Observing Tucson And
The Greater Arizona Community

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THE WEEKLY OBSERVER | APRIL 22, 1998 | ISSUE 718

Pima County Employees Get DP Benefits - Finally!

by Mark R. Kerr

TUCSON (ON) -- In a surprising turn of events, the Pima County Board of Supervisors has directed its Human Resources Department to extend medical benefits to the domestic partners of county employees.

The Board's decision goes into effect Sunday, April 26 and the 97 county employees who had originally signed up in 1997 will be affected by the order.

Just one week ago, the Pima County Government's Human Resources department was doing a complete about-face. According to county employees, not wishing to be identified, the department had gotten the word out that it was "freezing" the extension of benefits. Their decision was due to a taxpayer who had filed an appeal to the case after the County Attorney declined to appeal the March 13 ruling upholding the Board's decision to extend benefits.

Kevin Flynn, Manager of the Human Resources Department previously denied that the benefits had been "frozen." "We're waiting for the Board to give us direction on this matter. Until then we have not implemented the policy," Flynn said.

County employees stated they were told that the appeal and the carrying out of the Domestic Partner's policy could take another month-and-a-half.

The Observer had contacted several members of the Board of Supervisors seeking comments. Of the Supervisors who returned calls, most said they had not been informed of the decision to "freeze" the extension of medical benefits by the Human Resources Department.

A letter, obtained by The Observer, dated April 15, 1998 from County Administrator Chuck Huckelberry was distributed to the 97 County employees who had originally signed up for the extension of benefits. It read:

DEAR EMPLOYEE:

The County Attorney had decided not to appeal the recent Court decision which acknowledges the Board of Supervisor's authority to provide health insurance coverage for domestic partners and their dependents. Based on this, domestic partner coverage is available to those who enrolled in May 1997. Coverage will be effective April 26, 1998.

You previously applied for domestic partner coverage. You must confirm your interest in this coverage by completing the enclosed forms and returning them to Human Resources no later than April 30, 1998. If you have any questions, please contact Kevin Flynn, Human Resources Manager.

Sincerely,
C.H. Huckelberry

"I was elated to see a decision by the county administration had finally been made to allow employees with domestic partners to sign up," commented Damien McNeal of the Pima County Domestic Partners Ad Hoc Committee.

"I'm excited, happy that it's finally over and we are one-step closer to equality," Bertie Lozano, a county employee said after hearing the news.

One of the two citizens, Samuel Winchester Morey, whose complaints prompted the County Attorney's initial lawsuit filed his appeal to the ruling. Morey claims in his lawsuit that the extension of benefits to the domestic partners of county employees is unconstitutional under state law since cohabitation is a misdemeanor offense.

Questions over the merits of Morey's appeal have arisen. Grace McIlvain, the attorney representing the Board of Supervisors in the case, filed a motion to dismiss Morey's appeal in Arizona's Court of Appeals in Tucson this past Friday. The Board of Supervisors also directed the County Attorney's office to fight Morey's appeal and to collect attorneys' fees from Morey for the appeal.

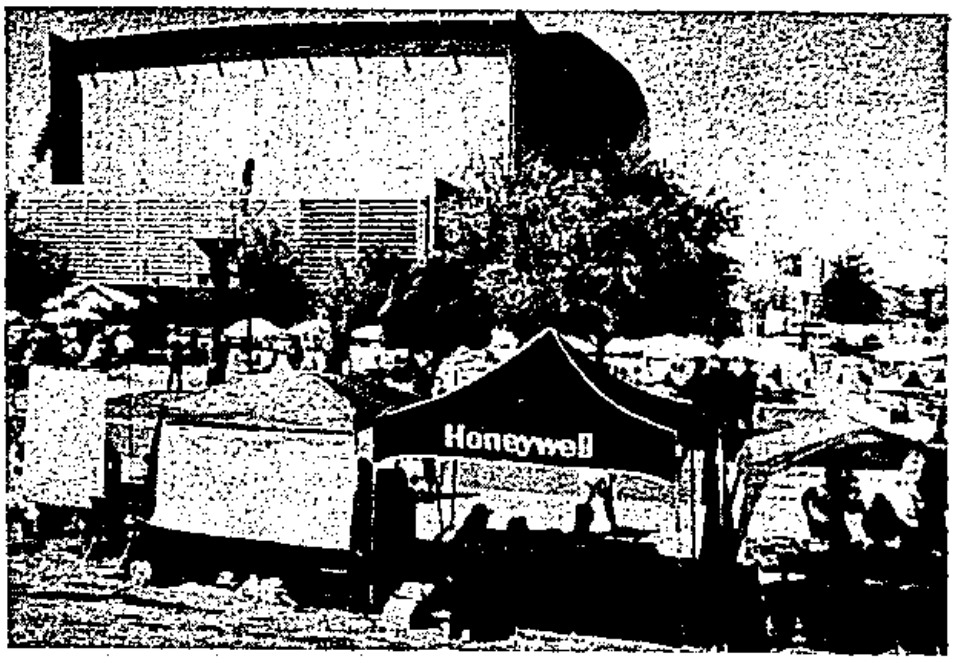
GLAAD Media Awards Held In L.A.

LOS ANGELES, CA (NP) -- Stars came out as the sun set in the west on this year's GLAAD triple-header -- with kudos to Cher, Ellen, Homer and more...and a surprise striptease!

Media watchdog group GLAAD, the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, delivered the final installment of its ninth annual GLAAD Media Awards at a Los Angeles gala.

The awards were created "to honor individuals and projects in the media and entertainment industries for their balanced and accurate representations of the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community and the issues that affect their lives." Among the presenters and special guests in attendance were Jenifer Aniston ("Object of My Affection"), Patrick Bristow ("Peter" of "Ellen" and "Ian" of the now-defunct "Head Over Heels"), Jamie Lee Curtis, Dana Delany, Fran Drescher (who emceed), Gregory Hines, Kate Kendall, Larry King (who revealed that the first man ever to kiss him on the lips was Marlon Brando), Howie

Phoenix Celebrates Pride Through 'A Gateway To Change'



PHOENIX (NP) -- This Arizona city's fairly young parade and festival is thriving, with a new set of self-esteem AIDS billboards as proof of their pride. The theme of this years celebration was Pride '98 - "A Gateway To Change".

Now-openly Gay Rob Halford, former lead singer of heavy metal band Judas Priest, was the Grand Marshal for Arizona Central Pride's parade through Phoenix last Saturday, April 18. That was a big step forward from last year, when the town's first pride parade in eight years ended up having to borrow a non-Gay local radio personality at the last minute to act as Grand Marshal. This year's march had sixty entries, compared to 55 last year, and took about an hour to complete its route.

But while the parade was relatively small and low-key, the Gay Pride Festival following in Margaret T. Hance Deck Park in downtown Phoenix was jumping. At presstime, total attendance figures were not available but estimated as over 12,000. There was plenty of everything for everyone - music, dancing, food, entertainment, and the annual Miss Gay Pride drag contest.

Perhaps the most visible pride observance was neither the festival nor the parade, but four billboards put up by the local AIDS service Project LifeGuard. In the area's first campaign of this kind, the billboards encouraged Gay men to stay healthy and happy, based on the idea that the better a person's self-esteem, the more likely he is to take care of himself.

UPDATE

11th Annual Reno Gannon Memorial Jell-o Wrestling Extravaganza & Auction

TUCSON -- The Eleventh Annual Reno Gannon Jell-O Wrestling Extravaganza, scheduled for Sunday, May 17 is setting up nicely.

The wrestlers are out and about, firming up sponsors. Gilda and Lucinda are starting to mold their outfits and routine. The raffle itself has a new layer, the Raffle Grand Prize -- two round trip tickets from Tucson to the San Francisco Bar Area - now includes two night lodging at the Best Western Americana Hotel in San Francisco (Some restrictions apply).

Raffle tickets are available at the Rainbow Planet CoffeeHouse, the Graduate, IBT's, Stonewall/Eagle, and the Southern Arizona AIDS Foundation.

Wanna wrestle? Wanna know what fruit cocktail feels like surrounded by America's favorite dessert? Wanna memory that will last a lifetime? Call 322-6226 for more information.

Panoramic Productions To Hold Auditions

TUCSON -- Panoramic Productions is currently holding private auditions for the hit comedy "Betty The Yeti" by Jon Klien.

There are roles for young and middle-aged women, Asian women, and young and middle-aged men for performances in late June.

Call (520) 293-5297 to schedule an audition appointment.

TGSA Wants You!

TUCSON -- The Tucson Greater Softball Association (TGSA) is looking for male and female softball players for its Fifth Annual Spring-Summer League.

You do not need any prior softball experience, just the desire to learn and participate in this healthy pastime. The league is tentatively scheduled to begin by early to mid-May.

TGSA has reserved Ourey Park #2 (I-10 at Sixth Street) this weekend -- Saturday, April 25, noon to 2:00 P.M. Sunday, April 26, 6:00 - 8:00 P.M. Come on out and swing a bat and run those bases!

The league needs to field four teams (roughly 50 players) to meet the minimum North American Gay Amateur Athletic Alliance (NAGAA) standards. The four team minimum will guarantee that TGSA will be able to send a league representative to the Gay Softball World Series in Atlanta, GA this August.

The TGSA wishes to thank IBT's for hosting a fund raiser for the IBT's and Graduate softball teams this past weekend!

For more information, please contact Jim T., 625-2618 or Robert S., 296-2738.

Arizona ACES Fundraiser

TUCSON -- A carwash is being held Saturday, April 25 to benefit the Arizona Aces Softball Team in the Tucson Greater Softball Association.

The carwash will take place at Gateway Villas, 228 North Fourth Avenue, 10:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. The cost to get your car cleaned is $3, all of which goes toward expenses for the Aces softball team.

Memorial Rose Garden In Full Bloom At Tucson MCC

TUCSON -- The Memorial Rose Garden at Water of Life Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) is in full spring bloom!

Designed to remember forever those who have gone on before us, the Memorial Rose Garden includes a great variety of roses, most often chosen by the donors. A plaque with each rose bush honors the memory of a loved one along with the name of the rose.

Everyone is invited to drop by anytime during daylight hours and see the spectacular rainbow array of brilliant roses in bloom. The garden is located at the church facility, 3269 North Mountain Avenue.

Space is still available for anyone who wishes to honor the memory of a partner, friend, or family member. For only $20, the church's Rose Garden Team plants the rose bush and maintains the roses year round. You may select the color of the rose.

For more information, call the church, (520) 292-9151.

GayNet Announces Online Sweepstakes

SAN FRANCISCO, CA -- Gay.Net, the most comprehensive online Gay service has announced the "Gay.Net Win An RSVP Five-Day Caribbean Cruise" Sweepstakes at it's world wide web site through May 20.

Gay.Net (http://www.gay.net) will award one winner an RSVP Five Day Caribbean Cruise for two to San Juan, Puerto Rico, aboard the 1,022 passenger Tropicale.

The "Gay.Net Win An RSVP Five-Day Caribbean Cruise" Sweepstakes is open to all U.S. residents who are 18 years of age or older. There is no purchase necessary to enter or win the sweepstakes.

For all the sweepstakes rules and regulations, and an online entry form, please direct your browser to http://www.gay.net.

Desert Voices Rummage Sale April 25

TUCSON -- Desert Voices will be holding a rummage sale, Saturday, April 25 at 3455 East Grant (next to Hours), 8:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Proceeds from the rummage sale will benefit the upcoming two-day music celebration, "Southwest Fest."

