible State Government Shutdown

by Mark R. Kerr

PHOENIX (ON) – "School daze, school daze! Oh those not-so-golden rule daze!"

The above is probably the sentiment of the State Legislators trying to find a solution for the state education financial crisis.

Members of the State House and Senate are at loggerheads over whether local school districts will still be able to use bonds to fund school construction: House leadership is against the bonds while Senate leadership favors retention of bonding for local districts.

So what does all this mean?

With the continuing debate over education finance, a result of which may be that some legislative proposals may not see the "light of day."

The deadline to hear bills in the chamber-opposite of introduction is this Friday, March 27.

According to the Chief Clerk's Office of the State House of Representatives, there are 243 House bills awaiting hearings or final approval in the Senate. Likewise there are 136 Senate bills still needing to go through the legislative process in the House.

Will those bills be considered? If the Legislature manages to reach a consensus on financing the state's beleaguered education system quickly, because time is running out.

In addition to educational financing crisis, the Legislature must approve a budget and many appropriation bills still pending -- with the current fiscal year for state government ending Tuesday, March 31. Could a state government shutdown take place similar to one that occurred over two years ago with the federal government?

Also factoring in the Republican Legislative leaders trying to end the session by April 21, the 100 day self-imposed deadline. Time is not on their side.

Even during the debate over educational financing, bills of concern to the Gay, Lesbian, HIV/AIDS communities are getting hearings before legislative committees.

HIV/AIDS TESTING

SB 1261 is the measure that would allow caregivers the option to obtain oral consent from people wishing to be tested for HIV in Arizona. The oral consent would be noted in a patient's records.

This bill had received smooth sailing earlier in the session -- winning approval in the State Senate but stalled in the House.

Leaders of the Arizona AIDS Policy Alliance (AZAPA) and the Arizona Medical Association held meetings recently trying to reach a compromise on SB 1261.

Amendments will be offered when SB 1261 is considered, Wednesday, March 25 before the House Health Committee.

According to B.J. Peters of AZAPA, hospitals would be able to obtain oral consent but counseling and information must still be provided.

Patients though would still have the option of the written permission slip. Confidentiality of the patient's medical records would be protected, Peters added.

State and County Health Department workers, speaking on the condition of anonymity, said that hospitals are mixed about using oral consent which would result in the changing of their policy – something hospitals seem reluctant to do.

"GOOD SAMARITAN ACT"

The House Health Committee will also hear SB 1037, the "Good Samaritan Act" as well on March 25.

SB 1037 would force the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS) to release confidential medical information to "good Samaritans" who fear a "significant exposure risk" to a communicable disease at an accident scene.

According to David Hoover, Board President of AZAPA, a compromise of sorts has been reached with AZMA over SB 1037 as well.

In the new wording of the measure, "significant exposure risk" and "infection" will be clearly defined by current medical information and written by ADHS.

Does peace and happiness reign supreme with the compromises on the two respective bills?

According to capitol sources, if the bill's sponsor, Sen. Tom Patterson, R-Phoenix, does not get them approved, he will add the original, harsher language of both proposals to HB 2095 - a measure to

CONTINUED ON PAGE THIRTEEN

V-I-C-T-O-R-Y !

TUCSON - As reported last week (Observer, March 18), Judge Allen G. Menker ruled the Pima County Board of Supervisors were within their legal authority to extend medical and dental benefits to the domestic partners of homosexual and unmarried heterosexual county employees.

Pictured above are the county employees, their life-partners and their attorneys who fought for the extension of benefits.

L to R: Damien McNeal, Mike Humphrey, Richard McLean, Tucson attorney Pam Liberty, Lambda attorney Jon Davidson, Bertie Lozano and Matilde Slate.

Desert Voices Present 'Dance!' Sat. March 28

TUCSON – The jitterbug, bump, funky chicken and Hiphop. You'll see it all this Saturday, March 28, as Desert Voices presents Dance! at the Temple of Music and Art at 3:00 P.M. and 8:00 P.M.

Desert Voices is Arizona's only Lesbian and Gay chorus and is proud to present their ninth annual spring concert. Their audiences have come to expect full-fledged productions from the chorus and this production won't disappoint! With a highly creative production staff from the University of Arizona's theatre department and Pima Community College, the sights will dazzle your eyes!

Seasons of Love. Rhythm Nation. Dancing Queen. You'll hear it all this Saturday! The chorus' ensembles will delight your aural senses, with Women With Voices performing a moving medley from La Cage Aux Folles and Brothers With Voices titillating rendition of "One of the Girls." Additional performances from Una Voz, our women's barbershop quartet, and our newest ensemble, Four Brothers, will complete the first set.

Local divas Lisa Lemay and Lisa Otey contributed two arrangements apiece for the show. Guests include four dancers from the U of A Musical Theatre Department, and local musicians. The production is underwritten in part by the Arizona Commission on the Arts, Tucson Pima Arts Council and Desert Diamond Casino.

As part of their Youth Ticket Fund and PWA Ticket Fund, Desert Voices has donated fifty tickets to Wingspan's Youth Group, Queer Voice, Youth on their Own, Big Brothers/Big Sisters, Youth at Risk, Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation, Pima Council on Aging and the Arizona Council of Senior Citizens. Call Desert Voices, 791-9662 to contribute to either fund.

Tickets are $12, $10 student/senior, and are available at Antigone' Books, Tucson Trunk, Allergy Vacuum Store, or by calling the office, 791-9662. Visa/Mastercard are accepted in the chorus office.

Robertson's Cable TV Network Nailed By IRS

WASHINGTON, DC (WSJ) -- Pat Robertson's Christian Broadcasting Network said last week that it had agreed to make a "significant payment" to the Internal Revenue Service for improper political activities in the mid-1980's.

Under the agreement, the network maintains its tax-exempt status, but loses it retroactively for the years 1986 and 1987, when Robertson was running for the Republican Party's presidential nomination.

A spokeswoman for the network declined comment on how large the fine was or what specific activities had triggered the original IRS audit. An IRS spokesman confirmed that an agreement had been reached, but also declined to provide further details.

The government attaches strict limits on political activity by tax-exempt

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UPDATE

"On The Boulevard" Gay Video Skit Show To Premiere At IBT's Mar. 30

LOS ANGELES, CA -- "On The Boulevard," a new half-hour skit comedy video series produced exclusively for a national G/L audience, is about to make its debut in over 45 major U.S. cities this month!

Upbeat, fast-paced and totally irreverent, the show takes a new approach to traditional skit comedy, putting a Gay 90's spin on the genre. Similar to other successful skit comedy shows such as: The Kids in the Hall, In Living Color, Mad TV and Saturday Night Live, On the Boulevard adds a fresher, queerer twist!

But you won't see it on TV. Rather than running on broadcast or cable television, the series will be distributed directly to the Gay and Lesbian audience, exclusively through Gay and Lesbian video bars, clubs, resorts and the like -- over 120 of which in more than 45 cities have already eagerly agreed to showcase the program, with more establishments signing up all the time.

[In Tucson you will be able to view On The Boulevard at IBT's.]

It's national program sponsors include: Olivia Vacations for Women, Odysseus Travel and Instinct Magazine.

Ruby Moon Fundraiser A Success

TUCSON -- The community fund raiser for Ruby Moon Production's documentary film, "Silver Linings: Paths of Gay and Lesbian Elders," was a great success.

The entire community was invited to the fund raisers, held at the Screening Room in downtown Tucson's Arts District. A full evening of entertainment was enjoyed by all that attended.

It was a "Sound and Celluloid Celebration," with the showing of the work-in-progress of "Silver Linings," which helped raise funds to complete the final feature.

The reaction to the "film teaser" was very positive and enthusiastic. Many of the supporters who attended, agreed on the relevance of this project. During the panel discussion with many of the elders who appear in the film -- they offered opinions on content and spoke of pride for the seniors who appear.

If you would like to become involved with the production of this film documentary or know of seniors born prior to 1935 who might be interested in being pre-interviews, contact Ruby Moon Productions, 750-8636.

St. Francis To Celebrate 10 Years of Reconciling

TUCSON -- On Sunday, June 7, St. Francis in the Foothills United Methodist Church will celebrate 10 years of being a Reconciling Church (opens the doors to all).

St. Francis will celebrate by having an uplifting service at St. Francis, June 7. We are asking for ideas and suggestions to celebrate this important event in the Tucson G/L Community.

There will be a planning meeting Thursday, April 2, 6:00 P.M. at St. Francis, 4625 East River Road, Room 43. We welcome your input. If you have an idea or would like to participate but are not able to come to the meeting, call Davey, 886-1208.

For the hundreds of you who at one time over the past ten years were a part of the Thursday Support Group, we extend a special invitation to you on June 7 to join us again. Colorful T-shirts in honor of the event will be available at the Sunday services. Let's celebrate on June 7 together!

Arizona Opera Hiring Chorus and Musicians

PHOENIX -- Arizona Opera is seeking applications for chorus and orchestra openings for our 1998-99 productions.

Next season's operas are compromised of Lucia di Lammermoor, Die Fledermaus, Aids, Andrea Cheiner and La Boheme. Sight reading ability is recommended for singers and all vocal parts are needed.

Choral and Orchestral auditions will be held March 30 - April 7. Rehearsals are held in each city, but persons interested must be able to travel to Tucson and Phoenix performances.

Tucson Audition Dates: Tuesday - March 31; Friday - April 3; Saturday - April 4; Tuesday - April 7.

Phoenix Audition Dates: Monday - March 30; Sunday - April 5; Monday - April 6.

Singers will receive hourly compensation for rehearsal and performance per diem, transportation and hotel accommodation. As Arizona is a Right-to-Work state, membership in the AGMA Union or Musician Union is not required.

To schedule an audition, please call Nell Cox, (602) 254-1424 - Phoenix; (520) 293-4336 - Tucson.

Jacko Dons Drag

MUNICH, Germany (NP) -- Who "was" that chadored man?

Many have speculated that Diana Ross has been the model for superstar singer Michael Jackson's years of body modifications, but it seems he's now going for a different look entirely.

According to news reports that recently Jackson disguised himself as an Arab woman to take his son Prince Michael on a shopping trip without being besieged by fans.

Jackson is in Munich helping his past concert promoter Marcel Avram who's due to go to prison for tax fraud.

And although there were probably not too many other Arab women around for him to blend in with, it's a good thing Jackson was in Germany when he chose to don the chador -- in many Arab countries it's a crime for a man to disguise himself as a woman.

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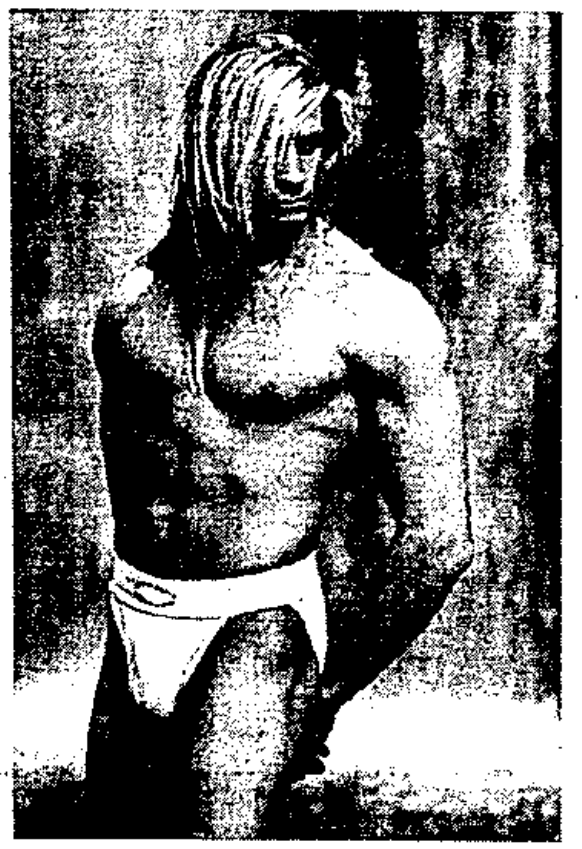

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DEAR OBSERVER:

I've about had it! Between Elise Fox's incoherent ramblings and all the hateful waste of sperm and eggs spewing the constant verbal daggers. I have risen to a boil!

We need a series reality check! How can we expect to make it as a "tribe" in the world outside, when all this crap is continually separating us?

If you all don't have nothing nice to say or write please keep it to yourself -- take your little jealousies and litterness somewhere else, life is hard enough. Over the last few months this crap has caused friendships to be lost, lines drawn, and is breeding to much hate. I won't even bother with the specifics, it makes my stomach churn, and I'm tried of being hurt and crying tears over the lot of it. To quote the greatest band in the world, "Let It Be!"

In closing I am radiating the energy of love and forgiveness and praying for everyone in hopes that these "little drops in the bucket" will grow and do something good for the community. Peace!

Sincerely,
Sabrina Crawford
Contest for Miss Gay Tucson America 1998
a.k.a. Private Peon of the Booger Brigade!

EDITOR:

As a Phoenix resident, I have always used the Observer as a tool to keep in touch with my friends in Tucson.

After reading the "scandal" involving Elise Barbara Fox and her column, I felt the need to share my experiences.

As a "titled queen" I was invited to speak or perform for various political and social groups in the straight community; (Meals on Wheels, Creative Women of Pinnacle Peak, Arizona Press Association, etc.) while these engagements may seem trivial, they often gave me the opportunity to challenge the stereotypes and preconceived notions these people may have known.

I'm sure that during my year of service I persuaded at least one person to rethink their attitudes towards the Gay community. "The Greatest Journey Begins with a Single Step..."

Regarding Elise's assertion that drag show fund raisers are a "drop in the bucket," tell that to someone who was able to keep their utilities on, a victim of a hate crime whose medical expenses were provided for, or children who received holiday gifts, all as a direct result of "drag show" fund raisers.

"Its not the drop in the bucket that counts, but the rippling effect that follows..."

In my heart I know that the contributions I make to my community will far out live my year as Miss Gay Phoenix-America.

The fact of the matter is: doors were opened to me, a voice was given to me, and I was given a spotlight to shine on things that were important to me, because I wore that crown.

I'm sorry Elise, but I could not run for political office to affect change. The very things that have made a successful entertainer: A flair for the dramatic, a sharp tongue, a body -- most women would kill for, (Just kidding!) are the traits that would leave me "unelectable."

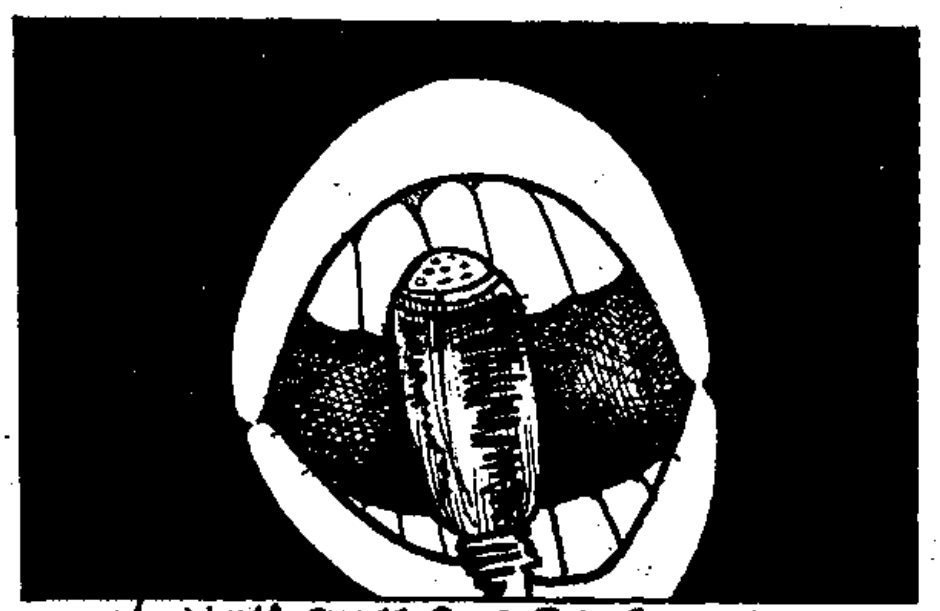
In friendship,
Richard Stevens
a.k.a. Barbara Seville
Miss Gay Phoenix - 1996

[ED NOTE: We have heard and read the pros and cons of this continuing controversey and now it is time to put this nearly dead horse in the barn. Everyone has his/hers own opinion and in most cases, 'never the twain shall meet'. We apapreciate the diversity of our community and respect the right of everyone to speak their minds. But this particular brouhaha is over in these pages at least.]

Play Safe!

AS I SEE IT..... BY CLARK

AJA GIVES GOOD MIKE*



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...7-3390
Wed...
6:0...

...BT's
...16 N. Fourth Ave.
...82-3053
Wednesday
...y 27, 1998
6:0... p.m.

...enture-N
...239 N. Sixth Ave.
882-8224
Wednesday
June 10, 1998
9:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.

Club Congress
311 E. Congress
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Wednesday
June 24, 1998
9:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m.

The Biz
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Wednesday
July 8, 1998
9:00 p.m.-11:00 p.m.

Court Says Boy Scouts Can Ban Gays

SAN FRANCISCO (RNS) - California's Supreme Court has ruled that Boy Scout organizations can bar homosexuals and atheists, saying scout troops are voluntary clubs not covered by state civil rights laws.

In a pair of unanimous rulings that could cause a national legal battle over the scouting movement, the court said Boy Scout groups were not "businesses" and therefore were free to exclude whomever they pleased.

"Could the NAACP be compelled to accept as a member a Ku Klux Klansman? Could B'nai B'rith be required to admit an anti-Semite?" Justice Joyce Kennard wrote in one concurring opinion.

Boy Scouts of America spokesman Gregg Shields said the ruling was a victory for the organization, which has 5.8 million members around the United States.

"For 88 years the Boy Scouts have brought the values of the Boy Scout oath to American boys," Shields said. "Since its inception, the Boy Scouts has been a voluntary organization. Anyone who meets the standards of membership is welcome."

The two cases involved Timothy Curran, a homosexual barred from the post of assistant scoutmaster 16 years ago, and William and Michael Randall, a pair of twins who as 9-year-old Cub Scouts said they were agnostics.

The lawsuits spotlighted the Boy Scout organization, which has not changed its vow to promote "morally straight" and God-fearing young men since it was founded in 1910.

The court's decision was a victory for the Scouts, who lost a similar case in New Jersey earlier this month when a state appeals court found that the Boy Scouts of America there had discriminated against an assistant scoutmaster when it ousted him for being Gay.

The nation's oldest Gay legal group said the California ruling marked a victory for prejudice.

"It is a shame that even one state tolerates blatant discrimination by an important American institution," Jon Davidson of the Lambda Legal Defense and Education Fund said in a statement.

The California cases were brought under the state's Unruh Civil Rights Act, which forbids businesses from discriminating on a number of grounds including race, religion and sexual orientation.

The state high court decided, however, that despite a nationwide chain of stores and camps, the Boy Scouts were not a "business" but a private group with its own moral charter and therefore not covered by the Unruh provision.

"The Boy Scouts is an expressive social organization," Chief Justice Ronald George wrote, saying that membership in a scout troop carries moral obligations and is not simply a "ticket of admission" to a recreational facility.

The court, noting that the Boy Scouts "has taken a consistent position that homosexuality is immoral," upheld a lower court decision allowing Scout groups to prevent Gay men from becoming Scout leaders.

Curran, a former Eagle Scout who took a man to his high school prom and allowed himself to be identified as a Gay teenager in a newspaper, said he was disappointed with the ruling. "Boy Scouts hold a unique position in American life and one of the things that they say is defend and protect the rights of other people," Curran told reporters after the ruling.

"I just think what they're doing here is hypocritical," he said. "Even though they won, I'm not sure it is the type of victory the Boy Scouts should be happy about."

The court, applying the same logic to complaints based on religious beliefs, also moved to overturn an appeals court ruling ordering the Scouts to readmit the twins, who were booted out of their Orange County Cub Scout pack in 1991 when it was discovered they were lip-syncing part of the Boy Scouts' oath that mentioned "duty to God" and omitting the words "under God" when saying the Pledge of Allegiance.

The court's justices said their ruling was not intended to permit "invidious discrimination," but that the Unruh law as written did not support action against the Boy Scouts on these two issues.

Gay To Be Next Episcopal Bishop

NEWARK, NJ (NP) – Will Gay-friendly Spong's successor be the first openly gay Episcopal bishop in the U.S.?

Longtime champion of equal treatment for Gays and Lesbians within the Episcopal Church, Bishop of Newark, New Jersey John Spong, is due to retire in 2000, and an openly partnered Gay minister is one of five nominees to replace him.

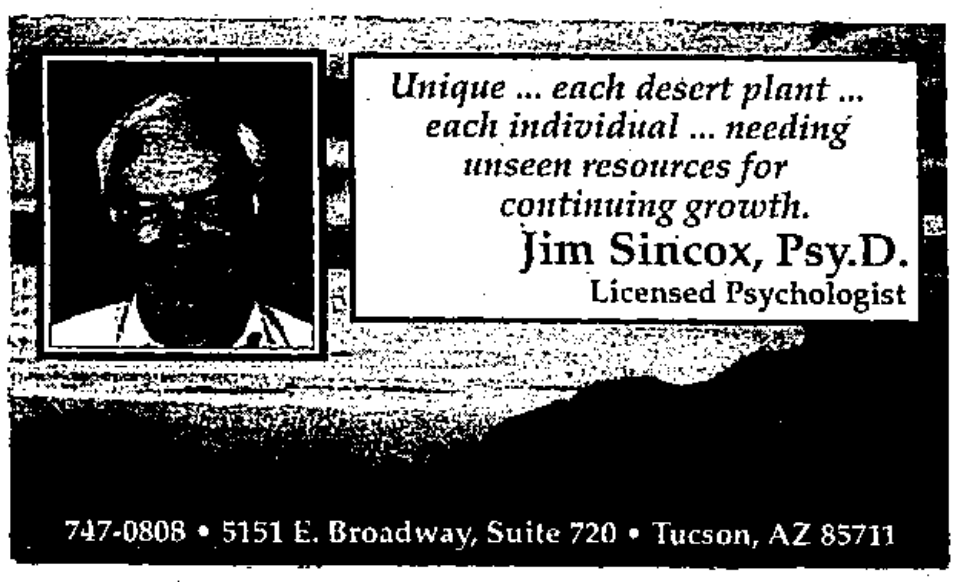
There has never before been an openly Gay bishop in the 2.5-million member U.S. Anglican church (Bishop Otis Charles came out only after his retirement), which by policy only allows Gays and Lesbians to be ordained if they remain celibate.