Miss Gay Tucson America Pageant
Sunday, April 26
Transportation Available From GTS.
The CAMEL Town Cars will be on-call before, during and after the Pageant.
Call Dee at 404-6185
or find her at the Pageant
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IBT's News Gay-zette

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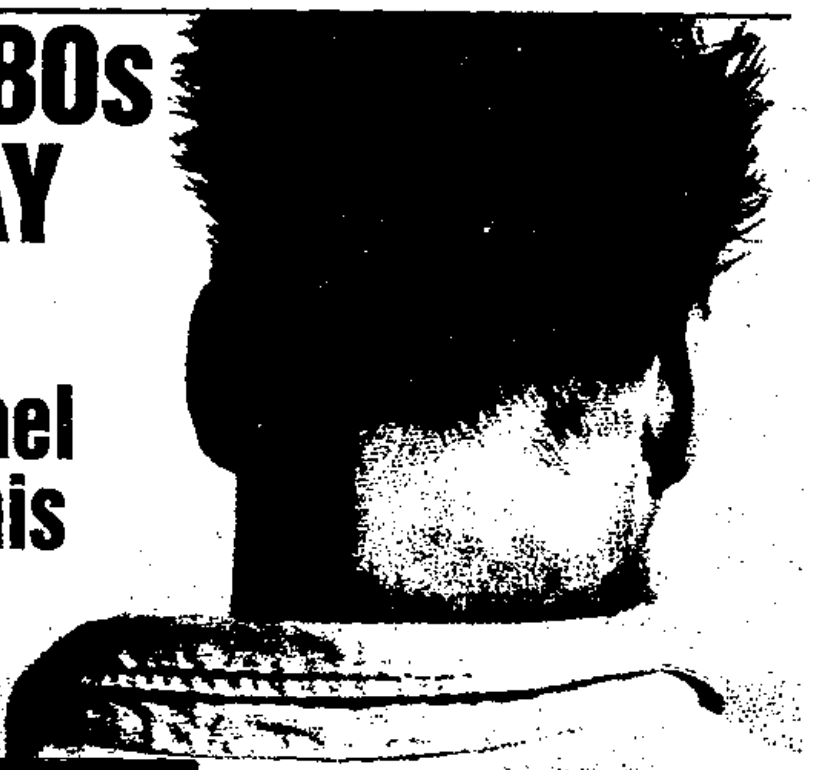

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Condom Brigade Coming Soon To A Tucson Bar Near You

by Rodney Shanks

TUCSON -- Free condom packets will soon be available in all the Gay bars thanks to the collaborative efforts of Desert Leathermen (DL), Gay Men's Health Project (GMHP) and volunteers of the Tucson Gay/Lesbian community.

For several years, DL has done an outstanding job of raising money for and distributing free condoms to the bars in the Tucson community. At the time their efforts began, money was not available to provide free condoms at such a large scale through Pima County Health Department, or the existing AIDS service organizations. DL stepped in and organized a program to provide the condoms for free.

Due to the expense involved, lube was not available and prevention material could not be packaged with the condoms. Thanks to a collaborative effort between Desert Leathermen and GMHP, free condoms with lube will soon be available to the Tucson Gay Community.

Pima County Health Department has given money to pay for Plexi-glas holders to be put in the bars, and GMHP have been working on a new marketing campaign to inform the Tucson community about the availability of the condom packets. Deb Whalen has donated her photography skills and use of a studio, as well as local models who have volunteered their time to pose for the posters and advertisements.

Over 300 ballots given at the local Gay bar chose the final design. The winning image will be on posters as well as the cover of the brochure that will contain instructions for condom usage as well as information on HIV testing locations.

Desert Leathermen have agreed to continue their successful efforts in raising money for and purchasing condoms. These condoms will be given to Condom Brigade volunteers who will stuff the packets with a brochure, a lube packet and two condoms. Volunteers will also be responsible for distributing the packets to the bars and maintaining the holders.

On all of the condom holders there will be a donation box to help purchase the lube and pay for printing of the brochures. Fund raising has already begun to help offset the costs of the lube.

Desert Leathermen will be recognized in all of the brochures for their contribution of the free condoms as well as on the posters at the condom containers in the bars. GMHP would like to give Desert Leathermen recognition for their efforts in providing the condoms to the community, and would like to help further this endeavor with the addition of lube and HIV prevention material to help stop the spread of HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases.

Volunteers are still needed to stuff packets and distribute them to the bars. If you are interested, please contact Rodney at GMHP, 322-6226.

Phoenix Police Suspect Anti-Gay Link In Two Killings

PHOENIX (WS) -- A man shot to death was likely targeted by a group of teenagers because they perceived him as Gay.

Police said the murder of Robert Hernandez, 36, was the second fatal attack in north Phoenix in the past two months against men thought to be Gay.

Phoenix Police Detective Mike McCullough told reporters he doesn't know if there is a connection between the cases of Hernandez and Thomas Moffatt, 71, who was slain in January.

Gay area activists though say they see a "frightening pattern" in the killings.

Police arrested Armen Harutiunian, 15, on a first-degree murder warrant in connection with Hernandez's death. Det. McCullough told reporters that the defendant Harutiunian was with a group of up to four others just before Hernandez's death. Police said they believe Harutiunian approached Hernandez alone, pulled out a handgun, and killed him with a single gunshot to the chest.

"The suspect believed that Mr. Hernandez was a homosexual, and that was the reason for the attack," said Det. McCullough who added no other arrests are expected in the case.

Moffatt's body was found in January, lying halfway out of his car, after he was bludgeoned to death. Police said he had been in an adult bookstore earlier in the evening and that they believe he was the target of activities of anti-Gay people who had been monitoring people patronizing such stores. No arrests have been made in that case.

"It's very scary if Gay men are being targeted," Bill McDonald of the Arizona Human Rights Fund said in an interview. "This is the type of thing that should put the Gay and Lesbian community on alert."

Sisters of Unconditional Lust

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Love

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Featuring: Christina De Alexis (Miss Gay Tucson 88)
Faith (Miss Carousel 97)
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Victoria DuPuis
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And special guests
Co-hosted by whoever is on the "mike"

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2921 N. 1st Ave.

Play Safe!

Lesbian Playwright Wins Pulitzer Prize

NEW YORK, NY (NP) – How a Lesbian playwright learned to drive to the top of the literary world.

Open Lesbian Paula Vogel received the 1998 Pulitzer Prize for Drama and $5,000 for her incest-themed play "How I Learned to Drive," it was announced in a press conference last week.

Vogel had previously been nominated for a Pulitzer for her popular 1992 Obie Best Play winner "Baltimore Waltz," and has received many fellowships, including a Guggenheim. The 1997 off-Broadway production of "How I Learned to Drive" has won a slew of awards from New York City critics, including the Obie for Best Play – yet Vogel had to be coaxed into allowing it to be staged at the Vineyard Theatre, as she felt it wasn't ready yet.

"I've been working on the play in my head for the past 15 years, but I wrote the first draft in two weeks," Vogel said. Vogel credits Molly Smith of Juneau, Alaska's Perseverance Theatre (who's now headed for Washington, DC's Arena Stage) for the development of the play, saying, "She thought the play was extraordinary and I didn't." Vogel was an artist in residence at Perseverance with a Pew grant at the time she wrote "How I Learned to Drive."

The play deftly presents a young woman's seduction by her charming middle-aged uncle in what "Newsday" called "an outwardly innocent but insidiously sexy and enrapturing flirtation" with a mix of humor and pathos. Vogel says it was inspired by Nabokov's "Lolita." The New York production had been slated to close this weekend after a 15-month run, with the original cast scheduled to move on to a Los Angeles engagement and other productions already licensed for some 30 cities.

"How I Learned to Drive" is already beginning development for a film realization, for which Vogel is writing the screenplay. David Richardthal will be producing it for Barking Dog Entertainment, and has promised Vogel he'll keep the award-winning stage cast with stars David Morse (in a role played previously by Bruce Davison of "Longtime Companion") and Mary Louise Parker. Earlier this month, Miramax was already reportedly taking a hard look at the show towards possible acquisition.

Vogel has been the head of Brown University's Master of Fine Arts playwriting program since 1985, although she is currently on leave from that post. She has presented numerous workshops, including some for prisoners, and has been active with regional theaters around the U.S. and Canada, including Seattle's Alice B. Some of Vogel's other works include "The Mineola Twins," "And Baby Makes Seven," "Desdemona," "The Oldest Profession," and "Hot and Throbbing." An anthology of Vogel's works, "Baltimore Waltz and Other Plays," has been published by Theatre Communications Group.

Got A News Tip?
Call The
WEEKLY OBSERVER
(520) 622-7176
Or FAX Us At
(520) 792-8382

CONDOM BRIGADE
COMING SOON TO A BAR NEAR YOU...

Photography: Deb Milligan
Art Director: Chad Froeschner
Models: Jay and Steve

CONDOM BRIGADE
is a collaborative effort of the Tucson Gay/Lesbian community, providing free condom packets to the local gay bars and events.

For volunteer information please contact:
Gay Men's Health Project.
(520)322.6226 or Email us at
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DOORS OPEN
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AMERICA 1997
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APRIL 26TH SPECIAL
1/4 LBS. BURGER W/ CHEESE
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CHECK THE BAR CALENDAR
FOR OUR DAILY SCHEDULE

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The 13th Annual

MISS GAY TUCSON AMERICA PAGEANT

Patti Le Plae Safe
Miss Gay America 1995

Mr Kenneth Blake
Miss Gay Tucson America 1997

Virginia Paeraffee
Miss Gay Arizona America 1997

Pre-judging 5 P.M. *$13 Advance*
Pageant Begins 7 P.M. *$15 at the Door*

SUNDAY, APRIL 26, 1998
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DESERT VOICES
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SATURDAY, APRIL 25th
8 AM TO 4PM

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Continued from Page One

GLAAD Media Awards Held In L.A.

Mandel, Garry Marshall, Armistead Maupin ("Tales of the City"), Joni Mitchell, and Jeffrey Tambor ("The Larry Sanders Show").

Michael Jeter (perhaps most familiar from "Evening Shade") stole the show with a striptease act that was no tease – he was swinging his underwear over his head at one point, although he slipped it back on behind the podium before exiting. Dionne Warwick and The Captain & Tennille entertained with some of their classic songs.

Film star Cher, in a very tasteful purple dress, received GLAAD's Vanguard Award for "a member of the entertainment or media community who has made a significant difference in promoting equal rights for Lesbians and Gay men." Cher had said earlier, "The reason this award from GLAAD means so much to me is because I'm being honored by the Gay community, a group of people who have stood by me and my career through thick and thin."

Although most recognized for having moved beyond mere acceptance of her openly Lesbian daughter Chastity Bono (now a GLAAD staffer) to vocal advocacy on behalf of Gays and Lesbians and their families, Cher is also notable for having played a sympathetic Lesbian character in the 1983 film "Silkwood," netting her an Oscar nomination and a Golden Globe award long before "Lesbian chic." Cher has also been an active supporter of AIDS charities including the American Foundation for AIDS Research and the Pediatric AIDS Foundation.