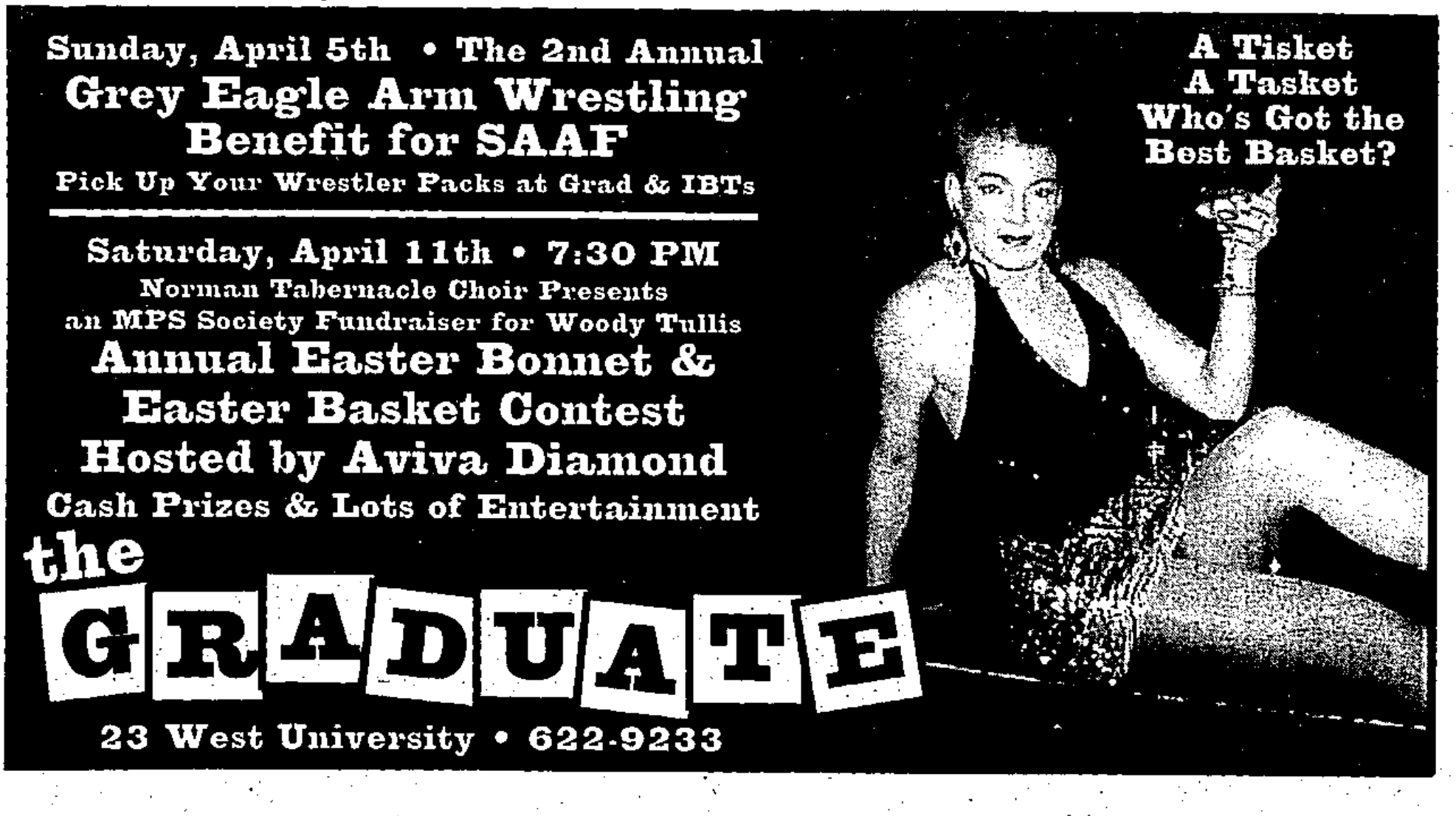
Marge Christie, co-chair of the 24-member diocesan nominating committee which shortlisted Reverend Gene Robinson of New Hampshire, said, "We're committed to his nomination," but the conservative affinity group Episcopalians United immediately promised to oppose him.

The group's executive director Todd Wetzel told reporters, "We do not feel that an actively practicing, non-celibate homosexual is a godly example, any more than we feel an openly practicing adulterer would qualify as a godly example. Behavior matters." The final balloting will be held in June; both laity and clergy vote, but ascension to the bishopric requires approval by majorities of both the 200 Episcopal bishops and the standing committees representing all 110 dioceses in the U.S.

Robinson, 50, currently serves the church as Canon to the Ordinary of New Hampshire and executive secretary of the Province of New England. He's held leadership positions in the Diocese of New Hampshire for close to 12 years. The divorced father of two lives with his partner, Mark Andrew, in Weare, New Hampshire. A statement in his application for the bishopric says, "I answered God's call to acknowledge myself as a Gay man. My wife and I, in order to keep our wedding vow to 'honor each other in the name of God,' made the decision to let each other go. Risking the loss of my children and the exercise of my ordained ministry in the church was the biggest risk I've ever taken, but it left me with two unshakable things: my integrity and my God."

Some of Robinson's activities have included founding and counseling at AIDS services and Gay and Lesbian youth groups.





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Columna Abierta

by Dr. Eleazar Garcia

¿Qué tal?... Aprovechando estos días calurosos los cuales me dan un poco más de energía, que desde luego la necesito, ya que regresamos un poco cansados de Agua Prieta, Sonora donde se realizó la Feria de la Primavera y la Salud, el pasado fín de semana la cual fué un gran exito, con mucho colorido y mucha participación de la gente de aquella ciudad fronteriza... Se pudo apreciar el gran interés que tienen los padres de familia al responder al llamado que coordinó el DIF municipal y la Secretaría de Salud para hacerles unas determinaciones de plomo en sangre a los niños menores de cinco años, facilmente se pudo apreciar cerca de 1000 niños acomapañados de sus padres, que "agüantaron" el "solazo" y la sed por más de 5 horas para que se les hicieran los estudios a sus hijos, y de verdad que estubo muy bonito el desfile que organizó el FOCAP para la diversión de los chiquillos de los "kinders" y de las guarderías, todos ellos vestidos con disfraces representando la llegada de la primavera... Dandole el primer lugar al cuadro de Alicia y el país de las Maravillas" pero realmente todos merecían reconocimiento por su participación e interés, y es por eso que se les repartieron, dulces, camisetas, palomitas, globos, y refrescos entre otras cosas... Y la coordinación por este lado estuvo a cargo de ADHS por los doctores Luis Ortega y Cecilia Rosales y por nuestra incansable colega de Compañeros de Douglas, Rossy Ortega a quién le reconocemos y le agradecemos infinitamente toda las ayudas que nos ha dado... Gracias Rossy!!! y quién también "puso su granito de arena" fué Tony García "haciendo todos los mandados" y "las carreras de último momento" de verdad que fué algo agotador pero con muy buenos resultados...

Y antes del arriba mencionado evento, tuvimos un maravilloso viaje a la ciudad de Santa Ana, Sonora donde el anfitrión fué el Maestro y Lic. Cosme Rosas Valenzuela de USAER 82 quién nos atendió a las mil maravillas, y se pudo constatar que esas comunidades del norte del Estado de Sonora (háblese de Santa Ana, Magdalena y Benjamín Hill) siguen siendo de él; y la participación de las gentes en los Foros Comunitarios fué única debido al compromiso que se le tiene al Lic. Rosas Valenzuela sin lugar a dudas... Y agradecimiento muy merecido a Jorge Rascón por su compañía y su buena participación tanto en el desarrollo de los Foros como en las pláticas informativas sobre SIDA que se les impartieron a los estudiantes de los diferentes CECYTES.. y reconocimiento especial a los estudiantes del CECYTES de Benjamín Hill por su participación y conocimiento de la existencia y problemática del VIH; aplausos!!! y de verdad que nos quedaron ganas de volver en un futuro no lejano...

Y para añadir algo relacionado a los Foros de Consulta Comunitaria que hemos estado desarrollando en coordinación con el DIF Estatal y Municipales; quiero compartir con ustedes el siguiente artículo del Dr. Luis Rojas Marcos autor del libro "Latidos de fin de siglo" . Durante mucho tiempo se pensó que los humanos estábamos dominados por un maléfico de destrucción que nos conducía irremediablemente hacia nuestro aniquilamiento. Hoy sabemos que la agresión maligna no es ùn instinto. Las semillas del talante violento y antisocial se siembran y se cultivan durante los primeros años de la vida, se desarrollan en la infancia y suelen comenzar a dar sus frutos dañinos a principios de la adolescencia. La delincuencia con uso de la fuerza por parte de menores de ha convertido en una pesadilla colectiva incomprensible y siniestra, en una penosa obsesión. En Norteamérica, por ejemplo, donde la violencia es endémica, a pesar de que el índice de delitos violentos se ha mantenido estable desde 1990 y la población general de adolescentes ha disminuido, los homicidios perpretados por gente joven han aumentado espectacularmente. El origen del criminal violento no radica en los nuevos modelos familiares o en las familias monoparenterales, sino en los hogares patológicos azotados por el abuso, la explotación, el abandono, la inseguridad y las humillaciones... También hay que tomar en cuenta los medios de comunicación, particularmente la televisión, alimentan las raíces del crimen violento con ráfagas de estímulos que ensalzan la agresión amoral o romantizan las conductas aberrantes sociopáticas.....

Y tacante a las noticias que tiene Ernie Pérez de Salud es Poder; comenta que el Show del jueves 26 de Fuerza Latina tiene nuevo "opening" y nuevas personificaciones, así es que por allá nos veremos, además se harán entrega de los certificados de graduación a cinco integrantes del proyecto, y se hace la invitación para que se enlisten nuevos integrantes para estos entrenamientos que leva a cabo Salud es Poder... Además se hace la invitación a la demostración de Arte que se llevará a cabo en el Salon Le Porté Du Bellé de nuestro amigo Victor Pineda en la calle 5 de febrero #91 de Nogales Sonora, donde se hará la presentación del nuevo trabajador de campo Rafael Velarde; se espera una gran velada acompañada de bocadillos y refrescos y será el sabado 28 desde las 8:30 pm, por allá los esperamos para apoyar a Salud es Poder de Ambos Nogales...

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

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IN FLIGHT . . . WINGSPAN

by Rebecca Widom, Wingspan
Domestic Violence Project

News From Wingspan's Domestic Violence Project

Domestic Violence Etiquette: Tips For The Well Intentioned

We all know that domestic violence is bad. Twenty years of the battered women's movement, with a little help from the Violence Against Women Act and movies like "What's love got to do with?" have made this clear, even to those who haven't experienced battering directly.

Ten years of activism against same-sex domestic violence has also convinced most folks that battering happens in Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgendered communities as often as anywhere else, and it stinks here too. (If you don't believe this, for starters, take a gander at Naming the Violence: Speaking Out About Lesbian Battering, edited by Kerry Lobel).

The thing that amazes me is that people don't always act on this knowledge. Thus, my inspiration for writing this little guide.

Domestic Violence Don'ts

1. Do not give out phone numbers or addresses of friends to other folks without asking your friends first. You don't know who has battered whom, and for survivors, the queer grapevine can be a very dangerous thing. Sometimes not letting his or her batterer know where he or she is, is the only way a survivor can stay safe.

2. Do not tell your friends that victims/survivors of domestic violence want to be battered. This kind of statement makes you look ignorant, but more importantly, it can really hurt someone! If the person you are speaking to is a batterer, they will likely take this as validation of their horrible behavior. Alternatively, people trying to leave abusive relationships often have to face death threats, extreme physical violence, property destruction, etc., and they might wonder why they had gone through all of this effort to leave if they really wanted to be battered in the first place.

3. Do not laugh along, if someone criticizes his/her partner a lot or makes a lot of jokes at their expense. Abusive behavior is never just isolated physical violence, it is always accompanied by controlling and insulting statements, also known as emotional abuse. You may not have the energy to tell someone directly that this is unacceptable behavior, but at least don't support it.

4. Do not tell a battered person what to do, even if you know that your advice is good. Their batterer already does that plenty. Instead, ask them what they would really like to do.

Domestic Violence Do's

1. Do listen and take them seriously, if a friend tells you that they are sometimes afraid of their partner. They may be trying to deal with domestic violence, and this should not be taken lightly.

2. Do talk about domestic violence in your queer community organizations. Ask about how to make the organization safe for survivors! Contact the Wingspan Domestic Violence Project to do a workshop for your organization.

3. Do read more about domestic violence! Share this and other information with your friends! For more information, contact Wingspan or look for our (free) resource booklets at Antigone's.

There is more, but these are the basics. As always, for more information, contact the Wingspan Domestic Violence Project, 489-9073.

High Stakes In Supreme Court ADA Review

WASHINGTON, DC (BG) – A case pending before the U.S. Supreme Court will decide the fate and effectiveness of one of the most important pieces of legislation protecting people with HIV from job discrimination, the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act.

A series of lower court rulings have chipped away at the intent of the law, which was designed to protect people with serious illnesses from being fired from their jobs and to guarantee them access to essential services.

A number of courts have narrowly interpreted the meaning of disability to apply only to physically debilitating health conditions. The narrow interpretation has in some cases locked out people with diabetes, breast cancer, and asymptomatic people infected with HIV from protection under the law.

The case before the court involves a Maine woman, Sidney Abbott, whose dentist, Randon Bragdon, denied her routine treatment in his office because she was HIV-positive.

In November 1996, the U.S. 1st Circuit Court of Appeals in Boston upheld a lower court decision which ruled that Bragdon violated federal law in refusing to treat Abbott owing to her HIV status. Abbott sued under the ADA, which protects people with disabilities from discrimination.

The American Dental Association, which states as official policy that it is unethical for dentists to withhold treatment from patients with AIDS or HIV, filed a brief siding with Bragdon. Arguing for a narrow interpretation of law, it said the disabilities act should apply only to people physically impaired or debilitated by the disease. The organization urged the justices to clarify dentists' legal obligations in such circumstances.

Bennett Klein, project director for Gay and Lesbian Advocates and Defenders, said how the Supreme Court decides the case is critical not only to the lives of the individuals who are infected, but also to public health policies that rely upon voluntary testing and counseling.

If discrimination is lawful, he argues, then all who are at risk for HIV must rightly fear that a positive test result can result in employment discrimination or the denial of basic medical or dental care.

SPORTS

Desert Coyotes Bowling League Standings

	Won	Lost	PCT
Tres Amigos	8.0	0.0	1.000
Helen	6.0	2.0	.750
Six	5.0	3.0	.625
Prickly Pears	5.0	3.0	.625
Smokin Bears	5.0	3.0	.625
Buddies	5.0	3.0	.625
Erratica II	5.0	3.0	.625
Gay Caballeros	5.0	3.0	.625
Triple T	3.0	5.0	.375
WeeBlows	3.0	5.0	.375
Triple Dickys	2.0	6.0	.250
The D's	2.0	6.0	.250
3-Hole Hookers	2.0	6.0	.250
Ft Lng Ht Dogs	0.0	8.0	.000

Lambda Lizards Bowling League Standings

	Won	Lost	PCT
Miracles...	18.0	10.0	.643
The Denim Men	15.0	13.0	.536
Gays & Dolls	15.0	13.0	.536
We Suck Good!	8.0	20.0	.286

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POLITICS 1998

by Mark R. Kerr

"His Living Room Is A Gymnasium?!"

One year -- and it still keeps going! Just like the Energizer Bunny! Yikes!

As first reported, the long fight over the extension of health benefits to the domestic partners and dependents of homosexual and unmarried heterosexual Pima county employees reached its conclusion when Judge Minker ruled in favor of the Board's decision to extend benefits, Friday, March 13. Puh-leeze!

The judge has ruled, making Pima County the second governmental body in the state to extend benefits to the same-sex and/or unmarried heterosexual domestic partners of their employees.

Life can go on. Will it though for the employees who have been waiting a year now to extend coverage to their significant others?

It is in the County Attorney's hands. The County Attorney's office is still considering whether to pursue an appeal of Minker's ruling. Why?

According to Chris Roads, Deputy County Attorney, who stated that there are two cases stemming from similar situations, one of which from Atlanta, Georgia which are contrary to Minker's surprise ruling from the bench after oral arguments Friday, March 13. Go figure.

Roads also stated the cost of an appeal will be factored into consideration.

Interesting! When all this started a-year-ago, it was the cost of extending benefits that was the gist of the County Attorney's lawsuit, according to David Dingeldine, Deputy County Attorney.

According to County Administrator, Chuck Huckelberry at the March 25, 1997 meeting which the extension of benefits was considered, the annual cost to extend benefits would run $120,000. Okay?!

So how much has the court case cost taxpayers, those people (The two who protested!) the County Attorney's office wanted to protect from "illegal expenditures" of the Pima County Board of Supervisors?

According to Supervisor Raul Grijalva, D-District 5, the legal bill is at least $50,000, perhaps more. Uh-oh!

Isn't this a victory for those trying to push "a special Gay rights agenda" -- as KVOA-LA-DEE-DAH's Eyewitless Snooze; KOLD 13 News, where "whirlybirds" take precedence of journalistic ethics and; local radio right-wing gabhosts, such as John C. Scott (GOP Candidate for the State House from District 12) would have you believe?

Wrong! Something the mainstream, breeder-press fail to mention or covered up is that of the 97 employees who signed up, only 7 were for same-sex domestic partners.

Taking it one step further, the original four person committee, trying to extend benefits (Three years ago!) consisted of two heterosexuals, one Gay man and a Lesbian -- all county employees.

So the Board's decision has been vindicated. When will the effectuation date be set so the county employees can finally extend their benefits?

Pima County Supervisor Raul Grijalva said its just getting it on the agenda to set the date -- in more ways then one! Well, we're waiting!

Maybe it's up to the County Attorney, Barbara LaWall as well. LaWall, who has made pro-Gay and Lesbian statements in the past -- recently involving the extension of protections of the domestic violence act to same-sex couples -- should let this matter go.

The County Attorney's office has had its day in court. They argued and the judge ruled...not in their favor. It's time to let this die and move on.

Plain and simple, the longer this goes on, the more chance for anti-Gay and Lesbian feelings and sentiment. Are we really ready for "faggot" and "dyke" remarks?

It has been a long year covering this story and watching the four employees, who fought for so long for the extension benefits wait even longer for justice. Equal justice for all...who can wait!

That long wait should be over, but it unfortunately won't be, in this reporter's opinion. I sincerely hope I am wrong. The costs of hospital bills for the significant others who don't have medical insurance and the costs of the loss of county employees are far greater.

If you wish to urge Barbara LaWall, Pima County Attorney, not to appeal the case, call the County Attorney's office (520) 740-5600 and leave a message urging her not to appeal.

Only two residents protested resulting in the initial case being filed. A simple phone call do a lot!

So it goes for now kids!

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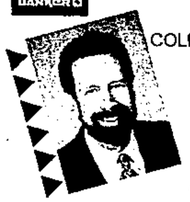

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HOROSCOPES*

BY C. LICHTENSTEIN

The Sun moves from intuitive pink Pisces to pioneeringly proud Aries this week. There is no time like the present to take up arms and command a rainbow battalion to victory. It's not enough to think about the "what if's" of life. Allow the practical Aries energy to turn it into the "why not's?" Full speed ahead, comrades!

ARIES
MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

Proud Rams are the supernovas of the zodiac with the Sun as your power source. Plug into the surge cousin; You are able to "charm" people to your way of thinking (and where charm leaves off, unabashed arm twisting comes in...). Keep in mind that in the long term, nobody likes to get squashed and pushed into a corner. Say pretty please with sugar on top.

TAURUS
APRIL 21 - MAY 21

A strobe is flashed in your closet of insecurities and self delusions and you know what? It's not as horrible as you originally thought. Sun in Aries sweeps out all the straight psychological debris that holds you back from affirmation. Don't let gremlins rule you, proud Bull. Rambo energy is ready to give them a kick in the patoot once and for all. Be true to yourself.

GEMINI
MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Make a difference in someone's life and, in turn, make yourself feel pretty darn good. (Doubly pat yourself on the back Twin!) Proud Geminis are in harmony with the greater group effort and can even change the dynamic with the Ram's powerful punch. The planetary forces compel you to take our community agenda one giant leap forward. Simon says, no baby steps!

CANCER
JUNE 22 - JULY 23

With pioneering Sun in Aries so strongly placed in your chart, retiring pink Crabs need to take decisive action in all professional matters. Your mission, if you should decide to accept it, is to grab the reins and ride the corporate chariot to unmitigated success. Don't accept excuses or promises; you've been far too understanding for too long. It's play or pay time!

LEO
JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

Travel is highlighted when the Sun pushes into Aries. Get Out and make things shake, rattle and roll; you're in fabulous planetary position to spread the rainbow word globally. Queer Lions can be very dramatic, so if you do become the great Gay spokesperson for our community, I expect you will do it with flair. Take no prisoners...well maybe only the attractive ones.

VIRGO
AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

Lusty proud Virgins are insatiable while the stupendous Sun is in untiring Aries. The planets, like torpedoes, guide you to the zesty heat, but you may bite off more than you can chew (if that's possible lucky thing!). Avoid post coital headaches by treating lovers as one would treat fine china; Eat off of it but don't use it for target practice.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

Sun in Aries places a greater emphasis on relationships. This process may require kid gloves but with Rambo the mighty warrior, you may come off as subtle as Miss Bunny on a waiting list. Be long suffering with partners dear, queer Libra and allow them more latitude and breathing space than usual. You can't expect absolute devotion simply because you demand it.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

You practically dive head first into the mucky waters at work thanks to the gloriously energetic Sun in Aries. It's time to put things in priority and tackle the most overwhelming and difficult projects with a true lavender Scorpio tour de force. Energy for even the most mundane tasks is high so use this power while the planetary energy sizzles along.