"Ellen" star Ellen DeGeneres – in absentia -- was given GLAAD's Stephen F. Kolzak Award (named for the late openly Gay man best-known for the original casting of "Cheers") for "an openly Lesbian or Gay individual in the media for an outstanding contribution in combating homophobia." With DeGeneres off in London, her award was accepted by her onscreen heartthrob Lisa Darr and pal David Anthony Higgins ("Java Joe").

To the surprise of absolutely no one, ABC's "Ellen" also nabbed GLAAD's Outstanding TV Comedy Series Award, topping ABC's "Spin City" and NBC's "Suddenly Susan" and "Mad About You" (on whose season finale DeGeneres is making a guest appearance) -- aside from its groundbreaking Lesbian-centered content, at this point it looks as if "Ellen" is the only nominee in the category that won't be back again next year. DeGeneres also contributed to Oprah Winfrey's win in the Outstanding TV Talk Show category, since it was the "'Ellen's Coming Out' Episode" edition of "Oprah" that took the prize (you'll recall that Winfrey portrayed the therapist in that famous "Puppy Episode," the one who got to say, "Good for you, you're Gay").

Also not too hard to predict was the selection of "In & Out" for Outstanding Film (Wide Release) over "As Good As It Gets," "My Best Friend's Wedding" and "Midnight in the Garden of Good and Evil." "In & Out" was the #22 top grosser last year with its Capra-esque treatment of the "outing" of a small-town teacher played by Kevin Kline, his big Hollywood-style kiss with Tom Selleck, and a script by open Gay Paul Rudnick. Clint Eastwood's "Midnight in the Garden" also featured a central Gay character (albeit a murder suspect) but didn't pull in the audiences. "My Best Friend's Wedding," with open Gay Rupert Everett playing Julia Roberts' character's openly Gay pal, was #7 on the money list and has a sequel coming out soon, while Greg Kinnear had an Oscar nomination for his Gay neighbor role in the much-honored "As Good As It Gets."

ABC's "NYPD Blue" topped NBC's "ER" and FOX's now-defunct "413 Hope Street" for Outstanding TV Drama Series. "NYPD Blue" featured a story line in which a Lesbian cop and her writer partner sought out a series regular to father their child, only to have the Lesbian cop shot to death by a man hired by the now-pregnant writer's insanely obsessed ex-lover.

Outstanding TV Individual Episode went to the "Homer's Phobia" edition of FOX's "The Simpsons," which featured Gay filmmaker John Waters as a charming collector of campy 1950's memorabilia, who ultimately saves Homer's life from a bungled hunting trip intended to ensure son Bart's heterosexuality. There was some tough competition from nominees "Big Gay Al's Big Gay Boat Ride" edition of Comedy Central's "South Park," "Here She Comes, Miss Amphipolis" dpisode of the syndicated "Xena: Warrior Princess," HBO's "Drop Dead Gorgeous (a Tragicomedy): The Power of HIV-Positive Thinking," and – lost amidst the humor – the "Civil Rights" issue of ABC's legal drama "The Practice."

Outstanding Newspaper Article was awarded to Newsday's Matthew McAllester's "What a Difference a Modem Makes," beating out "Death of a Sailor" by Cheryl Lavin in the Chicago Tribune, "A Self-Made Man" by David Tuller in the San Francisco Chronicle, and "Nowhere to Hide: When Love Turns Mean" by Katherine Seligman in the San Francisco Examiner.

Outstanding Los Angeles Theater Production was awarded to "Mountains" over "The Sum of Us," "Gay 90's Musical," "Rent," and "The Normal Heart."

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CLUB CONGRESS
311 EAST CONGRESS · 622-8848 · DOWNTOWN

POLITICS 1998

by Mark R. Kerr

Wake Me Up Before You Blow Blow! I'm Tired Of Doing It Solo!"

Seconds, minutes, hours, days, weeks, months, years . . . time, that precious commodity. We just never have enough to get the too-numerous tasks completed. If the Arizona Inquisition, err Legislature gets its way, they will have even more time . . . in office. Yikes!

The state is facing many problems but the Inquisitors, nitwits, errs Legislators cure-all is to give them more time in office. More time?!

HCR 2017 is a proposed state constitutional amendment that would double the terms of legislators from two to four years. "Four more years, four more years!" Puh-leeze!

Proponents of this cockamamie idea contend that the poor lawmakers (themselves) now spend just-way-too-much-time-and-moolah going through the motions of having to run for office every other year. What a pity . . . not! Giving them even more time, they state, would give legislators "more time to concentrate on issues . . . " Ha!

Concentrate on issues? You mean those ever-so-important topics as:

Same-sex marriage. Faster than you could sing, "Going to the chapel and we're gonna get married," the Arizona Legislature ram-rodded a ban in 1996, despite the fact that Arizona laws had already covered this topic twice. It was an election year, time for more feel-good faggot and dyke bashing! What's next?

The "blue" laws: cohabitation; sodomy statutes, etc. On the books since 1901 and rarely enforced, (only once for the cohabitation statute!). Another attempt to repeal them went down to defeat. Upholding family values . . . the Republican-controlled Legislature bellowed.

Cleavage regulation, orifices and engorged sexual organs. It is not a topic for Jerry Springer but SB 1162. This year's "smut-bill," purported to regulating adult businesses, is sailing through the Legislature. Hell! Give me "life, liberty and the pursuit of simulated sex acts!"

Remember, the debates over this waste of taxpayers' money: giggling, accusations of expertise in "stiffies," and a straight-WASP male Republican Legislator quoting Liza Minelli in Cabaret. So Arizona can't be called, "The Grand Canyon State," an engorged orifice?

Dildos. Lest we forget the infamous "dildo bill" from former ultraconservative State Representative and now an aide to Governor Hull, Leslie Whiting Johnson . . . and her hats, which no self-respecting drag queen would be caught dead wearing!

Where to sell them and regulating the size of the plastic-pleasure devices, the Arizona Legislature considered. Size-queens! Protecting family values, paraphrasing Arizona's version of Hedda Hopper on why this measure was needed. Oh, really?

Adoption and foster parenting. A relative of Whiting-Johnson, (they're breeding?), State Representative Karen Johnson, R-Mesa, righteous paragon of family values wanted to make sure Gays and Lesbians could never adopt or be foster parents in Arizona.

Johnson pushed for this legislation despite the fact teen-pregnancy in Arizona ranks #1 in the nation and there are 6,000 children in the state's foster care programs with 1,883 registered homes (room for 4,000). Doesn't add up?!

Right! Don't tell Karen, who believes that kids should have a "normal, traditional family, a mother and a father." Sure, she knows!

This comes from a person who has gone through five husbands and eleven kids! Go figure! Right, some WASP couple from Lilywhiteville is going to adopt a Latin-American, African-American baby or for that matter a Gay and Lesbian teenager! Sure they will . . . not!

Still, on the subject of children: school groups and activities. Rep. Dan Schottel, R-Tucson, tried to push a ban on Gay and Lesbian student groups on any school campus (elementary through college).

Danny boy didn't stop there though. In a companion bill, it would have been illegal for a school employee to belong to a group that "promoted homosexuality." The Boy Scouts?

Our alleged "special rights." The Republican-controlled Legislature tried to put a Colorado-Amendment 2 style proposed state constitutional anti-Gay and Lesbian amendment which would have given us fewer rights than produce! Remember Frank Meliti and his Traditional Values Coalition . . . of one! Thank heavens for the U.S. Supreme Court!

In an election year, Republicans just think we are so special! Fag-bashing = big bucks! Check puh-leeze!

HIV/AIDS. Over the past three years, the Arizona Medical Association (AZMA) and their paid conspirators, legislators, have turned getting testing for HIV in Arizona very hazardous to your health. Why? The poor-overpaid-Marcus-Welby-wannabees can't do the paperwork! What a pity . . . not! Anonymous testing, thank heavens for the County Health Department . . . for the moment.

This year, there is the "Good Samaritan Act," presently sailing through the Legislature. If an individual allegedly helps someone out an accident scene and gets bodily fluid on them, they could (soon will) be able to call the Arizona Department of Health Services and find out if the person had any communicable diseases. Of course, the persons' name won't be given out. SURE! In addition, who would pull someone out of an accident, especially with the fire department and paramedics, trained individuals, nearby? It's an election year kids!

Then there have been the attempts to quarantine people living with AIDS or who were HIV+ during the late 80's when Ronnie Reagan's solution to AIDS, "Just Ignore," was followed.

The Arizona Legislature continued to do nothing about AIDS. In September of 1997 and March 1998, Gov. Jane Hull authorized $900,000 for the state's beleaguered AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP), which ran out of money in September 1997. The first such funding from the state to deal with HIV/AIDS.

Governor Hull has proposed $1.7 million for the upcoming budget, to come

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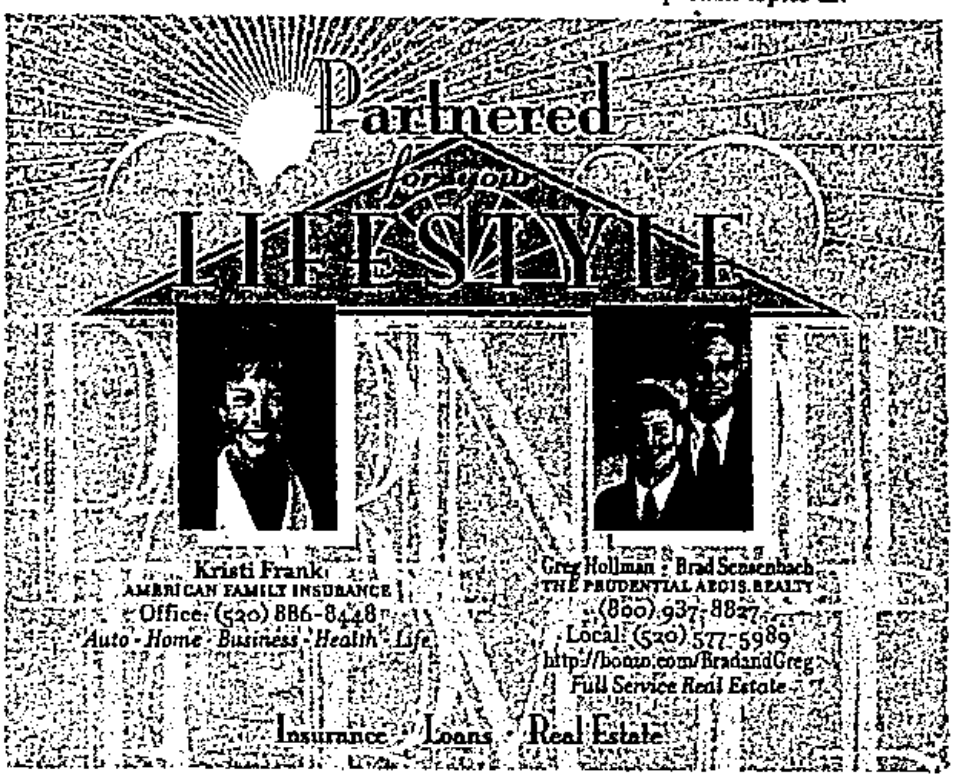