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

Sun in Aries knows how to give a proud Archer a good Gay time! Try to maintain a certain decorum though, dear. Pioneering Aries can give you far too much of a good thing and the able Archer has been known to blithely gallop into the distance on silly, wasteful tangents. Oh, what the hell! This zesty energy won't last that long and we all need a little whimsy now and then.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Gay Caps scale and move mountains now that the Sun has entered confident, undeterable Aries. Do what needs to be done on any home-related issues whether we're talking about redecorating projects around the house or any ongoing, nagging family matters. Aries doesn't take no for an answer so repeat yes, yes, yes like an affirming mantra. Don't compromise on your life. Live it proudly.

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

Your communications have never been so unambiguous thanks to the Sun in frank Aries. Aqueerians are the great humanitarians of the zodiac and you yearn to "do good" at any cost. Personal opinions are now articulated with all the subtly of a sledgehammer, but what the heck; you are here to make things happen any way you can. Force them to listen if you have to.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

Review your investment strategy. Sun in domineering Aries mandates that finances must be firmly set in order before you can proceed on more loftier goals. This is good, pink Fish are often at the mercy of others for their own personal security because they are uninterested in the nuts and bolts of finances. Thank Aries for the self-confidence and the interest to get things fiscally launched.

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

Legislative Update:

Continued from Page One

dealing with communicable disease information distributed by ADHS.

FELONY AIDS

One of the bills in serious trouble is HB 2396.

HB 2396 is the measure would make knowingly passing the HIV virus to another and if the "victim" tests HIV+ a Class Three felony.

According to capitol sources, HB 2396 seemed a certain for quick passage but now time has run out on this legislation.

The bill still awaits House Committee of the Whole and the Senate process – all of which must occur by this Friday, March 27.

When asked about this bill, Rep. Ken Cheuvront, D-Phoenix declared this bill all but dead.

With the clock ticking for the Arizona Legislature, will any of these and the other 300 or so bills pending will see "the light of day?"

Robertson's Cable TV Network Nailed By IRS

Continued from Page One

organizations. Robertson and other conservative Christian activists have come under criticism in recent years for testing those rules.

The Christian Coalition, founded by Robertson, has been engaged in a decade long dispute with the IRS, which has yet to rule on the group's 1989 petition for tax-exempt status. Pending a decision, the group isn't paying taxes on its income.

In September, a 40-minute tape of an address Pat Robertson made to a high level group of 100 Christian Coalition members exposed the political aims of the religious organization.

The tape, in which Robertson trumpeted the group's political achievements and goals, was extremely damaging to the Coalition because its tax exempt status is currently being questioned by both the Internal Revenue Service and the Federal Election Commission. Its tax-exempt status forbids it from engaging in activities to elect candidates.

A View From The Rock

A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

Last week I had the privilege of serving on jury duty. We were told to be in the jury assembly room by 7:30 in the morning, and then it was "hurry up and wait" all day.

The waiting gave me a good opportunity to look around and examine those day. I met a person from Los Angeles who was serving for the first time in Tucson. There was a woman who was using metal crutches and a locally famous TV huckster. People of all ages were there, from the very young to those you hoped hadn't driven.

It was interesting to see what people had chosen to wear for jury duty. Some people had dressed for comfort in sweats, and some were dressed "to the nines!" One man even had on a cowboy hat!

After waiting for it seemed forever, a jury clerk read a list of names of those chosen to be in the first jury pool -- my name was one of them! We were escorted to the courtroom by the bailiff and told to sit in the back of the room. Then the bailiff read a list of eight names, including mine, and we were told to take our places in the jury box.

Each of us was questioned individually by the judge. The questions were rather surprising to me! One of them was, "Do you have any bumper stickers on your car?" And how the answers to those questions could possibly be relevant to deciding a person's guilt or innocence!

I was never able to find out, because I was not one of the ones chosen to serve on that particular jury, so I returned to the jury assembly room along with all the others who were not chosen, where I sat for the rest of the day.

It was a great disappointment to me that I was not chosen for a jury, but I know that many people were relieved. Most people just wanted the day to be over and seemed to resent the time being taken from their busy lives.

Most of us will never be defendants in a court case and have our guilt or innocence decided by a "jury of our peers," many of whom would rather be doing anything but serving on a jury.

However, Scripture tells us that there is going to come a time when each of us "...will stand before God's judgment seat. It is written: "'As I surely as I live,' says the Lord, 'every knee will bow before me; every tongue will confess to God.' So then, each of us will give an account of himself to God." (Romans 14:10-12)

This Judge, before whom each one of us will have to stand and give an account of our lives, is not someone who has chosen based on bumper stickers or magazine subscriptions!

He is not someone who has no real interest in us or who can be fooled by smooth talk or appearance. We are reminded in I Samuel 16:7, "...the Lord does not look at the things man looks at. Man looks at the outward appearance, but the Lord looks at the heart." Each unkind thought, each hateful word, each sinful deed will be examined by this Judge.

This a very sobering thought for me, for I know that no matter how hard I have tried to be "good" person, there have been many times when I have thought, said, and done things which were less than good!

What can I do to avoid being found guilty and condemned to eternal punishment? And then joy comes flooding through my soul as I remember that because I have accepted Jesus as my savior I have been "...justified by his blood..." and therefore I will "be saved from God's wrath through him!" (Romans 5:9) Jesus took the punishment I deserve when he died on the cross for me, so I no longer have to fear God's judgment!

Are you prepared to stand before God and give an account of your life? If not, today would be a good day to accept Jesus!

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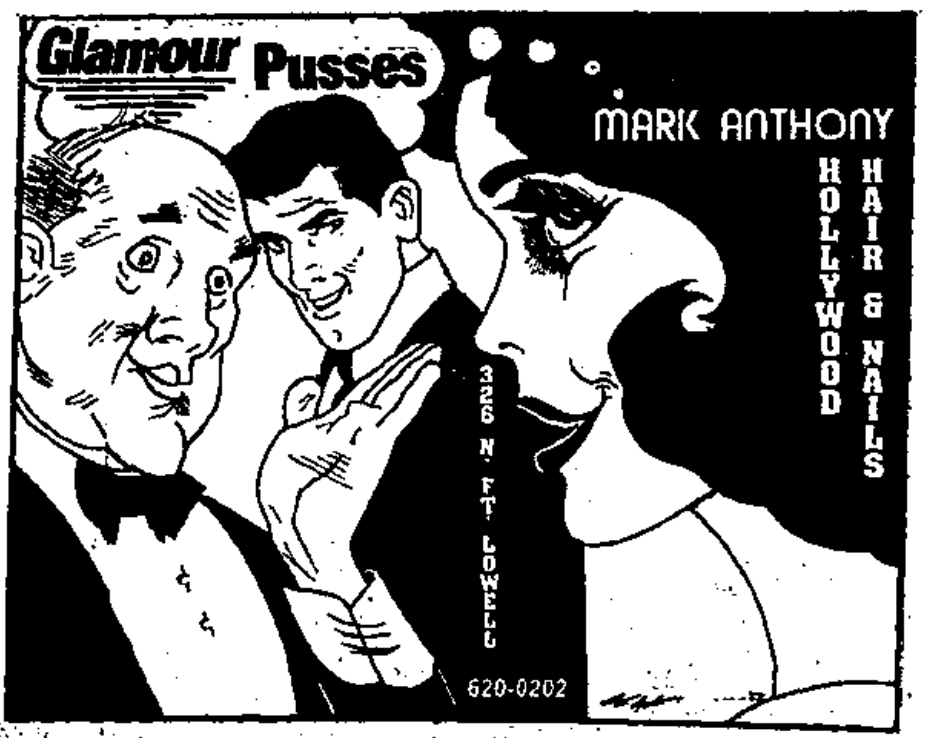

25,000 Lesbians Heat Up Palm Springs

PALM SPRINGS, CA – Club Skirts, San Francisco & Girl Bar, Los Angeles are proud to announce the Eighth Annual Club Skirts & Girl Bar Dinah Shore Weekend, March 26-29, at the Wyndham and Marquis Hotels.

The weekend is touted by the Gay and Lesbian press as the largest Lesbian getaway in the world, and has become the straight media's favorite "Lesbian Chic" event.

Last year, Titelist, a major golf equipment manufacturer, was so incensed by the media attention Sports Illustrated paid to The Club Skirts & Girl Bar Dinah Shore Weekend, they pulled $1 million worth of advertising from the unsuspecting Sports Magazine. This gesture sent a strong message to women athletes that "golf and Lesbians don't mix!"

But they do, like an Absolut Vodka and tonic! Palm Springs Bureau of Tourism estimates between 15,000 and 25,000 women attend the parties and tournament. The weekend's fiscal impact on the City of Palm Springs is so positive, the Republican Mayor presented the Lesbian promoters, Sandy Sachs and Robins Gans of Girl Bar, and Mariah Hanson of San Francisco based Club Skirts with a proclamation making March 29, 1997 "Gay Tourism Day!"

The three event promoters design the weekend with a fantasy vacation in mind, especially since they estimate as many as 50% of the attendees never see a golf ball. Almost 4,000 women are estimated to stay at the two host hotels alone, with thousands more at smaller surrounding hotels and condos.

Thursday's "Kick Off Party" at The Wyndham sets off the fast pace of the weekend. Partial proceeds from this event benefit "Emily's List." Friday night marks a nationally acclaimed comedy show, "Queens of Comedy," featuring Lesbian favorite, Marga Gomez, plus comediennes Susan Jeremy and Michele Balan.

Friday night also hosts "The White Party," with state of the art light and sound in a spectacularly decorated Grand Ballroom. Saturday day features girl bands poolside at The Marquis Hotel. Col. Margarethe Cammermeyer is also scheduled to make a fund raising appearance Saturday day in a private reception on property, as well as poolside Sunday.

Saturday night's "One Night in Rio," is the largest party of the weekend, with special live performance by dance diva Robin S., singing her mega hit, "Show Me Love." The event recreates a Rio atmosphere, including a performance on the outside patio by Rudy Rigelleto's Salsa Band. Sunday day is the largest pool party, "Splash!", and we end the weekend with a final blowout party, "Amnesia," at The IceHouse, a local nightclub.

Customers may obtain a detailed brochure outlining our activities and events by calling 1-888-44-DINAH. To reserve a room, call The Wyndham Hotel,

CONTINUED ON PAGE TWENTY

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Romanian Lesbian Still Jailed

BUCHAREST, Romania (NP) -- A full week after official assurances of her release, human rights activists found Lesbian prisoner of conscience Mariana Cetiner still incarcerated in a Romanian penitentiary.

Romanian Lesbian Mariana Cetiner remains behind bars, despite announcements of her presidential pardon and release. Cetiner's name appeared on a list of presidential pardons published in the Bucharest daily "Adevarul." Romania's Ambassador to the U.K. told the London-based human rights watchdog group Amnesty International that Cetiner had been released on March 3, and Romanian presidential advisor Zoe Petre told Amnesty representatives in the Hague the same thing on March 6 -- but two representatives of the Helsinki Committee's Association for Human Rights in Romania actually visited Cetiner in Aiud Penitentiary on March 10.

Amnesty expressed its concern about the situation in a letter to Romanian President Emil Constantinescu on March 18, which also again called for Cetiner's immediate and unconditional release.

Amnesty adopted Cetiner as a "prisoner of conscience" on the grounds that she had been imprisoned solely because of her Lesbian orientation. The charges brought against her in late 1995 were that she "enticed or seduced another person of the same sex" -- a roommate to whom she had loaned money and openly expressed affection -- leading to her 3-year prison sentence.

In late January, President Constantinescu met with representatives of the International Lesbian and Gay Human Rights Commission and Human Rights Watch, and agreed to pardon all prisoners convicted under Romania's sodomy law, although by law each prisoner would have to file an individual application.

Constantinescu had supposedly pardoned Cetiner as he was leaving for a short state visit to the Netherlands. The Dutch national Gay and Lesbian group COC joined the International Gay and Lesbian Youth Organization in using the occasion to protest Romania's still-discriminatory criminal code. Constantinescu spoke briefly with the protestors and promised them that the laws would soon be changed.

ACCEPT, which bills itself as the only Romanian human rights organization advocating for the rights of Lesbian women and Gay men, has drafted its own legal text to replace current criminal code provisions which discriminate on the basis of sexual orientation and gender, and submitted it to Minister of Justice Valeriu Stoica. ACCEPT has put out an urgent call for international letters of support for its proposal to Stoica. ACCEPT has been advised that the Ministry of Justice is preparing its own law reform proposal as well.

Penal code reform to decriminalize private consensual non-commercial acts between adults of the same gender have been a matter of continuing controversy both within Romania and internationally since 1993, when that reform was made a requirement for Romania's entry into the Council of Europe. After lengthy and highly contentious debate in the parliament, a reform was finally enacted which left so many loopholes for police and judicial abuse that Romanian activists have claimed that it's made their lives worse rather than better. A detailed documentation of those problems appears in a joint report of Human Rights Watch and the International Gay and Lesbian Human Rights Commission, "Public Scandals: Sexual Orientation and Criminal Law in Romania."

Human rights abuses by police, the judiciary and the prisons appear to be epidemic in Romania for more than just Gays and Lesbians, according to a new 150-page report by the Helsinki Committee's Association for Human Rights in Romania. One incident cited in that report involved a boy who had stolen some ice cream -- police dangled him over the side of a bridge by his feet, as well as beating him severely and threatening him with a pistol in the course of about two hours.

Romanian authorities immediately denounced the report as misrepresenting the situation with its selection of a handful of "isolated" incidents out of some 5,700 cases of misconduct documented by the Ministry of the Interior. A Helsinki Committee spokesperson noted that part of the problem is that police are treated as a branch of the military, allowing their misconduct to be tried in military courts which usually treat them leniently.

"If a man does not keep pace with his companions, perhaps it is because he hears a different drummer. Let him step to the music which he hears, however measured or far away"
Henry David Thoreau

Fear Grows That Vermont Is Right's New Target

MONTPELIER, VT -- Gay civil rights advocates in Vermont expressed fear a lawsuit challenging the state's prohibition against same-sex marriage has attracted the attention of well-funded conservative activists, and that a campaign is underway to roll back a decade's worth of hard-won Gay rights advances in the state.

While G/L rights advocates believe the gains -- including broad laws prohibiting discrimination on the basis of sexual orientation -- will be repealed, they do worry the state could be in for a new round of divisive public debates.

"We're being challenged in a manner that I haven't seen since the late '80's and early '90's when we were debating the anti-discrimination bill," Keith Goslant of Plainfield, who lobbies for the Vermont Coalition for Lesbian and Gay Rights, told reporters. "It feels like people are trying to go in and undo the work that we did, to challenge our presence here."

A growing number of incidents, say Gay rights advocates, have led many to believe that conservative groups have targeted Vermont as the next battleground over Gay rights.

An organization called Take it to the People has organized to oppose the court challenge made against current laws forbidding the recognition of Gay and Lesbian marriage. It promotes a constitutional amendment defining marriage as a union between a man and a woman. The group is similar to one sponsored by the Christian Coalition in Hawaii.

An "ex-Gay ministry" has appeared in the Burlington area and is courting residents to attend open house meetings and listen to speakers who have renounced their homosexuality. The ministry has been active in trying to get its speakers into local high schools.

Gay rights advocates contend Take it to the People does not have the personnel or the resources to independently accomplish the public information campaigns that have been let loose across the state.

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Venturing Out

by Sasha Alyson

What are the traits of a happy traveler?

Resilience, stamina, patience, a high threshold for enduring discomforts, and above all, an ability to make the most of adverse situations. That's the view of Hanns Ebensten, who then quotes Seneca for a final requirement: "He that would make his travels delightful, must first make himself delightful."

As for unhappy travelers: Ebensten finds they're the ones primarily interested in the shortcomings of their hotel, always worried that someone is trying to cheat or impose upon them, and unable to adapt to unfamiliar conditions.

If anyone would know, it's Hanns Ebensten. Since 1950 he has worked in the travel business, with all its varied demands.

He prepared a New Yorker ad in Latin, for a resort owner on Mustique who wanted to be sure of attracting only nice Americans.

He produced dinner for twelve on a remote mountain, when planned supplies had failed to arrive.

In Russia, he declined the repeated propositions of a handsome Russian who knew all sorts of obscure facts about Ebensten. A KGB agent, seeking a contact in Key West? Even today, Ebensten isn't sure.

There was no such thing as Gay travel when Hanns Ebensten entered the business. At first, he worked for a mainstream agency with mainstream clients. A Grand Canyon found him escorting a pastor with his two prim sisters, "and old doddering alcoholic hoping to relive his days of his youth," and a divorcee whose eight-year-old daughter, amidst the splendor of the canyon, cared only to know, "When are we stopping for lunch?"

Hanns Ebensten

The canyon was sublime, the company was not. The experience set Ebensten thinking: Wouldn't this be more fun with a Gay group? When he started his own travel agency a few years later, a top priority was to offer some Gay trips. It was "pure joy," he recalls, to travels through the Canyon again, but with Gay men.

The waters of the Grand Canyon were well charted when Ebensten took his Gay group along them. The waters of Gay travel were not. As the first travel professional to offer Gay vacations, Ebensten relied on trial and error to discover the best approach to this new niche.

Concerned that his Gay trips might not fill up, he invited one or two models from Colt Studios to accompany certain departures. Two models he remembers fondly: Val Martinelli, a good-natured Brazilian whose knowledge of tropical plants was a big plus on an Caribbean sojourn; and mischievous Richard Trask, whose biggest plus became evident on the frequent occasions that he shed his clothes.

But for the most part, Ebensten found the young models added less to the trip than he expected. Other guests were equally muscular and good-looking – and were paying their own way. He ended the Colt gimmick; guests signed up anyway.

Emboldened by these early successes, Ebensten dreamed bigger: A cruise to the Galapagos Islands with 65 Gay men. He advised the cruise ship owner, a Mr. Proano, of the group's nature: "Tell the crew to be prepared to see some of the men holding hands." mr. Proano was against (this was Quito, Ecuador, in 1975), but went ahead.

As the cruise ended, Ebensten felt it had been a smashing success. Yes, the scents of marijuana and amyl nitrate had been more in evidence than on his other trips, and some crew members might have been disturbed to see two men dancing or kissing. But overall, he concluded, any observer would have to agree that a Gay cruise was little different from any other.

Thus he was shocked to hear from Mr. Proano a few weeks later: No Gay group would ever charter his ship again.

On reflection, "I realized that he was right," wrote Ebensten a decade later. "Twelve, eighteen, even twenty-four people, who have the desire to see the same places at the same time, can be brought together with adroit leadership formed into a journeying group of friends, considerate travel companions, a family party. A larger group remains "a vulgar crowd, an unwieldy horde, a common herd."

Some travelers would agree. Another tour might present the "vulgar crowd" as a top selling point. But anyone who has traveled in both groups of 15 and 50 Gay men will agree that the group dynamics change greatly. Ebensten has continuously added new destinations and adventures, but he has never again traveled with more than two dozen clients.

Many of Ebensten's adventures are recounted in his book Volleyball with the Cuna Indians, available at Gay bookstores.

Hanns Ebensten Travel will run its twenty-first Grand Canyon Expedition this summer, beginning June 26, as well as trips to the Galapagos (maximum 24 passengers!) and other destinations. For information, call (305) 294-8174. And any tour operator who doesn't have an 800 is either old-fashioned, quite successful, or both. Which do you think this one is?

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Non-Bar Calendar

Groups / Clubs / Organizations

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. The first night of a 3-part mini-series-"If Tomorrow Comes." Part I sets up the action for the next two nights. This part verges on camp as a heroine is put-upon at every turn. The next two nights take a decidedly *different* approach with humor and adventure. For reservations and directions, please call Les at 690-9565.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. The second night of a 3-part mini-series-"If Tomorrow Comes." Part II takes this mini in a new directions-with humor and action coming to the forefront. A plot synopsis of the preceding episode is provided. For reservations and directions, please call Les at 690-9565.

FRIDAY, MARCH 27

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. The conclusion of a 3-part mini-series-"If Tomorrow Comes." Part III finds our "heroes" getting together. A plot synopsis of the preceding episodes is provided. For reservations and directions, please call Les at 690-9565.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 8:00 p.m. We join our Desert Voices brother (and sisters!) for their "Dance!" concert. Tickets will be available in advance from Davey and at the door. For details, please call Davey at 886-1208.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

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.

TUESDAY, MARCH 31

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us for a return engagement of the film "Maurice." Set in pre-WWI England, this is the story of two college boys who fall in love with one another-only to be torn apart by societal mores. For directions and reservations, please call Les at 690-9565.

TUESDAY, APRIL 7

A comedy benefit for the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation (SAAF) at Laffs Comedy Cafe. Mistress of ceremonies is Debbie Rice with the Tucson Prune Juice Dollies and Brian Bradley. 8:00 p.m. $10 per ticket. Call SAAF at 322-6226 and ask for Matthew Palmer.

FRIDAY, APRIL 10

Good Friday Services at Cornerstone Fellowship 6:00 p.m.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

Seder at Cornerstone Fellowship. Tickets available at the door for $4.50. 6:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12

Resurrection Sunrise Service at 6:00 a.m. in the Memorial Garden at Cornerstone Fellowship. Potluck Breakfast / movie at 7:30 a.m. Resurrection Celebration at 10:30 a.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 19

5:00 to 7:00 p.m. the Men's Massage Group meets monthly on the 3rd Sunday. It is a great way to meet new men safely in a unique way. No experience is necessary. Just the need for nurturing touch, the ability to relate to others. It is non-sexual and a lot of fun. Fee. Call in advance to reserve a space. Call Marc at 881-4582.

FRI. SAT. SUN. APRIL 24-25-26

12th Anniversary Celebration at the Cornerstone Fellowship with the ministry of Rev. Joan Wakeford.

Bar Calendar

Of Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 25

IBT'S - Benefit Show for Victoria Du Puis who is a candidate for Miss Gay Tucson this year. 9:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, MARCH 26

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Salud Es Poder Proyecto de Salud Para Hombres Latinos - presents "Fuerza Latina" Travesti Show 10:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 28

NEON MOON - Star Traxx Showtime 9:00 p.m. starring Lucinda Holliday and Misti Malone. $2.00 cover. Reservations are suggested.