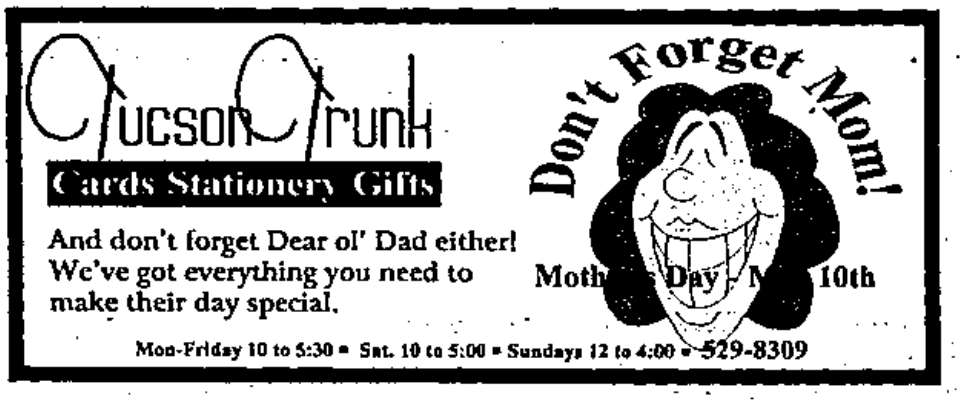

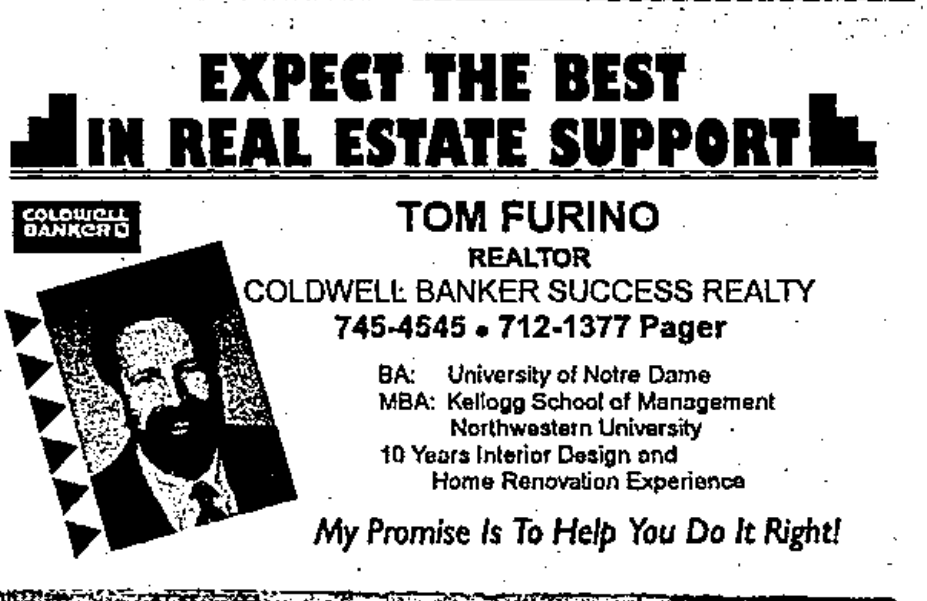

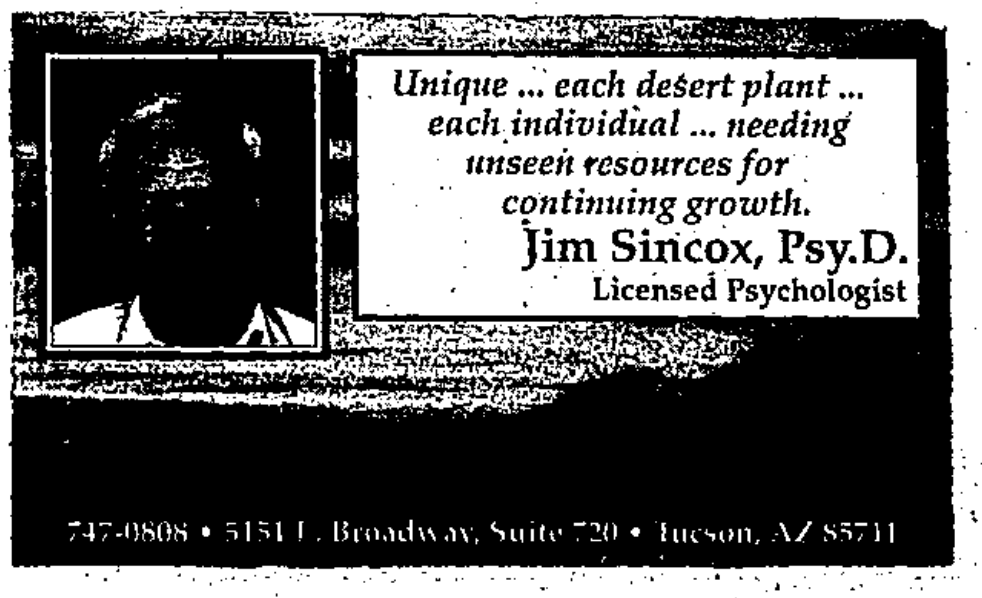

SPORTS

Desert Coyotes Bowling League Standings

	Won	Lost	Pct
Tres Amigos	18.0	6.0	.750
Gay Caballeros	18.0	6.0	.750
Erratica II	16.0	8.0	.667
Helen	16.0	8.0	.667
Triple T	14.0	10.0	.583
Six	13.0	11.0	.542
Triple Dickys	12.0	12.0	.500
Prickly Pears	11.0	13.0	.458
Weeblows	10.0	14.0	.417
Buddies	10.0	14.0	.417
The D's	9.0	15.0	.375
3 Hole Hookers	8.0	16.0	.333
Smokin Bears	7.0	17.0	.292
Ft Lng Ht Dogs	6.0	18.0	.250

LETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLETTERSLETTERSL

EDITOR:

I was elated to see a decision by the county administration had finally been made to allow employees with domestic partners to sign up. I was under the impression that we were going to have to wait yet again pending a decision on the appeal filed by a private citizen. The inquiries by The Observer and reporter Mark Kerr made the Board aware of the current delay and got them involved in resolving the situation.

The reality is still setting in because we were at this point last year. I had signed up my partner only to learn that it was not going into effect. We've met with so many obstacles and delays that you don't really know for certain what is going to come up next that will keep what we've set out to accomplish from happening (how's that for a run on). Although there were times during the past three years that it seemed hopeless, I did not give up hope because I knew it was the right thing and I was committed to it.

I am grateful to the Board of Supervisors for stepping out there in support of the employees and would ask members of the community to return this support to the three Democrats (Raul Grijalva, Sharon Bronson and Dan Eckstrom) who voted this in.

I am eternally grateful to the committee that worked with me (Mike Humphrey, Cecilia Monroe and Delores Kropf) for their hard work and ongoing commitment to the very end to see this through. Mike and Cecilia are married individuals who had nothing to gain from this except to see it happen because they believed in it.

I am indebted to LAMBDA, specifically Jon Davidson and Pam Liberty, for all the hours spent challenging to County Attorney's decision to delay the inevitable.

Finally, my gratitude to The Observer for its complete coverage and participating in holding the powers that be accountable during what seemed like an endless process. In the end, The Observer kept the ball rolling by making the ongoing inquiries to individuals who had the ability to effect change and take action.

I never saw myself as an activist or someone who would take risks. It's like any dream, though, when you take action, find support and persevere, it can happen! This is one experience that will always have an impact on me, both positive and otherwise, that I will take with me throughout life in any future endeavors.

Damien McNeal
Pima County Domestic Partners
Ad Hoc Committee

[The following is a sample letter from the Arizona AIDS Policy Alliance (AZAPA). AZAPA is urging readers of The Observer to copy the letter and send it to their State Legislators.]

DEAR LEGISLATOR:

We understand there is an amendment to SB 1236 being drafted which will subsidize the Plans of the Health Care Group program under AHCCCS. This program was established by the Arizona State Legislature to provide affordable and accessible healthcare coverage to the working uninsured, specifically to small businesses.

We strongly urge you to support this amendment so that 20,000+ employed Arizona citizens who currently pay premiums for their health insurance to one of the Plans will not lose benefits. The three Plans: Arizona IPA, University Physicians, and Mercy Healthcare Group have notified participants they will no longer be able to purchase this product because of the growing financial losses due to the high volume of claims. Obviously the membership mix contains a large number of individuals who require health care services; this is why the program was established in the first place. Without positive legislative action, the three Plans will implement this devastating decision and many people, including a number of individuals infected with HIV/AIDS, will be unable to afford or obtain vital medical treatment.

We recognize that the amendment to SB 1236 is only a short term solution to subsidize claims from January 1998 through June 1999. We believe it is critical that the Arizona State Legislature place a high priority on finding a long term solution to this issue so that the rolls of uninsured in this state do not expand by another 20,000 now or in the future.

Thank you for your support.

AS I SEE IT..... BY CLARK

MEET YOUR FRIENDS AT THE GRAD

TOURNAMENT TIMES AT THE GRAD
SATURDAY - 2 PM - 8 BALL
WEDNESDAY - 7 PM - 9 BALL
THURSDAY - 7:30 PM - 301 DARTS
ALL POTS MATCHED

PLAY SHUFFLEBOARD
POOL • DARTS • GOLF
MEGATOUCH • PINBALL & BASKETBALL

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http://bonzo.com/graduate Home Bar of TKO

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Tucson's East Side Gay Show Bar
Miss Gay Tucson In Review Show
Saturday, April 25th • 9 O'Clock

Miss Gay America 1995
Patti Le Plae Safe
Miss Gay Arizona 1997
Virginia Sacrifice

Miss Gay Tucsons
1997 Kenneth Blake
1996 Felice Renard
1995 Elektra Bleu
1994 Miss Gay Tucson & Arizona Lucinda Holliday
1992 Candi Plastique
1991 Tiffany St. Thomas
1990 Raven
1988 Christina De Alexis

Reservations Required
$2 Cover

GO GIRL

Saturday, April 25th
Pet Watch BeerBust
3-7PM on the Patio

EVERY THURSDAY
Fosters Leather Night
Fosters Beer and Other Specials!
(It's MORE than a fetish)

Armed Forces Day
UNIFORM PARTY!
Saturday, May 16th

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Tuff Stuff Too! Open Thurs.-Sun.
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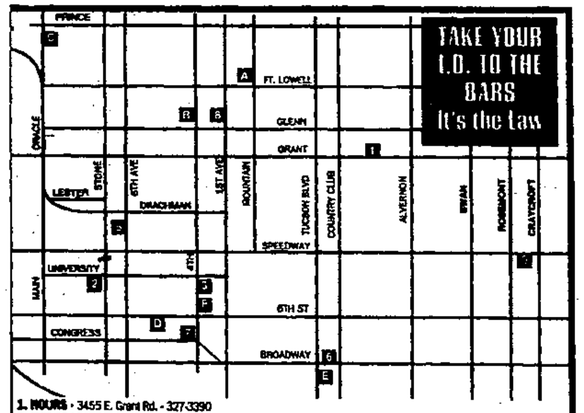


1. HOURS - 3455 E. Grant Rd. - 327-3390
2. THE GRADUATE - 23 W. University - 622-9233
3. BT'S - 616 N. 4th Ave. - 882-3053
5. VENTURE-N - 1239 N. 6th Ave. - 882-8224
6. AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - 2900 E. Broadway - 318-4838
7. CLUB CONGRESS - 311 E. Congress - 622-8848
8. STONEWALL/EAGLE - 2921 N. First Ave. - 624-8805
9. IRON MOON - 5150 E. Speedway - 881-7500

A. METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH - 3269 N. Mountain - 292-9151
B. CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP - 2902 N. Geronimo - 622-4626
D. WINGSPAN - 300 E. 6th St. - 624-1779
E. S.A.A.F - 151 S. Tucson Blvd. Suite 252 - 322-6226

— COMMUNITY COFFEEHOUSES —

C. GIRLFRIENDS - 3540 N. Oracle - 888-GIRL
F. RAINBOW PLANET - 606 N. 4th Ave - 620-1770

TUCSON DIRECTORY

Home On The Range With AGRA - Tucson

Well, another week in the Old Pueblo and it is sure starting to show signs of summer. The results are in and here is a brief rundown on the results of the 1998-99 Board of Directors. Voting results were counted at the past meeting. Our new President - Henry W.; Vice-President - Bill D.; Secretary - Wes C.; Treasurer - TBA; Fund Raising - with write in nominations for Patricia T. and Cindy C.; Public Relations - Scott W.; D & E - Randy T.; Rodeo Events - Raul R.; State Rep. - write ins for Terry D., Richard G., and Patricia T.