SUNDAY, MARCH 29

IBT'S - Karaoke on the patio with Silly D. 4:40 to 7:00 during the All-You-Can-Eat Sunday Brunch Bar-B-Que which will benefit the Tucson AIDS Memorial Candlelight Services. Then, at 9:30 p.m., the first Wet Shorts Contest of 1998. $100 first prize.

NEON MOON - "I Just Wanna Be Your Girl" show hosted by Misti Malone. A Benefit for SAAF. $2.00 Cover.

STONEWALL / EAGLE - 2:00 p.m. Russian Roulette Pool Tournament in the Eagle. Then Mr. Kenneth Blake in the Dreamgirls Revue with Felice Renard and special guest. Doors to Stonewall open at 9:00 p.m. Showtime 10:00 p.m.

MONDAY, MARCH 30

IBT'S - Premiere showing of "On The Boulevard", a nationally syndicated new show made only for Gay & Lesbian video bars. 8:00 p.m. Join the fun and don't be late!

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 1

GRADUATE - 2nd Annual Grey Eagle Arm Wrestling Benefit for SAAF. Pick up your wrestler packets at IBT's or the Graduate.

IBT'S - The Girlie Show at 9:00 p.m. starring Lucinda Holliday, Mr. Kenneth Blake, Felice Renard and Sabrina Crawford.

NEON MOON - Free anonymous HIV testing brought to you by the Pima County Health Dept. and the Gay Men's Health Project 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

GRADUATE - The 3rd Annual 'Grey Eagle' Arm Wrestling benefit for SAAF. Pick up registration packets at the Grad or IBT's.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Benefit Show for Miss Gay Tucson '98 Contestant Regina Reed.

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

GRADUATE - Miss Aviva Diamond presents the Annual Graduate Easter Bonnet Contest and Show to benefit M.P.S.

SUNDAY, APRIL 12

IBT'S - Make plans to attend the big Easter Egg Hunt here.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Easter Egg Hunt and other surprises 2:00 p.m.

MONDAY, APRIL 13

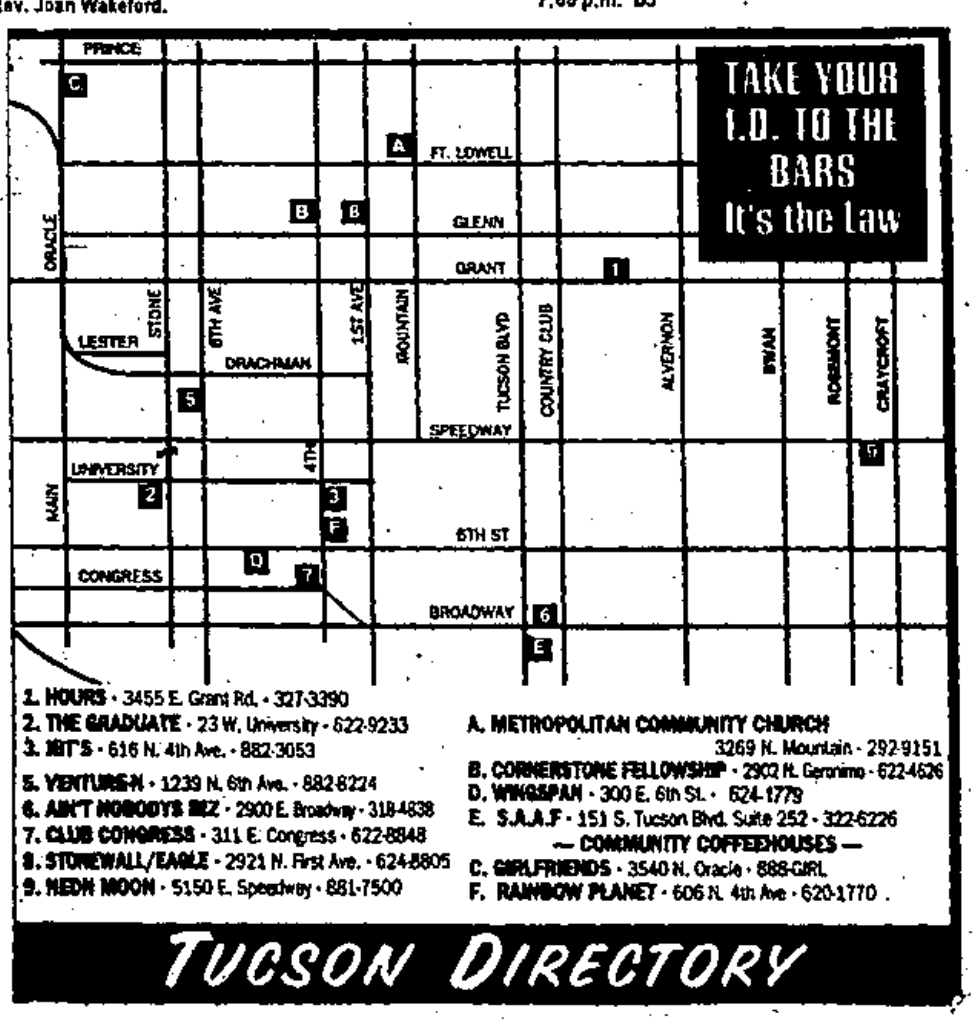
AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - It's taxx night at the Biz. Checks and Balances will be here to answer any tax wuesdtions ye have. They will also calculate your 1040 form for $15.00. No cover. 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 15

HOURS - Free anonymous HIV testing brought to you by the Pinma County Health Department and the Gay Men's Health Project 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, APRIL 17

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Back by overwhelming demand, Nancy and Hippi Shake!! Last month they packed the house. Come early. Music starts at 7:00 p.m. DJ



Daily Bar 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 1pm. $2 Bloody Marys & $1.50 Screwdrivers til 8pm. Country music & dancing with FREE country dance instruction 7pm.

IBT's - Open Noon to 1 am. Happy Hour noon-8pm, $1.75 domestic beer and $1.50 Well. Benefit 8-8-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. $1.75 pitchers 75¢ a glass. Food Buffet 3pm. Pool Tourney 2pm w/Zipperman. Latino Tea Dance 6-9 w/DJ Eduardo. Karaoke Night 9-close hosted by Silly Dee. Stonewall Dance 9pm with DJ Raymann

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

Monday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Happy Hour 2-7 2for1 well and domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. Absolutely Fabulous at 9:30pm with $2.25 Stoli and $3 Absolute drinks.

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

HOURS - Closed Mondays.

IBT's - Open noon. Martini Monday all day all call martinis's $2.50. Happy Hour noon-8pm, $1.75 domestic beer and $1.50 well. 8pm to midnight, $1.50/32oz pitchers. Retro 80s Dance 9pm-1am. All drink specials not available during special events.

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

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Party with Rob in the evening. Dot's Dart Tourney 8pm in the Eagle. Free pool all day.

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

Tuesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7 pm 2for1 well and domestic long necks. 2-7 p.m. Pool Tournament 7:30 pot matched. $1 longnecks all night for tournament players. 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 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8pm. $1.50 well or domestic beer. Draft Bear Nite 8-close, $2 small/$4 large pitchers.

IBT's - Open noon. Happy Hour Noon-8 pm, $1.75 domestic beer & $1.50 well. 9 pm to close 2for1 well/ Miller Lite. Fetish Night, dress in your fetish and get special drink prices 9-1. High Energy Dance with David Z.

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

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour til 8pm. Miller & Miller Lite $1.75 Cuervo Gold $2 after 8pm.

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

Wednesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7. 2for1 well or domestic beer. $1.25 pitchers from 9 to midnight. Neon Kami's $2. Schnaps $1 all nite. 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 Tourney. 7pm, Pot matched. Drink specials do not apply during special events.

HOURS - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8pm $1.50 well or domestic beer. Import Night $2.25 8pm-1am

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

NEON MOON - Happy Hour 4-7. 2 for 1 from 7-10. Liquordation 7 to 10 pm.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour til 8pm. Karaoke Nite; 9 to close w/Silly Dee. Stonewall opens at 9:00 p.m. Dance w/Raymman

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

Thursday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7, 2for1 well or domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. Karaoke 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 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8pm $1.50 well or domestic beer. 75¢ Schnapps 8pm to close. $2 Cuervo shots and country/western dance at 9pm

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

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

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour til 8pm. Latino Dance Party w/Eduardo at the Stonewall which opens at 9pm.

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

Friday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7, 2for1 well or domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. Latin Happy Hour 5:30 - 7 free food. Dance music 9pm-1am Shot specials all nite.

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

HOURS - Open 3pm. Happy Hour 3-8pm $1.50 well and domestic beer. Country Western Music and Dancing 9pm to 1am.

IBT's - 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 Silly Dee.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour til 8pm. Food Buffet 6pm. Wear a Stonewall/Eagle T-shirt and receive ½ price all night. DJ Raymman 9pm.

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

Saturday

AIN'T NOBODYS BIZNESS - Hi energy dance music from 8:30pm to 1am. Drink specials every ½ 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 1pm. Small Pitchers $2 & FREE pool 2-5. Xena on the big screen with pot luck at 6pm. Country Western Music all night.

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

NEON MOON - Open 2pm. Happy Hour 4-7. Saturday Night Party & dance!

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open noon. Happy Hour til 8pm. Free Pool all day. Stonewall opens at 9pm. Hot sounds with Raymman.

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

[redacted]

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE .25 PER WORD $5.00 MINIMUM

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED, NO PHONE ADS.

NOTICES

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

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

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

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

LAMBDA CAR CLUB, A social organization of Gays and Lesbians who share interest, information and fellowship involving collectible vehicles. Call 298-5454.

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

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

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

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 6:30-9:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2902 N. Geronimo (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to All. Call Liz at 325-0466 or Ray at 749-5247.

LIGHTNING LIGHTING will provide lighting for AIDS and related benefits at no charge. For more info call Adrienne at 889-7296.

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

GAY & LESBIAN SPIRITUALITY GROUP of St. Philips 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 6:30 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 770-0979 or Bertie 318-3415.

CARE TEAMS ARE AVAILABLE to offer support to people living with HIV/AIDS. The Tucson Interfaith HIV/AIDS Network offers trained, compassionate and committed volunteers to provide services including friendly visits, light housekeeping, assistance with meals, shopping, errands, transportation and companionship for medical appointments, and respite care for primary care givers. No judgement or proselytizing - we are here to be of service. For information call Scott at 299-9083.

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.

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

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

BISEXUAL INFORMATION/SUPPORT GROUP for women and men. Meetings 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. at Wingspan, 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 HANTEN MEMORIAL GROUP, a Catholic support group for Gays and Lesbians, meets on the 2nd Monday of each month at Saints Peter and Paul Catholic Church, 1946 E. Lee St. at 7:30 p.m. For more information call the parish office at 327-6015 or Jane Perri at 326-8577.

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

TUCSON LESBIAN/GAY ALLIANCE (TLGA) meets 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. 694-7063.

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

THIRTYsomething Society - an exclusive society for single Gay and Bi men in or near their thirties. A social society that offers monthly activities including a monthly outing away from Tucson. Call 797-3118 for more information and a membership bio.

LESBIAN/GAY/BI-SEXUAL OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Saturdays noon-1pm new location Wingspan, 300 E. 6th St. Contacts 325-6676 or 327-4293.

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 791-7678.

NOTICES

SOUTHERN ARIZONA AIDS FOUNDATION (SAAF), 151 S. Tucson Blvd., Suite 211 (The Broadmoor Building). Office Hours 8am to 5pm, Monday through Friday. Direct services and emotional support for persons with and affected by HIV. Anonymous HIV testing and support groups available. Prevention education programs. 322-6226. AIDS Hotline: 325-AIDS. VOLUNTEERS WELCOME.

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

P.F.L.A.G. - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 575-8660 or write P.O. Box 35254, Tucson, AZ 85740-5254. All replies confidential.

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

YOUNG AND GAY?

Lesbian and Gay youths 23 and under, meet every Saturday in Tucson for sharing, support and information. Meetings are held at 300 E. 6th Street from 3 to 5 pm. You are not alone. For more info call Wingspan, 624-1779.

The TUCSON Chapter of PRIME TIMERS INTERNATIONAL invites Gay or Bisexual men over 30 years old to join and share Prime Timers fellowship. We welcome mature men who are or wish to be involved in Gay community activities, issues and organizations. Call 887-7493 and leave your name and phone number. Monthly meetings are held on the 3rd Sunday, 4-6 p.m. at Wingspan, 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 745-6977 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 43. Call the church at Davey at 886-1208 or Brian at 882-4726 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. 320-1319 for information.

RECREATIONAL VOLLEYBALL every Saturday 3 to 5 pm at St. Francis in The Foothills for anyone who likes to play and have a blast call Davey 886-1208 for more info.

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

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

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

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

CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 3rd Monday at St. Pius X Catholic Church, 1500 N. Camino Pio Decimo in the Kino Room at 7:00 p.m. For more info call Ernie 721-2003 or Anna Marie at the Parish office 885-3573.

COCAINE ANONYMOUS

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

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

SMART (Self Management And Recovery Training) a free non-12-step self-help alternative for people working to overcome addictive and other emotional problems meets in Tucson Monday thru Thursdays at different locations. For more information about SMART, contact Brenda at 884-9920, Ext.448 or Emmett 322-6057 (svetten@ix.netcom.com)

AZdyker is a new email list for Lesbians living in Arizona. For information mail tyan@theriver.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 KXCI. This show alternates with "This Way Out", a nationally syndicated Lesbian and Gay radio show.

THEATER / DINNER / ETC! Non-Smoking Lesbian Network meets every 3rd Saturday night of each month. If you'd like to meet women 35+ (flexible) and socialize in a smoke-free environment 883-3785 before 10:00 p.m. The group dines out and attends shows or movies. Now in their 15th year! (1st in Tucson).

TRANSGENDER ISSUES: Southern Arizona Gender Alliance (SAGA) meets on first Mondays for informal discussion of transgender topics. Hosted by Desert Boyz. For information call Gary at 628-8659 or send email to: monkeydyke@earthling.net.

EDUCATIONAL SUPPORT GROUP FOR ALTERNATIVE LIFESTYLES. Not a dating club. Discreet. Meetings every Monday evening. Call for more info. APEX (Arizona Power Exchange) 602-415-1123. 24-hr multi-choice message including information, calendar and location.

HOUSING/FOR RENT

RUSTIC 1 BEDROOM CASITA in secure community. $425/mo. Call Beth 325-4887 715

VARIOUS CENTRAL TUCSON LOCATIONS. 1 and 2 bedroom apartments from $325 - $495. Clean, private, quiet. Many extras. Mention this Observer ad. 885-8022. 715

ROOMMATES

ROOMMATE WANTED FOR 2 BEDROOM APARTMENT near Alvernon and Broadway. $200/mo. CALL 8am Wed.-5pm, 4:00 to 9:00 p.m. 881-7500 714

FEMALE HOUSEMATE WANTED TO SHARE EASTSIDE TOWN HOME. Rent is $350/mo. Plus utilities, but is negotiable. Must love cats. Call April 290-8535 714

REAL ESTATE

CENTRAL BRICK BUNGALOW that has been well maintained. $84,900. Beth Jones, 977-6272 Coldwell Banker Success Realtors. 715

PRIVATE COMPOUND OR RAGING BUSINESS. 2 commercial zoned properties OVER 1 ACRE. First has 3 bedroom, 3 bath adobe with 100' of Stone Avenue frontage, 5 blocks south of the Tucson Mall. Second property next door has large metal barn for antiques or other retail. A real sleeper! Priced for quick sale at $185,000. By owner 293-2959. 715

THIS IS NOT YOUR TYPICAL affordable subdivision. Very clean and crisp CC and R's. Lots start from a low of $27,000. Age restricted. Beth Jones 977-6272 Coldwell Banker Success 715

JUST YOU, WILDLIFE AND AWESOME VIEWS. At the base of Rincon Peaks. Reduced 20K. 1800 Sq. Ft. custom home plus 400 sq. ft. Bonus Room! With pool on horse property. Jacuzzi and Chef's Kitchen. 5 miles past Rocking K to Pistol Hill. 17681 Gila Monster Way. Call Lucy 647-3770. Courtesy to brokers. 714

THIS RAMBLING HACIENDA STYLE BRICK HOME in Blenman could use minor fixup. Built in 1952, 2150 sq. ft, 3bdr/2ba. Very long lot with pool. $180,000. Call Beth Jones 977-6272 Coldwell Banker Success. 715

GORGEOUS, BEAUTIFUL, ABSOLUTELY CHARMING 3bdr/2ba home in San Clemente. Hardwood and Saltillo tiled floors. Oasis backyard. Mission tile roof. $149,000. Beth Jones 977-6272 Coldwell Banker Success. 715

PERSONALS

HEALTHY 47-YEAR-OLD enjoys correspondence and friends. Look forward to hearing from you. Sincere. No games. Ed Simon #110579, Arizona State Prison - Tucson, 10016 S. Wilmot, Box 24400, Tucson, AZ 85734-4400. 713

CYBER CRUISE - Meet Arizona Gay men and women as well as people all over the U.S. Gay owned. www.mayo.com 713

ATTENTION - ATTENTION - ATTENTION

Si eres hombre que tiene sexo con otros hombres y quieres ayudarnos a extender y apoyar los programas para Los Latinos, llama para una entrevista extrictamente confidencial al 322-6226 y pregunta por Ernesto. 715

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. 715

EMPLOYMENT

FRIDAY & SATURDAY DJ NEEDED AT THE BIZ. Must know the music, beat mix and have an outgoing personality. Men and women apply. 2900 E. Broadway or page 557-6032 for more info.

NEEDED EXPERIENCED COUNTRY DJ AT HOURS. Applications 3455 E. Grant Road.

SERVICES

CAREGIVER / COMPANION. MALE C.N.A. with all current licenses and excellent refs available for live-in position. Able to travel. Rates starting at $140 per day. For interview call Christopher at 733-8198. 715

IT'S TAX TIME AGAIN!! Need help in preparing or filling out your income tax return? Call Jann at 326-5256 and let me do your worrying. 715

COME RELAX WITH ME. THE NURTURING TOUCH OF ESALEN MASSAGE combined with the healing strokes of Hawaiian Lomi Lomi. Strong, gentle hands provide relaxation. Seven days a week, day or night. Call Glenn 907-2551 In/out. 717

MASSAGE THERAPIST 13 YEARS EXPERIENCE. Catering to your needs. Specializing in pain relief (neuromuscular), Swedish. Legitimate. Licensed. Call Torrence, 628-8998. 718

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. 714

ATTRACTIVE YOUNG MAN offers very relaxing, sensuous, one-hour massage at a very reasonable rate. Days, evenings, and weekends. Michael, 795-5462 715

PROFESSIONAL QUALITY MASSAGE! 17 YEARS OF HEALING HANDS. Strong, gentle, tantric, DEEP RELAXATION. GUARANTEED to feel better. Legitimate. Marc Haberman, LMT, 881-4582. 716

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. 720

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Let me keep your clothes fitting properly and in good repair. Experienced -- Economical -- Prompt. Mr. Merle Hudson, 888-7264 in Tucson. 717

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Say You Saw It In The OBSERVER the best read weekly in town

7th Annual Arizona International Film Fstival April 16-26

TUCSON – The Arizona Media Arts Center is pleased to announce that the seventh edition of the Arizona International Film Festival is scheduled for April 16-26.

Eighty new works from around the world will be presented to Arizona audiences.

The 1998 festival will unveil "The Reel Frontier," a film and video competition which celebrates and rewards excellence and innovation in independent media arts expression. "The Reel Frontier," is open to independent works in narrative, documentary, animation and experimental categories. Entry deadline is February 27.

The second Arizona Independent Film Award will also be presented to a filmmaker who has remained true to the art of independent filmmaking. Filmmaker Robert M. Young was the first recipient of this award at last year's festival.

New Irish Cinema will be highlighted at this year's festival with a special collection of features, shorts and documentaries produced by emerging Irish filmmakers.

Other festival programs include the Premiere Showcase, presenting new international works of fiction and nonfiction; From The Archives, highlighting works considered as milestones in cinema history; The Film Gallery, featuring works about filmmakers and filmmaking; and Serving Independents, panel discussions on issues that impact producers.

Festival passes ranging from $20 to $125 will be available at ticket outlets at the end of March. For further information, call (520) 629-1737 or write: POB 431, Tucson, AZ 85702-0431.

The Arizona International Film Festival is supported by the Arizona Commission on the Arts and Tucson Community Foundation.

25,000 Lesbians

CONTINUED FROM PAGE FOURTEEN

(760) 322-6000 or The Marquis (760) 322-2121. You must mention The Dinah Shore Weekend to reserve a room. Rooms are secured with a $75 non-refundable deposit and we enforce a two-week cancellation policy.

The Rev. Louis F. Kavar, Ph.D.

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520-290-1591

OB/GYNs Meeting Lets GLMA In

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – Public protest helped remind a national ob/gyn group that Lesbians are women whose health concerns might be of interest to them.

Spurred by protest calls, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists (ACOG) has now decided to allow the national Gay and Lesbian Medical Association (GLMA) to exhibit at its May conference in New Orleans after all.

GLMA had received a letter from ACOG saying, "Your service would not benefit or be of interest to the majority of our membership" -- quite a slap from a group that bills itself as "the nation's leading group of professionals providing health care for women."

An ACOG spokesperson went on to clarify that the rejection stemmed from the gynecologists view of GLMA as a "special issue advocacy group" that would use the conference primarily to recruit new members, both of which are barred by policy from ACOG meetings.

After studying more documents from GLMA, ACOG has apparently come to understand that the Gay and Lesbian physicians are actually seeking to educate the gynecologists on issues of Lesbian health care.

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PROYECTO DE SALUD PARA HOMBRES LATINOS

PRESENTA

FUERZA LATINA

TRAVESTI SHOW

JUEVES, 26 DE MARZO

NOCHE LATINA

STONEWALL

SHOWTIME 10:30 P.M.

PROTEGERSE ES QUERERSE

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