We are still working on closing out the books for the 1998 Saguaro Regional Rodeo and things are looking good. No numbers were disclosed but I will let you know as soon as we have them for you.

I look forward to serving again as Public Relations and I am open for comments on interesting tidbits or comments you would like to see in the article each week. Please feel free to contact me via pager, (520) 516-9003 or via e-mail at PRCowboyAZ@aol.comorat AGRATucson@psn.net.

One last note. Get your ideas ready for this year's Saguaro Regional Rodeo Poster contest. We will start taking entries for this year's poster at next month's meeting. Voting will be done at the July meeting. Tune in for details.

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

[AGRA-Tucson, POB 40894, Tucson, AZ 85717-0894. Phone: (520) 323-0805. Fax: (520) 323-1790.]

Airline Discounts and Hotel/Party Packages For San Diego Pride Weekend

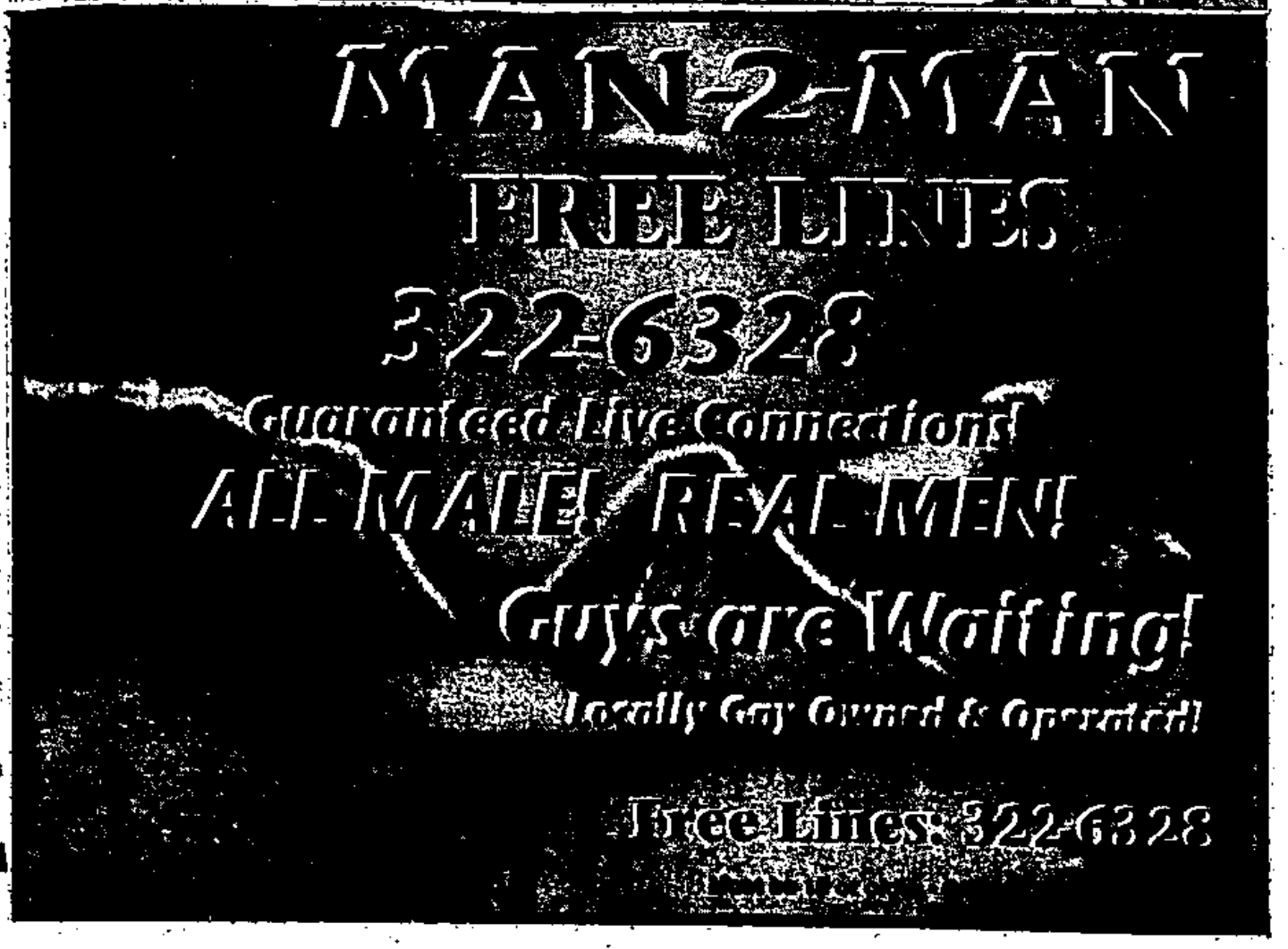
SAN DIEGO, CA -- San Diego Lesbian and Gay Pride has teamed up with United Airlines and a new tour operator to accommodate the scores of visitors expected to attend this year's Pride weekend, July 24-26.

Pride-bound travelers to San Diego will enjoy a 10 percent discount off published or advertised airfares with United Airlines. The carrier is one of several corporate sponsors lending their names to the massive celebration this summer.

In addition, North Park/Pathfinders Travel & Tours, based in San Diego, is currently handling bookings for air travel and lodging. It also offers Pride-goers three different hotel and party packages ranging from deluxe to inexpensive.

Each package includes two-day festival passes and accommodations for one or two nights at the historic U.S. Grant Hotel, where a ballroom Pride party will take place on the evening of July 24. The renowned Zoo party, to be held July 26, is included in two of the packages. The agency is also booking rooms with the Horton Grand, Quality Inn and Demitris.

For more information about San Diego Pride events, call (619) 297-7683.



A Taste of the Water of Life

News from MCC Tucson

"Homosexuality And The Scripture At MCC

TUCSON -- Pastor Joyce Cook has announced a four-part sermon series at Water of Life Metropolitan Community Church (MCC) on "Homosexuality and the Scriptures," subtitled, "What they never told you in Sunday School."

The series begins Sunday, April 26 at the regular 10:45 A.M. Worship Service and continues through Sunday, May 17 at Water of Life MCC, 3269 N. Mountain Avenue.

Pastor Cook will review those Scripture texts that have traditionally be interpreted to disenfranchise the queer population from Christian churches. She will discuss the texts as they were originally recorded and will offer insight into the original language and modern day interpretation. Her analysis will also include cross-references to other Scripture texts that clarify the original meaning of those Scriptures.

In that context, Pastor Cook will document that indeed there is nothing in the traditional Christian Scriptures that condemns homosexuality and the queer community. Pastor Cook's dissection of the Scriptures will amaze you by how the original writings have been twisted and perverted against the queer community! The sermon series will also include information about queer friendly Scriptures and will document that the Bible is indeed Gay/Lesbian friendly -- those Scriptures that they never told you about in Sunday School or Christian Education classes.

Water of Life MCC is a member congregation of the Universal Fellowship of Metropolitan Community Church (UFMCC), which while open to all people, primarily serves the Gay, Lesbian, Bisexual and Transgendered community and their families and friends. Founded in 1968 by the Rev. Elder Troy D. Perry, UFMCC now numbers more than 300 congregations in 19 countries worldwide. Founded in 1970, Water of Life MCC numbers among the early congregations of the UFMCC with more than 27 years of continuous service in the Tucson area.

For further information, contact Water of Life MCC, (520) 292-9151.

A View From The Rock

A Commentary From Cornerstone Fellowship

Ever since I can remember I have had a "save box". When I was growing up this box contained all kinds of things which were important to me, some artwork which I did in fourth grade, a popsicle stick with what I thought was a love note on it, love letters, essays which I was especially proud of. When I looked through the collection in my box I could feel all the excited, happy emotions which I experienced when I first read the love letter, or received that "Good job!" on my paper. Even though I am an adult, I still have a save box. Now it contains opera tickets, valentine's cards, wedding invitations, funeral notices, all items which remind me of special events in my life, whether joyful or sad. When I go through these things, I remember special people in my life. Although the funeral cards may be a reminder of someone's death, they are also reminders of that person's life and the good times we shared together.

There is another kind of "save box" which many of us have, but this is not a box in which we place tangible remembrances of people and events. This box contains reminders of the hurtful things which are said and done to us. Did someone break a promise? Plop! In the box it goes. Does someone tell an untruth about us? We can't wait to put it in the save box! And if someone does something which hurts us, and then comes to apologize to us, what do we do? "I can forgive you, but I'll never forget what you did" we tell that person, and then we run to add yet another treasure to the box! When we are feeling especially lonely, or unhappy, or forgotten, we just go to our save box, open it wide, and lovingly take out all the hurt and pain stored there. Then we look at each remembrance and experience once again all the emotions which we felt when the event first occurred!

Why would we want to do this to ourselves? And who is hurting when we review all the painful experiences through which we have gone? Certainly not the person who inflicted the pain upon us!

Jesus gives an invitation to each one of us: "Come unto me, all ye that labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest." (Matthew 11:28 KJV) And the Apostle Peter directs us to "Cast...all your care upon him; for he careth for you." (I Peter 5:7 KJV) Each one of our hurts, each disappointment we have in life, Jesus wants to lift from our shoulders. As long as we put these things in our save box, they remain burdens, to be reviewed again and again. When we give them to Jesus, he takes them from us and gives us joy and peace in their place. Does this mean we never hurt again? No, but each time we remember something hurtful we should immediately give it to Jesus instead of putting it in our save box. If we developed this habit, the time may come when our save box will be completely empty! Then we can start filling it with remembrances of kind words and loving actions others show to us. That kind of save box is one which will be a continual encouragement!

Does Jesus promise to take the burdens of everyone? Absolutely! Each one who comes to Jesus, believing that he is the only way to have sins forgiven, receives Jesus promise not just of eternal life but of peace and rest in this life as well. If you have not yet come to him, what better time than now? What better day than today?

CORNERSTONE FELLOWSHIP

12TH ANNIVERSARY

APRIL 24TH, 25TH & 26TH

COME CELEBRATE WITH US AND HEAR THE SPIRIT FILLED AND ANNOINTED TEACHING OF REV. JOAN WAKEFORD

Friday April 24th	7:00 p.m.	Worship Service
Saturday April 25th	11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.	Picnic*
Saturday April 25th	7:00 p.m.	Worship Service
Sunday April 26th	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School
Sunday April 26th	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
(BBQ to follow Sunday Worship Service)		
Sunday April 26th	3:00 p.m. (approx)	Prayer Service

2902 N. Geronimo (602)622-4626
E-mail address: "ChristForAll@Juno.Com"

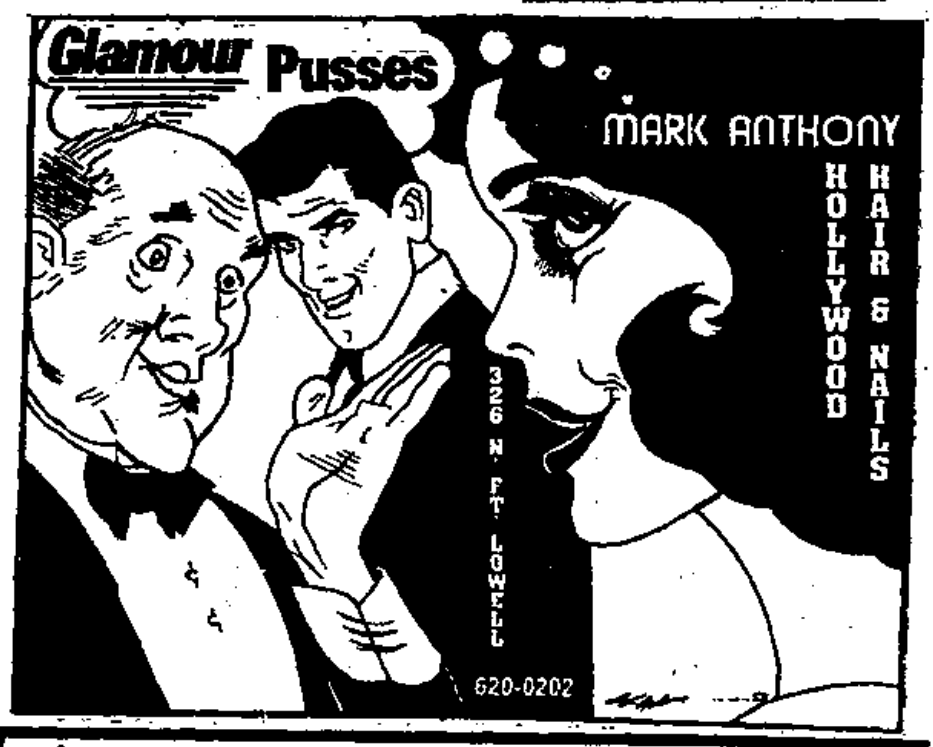
E-mail: water-of-life-mcc@pridemail.com
Web site: http://members.tripod.com/WaterofLifeMCC/

Water of Life Metropolitan Community Church

Nothing is impossible with God!

Joyce Cook, Pastoral Leader
Sunday Services: 10:45 AM

3269 N. Mountain Avenue
(just north of Fort Lowell Rd.)
Tucson, AZ 85719
Phone: (520) 292-9151
Fax: (520) 696-0783



HIV/ AIDS Medical Services

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UA and Kino Community Hospital

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10%
of my gross income generated by members and friends of the Gay & Lesbian Community will be donated to local AIDS service organizations.
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Vice President
LONG REALTY COMPANY
Phone: (520) 326-1122
Home: (520) 323-3313
1-800-279-2211
3805 E. Broadway
Tucson, AZ 85716

Columna Abierta. by Dr. Eleazar Garcia

¿Cómo Ta esta pasando?, ¿ha disfrutado estos días calurosos?, que bueno ya que habemos algunas personas que se nos "acelera" un poco más y de verdad que ha veces necesitamos del acelere para dar rendimiento a lo que tenemos que desarrollar... Ya que hay días que "de plano, no nos rinden" por tantos compromisos que tenemos y que son parte del trabajo a llevarse a cabo.... Pues tal como les dije en la Columna Anterior, La conferencia Anual sobre Salud del Adolescente se llevó a cabo en la YMCA Leadership Center de Phoenix, que para mí fué la primera vez que visitaba ese establecimiento, que de verdad está "a todo dar" y con un equipo audiovisual supermoderno y dejando eso al lado, el contenido del programa fué fabuloso, y una de las mejores oradoras fué la Señora Flora M. Sanchez Coordinadora de Search de Alburquerque NM. quien ha estado trabajando gran parte de su vida en diferentes areas de educación para los jóvenes, de verdad que nos puso a pensar que no hay escuela para padres y la gran necesidad de aceptar este reto; sí deseamos buenos hijos hay que ser buenos padres... y lo que también fué muy notorio, la falta de autoridades de los distritos escolares así como maestros o consejeros que en realidad necesitamos incluirles en estos programas de prevención... El caso es que estaba tan bueno el contenido de los talleres educativos que para poder asistir tuve que "echar volados" para así decidir en cual participar... De verdad muchos creditos a los organizadores de esta conferencia entre los que pude darme cuenta estaba; Barbara Olson y Sharon Ketchum entre otros grandes profesionales en la salud preventiva...

Y comentando de cosas locales; me "dí un tiempo" para ir al Stonewall y presenciar el show de **Fuerza Latina** con un "opening" como en los show's de las grandes ciudades, de verdad que muy buena coreografía y con un fabuloso vestuario, y las participaciones de cada uno de los integrantes han mejorado muchísimo, de verdad que estan muy bién coordinados pero siguen los "puntos malos" sobre la puntualidad, deben de considerar que las personas que les gusta ver y apoyar sus presentaciones tienen que trabajar al siguiente día y si esas personas quieren verles también quieren regresarse temprano para prepararse en sus labores del siguiente día; este comentario me lo han hecho saber algunas personas que de verdad disfrutan del show y de la fiesta pero con ese inconveniente; ¿no podrían empezar un poco mas temprano y con menos interpretaciones?...Vamos a tratar de entrevistar a algunos elementos de Fuerza Latina para las siguientes Columna Abierta;... Se le recuerda que las noches Latinas serán los Martes y los jueves de cada semana.

Se le recuerda tambien, que la conferencia de la Mujer se llevará a cabo este fin de semana en el hotel Marriott de la Universidad de Arizona; si necesita información al respecto por favor comunicarse con el Dr. Juan Paz de la escuela de Trabajo Social de la ASU oficina de Tucson al 884-5507; Y hablando de Salud de la Mujer; la Dra. Iris F. Litt en su libro "taking our pulse"; la Dra. Litt escribe con una amplia experiencia no sólo a nivel clínico, docente e investigativo, sino además desde una perspectiva feminista. El libro contiene información práctica y examina la salud en diferentes épocas de la vida de la mujer, desmitificando creencias culturales que la vinculan con su función reproductiva o que le atribuyen más causas emocionales que físicas a las enfermedades en la mujer.

De hecho, una de las metas del libro es precisamente exponer muchos de estos mitos para ofrecer una reinterpretación de creencias socialmente aceptadas pero falsas a nivel médico. Además de capítulos sobre la salud de la mujer en la niñez y adolescencia, en la edad adulta, en la edad premenopáusica y en la madurez, Este libro discute tópicos como las enfermedades sexuales, el embarazo y su prevención, salud mental, drogadicción, violencia, nutrición, atención médica, la mujer como médico y normas para que una mujer elija a su médico. La Dra. Litt es catedrática de pediatría y directora del Instituto de Investigación de la Mujer y de Medicina Adolescente en Stanford University. Para adquirir el libro; 1 800 872-7423...

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

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Tucson, AZ 85716
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(520)287-4722 - FAX: 287-4349

Theresa Mendez, HIV/AIDS Education Coalition, 1852 N. Mastick Way, Nogales, AZ 85621
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ABC Cancels Late Season 'Ellen' Return

LOS ANGELES, CA (NYDN) -- The executive producer of "Ellen" lashed out at ABC network executives for the abrupt cancellation of plans to bring the show back for a two-week run before its May 13 season finale.

ABC confirmed that the mid-season series, "Two Guys, a Girl, and a Pizza Place," will remain and will make way only for the farewell episode. Network brass say the new series has consistently outperformed "Ellen" in the Wednesday 9 p.m. timeslot and that the two-shelved "Ellen" episodes will probably be shown this summer.

The move all but officially confirms the death of the groundbreaking series, though rumors have been circulating for months this was the show's last season. The show's ratings have showed steady decline since viewership peaked last spring, when Ellen DeGeneres came out as a Lesbian and brought the show's lead character out with her.

"Ellen" executive producer Tim Doyle said ABC's touting of "Two Guys" was a network smoke screen to hide its uneasiness with "Ellen" and its content. "I'm a little bit disappointed," Doyle said. "ABC is desperately trying to build a case for the cancellation of 'Ellen' and that it's somehow based on lack of viewer interest."

In recent interviews, DeGeneres said the network had given her every indication that the show was over. Doyle said DeGeneres long ago resigned herself to the idea "that this show should go away and she should make a new show."

Word of ABC's decision was also criticized by the Gay & Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation, which has worked tirelessly to keep "Ellen" on the air. "We believe that America's viewers deserve and expect to see 'Ellen' in its entirety," said Joan Garry, GLAAD's executive director. "We're very disappointed at the news. I don't think people realize how powerful this show is."

Politics

CONTINUED FROM PAGE EIGHT

from the state's tobacco tax health care fund. Will it be approved by a legislative body that hasn't contributed one dime to AIDS since the beginning of the epidemic?

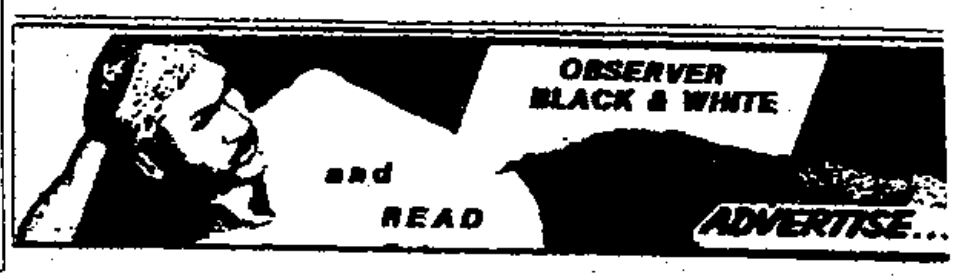
Do they need more time to concentrate on this issue? Do the 9,455 (as of January 1, 1998) people living with HIV/AIDS in Arizona have more time to wait? Those people, 3,986 (as of January 1, 1998) who lost their battle to this deadly epidemic didn't get more time!

Is this proposal a done deal? Not quite! If an agreement is reached with the State House and Senate in conference committee (it has bipartisan support), the proposal would go before the voters in November for consideration.

Four more years? More time to make people's lives a living hell! Four more years? For a part-time job? Four more years? To consider legislation giving rapists some relief; regulating dildos; creating a waste-of-money projects such as the Constitutional Defense Council; naming the official state dirt and dinosaur!

The clock has struck midnight! Their time is up!

So it goes for now kids!



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BY C. LICHTENSTEIN

The radiant Sun changes signs this week from robust Aries to unstoppable Taurus. Personal goals take on a new hue and strong direction from robust Aries to unstoppable Taurus. Personal goals take on a new hue and strong direction from the unshakable (read: stubborn) Taurean force. Take your dreams to the next level, cousins. And remember, Taurus also knows how to stop and smell the flowers. Enjoy your gotten gains.

ARIES
MARCH 21 - APRIL 20

What do proud Rambos value most aside from their own good looks? The feisty Sun traverses the zodiac and lands in solid Taurean energy. Financial issues move from chorus to center stage as money becomes the driving concern of the moment. You are as you spend, dear, queer Aries. If you need the big bucks to make a big splash, so be it. Everybody into the pool!

TAURUS
APRIL 21 - MAY 21

Birthday Bulls should let loose when the Sun moves into your own sign and over does it in the charm department. (If you could only bottle and store it for a rainy day...) Proud Taureans should display the merchandise and see who buys. Begin new projects and meet many new folks now. If you can view life from a different angle, the sky is the limit. Pack a protractor and get going.

GEMINI
MAY 22 - JUNE 21

Spread Gay charitable cheer. Get with the program and graciously offer your time and energy to one of our great community causes. Sun in Taurus highlights volunteerism and spiritual redemption which means you should give now to reap impressive rewards later. Bonus time; Expect great things when the planets empty out your closet. Talk about a breath of fresh air! Whew!

CANCER
JUNE 22 - JULY 23

Get ready for a wild social fest with Sun in sensual Taurus. Pink Crabs seek the company of friends and acquaintances who can reinforce their goals and direction in life. This is not a bad thing unless group think leads you to life stages that make you feel uncomfortable and out of place. Hold firm dear, queer Crab and be who you are, barnacles and all. We love you for your true lavender you.

LEO
JULY 24 - AUGUST 23

Don't despair of not being properly recognized for your professional achievements. Sun in practical Taurus brings home the bacon in a big way in your career. Proud, dramatic Lions should use this advantageous time to court power and present their best ideas to those with the power to make them explode. Examine your life's direction and see if you are on the right track. If not, change trains.

VIRGO
AUGUST 24 - SEPTEMBER 23

Proud Virgos are energized with the Sun in Taurus to explore and experience foreign places and folk. Pack those bags and head out to parts unknown, friend. It's an excellent time to feast upon the spicy and learn by doing. The knowledge that you acquire now may be of especially good use down the road. Even lawsuits take a turn for the better, but only if you've done your homework and remain focused.

LIBRA
SEPTEMBER 24 - OCTOBER 23

Gay Scales are inspired by the fabulous energy of the Sun in sensuous Taurus. Sexual activity reaches a peak as the hot tub goes from cool to full boil. Feast while the meat is hot, hot, hot. For those higher types, a little introspection now could also go a long way later. Psychological breakthroughs are possible for those proud Libras who prefer to get off with their minds.

SCORPIO
OCTOBER 24 - NOVEMBER 22

Relationships take on a greater importance when the Sun waltzes into Taurus. Even calculating Gay Scorps get the warm and fuzzies with partners during this fabulous solar surge. This is the time to discuss future plans and mutual feelings. If you are still searching for your dreamboat, send out a few search parties this week. You never know who you will rescue. Hello sailor!

SAGITTARIUS
NOVEMBER 23 - DECEMBER 22

Even rats on a treadmill get a coffee break every so often. This week, with Sun in Taurus, Gay Archers smell the java. Drink deeply, cousin, you have struggled too long and hard without much reward. Day-to-day jobs ease up a bit, or, at very least, you begin to see the light at the end of the tunnel. Could it be the lights of an oncoming train? Stay tuned.

CAPRICORN
DECEMBER 23 - JANUARY 20

Serious, conservative Gay Goats must admit that life is nicer with the Sun in Taurus. Enjoyable, creative pastimes have their attractions so pursue them with vim and vigor. Party on dear, queer Cap and use this feisty energy to party hard. (Some people like it that way) Anything you tackle will get you one step closer to where you eventually want to be. So where do you want to be?

AQUARIUS
JANUARY 21 - FEBRUARY 19

Aqueerians plant their feel firmly on homeplate when the glorious Sun enters Taurus. Explore your roots to see if they are strong, enduring and provide you with the firm support you seek. One of your greatest attributes is your selfless sense of right and wrong. Carry the rainbow flag a giant step forward with enthusiasm and commitment. Don't carry the banner alone.

PISCES
FEBRUARY 20 - MARCH 20

Speak Out this week, dear pink Fish and you can change the landscape. Chalk up this fortuitous turn of events to the Sun in measured and practical Taurus. Gather you thoughts; It's time to fire off a compelling letter to the editor or a representative or five. Your words pack a punch. Make them loud, proud and uncompromising. Remember, every year is an election year.

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

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SOFTBALL IS BACK IN TUCSON

If you would like to brush up or improve your skills the softball league has reserved Ourey Park (6th Street and I-10) Field #2 for consecutive weekends April 18-19 and 25-26. On the Saturdays the field are reserved from noon to 3:00 p.m. On the Sundays, the field are reserved from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. All interested players are urged to attend.

You do not need any equipment. It will be furnished. Come on out and get the spirit so The Tucson Greater Softball Association (TGSA) can begin the 1998 season with several teams. It's fun, it's great exercise and it's healthy. Come on out and let's get started.

An organizational meeting will be held Thursday, April 16 at Wingspan at 7:30 prompt. Refreshments will be served. We are planning on a open division which means teams can ghave both male and female players on their rosters.

For more information contact Jim 625-2618 or Robert 296-2738.

Men's Social Network Come Game for Fun

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 1:00 p.m. Join the guys for a relaxed Lunch Out as we eat at the Task's de Tubac. Come early to shop, then join us for a great lunch at Task's. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry W. at 298-7415.

THURSDAY, APRIL 23

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. A night is devoted to getting out the MSN newsletters. It's a fun way to help the organization and get to know the MSN guys. Dessert and door prizes are provided. For reservations and directions, please call Jerry at 690-0565.

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

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

FRIDAY, APRIL 24

The new Men's Relationship Group meets at 7:00 p.m. The purpose is to explore the dynamics of what a good relationship consists of for men with men. It will last 2 hours. Refreshments and fun. Call in advance to reserve a space. $5 fee. Call Marc 881-4582.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Join us as we have a Game Night devoted to all sorts of games. Play a favorite card game or board game--the choice is yours. If you have a favorite you'd like to play, bring it along, but there will be plenty of games from which to choose. For reservations and directions, please call Les or Jerry at 690-0565.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

Car Wash to benefit the Arizona ACES baseball Team from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. at Gateway Villas, 228 N. 4th Ave. Cost is only $3.00 for a clean car!

The first annual White Elephant and Yard Sale at the MCC Church building 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. 3269 N. Mountain between Prince and Ft. Lowell.

La Cocina Restaurant at Old Town Artisans and IBT's will host a Benefit Dinner and Auction for the Southern Arizona AIDS Association with some fantastic entertainment. Cocktails from 6-7 p.m. Dinner at 7:00 p.m. with the auction to follow. $25.00 per person. Limited seating. Tickets must be purchased by April 19th and are available at SAAF, IBT's and Tucson Trunk. Old Town Artisans is located at 186 N. Meyer in downtown Tucson. For more information call SAAF at 322-6226.

13th Annual Miss Gay Tucson American Pageant at the Holiday Inn (Tucson) 4550 S. Palo Verde. Presented by Holliday Headliners the pre-judging begins at 5:00 p.m. with the pageant starting at 7:00 p.m. Special appearances by Miss Gay America 1995, Patti Le Plae Safe; Miss Gay Arizona America 1997, Virginia Sacrifice and Mr. Kenneth Blake the reigning Miss Gay Tucson America 1997. Tickets are $13 in advance or $15 at the door. Reservations are required. For tickets or more information call Larry Moore 327-1576.

Men's Social Network (Gay men of all ages; guests always welcome). 7:00 p.m. Retro TV returns again! This time out, join us for an episode of "The Mary Tyler Moore Show," an episode of "Doctor, Doctor" (where a doctor is spending an unusual amount of time palling around with a gay man!), and "The Charles Pierce First Annual Farewell Show." This last show features the extraordinary talents of Mr. Pierce as he does his famous female impersonations-and Bette Davis is not to be missed. For reservations and directions, please call Les at 690-9565.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

White Elephant and Yard Sale at MCC Church, 3269 N. Mountain from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. 292-9151 for more information or donations.

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 318-1850.

TUESDAY, APRIL 28

Cronies Social Club Movie Night at Leo's, 7:00 p.m. Call Leo at 624-6768 if you are a movie buff, Leo has a great collection.

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

FRIDAY, MAY 1

7:00 p.m., at Antigone Books there will be a slide presentation and talk by Barbara Seyda and Diana Herrera, as well as some of the five local families included in their gorgeous new book, "Women in Love: Portraits of Lesbian Mothers and their Families" (Bulfinch Press, $29.95). Seyda and Herrera have created a spectacular visual tribute to the 5 to 10 million Lesbian mothers and grandmothers in the U.S. today. This incredible collection of photographs and interviews is the first of its kind, and explores concepts of family, partnership, conception, racial issues and personal and community growth.

SATURDAY, MAY 2

Tucson Arts District Partnership Downtown Saturday Night. 8:00 to 10:00 p.m.

THURSDAY, MAY 7

Tucson Arts District Thursday Night Art Walk. Docent- guided tour 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. Call 624-9977 for more information.

Diary of Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22

IBT'S - 9:00 P.M. Miss Gay Tucson-America Pre-Pageant Show hosted by Lucinda Holliday. Show features Miss Gay Tucson 1997-98 Mr. Kenneth Blake; with this year's contestants Sabrina Crawford, Victoria De Pais, Regina Reed and Truly Fabu.

SATURDAY, APRIL 25

HOURS - Desert Voices will be holding a Rummage Sale here from 8:00a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Be sure to stop by and buy.

NEON MOON - Miss Gay Tucson in Review Show beginning at 9:00 p.m. featuring Miss Gay America '95, Patti Le Plae Safe; Miss Gay Arizona '97, Virginia Sacrifice; Miss Gay Tucsons: '97, Kenneth Blake, '96 Felice Renard, '95 Electra Bleu, '94 Lucinda Holliday. Also appearing are a group of Miss Gay Arizonas: 1988 Christina De Alexis, '90 Raven, '91 Tiffany St. Thomas, '92 Candi Plastique and again Miss Gay Arizona 1994 Lucinda Holliday. $2.00 Cover. Reservations Required.

VENTURE-N - Beer Bust to benefit the Pet Watch Program. 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. on the patio.

SUNDAY, APRIL 26

IBT'S - Miss Gay Tucson's Post-Pageant Party. Welcome in the new Miss Gay Tucson-America 1998-'99.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29

IBT'S - The Sunday Bar-B-Que and 16oz. Beer Bust will benefit Wingspan and goes from 4:30 to 7:00 p.m. Then the Girlie Show begins at 9:00 p.m. featuring Lucinda Holliday, Felice Renard, Virginia Sacrifice and Adrienne Alexander.

SUNDAY, MAY 3

STONEWALL/EAGLE - TWAN Benefit Show with Dani BordeBo. Christina de Alexis, Faith, Miss J.O.D.Y., Victoria Du Puis, and special guests. 9:30 p.m.

MONDAY, MAY 4

STONEWALL/EAGLE - salud Es Poder - Cinco De Mayo Fiesta 9:00 p.m. in the Stonewall.

TUESDAY, MAY 5

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Fuerza Latina, Travesti Show 10:30 p.m. in the Stonewall.

SATURDAY, MAY 16

VENTURE-N - Armed Forces Day Uniform Party! Watch for more!

SUNDAY, MAY 17

GRADUATE - Jello Wrestling - The 11th Annual Reno Gannon Memorial to benefit SAAF. 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. Mark your calendars. Wrestler packets available. Call 322-6226.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Dreamgirls Revue with Mr. Kenneth Blake and special guests. 10:00 p.m.

WEDNESDAY, MAY 20

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Hot male strippers direct from Los Angeles will be strutting their stuff beginning at 10:00 p.m.

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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 B-B-Q and Beer Bust for community organizations 4:30-7:00pm. Hi energy dancing 9pm to close. All drink specials not available during special events.

NEON MOON - Open 2pm. Party with Stan. Complimentary hot dogs.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open noon. $1.75 pitchers 75¢ a glass. 1/4 lb. Burgers with cheese, potato salad & chips $2, 2pm-7. Pool Tourney 2pm w/Zipperman. Karaoke Night 9-close hosted by Billy Dee. Stonewall opens at 9pm with hot dance music with DJ Raymman

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

Monday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZ - Happy Hour 2-7 2for1 well and domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. 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 $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. Doc'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 Beer 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 Billy Dee. $1.00 off drinks to singers.

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour til 8pm. Miller High Life $1.75 Cuervo Gold $2 after 8pm. Latino Nite with DJ Eduardo 9-close.

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

Wednesday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7. 2for1 well or domestic beer. $1.25 pitchers from 9 to midnight. Neon Kamel's $2. Schnapps $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. Liquorlation 7 to 10 pm.

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

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

Thursday

AIN'T NOBODY'S BIZNESS - Happy Hour 2-7, 2for1 well or domestic beer. Free pool 2-4. Karaoke 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 6am 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 8 to 1 with DJ David Z. All drink specials not available during special events.

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

STONEWALL/EAGLE - Open 2pm. Happy Hour til 8pm. Food Buffet 6pm. Wear a Stonewall/Eagle T-shirt and receive½ price all night. DJ Raymman 9pm.

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

Saturday

AIN'T NOBODY'S 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 8 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 till 8pm. Free Pool all day. Stonewall opens at 9pm. Hot sounds with Raymman.

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

CLASSIFIED ADS ARE .25 PER WORD $5.00 MINIMUM

CLASSIFIEDS

CLASSIFIED ADS MUST BE MAILED, NO PHONE ADS.

NOTICES

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

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

P.F.L.A.G. - Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays - is a support group available to anyone who has a son, daughter or friend who is Gay. Call 575-8660 or write P.O. Box 36284, Tucson, AZ 85740-6284. 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 340 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, 340 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), 5:00 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 886-1298 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, 340 E. 6th St. 624-1779.

L.D.S., EX-L.D.S., GAY LESBIAN, BISEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP. Meetings 2nd & 4th Wednesdays. 7pm. 326-1319 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 886-1298 for more info.

ARIZONA GAY RODEO ASSOCIATION (AGRA) TUCSON CHAPTER. Interested? Call 323-6805 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.

INNER WISDOM - Try hypnotherapy for pain relief, past life exploration and addiction release. Also available: Spiritual Counseling and Dream Interpretation. 579-9620

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 578-9827 for more

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

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

LESBIAN AND GAY AL-ANON - Affected by someone's drinking? Meeting every Tuesday 8:45 to 9:45 p.m. at Lambda Center, 2940 E. Thomas, Phoenix. Ellie 581-8854 or Rose 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)371-1192

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

T-SQUARES Lesbian and Gay square dance club meets every Tuesday from 6:30-8:00 p.m. at Cornerstone Fellowship Social Hall, 2002 N. Geronimo (near 1st Ave. and Laguna). Open to All. Call Liz at 325-9486 or Ray at 749-5247.

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

MANE MEN: Long-haired Gay male pengal 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, 323-7843 for more information.

"AT EASE AGAIN", a men's discussion group meets at Wingspan at 7 p.m. every Tuesday. 340 E. 6th St.

BISEXUAL INFORMATION/SUPPORT GROUP for women and men. Meetings 1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. at Wingspan, 340 E. 6th St. 624-1779.

NOTICES

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 9:30 pm at Armory Park Senior Center, 220 S. 6th Ave. Call 791-9442.

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, 3209 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 778-9179 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 299-9663.

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.

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 Ferri 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, 340 E. 6th Street at 7pm. For more information call 622-3296.

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. 884-7663.

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 299-5647.

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

LESBIAN/GAY/BI-SEXUAL OVEREATERS ANONYMOUS. Saturdays noon-1pm new location Wingspan, 340 E. 6th St. Contacts 325-6876 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 791-7676.

CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 3rd Monday at St. Pius X Catholic Church, 1580 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, 3209 N. Mountain. Hotline: (520)326-2211

NORTHWEST CATHOLIC GAY/LESBIAN SUPPORT GROUP meets every 4th Monday at St. Odilo'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 742-8909.

SMART (Self Management And Recovery Training) a free non-12-step self-help alternative for people wanting 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 322-6857 (evelves@ix.netcom.com)

AZdykes is a new email list for Lesbians living in Arizona. For information mail tyson@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 6:30pm 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).

"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 884-6541.

SCUBA DIVING CLUB. For information call digital pager 291-9662.

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 628-9658 or send email to: moonbeykyle@earthlink.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.

EMPLOYMENT

DJ NEEDED FOR BUSY FRIDAY AND SATURDAY. Men and women apply at the Biz, 2900 E. Broadway or page 547-6832 for more info. 718

HOUSING/FOR RENT

DRAMATIC and SOPHISTICATED 1 bedroom + loft bedroom townhome, 18 ft. ceilings, open staircase, 1½ baths, enclosed private patio, wildlife ravine & ft. from bank door, beautiful heated pool & spa areas with bank housekeeping, pets OK, mountain & city view, washer & dryer included. Furnished or unfurnished, month or lease, North 1st Avenue. $864 furnished. 219-0794. 718

FURNISHED APARTMENT Attached to house but entirely separate. Own bath, kitchenette, etc. Centrally located near Reid Park. Studio apartment with separate entrance. Use of washer/dryer and large brick-fenced yard. $300/mo. Utilities included. Available now. Call Nick at 323-6663 718.

VARIOUS CENTRAL TUCSON LOCATIONS. 1 and 2 bedroom apartments from $325 - $495. Clean, private, quiet. Many extras. Mention this Observer ad. 885-6822. 725

ROOMMATES

TWO ROOMS FOR RENT in a nice 4 bedroom eastside home, Kolb and Escalante area. $250 monthly. No smoking. Jerry at 584-8252. 719

GM TO SHARE LARGE 4-BEDROOM HOUSE w/private pool, gas grill, big screen TV, and more. $295/mo. includes utilities. 889-7875 or 628-1778 720

WANTED: MALE HOUSEMATE FOR HOME SOUTH OF BROADWAY. Off Country Club. $300/mo. + ⅓ utilities. Call Doug at 795-2961. 719

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT OR SALE Beautiful condo in prestigious Sam Hughes area. 2 bedroom 2 bath, FP, den, family room, atrium, hardwood floors, vaulted ceilings. Call 318-4838 for more info. 720

PERSONALS

GWM, 29, 5'7", 148lb, short brown hair, seeks GM 18-28 for friendship first, eventual long-term relationship. NO one-night stands. You HIV-, clean-cut, honest, height/weight proportionate, slight to medium build. Hispanics are a plus. Call Randy at 883-6258. 718.

LOCAL TALENT AUDITIONS. Wanted male models for nude photography. Call for audition appointment. 469-6522. 722

CYBER CRUISE - Meet Arizona Gay men and women as well as people all over the U.S. Gay owned. www.move.com 722

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. 725

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. 725

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PROFESSIONAL QUALITY MASSAGE! 17 YEARS OF HEALING HANDS. Strong, gentle, holistic, DEEP RELAXATION. GUARANTEED to feel better. Legitimate. Marc Haberman, LMT, 881-4582. 723

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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Operation Rescue Vows To Hit Disney 'Gay Day'

ORLANDO, FL (OS) — Leaders of Operation Rescue have said they would protest outside Walt Disney World in early June, setting up a possible confrontation with Gay visitors attending the annual "Gay Days" at the amusement park.

Members of Dallas-based Operation Rescue are known for their invasive and sometimes violent efforts to close women's health facilities and family planning organizations that counsel women seeking to terminate their pregnancies. The group recently supplemented their anti-abortion mission to demonstrate against Gay and Lesbian issues.

Flip Benham, the organization's national director, said Orlando was being targeted for a week-long protest beginning the May 31 for three reasons: abortion clinics operate in the city; area bookstores sell books the group considers to be pornographic; and Walt Disney Co. promotes homosexuality as "an acceptable lifestyle."

In December, Benham and two other Operation Rescue protesters were arrested during an anti-Gay Disney protest in Kissimmee, charged with obstructing traffic and throwing advertising materials into moving vehicles and into the street.

Disney has no direct involvement in the planning and scheduling of the Gay Day events, but has steadfastly refused conservative demands to put an end to them. Disney spokeswoman Diane Ledder said she was unaware of the Operation Rescue protest. "They're entitled to express their views, and we respect their right to do so," she said, as long as the protest is held outside the park's boundaries.

Ledder noted that Gay Day events also occur at Universal Studios Florida and SeaWorld Orlando. "It's not our event," she added. "This is widely observed in Central Florida." Gay Day organizers concurred, saying the popularity and success of the event has encouraged wider participation in the event.

Despite the announcement by Operation Rescue that they are planning a presence in Orlando to protest Gay Day at Disney Weekend, event organizers predict the largest weekend at Disneyworld ever!

Based on early response to the event, Club Skirts Harem just signed a five-year contract with Arabian Nights, a full scale, state of the art event space just outside of the west gate of Disney. "Women are calling off the hook. They are thrilled that finally they too have an organized dance event to end such a wonderful day with. We're going to throw a fantastic party!" says Mariah Hanson, owner of Mariah T Presents.

The evening will feature a spectacular laser show, state of the art sound and light, and the famous Club Skirts go-go dancers.

The first annual Club Skirts "Harem" during Gay Day at The Magic Kingdom takes place Saturday, June 6, 9:00 P.M. at Arabian Nights, 6225 West Bronson Highway, just outside of the West Gate of Disneyworld. The ticket price is $15 advance and $20 at the door.

Tickets and event information can be obtained by call (888) 5-SKIRTS.

Women's Event During Gay Day At Disney Looks Like Sell Out

SAN FRANCISCO, CA – Mariah T Presents is anticipating the Club Skirts Harem event, the first ever women's event during the history of Gay and Lesbian Day at Disney weekend, will be a sell out!

American Airlines To Stop 'Promoting Homosexuality'

WASHINGTON, D.C. - - Exactly one year after Concerned Women for America (CWA) began protesting American Airline's (AA) support of the "homosexual lifestyle," the airline has agreed to stop promoting homosexuality.

At a meeting with AA President Robert Crandall, Jim Woodall, CWA's CEO had presented Crandall with advertisements, videos and letter documenting what American Airlines' funds are promoting.

Carmen Pate, Concerned Women for America's President, commented: "No longer will air travelers on American Airlines fear that a portion of their fares are funding activities that may be in direct conflict with their religious beliefs."

Activities promised to cease by American Airlines include: Sponsorship of Gay and Lesbian (G/L) Parties and targeting and promoting the G/L Travel Market.

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